



## Annual Report of the activities of the Swiss Society of the Kansai for the year 2019

In 2019 the Swiss Society of the Kansai engaged in the following activities:

### Events

This year we added to the usual slate of events—AGM, Spring/Autumn BBQ, National Day celebration, Santa Claus—an anniversary event to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the founding of the Society. The overview of these events is given below.

Date	Event	Venue	Attendance
March 9	Annual General Meeting (AGM)	RValentino	21 / 33 for dinner
May 18	Spring BBQ	Okuike	57
August 1	Swiss National Day Celebration	Kobe Club	88
September 14	SSOK 40th Anniversary	Kobe Club	90+
October 19	Autumn BBQ	Okuike	45
December 8	Raclette and Santa Claus Party	KRAC	116

Attendance at our events was consistently strong. Only the Autumn BBQ saw slightly depressed participation due to poor weather and unforeseen circumstances that caused overlap with other events.

In addition, the committee travelled twice to Oyamazaki to support the town's efforts to create a Swiss atmosphere as part of their recurring "Swiss Fairs" on February 23 & November 23. Each time we sold approximately 100 portions of raclette and made a small profit for the benefit of the Society.

### 40th Anniversary Party

In order to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the founding of the Society, we organized a special anniversary party. This event was held on September 14 at the Kobe Club. The event included a musical performance of traditional Swiss music; the Fässler family from Appenzell who were joined by Keiko Ito. At this event we had the pleasure of welcoming many official guests, including representatives of Kobe city and Hyogo prefecture, the Swiss representation in Tokyo, and fellow associations from the Kansai, along with many of our members and friends.

### Anniversary Item

As part of the anniversary celebration, we created a special promotional item; an elegant Swiss Army knife with a commemorative inscription. This item was presented as a gift to all attendees of our anniversary event.



## Honorary Membership

We awarded honorary memberships to two long time members who have distinguished themselves through their service to our Society; Franz Ermel and Urs Pfenninger. The two of them join Andy Müller and bring the total number of current honorary members to three.

## Thanks

As usual all of this would not have been possible without the generous help of many people. We would like to extend our warmest thanks to:

- + Hinata Trading, Swissôtel Nankai Osaka, Hilton Osaka, Nestlé, Kobe Club, Chopard, Estate Wines, OSM Herbst, Swiss International Air Lines, RValentino, Swiss Tourism, Alcotrade Trust Inc., Victorinox Japan, The Ritz-Carlton Osaka, and Hans Bieker for supporting our National Day Tombola
- + Kozo Iwata (Rock Field Co., Ltd.) for the sausages for our BBQs
- + Andreas Landolt for the special Napolitain chocolates for our anniversary
- + Richard and Eiko Frank for their splendid musical contribution at the anniversary party
- + Daniel Aviolat and Shingo Nishiguchi for their help with making official contacts
- + Andy Müller for support with Raclette, and just being an all-around good guy
- + The Swiss representation in Tokyo; Ambassador Paroz and his staff for their support for our events, especially the anniversary celebration
- + All our members and friends for their enthusiasm for our events and activities



Thank you!

Kobe, February 3, 2020

On behalf of the committee  
Philip Spälti, President