

**By-Laws**  
**Blaisdell Family National Association**

*Prelude*

This Association was first organized in 1935 at a meeting of descendants of Ralph Bleasdale, who landed at Pemaquid Point, Maine, on August 14, 1635. This meeting was held at York, Maine, August 14, 1935.

- (1) All persons named ‘Blaisdell,’ in any of the name’s various spellings, and all other names who can trace their descent from the original Ralf Bleasdale or other Blaisdell ancestors be and are members of the Association. An active, voting member is based on an annual contribution to one of three funds: Basic Membership, Sustaining Membership and Endowment Fund. Non-family members may also become a voting member of the Association on the same basis.
- (2) This Association is organized exclusively for literary and educational purposes under section 501c3 of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code.
- (3.) The Association preserves our family’s cultural and genealogical history as a reflection – like a window to the soul – of our nation’s cultural and genealogical heritage, including what information we have on those families whose member marries or is adopted into the Blaisdell family – by unifying all genealogical, historical and biographical submissions for the compilation of complete and accurate family records, making our genealogical data available at cost to the general public and to any genealogical society or library who requests this information through the publication of *Blaisdell Papers* and the Association’s and the Genealogical Society of Utah’s websites and the Association’s Genealogist.

*By-Laws*

By precedents established since its original organization, the following procedures have been established and are with certain additions now approved as By-Laws of the Association by the Executive Committee at its meeting April 21, 2008, and shall prevail unless and until changed or amended by members of the Association or by the Executive Committee in meeting or by mail vote under procedures indicated under Article 3.

*Article 1*  
**Name**

The official name of the Association shall be “Blaisdell Family National Association.”

*Article 2*  
**Membership**

- (1.) The Association is voluntary, non-profit and unincorporated.
- (2.) Active membership is based on an annual contribution to one of three funds:
  - (a.) Basic Membership – entitling a person to receive the *Blaisdell Papers*
  - (b.) Sustaining Membership – for special projects
  - (c.) Endowment Fund – using only the investment earnings to further the purposes of the Association, including offering benevolent assistance to

any genealogical society or person who can not otherwise afford to receive *Blaisdell Papers* and/or a genealogy printout, and to provide an annual scholarship(s) to the general public.

(3.) Donations for the support of the Association will be placed into one of these three funds as specified by the donor.

(4.) The Executive Committee has sole authority to determine the use and disposition of donated items and how the value derived therefrom shall be used to further the purposes of the Association.

### **Article 3 Amendments & Elections**

(1) The articles and subsequent amendments of these By-Laws may be amended, and such officers as shall be found from time to time necessary shall be elected at each National Quinquennial meeting by those attending, or, if necessary, by mail ballot forwarded to the active members of the Association.

(2) All officers shall serve for a period of five years without remuneration, but may receive payment for expenses incurred in fulfillment of duties from such funds as may be available and approved by the President. All officers are Blaisdell related and shall serve without bond.

(3) Failure to hold the Quinquennial meeting or any election of officers shall not disorganize the family association.

### **Article 4 Executive Committee**

(1) The following elected or appointed officers shall constitute the Executive Committee:

President, Vice President, Immediate Past President, Genealogist, Editor of *Blaisdell Papers*, Vital Statistics Editor, Secretary-Treasurer or both, if responsibilities are divided between the two offices.

(2) In the event of the death of the President of the BFNA or if he/she should become incapacitated or should resign as President, the Vice President would automatically become President to fill out the unexpired term. The Executive Committee may replace any of its own members for infirmity or failure to exercise the duties of his/her office.

(3) Each officer may appoint assistants as helpful to the fulfillment of his/her duties, but such assistants shall not be members of the Executive Committee.

(4) The Executive Committee shall have full authority to act on all matters pertaining to the Association ad interim between or in the absence of meetings of the Association. Actions of the Executive Committee shall be reported in the next issue of the *Blaisdell Papers*.

(5) The Executive Committee shall have the authority to appoint vacancies among the officers during periods between meetings of the members.

- (6) Meetings of the Executive Committee may be called by the President or Vice President.
- (7) A quorum for the Executive Committee shall be one-third of its members.
- (8) In the absence of actual meetings, business may be conducted by mail or conference call, in which case actions proposed shall be approved or denied by a majority of the Executive Committee voting.
- (9) The Executive Committee shall prepare and supervise, through its President, budgets for the work of genealogy, the *Blaisdell Papers* and other operating costs, and shall seek to provide funds in ways to be determined to cover these budgets.
- (10) No financial obligations in the name of BFNA shall be made without written consent of the President of the BFNA. He/she should consult with the BFNA Executive Committee on unusual or large expenditures.
- (11) As a private operating literary and educational foundation for publishing *Blaisdell Papers* to record historical accounts and genealogical data as well as to distribute genealogical data and documentation to non-profit genealogical societies and to the general public, any other provisions of these By-Laws notwithstanding, the Executive Committee acting as trustees of the Association's funds shall distribute its income for each tax year at a time and in a manner as not to become subject to the tax on undistributed income imposed by Section 4942 of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code..
- (12) Any other provisions of these By-Laws notwithstanding, the Executive Committee acting as trustees of the Association's funds will not engage in any act of self-dealing as defined in Section 4941(d) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future Federal tax code; nor retain any excess business holdings as defined in Section 4943(c) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code; nor make any investments in a manner as to incur tax liability under Section 4944 of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code; nor make any taxable expenditure as defined in Section 4945(d) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code.
- (13) A Conflict of Interest Policy has been adopted by the Executive Committee of the Blaisdell Family National Association to avoid the possibility that its Officers may receive an inappropriate benefit.
- (14) Valid provisions of the Indiana State law have been enacted that require it to treat the required provisions as contained in the foundation's governing instrument.
- (15) Upon the dissolution of this Association, assets shall be distributed to one of the following 501c3 Genealogical Societies in this order of priority: Genealogical Society of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah; New England Historic Genealogical Society, Boston, Massachusetts; National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Washington, District of Columbia; Allen County Public Library, Fort Wayne, Indiana. If neither of these societies or libraries qualifies within the meaning of section 501c3 of the Internal Revenue Code at the time of dissolution, the assets will be given to the State of Indiana for a public purpose.

(16) The Executive Committee shall, in anticipation of each Quinquennial meeting of members, determine the BFNA Unit/Branch that will be host for the meeting, and the Host Unit/Branch in conjunction with the Executive Committee shall determine the time and place of the meeting, the order of business and the program for the meeting.

(17) A Nominating Committee, appointed by the President, shall submit a list of nominees for all officers for the following five-year term of office. The term of office begins at the conclusion of a Quinquennial.

(18) As approved at the Quinquennial Reunion of the Blaisdell Family National Association in Houston, Texas, August 14, 15 and 16, 1970:

“Any member of the Association may present in writing to the Nominating Committee, not later than six months before the Quinquennial election, the name of any member for nomination for office. No person shall be eligible for election as an officer of the Association unless his/her name shall thus have been submitted to or nominated by said Nominating Committee. There shall be no nominations from the floor.”

#### **Article 5 Blaisdell papers**

The *Blaisdell Papers* of the Association shall be published from time to time under the authority of the Association or Executive Committee, its Editor, elected or appointed, and policies shall be determined by the Executive Committee. All news or business items for publication shall be forwarded to the Editor.

#### **Article 6 Genealogical Records**

(1) All genealogical records shall be gathered and organized under the supervision of an elected or appointed Genealogist. The Genealogical Society of Utah (GSU), Salt Lake City, Utah, shall be the ultimate and approved place of deposit for all genealogical records. Permission was granted February 15, 2008, to this society to post past, present and future issues of the *Blaisdell Papers* on their website as long as the GSU did not sell, rent or lease our materials.

(2) All information pertaining to these Blaisdell records shall be forwarded to the BFNA Genealogist. The elected or appointed Genealogist shall serve as the Association's representative to coordinate the gathering, recording, processing and submission of family records to the Genealogical Society of Utah. A copy of the *Blaisdell Papers* with current vital statistics, wedding, anniversary and obituaries will be sent to the Family History Library, Salt Lake City, UT, as well.

(3) Circulation of the Association's genealogical data will not be restricted to the Genealogical Society of Utah. It will be limited to non-profit organizations and to the general public, if that organization or person does not sell or charge for distribution.

(4) The general public is informed of the availability of our genealogical data and recorded historical accounts primarily through the Association's website: [www.blaisdell.org](http://www.blaisdell.org), through *Blaisdell Papers* and through flyers to the genealogical societies of the United States.

(5) Other leading genealogical and historical societies in the United States who receive *Blaisdell Papers* and are eligible to receive our genealogical data include the following:

Allen County Public Library, Ft. Wayne, IN; California Genealogical Society, Oakland, CA; Everton's Family History Center, Logan, UT; Family History Center of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, Ogden, UT; Genealogical Society of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT; Maine Historical Society, Portland, ME; National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Washington, D.C.; National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, Louisville, KY; New England Historic Genealogical Society, Boston, MA; Newberry Library, Chicago, IL; Susquehanna County Historical Society, Montrose, PA; Tuck New Hampshire Historical Society, Concord, NH; U. S. Library of Congress – Local History & Genealogical Collection Development, Washington, D.C.; Wells-Ogunquit Historical Society, Wells, ME; Wisconsin Historical Society, Madison, WI and 22 other historical and genealogical societies or libraries.

(6) We will submit our genealogical data to any other non-profit genealogical library or society who so requests this data at no charge. We will also submit genealogical data to the general public, restricting data to that person's family, and will do so at the same price that is paid by BFNA members.

(7) The ownership of genealogical data and published historical accounts in the *Blaisdell Papers* must remain with the Blaisdell Family National Association. Information on any public data source will not include living persons without their written permission.

(8) Any library or genealogical society in the United States is free to pay for a subscription to the *Blaisdell Papers* or be sponsored by a member. If neither occurs, *Blaisdell Papers* will be sent by the Association at no cost for as long as they are interested.

#### **Article 7 Principle Office**

The principle office of the Association shall be at the address of each succeeding President.

#### **Article Official Seal**

The official Seal of the Association shall be the following taken from the Bronze Plaque mounted on one of the large rocks near the lighthouse at Pemaquid Point, Maine, and dedicated on August 8, 1965, commemorating the landing of Ralf Bleasdale and his family on August 14, 1635.

[As approved at the Executive Committee meeting  
May 27-29, 1966, for the cover of Volume 7, Number 1,  
June 1966 issue of the *Blaisdell Papers*.

Signed:  
Allen C. Blaisdell, President]

---or---

[As approved at the Executive Committee meeting  
October 11, 1975.

Signed:  
Kenneth W. Blaisdell, President]

---or---

[As approved by the Executive Committee meeting  
September 24, 1992

Signed:  
George A. Blaisdell, President  
James E. Blaisdell, Sr., Editor, *Blaisdell Papers*]

--or--

[As amended and approved by the Executive Committee  
July 17, 2007

Signed:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joel E. Blasdel, President

--or--

[As amended and approved by the Executive Committee

Signed:

\_\_\_\_\_  
R. Carter Blaisdell, Editor, *Blaisdell Papers*

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF BUNCOMBE

On this \_\_\_\_ day of April, 2008, before me came R.  
Carter Blaisdell, to me known to be the individual  
described in and who attested to the foregoing  
instrument, and duly acknowledged to me that he  
executed the same.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public name printed

My license no. \_\_\_\_\_ expires \_\_\_\_\_