

Travel Special Interest Group (SIG) Inaugural Meeting Discussion

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Fort Collins Digital Camera Club – Travel Special Interest Group

March 7, 2024

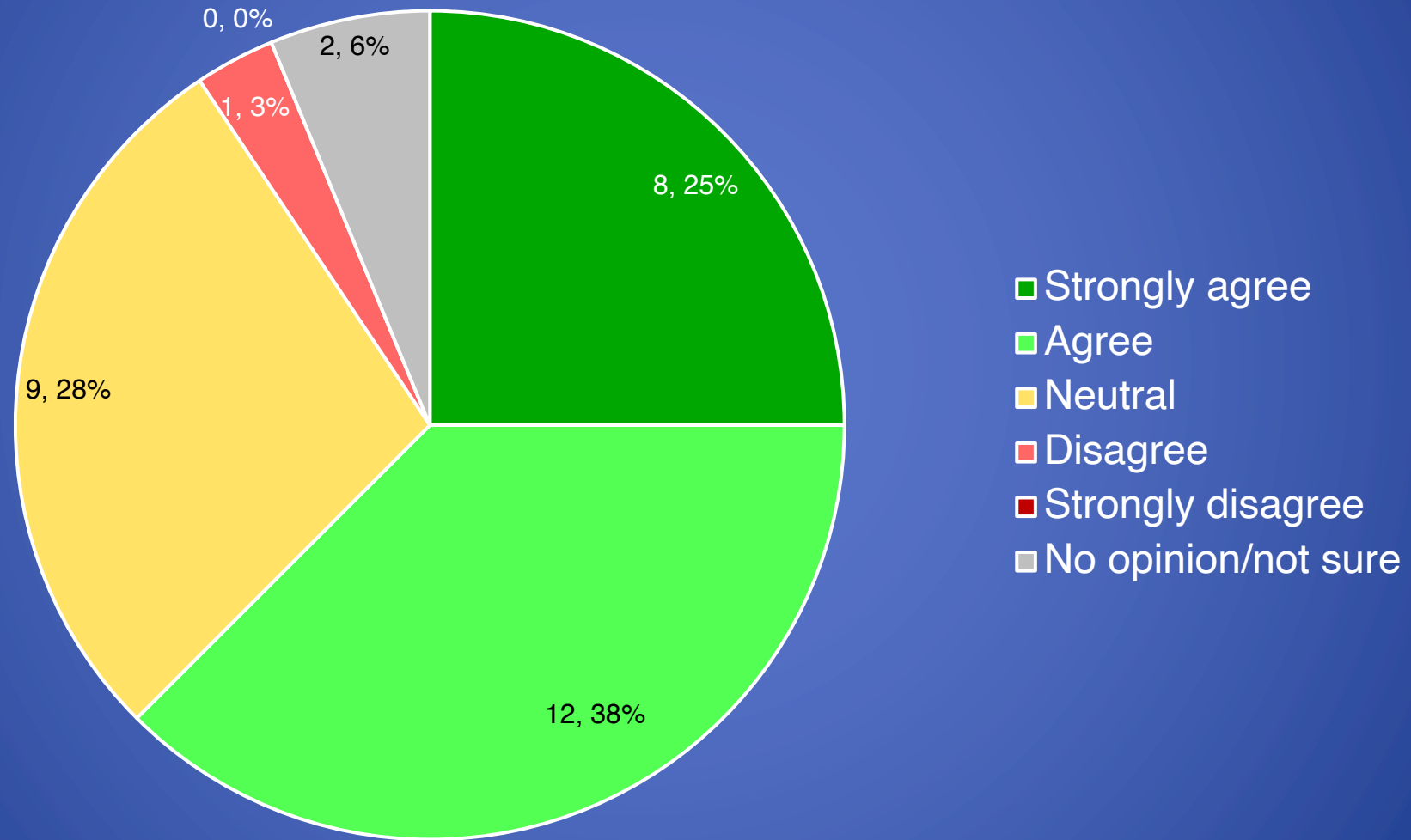
Contents

- Survey results
- Prior known expedition outings
- Prior travelogue meeting
- Future dates?
 - How often to meet
 - When to meet
- How to choose topics/destinations?
- SIG leader?

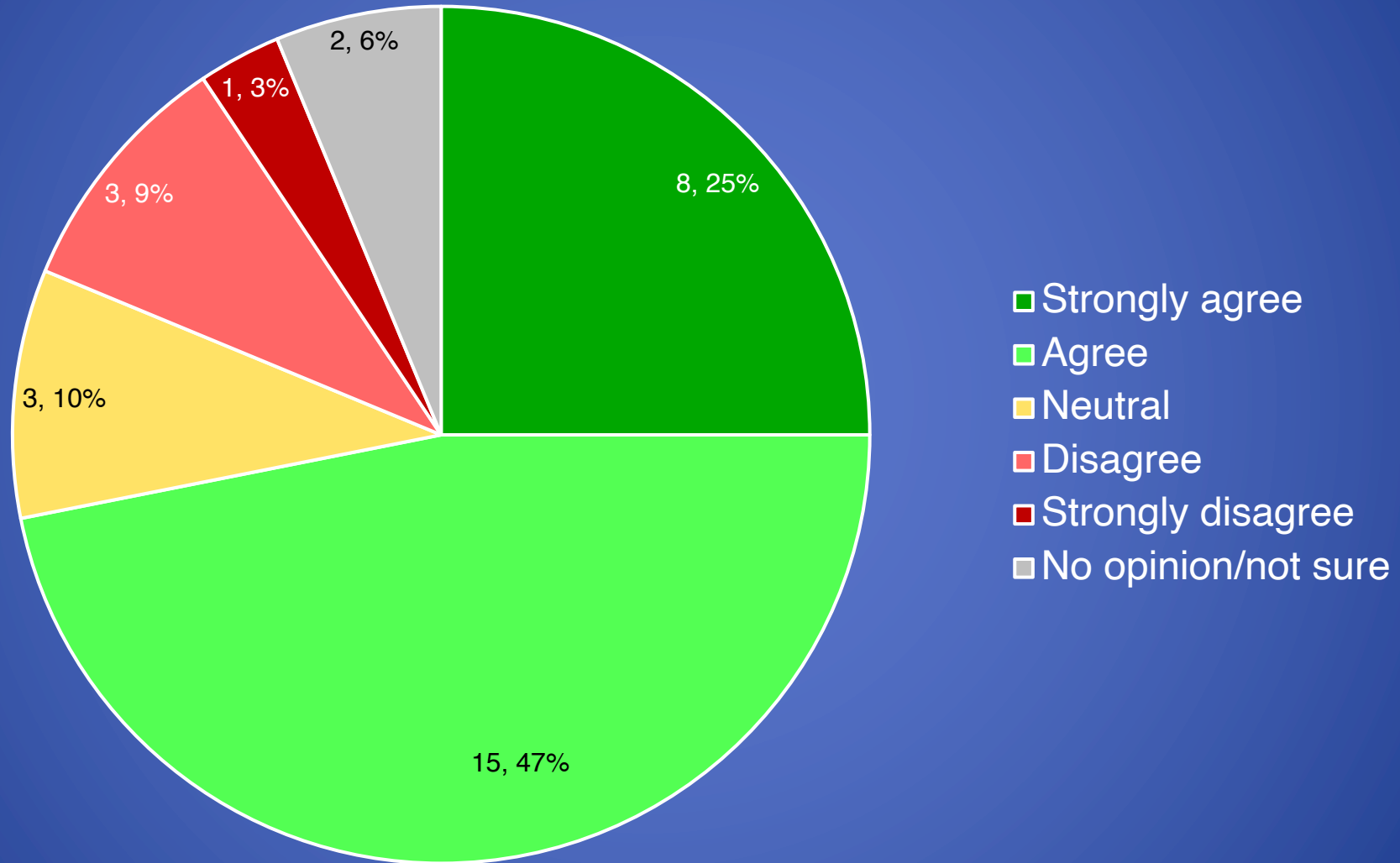
Survey results

- Survey was open from February 16 to 22, 2024
- 32 people responded
- Also covered the summer picnic
 - This part will be discussed in the general meeting next week, not here

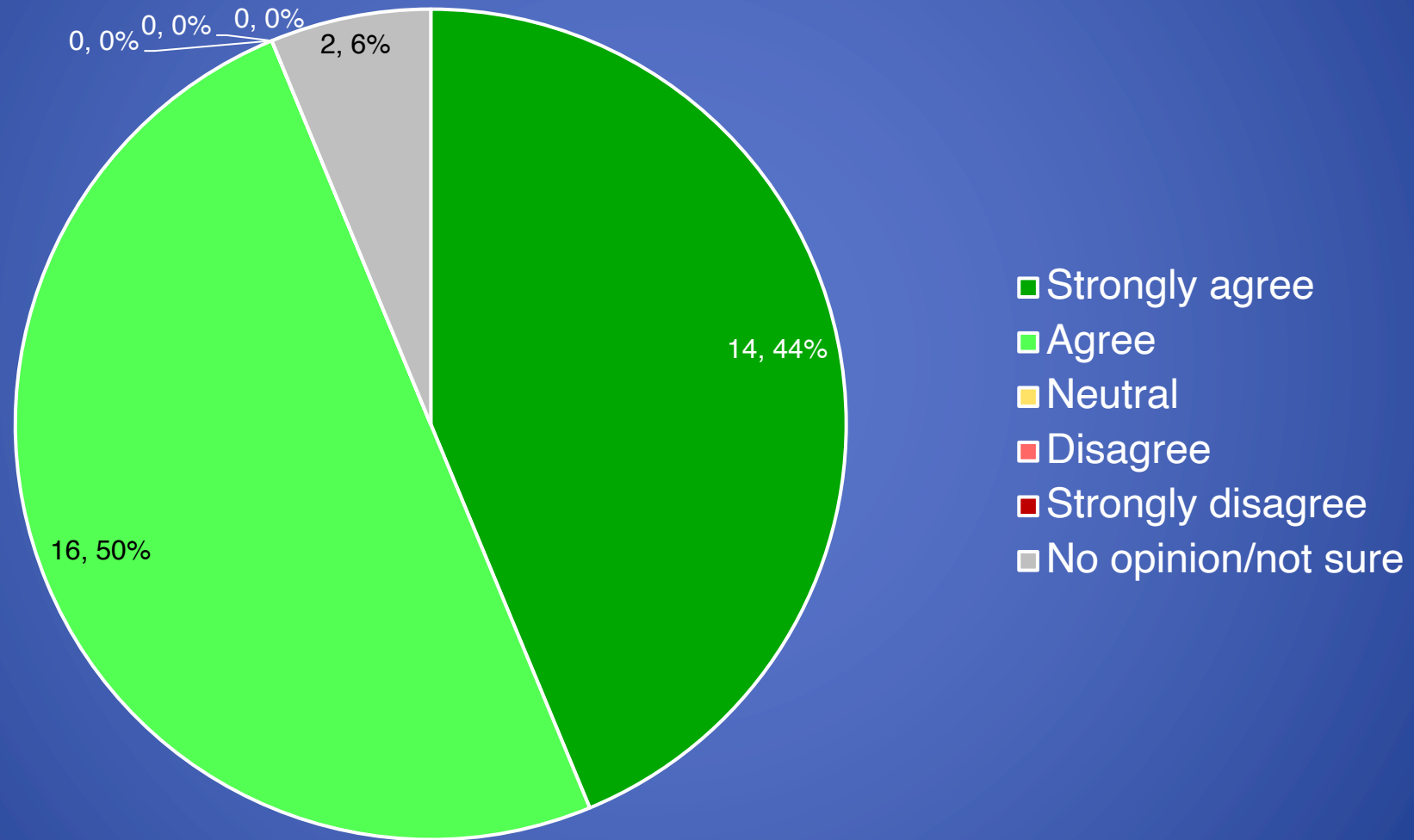
Have a forum for club members to discuss and organize multi-day outings



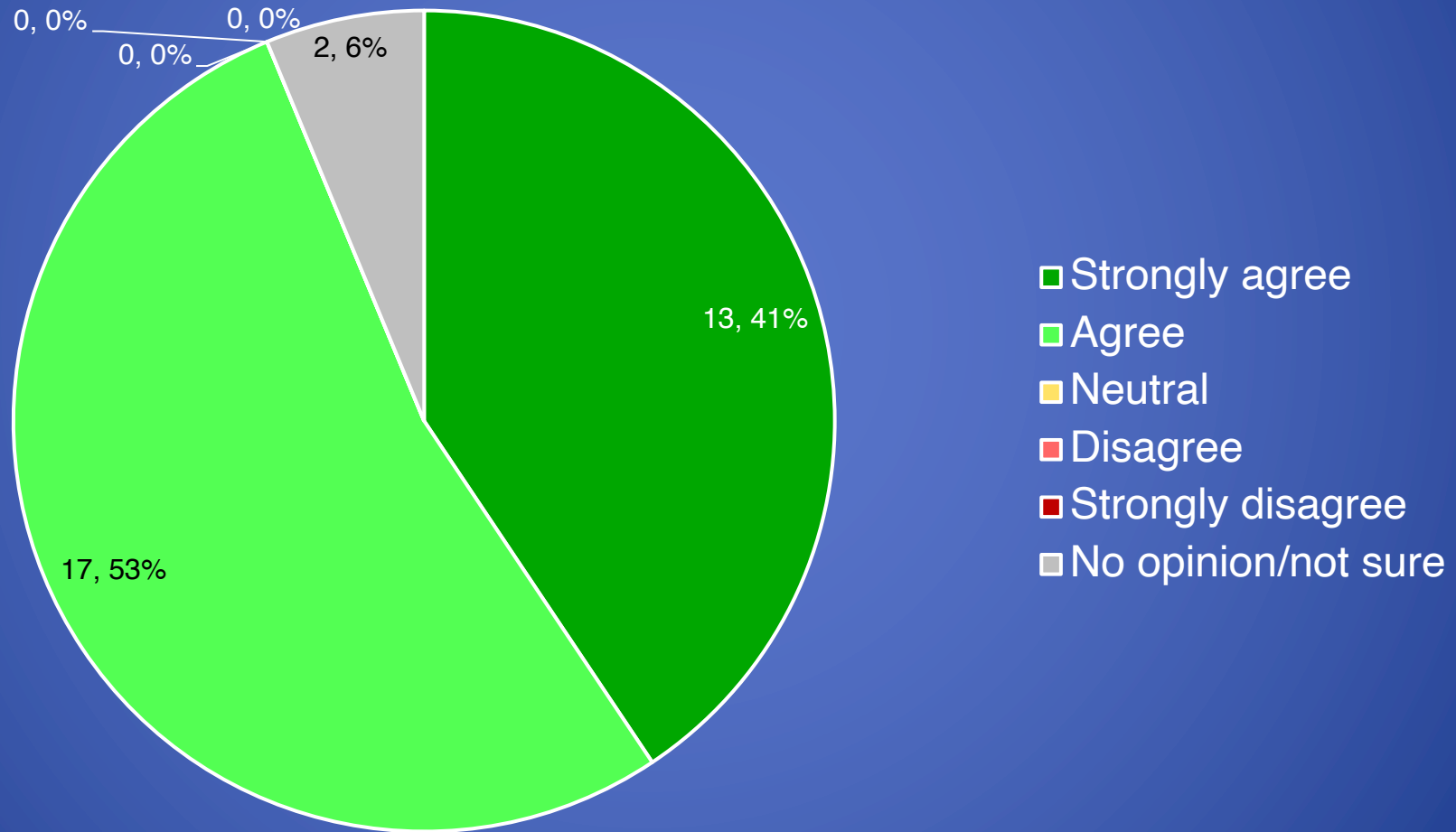
See photos from other members' trips



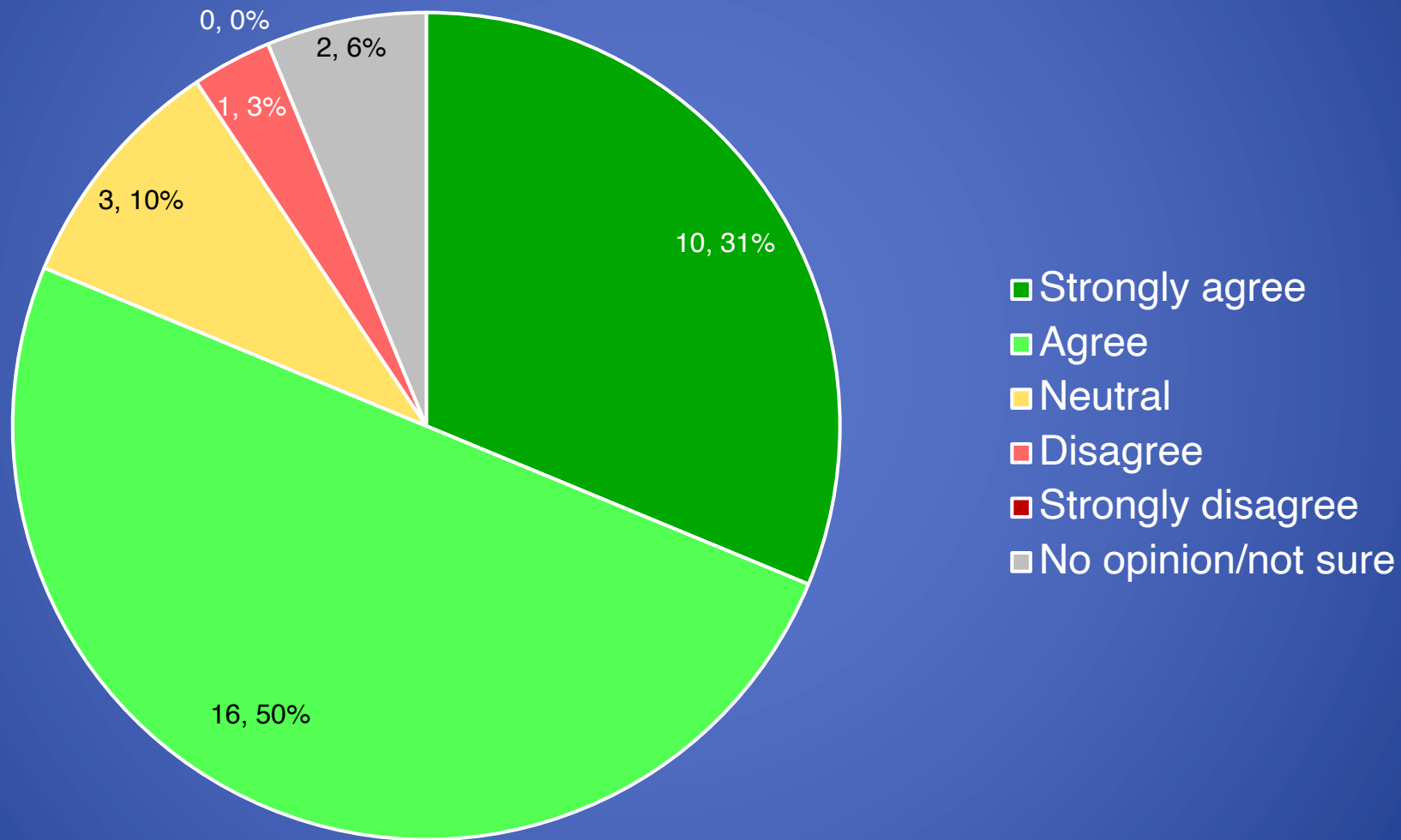
Learn about destinations with good photographic opportunities



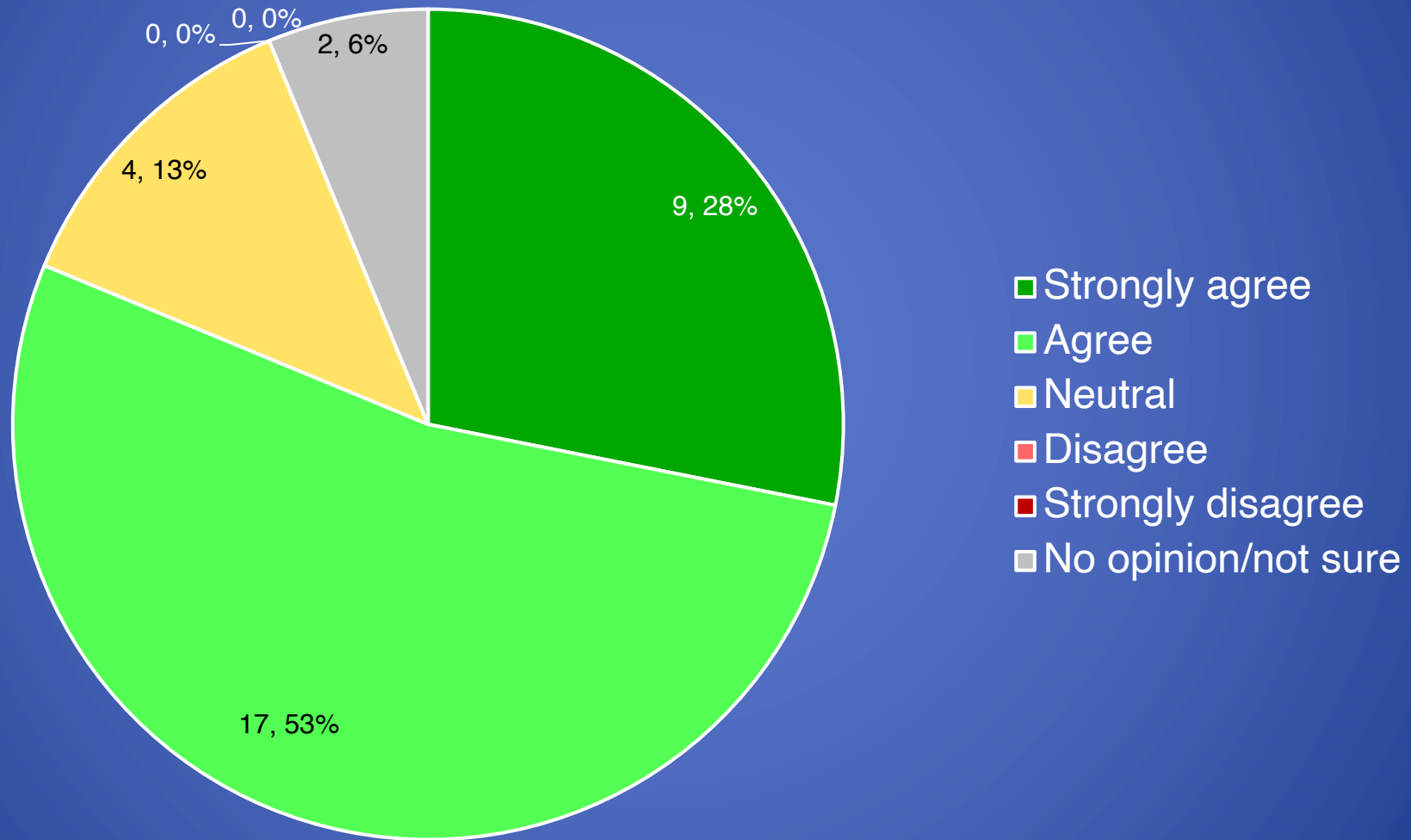
Learn when to go to destinations with good photographic opportunities (example: best season)



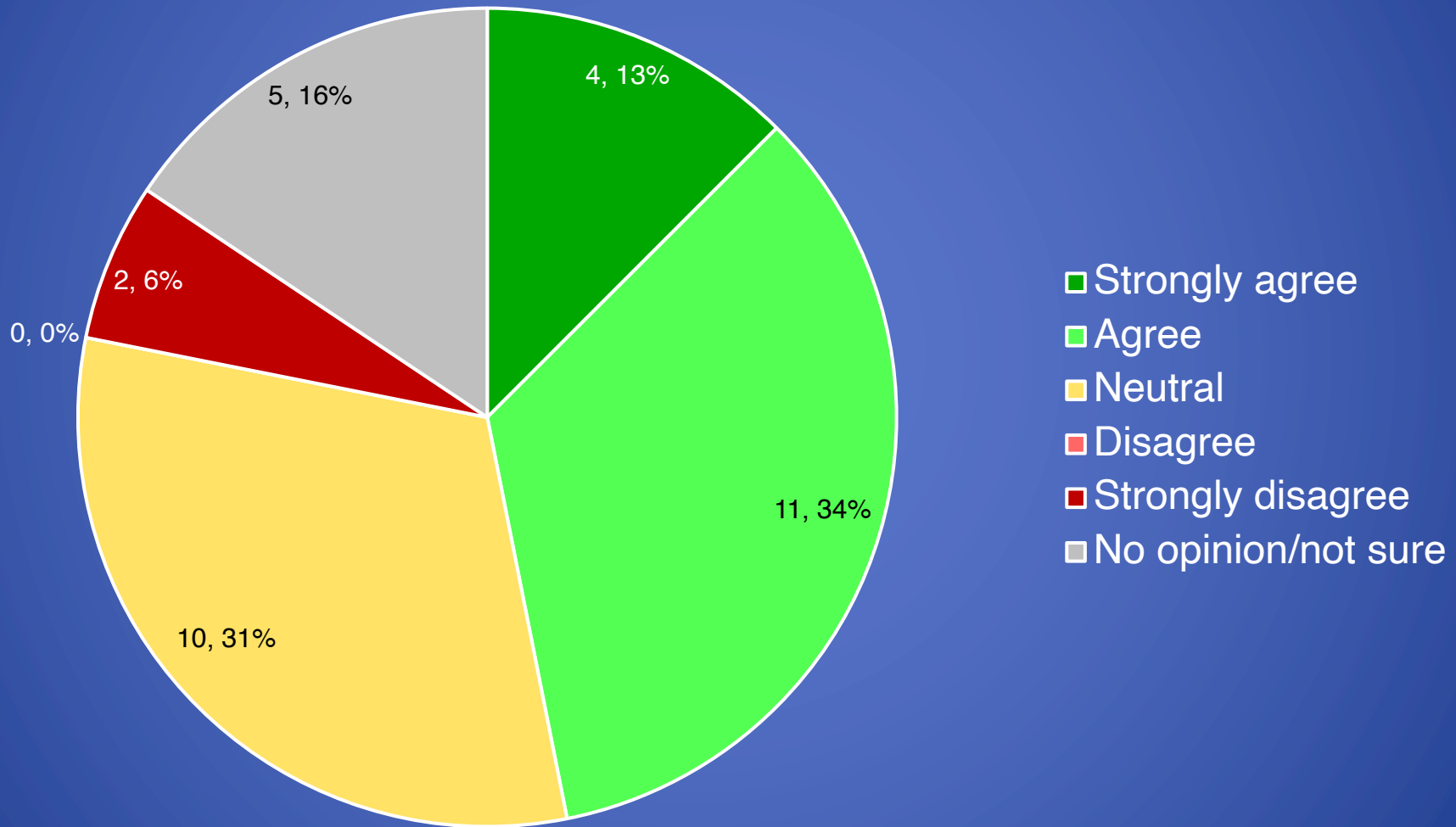
Learn about planning trips to destinations with good photographic opportunities



Learn about equipment to take for particular trips



Learn about photo workshops that are not nearby



“Expedition” outings

- “Expedition” outing is my term for a multi-day outing, we can name it something else if preferred
 - Some were found on FCDCC web page archives
 - Thanks to Guy Turenne for also providing a list
- Some were in cooperation with the Loveland Photographic Society (LPS)
- There were several before the pandemic in 2020
- There was at least one (unofficial?) during the pandemic
- There is one so far this year

List of prior “expedition” outings

- Balloon Fest, Colorado Springs (Aug 2014)
- Fall Colors at Maroon Bells/Aspen (Oct 2014)
- Paint Mines Interpretive Park near Colorado Springs (Apr 2016)
- Bosque del Apache Nat’l Wildlife Refuge, New Mexico (Jan 2017, with LPS)
- Wild Horses at Sand Wash Basin near Maybell, Colorado (Jun 2017)
- Fall Colors in SW Colorado (Sep 2017)
- Crystal Mill near Marble, Colorado (Maybe 2021? – Mike Hohol, not official?)

List of future “expedition” outings

- Milky Way at Paint Mines Interpretive Park near Colorado Springs
(Jun 2024 – Pam Jordan)

Prior “expedition” outings with unknown dates (per Guy Turenne)

- Sandhill Cranes in Kearny, Nebraska (happens around now)
- Rattlesnake Canyon/McInnis Canyons Nat’l Conservation Area, Colorado/Utah
- Goblin Valley State Park, Utah
- Winter wild horses somewhere near Durango
- Fall color at Grand Teton National Park
- Winter photographers ride on the Durango/Silverton Railroad
- A separate second outing to Bosque del Apache

“Travelogue” meetings

- I’ve adopted this name from Guy Turenne’s email, although this name is not official
- Details below are per his description
 - Took place at the now defunct Mulligan’s Pub on College Ave
 - Run by Dawn Wilson
 - 30 minute social time (drinks and/or dinner)
 - Roughly 2 hour slideshow
 - Members limited to 2 dozen photos?
 - Questions welcomed
 - Estimated attendance around 15
- Last records I can find for these meetings were in 2015 (January? and July)

Questions for going forward

- How often do we want to meet?
 - My original proposal was quarterly
 - Less frequent? More frequent?
 - Alternate between expeditions and travelogue, or mixed?
 - Fixed day of the month (like general meeting), or floating?

Questions for going forward

- For “expedition”, how to discuss?
 - Propose ideas until a planned destination is agreed?
 - Based on current season or further out (like June outing)?
 - Do how much planning?
- For “travelogue”, how to choose topics?
 - Planned presentations or open forum?
 - Some requirement beyond just showing pictures? Or just allow this to come up in questions? Per survey suggestions:
 - How to get there
 - When to go there
 - What equipment to bring

Questions for going forward

- Does anyone want to lead this SIG?
 - I will be temporarily, maybe call myself “moderator”
- Maybe too early: should we split “expedition” and “travelogue” into two SIGs?

Appendix

Survey comments

- There were only 3
 - “I am not interested in Travel photography, but these are all good ideas.”
 - “Sometimes travel photos are significant only to the photographer and may not interest others. Sort of like, "I was at the beach. Here's a photo of a wave. And here's another photo of a wave. Oh, and here's another photo of a wave....". The moderator will have to set up clear guidelines or it will be a snooze.”

Survey comments

- There were only 3
 - [comment edited] “I (*name redacted*) would like to participate in a "Travel" SIG that was actively looking for, planning and "TRAVELING" to different photographic sites and opportunities as a group, Therefore reducing the cost of traveling to such destinations as a whole, by car pooling or sharing overnight accommodations as a group. To just talk about such and such a place or to share photos from such and such a place is not necessarily needed as it has been my experience with the FCDCC, that whatever the SIG or topic of discussion is someone will share their travel images... for example: if the topic is landscapes someone will share a landscape image taken while traveling to such and such.... If the topic is the Milky Way someone will share their Milky Way image taken while traveling to such and such or Macro photography someone will share a Macro image taken while traveling to such and such a place.. so organizing a travel SIG to discuss such places or share such images is quite redundant... However, a group that travels to this place or that place as a group reducing the cost to each individual by at least half, could be quite beneficial to some and making the FCDCC more inclusive rather than exclusive for those (like myself) who would not be able to afford such travel otherwise. Thank you for listening, sincerely, (*name redacted*)