**Cedar County Historical Society**

**Constitution**

**Article I**

Name

The name of this society shall be Cedar County Historical Society.

**Article II**

Purpose

 The purpose of this society shall be to bring together those people interested in history, and especially in the history of Cedar County. Understanding the history of our community is basic to our democratic way of life, gives us a better understanding of our state and nation, and promotes a better appreciation of our American heritage.

 The society’s major function will be to discover and collect any material which may help to establish or illustrate the history of the area; its exploration, settlement, development, and activities in peace and in war; its progress in population, wealth, arts, science, agriculture, manufactures, trade, and transportation. It will collect genealogies, biographies, descriptions, gazetteers, directories, newspapers, pamphlets, catalogs, circulars, handbills, programs, and posters; manuscript material such as letters, diaries, journals, memoranda, reminiscences, rosters, service records, account books, charts, surveys and field books; and museum material such as pictures, photographs, paintings, portraits, scenes, aboriginal relics, and material objects illustrative of life, conditions, events and activities of the past and the present.

 The society will provide for the preservation of such material and for its accessibility, as far as may be feasible, to all who wish to examine or study it, to co-operate with officials in insuring the preservation and accessibility of the records and archives of the county and of its cities, towns, villages, and institutions, and to undertake the preservation of historic buildings, monuments and markers.

 The society will disseminate historical information and arouse interest in the past by publishing historical material in the newspapers or otherwise, by holding meetings with pageants, addresses, lectures, papers, and by discussion; by marking historic buildings, sites, and trails; and by using the media of radio and television to awaken public interest.

 The society will co-operate with the state historical society to collect and preserve materials of state-wide significance so that those materials can be made available to students and scholars.

**Article III**

Membership

 Membership shall include three classes:

* Individual
* Life
* Honorary

**Article IV**

Annual Meeting

 The annual meeting of the society shall be held or determined by the board of directors.

**Article V**

Officers and Board of Directors

 Section 1. The officers shall be a president, a vice-president and a secretary, who shall be elected for a term of two years; and tree directors, who shall be elected for a term of three years.

 Section 2. The officers and directors shall constitute the board of directors.

**Article VI**

Election of Officers and Board of Directors

 Section 1. All officers and directors shall be elected by a plurality of votes at the annual meeting.

 Section 2. The vice-president will serve as the chairman of the nominating committee with two members elected from the floor in September.

**Article VII**

Amendment

 Section 1. The articles of incorporation may be amended by the vote of two-thirds of the members present at any annual meeting provided a notice of such proposed change was presented at the preceding annual meeting.

 Section 2. Should this organization ever be dissolved, its property, real and chattel, tangible and intangible, shall be given to the county of Cedar for the purpose of maintaining a Cedar County Museum.