

**BY-LAWS
OF THE
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF EAST ALABAMA, AS
AMENDED AND RESTATED, JULY 18, 2020**

ARTICLE I - NAME

As established under its Articles of Incorporation, the name of this organization shall be the Genealogical Society of East Alabama.

ARTICLE II – OBJECTIVES

The objectives and purposes of the Genealogical Society of East Alabama (GSEA), herein after, GSEA or the Society, shall be:

Section 1. To locate, collect and publish source materials and data of genealogical, biographical and geographical interest, especially those relating to the East Alabama counties of Chambers, Lee, Macon, Russell and Tallapoosa.

Section 2. To facilitate the exchange of genealogical and related materials among members and interested others.

Section 3. To issue and circulate such data and source materials as may be relevant to the objectives and purposes of GSEA.

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Any individual, family or institution interested in the objectives of the GSEA is eligible for membership.

Section 2. Membership categories:

- a. Individual/family (basic) membership: Individuals/families shall pay full annual membership dues as determined by

the GSEA Board and shall receive periodic publications, notice of quarterly meetings and all other communications pertaining to GSEA.

- b. Institutional (basic) membership: Institutions will pay full annual membership dues and may designate an office or individual to receive periodic publications, notice of quarterly meetings and other communications from GSEA.
- c. Special membership categories: The Board may establish varying levels of membership in addition to the basis level. These added levels will enable increased contributions by those members desirous of providing added financial support to the Society. The added membership levels shall receive the same benefits as basic members plus special recognition.

Section 3. Annual (basic) dues for membership in GSEA are payable by May 1 of each year. Dues may be set by the GSEA at any quarterly meeting upon the recommendation of the GSEA Board and by a majority vote of the members present. Special membership dues/levels shall also be set by the Board.

ARTICLE IV – OFFICERS, TRUSTEES AND ELECTIONS

Section 1. The officers of GSEA shall be president, vice-president (program chairman), recording secretary, corresponding secretary and treasurer. Initially, five (5) trustees shall serve as advisors to the officers, as Board members and as outreach representatives of the Society.

Section 2. Officers shall be elected biennially. Trustees shall serve staggered terms and some trustees shall be elected each biennial period. The president shall appoint a nominating committee of three (3) members prior to the annual meeting and

the nominating committee shall report nominees for each office and trustee position prior to the annual meeting. Nominations may also be made from the floor. Where there is more than one nominee for an office, voting shall be by ballot with the person receiving a simple majority of the votes of members present and voting being elected to that office. Trustees shall be designated A, B, C, D and E. Trustees A and C shall be elected in 2020 and every four years thereafter. Trustees B, D and E shall be elected in 2020 and shall serve until April 30, 2022. Subsequently trustees B, D and E shall be elected in 2022 and every four years thereafter. New officers and directors begin their term of service on May 1 following their election.

Section 3. The term of office for elected officers shall be two (2) years, and the term of office for trustees shall be four (4) years (except as noted in Article IV, Section 2), and provided that an officer or a trustee shall serve until his successor has been elected.

Section 4. A vacancy in an elective position shall be filled by the GSEA Board until the next election.

Section 5. The president may appoint standing and ad hoc committees as necessary for the efficient operation of the Society. The president may also appoint consultant(s) on genealogical and organizational matters to serve in an advisory capacity to the president and the Board.

Section 6. The president may appoint a Chaplain and a Parliamentarian.

ARTICLE V – DUTIES OF OFFICERS, TRUSTEES AND APPOINTEES

Section 1. The president shall preside at all meetings of the Society and of the GSEA Board; shall appoint members of both standing and ad hoc committees and other such appointments as needed. The president shall be an ex officio member of all committees and shall perform other such duties usually performed by the office of president.

Section 2. The vice-president shall act as a representative of the president and preside over meetings of the Society and the Board in the absence of the president and perform other duties as required by the president. In addition, the vice-president shall also serve as program chair.

Section 3. The recording secretary shall keep an accurate record of the proceedings of the Society and the Board and shall promptly share the minutes of these proceedings with Board members.

Section 4. The corresponding secretary shall be responsible for handling all correspondence of the Society and its Board and shall serve as custodian of documents and source materials of the GSEA.

Section 5. The treasurer shall be custodian of the funds of the Society, receiving payments and paying legitimate claims against GSEA, The treasurer shall sign all checks issued by the Society and shall make a report of the financial condition of the GSEA at each Board meeting.

Section 6. Trustees serve as advisors to the officers of the GSEA, as members of the Board and as outreach members of the Society. Insofar as possible, trustee nominees shall be selected

for their specific or experience in an area relevant to the objectives of the GSEA

Section 7. A chaplain, if appointed, shall open all meeting of the Society and the Board with prayer, conduct appropriate memorials in memory of deceased members and perform other duties as may be incident to the position.

Section 8. A parliamentarian, if appointed, shall serve as advisor to the president, or other presiding officer, to assure that the GSEA's by-laws are upheld and that Roberts' Rules of Order are followed.

ARTICLE VI – THE BOARD

Section 1. The Board shall consist of all elected officers, the immediate past president and trustees of the Society and shall be responsible for the overall direction and oversight of activities, property and funds of the GSEA.

Section 2. The Board shall hold regular meetings within two (2) weeks prior to the regular quarterly meetings of the Society. The Board may have other special meetings as called by the president. At least one (1) regular Board meeting each year shall be open to all GSEA members.

ARTICLE VII – QUORUM

Section 1. Ten (10) members shall constitute a quorum at any regular or called meeting of the Society.

Section 2. Five (5) members shall constitute a quorum at any regular or called meeting of the Board.

ARTICLE VIII – MEETINGS

Section 1. The Society shall meet quarterly, during the months of January, April, July and October. The April quarterly meeting shall be designated the annual meeting. The place, date and time of meetings shall be determined by the Board and published within two weeks of each meeting, in generally circulated local newspapers.

ARTICLE IX – AMENDMENTS

Section 1. GSEA by-laws may be amended at any regular meeting of the Society by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of members present and voting; provided, first, that the proposed amendments have been submitted to the Board for review at least two weeks prior to the meeting and, second, that the GSEA membership be made aware of the proposed amendments.

Section 2. The Board shall provide for the periodic review of the Society’s by-laws.

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