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英 語 **English**

Special Issue for AJS Members 2019-2020

AJ5 eNewsletter





Dear AJS members,

I hope you and your loved ones are safe and healthy in these unstable times. The world is facing the unprecedented crisis. For the AJS, biggest challenges are yet to come. We are concerned if we can continue to rely on corperate and individual members' support, and we have been doing for many years. We would like to thank you and ask your continued support and cooperation.

In order to communicate with members, we are publishing this newsletter along with the online programs and hope to connect with you through them.

The U.S. is going through a difficult time right now, but I am sure it will pull through with its own strength. They will have a presidential election coming up this fall. We can't take our eyes off of it. I look forward to the day when I can see you all again,

Ichiro Fujisaki

President of the America-Japan Society, Inc,

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COVID-19, U.S.-China Relations, and Presidential Election

Friday, May 29, 2020 Zoom Meeting



Speakers

Dr. Fumiaki Kubo, Professor of American Government and History, Graduate Schools for Law and Politics, University of Tokyo. Director of AJS.

Amb. Ichiro Fujisaki, President of the AJS, and Japanese Ambassador to the United States from 2008 to 2012

Moderator

Maki Motegi, the America-Japan Society

Writers

Riko Matano, Keio University, AJS intern **Mana Yamanaka**, Keio University, AJS intern



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FY2019 ACTIVITIES

Regular Programs

Centennial Programs

2019

	4	U	17		
Brownbag Lunch Meeting	May 13		May 7	NGRT by Ms. Mieko Nakabayashi, PhD. Professor School of Science Social Waseda University	
AJS Golf Competition President Kishi Cup *Cancelled due to bad weather	MA (1) (1) (Sensor of Science Social Museum Chinerally	
p.10 Yokota U.S. Air Base & Ishikawa Brewery Tour			Jun 12	NGRT by Mr. Arthur Mitchell, Senior Counselor, White & Case LLP	
April Lecture by Dr. Okio Hino,	Jun 17				
Emeritus Professor of Juntendo University The U.SJapan Liaison Meeting			Jul 1	NGRT Independence Day Party Photo 2	
Photo 1			Jul 4	VSJ Report Session Photo 3	
p.10 Photo 4 The 84th AJS Ordinary General Meeting			Jul 20	The 2nd America Bowl Photo 5 p.11	
Talk with Sennai!			Jul 23	VSJ Report Session	
Ms. Risa Ishii, AJS intern graduate			Aug 8	VSJ Report Session	
Y Programs for youth/student members			Aug 28	Report Session by the America Bowl Winning Teams p.12	
_			Aug 29	VSJ Report Session	
p.9 September Lecture by Ms. Junko Koshino	Sep 25		Sep 4	NGRT by Mr. Chris Blackerby, Group COO at Astroscale	
p.10 American Studies Conference 2019	Oct 4		Sep 26	VSJ Report Session	
Photo 7 A Nomu-Nication Program with ACCJ and CCBJ	Oct 25		Oct 15	NGRT by Mr. Yoshihisa Komori,	
	Nov 7		Nov 6	Japan's Sankei Shimbun Newspaper NGRT by Mr. Yasumasa Yamamoto,	
AJS Golf Competition President Fukuda Cup	Nov 15		1107 0	Industry partner at dnx ventures	
December Lecture by Mr. Tim Griffin, Lieutenant Governor for the State of Arkansas	Dec 2		Nov 22	The 3rd Kaneko Award Ceremony p.11 Photo 9	
Extra program by Mr. Kazuo Okamoto, Executive Director of AJS	Dec 12				
p.10 Photo 10 AJS Xmas Party	Dec 17				
AJS Lecture by Ms. Akiko Kuno, AJS Vice President *Postponed due to flu	Jan 15		Jan 8	NGRT by Dr. Takuya Kitagawa, Managing Executive Officer, Rakuten Inc.	
Extra program Mr. Kazuo Okamoto, Executive Director of AJS	Jan 21				
p.9 Photo 11 January Lecture by Mr. Shingo Yamagami, Director-General/Assistant Minister of Economic Affairs Bureau, MOFA	Jan 23				
Photo 12 Luncheon Meeting at U.S. Ambassador's Residence for Gold & Silver Corporate members	Jan 28				
Photo 13 Y Intern's Alumni reunion "Tameike-kai"	Jan 31		Feb 12	NGRT by Mr. Yutaka Arima, Deputy Director General	
p.9 February Lecture by Mr. Motohiko Izawa, a writer	Feb 20			of North American Affairs Bureau, MOFA	
Y AJS BOWLING GAME *Cancelled due to COVID-19	Mar 5				
Talk with Diplomats!" by Mr. Kohei Kawabata, MOFA	Mar 10		Mar 23	NGRT Speaker: Mr. Glen S. Fukushima, Photo 15	
p.3 March Lecture by Prof. Fumiaki Kubo, PhD Professor of University of Tokyo	Mar 25		Senior Fellow Center for American Progress Former President		
*Postponed due to COVID-19 outbreak			Apr 28	NGRT Virtual Meeting p.11	
2020					

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Monthly Lectures





Dr. Okio Hino Professor of Juntendo University "Cancer philosophy"

Dr. Hino gave brief but thorough explanations on cancer philosophy. One of the memorable quotes from his lecture was "Facing with cancer is similar with facing with the patient's characteristics."



Ms. Junko Koshino, Designer "America/World and Me"

The audiences were intrigued and inspired by Ms. Koshino, one of the world-leading fashion designers herself, and her talk, which was mainly on both her private experiences and career achievements.



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Mr. Tim Griffin Lieutenant Governor for the State of Arkansas "Presidential election of 2020"

Mr. Griffin talked about the presidential election of 2020 and the U.S.-Japan relations from the viewpoint of Republicans. His analysis on the U.S. presidential election 2020 was very sharp and persuasive.

Mr. Shingo Yamagami

Director-General/Assistant Minister of Economic Affairs Bureau, MOFA

"Recent US-Japan Relations"

Mr. Yamagami gave us a talk on recent hot issues: the recent US-Japan trade agreement, the U.S.-Japan digital trade agreement, the G20, RCEP negotiations, and WTO reforms.



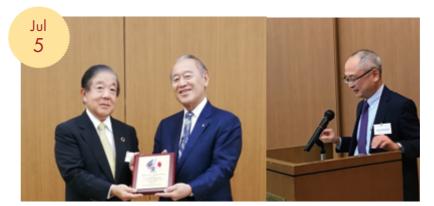
Mr. Motohiko Izawa
Writer of Japanese History
"Pradoxical US-Japan History"

Mr. Izawa stressed that our history education in Japan has been ignoring the influence incurred by religions and consequently how that has affected the reality, as repeatedly stated in his works.

FY2019 Regular/Special Program

We held various types of events for the wide age range of members.

- * Some of the events are subject to age restrictions.
- * Due to the impact of the COVID-19 outbreak this year, the event at the venue will be held in accordance with future conditions.



The 84th AJS Ordinary General Meeting

The General Meeting was held at the International House of Japan and about 90 AJS members attended. Mr. Watanabe, who has supported our society for many years, has retired. Mr. Okamoto has been appointed as Executive Director.



AJS Reception at U.S. Ambassador's Residence

AJS Reception was held at the U.S. Ambassador's Residence by special courtesy of Mr. Joseph M. Young, Chargé d'Affaires ad interim of the Embassy. We enjoyed networking with a buffet-style dinner and a chorus performance of "Sukiyaki" by the AJS interns.



Xmas Party

AJS Xmas Party is one of the popular events for members. Last year's party was full of joy with a fun quiz and gift exchange to interact with each other. One of the AJS student interns and his guest showed us a beautiful performance of violin and piano.

Yokota U.S. Air Base (YAB) & Ishikawa Brewery Tour

32 members gathered for the tour of the U.S. military base and the Ishikawa brewery, which is famous for its "Tama Jiman." There were no Ospreys parked at the base, but it was spectacular to see the inside of the base from the bus window.



American Studies Conference 2019

This program provides research grants to Japanese graduate students studying about U.S. with support from the U.S. Embassy. 18 successful recipients presented their research findings.



Talk with Diplomats!

The interns organized a discussion with young diplomat from the North American Bureau of MOFA. He answered a lot of questions from students related to career advice and diplomacy.

Mar



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AJS Centennial Programs

The centennial programs were established in 2017, the year of the 100th anniversary of AJS. There are four programs run with the AJS centennial fund by members and other organizations.



The 3rd Kentaro Kaneko Award was given to Ms. Rinsberg, who has hosted many Japanese homestay families over the past 35 years, Mr. Nagatani, who has contributed to U.S.-Japan relationship through C&W music, and the Special Award was given to Dr. Sen Genshistu, Grand Master 15th Urasenke, who has made a significant contribution through tea ceremony.

The Kaneko Award

The Award is given to those who worked for long years to promote people-to-people exchanges between U.S. and Japan. Round-trip air tickets are given to them as a prize. (Sponsored by ANA)



Ms. Helen Rindsberg (Recommended by Japan-America Society of Greater



Mr. Charlie Nagatani (Recommended by America-Japan Society of Kumamoto)



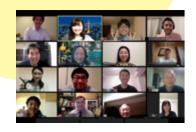
(Recommended by America-Japan Society of Kyoto)

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Next Generation's Roundtable in Tokyo

Monthly meeting for under age of 40 Americans and Japanese to meet each other discussing issues of their interest in English. (Sponsored by Mori Building Co., Ltd.)

We began our third term in October 2019. This term, we have about 70 members, including Japanese and American working in a various industries and sectors. Nomi-kai, which is held irregularly after the meeting, is also a great opportunity to deepen their exchanges.



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In April, the NGRT is held its first virtual meeting. We discovered the importance of using online to stay connected and keep the discussion going.



Visit & Study Japan Program

This program provides financial support to the U.S. graduate students who study about Japan or U.S.-Japan relations. (Sponsored by ANA, Collaboration with MOFA)

The five successful recipients presented their Japan-related research findings. They reaffirmed their understanding of Japanese culture and history.



Mr. Carl Gabrielson
University of California,
Santa Barbara



Is. Leah Justin-JinichHarvard University

"Raising Smiling Fathers: The Construction of Masculinity in Japan.

Mr. Evan Koike
University of British





Ms. Mary Collier Wilks
University of Virginia

"Taiwanese Settler-Migrants and Making of Japanese Empire in South China and Southeast Asia"



Mr. James Gerien-Chen
University of California,
Berkeley

America Bowl

This is a quiz competition about American topics for Japanese high school students. Winning teams visit to Washington D.C. in the summer. (Supported by ANA, Sophia University. Subsidized by United States-Japan Foundation. Collaboration with MOFA, US Embassy, ZER, JASWDC, JEES. Decoration support by Hotel New Otani Tokyo)



The 2nd America Bowl was held with about 150 high school students from 52 school. At the semi-final and final round, Princess Takamado attended to watch the competition.

★ RESULT OF THE 2ND AMERICA BOWL 2019

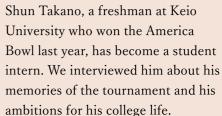
Gold: Keio Senior High School

Takuro Kawaguchi, Shun Takano, Sunao Machi Silver: Kaisei High School

Shota Tsuji, Shunsuke Nishimori Bronze: Kaichi Mirai High School

Tatsuya Omoto, Miyu Takasawa, Sakuya Yamanoi

Shun Takano, a freshman at Keio



<Excerpts from the interview>

The America Bowl is not just a quiz tournament that you can answer with knowledge, but you need English and critical skills to solve the questions. I was impressed by my team members who were able to get the answers to the questions that none of the other students could answer correctly. As a result of the win, I was able to go to the United States for the first time. I met many people who changed my views and values. From now on, as an AJS intern, I would like to be involved with management of the next American Bowl Tournament, using my experience. I also want to become a doctor in the future, so I will work on my studies hard.

Read the full article on web

URL: https://bit.ly/3f8mv0R

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OUIZ from America Bowl

Every year on the third Monday of February, Americans celebrate "Presidents Day." This holiday mainly celebrates two presidents who were born in February. One is George Washington. Who is the other? Find the answer on page 13.

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From the AJS office

About 85th General Meeting

Due to the COVID-19, the following schedule has been adjusted. Please check for further details as they become available.

General Meeting: Thursday, September 17, 2020

New Member's Application

Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, we are unable to conduct face-to-face interviews for applicants. Therefore, for the time being, we will use a document review of application form and recommendation. Please note that we may change this method depending on the situation.

Change Registered Information

If you change your address, phone number, or other information in your registration, please contact the secretariat. To ensure that you receive event announcements and important notices, please send them to us as soon as possible.

Checklist of registration information:

∟ Email address ∟ Phone numb	oer 🗆 Fax number 🗀 Homo
address \square Workplace and title \square	☐ Office address & contact



Meet our new staff member!

In April, the AJS welcomed new staff member Ms. Maki Motegi who has just graduated from Tokyo Gakugei University in this spring. She had been an intern with the AJS since her freshman year of University and participated in many AJS programs. Meet Maki Motegi!

It's been 5 years since I joined the AJS as an intern. I am excited to begin officially working at the AJS as it combines many passions in my life. These include working with our great members, the use of technology and creativity, and the exploration and innovation of the new programs. Looking forward to seeing you in person!

Editor's note

As we cannot run regular meetings and events due to the COVID-19, we are publishing this special issue of the Newsletter to keep our members up to date on the activities of the AJS. We hope that this situation will be improved soon and that all the activities of the society will be restored. All of us are looking forward to seeing you again.

The America-Japan Society, Inc.

AJS eNewsletter



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We would appreciate any comments or suggestions.

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