



"Helvetia"

SOCIETY FOR COLLECTORS OF SWITZERLAND

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HELVETIA RESUMES PUBLICATION

With this newsletter the Helvetia Society resumes a monthly publication for the first time since the Helvetia Bulletin stopped appearing after its January issue in 1957, No. 1 of Volume XX. This month's newsletter is picking up where the former publication left off, as No. 1 of Volume XXI. However, there is an important distinction. This newsletter will contain, for the time being, only news items. With the support of the members it will in time hopefully contain philatelic articles and research as well. In the meantime this newsletter will endeavor to serve as a forum for society affairs so that the society can reserve its meetings for reports and decisions, and thereby devote more time to its monthly programs and trading sessions. The pages of the newsletter are open to all members.

1969-70 OFFICERS

President -- Harlan F. Stone
Vice President -- Ronald D. Lowden, Jr.
Secretary -- Aaron E. Rosenberg
Treasurer -- George H. Wettach
Librarian -- Otto Hug

Trustees -- Otto Hug, Frieda L. Wettach, Benjamin F. Wood

Publicity Chairman -- Vacant
Membership Chairman -- Albert S. Adams
Program Chairman -- Ronald D. Lowden, Jr.
Sales Chairman -- Edward S. Hochuli
Editor -- Harlan F. Stone

BEPEX Representatives -- Frederick Schumacher, Werner Vogel
BEPEX Alternate Representatives -- Albert S. Adams, Paul J. Malina
A.P.S. Representative -- Justin R. Fuelleman

EDITH FAULSTICH TO SPEAK AT SEPTEMBER MEETING

An informal showing of early Swiss covers by Edith Faulstich, one of this country's authorities on Swiss postal history, will be the program for our Sept. 16 meeting. Mrs. Faulstich, a former editor of the Helvetia Bulletin, is also a past president of the Postal History Society of the Americas (which is sponsoring this fall's NOJEX) and a member of the international jury of PHILLYMPIA, the exhibition to be held in London next year.

The business agenda will include reports from our chairmen and BEPEX and A.P.S. representatives, a decision on whether to sponsor a Swiss award at next spring's BEPEX, and the submission of a motion to change the name of the society from "Helvetia Society for Collectors of Switzerland" to "Helvetia Philatelic Society." The meeting begins at 8 p.m. at the Fair Lawn Arts Center, 12-56 River Road, Fair Lawn, N.J. Guests are welcome.

FUTURE TROPHIES TO HAVE DISTINCTIVE SWISS CHARACTER

As requested by our society last spring, George Wettach, our treasurer, bought some suitable souvenirs in Switzerland this summer for use as awards our society will offer at future philatelic exhibitions. He chose two wooden plates, the size of dessert dishes, that are decorated with the 22 Swiss cantonal arms around their rims; and two metal, four-inch-high reproductions of the famous statue of William Tell and his son at Altdorf. These trophies will be on display at our September meeting.

HELVETIA APPLIES FOR A.P.S. MEMBERSHIP

The Helvetia Society has submitted an application to the American Philatelic Society for membership as an A.P.S. chapter. The Helvetia members voted last spring to seek chapter status after a letter from the A.P.S. explained that unit membership is open only to specialty groups that are national in scope. The A.P.S. has taken no action yet on Helvetia's application.

LUCHSINGER MOVES TO BUFFALO AREA

Paul Luchsinger, who was active this summer as the society's publicity chairman and A.P.S. representative, has moved to Jamestown, N.Y. Justin Fuelleman has agreed to serve as A.P.S. representative, but the post of publicity chairman is still open to any volunteer.

HELVETIA AT NOJEX?

During the summer our society issued a press release naming our officers and reporting our plans for the 1969-70 year. The release has appeared in several philatelic news columns, notably those of Stamps, Linn's Weekly Stamp News and the Newark Sunday News.

The most significant response has come from NOJEX (North Jersey Federated Stamp Clubs), which has asked whether our society would like to co-sponsor one of the future NOJEX shows. Aaron Rosenberg, our secretary, reports that participation would include exhibits by interested members and a society booth. NOJEX would require no financial support.

This invitation appears to offer an important opportunity for Helvetia. First, a booth with information handouts would serve as an excellent means to attract new members in the New Jersey-New York-Pennsylvania area. Second, a Helvetia-sponsored award for the best showing of Swiss stamps or covers might attract exhibits from other parts of the country and serve to further publicize our activities.

Edith Faulstich, the stamp editor for the Newark News, wrote in her July 6 column, "You should not fail to visit the Helvetia Society if you are at all interested in Swiss philately, for it is an up and coming organization which we believe will go national before too long."

Participation in NOJEX in 1970 would be one upward step toward national status, a big one, but one not beyond our reach.

NEW NAME FOR HELVETIA PUBLICATION?

President Harlan Stone, editor of the society's newsletter, is seeking suggestions for a distinctive name for the new publication. "I realize I may be trampling on tradition when I suggest replacing 'Helvetia Bulletin,' the title that appeared on the society's former monthly publication from 1938 to 1957," he says. "But I don't think 'Bulletin' conveys anything philatelic about Switzerland." His opening suggestions: Helvetia Messenger or Helvetia Crossbow.