

AJS COMMITTEE REPORTS

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Takashi Watanabe (temporary)
Committee Members: Toshie Komatsu, Hiroshi Matsuzaki, Haruo Yamamoto, Susumu Yanagisawa, Joy Sakurai and Tatsuo Hayakawa(U.S. Embassy), Keiko Packard, Ken Shibusawa, Junko Saito(as of July, 2010), Thomas Dreves(as of October, 2010)

The Committee held meetings every month to generate better program ideas ahead. Regular monthly luncheons are our main program and in addition, various programs were carried out including Forums, After 6:00 Club, outing programs, concert/movies, special dinner programs and cultural event.

Please also refer to the attached "2010 Calendar of Events"(page 9-10)

1) Regular Monthly Luncheons

During fiscal 2010 AJS held 6 regular luncheons which covered various topics relating to both U.S. and Japan. Mr. Kenjiro Monji, Director-General, Public Diplomacy Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs talked about Japan's Soft Power and Public Diplomacy in June. AJS invited Mr. Mikio Haruna, Former Washington Bureau Chief of Kyodo News who talked about "Future of U.S.-Japan Allies and Diplomatic Agendas of Kan Administration as DPJ's 2nd Round" in July.

In November the Society invited Mr. Akihisa Nagashima, member of House of Representatives (DPJ) and Former Parliamentary Secretary of Defense, as the luncheon speaker who talked about "Further Steps of Japan-U.S. Security Treaty and Powergaining China". In December, Dr. Gerald Curtis of Columbia University was the speaker who talked about the subject titled "Dealing with Change- the Democratic Party in Japan & in U.S." that both democratic parties in U.S. and in Japan are faced with. In February, the Society invited Mr. Yoshiki Otake, Founder & Executive Advisor of Aflac Japan/Former President of Aflac Japan. He talked about the success story of Aflac and its management philosophy.

Program Committee had chosen TPP(Trans Pacific Partnership) as one of the main topics of Luncheon speakers and invited Professor Toshiyuki Yasui of Keio University in April who talked about nature of TPP and a symmetric relations between U.S. and China and a role of Japan.

2) Special Luncheon and New Year Party

In September the Society co-sponsored and welcomed Governor Timothy Pawlenty of Minnesota State on the occasion of his first visit to Japan who talked about his story of governing state in a global economy and business opportunity with Japan.

At our New Year party on January 19th, Ambassador John V. Roos made an impressive and substantial speech about the future of U.S.-Japan relations together with his experiences and impression during his stay in Japan since August 2009. The party was held at Akebono Room of Hotel Okura with 170 attendants. National anthems and the back ground music were performed by the Wood Wind Quintet from Camp Zama that the Embassy kindly arranged.

3) Forum and Symposium

In May, AJS invited Mr. Marc Wall, Minister Counselor for Economic Affairs, the U. S. Embassy, as the speaker who talked about economic environment both in Japan and in U.S under the title “Are U.S. & Japan on a real recovery trend of economy?” at I-House.

From August 6th to 8th, the 7th International Symposium of America-Japan Societies was held in Akita. This event was subtitled “Bridging Globalized Communities”. Three day program was well prepared with over 500 attendants. The Society welcomed NAJAS(National Association of Japan-America Societies) friends from U.S. together with members of other America Japan Societies.

Following the traditional summer festival “Kanto” which was fully enjoyed by the participants and the welcome reception on the night of 6th, main program started next day at Akita International University with lectures and symposiums. Day 3 was the day-long field bus trip. All the guests enjoyed local culture, food, and even industrial areas.

“6th U.S.-Japan Youth Forum” was jointly held with Youth Forum Japan on December 7th at FCCJ. This year’s theme was “East Asia Youth meeting its Future Challenges”. The Forum was totally carried out by the students. Moderator and 6 panelists were all students, from Singapore, U.S., China, Korea and Japan. Those talented students who were grown up in the multi-cultural background made the forum quite interesting and informative. The Forum was honored by the guest participation of Her Imperial Highness Princess Takamado again this year.

4) After 6:00 Club

The Club was held only once during fiscal 2010. In October Professor Lee Thompson of Waseda Univ. talked about Japanese traditional sports “Sumo”. The title of his speech was “Is Sumo the True Japanese National Sports?” Audience learned the history of Sumo and its internationalization.

5) Social and Cross Cultural Program

Special outing program to visit “the U.S. Air Force Base in Yokota and Ishikawa Sake Brewery“ was held on September 23rd in Fussa City. 60 members and guests participated and moved by the chartered bus.

On October 28, the special FCCJ Luncheon was arranged by Mr. Grilli of Boston Japan Society, which was introduced to AJS members. Mr. Franklin Hobbs III, a veteran of Iwo Jima, came to Japan and talked about his experience under the title “Another Letter from Iwo Jima”

JRA(Japan Racing Association) invited AJS members to special viewing and betting at Nakayama Horse Race course on the occasion of American Jokey Club Cup on January 23rd. Participants enjoyed the horse race betting in the Crystal Corner Room supported by 2 instructors from JRA.

On February 25th, a special movie “Sakura Sakura” was shown at TCC in Shinbashi.

The movie is the life history of Dr. Jokichi Takamine, a famous chemist, innovator and one of the founders of our Society in Meiji-Taisho era. The movie was directed by Mr. Toru Ichikawa who talked about the film making story. Participants enjoyed light supper and drink after movie viewing.

6) NAAJS (National Association of America-Japan Societies) Meeting

NAAJS annual meeting was held on August 7th on the occasion of 7th International Symposium in Akita.

The program committee believes that the frequency of the program is appropriate and quite sufficient. After 3.11 disaster we were reminded of many important bilateral issues such as energy savings, national security in East Asia and Okinawa, natural disaster, food safety, TPP and so on. The committee will continue to develop human connection network to find and invite influential American/Japanese speakers on these and other important issues. Outing programs such as the visit to U.S. military base and facilities will be continued in fiscal 2011 as they are enthusiastically welcomed by our members. The committee always welcomes members' requests and ideas for our programs and events for further improvement.

EDUCATIONAL EXCHANGE COMMITTEE

Co-chairpersons: David H. Satterwhite, Shigeru Tabé

Committee Members: Eiko Suzuki, Chitoo Bunno, Emiko Magoshi(until February, 2011), Koji Ozawa, Eiko Furuta, Kikuko Kambayashi(as of February, 2011)

Young Americans and young Japanese are big assets to the Society so as to promote better mutual understanding and cooperate with each other. The Committee, which considers it to be remarkably important to provide them with as many opportunities as possible to have much contact with different cultures, believes that they will be encouraged to pay respect to our two nations, which is bound to keep themselves in a special friendly relationship between them. The Committee, based on these viewpoints, planned and finished the following Educational and Exchange programs in the 2010 fiscal year.

1) U.S. Study Small Grant Program

"The 4th U.S. Study Small Grant Program" was carried out by being financially supported by the American Embassy in Tokyo. This program is intended to encourage and help Japanese graduate students, who major in American history, culture, politics, literature, religion, ethnology, etc., respectively, to write either their master's theses or dissertations.

The Society received 45 application forms which increased by 67% comparing to the last year. By process of the special selection committee's evaluating the applicants' papers as well as phone interviewing each candidate, twenty five grantees were selected who will be able to afford a certain period of time away to visit the U.S. within the space of the 2010 fiscal year to do research for their specifically chosen themes. Note that the special selection committee consisted of both the Committee members and the officials from the Embassy.

The Committee and the Embassy held "American Study Conference 2010," at the I-House with a total of over 100 participants on September 24th. During the conference, the Society invited Dr. Shelley Fisher Fishkin, Stanford University as the key note speaker, who talked

about the subject entitled "Mark Twain & Trans National American Studies". Additionally, 17 graduate students gave presentations in English during three concurrent sessions moderated by Associate Professor Yujin Yaguchi of Tokyo Univ., Dr. Nahum Chandler of University of California at Berkeley and Professor Takayuki Tatsumi of Keio Univ..

2) 2010 AJS Scholarship for IUC(Inter-University Center for Japanese Language Studies)

Every year AJS has provided scholarship for some studious IUC students through our educational fund. Following the previous years, AJS sponsored Mr. Jesus Solis, a student of University of Colorado, and Mr. Garrett Bredell, a student of the University of Washington who had been studying advanced Japanese in the Center. The selection was carefully made by the Educational Exchange Committee members for the students recommended by IUC. Unfortunately by the order of U.S. government, these two grantees left Japan right after 3.11 disaster.

3) 61th Japan-America Student Conference

The Society again supported the Conference which was held in July-August in Richmond Indiana, U.S. The support was managed by AJS Educational fund.

4) Japan Bowl 2010

Japan Bowl has been organized by Japan-America Society of Washington, D.C. for 18 consecutive years. This program is designed to encourage American high- school students to widen and deepen the scope of their knowledge about Japan by a kind of quiz competition. The event is held in Washington, D.C. during the cherry blossom festival in April.

The winning team will be invited to visit Japan and stay for two weeks during their summer vacation and AJS supports their schedule in Tokyo. The program has been kindly supported by Toshiba International Foundation for these years. Monta Vista High School, CA was the winning team in 2010.

5) U.S.-Japan Youth Forum

As mentioned in (3) of the Program Committee report, the Youth Forum contributes a lot to college students, who are expected to be able to recognize each other and think deeply of current hot issues to discuss. The members of the Educational Exchange Committee also join the forum, which is supported by several corporate donations.

The Committee members would like to ask you to understand and support our educational activities. In addition, we would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to all of you for your generous support throughout the year 2010. The Committee decided to have a lecture series titled "The Internationalization of Education in Japan" started on March 30 which was however postponed to July 22nd due to 3.11 disaster.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Please see the page 11-12

Co-chairpersons: Thomas Jordan, Mie Teno

Committee Members: Yoshitami Arai, Richard Cropp, Kazuo Ninomiya, Shizuko Tani, Toshiaki Taguchi, Ken Taki

Since an increase in membership is essential for re-vitalizing the Society and membership dues are the most important revenue source for the Society. The Membership Committee would like to encourage all of the current members to persuade new potential members to

join.

During fiscal year 2010, the Society lost five(5) company members which make it a total of 89 companies at the end of fiscal year. Decreasing corporate memberships are the serious problems for the Society although that is the reflection of the current worldwide economic slowing down which started in 2008, we must take a strong and essential countermeasures now.

Individual memberships were also down by nineteen(19)although we welcomed 21 new members, lost 40.

The Membership Committee made all possible efforts to maintain the current memberships and to obtain new members. However the Committee is still facing difficulty in meeting our budget. For the year 2011, the budget is made something feasible and we have to at least keep this number to achieve the income target.

To invite young individual members, the committee made the following internal rule change since two years ago that works well. The Executive Director of the Society together with at least one member of the Committee will interview applicants who do not have the necessary recommendations from current AJS members.

Finally the committee once again asks AJS members to encourage all of the current members to persuade new potential members to join us.

For this purpose, the benefits of being a AJS member is again shown as follows;

- 1) You can join the various programs that meet your interest such as lectures, social gatherings, debates, concerts, outing programs, golf tournaments and more all throughout the year.
- 2) You may create personal relations with the American and Japanese members who are experts in the various fields including Business, the American Embassy, ACCJ, Universities, MOFA and Inter University Center which may reinforce your American connection.
- 3) The America-Japan Society, Inc. has over 90 years of history and is well known in public because of fine reputation. Being the member of AJS will be very prestigious.
- 4) You may obtain up-to-date knowledge about Japan-America relations through our lecture programs.
- 5) Your annual membership fee goes to AJS education and scholarship programs and you may contribute to the young American education program who will be the bridge between Japan and U.S. in the future.
- 6) You may use and contact to 36 Japanese Societies in U.S. and 32 America-Japan Societies in Japan.
- 7) The corporate member can register up to five individuals in each company who will make their own connection and gain American business experience for your company that may be a big asset to your company's business.

The membership application form is now available on AJS website at:
<http://www.ajstokyo.org>

PUBLICATION COMMITTEE

Committee Members: (AJS office)Takashi Watanabe, Yuka Mabuni

This committee has suspended its activities since two years ago, due to cost saving for the publication of the AJS Bulletin. However for the convenience of the members who can not attend the events, AJS provides the information and the records of the events with photographs on our website.

Please access to our website and see our programs and activities at:
<http://www.ajstokyo.org>

Taking this opportunity, AJS would like to express our deep appreciation to Ms. Sakuko Utada who had been contributing the committee for many years.

We are looking forward to welcoming volunteers who are asked to prepare the summary of luncheon, forum and other lecture event which will be put on our website. Each lecture is recorded on to tape which can be used for this purpose.

SPORTS COMMITTEE

Co-chairpersons: Robert E. Melson, Shigeyuki Kobayashi

Committee Members: G. R. Baker (Advisor), Satoshi Kubo, Mihoko M. Malian, Masayoshi Miyamoto, Masayoshi Yamano

The records of 2010 AJS Golfing

President Eisenhower Cup	June 1 at Sakuragaoka CC Number of participants: 9 Winner: Mr. Shigeyuki Kobayashi
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President Kishi Cup	October 26 at Fuji CC Number of participants: 10 Winner: Mr. Masayoshi Yamano
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Ambassador Grew Cup	December 9 at Hodogaya CC Number of participants: 16 Winner: Mr. Masayuki Kohama
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2011 AJS Golf Schedule

President Eisenhower Cup:	Tuesday, April 19, 2011 at Lakewood GC
President Kishi Cup:	Tuesday, September 27, 2011 at Fuji CC
Ambassador Grew Cup:	Friday, November 25, 2011 at Hodogaya CC (New Peoria method will be applied.)

Special Publication Project Committee

Chairperson: Akiko Kuno,
Committee Member: Takashi Watanabe

Since its establishment in 1917, the Society has played a unique and significant role in enhancing mutual understanding and meaningful communication between the peoples of Japan and that of the U.S. through cultural and educational exchange activities. Reflecting

its historical background, the Society has become the main stage for outstanding speakers from both countries who made timely presentations on such issues as diplomacy, politics, economics, culture and education. Some of their speeches were so influential that they gave important impact on the actual Japan-U.S. relationship.

The Society has kept not only all manuscripts of these speeches in English, but also albums of rare photos, private letters and recorded tapes in its special archives for more than 90 years. It is quite meaningful to evaluate the contents of these speeches by academia specializing in the Japan-U.S. relations and to publish these A class documents to the public when the Japan-U.S. relationship is very essential to maintain the peace and stability of the global community.

The project team was formed in February, 2009 as follow:

Makoto Iokibe	President, National Defense Academy
Fumiaki Kubo	Professor, the University of Tokyo
Takuya Sasaki	Professor, Rikkyo University
Toshihiro Minohara	Professor, Kobe University
Susu mu Sato	Professor, Nishougakusha University
Akiko Iimori	Lecturer, Tokiwa University
Masaya Inoue	Associate Professor, Kagawa University
Amiko Nobori	Research Associate, National Graduate Institute for Policy Study
Ayako Kusunoki	Research Fellow, Kansai-Gakuin University
Nobuhiko Tamaki	Boston University in U.S.A.
Yasuaki Chijiwa	Research Fellow, Institute of National Defense
Junichiro Shiratori	Fellow, Keio University
Akiko Kuno	Chairperson, AJS Special Publication Project Committee
Takashi Watanabe	AJS Executive Director (Project secretariat)

From April 2009, research and evaluation meetings on the documents reserved in the Society's archives were conducted by the project team members twelve times in the AJS office and in other places completed in January 2011. In March, 2010, Chuokoron-Shinsha, one of the leading publishers in Japan agreed to publish the book at the Autumn of 2011.

It is worthy to mention that the Society has received financial supports from various foundations including the Tokyo Club, Suntory Foundation and Shibusawa Eiichi Memorial Foundation which evaluated this project highly otherwise realization of the project would not have been possible under the present difficult financial situation of the Society.