

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ERA NATIONAL BOARD OF ADVISORS
Friday, May 20, 200, in Room 301 of the Convention Center in Atlantic City, New Jersey

The ERA Business Meeting began at 9:05 AM. In attendance were: Ronnie Charnes, Hank Henke, Kenny Turner, Alan Melton, Mike Schroeder, Bob Wagner, Dennis Jacinto, Wes Grueninger, Dick Vensel, Scott Fureman, Dan Smith, Mark Hoogterp, Tom Burns, Tom Lubrano, Jody Nava, AJ Campbell, Larry Hagemeister, Robert Diamond, Fraser Cox, Bill Meyer, Jim Talsma, Tom Reusser and Bob Thomas.

Mike Schroeder opened the meeting by welcoming Tom Lubrano to the advisory board. He then thanked Mark Hoogterp and Bob Wagner who had previously served as regional vice-presidents, and presented them with certificates of appreciation. He also acknowledged Jim Thomas and Polly Shea, who had served at regional vice-president and national vice-president respectively. Since neither attended the meeting, both were presented certificates at the show. Dick Vensel was acknowledged for the time he spent as technical education director, and for the contributions he has made to both the tech ed and publications programs.

Alan Melton then presented the nominating committee's recommendations for officers for the 2005 – 2007 term. They were as follows:

President – Mike Schroeder
National Vice-President – Dan Smith
Secretary – Bob Thomas
South East Vice-President – Jody Nava
South Central Vice-President – Alan "AJ" Campbell
North Central Vice-President – Hank Henke

In addition, the following nomination was made to fill an unexpired term through 2006:

North East Vice-President – Scott Fureman

Alan then called for nominations from the floor. None were made. The slate was approved by acclamation.

Dan Smith presented the treasurer's report in the absence of Chris Thompson, who was ill. Dan reported the association was in sound financial condition. Current balance is \$47,125.42, with \$45,022.85 in the general fund and \$2,102.57 in the training fund. Dan explained that although the training fund may appear somewhat depleted, it is in sound shape. The seminar costs have been spread out evenly over the year, yet the vast majority of the events will be in the fall and early winter. Using conservative estimates for attendance, the training fund should return to around \$16,000 in reserve by the end of the year.

Membership Director Bill Meyer presented the membership report. He reported the association currently has 378 rebuilder members and 89 supplier members. This is a net gain of 84 members over May 2004. He also reported that the membership drive last fall resulted in 65 new members.

Mike Schroeder added that a continuing problem has been a few businesses who supply parts to rebuilders and run rebuilding departments too. Some of them have been joining the association as rebuilder members. He read the following definition that has been adopted to solve the problem: "Any business that advertises and sells parts to rebuilders will be considered a supplier by the association."

Wes Grueninger presented the website report. He noted website usage has increased every month since it went online.

236 members have signed up for the forums.

The forums receive 65-70 unique visitors each day. This is up from the 50 I reported at our last meeting in Atlantic City.

4000+ messages have been posted in the first year of operation.

He described the new Online Sources Guide that became operational over the show weekend, and explained how the banner advertising will be given to website sponsors.

Mike Schroeder talked briefly about the Tech Ed Seminars, and said all three of the new classes have been well received. He said close to 80 attended the seminars at the show.

Dick Vensel gave a brief description of the latest ERA book, which is nearing completion. Dennis Jacinto indicated he felt this book, tentatively called a "Counterman's Guide" would be a good seller. It is more of an installer's guide, and many rebuilders may be able to sell these to their customers.

The 2006 show was on the agenda but not discussed.

The meeting concluded at 10:35 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bob Thomas
Secretary