



AMERICAN LEGION POST 284

COLONIAL HEIGHTS

DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA

CONSTITUTION

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CONSTITUTION

Of The COLONIAL HEIGHTS AMERICAN LEGION POST #284, INCORPORATED

ARTICLE I - NAME

Section 1. The name of this organization shall be **COLONIAL HEIGHTS AMERICAN LEGION POST No. 284, INCORPORATED**, hereafter referred to as “the Post”, “this Post”.

ARTICLE II - OBJECTIVES

Section 1. The objectives of this Post shall be to promote the principles and policies as set forth in the foregoing preamble, the four (4) Pillars of the American Legion (Veteran Affairs and Rehabilitation, National Security, Americanism and Children and Youth), and the National and Departmental Constitution of The American Legion.

ARTICLE III - NATURE

Section 1. This organization shall be absolutely non-political and shall not be used for the dissemination of partisan principles nor for the promotion of the candidacy of any person seeking public office or preferment.

Section 2. Rank does not exist in The American Legion; no member shall be addressed by his/her military title in any meeting of this Post.

ARTICLE IV - MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Eligibility for membership in this Post shall be as prescribed by the National Constitution of The American Legion and The Legion Act. All individuals honorably discharged after 7 December 1941 are eligible for membership in the American Legion. Acceptance as a member of the American Legion does not automatically guarantee acceptance as a member of Post 284. Membership will never be based on race, sex, ethnicity, or religion.

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 (EC).

Section 3. All applicants for membership shall be acted upon at the next EC or Post meeting following the making of such application, and shall at such meeting, be accepted, rejected or referred for further investigation and consideration. If twenty 20 percent (20%) or more members at said meeting, cast their vote against the acceptance of said application, then such application shall be recorded as rejected. A rejected application shall not be again considered until the expiration of six (6) months from the date of such rejection.

Section 4. Any member of this post may be suspended or expelled for cause in accordance with Article XI of the Constitution and Article IV of the By-Laws of the American Legion, Department of Virginia, Inc., as amended.

Section 5. A member who has been expelled or suspended from this Post for any cause may be reinstated to membership by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the membership present in a Post meeting.

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, except that where such consent has been asked for and denied by such Post, he/she may then appeal to the State EC of the Department of the expelling Post for permission to apply for membership.

Section 7. Individuals who have a total of fifty (50) years Legion membership will have their dues paid for by the Post.

ARTICLE V - OFFICERS

Section 1. The administrative affairs of this Post, shall, except as may be otherwise provided by the By-Laws, be under supervision of the EC which shall consist of fifteen (15) members in addition to the officers (and outgoing Commander) of the Post. The term of office of members of the EC shall be one year. This Post, by its By-Laws, may provide for such other standing committees as business of the organization may require.

Section 2. The officers of this Post shall be a:

- a. Commander,
- b. 1st Vice Commander,
- c. 2nd Vice Commander,
- d. 3rd Vice Commander (if required),
- e. Adjutant,
- f. Finance Officer,
- g. Assistant Finance Officer,
- h. Athletic Officer,
- i. Chaplain,
- j. Judge Advocate,
- k. Media and Communications Officer,
- l. Historian,
- m. Service Officer, and
- n. Two (2) Sergeants at Arms.

These officers and other such officers as may be deemed necessary by this organization, will be nominated by a nominating committee selected by the EC and approved by the membership. This nominating committee shall be selected at the January EC meeting. Members at the meeting preceding the annual election may nominate candidates for each office from the floor. Each person nominated must agree to serve if elected.

Section 3. All officers and executive committee members shall be elected annually and shall hold office until successors are duly installed or as otherwise provided. Any officer or executive committee member may be removed for inefficiency by the EC, with a two-thirds (2/3) vote of said committee being present to affect such removal.

Section 4. Every member of this Post in good standing shall be eligible to hold office in this Post.

Section 5. The duties of officers and Executive Committeepersons, shall be those usually appertaining to such officers or committeepersons and as provided in the By-Laws.

ARTICLE VI - FINANCE

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

Section 2. The amount of such membership or initiation fees and the amount of such annual Post dues will be fixed and determined by the Post at a regular Post Meeting as recommended by the Post EC.

Section 3. The Post shall pay the National annual membership fees (except where member pays their fees directly to National HQ via on-line banking) for every member that pays their annual membership fees directly to the Post.

ARTICLE VII - AMENDMENTS

This Constitution may be amended at any Regular Post Meeting by 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 at a regular meeting. The proposed amendment shall then be read at the next regular meeting, and provided further that notice shall be given to all members at least thirty (30) days in advance of the date when such amendment is to be voted upon.

ARTICLE VIII - AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS

This Post recognizes the following organizations:

- a. An affiliation with the American Legion Auxiliary Unit #284,
- b. Programs of the American Legion shall include:
 - 1) Sons of the American Legion, Squadron #284.
 - 2) Southern Virginia Chapter of the American Legion Riders

CONSTITUTION OF THE COLONIAL HEIGHTS AMERICAN LEGION POST # 284, INCORPORATED

The above Constitution shall be reviewed every five (5) years from the date of approval.

Submitted by:

Jerry Chenault 9 July 2021
Jerry Chenault, Commander Date
American Legion Post 284

Richard C. Oertel 9 July 2021
Richard "Rick" Oertel, Adjutant Date
American Legion Post 284

Approved by:

A. R. Klaas 2 August 2021
Adrian "Skip" Klaas
Commander 11th District,
Department of Virginia

A. B. Brown 6 August 2021
A. B. Brown
Judge Advocate
Department of Virginia