Overview

The committee has met over several months. Our goal has been to identify the greatest need for making improvements to the SSA.org website.

Areas of Investigation

We identified several areas of potential need. The main three:

1. **Outdated software and hardware.** There were discussions about hardware changes having to be made and mention was made of software coming to the end of its life. No documentation to support it was provided but there could be an issue here.

2. **Single points of potential failure.** The back end coding done and all the records for history and the sake of running the SSA are admirable and of use heavily to those in back end support every day. There are very few (one or two) who can work on these systems should there be a failure or upgrade needed. This could be an area of concern as well.

3. **Making the website more user friendly on the front end to encourage growth and improve marketing attempts.** In order to support the SSA website in a more up to date fashion and one that is more user friendly, we have decided to separate the back end “knowledge base and back office support” from the front end “website experience” in our way of thinking.

Course of Action or Next Steps

At the committee meeting during the SSA convention, we will determine next steps and take action to make progress seeing what is possible with a more modern and user friendly website front end, even if that just entails a Proof Of Concept for now. While it will not be free to do this POC, it will go a long way in getting us to the modern website experience that will attract new people, including youth.

We need to determine who will need to be involved to finance and approve the next steps so we can make that happen.

Once we have something that keeps people more engaged, we can then address marketing with a new committee to focus on that effort.
The backend systems are likely to need attention as well, but that should also be a separate committee to limit scope for each to a manageable area of focus.