

Membership Committee Report for April 11, 2023, Board Meeting

Membership Numbers: As of the end of February, we have 2,305 members. This is up 2 members from the end of January.

Membership Outreach: We are looking into inviting faculty and staff to some of our “open” events through the OSU OnCampus Today and the OSUMC HealthBeat electronic communications.

Is there some kind of benefit we can offer new retirees? We are no longer able to offer a free year of membership. It was decided that we would like to send a complimentary copy of the newsletter to new retirees for 6 months. This would be in addition to the “Welcome to Retirement” package that we are currently sending.

Quarterly Coffee Hour for New Retirees: We have 6 people signed up to attend the April coffee hour this Thursday, April 13 at 9am.

Spotlights: We have 5 spotlights turned in awaiting publication.

Online Directory Workshop: We will be holding a workshop to assist anyone wanting help getting into and using the online directory on Friday, April 14 at 1pm at the Whetstone Library. We have emailed 38 people who had requested help through the survey last October to make sure they are aware of the workshop. We have also posted the information to the listservs and the Facebook page.

Website: There was a long discussion about the information on the membership pages of the website and changes were proposed.

There was also a question about having our two endowment funds listed as additional ways to give on the pages where you pay your membership dues. Right now, the only suggestions for additional giving are to scholarship funds that are not related to OSURA. Karen will talk with Craig to see if this can be changed.

Survey/Newsletter Question: We would like to suggest that we use the monthly question to see if people would be interested in attending a discussion on the issues facing the Travel and Cultural Arts committees. We would suggest that the format of this event not be just a meeting. Possibly a lunch or some type of gathering with refreshments that would be more inviting for people to attend. We feel that those who attend the Travel and Cultural Arts events be personally invited to attend this gathering. Sandy is looking into getting a listing of those who have attended the events over the last couple of years from the Alumni Association.

While the Membership Committee is proposing this process for assisting the Travel/Cultural Arts Committee on their reorganization, we do not feel that this is something that should be taken on by the membership committee. There needs to be an effort put forth by the board to take on this task.

Membership would be willing to initiate the question to OSURA members either via the newsletter and/or via an email.

Question: OSURA members have enjoyed travel and cultural events arranged by the Travel and Cultural Arts Committees. Would you be willing to participate in a meeting to discuss new destinations and how to make them happen?

Submitted by:
Sandy Bell
Membership Committee Chair