

# **CONSTITUTION**

## **ARTICLE I - NAME OF ASSOCIATION**

The name of this organization shall be "The 35TH Infantry (Cacti) Regiment Association".

## **ARTICLE II - PURPOSE**

The purpose of this Association shall be to organize the veterans of the 35th Infantry Regiment of the United States Army, in order to foster, encourage and perpetuate the memory of the officers and men who distinguished themselves by their services and sacrifices while with the 35th Infantry (Cacti) Regiment; to promote and cultivate social intercourse and fellowship among their descendents; to perpetuate the memory of the achievements of the 35th Infantry (Cacti) Regiment and its members; to promote the National Defense; American patriotism and American citizenship; to encourage historical research in relation to Wars; to acquire and preserve the records of the services of the members of the 35th Infantry (Cacti) Regiment as well as documents and relics; to mark the scenes of the activities of the 35th Infantry (Cacti) Regiment with appropriate memorials; to celebrate the anniversaries for the events of our Country's Wars and conflicts; to foster true patriotism; to maintain and extend the institution of American freedom; and at all times to uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America.

## **ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP**

A. Membership in the Cacti Association will be as follows:

1. Active: All persons who served in the United States Army with any unit of the 35th Infantry (Cacti) Regiment at any time, or who are now retired or on active service, or shall have been honorably discharged there from, shall be eligible for active membership.
2. Paid For Life Members: Any individual who qualifies for active membership as described in Article III A. (a), and pays the required fee as stated in the "paid for life" guidelines.
3. Memorial: A widow, father, mother, child, brother, or sister of a deceased 35th Infantry (Cacti) Regiment member who would have been eligible for membership in this Association if living, shall be eligible to Memorial Membership and shall be entitled to all privileges of membership except those of voting and holding office.
4. Honorary Life: An Individual who has in some unique manner provided extraordinary service or assistance or demonstrated support of the 35th Infantry or this Association, or fostered Cacti Brotherhood, or in some other unique way

helped perpetuate the memory of the 35th Infantry or this Association. This Membership Honor may be proposed by any Cacti Member, in good standing, through a written request to the current President. The President shall, in a timely manner, submit and review the request with the current Association Officers and upon a yes vote of at least three of the Officers; the Honorary Life Membership will be awarded and shall be entitled to all privileges of membership except those of voting and holding office.

- B. Dues for Memorial and Honorary membership shall be complimentary. All presently living 35TH Infantry Regiment Medal of Honor recipients or former 35th Infantry Regiment personnel who were Prisoners of War will receive a PAID FOR LIFE MEMBERSHIP on a complimentary basis. Any future recipients will be evaluated as needed.

#### **ARTICLE IV- ASSOCIATION OFFICERS**

The Membership shall elect one or more Honorary Officers, a President, a Senior Vice-President,, First Vice President 1/35, Second Vice President 1/35, First Vice President 2/35, Second Vice President 2/35, Vice President, Korea and World War II, a Secretary /Treasurer, a Sgt. At Arms and a Cacti Service Officer. The election of officers shall take place at an annual business meeting.

##### **The President's Duties:**

1. He shall, as he deems necessary or advisable to appoint or remove any chairperson, in the best interest of the Cacti Association.
2. He shall see that the Association books, records, statements are properly supervised.
3. He shall serve as an ex-officio member on all committees except the Nomination Committee.
4. He shall preside at and call all Association Meetings.
5. He shall work with the Association Officers to structure and set up the Annual Business Meeting.
6. He shall compose the letter of invitation to be sent to all members for the Annual Reunion. The letter will be sent out by the Association Secretary/Treasurer via the Cacti Newsletter, email or regular postal mail.
7. He shall conduct a special Memorial Ceremony in memory of all the honored dead of the 35th Infantry Regiment during the banquet at the Annual Reunion.
8. He will appoint members to the Audit, Membership, Memorial, Nomination, Reunion and any special committees as needed.

##### **The Senior Vice-President's Duties:**

1. During the absence or inability of the President, shall take the place of the President.
2. He shall assist the President in the management of the Association.
3. He shall oversee and assist the Memorial Committees.
4. He shall oversee and assist the Membership Committee.

5. He shall perform such other duties as may be assigned by the Board of Directors or the President.

All other Vice Presidents' Duties:

1. The other Vice Presidents (5) will chair the such Committees as appointed by the Association President.
2. Each other Vice President will give a report on the committee they were appointed to chair.
3. Each other Vice President shall perform such other duties as may be assigned by the Board of Directors or the President.

The Secretary/Treasurer's Duties.

1. He shall be in charge of all membership cards, and mail the same, upon payment of dues, to all members.
2. He shall keep all records and be ready for inspection, upon the Presidents request.
3. He shall keep an up-to-date mailing list of members in good standing.
4. He shall keep the minutes of all meetings.
5. He shall give a full financial report at the annual business meeting.
6. He shall be responsible for all Association funds.
7. He shall ensure that deposits of funds are in the name of the Association.
8. He shall open two (2) bank accounts in the Associations Name. One account for General Funds and the other account shall be a Money Market interest bearing type account. Transfer of funds between accounts shall be made as necessary and in the best interest of the Association.
9. He shall keep accounts, statements and records ready for audit at all times. He is required to give a financial report at the annual business meeting.

The Sgt. at Arms Duties:

1. He shall maintain order in Association meetings and carry out any requests made by the Association President concerning the meetings.
2. He shall make sure that the meeting room for the annual business meeting is set up so that a table is provided for the presiding officer and he is facing the assembled membership.
3. He shall make sure that an American Flag is at the front of the meeting room for the annual business meeting.
4. He shall lead the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance at the opening of the meeting.

The Cacti Service Officer's Duties shall be that he shall perform such duties as may be assigned by the Board of Directors or the President.

## **ARTICLE V - BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The Board of Directors shall be composed of the elected Officers as set forth in Article IV, and the immediate past President. Each member shall have one equal vote on business of the Board. Between regular and/or special meetings, the business of the

Association shall be transacted by the Board of Directors (called the E-Board) at the call of the President or of a majority of the Board. Meetings may be conducted either in person, via conference call, electronic mail, or other correspondence as deemed appropriate by the President and E-Board. Costs for in person meetings, not to exceed one meeting per year, shall be limited to \$250 paid to each board member in attendance, or actual costs per member, whichever is less. If meetings are held via conference call(s), the expense of the conference call(s) will be paid by the Association and documented in the annual financial report. Since the E-Board has been elected by the membership, it has the authority to make decisions in the interests of the membership, provided that a quorum of at least two-thirds of the E-Board is in attendance to vote. It is the responsibility of the President and the Secretary/Treasurer to insure that detailed minutes of the E-Board meetings are kept and read at the next Annual Reunion. As a general rule, decisions made in E-Board meetings should be limited to those of an emergency or time sensitive nature and not items that could wait for action at the next Annual Reunion. However, the E-Board has the sole authority to decide which items it acts upon outside the Annual Reunion business meetings. The E-Board will recommend sites/dates of the annual reunions to the Reunion Advisory Committee.

#### **ARTICLE VI - TERM OF OFFICE**

The Officers and Board of Directors of the Association shall be elected to serve for a term of two years, or until their successor is duly elected and assumes office. In the event of the death or resignation of the President, the Senior Vice President shall succeed him. The First Vice President of the battalion in which the new president did not serve shall become the Senior Vice President. For example, if the new President served in the 1/35th, the new Senior Vice President will be the First Vice President of the 2/35th.

#### **ARTICLE VII – DUES**

- A. The annual dues of the 35th Infantry (Cacti) Regiment Association will be set at the annual business meeting.
- B. For the year 2001 the annual dues shall be \$20.00.
- C. Dues are payable each year on January 1st. If dues are not paid by April 1st, the member may be dropped from the rolls.
- D. Paid for Life Membership Guidelines:
  - 1. All persons who are eligible to be an Active Member may apply for “Paid For Life” Membership.
  - 2. Fee Schedules:

00 - 39 yrs.	\$250.00
40 - 44 yrs.	\$235.00

45 - 49 yrs.	\$215.00
50 - 54 yrs.	\$195.00
55 - 59 yrs.	\$175.00
60 - 64 yrs.	\$140.00
65 - 69 yrs.	\$100.00
70 - 74 yrs.	\$ 50.00
75 - Above	FREE

## **ARTICLE VIII - MEETINGS**

A. Association Meeting: At least one annual business meeting shall be held at the annual reunion.

B. Quorum: The presence of not less than five (5) regular or life members shall be necessary to constitute a quorum for transaction of business, but a lesser number may adjourn to some future time and date.

C. Special Meeting: May be called by the Association President or ten (10) Active or Paid For Life Members of the Association, in good standings. Notice of meeting stating the purpose for which it is called shall be mailed not less than 15 days before the date of the special meeting. No other business shall be transacted, other than what it was called for.

D. Voting: Only Regular and Life Members in good standing have the right to vote. At all meetings, all questions shall be determined by majority vote. Voting shall normally be by voice, except that a vote may be by a show of hands upon order of the Chairman of such meeting.

E. Order of Association Business:

Pledge Allegiance

Opening Prayer

Introduction of 1st Time Members to Meeting

Reading of Minutes

Reading of Finance Report

Report of Officers

Report of Committees

Unfinished Business

New Business

Nomination, Election and Installation of Officers

[Held at the Annual Reunion Business Meeting]

Closing Prayer

F. Conduct of Business: All Association Meetings shall be conducted in accordance with Roberts Rules of Order, Revised.

## **ARTICLE IX - AMENDMENTS**

This constitution may be amended by two thirds (2/3) vote of all active members present and voting at any regular or special meeting of this Association, which the Association President has called, and/or its Officers.

Approved on August 25, 2001 Kansas City, MO