

CONSTITUTION
of the
PANCRETAN YOUTH ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

Preamble

We, the American Youth of Cretan descent, believing that an organization of the Young Cretans of America would be an incentive for the perpetuation and preservation of the grand Cretan and Hellenic ideals and customs which are the backbone of world culture and civilization, and believing that such an organization will motivate its members to great achievements establish the Pancretan Association of America Constitution and these By-Laws as the guiding instrument of this Youth Organization.

ARTICLE I
(Name)

Section 1.

The name of this organization shall be the "PANCRETAN YOUTH ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA".

ARTICLE II
(General Provisions)

Section 1.

The PANCRETAN YOUTH ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA shall be supplementary to the membership associations of the Pancretan Association of America with equal rights and status; but shall remain independent of the membership associations for men in regard to administration (except for guidance), treasury, and general field of action.

Section 2.

These by-laws shall not be repugnant to and contravene with, but shall be complementary to and parallel with those of the Pancretan Association of America.

ARTICLE III
(Aims and Purposes)

Section 1.

The aims and purposes of the Pancretan Youth Organization of America will be:

1. To support and assist the Pancretan Association of America in its purposes and aid in its perpetuation and advancement. Also, to promote the desire of the Younger Generation to partake in projects and activities of the Mother Organization.
2. To instill into the Youth a thorough knowledge of the Cretan ideals and traditions, and to promote an appreciative understanding of the Cretan people for fostering social intercourse and mutuality among all the Cretans and their descendants.
3. To create closer relationships among the younger generation and the elders, and to render voluntarily such moral assistance or such aid as may be permitted of the State and as is deemed necessary for the welfare of the members of the Pancretan Association of America.

ARTICLE III

(continued)

4. To expedite cultural, education and recreational activities which will be to the best interests of the group.
5. To inspire firm belief in the Greek Orthodox Church and in the Democratic form of Government.

ARTICLE IV
(Organization and Membership)

Section 1.

This ORGANIZATION shall consist of such active chapters as shall be admitted and established in various cities in America. The Member chapters shall be designated by the name they desire with the approval of the Executive Board of this ORGANIZATION.

Section 2.

Any group that desires to become a chapter of this ORGANIZATION must apply for admittance to the National Executive Board of the Pancretan Youth Organization of America by filing and submitting a written application to the Executive Secretary signed by at least 15 charter members. The chapter to be accepted and recognized by the ORGANIZATION and the Pancretan Association of America must contribute to the Organization the following fees:

- a. An initiation fee of \$1.50 for each of its members; \$.50 of this fee shall remain in the treasury of this ORGANIZATION and \$1.00 for the Pancretan Association of America.
- b. An Annual Membership fee of \$1.50 for each of its members; \$.50 retained by this ORGANIZATION and \$1.00 for the Pancretan Association of America.

Section 3.

Active membership shall be open to all American Youth of Cretan descent, or as prescribed by the Pancretan Organization of America with a minimum age of 17 and upon reaching an age agreed by the Chapter, automatically transfer to the Parent Chapter.

Section 4.

Each chapter shall have full control of their individual affairs subject to the Constitution and By-Laws of this ORGANIZATION. Each chapter shall be required to enact and submit chapter by-laws to the Executive Officers of the ORGANIZATION for approval. The officers of each chapter shall consist of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, and five other Board Members. Duties and election of, and length of term held by the above officers shall be left up to the discretion of each individual chapter. A quorum of each chapter shall be up to the discretion of the individual chapters.

Section 5.

Chapter honorary membership may be granted to any one whom the Chapters feel worthy of the honor.

ARTICLE IV

(continued)

Section 6.

The ORGANIZATION in convention may proclaim National Honorary Membership to any person who has rendered extraordinary service or financial assistance toward the organization or Pancretan Association. A biography and list of qualifications of the nominee shall accompany each nomination which may be supplemented in brief, orally, by the delegate.

ARTICLE V
(Government)

Section 1.

Of the Pancretan Youth Organization of America, the Biennial Convention and the Board of Directors, constituted as hereinafter provided for, shall have control of all matters pertaining to the government of this organization.

Section 2.

The Biennial Convention shall consist of the Board of Directors and one or more delegates from the active chapters. The number of delegates from each chapter will be decided by the Executive Board at a conference before the next convention. A majority representation of the active chapters shall constitute a quorum. A majority vote of the convention shall be required to secure positive action on any motion.

Section 3.

The Biennial Convention shall transact all business pertaining to the ORGANIZATION except that which may be otherwise delegated by the Pancretan Association of America. It shall elect the officers; it shall levy such assessments on its chapters as are necessary for its support, etc.

The Biennial Convention shall be the final court of appeals in all questions regarding the interpretation of the constitution and in all matters of discipline which may be referred to it.

Section 4.

Between conventions, the administration of the ORGANIZATION will be entrusted upon the Board of Directors.

Section 5.

The Board of Directors shall consist of the President, two Vice-Presidents, Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, and Treasurer. Their duties at present will be as specified in "Robert's Rules". Specific duties will be enacted at one of the forthcoming youth conferences and convention.

Section 6.

At each Biennial Convention, the delegates will select a Youth Advisor, Editor of the English Section of "Crete", and Area Representatives. The duties of the Area Representatives are as follows:

- a. To serve as contact officers between the Young Cretans of their respective area and the Executive Officers of the Youth Organization.

ARTICLE V

(Continued)

- b. To promote and expedite programs and activities in their respective area.
- c. To assist in the problems of the younger generation.
- d. To promote the purpose, aims, and goals set forth by the younger generation at the convention in Pittsburgh (1948).
- e. To assist in the organization of younger generation clubs.
- f. To preside over area conferences.
- g. To report news and activities in their area to the English Editor of the Bulletin "Crete".

Section 7.

The National Convention shall be at the same location and time with the National Pancretan Association of America Convention. The time and place of each succeeding meeting shall be established by the Convention of Pancretan Association of America in Convention.

ARTICLE VII
(Amendments)

Section 1.

These By-Laws may be amended by a three-fourths vote of the Biennial Convention.

ARTICLE VIII
(Policy and Discipline)

Section 1.

The next convention will decide the policy of the organization and the discipline of its chapters and members.

ARTICLE IX
(Publication)

Section 1.

The official publication will be the English Section of "Crete", a monthly bulletin.

ARTICLE X
(Motto and Insignia)

Section 1.

The next convention will decide upon the motto and insignia of the Organization.

ARTICLE XI
(Funds)

Section 1.

The ORGANIZATION shall maintain its own treasury independent from those of its Membership Associations.

END