PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE ... by Kurt Clausen

Dear Members,

Spring is here and our outdoor events are set to begin. Our first event is the Spring Schwingfest to be held on June 2nd. This event is usually not as well attended as our Fall Schwingfest, but is every bit as exciting and worthy of your attendance. Please join us for a day of exciting wrestling followed by dinner and dancing.

To prepare the park for the Schwingfest, we will have a Clean-Up Day on Thursday, May 31st. If you are able to join our work crew, please meet at the Park at 10:00 A.M.

On Sunday, May 6th, we will hold our Bi-Annual Meeting at 2:00 P.M. in the Hall. Your attendance is an important part of your membership, and I urge you to attend.

I am very pleased to report that our Folklore Night, held on March 31st, was a great success. The Scheiber Family’s entertainment was enjoyed by all, and it was wonderful to hear the musical talent of the younger generation. Thank you, Scheiber Family! The evening’s 31 honorees, all 80 years and over, received a bottle of wine and the crowd’s best wishes. A special guest was our member, Anton Anthenien, who will celebrate his 100th birthday in July. On my recent visit to Wallis, I visited Anton’s hometown of Obergesteln and was given a City flag, commemorative knife and written best wishes from City officials whom I will deliver to Anton. Congratulations, Anton, on this wonderful milestone!

On April 16th, I attended a gathering at the home of Swiss Consul Anderegg along with representatives of other Swiss organizations in the Western states. The purpose of the gathering was to introduce to the Swiss Abroad community a new platform, SwissCommunity.org. With this platform, you will be able to network with other Swiss Abroad, discuss the issues of the day, or explore Switzerland. You can join the platform at no cost by logging on to: www.swisscommunity.org.

Congratulations to Bill Tamerlane, the winner of last issue’s Swiss Trivia contest. The correct answer was “Dom”. This issue’s trivia question is: “What is the largest lake located entirely within Switzerland?” Please e-mail your answer to me at kcswiss@earthlink.net, or call me at (650) 996-0151 for a chance to win a Swiss Park Bar & Grill gift certificate. Good luck!

Please mark your calendars for our bi-annual meeting on May 6th, and for the Spring Schwingfest on June 2nd. I hope to see you at these events.

E Schoene!
Folklore Event

The yearly event was held on March 31st at Swiss Park. The Hall was festively decorated for the special event honoring not only the members who are enjoying the Golden Years but also to celebrate our longtime member Anton Anthenien’s 100th Birthday.

His family had made the arrangements for him to attend this special occasion. The Swiss Club has always been very dear to him and his support to the Swiss Club over the years is very much appreciated. After a delicious dinner it was time for dessert. A special cake had been made for Anton for the occasion. As he was presented with the cake, we all sang Happy Birthday to him.

Soon it was time to honor so many of our active members for their hard-working support of the Swiss Club over the years. President Kurt Clausen called up the members and each was presented with a bottle of wine, a carnation and a certificate honoring them.

Rosemary Ramsell, our oldest but young at heart woman being honored was presented with a rose corsage. Anton Anthenien was also honored with a rose corsage.

Then it was time for the young musicians to present their program. It featured Ron & Vreni Scheiber’s grandsons from Nicolaus, CA. Bobby Gander (11), son of Herbie and Cindy Gander, was up first and played musical selections on the piano. Next was his brother Mitchell’s turn. He also played selections on the piano. Then Ron called up Herbie Gander playing the bass and Michelle playing the piano to accompany Mitchell. He plays the piano, the clarinet and he also started playing the Schwyzerorgeli in the last couple of months.

Gage Willey (16), son of Patricia & Steve Willey of Nicolaus, played various Landler music selections on the saxophone with Ron accompanying him on the accordion, Herbie on the bass, and Michelle on the piano. Gage has been a student of Ron’s since he was in 4th grade and Ron taught him to play the saxophone. Those youngsters are very talented and Ron is to be congratulated teaching them the art of playing Swiss Landler Music. Also, a big thank you to Ron for organizing a super musical program for this event.

The event continued with dancing and listening to the Ron Scheiber Orchestra. We wish to thank all the organizers and all the workers who made this an evening to be remembered. Also, thank you to Joe and Kathy Koller for bringing the lovely camellias for the table decorations.

Rosemary Ramsell, Swiss Club’s Sennenmutter and Anton Anthenien, celebrating 100 years

Thank you to Suzanne and Arnold Ambiel for our Folklore Event photos.
The following are the Aelpler Gruppe Swiss Club members who were honored at the March 31, 2012 Folklore Event (in alphabetical order):

Joe Allgauer  
Otto Ambiel  
Anton Anthenien  100 years old  
Rosemary Aufdermaur  
Frank Aufdermaur  
Eda Mae Betschart  
Gigi Britschgi  
Heidi Britschgi  
Louie Ettlin  
Fred Flecklin  
Elsie Holdener  
Rosie Imhof  
Rosmarie Imholz  
Joe Koller  
Kathy Koller  
Alois Kaslin  
Ethel Lutschan  
Louie Marchy  
Helen Marchy  
Rosemary Ramsell – Swiss Club’s Sennenmutter  
Frank Reichmuth  
Mary Reichmuth - Louie Ettlin’s friend  
Konrad Rickenbach  
Frank Schmidig – Swiss Club’s Sennenvater  
Walter Senn  
Louie Sessa  
Ellie Schwob  
Harold Weisbrod  
Louise Zumbach

Herbie Gander, Gage Willey, Ron Scheiber, Michelle Khazaepoul

Kurt Clausen presented a Swiss Chalet to Anton in honor of his 100th Birthday

Helen Marchy proposing a toast

Ethel Lutschan
Aelpler Gruppe Swiss Club Events for 2012

May 6 – Semi Annual Members Meeting 2:00 pm
June 2 – Spring Schwingfest 11:00 am
July 13 – USS (United Swiss Society) Kids Day Camp for Swiss Culture
July 29 – USS Swiss National Day Celebration
August 25 – Fall Schwingfest 11:00 am
October 27 – Metzgete Dinner 6:00 pm
November 4 – Annual Member’s Meeting 2:00 pm
December 1 – Member’s Annual Christmas Dinner
December 31 – New Year’s Eve Gala Event

Newark Swiss Park Events:

Sept. 29 – Octoberfest with Tony Raymann’s Edelweiss Dance Band

2012 West Coast Schwingfeste

June 2 – Aelpler Gruppe Swiss Club, Newark
   Contact: Kurt Clausen 650-988-1161
June 9 – San Joaquin Valley Swiss Club, Ripon
   Contact – Don Widmer 209-982-1512
June 16 – San Diego Swiss Club, San Diego
   Contact – Tony Odermatt 619-507-9754
June 30 – Tacoma, WA Spring Schwingfest
   Contact: Willi Boni 253-863-3307
July 7 – LPSS Schwingfest, Frances, WA
   Contact: Werner Blaser 360-748-4887
July 21 – Sierra Swiss Club, Truckee
   Contact: Urs Gwerder 530-587-8316
July 28 – SJVSC Buebe Schwingfest, Ripon
   Contact: Don Widmer 209-982-1512
Aug. 4 – Portland Swiss Club Portland, OR
   Contact: Joanne Odermott 503-640-9675
Aug 11 – Tacoma Fall Schwingfest, Tacoma
   Contact: Willi Boni 253-863-3307
Aug 25 – Aelpler Gruppe Swiss Club, Newark
   Contact: Kurt Clausen 650-988-1161
Sept 1 – SJVSC Ripon – Championship
   Contact: Don Widmer 209-982-1512

Swiss Singing Society of San Francisco

Jackie Zuger, President 415-897-9504
Sunday, April 29th - Spring Concert at Basque Cultural Center 590 Railroad Ave,
So. San Francisco

Event Calendar for SJVSC, Ripon

President: Don Widmer, 209-982-1512
June 9 – Spring Schwingfest
July 28 - Members BBQ/Buebe Schwingfest
Sept. 1 – Championship Schwingfest
Oct. 2 – Fall Swiss Echoes Concert
Nov 4 - Fall Jass Party

Peninsula Swiss Club

Contact: Monika Ryser 408-266-4711
May 6 – Wine tasting at Ridge Vineyards, Cupertino
August 4 – First of August Celebration, Schneider’s Residence, Atherton
November 3 – Metzgete Dinner at Masonic Hall, Mt. View

Swiss Rifle Club Events
(Carmel Gun Club - The club has a very active Swiss Rifle group. They use the range of the Monterey County Swiss Rifle Club for matches and use the 300 meter range for all Swiss matches)

May 19 – Swiss Rifle Match
June 2 & 3 – Swiss Schuetzenfest

Please contact John Burky for more information at 510-574-0702.
We are deeply grateful for the many thoughtful donations to the Memorial Fund:

**In memory of Marguerite Durrer:**
David & Margrith Reichmuth  
Gene & Barbara Ramsell

**In memory of Diane Fries:**
Rosemary Ramsell  
Fred & Marilyn Flecklin  
John & Marguerite Marchy  
Jan Sutter  
Mary & Bob Montonye

**In memory of Mary Dettling & Barbara Brogle:**
Jan Sutter

**In memory of Betty Van Duyn:**
David & Margrith Reichmuth

**In memory of Joseph Reichmuth:**
Alphons Frey

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**In Memory**

Our Swiss Club’s longtime member, Diane Fries was born on October 1, 1933 in Newark, California and passed away on February 21, 2012. She attended Newark Grammar School, Notre Dame High School and San Jose State University. On July 16, 1955 she married Frank Fries. They were happily married for 56 years until Frank’s death on November 10, 2011. Diane & Frank had been blessed with two daughters, Lynnette and Lori, son-in laws Frank & Dave, and granddaughters Claire & Sarah.

Diane was proud of her Swiss and Portuguese heritage. She was a gifted and creative teacher, a devout member of Saint Augustine’s Catholic Church. Their “dream” home she designed with Frank was filled with love and warmth for 44 years. She loved decorating for every holiday, making her home festive and welcoming. She was at home in the kitchen, canning cases of jam, pepper jelly, and pickled asparagus every year. She was proud of her garden and enjoyed many hours there making it beautiful.

She enjoyed time spent at her much loved cabin in Pinecrest. She shared her love of the ocean with her children and grandchildren. Being a doting grandma was a priority in her life. Diane was the essence of stability and love, a mother to many with her door and heart always open. She was compassionate and generous, sharing her smiles, laughter and encouragement with everyone.

She loved her husband and family. Diane Fries will be missed by all.

**In Memory**

Our Social Member, Chris Beratlis of Pleasanton passed away on April 11, 2012 at the age of 77. He is survived by his wife Glenda, son Christopher and wife Erika, grandchildren Jamye and Jared and three sisters. He was predeceased in death by his son David who was killed in an auto accident in 1990.

Services were held on April 17, 2012 at St Augustine Catholic Church in Pleasanton. Chris lived in Pleasanton all his life. He was actively involved in civic affairs and at various times served on the Junior Chamber of Commerce Board, Pleasanton City Council, Alameda County Fair Board of Directors, the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce and Downtown Association. He worked hard all his life and was very successful especially in commercial and residential real estate holdings.

The family would prefer a donation to the David K. Beratlis Scholarship Found at Valley Community Bank to benefit local high school students.

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**Do we have your e-mail address?**

Are you receiving the notices via e-mail when one of our members dies?
If not, please send your e-mail address to: mariette554@yahoo.com
You will receive the notices much more timely. It also saves the club money.

Please put the word “Newsletter” in the subject line of your email.
Thank you to our Advertisers for their support of our club.

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Schwinger from Switzerland at the August 25th Fall Schwingfest in Newark.

Our Swiss Club received word from Rene Berger that he and his girlfriend will be vacationing in the US in August and inquired as to the possibility of participating in the Fall Schwingfest. Rene has wrestled for many years, is a “Kranzschwinger” and is a member of the “Schwingklub Sumiswald”.

Needless to say the arrangements have been made for his arrival and we look forward to his participation.

Social Member Dues

Thank you to all who so timely sent in their dues. Your response has been great. If you have not sent in your dues, won’t you take a minute and make a check payable to Aelpler Gruppe Swiss Club in the amount of $30.00 and mail it to 5911 Mowry Ave., Newark, CA 94560.

There is a $10.00 late fee on dues paid after March 31st.

Questions; please contact Mariette Franke at 408-988-4351 or e-mail her at mariette554@yahoo.com

Aelpler Gruppe Schwingers Win Crown

For the second year in a row, Aelpler Gruppe Newark had a crown Schwinger at the Imperial Valley Schwingfest.

Last fall at the Championship Schwingfest with the crowd cheering wildly, the “Comeback Kid”, Frank Imhof, age 50-1/2 earned a crown. Mom Rosie Imhof was there to root for him, and everyone attending felt his Dad, Shorty Imhof was there in spirit.

At Imperial Valley’s recent Schwingfest, our own Dominick Reichmuth of Newark, now attending the University of Nevada in Reno, took second place. Kudos to Dominick who follows in his father David Reichmuth’s footsteps. Dave “schwinget” not only up and down the west coast, but at several Schwingfests in Switzerland. Proud Dad and Mom Margrith were there to applaud and congratulate him. In addition, there were several Aelpler Gruppe members there to give him a well-deserved pat on the back.

Submitted by Lois Ulrich
Spring Schwingfest
Swiss Wrestling Tournament

At Swiss Park
5911 Mowry Ave., Newark, CA 94560
Sponsored by Aelpler Gruppe Swiss Club

Saturday, June 2, 2012

All Schwingers are invited – Boys ~ Juniors ~ Seniors
Schwinger sign-up at 11:00 am - Event starts at 11:30 am
Steinstossen for the young people in the afternoon

General Admission $10.00 for Day & Evening.
Free to children 18 years & under

Bratwurst/Schublig Lunch $7.00 served at 1:00 PM
BBQ Chicken Dinner $12.00 after Schwingen

Music by: Ed Inderbitzin Orchestra for the Dance in the Evening
Awards Presentation: Approx. 8:00 PM

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• Motels: Comfort Inn (was Holiday Inn) 5977 Mowry Ave 510-795-7995 –ask for Swiss Park rates
  Super Eazy 8 Motel Newark – 1-510-794-7775
  Motel 6, Newark – 1-510-791-5900
  Hilton – 39900 Balentine Dr., Newark – 1-510-490-8390
  Best Western, 5400 Mowry Ave, Fremont 510-792-4300

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E-mail: mariette554@yahoo.com
• Phone 408-988-4351

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June 9, 2012 – Spring Schwingfest in Ripon, CA
Swiss Community Calendar of Events listed inside

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

Newark Swiss Park Board of Directors
President – Leo Ott
Vice President – Pete Zuger
Treasurer – Carl Ramsell
Secretary – Susanne Cameron
Assistant Secretary – Herman Betchart

Newsletter Editor: Rose Satariano
925-833-0586  aelplergruppe@yahoo.com

Would you like your newsletters via email? Please email your request to me at the above address.

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