

Geopark Swabian Alb

Progress report from September 2007 until March 2008

The Geopark has taken on board the respects of the revalidation concerning the structure and the long-term financing of the geopark. Major activities of the geopark office were put in the new organisation of a Public Benefit Association Geopark Swabian Alb. The long-term financing of the Geopark is assured, though human resources are still small; for the moment only one permanent position. Also the relocation of the geopark office is in preparation.

Contribution towards the network

1. Participating in the EGN Coordination Committee in North-West-Highlands
2. Presentation of the network at the Fair "Reisepavillon" together with 7 other European Geoparks in Stuttgart in January
3. Contribution for the EGN Coffee table book
4. Contribution for the EGN Magazine

Geopark Events and progress

5. Special Exhibition: The Upper Rhine Graben – Emergence, Stones and Fossils. Until middle of October more than 7000 visitors.
6. 16.09.07 Day of the Geotop: 15 Events (action days in queries, guided tours, speeches) all around the geopark
7. 16.09.07 Presentation of the Geopark and the Alb-Guides as well as the Geopark Information Centre Dotternhausen at the „Day of the Regions“ in Mannheim, organised by SWR4 radio station. Show-preparation of fossils of the oil shale. Children's action with oil shale. Several thousand visitors.
8. 22.-23.09.07 Shepherd Festival on the Raichberg, organized by partners. Presentation of the geopark. Several thousand visitors.
9. 4.10.07 Opening of the Geopark Information Centre at the Castel "Burg Katzenstein" by the District Administrator and the chairman of the Geopark board.
10. 6.10.07: Information centre activity day in Giengen: Hunting like the hunters of the ice age. About 130 visitors.
11. 6.-7.10.07 „Neuhauser Kirbe“ Festival in the Freilichtmuseum Neuhausen ob Eck, with performances about culture of the region.
12. 11.-13.10.07: Participation at the „Science Days“ in the amusement park „Europa Park Rust“ with show-preparation and children's action with oil shale.
13. 19.-21.10.07 Presentation of the ice Age Sculpture „Mammoth“ near the place, where it has been found in Niederstotzingen. Several thousand visitors
14. 25.10.07 until 30.03.08: Art exhibition by Claudia Hoffmann "Sculptures made with concrete and workings made with paper".
15. 28.10. 07 Inspection of the district council of Steinheim – planning of a loop road around the crater and of a geological trail.
16. 1.-4- 11.07 Presentation of the ice Age Sculptures „Mammoth“ and "Lion" in the Geopark Information Centre "Urgeschichtliches Museum" in Blaubeuren. Several thousand visitors

17. 15.11.07: Slightshow by Ulrich Sauerborn, Urweltmuseum Aalen (primeval world museum): "Vom Meteoritenkrater Steinheimer Becken bis zum Zeugenberg lpf. Landschaftliche und geologische Höhepunkte der Ostalb", 40 visitors.
18. 19.11.07: Panel discussion with the minister of environment in the Geopark Information centre in Dotternhausen. About 150 visitors.
19. 22.11.07: Concert in the Werkforum Dotternhausen with "The Swingle Singers", 250 visitors.
20. 24. November 2007. Symposium Verkarstung in the Geopark Information Centre in Laichingen organised by Höhlen- und Heimatverein Laichingen. 11 oral speeches and 130 attendants.
21. December: Mainly Preparation of the EGN-Week 2008, preparation for fairs and other preparing works
22. January: Production of a one hour film „Planet Wissen“(Planet knowledge) about the Geopark Swabian Alb in the with SWR (television of the state of Baden-Württemberg). Transmission at March 11th.
23. January: New Geopark Flyer “The Information Centres of the Geopark Swabian Alb”
24. January: Presentation of the Geopark of the biggest touristy fair in Germany CMT in Stuttgart
25. 27. 01.08, Tale stations in the „Museum im Kräuterkasten“, action for children
26. 28. Februar 2008, lecture by Dr. Michael Bolus, University of Tübingen, Abt. Ältere Urgeschichte und Quartärökologie: Neue Forschungen zur Altsteinzeit auf der Schwäbischen Alb
27. Continuously „Der Koffer aus dem Kräuterkasten-Museum“ (the suitcase of the Kräuterkasten Museum), History and Natural History lessons in suitcase for children.
28. Continuously: production of a movie about the meteor crater impact in Steinheim
29. Preparing the new Geopark Information Centre in the Fossil Museum in Aalen.
30. 06.03.08: architecture lecture "Energie im Gestaltwandel. Ein 100% regeneratives Einfamilienhaus im Schurwald - Integration von Technik in die Gebäudehülle", (Energy in morphogenesis. A 100 % regenerativ one family house in the Schurwald – Integration of technology in the building shell) 60 visitors
31. 13. 03 08, Lecture by Dr. Wolfgang Lissak, Nature protection Centre Schopfloch: The Schopfloch March – Gem on the Swabian Alb
32. 16. 03.08 Start of the Cave-Saison
33. End of March: Dedication of the Umeerpfad in Gerstetten (Trail about primal ocean)

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