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Chairperson's Corner

By Sarah Osborne

For my final Chairperson's Corner, I would like to talk about investments. Most actuaries know a thing or two about investments, interest and the time value of money. I'm sure that many of you reading this have been very thoughtful and deliberate about how you invest your own money. It might be saving for a short-term goal, like taking a great vacation, or buying that new vehicle you've had your eye on. Or, perhaps your focus is on retirement and your long-term goals.

However, some of the greatest returns are on those investments that aren't directly related to your bottom line. After the past three years on the Health Section Council, I have a much greater appreciation for all the investments the many volunteers have made in the Health Section. The countless hours contributed by these actuaries are what make the section and its various initiatives so successful.

Whether it's reading a *Health Watch* article or web exclusive, participating in a webcast, attending the Health Meeting, listening to a podcast or joining a special interest section, you have likely been the beneficiary of many volunteer investments. I have had the honor and pleasure of working alongside many of these great people and watching the impact that they make on our profession. There is an enormous amount of work that goes on behind the scenes and often goes unrecognized, but I hope that each of these individuals knows how much they are valued.

I also know many actuaries that invest in other ways. Some are involved in tutoring programs, mentoring or volunteering their services for charitable organizations. You are ambassadors of our profession, and your investments in people have an immeasurable return. Even if you dropped some socks in the donation bin



for Front Steps at the Health Meeting in Austin, this small act will make a big difference in someone's life.

If you haven't started planning yet for your next investment, I encourage you to check out the Society of Actuaries volunteer webpage at www.soa.org/volunteer-program. You can also reach out to a Health Section Council member or your local actuarial club for opportunities. Research some local nonprofits that could use some help, or take an actuarial student under your wing and be deliberate in helping them be successful. Whatever you do, you can guarantee a positive and long-lasting return. My term on the Health Section Council has been more rewarding than I could have imagined, and I want to thank you for the opportunity to serve in this role. ■



Sarah Osborne, FSA, FCA, MAAA, is senior vice president, chief actuary and analytics officer at Government Employees Health Association. She can be reached at Sarah.Osborne@GEHA.com.