

Constitution and Bylaws For True Vine Family Reunion, Inc.

Article I Name and Location

Section 1. This body shall be known as True Vine Family Reunion, Inc.

Section 2. The principal office of this organization shall be located in the city of Fort Lauderdale, Broward County, Florida. The organization may have other offices as the affairs of the organization may require from time to time.

Article II Objective

Section 1. The objective of this reunion is to meet, fellowship, socialize, and become acquainted with the descendants of this lineage and their connections.

Section 2. The purpose of this organization is to reunite family members and to enhance the growth and development of family unity.

Article III Mission

The mission of this reunion is to strengthen the family circle, to become united with one another, to encourage and support each other in our endeavors, and to aide one another in times of crises or distress. To become united as a family, loving, caring, enjoying, and fellowshiping one with the other.

Article IV Membership

The membership of this reunion shall be the children, spouses, grandchildren and connections of the ancestors/branches of this family generation.

Article V Associate Members

Any personal friend associated or connected with a family member may become an associate family member by affiliation, working and supporting the Chapter nearest to your home or place of residence.

Article VI Chapters

Section 1. There shall be one group of family members known as chapters established in various states where family members reside and desire to organize as a group to entertain or host the family reunion.

Section 2. For locations where only one (1) family unit resides, that family unit can join with nearby family units to form one (1) chapter.

Section 3. For locations where multiple family units reside, several chapters will be formed out of those family units.

Article VII Meetings

Section 1. This reunion will meet for a celebration once every two (2) years on the weekends. This would be Friday, Saturday, and Sunday for a three day event, or one of the listed days for

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a one day event. The reunion could extend for as long as one full week with ample notice and the vote of the majority.

Section 2. There will be a Registration fee assessed by the hosting chapter in accordance with the accommodations and preparations needed to cover the incurred expense of entertaining the reunion in its area, state, or locality. This fee will be based on the difference after all chapter donations have been collected.

Section 3. Each chapter will donate a two hundred dollar (\$200.00) financial assessment annually to be used as start up funds to assist the host chapter each reunion year. Funds are to be sent to the organization treasurer on or before October 15th of every year.

Section 4. If a chapter is not strong enough to function on its own, it may function along with another that is close enough to its location that they may rotate one to the other.

Article VIII Officers

Section 1. This body shall hold an election of officers every four years during its regular scheduled reunion meeting. The officers will be as follows: President, Vice President, Secretary, Assistant/Financial Secretary, and Treasurer.

Section 2. These officers may serve a term of four (4) years and may be re-elected to serve no more than eight (8) years in succession.

Section 3. Persons serving as President of a local chapter should not serve as President of the Organization at the same time.

Section 4. There shall be officers appointed as follows: Chaplain, Historian, Parliamentarian, and Website Master.

Article IX Duties

Section 1. The duty of the President will be to conduct all business meetings for the reunion. The President shall be the principal officer of the organization and shall in general supervise and control all the business and affairs of the organization. He/she shall preside at all meetings of the organization. He/she may sign with the Secretary, certificates or any deeds, or other instruments which the organization has authorized to be executed; and in general perform all the duties incident to the office of President and such other duties as may be prescribed by the organization from time to time. He/she shall assign or choose committees as deemed needful and necessary for carrying out the desires and wishes as agreed upon by the body and promoting pride, dignity, and love for one another among the family.

Section 2. The Vice President will fulfill the duties and responsibilities of the President should he/she be absent or unavailable at the time of any regular scheduled meeting of the family reunion.

Section 3. The Secretary shall attend the meetings of the organization and record the minutes of meetings; see that written notice of meetings are given; keep a register of the addresses of each member and perform all duties incident to the office of Secretary and such other duties as may be assigned by the President or organization. The Secretary will keep an accurate record of all proceedings for the reunion and prepare the same for publication. He/she will thus distribute a copy to the President of each local chapter and one to the Master of the Website Page.

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Section 4. The Assistant/Financial Secretary will assume the duties of the Secretary should she/he be absent or unavailable at the time of any regular scheduled meeting of the reunion. He/she will Record and keep an accurate record of all proceedings at all times in the event that the Secretary's records are absent, missing, or destroyed. He/she shall keep a record of all financial transactions and compare records with the treasurer to ensure accuracy; and perform all other duties incident to the office of Financial Secretary and such other duties as may be assigned by the President or organization.

Section 5. The Treasurer shall be the principal accounting and financial officer and shall be responsible for the maintenance of all funds for the organization; receive and give receipts for monies due and payable to the organization from any source whatsoever and deposit all such monies in the name of the organization in such banks as shall be selected by the organization. He/she shall render to the membership an account of all his/her transactions as Treasurer and perform all of the duties incident to the office of Treasurer and such other duties as may be assigned by the President or organization.

Article X Duties of Appointed Officers

Section 1. The Chaplain will take charge of the devotion or lead the body in prayer at all business meetings of the reunion.

Section 2. The Parliamentarian will study, observe, and advise the family in all legal matters and in the conducting of parliamentary procedures.

Section 3. The Historian will conduct research, compile information, and record any findings of information that will increase knowledge of the family history and background or of any descendants of or family members.

Section 4. Webmaster - A website page has been designed and must be up and running at all times. It may be viewed at: <http://www.truevinereunion.com>.

Article XI Policy and Planning

Section 1. This will be a standing committee that will establish rules and regulations for the enforcing and carrying out the aims and goals of the Constitution and By-Laws for this Family Reunion. It will advise and assist with setting guidelines for any overall projects involving giving assistance, such as financial support, gifts, scholarships, etc. that the body has agreed upon.

Article XII Recognition

Section 1. Any family or associate family member will be recognized for Scholastic Achievements, Attending Institutions of Higher Learning, Graduation, Job Promotion, New Marriages (Newlyweds), New Births, Anniversaries, Long Life, Reunion Attendance, and Life Achievements.

Article XIII Scholarship

Section 1. This reunion will have a Scholarship program that will give aide to students or a student descendent of this family in accordance with guidelines set by a committee formed to set rules of eligibility for persons applying for assistance through the scholarship fund. Rules having been accepted and agreed upon by the body will become a part of this constitution.

Section 2. The name of this Scholarship Fund has been established as the True Vine Family Reunion Scholarship Fund.

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Section 3. Each family chapter will be asked to contribute \$50 for initial formation of scholarship funding. Ten (10) percent of all registrations fees, financial assessments, or other proceeds will be applied to this scholarship fund.

Article XIV Bylaws

Section 1. This Constitution will be the guide, rules, and regulations for this Family Reunion. They may be changed, or amended only by a two-third (2/3) majority vote of all members present at any given meeting of the reunion, having given notice of requested change twelve (12) months prior to present meeting. Desired change must be submitted in writing for presentation.

Section 2. Each local chapter will plan and enforce its own rules and regulations for the operation of its local business as is suitable for its members. They must be in keeping with those set by this constitution, but does not have to be identical.

Section 3. Every Reunion Celebration will be planned for the weekend (Friday, Saturday, & Sunday), unless prior arraignment have been agreed upon.

Section 4. Every Celebration will include some form of recreational activity, planned by the host chapter; a period of memory, honoring those family members who have passed away since our last reunion; and end with a form of spiritual devotion. A prayer or a worship service will meet this requirement. After the spiritual devotion, all will bid final farewells and the benediction will be delivered. These requirements can be spread out over a three day period culminating into various activities, or be compiled into a one-day event.

Article XV Money

Section 1. All checks, drafts, or other orders for payment of money, or other evidence of indebtedness issued in the name of the organization shall be signed by two officers of the organization.

Section 2. All funds of the organization not otherwise employed shall be deposited to the credit of the organization in such banks as the organization may select.

Section 3. All monies collected in each proposed reunion site, as startup capital shall be returned after the family reunion expenses have been met. Any monies left over shall be returned to the True Vine, Inc. Treasurer as "seed money" for the next family reunion.

Article XVI Business Meetings

Section 1. There will be at least one (1) business meeting at every gathering of the family.

Section 2. Each chapter will have as its voting representative their elected officers, they being the President, Vice President, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, and Treasurer or their proxy should one of them be absent.

Section 3. Any member desiring may attend the meeting, having no voting power. Only the afore named officers will have voting power in regular meeting sessions.

Section 4. All Business Meetings will open and close with prayer.

Article XVII Order of Business

Section 5. Order as follows:

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- Scripture (John 15: 1,5)
- Prayer
- Reading of last minutes (for adoption)
- Treasures Report (for information)
- Old Business
- New Business
- Goals for the future
- Setting of the next gathering
- Reading of prepared minutes (for correction)
- Adjournment

Current Officers:

President - Ernestine Saintlouis
Vice President - Rickenson Ministre
Treasurer - RickSalem Ministre
Secretary - Gracious Ministre
Historian - Joanne Ministre

Founder(s) of the True Vine Family Reunion, Inc.:

The organization was founded in October 2013 by Ernestine Saintlouis