

Membership Report for End of Year 2025-2026

The Membership Committee spent most of its time this year debating whether it would be better to seek donors instead of members. That conversation has pros and cons both ways. We will discuss this more with the entire board at the upcoming Summer Board Retreat. A decision must be made and then we must move forward with it since we have clearly stalled out.

All our data was moved into Membership Tool Kit. Time was also spent this year looking at how that worked for the members we currently have; that meant did reminders get sent out by MTK about renewals and upcoming payments or about credit cards that had expired. We as an organization (meaning TechSupport – Karen) learn more about the use of MTK all the time and “tickets” are sent to MTK support for things we need help with.

So it appears when I logged in on July 23, 2026 that there are 7 Life Members and 21 people who are currently current on paying for their memberships. Not quite sure what happened to all the others, plus we are missing 9 board members (one of those is waiting for us to figure out how the matching will occur now that we are truly separated from the libraries and are a constituent network of the AFS). Obviously, a LOT of people did NOT transfer their membership over from the “old system” to the “MTK system” about a year ago. I thought that a number of us had reached out to a number of those “old system members” to help them make the transition. Clearly that did not help. More analysis of this will need to be done.

The current plan is to run a fundraising campaign (either donors or members TBD) in the September timeframe so that it does not conflict with what the Libraries are doing.

We need to make the success for this committee a big goal for the upcoming year.

Carolyn Phelan '89

VP for Membership