

# MARC Survey 2008

September 22, 2008



# MARC Survey 2008

- Conducted between August 12 and September 1
- 153 invitations were sent.
  - All current members with email addresses
  - Former members
  - Mailing list subscribers who were not on the member or former member list
- 63 surveys were completed for a 41.2% response rate
- 33 surveys were completed in the first 24 hours



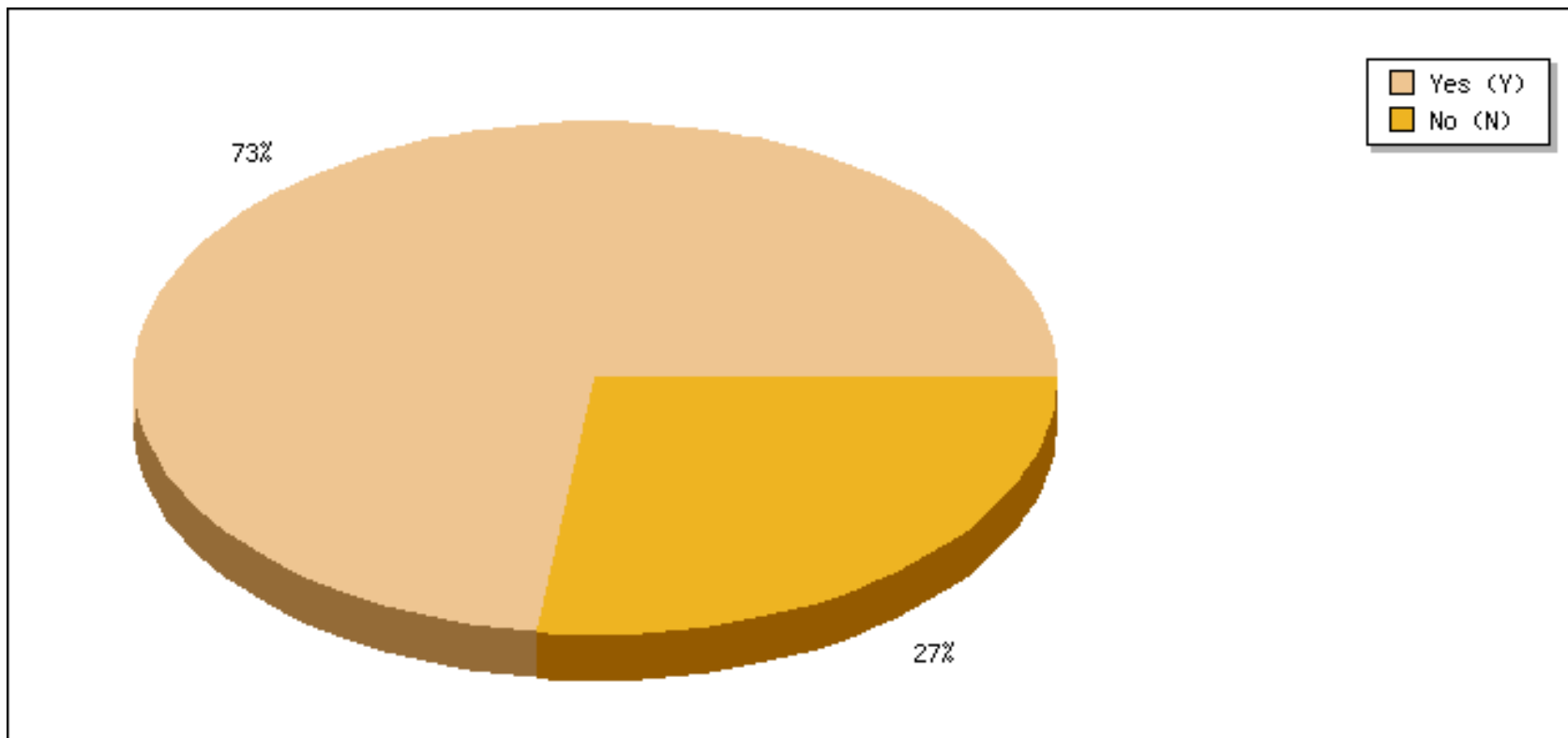
# MARC Survey 2008

## Membership Info



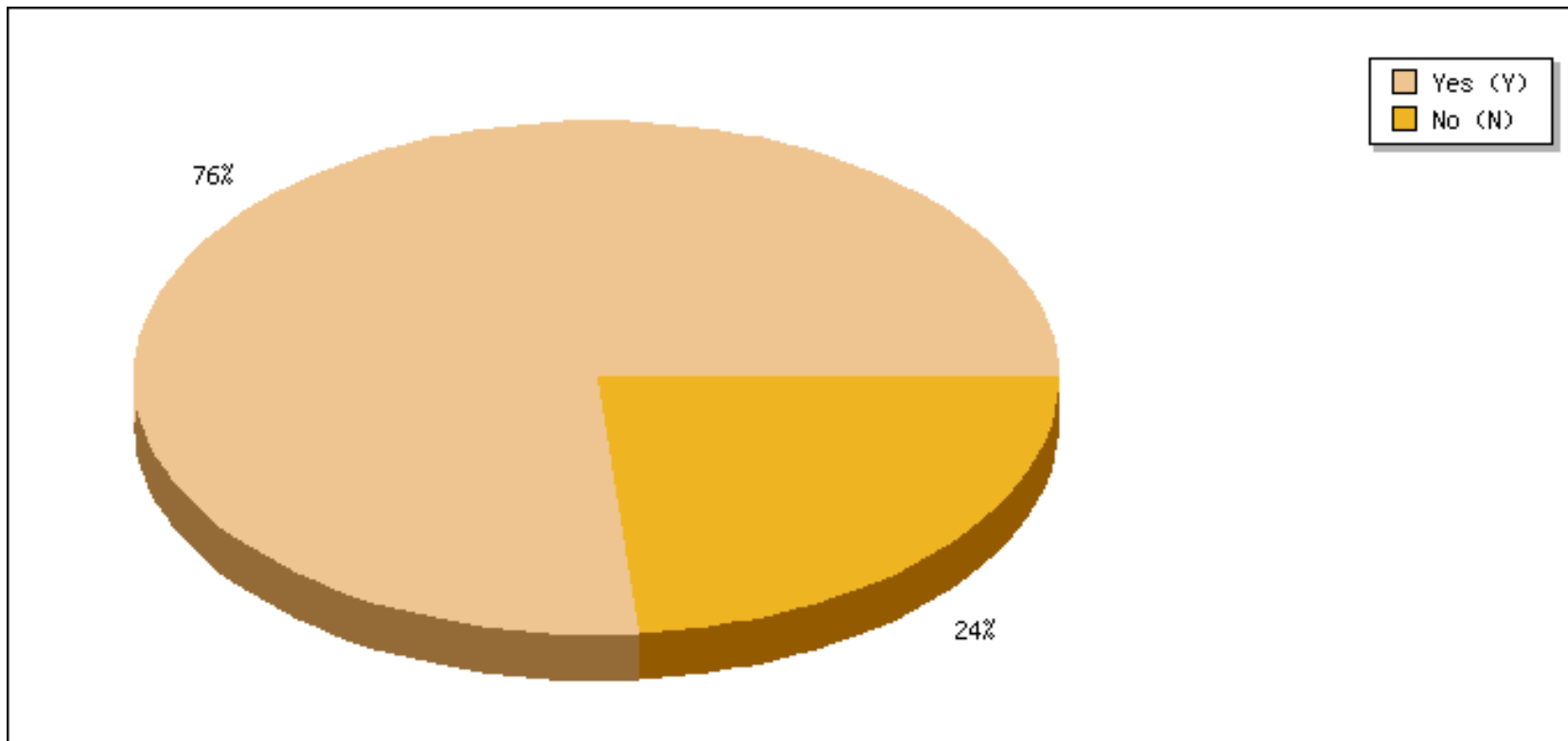
# Are you currently a member of the Midland Amateur Radio Club?

Yes	46	73.02%
No	17	26.98%



# Have you ever been a member of the Midland Amateur Radio Club?

Yes	13	76.47%
No	4	23.53%



# Why are you no longer a member?

I just never got around to paying my dues.	5	29.41%
No one sent me a dues renewal notice.	2	11.76%
I just lost interest.	1	5.88%
I have nothing in common with the other members.	2	11.76%
Someone made me mad one time so I'm not coming back.	0	0%
I didn't find the members to be very friendly.	2	11.76%
I moved away from the area.	2	11.76%
Other	2	11.76%



# Why are you no longer a member? continued.....

## ■ Other

- Felt like no one wanted to have anything to do with me. It's like a Good Old Boy Club.
- Live in Andrews and making meetings and events hard to attend



# Why haven't you ever joined?

(Answered if never a member)

I've just never have gotten around to it.	2	11.76%
I can't make the meetings on Monday nights.	0	0%
I came to a meeting once but no one would talk to me.	0	0%
I'm not interested in being a member.	1	5.88%
Other	1	5.88%
Have never been on air from Midland		



# MARC Survey 2008

## Club Meetings



# How many meetings have you attended this year?

	<u>Members</u>		<u>Non-Members</u>	
None	21	45.65%	12	70.59%
1 or 2	7	15.22%	4	23.53%
3 to 5	6	13.04%	1	5.88%
6 to 10	3	6.52%	0	0
10	9	19.57%	0	0



# Why haven't you come to any meetings this year?

(Answered if attended no meetings)

	<u>Members</u>		<u>Non-Members</u>	
I can't make it to Monday night meetings.	8	17.39%	2	11.76%
I don't have time.	6	13.04%	2	11.76%
I can't drive at night.	3	6.52%	1	5.88%
It's too far to drive.	1	2.17%	2	11.76%
Other	7	15.22%	7	41.18%



# Why haven't you come to any meetings this year? continued....

## ■ Other – Members

- Usually forget or too tired.
- Lost interest in the hobby
- The frugal members of the club complain about spending money on activities and lessen opportunities for club involvement. Most hams I know who have quit coming to meetings quit because they are tired of coming only to listen to complaining and doing nothing
- Was active for many years, and then got busy with other things



# Why haven't you come to any meetings this year? continued....

- Other – Members
  - Tired after working all day
  - I forget about it.
  - Not much interest in the topics



# Why haven't you come to any meetings this year? continued....

- Other – Non-members
  - Please see M3
  - Too many irons in the fire
  - Lost interest
  - Mostly time
  - Work schedule
  - Work schedule interferes
  - Have not really started using ham ticket yet



# Since you can't attend Monday meetings, which night of the week would be better for you? (Members)

Tuesday	4	50.00%
Wednesday	0	0%
Thursday	3	37.50%
Friday	1	12.50%



# Why haven't you made it to more meetings?

(Answered if only attended 1 or 2 meetings)

	<u>Members</u>		<u>Non-Members</u>	
Can't make Monday meetings.	1	14.29%	2	50.00%
I don't have time.	2	28.57%	1	25.00%
I can't drive at night.	0	0	0	0
The meetings are boring.	1	14.29%	0	0
I'm not interested in the programs.	0	0	0	0
The members aren't friendly.	0	0	0	0
Other	3	42.86%	1	25.00%



# Why haven't you made it to more meetings?

(Answered if only attended 1 or 2 meetings)

## ■ Other – Members

- Gas...I live about 25 away
- Can't always make it from out of town
- Too late after I have already gone back to Odessa

## ■ Other – Non-members

- I forget about the meetings



# Is two meetings a month too often?

	Members		Non-Members	
Yes	13	28.26%	2	11.76%
No	33	71.74%	15	88.24%



# Would you be more or less likely to attend meetings if there was only one meeting a month?

	<u>Members</u>		<u>Non-Members</u>	
More likely	11	23.91%	0	0
Less likely	7	15.22%	1	5.88%
Doesn't matter	28	60.87%	16	94.12%



# Should the club do more "eatin' meetin's" at a local restaurant?

	<u>Members</u>		<u>Non-Members</u>	
Yes, once a month.	3	6.52%	3	17.65%
Yes, every other month.	3	6.52%	1	5.88%
Yes, 2 or 3 times per year.	14	30.43%	5	29.41%
No	8	17.39%	2	11.76%
No, it costs too much to eat out.	3	6.52%	1	5.88%
It doesn't matter to me.	15	32.61%	5	29.41%



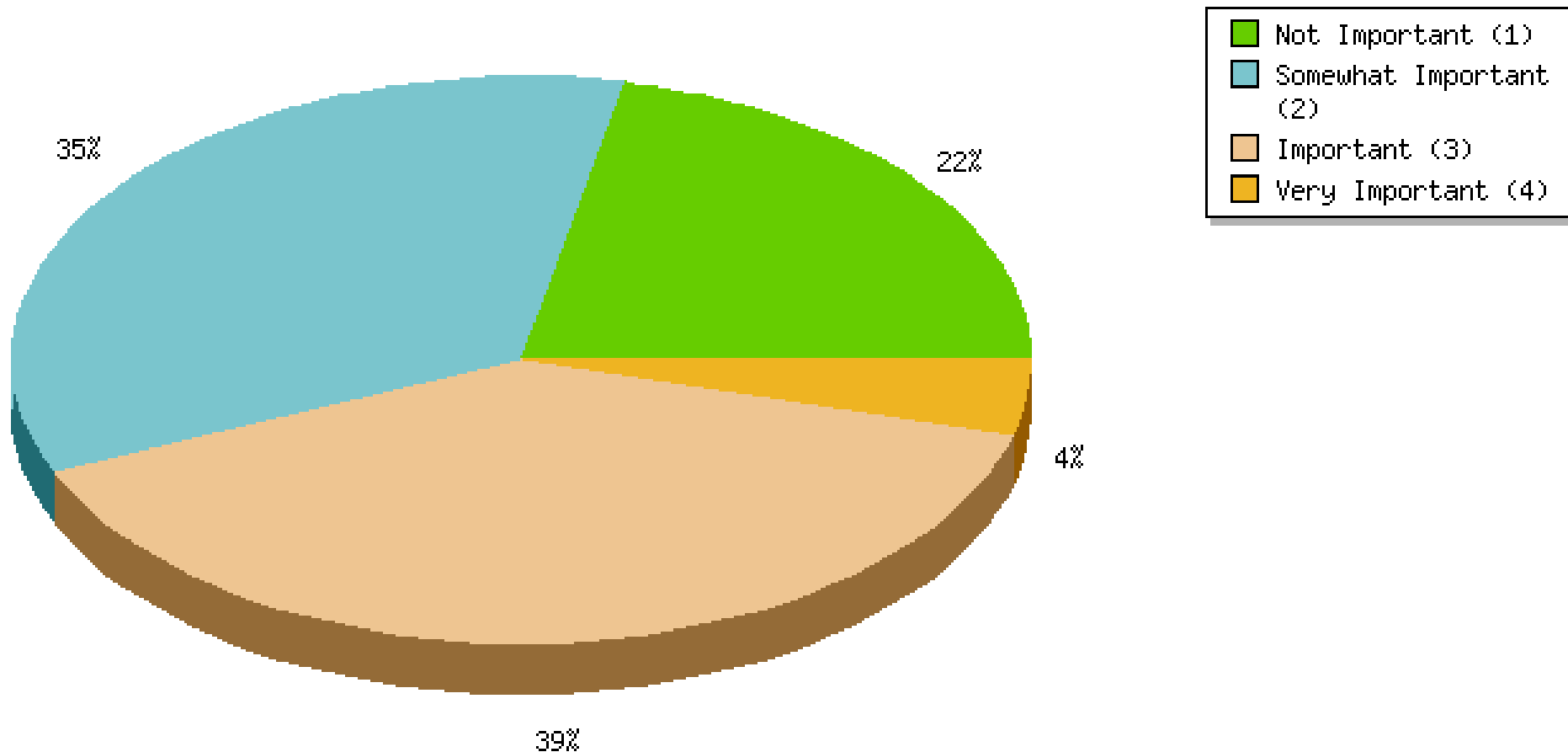
Would you be more or less likely to attend an "eatin' meetin'" than a regular meeting at the clubhouse.

	<u>Members</u>		<u>Non-Members</u>	
More Likely	11	23.91%	7	41.18%
Less Likely	12	26.09%	2	11.76%
Doesn't matter	23	50.00%	8	47.06%



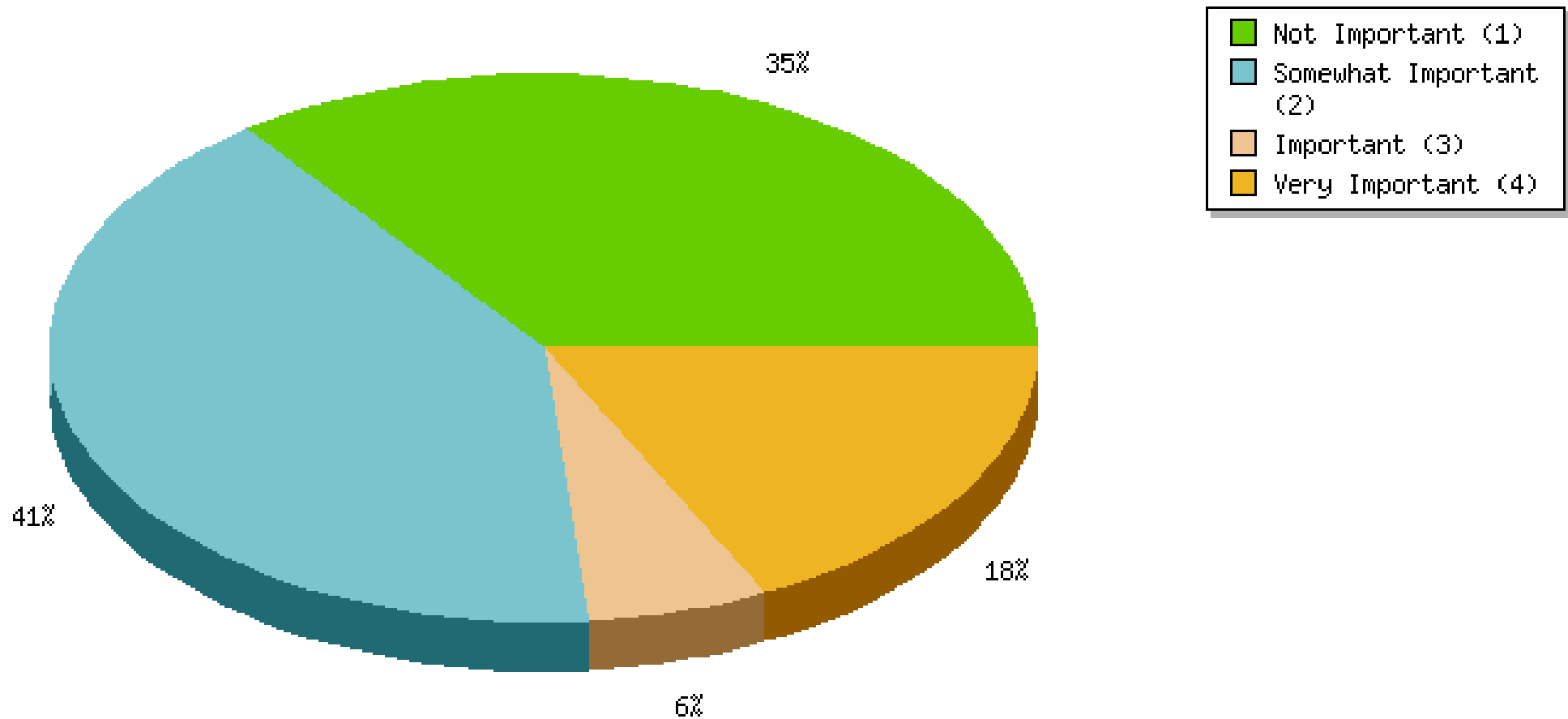
# How important is the program in your decision to attend a club meeting?

(Members)



# How important is the program in your decision to attend a club meeting?

(Non-Members)

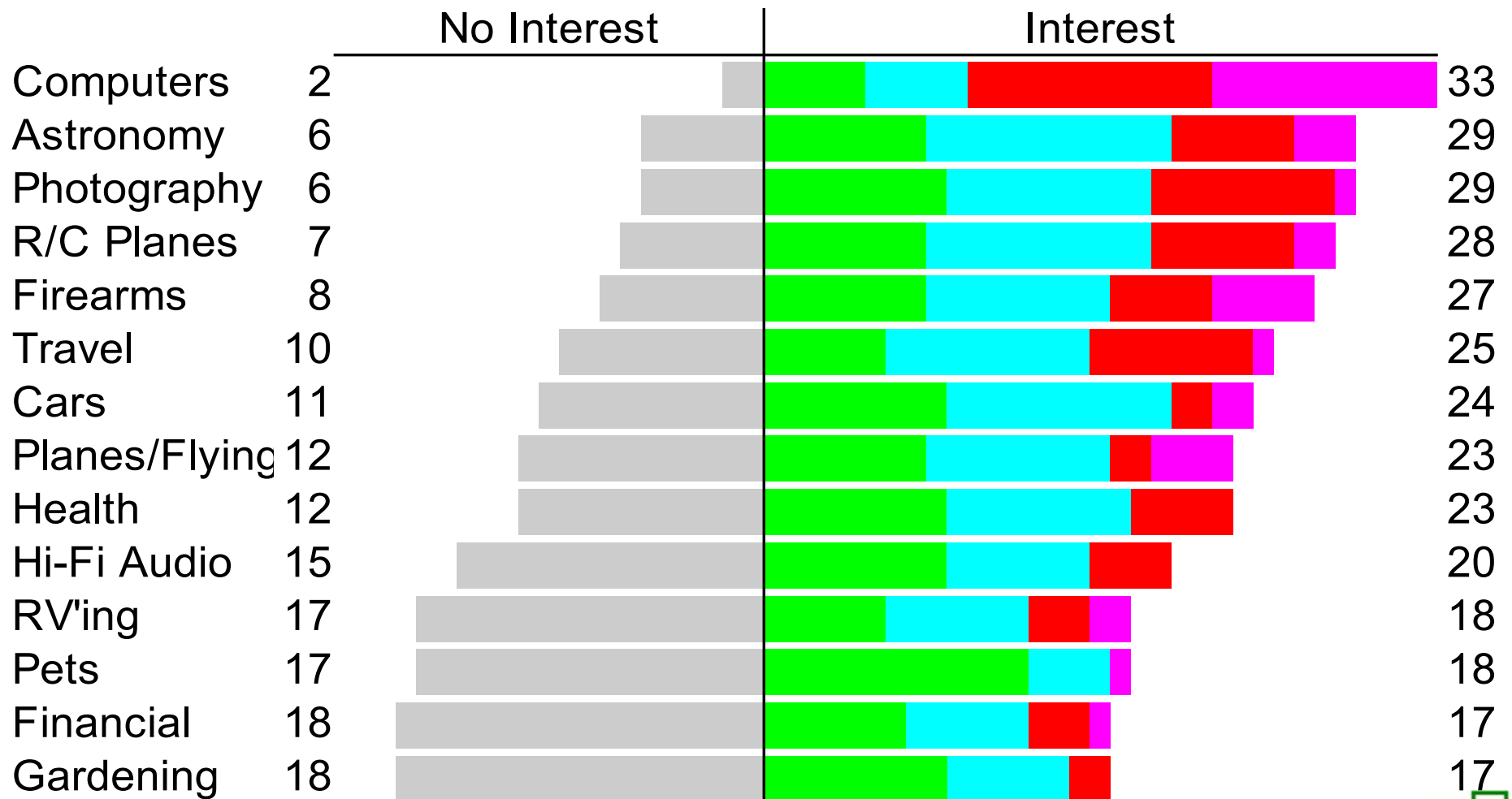


# Should the club meeting programs stick to ham radio related topics or should non-ham related topics be presented?

	<u>Members</u>		<u>Non-Members</u>	
Ham related only	21	45.65%	7	41.18%
Non-ham OK	25	54.35%	10	58.82%



# What is your interest in these non-ham topics?



# Your ideas for non-ham programs.

- Alternative energy. Bio fuels.
- Solar power, generators, computers especially Linux OS, electrical systems, living "off the grid," local history
- Electrical wire of radio equipment solar panels
- Emergency/disaster family planning personal defense firearms photographing storms / equipment and techniques
- Early world communication



# Your ideas for non-ham programs.

(continued)

- There are many community org's that would be interested in doing a program..the college would be one. Interesting travel logs good
- Emergency Operations Public Appearance  
Working with Authorities as Experts not  
Amateurs
- Taxes in particular income tax
- Health issues Computers



# Your ideas for non-ham programs.

(continued)

- CERT or COPS training
- HOW TRAFFIC CAMERAS WORK  
AERONAUTICAL COMMUNICATIONS HOW  
STADIUM LIGHT BOARDS WORK HOW FUEL  
CELLS WORK SOLAR PANELS
- No specific ideas, but they should be  
technology related (ham some way to relate to  
communications, emergency service, etc... no  
AMWAY meetings)
- Cell Phones Internet



# What are some ham related programs you would like to see presented?

- Antennas, What is a good reasonable station
- Have training sections on how to do ham radio stuff. Stuff like APRS, packet radio, hands on instructions on radios one owns so to learn how to use the radio.
- APRS and other digital modes, how-to presentations on just about anything for new folks, antenna building, electronics



# What are some ham related programs you would like to see presented?

(continued)

- I would normally say to present ham related programs only. Lack of such programs is one reason I quit coming to meetings. However, with the solar cycle down and the bands dead, most hams are losing interest in ham radio. I like the suggestion of coming up with radios that we can build individually and use in a contest. I used to have plans for a fairly simple QRP radio that could be operated on voice frequencies. However, I can no longer locate the schematic.



# What are some ham related programs you would like to see presented? (continued)

- Antennas
- New technology items. Contesting
- Batteries gel cells battery's are important in cars and feild use:::: if you auto needs routine maintenace to be in a emergency
- CW practice, DXing and contesting for beginners, HF antennas
- Antenna building QRP
- How to install a 150 foot tower? RTTY BBQ party with real BBQ APRS!!!



# What are some ham related programs you would like to see presented?

(continued)

- Alternative power sources QSL'ing (in-depth, options, bureaus, e-qsl, etc) Log-book-of-the-world (in-depth) Radio Insurance info Mobile mounting tricks and tips Portable operations (vs fixed or mobile) More on DXing More on Contests and contesting New modes (digital hf voice, etc) Winlink 2000 (in depth) Echolink (in depth) IRLP (in depth) More on earning Awards (in depth)
- I am not sure at this time.



# What are some ham related programs you would like to see presented?

(continued)

- Antennas antenna restrictions 6 M info
- Station readiness power for emergency memories & history
- Grounding APRS Winlink2000
- You might do a ham related on the 4th week of the month and just meet and fellowship on the 2nd week of the month...
- Amp operation More antenna bldg voip system etc.



# What are some ham related programs you would like to see presented?

(continued)

- Training on the use of radios and antennas. Local events and programs in our area such as skywarn and others.
- Contesting DX
- Building foldable solar panels to operate rig on for emergency power.
- RTTY, PSK, Contesting, Learning methods for CW
- Kit building



# What are some ham related programs you would like to see presented?

(continued)

- Transistors and How they replace vt
- Programs for newer hams. There is no introductory course and from what I've experienced, most topics are way too technical for newer folks. It's hard to get involved in the group when the discussions are all at a high technical level.
- ANTENNA WORKSHOP IMPEDANCE DISCUSSION APRS & WX TRANSMISSIONS SOMEONE WHO HAS BEEN ON DX-PEDITION



# What are some ham related programs you would like to see presented?

(continued)

- New products, noaa wx studys, trick and tips
- V.E. Testing and prep for upgrading to General and Extra license.
- Antenna help or programs on simple antenna's
- Building antennas
- Starting from scratch with a new ticket and a new handheld, but no knowledge of programming it.
- Construction projects
- APRS Packet

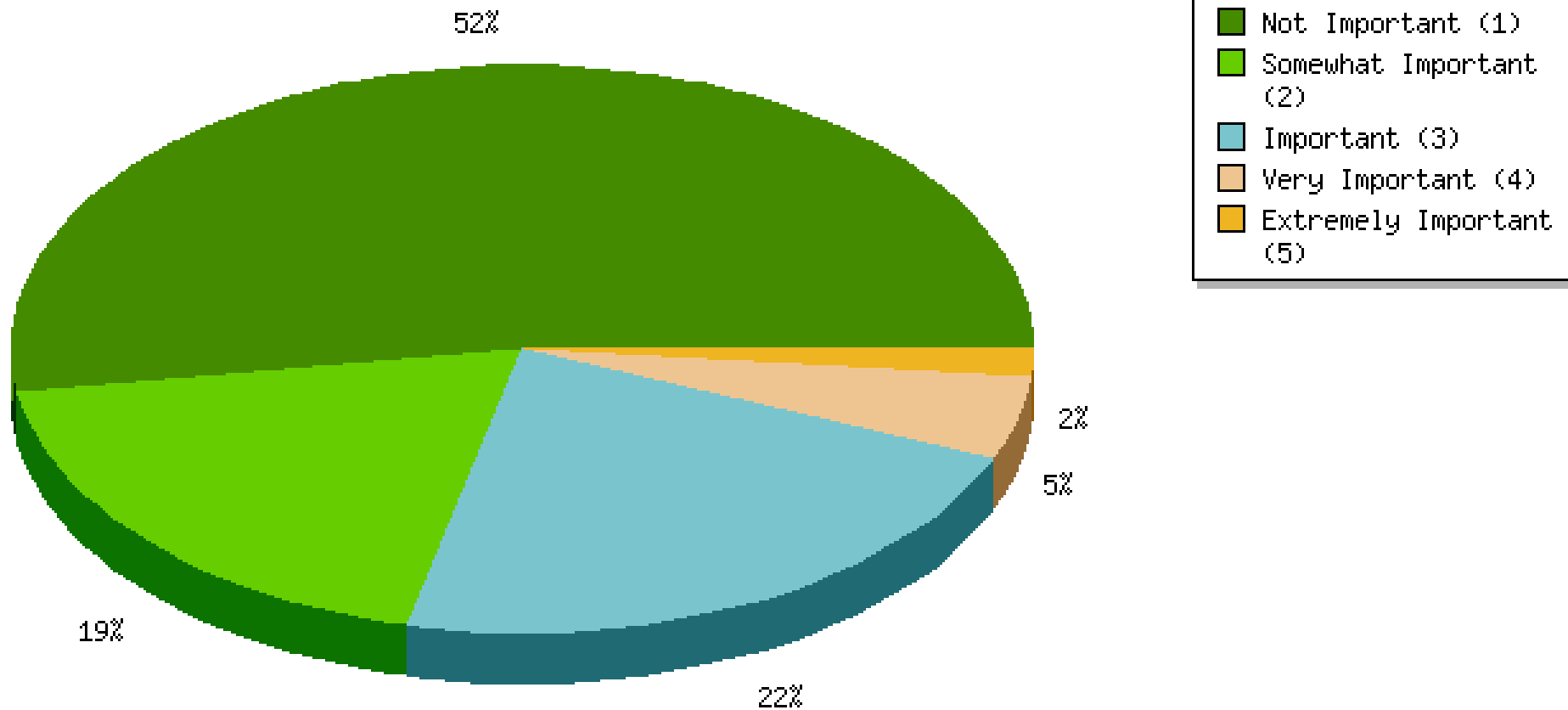


# Are you interested in presenting a ham or non-ham related program?

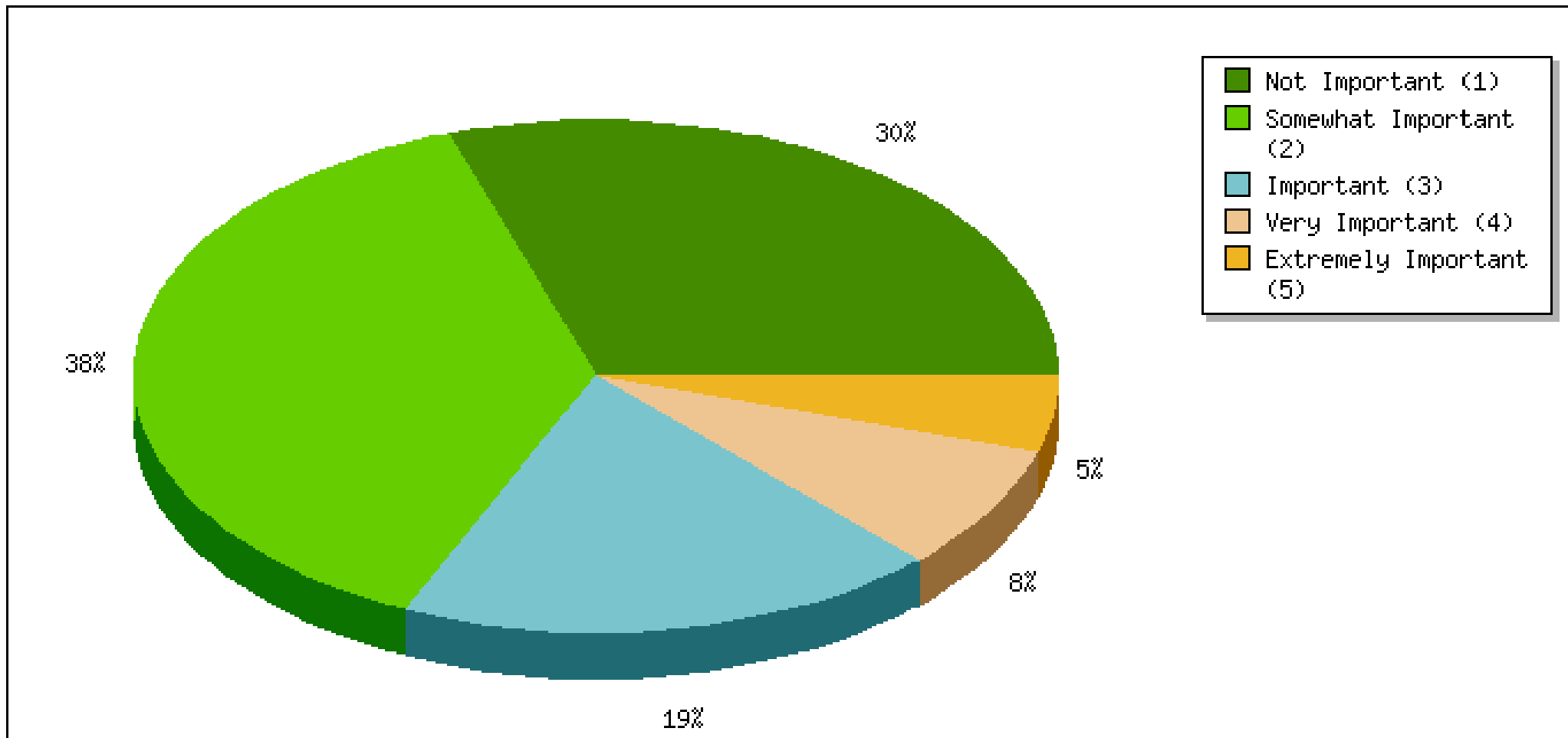
	<u>Members</u>		<u>Non-Members</u>	
Yes	10	21.74%	3	17.65%
No	36	78.26%	14	82.35%



# How important is having a door prize at each meeting?



# How important is having refreshments (cake/cookies/donuts) at each meeting?



# MARC Survey 2008

## Clubhouse



# What is your impression of the MARC clubhouse?

	Location		Meeting Facilities		Station Equipment		Cleanliness		Building Condition	
Unfavorable	0	0.0%	1	1.6%	1	1.6%	3	4.8%	2	3.2%
Somewhat Unfavorable	2	3.2%	1	1.6%	0	0.0%	5	7.9%	5	7.9%
Neither/Nor	8	12.7%	8	12.7%	4	6.4%	9	14.3%	10	15.9%
Somewhat Favorable	9	14.3%	13	20.6%	10	15.9%	17	27.0%	15	23.8%
Favorable	43	68.3%	36	57.1%	35	55.6%	23	36.5%	25	39.7%
Don't Know	1	1.6%	4	6.4%	13	20.6%	6	9.5%	6	9.5%



# Would you be willing to come help at the clubhouse with the following?

## Cleaning

	<u>Members</u>		<u>Non-Members</u>	
Yes	33	71.74%	5	29.41%
No	13	28.26%	12	70.59%

## Painting

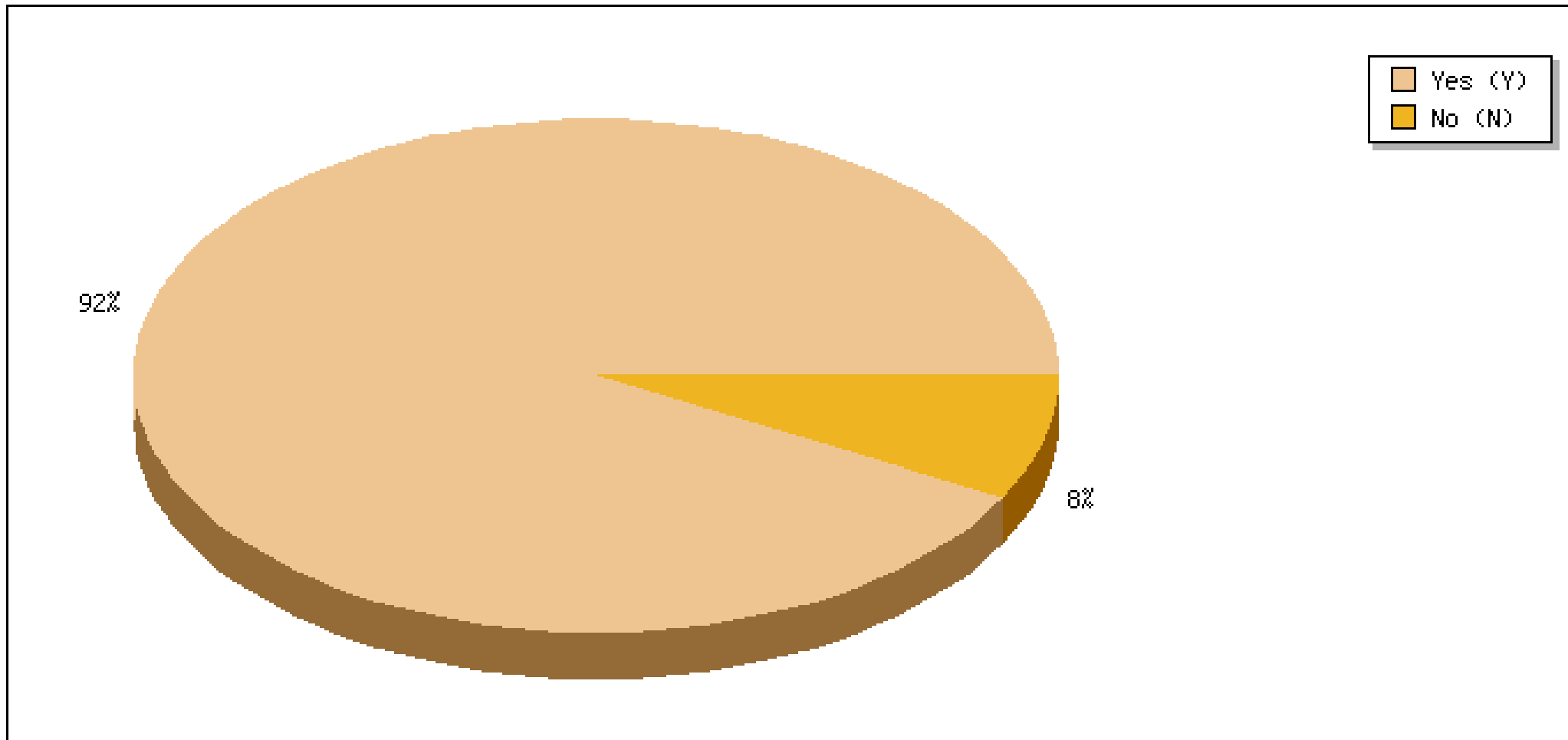
	<u>Members</u>		<u>Non-Members</u>	
Yes	29	63.04%	3	17.65%
No	17	36.96%	14	82.35%

## Station Maintenance

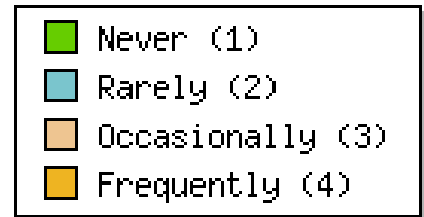
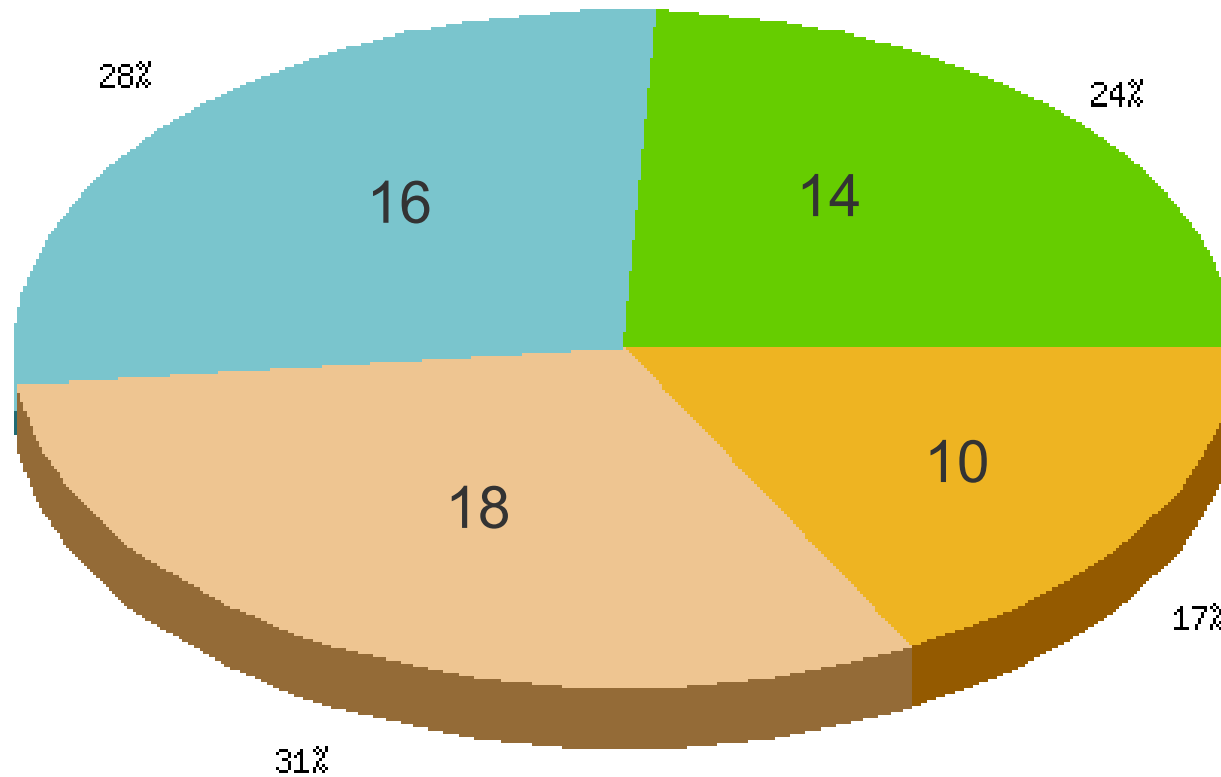
	<u>Members</u>		<u>Non-Members</u>	
Yes	33	71.74%	5	29.41%
No	13	28.26%	12	70.59%



# Did you know the clubhouse is open most Saturdays?



# How often do you come to the clubhouse on Saturday mornings?



# Why don't you come by the clubhouse on Saturday mornings?

(Answered if previous answer was Never or Rarely)

Other things to do on Saturdays	16	25.40%
Sleep late on Saturdays	7	11.11%
Just haven't taken the time to come by and see what's going on.	5	7.94%
Not Interested.	1	1.59%
Other	11	17.46%



# Why don't you come by the clubhouse on Saturday mornings?

(Answered if previous answer was Never or Rarely)

## ■ Other

- To far
- Bad day for me
- No 150 foot tower at clubhouse
- I work on Saturdays
- Work schedule
- My invalide mother in law lives with us and i take care of her on saturday to give my wife a break
- Dialysis



# Why don't you come by the clubhouse on Saturday mornings?

(Answered if previous answer was Never or Rarely)

## ■ Other

- Nothing really happens. Folks just sit around and talk.
- Live out of state
- Feel like an outsider as I have only been a ham for less than a year
- I often stay out until 0200+ Friday nights on COPs patrol.



# When you've come to the clubhouse on Saturday mornings, what has been your reason(s) for coming?

Visiting with the other hams.	39	61.90%
The Donuts!	11	17.46%
Operate the equipment.	7	11.11%
Ask a technical question.	15	23.81%
Work on equipment.	7	11.11%
Other	4	6.35%



# When you've come to the clubhouse on Saturday mornings, what has been your reason(s) for coming?

- Other
  - I always learn interesting things.
  - Tailgate and fellowship
  - Just to see what is happening.
  - Learn more about Ham Radio.



# Did you know club members could request a key to the clubhouse in order to come use the station?

	<u>Members</u>		<u>Non-Members</u>	
Yes	19	41.30%	5	29.41%
No	27	58.70%	12	70.59%



# Do you have a key to the clubhouse?

(Answered if previous answer was Yes)

	Members		Non-Members	
Yes	12	63.16%	0	0.00%
No	7	36.84%	5	100.00%



# MARC Survey 2008

## Member Interests



# On an average, how many hours do you estimate you spend operating each week?

	<u>Members</u>		<u>Non-Members</u>	
Less than 1	17	36.96%	9	52.94%
1 to 2	15	32.61%	2	11.76%
3 to 5	5	10.87%	4	23.53%
6 to 9	6	13.04%	1	5.88%
10 or More	3	6.52%	1	5.88%

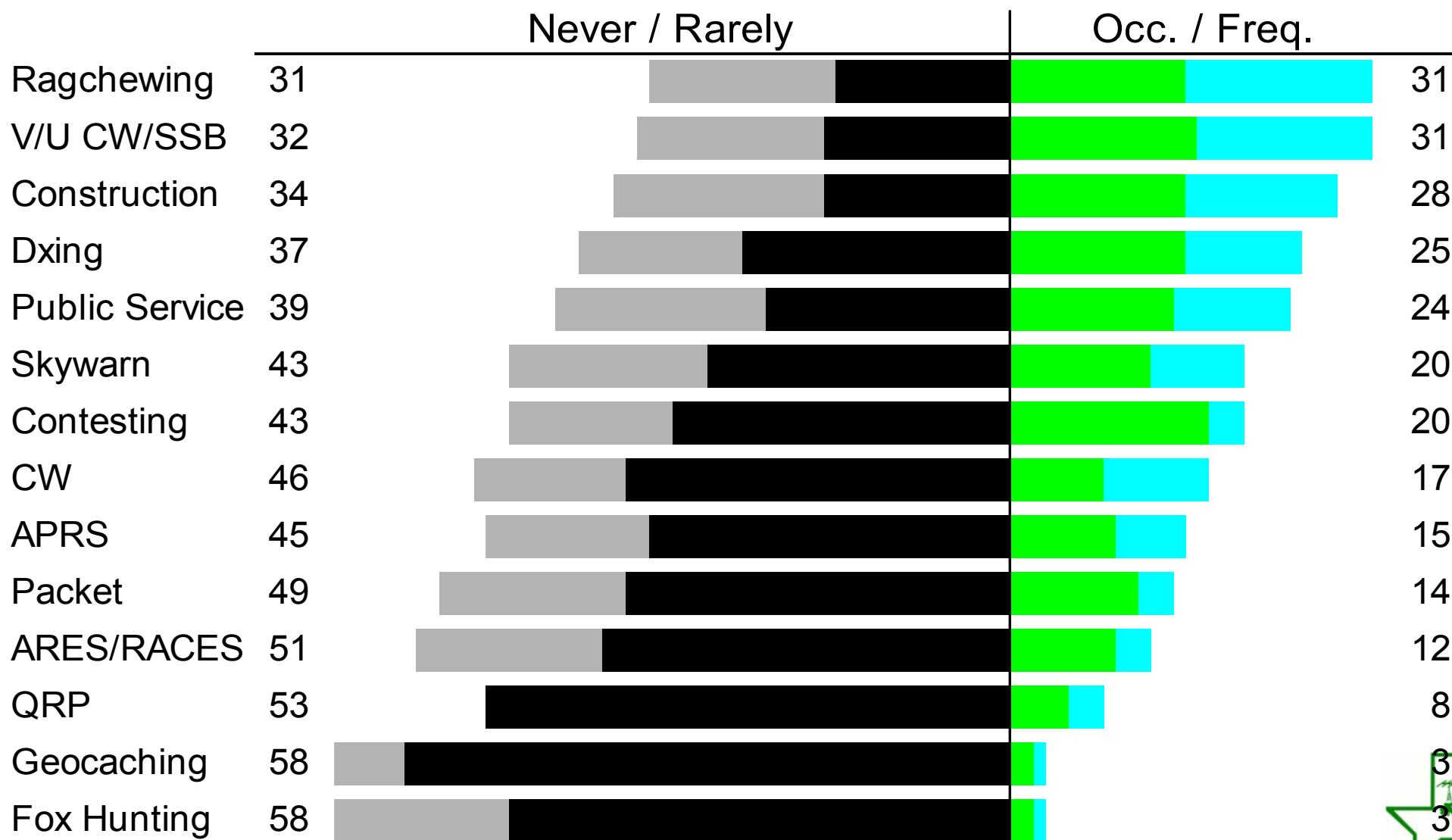


# On an average, how many non-operating ham radio related hours do you spend each week?

	<u>Members</u>		<u>Non-Members</u>	
Less than 1	11	23.91%	10	58.82%
1 to 2	15	32.61%	3	17.65%
3 to 5	14	30.43%	1	5.88%
6 to 9	0	0.00%	1	5.88%
10 or More	6	13.04%	2	11.76%



# How often do you participate in the following activities?



# What activities do you participate in that are not shown above?

- Woodworking and travel.
- Internet, scuba, home improvement projects
- Computer building and maintenance.
- Emergency operation research nation wide;;;;;  
FEMA traing
- Boatanchor restoration
- Design and experimentation, promoting  
Amateur Radio, demonstrating Amateur Radio,  
teaching Amateur Radio, Amateur Radio &  
Scouting

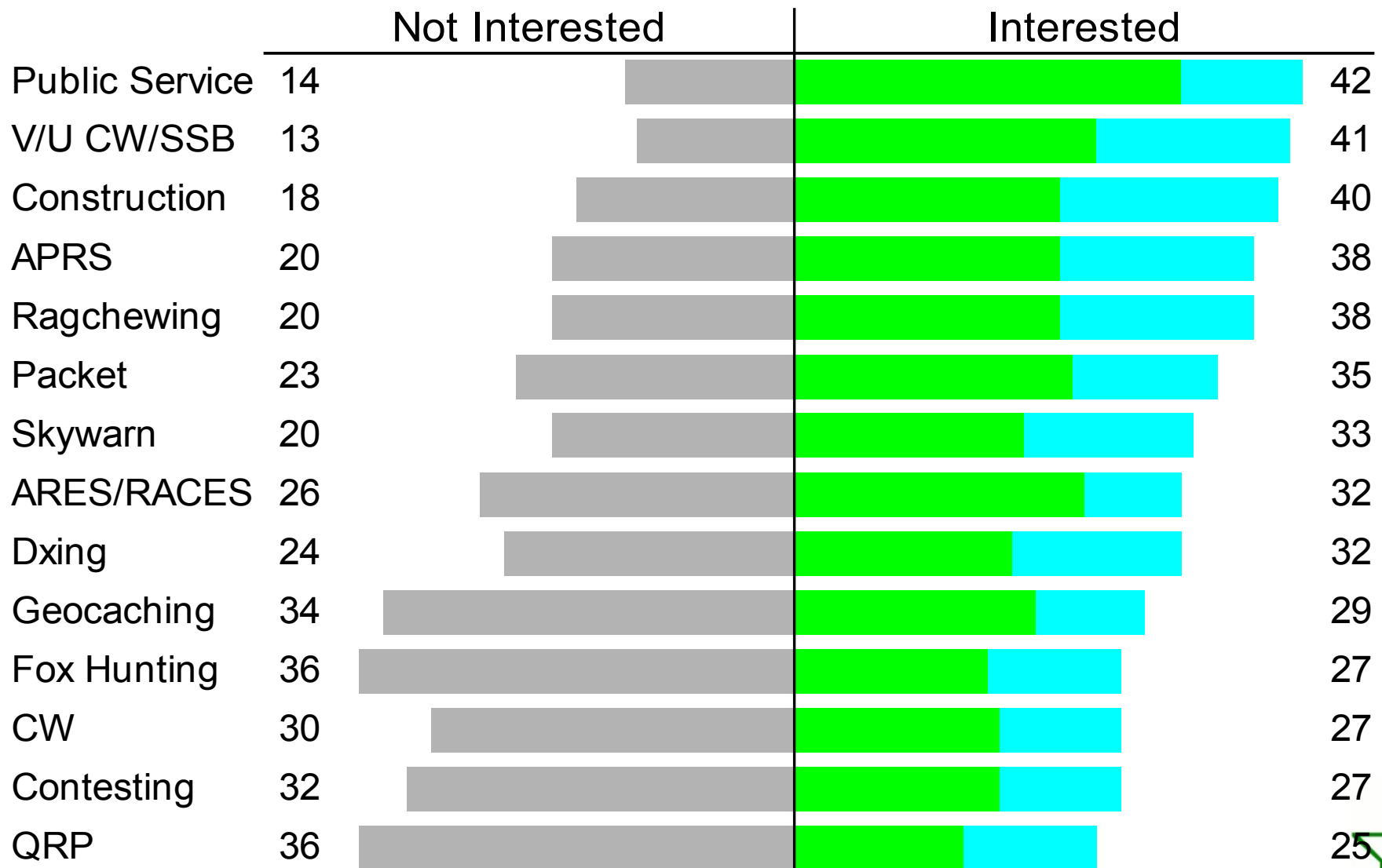


# What activities do you participate in that are not shown above?

- Non ham related hobbies.
- Island hunting IOTA
- PSK and trying to learn RTTY
- Old Equipment
- Monitoring
- Police-related volunteering
- Army mars
- What's left?



# Which of these activities are you interested in learning more about and participating in?



# What activities not shown above are you interested in learning more about and participating?

- Mainly construction. That is the reason for my original interest in ham radio in 1960.
- How to operate CW well.
- New modes, such as digital hf voice, space such as ISS and Oscars, IRLP, Echolink, Winlink 2000, special events sponsored by the club, etc.
- Echo link and anything that uses the computer to get my grandson envolved...



# What activities not shown above are you interested in learning more about and participating?

- RTTY
- sstv,rtty
- tv packet
- A refresher course on cw
- Some items in 15 are marked Not Interested are done so because I have no idea what they are!



# Have you participated in Field Day with MARC?

	<u>Members</u>		<u>Non-Members</u>	
No, I never have.	10	21.74%	7	41.18%
Yes, within the last 2 years.	26	56.52%	5	29.41%
I didn't the last couple of year but I did 3 or 4 years ago.	10	21.74%	5	29.41%
What's Field Day?	0	0.00%	0	0.00%



# Why haven't you ever participated in Field Day?

(Answered if never participated in FD)

	<u>Members</u>		<u>Non-Members</u>	
No one has ever invited me.	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
I have a Tech license and didn't think I could operate.	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
I'm not interested.	3	6.52%	1	5.88%
It's too hot in June.	1	2.17%	1	5.88%
Other	7	15.22%	5	29.41%



# Why haven't you ever participated in Field Day?

(Answered if never participated in FD)

## Other

### ■ Members

- Just not enough time.
- Scheduling Conflicts
- Don't like contests.
- Not enough time
- I don't really know what it is.
- Live to far away
- Have other activities that weekend



# Why haven't you ever participated in Field Day?

(Answered if never participated in FD)

## Other

- Non-Members
  - Please see M3
  - Usually working
  - Interest so so
  - Work schedule
  - No experience



# Why haven't you been back to Field Day in the last couple of years?

No one let me operate.	0	0.00%
The other members weren't very friendly to me.	0	0.00%
It was too hot.	1	1.59%
The food was bad.	0	0.00%
I had a conflict and couldn't attend.	9	14.29%
I'm just not interested.	4	6.35%
Other	4	6.35%



# Why haven't you been back to Field Day in the last couple of years?

## ■ Other

- Work out of town
- Working.
- I was working out of town
- I live out of State - wish I could be there



# Do you know morse code?

Yes	38	60.32%
No	25	39.68%



# Do you consider yourself proficient enough in morse code to use it "on the air"?

(Answered if previous answer was Yes)

Yes	22	57.89%
No	16	42.11%



# When was the last time you made a contact using CW?

(Answered if previous answer was Yes)

Within the last month.	8	36.36%
Within the last 2 to 6 months	4	18.18%
More than 6 months ago.	2	9.09%
It's been so long I don't remember!	8	36.36%



# Are you interested in learning morse code?

(Answered if don't know morse code)

Yes	12	48.00%
No	13	52.00%

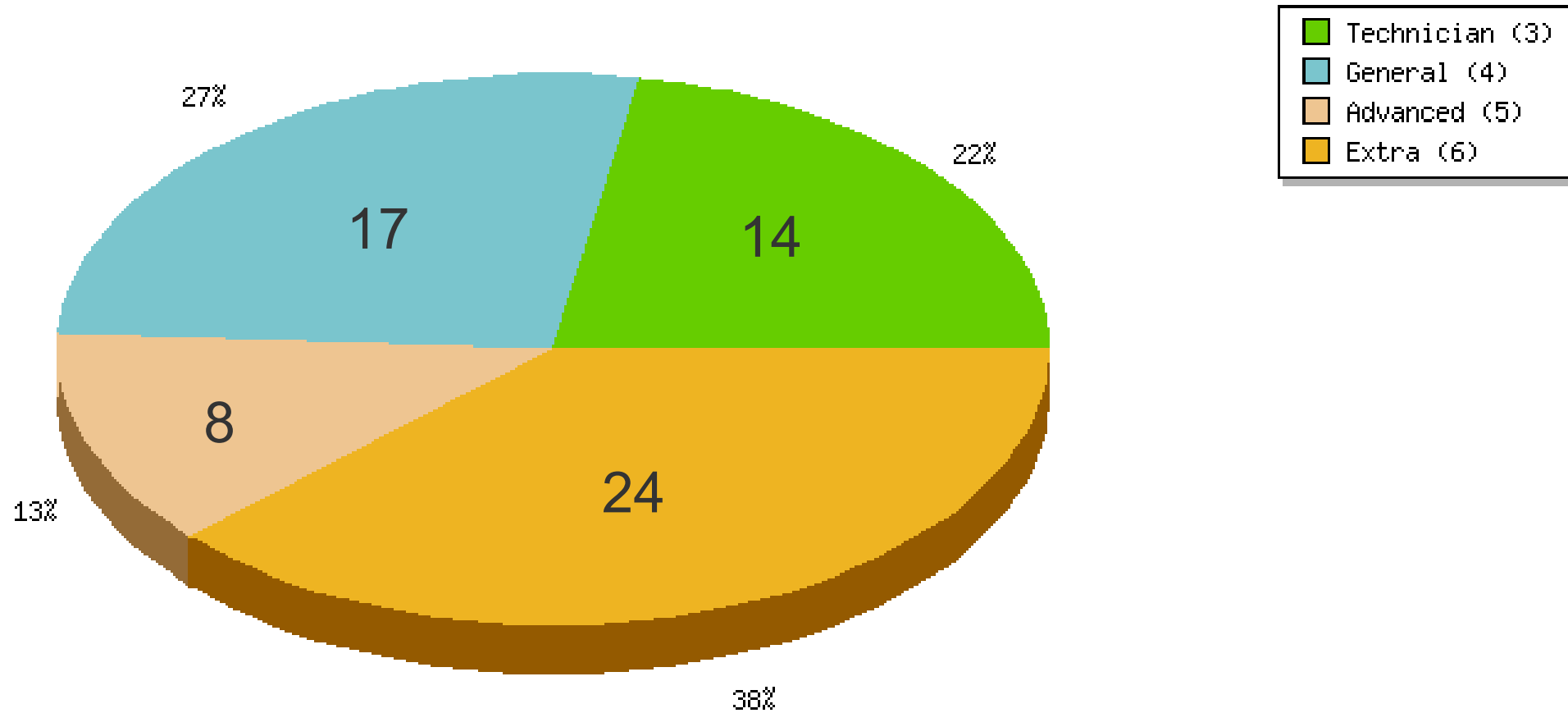


# MARC Survey 2008

## Personal Info



# What class of license do you currently hold?

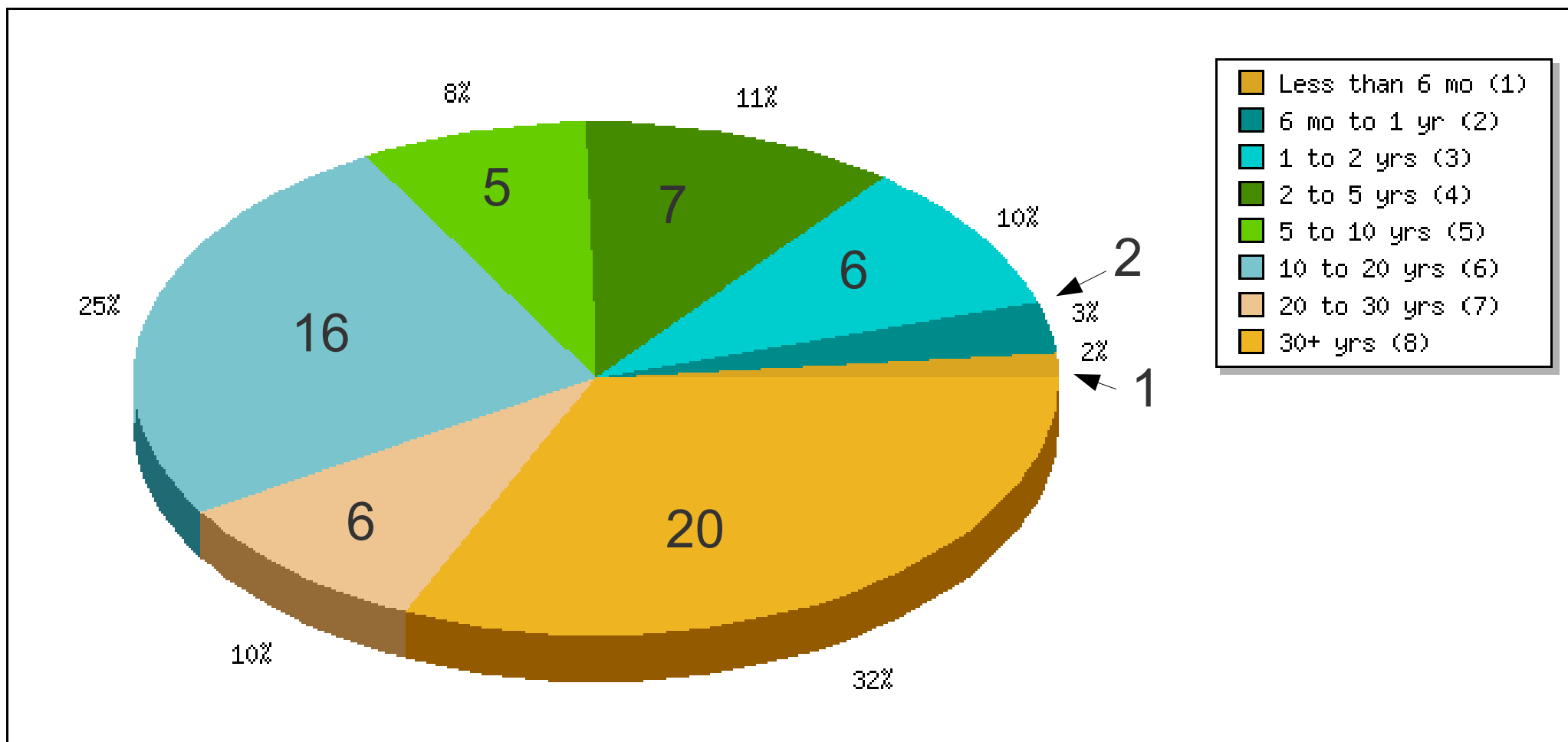


# How long have you been licensed?

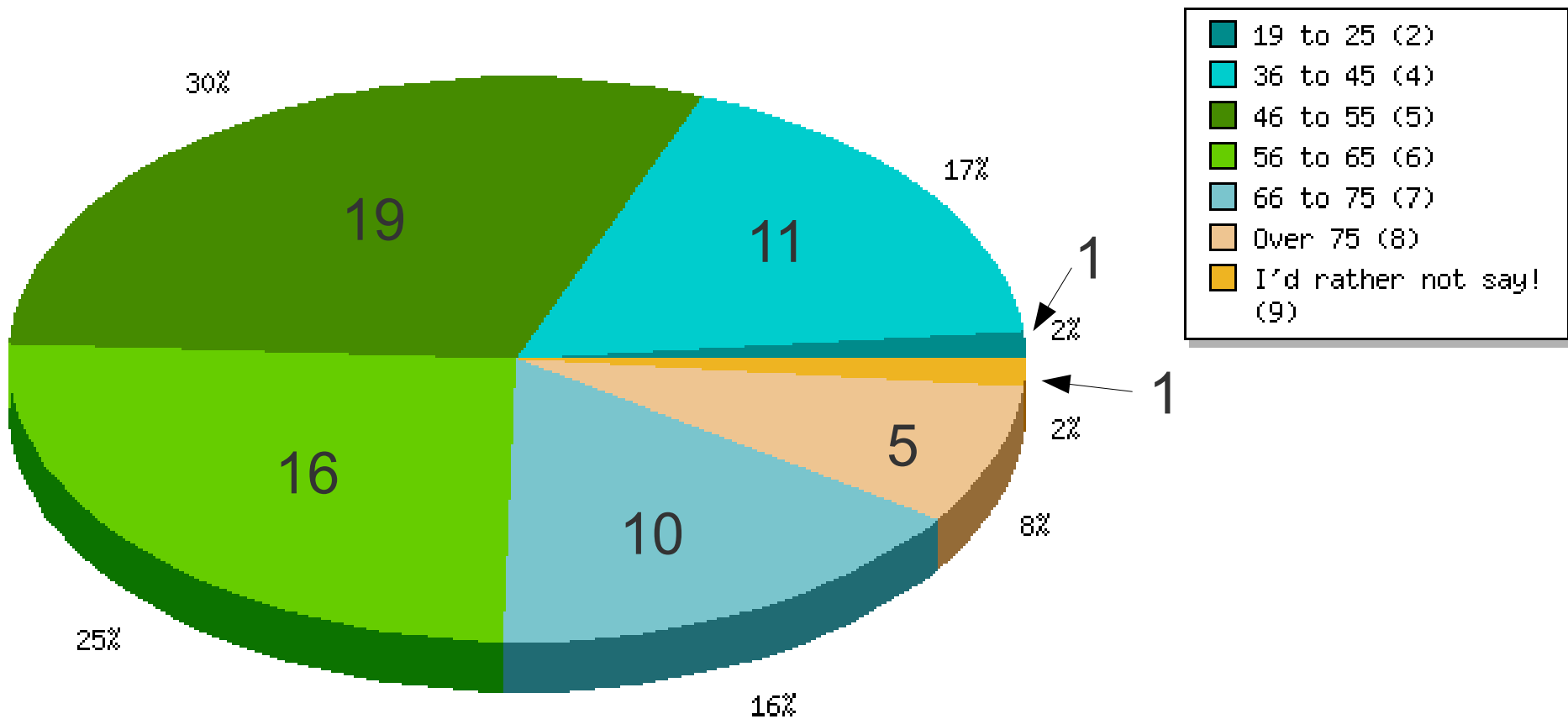
Less than 6 mo	1	1.59%
6 mo to 1 yr	2	3.17%
1 to 2 yrs	6	9.52%
2 to 5 yrs	7	11.11%
5 to 10 yrs	5	7.94%
10 to 20 yrs	16	25.40%
20 to 30 yrs	6	9.52%
30+ yrs	20	31.75%



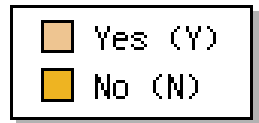
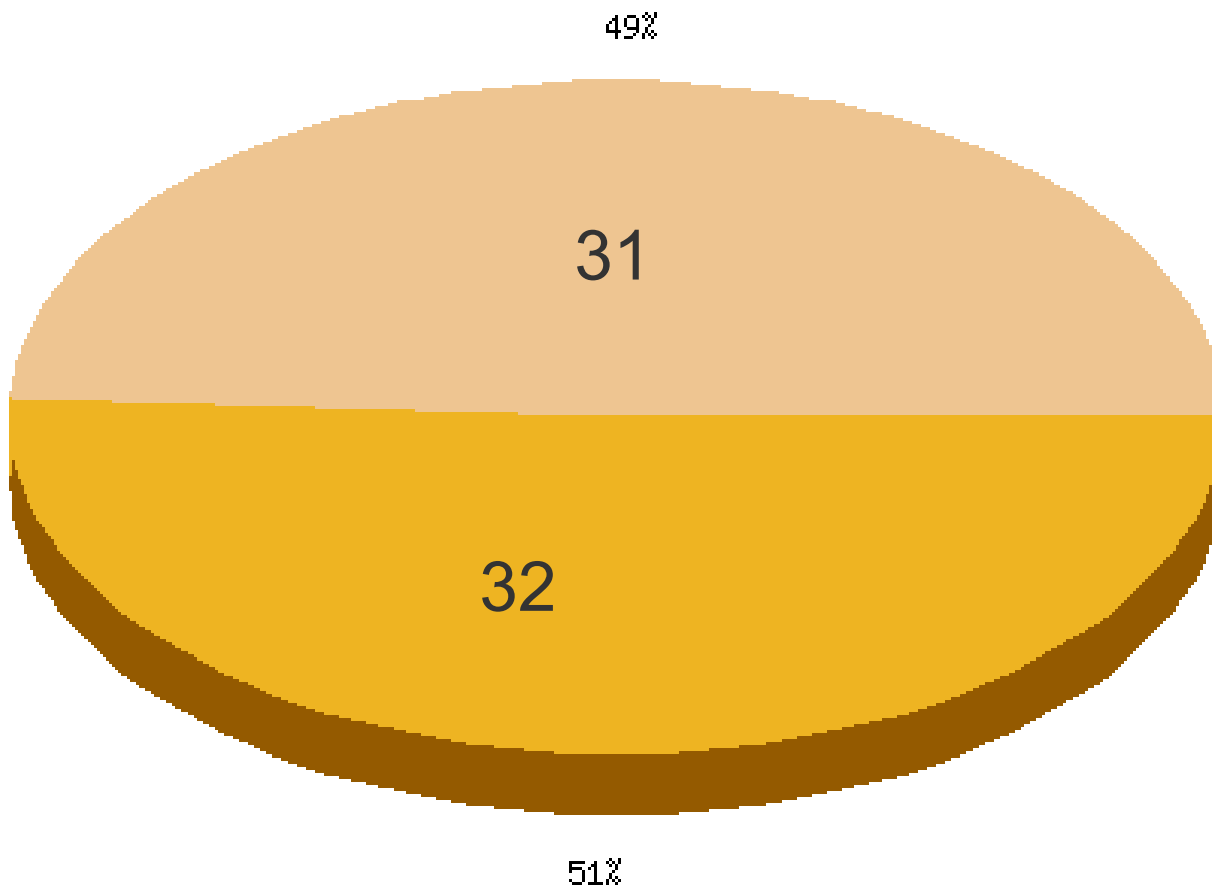
# How long have you been licensed?



# What is your age?

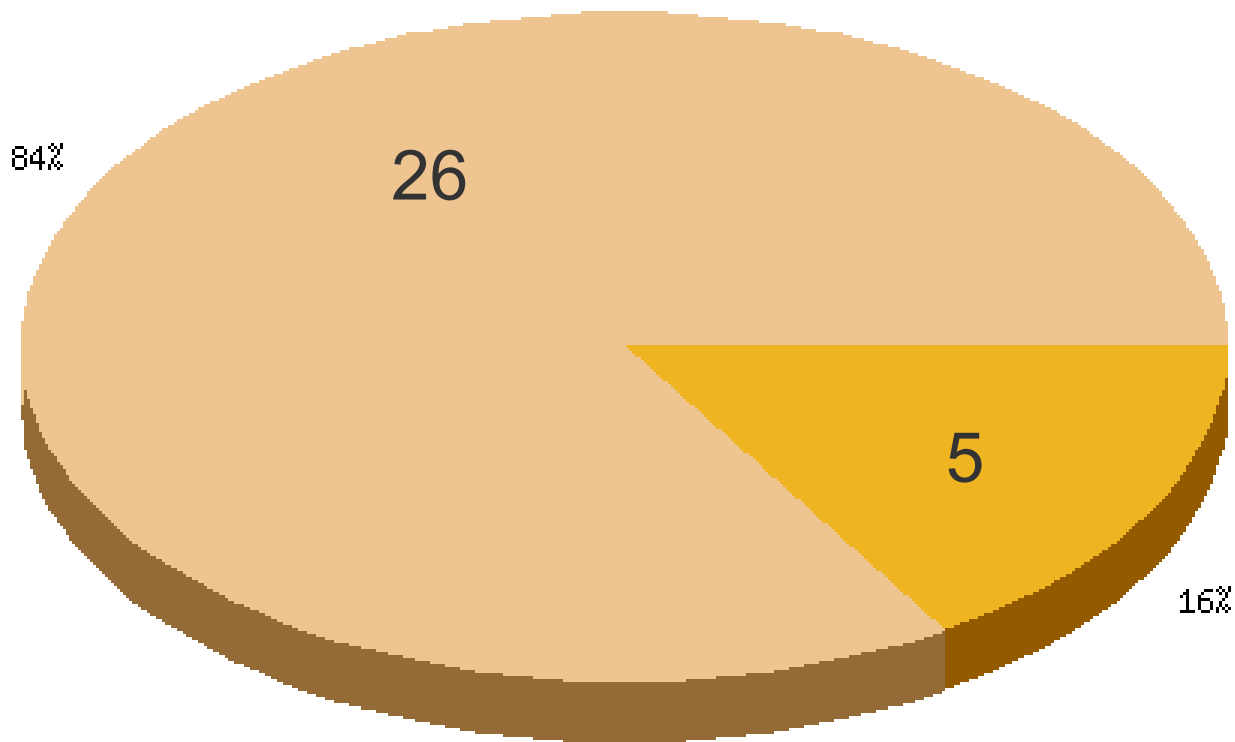
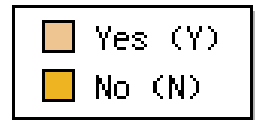


# Have you ever been asked to serve as a club officer or director?



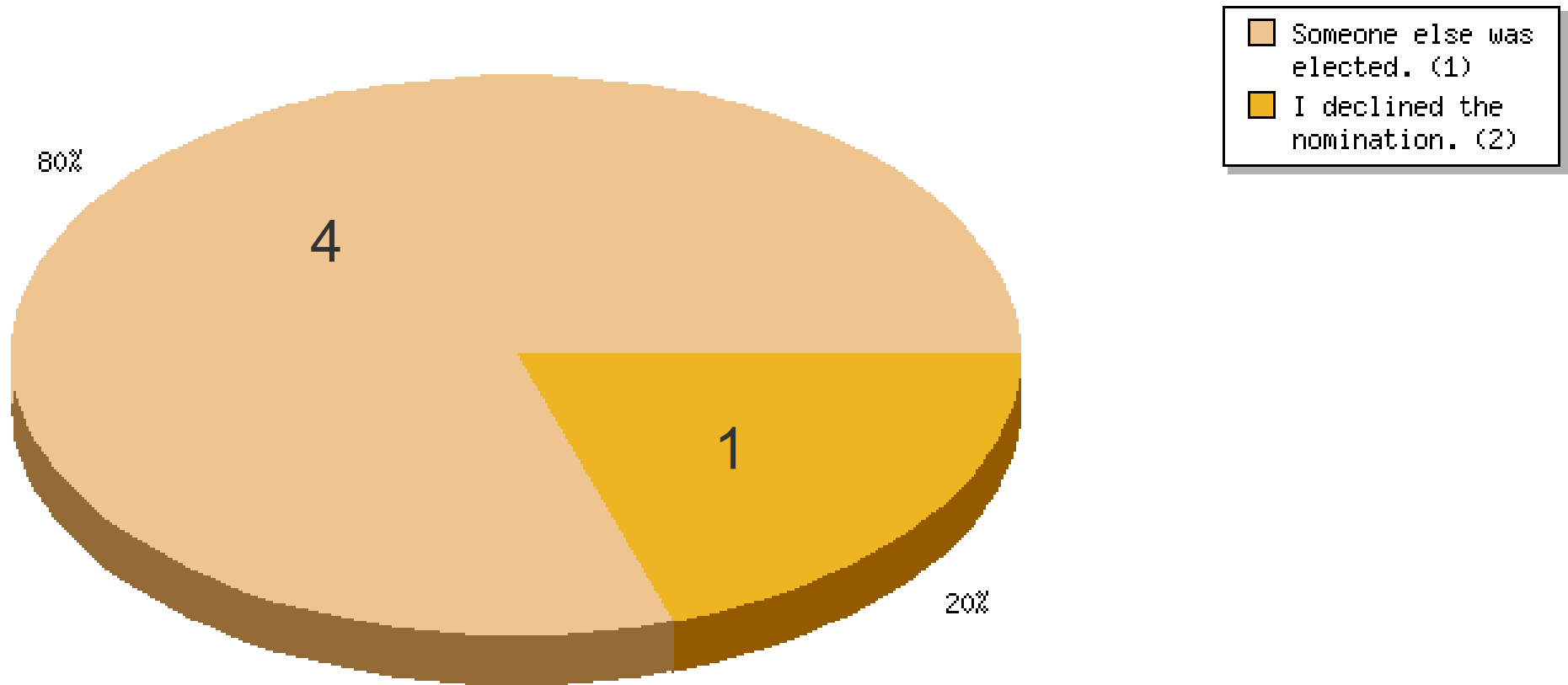
# Did you serve as an officer or director?

(Asked if previous answer was Yes)

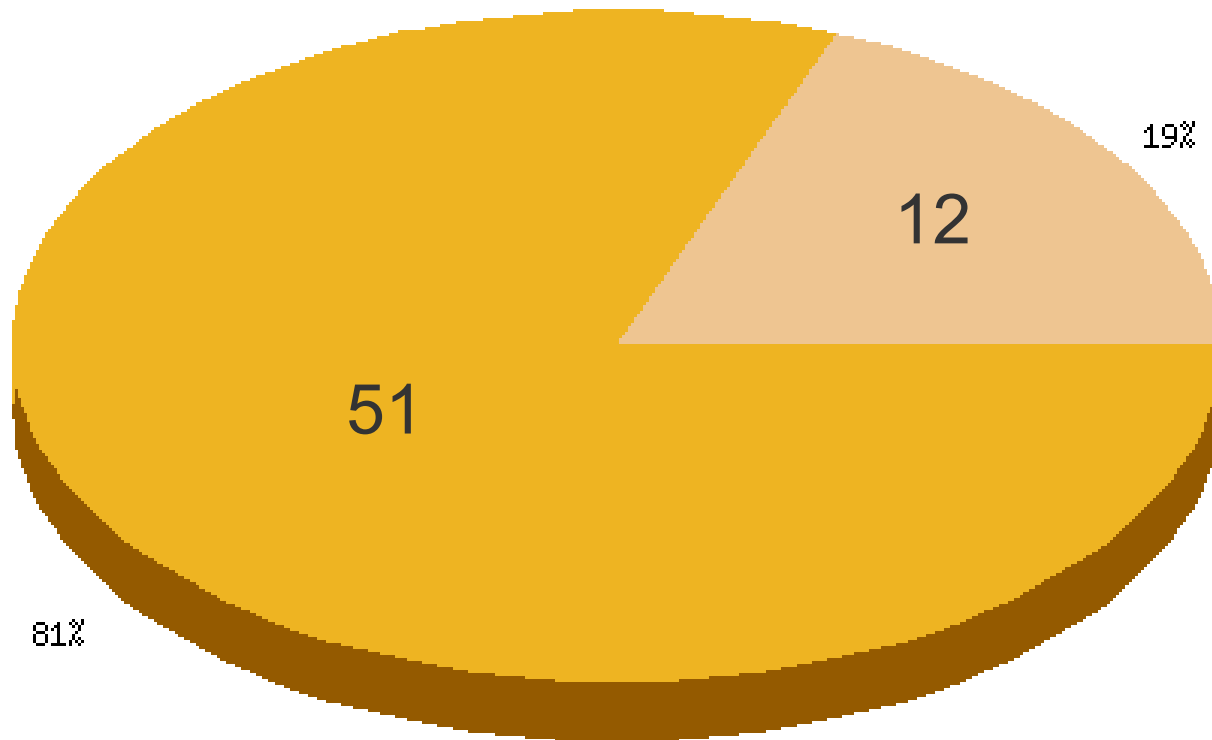
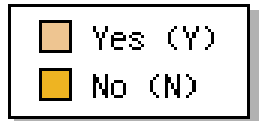


# Why didn't you serve?

(Asked if previous answer was No)



# Are you willing to serve the club as an officer or director?



# Are you willing to serve the club as an officer or director?

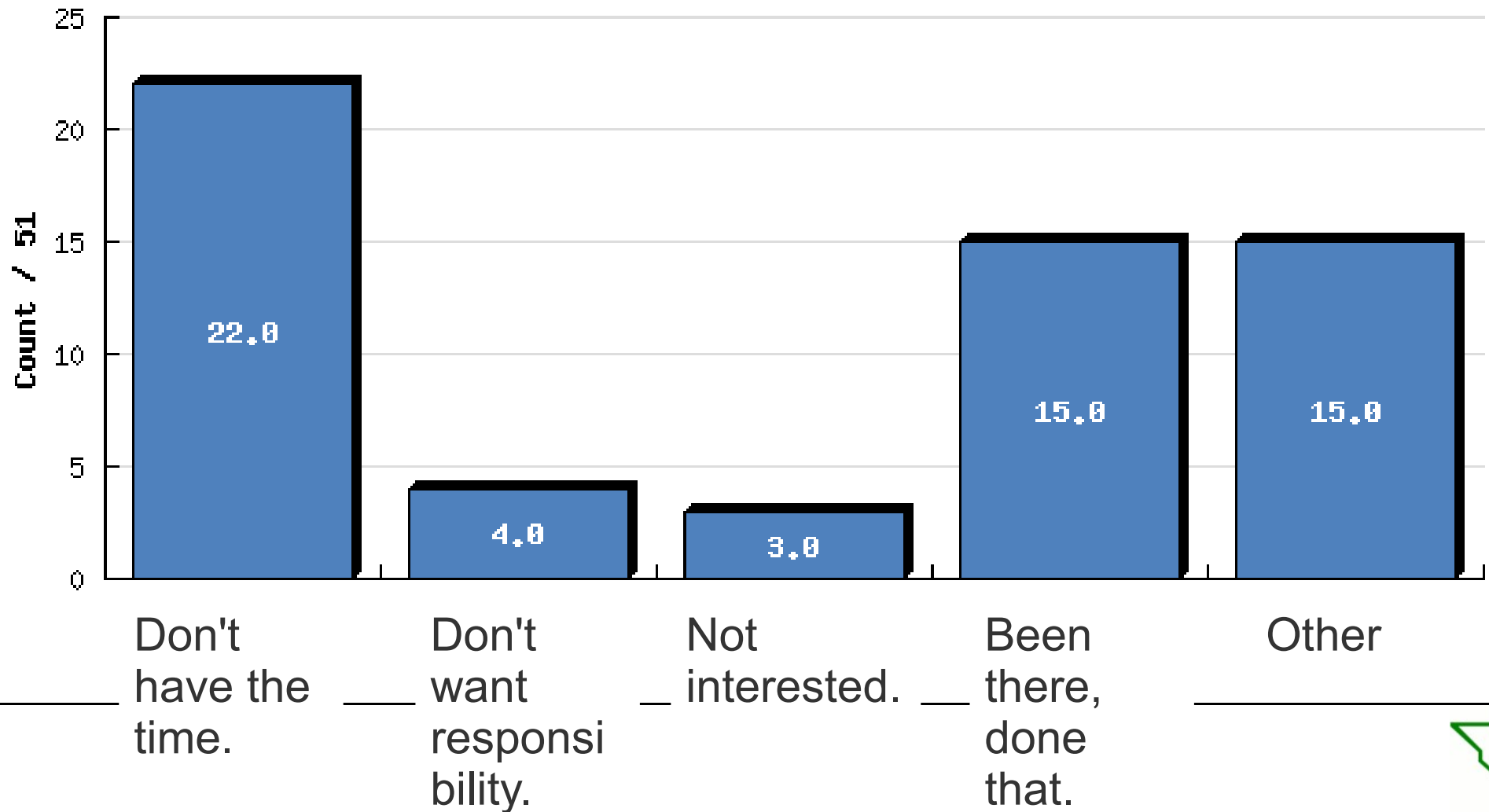
Filtering the results shows...

Of the 12 willing to serve as an officer or director, 8 have never been asked to serve!



# Why aren't you willing to serve as a club officer or director?

(Asked if unwilling to serve)



# Why aren't you willing to serve as a club officer or director?

(Asked if unwilling to serve)

## Other

- New blood and ideas needed
- Because I am an officer in 2 other organizations
- Not familiar with operations
- The members who refuse to spend money (like cutting out the scholarship) make things unenjoyable.
- Too many other things going on
- I live too far way



# Why aren't you willing to serve as a club officer or director?

(Asked if unwilling to serve)

## Other

- To old and to tired
- Been there...done that
- Not involved in the activity.
- My invalide mother in law and other civic involement
- Time for a break get some new blood
- Live to far away



# Why aren't you willing to serve as a club officer or director?

(Asked if unwilling to serve)

## Other

- Live out of state
- Perhaps, AFTER I have some experience!
- Physically can't make meetings



# MARC Survey 2008

## Final Question!

**We want to know what's on your mind. If we haven't asked the right question or given you the right answer choice please take a few moments and let us know your thoughts about MARC in the space below.**

**(Answered by 59% of participants.)**



# What's On Your Mind?

## ■ Members

- I think the club is the best group of people I have ever associated with. If I ever needed help, someone was just a phone call away to guide me in the right direction. I also think the members and especially the leaders are the most knowledgeable and helpful people around. Keep up the great work! Remember, the club is so successful due to dedicated leaders that want this hobby to continue. Because of Ham radio I now enjoy repairing old radios and phonographs. Because of the instruction I received toward my licence, I was able to use that knowledge for service in the TXSG. Thank you MARC!



# What's On Your Mind?

## ■ Members

- I have commitments every Monday night, otherwise, I'd be at the meetings! It's nothing personal, just life in the fast lane.
- The club got way too political and a favorite past time seemed to be constructive criticism of officers and hamfest coordinators. Most people have an aversion to no-constructive criticism and thus find better uses for their time than coming to Club Meetings. If you are going to have a ham radio club, then keep the majority of the meetings ham radio related. Reinvent the wheel and try building some of the old-time radios. Vacuum tubes still work!



# What's On Your Mind?

## ■ Members

- I sincerely appreciate the obvious effort being made (by means of this survey) to make the world as it relates to the hobby a better place.
- I enjoy radio; I just do not have time to listen to people complain about things that have nothing to do with enjoying the hobby. If the club meetings were to become more enjoyable to attend (things getting done, true radio programs, etc.), I would be interested in being more active in the club.
- Get a good rig and AMP. Get a HIGH tower. Get directional on 40/80. Get a nice six meter setup and horz Yagi on Six Paint the clubhouse trim BLUE - that will standout....



# What's On Your Mind?

## ■ Members

- Good survey, especially compared to many others. In the past, I have enjoyed a MARC special event greatly. I wish we had one club-special-event per year. I always enjoy Field Day, for nearly 10 years now. I've only missed the last two due to circumstances beyond my control. I was very disappointed that I missed this year, for example. I feel that the club could do more to promote Amateur Radio in Midland. There is genuine interest by the (much-overlooked) youth in town and even their parents. We have no "program/effort" to reach out and grab their attention. We don't even try to promote, using the free materials from the ARRL, at events in Midland, etc. Perhaps working with the Chamber of Commerce, church youth groups, etc might help us get more "promotional". Of course, there is a rumor that the club doesn't actually want to grow... There is no "after-school ham club" support. There is no support for promoting ARRL's curriculum either. In other parts of the country, both are very successful. Perhaps MARC could "adopt a school". If MISD isn't interested, there are private schools, etc. Perhaps a single school might be easier to tackle than a bunch of them. Did you know that the ARRL will pay for a teacher to be sent to their week-long class in using ham radio in the classroom (they re-imburse all the expense!!!) but that no teacher in Midland has ever gone? Why can't we promote something like this effectively? Why must Midland's children be left behind the rest of the country?.....



# What's On Your Mind?

## ■ Members

- .....Organizing "Elmering or Mentoring" - helping link Mentors to those that want to learn more on specific areas of ham radio. For example, I personally would like to know a lot more about contesting and actually try some. Who in the club is the expert, that would be willing to work (ok, perhaps suffer) with a few of us to share their insight and tricks/tips? Who is the APRS expert, sat comm expert, etc? Are they willing to inspire others by taking interested members under their wing? SAFETY - all too often I read about another "death by ham radio" (tower fall, electrocution, etc). Who is the club expert that could share their expertise (and probably save a life) with the rest of us? If I had a safety question, what club member would help and give me realistic, practical safety advice? HELP - The club could organize "help" - who in the club could help with problems with things like HF installation in a vehicle, digital modes, APRS, Winlink, IRLP, cw, etc? There is no inventory of club member's skills and interests so there is no way to know what fellow club member might be an expert in some aspect of ham radio that another member has a question about. "Theme months" - some clubs establish a theme for each month and all the meetings cover that topic in depth (some clubs meet weekly, some have extra meetings such as our Saturday for example).....



# What's On Your Mind?

## ■ Members

- .....That provides a dozen topics each year. Their claim is that the in-depth coverage, hands-on, demo, training etc for a month actually increases attendance. Hands-on. Some clubs build a "kit a quarter", where they can purchase kits in quantity and, at meetings or a Saturday, get everyone together to build the same kit, trouble-shoot/adjust/test it as a group. A once-a-quarter "kit party" is much more fun that building that kit by yourself at home. Look at the new qrp kits, etc. Many are under \$50 or \$75 bucks and loads of fun to build, hell to adjust without the proper equipment, etc. Fox hunt. Some clubs have one serious fox hunt a year, with real prizes (worth winning) and a dinner at the end. These seem to be popular when they are done well. I don't think there has been a serious MARC fox hunt this century. Some clubs use a fox hunt on the fm broadcast band (using legal, low power units) to interest the general public in participating. One club officer I met said that they always get a couple of new hams out of the "open to the public" fox hunt. They also have an annual "ham only" fox hunt too. Traffic net - some clubs participate in some of the traffic nets and rotate members (so as not to over-burden one or two members).....



# What's On Your Mind?

## ■ Members

- .....This is another topic for a program presentation. Many hams are aware (vaguely) about nets, but are gun-shy about jumping in and trying them. Who could elmer a "MARC Traffic Team"? Awards - who is the club award expert? Aren't there some nets that are geared at helping earn/complete some of the various awards? Who knows about all this stuff? Some clubs offer a class in all the many awards and how to earn them. Some clubs actually help their members earn the awards. What does MARC offer its members in this area? Get-togethers. Some clubs have quarterly get-togethers. Some have a pot-luck dinner, others have a bbq, some have a restaurant club social, etc. Not a meeting, not a work time with a hot-dog at the end of the day, rather a simple "club social" periodically. Some even get a place, get a band, dance and dine, etc. Well, those are all various types of ideas I've learned from listening to other clubs' members or officers. The general theme is that the club does stuff to help the members with their goals and in return the club gets and keeps dedicated, active members.



# What's On Your Mind?

## ■ Members

- I think the club might try drawing names from a list of hams who have never been to a club meeting or anything and invite them out.
- Due to antenna restrictions, I have not been quite as active as in the past, but definitely keeping at it. Just bought a new 756 proIII.
- Kit building



# What's On Your Mind?

## ■ Members

- MARC is a valuable asset. Even though I do not get to participate in the meetings, I know it is there and functional and if the opportunity presents itself, I can and WILL attend. We need to upgrade our image as communications "professionals" that can get through when others don't know how.
- I would like to see a newsletter. This could be sent out via email. I forget about the meetings and the newsletter would help remind me about them.



# What's On Your Mind?

## ■ Members

- I became a ham a number of years ago and found it hard to get started back then due to a lack of mentoring. I re-took the class a year or so ago with the full intention of becoming involved. I have never been involved with any activity that is so hard to break into. I guess it is assumed you should have family ties in the activity or an engineering background to get started. I don't, I am tired of running into brick walls, so it is easier to just not keep trying. Does anyone want to buy my Yeaseu base station, auto antenna tuner and switched power supply from my first attempt years ago, or my quad band portable from my most recent attempt? I give up.



# What's On Your Mind?

## ■ Members

- MARC is a fine organization and does some civic events which is great. I wished I could get more involved and once my mother in law pass on and then maybe I can get more involved. I would like to see and Elmer list on the web site of people that have knowledge in particular area that would like to help hams that are getting into new areas or would like to get into new areas or old areas, it makes no different. We have a lot of knowledge in this club and this maybe a way to use it. I have a great time at field day and there have been some great programs that I wish I could have attended.....great Survey....thanks, greg n5ato



# What's On Your Mind?

## ■ Members

- All the radio equipment should be on display so they can be seen when you enter the clubhouse, to make it look like a radio shack.
- I am new to the club and ham radio, but everyone has been great. It has been difficult to make all the meetings but intend on making more of them and the Saturday morning meetings, I just have to make the time. In time I would like to get more involved in skywarn and other activities.
- Good survey, needed. please publish results.



# What's On Your Mind?

## ■ Members

- What prompted this survey? I am glad this survey was done. My # 1 pet peeve is that business is handled by non-officers outside of club meetings. It would appear that pre arranged deals are done and many club member are unaware of them. This has gone on more in the not so recent past than lately. I also can't understand why a club with as much financial resources as the MARC has still operates like they are broke and on the verge of going under. I grow tired of seeing a donation bucket at every function, as I see the only ones donating are the ones who can't afford it. Just my thoughts....



# What's On Your Mind?

## ■ Members

- This seems to be a hobby for older folks (I hope no one takes offense at this, as I don't mean anything negative by it). If we don't do something to get younger folks interested, this could be something that slowly disappears. It's a difficult thing to get into when it appears the experience level of club members is so high. Most of the time, I don't even know what people are talking about as it's over my head. Some activities, like skywarn are not clear. I attended the skywarn training, but left not understanding what I was expected to do, or even what I could do. I sure don't understand the mechanics of being a spotter. There was no "buddy system" for new folks to learn how it works, so I have the book, but I would have no idea what to do if I ever attempted something.....



# What's On Your Mind?

## ■ Members

- .....Because I don't know what to do and I'm not really friends with anyone currently doing it, it's easier not to participate. New hams need someone who can help get them up to speed. Coming into this with no experience, I have found members willing to help, but the problem is, I don't even know what to ask (I don't know what I don't know). Without growing up with radios around me, and without family members to help in my training, it's easier to be an "inactive member". All members have been very welcoming to me, everyone assumes however, that I understand a lot more than I do and there is no system for getting folks with no radio background integrated to the mainstream.



# What's On Your Mind?

## ■ Members

- I HAVE BEEN A MEMBER OF THE CLUB FOR QUITE A WHILE, AND I HAVE SEEN A LOT OF UPS AND DOWNS RELATED TO MEMBER COOPERATION AND JUST PLAIN GETTING ALONG. IT SEEMS TO ME HOWEVER, AT THIS POINT IN TIME, WE FINALLY HAVE A CLUB THAT IS BOTH COHESIVE AND COOPERATIVE, AND THE QUALITY OF THE OVERALL MEMBERSHIP IS BETTER THAN IT HAS BEEN IN A LONG TIME. I SUGGEST THAT PART OF THIS IS DUE TO THE INFLUX OF QUALITY NEW MEMBERS THROUGH THE CLASSES WE HOLD. I WOULD THEREFORE ALSO LIKE TO SUGGEST THAT WE KEEP PUTTING EMPHASIS ON ORGANIZATION OF THESE CLASSES SO THAT WE CONTINUE TO GET NEW FACES AND IDEAS TO HELP KEEP THE CLUB STRONG AND VARIED.....



# What's On Your Mind?

## ■ Members

- .....LIKE AT CHURCH, MAYBE WE SHOULD HAVE A "GREETING" PERIOD WHERE YOU ACTUALLY INTRODUCE YOURSELF TO YOUR NEIGHBOR, (PARTICULARLY VISITORS) AND ENCOURAGE PEOPLE DURING THE BREAK PERIOD TO BREAK THE ICE A LITTLE WITH NEWCOMERS. I THINK THE ENCOURAGEMENT THOUGH, NEEDS TO COME FROM THE LEADERSHIP.
- I am pleased with what I have seen with the club and like the emails that I recive from the club and its members.
- I just like to ask is if there would be a class to study for upgrading your license to general or advance.



# What's On Your Mind?

## ■ Members

- I have enjoyed marc and years back, is the reason i have my ham lic. many thanks!! to those helping with classes!! i would like to work on cw a bit more . however. thanks again for a great club!
- It would be great if the current club members would be more welcoming and helpful to the new hams. I have attended a few functions now and can name on one hand the friendly hams who have extended a hand or made me feel welcome. I would enjoy participating a lot more but feel very uncomfortable unless I am positive one of those few are present.



# What's On Your Mind?

## ■ Members

- I think MARC is a good org I was at the start of the club in 1955, helped build the original clubhouse and was president in 1959. It's time for younger people to take over and let us old hams retire and enjoy the fruits of our labor. I personally am disabled and can't drive and don't even own a car at the present time so I can't make Saturday get together. Jim Giles W5GBQ



# What's On Your Mind?

## ■ Non-Members

- I feel that the club is a "Good Old Boys Club." Never felt really welcome at the meeting and no one bother to talk to me. One club past president seem to turn his nose up at me, so I thought heck with this and have not been back to the meetings. I remember back in the 90's a lot of people would go to the meetings; the club house would be full of people. At the meeting then people were friendly, want to talk to you, and shake hands, but that is not the way now. There are demonstrations 1 or 2 times a month on how one does ham radio stuff, but never training sections to train someone how to do ham radio stuff. I would like to learn how to do more in ham radio, but I do not understand half the stuff that I am reading.....



# What's On Your Mind?

## ■ Non-Members

- .....I have a friend, who got his ham radio license not to long ago and a HT, but he needs someone to show him how to program the radio and so far the HT is not being used and he is not done anything in Amateur Radio. For example, I have a new Kenwood HT, but I don't understand half the stuff in the manual. If there were training section on showing one how to program and use the Kenwood HT this would really be interesting and on how to do other stuff.



# What's On Your Mind?

## ■ Non-Members

- re: the survey. Not enough latitude on some of the questions. For instance, having to make a decision on days of the week on meetings. Just because one might, on prior question, state that he doesn't make the meetings, doesn't mean Monday's a bad night. And, being forced into having to decide on another day of the week (without a non-committal choice) is wrong. There were a few other questions that don't really give enough of a time frame and were not thought out. Other than that, I have no issue with MARC and think it's a fine club.



# What's On Your Mind?

## ■ Non-Members

- I would like to see the MARC be involved in more contests, as a club. I would like to see more than one station at the clubhouse be operable and be operated.
- Nothing comes to mind
- Great Club - wish my schedule would allow more time for Club activities.
- I think being notified about dues renewal (by e-mail is fine) is important. I haven't had time to attend any meetings because of work but have more time now and would like to make some meetings.



# What's On Your Mind?

## ■ Non-Members

- ARES or RACES is the most important service. We must train as one and treat each member with skills that can benefit the overall goal to establishing a communication network. I have seen a number of drills and exercises where communications have failed to reach other groups due to singling out other members or agencies. , overall Oklahoma City, Del City, Tulsa Tornados disasters in some cases there was nothing left, everyone was helping each other, saving lives, helping emergency services like the fire department, police, search and rescue and much more. overall no one is really prepared for a real disaster but we can train, work on goals that can help move in the next century.



# What's On Your Mind?

## ■ Non-Members

- For the most part I like what the club does. I have not been as active in the community aspect of ham radio in a while. I have worked with hams when I was in the State Guard. I also participated as a Texas Army MARS Operator. Currently, spare time is rare due to work conflicts, otherwise I would be more active again.
- Best radio club I've been a part of... no comparison to other clubs and areas.
- I am very much in favor of MARC, and feel guilt that I have never taken advantage of it. I have had a very busy year, but definitely plan to participate in ham activities in the future.



# The End!

