

Rolls-Royce Owners' Club Biographies of Candidates Nominated ——for the—— Board of Directors 2024

- James Coats -

What is the future for RROC, and how can we ensure that it thrives for another 70+ years? I would be honored to work with our Board, our Executive Director, and most importantly, you, as we work together to answer that question. I've been a collector since age 16, when I founded Coats Classic Cars, which for 25 years has taken our hobby to the masses by chauffeuring some 3,000 weddings & events, two foreign Ambassadors, dozens of TV & film projects, and more. I bought my first Rolls-Royce at 29, a Freestone Silver Wraith. She now shares the garage with several siblings, all of which we maintain in-house. I've been an RROC, RRF, and Southeast region member for 12 years. I serve as president of ALWEP, a nonprofit for wedding & event professionals, and past Vice-President of Alabama ATOS, another nonprofit, dedicated to historic preservation. I have judged for RROC, AACA, and most recently was a team captain at Gettysburg. Our club is both a wonderful society, united in camaraderie by a common passion, and an invaluable resource of information -- and I hope that together, we can foster an environment where both facets thrive for years to come.



- David Corbett -



Even as an 8 year old, I was entranced by Rolls-Royce, starting with Matchbox at 1:43 scale. I'd like to extend that energy and passion to the RROC, serving on your Board of Directors. I've attended National Meets at Lake George, Charleston, San Diego, and Gettysburg and many Region events around the country. I'm a Life Member of the RRF. Contributor to the Flying Lady magazine. Member of Atlantic, Keystone, Florida, and Iroquois Region (Chairman). Editor of the Florida Lady. Member of Goshawk, Early Post War and Modern Car Society (Vice Chairman). My former and current PMCs include '66 and '67 Shadow, '35 20/25, '52 Mark VI, and '89 Turbo R.

Our common interests are the Rolls-Royce and Bentley marques. However, it's the camaraderie and friendships which bind us together. I will be honored to serve the membership, working with colleagues as demographics and technologies change over time, knowing that today's 8 year olds are the future stewards of our Club.

- Gil Fuqua-

I joined the RROC while in college and have grown up with the Club. I bought my first Rolls-Royce while in college, and now enjoy driving and maintaining my Silver Ghosts, 20/25s and a Silver Cloud. I am a Life Member of the RROC and the Rolls-Royce Foundation. I've been engaged in the Club across a wide variety of areas, from participating in and organizing Tours, Technical Seminars and National Meets, to serving in a number of leadership roles, including the Club's President. I currently serve as the Chair of the Long-Range Planning Committee, a member of the Finance Committee and Judging Team Captain for Silver Ghosts. My interest in serving on the Board is to leverage my extensive knowledge of the Club's operations, finances and corporate governance to enhance member support and member benefits, continue investing in The Flying Lady magazine, and expand the Club's technical information about Rolls-Royce and Bentley cars. I ask for your vote so I may continue to represent you as a director of the RROC and continue to focus our Club's resources on expanding member services and benefits.



- Martin Leavitt -



Being nominated for the Board has caused Janice and I to reflect on what RROC means to us. The Club is more than a source of technical information about the restoration and preservation of our cars; it's the place where we have met legions of wonderful people and formed enduring friendships that we treasure.

We own and enjoy pre-war, post-war, and modern cars and have attended more than a dozen annual meets and countless regional tours. We participated in a multi-year restoration of a 1935 Phantom II Vanden Plas drophead, and now I am restoring a 1948 Bentley Mark VI James Young Coupe.

Serving the Club has been one of my greatest pleasures. I have contributed in a variety of ways, ranging from national board membership to co-hosting the 1990 Annual Meet to hosting regional events and tours. I have been on my region's Board for more than 20 years and served as its chairman. I am proud to have been the recipient of the RROC's President's Award.

I currently work behind the scenes as chairman of the RROC's Legal Committee. I believe I can productively contribute towards the Club's future success while maintaining its traditional values and enhancing and growing membership value.

-Brian McLean -

I have loved automobiles since as far back as I can remember, and driving is one of my favorite past times. I acquired my first PMC about a decade ago and promptly joined the RROC. A wonderfully supportive cast of local folks helped me maintain, improve, and best of all - get out with my PMC. I've been a member of my local regional board for many years now helping plan activities, outings, and keep the club moving along. Car culture in general is undergoing a monumental shift as demographics change, and keeping the RROC relevant and vibrant is something that I would dearly like to be a part of. Helping local chapters take advantage of National resources more efficiently, communicate more often and effectively, and foster a more active culture are all pursuits that are top of mind for me.



- Michael Serpe -



I'm honored to be nominated to serve our community and represent our members. Since joining the club I have worked towards promoting shared technical knowledge with the goal of empowering our members. I have done this by teaching seminars, writing for Flying Lady and regionals, leading rallies, & organizing/judging concours. My inspirations for helping the community focus on moving RROC towards fiscal sustainability, a younger audiences to get involved, promotion & organization of driving adventures. Inspired by our founding core principles, I realize that RROC was designed to empower working class people to gain the resources to enjoy these motorcars, drive them, and afford to preserve them. It has been my goal to remove stigmas and misconceptions associated with Rolls-Royce & Bentley which may keep enthusiasts from the community.

I've received the Frank Cooke Award, served on the Tech Committee, as Concours Team Captain, and as VP of Concours for the Atlantic Region. I bring decades of experience with many car clubs and communities. In 1998 I founded Clubgwagen

which has evolved into the world's largest Mercedes off-road vehicle club with over 10,000 members. I truly believe that RROC is a unique 501(c)(7) member serving club but has even greater potential! My experience on many non-profit BODs can be leveraged.. If elected, I pledge to bring transparency and joy back into our club. I encourage members to reach out to me at any time. More background at linkedin.com/in/mikeserpe. Thank you!

- Marilyn Turner -

My involvement in the RROC began at the age of sixteen at the National Meet in Dearborn, Michigan. As part of the Upper Canada Region, my family attended events in my parents Phantom III and Silver Wraith. Over the years I have served as the Region Activity Chair, Co-Chairperson and Membership Chair, planning Fall Runs, Award Banquets and AGM's. In 2007 my husband Gary and I began our first foray into PMC ownership buying a 1972 Silver Shadow. Together we have attended numerous National Meets, most recently Seven Springs, Asheville, French Lick, Lake Tahoe, Detroit, San Diego and Gettysburg and look forward each year to meeting new RROC members and reconnecting with good friends. I currently serve as the RROC Vice President, Membership Chair, Youth Judging coordinator and share Awards duties with my husband. I would appreciate your support as I continue to focus on membership retention and growth, expanding youth involvement, recognizing the changing needs of the Club while striving to provide the most positive experience for our members.

