

ONE MEMBER = ONE VOTE GSMOL

By: Lloyd Rochambeau

The current issue of the GSMOL Californian magazine presents the voting to either change from the Delegate system to a one member/one vote system. There are five pages of By Law changes necessary to effect this change, but the key is Section 2.16 for one vote per member. The rest of the By Law amendments deal with related items in the By Laws that are necessary to make the change.

I served on the special committee that was charged with the task of how to make the changeover and whether we supported such a change. After about six months, the majority of the committee recommended the change.

GSMOL leaders such as Len Carlson, John Bertaut, Jerry Jackson , Bob Markley and Wallace Emory were solidly in favor the change, as are many others.

I myself, have been a mobile home dweller for 30 years. I was one of the early promoters of the resident's purchase of Rancho Carlsbad in the late 90's and served on the founding Owner's Board of Directors. I have been President of the Lakeview Mobile Estates HOA for four years and President of the San Marcos Mobilehome Residents Association for the past two years. I attended the GSMOL Convention in Costa Mesa last year where this changeover was requested. I was immediately swayed to the idea when I realized that I had no vote and was considered as just an Observer. GSMOL has some 11,000 dues paying members, with about 300 Delegates. Only 78 of these delegates attended the Convention and were the voting participants, with us Observers sitting in the wings with no voice in the election of officers or vote on the by-laws.

I know the Delegate system has been in existence for many years. But that does not mean it is effective in the growth (or in the loss of membership from the good old days). Doing the same thing and failing over and over is insanity. If there are 300 or so Delegates, there are probably about 300 NO votes on the changeover. Why would they give up their privilege and honors?

I am urging all GSMOL member to vote YES for the One Member/One Vote system and give GSMOL a chance to grow and not wither on the vine. Don't delay, there is a deadline for mailing your ballot