

TMRR Life Membership Policy

July 31, 2013

After careful and very difficult deliberations which included input from several current members, the TMRR Board of Directors has adopted the following position on Life Memberships.

Past:

During the time that Quentin and Sharon ran Train Mountain they awarded several life memberships. These memberships fell into two categories. They awarded life memberships to friends and family members who helped found and run Train Mountain. This is a very common practice in our type of organization. For example, the founding members of Kitsap Live Steamers were made life members of that organization by its board.

The second type of life memberships were awarded for outstanding volunteer service to Train Mountain. If you read the list of the members that have this type of membership, we think you would agree that most are well deserved. There is a problem in that only one individual was making the choice of who got this award, not a board. There were several other volunteers who were probably just as deserving but they did not receive the same honor.

Present:

The TMRR Board of Directors has decided to recognize all the life memberships that were previously awarded. Once given, we do not think this should be taken away. Although we will recognize these memberships, we will limit the benefits of these memberships to the waiving of dues and regular meet fees only. All other fees or charges (including any and all Triennial fees) will apply the same as any other type of membership.

Future:

The TMRR Board of Directors will not be giving out any life memberships to the founders of the new Train Mountain and presently do not plan on awarding life memberships for outstanding volunteer service. We will not attempt to correct what others may feel are past wrongs. We feel that there are more appropriate ways of recognizing outstanding volunteer service. We do not plan on abolishing the practice of awarding of life memberships but we do not plan to award any in the foreseeable future.