

700 Jahre/ans/anni/onns Confoederatio Helvetica

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The architectural competition for the "Place of the Swiss Abroad"

Everybody's now invited

As mentioned in issue 1/90 of "Swiss Review", the contest has attracted tremendous interest. The prize-awarding jury has consequently decided to invite all expatriate Swiss architects who had by the deadline of December 1, 1989 applied to take part in the contest, to submit proposals for the design.

The members of the jury felt that it would not be fair, in the light of the many applications received, to request only seven architects to submit designs, as originally planned. All the applicants have now been given time until October 15, 1990, for elaborating and submitting their designs. And in December 1990, the prize-awarding jury will make its selection.

Plans for '91

The Council of the Foundation for the "Place of the Swiss Abroad" has decided to erect by 1991, on the site of the "Place", to act as part of the permanent infrastructure, a prestigious assembly tent with a capacity of some 2,000 persons. This tent will not be used only for festivities, other activities, and exhibitions for the expatriate Swiss, but will also be available to third parties. It is expected that the "Place" will thereby be able to accentuate its character as a venue for meetings and encounters in the spirit of the "leitmotiv" of the whole

700-year celebration. In the opinion of the Council of the Foundation the rest of the grounds should comprise a plain garden, with pathways and seating facilities, and should be decorated with the flags of the countries in which many expatriate Swiss reside. For financing all this, apart from donations from individuals, it is hoped to obtain contributions from sponsors.

The Council of the Foundation has furthermore set up an Organising Committee, to be responsible for the detailed planning and the actual performance of the work needed to get the "Place" completed by 1991. Mr. Heinz Bysäth, from Brunnen, a civil engineer, has been nominated as President of the Committee, whose other members have for practical reasons been recruited from prominent personalities from Brunnen and Schwyz. The Organisation of the Swiss Abroad will be represented on the Committee by Professor Walther Hofer. SSA

A gathering of the Stauffacher clan in 1991

To coincide with the celebration of the 700th anniversary next year, a meeting is being organised in the Canton of Glarus for persons called Stauffacher from all parts of the world. Bearers of that surname will assemble on May 4th 1991 at the village church in Matt. On the following day, a visit to the traditional "Landsgemeinde" in Glarus is on the programme. From May 6th to May 11th, an excursion through the whole of Switzerland is to take place. Furthermore, Stauffacher's will be able to order their genealogical "family tree" starting as long ago as 1542.

If you have any men or women called Stauffacher among your friends and acquaintances, please draw their attention to this unique opportunity. A detailed programme will be mailed in August 1990 to everyone who has expressed interest. St

Address for contacts/information/and booking:

"Stauffacher", P.O. Box 50, CH-5734 Reinach, Switzerland
(and please make sure you give your own name and exact address!)

A "thank-you"

In our issue no. 4/89 we published an appeal by two filmmakers, Benno Maggi and Ueli Meier, in connection with their project for a film to form part of the 700 year anniversary celebrations. The invitation to take part met with a far greater response than expected. The filmmakers studied all replies very carefully and contacted all those persons direct who appeared suitable for collaborating in the project. They can unfortunately not reply personally to all the persons who wrote in, but would like to express their hearty thanks to all of them in this manner for the keen interest they have shown.

An appeal to citizens of Kilchberg (ZH)

Expatriate citizens of Kilchberg are invited to contact the undermentioned address, if they are interested in visiting their "home" community on Friday, September 6, 1991, to take part in the festivities to celebrate the 700th anniversary of the Confederation's foundation. Depending on how many persons plan to attend, the municipality will bear part or perhaps the whole of the costs involved.

Kilchberg citizens living abroad are requested, if they are interested in attending, to write to:
Gemeinderatskanzlei Kilchberg, Alte Landstrasse 110, CH-8802 Kilchberg

Visiting Switzerland

In 1991 would you not like to visit Switzerland in that year of Jubilee celebrations - and to enjoy for a few days the hospitality of a Swiss family, gaining thereby some insight into everyday life in Switzerland?

On the occasion of the 700th anniversary of the Confederation's foundation, and as one feature of the campaign "Encounter 91" the Federation of Swiss Women's Institutes is offering this unique holiday "experience". As already mentioned in the last three issues of "Swiss Review" this offer is for the period from mid-March to

mid-September 1991. From now on and until the end of September 1990 you have an opportunity to fill in the coupon on this page, without any obligation, so as to order more detailed information about "Visiting Switzerland in 1991", as well as the forms to be used for a definitive and binding application.

Visiting Switzerland in 1991

I have been interested to read about the offer for visiting Switzerland in 1991, made by the Federation of Swiss Women's Institutes, within the scope of the campaign "Encounter 91". May I ask you therefore to send me, without any obligation on my part, the necessary documentation and forms for a definitive application, at the undermentioned address:

Surname and given name: _____

Street: _____

Town: _____

Country: _____

(Please write very legibly, in block letters if possible)

If I decide definitively for a journey to Switzerland I would need holiday accommodation for _____ persons.

(Please send this coupon as soon as possible - and not later than September 1990 - to: Aktion Begegnung 91, P.O. Box, CH-4501 Solothurn)