NEWSLETTER



JUNE 2026

www.azsae.org



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

Tonya Deskins, CAE
2026 AzSAE President

Dear AzSAE Members,

As association leaders, we are constantly focused on advancing our organizations, supporting our members, and delivering meaningful results. Yet, some of the most impactful growth happens when we take a step back to invest in ourselves, and in the teams who help carry our vision forward. The AzSAE Getaway is intentionally designed to provide that space.

This experience goes beyond traditional professional development. It creates an environment where meaningful conversations happen, fresh ideas are shared openly, and authentic connections are built with peers who truly understand the demands and rewards of association leadership. It's an opportunity to gain perspective, challenge your thinking, and return with renewed clarity and purpose.

Equally important, the Getaway is an ideal setting for team building. Bringing your team allows you to step outside of daily responsibilities together, strengthening communication, alignment, and trust. Shared learning experiences create stronger, more cohesive teams—teams that are better equipped to lead through change, support one another, and elevate the impact of your organization. The time you spend together at the Getaway translates into stronger collaboration back at work.

Whether you attend individually or alongside your team, you will leave with practical insights, stronger relationships, and a deeper sense of connection to the work we do as association professionals.

Make the commitment to invest in your leadership—and your team's success. Register today and encourage your team to join you for an experience that will strengthen your organization from the inside out.



AzSAE is a Community for All Association Professionals and those who serve the association industry.
Join Us!
Learn | Grow | Connect

https://www.azsae.org/join

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Top Ten AI Usage Policy Considerations for Nonprofits

Holly Peterson, Esq., Counsel
Tenenbaum Law Group PLLC
April 24, 2026

Artificial intelligence (AI) is rapidly transforming nonprofit business operations. AI provides great promise with respect to enhancing efficiency, optimizing workflows, analyzing data, and boosting productivity. At the same time, AI presents various legal, ethical, reputational, and other risks. A sound AI usage policy can enable a nonprofit organization to leverage the promise of AI without compromising work product integrity, disclosing privileged, confidential, or proprietary information, eroding its mission,

READ MORE>>

Be sure to join us for our mixer this month. We work hard…let's play (it's good for us)!



Registration includes 1 drink, light appetizers and a chance to play.



AzSAE is a Community for All Association Professionals and those who serve the association industry.
Get Involved!

https://www.azsae.org/getinvolved

UPCOMING EVENTS

June Webinar

Thursday, June 18, 2026

9 am - 10 am

The Neglected Superpower: How to Foster Connection, Collaboration, and Commitment in Your Association



Speaker: Rob Volpe, CEO & Founder, Empathy Activist, LLC

EVENTS

www.azsae.org

Members: $0 | Nonmembers: $50

Approved for 1.0 hour CAE credit.

July Webinar

Thursday, July 16, 2026

9 am - 10 am

Turning Website Compliance into an Association Win



Speaker: Johnathan Brabson, Clym

EVENTS

www.azsae.org

Members: $0 | Nonmembers: $50

Approved for 1.0 hour CAE credit.

Registration Open

2026 Annual Getaway

August 2-4, 2026

*Non-member rate includes 1 yr. membership in AzSAE

Early bird registration thru July 17

Member $ 175 | *Non-Member $325

Early-bird rates end July 17 @ 11:59 pm

After July 17

Member $200 | *Non-Member $350

Registration ends July 27 @ 11:59 pm



Sponsored by: Hassayampa Inn and Prescott Resort & Conference Center

Donate a raffle prize for the Getaway: Submit a Donation

PREVIEW SCHEDULE

Prescott welcomes AzSAE Getaway!



We are thrilled to welcome the AzSAE Executive Getaway Retreat to Prescott August 2-4, 2026 and look forward to showcasing everything our destination has to offer!

The teamwork between the Prescott Resort & Conference Center and the Hassayampa Inn is sure to create a seamless and memorable experience, guaranteeing a beautiful event from start to finish.

Once registered with AzSAE (AzSAE.org), attendees can enjoy our co-hosted itinerary featuring meals & education at our host venues at the Prescott Resort & Hassayampa Inn along with visits to Watson Lake, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Sharlot Hall Museum, Downtown Prescott, and the many attractions that make Prescott such a special destination.

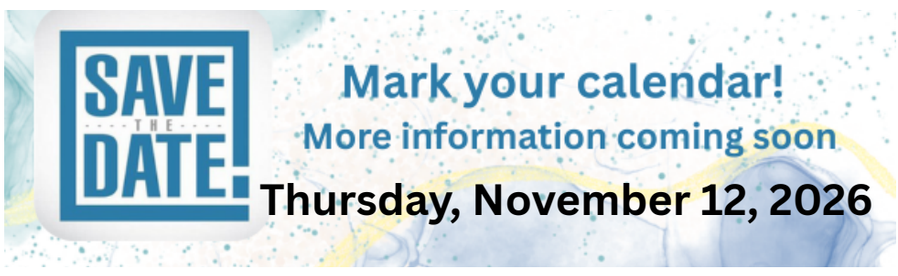
In addition to all we have planned for the AzSAE Getaway Retreat itinerary, our team can't wait to host you and share the hospitality, amenities, and unforgettable experiences that make the Prescott Resort a premier destination in Northern Arizona.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Getaway Sponsorships open: Click sponsors image below to download sponsors form







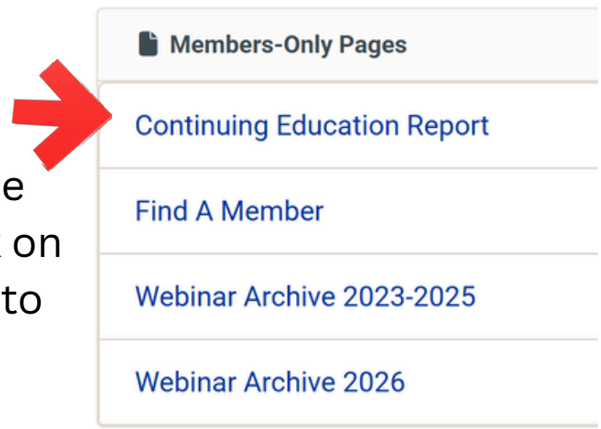
Annual Meeting



WHAT'S NEW?

Did you know our database tracks all available CE credits every time you register for an approved event?

Log into azsae.org. Scroll down to the Members-Only Pages section and click on the Continuing Education Report link to view your CE's.



Member users can now view and obtain all of the transaction history.

1. Login to your account. Look for this image:



2. Click on My Account History to view all account transactions.

Need a receipt? You can obtain the original receipt that was sent when an online order was placed. https://www.azsae.org/get-my-receipt/

Note: Invoiced orders paid later will not reflect payment on the receipt. Please reach out to our office for an updated statement.

Thank you

for hosting our 2026 May Education & Mixer

mesa CONVENTION CENTER | mesa AMPHITHEATRE

Scholarships Information page on website

https://www.azsae.org/Scholarships

Membership News



New Membership Type in 2026
Organization Membership

For only $500, you and your whole team can now become AzSAE members for a full year!
(Must be a non-profit to qualify)

Applications are now open | Apply Today >>

We are pleased to announce these members who have joined or upgraded their membership to an **Organization Membership** since its launch in January 2026!

Arizona Medical Association
Arizona Multihousing Association
AACM Arizona Association of Community Managers
Arizona Realtors
Arizona Veterinary Medical Association
WeSERV

GET INVOLVED

Now accepting 2027 Board Nominations

To view requirements and complete application, please download application: 2027 BOD APP

HELP WANTED

AzSAE Social Media Marketing Intern (Unpaid Internship)

Location: Flexible / Hybrid / Remote
Hours: 10–15 hours per week (flexible schedule) for a 1 year commitment
Duration: Semester-based or 3–4 months (with possibility of extension)
View Internship Details

Visit our Career Center Guide



President
Tonya Deskins, CAE
West and SouthEast REALTORS of the Valley

President-Elect
Deborah Rudd
Arizona Association of Community Managers

Treaurer
Pamela Frestedt, CAE
West and SouthEast REALTORS of the Valley

Past President
Patrick Farrey, CAE
Society of Plastics Professionals

Secretary
Lisa Zarda, CAE, CNAP
US Swim School Association

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Caesars Entertainment

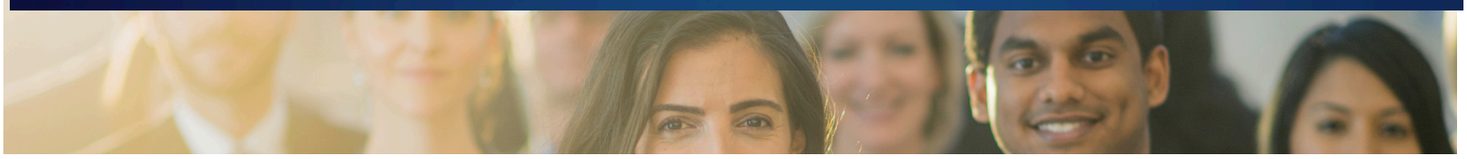
Elaine Starks
Power Paws Assistance Dogs

Joanne Winter
MPI/HSMAI

Jessica Young
Discover Flagstaff

Of Counsel
Alexis Firehawk, Esq
CHDB Law LLP

Scholarship Opportunity



EXCLUSIVE SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY FOR AZSAE MEMBERS!

THUNDERBIRD SCHOOL OF GLOBAL MANAGEMENT | ASU Arizona State University

AzSAE Arizona Society of Association Executives

Thunderbird scholarship opportunity for

Arizona Society of Association Executives Members (AzSAE)

Thunderbird School of Global Management and AZSAE are excited to offer scholarships for the 2026 application cycle. Eligible members and their dependents can receive an application fee waiver and scholarship towards tuition for Thunderbird's Graduate Degrees.

Learn More

New & Renewed Members



Ashley Bitowf
WeServe

Jessica Hawk
WeServe

Emma Jensen
Arizona Medical Association

Kristin Paden
AVION Center

Brenda Orffer
American Neurological Association

Rebekah San Nicolas
AACM

Peggy Paulson
Arizona Medical Association

Tracy Schiefferle
Community Associations Institute

Ryan Edmiston, Hilton Sedona Resort
Sarah Fluke, CAE, Arizona Multihousing Association
Cheryl Goar Koury, CAE, Arizona Nursery Association
Suzanne Jones, Consultant
Douglas Laher, CMP, CAE, Arizona Medical Association
Rick Murray, Arizona Chapter National Safety Council
Abigail Norris, Ward Management Group
Deborah Rudd, CAE, AACM
Kate Snapp, Narriott International
Wendy Springborn, American Public Works Association
Elaine Starks, Power Paws Assistance Dogs, Inc.
Kathy Startt, Arizona Crop Improvement Association
David Voepel, AHCA
Jessica Young, Dicover Flagstaff

Professional Development



- Fall Course Registration Coming Soon!

Whether you're ready to take your career to the next level or just looking to check earning the CAE off of your list, you have what it takes to become a Certified Association Executive! The CAE credential is the marker of a committed association professional who has demonstrated the wide range of knowledge essential to manage an association in today's challenging environment.
With the highest success rate in the nation, MSAE has helped more association professionals become CAEs than any other entity

Use promo code AzSAE-CAE to save 20%
MORE ABOUT OUR COURSES>>

AzSAE's Commitment to Educational Growth

AzSAE collaborates with various SAE associations and industry experts to offer a rich array of educational opportunities for our members. This partnership ensures optimal growth and timely application in our constantly evolving landscape.

Visit our website for more information
Professional Development

ELearning through SeminarWeb

- **Live Webinars (2 per month)** – Access the latest trends & insights from top speakers nationwide.

70+ Self-Study Courses

The Center for Association Leadership

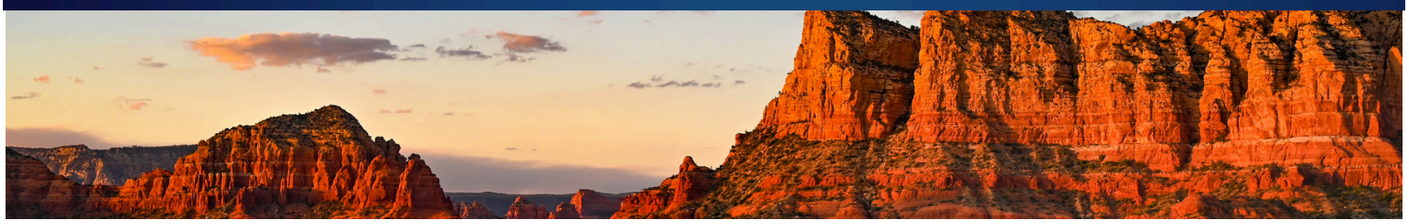
CAE Study Resource

Master the Fundamentals for Career Advancement in Association Management with QAS 2.0

QAS 2.0 - the Qualified Association Specialist (QAS) 2.0 Certificate Program provides anyone in the association industry, including CEOs, a broad base view of the key elements in running an association. QAS 2.0 is a refreshed and modernized version of the original program. With updated content, new speakers, timely topics, and an all-new design, QAS 2.0 reflects the current realities of association management and prepares professionals for what's next. **View Full Program**

AzSAE Coupon Code: AZQAS-SAE

STRATEGIC PARTNERS



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Interested in becoming a strategic partner? Click on the button for more information!

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