

# MAKING A NATIONAL NETWORK WORK:

FROM A MEMBER SOCIETY'S VIEWPOINT

Marc Hitzig, Deputy Director Japan-America Society of Washington DC mhitzig@us-japan.org



## JAPAN-AMERICA SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON DC (JASW):

Is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit, nonpartisan educational and cultural organization for individuals and corporations with an interest in Japan and US-Japan relations. The Society promotes greater understanding and networking between Americans and Japanese through its many cultural, public affairs, and educational programs.



National Japan Bowl



Sakura Matsuri



Japan-in-a-Suitcase



#### ROLE OF JASW IN DC

- 1. EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH PROGRAMS
- 2. A RESOURCE FOR LEARNING ABOUT JAPAN & JAPANESE LANGUAGE
- 3. A RESOURCE FOR JAPANESE TO LEARN ABOUT WASHINGTON DC AND AMERICA
- 4. Bringing the American & Japanese communities together



Beer Garden Party



Otsukimi



Izakaya Pub Quiz



Ohanashi-kai

#### JASW & JETAA COMMUNITY

- 1. VOLUNTEERING
  - A. Sakura Matsuri, Otsukimi, Annual Dinner
  - B. Educational Outreach Programs
- 2. Job Search
  - A. Resume Circulation
  - B. Networking Opportunities
- 3. CONTINUING EDUCATION
  - A. Language & Culture Classes
  - B. JET Pre-Departure Classes
- 4. SHARING KNOWLEDGE ABOUT JAPAN
  - A. Advisory Board
  - B. Sharing Common Interest with JASW members



# WHY NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF JAPAN-AMERICA SOCIETIES (NAJAS) WAS CREATED IN THE LATE 1970s

The mission of the National Association of Japan-America Societies is to strengthen cooperation and understanding between the peoples of Japan and the United States by providing programs, services, and information and facilitating cooperation among its member societies throughout North America.



#### What Role Should NAJAS Take?

1. An organization that will do things the individual Societies can't do, such as advocate for Japan-America Societies as a whole to the Japanese Embassy, Japanese business community, etc.



#### What Role Should NAJAS Take?

- 1. An organization that will do things the individual Societies can't do, such as advocate for Japan-America Societies as a whole to the Japanese Embassy, Japanese business community, etc.
- 2. Best practices for programs



#### What Role Should NAJAS Take?

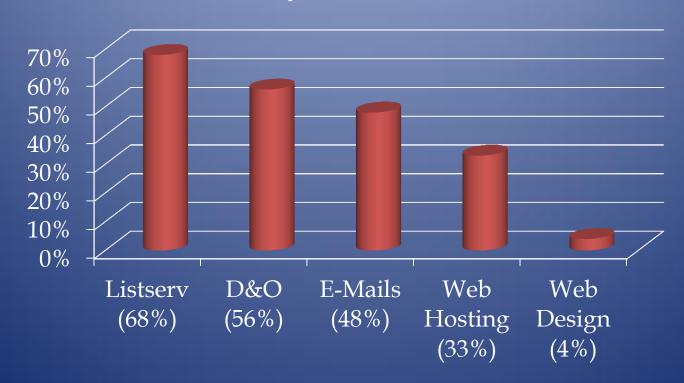
- 1. An organization that will do things the individual Societies can't do, such as advocate for Japan-America Societies as a whole to the Japanese Embassy, Japanese business community, etc.
- 2. Best practices for programs
- 3. An organization that will organize national and regional meetings for the Societies

#### What Societies Expect From NAJAS?

- 1. Listserv between Societies' staff
- 2. Directors & Officers (D&O) Insurance
- 3. Finding potential speakers
- 4. Facilitating of getting ideas on programs & gather the information about programs from other Societies and sharing it
- 5. Information on Best Practices for programs
- 6. Information on governance
- 7. E-mail hosting
- 8. Website hosting
- 9. Moral & Psychological Support
- 10. Information about fundraising & finding grants

#### What NAJAS Services Do You Use?

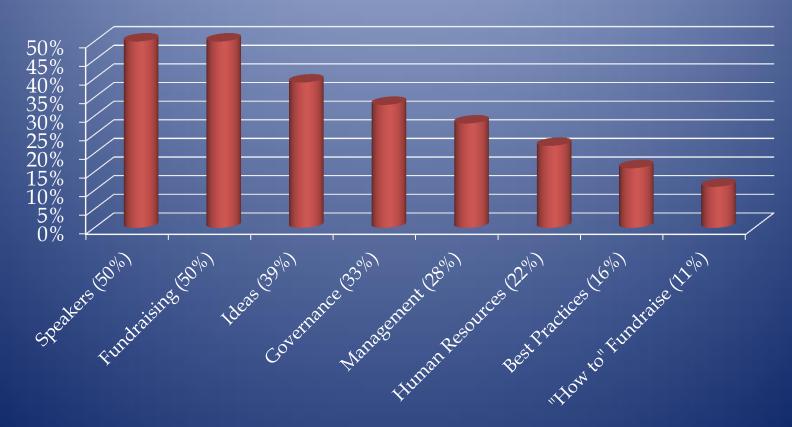
#### **NAJAS** Services





## Have You Asked For Assistance From NAJAS For The Following?

**Assistance from NAJAS** 





# THINGS JETAA NEEDS TO THINK ABOUT BEFORE CREATING A

#### CENTRAL OR UMBRELLA ORGANIZATION

- 1. What is the problem?
- 2. Is the mission of each chapter the same?
  - A. All the JASs have basically the same mission
- 3. What does each chapter want from a Central or Umbrella Organization?
  - A. Is it the same?
  - B. Will it be beneficial to most of the chapters?
- 4. Where will the funds come from to run the central organization?
- 5. Now there is e-mail and video conferencing. Is a central organization needed?