

# ACA MORNING

## COMMUNICATIONS SECRETARY REPORT

January 15, 2024

### **BUSINESS UPDATES:**

- ACA Listing & Email Monitoring: **No Changes** to ACA WSO Listing or [info@acamorning.org](mailto:info@acamorning.org)
- Password changed with the seasons on December 21, 2023 to **Clarity**. It will change again in spring.
- The Contact List Committee has a [live poll](#) on how to best improve the overall Contact List experience. **Members** are Antionette, Jim, Joy, Kate, and Wendy. **Responses** are attached, with names removed.
- Communications Co-Secretary position is **open!** [Here is the current position description.](#)

### **MAILCHIMP DATABASE:** Since the last meeting:

- Mailing List Subscribers: **865** (+10 new Subs; 8 unsubscribed)
- Contact List Count: **753** (+13 new Contacts)

### **COMMUNICATIONS UPDATES:** Since the last meeting:

- 2 emails were sent:
  - [Town Hall Announcement](#): Sent to 859 recipients; 542 opened (64%); 6 unsubscribed
  - [January Newsletter](#): Sent to 866 recipients; 480 opened (56%); 2 unsubscribed
    - **Top Links Clicked:** Envisioning the Future, Contact List Poll, & The Traveler
- 4s Latest News articles added to the website in December & January:
  - <https://www.acamorning.org/comms-help-needed/>
  - <https://www.acamorning.org/town-hall-names-and-images/>
  - <https://www.acamorning.org/contact-list-poll/>
  - <https://www.acamorning.org/envisioning-the-future/>

Respectfully submitted by Joy

Communications Secretary

Timestamp	First Name/Last Initial (optional)	Email (optional)	Do you use our Contact List?	Do you think we need a Contact List?	How can we improve the Contact List experience?	Do you have a suggestion for a different method of staying connected, other than maintaining a Contact List?
21/12/2023 11:16:10			No	No	N/A	Group Chat
22/12/2023 07:36:28			Yes	Yes	Can it be created in Google Forms? I think that format automatically updates. Or, if there is a way to do it in Excel that might be an option.	WhatsApp Group
22/12/2023 07:39:52			Yes	yes	have separate columns for city and state so fellow travelers can contact people in their direct area if possible	no
22/12/2023 08:35:39			No	A sperated sponsor list	Diffient list for sponser	The old list is so long to go though call
23/12/2023 07:37:18			Yes	Yes	Consider separating "fellow travelers" into another list for a quick, easy way for people looking for that.	Consider making a designated time during the meeting for people to put in the chat if they are looking for a fellow traveler or people to start a study group, or local Acas to connect with, etc.
23/12/2023 16:17:27	. ...I do use the list. When someone shares in a way that inspires me I go to the list in order to contact them. I cannot use the chat feature during meetings, I am very slow typing and it distracts me from being present.		Yes	Yessuggest	My suggestion is not putting your name and information on the list if you do not want to be called or contacted. People have said they didn't have time or just not available. I am okay with that I just move on, but some of us may not use the list for that reason.	What's app just gets too congested if people try making groups. I have done great connections one to one on what's app and that truly works. I am not a fan of group texts....they tend to get quite confusing.
27/12/2023 08:30:26			Yes	Yes	Update more often. I have requested twice that my double entry be removed as one of the entries includes my last name and personal email (not my anonymous email).	

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27/12/2023 08:34:02			Yes	Yes, definitely. Its very helpful to connect with FTs	Not sure how we can update it so that current active members are on the top? Not sure how to purge it of folks who no longer attend? The length of the list is intimidating and can't often find the folks I want to contact, so it's frustrating in that regard.	Yes, it would be great to have a WhatsApp group for our meeting where FTs can ask for OR outreach when needed. We might also allow inspirational quotes and pet pictures, a little lightheartedness. That would be interactive and fun as well as useful...just a thought
27/12/2023 08:43:00			No	No	A list of people who would be interested in talking to newcomers.	Encourage going to meetings and listening for a person they can relate to.
27/12/2023 09:11:55			No	No. Not for fellow travelers to use. Only the email list for comms to use.	It's more trouble than it's worth	Reach out during the meeting in the chat. WhatsApp
31/12/2023 08:46:42			No	Unsure. I like the idea of having a members directory of sorts... incase I want to find someone... AND, even as I'm writing this I realize it's not likely that I'll ever need or use the list.	If anything, having something sortable could be worthwhile - location / bipoc / gender / lgbtq / years in ACA / ... just some ideas.	Hmm... perhaps some opportunity before the meeting - like a breakout room for chatting and connecting? Maybe a 'WhatsApp' group (though I don't know how that works)

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31/12/2023 13:41:02			Yes	Yes, definitely	<p>Perhaps a “date added” or “date verified” or “Active” &amp; perhaps it can be encouraged for people who have put their phone number on the list to maybe once a year re-up that date. Or, maybe simply start a new list each year? That way ACA SMR members who are still active can “re-commit” if you will, if they chose to. ? Maybe that is alot of extra work.</p> <p>Maybe a simple annual something where members can opt-in or opt-out? And if there is no response, then automatically opted out ? (To keep list manageable and updated) just spitballing here. Idea is to encourage a semi regular active confirmation to remain on the list? I dunno...</p>	<p>Hm. I feel like a contact list is a living tradition that although cumbersome, works. It provides an opportunity for people to connect. Where the meeting is somewhere in the middle ground, while at the same time casting a wide net...</p>
31/12/2023 22:30:53			Yes	if there were a way to keep it more current and accurate	cull entries for those no longer attending	<p>Reflections: I've had little luck finding the contacts I've sought on the contact list. I've looked when the individual didn't respond to direct chat in-meeting, Maybe using WhatsApp in some way?</p>
04/01/2024 08:29:04			Yes	yes	In addition to separating city and state into separate fields, a time zone column might also prove useful.	Facebook group?

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04/01/2024 08:41:55			No	Yes! When I was brand new I took a look at it and it was just too much to figure out who I wanted to connect with. After that I found other ways. I hope to look at it again to see if I suggestions for making it more manageable.		I think it's important to offer as many ways of connecting as possible. Different things work for different people at different time. PS: I'm so very grateful for this wonderful meeting and for all of you who do service!!!
04/01/2024 15:40:31			No	Yes	Don't know i need one!!	No
05/01/2024 07:30:05			Yes	yes	Cull the list periodically, start over with a fresh list on the same month of the year, not necessarily New Year.	
05/01/2024 07:30:57			No	I have sent out emails and WhatsApp messages to members on the contract list and have not got a reply from the majority.	Regularly asking members if they still want to be on the list and taking off those who don't reply.	WhatsApp group would be better.
05/01/2024 13:15:26			No	Yes.	Maybe put the list on Drive so that everyone can add or edit their details or erase themselves from the list etc. so it can help the list staying up-to-date but with no added task for a trusted servant, so it is up to ppl themselves to edit it.	As I understand, there are groups that have opened a What's App silent group for anyone that is interested in the option of sending a message like "is anyone available for an Outreach?" and such.
08/01/2024 07:32:09			No	Possibly. I reach out individually	Not sure.	No

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11/01/2024 08:40:07			No	Yes, I think it could be a good resource.	<p>I struggle with the amount of nonparticipating people being on a members' list as it seems unsafe to me. I have not joined the list for this reason.</p> <p>In another ACA group I was formerly in and doing a lot of visible service, I was on a similar type list. People (especially newcomers in crisis) would call daily with no desire for a mutual relationship, to just "trauma dump." I practiced boundary setting and learned to set limits.</p> <p>I question the health of such a contact setup and for that reason do not participate. If something based on individual responsibility with guidelines was developed, I would reconsider.</p>	No, but I am interested to learn other options.
11/01/2024 10:05:29			No	Not really	I don't think we need one - I'd always prefer to connect and be connected to directly.	Part of my recovery is practicing the act of reaching out to people.

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11/01/2024 10:28:38			Yes	Yes	I am too technologically limited to have any imagination about this. A spread sheet works for me.	I maintain my own "active call" list of fellow travelers I stay in touch with--or want to. Not everyone I have wanted to contact over the past year has been on the ACA Contact List, which is, of course, entirely an individual's prerogative. That leaves me with using the Chat feature during the meeting to make contact with people not listed--which diverts my attention from the meeting and whomever is speaking at the time. I don't think there is any way around this.
11/01/2024 10:36:24			Yes	Yes	You can lock it so it cannot be downloaded for nefarious or unapproved purposes.	
11/01/2024 19:22:59			No	No		Use the private chat to connect directly and exchange contact info