## 2012 REPORT OF THE BENEFACTION COMMITTEE

Interim-Chair: Ursula Furrer

Senior Member Group: Zeno Jacquat, Heidi Grieder, Leo Damask

During 2012 our Society gave assistances to three recipients of Swiss origin to ease their financial burdens. Sadly one beneficiary passed away in February 2012 at the age of 67 after many years of serious health problems.

Thanks to our monthly financial assistance, the two remaining beneficiaries ages 64 and 73 enjoy a humble but quality life style. Ongoing health problems cause great concern for one recipient, whereas the inability of finding a job leaves the other recipient very anxious. Both beneficiaries greatly appreciate their stipends as this helps them pay for medications not covered by their insurance, augment their diet with healthy food choices, and enables one to live in her own home and one to live and contribute to the household of a family member.

We are in regular contact with these beneficiaries to monitor their financial needs which are adjusted by the Board from time to time.

The monthly senior member meetings hosted by Zeno Jacquat, Heidi Grieder and Leo Damask at the Svithiod Lodge, 5518 W. Lawrence Avenue, Chicago, show an attendance of average twenty guests. These meetings are scheduled early afternoons every 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month March to December. They are very important to our older members, as they provide means of communication with each other and to reach out in case of need. These gatherings present a unique opportunity to maintain longstanding friendships among the Swiss who are widely dispersed over the Chicago area and numerous outlaying communities.

Respectfully submitted March 14, 2013

Ursula Furrer Interim Chair Benefaction Committee