

**AMENDED ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION**  
**THE GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY**  
**OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA, INC.**

(A non-profit organization)  
(Ratified by Membership November 19, 2015)

**ARTICLE I. NAME**

The name of this organization shall be, "GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA, INC."

**ARTICLE II. OBJECTIVES**

The objectives of this organization shall be:

- A. To effect a close association of those persons interested in the study of rocks, gems and minerals and the science relating to them, and to secure, compile and disseminate information of interest to the members of this organization.
- B. To promote and support widespread interest in rocks and minerals, conservation of natural resources (particularly mineral resources), ecology and conservation in general.
- C. To exhibit at all times sincere measures of hospitality to the visiting public.
- D. To plan and execute such programs of education, adventure, entertainment and recreation as the members of this organization may desire, which tends to increase the interest and participation of its members and attract new members.
- E. To operate a Gem and Mineral Museum for the members of the Society, residents of the community and all others who may come to see, enjoy and benefit from the displays.

**ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP**

- A. Membership in this Society shall be divided into three classes:  
Class A: Full membership – adults with voting privileges.  
Class B: Junior membership – ages 10–17, non-voting.  
Class C: Honorary Life membership – voting privileges.
- B. Eligibility and admission to membership:
  1. Anyone may be eligible for membership in this Society who is of good character and who is willing to participate in furthering the goals of this Society.
  2. Eligibility requires that an applicant understand their obligation to carry a proportionate share of the work done by the Society, as able.
  3. Any member found not to be in accord with the objectives of the Society shall, upon **majority** vote of the Board of Directors, have their membership revoked and dues returned.

**ARTICLE IV. DUES**

- A. The amount of the dues shall be determined by a majority vote of the Board of Directors who will determine the amount based on the needs of the Society; the change to become effective the next fiscal year.
- B. The terms of membership shall be one year, from October 1<sup>st</sup> through September 30<sup>th</sup>.
- C. Dues for the following year are payable in September; not later than December 1<sup>st</sup>.
- D. Members who have not paid dues for the current year may not participate in any function of the society.

**ARTICLE V. OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS**

- A. The elected officers of this Society shall be: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer and Second Vice President (Museum Manager).
- B. The Board of Directors shall be composed of the elected officers, the immediate past President, and four Directors elected by the Society membership.
- C. If an officer or Director, during their term of office, is unable or unwilling to fulfill elective obligations that person shall resign or may be removed by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

**ARTICLE VI. ELECTIONS**

- A.
  - 1. The President shall be elected for a one-year term, may succeed themselves once, and may be re-elected after a lapse of one year.
  - 2. The following officers shall be elected for one-year terms and may serve as many one-year terms as elected:
    - (a.) Vice President
    - (b.) Secretary
    - (c.) Treasurer
    - (d.) Assistant Treasurer
  - 3. The Second Vice President (Museum Manager) shall be elected for a two-year term and may serve as many two-year terms as elected.
- B. Two of the four Directors shall be elected for a two-year term at each annual election and may serve as many two-year terms as elected.
- C. If available, the immediate past President shall serve as Chairman for the Nominating Committee. In June he shall select two members to serve with him to nominate a slate of officers and Directors for the following year. Members of the Nominating Committee shall not nominate themselves.
- D. A slate of candidates who have accepted nomination shall be presented at the Board Meeting and at the general membership meeting in July. Candidates who accept nominations from the floor will also be added to the slate.
- E. Paper ballots shall be prepared with the names of all candidates and the office for which they are nominated. Elections shall be held annually at the general membership meeting in August of each year. No nominations may be made from the floor at that time. Write-in candidates will be accepted. Each member may cast a vote for two Directors. The two candidates with the highest number of votes shall be elected in non-cumulative voting. Tie votes shall be decided immediately by run-off via paper ballot.

- F. The installation of new officers and Directors shall take place at the September general meeting at which time they will assume their duties.
- G. All officers and Directors shall be expected to attend the meetings of the Board of Directors. Any Board member unable to attend a meeting shall notify the President before such meeting.

#### **ARTICLE VII. COMMITTEES**

- A. The number of standing committees shall be determined by the Board of Directors as the need arises.
- B. The chairmen of standing committees shall be appointed by the President and approved by the Board of Directors.
- C. The term of office of the Chairman of a standing committee will be one year, eligible for re-appointment.
- D. The President may designate special committees to fulfill special needs.
- E. The Chairman of a committee and the President shall jointly choose the members to serve on the committee so that the appointment shall be satisfactory to both.

#### **ARTICLE VIII. DISPENSATION OF ASSETS IN EVENT OF DISSOLUTION OF ORGANIZATION**

- A. In the event of dissolution, the assets of the organization will be turned over to one or more organizations which themselves are exempt organizations described in Sections 501 c, (3) and 170 c, (2) of the Internal Revenue Code, or to the federal, state or local government for exclusive public use.
- B. In recognition of the years of financial support the Museum has received from the Board of County Commissioners of Macon County, that body shall have final determination in naming any such exempt organization(s).
- C. Notwithstanding any other provisions of these Articles, this corporation shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on by:
  - 1. A corporation exempt from Federal Income Tax under Section 501 c (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 or the corresponding provisions of any future United States Revenue Law.
  - 2. A Corporation contributions to which are deductible under Section 170 c, (2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 or any other corresponding provision of any future United States Revenue Law.

#### **ARTICLE IX. OPERATION OF A GEM AND MINERAL MUSEUM AND RELATED ACTIVITIES**

- A. The major activity of the Society shall be the operation of a Museum for the display of gems, minerals, fossils and Indian artifacts. The Museum shall be open to the public free of charge.
- B. In addition to A above, the Museum shall include:
  - 1. A lapidary workshop.
  - 2. A library of publications concerning various aspects of the gem, mineral and lapidary hobby for study, reference or research by members.
  - 3. A gift shop.
- C. The Museum, together with all related activities, shall be supported financially by the members of the Society through fund-raising activities as may be determined from time to time, grants and public donations and income from the gift shop.