

## Annual Report of the Committee for the Year 2010

During the past year, the committee met 5 times in order to prepare the various events. The first event of the year was the Annual General Meeting held at the Osaka Hilton on March 12th. The meeting was attended by about 20 members. After the meeting we moved to the restaurant where we were served a beautiful buffet containing many Swiss specialties. Our sincere thanks to the Osaka Hilton and the general manager Mr. Ehrlich for welcoming us.

On May 15th, we held our spring barbecue in Okuike, where approximately 50 people gathered on a beautiful day to enjoy the friendly atmosphere. The sausages and grill meats were accompanied by salads and other dishes, and followed by cakes, all prepared by our members and guests. Thank you to all the members that helped with the food.

The Swiss National day celebration on August 1st was again held at the Kobe Club. The beautiful weather allowed us to hold the party in the garden, where we were able to welcome over 60 guests. The wine for the aperitif was kindly sponsored by the Embassy of Switzerland in Tokyo. Mr. Flückiger, the Consul General brought the official greeting from the Swiss Embassy in Tokyo. Jennifer Kitaguchi-Malin and her partner serenaded us with the national anthem played on the shakuhachi. The buffet dinner included many favourite Swiss dishes. Finally the traditional tombola concluded the evening. We would like to sincerely thank all the sponsors for the generous prizes.

On October 16th our fall barbecue was again held in Okuike, under perfect weather conditions. The event was well attended with more than 50 members, guests and children. Some changes in the supply required us to substitute a variety of meats for the usual sausages, but we were still able to count on an assortment of salads and cakes provided by our members.

On December 5th, a crowd of about 80 people, including many friends and nearly 40 children gathered in the Kobe Regatta and Athletic Club (KRAC) in Sannomiya for a raclette dinner with a special visit from Santa Claus. Due to a scheduling conflict we had to use the downstairs space, but the unseasonably warm weather made it possible for the children to play outside in the garden. Santa proved to be truly multi-lingual this year as he read to the children from his golden book in English, German, French, Japanese, and Spanish. Then he handed out the usual treats: beautiful bags with goodies from Switzerland kindly sponsored by Panalpina, and Grittibänz baked by our members. As in previous years Peter Labhard provided us with Christmas cookies, while Nestlé contributed a generous amount of chocolate treats. The raclette dinner, was followed by an assortment of cakes for dessert. We would like to send our gratitude to Panalpina for their generosity and thank once again all the members who helped us to prepare this event.

This year again we enjoyed very good attendance at all our events. We would like to express our sincere thanks to all our members and guests for their active participation, and we look forward to welcoming many of you again in 2010.

Swiss Society of the Kansai

The committee