

**CONSTITUTION OF THE  
ARKANSAS OUTDOOR PHOTOGRAPHERS CLUB**

Adopted February 19, 2015

**ARTICLE I. NAME**

The organization shall be known as the Arkansas Outdoor Photographers Club and the name may be abbreviated as AOPC. It shall be a nonprofit organization established and existing for the purposes identified in Article II herein.

**ARTICLE II. PURPOSES OF THE ORGANIZATION**

The primary purposes of the organization are:

- (a) To promote the exchange of information regarding outdoor, nature, wildlife and travel photography;
- (b) To provide a social forum for all those interested in outdoor, nature, wildlife and travel photography;
- (c) To develop and promote educational programs related to photographic techniques, conservation, preservation and protection of the natural world;
- (d) To make available members who specialize in particular areas of outdoor, nature, wildlife and travel photography for assistance within the membership; and
- (e) To promote outdoor, nature, wildlife and travel photography to the public at large.

**ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP**

Membership in the AOPC shall be open to any individual who possesses a sincere interest in outdoor, nature, wildlife or travel photography and who pays the established dues. Membership application forms shall be formulated and provided by the Executive Board to any individual interested in becoming a member and meeting the membership criteria.

Annual membership dues will be set by the Executive Board for a family membership available to family members living in the same household. Each interested family member sixteen (16) years of age and older shall have one (1) vote on all issues that come before the membership.

Membership dues will be due from existing members no later than the close of the March membership meeting. The failure of existing members to pay dues by that time shall result in suspension of all rights of membership until such time as dues are paid. Annual dues for new members will be due by the close of the third meeting in which they appear as a guest. There will be no proration of dues except for new members joining after June 30, in which case they will pay one-half the yearly dues.

Membership of any person may be suspended, when sufficient reason exists, by action of the Executive Board. The suspended member shall have the right to appeal the suspension, in which case the action of the Executive Board shall be upheld or rescinded by a majority vote of the members at a membership meeting.

#### **ARTICLE IV. EXECUTIVE BOARD**

The management of the AOPC, including matters of finance, shall be directed by an Executive Board composed of the elected officers, the chairpersons of any standing committees, the AOPC Librarian, the Newsletter Editor, the Program and Events Coordinator, and the Past President. With the President's approval, an officer may also serve in the capacity of Newsletter Editor, Librarian, or Program and Events Coordinator. Each member of the Executive Board shall have a vote. The Executive Board shall meet as often as necessary to transact the business of the organization. The Executive Board shall have the responsibility to approve all disbursements from the checking account maintained by the Secretary/Treasurer.

#### **ARTICLE V. OFFICERS**

The following officers shall be elected by the membership: (1) President, (2) Vice-President, and (3) Secretary/Treasurer.

The duties of the officers shall be as follows:

- (a) President. The President shall preside at all organization meetings and Executive Board meetings; appoint the chairperson of all committees, the librarian, and the newsletter editor; act as organization spokesperson; and communicate organization activities, events, and meetings through the AOPC newsletter and/or the AOPC website.
- (b) Vice President. The Vice President shall assume the duties of the President in his or her absence; organize field trips for the membership; and attend Executive Board meetings.
- (c) Secretary/Treasurer. The Secretary/Treasurer shall draft and maintain the minutes of all Executive Board meetings; maintain a membership database; and maintain the organization's finances. The Secretary/Treasurer shall maintain a regular checking account into which all organization revenues will be deposited and shall provide regular financial reports to the Executive Board and an annual financial report to the membership. The Treasurer shall make the financial records of the organization available for viewing by any member upon such member's written request to the Executive Board.

The Secretary/Treasurer and President shall have the sole authority to issue checks on behalf of AOPC.

#### **ARTICLE VI. ELECTIONS OF OFFICERS**

Election of the organization's officers shall be held annually at the January membership meeting. At the preceding October meeting, the President shall appoint a Nominating Committee composed of three (3) members not on the Executive Board. The Nominating Committee will prepare a single slate of officers and obtain the agreement from the nominees to serve, if elected. The slate shall be published in the newsletter preceding the meeting at which the election will take place. Additional nominations may be made from the floor at the meeting. Votes may be taken by written ballot if any office is contested.

No officer shall be re-elected to the same office for more than two (2) full consecutive terms, except for the Secretary/Treasurer, who may serve no more than three (3) full consecutive terms. Vacancies in any offices shall be appointed by the President, subject to approval by the Executive Board. Vacancy of the President's office shall be filled by advancement of the Vice President.

## **ARTICLE VII. COMMITTEES**

The Executive Board shall establish any standing committees and ad hoc temporary committees as it deems necessary or desirable. The temporary ad hoc committees will be dissolved after their purpose has been completed.

## **ARTICLE VIII. MEETINGS**

- (a) Executive Board meetings. The Executive Board shall meet as often as it deems necessary to transact business. An Executive Board meeting may be called by the President or by joint action of three (3) or more Executive Board members, with at least twenty-four (24) hours' advance notice provided to all Executive Board members. Notice shall include email or other electronic notice. A quorum shall be three (3) members of the Executive Committee. The President shall preside and rule on any procedural issues.
- (b) Membership meetings. The Executive Board shall establish the time, date and location of meetings of the organization as a whole and announce such information in the AOPC newsletter.

## **ARTICLE IX. AMENDMENTS**

Amendments to the Constitution may be proposed by any member to the Executive Board and, if approved by the Executive Board, may be presented to the membership. The Executive Board shall provide notice to the members of any proposed amendment to the Constitution by publication of such proposal in the AOPC newsletter. Any amendment may only be made if approved by a two-thirds majority of the members present at a membership meeting. This Constitution shall automatically be amended to conform with all federal, state and local laws.