

**BY-LAWS**  
**Of the**  
**WOMELSDORF FAMILY ASSOCIATION**

ARTICLE I. Name

Section 1. The name of the organization shall be the Womelsdorf Family Association (“WFA”).

ARTICLE II. Purpose

Section 1. The object and purpose of the WFA is to be educational in character and devoted exclusively to furthering genealogical research, promoting interest in Womelsdorf family history and facilitating eligibility for WFA Eligible Members in other similar organizations by reason of Womelsdorf heritage.

Section 2. The Womelsdorf Family Association shall relate to the Tulpehocken Settlement Historical Society (“TSHS”) (a/k/a the Tulpehocken Museum) and any successor organizations to the TSHS pursuing substantially the same mission and interests in Berks County Pennsylvania and provide materials for a Womelsdorf display there.

Section 3. The WFA shall maintain a familial relationship with its German counterpart, the Wittgensteiner Womelsdorf Familien Gemeinschaft.

ARTICLE III. Membership and Meetings of members.

Section 1. “Reunion Meetings.” The Reunion Meeting of the WFA shall be held during the first or second weekend of August, unless otherwise approved by the membership at least one year in advance, the date and place to be proposed by the President-elect at the previous Reunion Meeting. The WFA Reunion Meeting shall be held annually unless otherwise voted upon and confirmed by a majority of the Eligible Members of the WFA at the previous Reunion Meeting, subject to quorum requirements. In no event shall the WFA Reunion Meeting be held more than 3 years subsequent to the previous WFA Reunion Meeting. The President-elect shall serve as the Reunion Meeting coordinator of the year of his/her Presidency. Notice of the Reunion Meeting shall appear in the minutes of the previous Reunion Meeting and shall be given in the WFA Newsletter. Said notice shall be given at least 60 days in advance.

Section 2. “Special Meetings” of the members of the association may be called by three agreeing officers or by Eligible Members submitting a letter containing 20 signatures of Eligible Members to the President and Secretary/Treasurer. Each Eligible Member shall be notified 30 days in advance of a Special Meeting. Such notice shall indicate the purpose of the special meeting. Special Meetings may be conducted in any manner described in Article IV Section 3.

### Section 3. Members

Section 3A. "Eligible Members" are descendants of Womelsdorf and those related to them by blood or marriage and are permitted to vote at WFA meetings if dues currently due are paid or if

Life Members. Each Eligible Member shall be entitled to one vote at any duly called meeting, which vote may be cast in person or through proxy duly authorized in writing and signed by an Eligible Member.

Section 3B. An "Associate Member" shall be anyone interested in receiving the WFA Newsletter, and/or attending meetings, and paying the annual dues but having no voting privileges.

Section 3C. An "Honorary Member" shall be a person who has made exemplary contribution to the WFA and is so designated by the officers of the Association. An honorary member shall receive the WFA newsletter (at no cost) and be invited to all WFA meetings with voice but no voting privileges.

Section 3D. An "Institutional Member" is any institution designated by the officers to contribute to the purpose of the organization by receiving the newsletter and making it available to the public. An Institutional Member shall receive the newsletter (at no cost) but have neither voice nor voting privileges at WFA meetings.

Section 3E. A "Life Member" is an Eligible Member that has paid dues in the amount set forth in Article IX Section 2 of these By-Laws prior to the effective date of these By-Laws, or who pays the amount in Article IX Section 2 of these By-Laws in the future, Such payment by an Eligible Member entitles that Eligible Member to membership in the WFA without payment of further dues for the life of that Eligible Member.

Section 3F. A "Senior Member" is an Eligible Member who, having attained the age of 90 years, shall no longer be required to pay dues but shall retain the right to vote at WFA meetings and shall retain all other rights and privileges of an Eligible Member in the WFA.

Section 4. A quorum (at any duly called meeting) shall consist of at least 10 Eligible Members, either personally present or represented by proxy.

### ARTICLE IV. Officers

Section 1. All powers of the WFA shall be vested in and exercised by the officers at meetings, except such powers as may be exercised by an officer or agent of the WFA by virtue of authority vested by these By-Laws or by acts of the officers of the WFA or by vote of the Eligible Members at a Reunion Meeting or Special Meeting. All officers of the WFA shall be Eligible Members.

Section 2. The officers of the WFA shall be a President, President-elect, Secretary/Treasurer, Newsletter Editor, and Historian/Genealogist(s), as the WFA may from time to time decide to elect. All of said officers, except the Historian/Genealogist(s) who shall be appointed by the President, shall be elected at the Reunion Meeting and shall serve until the end of the next scheduled WFA Reunion Meeting or until their successors are elected and qualified. All officers must be Eligible Members of the WFA in good standing.

Section 3. Vacancies occurring among the officers shall be filled at WFA Reunion Meetings or by Special Meetings which may be conducted by Telephonic or Video Conference or by United States Mail or Electronic Mail ballot provided that 30 days notice is provided for casting said ballots and that 20 mailed ballots must be cast to elect.

Section 4. The President of the Association shall be the chief executive officer thereof and shall serve from the meeting at which he/she assumes the office of President until the completion of the next scheduled Reunion Meeting. The President shall preside at all meetings of the WFA, shall appoint all committees not otherwise provided by these By-Laws or unless otherwise directed, and shall have general supervision and oversight of all of the activities of the WFA. The President shall hold the kette, the plaque, and the banner between meetings and is responsible for providing these items to the incoming President. The President will furnish the incoming President-elect with a copy of the By-Laws. The President is responsible for completing his/her link on the kette.

Section 5. The President-elect shall perform the duties of the President in his/her absence and shall assume the office at the completion of the President's term. It shall be the President-elect's job to make arrangements for the Reunion Meeting and any other meeting during the time in which he/she is President.

Section 6. The Secretary/Treasurer shall have control of the records of the WFA and the family seal. He/She shall keep the minutes of all WFA meetings and record all WFA transactions, publishing the minutes and financial reports in the newsletter immediately following the meeting. It shall be his/her duty to prepare and submit annually and to each Reunion Meeting a complete fiscal year report of all WFA activities. He/She is also authorized to carry on fundraising campaigns, for the purpose of securing funds and donations to the WFA to enable it to carry on its various activities, provided that a vote of affirmation, subject to quorum requirements, at the next Reunion Meeting shall be required for the continuation of the campaign. Upon vote of a majority of the Eligible Members at a Reunion Meeting or Special Meeting, subject to quorum requirements, an ad hoc committee consisting of three Eligible Members may be established to audit and review the accounts of the WFA managed by the Secretary/Treasurer.

Section 7. The President or Secretary/Treasurer may authorize payment of necessary and reasonable expenses by members or officers in promoting the purpose of the WFA, except that no officer may approve his/her own expenses; such expenses shall require a unanimous vote of the officers at a Reunion Meeting or Special Meeting and the results

of such a vote, as well as the purpose, amounts and evidence of such expenditures shall be duly noted in the minutes of the meeting.

Section 8. The Historian/Genealogist(s) shall serve as officer(s), appointed by the President, and shall serve until a replacement is appointed. The Historian/Genealogist(s) are responsible for coordinating and accomplishing family research, assisting members with information which will move their research forward, causing family information to be collected in an accessible manner, and conducting a genealogist workshop as a part of each Reunion Meeting. The Historian/Genealogist(s) shall coordinate with TSHS for items and information pertaining to the WFA display and materials in TSHS.

Section 9. The Newsletter Editor shall be responsible for collecting material to appear in the quarterly newsletter, accomplishing editing as necessary, and publishing the Newsletter in March, June, September and December.

Section 10. Any office, except the President, may be held by a couple, or two persons cooperating, if so elected. If so elected, the Secretary/Treasurer(s) are both authorized to sign WFA checks. Any office may be held by an Eligible Member for any number of terms, successive or otherwise.

Section 11. No officer or member shall be paid any salary or wages for work performed for the WFA.

Section 12. Any officer may be removed at any time by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the Eligible Members present and voting or voting by proxy at a duly called meeting, subject to quorum requirements, for any reason considered sufficient by said Eligible Members.

Section 13. Election procedures shall be as follows: The immediate past President (or the most recent past President available to serve shall call together a Nominating Committee and shall present a slate of officers in nomination at the Reunion Meeting. Nominations may be made from the floor, provided verification of willingness to serve can be demonstrated. Election of officers shall require a majority vote of members and valid proxies present.

#### ARTICLE V. Amendments

Section 1. Amendments to these By-Laws may be made at any Reunion Meeting or Special Meeting of the members. Amendment of the By-Laws at a Special Meeting shall be made only in cases where notice of the proposed amendment has been included in the notice of the Special Meeting. Amendments shall be made by an affirmative majority vote of the Eligible Members and valid proxies voting, subject to quorum requirements.

#### ARTICLE VI. Committees

Section 1. The President may appoint such committees as he/she shall deem appropriate on his/her own motion and shall appoint such committees as have been authorized by vote of the Eligible Members, subject to quorum requirements.

Section 2. There shall be an Executive Committee of all officers and past Presidents of the association which shall meet at the Reunion Meeting to consider the state of the WFA, suggest activities which are consistent with the purpose, and review matters requiring the action of the members.

Section 3. The Nominating Committee is authorized by ARTICLE IV, section 13 above.

#### ARTICLE VII. Financial Matters

Section 1. The Secretary/Treasurer shall be the custodian of the funds and may disburse the same for purposes authorized by the Eligible Members within the financial limits indicated by the fiscal year financial report and subject to the limitations set forth in Article IV Sections 6 and 7. A checking account, a Life Member Investment Fund, and a Memorial Fund will be maintained. Funds of the WFA shall be deposited only in depositories approved by officers.

Section 2. Operating funds available for disbursement in any fiscal year shall not exceed the dues income available, supplemented, if necessary, by the income for the previous fiscal year from the Life Member Investment Fund and any net proceeds from the sale of WFA merchandise.

Section 3. Additional expenses of the association may be authorized to be paid from donations made for that purpose.

Section 4. A Memorial Fund shall be established and maintained for the purpose of recognizing and honoring WFA members. Disbursements from the Memorial Fund shall be determined by a unanimous vote of the officers.

Section 4. The officers are authorized to maintain other bank accounts as shall be determined by them to be necessary.

#### ARTICLE VIII. Corporate Seal

Section 1. A WFA seal, if any, shall be approved by the Eligible Members and shall be used and preserved by the officers.

#### ARTICLE IX. Dues/Annual Year

Section 1. Dues shall be established by the membership at the Reunion Meeting. In the absence of specific action, dues will be maintained at the level of the past year.

Section 2. Life memberships are available at a price equal to ten times the current annual dues rate.

Section 3. The fiscal (and annual reporting) year shall be July 1 through Jun 30.

#### ARTICLE X. Effective date

Section 1. The By-Laws shall become effective at the close of the meeting at which they are adopted.

#### ARTICLE XI. Parliamentary Procedures

Section 1. Roberts Rules of Order, Revised, shall govern the conduct of all meeting of the association.