



# The AMA History Project Presents: History of the VINTAGE R/C SOCIETY (VR/CS) Founded: 1989



Written by JW; Abbreviated and Submitted by BN; Formatted by JS (01/2012); Reformatted by JS (03/2014)

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*John Worth wrote the following history of the VR/CS. Bob Noll abbreviated the history and sent this to the AMA History Project (at the time called the AMA History Program.)*

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## **The Vintage R/C Society - a brief history**

The Vintage R/C Society was born in 1989, initially as an idea by Bill Winter, resulting from discussions with Hal “Pappy” deBolt, as to how the history of R/C could be recorded and preserved. Further discussions got Joe Beshar, John Worth, and Art Schroeder involved.

Hal deBolt contacted Joe Beshar and asked if he would consider founding an RC Society since Joe had succeeded as president of the Society of Antique Modelers, building it from less than 200 members to over 1800. Joe agreed and proceeded to seek modelers interested in a vintage organization, using the Golden Age column in Model Airplane News as the vehicle and published a simple request for response, with the name and address of any modeler interested in a vintage society.

This produced a list of potential members and Joe made a mailing to each of the respondents, requesting \$ 15 initial dues. The receipts were sufficient for Joe to develop the present VR/CS logo and he contacted Art Schroeder who agreed to do the newsletter. Joe also contacted John Worth to become President. Joe acted as Treasurer for a few years and then turned over the responsibility to Bill Poythress. Thus VR/CS was founded.

This founding group quickly agreed that to make the society function a newsletter would be needed, to serve as a means of communication among all interested parties and to provide the basis for historical documentation. With Joe Beshar’s prodding, Art Schroeder accepted the editorship responsibility for producing the newsletter, with John Worth agreeing to serve as the initial President, whereupon Joe signed on as Secretary-Treasurer. The organization was established informally, with decisions by unanimous agreement of the three officers.

The first issue of the newsletter was issued in July 1989, with a production goal of

quarterly issues. That first issue promoted the idea of the organization being more than just a “tell it like it was” forum. It generated the idea of annual get-togethers where the theme would be “fly and tell”, featuring demonstrations by prominent RC’ers flying original or replica models of vintage R/C designs.

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