



# FIGU Society USA

November 24, 2006

## **FIGU Society New Membership Policy**

Recently, the FIGU Society USA (FSUSA) has undergone some changes that have not only affected the structure and functions of the group at present, but will serve as a firm base for its organization and stability into the future.

As you may be aware from the FIGU Society USA Newsletter, the existing members of the FSUSA were requested to attend a special meeting at the Semjase Silver Star Center in order to address specific organizational, regulatory and interpersonal matters within the group. The majority of the group was able to attend and take part in the discussions and decision-making and was able to leave the Center with a fundamental plan of action for a new group undergoing a fresh start.

As a result of the meeting, it was determined that the first priority of the group is to take care of internal matters at the present time and decide upon the establishment of new rules and regulations in an effort to build a strong foundation that will provide the group with the stability it requires. All efforts or discussions dealing with the formation of a Center in the USA have been postponed indefinitely until the group is strong enough to deal with such an undertaking. It is not the right time to focus the group efforts in this direction, since the primary focus must continue to be directed toward deepening the relationships among each other and building the strong base necessary for the group's success. Each person must know each other in order to become aware of the potential of the individual's capabilities and how they can best be utilized for the benefit of the group.

In FIGU Switzerland, an individual who wants to join the Core Group as a new member has to work on external matters with the group throughout a trial period of two years in order to become acquainted with the group members. This has proven to be successful in their process of integrating new members. The FSUSA has decided to adopt this trial period model, as well as introduce some additional measures that would help the group maintain its stability.

Prior to applying for membership in FSUSA, a person must be a Passive Member for a minimum of two years. During the two-year Passive membership, it is highly recommended that the individual attend the AMPM meetings each year and, if possible, attend the annual Passive Member meeting in Switzerland. After this prerequisite is fulfilled, they may then apply for membership in the FIGU Society USA.

During the trial period, the internal monthly meetings of the group cannot be attended. In addition, a trial member must attend a minimum of two AMPM (Annual Meeting of Passive Members) in the USA, as well as perform the three-day work requirement at the Semjase Silver Star Center at least once.

Since there is not much physical work that can be done at present, a person interested in becoming a member must, as a trial member, contribute toward current FSUSA projects and activities (for example, helping with the Newsletter, the website, AMPM planning, etc.). Ideas for a new activity or action involving the group are always welcome. However these ideas cannot be put into action by the trial member alone. They have to be presented to the FSUSA where they can be discussed and decided upon first.

If everything works out well during the trial period, the FSUSA will decide about the provisional integration of the trial member into the group, followed by another period of two years as a provisional member. During the provisional period, the new member attends the internal meetings and has the same rights and responsibilities as any other member. At the end of the two-year provisional period, the FSUSA will then decide about the final integration of the member.

The FSUSA decided that all of the aforementioned requirements must be adhered to and are effective immediately. While these new rules are a big shift from previous requirements, we feel that they will create an environment of growth and stability for FIGU matters in the United States for the long term.

### **Overview of FIGU Society USA Application Process**

Membership Procedure	Time Involved	Prerequisites / Details
Retain membership as a FIGU Passive Member.	Minimum of two years (continuous)	Attendance to AMPM meetings in the U.S. and FIGU Switzerland Passive Member meetings is strongly encouraged.
Apply for FSUSA Membership. Begin trial membership period.	Two years	Attendance to two AMPM meetings and at least one FIGU Switzerland Passive Member meeting is mandatory. Contribute toward FSUSA projects and activities.
Begin FSUSA provisional membership period.	Two Years	Attend FSUSA internal meetings with all rights and responsibilities as all existing members.
Decision for integration into FSUSA made by existing FSUSA members. Upon favorable decision, membership in FSUSA begins in full.	Indefinite	Unanimous consensus required by FSUSA for acceptance into FSUSA.