

Alford American
Post Office Box 1586

Family Association
Florissant, MO 63032-1586

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

OF

ALFORD

AMERICAN FAMILY ASSOCIATION

Name

ARTICLE I The name of this organization shall be Alford American Family Association, Incorporated. This Association shall be formed for literary and educational purposes within the meaning of section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 of the United States of America, and Missouri Revised Statutes Section 355 - (RSM 1986).

Tax Exempt Status

ARTICLE II No part of the net earnings of the corporation shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to, its members, directors, officers or other private persons except that the corporation shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered.

Upon dissolution of the corporation, the Board of Directors shall, after paying or making provisions for the payment of all of the liabilities of the corporation, dispose of all the assets of the corporation exclusively for the purposes of the corporation in such manner, or to such organization or organizations organized and operated exclusively for charitable, educational, religious, or scientific purposes as shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization or organizations under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law), as the Board of Directors shall determine.

Any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by the Circuit Court of the county in which the principal office of the corporation is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

Purposes

ARTICLE III All the purposes of this organization shall be lawful purposes as provided by Section 355 RSMo 1986 with particular emphasis on the following: to perpetuate the memory and genealogy of the descendants and fore-fathers of Alford families by:

1. Cementing ties of fellowship and kinship between living members of the families;

2. Maintaining family unity through frequent association in a social way;
3. Compiling acceptable family records of Alford descendants and ancestors;
4. Unifying all genealogical, historical and biographical research attendant to the compiling of acceptable family records;
5. Pooling resources and efforts of the members of the families so that the history and genealogy of Alford ancestors may be passed on to all descendants of Alford;
6. Publishing genealogical and/or historical periodicals and books which provide information on Alford and Alford families providing, where possible, information on their contribution to mankind;
7. Educating, particularly those of the younger generations, present day Alford and Alford descendants; on Alford family history and how it relates to the history of the nation;
8. Providing a vehicle to perpetuate the above purposes from one generation to another and into posterity;
9. And all other legal powers permitted General Not for Profit Corporations as approved by the Board of Directors.

No substantial part of the activities of the corporation shall be the carrying on of propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation and the corporation shall not participate in or intervene (including the publishing or distribution of statements) in any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.

Notwithstanding any other provisions of these articles, the corporation shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by a corporation exempt from Federal Income Tax under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law) or (b) by a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under Section 170 (c) (2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law.)

Membership

ARTICLE IV This organization shall be composed of the descendants of any person named Alford and the husband or wife of each. Persons under the age of 21 whose parents do not choose to be members shall be registered as Junior members. Junior members will not be required to pay dues, but will not receive publications and will not be permitted to vote nor hold office. Active members shall be those who pay dues and otherwise indicate interest in supporting the purposes of the organization. As a minimum they will be expected to provide biographical vital statistical data, such as pedigree charts, ancestor tables and family group records; on their family or family line, if that information is not already available to the Historian-Genealogist.

Membership may be in Divisions based on family branch or geography or it may be membership at large. Division definitions will be decided by the membership, and will be subject to annual review and revision.

Membership will be on an annual basis beginning in the month following the month in which membership application is received by the association.

Charter Memberships will be offered until such time as all Alford families known to exist in the United States at this time have been offered an opportunity for membership. Charter Membership Certificates, suitable for framing, will be awarded to all Charter Members.

Founding Memberships will be offered to those who were participating in the informal association or whose name and address appeared in the 1986 Alford Directory as well as to those who were participants in active Alford family reunion groups in 1987. Founding Membership Certificates, suitable for framing will be awarded to all Founding Members.

Meetings

ARTICLE V Meetings shall be arranged to most effectively further the purposes of the organization. At least one meeting or reunion each year will be open to all the membership. At this annual meeting the officers will have opportunity to report to the membership on their activities for the preceding year and new officers shall be elected for the ensuing year. To the extent practicable, new committee members will be announced at the annual meeting. Meetings of membership in branches or in local geographical areas will be encouraged. Where appropriate, social activities should accompany these meetings.

Officers

ARTICLE VI Officers shall consist of a president, a vice-president; and when membership warrants a vice-president for each division and for membership at large; a secretary, a treasurer; a genealogist-historian, a legal advisor, publications editor, and such assistants as may be ordered by the Board of Directors. Any two or more offices may be held by the same person, except the offices of president and secretary. The president will be an ex officio member of the board of directors. Initial officers will be appointed by the Board of Directors and subsequent officers shall be elected by majority vote of those present and voting at the annual meeting or by written absentee ballot. Their term of office will commence at the close of that meeting and continue until the close of the next annual meeting. All officers are eligible for re-election. Division vice-presidents will be elected by the members of their division by written ballot and the results reported along with other election results at the annual meeting. The board of directors may remove any officer, elected or appointed when in their judgement the best interests of the corporation will be served thereby.

Board of Directors

ARTICLE VII The property, business, and affairs of the Corporation shall be managed by a Board of Directors. Initially there shall be three directors, but this number may be increased by amendment of the bylaws. The president who will serve as an ex officio member of the board of directors will be, by count, over and above the three directors. The board of directors may appoint others to serve as directors. Directors may serve for an indefinite period. The Board is also empowered to name division representative members for any division which does not have representation at an annual meeting.

The Board of Directors will encourage development of branch and local organizations and the furtherance of family activity wherever and however it may.

The Executive Committee

ARTICLE VIII The Executive Committee shall consist of the officers listed above who are currently serving. It shall be the duty of this committee to carry on the regular business of the organization between meetings, within the broad guidelines established by the Board of Directors, and to report on its activities to the membership of the organization. The Executive Committee may appoint an Executive Assistant to help with the duties of the officers and the executive committee.

The Executive Committee will determine policy (except policy regarding fund

raising), approve programs and plan activities involving the family as a whole in line with the purposes of this organization and within the broad guidelines established by the Board of Directors.

Committees

ARTICLE IX The President shall appoint such ad hoc or standing committees as may be deemed necessary for the conduct of the business and other activities of the organization. Committees to be considered include: Annual Meeting or Social Committee, Publications Committee, Publicity and Membership Committee, Finance Committee, Historical Committee, and Research Committee. Division Committees shall be appointed for each division, in conjunction with the Division, Vice-President. Standing Committee members shall serve for a period of three years and appointments will be made so as to replace one-third of the committee each year. Initial appointments will be for one, two or three years so that each year one third of the committee will be due for replacement. Standing Committee members may not succeed themselves.

Amendments and Voting

ARTICLE X Amendments to these articles or to the By-Laws shall be submitted to the active membership at least four weeks prior to the meeting in which the amendments will be considered. For acceptance the amendment will require a majority vote of those who cast their votes. Any subject matter pertinent to the organization may be submitted to the active membership for consideration and if voted upon and will require for passage a majority of all votes cast, by those present including proxies. Members who cannot attend meetings may vote on elections by mail.

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INCORPORATION ISSUED