

TENG Newsletter, Vol. 5 No 12

## Spam Blocking Software

Occasionally members contact us to advise that other members no longer receive TENG distributions or have never received membership acknowledgment. It is possible that these disconnected members may be using SPAM blocking software such as ChoiceMail, Qurb, Barracuda, Spam Blocs or some other commercially available product. Some of these products allow the purchaser to set them to permit receipt of Emails only from domains and originators that they pre-approve.

Recently I have attempted to contact two members and have received replies such as this one:

“I apologize for this automatic reply to your email.

To control spam, I now allow incoming messages only from senders I have approved beforehand.

If you would like to be added to my list of approved senders, please fill out the short request form (see link below). Once I approve you, I will receive your original message in my inbox. You do not need to resend your message. I apologize for this one-time inconvenience.

Click the link below to fill out the request:”

Time does not permit me to reply to these messages or verify my identity, making it entirely possible that some newer members are not aware of their acceptance to TENG. No one I know of enjoys receiving SPAM Email. I also don't enjoy receiving junk mail via the Postal Service or unsolicited phone calls during dinner. Nevertheless, I tolerate them because it would be unreasonable for me to pull my mailbox out of the ground or disconnect my phone.

I have to admit that my Email is screened by my Internet service provider, which sends me a daily summary of suspected SPAM messages that are captured and held at a quarantined site. I then quickly scan them and approve for delivery those I wish to read. But critical to this is that I assume the work of screening rather than forcing those wishing to contact me to have to justify their existence and purpose for communicating with me.

If you have recently sponsored a new member that has not heard from us, you may wish to ask them whether they use anti-spam software. If they do, then perhaps they should consider obtaining a free Email account from Yahoo, Hotmail or Google and use it exclusively for TENG. If they set their personal Yahoo preferences to “Daily Digest”

this dedicated account will then receive only two Emails per day, one each from the Discussion and LeadShare Groups plus the occasional Email directly from me. This will allow them to receive the benefits of TENG membership and use spam blocking software on their primary account.

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