

VINTAGE MESSENGER

VOL. 14, NO. 11

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NOVEMBER 2005

Proposed change to Constitution and Bylaws

A page detailing the proposed Constitution and Bylaws changes is included in this Messenger issue. The RMVR membership will be receiving a ballot (return postage pre-paid) to cast their vote regarding this proposed change to the RMVR Constitution and Bylaws. Please take the time review the initiative and to vote on this important issue. Ballots must be received by 11/15/05.

Minutes

Rocky Mountain Vintage Racing Ltd
Regular Board Meeting 10/19/05
Jim Bradley's Racing Shop
1822 Vista Dr, Unit C
Longmont CO

Board Members present:

Jim Bradley-President
Norm Pettitt-Past-President
Roger Hively-President-Elect
Mark Robinson-Secretary
Steve Gesse-Treasurer
Keith Davidson
Tom Ellis
Marcia Hubbell
Dennis McIlree
Bob Mitchiner
Scott Sanders

Excused absence: Bob Darcey

President's Remarks

Jim Bradley welcomed all and noted that Bob Darcey would not be in attendance. He also mentioned that Don Woeber had emailed Jim with his thanks for all the support Don had received after the loss of his wife.

Banquet Reminder Don't Miss the Finish Line!!!!!!

The Annual Banquet will be held January 14, 2006 at the Arvada Center. Menus are being finalized now. Watch the December Messenger for the announcement, menus, sign up forms and times.

It's Election Time again!!

The positions of President-elect, Secretary and three Directors-at-large are on the ballot. If you would like to serve the club in one of these capacities, please contact the Nominating Committee Chair (Bob Darcey, 303/238-8668) ASAP to discuss. The present incumbants, Tom Ellis, Keith Davidson, Mark Robinson and Marcia Hubbell, have already indicated their willingness to run. Candidates may be placed on the ballot by any member simply by submitting that request in writing, along with 10 member signatures, to the Committee by November 20th.

Minutes

Mark Robinson noted that the only correction to last month's minutes were Tom Ellis noting that the McLaren car coming into the club was a sports racer, not a formula car as was published. Steve Gesse made a motion to accept the minutes; Dennis McIlree seconded. The vote to accept was unanimous.

Treasurer's Report

Steve Gesse reported that the club is still on track to have an estimated \$130,000 on hand by year-end. He hopes that another \$20,000 will be rebated from Second Creek funds; if received, it will be reinvested in

CSU Formula SAE

All of us from Colorado State University Formula SAE team would sincerely like to thank RMVR for their help and hospitality. We had a wonderful time and appreciate all of your support. To find out ways to further support our team or for more information, please contact Brian Hively at:

bhively@engr.colostate.edu

Thank You,
Brian Hively

To RMVR's Formula Vee Group

I would like to thank all of you for making my 1st season as a Vee driver the most fun season I've ever had as a driver. Special thanks go to Reah Mortimer and Bonnie, the Queen Vee; Reah for mentoring me in a car until I bought my own, and Bonnie for teaching me to drive well enough to be accused of cheating. If it hadn't been for you two I'd still be working and not getting into any mischief at all! Thank you Jess for that extra oomph down the straights, and Mark T., Mark F., John and Chris for all those pointers and lead arounds, and everyone for helping me out on and off track! You are all an amazing group of drivers and people both on and off the track. I can't wait until next season!

Thanks, Kris Ellis

CAMA. Our 383 paid members are slightly less than the 396 at this point last year. Without Second Creek, he notes that membership growth is in question. One positive note made apparent by tracking funds differently

The regular RMVR Board Meeting is typically held the third Wednesday of each month, commencing at 7 p.m. at:

Jim Bradley's Shop, 1822 Skyway Drive, Unit C, Longmont, CO 80504 - (720) 289-7113

The December 2005 Board meeting will be on the December 14th (2nd Wednesday in December).

FOR MORE INFORMATION: RMVR c/o Diane Hively - 6745 West Third Place, Lakewood, Colorado 80226 - (303) 319-3062

is the substantial amount of worker contributions made by members: about \$8500 has been collected. No CMC contributions have been made this year.

Chiefs' Reports

Chief Steward

Roger Hively noted that there were no incidents at the Enduro. The entire year had only one individual being suspended.

Timing & Scoring

While Dennis McIlree had nothing to report, Jim expressed his thanks to Dennis & Eloise for all their efforts in handling their duties.

Administration

Diane Hively noted that the Enduro had 116 entries.

Medical Committee

At Jim Bradley's request, Dr. Dave Berman of the RMVR Medical Committee, and RMVR racer and attorney Peter Jones were in attendance. Previous information that had been published about RMVR's discussions over our Medical Committee reviewing driver medicals left Dave with the impression that RMVR was considering eliminating driver medicals; that is not the case. Previous discussions were about the RMVR-only policy of having drivers' medicals reviewed by the Medical Committee, and what additional liability that may bring. With that clarification, Dave offered a brief history of how and why the Medical Committee came into being. RMVR had no driver medicals when started in 1983, through about 1987, when the SCCA form was copied. Concern was raised over the liability that the Club and its directors & officers may face from the risk of racing. After a tragic racing event at Copper Mountain in '92, a revised form was created and club members with medical experience began reviewing drivers' medicals as a step toward protecting the club. Dave also was involved at that time in having the on-site ambulance staffed by crew with fire & rescue training. In 2005, the Medical Committee returned 65 medical forms that were incomplete in some way, and kept only one driver from

licensing due to medical concerns. Dave supports continued review of driver medicals, and thinks RMVR's program should be expanded to other clubs.

As an attorney, Peter Jones thinks the existing program that is in place is top notch, and shows that the club is concerned. RMVR's non-profit status offers some liability protection, and in his opinion, liability is not increased by reviewing medicals, and may be improving its position by taking this extra step.

Jim thanked Dr. Berman & Mr. Jones for taking the time to come to the meeting.

CMC Report

Scott Sanders provided copies of CMC's latest treasurer's report. He noted that some paving is planned at La Junta turns 3, 4 & 5 in 2006, with more in 2007 as funds become available. The Pueblo SCCA inspection is still not done. Turns 1, 3, 6, and 10 are targeted for bunker repairs, as is the Armco barrier at 10. Help is needed at Second Creek for building tire bundles to be used at Pueblo; see the RMVR Bulletin Board for details. Free Second Creek test & tune sessions are offered to CMC club members 11/2-11/6, before the track closes permanently 11/7/05. As there are no new nominees for CMC Board positions, the current officers voted to retain their positions.

CAMA Report

Scott Sanders (reporting for Bob Darcey) noted that the first draft agreement between CAMA and Sutton Motorsports has been submitted. No rental rates have been determined.

Nominating Committee

The committee, consisting of Bob Darcey, Dennis McIlree, Steve Gesse, and Arne McDaniel will publish a notice soliciting nominees on the RMVR Bulletin Board.

President's Term

Roger Hively reviewed the timeline established for passage of the proposed changes to RMVR's Constitution and bylaws that was approved last month. The proposal was published on 9/26, and the ballot

will be mailed to the membership by 10/26. The reasons for the changes are to create a more efficient governing body by allowing multiple presidential terms, and reducing the size of the Board. Having a President for more than one term will promote continuity in on-going or long-term issues that affect the Club. Primary points in the proposal are:

- The President will be elected for a 1 year term, and must run for re-election each year. Multiple terms are allowed.
- The President-Elect and Past-President positions will be eliminated.
- A presidential candidate must have at least 1 year of experience on a past or present Board before running.
- The Board may endorse one or more presidential candidates.

This proposal was approved last month by a Board vote of seven to four. It must be voted on by the membership and ratification requires at least 60% of the votes cast be in favor of the changes. Ballots will be returned to ballot chairman Bob Alder. While last month's Messenger contained the complete Constitution and Bylaws with the proposed changes, it did not include the deleted language. Another copy accompanies this month's Messenger with both deletions and proposed changes, in the affected sections only. Members are encouraged to review this proposal and make an informed decision. The upcoming Feedback Session will allow discussion of the proposal among the membership.

2006 Schedule

Roger Hively noted that additions to next year's confirmed 2 La Junta and 2 Pueblo events, plus Drivers' School at Continental Divide Racepark, are being worked on. Events are being considered at the Leadville airport, and at a new track being built in Hastings, NE. No dates or rates have been available from Miller Motorsports Park in Utah, although Nostalgia is considering booking a date at that track.

CMC

John Arnold of the Colorado Motorsports Council addressed the Board. He was under the impression that RMVR was going to resign from the CMC; Jim Bradley pointed out that the Board had never considered that action. John stated that CMC is the only group that's purpose is to support maintaining the La Junta & Pueblo tracks, and it is a functioning and working entity. He urges that RMVR continue supporting CMC.

Several Board members expressed their doubts about John's claims, based on the reports our CMC rep Scott Sanders gives. John was asked if CMC could provide more substantial documentation of CMC's accomplishments, and more accurate accounting of CMC funds to warrant RMVR's support.

Feedback Session

Jim Bradley asked for topics to be used for discussion at the upcoming Feedback Session. Among those under consideration at this point are:

- Continuation of the \$100 La Junta Race entry
- Proposed change in President's term
- New tracks
- Points system among race groups

If anyone has other topics, please contact Jim.

Meeting adjourned 9:09PM.

Mark Robinson, Secretary

Classifieds

For Sale- Winnebago Adventurer, class A, 1999, V-10, low miles, 30 ft. Generator, Roof & Dash air, Microwave oven, TV/VCR, Tow package, etc. Always garaged, looks like new, super clean. Steal it for \$39,900

1962 E Type Jag. 3.8. Car has race history from CAL CLUB in 1965. Ran in BP. Have history from new. Many mods: Mags, Konis, big brakes, side exhaust, roll bar. Currently street driven and running triple Webers. Have many new parts to restore such as dash pad, complete rubber moldings, ADDCO bars, etc. Best offer over 30K.

Datsun 240Z, 1972 CP-3, RMVR Log, Full BRE & Tilton Equipped; Suspension, Drive Line, Cage, Etc. Two Motors. Direct Drive 5 Speed. Three Posi Diffs. 8 Wheels, Panaspot & American. Double Disc Tilton Clutch, Spares. \$35,900
Terry Allard 303-973-3074

For Sale: Trailer, enclosed, double axle, Accommodates a Formula Ford or Formula Vee as well as an older Corvette, XKE or smaller sports car. Low profile, excellent condition. \$3,500. Call Bob Durham, days - 303-526-9570, evenings and weekends - 303-674-7282.

For Sale: 1966 Porsche 912 Coupe VIN # 458204 White. Set-up for Autocross/DE/Vintage racing. Street registered. RMVR log book. Engine and suspension up-grades. New Corbeau race seats. Fun and dependable car for weekend events. \$8500, OBO. Bud Raabe. 719-579-8113. Budr911@aol.com.

Zink Formula Vee For Sale- 1972 Zink C-4 RMVR #58. This car is race ready and very competitive. The motor was gone through last year by Paul Malcomb and only has 3 races on it. Includes open trailer, transponder, spares, and 1978 Chevy Van. \$11,000. Contact Steve @ (303) 579 - 8810 or veeracer@yahoo.com.

For Sale 2000 F350 Powerstroke Diesel LB, extra cab, 4X4, 120K miles, tow package and fifth wheel set up, white over grey, \$18,000 neg. Nancy Marshall 303-238-1412

For Sale 1964 Austin Healey Sprite RMVR car #78 fast and reliable. 1275 +.040 with all the best engine components. Weber 45 DCOE, gear reduction starter, Crane electronic ignition w MSD rev limiter. Two weekends on fresh rebuild. New muffler for Second Creek, double bearing hubs w competition axles, tube shocks. Many extra parts including differentials, 2 wheels and tires. Needs new fuel cell for eligibility, otherwise well sorted and ready to go. \$7,500. Contact Roger Hively 303-233-7462H, 303-829-0990C

Haulmark. Transport Race Trailer, 20 feet long 8.5 feet wide. Spring suspension, easy lube axle, axles are upgraded to 5,000 pound capacity, special ST225/75R15 tires, spare wheel and tire front mounted, with lock and cover, special 6 stud white spoke steel wheels, 4 wheel electric brake, breakaway switch, aluminum fenders, payload capacity 3,940 LBS, curb weight 3,060 LBS, gross vehicle weight 7,270 LBS, spring assist rear ramp door w/extensions. bar lock on rear door, 36" side door, bar lock on side door, side door opening 36" wide x 73-1/2" high, 3/4" plywood floor, exterior walls and ceiling special vinyl siding, interior lighted with switch by side door, 24" stone guard, beavertail, standard 4 flush mount square D-rings installed, plus an additional 8 flush mount square D-rings with 4 roller bearings, one for each tire. 4 tire hold down straps each with a ratchet, heavy duty anti-sway trailer hitch, 3 special outdoor key lock padlocks, special tongue lock, 14" x 14" non-powered roof ent, white in color. The trailer is in Denver for viewing. It has only been on one 2,200 mile trip. Total paid for trailer with all the added equipment was \$7300.00. This was a discounted price as I picked up the trailer. I will consider any offers.

Call Richard Gordon 303-756-7427

Or email:

RichardNGordon@comcast.net

For Sale-White, 2003, 3/4 ton, GMC Sierra 2500 HD, 4WD, Pickup, 6.6L V8 "Duramax" Diesel gets 22 mpg. Wideside extended crew cab, leather interior, Bose sound and many other goodies make it a great, comfortable hauler. 72,000 miles. Asking \$28,900.

1976 Triumph TR-6, white with beige interior, approximately 78,000 original miles. All original with electronic overdrive in 3rd and 4th gears. Hard top, new soft top plus a luggage rack included. Needs body and interior work and a loving owner willing to restore this classic beauty. \$2,000 or best offer. Veronica "Ronny" Marshall, 303-530-0750
veronicamarshall@comcast.net

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2005 Event Schedule

January 14, 2006

Annual Banquet @ The Arvada Center

2006 Event Schedule (Provisional)

Fire & Rescue School
Driver's School @ CDR Meade, CO
La Junta
Advanced Drivers' School
Trans-Am Invitational @ Pueblo
La Junta
Pueblo

March 5-6, 2006
April 2006
April 2006
June 2, 2006
June 3-4, 2006
September 9-10, 2006
September 30 & October 1, 2006

RMVR Website- <http://rmvr.com>

**ROCKY MOUNTAIN
VINTAGE RACING
NEWSLETTER**

6745 West Third Place
Lakewood, CO 80226



RMVR VOLUNTEER NEWS

NOVEMBER, 2005

John Twenty

I'm holding up the production of the Club's Newsletter again so I'll be brief. The racing season has come to a close. Our last racing event of the year was the Enduro at Pueblo. This is always a fun weekend for me and I hope it is for all you workers and drivers. The racing was good and without incident. We tried Le Mans starts again and everyone got away in good order. Saturday evening the Formula Ford drivers prepared a spaghetti dinner for the workers. This was great!!! Thanks Ford Drivers. I failed in one of my personal goals, I didn't get to know an FF driver that I haven't met. I think we should use any social occasion to meet someone new in the Club. On Sunday Kevin and the Grid Crew (sounds like a band) had the production cars lined up for their Enduro with enough time that we had to wait for the published time to start. Superior work!

And, before I leave this year's events, I saw people having fun at La Junta. I have been told this had disappeared from RMVR. We had another great pot luck dinner on Saturday, John and Carol Arnold wrote a great trivia contest, their awards presentation kept a large crowd laughing for a long time, and people were watching other groups races and hollering at the back markers to get moving. I think we make our own fun by getting involved with others.

With the racing season over we will be finding other things to do with our weekends. Spending more time with our families, watching football, skiing, yard work and those of us with project cars in our garages will not have an excuse not to work on them. Let's not forget RMVR completely, however. Vote on the proposed by-laws change! This is a good time to think back over the season and decide if there was anything you would have liked to have done differently, things that would improve your experience at the races or would improve the operation of your specialty. If you have any ideas, an excellent opportunity to present these is the Feedback Session. This year it will be held *November 5* at the American Motel at I-70 and Kipling. The motel is on the frontage road north of I-70 and west of Kipling. You can't miss their flag. Registration (and coffee and donuts) starts at 8:00 with the meeting starting at 9:00. Lots of good ideas have originated at the feedback session; like providing worker lunches each day and the tarps for bunker shade. We're not sure of the format this year but there is always an opportunity to discuss what you feel is important. Join in if you can. If you couldn't attend the feedback session, you can still discuss your ideas with your chief of specialty at any time.

Another way to stay involved during the winter might be to discuss the fun you had this summer with your friends and acquaintances. Encourage them to join us next year. Spread the word. Invite them to attend the Fire and Rescue School in mid-March (March 5th and 6th for those of you who have already purchased your Daytimers for next year) if they have questions about what they would be asked to do. Tony Peak has volunteered to be our instructor again this year and Pauline and I will assist in the planning and organization. This year, again, we will be at the new training facility for the North Washington Fire Dept. We will be burning a real car.

In the spring, we will be scheduling a day for cleaning out the van and doing inventory. If you would like to get involved with any of these projects over the winter, please feel free to phone any of the people involved or myself (John Twenty, 303.697.2846) to volunteer your services. Call us if you can. We never really take time off, you know, we just start preparing for next year!

The last activity of the year is actually in January. It is our Holiday Banquet and will be held on January 14th at the Arvada Center on Wadsworth. If you worked enough events last year, you will receive your banquet ticket at no charge through the generosity of one of our race car drivers. Pauline is compiling a list of the number of days that everyone worked. We will then e-mail each of you to determine your entree choice, and you will be able to pick up your ticket at the banquet. If you are unable to attend, let us know and we will pass your ticket on to the next person on the list. If you wish to bring your spouse, you will need to purchase a ticket for them.

We didn't get to do much cross-training this year. This was mostly necessity, though, because this year we never had enough workers for the corners or the grid. If you have any special interest in working control or any other area, please be sure to let us know and we will do our best to arrange it. We always try to accommodate everyone in their wishes, because we want all of you to enjoy yourselves and come back! Please understand, however, that our number one concern will always be safety. There will be times, especially when we are short-handed, that we will have to rearrange assignments to fit the needs of the event. Try to be patient, and we will do our best to accommodate you. Driver's School is usually a good time to try new things, as it is low-key compared to some of the later events. We also need 8, I think (how many corners are there at CDR?) qualified Corner Captains at Driver's School who enjoy training, because this is when the largest group of new workers join our ranks.

Since this is the last newsletter this year, don't look for one in December, Pauline and I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone for the excellent help this year and wish you all Happy Holidays!!

PLEASE SEND IN YOUR RESPONSE TO THE APPROPRIATE CHIEF LISTED BELOW.

If you have any preferences as to whom you share a room with, please be sure to let your chief know. Remember that all specialties are limited as to the number of workers for whom they can provide accommodations, so send in your reply form before the deadline.

<p style="text-align: center;">F & C John Twenty 8451 Mariposa Dr. Morrison, CO 80465 303-697-2846 smithtwenty@earthlink.net</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">F & C Pauline Wilson 564 S. Joplin St. Aurora, CO 80017 303-745-7860 pauline266@comcast.net</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">TIMING & SCORING Eloise McIlree 7841 S. Valentia Way Englewood, CO 80112 303-770-5127 demcilree@earthlink.net</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">GRID Kevin Rutherford 4156 Lowell Blvd. Denver, CO 80211 303-477-5562 rutroring@att.net</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">TECH Don Woeber 2706 Dundee Ct. Ft. Collins, CO 80525 970-223-9546 woden6@frii.net</p>

Rocky Mountain Vintage Racing Ltd.

Proposed change to Constitution and Bylaws

Constitution and Bylaws

Proposed changes are shown in *(italics)*. Deletions are shown by strikethrough.

A. CONSTITUTION

5. ARTICLE V. OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

- A. The leadership of the club shall be vested in the Board of Directors consisting of a ~~President-elect~~, President, ~~Past President~~, Secretary, Treasurer, and seven Directors at large.
- B. The members and officers of the Board of Directors will hold office for two years, or until their successors are elected, ~~with the exception of the offices of president-elect, past president and president.~~ *Every board member except the President must be re-elected by the membership at the end of his or her two-year term. Presidential candidates must be nominated and run for office every year.*
- C. ~~The president-elect will serve for a term of one year and will succeed to the presidency upon the end of that year. The president will serve for one year and then succeed to the office of past president for one year. A new president-elect will be nominated and elected each year during the regular election for directors and officers.~~ *The Nominating Committee will nominate presidential candidates from the Board of Directors or from the general membership. The Board of Directors may endorse one or more presidential candidates by a 2/3-majority vote. The membership will vote on a slate of candidates, including presidential candidate(s). The President will serve for one year and may be re-elected for subsequent one-year terms. There is no limitation on the number of terms the President may serve*
- E. In the event any officer is unable to complete his term of office, ~~the following succession will prevail: For presidency, the president-elect will succeed. Any other officer or director position which becomes vacant shall be filled by appointment by the Board of Directors.~~ *the vacancy shall be filled by appointment by the Board of Directors. The interim Director at large will be the first losing candidate from the most recent election. An interim President shall be a member of the Board of Directors.*

B. BYLAWS

3. ARTICLE III. OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

- A. MANAGEMENT. The management of Rocky Mountain Vintage Racing, Ltd. shall be by the Board of Directors consisting of the President, ~~president-elect, past president~~, Secretary, Treasurer, and seven at-large directors.
- F. QUORUM. ~~Seven~~ *Six* board members in attendance at any board meeting shall constitute a quorum for the conduct of club business

5. ARTICLE V. ELECTIONS

- B. CANDIDATES. The Nominating Committee will nominate a slate of one or more candidates ~~for president-elect and~~ *for each officer and director position becoming vacant at the end of the current year of service.* All nominees must be members in good standing.
- D. ADDITIONAL NOMINEES. Additional nominations may be made by any member, in writing, to the nominating committee chairperson before November 20th, accompanied by the signatures of ten active RMVR members seconding the nomination, a brief resume, and a picture if possible. *Any additional nominee for the Presidency must have served at least one year as a board member.*

Arguments *For* and *Against* the proposed changes to the RMVR Constitution and Bylaws are presented below:

For:

October 25, 2005

To: RMVR Members

Re: Proposed By-law Changes

Please take the time to vote FOR the proposed By-law changes.

A 60% majority of the votes received are required to pass these changes. Since usually less than half of the members participate in elections, your vote is important to strengthen our club and help provide continuity in leadership.

We recommend the passage of these By-law changes. These changes will strengthen the Club's operation and how it deals with its goals and objectives. Constantly changing presidents slows momentum on our initiatives, interrupts continuity, and hampers relationship building with track owners and other organizations that we work with. Requiring the president to have some Board experience, to allow the President to serve more than one term, and to require the Board to approve the president's performance are common sense improvements.

The postcard ballot has postage on it. Take the time to vote and mail the postcard soon. Votes must be received by 11/15/05. Because the ballot is a postcard mail your ballot early to make sure your vote is counted.

Thanks for taking the time to consider the matter and vote.

Roger Hively – President-Elect

Steve Gesse – Treasurer

Mark Robinson – Secretary

Tom Ellis -- Director at large

Marcia Hubbell -- Director at large

Bob Mitchiner – Director at large

Keith Davidson -- Director at large

Dennis McIlree – Director at large

Against:

The proposal to revise the RMVR Constitution and Bylaws was originally made by Steve Gesse at the August 2005 regular Board meeting. In the original version, the proposal would have the President elected directly by the Board, allow consecutive terms for the President and delete the membership's option to nominate additional candidates via the ten-signature petition. That proposal was approved for submission to the membership by a vote of six to four (see August 17, 2005 minutes, September *Messenger*). Proponents felt that the marginal support at the Board level was inadequate and subsequently amended the proposal to the form submitted at the September Board meeting. After a unanimous vote to rescind the August vote, the amended proposal was approved for submission to the membership, this time by a vote of seven in favor (Gesse, Hively, Robinson, McIlree, Mitchiner, Davidson and Hubbell), to four opposed (Ellis, Sanders, Pettitt and Darcey). The amended proposal was publicized in the October *Messenger* and is the proposal you are now being asked to approve or reject.

The undersigned are opposed to the amended proposal for the following reasons:

1. Loss Of Continuity: The original proposal sought to have the President elected “from the Board, by the Board”. That stance has been modified in the revised proposal, yet the new language retains a strong bias toward selecting candidates for President who currently serve or have previously served on the Board:

Constitution, Article V., OFFICERS AND ELECTION, Paragraph 3 (Proposed):

“The Nominating Committee will nominate presidential candidates from the Board of Directors or from the general membership.”
and,

Bylaws, Article V., ELECTIONS, Paragraph 4 (Proposed) :

“Any additional nominee for the Presidency must have served at least one year as a board member.”

Obviously, some Board experience is essential to being an effective President, and the existing Constitution and Bylaws require that the President-elect serves on the Board for one year before taking the President's office. By the end of his/her President-elect term, the incoming President knows the job requirements, is aware of the current situations and can utilize the experience and counsel of the Past President to provide continuity in managing the club. Under the current Constitution and Bylaws, *the president is already “from the Board”*. The proposed revisions eliminate the offices of President-elect and Past President, and fail to ensure that the incoming president has any recent experience or familiarity with current club matters. As such, the revisions would generate **a net loss of continuity**.

2. Politicizing the Process: The revisions provide that **“The Board of Directors may endorse one or more presidential candidates by a 2/3 majority vote.”** (Constitution, Article V. OFFICERS AND ELECTION, Paragraph 3, (Proposed)). A consequence of this provision is that some candidates would *not* receive “endorsement”, thereby politicizing the process and discouraging qualified candidates from serving. In our opinion, **the Board should not be in the business of “endorsing” presidential candidates, and the potential to politicize the election process and polarize the Board would be harmful to the club.**

If accepted, the revisions would severely reduce the number of available candidates for the club presidency. Many qualified members within the club would be discouraged from running for President because, a.) they are neither present nor past Board members, and b.) they choose to not run against a candidate “endorsed by the Board.” **The effect of the “endorsement” provision is to shift control of the presidential election process from the membership to the Board by limiting available choices.**

3. Control vs. Representation: The proposed revisions would result in a ten-member Board (President, Secretary, Treasurer and seven Directors-at-large), with nine voting positions. If the proposal is accepted, five people (in concert with an “endorsed” President) could yield complete control over club matters, including the selection of the Nominating Committee and future candidates. Under the existing Constitution and Bylaws, there are eleven voting positions and the President is independent of Board “endorsement” or political affiliation. We believe that the existing structure is more beneficial for the club, providing a greater level of representation and maintaining a “check and balance” relationship between the Board and the President.

4. Vague and Confusing Language: Finally, the language contained in the proposal is less than precise. Statements such as **“The Nominating Committee will nominate presidential candidates from the Board of Directors or from the general membership”** and **“Every Board member except the President must be re-elected by the membership at the end of his or her two-year term”** are redundant or ambiguous, and defy specific interpretation. Why, for example, can the Nominating Committee select candidates **“...from the membership...”** (Board experience not specified) but the membership is restricted to drafting candidates with **“at least one year as a board member”**? If we are going to change our Constitution and Bylaws, it is important that the revisions are well written and precise; the proposed revisions are neither.

In summary, we believe that the proposed revisions would have negative consequences for RMVR. The revisions would reduce the "pool" of available candidates for the presidency from many to a few, or less. The revisions have the potential to politicize and polarize the administration of the club and transfer control of the club to a few individuals. The existing Constitution and Bylaws have served RMVR well by promoting a non-political and cooperative atmosphere for members who volunteer their time to manage the club's activities. We believe that the current system has succeeded and requires no overhaul of the fundamental structure. We urge the membership to reject this proposal.

Bob Darcey, Board Member, 2003 President
Jim Bradley, 2005 President
Norm Petitt, Past President, 2004 President
Bill Fleming, 2002 President
Cindy Hegy, 2001 President
Scott Sanders, Board Member

RMVR ELECTRONIC BULLETIN BOARD

A Great Resource

There is a feature on www.RMVR.com which is undoubtedly underutilized by many of our members. Those you use the Bulletin Board regularly swear by it. **Check out the RMVR Bulletin Board!** This is a great way to communicate with fellow members, to post your own classified ads, to see what members are thinking, to ask questions, participate in surveys, or to get answers to your questions in a hurry!

Anyone can read and or post messages, ask questions, and or respond on any topic. There are various topics (called Forums, including one for classified ads) to help organize the information. It is a public discussion place that is completely user driven. Think of it as an on-going, on-line RMVR Feedback Session, bull session, and/or swap meet. What's not to like? Simply go to www.RMVR.com and click on the "Bulletin Board" navigation link at the top, then click "Go To The RMVR Bulletin Board." (Once there you should bookmark the Board to make it even easier to visit regularly in the future.) You can then click on any Forum to read the discussions on that subject. Within a Forum, you can start a new discussion by clicking on the "New Topic" link in the upper right hand corner. Within a discussion, you can add your own comments by clicking on the "Add Reply" link in the upper right hand corner. Once you've composed your post, click on the "Add Reply" link at the bottom of the compose screen. It's just that easy.

But please register! You can read and post without registering, but for more functionality, please register for an account. Be sure to write down your username and password for future reference. Registering doesn't cost anything, and your information is not shared with anyone. To register, just click the "Register your free account" link in the upper left hand corner. Once you're registered (and you only need to register once), then use the "Login" button using your new username and password. At the top you should then be recognized by your username and next time you revisit the Bulletin Board you should automatically be logged in.

Why register? Registered users can edit and delete their own posts. (Unregistered user can't) Posts by registered users are identified by name; if you post as a guest, no one knows who you are. But most useful, Registered users can "Mark Forums as read", and then next time you visit the Bulletin Board, items with new postings will be highlighted thus enabling you to see what's new since you last visited.

That's it. **Please visit regularly, participate, and enjoy. It's a great resource.**
