

Greetings.

BOBOLINGS # 2

Despite its appearance, this is not a postmailing. It is my informal comments on the FAPA constitution and proposals regarding its change. It is typed on stencil due to lack of carbon paper, and because it will be sent to FAPA officialdom, members of the Constitution Committee, and such other FAPA members as I see fit.

DEADWOOD. Martinez' three classifications of fans (Eager Beavers, Lazy Susans, and Unmentionables) is quite satisfactory. The thing to do is to get and/or keep LS's and U's out.

UNMENTIONABLES. As Sam pointed out, these individuals occupy ranning table spaces for four mailings with no return to FAPA. I have no figures, but I'm sure we pick up at least four people in this category yearly. My proposal is that new members be accepted on a probational basis. To become full-fledged members, they must submit 4, 6, or 8 pages (preferably the latter) by the second mailing, and 4, 6, or 8 (again preferably the latter) by their fourth mailing. They will not be given page credit for post-mailed magazines during this period. The bookkeeping would not be particularly hard or involved, and would more than pay for itself in terms of vitality in fapa.

LAZY SUSANS. Members who managed to stay in FAPA only by means of a postmailing during the 45 day grace period would be accepted into fapa on the same probational basis as applies to new members. The only distinction is that they would not have to wait out the waiting list. In this connection, I would recommend that the indorsement provision of section 9 be retained, and be applicable to any category member. (The indorsement provision reads: "On endorsement by 12 other members, a member's failure to meet sustaining activity requirements will be waived on a particular occasion." My spelling endorsement with an "i" merely indicates I've worked for the Army too damn long.)

I do not favor other recommendations regarding changes in activity requirements. From the standpoint of a Lazy Susan--and most of you receiving this don't have that standpoint--the threat to a LS that, even if he retained his membership by a frantic postmailing, he would have to produce and have in the OE's hands a full eight pages within the next $4\frac{1}{2}$ months, would discourage many from even attempting to hold onto membership. They would try desperately to get the zine in the mailing itself, and that's at least half of what's required to rehabilitate.

MEMBERSHIP. If activity and renewal requirements stay as they currently are, I believe an increase in membership to 75 is justified by the current waiting list. If fapa is made more difficult to obtain/retain membership in, by some such proposal as the one recommended above, I believe a membership limit of not over 70 would be sufficient. However, any increase in the size of the organization coupled with provisions to obtain more active members may require that mailings be sent in two bundles. The last two mailings I received were ripped down the side, and much fatter packages might come entirely apart.

The remaining sections of the constitution seem satisfactory to me. I'm not saying that they shouldn't be changed, but only that the changes I've seen recommended do not strike my fancy.

Bob Pavlat, 6001 43rd avenue, Hyattsville, Maryland
March 24, 1955