



"Helvetia"

SOCIETY FOR COLLECTORS OF SWITZERLAND

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Summit, N. J. 07901, 273-4175

Helvetia Calendar

- Dec. 12 -- Annual Christmas dinner, Homestead Restaurant, 307 Terrace Ave., Hasbrouck Heights, N. J., 7:30 p.m. Map attached.
- Dec. 15 -- Monthly meeting, Fair Lawn Arts Center, 12-56 River Road, Fair Lawn, N. J., 8 p.m. Program: talk on Bundesfeier (national fete) cards by Harlan Stone. All members are requested to bring duplicates for trading. Guests welcome.

Successful Helvetia Meeting at NOJEX

A total of 25 collectors, including eight Helvetia members, attended the society's 2½-hour meeting at NOJEX on Nov. 14. Opening the program were two excellent color films. The first, "Artists on Stamps," showed about a dozen of the designers who have created some of Switzerland's stamps. The second, "Perforated Prints," followed the story of the architectural monuments series issued during the 1960's, from the design contest to the distribution of the finished stamps to post offices throughout Switzerland. Completing the program was a talk by Harlan Stone ranging over most of the facets of Swiss collecting, including areas not listed in Scott's Catalog. He illustrated his talk with 60 pages from his collection.

Much to the disappointment of the NOJEX committee, there were no Swiss exhibits. Only Caroline Blum displayed Liechtenstein stamps. As a result, the judges named no winner for the Helvetia Award. Caroline and Henry Blum represented the society at the NOJEX banquet, where they and other past winners of NOJEX's meritorious service award were honored guests.

Eight of the collectors who attended the meeting expressed interest in society membership by listing their names and addresses on a sign-up sheet. One of these prospective members commented, "The movies alone were worth the price of admission to NOJEX."

SASS Still Seeks Helvetia Support

Herbert E. DuRussel, founder of the Swiss American Stamp Society, has invited the Helvetia Society to affiliate with SASS as its New Jersey Chapter. Under this arrangement Helvetia would retain its name, officers and present activities. All members who pay SASS's \$2 annual dues would receive its growing publication, Helvetia Herald, and be eligible to hold office in the national organization. Mr. DuRussel outlined this proposal at a meeting of Swiss collectors at the ASDA booth of the Amateur Collector in New York on Nov. 21. A discussion and possible vote on the proposal is on the agenda for Helvetia's December meeting.

Mr. DuRussel also reported that the New York Chapter of SASS, organized last spring, has become dormant because of lack of a regular meeting place. If his present search for a place proves successful, he plans to notify the Helvetia Society so interested members can also join the New York Chapter.

News Briefs

The society's officers will consider dropping from membership all those who have not paid their 1970-71 dues of \$2 by the end of December. Checks may be mailed to Treasurer George H. Wettach, 17-20 Well Drive., Fair Lawn, N. J. 07410 or brought to the December meeting.

Members who are interested in colored stickers of the 22 Swiss cantonal shields to illustrate their album pages can obtain them from Zweifel Jewelry Shop, 101 Sixth Ave., New Glarus, Wisc. 53574. Mrs. John Zweifel writes that the stickers cost 40 cents for two sets measuring one inch by 7/8 inch, 40 cents per set measuring one and 3/8 inches by one and 5/8 inches, and 50 cents per set measuring two inches by two and 3/8 inches. The four percent Wisconsin sales tax and postage must be added to checks accompanying orders.