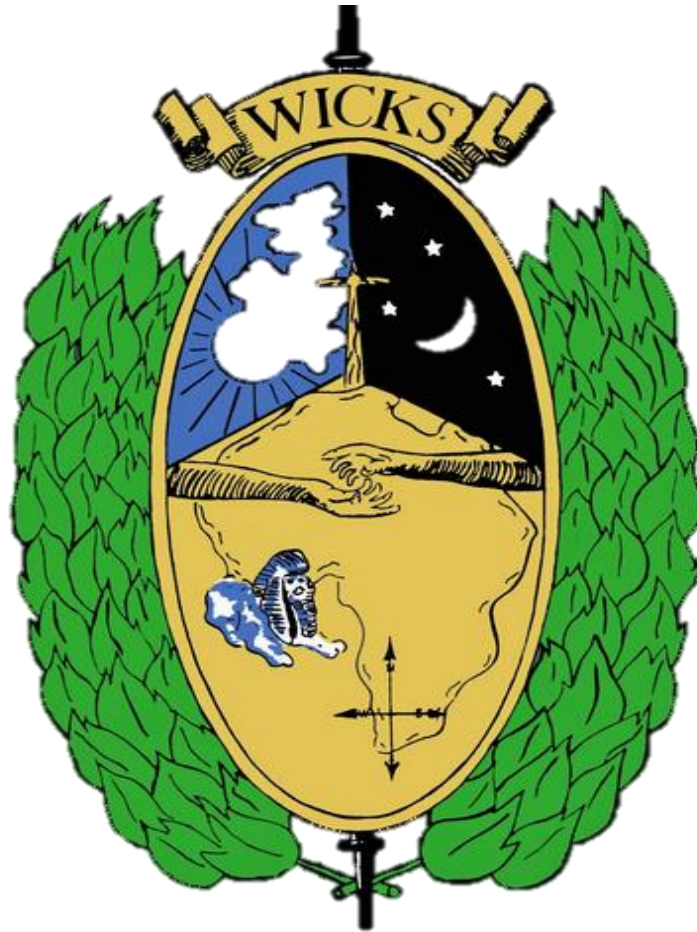




# CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

# **CONSTITUTION AND BY LAWS OF WICKS FAMILY ORGANIZATION**

## **ARTICLE I. Name**

The name of this organization is the Wicks Family Organization (“WFO”).

## **ARTICLE II. Purpose and Objectives**

The purpose of the WFO shall be to bring together descendants of Ned Wicks<sup>1</sup> of Columbus, Lowndes County, MS to continue the legacy of spirituality, family and educational growth.

The WFO shall seek to accomplish its purpose by the following.

- Planning and coordinating a Wicks Grand Family Reunion, (“WGFR”) every two (2) years on the last weekend of July or first weekend of August. If, at any time, a Host Committee requests assistance or is unable to carry out planning, the WFO Executive Committee will assist.
- Setting up and funding an annual scholarship program.
- Establishing a Wicks Foundation to promote scholarly endeavors, individual entrepreneurial ventures, along with joint family business ventures.
- Promoting the development and upkeep of family history, monuments, and sites such as the Wicks Memorial Garden.
- Stimulating and promoting a strong family unit and encourage state and/or community activities.

## **ARTICLE III. Membership**

Membership in the WFO shall be of three (3) types:

- Wicks Family Member
- Wicks Associate Membership
- Wicks Affiliate Membership

### **SECTION 1 - Wicks Family Member**

The WFO shall be composed of direct descendants of Ned Wicks.

---

<sup>1</sup> The Name “Ned Wicks” appears in our family historical records and based on the 1890 census and family oral history. In a recent discovery in the 1870 census Ned Wicks’ name appears as “Edward L. Wicks” This earlier record deserves notation and further review. This information can be found in the family historical documents, on our website (<https://www.wicksgrand.com/Research.html>)

## SECTION 2 - Wicks Associate Membership

- a. Associate Membership is available to a person who does not qualify under the provisions of Article III, Section 1.
- b. To be accepted for Associate Membership, a person must be the current husband/wife of a person as stipulated in Article III section 1.
- c. Associate Members are eligible to vote and may hold elected offices, except for President and Vice President.

## SECTION 3 - Affiliate Member

- a. Affiliate Membership is available to a person/organization that supports the purpose and objectives of the WFO, as defined herein, but does not qualify under the membership categories of Article III, Sections 1 and 2.
- b. Affiliate Members may attend all activities of the WGFR but cannot attend business meetings.
- c. Affiliate Members shall not hold office or be eligible for committee appointments.

## ARTICLE IV. The WGFR two (2) Year Meeting

SECTION 1 - Any family member will be eligible to host the WGFR.

SECTION 2 - A city must wait for two reunions to be held in a different city before hosting a reunion again. The reunion will be held in Columbus, Mississippi at least once every ten (10) years.

SECTION 3 - The WFO Business Meeting will be held on Saturday at 10:00 a.m. during the WGFR.

SECTION 4 - The Executive Committee Meeting shall be held one hour before the WFO Business Meeting. The President shall invite past elected presidents to attend as non-voting participants. This meeting will be held at a location designated by the host city.

SECTION 5 - A quorum shall consist of a minimum of twenty-five percent (25%) of registered and attending eligible family members over the age of 18.

SECTION 6 - All family members are expected to be present at business and regular meetings.

SECTION 7 - Host City Requirements:

- a. The Host City of the WGFR should send a general notification one (1) year in advance of the scheduled reunion date.
- b. A detailed notice should be sent six (6) months before the reunion and should include:
  - Registration cost for each attendee
  - Shirt price
  - Registration due dates, and
  - Other offered activities.
- c. Host City must submit a report to the WFO Executive Committee within three (3) months after each reunion.

SECTION 8. The order of business shall be as follows:

- Call to Order
- Devotion by Chaplain
- State Roll Call
- Reading of the Previous Meeting Minutes
- Report of Treasurer
- Report of Committees
- Unfinished Business
- New Business
- Announcements
- Adjournment

## **ARTICLE V. Election**

### **SECTION 1 - Nominations**

- The officers shall be elected by a majority vote of the WFO members at the WGFR.
- The nominating committee shall present a slate of only one name for each office.
- Additional names may be nominated from the floor.
- The nominating committee shall consist of five (5) members.

### **SECTION 2 - Qualifications**

- Person must be a descendant of Ned Wicks.
- Be nominated by a member of the Wicks Family.
- Elected officers shall hold office for a period of four (4) years and shall be installed at the Banquet during the election year.
- Officers may serve no more than two (2) consecutive four (4) year terms.

### **SECTION 3 - Special Election**

A Special Election is an election which is held to fill a vacancy. WFO will hold a special election for any elected officer in the case of death, resignation, or dismissal by the majority vote of the executive board.

## **ARTICLE VI. Officers and Duties**

### **SECTION 1 – Elected Officers**

**President.** It shall be the duty of the WFO President to preside over all in person and call meetings, and appoint committees as set forth in this Constitution. Additional committees can be added under the WFO during a WGFR business meeting by a majority vote from members. The president shall be the ex-officio member of all standing committees.

**Vice-President.** It shall be the duty of the Vice-President to preside in the absence of the WFO President.

**General Recording Secretary.** It shall be the duty of the Secretary to keep records of the organization, minutes of the meeting and notify officers and committees of meetings, and other items, as requested by the WFO President. Additionally, the secretary will keep a register with each family member's name and will make updates to family contact information every two (2) years.

**Assistant Secretary.** It shall be the duty of the Assistant Secretary to serve in the absence of the Secretary and assist the Secretary as needed.

**Treasurer.** It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to keep records of all monetary matters associated with the WFO and make financial reports at business meeting.

## SECTION 2 - Appointed Officers

**Historian.** The Historian will keep complete records of all past and present Wicks Family History.

**Parliamentarian.** The Parliamentarian will keep order during the WFO business meetings according to Roberts Rules of Order.

**Chaplain.** The Chaplain will offer prayer before and after meetings and conduct worship services during meetings, included but not limited to WGFR.

## ARTICLE VII. Committees

### SECTION 1 - Appointed by WFO President

- Program Committee – This committee will organize special events requested by BOD, and other related matters.
- Courtesy Committee – This committee will handle notices for bereavement, birthdays, graduations, and other related matters
- By-Laws Committee – This committee will periodically review, and if necessary update the WFO Constitution and By-Laws.
- Membership Committee – This committee's function is to work with the General Recording Secretary in recruitment and assist with retention of members.
- Ministerial Committee – This committee is comprised of members willing to assist family in various times of need and these services will be free of charge.
- Education Committee - This committee will address items related to scholarships and other educational related matters.
- Publicity Committee - This committee will prepare correspondence, newsletters and scrapbooks.

- Technology Committee - This committee will handle technology related matters and includes the Web Master
- Budget-Auditing Committee
- Youth Enrichment Committee

#### SECTION 2 - Host City Committees

- Registration Committee
- Program Committee
- Activities Committee
- Hospitality Committee
- Picnic Committee
- Banquet Committee

### **ARTICLE VIII. Fund Raising**

SECTION 1- WFO can raise funds for Special Projects as determined by the family.

SECTION 2 - WGFR shall be funded by reunion fees and other sources as determined by the Host City Committee.

### **ARTICLE IX. Regalia**

The Wicks Family Crest shall remain unchanged. The Host City Committee will determine the style and color of shirts and other items showing the Crest at the WGFR.

### **ARTICLE X. Amendments**

- Proposals to amend this Constitution/By-Laws shall be initiated by the WFO Executive Committee, unanimous recommendation of the By-Laws Committee, or any one member qualifying for membership under Article III, Section 1. If a proposal to amend is initiated by an individual member, a petition signed by at least thirty (30) active Wicks family members shall accompany it. The Secretary shall make such proposed amendments available to the members at least thirty (30) days before expected action and no vote shall be taken until at least thirty (30) days after copies are made available to all members of record.
- The WFO Constitution/By-Laws shall be amended by voting via (1) a duly called meeting of the WFO members or (2) by mail, or (3) electronic medium. In the first instance, a two-thirds affirmative vote of those registered and eligible members at such a meeting is required to pass a proposed amendment. If done by mail or electronic medium, a two-thirds affirmative vote of all eligible members returning ballots is required. The revised edition of Roberts Rule of Order will govern the WFO Order of Business.