



AOSHS

American Overseas Schools Historical Society

August 3, 2020

Due to COVID-19 we did not gather in Omaha for the DoDDS Reunion and have the American Overseas Schools Historical Society's annual membership meeting. This gathering gives everyone in attendance an overview of our organization's accomplishments throughout the past year. Instead you will be able to view these updates on our website homepage under the title of **AOSHS 2020 Slideshow**. If you go to the **Slideshow**, you will see the impact of your donations and why your future donations are critical to the success of AOSHS. Please go to www.aoshs.org to see all of these accomplishments.

Following previous annual meetings many AOSHS members renewed their membership, non-members joined, and many members donated money to our Operation Fund that is used to help us accomplish our annual goals. Last year alone, as we prepared to open the AOSHS Museum and Archives we spent the donated money on many functional items. Just a few are the Muehring Digital Studio's lighting, photo and book scanners. Importantly, we needed to expand the Fire Suppression System to the new archive addition on the other side of the building (708 W. Douglas). This section can be seen in the photos that accompany our **AOSHS 2020 Slideshow**. Plus, the newly renovated façade and exterior signage truly stands out along the street to attract attention to our museum.

The AOSHS Board of Directors continue to utilize the money received effectively. Extensive research was conducted to acquire the Museum furniture that was needed but also pieces that were cost efficient. These 'still to be filled cases' are part of the **Slideshow** online and this task will be completed once the current health crisis subsides. There will be other additions to the Museum as it evolves. All of these advancements still cost monies even with our watchful eyes on spending.

AOSHS still has a lot going on in Wichita and it's all good. COVID-19 has put a damper on our annual membership meeting (July DoDDS Reunion), annual Wichita board meeting (September), and the opening of our Museum and Archives (September), but we remain steadfast. As the outgoing President of the organization, I would like to commend the highly professional, energetic, and mission oriented AOSHS Board of Directors. Of course, it would not be possible without the exemplary AOSHS staff, too. DoDEA has partnered with us and their support has enhanced our progress. The informative Financial Report in the **Slideshow** reveals our current status.

Bottom line is that your financial support is the backbone of our existence and it enables us to remain mission focused. Thank you for your kind consideration and generous donations!

Sincerely,

Gayle Vaughn-Wiles, Outgoing President



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