

GRAND PRAIRIE, 75050, TEXAS

PURPOSE

The purpose of this organization is to foster and to perpetuate a one hundred per cent Americanism, to preserve the memories and incidents of our association in the Great Wars; to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation; to combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses; to make right the master of might; to promote peace and good will on earth; to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy; to consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness; to maintain law and order, a representative form of government, and to uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States and of the State of Texas.

ARTICLE I -- NAME

Section 1. The name of this organization shall be SAM PIKE
GRAND PRAIRIE, 75050 Post No. 184, The American Legion, Department of Texas. The charter of incorporation as filed in the office of the Secretary of State of Texas AUSTIN, TEXAS, is adopted as the charter of this Post.

ARTICLE II -- OBJECTS

Section 1. The objects and purposes of this Post shall be to promote the principles and policies as set forth in the foregoing purpose, and the National and Departmental Constitutions of The American Legion.

ARTICLE III -- NATURE

Section 1. This Post is a civilian organization and membership therein does not affect or increase liability for military or police service.

Section 2. This organization shall be absolutely non-political and shall not be used for the dissemination of partisan principles, nor for the promoting or retarding of the candidacy of any person seeking public office or preferment.

Section 3. Rank does not exist in The American Legion; no member shall be addressed by his military or naval title in any meeting of this Post.

tution and By-Laws.

Section 2. Application for membership shall be made in writing under such regulations as may from time to time be prescribed by the Post Executive Committee.

Section 3. All applications for membership in a Post shall be acted upon at the next Post Executive Committee meeting following the making of such application, and shall at such meeting, be accepted, rejected or referred for further investigation and consideration. If a majority or more Post Executive Committeemen cast their vote against the acceptance of such application, then such application shall be recorded as rejected. A rejected application shall not again be considered until after the expiration of six (6) months from date of such rejection.

Section 4. Any member of this Post may be expelled for cause by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Executive Committee after charges are preferred under oath in writing, and a fair trial is had upon the same, under the rules and regulations of the Department of Texas and Article VII, By-Laws, Constitution of the Department of Texas, and Article IV, By-Laws, National Constitution.

Section 5. If the accused is convicted, his membership is suspended until his final appeal is heard and a decision is rendered, and if he is expelled by the decision, he shall not be eligible for membership in this Post for one year from the date of expulsion, and then only in the event his application for reinstatement is approved in the manner in which memberships are approved in this Post.

Section 6. No person who has been expelled by a Post shall be admitted to membership in this Post, without the consent of the expelling Post, until after a year has elapsed since his expulsion, except that where such consent has been asked for and denied by such Post, he may then appeal to the Executive Committee of the Department of Texas for permission to apply for membership in this Post, and shall be ineligible for membership in this Post until such permission is granted.

ARTICLE V -- OFFICERS

Section 1. The administrative affairs of this Post of The American Legion shall, except as may be otherwise provided by the By-Laws, be under the supervision of an Executive Committee which shall consist of THREE members in addition to the officers of the Post. The term of office of members of the Executive Committee shall be for one year. This Post, by its By-Laws, may provide for such other standing committees as the business of the organization may require.

Section 3. A nominating committee shall be appointed by the Executive Committee, who shall report their nominations to the regular monthly meeting next preceding the annual election of officers. Nominations may also be made from the floor at such meeting, and again at the meeting for the annual election.

Section 4. All Officers and Executive Committeemen shall be elected annually, by majority vote on written ballots, at a Post meeting held not less than fifteen (15) days prior to the Department Convention (Art. V, Sec. 4, Department By-Laws), and shall be installed not later than the first regular Post meeting in October following their election. They shall hold office until their successors are duly installed or as otherwise provided. Any Officer or Executive Committeeman may be removed for inefficiency by the Executive Committee, a two-thirds vote of said Committee being necessary to effect such removal.

Section 5. Every member of this Post in good standing shall be eligible to hold office in this Post as a Post Officer or Executive Committeeman, except employees of this Post.

Section 6. The duties of Officers and the Executive Committeemen shall be those usually appertaining to such Officers or Committeemen and as further provided in the By-Laws.

Section 7. Officers and Executive Committeemen are expected to attend the regular meetings of the Post and Executive Committee. Failure of any Officer or Executive Committeeman to attend three successive regular business meetings, without reasonable cause having been furnished the Adjutant or Commander shall be cause for forfeiture of said office. The Executive Committee shall decide when an officer by his failure to attend three successive business meetings has forfeited his right to continue in office, when or whether to declare such office vacant, and when to order an election to fill the vacancy.

Section 8. In case of vacancy in any office for any cause, the said vacancy shall be filled at any regular meeting provided at least five days notice of such election has been given the members.

ARTICLE VI -- FINANCE

Section 1. The revenue of this Post shall be derived from membership or initiation fees, from annual membership dues, and from other such sources as may be approved by the Executive Committee and sanctioned by the Post.

member under membership card for every member of the Post.

ARTICLE VII -- CHARTER MEMBERS

Section 1. Members who joined this Post prior to the issuance of charter shall be known as charter members.

ARTICLE VIII -- AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

Section 1. This Post recognizes an auxiliary organization to be known as the Auxiliary Unit of SAM PIKE Post No. 184, The American Legion, operating under the direction and supervision of this Post.

Section 2. Membership in the Auxiliary shall be as prescribed by the National and Department of Texas Constitutions and By-Laws of The American Legion.

ARTICLE IX -- AMENDMENTS

Section 1. This constitution is adopted subject to the provisions of the National Constitution of The American Legion and of the Constitution of The American Legion, Department of Texas. Any amendment to said National Constitution or Department Constitution which is in conflict with any provisions hereof shall be regarded as automatically repealing or modifying the provisions of this constitution to the extent of such conflict.

Section 2. This constitution may be amended at any regular Post meeting by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members of said Post attending such regular meeting; provided that the proposed amendment shall have been submitted in writing to the Executive Committee in session and approved by it; or if rejected, in whole or in part, it may be taken to a regular Post meeting on a minority report; and provided that the proposed amendment shall have been submitted in writing and read at the next preceding regular meeting of said Post; and provided further, that written notice shall have been given to all members at least five days in advance of the date when such amendment is to be voted upon, notifying said members that at such meeting a proposal to amend the constitution is to be voted upon.

Section 1. The Post existing under these By-Laws is to be known as SAM PIKE
Post No. 184, The American Legion, Department of Texas.

Section 2. The objects of this Post are as set forth in the Constitution.

ARTICLE II -- MANAGEMENT

Section 1. The government and management of the Post is entrusted to an Executive Committee of NINE members, to be known as the "Executive Committee."

Section 2. The Executive Committee shall consist of THREE members in addition to the Officers of the Post, and together with the other Officers of this Post shall be elected annually as provided in Article V, Section 4, of this Constitution, and all shall take office immediately upon installation.

ARTICLE III -- POST EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1. The Post Executive Committee shall meet for organization and such other business as may come before it at the call of the Post Commander within ten days after the installation of the new officers. Thereafter the Post Executive Committee shall meet at the call of the Commander at least every MONTH and as often as said Commander may deem necessary. The Commander shall call a meeting of the Post Executive Committee upon the joint written request of FIVE or more members of said Post Executive Committee. SIX members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum thereof.

Section 2. The Post Executive Committee shall hire such employees as may be necessary; shall authorize and approve all expenditures; shall require adequate bonds from all persons having the custody of Post funds; shall hear the reports of Post committee chairmen; and generally, shall have charge of and be responsible for the management of the affairs of this Post.

ARTICLE IV -- DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1. Duties of Commander -- It shall be the duty of the Post Commander to preside at all meetings of the Post and to have general supervision over the business and affairs of the Post, and such officer shall be the chief executive officer of the Post. He shall approve all orders directing the disbursement of funds and shall make an annual report covering the business of the Post for the year, and recommendations for the ensuing year, which shall be read at the annual meeting and a copy thereof immediately forwarded to the Department Adjutant. He shall see that this

upon by, and to the Commander.

Section 3. Duties of the Post Adjutant. The Adjutant shall have charge of and keep a full and correct record of all proceedings of all meetings, keep such records as the Department and National Organizations may require, issue membership cards, handle certificates of transfer, render reports of membership annually or when called upon at a meeting, and under direction of the Commander, handle all correspondence of the Post. He shall comply with Article V, Section 5, Department By-Laws.

Section 4. Duties of the Finance Officer. The Finance Officer of the Post shall have charge of all finances and see that they are safely deposited in some local bank or banks and shall report once a month to the Executive Committee and the Post in writing the condition of the finances of the Post, with such recommendations as he may deem expedient or necessary for raising funds with which to carry on the activities of the Post. He shall sign all checks disbursing the moneys of the Post, such checks to be countersigned by the Commander. The Post shall furnish such surety bond in such sum as shall be fixed by the Executive Committee.

Section 5. Duties of the Post Historian. The Historian shall be charged with the individual records and incidents of the Post and Post members, and shall perform such other duties as may properly pertain to the office as may be determined by the Post or Executive Committee.

Section 6. Duties of Post Chaplain. The Chaplain shall be charged with the spiritual welfare of the Post comrades and will offer divine but non-sectarian service in the event of dedications, funerals, public functions, etc., adhere to such ceremonial rituals as are recommended by the National or Department Headquarters from time to time.

Section 7. Duties of Sergeant at Arms. The Sergeant at Arms shall preserve order at all times and all meetings, and shall perform such other duties as may be from time to time assigned to him by the Commander or Executive Committee. He shall have charge of the Post Colors, and shall not display or permit them to be displayed without specific authority of the Post Commander.

Section 8. Duties of Service Officer. He shall comply with the Service Officer's Manual and Post Handbook of The American Legion, and recommendations of National and Department Headquarters, and needs of this Post.

held not less than fifteen (15) days prior to the date of such convention. However, the Post, by two-thirds (2/3) vote of members present may authorize the Commander to appoint said delegates. The Post Commander shall, immediately upon their election or appointment, designate the chairman.

ARTICLE VI -- DUES - FISCAL YEAR

Section 1. Annual dues shall be FIVE DOLLARS (\$5.00) dollars per year and shall be payable on or before October 20th of each year for the succeeding calendar year. Following the calendar year, a member becomes delinquent for non-payment of dues by February 1st, and if he continues delinquent, he loses all privileges by April 1st, and his membership is forfeited on December 31st, if still delinquent.

Section 2. The fiscal year shall end with the installation of the newly elected officers, and the new fiscal year shall begin as the new officers assume their duties.

Section 3. The newly elected officers shall be installed at a regular or special meeting, as may be designated by the Executive Committee, as soon as practicable after the annual election, not later than the first regular Post meeting in October following their election, and according to Art. of N. Section 4 of this Constitution.

Section 4. The Chairman of the membership committee may recommend to the Executive Committee the names of members whose dues shall be remitted by the Post with reasons for such recommendation. The Executive Committee shall have the power to approve or reject such recommendations.

ARTICLE VII -- POST COMMITTEES APPOINTMENTS

Section 1. The Post Commander, immediately upon taking office each year, shall appoint the following standing committees: membership, house and entertainment, finance, legal, publicity, service, visiting, Americanism and athletic; he shall also appoint such other committees as are found to be necessary from time to time. All of such committees shall consist of such members and the chairman thereof as shall be designated by the Post Commander.

Section 2. The duties and functions of the respective Post committees shall be in accordance with the current Post Handbook of The American Legion and with the recommendations of National and Department Headquarters.

quarters for the approval of the Post.
passage by the Post is taken.

ARTICLE IX -- MEETINGS

Section 1. The regular and special meetings of the Post shall be held at _____
POST HOME at which place may be transacted such business as
may properly be brought up for action; such meetings may be converted into entertain-
ment meetings, as may be deemed advisable by the officers of the Post. Procedure at
regular meetings shall comply with the current Manual of Ceremonies.

Section 2. The regular business meetings of the Post shall be held on the THIRD
THURSDAY EACH MONTH beginning at 7:30 o'clock p.m.
and a social meeting on one evening of the FORTH week of each
month as designated by the Executive Committee. Other business or social meetings
may be held as directed by the Commander and the Executive Committee.

Section 3. The Post Commander or a majority of the Executive Committee shall have
power to call a special meeting of the Post at any time.

Section 4. Upon the written request by signed petition of not less than FIVE
_____ of the members in good standing of this Post delivered to the Commander,
requesting a special meeting of the Post, the Commander shall call the said special
meeting within not less than seven days, nor more than fourteen days after receipt
of the said petition. In the said petition shall be stated the purpose for which the
meeting is requested, and matters not pertaining to said purpose of the meeting shall
not be considered at such meeting. In notices given to the membership of said meet-
ing, the subject matter to be discussed shall be stated. The Post Commander or a
majority of the Executive Committee shall have the power to call a special meeting
of the Post, the notice of the call for this meeting sent to the membership shall
contain the subject matter to be discussed at the said meeting, and the said meeting
shall not discuss other matters not relating to said notice.

Section 5. At least SIX members in good standing shall
constitute a quorum at any regular or special meeting of the Post.

ARTICLE X -- NOTICES

Section 1. Every member shall furnish the Post Adjutant with his or her address for
mailing purposes. Notices sent to the last known address shall constitute sufficient
legal notice.

ARTICLE XII -- LIMITATIONS OF LIABILITIES

Section 1. This Post shall incur, or cause to be incurred, no liability nor obligations whatsoever which shall subject to liability any other Post, sub-division, group of men or women, members of The American Legion, or other individuals, corporation, or organization.

ARTICLE XIII -- AMENDMENTS

Section 1. These By-Laws may be amended at any regular Post meeting by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members of said Post attending such regular meeting; provided, that the proposed amendment shall have been submitted in writing to the Executive Committee in session and approved by it; or if rejected in whole or in part, it may be taken to a regular Post meeting on a minority report and provided that the proposed amendment shall have been submitted in writing and read at the next preceding regular meeting of said Post, and provided, further, that written notice shall have been given to all members at least five days in advance of the date when such amendment is to be voted upon, notifying all said members that at such meeting a proposal to amend the By-Laws is to be voted upon.

POST CERTIFICATE

We, the following Officers of SAM PIKE POST (GRAND PRAIRIE, TEXAS) 75050
Post No. 184, The American Legion, Department of Texas, hereby certify that the foregoing Constitution and By-Laws, after due notice was given to all members, was adopted at a regular meeting of this Post held on the Seventeenth day of APRIL, 1969, A. D.

Herschel F. French
HERSCHEL F. FRENCH
Post Commander

Ira A. Couch
IRA A. COUCH
Post Adjutant

DEPARTMENT CERTIFICATE

Passed on by the Department Judge Advocate on the 17th day of July, 1969, A. D., and approved by the Department Executive Committee on the 17th day of July, 1969, A. D.

Max B. M... ..
Department Judge Advocate