## Annual Report of the Swiss Society of the Kansai for 2020

This year will forever be remembered as the year of the Corona Virus 19. Our Society too was strongly affected by the pandemic, as will be seen from this summary of our events and activities.

## Committee meetings

- January 20 held at RValentino Restaurant in Sannomiya as planned
- March 25 scheduled at The Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Osaka, but held by LINE teleconference call instead
- June 5 held at Kobe Club on outside terrace as a Covid related safety precaution
- August 28 scheduled at The Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Osaka, relocated to the Kobe Club due to Covid related travel restrictions
- October 28 held (finally!) at The Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Osaka as planned

## **Events**

- Annual General Meeting (AGM) held on March 6 at RValentino as planned
- Spring BBQ, Okuike scheduled for May 16 at Okuike, Ashiya Highlands. Rescheduled for June 13, then cancelled due to a Covid related incident.
- Swiss National Day Celebration held on August 1st at the Kobe Club as planned
- Autumn BBQ held on 17. October at Okuike as planned
- Raclette with visit from Santa Claus: After efforts were made to hold the event outdoors, the event had to be cancelled due to Covid related restrictions.

In addition a planned raclette event for the benefit of SWISS International Airlines's opening of a new route to Osaka had to be cancelled.

Nevertheless, all was not lost and we were able to hold the AGM, the National Day Celebration, and the Autumn BBQ, more or less as planned, while maintaining Covid related safety measures.

Attendance at our events was as follows:

- AGM: 27 people (18 members, 4 guests, 2 students, 3 children)
- National Day: 34 adults, 5 students and 4 children
- Autumn BBQ: 51 people matching the registrations

We would like to express our sincere thanks to:

- The Swiss Representation in Tokyo for the always generous support, including wine for the National Day
- Consul Jürg Bono for making the trip to Kansai to attend our National Day celebration
- Our Tombola sponsors:
  - Hinata Trading Swissôtel Nankai, Osaka The Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Osaka Nestlé Japan SWISS International Airlines Alcotrade, Estate Wines Switzerland Tourism Chopard Japan RValentino Italian Restaurant Kobe Club OSM Herbst as well as Mr. Aviolat, Bieker, Bucher and Pfenninger.
- Kozo Iwata (Rock Field Co., Ltd.) for the cervelats and bratwursts
- Andy Müller for help with making various arrangements
- ...and of course our members for sticking with us through these difficult times.

## Thank you all!

We are very much hoping to see many of you at our next events, whenever they may be.