

From Out' The Wizards Sleeve...

By Barron Stringfellow

Part II. : Chasing The (Magi's) Dream, in an organized way!

The Society of American Magicians currently shows 7000(+/-) world wide members in good standing on our rolls. We have 7 Elected National Officials, 8(+/-) Elected Regional Officials and 4(+/-) Locally Elected Assembly Officials (Not including Local Boards, Committees, Etc.). O.K., so it took Maria Ibanez (RVP South Atlantic States, 2nd National VP Elect; bless her heart, Thank-you Very Much!!) and I some time on the phone to work through these figures...and we got a bit side tracked as Fellow Magi will do when talking...but you should get the idea of how Large this Organization is. Oh, yeah! There are 144(+/-) Assemblies Worldwide for these Members and Officials to Govern, Attend and, in General, Participate in!! Help!! We Need A Road Map!

But, wait - We have a Road Map, and it comes in the form of Roughly 12 pages of SAM Constitution and 22 Pages of Bylaws. These are "Living" Documents, and are subject to change for the (We Hope!) Better. Why then can't we all just get along?

Large Groups stop functioning and start festering when members feel Distanced, Separated or Out-Of-Touch...We can bridge this gap by taking Personal Responsibility for OUR Assembly, by going to the open board meetings, voicing your opinion, co-operating with other members, by Actively Participating in Magic...we can have a strong organization which appeals to New Members and Gives SYM'ers something to grow into! We can contact other members who may not be making it to meetings, to see if they are well, or need transportation. If a member has

lost interest, or has become jaded...we need to go the extra mile to get them back , welcome them back, ...and then to keep them involved!

You might want to Start by Familiarizing yourself with Roberts' Rules of Order (Need an abridged Set? I can help, just let me know!) So that you will understand what is happening, and if/when you may interject. And HOW to interject! Your opinion counts, but it will not be accepted as Fact or Considered "Bullet Proof" – Be prepared to support your statements, and to provide whatever Facts, Documentation or Artwork that may be required to make your point or carry your motion! The first couple of Board Meetings you go to, maybe you will just feel like "Listening In"...that's fine, too! Your presence is an act of Support, of Membership and of Concern for the Organization. It means you care!!

MAGIC ~ UNITY ~ MIGHT

Until next time, remember...Magic Happens!

The Baron of Magic;
Barron Stringfellow
121 West 8th Street
Horton, KS. 66439
(785)486-9508
barronofmagic@yahoo.com