

QUARTZITE

Quartz Creek Property Owners Association, Inc. Post Office Box 39, Pitkin, Colorado 81241 Web site: http://www.pitkincolorado.com/QCPOA/index.htm

Volume XXXV Number 2

May 2013

President's Corner

Normally I use this space to update you on what was accomplished on the mountain during the past summer. This year I will forgo that tradition (you can read what was accomplished by the Roads Committee and the Water & Springs Committee elsewhere in this newsletter). I want to talk instead about why the Board of Directors is supporting a dues increase that would go into effect for 2014.

Our owners that are able to visit the mountain on a regular basis have been able to see first hand all of the changes that have taken place the past few years. Several of the major use roads have been widened and improved for owner safety, emergency vehicle access, and for wildfire safety. Water rights have been preserved in water court by doing the infrastructure work required to transfer our rights from conditional to absolute and by enlarging the pond to hold the required amount of water. Springs and water loading stations have been improved. A new water source was added for the use of all members at the Gilmore Spring. Matching grant funds have been secured from the Colorado State Forest Service that has allowed almost 70 acres of owner's land to be thinned or defensible space to be created around cabins. The Association has purchased a property on the mountain that has been cleared and thinned of trees with volunteer member labor. This property will serve as a location to dispose of the numerous piles of stumps along Fossil View and Highline left from road widening projects.

This is just a partial list of the many projects accomplished over the past few years that have helped to make our mountain community a safer and more attractive place to live. However, our work continues.

There are many projects still to tackle. The stump piles along Highline and Fossil View Roads need to be loaded and trucked to the new Association property for disposal. A few springs

still have conditional water rights and are scheduled for water court review. We have 52 miles of Association roads and thus far have worked mostly on improving some of the major "public access" roads. More miles of our major roads need attention. We have access to free mine tailings to use as road base material, but we need money to cover the trucking costs and many miles of our roads could benefit from road base. Wildfire risk continues to increase across the western US and we need to take advantage of state and federal grant money for tree thinning, tree removal along roads, and defensible space creation while the money is still available. Every year we fund our pond reserve account with \$5000, looking ahead to the day when the pond will need to be dredged again. At the request of the local fire departments we need to begin a multi-year project to upgrade and standardize our road signage throughout the mountain.

Our budget is very limited in comparison to the work that is needed. This summer's budget is very tight. We are postponing the scheduled widening project along the last mile of Fossil View. The roadside trees were cut last fall using matching grant money, but we need to delay the widening until 2014 due to lack of funds. Money for work on our springs will also be limited for 2013. We will not be stocking the pond with fish this summer. The Board is appealing to owners for donations for this summer to help ease our budget restraints.

Annual Meeting of QCPOA

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To the members of Quartz Creek Property Owners Association, a Colorado corporation:

This is notice that the annual meeting of the members of the corporation will be held on Saturday July 6th, from noon to 2:00 p.m. at the Newcomb Community Center, 801 State Street, Pitkin, Colorado, to elect directors to hold office until a successor has been elected and qualified and to take action with respect to other matters that may properly come before the meeting.

Only members of record with all dues, fees, and special assessments paid in full as of the commence-ment of the meeting will be entitled to vote at the meeting and any adjournment of the meeting.



For all of these reasons, the Board carefully considered proposing a dues increase effective for 2014. The current dues are \$140 per year and the proposal is a \$30 increase to \$170 per property per year. The last dues increase was approved in 2010, effective 2011.

Our hope is that you will consider the work the Board has accomplished and what still needs to be done and will decide to support the proposed dues increase beginning in 2014.

Thank you!

Terry Davis President QCPOA QCPOA@comcast.net

2012/2013 Board Members

Terry Davis, President QCPOA@comcast.net Spencer Nicholl, Vice President, Fire Protection and Security Chair

Spencer.nicholl@bighornministries.org

Lucinda Lull, Treasurer MayorKC@aol.com

Kitty Councilman, Secretary* bruceandkitty@hotmail.com bruceandkitty@hotmail.com Bruce Councilman, Roads Chair

rgkjblue@gmail.com Ron Blue, Water & Springs Chair

Matt Gilbreth, Architectural/Pre-Construction Chair

mgilbreth@arborcarpet.com

*Kitty Councilman has been appointed by the board to replace Gary Bandy for the remainder of his term as he has stepped down from the board for personal

Quartzite, Editor/Publisher, Nancy Hand QuartziteQCP@aol.com Cattle Chair, Bruce Rea

QCPOA Web site: http://www.pitkincolorado.com/QCPOA/index.htm *****************

Tetter From The Editor

As you may have noticed, you are receiving the Spring/ Summer Quartzite early this year. Some of the summer residents have not been receiving their Quartzite at their home address before leaving for their summer residence on "the mountain" so the Spring/Summer editions of the Quartzite will be mailed mid-May from now on. Because of this earlier mailing, you will no longer receive a duplicate copy of the Quartzite mailed to your summer address.

If you did not receive an email notice from me about the Winter/Spring edition, please provide me with your email address so that I can update my files. The Winter/Spring edition is an online only edition and can be viewed at the QCPOA Web site.

ADDITIONALY, IF YOU HAVE ANY CHANGES IN MAILING ADDRESS, EMAIL ADDRESS OR PROPER-TY OWNERSHIP, PLEASE NOTIFY NANCY HAND AT QUARTZITEQCP@AOL.COM OR ANY BOARD MEMBER AND PROVIDE YOUR NAME, THE **CLAIM NAME AND ANY CHANGES.**

You may also want to join us on Facebook at the group OCPOA Pitkin Colorado as the best way to keep up-to-date on all things related to QCP.

Thank you, Nancy Hand Editor/Publisher, Quartzite

Fire and Safety Report Wild Fire Risk in GCP By Terry Davis

2012 proved to be devastating wildfire season for Colorado, as well as most of the western US states. In fact, 2012 was the worst fire season in a decade, with one fire still burning in Rocky Mountain National Park on the last day of December.

In all, across the West, more than a dozen lives were lost, 2,700 homes were destroyed, and more than 9.2 million acres were burned. The 8 million-acre burn level has been surpassed six times over the past decade. In the prior decade, between 1992 and 2001, there was only one year in which more than 7 million acres burned. This reflects long-term conditions and trends.

In Quartz Creek, we are doing everything we can to encourage our owners to create defensible spaces on their properties and to encourage thinning and wildfire mitigation. In addition, the Association is working diligently, within our limited budget, to do thinning along our roadsides and to widen our major roads. Only widened roads with roadside thinning will permit safe access for emergency response vehicles and personnel, while at the same time allowing our owners to escape the mountain in the event of a wildfire.

Please support our efforts by being patient with our ongoing roadwork and making any donation you can afford to our road fund.



Thimney Fire Dangers!! Help Us Prevent A Wildfire in QTP

A chimney fire in the wood stove flue in your cabin could be disastrous. In a chimney fire, the creosote buildup in the flue catches fire and burns extremely hot, often with flames shooting several feet out of the top of the flue and sparks rolling down the roof. A chimney fire could burn down your cabin and could easily start a wildfire.

Many of us have not cleaned our stove flues on a regular basis. It can be done by the owner, but is difficult and sometimes dangerous work that requires some specialized tools. A proper cleaning is best done by a certified professional.

Owner Rick Coffman has experienced two chimney fires at his winter home where he burns a lot of firewood. Having experienced this twice, along with the volunteer fire department responding with five vehicles, Rick is concerned about what a chimney fire could do on the mountain.

Rick has volunteered to organize a list of owners wishing to have their flues cleaned and has researched "chimney sweeps" in the Gunnison area. Mountain Fireplace Specialists out of Gunnison normally charge \$199 for a flue cleaning in the Pitkin area. However, if we can arrange a minimum of five cleanings a day, the cost is reduced to \$179. If you pay cash at the time of cleaning, the cost is further reduced to \$139.

This service includes:

- A sweep of the venting system servicing the appliance
- A level 1 inspection (As outlined by the National Fire Protection Association)
- A Combustion chamber cleanout
- A general hearth area cleaning

\$139 is a small price to pay to protect your cabin and to possibly prevent a forest fire. If you are interested in having your flue cleaned this summer, please email Rick at skeleton567@gmail.com with your name, your location on the mountain, and when you would be on the mountain.

Roads Report

By Bruce Touncilman

The following Roads Report is reprinted from the Winter/Spring Quartzite along with additional information from Bruce on plans for 2013:

2012 was a busy year for road work and fire mitigation. First of all, I want to thank the many volunteers and Board members who provided assistance with everything from tree cutting and chipping on our newly acquired Paleozoic 5 property to installing railroad ties at the concrete grates on Grasshopper and Chicago Park roads and installing signs at various locations.

Accomplishments for 2012 included:

- Completed widening and raising road bed of North Pond Road from the pond in Armstrong Gulch to its intersection with Hall's Gulch Road. Also added a culvert in the low spot just beyond the Porpenn Road intersection.
- Graded Chicago Park and Grasshopper roads from entry to the 4-way intersection located near the top of Chicago Park.
- Graded approximately a half mile of upper Highline Drive from Terrible Mountain Road towards Halls Gulch Road.
- Corrected grade at water bars along Highline Drive.
- Completed final grading and added water bars along newly widened portion of Fossil View Drive from Highline Drive intersection to Silver Bluff Trail intersection.
- Widened and added road base material on Grasshopper Road from Gilmore Spring up to the 4-way intersection.
- Completed the addition of road base material along all of Highline Drive.
- Began fire mitigation/tree thinning along the last mile of
 Fossil View Drive from the Silver Bluff Trail intersection
 to the QCP boundary just beyond the Royal Road intersection. This project also includes clear cutting of trees in



preparation of future widening of that portion of road.

- With the help of many volunteers, we thinned trees and clear-cut on most of the Association owned Paleozoic 5 property. We also added a driveway on Fossil View Drive to access the property. Thanks to all the volunteers who helped with this project over several work days!
- Again, with the help of many volunteers we were able to install rail road ties at the 2 concrete grates located on Grasshopper and Chicago Park Roads. This will allow track vehicles to travel over the grates without damaging them.
- More thanks to our volunteers for helping with the installation of our new community bulletin board and several additional signs at the dumpsters, at the blind curve on CP Road near the Pitkin Cemetery, and at some of our springs.

Plans for the 2013 season include beginning to install standardized road signs that will conform to emergency services requirements. This initial phase will include signage on Chicago Park, Grasshopper, and Highline roads. We hope to also spread road base (mine tailings) on the newly completed North Pond Road as well as the completed portion of Fossil View Drive. Other projects include completion of tree cutting on the second half of Fossil View Drive and touch-up grading on our main roads.

I look forward to working together with all of our members to continue improving the safety and enjoyment of our "mountain" and I invite any of our property owners to contact me with any of your concerns and ideas.

Springs Report-Ron Blue

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The following Springs Report is reprinted from the Winter/Spring Quartzite:

Not much is planned for spring work this year.

With the upgrade to the delivery station at Armstrong spring, the State has restored the absolute rights to approximately 2.0 cubic feet per second. This is enough water to serve a community of 1,000 people with 650 gallons a day each. The fire hy-

drant was a convenient way to provide the delivery capacity required.

PROPOSED BY-LAW CHANGE

Article VII, Section 1 states that:

The Association shall hold at least one meeting per year, which shall be held on the nearest Saturday to July 4th of each year.

Most years the Saturday nearest to July 4th is also the Pitkin Firemen's Day events. Since this involves several activities including a parade and dinner, it is often difficult for QCPOA to schedule our meeting at the Newcomb Community Center without conflicting with those Firemen's Day activities. The Board of Director's proposes the following change to the wording of the bylaws to allow more flexibility in our annual meeting date:

The Association shall hold at least one meeting per year, which shall be held within a 7-day period before, after, or on July 4th, whenever possible, to avoid conflicts with local events.

UNPERMITTED LIVING STRUCTURES IN QCP

The Board of Directors asks all owners to be aware of our Association Polices and our Architectural Guidelines. These are available on our website.

In the past it was not uncommon for an owner to build an unpermitted structure and use it as a living structure. Often these were 10' X 12' (or larger) structures built as "storage buildings".

Please be aware that this use is NOT permitted by Gunnison County. It is and has been an illegal living structure. The county is now enforcing this regulation and the penalties can be stiff.

The Association has not, and is not, condoning this practice. Every owner is required to abide by all Gunnison County building codes and regulations.

The following paragraphs are from the Architectural Guidelines. The complete text can be found on the Association website at: http://www.pitkincolorado.com/QCPOA/index.htm

Gunnison County does not allow unpermitted living structures,



including the use of "Ten by Twelves" as residential units. Please be advised that the county may enforce penalties for such use and QCPOA advises all owners to avoid this practice. The only structure not requiring a county permit is a 120 square foot (or smaller) single story structure used ONLY for storage.

All permanent structures built after July 8, 2012 and used for a living structure will be subject to the QCPOA Impact Fee regardless of permit status.

Dues Payment Verification System

Association dues were due March 15th. To be sure that we have received and recorded your payment, please check the Association Web site for a list of all properties that have not paid dues as of May 1st. Any property still delinquent on June 15th will face lien filings and the additional associated costs. PLEASE let us know immediately if you believe your dues have been paid but your property appears on the list. The website is:

http://www.pitkincolorado.com/QCPOA/index.htm

SNOWPACK UPDATE

from Terry Davis on the QCPOA Facebook page

As of April 24, the snowpack levels for the Gunnison Basin have continued to improve dramatically as April has been a heavy snowfall month across most of Colorado. The Gunnison Basin is at 83% of average; 89% of normal; and 237% of last year at this time. Driving access to the mountain will be much later this year as cool weather is delaying the snow melt. The upper mountain areas may not be accessible by Memorial Day weekend.

In Momorium A Tribute by Sue Rogers

Thomas S. Gilmore, 94, passed away on January 20, 2013. Nearly 3 months later on Tuesday, April 16, 2013 Frances L. Mikulenka Gilmore, 90, passed away. The couple had celebrated their 72nd Wedding Anniversary on December 28 with their family in attendance at their home west of Three Rivers.

Thomas was born to Tom and Mollie E. (Steele) Gilmore Sr. on November 2, 1918 in Waxihatchie, TX. The family moved to farm property west of Three Rivers, TX when Thomas was 9 years old. Thomas graduated from Three Rivers High School and began his own trucking company. Up to that time, he had helped his parents develop and operate a dairy farm.

Frances was born to Rudolph and Leona (Plummer) Mikulenka in Galveston, TX on May 12, 1922. She was raised in Hobson, TX and graduated from Karnes City High School. After graduation, Frances worked at the San Antonio State Hospital on South Pressa until she met Thomas Gilmore on a blind date; they were married on December 28, 1940 and came to live with Thomas' parents. Frances quickly adapted her life to complete devotion to Thomas and his family dairy business. When the depression hit and milk went to 25 cents a quart delivered, Tom Sr. decided to close down his dairy and go to work at the glass factory. Thomas Jr. worked in the oil fields, then began his own trucking company. He and Frances later developed a harvesting business, Texas Harvesters, which they worked until retirement. At the peak of their career, their combines cut 103 train cars of maize in one day for John Abott, a farmer in Harlingen, TX.

Thomas and Frances are survived by their four daughters, Ann, Peggy, Sue, and Ellen, plus 12 grandchildren, 27 great-grandchildren, and one great-great grandchild. Thomas was preceded in death by his parents, a brother and a sister. Frances was preceded in death by her husband Thomas Steele Gilmore, Jr., her parents, two brothers and two sisters.



Frances and Thomas were blessed with four daughters: Beverly Ann born in 1942, Barbara Jean (Peggy) in 1943, Carole Sue in 1944, and Doris Ellen in 1945. Frances not only took care of their daughters and home, but also often worked side-by-side with her husband for the next 70 years. When the girls were older, Frances worked full time with Thomas in their Gilmore Harvesting Business.

Thomas and Frances purchased property on the Nueces River after Lake Mathis became Lake Corpus Christi, and began building a lovely home there at Shady Grove. After the girls left for college, the couple moved to that home full time. When they finally retired from harvesting, they became "winter Texans", traveling to Pitkin, CO where they purchased a cabin in the early 70's.

Thomas quickly found that there would be no retirement for his skills; he moved large equipment to Pitkin from South Texas to help develop cabin sites, septic systems, water springs, and mountain roads for him and Frances, and for others who wanted to build cabins in and around Pitkin. Frances was soon recognized by new "mountain" friends as the gracious hostess she had always been in South Texas.

As people arrived to their properties in the mountains for the spring/summer, often their first stop was to the Gilmores, where, over a hot cup of coffee and fresh cake, they would discuss their dreams with Tom and Frances, who would then help them with the needed cabin pad, septic system, and roads into their properties. For over 10 years, Tom repaired and built roads on the Quartz Creek mountains every spring after run-off was over and many roads had become impassable. Frances followed behind his machinery on foot with hand tools, removing large rocks, raking and smoothing the roads. They loved the outdoors and enjoyed working them as a team.

Tom and Frances purchased the remaining unsold smaller parcels of Quartz Creek Properties from Luke Anthony in the mid-80's when he was ready to go on to another development. They then sold these parcels in the years to follow.

The Gilmores were instrumental in developing several of the springs on the mountain for water usage.*

In later years, Thomas and Frances moved back to the Gilmore Homestead near Three Rivers, where they continued their "Winter Texan" status until three years ago when health issues caused them to settle on the home place and not travel to Colorado. In the past few years, they have had loving family surrounding them. The family will continue to enjoy the heritage of the home place near Three Rivers and Silver Link above Pitkin for years to come. They are extremely proud of and grateful for the pioneering spirit of their parents, Thomas and Frances Gilmore.

*The private spring on upper Grasshopper was renamed Gilmore Spring in honor of Tom and Frances who transferred the water rights to the spring to QCP several years ago.

A Memorial Celebration for Tom and Frances Gilmore will be held at Silver Link, Quartz Creek Properties on July 5th at 2:00 p.m. by their daughters Sue Rogers, Ellen Bystron, Ann Rizer, Peggy Wireman and their families. Enter QCP on Chicago Park Road and go past the main rock gate, take the first turn to the left, drive up around the curve past Blackwelder's and one other cabin to Silver Link. Markers will be placed for people to find the way.



WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Dear QCP property owners,

The Quartz Creek Property Owners Association (QCPOA) relies heavily on volunteer labor. The seven member Board of Directors as well as non-board member committee chairpersons, all work on a volunteer basis, donating their time for no payment. In addition, every year we have numerous members that devote many hours of their time helping with various projects for our mountain community.

As an example, this past summer, the Association acquired a small property that will eventually be used as a deposit area for the many piles of stumps that are currently piled along our roads, left over from road improvement projects. To make this property serve our intended purpose, it needed to be largely cleared of trees. To make this a reality, we had over 30 property owners who donated a total of 365 hours of labor over several workdays. This saved the Association several thousand dollars in labor costs.

Additionally in 2012, we had many other owners donate their time in various tasks including erecting new signage, working on our springs, marking trees for thinning, pitching rocks off the roads, maintaining our Association website, and other Association tasks.

Your volunteer officers, volunteer committee chairs, and volunteer owners work largely unobserved by our 400 strong band of members. These are the members that can and do put their "sweat equity" into Quartz Creek Properties.

Also largely unobserved are those members that choose to donate money to the Association. These donations can be for the general fund or they can be designated for a specific area such as roads or springs.

The Board recognizes that not all members are able to donate their labor, due either to time or physical limitations. To those members, we ask that you consider making a monetary donation to QCPOA. Our annual dues are minimal at only \$140 per property. Compared to almost any other homeowners association, this is a real bargain.

Our list of projects needing attention is long; too long in comparison to our limited budget. Roadwork is expensive and we have many roads still in need of improvement. Especially important is improvement of our major roads so that in the case of a wildfire, our owners can escape the mountain safely while at the same time emergency response vehicles can access the mountain.

We now have a place to haul those stump piles to improve fire safety and the appearance of our roadways. Yet stump hauling is not within our current budget. We also have an owner that is willing to donate to the Association hundreds of truckloads of tailings to gravel our roads, enough tailings to cover ALL of the major roads on the mountain. The material is free, but we need to pay for the trucking costs. Again, our limited budget is preventing us from taking full advantage of this offer. We need your help!

Please consider making a donation to QCPOA. Let us know how you would like to see your money used, or you can make an unspecified donation to be used where the Board sees the most urgent need. Any donation you can afford would be another step in our continuing efforts to improve our mountain and our community.

Thank you! YOUR Board of Directors

(Please detach here and mail with check)

DONATIONS TO QCPOA	
SPECIFIED DONATIONS:	
Road improvements	\$
Stump removal	\$
Springs	\$
Stocking Pond with Fish	\$
Other	\$
UNSPECIFIED DONATION FOR GENERAL FUND	\$
TOTAL DONATION ENCLOSED:	\$
Please make checks payable to QCPOA and mail to:	

QCPOA PO Box 39 Pitkin, CO 81241



QCPOA PROPOSED BUDGET 2014 (WITH NO DUES INCREASE)

QCPOA PROPOSED BUDGET 2014 (WITH DUES INCREASE OF \$30)

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Income	_•
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Dues: (\$140 per property	\$55,160
(ass	sumes 4 non-payers)
Other income	\$ 600
(donations, interest)	
Construction fees	\$ 1,000
Donations at annual mtg	for FD \$ 500

Total income:	\$57,260
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Expenses:

Accounting	\$	900
Bank Charges	\$	30
Donations (PHCA & FD)	\$	900
Trash	\$	3,000
Insurance	\$	2,000
Legal	\$	3,200
Office Expenses	\$	400
Postage	\$	550
Stocking Pond	\$	0
Road Signs	\$	3,000
Supplies	\$	300
Roads	\$3	32,180
Springs	\$	800
Reserve Fund	\$	5,000
Tree Removal	\$	5,000
Total Expenses:	\$!	57,260

Income:

Dues: (\$170 per propo	erty) \$0	66 , 980
	(assumes 4	non-payers)
Other income	\$	600
(donations, interest)		
Construction fees	\$	1,000
Donations at annual m	itg for FD\$	500

Expenses:

Accounting	\$ 900
Bank Charges	\$ 30
Donations (PHCA & FD)	\$ 900
Trash	\$ 3,000
Insurance	\$ 2,000
Legal	\$ 3,200
Office Expenses	\$ 400
Postage	\$ 550
Stocking Pond	\$ 1,400
Road Signs	\$ 3,000
Supplies	\$ 300
Roads	\$39,200
Springs	\$ 1,500
Reserve Fund	\$ 5,000
Tree Removal	\$ 7,700
Total Expenses:	\$69,080



NOTE: Please complete and return <u>either</u> this proxy <u>or</u> the ballot on the reverse side. <u>DO NOT DO BOTH!</u> If both are filled in, only the ballot will be valid.

Instructions:

- 1. Fill in all blanks on the proxy **OR** the ballot.
- 2. If designating another member to vote your proxy, be **sure** that they will be attending the meeting in person.
- 3. Your signed proxy or ballot can be brought to the meeting by another person or can be sent in advance of the meeting (must be received prior to start of meeting) to:

QCPOA PO Box 39 Pitkin, CO 81241

OR you may email your <u>signed</u> proxy or ballot to <u>OCPOA@comcast.net</u> **prior** to the meeting.

Proxy for 2013 Annual Meeting of QCPOA

The undersigned, being a member of Quartz Creek Property Ov appoints:	vners Association, a Colorado nonprofit corporation,
Check one:	
another QCPOA member	Who I know will be in attendance
(fill in name)	
OR	
the Board of Directors	
To be my lawful proxy and represent me at the annual meeting of ment of the meeting, and to vote and act for me on any matter to tion which I would presumably take if present at the meeting.	
Member's name	(print or type)
Member's QCP claim name/s	(print or type)

(Signature)

(Date)



Ballot Items for 2013 Annual Meeting of QCPOA

1.	Approval of minutes from 2012 annual mee www.pitkincolorado.com/QCPOA/index)	ting (minutes available for review online at
	For approval	Against Approval
		Directors. The positions are for a three-year term on the lany time before, and at, the annual meeting.
	Vote for three: Don McKinney Terry Davis	Dave Denison Write In
3.	A vote on a dues increase to \$170 per prop	perty per year for annual member dues effective 2014.
	For Approval	Against Approval
4.	Approval of a budget for 2014.	
		osed in enclosed documents; two budgets are ase and one with dues of \$170-the budget used by the membership):
	For Approval	Against Approval
	A vote to change the By-laws to provide mo ticle in this newsletter, page 4)	ore date flexibility for the Annual Membership meeting (see
	For Approval	Against Approval
Me	ember's name	(print or type)
Me	ember's QCP claim name/s	(print or type)
	(Signature) (Date	