

# OSA news

Objektyp: **Group**

Zeitschrift: **Swiss review : the magazine for the Swiss abroad**

Band (Jahr): **29 (2002)**

Heft 1

PDF erstellt am: **23.07.2024**

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## Visit one of the world's most important natural regions!

**Some time ago we reserved the accommodation for the Swiss Abroad winter sports camp. At the time we were seeking particularly impressive locations and decided in favour of Grindelwald and Bettmeralp. We are pleased to report that these regions have now been singled out by UNESCO. Visit us in a breathtaking alpine wonderland!**

On 13 December, following a lengthy evaluation process by the relevant departments of UNESCO, the Aletsch – Jungfrau – Bietschhorn region was designated a UNESCO World Natural Heritage Site. This makes it one of the most important natural regions in the world.

### Winter sports week in Grindelwald

The region is bordered to the North by the majestic alpine peaks of the Eiger, Mönch and Jungfrau. You can admire these soaring summits during our winter sports week in Grindelwald. From the ski slopes you can almost reach out and touch these famous mountains. The camp is designed for young adults from

age 18. Between 10 and 17 March you can benefit from the skills of our experienced, trained ski and snowboard instructors, get to know new friends, and enjoy fun and entertainment in a like-minded group.

### Easter ski camp on Bettmeralp

Enjoy a spectacular view of the newly-designated World Natural Heritage Site from the Bettmerhorn. This is also the place from which to admire the Aletsch glacier and the fascinating Aletsch forest with its ancient larches and arolla pines. The Bettmeralp ski region is the venue for our Easter Camp from 30 March to 7 April. We offer: skiing and snowboarding in the springtime sunshine of the Valais, roomy accommodation and lots of fun and action. Young Swiss Abroad aged between 14 and 25 should register now!

*As usual, information and details on the above arrangements are available from: Organisation for the Swiss Abroad Youth Service*

*Alpenstrasse 26, 3000 Berne 16*

*Tel.: ++41 (0)31 351 61 00*

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*youth@aso.ch*

*www.aso.ch*

## New life members

Over the past two years the Association for the Promotion of the Organisation for the Swiss Abroad (OSA) has had pleasure in welcoming the following new life members:

- Yasma Musallam, Lebanon
- Oskar Gnaedinger, USA
- Hans Schalch, Spain
- Benno O. Haenggi, Thailand
- Georg Ziltener, Switzerland
- François Jeannerat, Switzerland
- Beat Siegrist, Switzerland
- Thomas Fueglistner, Tanzania
- Alice R. Herbets, USA

The OSA cordially thanks all sponsors for their support!

## New visual identity for the Foundation for Young Swiss Abroad

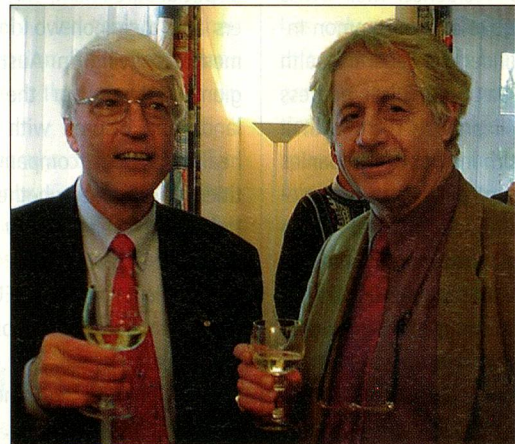


To celebrate its 85th anniversary in 2002, the Foundation for Young Swiss Abroad has adopted a new,

fresher and more youthful visual identity. As in all previous years, the aim is to allow young Swiss Abroad to get to know Switzerland, meet other children from all over the world and, where necessary, provide assistance for children in need and in disaster regions.

There are still some places free in the eight 2002 summer camps (10-day camps held between the end of June and end of August). The main attraction is a visit to Expo.02. The cost of the camp is CHF 700 per child. The Foundation also considers applications for a reduction in costs or even a contribution to the cost of travel to Switzerland. For more details, log on to [www.aso.ch](http://www.aso.ch) or contact the Foundation for Young Swiss Abroad, Alpenstrasse 26, CH-3000 Berne 16 (Tel. +41 31 351 61 60).

## New AJAS President



Imagopress

In November 2001 Bernese CVP National Councillor Remo Galli (right) succeeded Beat Kölliker as President of the Association for the Promotion of the Education of Young Swiss Abroad (AJAS). We wish Remo Galli every success in his new post and take this opportunity to thank Beat Kölliker for his excellent work over more than ten years.

A new AJAS information brochure has been designed for all young Swiss Abroad wishing to study in their home country. The brochure can be ordered from the AJAS Secretariat.

AJAS

Alpenstrasse 26, CH-3000 Berne 16

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[www.aso.ch](http://www.aso.ch) • [ajas@aso.ch](mailto:ajas@aso.ch)

# Support Swiss Abroad Day

As part of the cantonal focus at Expo.02, a Swiss Abroad Day is to be held on 10 August 2002, marking the highlight of the 80th Congress of the Swiss Abroad (9 to 11 August). Various events will be held under the title "Images Suisses – La Cinquième Suisse en mouvement et solidaire".

Perhaps you know someone who would like to provide some financial support to make sure that the Fifth Switzerland is effectively presented at Expo.02? Or perhaps you would like to support the Swiss Abroad Day yourself? All sponsors will be mentioned in our information and documentation. On request we will gladly send you more details.

We should also like to remind you of the request we made in the October 2001 edition of Swiss Re-

view: We are collecting images of Switzerland. We use the word "image" in the loosest sense: images can be small objects, photos or collages. Apart from the dimensions (max. 70cm x 50cm x 20cm), the only limit is on your own imagination. Your contributions will

be used by artists to make installations which the public can admire during the "Images Suisses". Entries must arrive by 1 June. Please include the following information: Name, age, address, date of emigration. Many thanks! (Images Suisses; Expo.02 Competi-

tion; Rotwandstr. 39; CH-8004 Zurich)

**Donations, marked "Auslandsschweizertag", can be sent to Account 16/129.446.098, Organisation of the Swiss Abroad, Cantonal Bank of Berne, CH-3001 Berne.**

## Exciting youth session

**This year the Youth Session Secretariat once more worked closely with the Youth Service of the Organisation for the Swiss Abroad to allow a group of ten young Swiss Abroad to take part in the youth session.**

The young people were given the opportunity not only to experience the youth session but also to familiarise themselves with other

aspects of Swiss politics and get to know Switzerland in general. In the run-up to the youth session the young Swiss Abroad were given a two-day introduction to Switzerland's political system, heard speeches on the topics to be covered by this year's session and on various current affairs, exchanged ideas and experiences during a visit to the most beautiful area of Berne, and enjoyed lots of

other interesting and unforgettable times in Switzerland. By participating in the youth session, young Swiss Abroad had the chance to find out more about Switzerland's political system in general and Swiss politics for the young in particular, and actively advocate their interests

Translated from the German by N. Chisholm

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