

# TRUXTUN ASSOCIATION

## NATIONAL BY-LAWS

### **PREAMBLE**

Current and former crew members of the **USS TRUXTUN** desiring to ensure that she receive her proper place in naval history, associate themselves together under the name of the TRUXTUN Association.

The aims of this association shall be as set forth in these articles, along with the preservation of the friendships formed while serving on the "**USS TRUXTUN**" and those friendships created by this organization.

### **ARTICLE I.**

Headquarters: The headquarters of the Association shall be the address designated as the mailing address by the Secretary.

### **ARTICLE II.**

#### **Membership and Dues**

##### **Section 1.**

The following persons shall be eligible for membership in the Association without regards to race, color, creed, national origin, sex, or are:

- a) Officers and enlisted, who are serving or have served onboard the USS TRUXTUN for any period of time.
- b) Officers and enlisted who have served on APL-54 during the construction phase of the USS TRUXTUN at the New York Shipbuilding Corporation in Camden, New Jersey, who were transferred prior to her commissioning.
- c) Widows or widowers of officers or enlisted who have served on USS TRUXTUN.
- d) Sons or daughters of officers or enlisted who have served on USS TRUXTUN.
- e) Mothers and Fathers of officers or enlisted who have served on USS TRUXTUN.
- f) Honorary Lifetime Membership shall be extended to:
  - 1) Widows or widowers of officers and enlisted who have served on USS TRUXTUN.
  - 2) Present or past Commanding Officers of USS TRUXTUN, who indicate their acceptance of the membership.

- 3) Former crewmembers of USS TRUXTUN who have made significant career achievements, either military or post military. Honorary memberships in this category shall be determined by a vote of the membership during the regularly scheduled biennial reunion business meeting.
- g) Honorary annual membership shall be extended to the elected officers of the Association for the duration of their term(s) of office.
- h) Hardship memberships may be extended, by agreement of at least two of the elected officers of the Association, and shall be extended based upon the applicant(s) ability to pay the annual due.

## **Section 2.**

The Association year shall run from January 1st to December 31st. The Association financial year shall run from October 1st to September 30th. Annual dues shall be fifteen dollars (\$15.00). The amount paid for annual dues shall be decided with a majority vote at the annual meeting to defray the cost of maintaining the organization, to include the membership list, postage, reproduction and issuance of Identification Cards. Any person qualified to become a member and tenders the dues for one year (1) shall automatically be accepted as a member. Membership dues shall be accepted for a period of no more than three (3) years in advance. Dues may be paid in up to three year amounts to allow payment of current year plus up to two (2) additional years. No more dues will be accepted from a member until his last year of paid up dues is used up. Payment for more than that will be refunded. Dues will be paid on an annual basis to the Treasurer of the Association. Collection of dues for the next year will start at the annual reunion and continue until the end of December of the same year. Any member not paid up at that time will be considered in arrears, and will not have any rights or privileges in the Association until such time as his dues are current.

## **Section 3.**

All membership lists and computer labels in the custody of the Association shall be treated as highly confidential. All membership lists held by members shall be treated as highly confidential and shall not be used for other than personal information.

## **ARTICLE-III**

### **Officers and Their Duties**

#### **Section 1.**

The Association shall be maintained by **four** elected officers. These shall be a President, a Vice President, **a** Secretary, and a Treasurer. The latter of the two offices may be filled by a single person. They shall perform duties prescribed by these Bylaws and any others directed at a reunion. These officers shall be elected for approximately two (2) year terms (as determined by the reunion schedule) at the appropriate biennial reunion. The elected officers shall assume the duties of office immediately following the reunion

at which they were elected. Officers may succeed themselves in office. In the case of a vacancy at any time in an elective office the remaining officers shall have the power to fill such vacancy for the un-expired term. Non-elected officers shall be a Chaplain, a Historian, a Reunion Historian, a Museum Liaison, and a Web Master. Non-elected officers shall be filled on a voluntary basis, subject to the approval of the elected officers.

## **Section 2.**

The President shall be the chief executive officer of the Association. The President shall have the authority to appoint such committees as he or she deems fit to conduct the business of the Association and shall preside at the business meeting and at the "Banquet" festivities.

## **Section 3.**

The Vice President shall assist the President in, the performance of his duties and act for him in his absence. He shall assume the position of President if the elected President is unable to complete his or her term of office.

## **Section 4.**

The Secretary shall record and maintain a file of the "minutes of the meetings". He is to receive all correspondence regarding the Association and record the same. He shall maintain a list of all current members. The Secretary shall process all memberships as indicated by the treasurer. He or she shall issue new copies of the Association bylaws and make them available to all members when changes have been made at a reunion. This may be done in hard copy transmittal or electronically by making it available on [www.TruxtunAssn.org](http://www.TruxtunAssn.org).

## **Section 5.**

The Treasurer shall receive the money for membership dues, prepare a receipt for the member, and deposit those funds in the Association account. He or she shall, receive, record and be accountable for all funds of the Association. The Treasurer shall receive the dues and any excess funds from the "Reunion Host." He or she shall procure from Association funds the needed Moneys to pay for all paper, postage, or reproduction necessary to perform the secretary's or treasurer's duties.

## **Section 6.**

The duties of the Chaplain will be to perform such duties of a spiritual nature as are customarily performed by members of the clergy. The Chaplain will perform a short memorial time at the reunion which shall include a list of who have departed since the last reunion and either read aloud or make the list available for all to see.

As the Chaplain receives notification of a members passing, the Chaplain will notify the president and secretary to assure the information is placed on the organization web site.

## **Section 7.**

Duties of Museum Liaison shall be to make contact with all US Navy ships that are now being used as museums and look into being able to place some kind of display on them. This can be in conjunction with the US Navy Cruiser Sailors Association and the Tin Can Sailors Association.

## **Section 8.**

Officers shall be elected by voice ballot unless a majority is uncertain then paper ballots will be used. When the candidate for any elected position is un-contested, the Secretary shall be instructed to cast one unanimous vote on behalf of the membership.

## **ARTICLE IV.**

### **Reunions**

#### **Section 1.**

The reunions of the association shall be held at approximately two year intervals.

#### **Section 2.**

The area of the country and the four city sites for the next biennial reunion shall be determined by a vote of the active members at the reunion being held. The site of the biennial reunion shall be selected for location in a rotating manner around the country. As example; starting with the South West (San Diego) going to the Northeast (Philadelphia) then to the South Central (San Antonio) and to the Northwest (Bremerton) onto the Southeast (Charleston) and then the North Central etc.

## **ARTICLE V.**

#### **Section 1.**

A voting member of the Association shall be defined as a paid member for the year that the reunion is to be held.

#### **Section 2.**

**To have a proxy:** A proxy shall be made with the reunion packet, each paid member shall choose a paid member of the Association of their choice to vote for them. The proxy, signed by the appointing member, must be brought to the reunion by the member chosen to vote your proxy.

**To have an absentee ballot:** A ballot shall be sent to all paid members with the reunion packet, and shall be signed and returned by the cut off date for the reunion, or the cut off date stated on the ballot.

**Meetings:** Meetings shall be conducted according to parliamentary procedure. Roberts Rules of Order shall control all points of dispute.