

**CONSTITUTION
OF
THE SOCIETY OF AMERICAN MAGICIANS**

(ADOPTED JULY 16, 1976; AS AMENDED TO JULY 2009)

**ARTICLE I
NAME AND HEADQUARTERS**

SECTION 1

This organization, founded in the year 1902 and having been duly incorporated under the laws of the State of New York, now known as the Not-For-Profit Corporation Act, as The Society of American Magicians, shall hereinafter be referred to as "the Society" for purposes of this Constitution and the Bylaws which are separately adopted by the National Council. (Amended 6/19/97)

SECTION 2

This Society, being international in scope, shall be empowered to charter branches, to be known as Assemblies, in any geographic location in the world.

SECTION 3

The principal place of business and headquarters of this Society shall be at an address designated by the National Council. (Amended 6/19/97)

**ARTICLE II
PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES**

SECTION 1

The principles and objectives of this Society shall be to advance and elevate magic as an art, in the fields of amusement, entertainment and education; to promote harmonious fellowship throughout the world among those sincerely interested in the art of magic; and to maintain and improve ethical standards in the field of magic for professional performers, as well as amateurs, hobbyists and collectors, in their relationships with one another and with the public.

SECTION 2

This Society is organized as a not-for-profit corporation, and not for pecuniary profit or financial gain. No part of the assets, income or profit of the Society shall be distributable to or inure to the benefit of its members, directors or officers except to the extent permitted under the Not-For-Profit Corporation Law. The Society shall not promote the private interest of any

member or engage in any activity which would constitute a regular business of a kind ordinarily carried on for profit.

SECTION 3

No substantial part of the activities of the Society shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the Society shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office. The Society shall not carry on any other activity not permitted to be carried on (a) by a corporation exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law) or (b) by a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under Section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law).

SECTION 4

The purposes for which the Society is formed are for educational and charitable purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, and in this connection to promote the welfare of professional and amateur magicians, providing medical and hospital benefits for magicians, to cooperate with other charities to aid them in their fund raising and to provide lectures and courses of instruction designed to elevate the art of magic and to train new talent for the professional stage, and to hold competitions and exhibitions of magic.

SECTION 5

In the event of the dissolution of the Society, no member shall be entitled to any distribution or division of its remaining property or its proceeds, and the balance of all money and other property received by the Society from any source, after the payment of all debts and obligations of the Society, shall be used or distributed exclusively for purposes within the intent of Section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code as the same now exists or as it may be amended from time to time.

ARTICLE III

MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1

Membership shall be available to any individual of good character without regard to race, color, creed or sex who has expressed a sincere and genuine interest in magic, and agrees to uphold the purpose and objectives of this organization. (Amended 2/1/92)

SECTION 2

There shall be the following classes of members, with no limitation on their numbers, as follows:

a. **Honorary Members** shall be composed of those individuals who have made a substantial contribution to the progress and advancement of this Society and/or materially advanced the art of magic. This honor, being one of singular distinction, shall be conferred only upon a member who has been in good standing for at least ten years immediately prior to nomination, as follows: (Amended 7/10/96; 6/19/97)

(1) Nominations shall originate either in an Assembly or in the National Council at the Mid-year meeting in the following manner:

- i. Nominations by an Assembly shall require an affirmative vote of at least 2/3 of those members present and voting at one of its regular meetings, provided that a quorum of members eligible to vote is present. This nomination shall then be forwarded by the Secretary of the nominating Assembly to the Honorary Membership Committee of the National Council for consideration (Amended 7/10/96); and
- ii. Nominations may also originate in the National Council at the Mid-year meeting.

(2) Election to Honorary Membership shall be by secret ballot at an Annual Meeting of the Board of Trustees of The Society of American Magicians Magic Endowment Fund, Inc. Honorary Membership shall be conferred unless the nominee receives three or more negative votes. (Amended 3/12/88)

(3) An Honorary Member may be listed on the roster of one or more Assemblies, and shall have all the rights and privileges of an Assembly member but shall be exempt from any further payment of dues to the National Council. (Amended 6/19/97)

b. **Sustaining Members** shall be composed of those active and associate members who voluntarily make a greater financial contribution toward the Society's goals by contributing to the S.A.M. Magic Endowment Fund, Inc., or the general funds, in an amount to be determined from time to time by the National Council. (Amended 7/10/96; 6/19/97)

c. **Assembly Members** shall be composed of those individuals eighteen years of age or older who are members in good standing of The Society of American Magicians and who agree to join an Assembly existing within a reasonable distance of their places of residence. After having applied, been elected, and accepted in the manner prescribed in Section 5 of this Article, they shall have the right to vote, hold office and serve on committees, provided that they remain members in good standing. An active member may revert to the status of an Associate Member upon written request to the National Administrator. The National Administrator shall notify the Assembly Secretary of the written request. (Amended 2/1/92; 7/10/96; 7/6/05; 7/15/09)

d. Associate **Members** shall be composed of those individuals fourteen years of age or older who cannot or do not wish to join an Assembly. After having applied, been elected and accepted in the manner prescribed in Section 5 of this Article, they shall become members who shall not have the right to vote, but may hold office or serve on committees. They shall also be entitled to all other benefits and privileges of this Society, provided that they remain members in good standing. They may attend meetings and shows of an Assembly but such privilege shall be granted by the Assembly in accordance with the vote or rules of the

Assembly. They may become Assembly members upon approval by an Assembly in the manner prescribed in Section 5a of this Article. (Amended 11/14/92; 7/10/96.)

e. Junior Assembly Members shall be composed of those individuals who are from the ages of fourteen through eighteen (inclusive). After having applied, been elected and accepted in the manner prescribed in Section 5 of this Article, they shall become members who shall not have the right to vote, hold office, serve on committees or serve in any capacity. However, they shall be entitled to all other benefits and privileges of this Society, provided that they remain members in good standing. They shall remain under the sponsorship of the individuals initiating the application, and shall become and remain wards of the Assembly with which they are affiliated until they have attained the age of eighteen, at which time they shall become Assembly Members, in the same manner as that prescribed for Assembly membership in Section 5a of this Article, with a notation being made on the application form that this is a request for a change of status from Junior Membership to Assembly Membership. An Assembly, at its discretion, need not accept Junior Members. (Amended 7/10/96, 7/6/05)

f. Life Members A lifetime membership shall entitle such member to all of the benefits that are available, or as specifically set out by the National Council, from time to time, and shall be exempt from any further payment of dues to the National Council. A member in good standing may apply for a lifetime membership, which shall be conferred upon such member provided such member has demonstrated a strong dedication to the advancement of magic through:

- (1) Service within The Society of American Magicians;
- (2) Contributing to the Society an amount fixed, from time to time by the National Council;
- (3) Contributing to the welfare of other Magicians, including, but not limited to, The Society of American Magicians Magic Endowment Fund, Inc., in such amount that the Trustees of said Fund might from time to time determine, and,
- (4) Other factors deemed relevant by the National Council, in its sole discretion.

(Amended 2/21/87, 3/12/88, 2/1/92, 7/10/96 and 6/19/97)

g. Household Members shall be composed of those individuals eighteen years of age or older who reside at the same address as either an Associate Member, Assembly Member or Junior Assembly Member. After having applied, been elected and accepted in the manner prescribed in Section 5 of this Article, they shall have the same rights as the member upon which this membership is contingent, except that they will not receive the official publication *M-U-M*. They may become Associate Members by notifying the National Administrator and payment of appropriate fees. They may become Assembly Members upon approval by an Assembly in the manner prescribed in Section 5a of this Article. (Amended 7/15/94; 6/19/97, 7/6/05.)

h. Special Foreign Members shall be composed of those individuals eighteen years of age or older, residing in a non-English speaking country who wish to join an Assembly in their country. After having applied, been elected and accepted in the manner prescribed in

Section 5 of this Article, they shall have the right to vote but cannot hold office, serve on committees or serve in any capacity. They will not receive the official publication *M-U-M*. Before this membership type can be issued, a request stating the reasons this type of membership is needed must first be received and approved by the National Council. Members can change to either Associate or Assembly Members in the manner prescribed in Section 5 of this Article. (Amended 7/15/94; 6/19/97; 7/6/05.)

i. *Young Members* consisting of the following categories:

(1) Young Assembly members shall be composed of those individuals who are from the ages of seven through eighteen (inclusive). After having applied, been elected and accepted in the manner prescribed in Section 5 of this Article, they shall become members who shall not have the right to vote, hold office, serve on committees or serve in any capacity or to receive the official publication *M-U-M*. However, they shall be entitled to all other benefits and privileges of this Society, providing that they remain members in good standing. They shall remain under the sponsorship of the individuals initiating the application, and shall become and remain wards of the Assembly with which they are affiliated until they have attained the age of fourteen, at which time they may choose to become Junior Assembly Members, in the same manner as that prescribed for Assembly membership in Section 5a or 5b of this Article, with a notation being made on the application form that this is a request for a change of status from Young Membership to Junior Assembly Membership. An Assembly, at its discretion, need not accept Young Members. (Amended 3/6/93; 7/10/96; 6/19/97, 7/6/05)

(2) A Young Member need not affiliate with an S.Y.M. Assembly and instead may be an "at large" member until the age of eighteen, and shall be entitled to all of the rights and privileges of a Young Member, including receipt of The Magic SYMBol. (Amended 3/6/93; 7/10/96; 6/19/97; 7/6/05)

(3) At the appropriate age, the Young Member shall have the right to apply for Junior Assembly membership, if such Assembly accepts Junior Members, or to apply for Assembly membership or as an Associate Member, at which time the member shall reaffirm the member's oath to adhere to the Code of Ethics, the Constitution and Bylaws of this organization. (Amended 3/6/93; 7/10/96; 7/6/05)

j. *Patron Members* shall be composed of those individuals who are parents or guardians of Young Members. After having applied, been elected and accepted in the manner prescribed in Section 5 of this Article, they shall become members who shall have the same rights and privileges as Young Members as defined in subsection i above. (Amended 7/15/94; 7/10/96; 6/19/97)

SECTION 3 - Types of Members

The membership shall be divided into two types:

a. *Insured members* - a member who participates in any of the Society's group insurance programs;

- b. *Non-insured members* - a member who elects not to participate in any of the Society's group insurance programs and elects to receive basic membership without any insurance. (Amended 6/19/97)

SECTION 4

Membership fees, dues, initiation fees, reinstatement fees and other assessments, regardless of the type or class of membership, shall be prescribed and determined by a resolution duly passed from time to time by the National Council, which shall establish the appropriate fee structure for each type and class of membership. (Amended 6/19/97)

SECTION 5

Application for membership in this Society shall be made on an application form supplied by the National Council. It shall be completed in full and be forwarded to the National Administrator of this Society for handling in the manner prescribed in Section 6 of this Article. (Amended 2/21/87; 11/14/88; 6/19/97)

a. For Assembly Member, Junior Assembly Member and Young Assembly Member applicants, the application shall include the recommendation of two members in good standing and a certification made by an officer of the Assembly with which the applicant wishes to affiliate, indicating that the Assembly is in full accord with the application, having approved the applicant by a two-third majority vote by secret ballot of the members of that Assembly present at one of its regular meetings, provided that a quorum of the members eligible to vote are present. Such secret ballot may be waived by the Assembly. An Assembly may not reject an applicant where the negative vote is less than one-third of the members present at a meeting. (Amended 3/12/88; 6/19/97)

b. For Associate Member applicants, endorsements or recommendations shall not be required. The Associate Member applicant shall forward the application, with prescribed fees, to the National Administrator for processing and review and, where warranted, to the Associate Membership Committee. The process for application review and final acceptance shall be the same as the process for Assembly Member applicants, as described in Section 6, of this Article, Subsections a. and b. (Amended 2/1/92; 6/19/97)

SECTION 6

Final acceptance of members into this Society shall be in accordance with the following:

a. After publication of the name of the prospective member in *M-U-M* and no objections with reasons therefore having been filed, in writing by an Assembly or by six or more Associate members in good standing, within 45 days, the time period starting from the first day of the month as the monthly date of that issue, then the applicant shall become a member in good standing. (Amended 11/14/92)

b. Should an Assembly or six or more Associate members in good standing of this Society file objections, the National Council, at one of its meetings, shall determine the merits of such objections, relative to the fitness and qualifications of the prospective member for

membership. If such evidence appears to be well-founded by a majority of the National Council, it shall reject the prospective member from membership. The National Council shall inform the applicant, in writing, within thirty days of that meeting, with the reasons therefore. The applicant may appeal to the National Council, for a reconsideration, in writing, within thirty days of receipt of its decision. If such appeal is made within the prescribed thirty-day period, the National Council shall review the case and make a final decision from which there shall be no further appeal. The applicant shall be notified in writing of the approval or disapproval of the application for membership within thirty days of the meeting at which the decision was reached. (Amended 11/14/92; 6/19/97)

c. An applicant for membership in an Assembly who is rejected for membership in an Assembly may appeal to the National Council, with a copy to the Assembly. Within 30 days thereafter, the Assembly shall file its response setting forth the reasons for such rejection. A copy of the response shall be served upon the applicant. The National Council, or a sub-committee of the National Council, shall review the appeal and make a determination of the appeal. The decision of the National Council shall be final from which there shall be no further appeal. (Adopted 6/19/97)

SECTION 7

No individual shall be eligible for membership in this Society for a period of one year following the rejection of an application for membership. (Amended 11/14/92; 6/19/97)

SECTION 8

An Assembly member in good standing may request transfer of membership from one Assembly to another, by notifying the former Assembly, and by applying for membership in the latter Assembly. Acceptance of his transfer shall be by a 2/3 majority vote, by secret ballot, of the members of the latter Assembly at one of its regular meetings, provided that a quorum of the members eligible to vote are present. (Amended 11/14/92; 6/19/97)

SECTION 9

A member in good standing is one whose dues have been paid within 20 days after notification of the due date. After such date, the aforesaid member shall be considered in arrears and will cease to receive the official publication, *M-U-M*. After three months in arrears, the member shall be suspended and lose all rights and privileges in this Society; after twelve months in arrears, the member shall be dropped from the rolls of this Society. At any time during this twelve month period, the delinquent member may be reinstated as a member in good standing, provided the following conditions are met:

- a. Pays a reinstatement fee, as determined by the National Council; and
- b. If an Assembly member, both the Assembly of affiliation at the time of his suspension, and the Assembly with which the person desires to affiliate, if a different one, must consent to this by a 2/3 majority vote by a secret ballot at one of its regular meetings, provided that a quorum of the members eligible to vote is present. In the case of an Associate

member, the National Council shall approve or disapprove the reinstatement. (Amended 11/14/92; 6/19/97)

SECTION 10

A member in good standing may be carried on the roster of more than one Assembly and may simultaneously hold any office, except that of President, in more than one Assembly. The member may choose the Assembly of record and will appear on that Assembly's official list of members of record. A member may appear on the official list of only one Assembly; and may act only for that Assembly in any official capacity as a representative or delegate to the National Council. Each Assembly shall file an official list of members of record with the National Administrator on or before the 1st of October of each year. A member may affiliate with additional Assemblies at the discretion of such Assemblies. (Amended 2/21/87, 11/14/88, 11/14/92 and 6/19/97)

SECTION 11

Any member in good standing who wishes to resign from membership, and the rights and privileges pertaining thereto, may do so by submitting a resignation, in writing, directly to the member's Assembly, with a copy to the National Administrator. The request for resignation shall be accompanied by the membership card. If such resignation is accepted by the aforesaid Assembly, the Secretary of such Assembly shall report its action to the National Administrator. An Associate member shall submit the request, as above, directly to the National Administrator for consideration by the National Council. (Amended 2/21/87, 11/14/88, 2/1/92, 11/14/92; 3/6/93; 6/19/97)

ARTICLE IV

OFFICERS

SECTION 1

The Officers of this Society shall consist of an National President; National President-Elect; National First Vice-President; National Second Vice-President; ten Regional Vice-Presidents from ten different geographical regions of the United States of America, as determined by the National Council; an National Regional Vice President, one from each country or group of countries outside the United States of America which has at least two Assemblies, but in no case shall there be more than eight such National Regional Vice-Presidents, their geographical regions to be determined by the National Council; a National Secretary; and an National Treasurer. Past national presidents shall henceforth be known as past National Presidents. (Amended 11/14/92; 3/6/93; 6/19/97; 7/99)

SECTION 2

The Supreme Authority of this Society shall be vested in the National Council which shall consist of the National Officers, Past National and Past International Presidents, and one or more voting delegates, as the case may be, from each Assembly. The Past National and Past International Presidents shall have a vote in Council proceedings, provided, however, that if such individual is subsequently elected to another office in the Society, such officer shall have only one vote. Each Assembly, consisting of not fewer than seven, but not more than fifty active members in good standing shall be entitled to one voting delegate. Those Assemblies having more than fifty active members in good standing shall be entitled to one additional voting delegate for each fifty active members, or fraction thereof, in good standing over and above the first fifty. The President and the Secretary of each Assembly shall be responsible for furnishing to the National Administrator the name or names of each delegate. The number of voting delegates from each Assembly shall be determined by the National Administrator sixty days prior to the date of the Annual Meeting and be furnished by the Chair of the Election Committee. (Amended 2/21/87, 3/12/88, 11/14/88, 7/10/96 and 7/99)

Each delegate shall be an elected officer or member of an assembly or be appointed by the President or Secretary of that assembly. No delegate may represent more than five assemblies. (Amended 3/12/88)

No later than ten (10) days prior to a meeting of the National Council, the Assembly shall provide in writing, in a form to be prescribed in the Bylaws, the name of each delegate, alternate, or person entitled to hold a proxy on behalf of the Assembly. Each Assembly shall be provided an official form by the National Administrator, which shall be completed and returned to the National Administrator no later than ten (10) days prior to the National Council meeting, setting forth the Assembly's appointment of delegates or alternates, together with any special instructions, if any, as to how the Assembly will vote on a particular question which may come before the National Council. (Amended 7/15/94)

SECTION 3

The President-Elect shall succeed to the office of President without further nomination or vote, upon the expiration of the incumbent President's term of office.

SECTION 4

Any Assembly or Associate member in good standing is eligible for nomination to office in the National Council, provided the member is twenty-one years of age or older.

SECTION 5

The nomination for the office of President-Elect shall require the written endorsement of at least one Assembly, and the candidate must notify the National Administrator of acceptance of the nomination, in writing, at least thirty days prior to the regular annual meeting. The National Council shall receive nominations for all offices, and the National Administrator shall cause the names of such candidates to be published in the immediately following issue of *M-U-M*. The President-Elect shall be nominated only by an Assembly. On or before March 1, other Officers shall be nominated either by an Assembly, or by other National Officers or delegates to the Council. If not more than one candidate announces intentions as aforesaid, any Assembly or fifty Associate members of this Society in good standing may nominate any officer, including President-Elect by filing a written petition with the National Administrator at least ninety days prior to the regular Annual Meeting. Such nominee shall submit written acceptance of such nomination to the National Administrator. (Amended 2/21/87; 11/14/88 and 7/10/96)

SECTION 6

The procedure for the election of Officers to the National Council shall be as follows:

a. The Officers of the Society shall be elected at the Annual Council Meeting by a majority of the votes cast by delegates present at such meeting, by mail ballot votes cast by those Assemblies not having a delegate present, by National Officers entitled to vote, by Past National and Past International Presidents entitled to vote and by mail ballot vote of absent National Officers, Past National and Past International Presidents entitled to vote. However, Regional Vice-Presidents shall be elected at the annual meeting by a majority of the votes cast by delegates present and by mail ballots received only from those Assemblies within the region for which the individual stands for election, and by National Officers who reside within the geographical area covered by the particular Vice-President. (Amended 3/12/88; 6/19/97, and 7/99)

b. On or before March 15 of each year the National President shall appoint an Election Committee (provided a contest for office exists) consisting of three members, none of whom may be an incumbent officer or candidate for office. The Election Committee shall, within forty-five days after appointment, prepare ballots listing the names of all candidates for office, by whatever means nominated. The ballots, together with voting instructions, shall be mailed under the supervision of the Election Committee to each Assembly and each

National Officer at least forty-five days prior to the regular Annual Meeting. To insure secrecy, each ballot, after having been properly marked, shall be sealed in an envelope marked "BALLOT." This envelope, in turn, shall be sealed in an outer envelope on which the signatures of two officers, preferably the President and Secretary of that particular Assembly or the National Officer concerned, shall appear. These ballots shall be returned by mail to the Chair of the Election Committee so as to be received not later than ten days before the date of the regular Annual Meeting or delivered in person to the Chair of the Election Committee at the commencement of the Annual Meeting. The Election Committee shall supervise the receipt and counting of the ballots, and make a final determination on any controversy relating thereto. These mail ballots shall not be counted, however, if the Assembly or National Officer at or prior to the election of officers withdraws such mail ballot, which withdrawal shall be in writing, authenticated by the President or Secretary of their Assembly or in writing by the Officer. (Amended 3/12/88 and 11/14/92)

c. Assemblies not sending delegates to the Annual Council Meeting may vote by mail ballots. An Assembly not attending the Annual Meeting shall be entitled to the number of votes set forth in Section 2 of this Article. Balloting shall be by mail or hand delivery to the Chair of the Election Committee as provided for in Subsection b of this Section. A National Officer not attending the Annual Council Meeting shall have one mail ballot vote to be registered as provided in Subsection b of this Section. (Amended 3/12/88; 11/14/92 and 7/10/96)

d. If no candidate receives a majority vote on the first ballot, there shall be a runoff election. Mail ballots will not be counted in this runoff election. Delegates and officers present and authorized to vote will cast their votes for one of the top two candidates. In case of a tie for second place, the top three candidates will be included in the runoff election. (Amended 3/12/88; 6/19/97)

SECTION 7

Any National Officer may be removed from office, for any reason or cause whatsoever, by a 2/3 majority vote of the members of the National Council present and voting at a regular or special meeting, provided that at least ten days' written notice of the reasons for removal be given to the Officer.

SECTION 8

Vacancies in office shall be filled by the National President, in which event the appointee shall serve until the next meeting of the National Council, at which time a successor shall be elected to serve out the unexpired term. Should a vacancy occur in the office of President, the order of succession shall be the National President-Elect, National First Vice President, National Second Vice President, and any one of the Regional Vice Presidents chosen by the National Council at one of its meetings. (Amended 11/14/92; 6/19/97; 7/99)

SECTION 9

Any National Officer, except the National Secretary and the National Treasurer, who has served three successive terms in the same office, shall not be eligible for an additional term in that office until at least one year has elapsed following the expiration of the last term of office. (Amended 11/14/92 and 3/6/93)

ARTICLE V

MEETINGS

SECTION 1

The regular Annual Meeting of the National Council shall take place on a day designated by the National President, between May 1 and Labor Day each year, at a location determined by the National Council. Should the Annual Convention be held at a time and/or place not in conformity with the foregoing, then in such event, the regular Annual Meeting shall be adjourned to the time and place of such Convention. In addition there shall be one or more additional meetings, the date and place of which shall be designated by the National President.

SECTION 2

Special and emergency meetings of the National Council may be summoned by the National President or, in the event of that officer's incapacity or inability to act, by the National President-Elect; or in the event of the incapacity or inability to act of both the National President and the National President-Elect, by the National First Vice President, whenever special or emergency events warrant or necessitate such a convening; or when requested in writing by not fewer than ten members of the National Council. The incapacity of the National President or any other officer to act shall be determined by a majority vote of the National Council, following the presentation of sufficient evidence attesting to the alleged incapacity. (Amended 11/14/92)

ARTICLE VI

AMENDMENTS

SECTION 1

This Constitution shall not be amended unless the proposed amendment shall have been submitted in writing, by an Assembly or any member of the National Council, to the National Administrator, with a copy to Legal Counsel, at least sixty (60) days prior to the annual meeting of the Society. The National Administrator and Legal Counsel shall then submit to the National Council any revisions or recommendations regarding the proposed amendment. The National Council may then recommend the amendment for adoption by a 2/3 vote of the members present and voting at any annual meeting of the National Council. (Amended 7/25/85, 2/21/87, 11/14/88 and 7/15/94)

SECTION 2

Upon the recommendation for adoption of the proposed amendment by the necessary vote of the National Council, such proposed amendment shall be published in the official

publication, *M-U-M*, or mailed personally to members in good standing of the Society by the National Administrator, and shall become effective and operative if no objection thereto shall have been filed by at least three Assemblies within sixty days after such publication or date of mailing, if mailed as provided herein. Proposed changes in the Constitution and Bylaws that are cosmetic in nature (for example, corrections of spelling, grammar or punctuation, or elimination of sexist language), and that are not substantive (that is, making no changes in rules or procedures), may be passed by the National Council without publication in *M-U-M* or without a personal mailing to members in good standing. (Amended 2/21/87, 11/14/88, and 11/14/92)

SECTION 3

Should objection to such proposed amendment be filed as aforesaid, then the National Council, at its next meeting, shall reconsider its recommendation for adoption. At the time of such reconsideration, a 2/3 affirmative vote of the members of the National Council, present and voting, and a recognized, directed vote of an Assembly, cast by proxy vote, shall be required to adopt any such proposed amendment. Failing to obtain the necessary vote, the proposed amendment shall be rejected and may not be submitted for consideration for a period of at least two years.

ARTICLE VII

BYLAWS

SECTION 1

The National Council shall create and promulgate supplementary General Bylaws which shall serve as Rules and Regulations for the purpose of conducting business of the Society and its Assemblies.

SECTION 2

The Constitution and Bylaws of an Assembly shall not be in conflict with the provisions of the Constitution and Bylaws of this Society.

SECTION 3

The Rules of Order in the National Council shall be governed by the General Bylaws or by Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised, when not in conflict therewith. (Amended 6/19/97)

SECTION 4

This Constitution was recommended for adoption on the 16th day of July, 1976 and has been amended by the National Council on March 13, 1977; July 29, 1977; March 10, 1979; April 26, 1980; July 16, 1982; January 15, 1983; July 25, 1985; February 21, 1987; March 12, 1988; November 14, 1988; July 5, 1991; February 1, 1992; November 14, 1992; March 6, 1993; July 15, 1994; July 10, 1996; June 19, 1997; July 1999; July 2005; and July 2009. This Constitution, upon adoption, shall supersede all Constitutions heretofore existing. Any matters, of whatsoever kind or nature, arising before its adoption and still pending, shall be determined by this Constitution.