

CONSTITUTION OF THE NORTH CAROLINA LITERARY AND HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

(Adopted at the Annual Meeting on December 3, 1971, and amended at the Annual Meetings on: December 21, 1977; November 9, 1979; November 21; 1980, November 19, 1982; November 7, 1986; November 1990; November 1992; November 2001; November 2002; November 2004; November 2005; November 2009; June 2014; November 2015).

ARTICLE I – NAME AND PURPOSE

- Section 1. This Association shall be called the North Carolina Literary and Historical Association, Incorporated.
- Section 2. The purposes of this Association shall be as follows: (1) to foster the interest of North Carolinians in the literature, history, arts, and natural resources of the Tar Heel State; (2) to encourage productive literary activity within the State, and to assist in bringing to public attention meritorious works by North Carolina writers; (3) to promote broad and varied activity in the field of state and local history; (4) to promote and encourage broad and varied activities in the arts in North Carolina; (5) to serve as a medium for the constructive exchange of ideas among persons concerned for the permanent well-being of North Carolina; (6) and to cooperate so far as may be practicable with other organizations in North Carolina whose purposes are similar to the purposes of this Association.

ARTICLE II – OFFICERS

- Section 1. The officers of the Association shall be a President, President-Elect, and a Secretary-Treasurer.
- Section 2. Officers shall be elected by the Association at an annual meeting, to serve for a term of two years or until their successors are elected and qualified. The President-Elect shall be confirmed at an annual meeting and shall serve for a term of two years unless unusual circumstances make this succession impossible or undesirable.
- Section 3. In the event of the death or resignation of the President, the President-Elect shall fill the unexpired term. Any other vacancy in office shall be filled by appointment of the Executive Committee of the Association until the next meeting of the Association.
- Section 4. The duties of the President shall be: (1) to preside over all meetings of the Association; (2) to appoint all committees, except where it is otherwise provided; (3) to maintain the general interest of the Association, and to enlist the counsel and support of the membership in doing so; (4) and to lead in keeping constantly before the membership the stated purposes of the Association, and in formulating or furthering a program through which those purposes may be translated into effective activity both during and after his or her term of office.
- Section 5. In the absence of the President at any meeting, the President-Elect shall preside.
- Section 6. Acting under the general direction of the Executive Committee, the Secretary-Treasurer shall attend to the correspondence and have charge of the funds and records

of the Association. He or she shall be that officer chiefly responsible for promoting the free interchange of communication between the membership and Executive Committee, and for submitting to the members, by mail or other methods, timely reports upon matters of common interest.

Section 7. All persons nominated to office shall be members of the Association, and the person nominated as President-Elect should usually be nominated from those persons who have served at least one year on the Executive Committee.

Section 8. Upon nomination of the Director of the Office of Archives and History and the Secretary-Treasurer, the Executive Committee may designate a person to serve as Assistant Secretary-Treasurer. This person shall attend meetings of the Executive Committee without vote.

ARTICLE III – EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1. (1) There shall be an Executive Committee consisting of the officers prescribed in Article II, the immediate Past President, the Director of the Office of Archives and History if that person is not an officer, and twelve persons elected to serve as members of the Committee. Four Executive Committee members shall be elected each year, to serve for terms of three years. Of the twelve non-officer members, appointments shall be made as follows: (1) three with a sustained interest and demonstrated experience in history; (2) three with a sustained interest and demonstrated experience in arts and literature; (3) three with a sustained interest and demonstrated experience in natural resources; (4) and three at-large members appointed at the discretion of the Executive Committee. The increase in the number of non-officer members from nine to twelve shall be effected over the course of three years.

(2) Election of a member of the Executive Committee to an office, or appointment by the Executive Committee to fill a vacancy in an office, shall create a vacancy in the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee may fill a vacancy in the Committee membership by appointment until the next annual meeting. If the unexpired term extends for one or two years past that meeting, the remainder of the term shall be filled by regular nomination and election.

(3) Eight members of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. The Executive Committee shall have general supervision of the affairs of the Association under the provisions of this Constitution, including but not limited to giving instructions to and requiring reports from the Secretary-Treasurer and other officers.

Section 2. A nominating committee of three members shall be appointed by the President for the purpose of nominating candidates for office and for membership on the Executive Committee, to be voted upon at the next annual business meeting.

Section 3. The Executive Committee is empowered to authorize other committees as needs for them may arise.

ARTICLE IV – ENDOWMENT TRUST

Section 1. There will be five members called the “Trustees of the Endowment Trust” elected to

five-year terms staggered such that one member will be elected for one year, a second for two years, a third for three years, a fourth for four years, and a fifth for five years.

- Section 2. The Trustees shall meet at least once per year to discuss and administer the business of Endowment Trust Account. The trustees may meet more than once per year at their discretion.
- Section 3. Members are up for re-election during the annual meeting. In odd-numbered years, the Executive Committee votes for reelection at the annual business meeting. In even-numbered years, trustees of the Endowment Trust Board shall choose to reelect a member or elect a new member. Members may be reelected indefinitely.
- Section 4. The Secretary-Treasurer shall attend these meetings in a non-voting capacity. The Secretary-Treasurer may be elected to the Trust, and if this is so, may serve in a voting capacity. The Secretary Treasurer must report the business of the Trust meeting to the Executive Committee.
- Section 5. The Trustees have authority over the Endowment Trust Account, but the Executive Committee has regulatory authority over the Trustees. The Executive Committee, by majority vote, may remove or replace any Endowment Trustees member if a trustee dies during service, resigns, or is removed from office. The Executive Committee may appoint a trustee to fill the remaining unexpired term of the person he or she replaced.

ARTICLE V – MEMBERSHIP, DUES, FINANCES, AND MEETINGS

- Section 1. Any persons who subscribe to the purposes of the Association are eligible for Membership and shall be admitted to membership upon advance payment of dues prescribed in Section 2 below.
- Section 2. Annual dues for membership in the Association shall be established by the Executive Committee:

Student	\$25.00
Young Associates	\$35.00
Individual	\$50.00
Household	\$60.00
Institutional	\$70.00
Contributing	\$130.00
Life (individuals only)	\$800.00

(1) Basic rates for regular membership in the Association include a one-year subscription to the *North Carolina Historical Review* and a one-year subscription to the *North Carolina Literary Review*, as well as invitations to members-only functions.

(2) Student memberships may be held by registered full-time students for up to four years.

(3) Households include up to four individuals at the same residence, attend members-only events, and all together share Association subscriptions.

(4) Institutional rates entitle two representatives of institutional members to attend

Association functions.

(5) Contributing members are entitled to extend to two non-members invitations to members-only events; a contributing membership may be for an individual or household.

ARTICLE VI – AWARDS

- Section 1.
- (1) The Christopher Crittenden Memorial Award, established by this Association on December 5, 1969, shall be conferred annually upon a person, organization, institution, corporate body, or group of same, engaged in the study, writing, teaching, publication, preservation, restoration, or dissemination of knowledge pertaining to North Carolina history. The award shall be determined by a singular contribution to North Carolina history or by a congeries of noteworthy services that deserve recognition. The major criterion for this award shall be adjudged performance in the advancement of North Carolina history. The recipient or recipients of this award shall be selected by the Christopher Crittenden Memorial Award Committee consisting of the immediate past President, the current President, and one member of the Association elected by the Executive Committee. The Director of the State Office of Archives and History shall serve as ex officio member of the committee.
- (2) If and when interest earned on money deposited as the Christopher Crittenden Fund exceeds the amount required for engraving, the purchase of cups, and other expenses incident to the presentation of the Christopher Crittenden Memorial Award, the Executive Committee shall be authorized to establish an additional memorial to Dr. Crittenden through sponsorship of some phase of the work of the Tar Heel Junior Historian Association. Should, in any year, the interest be insufficient to provide funds needed for this additional memorial, the transfer from the general treasury shall be permissible.
- (3) At the discretion of the Executive Committee, the Association shall cooperate with other historical, literary, and cultural organizations in North Carolina in providing appropriate times and platforms for the presentation of awards recognizing contributions to North Carolina life and heritage.

- Section 2.
- (1) The purpose of the W. Keats and Elizabeth H. Sparrow Endowment shall be to help support and, in time, to support in full the keynote lecture for the annual meeting of the North Carolina Literary and Historical Association. If in time 75 percent of the annual earnings regularly exceeds the cost of the annual keynote lecture, the remaining portion of the 75 percent of the earnings may be used to support other association initiatives.
- (2) To ensure the perpetual growth of the endowment corpus, only up to 75 percent of the annual earnings shall be expended. The remaining 25 percent or more of the annual earnings shall be reinvested in the corpus.
- (3) The endowment corpus shall remain inviolable in perpetuity.

ARTICLE VII – CONSTITUTION: ADOPTION AND AMENDMENTS

- Section 1. This Constitution, having been approved by the Executive Committee, shall become effective upon approval by three-fourths of the members voting.

Section 2. For adoption of an amendment, approval of three-fourths of the members voting shall be required.

Section 3. A copy of this Constitution, incorporating amendments that may be adopted from time to time, shall be furnished to each new officer and member of the Executive Committee at the time he or she assumes office and shall be available at any time to any member of the Association upon written request to the Secretary-Treasurer of the Association.