

[www.sbsphiladelphia.org](http://www.sbsphiladelphia.org)

**Dear Members,**

By the time you read this the year 2010 has arrived and the Swiss Benevolent Society of Philadelphia is looking forward to celebrate its 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

The past year was another successful one. Thanks to all of you we are getting closer to my set goal of 150 members, which is still attainable until this coming fall, when we celebrate our 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

Our business year started with a board meeting in February. Information for the annual report was gathered, discussed and finalized. Other regular board meetings were held in March, May, October and December.

The society gathered for the annual meeting on Saturday, March 28, 2009 at the Cannstatter Volksfest Verein. Michael Skweir played his accordion during the cocktail hour. We were excited to welcome Ambassador Christoph Bubb and his wife Regula. Frank Muggler introduced singers Julia and Guy Rothfuss as well as Kathleen Echols. The Franklinville / Schwarzwald Chorus entertained us with their songs. We were very happy to see some new members and welcomed Alfred Kessi to the board of directors. I was excited to announce the upcoming celebration of the society's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary in the fall of 2010.

I again had the opportunity to be part of the Scholarship meeting with the SBS in New York. The committee processed 84 applications during its session and distributed about \$225,000. I encourage parents and students to visit the web site [www.swissbenevolentny.com](http://www.swissbenevolentny.com) to get more information on the scholarship fund. Grant requests are normally due by the end of March.

Our society's largest contribution again went towards the Pellegrini scholarship fund. We also supported needy Swiss families and donated funds to several non-profit organizations.

Our upcoming annual business meeting is scheduled for **Saturday, March 27, 2010** at the Cannstatter Volksfest Verein and I ask you to mark this date on your calendar.

The date for our 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration is **Saturday, October 16, 2010**. The board of directors hopes to attract a large crowd at the Torresdale – Frankford Country Club in Philadelphia. We plan to make this a memorable event and hope to find volunteers among our membership to support our venture. Enclosed is a form I would like you to complete and return to me, so we can contact you for continued preparations. I'm sure you want to help us to make this celebration a very special one. I thank you for your willingness to serve and look forward hearing from you.

In closing I extend a heartfelt Thank-You to all Directors of the Board for their continued support and I wish you all a very Happy, Healthy and Prosperous Anniversary Year.

Dolf Herger, President