BYLAWS
TRIANGLE CHAPTER
AMERICAN WINE SOCIETY

ARTICLE I
NAME OF ORGANIZATION

Section 1. The name of the organization is TRIANGLE CHAPTER, AMERICAN WINE SOCIETY, hereinafter referred to as "Triangle Chapter."

ARTICLE II
PURPOSE

Section 1. The purpose of the Triangle Chapter is to foster wine education and to promote the appreciation and responsible enjoyment of wine.

ARTICLE III
MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Eligibility. Membership in the Triangle Chapter shall be open to all members of the American Wine Society, who are genuinely interested in supporting the purpose of the Triangle Chapter.

Section 2. Member of Record. A member who has attended at least one event in the previous six months shall be considered a member of record of the Triangle Chapter.

Section 3. Member Voting Rights. Each member of record shall be entitled to personally vote on each matter submitted to a vote of the members.
   A. Individual American Wine Society membership: entitled to one vote.
   B. Couple American Wine Society membership: each person entitled to one vote.
   C. Professional American Wine Society membership: one or two votes, depending on how membership is registered with AWS.

ARTICLE IV
CHAPTER BOARD

Section 1. Designation. The officers of the Triangle Chapter shall be the Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, and Program Chair. Together with the Immediate Past Chair and up to two at-large members, these officers shall comprise the Chapter Board. If the Immediate Past Chair is unable to serve, the Board will operate with one less member during that term of office. No two offices may be held by the same person or couple unless there are insufficient Board members available to fill all the officer positions. In that case a person or couple may hold two officer positions. In addition, the Board may agree to shift some responsibilities among officers as necessary to more equably spread the workload.

Section 2. Officer Voting Rights. Each Board position, whether filled by an individual or a couple, shall have a single vote in all matters brought before the Board.

Section 3. Chair. The Chair shall have charge of all Triangle Chapter activities. He/she shall preside at meetings of the Board and of the membership, promote Chapter membership, appoint committees as needed, and see that Chapter activities are reported to the Executive Director for potential national publication.

Section 4. Secretary. The Secretary shall perform the duties and functions customarily performed by the secretary of an organization plus any other duties assigned by the Board. In the absence or disability of the Chair, the Secretary shall perform the duties and exercise the powers of the Chair.
Section 5. Treasurer. The Treasurer shall have custody of all funds, shall keep full and accurate account of all receipts and disbursements in books belonging to the Triangle Chapter, and shall deposit all monies and other valuable effects in the name of and to the credit of the Triangle Chapter in such depositories as may be designated by the officers. He/she shall disburse the funds of the Triangle Chapter as necessary to achieve its purpose, or as may be ordered by the officers, taking proper vouchers for such disbursements. The Treasurer shall make a financial report to the Triangle Chapter membership at least annually.

Section 6. Program Chair. The Program Chair shall have responsibility for planning and coordinating all sanctioned Chapter events. Sanctioned events are those which the Chapter oversees on a monthly basis. Extra events may be proposed by any Member, and if approved by the Board, shall be the full responsibility, including financial, of that Member.

Section 7. At-Large Board Members. A Board member may serve as an at-large member only if all officer positions have been filled. At-large members may be appointed tasks as decided by the Board.

Section 8. Board Support. The Board can appoint committee chair positions to support Chapter activities, including a web master to develop and maintain a Chapter web site. Board support positions have no voting rights, though they may be invited to attend Board meetings for reporting purposes. All appointed committee chairs will serve coterminal with the elected Board.

ARTICLE V
BUSINESS MEETINGS AND ELECTIONS

Section 1. Frequency of Meetings. Meetings of the Board shall be held at least three times a year at suitable places as may be designated by the Triangle Chapter officers.

Section 2. Notice of Meetings. It shall be the duty of the Chair or Secretary to send a notice of each Board meeting, stating the purpose of the meeting, as well as the time and place where it is to be held, to each Board member no less than one week prior to such meeting. If the meeting is for business of the entire membership, the Secretary shall send a notice with similar content to the entire membership or members of record, as applicable.

Section 3. Quorum. At least half the members of the Board must be present to constitute a quorum at a Board meeting.

Section 4. Matters Subject to Vote. The Board may bring for a vote before the membership any matter related to the business of the Chapter. Any member may also propose to the Board in writing or via email any matter about which it is desired to obtain consideration of the Board for a vote of the membership.

Section 5. Voting. At every meeting of the membership or for matters circulated by mail or email for a vote, each member of record shall have the right to vote in accordance with the provisions of Article III, Section 3 on each question. The vote of the majority of those present or responding shall decide any question brought before the membership.

Section 6. Elections. Elections shall be held in the Fall of each year at a regularly scheduled meeting or by mail or email. The membership shall elect a full slate of new Board members for the next calendar year, and the Board shall subsequently elect the Chapter officers. Candidates for the Board may be individual members of record or couples running to share a single seat on the Board. The election ballot shall clearly indicate which persons are running for Board seats as individuals and which are running as couples for a single seat.

Section 7. Office Vacancies. At any regularly scheduled or special meeting of the membership duly called, any Board member may be removed for cause by a vote of the majority of the membership in attendance. Such vote may also be held by mail or email. A successor may then be elected to fill the vacancy thus created. Such will also be the case for any office vacated by resignation or inability to continue to serve. If an office is vacated with less than half a term remaining, the Board may choose to not fill the office or appoint someone to the position.
ARTICLE VI
MISCELLANEOUS

Section 1. Paid Chapter Events. For each paid tasting event of the Triangle Chapter, registration fees shall be set based upon the nature of the tasting, and shall be due no less than one week prior to the event. If a payee notifies the Treasurer via mail, phone or email that they are canceling their attendance at an event, on or before the published “Latest Registration” date, they shall be entitled to a full refund of the registration fee. Any cancellations that occur after the published “Latest Registration” date will result in forfeiture of the entire registration fee.

Section 2. Guests. Anyone eligible for membership in the American Wine Society may attend up to three events of the Triangle Chapter, subject to the payment of all fees in advance and the forfeiture provisions of Article VI, Section 1. After that, he/she must officially join the American Wine Society in order to continue participation in such events.

Section 3. Event Hosting. Volunteer hosts shall provide a location for convening Chapter events and/or consumable tasting supplies (bread, tableware, etc.) for which they will be compensated an amount set by the Board from each registration fee.

Section 4. Event Facilitating. Volunteer facilitators shall organize the event programs, including procuring wines with the registration fees collected for the events, preparing educational materials, and leading the events. The registration fee for the facilitator may be waived, and outside speakers may be compensated at the direction of the Board.

Section 5. Event Format. At least half of the programmed tasting events each year shall be organized to score wines using the AWS system.

ARTICLE VII
AMENDMENTS

Section 1. Balloting. These Bylaws and the provisions herein may be altered, amended, or repealed (“changed”) by a majority of those members of record by voting in a ballot in which at least 20% of the eligible votes are cast. If less than 20% of members of record of the Triangle Chapter responds to a ballot, this shall be considered a technical defeat of the amendment.

ARTICLE VIII
DISSOLUTION OF THE CHAPTER

Section 1. Distribution of Assets. Upon dissolution of the Chapter, none of its assets shall be distributed to any officer or member, but shall be disposed of in accordance with the applicable regulations of the Internal Revenue Service and provisions of the Internal Revenue Service Code then in force. Unless otherwise prohibited, the assets shall be donated to the American Wine Society Scholarship fund.

These bylaws were voted upon by the membership in May, 2005, and were declared as accepted and effective on June 2, 2005, by then-Chairs Mark and Helen Spain. The bylaws were amended in September 2007 to allow up to two at-large Board members. In October 2012, the bylaws were amended again to change elections from Board positions to Board members, update voting procedures, and other miscellaneous changes. In May 2015, the bylaws were amended again to make the Program Chair a Chapter officer, explicitly state that a couple may hold a single Board position, clarify selection and duties