

CONSTITUTION
GEORGIA CAMPERS ON MISSION

I. NAME

The name of this organization shall be GEORGIA CAMPERS ON MISSION (GaCOM).

II. PURPOSE

It is the purpose of Georgia Campers on Mission to relate our Christian faith to the lives of fellow men wherever we camp; to bear witness of the saving power of Jesus Christ; to communicate in word and deed the good life in Christ; to be genuine and sensitive in our relations to other people; and to use our camping equipment and skills in furtherance of the Gospel of Christ.

III. MEMBERSHIP

Membership shall be free and open to Christian campers of all denominations. No membership fees, dues, or subscriptions shall be required. Membership in Campers on Mission shall not preclude concurrent membership in other volunteer organizations, such as disaster relief teams, construction teams, and Mission Service Corps. Participation shall be the basis for determining active membership.

IV. RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF MEMBERS

1. Each active member is entitled to an equal voice in the affairs of the organization and each is eligible for consideration as a candidate for the elective offices of the organization. Each member who is present at a meeting may vote on any business conducted at that meeting.
2. Members are responsible to conduct themselves in a way that reflects favorably on their Christian witness. They should identify themselves to one another and display the Campers on Mission (COM) emblem whenever possible.

V. POLICY AND RELATIONSHIPS

1. Campers on Mission is an informal fellowship of Christian campers, sponsored at the national level by the North American Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, and within Georgia by the Special Missions Department of the Georgia Baptist Convention. As part of that fellowship, Georgia Campers on Mission shall be receptive to recommendations and guidance from those sponsoring bodies. In all other respects, this organization is a self-governing body with the government vested in its members. Decisions affecting the organization shall be made in a democratic manner under the Lordship of Jesus Christ.
2. This organization recognizes and sustains the obligations of mutual counsel and cooperation with other Christian bodies and organizations. It shall not establish or maintain affiliation with any body or organization whose faith or practice violates the principle of faith and practice found in the Holy Bible or this Constitution.
3. Subsequent geographical districts may be established to provide additional opportunities for fellowship and service, and to encourage an equitable distribution of mission projects throughout Georgia.

VI. OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

1. Officers shall include a president, vice-president, secretary/treasurer, chaplain, and public relations officer. These along with the district directors and district mission coordinators shall compose the Executive Committee. Additional officers and leaders, including a music director and

accompanist, may be elected as deemed appropriate by the membership.

The director of the Department of Special Missions, Georgia Baptist Convention, or such person As the Convention designates, shall be an ex-officio member of the Executive Committee.

Standing committees shall include a food committee to be responsible for the planning of meals and Refreshments; a site committee responsible for recommending the places and making necessary arrangements with campgrounds where rallies are to be held. Other standing committees may be elected as deemed appropriate by the membership. Special committees may be appointed by the president.

2. Officers and committees shall be elected to a two year term at the first statewide rally in the year which the current officers' terms end. All elected members will take office immediately at the conclusion of the rally in which they were elected. Nominations shall be made by a nominating committee appointed by the president and/or by individual members from the floor in accordance with normally accepted parliamentary procedures. Vacant offices may be filled for the remainder of the term through appointment by the president or by election at the next statewide rally.
3. The Executive Committee shall be responsible for the final selection of locations for statewide rallies, and for planning and developing the program for such rallies. The committee shall also present such reports and recommendations at statewide rallies as considered appropriate or as requested by members.
4. Executive officers shall not serve more than one consecutive term in the same office. An individual appointed to fill an unexpired term may be renominated for a full term upon expiration of the appointed term.

VII. RALLIES AND MEETINGS

1. Georgia Campers on Mission normally will conduct two statewide rallies each calendar year, one during the spring and one during the fall. District rallies may be held at other times, such as during the summer and winter. Local rallies of COM members, such as church and associational groups, are encouraged when possible and not in conflict with statewide and district COM activities.
2. Campers are encouraged to use their camping equipment and skills in responding to mission needs inside and outside Georgia. Both group projects and individual projects provide continuing opportunities for service.
3. The National Rally of Campers on Mission is normally held during the early summer at a time and place announced by the North American Mission Board. Georgia campers are urged to attend this inspiring and enjoyable rally as often as possible.

VIII. AMENDMENTS

Proposed changes to this Constitution and the Bylaws thereto shall be presented to the Executive Committee for study at least two months before the first statewide rally of the calendar year. The Executive Committee will then present such changes for adoption or rejection by the membership at the rally. Amendments to the Constitution shall be adopted by a favorable vote of two-thirds of the members present and voting. Amendments to Bylaws may be adopted by the favorable vote of a majority of the members present and voting.

BY-LAWS
GEORGIA CAMPERS ON MISSION

I. DISTRICTS

1. For administrative and other purposes, Georgia Campers on Mission shall have two subordinate districts. One shall be the Northern District, defined as that part of Georgia lying northward of a line from Columbus to Macon to Waynesboro, and the other the Southern District, lying southward of that line. District membership is not necessarily determined by or limited to the geographical district in which a member lives; a member living in one district may choose to participate with and be a member of the other district.
2. Members of each district shall annually elect a District Director and a Secretary/Treasurer, plus such other officers and committees as may be needed. These officers and committees shall be nominated by a nominating committee appointed by the director and elected by the membership. They shall make every effort possible to attend the statewide rallies and coordinate activities with Their GA COM counterparts.

II. FINANCIAL MATTERS

1. As a charitable, non-profit organization, Georgia Campers on Mission shall not engage in income producing activities through selling or providing services of any kind.
2. All officers, leaders, and committee members will serve without pay. However, if available funds permit, it shall be the practice that they be reimbursed for the extra organizational expenses they incur in carrying out their duties.
3. Limited funding will be available from Georgia Baptist Convention to help meet operating expenses. All other expenses shall be met through voluntary contributions from members and non-members. Contributions may be made directly to Georgia Campers on Mission or to the Georgia Baptist Convention, designated for Georgia Campers on Mission.
4. The president and/or secretary/treasurer shall make a financial report at least annually during a statewide rally. The report will show income received and disbursements made during the reporting period, and the beginning and ending balances. Neither of these officers shall be required to be bonded.
5. Georgia Campers on Mission shall share available surplus funds with the Northern and Southern Districts. Districts should be prepared to make a financial report at statewide rallies when requested to do so.

III. MEMBERSHIP CLASSIFICATIONS

1. Active- Participation, as used in the Constitution Sections III and IV to describe active members, shall be demonstrated by the regular submission of Mission Activity Reports to the Georgia Campers on Mission Secretary/Treasurer or attendance at statewide rallies. Anyone who fails to submit a Mission Activity Report or attend a statewide rally for 2 consecutive calendar years will Become an Associate member.
2. Associate – Associate members are those who have indicated a desire to remain on the Georgia Campers on Mission roll and receive newsletters, but are unable for whatever reason to participate. Associate members may become active members at any time by participating in a Georgia Campers On Mission activity.

IV. POLICY

Actions, procedures, and customs followed over time and as a matter of course in the business and activities of Georgia Campers on Mission shall be viewed as Policies of the organization. These policies shall be published in a Policy Manual, which shall be made available to all members.

Policies may be adopted, changed and/or rescinded as follows. The proposal must first be submitted to the Executive Committee, which will consider the proposal at its next meeting then bring it with recommendations to the next statewide business session. The person proposing the change shall be invited to attend the Executive Committee meeting at which the proposal will be considered. Adoption will be by a simple majority of the membership present.

Revised April 1995 –
Amended April 2001
Amended April 2003
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