

**OMAHA MAGICAL SOCIETY
Assembly No. 7, Society of American Magicians
Omaha, Nebraska**

Date: January 2005

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

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Assembly No. 7
Society of American Magicians**

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BY-LAWS**

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Article 1 - Name

Sec. 1. This organization shall be known as The Omaha Magical Society, Assembly #7, Society of American Magicians, Inc.

Article 2 - Object

Sec. 1. To promote and advance the art of magic and to secure its general recognition as one of the accepted arts.

Sec. 2. To discourage the disclosure of magical secrets to the public.

Sec. 3. To arrange lectures, exhibitions, conferences, entertainments, festivals, and such other functions as may be considered desirable for the purpose of facilitating social intercourse and the exchange of ideas.

Sec. 4. To maintain The John Keenan/Ilson Memorial Library of books relating to the art of magic.

Sec. 5. To promote the humane treatment and care of live animals and birds employed in magical performances.

Article 3 - Membership

Sec. 1. The Society shall have six distinct types of memberships:

- a. Active Members
- b. Associate Members
- c. Junior Members
- d. Honorary Members
- e. Life Members
- f. Honorary Life Members

Sec. 2. Active Members: Any desirable person of 18 years or over, who has demonstrated an interest in magic as a magician, and has been accepted by the Society, shall be classified as an active member in good standing, provided that he or she is an

Active Member in good standing of the Society of American Magicians.

Sec. 3. Associate Members: Any desirable person of 14 years or over, who has demonstrated an interest in magic and desires to be a magician or magician's assistant, or engage in any other related magic activity, and who has been accepted by the Society, shall be classified as an Associate Member.

Sec. 4. Junior Members: Any desirable person who has attained the age of 12 years, but has not yet reached the age of 18 who has demonstrated an interest in magic, and has been accepted by the Society, shall be classified as a Junior Member. Upon reaching his or her 18th birthday, he or she will automatically become an Active Member, provided he or she is a Junior Member in good standing of the Society of American Magicians.

Sec. 5. Honorary Members: Any person who the Society sees fit to bestow such an honor and has received, at least, a majority vote of those present at any regular monthly meeting, provided however, that the matter has first been presented to the Society at the previous meeting and notice of the purpose and intent of the next meeting has been given by the secretary, shall be granted the status of Honorary Member.

Sec. 6. Life Members or Honorary Life Members: Any person who has materially contributed to the advancement of the art of magic and has made exemplary contributions to the welfare of the Society may be made an Honorary Life Member or Life Member upon a majority vote of those present at any regular monthly meeting, provided however, that the matter has first been presented to the Society at the previous meeting and notice of the purpose and intent of the next meeting has been given by the secretary. All Life Members may hold office and have voting rights.

Sec. 7. An applicant will be accepted by the Society when his or her membership has been voted upon at any regular meeting of the Society by secret ballot and no more than four dissenting votes have been cast. In order to be voted upon, he or she must first meet all of the other qualifications outlined, and all applicable dues paid.

Sec. 8. To qualify for membership, each new applicant will be required to perform a minimum of five minutes of magic at a

Society meeting.

Sec. 9. An applicant who receives more than four dissenting votes shall not become eligible to reapply for membership for a period of not less than twelve months from the date of rejection. Applicants who receive more than four dissenting votes will not be allowed to poll the membership for dissenting votes, nor shall they have any right to protest the ballot results.

Sec. 10. Active and Life Members shall have the right to vote and hold office. Any member in good standing can serve on committees.

Sec. 11. Junior and Honorary Members may enjoy the activities of the Society, but may not hold office or vote. These classifications of members may serve on committees, if they desire.

Sec. 12. An applicant will be considered an Associate Member (temporary) for a period of six months.

Article 4 - Affairs

Sec. 1. All Officers and Board Members must be members in good standing of the Society of American Magicians as well as the Omaha Magical Society. The affairs of the Society shall be conducted and managed by members elected to and holding the following offices:

- a. President
- b. Vice-President
- c. Secretary
- d. Treasurer
- e. Sergeant-at-arms

Sec. 2. Additional positions to be filled each year will be the following:

- a. Scribe
- b. Membership
- c. Flash Paper editor
- d. Historian/curator
- e. John Keenan/Ilson Memorial Library Fund
- f. Librarian
- g. Program
- h. Conclave
- i. Publicity
- j. Examinations Secretary
- k. Junior Magicians

Sec. 3. When vacancies occur, proper notice shall be given by the secretary. Any vacancies in office shall be filled by the majority vote of those in attendance at any regular meeting. Notice is to be sent out by the Secretary as to the purpose and intent of the meeting.

Sec. 4. The term of all officers shall be for a period of one year or until successors are elected. At no time shall the office of President or Vice-President exceed a period of two years, unless no candidates are available. Term of office is to expire on the first day of January of each calendar year, at which time the newly elected officers shall assume their elected offices.

Sec. 5. A nominating committee shall be appointed by the President by the September meeting. The committee shall report the recommendations at the October meeting. Election of officers shall be held at the November meeting and installation of officers shall be at the December meeting. Other nominations for any office may be made from the floor at the October or November meetings.

Sec. 6. Names submitted by the nominating committee and/or those nominated from the floor shall be voted on. All nominees receiving a majority of all votes cast shall be declared elected. If no such majority is received, then a second ballot shall be cast between the two nominees receiving the largest number of votes on the first ballot. The person receiving the majority vote on the second ballot shall be declared elected.

Sec. 7. An absentee ballot shall be available from the secretary and must be returned on or before the day of the election meeting. In addition, an absentee ballot shall be included in the October Newsletter and must be returned on or before the day of the election meeting.

Article 5 - Meeting

Sec. 1. Regular meetings are to be held on the third Monday of each month unless the members are otherwise notified. The President may call a special meeting at any time, provided a notice of such meeting is given to all members at least one week in advance of said meeting. Any active or life member may request a special meeting by first advising the president of the nature of the request and sufficient reason is given for such a meeting.

Sec. 2. All meetings must have present not less than two officers and four other members, or three officers and three other members. This will be a minimum for a quorum.

Sec. 3. The President shall preside at all meetings unless absent, in which case the Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, or most recent Past President, in that order, shall preside and have the same authority.

Sec. 4. The Society funds are to be held by the Treasurer. All books, statements and related information pertaining thereto shall be held free to examination at any time by any member of the Society. Funds generated for use by the Society shall be used to cover operating expenses and in a manner to benefit the entire Society membership. No funds in excess of \$50 shall be spent for any purpose until duly authorized by vote of the membership or by the Board of Directors. Expenditure of Society funds shall be by Bank Check and shall require the signature of the Society Treasurer or the President or the Vice President.

Sec. 5. The Annual meeting shall be held at the December meeting, at such time and place as may be designated, and at that time the newly-elected officers shall be announced.

Sec. 6. Only members in good standing of the Society shall be permitted to attend business meetings.

Sec. 7. Each member, guest or visitor, will pay a \$1 admission fee at each regular social meeting.

Sec. 8. Visitors. Any member may introduce a friend or friends to the Society's social meetings. The introducing member shall be responsible for the conduct of his guest or guests.

Sec. 9. No visitor shall be admitted to any closed meeting of the Society without permission of the Chairman or Host of the particular meeting.

Sec. 10. No one in attendance may use a camera, video camera, or sound recorder at any meeting without permission of the Chairman or Host of the particular meeting.

Article 6 - Applications

Sec. 1. All applications for membership in the Society shall be made on regular application blanks provided by the Society, and must be signed and recommended by at least two Society members in good standing.

Sec. 2. The signature of the applicant for membership shall be a pledge of his or her agreement to support the Constitution, By-laws and Amendments of Ritual and Code of Ethics of the organization and to any resolutions now in force or hereafter adopted.

Sec. 3. The membership committee, composed of three active members, shall pass on all applications for membership in the Society before their presentation to the Society for vote. In the event that the membership committee is not unanimous in its agreement on whether or not the applicant be accepted, then the application shall be brought before the Society to vote.

Sec. 4. All applications for membership shall first be read at a regular meeting of the Society by the Secretary. Such applications shall then be voted on at the next regular meeting.

Article 7 - Dues

Sec. 1. The dues for membership shall be \$20.00 per year, payable in advance before the January meeting, as determined by prior agreement by the Board of Directors.

Sec. 2. Any member whose dues are more than three months in arrears shall be automatically suspended. Any member whose dues are more than three months in arrears may be reinstated by paying that years' dues within the remaining nine month period together with a penalty of \$1.

Sec. 3. No dues shall be assessed against any Honorary, Honorary Life, or Life Members.

Article 8 - Penalties

Sec. 1. Upon proper notice being given by the Secretary at least ten days prior thereto, a member may be recommended for suspension, expulsion, or other disciplinary action by a majority vote of Members present at any regular meeting, for the

following offenses: Unbecoming conduct, violation of Society rules, violation of the code of ethics, and violation of oath. Should such a recommendation be made, all penalties and actions shall be in accordance with the applicable procedures contained in the By-Laws of the Society of American Magicians. Dues will not be refunded.

Article 9 - Amendments

Sec. 1. The Constitution and By-Laws may be amended at any regular meeting by the majority vote of the members present, provided however, that such an amendment shall first have been presented to the members of the Society at its previous regular meeting, and proper notice of the purpose of the meeting given by the Secretary.

Article 10 - Board of Directors

Sec. 1. The Board of Directors shall consist of the current President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, immediate Past President, one individual appointed by the President, and Life Members, and Past Presidents as determined by the President.

Sec. 2. Purpose of the Board is to assist the incoming President in conducting Society business. A board meeting should be called by the current President in January of each year and as many times as the President deems fit to further promote the welfare and success of the Society.

Article 11 - Matters Not Provided For

Sec. 1. The Board of Directors shall have power to decide any matter not specifically provided for, and to give decisions as to the interpretation of any rule should the occasion arise.