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FIP Commission for Astrophilately

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As Bureau Member for FEPA, I can report the following activities for 2022:  
As COVID-19 slowly loses its grip, meetings, exhibitions, and space activities are coming back. Not in a big scale, but much wanted by everybody.

I had a good contact my German and Austrian friends, especially for translating the new Astro Guidelines into German. Also, with France and Italy I maintained contact by e-mail.

As Delegate for Switzerland of the FIP Section for Astrophilately, Vice-President and part of the web-team of the Society of Space Philatelists GWP, founded in 1969 in Zurich, I can report on Astrophilately activities for 2022:

- 1.) The GWP held monthly assemblies where the members are informed about space activities and related astrophilatelic material. [PDF-Summary](#)  
The GWP organized an auction with astrophilatelic material and literature. Most items found new owners from all over Europe.
- 2.) **Promotion:** During the "Aero-Philately Days", the society's 5-frame exhibit about Swiss astronaut Claude Nicollier was on display and admired by all.
- 3.) **Publications:** The GWP published quarterly editions of the publication "Space Phil News" (SPN), which I help editing. They were distributed to all members in Switzerland, Austria, Germany, and Belgium.  
[All SPN can be read online.](#)

Regular publications of astrophilatelic articles in the Magazine of the Swiss Philatelic Federation (the oldest philatelic newspaper in the world).

Ernst Leu, the webmaster of the homepage [www.g-w-p.ch](http://www.g-w-p.ch), regularly informs about up-to-date activities of the society, space societies, space programmes, events and exhibitions.

4.) **Exhibitions:** We were not allowed to exhibit in Liberec, as Switzerland did not nominate a commissioner.

For the only regional exhibition in Switzerland in 2022, a newly created 1-frame exhibit was awarded V. In total, two 3-frame and three 1-frame exhibits were shown.

Stephen Lachein, a member of our society living in Germany, attended 7 exhibitions with two different exhibits. One in Astro, one in Open Class. His Astro exhibit was awarded LG at Antverpia 2022 – his Open Class exhibit was awarded G twice at Gmunden and Hirtenberg.

5.) I started a redesign of the society's homepage. It is almost finished and will be published in March 2023.

I managed to "uphold the moral" of the Swiss Astro members. That is not an easy task, especially with an International FIP Exhibition taking place in Switzerland (Lugano'22) where Astro was not accepted as an exhibition-class. To give a good example, I created a new 1-frame exhibit about the US-Lifting Body programme at the Edwards Air Force Base.

For 2023, I will try to cheer up the Astrophilatelists of the FEPA region. I will continue my contacts to the Astrophilatelic societies and to the National Delegates of the FIP-Commission for Astrophilately in the FEPA countries. I will also encourage them to create new Astrophilatelic exhibits, to improve their existing exhibits and to exhibit them.

Ernst Leu will resign as president of the Swiss Society. I will probably get elected as President on 3rd March. As a first task, the redesigned homepage will go online.

Furthermore, it's intended to keep the same yearly programme and remaining open for special challenges.

Sincerely,

Chris Schmied  
FIP Commission for Astrophilately - Delegate for Switzerland  
Bureau-member responsible for FEPA