



## A Tribute Resolution of Heartfelt Appreciation Honoring the Hrabacka-Gilchrist-Corson Families

Whereas Carol Gilchrist embraced the Eastland Disaster Historical Society (EDHS) at the very earliest stage in its organizational history, openly sharing the legacy of her mother, Marie (Homola) Hrabacka with EDHS;

Whereas Carol Gilchrist further embraced EDHS by inviting its founders into her mother's home to video record Marie's interview by Ron Magers of ABC-7/Chicago for the 2000 short documentary, "Eastland," thereby becoming the sole part of the program that engaged its audience in an emotional way;

Whereas Carol Gilchrist drove with her mother from Western Michigan to attend EDHS's first-ever library program in Berwyn, Illinois in December 1999;

Whereas Carol Gilchrist immediately became the family advocate to share her inherited Homola legacy, a role later also embraced by daughter Pamela Gilchrist Corson;

Whereas Carol Gilchrist served EDHS voluntarily with the highest distinction, becoming a member of the first EDHS Advisory Board in 2002, helping to lead EDHS from its infancy to its status as an important and relevant not-for-profit organization whose reach impacts people across the country;

Whereas Carol Gilchrist was a featured speaker at EDHS's first-ever event in 2000 with over 300 persons attending, and fifteen years later was a featured speaker with daughter Pamela Gilchrist Corson at EDHS's centennial event in 2015 with over 1000 persons attending;

Whereas Carol Gilchrist and Pamela Gilchrist Corson have shared their family's history – through presentations and through commemorative beer labeling, to name two – as means to inform and educate the public about the history of the Eastland Disaster;

Whereas Carol Gilchrist has regularly shown her support of EDHS and its mission including personally pledging and making a \$5,000 planned gift to EDHS from her mother's estate;

*Resolved*, that the Eastland Disaster Historical Society, on behalf of its members and Board, commits to:

1. creating a collection of artifacts to permanently bear the name *Hrabacka-Gilchrist-Corson / EDHS Collection* at the Newberry Library, an iconic institution in Chicago; and
2. documenting Carol Gilchrist's personal contributions to EDHS on a webpage to be permanently tied to the "About Us" section of the EDHS website.

So moved and seconded on October 28, 2019 by the EDHS Board of Trustees.

Susan Decker  
Co-Founder

Barbara Decker Wachholz  
Co-Founder

Ted Wachholz  
Executive Director

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1998-2019 OUR TWENTY-FIRST YEAR!