AELPLER GRUPPE SWISS CLUB

Founded 1925



NewsLetter

www.aelplergruppe.com

Swiss owned and operated since 1935

Volume XXIX Issue 1, January - March 2021

President's Message

By Arnold Ambiel



Dear Aelplers,

We are all glad to have 2020 behind us and that there is light at the end of the 2021 tunnel. We've filled this newsletter with articles for you to enjoy from home. And we'll continue to do this while we wait out the pandemic.

Thank you for your generous support of the Christmas Gifts and Drawing. It was great to hear from all of you. Enjoy your prizes. By now you have all had a chance to read the new membership directory. The feedback has been excellent and the board is proud of it. Call a friend from the directory this month.

Swiss Park has been closed, but as of this issue it appears Alameda County will allow the Bier Garten to reopen. Bob and the team are rested and ready. The hall and kitchen have never been cleaner and hall repairs are ongoing.

We are still working on our first Swiss Music Hour broadcast. Look for it to debut this Winter.

We'll miss you all for Fondue and Jass in February. Instead, make a fondue or raclette for your household. You can find our recipe on the Aelpler Gruppe website. And play some Jass hands online to keep your skills up. Let me know which Jass app you like best.

Next Trivia Question: Which Swiss Canton was the worldwide pioneer in Winter Tourism? Call/text me the answer at 510-936-2523. We'll draw a winner from the first 3 received. Karen Grass is our December winner. Look inside for the answer to the last trivia question.

Let's beat this thing.

Ich wünsche euch alles Gute,

Arnold

Aelpler Gruppe misses seeing you at events! We are busy planning for reopening and look forward to seeing you soon!

Outdoor bar and dining are reopening at Newark Swiss Park.

Please visit <u>www.swissparknewark.com</u> for hours of operations over the coming months

Social Members please send in your 2021 dues. Thank you!

See our new YouTube channel Aelpler Gruppe

Please subscribe - it's free

Imperial Valley Swiss Club – Holtville, CA October 23, 2021 Championship - 100 year Anniversary

Aelpler Gruppe Swiss Club Facebook page www.facebook.com/aelplergruppeswissclub

Send us your favorite Swiss Recipe. We are looking to add recipes onto our website for your enjoyment.

Swiss Consulate:

https://www.eda.admin.ch/sanfrancisco

Auslandschweizer-Organisation www.aso.ch

Aelpler Gruppe Histories

#2- Swiss Park - Dream Come True The new Swiss Park opens and festivals begin 1935-1944

As the Bay Area grew in population many Swiss farmers settled further South into Washington Township (the Tri-City area of Fremont, Newark, and Union City) where there was more available farmland. In 1934, Louie Marchy Sr. became President and the meetings moved to Newark. By this time there were many new Swiss immigrants in the Bay Area. The dances and celebrations were very popular and the dream of owning a Swiss hall became possible. Frank Fries Sr., on behalf of the Aelpler Gruppe, purchased a five-acre property in Newark. A park committee was formed to make plans and to raise money. They contracted Architect William E. Higgins to design the hall. Three members loaned the Swiss Club \$800 each: Frank Durrer, Jacob Sutter and Frank Marty. The Wilhelm Tell Verein of Oakland also loaned the club money. To raise more money, it was decided to offer life memberships at two levels: a \$35 membership for free admission to all club dances and a \$50 membership for free admission to all club dances and Schwingfests.

Aelpler Gruppe had a very devoted and industrious Secretary, Ernest Heuer. Times were tough during the Depression years. If people had a job they did not make much money. Mr. Heuer sold memberships by making home visits. He kept a journal of his visits, collecting two or three dollars at a time until the membership was paid. The club did not have to take out a mortgage to complete the building of the Swiss Hall and by 1947 the final payment was made and the members really felt their dream had come true.

The first Board meeting in the new Swiss Park Hall was February 3, 1935 and the official "Grand Opening" was held April 7, 1935. If you ever wondered why the entrance to the Swiss hall is at the side, it is because the first entrance to the park was from Birch St. which ran where the hotel is today. The first caretaker of the bar was Martin Gratzer who was also the President. The finances for the bar (business) were kept separate from those of the club and in 1937 a separate Swiss Park Committee formed with Bertha Berryessa as Secretary.

In the Swiss Park Hall, there were 8 beds upstairs above the entrance and also set up on the stage when needed. Swiss (single men) would stay there for a few days if they were new and looking for work, or if they could not drive home (maybe too tipsy). There was a card room in the back to play Jass and often on Sundays Swiss musicians gathered to play music and many came to listen, eat and to have a few drinks.

Aelpler Gruppe meeting minutes were taken in German until 1941. During WWII the board gave permission to rent the property as needed for defense purposes and board meetings and club activities were suspended until after the war.

submitted by Patricia Wipfli-Schaffarczyk

Poster #2 pictures include:



1,2,3. Dedication of Swiss Park Hall and Tree Planting, April 7, 1935

Back row: Rosemary Sessa (Ramsell), Lena Rickenbach, Alois Sessa, Domani Rickenbach

Front row: Alma Aufdermauer (Rickenbach), Ida Wolfensberger, Marguerite Rickenbach, Louis Sessa

Unknown, Unknown, Jacob Sutter, Marie Hotz, Bethy Suter, Domani Rickenbach

Unknown, Jacob Sutter, Mrs. Zwald (back), Bethy Sutter, Rosa Sessa, Marie Holz, Alma Aufdermauer (Rickenbacker)

4th of July Celebration, 1935, Swiss Park Hall with two men in front

Poster for Dedication of Swiss Park and Swiss Hall

Sonntag, April, 1935; Eintritt 40 cents für den ganzen Tag, Lebensmitglieder und Trachten Frei (Entry 40 cents for the whole day, Life members and Tracheten free).

Feldschützenverein, 1937

Front row: Joe Hediger, Arnold Inderbitzen, Carl Marchy (father of Louie Marchy Sr.), Louie Marchy, Sr., Tony Schuler, xx Furger

Top (back) row: Lundie Schmidig, Joe Schmidig, Frank Inderbitzen, Elsie Inderbitzen, XavierTruttmann, Gusty Kennel

7. Tickets, unknown date, Refreshments 10 cents; Refreshments 30cents - Patrons paid for drinks with tickets at the dances. There was also a "uniformed guard" at the dances.



Swiss Park Hall with Outdoor dining tent

Annual Dues for Social Members



Thank you to all of our Social Members who have already paid their annual dues of \$40.00.

If you have not paid in your dues yet, please send your check for \$40.00 - paid after March 31st dues are \$50.

Please make your check payable to: Aelpler Gruppe Swiss Club, Attn: Membership and mail to 5911 Mowry Ave., Newark, CA 94560.

Your support of the Swiss Club is very important to us. Thank you.

Family Crest or Familie Wappen

Looking for your Family Crest or Familie Wappen? Now is the perfect time to dig into your family history online. Luckily, we Swiss have lots of online resources available to us now. Here are the ones we recommend:

Search by your Swiss Canton: go to your Canton's website and search on "familienwappen"

If you don't find it there, try this wappen website: https://chgh.ch/ for a large collection of wappen.

And if you'd like to have your family crest digitized you can contact http://wappenbild.ch/

The History of Imperial Valley Swiss (the Red Book) http://ivswissclub.org/pages/history.php is available online if your family ever lived or passed through the Imperial Valley. The index is great and it is easy to print out interesting pages.

Would you like to look up a relative or see if your family tree already exists?

During the pandemic, your local library will let you search their records from home for free with a library card.

Did your family come through Ellis Island? If so, check here <u>ellisisland.org</u>. Try alternate spellings if you don't see the name at first.

If you like this column let us know and we'll continue this series.

An example from https://chgh.ch/
This is the Kaslin family crest from Beckenried, in the Canton of Niedwalden.





Joe Reichmuth's first clarinet is being offered to Aelpler Gruppe Swiss Club by Dave and Margrith Reichmuth. It would fit nicely under the Orchestra banner that is currently there. It is in an acrylic case. For most of his adult life Joe and his orchestra played at Swiss Park and it seems appropriate that the clarinet remain at the hall where it was played so often.

Here is a brief history: In 1925 at the age of ten, Joe received his first clarinet from his brother Frank's Godfather. He told Joe he would probably never learn to play it. Joe never had any formal musical training but was a very accomplished self taught musician and music became his passion. At age 11 he played for a dance in Frances Washington and continued to learn and compose.

submitted by Margrith and Dave Reichmuth



The Organization of the Swiss Abroad is reinventing itself and merging it's three websites

(www.aso.ch, www.swisscommunity.org, www.revue.ch) under a single address www.SwissCommunity.org.

The new website will have a new design for a uniform and contemporary identity. In addition to a new design, you will find a range of relevant information and advice for your life abroad or your plans to move abroad or return to Switzerland.

Have you moved or have a new email address or phone number? Please let us know so we can keep you updated. aelplergruppe@gmail.com Thank you!!



Member's directory was well received!

Thank you once again to the Board of Directors committee led by Patricia Wipfli-Schaffarczyk, who worked many hours to gather information for the directory and to produce such a wonderful keepsake and resource for all of us.



Our youngest member helping to mail the many Membership directories last fall – Josie!



Aelpler Gruppe received a \$100 donation from Heather and Albert Fuchslin for the bar bathroom remodel. They are looking forward to seeing it!



Heidi Ambiel wishes to thank everyone for their cards and letters during her recovery. They were very much appreciated. Thank you.





Would you like to Join Aelpler Gruppe Swiss Club?

Your Annual \$40 social membership entitles you to:

- Special member invitations to yearly events (Schwingfest, Fondue Night, Metzgete, etc).
- Christmas Party Free to Social Members
- Subscription to newsletter

To join; please send your name, email address, postal address, phone number and enclose a \$40 check made payable to Aelpler Gruppe Swiss Club and mail to:

Aelpler Gruppe Swiss Club Attn: Membership 5911 Mowry Ave., Newark, CA 94560

Questions; <u>aelplergruppe@gmail.com</u> <u>510-936-2523</u> https://www.aelplergruppe.com/memberships/

Aelpler Gruppe 2021 Calendar of Events

www.facebook.com/aelplergruppeswissclub

Feb Jass Party 12:30 & Fondue Dinner 4 p.m.

April Folklore Event 12:00 noon

May 2 Tentative - Semi-Annual members meeting 2:00 pm

June 13 United Swiss Societies Kid's Camp 9 a.m.

June Tentative - East Bay Club Hike

Aug 7 United Swiss Societies – Swiss National Day 11:00

Aug 28 Fall Schwingfest in Newark 11:00 a.m.
Sep Tentative - North Bay Club Hike

Nov 7 Annual Member's Meeting 2:00 p.m.

Nov 13 Metzgete Dinner 6:00 p.m.

Dec 4 Member's Annual Christmas Dinner 6:00 pm



United Swiss Societies

Diane Wagner, President 510-582-0698 www.unitedswissnorcal.org

Peninsula Swiss Club

Contact: Sandra Scanferla-Eidam 408-348-6911 sandra.scanferla@gmail.com

www.peninsulaswissclub.com

Swiss Consulate General

Pier 17, Suite 600, San Francisco, CA 94111

Phone: 415-788-2272

www.eda.admin.ch/sanfrancisco

Contact information for Western US Swiss Clubs:

Visit the Swiss Consulate General's website:

https://www.eda.admin.ch/dam/countries/countries-content/united-

states-of-america/en/112.0 CHclubsSF.pdf

Swiss Rifle Club Events

Contact John Burky at 510-996-8789

More information at: www.carmelgunclub.com

And www.feldschiessen.us

http://www.carmelgunclub.com/SWISS%20Matches.html

Sierra Swiss Club Calendar

Contact: Urs Gwerder 530-587-8316 http://sierraswissclub.homestead.com

Pro Ticino

http://www.proticino.ch/

December Trivia question: "Who is Schmutzli (or Père Fouettard in French) and what does he do?"

Answer: He is Samichlaus's alter ego and he usually carries a broom of twigs for administering punishment to children whose behavior throughout the year has not been up to snuff on St Nicholas Day, December 6th.

Winner: Karen Grass

Swiss Park 2021 Events 5911 Mowry Avenue, Newark 510-793-6272

Currently the Swiss Park Restaurant is open for outdoor dining. Please see the website for updates.

www.swissparknewark.com

SJVSC, Ripon 2021 Calendar of Events

www.sjvscriponswiss.com Tony Berchtold, President



West Coast Swiss Wrestling Association

New Board: President - Arnold Ambiel, acting

Vice President – Urs Gwerder Treasurer – Don Widmer, acting Secretary – Chris Schallberger, acting

All West Coast Schwingfests are now online at http://schlussgang.ch/

2021 Schwingfest Dates:

April 10 Imperial Valley Swiss Club - Holtville, CA June 5 San Joaquin Valley Swiss Club - Ripon, CA June 5 Tacoma Swiss Club - Bonney Lake, WA June 19 San Diego Swiss Club - San Diego, CA July 2-4 Lewis-Pacific Swiss - Frances, WA July 17 Sierra Swiss Club - Truckee, CA Portland Swiss Club - Portland, OR Aug 7 Aug 13-15 Tacoma Swiss club - Bonney Lake, WA Aug 28 Aelpler Gruppe Swiss Club – Newark, CA San Joaquin Valley Swiss Club - Ripon, CA Sept 4 Oct 23 Imperial Valley Swiss Club - Holtville, CA Championship - 100 year Anniversary

** All of the above COVID permitting **



June 25-27 2021 **Eidgenössisches Jodelerfest** https://www.jodlerfestbasel.ch/home.html

Sept 5, 2021 **Eidgenössisches Jubiläums-Schwingfest** https://www.appenzell2020.ch/

For other updates go to: https://schlussgang.ch/ https://www.facebook.com/groups/luttesuisse/



Memories of Schwingfest 2017!

Obituary – Life member Helen Marchy passed away on January 29, 2021 at the age of 91. She was surrounded by loving family when she passed away peacefully of natural causes at home.

Helen was born in Livermore, Ca September 23, 1929, the 3rd of five sisters to Swiss immigrants. She graduated from Petaluma High School in 1947. She was a resident of Ceres, CA since 1960 with her devoted husband, Louis Marchy, of 70 years. Helen brought joy, comfort and fun to her large family and many friends. She touched more lives than we will ever know because of her generous heart and constant energy. She was preceded in death by her son, Stephen Marchy, and her

She was preceded in death by her son, Stephen Marchy, and her four fun-loving sisters.

Helen will be sadly missed by her children, Dolores Padilla (Jim) of Tennessee, Leo Marchy, Rick Marchy (Bernice) and Dan Marchy of Modesto, and Theresa Neugebauer (Rick) of McArthur. She was blessed with eleven grandchildren, 28 greatgrandchildren, and 6 great-great-grandchildren.

Helen is known for her bountiful generosity of time, talents and treasures at St Jude's Catholic Church, the Swiss community, the community of Ceres, the local schools, 4-H, CA Women of Agriculture, and the Dairy Industry as well as the Marchy Dairy. Louie and Helen were awarded the Bishop's Award for serving the poor and needy with St. Vincent DePaul.

Together, Louie and Helen traveled to several countries around the world and journeyed to Switzerland with all of their grandchildren to meet friends and relatives and to show them the beauty of their parent's homeland.

Obituary - Life member Frank Aufdermaur of Pleasanton, CA passed away peacefully at his home February 7, 2021 of natural causes at the age of 94.

Frank was born August 3, 1926 in Steinen, Switzerland to parents Josef and Rosa Auf der Maur. He was the second of six children. Following in his father's footsteps, Frank loved to work with wood and went to trade school to become a cabinet maker. Frank started his own business in Switzerland.

Frank's friend Conrad Rickenbach introduced him to his cousin Alma, a beautiful young woman who was visiting Switzerland with her parents. He fell madly in love, and at the age of 26, decided to make the move to America so he could marry the love of his life. Frank and Alma were married on December 5, 1953.

Frank and Alma raised three daughters, Alma, Pauline (Cookie), Anita, and son Frank Jr. After 40 wonderful years of marriage, Franks loving wife Alma passed away in 1993.

In 1995, having been widowed for a few years, Frank decided to take a "Jolly Swiss" tour to South Africa that Rosemary Ramsell was organizing. It was on this trip that he met another widower, Rosemary Enz, from Holtville, CA. The two soon became an "item", and within months of returning home, they decided to marry. Frank and Rosemary were married on April 12, 1996.

Frank is survived by his loving wife, Rosemary; sister, Rosa in Switzerland, and will be greatly missed by his children, Son-in-Law, Wayne Swisher, daughter Pauline (Cookie) Cameron, daughter Anita Aufdermaur and son Frank Aufdermaur, Jr.

He was blessed with 7 grandchildren; Brett (Daphne) Swisher, Brian (Tara) Swisher, Grant Cameron, Andrea (Chris) Gordon, DeAnna (Tom) Bradley, Nik (Corrine) Colella, and Zachary Aufdermaur; 11 great grandchildren and 8 great-great grandchildren, as well as his nephew Juerg (Annemarie) Aufdermaur.

Frank also acquired four stepchildren through his marriage to Rosemary. Walter (Cyndy) Enz, Paul (Shirley) Enz, Robert Enz and Alice (Ed) Inderbitzin. They grew to love and respect Frank and were blessed to have such a loving husband for their mother, and Grandpa Frank to their children.

Frank was preceded in death by wife Alma, daughter Alma Swisher, and son-in-law Bob Cameron; His brothers Josef (Father Ivo), and Alois, sisters Anna and Hedwig (Hedy).

Obituary – Social member Louise Zumbach passed away peacefully on December 29, 2020 at the age of 89. She was born on January 26, 1931 to Dominik and Agnes Inderbitzin in Modesto, CA. She was the youngest of six children. She married Hans Zumbach in 1951. They settled in Pleasanton, CA and raised five children. Louise is survived by her daughters; Linda Hill, Patty (Hans) Zurmühle, Nancy (Ozzie) Berchtold; sons Hans (Karen) Zumbach, and Ernie (Claire) Zumbach; 11 grandchildren and 19 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by husband Hans (1989) and five siblings.



Passing of individuals in the greater Swiss community:

Frank Zumbach of Modesto, CA passed away on December 24, 2020. He was born in Stans, Switzerland and was a Lifetime member of SJVSC in Ripon.

Alice Hafer of Lathrop, CA passed away peacefully at her home on November 14, 2020. She was a Lifetime member of the San Joaquin Valley Swiss Club in Ripon, CA.

Charles "Chuck" Elton Niggley of Beaverton, Oregon, passed away peacefully at home on November 14, 2020.

Louis Aufdermaur Jr. of Turlock, CA passed away on January 24, 2021. He was a lifetime member of SJVSC in Ripon.

Anna Dalgaard (Jackie Zuger's mom) passed away on January 30, 2021. She achieved the grand age of 100 years!

Ernie Rothlin of Centralia, WA, passed away on January 22, 2021.

Robert "Bob" Bonta of Stockton, CA passed away on January 9, 2021.



Whom to contact when a Swiss Club member is deceased: Please e-mail our Corresponding Secretary at jerikroske@gmail.com or call 408-842-4621

You can now make Memorial Fund donations through the Aelpler Gruppe website: https://www.aelplergruppe.com/donations/ Memorial Fund Donations - We are grateful for donations to the Memorial Fund to honor members who have passed.

In memory of Frank Schmidig donation from Kathi Mathys

In memory of Lieni Suter donation from Kathi Mathys

In memory of **Helen Marchy** donations from Connie & Karen Grass, Monica Ulrich

Chalet Böbs MÜRREN, SWITZERLAND

Imagine a classic Swiss vacation with breathtaking views of the Eiger, Jungfrau and Mönch right from your patio. Escape to Mürren and stay at the delightful **Chalet Böbs** – book one of our 4 self-contained apartments. 3 and 2-bedroom, and studio apartments available – great rates!

https://www.chaletbobs.com Hosts: Steve & Monika Ambiel



Hofstrasse 3 6074 Giswil Switzerland
Tel. 041 676 00 36
www.ediths-alpenrösli.ch/

"Come, Join Our Voices!" The Golden Gate Boys Choir and Bellringers

A Regional Choir for Boys ~ S.F. Bay Area

Rehearsals Held in Various Convenient Locations: San Francisco* Alameda * Hayward * Oakland

Boys, age 7 to 12 may audition. No prior experience needed.

www.GGBC.org Phone: 510 887-4311 Steven J. Meyer, Artistic Director



Edward L. Ott

President ed@colonylandscape.com

4911 Spreckles Avenue, P.O. Box 940, Alviso, CA 95002-094 T: 408.941.1090 F: 408.941.1094 www.colonylandscape.cu CLCA | Lic. No. C27 A 566808

JASON TRAVEL PRESENTS: Spectacular Switzerland with Heidi September 2021

Stunning mountains and lakes with overnights in Zurich, Geneva, the Gruyere area, Grindelwald, and Lucerne. The highlight of this visit is the time in the mountain resort of Grindelwald, in the vicinity of three mighty mountains: Eiger, Monch, and Jungfrau; an unforgettable rack railway trip to the "Top of Europe," a high Alpine wonderland of ice & snow: The Amazing Jungfraujoch, Europe's highest railway station!

JASON TRAVEL Att: Brigitta Ammann, 269 States Street, San Francisco, CA 94114
Phone: 415.553.7711 Email: brigitta@jasontravel.com Website: www.jasontravel.com

- 1. For questions contact your Swiss Tour Escort, Heidi Ambiel: Call her at: (831) 662-8709
- 2. To sign up: Send deposit of \$500.00 by check made out to: Att: Brigitta Ammann Jason Travel: 269 States Street San Francisco, Ca. 94114



DAILY NON-STOPS from San Francisco, Los Angeles, Chicago, New York, Newark, Boston & Miami; fly into one city, return from another European city. BOOK EARLY - For Economy book by mid-Jan and for Business Class by mid Feb. for lowest fares!

TRUST US consolidator rates can BEAT THE NET!!

A HIGH-SCHOOL or COLLEGE GRADUATION present:

Contiki EUROPEAN or US TOUR

Especially tailored to the Young from age 18-35!
They'll remember it forever –





GRAND PRINCESS of Princess Cruises

is now headquartered in San Francisco. Cruise from SF & LA to



ALASKA, MEXICO, HAWAII, PANAMA CANAL & AUSTRALIA.

ENHANCE your EUROPEAN VACATION with a 7 or 14-day RIVER CRUISE

on one of Europe's main rivers: RHINE, DANUBE, MOSEL, MAIN, ELBE, SEINE & RHONE! **AMA-WATERWAYS** is a very



classy product, offers all shore excursions, gourmet meals with select wines and gratuities included. SEE EUROPE the EASY WAY – no packing or running for trains:) Call for an offer... you'll experience THE best way to see Europe!

Call Toll Free 877.388.9695 or 415.553.7711

JASON TRAVEL, INC. www.jasontravel.com • travel@jasontravel.com

We represent all Airlines, Cruise Lines & the best ESCORTED TOUR COMPANIES.

One call for the World! 1910-2019 • 269 States St, San Francisco, CA 94114 • CST #1005510-10

Aelpler Gruppe Swiss Club Christmas drawing held December 2020.

\$20 Cash Heidi Ambiel \$20 Happy Eats Dan & Lynn Vogt \$10 Starbucks Card Sonia Windtberg \$25 Bass Pro Shop Kurt & Linda Clausen \$25 Bass Pro Shop Kurt & Linda Clausen \$25 See's Candy Ann Crevelt \$25 See's Candy See's Candy \$25 See's Candy Tony & Rosemary Wagn \$25 Starbucks Tony & Billy Leah Berch
\$25 Starbucks Tony & Billy Leah Berch \$20 Cash Greg Ambiel

Winner Agnes Duffner Rosmarie Tanner Kathi Mathys Fred Kaufmann Kathi Mathys Agnes Reed Kathi Mathys Kathi Mathys Bob Reichmuth We concluded 2020 and we thank you for supporting our Sonia Windtberg virtual programming last year. Today, we are cautiously Suzanne Bradshaw optimistic about a better and exciting 2021, and we hope to

Satariano Family

Andrea Westrum

Lenard Marchy

Craig Harman

Kurt Clausen

Jackie Zuger

Lois Ulrich

Iris Konik

Antoinette Betschart

Margaret Williams

Tom Wipfli Nick Ambiel

Wanda Lee Heinz Baumann A message from:

Richard Steiner Mary Burla Wilson We began introducing Swiss personalities from the Bay Area Leo and Charlene Ott with Swiss Beach Talks, which started with best-selling Tom Imholz author Milena Moser and will continue with journalist and Dan & Lynn Vogt Der Spiegel correspondent Guido Mingels. My conversation Elizabeth Koller with him focuses on the future of digital technologies. Peter Ambiel Anthony Williams

Through **Swiss Film & Talks** series, we will bring you every month not only a Swiss film, but we will also gather experts, local and international, to talk about various topics of a given movie. In celebration of **Black History Month**, our February film will be Raoul Peck's I Am Not Your Negro. In March, we will focus on Francophonie, and in April, the Swiss Window will open its virtual curtains at the 25th Berlin & Beyond Film Festival.

Consul General Benedikt Wechsler

offer you a variety of activities that bring Switzerland closer to

The 50th anniversary of Switzerland at China Beach was the perfect moment to contribute in a green way to the City of San Francisco. If you happen to be in this City by the Bay come to China Beach, enjoy our newly planted trees, take a book from our new Swiss Book Chalet, and have a wonderful day at the Pacific Ocean.

We truly look forward to the day we can host you at Pier 17 in person, but until then we wish you all the best and hope that you will join us virtually.

Benedikt Wechsler Consul General





Fondue and Jass 2020 Good memories!

Swiss Carnival Traditions

The Swiss Carnival is called "Fasnacht" which can differ from town to town. Over 200 carnivals take place throughout Switzerland, and though traditionally most last from Dirty Thursday to Ash Wednesday, some of them are celebrated anywhere between end of January and May. In fact, the largest Swiss carnival in Basel breaks with the tradition too and starts on Monday following Ash Wednesday.

Swiss Carnival Terminology - "Guggen" are groups of musicians playing out of tune; "Schnitzelbank" are short verses in Swiss German with a comedic twist, spoken or in song form, with our without music; "Tschääggättä" are scary figures with sinister wooden carved masks, an ancient pagan tradition; "Chesslete" are noisy instruments such as bells and wooden percussion instruments; "Morgestraich" means the opening ceremony in the wee hours of the carnivals.

As part of our goal to reach out to our membership, to connect with each other and to update our member information we would also like to have a column in our newsletter that recognizes our member's birthdays by month. Could you please send Aelpler Gruppe your birthday including, month / day / year. We will not share this information except for the month when we note it in our newsletter. Please send this information

to aelplergruppe@gmail.com. We look forward to seeing you when our events begin again, hopefully in the very near future.

Patricia Wipfli Schaffarczyk, Membership Committee Chair





Swiss recipes on-line! A new feature is added on our website where we can share Swiss recipe favorites. Please send us your recipe to share.

General Information

Aelpler Gruppe Board of Directors Meeting

First Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at Newark Swiss Park unless otherwise notified

Newark Swiss Park Board of Directors Meeting

Second Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at Newark Swiss Park unless otherwise notified

Herman Betchart

Newark Swiss Park Board of Directors

President Thomas Imholz Jr.
Vice President Pete Zuger
Treasurer Carl Ramsell
Secretary Susanne Cameron

Swiss Park Manager Robert Fuchslin

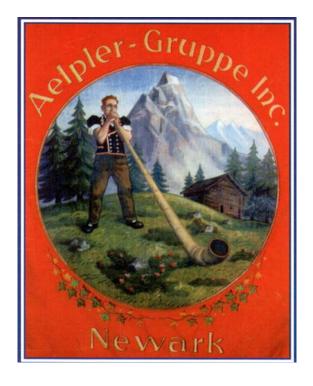
Newsletter Editor: Rose Satariano

aelplergruppe@gmail.com

Have you moved?

Assistant Secretary

Please forward your new address to Jerilyn Kroske, Corresponding Secretary, via e-mail to: aelplergruppe@gmail.com Thank you.



Officers

Aelpler Gruppe Swiss Club Board of Directors for 2021

President Arnold Ambiel 510-936-2523
1st Vice Pres Marilyn Ramsell Manchester
2nd Vice Pres Bill Bauhofer

Recording Secretary
Corresp. Secretary
Treasurer

Assistant Treasurer

Dill Baunoler
Julia Dobbel Hester
Jerilyn Kroske
Margrith Reichmuth
Michelle Bauhofer-Ott

Past President Kurt Clausen

Director 1 – Music/Historian Pat Wipfli-Schaffarczyk

Director 2 – Membership
Director 3 – Newsletter editor
Director 4 – Historian
Director 5 – Wrestling
Sennenmutter
Sennenvater

Karen Dobbel
Rose Satariano
Darrell Ramsell
Dominick Reichmuth
Rosemary Ramsell
Pete Zuger

Arnold Ambiel

How the Swiss army knife is made -

USS Delegate

https://www.popularmechanics.com/adventure/outdoor-

gear/a35130112/made-here-swiss-army-

knife/?utm_source=facebook&utm_campaign=socialflowFBPOP&utm_mediu m=social-

media&fbclid=lwAR1FHDcOdpbcW6jmV7eUN5X2QIC3BZ22FWOzEz-e-AkpS_4KdgiPTWmlqME

Swiss Embassy Newsletter - Switzerland Today

The Embassy newsletter covers topics pertaining to Swiss-US interests and relations in the fields of innovation, science and technology, economic affairs, democracy, the arts and lifestyle.

https://www.eda.admin.ch/countries/usa/en/home/news/newsletter.html

For News - Swiss Consulate:

https://www.eda.admin.ch/sanfrancisco

or Auslandschweizer-Organisation www.aso.ch

Videos and movie for your viewing pleasure:

Aelpler Gruppe Video:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1rM1TpYJqOD9yMOip8WXdIF3fvqOqlw9t/view?usp=sharing

Swiss Park Video:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1D9D8OTrC-o4SA7ImKS7gwVxv6-Okp0fr/view?usp=sharing

Swiss Club Hiking Video:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1NWv9DNM4T9gYC8whKd3xizpi94SammZP/view?usp=sharing