LOUISIANA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

CONSTITUTION

Amended January 28, 2017

Article I – Name

The name of this organization shall be the Louisiana Ornithological Society

Article II - Objects

Section 1. The society shall be organized and operated exclusively for such educational, scientific, literary, and charitable purposes as follows:

A. To gather and disseminate accurate information concerning the bird life of the western hemisphere and of Louisiana.

B. To promote interest in and appreciation of the value of birds, both aesthetic and economic, which will ensure wiser conservation of our bird life.

C. To provide opportunity for acquaintance and fellowship among those interested in nature.

D. To issue, at such times as possible or practicable, publications as a means of furthering these ends.

E. Any other lawful purpose.

Section 2. This Society is not organized, nor shall it be operated for pecuniary gain or profit; and it does not contemplate the distribution of gains, profits, or dividends to the members thereof, or to any private individual. The property, assets, profits, and income of this Society are irrevocably dedicated to charitable (educational, scientific) purposes, and no part of the property assets, profits, or net income of this Society shall ever inure to the benefit of any Director, Officer, or member thereof, or to the benefit of any private individual, except that the Society shall be empowered and authorized to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distribution in furtherance of purposes set forth in these Articles.

Upon the dissolution or upon abandonment of the Society, the assets of the Society shall be donated to the Louisiana State University Museum of Natural Science (LSUMNS) or its successor, or if unwilling or unable to accept such a donation, to such corporation(s), association(s), fund(s), foundation(s), having similar objects and purposes as this Society, as the Board of Directors may deem appropriate and may designate, subject to the order of a Court as provided by law; provided that none of
such assets shall be donated to any organization other than one organized and operated exclusively for charitable (educational and scientific) purposes as presently set forth in Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of the United States.

Section 3. This Society shall be organized on a non-stock basis.

Section 4. No substantial part of the Society's activities shall consist of attempting to influence legislation, nor shall the Society participate in, or intervene in any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office; nor shall the Society participate in or support organizations or coalitions whose activities are contrary to this section, except within limits allowed by law.

Section 5. In order to achieve the above purposes and objectives, the Society may at any and all times borrow money, accept donations, own and encumber real estate as well as movable property, sue and be sued, contract, and in general do each and everything necessary that a nonprofit organization may do under the statutes of the State of Louisiana.

Article III – Members

The membership of this Society shall consist of the following categories: Regular, Family, Junior, Student, Senior, Senior Family, Contributing, Sustaining, Life and Family Life. Membership dues will be established by the Executive Committee and approved by 2/3 of the membership at any regular meeting.

Article IV – Officers

Section 1. The elective officers of the Society shall consist of a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary and a Treasurer and three Directors. These Directors shall be selected, insofar as is possible, from different sections of the state. These officers shall be elected at the annual fall meeting by a majority vote of the members present. Terms of office shall begin at the close of the annual fall meeting and extend until successors have been chosen.

Section 2. There shall be an Executive Committee composed of (1) the seven Executive Officers and (2) the past President.

Article V – Meetings

Section 1. The Society shall hold regular meeting three annually, one in the spring and one in the fall and one in winter. The exact time and place of each shall be decided by the Executive Committee. The winter meeting will be held at different areas around the state to be decided by the Executive Committee. Recommended dates to be the last full weekend of April, October and January.
Section 2. Special meetings may be called at any time by the action of the Executive Committee or upon written petition of ten members to the President, who shall then call the meeting. In either case, two weeks' notice of such a meeting shall be mailed to the members by the Secretary.

Article VI – Amendments

This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any legal meeting or by a two-thirds vote of members responding within ten days to a mail ballot submitted to the entire membership. In the case of changes made at a legal meeting, notice of the proposed changes must be sent to each member by the Secretary at least two weeks before the meeting at which it is to be voted upon.

This Amendment approved at the LOS Winter Meeting, January 28, 2017.

President

Steve Cardiff

Date

Secretary

Joelle Finley

Date