

# SWYAA-SE Annual report 2007

**As a relatively young** member of the SWYAA family (SWYAA-SE was established in May 2006) our emphasis during 2007 was to further develop our domestic and international networks. Through widening and deepening our contacts with other AAs and ExPYs we aim to play a more active role in the extensive SWY network. In 2007 we tried to accomplish that through a wide range of different activities within our organisation. We have definitely set a standard where all our members, ExPYs from SWY4,10 and 18, contribute with various initiatives which will help us reach our goals.

**Our official website** [www.swyaa-se.org](http://www.swyaa-se.org) is now up and running. It provides general information in English about SWY and SWYAA-SE as well as member profiles and information about homestay in Sweden. Our webmasters Gustaf Rindler (SWY18) and Fredrik Quistbergh (SWY10) put a lot of effort into

making updates about recent events as frequently as possible.

**The SWYAA-SE mailing list** has during 2007 proved to be a very important tool. In the time between board meetings and other more informal gatherings the mailing list bridge over geographic distances and work as a well needed social platform. All our members regularly post information and keep each other up to date about SWY related activities they take part in.

**In September 2007** Lotta Jarvenius Rössner, Jenny Magnusson and Fredrik Quistbergh (all SWY10) participated in the first SWYAA Global Assembly in Greece. It was four days of conference in Athens and four days of extended program in Mykonos. A total of around 40 participants from 16 different countries made the conference a real success. The participants



**In November 2007 we held our annual general meeting. Standing from left: Gustaf Rindler, Jenny Jonstoj, Ulrika Johansson and Jenny Magnusson. Sitting, from left: Fredrik Quistbergh, Wiktor Södersten, Patrik Vulkan, Daniel Schatz and Lotta Jarvenius Rössner.**



**In April 2007 Patrik Vulkan (SWY18) participated in a guidance meeting for candidates for SWY20 in Osaka held by the IYEO.**

had the opportunity to discuss many SWY related issues and among other things an initiative to form a SWY Europe was made. Please visit our website to read an extended report and view photos from the assembly.

**In 2007 we discussed** different possibilities to organise joint activities with our neighbour SWYAAs in Norway and Finland. One idea was to hold a conference on one of the cruise ships that sail across the Baltic Sea between Sweden and Finland. We are still in the planning stage of that project, but hopefully the conference will be held later this year.

**Last year in April** Patrik Vulkan (SWY18) participated in a guidance meeting for candidates for SWY20 in Osaka held by the IYEO. He was happy to contribute with an ExOPY perspective on the SWY program to prepare the candidates for further interviews in Tokyo. During his stay in Japan Patrik visited many ExPYs not only in Osaka, but also in Tokyo and Hakodate.

**In 2007 Gigi Lönn Stråle** (SWY4) and her family decided to move to Koh Lanta, Thailand, for the

winter. Of course she contacted our sister organisation in Thailand, SSEAP, to get in touch with fun and interesting people. Just out of coincidence some people from their ship 1977 had a reunion and a 30-year anniversary nearby Koh Lanta. Gigi and her family had the opportunity to meet up with some of them, sharing wonderful memories and laughter.

**There are a number** of members who during last year had the chance to extend our international network through work and studies in other countries around the globe. A few examples are:

- Sara Ulfhielm (SWY18) moved to Windhoek, Namibia where she is doing an internship with UNESCO Windhoek Cluster Office.
- Helena Lundstedt (SWY18) joined a Master Programme called The Global Studies Programme, which is a Master degree taking place in different countries. So far she has been spending semesters in Germany, South Africa and India.
- Jenny Jonstoj (SWY18) studied in Turkey.
- Annelie Gustavsson (SWY18) studied in Ireland.
- Gustaf Rindler (SWY18) participated in a democracy conference in Belarus with youths from different European countries.

**We have not only** been involved in happenings abroad, but also been active on our home turf in Sweden on numerous occasions. Annelie Gustavsson (SWY18) has done a great job of spreading the SWY spirit in her home town Falkoping. The municipality in Falkoping sponsored Annelie when she went on SWY18. And last year, as token of gratitude, she presented the head of education, Inger Janson, with a beautiful charcoal drawing of our beloved Nippon Maru. They also made plans for Annelie to hold a seminar about the SWY program for the headmasters of all the schools in Falkoping.

**During last year** we had the pleasure of hosting many international visitors. For instance ExPYs from Sri Lanka, Peru and Mexico. And we are of course hoping for many more to come visit us in 2008.

**Filip Lendahls (SWY18)**

**Right: Annelie Gustavsson's charcoal drawing of Nippon Maru.**

**Bottom: Fredrik Quistbergh (SWY10), Arturo Ayuso and Dariela Ayuso (SWY11, Mexico) at the Icebar in Stockholm, Sweden.**

