

THE CARMA MEMBER SURVEY AUGUST 18, 2016

77 participants,
15 pages of comments,
Many positive suggestions!

Ratings Questions - (1- 6)

Question #	Question	Strongly & Usually Agree	Sometimes Agree or Higher
1	Does CARMA meet your expectations?	71.2%	95.9%
2	Are You satisfied with the meeting programs & format?	67.6%	95.9%
3	Do the speakers meet your expectations?	57.5%	95.9%
4	Attracting younger members would be a good idea?	87.9%	95.9%
5	We need to reach out to local college students?	70.3%	87.8%
6	The length of the meetings is fine?	90.4%	95.9%

Ratings Questions - (7-11)

Question #	Question	Strongly & Usually Agree	Sometimes Agree or higher
7	The CARMA BOD is responsive to member ideas & suggestions?	72.2%	100%
8	The President's Message provides useful information?	85.1%	95.9%
9	The meeting time is good for me & promotes maximum attendance?	78.1%	93.2%
10	The CARMA Website meets my expectations?	89.0%	97.3%
11	CARMA should participate in community wide events?	48.6%	86.5%

Comments on Questions 1- 3

- #1 - *Does CARMA meet your expectations?*
 - Need a proactive vision, not “Let’s talk about politics.”
 - “The group is a lunch club, not a place to discuss how principles could fix problems.”
- #2 – *Are you satisfied with the meeting Programs & Format?*
 - “There is almost never a correlation between meeting topics and state or national events.”
 - “Some members need a muzzle...pass out the coffee cups and forget the BS...need some very strong speakers.”
 - “I have a hearing problem and side discussions make my hearing very difficult.”
 - Link up with ladies groups to arrange an evening meeting maybe once every 6 months or so.
- #3 – *Do the speakers meet your expectations?*
 - Would like to see speakers from national GOP election race.

Comments on Questions 4-7

- #4 – *Attracting Younger Members would be a good idea?*
 - Meeting is a 2 hour commitment, midday, except for mostly retired men, this is a tough schedule to meet.
 - Tough for working people.
 - Younger members, either working or college would have tough time with midday schedule.
- #5 – *We need to reach out to local college students?*
 - Please try to schedule speakers from Heritage and State GOP.
 - Would not want more than 3-4 evening meeting a year trying to accommodate working and college.
- #7 – *The CARMA BOD is responsive to member ideas/suggestions?*
 - Save meeting time for open comments on GOP, local or national.
 - Very new to group, too new to know.

Comments on Questions 8 - 9

- #8 – *The President's Message Provides Useful Information?*
 - Some prior presidents provided a very thorough newsletter, looking for this to improve.
 - Might be productive to have short press releases following each meeting, that cover comments by speaker, and “blow horn.”
- #9 - *The meeting time is good for me and promotes maximum attendance?*
 - I would prefer a different day as there is a Kingsmill group that also meets on 3rd Thursday.
 - Good for retired people.
 - ...perhaps two evening meetings a year would be helpful.
 - More convenient if meeting started an hour later.
 - Am disappointed at the few letters to the editor coming from CARMA.

Comments on Questions 10 – 11

- #10 – [*The CARMA Website meets my expectations?*](#)
 - Fantastic job being done by webmaster.
 - Website is great.
 - Well designed and easy to use, packed with info.
 - The fonts on the website make it hard to read. Email updates should contain links to stories not where to find them.
 - The font and spacing of the bio for upcoming speakers should be improved.
- #11 – [*CARMA should participate in Community Wide events?*](#)
 - We need to make ourselves more of a community presence.
 - Become more visible in community, Christmas parade not a good idea.
 - Community events are fine, but CARMA should do more to directly support candidates.

General Question #3 –

How can we improve CARMA?

- More letters to editor.
- Another meeting place with larger room with better acoustics.
- Try evening meetings with spouses.
- Try to broaden base of members to all across county/city.
- Diversify membership if possible. (young/old/hispanic/etc)
- Christmas parade would provide some exposure.
- Invite one of two VA senators to hear there side of story.
- Need a serious discussion about Trump.
- Tired of same old food and dry hard rolls.
- Make sure there is time in each meeting for member comments. Limit to 2-3 minutes each.
- I'm pleased with the way CARMA is run now.
- Embrace all Republican/Conservative opinions.

General Question #4-

Recommendations on Speakers

- Morton Blackwell – Ken Cuccinelli
- President of W&M
- Medicare lecturer
- Judge McGinty
- Ed Gillespie, Federal judge, Victoria Cobb
- Any of the also runs from GOP.
- Retired FBI – Hal Metcalf, Wittman
- RPV chairman
- A few folks said they would help Chuck Young, so please tell Chuck who you are and when you can start helping.

General Question #5

Would annual/semi-annual fundraisers with wives; have your support?

- Quick tally – 30 yes, 17 no, 9 maybe
- Other comments:
 - Only with a big name speaker
 - There are already too many of these
 - Are we a fund raising organization?
 - Not as a fundraiser, too many of these in election season
 - Depends on what we are raising money for???
 - Any event with spouses would have my support
 - Must be worthwhile and not necessarily political
 - Should not be an expensive event
 - Try to include all the local GOP groups.

General Question #6

Does CARMA satisfy your political philosophy?

- Quick Tally – 54 Yes, 4 No, 6 maybe/unsure
- Other Comments:
 - I am not as far right as some of the members
 - Not completely sure what CARMA's philosophy is
 - Would like to see CARMA more fully embrace the issues of sanctity of life, traditional marriage, and religious civil liberties.
 - Yes, right on target.
 - Usually, I am Conservative beyond Republican
 - Usually – Generally – Most of the time – Somewhat – Most cases
 - Nice to attend meetings where most folks have similar views.

General Question #7

Who do you think will make the best Republican nominee?

- **Quick Tally** –Trump 45.3%, Kasich 21.3%, Cruz 13.3%, Other 20%
- Responses for other:
 - Ryan
 - It really doesn't matter
 - ABC
 - Admiral McRaven
 - Rubio
 - Graham
 - “No hope for any of them”

General Question #8

Will you vote for the GOP nominee whether he/she is your first choice?

- Answered the question 67
- Skipped the question 8 (10.7%)
- Of the 67 who answered:
 - 89.6% said Yes
 - 9.4% said No
- Quotes:
 - “I will never vote for Trump”
 - “Probably – Darn it”
 - “We must coalesce behind whomever is the candidate”
 - “Voting for democrat ticket is unthinkable”
 - “ABH – Anybody but Hillary”
 - “Will see how Trump evolves.”

General Question #9

What will it take to unite the Republican Party?

- Get rid of Trump nay-sayers
- A Ronald Reagan clone
- Trump needs to settle down in his speeches
- A miracle
- A strong party platform that all candidates will follow
- Making “electeds” understand they work for the voters and we need to push for term limits
- Purge the radicals in the party
- New leadership in both houses
- Party needs to start working as a team...leadership
- Stop the political in-fighting
- GOP needs to be more open to different viewpoints.

Summary

- Leadership team is reviewing all the comments.
- We are working on speakers – very difficult to schedule.
- Website fonts and notifications have been changed.
- Community outreach is being reviewed.
- President's Message is changing to more than just a review of the Speaker's discussion.
- Meeting location, start time, menu, general agenda are all being looked at by leadership team.
- Political philosophy, and support for GOP candidates is being discussed as a vision item for CARMA.
- Fundraising and candidate support are issues that will be reviewed as CARMA's mission & vision are focused on.