



Annual Report of the Swiss Society of the Kansai for 2021

Kobe, February 26, 2022

This year Covid-19 continued to significantly affect our activities. Fortunately, we were nevertheless able to hold most of our events in some form. Only the Spring BBQ had to be cancelled while our other events could be held more or less as usual, while observing some restrictions. Following are some notes on the individual events.

Annual General Meeting (AGM), March 12

As the pandemic had forced RValentino, our standard venue for the last few years, to close, we needed to find a new location. The trusty Kobe Regatta & Athletic Club came to our rescue. The business meeting (14 members) was followed by a sit-down dinner (25 members and guests) with a delicious 4 course menu of appetizer, soup, fish, and meat.

Spring BBQ

The Spring BBQ was rescheduled and finally cancelled due to Hyogo prefecture going into lockdown. The sausages were sold to members and friends.

Swiss National Day Party, August 1

Held in the nicely decorated ballroom of the Kobe Club in Kitano-cho as has been the custom for the last few years; 63 members and guests were able to attend. Both the Ambassador, Dr. Andreas Baum, and the Consul, Juerg Bono, graced us with their presence. The Embassy also made a generous donation of 30 bottles of fine Swiss wine. A special treat was a marimba performance by Ivaylo Koychev organized by committee member Jacqueline Teissier.

Donations for our traditional tombola came from: Hinata Trading, Swissôtel Nankai Osaka, The Ritz-Carlton Hotel Osaka, Nestlé Japan, Swiss International Airlines, Alcotrade, Estate Wines, Eurovin, Appenzeller Herbs Spirits, Switzerland Tourism, Chopard Japan, Victorinox Japan, Kobe Club, OSM Herbst, as well as SSOK members Aviolat, Bieker, Bucher, Pfenninger and Teissier.

Autumn BBQ, October 30

Our Autumn BBQ took place at Okuike on a sunny autumn day. Attendance was 53 people. Our events have proved popular attracting participants new and old, some coming from far afield, including several from the Embassy in Tokyo. At this point we are happy to note that the official representation in the Kansai is being strengthened, and we were able to welcome the head of the new consulate in Osaka, Felix Moesner, to our ranks.

Cervelats and Bratwursts could again be offered thanks to Kozo Iwata (Rock Field Co., Ltd.) and the organizational skills of Andy Mueller. Plentiful beer, wine and spirits were to be had, and members pitched in with a generous buffet of salads and cakes.

Raclette with a visit from Santa, December 12

This year an inflatable Santa in front of the KRAC greeted the 90 persons who joined our event. Our children got to meet Santa and received a Grittibänz and a bag with goodies, which included Swiss treats provided by Herbert Bucher. We also thank Nestle Japan and Rokko Butter for their gifts of KitKats and Lindor balls respectively. Later all took part in the Raclette, supplemented with plenty of Swiss wine from our stores, and desserts brought by our members.

As always, we would like to thank everyone for their support, and we hope to see all of you again in the coming year.

Philip Spälti
President