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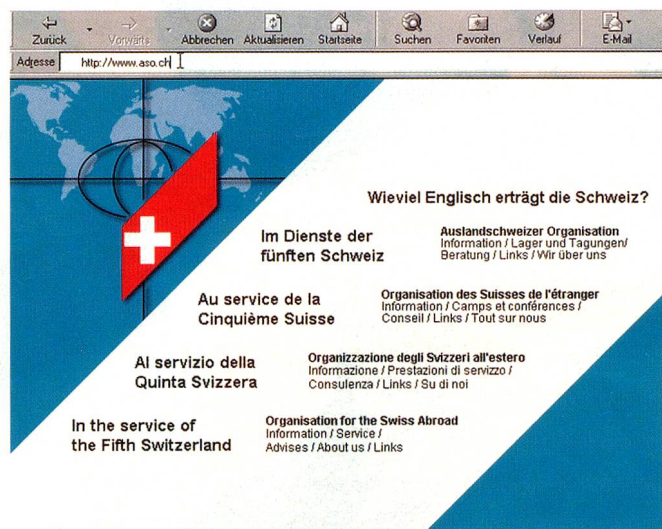
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New OSA website

First-class Internet presence



The OSA has taken the electronic plunge from passive showcase to an interactive hub. The society's brand-new Internet page (www.aso.ch) will be available to users from 1 January 2000, providing the latest news on the Fifth Switzerland and offering a wide range of services and tips.

Easy-to-navigate structure

Thanks to a simple navigation technique, users can move with ease between the six main areas: "Information", "Tips", "Camps and Events", "About us" and "Links". An index provides a quick overview of all subjects. Language selection buttons allow users to browse

German, French, Italian or English pages.

"Information" contains useful data and statistics on Swiss Abroad. "Swiss Review" and the "OSA Newsletter" can also be called up on-line; and the Annual Report of the OSA can be downloaded as a PDF file.

"Camps and Events" provides information on events such as the annual Congress of the Swiss Abroad as well as upcoming sports camps and summer camps. Electronic forms allow you to register on-line.

"Tips" contains practical information on social and health insurance, legal issues and education in Switzerland. ■

Competition to promote the OSA

First prize to Aosta

This year's winners were announced at the Congress of the Swiss Abroad in Lausanne.

The first prize, donated by Cathay Pacific Airways Limited and the Peninsula Hotel (a flight to Hong Kong

and three nights in the Peninsula) goes to Gabriela Leu in Aosta.

The second prize goes to Peter Frisch of Barranquilla, Columbia, who wins dinner for two and an overnight stay at the famous Fischer-

Winter Sports Camps 1999/2000

From 16.1.–28.1. 2000 the Rotary Club of Central Switzerland (Andermatt, Lucerne and Sörenberg) is organising a winter sports camp for 18–28 year-olds. Costs: CHF 600.–.

Place, date: Grindelwald/BE, 11.3.–18.3.2000 and 18.3.–25.3.2000 (one- or two-week stay according to preference). Costs: 1 week CHF 750.–, 2 weeks CHF 1350.–. Open to: young Swiss Abroad aged between 20 and 35.

Place, date: Grimentz/VS, 15.4.–24.4.2000. Open to: young Swiss Abroad aged between 13 and 25. Ability to ski and snowboard not required. Beginners also welcome.

Further information and registration: Secretariat for the Swiss Abroad Alpenstrasse 26, CH-3000 Berne 16 Tel +41 31 351 61 00 Fax +41 31 351 61 50 E-mail: youth@aso.ch ■

Summer Camps 2000 for 8–14 year olds

The Foundation for Young Swiss Abroad is planning eight summer camps for next year: 26.6.–7.7. in Begnins/VD, 8.7.–22.7. in Trey/VD, 15.7.–29.7. in Steffisburg/BE, 15.7.–29.7. in Lungern/OW, 22.7.–5.8. in Achseten/BE, 5.8.–19.8. in Stäfa/ZH and 12.8.–26.8. in Einsiedeln/SZ.

All camps are for two weeks. Priority will be given to children who did not attend a camp the previous year, provided they apply in time. For each camp the number of children from any one country is limited to a quarter of participants. The deadline for registration is 15.3.2000. From January 2000 detailed documentation on the summer camps may be requested from the following address:

SJAS, Foundation for Young Swiss Abroad Alpenstrasse 26, CH-3000 Berne 16 Tel +41 31 351 61 60 Fax +41 31 351 61 50 E-mail: sjas@aso.ch ■

Jean-Jacques Cevey appointed Honorary President

In recognition of his long-standing service in the interests of the Organisation for the Swiss Abroad, Jean-Jacques Cevey, who presided over the OSA between 1992 and 1998, was elected Honorary President at the autumn session of the Council of the Swiss Abroad.

zunft restaurant/hotel in Schaffhausen. The prize was donated by the proprietor, André Jäger. The third prize goes to Alessandro Grossmann Epper of Mexico City, Mexico. He wins a 20-gram gold bar, donated by Walter E. Häfliger. Finally, the fourth prize of a gold Vreneli, donated by Elisabeth Michel, has been won by Rudolf von Planta in Jussy, Switzerland. ■

Congress 2000

The 78th Congress of the Swiss Abroad will be held between 17 and 20 August next year in Zug. The subject is: "Learning and knowledge in the future. Offerings, development and strengths of Switzerland as a centre of learning." Further information will be published in the next issue of "Swiss Review".