

RVAA Introduces New Election Format

RVAA's Board of Directors recently approved a new Election Procedure for the association which will be instituted in time for the 2009 association elections. The new format allows for members to place their name in nomination based on their qualifications and includes an online vote from the entire membership to determine the winners.

"This new procedure we think will help open the door for anyone interested in participating in the RVAA Board of Directors to have a fair opportunity to run for positions," commented RVAA President Piar Adams from Carefree of Colorado. "Throughout the association's forty year history, we think the process by which members were elected to the Board has always been difficult to really explain. It led to some members not knowing how they could become a member of the Board or offer their input."

The new system begins with a member sending RVAA headquarters a "Board Member Interest Form" during an **open nomination period from January 1 through May 31, 2009**. "Members can download the form from the internet site at www.rvaahq.com – it will be posted there as of January 1, 2009 when the nominating period begins," explained RVAA Executive Director Karl Etshied. "They need to list some basic information about themselves and their involvement with RVAA and the industry, and then just fax the form back to RVAA or email the information to me."

Following the May 31st deadline, the RVAA Nominating Committee reviews the forms to determine if the candidates meet primary qualifications for being placed into the online ballot. These primary qualifications are:

- (1) *The member must be an active paid member of RVAA for the previous three consecutive years; and*
- (2) *If the potential Board member has already served on the RVAA Board, they must have NOT been on the Board in at least two years.*

On July 1, 2009, a link will be placed at RVAA's RVAAHQ.com website which will lead members to an online voting ballot which they can use to select their candidates. Only the designated contact person for each member company will have the ability to vote during the RVAA election. The online election will be closed after two weeks and the results tabulated. The winners will be announced at the coming RVAA Executive Conference in St. Louis August 4-7, 2009.

"We expect this will show our membership that there is a clear path to holding a leadership position in RVAA," commented Adams. "It begins with work on the committees, and then through our election process, a seat on the RVAA Board. Those members who truly have an interest in helping to plot the future course of RVAA now can have a chance to do so if they are willing to show the commitment."

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