



The America-Japan Society, Inc.

2009 ANNUAL REPORT

(May 1, 2009 ~ April 30, 2010)

The Year in Review

Fiscal year 2009 was another difficult financial year for the Society. Reflecting the slowing down of the economy, AJS lost 5 corporate members during the year. However, it is a positive sign that individual memberships increased by 8 thanks for the efforts of the Membership Committee and regular members who kindly introduced new members. Even so, the total Income from membership dues could not cover the budget.

The Society, however, made a concerted effort to increase donations especially from members during the new year's reception. We very much appreciated the kind support we received which will be applied to AJS educational fund for scholarships.

As shown on the Statement of Income & Expenditure 2009, the fiscal year 2009 was ended in the black by 217 thousand yen. This was achieved by income increases and cost saving against the budget. Fiscal year 2010 looks like another difficult year and the Society will again assemble all possible efforts to keep the income and expenditures in balance financially.

To strengthen AJS's day-to-day activities and give advice to the Society on the right path forward, the "AJS Advisory Group" was organized in December 2008. The seven members consists of 3 Directors including President and Executive Director, 2 Comptrollers and 2 Council & Committee members. During 2009, we held 2 meetings in July 2009 and in April 2010. Necessary action items were discussed and advice given to the Executive Director.

Despite the difficulties, the Society held 21 popular events in fiscal 2009 which are shown in the Committee Report. For fiscal 2010, the Society will again provide interesting, timely and informative programs.

In August 2010 (Friday, August 6th - Sunday, August 8th), NAAJS and NAJAS will hold a joint program called "7th International Symposium of America-Japan Societies" in Akita. Our members are kindly requested to consider participating in this event. You will have a good chance to enjoy the Kanto Festival on August 6th.

The new Public-Service Corporation Law has been introduced in December 2008. During the upcoming 5 years, until November 2013, AJS has to make a decision and apply to either become "IPPAN SHADAN HOJIN" or "KOEKI SHADAN HOJIN". AJS will continue to study the issue as we obtain more information from similar organizations and will keep discussing it at the AJS Advisory Committee level.

Despite the tight financial situation, the Society's computer system must be maintained. The systems is old and needs to be renewed during the 2010 which is in the budget.

Looking toward 2010-2011, the AJS will continue its efforts of providing programs and events of interest to current and new members and with the support of each committee meets the request from members of the Society. Our office staff always welcomes your request and contacts.

Thank you very much for your support during fiscal 2009 and with your kind cooperation we expect to have another successful year in fiscal 2010.