



NEWS FROM NATIONAL

FROM: Wynne Smith, Executive Director
 TO: BMW CCA National and Service Officers,
 Chapter Presidents, Newsletter Editors
 DATE: October 24, 2007

MEMBERSHIP STATS as of 10/24/2007

	<u>Full</u>	<u>Associate</u>	<u>Total</u>
Current Membership	66,496	9,808	76,304
Last Month's Membership	66,387	9,838	76,225
Monthly Net Gain (Loss)	109	-30	79
Monthly % Change	0.16%	-0.30%	0.10%
Last Year's Membership	66,177	9,781	75,958
Annual Net Gain (Loss)	319	27	346
Annual % Change	0.48%	0/28%	0.46%
2005's Membership	65,936	9,209	75,145
Net Gain (Loss) for 2 years	560	599	1,159
% Change for 2 years	0.85%	6.50%	1.54%
New Members 10/07	1,125		
Renewals 10/07	46.96%		
Roundels Mailed	67,300		

Positions available: [President](#) [Executive Vice President](#) [North Atlantic Regional V.P.](#)
[South Central Regional V.P.](#)

The BMW CCA National Board represents the BMW CCA membership and as a group is tasked with soliciting and employing up-to-date information and best business practices in carrying out their responsibilities with integrity, honesty, truthfulness and an adherence to the absolute obligation of safeguarding the members' trust. They make sense of new information about the club as it may affect the organization and demonstrate concern for the interests and well being of individuals affected by their actions.

Candidates must be nominated by a member who has been a member for at least six months prior (the nomination must include the BMW CCA membership number of the nominating person and the candidate's acceptance of the nomination should be countersigned on the same page (including the candidate's own membership number). Nominees for Regional Offices, and those nominating them, must reside and be a chapter member in the specific region. In order to run for election to the position of BMW CCA President, a member must first have served as a member of the BMW CCA Board of Directors in one of the other national officer positions.

Nominations should include a candidacy statement of **no more than 300 words** and an appropriate photograph of the candidate. Those wishing to help in refining the CCA's strategic framework: its values, vision, mission and broad goals; those wishing to help formulate and refine policies that govern our practices should send their nominations, acceptances, candidacy statements and photographs to be received at the National Office **before 5 PM EST October 31, 2007.**

TERM LIMITS FOR NATIONAL BOARD POSITIONS – Yes? No? Results are in!

1. Should National recruit more actively from its membership ranks to serve on the National Board? *90% said yes.* Quite impressive. Seems the National Board needs to look at recruitment, mentoring, and monitoring. A huge number of respondents demonstrated in their answers a serious lack of knowledge of how the Board operates, duties of the positions, pretty much anything and everything Board related. Whether passive or active, recruitment clearly needs to involve educating members as to what it is the Board does or is responsible for doing, and that the Board wants them to be involved.

2. What would cause you to become interested in running for a National or Chapter board position if you have never done so? A variety of reasons, most respondents citing why they haven't --reasons being 'perceived time and travel', lack of interest, not believing they have the skills, and again as in #1, not understanding what the positions entail.

3. Currently, the position of president of the national board is the only one that is term limited. Do you think the other positions should be term limited? *65% said YES, that's a huge majority.*

4. If you answered YES to term limits for other board positions, please tell us why: a total of 480 respondents, most answered with the same comments and observations.

Respondents want new blood, fresh outlook/ideas/faces, opportunity, decrease power of incumbency, a variety of leadership/style, simple change, they want to get rid of the status quo, '86' the good old boys, the perceived *Roundel* inner circle, some sense arrogance and complacency, they want chances for others to serve, keep focus, avoid corruption, entrenched ideas, energize, and much more of the same throughout. One complete answer is "Because certain people will dominate the political scene and hold office almost indefinitely. They may be good, but they get in the way of different ideas and improvement sometimes." This, and all the aforementioned phrases are in all answers in one way or another.

5. If you answered YES to question 3 --- What, if any, is the maximum time someone should be able serve continuously in one position? 499 answered this specifically, a few tossed since words and no number. Four years or less, **310**. For 5-6 years we have **124**. Those agreeing to 7 or more years, only **30** of 499. Several dozen added ideas for a break between continuous terms before being able to serve, whether in the same or different position. Here we have over 85% saying 6 years or less, with over 60% at four or less.

6. If you answered NO to term limits for other board positions, please tell us why. There are three clearly stated recurring themes as to why not. Of the 262 responses:

63 felt If/as long as someone is doing OK in their position, leave them there. All actually used that or a very similar phrase.

69 said 'no' because it is difficult to find others to run or volunteer.

64 replied 'no' because institutional memory/experience/continuity is important.

Another interesting part of these answers is that there is very little overlap. The rest of the answers are less clear in their support of these three reasons, but were still very close.

7. A recent survey had a few comments centering on people not running because of a perception that things are run by a small group of insiders. What are your thoughts on this concern? Agree or disagree, and why? 703 answers. Most agree and a few even named individuals. Some disagree, many don't care, a few think that having a group of insiders run the organization is a good idea, and a few just thought it a stupid question. Of the most serious responses, there was also some feeling that things won't change. Others added again that term limits should help this, or at least the perception that exists. Just reading them gives a clear flavor of what respondents think. Oddly enough, this answer had the most written responses of any, some several paragraphs, and some basing their answer on their own chapter experiences.

All in all I believe the Board's mandate is clear – and this will be a topic of discussion at this weekend's meeting in Greenville.

You can view the survey and all the responses by visiting:

http://www.surveymonkey.com/sr.aspx?sm=S60mSXIJ125SVb9j1Nnxclzo0_2bvrUGxkIXLq5qXxOI_3d

SEARCH FOR THE NEW E.D. OF BMW CCA

The National Board has formed a search committee comprising Scott Blazey, Paul Dunlevy and Bruce Hazard and has hired an Executive Search firm. For anyone interested in applying for the position of E.D., the job description and details of how to apply can be viewed by visiting:

<http://asi.careerhq.org/jobdetail.cfm?job=2655705&keywords=&ref=1>

PERSONNEL CHANGES AND DAY -TO-DAY OPS DURING THE TRANSITION

Jennifer Skatzes has given notice and will be leaving October 26, 2007. She has no immediate plans, but intends, as she indicated to me last spring, on going back to school in January. We have hired an excellent candidate named Heather Tollison, who will begin work Friday, October 26th.

During the transition please be sure to send your expense reports directly to Peggy Helmke. Event rebate requests, and other chapter related documentation is to go directly to Peggy until further notice. Jeff Petzel will be updating the links on the website so electronic copies will be directed to Peggy. Peggy for all intents and purposes should be viewed as your "go-to" person at National and will serve as Office Manager until the new E.D. is in place. Please keep in mind there is only one of her, and she already has a fulltime job as staff accountant, so calling her to have her walk over to the fax to see if your expense report has arrived is probably not a good use of her time.

The business management of *Roundel* will be ably handled by Phil Marx, Managing Editor. Phil will be dealing with the various postal requirements, will be primary liaison to our service team at Publisher's Press, will be responsible for review and approval of the invoices from Publisher's as well as dealing with the day-to-day issues related to advertising. Phil can be reached at pmarx@roundel.org.

Bill Wade has graciously agreed to handle the negotiation of the Motorsport Liability coverage with Wisenberg/Accordia (which will take place in mid-January). Bill has developed a very good working relationship with our Risk Manager, and Bill has done a good amount of research into our coverage in his position as DEC Chair.

Linda Axelson will be handling anything and everything to do with Meetings and Events. She has Oktoberfest 2008 well in hand, has delved into the Newsletter Editor/Webmaster Conference and will serve as primary support to the Board and its various committees.

Tricia Jones will be the primary point of contact for chapters and will continue to oversee the monthly close and all tasks related to the close. Tricia is handling the membership reward approvals as well as ad revenues from Roundel and list rentals.

Tricia Williams will continue to support Peggy with accounting functions, as well as being the administrative staff for Club Racing.

Steven Schlossman will continue to work closely with Linda Axelson and Tricia Jones on meeting related tasks and chapter related issues. Steven will now be logging and maintaining the newsletter logs. He is now the moderator of the various chapter officer digests with the exception of the DEC-digest, that's moderated by DEC Chair, Bill Wade.

Jeff Petzel will continue to report directly to Bill Howard in Jeff's capacity as Webmaster, and will continue to work with the staff on database/IT related matters.

Needless to say, once your new E.D. is in place, some or all of this will change, but for the time being I believe you will find everyone is more than capable of handling any additional responsibilities assigned.

In the meantime, please know that I am happy to help you and will be available to answer questions or assist with specific issues as they arise. I leave wishing the club much success, and hoping you all know what a distinct honor and pleasure it has been to work with you all of these years. Thank you, each and every one! After Thursday, November 1 - I can be reached at wynne_b_smith@yahoo.com

NEWSLETTER/WEBMASTER CONFERENCE APRIL 11 – 13, 2008

Our Manager/National Events – Linda Axelson is busy at work pulling together another outstanding chapter congress. Two very lucky chapter representatives will be traveling to **Salt Lake City, UT** for this opportunity to learn and network with other Chapter volunteers April 11-13, 2008.

BMW CCA will reimburse travel expenses as set forth in Section IV of the club's Operation Manual (pages 1 and 2) for up to *two* representatives per chapter, **being those persons serving as the Chapter Newsletter Editor, and the Chapter Webmaster** and hotel room costs (single or double) for two nights. Attendees who drive to the conference will be reimbursed at a rate of \$.485 per mile round trip, not to exceed the lowest 21-day advance airfare, from the closest airport. **National will provide lunch on Saturday and dinner Saturday evening.** Chapters may certainly elect to send additional attendees at the chapter's cost – be sure to register and we'll sort the finances out afterward.

Registration will begin in January, 2008.

No need to call the hotel - rooms will be reserved in your names based on the registrations.

*The National Office will be closed Monday,
November 12, 2007 for Veterans' Day
and Thursday and Friday, November 22 and 23 for
Thanksgiving*

*And as always, best regards-
Wynne*