

USS WISCONSIN ASSOCIATION CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS



ARTICLE I - NAME AND PURPOSE

Section 1

The name of the organization shall be USS WISCONSIN ASSOCIATION, hereinafter to be called "The Association".

Section 2

The purpose of The Association shall be to foster and strengthen the fraternal, civic and patriotic ties among former shipmates who have served aboard USS WISCONSIN (BB 64), their spouses and direct descendants. To also provide future strength of The Association by allowing other person or persons with the interest of actively participating within The Association and to provide mutual aid and benefits to former crewmembers and Association Members.

Section 3

The Association shall be non-profit and shall not have, nor issue shares, stocks or dividends.

ARTICLE II - OFFICERS, TERMS OF OFFICE, COMMITTEES

Section 1

A) The elective officers of The Association shall be President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer and shall comprise the Executive Board. They shall be elected by ballot at the

biennial meeting and their terms of office shall be two (2) years. The President shall be limited to two (2) consecutive terms of office. There shall not be any limit of consecutive terms that may be served by the Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer.

B) The elected officers in ARTICLE II, Section 1 shall be held by former crewmembers until there are no former crewmembers with the capacity or desire to serve The Association.

Section 2

There shall be a Second Vice-President, Master/Sergeant-At-Arms, Chaplain, Curator/Historian, Web-Master, Storekeeper, Badger Editor and Membership Chairman appointed by the President. There shall be no limit to the number of consecutive terms that may be served by appointed positions.

Section 3

The President may form committees and may appoint chairmen for such committees as necessary to conduct the business of The Association.

Section 4

A) There shall be an Executive Committee comprised of the Executive Board, all officials appointed under Article II Section 2, the most recent Past President, and Founders of The Association. The Executive Committee shall provide advice and assistance as may be requested by the President in carrying out his duties.

B) The Executive Committee members shall fill their own vacancies with the approval of the President. In cases of emergency or unlikely departure of any committee member/s, the President shall fill vacancies of The Executive Committee as may be necessary.

Section 5

Upon completion of his term of office, the senior ex-officer shall serve as Election Committee Chairman until the next election of officers is held. The Election Committee Chairman may designate two (2) association members to assist in performance of nominations, balloting and election duties and processes.

ARTICLE III - DUTIES OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Section 1

The President shall preside over all meetings of The Association, preserve order and decorum and shall perform all duties incident to the office of President. He shall give notice of all

meetings and conduct the correspondence of The Association.

Section 2

The Vice-President shall render such assistance to the President as he may require and shall perform duties of the President in his absence or disability. He shall be Chairman of the Reunion Committee and may designate other association members to assist as may be required or necessary in performance of reunion duties and processes. He shall keep the President informed of reunion planning and any problems that may be occurring with the progress of planning. Additionally, he will provide a monthly report to the Executive Committee on the progress of the reunion planning by either email or phone.

Section 3

The Treasurer shall keep the accounts of The Association in an electronic format and report thereon at the biennial meeting and at such other times as the Executive Committee may request. The Association's accounts shall be audited by an Auditing Committee appointed by the President. A copy of the accounts shall be distributed to all members of the Executive Committee.

Section 4

The Secretary shall be responsible for recording and reading of the minutes of all meetings and shall distribute copies of said minutes to all members of the Executive Committee.

Section 5

The Second Vice-President shall render such assistance to the President and Vice-President as they may require and shall perform the duties of the Vice-President in his absence or disability. He shall be Chairman of the Ship's Store Committee. The Ship's Store Committee shall consist of the Second Vice- President, Ship's Storekeeper and one (1) other association member as may be designated by the President.

Section 6

The Master/Sergeant-At-Arms shall be responsible for The Association's banners and colors. He shall be responsible for posting and presentation of said colors and banners. Under the direction of the President, he shall call and maintain order at all association meetings and functions.

Section 7

The Chaplain shall be responsible for the Memorial Service held at the biennial reunion. He will maintain the list of deceased members which will include; Ship's Company, Associate Members and spouses of members so that they may be honored at the Memorial Service. He

shall also be responsible for sending, upon notification, appropriate condolence or get well cards or letters. He shall be responsible for the arrangement of the Church Service to be held on the Sunday of the departure from the biennial reunion. He shall be available to all Association members who may call upon his services.

Section 8

A) The Storekeeper shall be responsible for The Ship's Store and assist the Second Vice-President as necessary in performance of the Ship's Store Committee duties and processes.

B) The Storekeeper shall make deposits to a local branch of the current bank used by the Association. In the event that a local branch is not available the Storekeeper shall set up a satellite bank account if necessary for deposits, as to avoid sending checks via the U.S. Postal Service. Deposit receipts should then be mailed to the Secretary/Treasurer. He/ She shall review all invoices from merchandise purchases and send same to the Secretary/Treasurer for prompt payment. He/ She shall keep and record all inventory of store merchandise. Reports are to be made to members of the Executive Board at least every 6 months or upon request.

Section 9

The Curator/Historian shall be responsible for maintaining the archives of The Association, receiving and recording donations of memorabilia from members and other sources and shall report such to the Executive Committee.

Section 10

The Webmaster shall be responsible for maintaining The Association's web-site.

Section 11

The Membership Chairman shall be responsible for maintaining the membership roll. Reports shall be published for The Association Membership through the web site or newsletter. He / She shall set-up satellite bank account if necessary for deposits of dues and make use of electronic transfers to deposit funds directly into The Association's checking account. Deposit receipts should then be emailed / mailed to the Secretary/Treasurer.

Section 12

The Badger Editor shall publish a periodic newsletter which shall be distributed to the membership as directed by the President or Executive Committee.

Section 13

The Election Committee Chairman shall request and receive nominations for elections and conduct all elections at the biennial meeting. He/she shall retain all ballots for a period of no less than one (1) year.

ARTICLE IV - MEMBERSHIP, DUES, CONTRIBUTIONS, VOTING

Section 1

A) All persons who served in USS WISCONSIN (BB 64) at any given time are eligible for membership in The Association. They shall be designated as Ship's Company.

B) Direct Family members of personnel who served aboard USS WISCONSIN (BB 64) and persons who did not serve and are not direct family members are eligible for membership in The Association and shall be designated as Associate Members.

C) Lifetime membership shall be given to widows of deceased Association Member in good standing and all others as may be deemed necessary by the Membership Chairman and President.

Section 2

Annual dues shall be determined by the Executive Board. The Executive Board may adjust the dues as the economic needs of The Association dictates. The dues shall cover a period of one year. Members whose dues are not paid by one month after their dues have expired will be removed from the rolls unless extenuating circumstances prevail.

Section 3

Donations and Contributions shall be accepted for the purpose of funding the operation and functions of The Association. If a monetary contribution is given to The Association, it must be transferred to the Treasurer for inclusion into The Association's bank account and labeled for intended use. If a contribution is designated for the reunion hospitality room; those funds will be reported to the Treasurer but can be retained by the Executive Board. Invoices detailing how the funds were spent will be sent to the Treasurer within 90 days after the reunion.

Section 4

A) Votes pertinent and crucial to the overall structure and operation of the Association shall take place at the general business meeting during the reunion.

B) Votes of general and daily operation of the Association should be conducted within the

confines of the Executive Board and the Executive Committee. During these votes no less than 5 (five) members of the Executive Board and Committee must be in meeting. Items under this Article pertain to any issues that do not require The Association Members vote.

Section 5

All members serving on the Executive Board or Executive Committee may have their dues waived for the period(s) in which they are serving in that position.

ARTICLE V - MEMBERS

Section 1

Members may assist in locating former shipmates and forward their contact information to the Membership Chairman.

Section 2

Members may assist in obtaining newspaper, television, radio, social media and magazine coverage for the reunions and distribute flyers and/or bulletin board notices of same.

Section 3

No member shall enter or remain at any meeting of The Association in an intoxicated condition. No alcoholic beverage will be permitted in the meeting rooms during any meeting.

Section 4

No member shall enter into any binding agreement with any source for the purposes relating to The Association without first obtaining permission from the President.

ARTICLE VI - MEETINGS, REUNIONS, ELECTIONS

Section 1

There shall be at least one (1) Executive Committee meeting each year. Not less than five (5) board and committee members must be present or conferenced in using any form of media to constitute a quorum for making decisions pertaining to the operation and function of The Association. These meetings should be conducted with the least inexpensive means possible.

Section 2

All members in good standing may attend meetings and those members at least 18 years of age are eligible to vote.

Section 3

There shall be a biennial reunion of members at a specified location, voted on by members from the previous reunion, to be held in a city chosen by a majority vote taken at the biennial business meeting. The Executive Committee may choose a reunion site, should it become necessary, for expediency only.

Section 4

At such time when biennial reunions become impractical, the Executive Committee shall have the authority to schedule reunions as appropriate and convenient for the membership.

Section 5

All members attending a reunion are requested to be present at the biennial business meeting to elect officers and/or vote on other matters pertaining to the business and function of The Association.

Section 6

The election of officers shall take place at the biennial business meeting held during the reunion by a majority vote of members present. The results of the election shall be announced immediately after all votes have been tabulated, at the banquet or other suitable gathering. At such time, newly elected and/or re-elected officers shall be introduced. They shall be given their oath of office at the formal banquet and their terms of office shall begin immediately with exception of the Treasurer, which shall be no later than the end of the calendar year. Outgoing officers shall be available to provide assistance to their replacements as requested. Results of all votes shall be final and immediate.

Section 7

Roberts Rules of Order shall be the official guide of The Association for conducting business and/or settling disputes of parliamentary procedure.

ARTICLE VII - PROTECTING THE ASSOCIATION

Section 1

No member of The Association, acting in the name of The Association, shall engage in any activity for self-profit in the form of money or assets arising from business transactions or dealings.

Section 2

Any member whose actions may dishonor or jeopardize the existence of The Association shall be subject to review and possible expulsion from The Association by the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE VIII - AMENDMENT OF CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

Section 1

These Constitution and Bylaws may be amended at any meeting of the members provided that;

- 1) The amendment has been received and reviewed by the Executive Committee at least sixty (60) days prior to the meeting.
- 2) The amendment is given in writing to the members of The Association at least two (2) weeks prior to the meeting at which time the amendment shall be considered.
- 3) The amendment is passed by a majority vote of members present at the meeting.

ARTICLE IX - FOUNDERS

Section 1

The names of the Founders of The Association shall be permanently listed in this section of The Constitution and Bylaws. All deceased Founders shall be denoted as such.

FOUNDERS OF USS WISCONSIN ASSOCIATION

CARL CAPESTRAIN
KENNETH R. COOK
MATTHEW HEALEY III
WILLIAM K. HENSON
JAMES W. JANZ
DAVID R. PATRYKUS
JOHN E. RODENCAL
DONALD DUNLAP (DECEASED)
GEORGE J. MILLER (DECEASED)
LOUIS SINAGRA (DECEASED)

ARTICLE X – DISSOLUTION OF USS WISCONSIN ASSOCIATION

Section 1

At the time of dissolution of the Association, all remaining funds and assets shall be awarded towards the maintenance of the USS Wisconsin BB-64.

Revision 07.11.14