

## Suggested shift to Fall for NPYM Directory publication

Dear Friends,

In past years, we circulated many printed paper copies of the NPYM Directory. In recent years, the number has declined significantly, as people have shifted to using electronic versions, and continue to be conscientious about saving paper. Last year I believe I distributed fewer than 10 paper copies.

When I took the job as secretary, there was some discussion of the practicality of publishing the Directory in July, since the officer's information in it would only be valid for 3 more months, and the next round of officers are not known until AS. In the past, the Directory had been timed with AS to alleviate the cost of mailing multiple heavy paper copies. Since this is no longer much of an issue, I recommend shifting the publication date to coincide with the Fall CC Meeting. Members could collect CDs to be shared with their clerks, and for folks who just like to have one, we could have an sign up list at AS, or via email circulated through clerks.

Fall publication might also time well with when many Meetings transition their clerks (though I don't know what percentage of Meetings update in the Fall, several have contacted me with clerk updates since AS). In addition, postponing the publication date would lighten the work load leading up to AS for future secretaries, as well as for clerks, who are preparing statistical reports and other items then. This does not need to affect those who still prefer paper copies- we could still accommodate this preference.

While I see the pros of a switch far outweighing the cons, some things to also balance might be:

- Determining whether Fall publication would impact accuracy of clerk contact info in any potentially negative way (when do most Meetings actually transition clerks? Would a Fall publication be- at the very least- similarly accurate to a midsummer one?)
- When do most Meetings update their directories? Would info gathered in Fall be less accurate in any significant way? (for some, July is out of sync with their local directory updating, so at least from some, we already get somewhat stale information).
- How will this affect the pattern of how and when secretaries transition? We normally hire in spring, and have the new hire shadow through AS, which covers both AS and Directory publication. How would this look in the future? (We might want to consider keeping the 2016 publication in July, since we are hiring a new secretary this year, and then move to Fall in 2017).

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