

**MINUTES OF May 14, 2024
ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY RETIREES ASSOCIATION
BOARD MEETING**

Board Members Present: Maria Hesse, Beverley Budee, Carl Cross, Partha Dasgupta, Don Doerres, Kay Faris, Caroline Harrison, Richard Knopf, Rodney Rogers, Will Stasi, Jan Meyer Thompson

Board Members Absent: Jo Ellen Alberhasky, Jeffrey Bush, Don Dotts, Theresa Eiken, Kathy Palmanteer

Ex-Officio Members Present:

Committee Chairs Present: Paul Harper, Barry McNeill, Connie McNeill, Karen Moses, Jeanette Robson, Tara Roesler, Pat Schneider

Executive Staff Present:

Guests Present:

I. CALL TO ORDER

Board president Maria Hesse called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.

II. INTRODUCTIONS AND WELCOME TO GUESTS

III. ADOPTION OF TODAY'S AGENDA

Agenda was adopted after discussion.

IV. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF February 13, 2024 BOARD MEETING and Annual Meeting Minutes

Kay made a motion to approve the board minutes, Bev seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Jan made a motion to approve annual meeting minutes, Barry seconded. Motion carried.

V. FINANCIAL REPORT/TREASURER'S REPORT – Jeff Bush

Barry stated that we are on budget, just \$2000 needs to be spent down soon.

VI. EX-OFFICIO REPORTS (5 minutes or less, please)

- ASU Alumni Association – Tim Desch
- Emeritus College Liaison – Mark Lussier
- Human Resources – Jarred Elias

- University Club Liaison – Tara Roesler

Nothing new, just the pitch for joining University Club for \$125/yr., with parking.

- University Liaison – Kendra Burton
- University Senate – Greg Stone
- University Staff Council – Shawn Banzhaf

VII. **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS (5 minutes or less please)**

- Community Outreach Committee – Subcommittee Reports
 - Adopt-A-Family – Ginny Sylvester
 - Scholarship Committee – Jan Shore
 - Video History Project – Don Doerres
The studio is ready to go. A trial run is needed.
- Events Committee & Subcommittee Reports
 - Events Committee Coordination – Trudy Perez
 - Luncheons & Special Events – Kay Faris
Kay has agreed to Chair the Luncheon and Special Events committee. There was a discussion on budget and dates for the Fall Meet and Greet. The date was selected (tentatively) for Sept 10.
 - Seminars – Pat Schneider
March seminar from AAoA, on caregivers focused on (i) grandparents raising grandchildren and (ii) online education and discussion groups for caregivers.
Next events will be in October, which will be the health insurance open enrollment seminar and the Medicare open enrollment seminar. It was suggested that perhaps we look into holding some CPR seminars in other valley locations.
 - Pre-Retirement Seminars – Trudy Perez, Liz Badalamenti
 - Travel – John Brock
Tara stated that another tour of the Film Institute is being planned. Only 2 spots are left for the Sicily trip. OAT (the tour operator) is amazing and the experience is great. Silver Star theater events will be held in Fall. AZ Broadway Theater is in West Valley, and some events may happen there, depending on interest. Locally, Tovrea Castle, Wrigley Mansion and Gilbert Historic Mansion (Lavender Farms) tours would be looked into.
- Finance Committee – Barry McNeill
 - Finance committee has not met.
- Government Liaison Council
 - Legislature – Don Dotts

Pat reported that the legislature is winding down. The continuation of ASRS was passed. The ability to change beneficiaries, was passed. The bill about the ability of a spouse to get financial information regarding retirement funds in the case of a divorce died in committee, but was added as an addendum to the bill addressing beneficiaries and was passed as part of that bill.

The voting bills mostly died in committee, two are still having some traction, one is to abolish voting centers and the other is to allow designated people to take mail in ballots to voting boxes.

- Health Insurance Liaison Council
 - ASRS – Dick Jacob
 - ADOA – Larry Carlson
- Membership and Communications Committee – Subcommittee Reports
 - E-News – Barry McNeill
Another E-news will get done. NAU will get a link to E-News.
 - Membership Update –
Connie will do a training for people who would want to do membership processing.
 - Obituaries – Tara Roesler
Another group of obituaries will be out in the next day or two.
 - Prime Times – Jeannette Robson
May 24th is the next deadline for the June issue.
 - Web Site – Connie McNeill, Barry McNeill
A new page is on the website under retiree help, called ageing resources. A software update is supposed to have been applied, but it is not working. Support tickets have been submitted. The search engine on the site does not work. We may have to pay the Technology group to do the updates.
 - Database – Paul Harper
The database archive has been cleaned up, there are 1200 active contacts in the database and can be used for the membership drive. A report was created in March and was submitted for Annual report.

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

IX. NEW BUSINESS

- Annual Meeting went well, Maria praised Kay for a great job running it. Kay stated that she liked the venue, the parking and the proceedings. Attendance was disappointing, no idea why.
- There was a discussion on future meeting(s). Linda Elkins-Tanton could be a speaker, and she can do a tour of her facilities. Kay, Connie, Tara and some others discussed various ideas, but the location and program is still open.

- Kay presented the results of the survey of non-renewing members. 479 solicitation went out and 52 responses were received. Pre-retirement seminars and regular seminars were well liked. Those who asked to be contacted, were contacted and a few of them renewed their memberships. Based on some brainstorming, we plan to hold CPR training at each campus, participate at homecoming, revamp in-person meetings, personally call new retirees and may promote ASURA at the seminars.
- Will stated that each year there is a renewal of AROHE membership. Connie has submitted the names of members.
- At this point the laptop battery died and the online participants were disconnected.
- Maria stated that some leadership roles that needs to be filled. The Vice President needs to be in place by September. Don Doerres could be a candidate next year (not this year). Additional empty positions are Membership Committee chair and Legislative Liaisons committee.

X. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Next Meeting – **Sept 10, 2024 in person at CSB 203A**
 9:15 am Executive Committee
 10:00 am Board Meeting

XI. ACTION ITEMS

XII. MEETING ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 11:36 am.

ASU Retirees Association
Annual Meeting
Minutes April 19, 2023

President Kay Faris opened the Annual Meeting at 1:00 pm. The first order of business was the recognition of five long time volunteers who had retired from volunteering in the past five years. The honorees were: Becky Reise, Carolyn Minner, Dave Scheatzle, Elmer Gooding and Dave Schwalm. Except for Becky Reiss, all the honorees were present. Kay read a brief script (see appendix) outlining the volunteers' ASU and ASURA activities. Each volunteer received a Christmas cactus.

Next Kay introduced the guest speaker, Dr. Thom Reilly. A professor in the School of Public Affairs and Co-Director, Center for an Independent and Sustainable Democracy at Arizona State University. Previously, he had served as Director of the Morrison Institute for Public Policy at ASU.

Dr. Reilly's talk was titled "The rise of the independent voter and what this means for US democracy" and addressed the following topics:

- the adamant desire of the founding fathers to not have a two-party system,
- how the checks and balances of a two-party system was reasonably successful,
- the recent steady growth of voters who register as independents, voters who are more interested in issues than parties,
- the significant number of young independent voters, upwards of fifty percent for some demographics, and
- the myriad of state laws about who can and cannot vote in the primaries; in Arizona a registered independent voter can go to the poles and ask for a ballot for the party they want to vote or when a mail-in ballot request is received, check the box for the ballot desired.

Jan Shore introduced Bea Ahbeck, this year's scholarship recipient, who had come from Lodi California. Ms. Ahbeck thanked ASURA for the scholarship and then told the audience about her path back to school. At eighteen she left home to make her way in the world. She had many different jobs over the years, photojournalism being a connecting thread. After being laid off several times she decided it was time to change course and enrolled in ASU. She will graduate in August 2024.

Kay Faris introduced Don Doerres, chair of the Video History Project who introduced three Video History Project clips from interviews with Elmer Gooding, Dave Schwalm, and Dave Scheatzle.

Kay thanked the continuing Board members and her Executive Committee. She then handed the gavel of leadership over to Maria Hesse, the new President. Maria welcomed the new Board members: Don Doerres, Caroline Harrison, Richard Knopf,

Rodney Rogers, and Jan Thompson. Maria finished with a story about Anne Pittman, third ASURA President. Anne not only liked carrot cake but was Maria's tennis coach.

Maria gaveled the meeting closed at 3:30 and slices of the 34th Birthday carrot cake were served to all.

Minutes prepared by Barry McNeill

DRAFT

Honored Volunteer Stories

Becky Reiss

Actually, forty-nine years ago yesterday (4/18) I began working at ASU in the College of Business with the newly established Productivity Institute. Later I worked for Dean Overman in the College and then for Ken Pollock who directed Information Technology. When Ken went to Wright State University, I worked with one of his directors, Connie McNeill. When Connie went to ASU West I worked for one of the other directors before I retired in 2002. Great people. Great opportunities for learning and wonderful experiences. Certainly 27 years well spent! Then to be involved in ASURA has been excellent.” Volunteering for ASURA was fun, interesting and rewarding in many ways.

Becky was the Chair of our Obituaries Committee from 2002-2022—21 years! During her time as chair, Becky developed new, and effective methods for collecting obituaries.

When she began, obituaries were published only in Prime Times. Becky developed:

- Email notifications in 2010, to allow people to attend memorial services; and
- The Obituaries moved to the Web in 2011, and Becky adjusted procedures to accommodate that.

She also added procedures for updating membership records and notifying surviving partners??

Becky was completely reliable! She never let vacations, illness, or other responsibilities keep her from providing this invaluable service to our membership.

Thank you, Becky!

Carolyn Minner

Carolyn Minner also couldn't be with us today—maybe she will be! But, Carolyn volunteered 18 years of service to ASURA. She was our Business Operations Manager from 2007-2024 and a board member from 2012-2014. Carolyn not only handled all business operations, but also posted the obituaries on the ASURA website for as long as we have been doing that.

She was centrally involved in the projects to digitize and maintain our membership records – she did this first in MS Access and then on Wild Apricot. On her own, Carolyn learned to use each new financial system the Foundation and ASU moved to. Carolyn says she is technologically challenged, but her work certainly proves otherwise!

Carolyn was completely reliable and responsive. Barry Bruns and Jerry Snyder commented that they liked working with her, and she made the jobs they did easy. The ASU Foundation made the same comments!

As these terrific pictures show—Carolyn loves dogs!

Thank you, Carolyn!

Dave Scheatzle

We are so glad David could be with us today!

Dave Scheatzle dedicated 17 years of service to ASURA!

Dave was a mainstay of the organization from the time he joined (which was even before he retired). He was a board member for two terms!

While president (2004-2005), he conceived of the idea for a golf tournament fundraiser. He actually got Bobby Winkles to come, along with several former ball players, and rounded up donations. These events raised a lot of money for the Scholarship and the Video History Project.

Dave put out the Prime Times for 5 years. Along with this, he took pictures of many ASU volunteers and events for use in ASURA publications.

With the Video History Project, he helped conduct many interviews and made arrangements with the ASU Library for inclusion of the video interviews in the digital archives.

Dave was the first to work on creating an ASURA membership database. This began with Excel, and he then took classes in MS Access and did the original development of a membership application.

Dave was very successful in recruiting others to volunteer with ASURA.

And, as you can see, he was a great model at the ASURA Fashion Show!

Dave, thank you so much for your service to ASURA!!!

Elmer Gooding

Elmer is also with us today!

Elmer Gooding served us for 16 years!!!! He was a board member for 4 terms! Elmer has held many additional roles—President, Membership Committee Chair, and Emeritus College Liaison. As Connie McNeill says, “Elmer’s smile is his trademark. For many years he was the face of ASURA. He represented the Association at many events, especially the in-person retirement planning meetings held by Human Resources.”

As chair of the Membership Committee, he instigated the use of email obituary notices so that people could have timely notice of memorial services. He attended many of those services himself, since he had so many friends and colleagues at ASU.

Elmer introduced the notion of a free introductory membership for new retirees and oversaw its implementation. He worked with ASU to institute a regular transfer of information on new retirees to ASURA.

He also

- collaborated with Dave Scheatzle when they first began trying to collect and digitize association membership records.
- active in the Emeritus College, serving as Dean at one point. He worked on building collaboration and mutual understanding between the Emeritus College and ASURA and facilitated sharing of information between the two.
- contributed his photography skills over many years – many of the photos in the ASURA archives were taken by him.

Thank you, Elmer!

Dave Schwalm

We are so glad David could be with us today!

David Schwalm came to ASU in 1986 as Director of Composition and retired in 2009 as Vice Provost for Academic Affairs at the Polytechnic Campus.

Dave joined the Board and agreed to be Vice President very shortly after he retired (2011-12). Dave's leadership style was relaxed and pleasant, and he was a well-liked ambassador for ASURA both while an officer and during his long service as chair of the Membership Committee.

Dave had leadership roles at Main, West and Poly campuses. This made him especially well-known, and no doubt contributed to his credibility when he attended orientation meetings for upcoming retirees and promoted the value of membership.

When ASURA wanted to try to resurrect the Veterans Day golf tournament as a fund raiser, Dave Schwalm bravely and kindly agreed to chair the committee. He found that things had changed quite a bit since Dave Scheatzle's very successful tournaments. He and his committee did put on tournaments in 2013 and 2014, raising about \$1,500 each. We haven't found a fund-raising volunteer since!

Thank you, David!

**Video History Committee
Report from Don Doerres**

Just a line or two.

The ATEM Mini Pro ISO (Video switch/combiner) is permanently set up in the video recording room. ASURA has a laptop attached to it. The laptop has the MiniPro software on it. There is also a nice video monitor and cameras all set up. The video recording room is thus essentially set up and ready to go for historical interviews. I'll be setting up some more documentation over the next couple of weeks on how it all works.

ASURA *Prime Times* – Requested Dates for Submitting Articles

Summer 2024 through Spring 2025

SUMMER 2024

May 14: ASURA Board Meeting
May 24: Please **submit articles** to Jeannette Robson - jr@asu.edu
June 03: Final copy to Alpha Graphics for printing & delivery to ASU Mail Services

FALL 2024

September 10: ASURA Board Meeting
September 20: Please **submit articles** to Jeannette Robson - jr@asu.edu
September 30: Final copy to Alpha Graphics for printing & delivery to ASU Mail Services

SPRING 2025

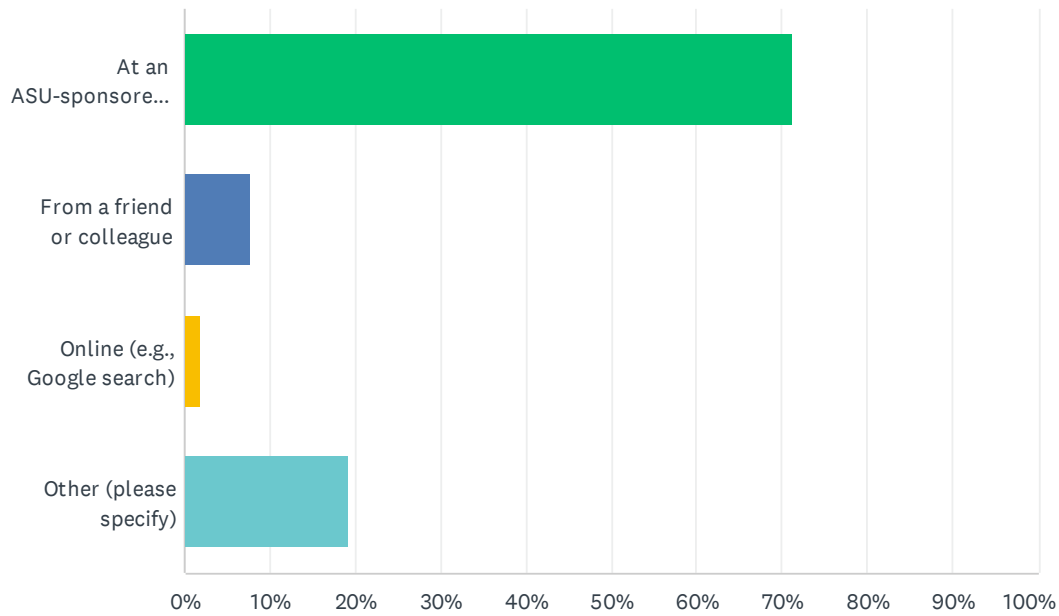
January 14: ASURA Board Meeting
January 24: Please **submit articles** to Jeannette Robson - jr@asu.edu
February 3: Final copy to Alpha Graphics for printing & delivery to ASU Mail Services

NOTE: All dates are subject to change

(Rev. 04/30/2024) ... submitted by Jeannette Robson ... jrobson_az@yahoo.com)

Q1 How did you originally hear about the ASURA?

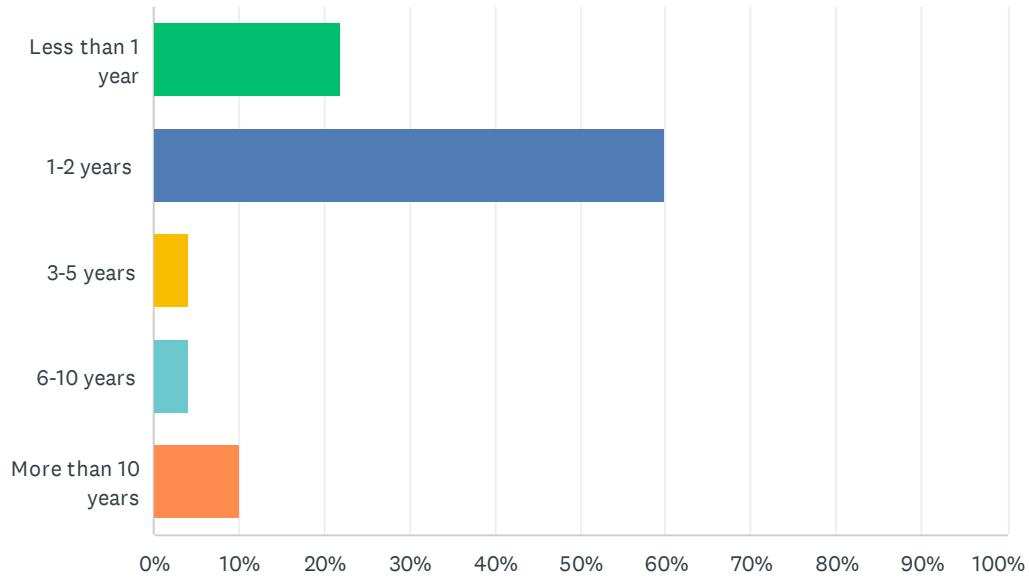
Answered: 52 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
At an ASU-sponsored retirement session	71.15%	37
From a friend or colleague	7.69%	4
Online (e.g., Google search)	1.92%	1
Other (please specify)	19.23%	10
TOTAL		52

Q2 How long were you a member?

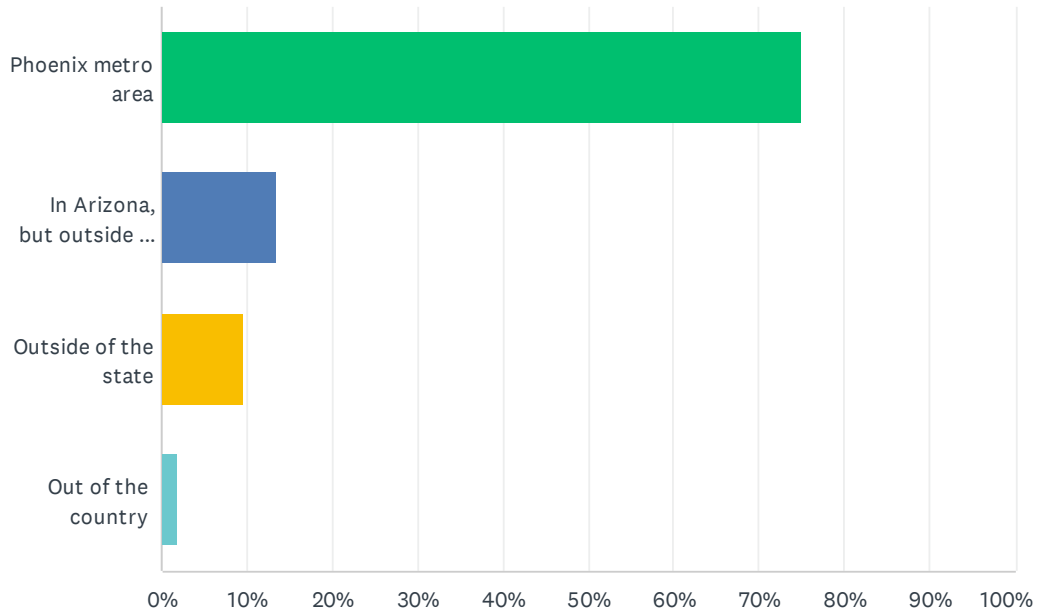
Answered: 50 Skipped: 2



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Less than 1 year	22.00%	11
1-2 years	60.00%	30
3-5 years	4.00%	2
6-10 years	4.00%	2
More than 10 years	10.00%	5
TOTAL		50

Q3 Where do you currently reside?

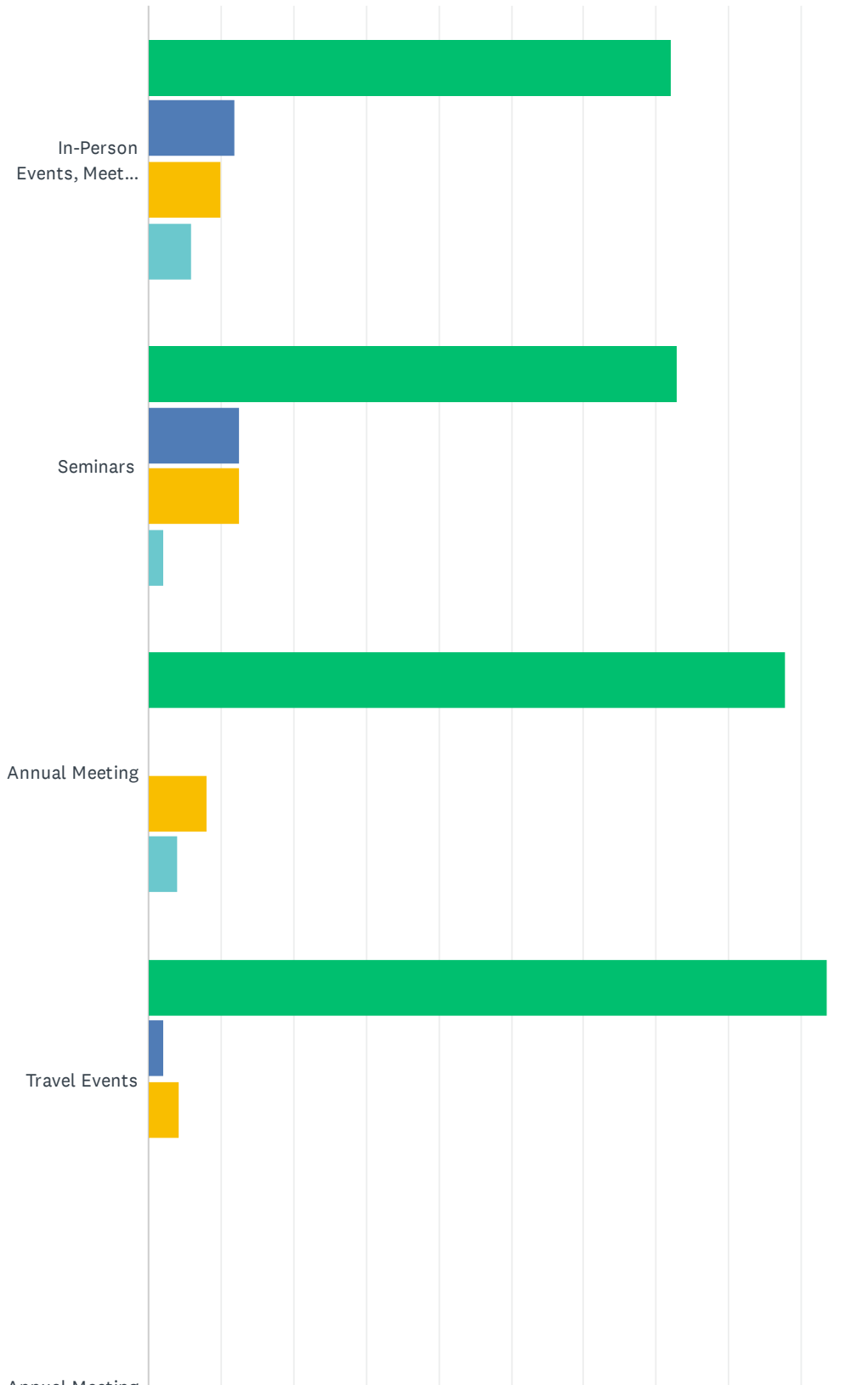
Answered: 52 Skipped: 0



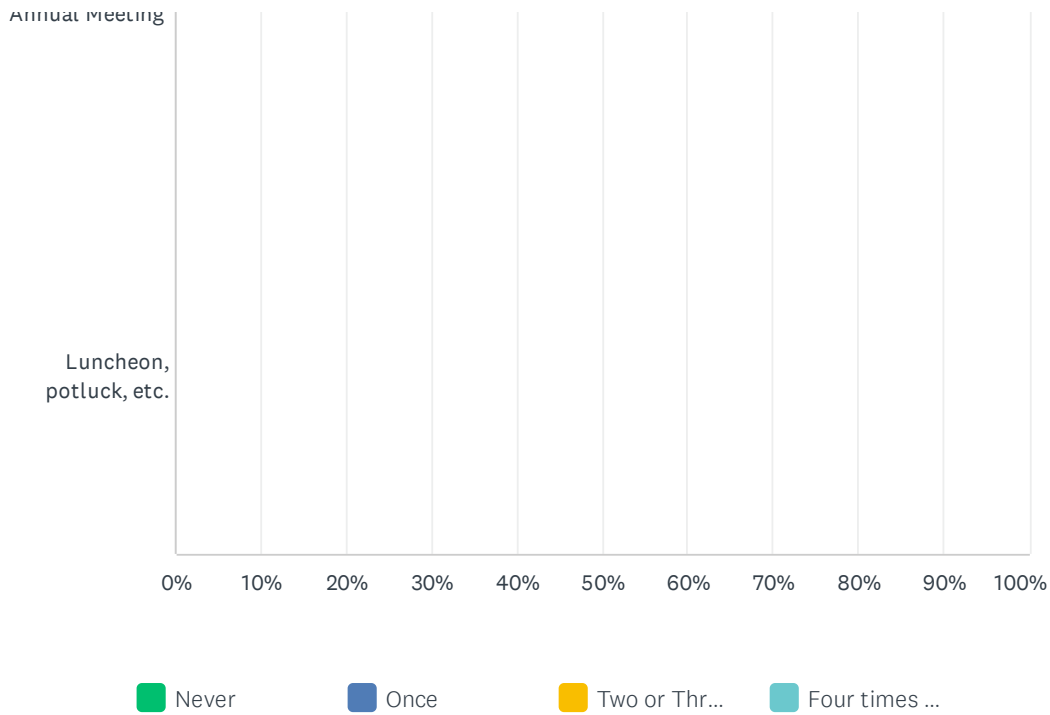
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Phoenix metro area	75.00%	39
In Arizona, but outside of the Phoenix metro area	13.46%	7
Outside of the state	9.62%	5
Out of the country	1.92%	1
TOTAL		52

Q4 While a member, please indicate if you attended any of the following ASURA sponsored events, and how often?

Answered: 51 Skipped: 1



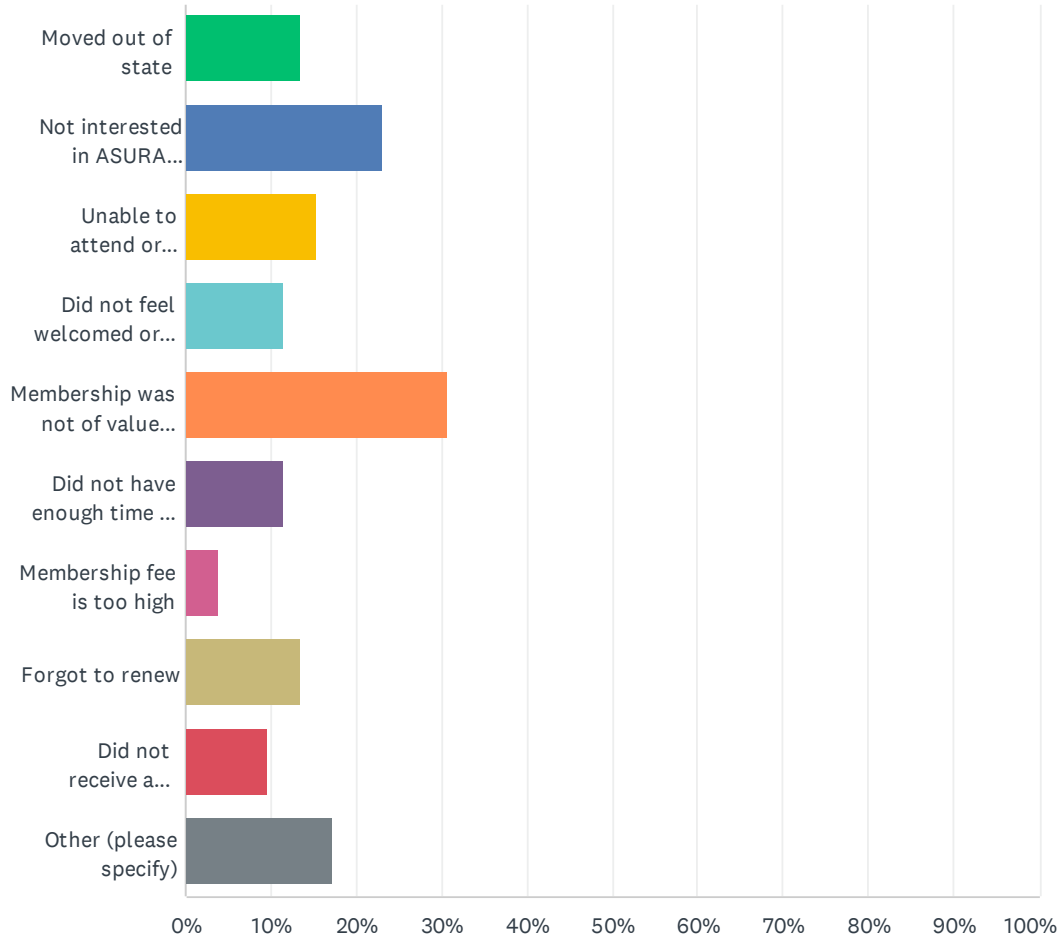
ASU Retirees Association Non-Renewing Member Survey



	NEVER	ONCE	TWO OR THREE TIMES	FOUR TIMES OR MORE	TOTAL
In-Person Events, Meeting & Greet, Luncheons, Potlucks, etc.	72.00% 36	12.00% 6	10.00% 5	6.00% 3	50
Seminars	72.92% 35	12.50% 6	12.50% 6	2.08% 1	48
Annual Meeting	87.76% 43	0.00% 0	8.16% 4	4.08% 2	49
Travel Events	93.62% 44	2.13% 1	4.26% 2	0.00% 0	47
Annual Meeting	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0
Luncheon, potluck, etc.	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0

Q5 Please list the main reason(s) you decided not to renew your membership (select all that apply).

Answered: 52 Skipped: 0

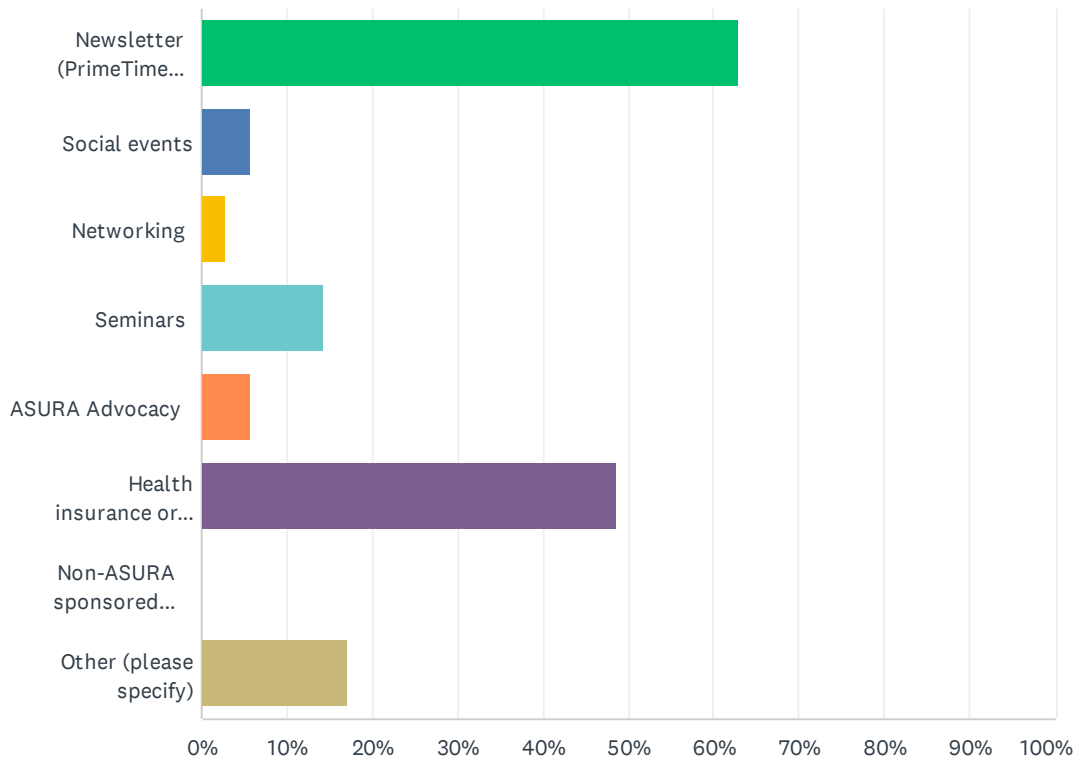


ASU Retirees Association Non-Renewing Member Survey

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Moved out of state	13.46%	7
Not interested in ASURA activities	23.08%	12
Unable to attend or participate enough	15.38%	8
Did not feel welcomed or engaged	11.54%	6
Membership was not of value to me	30.77%	16
Did not have enough time to be involved	11.54%	6
Membership fee is too high	3.85%	2
Forgot to renew	13.46%	7
Did not receive a renewal notice	9.62%	5
Other (please specify)	17.31%	9
Total Respondents: 52		

Q6 If applicable, which ASURA benefit(s) did you find most valuable?

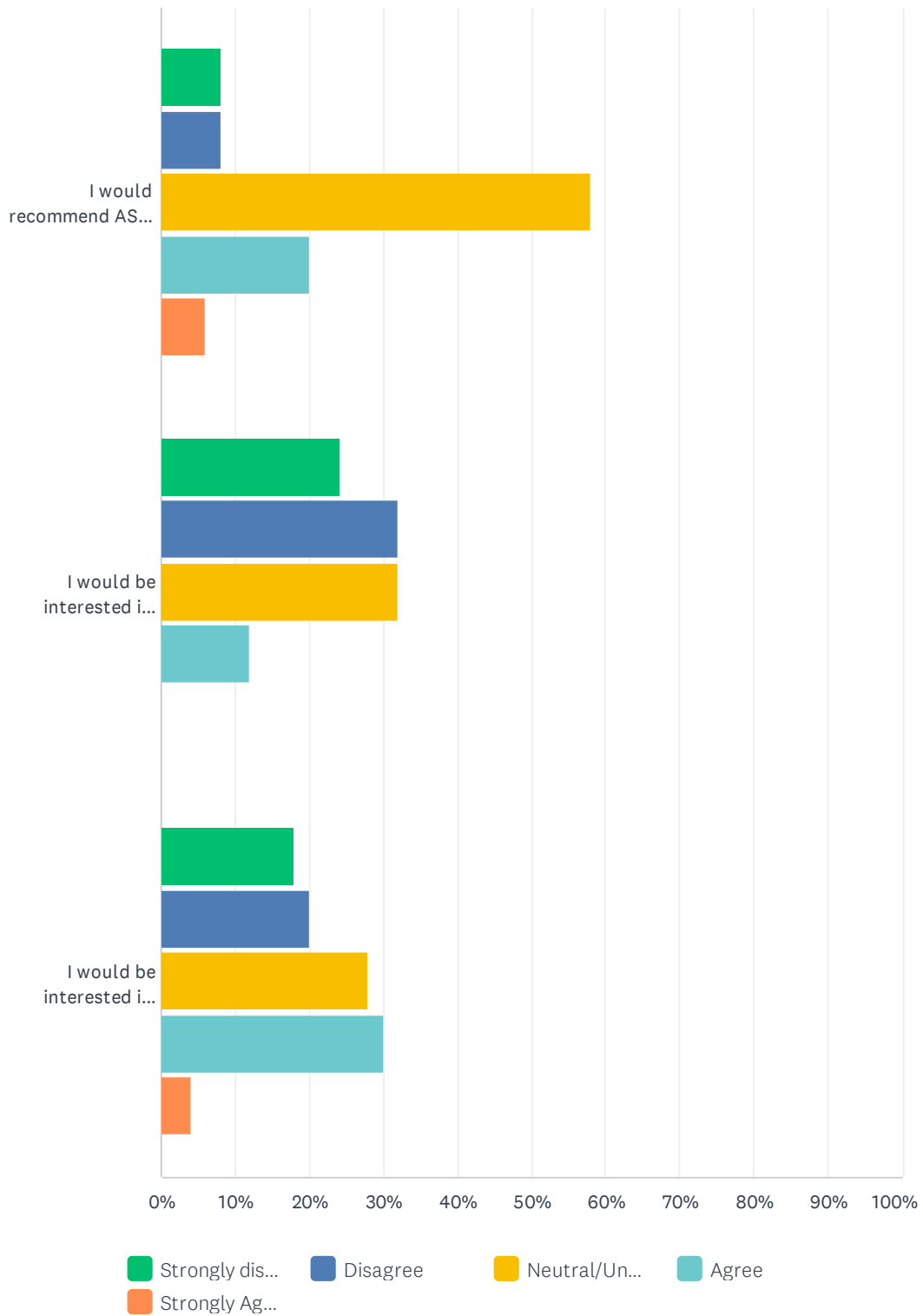
Answered: 35 Skipped: 17



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Newsletter (PrimeTime and/or eNews)	62.86%	22
Social events	5.71%	2
Networking	2.86%	1
Seminars	14.29%	5
ASURA Advocacy	5.71%	2
Health insurance or benefits updates	48.57%	17
Non-ASURA sponsored events	0.00%	0
Other (please specify)	17.14%	6
Total Respondents: 35		

Q7 Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements:

Answered: 51 Skipped: 1



ASU Retirees Association Non-Renewing Member Survey

	STRONGLY DISAGREE	DISAGREE	NEUTRAL/UNSURE	AGREE	STRONGLY AGREE	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
I would recommend ASURA to friends and colleagues.	8.00% 4	8.00% 4	58.00% 29	20.00% 10	6.00% 3	50	3.08
I would be interested in attending regional ASURA events (e.g., outside of Tempe).	24.00% 12	32.00% 16	32.00% 16	12.00% 6	0.00% 0	50	2.32
I would be interested in attending seminars via Zoom.	18.00% 9	20.00% 10	28.00% 14	30.00% 15	4.00% 2	50	2.82

Q8 If you answered "Disagree" or "Strongly Disagree" on question 7, please provide any information or feedback on your answer in the space below.

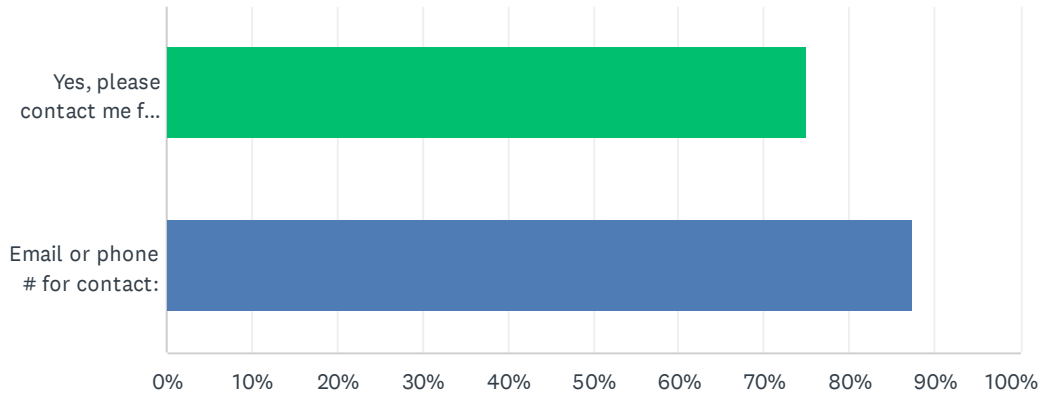
Answered: 17 Skipped: 35

Q9 Please use the following space to describe anything we could have done to make your membership more beneficial.

Answered: 15 Skipped: 37

Q10 OPTIONAL: Please click the link below if you'd like to be contacted for further information about your ASURA experiences:

Answered: 8 Skipped: 44



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes, please contact me for more information	75.00%	6
Email or phone # for contact:	87.50%	7
Total Respondents: 8		

ASURA non-renew survey "Other" responses
5.8.24

How did you originally hear about the ASURA? Other:

- Knew about it as a long time employee.
- Never heard of it, never requested membership, did not know I was a member
- email from ASURA
- ASURA
- On my own
- I think I must have been auto enrolled when I initially retired?
- Working at ASU
- I joined after I retired and had been a member ever since,
- email
- Don't remember

Please list the main reason(s) you decided not to renew your membership (select all that apply).
Other:

- See answer #1
- did not want to travel to EAST Valley, I live far West Valley
- Want nothing to do with ASU as they screwed me out of my RASL
- Moved to Flagstaff
- I will pay my dues and renew my membership. I have had three tough years of medical procedures. Most recently I have had 6 significant surgeries in 7 months. I am on the mend...
- I'm confused because I did renew my membership. Please contact me at 602 317-4198
- I probably just missed the renewal notice.
- Returned to work and resumed contributions suspending retirement status (for now)

If applicable, which ASURA benefit(s) did you find most valuable?
Other

- none
- None
- Death announcements
- Not applicable because I did not participate in any activities
- None of the above
- none

If you answered "Disagree" or "Strongly Disagree" on question 7, please provide any information or feedback on your answer in the space below.

- Not interested in group travel events
- New family responsibilities keep me from participating as much.
- Zoom is not for me...
- no interest
- I just never felt accepted, welcomed, or (especially) valued as an ASU staff member. Therefore nothing associated with ASU generates positive thoughts or emotions in me.
- I live in Tucson
- I have other social opportunities. I don't enjoy big social events.
- I keep a full social calendar already so events are not of high interest to me at this point.
- If I were to attend, it would be for in-person interactions.
- Not interested in ASURA any longer
- No computer to participate.
- Not crazy about zoom
- It would really depend on the event.
- Don't have computer to do meeting on
- Seems to have become irrelevant during Covid. Needs to get going again
- Just not interested
- See Q5

Please use the following space to describe anything we could have done to make your membership more beneficial.

- Wish the membership was MORE culturally diverse. I would be interested in serving on the committee as the diversity coordinator.
- It wasn't what the association did, I was a member during covid and there were very limited activities. I found other ways to volunteer and socialize on my own.
- Make it fun.
- see answer #1
- Continue sending email newsletter. Maybe there would be some event that would interest me when I have the time or inclination.
- Nothing. I have been out of the country most of the last year and that pattern will continue.
- I would like to see more public lectures from ASU professors. ASU seems bent on nickel and diming for everything. I don't find anything easily accessible or affordable.
- Not stabbed me in the back
- Doubt it
- Asking this of me is very kind. Thank you. I may not have resonated with the information and it became somewhat disconcerting to read about the number of members who had passed.
- Provide support to obtain parking on campus as needed.

- more discounts for retirees at businesses. is there any list of retiree associations or social groups ?
- I renewed my membership and am concerned about this message. Please contact me at 602 317-4198
- Interesting seminars and social events.
- Not really. I'm otherwise busy and socially engaged. Being an ASU person was never my primary identity. So while I have nothing "against" ASURA, I have nothing "for" it, either.

Yes, please contact me for more information

- Ms.Mdmonroe@yahoo.com
- debkf1@gmail.com
- Elizabeth.Wong@asu.edu
- ts@asu.edu Cell-602-818-0803
- Myrnabowman589@gmail.com
- wdgay53@yahoo.com
- 602 317-4198

Membership Survey Take Aways

Responses 52

Take Aways

- People are definitely learning about ASURA through ASU sponsored events. It is reported that promotion of preretirement events garners at about five memberships throughout the year after the workshops.
- Most of these people took their one year membership and left.
- They generally live locally.
- The vast majority never attended any events.
- Membership was not of value or they were not interested.
- Sad that 6 people did not feel welcome or engaged.
- Newsletter/Health Insurance/Seminars most popular.
- Would they recommend ASURA? Neutral.
- Comments:
 - All who asked to be contacted have received e-mails. Most wanted to be renewed as they weren't aware they had missed the renewal.
 - Concerning statements: Make it fun, should be more culturally diverse, stabbed me in the back.
 - More public lectures from ASU professors.
- A number were asking to have their membership renewed.

Committee Initial Thoughts

- CPR Training courses at Poly, Tempe, West
- Participate in Homecoming—booth at Block Party, Parade.
- Meet and Greet Revamp and review all in person events.
- Personally call/contact people on the new retiree lists and invite them to events. Perhaps do this by college or affinity groups.
- Review initial welcome letter/information.
- Promote travel and adventure. Interview and video members who have travelled.
- Day trip to Sedona (hiking)—Cornville (wineries).
- Consider an event on West side—Arizona Broadway Theatre.
- Reach all demographics—50s and up.
- Hiking opportunities.
- Promote benefits of things like University Club.
- Diamondbacks game—rent pool area?
- Review discount benefits—any more we can do?