

Colorado Society
Sons of the American Revolution

The First Century: A History



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Introduction

This document covers the history of the Colorado Society, Sons of the American Revolution, for its first century of existence -- from 1896 to 1996. It sets forth, in sequential order by decade, those actions and events of the Society considered to be of the most significance from a historical standpoint. The data on which the narrative is based was obtained from considerable research of the minutes of Society meetings, previous historical reports, news releases, and other pertinent records currently available. However, there are some gaps in the historical sequence due to an inability to find valid records covering those particular periods.

1896 - 1906

On July 1, 1896, a telegram was received by Mr. Edward Lowell Kelly of Denver which stated: "The Colorado Society has been duly admitted into the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, signed Horace Porter, President General." The national organization had acquired its 33rd state society.

The first meeting of the new society was held at the store of Kelly & Westling at 727 Sixteenth Street in Denver on July 4, 1896. Those present were: Edward Lowell Kelly, William Marvin Spears, Joseph Farrand Tuttle, Jr., Henry Meriam Houghton, and Rev. Wilbur F. Steele. This initial meeting was adjourned until July 13th at which time the sixteen charter members met again to adopt a constitution and elect officers. First officers of the Society were: Joseph F. Tuttle, Jr., President; Dr. William F. Slocum, Vice President; Arthur S. Dwight, Vice President; Theron W. Crissey, Vice President; William M. Spears, Secretary; Waterman Hunt, Treasurer; Edward L. Kelly, Registrar; and Rev. Wilbur F. Steele, Chaplain. In addition to these officers, the other charter members present were: Rev. Henry M. Houghton, Dr. Charles F. Dodge, George Cannon, Charles H. Stickney, Arthur C. Moulton, Elihu B. Clark, Elmer F. Kelly, and William I. Locke.

During the Society's first year of operation, emphasis was placed on developing the organizational structure and increasing membership. The following resolution, adopted at a meeting in August of 1896, stated: "Any member in good standing of another state society may become a member of this Society after a favorable vote by the Membership Committee. No initiation fees or yearly dues shall be extracted from such members". By the end of 1896, the Society had 47 members. Holder of Colorado Society Membership No.1 was Edward L. Kelly (National No. 9226). Born in Massachusetts in 1854, Compatriot Kelly's patriot ancestor was Ephriam Doty.

A proposed Constitution and Bylaws for the Society was presented to the Board of Managers by the President on December 3, 1897. It was promptly approved. At the annual meeting of the general membership on April 19, 1898, the proposed documents were adopted after the following amendment: "The officers of the Society shall be a President, three Vice Presidents, a Secretary, a Deputy Secretary, a Treasurer, a Registrar, a Historian, a Chaplain, plus a Board of Managers consisting of eight members and the Society's President, Secretary, Deputy Secretary, Treasurer, Registrar, and Historian (ex officio)". (Note: The Society had its first annual meetings on July 4th. However, in March of 1898, the Board determined that these meetings would henceforth be held in April of each year. It should also be noted that, since some Society gatherings during this period were open to the public, about 500 people reportedly attended the annual meeting held on April 19, 1898).

With the outbreak of the Spanish American War in 1898, several members of the Society joined the U.S. Army and served overseas. Colonel Irving Hale, a graduate of the U.S. Military Academy and a Vice President of the Society, was chief of the Colorado National Guard when it was called into service. He subsequently commanded the 1st Colorado Volunteers in the Philippines. His service record was soon recognized by his promotion to the rank of Brigadier General. Upon his return to Colorado, General Hale was chosen to be the second President of the Society. (Note: An installation banquet was held in his honor by the Society in Denver on September 8, 1899. Among the distinguished guests present was the Governor of Colorado).

In 1900, the Society adopted an important resolution to protect the U.S. flag. It submitted the resolution to the 13th General Assembly of Colorado in 1901 which stated in part: "Resolved that the Colorado Society of the Sons of the American Revolution urge our representatives in the Congress and in the Legislature of Colorado to use their best efforts to secure such reasonable legislation as will forcibly impress the sacredness of the flag on the minds of the thoughtless and protect it against the abuse of the unpatriotic and vicious." As a result of this resolution, a bill to protect the U.S. flag was introduced into the Colorado General Assembly. It was passed without opposition by both houses and signed into law by the Governor.

On July 10, 1902, the Board of Managers approved a proposal that the Society be incorporated under the laws of the State of Colorado. Accordingly, a committee of three members was appointed to prepare the Articles of Incorporation. However, it was not until August 29, 1906, that this action was completed by the filing of the Articles with the Colorado Secretary of State. (Note: The Notice of Intent of Incorporation of the Colorado Society, Sons of the American Revolution is currently on file in the Stephen H. Hart Library, Colorado History Museum).

On January 22, 1903, the Board voted to send a recommendation to the National headquarters that the following amendment to the Constitution of the National Society be considered for adoption at the next Congress: "Article VII, Section 4. State societies shall be represented at meetings of the National Society only by members of their own state societies, and the delegates present from each state society shall be authorized to cast the entire vote to which such state shall be entitled".

President Theodore Roosevelt visited Colorado in 1905. Since the President was, himself, a member of the Sons of the American Revolution, the Colorado Society had sent him an invitation to a banquet in his honor. In response, the President declined the invitation on the basis that all arrangements during his western tour were being handled by local committees. On his arrival in Denver, the Society did send a bouquet of flowers to his room in the Brown Palace Hotel with a note welcoming him to the city and wishing him good health and a happy visit. (Note: It should be noted that in the following year, President Roosevelt signed an Act of the 59th U.S. Congress which incorporated the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution).

A significant event in which the Society was a prominent participant occurred on September 26, 1906. On that date, the Pikes Peak Centennial Celebration was held in Colorado Springs to officially name the mountain in honor of Zebulon Pike who had claimed it for the United States in 1806. Brigadier General Irving Hale, a Past President of the Society, represented the U.S. Army and conducted the official "christening" with a cannon salute from the summit of the peak. The principal speaker was Dr. William F. Slocum, President of Colorado College. (Note: Dr. Slocum would subsequently become the eighth President of the Society).

During this first decade, the Society had expanded from an initial roster of sixteen charter members to an organization that had registered 195 compatriots. Holder of Colorado Society Membership No. 195 was Dr. Clarkson J. Guyer (National No. 17395) who served as President of the Society from 1904 to 1905. The first visit by a President General of the National Society (i.e., Compatriot Walter Seth Logan of New York) to the Colorado Society occurred during this period).

1907 - 1916

A particularly important event in the early history of the organization occurred at the beginning of the Society's second decade when it hosted the annual Congress of the National Society. Previous such meetings had taken place solely in eastern cities. While attending the 1906 National Congress in Boston representing the Colorado Society, Compatriot Henry J. Hersey suggested from the floor that -- since the delegates had taken the position that the Sons of the American Revolution was truly a national organization -- they should have the opportunity to enjoy western hospitality for a change. He then proposed that their next annual meeting be held in Colorado. Somewhat to everyone's surprise, the delegates voted to accept this invitation -- and the 18th National Congress of the SAR was scheduled for Denver in June of 1907.

The event was planned in great detail by a Society committee headed by Dr. Clarkson N. Guyer. A drive to raise the necessary funds for the event was successfully completed. Miles before a special train carrying over 100 delegates and national officers to the Congress reached Denver, selected representatives of the Colorado Society boarded the train to meet the delegates and make advance arrangements for their accommodations and credentials. Upon arrival in Denver, the delegates were promptly taken to St. Mark's Episcopal Church where they were welcomed by the Lieutenant Governor of Colorado and the President of the Society. The Committee on Credentials reported that there were 96 delegates and three general officers in attendance from 22 states and the District of Columbia. The business sessions then began.

It was at this Congress in Denver that the Constitution of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution was adopted based on the Articles of Incorporation that had been enacted by the 59th U.S. Congress (H.R. 15332) and approved by President Theodore Roosevelt the previous year. Among the numerous other business items considered by this Congress was a proposal that an official bulletin be published periodically by the Secretary General. The suggestion was approved. (Note: This publication was the forerunner of the present-day SAR Magazine). Another proposal, made by the Colorado Society delegates, suggested that a "traveling banner" be awarded at each annual Congress to the society having the largest percent increase in members for the year. This proposal was also approved. (Note: It is known today as "The Colorado Award").

The Congress concluded its formal meetings in Denver on June 4th with a gala banquet at the Savoy Hotel. During the gathering, a telegram of greetings from President Roosevelt was read. It was followed by several speeches -- including one by the Governor of Colorado. Before departing for home, the delegates were taken on a tour of the Pikes Peak and Colorado Springs areas. In Colorado Springs, they received a welcome from the Mayor; visited Colorado College in the company of its President; and attended a special breakfast sponsored by General William Jackson Palmer, the city's founder. (Note: The Colorado Society subsequently received many expressions of appreciation for having hosted a very successful and enjoyable National Congress of the SAR).

Publicity received by the Society as a result of it being host of the 1907 Congress attracted new members from all over the state. In 1908, the roster count reached 234 members. An outgrowth of this surge in membership was a decision to form chapters within the Society. At the beginning of 1908, the Board of Managers proposed a change to the Society's Constitution and Bylaws that would permit the formation of a chapter based upon receipt of a petition signed by fifteen potential members. (Note: A later amendment reduced to ten the number of petitioners required). These changes, approved in April of 1908, also included provisions to recognize the Society's status as a corporation and to conform better to the new constitution and bylaws of the National organization.

The first chapter to be formed within the Society was the Colorado Springs Chapter that was organized on April 30, 1908, with 25 qualified members. The first member listed on the roster of the chapter was Compatriot Harry Holt who was admitted to the Sons of the American Revolution

on December 10, 1907 (State No. 221, National No. 18746). Other chapters soon followed. The Greeley Chapter was organized on June 6, 1908 with 22 charter members. The first member listed for this chapter was Rev. William A. Philips who was admitted to the SAR on June 24, 1908 (State No. 294, National No. 19869). The Greeley Charter charter was granted on September 18, 1909. Next, a chapter was formed in Denver on January 14, 1909. Its charter was granted on January 25, 1909. (Note: Between 1907 and 1909, the Colorado Society assisted in organizing societies in Wyoming and New Mexico. In later years, it was also instrumental in launching societies in Idaho, Nevada, and the Dakotas).

It was customary during this period for the Board of Managers to meet monthly. It was also customary to hold an annual meeting of the general membership in April – and to conduct a memorial service on the Sunday prior to the annual meeting in honor of members who had died the preceding year. In 1909, the Board changed the time of the annual meeting from April 19th to February 22nd of each succeeding year. The stated purpose of the change was “to make the celebration of Washington’s birthday the principal event in the year’s work of the Society”.

New chapters continued to be formed. On April 15, 1911, the Fort Collins Chapter was organized with 18 charter members. Its charter was granted on April 19, 1911. The first member listed on the rolls of the new Ft. Collins Chapter was Warren H. Russell. He had been admitted to the Sons of the American Revolution on March 8, 1909 (State No. 342, National No. 29492).

Also in 1911, the Society began publication of its first official newsletter that was called *The Spirit of '76*. Its stated purpose was to serve as a business bulletin to: (a) give accounts of chapter and Society meetings; (b) publish schedules of forthcoming meetings; (c) review the status of Society work in progress; (d) reproduce extracts of articles and speeches from various sources; and, (e) set forth such other matters of general interest to the membership. The editor of the publication was the individual appointed to be Chairman of the Educational Committee.

During this period, the State Librarian of Colorado offered to accept books, pamphlets, and papers in the custody of the Society and place them in a special SAR section to be established in the library’s genealogical department. A bookcase for the collection was provided by the Society and transfer of the material to the State Library was completed in October of 1911. (Note: In 1915, the repository was changed to a room in the Masonic Temple in Denver. Today, a portion of the remaining records and memorabilia of the Colorado Society is stored in the Stephen H. Hart Library of the Colorado History Museum, 1300 Broadway, Denver, Colorado).

During 1911, the Board of Managers became aware of a possible membership accountability problem within the Society. While 248 members were being carried on the Society’s books, it was discovered that many of these individuals had not paid membership dues for an extended period. However, it was not until March of 1913 that the Board took action on the matter. At that time, notices were sent to all chapters informing them of the need to purge their rolls of delinquent members and requesting that they provide an up-to-date list of their active members to the Society Secretary. As a result, 47 members were subsequently dropped from the Society’s rolls.

On September 10, 1915, the Board of Managers approved a petition signed by 14 residents of Mesa County to form a chapter within that county with headquarters at Grand Junction. As a result, the Grand Junction Chapter was organized on October 16, 1915. On November 23, 1915, the Board forwarded the charter for the new chapter to its President-Elect. The first member listed on the rolls for the Grand Junction Chapter was Richard H. Arms who had been accepted into the Sons of the American Revolution on September 28, 1915 (State No. 486, National No. 26686). Next, a chapter was organized in Pueblo on July 27, 1916. Its charter was granted on February 19th of the following year. The first member listed for the Pueblo Chapter was Wardner Williams who was admitted to SAR on January 29, 1909 (State No. 337, National No. 20487).

1917 - 1926

Despite the formation of several new chapters during the preceding decade, a serious problem persisted with regard to the failure of numerous chapter members to pay their membership dues in a timely manner. This situation may have been partially due to financial difficulties experienced in some area resulting from the coal strike that occurred earlier in Colorado. Also, uncertainty created by the outbreak of war in Europe during this period may have been a contributing factor. Whatever the cause, the situation was viewed with sufficient concern for the Society's Committee on Chapter Organization to propose that the chapter structure be discontinued and that all members be carried on a roster administered solely by the Society .

The above proposal was not adopted, however, and on May 17, 1917, the Board of Managers approved a petition to form still another chapter. It's headquarters was to be located in Longmont and a charter for the new chapter was presented by several members of the Board who visited the area on June 23, 1917. The first recorded member of this chapter was Carlton C. Calkins who was admitted to the SAR on April 30, 1917 (State No. 548, National No. 28523). (Note: With the formation of the Longmont chapter, the Society now had seven active chapters).

At about this time, considerable criticism developed within the various chapters with regard to the method used to elect Society officers. Members complained that "the system is troublesome" regarding the consideration of the members of all chapters for officer positions within the Society. Accordingly, at a Board meeting held in December of 1917, the following amendment to the Society Bylaws was proposed: "The Board of Managers shall meet not less than ten days prior to the annual meeting and prepare a list of nominations for the various offices of the Society. The Secretary shall send this list of names to the Secretary of each chapter. Additional nominations may be made from the floor by any member in good standing present at the annual election".

During 1918, the Board approved a resolution calling on the Society to recommend: (a) That chapters discontinue the payment of dues by all their members who were in the military or naval service of the United States during World War I for the period of such service; and (b) that the Society not collect from the local chapters any dues owed to the Society for members so in service. (Note: In a report made by the Society Secretary on February of 1918 regarding World War I service, he stated that "one in every fourteen of our members is serving this country in the military or naval departments".

As a result of a discussion at the Board meeting of October 19, 1918, the following statement appeared, in part, in the Denver Times: "We have noted the use of the expression 'political societies' in the press of Denver during the last year or two. In the past 50 years, many societies have been organized among those who have defended the flag, among their descendants, and among the descendants of the founders of the Republic. Our Society, the Sons of the American Revolution, is among that number. These societies are not in any sense political and their members are of every race and sect. We believe that in every such organization, it is the aim of the society to avoid politics as any other course would prove the destruction of the organization. Speaking for our organization, we ask the press to bear in mind and not confuse our organization with others that may be of a political character and not use the expression 'political societies' indiscriminately".

On March 28, 1919, the Society received the following letter from the Secretary of the Colorado Springs Chapter: "As the Colorado Springs Chapter has held no meetings for about three years, except for one at which time it was voted to discontinue the organization and surrender its charter, as all local interest has been lost; it is the opinion of the membership that the organization cannot be continued and it is best to surrender the charter. We request the State Society to take steps to this end". On May 6, 1919, the Board of Managers appointed a committee to look into this matter. As a result, the Board sent a letter to the Colorado Springs Chapter providing a proposal for the

development of a more active and efficient organization in that city. (Note: There is no record to indicate what this proposal entailed. The Colorado Springs Chapter became officially inactive in 1922).

It would appear that the Society reached its peak period in size during 1920-21 since it reportedly had 344 members on its rolls belonging to seven chapters -- i.e., Denver, Colorado Springs, Grand Junction, Greeley, Fort Collins, Longmont, and Pueblo. It is doubtful, however, that this number was accurate. Chapters were failing to collect membership dues in a timely manner -- and they continued to carry delinquent members on their rolls for lengthy periods of time before they were dropped. In addition, there appears to have been an overall lax accountability regarding those members who had resigned, transferred, or died. Also, several of the chapters were in a near dormant state. As a result of these problems, the Society fell into considerable financial difficulty.

Upon recognition of the situation, the Board appointed a committee to propose procedural changes needed to resolve the Society's membership and financial problems and to develop revisions to the Constitution and Bylaws necessary to implement these proposed procedures. In January of 1923, the committee submitted its findings in a report that stated, in part, the following: "The Society has no funds for any legitimate purpose. It was found that only a fraction of the members, through the local chapter system, have paid their dues. No list has been kept of members who have not paid. Consequently, we have found numerous cases where members who have not paid dues for years had taken part in the annual meetings and even become officers. It is hardly necessary to say that the Society cannot continue to exist unless it can collect revenues and have an active membership".

As a result of these findings, the committee went on to recommend the following: (a) dues should be collected by the State society; (b) a member may choose to join a local chapter and, if he does not so choose, he may belong to an at-large group directly under the Society; (c) only members in good standing may vote at meetings of the Society; and (d) any member who is more than one year in arrears will be automatically dropped from membership -- but may be reinstated on payment of dues. The Society's Bylaws were subsequently amended to implement these proposed procedural changes. The Society also established a requirement that chapters hold their annual meetings and elections during January of each year in order that they might file their annual report and forward all membership dues for the forthcoming year to the Society by February 1st of each year.

At the annual meeting of 1923, the Society President announced plans for conducting a state-wide campaign to scrutinize U.S. History textbooks being used in the public schools of Colorado to insure that they met standards established by the National Society. The first notice received by the Society that such a project would be undertaken by the Sons of the American Revolution occurred in early 1922 when a member of the Greeley Chapter wrote the Board that he had been appointed to a SAR National Committee on Patriotic Education established for the purpose of reviewing and approving history and other textbooks being used in the public schools of the United States. It was subsequently reported that Society officers who carried out the review did uncover several history textbooks being used in the Colorado public schools that had been condemned by the National Society. (Note: This action by the National Society appears very similar to that taken in 1996 to form a task force for reviewing the UCLA Goals 2000 History Education Standards and for recommending steps to preserve standards for teaching U.S. History in the public schools).

Society President Clinton Enos wrote the following in a letter to the membership in June of 1925: "It seems to me that our Society should take a stand on the question of national defense. There is so much noise made by the Soviets in our country against preparedness, and it is also augmented by the pacifist -- usually sincere well-wishers of our country's good but misguided as to actual facts -- that the ordinary citizen is confused and knows not which way to turn. The truth of the matter is that we shall, sooner or later, have to defend ourselves from foreign attack". (Note: It should be noted that this admonition was made fourteen years before Pearl Harbor").

By the end of this decade (1917-1926), the Society roster reportedly contained 270 members. In May of 1925, the Board had voted to accept the recommendation of the President of the Ft. Collins Chapter that its charter be withdrawn and the Colorado Springs Chapter had ceased to function by this time. Records indicated that the Society's only remaining active chapters at the end of this period were those located in Denver, Pueblo, Greeley, and Grand Junction.

1927 - 1936

Losses due to non-payment of dues resulted in a considerable decline in active membership as this decade began. By the end of 1927, the Society reportedly had 244 members on the rolls.

In March of 1928, the Board approved a resolution that was sent to members of the U.S. Congress, the President, and the Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army, protesting the amount of \$7.50 then allowed toward the purchase of a uniform by a ROTC cadet. The resolution urged the appropriation of \$36.00 per uniform as requested by the War Department. It was felt that such a sum would allow many young men to continue the last two years of ROTC training that they otherwise might not be able to afford if the current allowance was maintained.

Also in 1928, the Board requested the National Society to redesignate the current Northwestern and Pacific Districts as the Mountain States District (Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming) and the Pacific District (California, Nevada, Oregon, Washington, plus the Territories of Alaska and Hawaii and the Philippine Islands). (Note: The present district arrangement was not adopted until April of 1960).

A member of the Board introduced a proposal in 1930 to establish a trust fund for the purpose of acquiring or constructing a suitable building to serve as the headquarters of the Colorado Society. The Board subsequently approved a recommendation to form a committee for the purpose of determining the feasibility of such an undertaking -- despite the fact that the "great depression" had begun by this time and, also, that the Society membership had fallen to a new low. (Note: There is no record of the Society ever giving any further consideration to this proposal).

In January of 1931, the Board carried out a request by the National Society -- initially made in March of 1926 -- to provide a new "traveling banner" to replace the one originally given by the Society to the National Congress when it met in Denver in 1907. This banner -- known as "The Colorado Award" -- was presented during each Congress to the state society with the largest percentage increase in membership among the states having more than 100 members. (Note: The new banner was produced by Annin and Co. of New York at a cost of \$250.00. National headquarters subsequently returned the "old worn" banner to the Society for its archives. (Note: Its ultimate disposition is unknown).

A framed reproduction of the Charles Willson Peale portrait of George Washington was presented to all the county School Superintendents of Colorado in February of 1932 to be placed in the public schools of the state in honor of the first president's 200th birthday. A letter from the Society accompanied each replica explaining the purpose of the gift and providing a biographical sketch of Peale who was the forebear of a long-time member of the Colorado Society. (Note: This project had been approved at the annual meeting of the Society membership in 1930 and the Board then funded the purchase of sufficient framed copies).

As the result of a proposal first made by members of the Colorado Society, a bill was introduced in U.S. Congress during this period to designate a continuous route from Boston to San Francisco as the "George Washington Highway". Society officers then requested that members contact their representatives in the Congress to urge enactment of this legislation as the proposal would provide a permanent memorial to the nation's first president.

1937 - 1946

At the beginning of this new decade, the Society's roster contained only 143 members. The Society's activities during a major portion of the period would be carried out in the environment of World War II and America's entry into the conflict..

In 1939, the National Society adopted a resolution to endorse the work of a congressional committee of the U.S. House of Representatives known as The Committee to Investigate Un-American Activities. The Society moved to support this action and in March of that year, took action to commend the Colorado General Assembly for passing a joint resolution to establish a state committee to investigate un-American activities in Colorado. (Note: In this regard, the guest speaker at the Society's annual meeting on February 22, 1939, was Homer L. Chaillaux, Director of the National Americanism Commission, American Legion, who spoke on the subject "Holding Fast to American Traditions").

Also in 1939, the Society adopted a resolution urging the National Society to support the position that the United States government conduct "a more dignified and inspiring procedure and ceremony for the naturalization of foreign born persons for American citizenship".

At its annual meeting and banquet in February of 1941, the Society's guest speaker was Edward J. Gebben of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. He spoke on a most appropriate subject for this period in U.S. history -- i.e., "National Defense". At a Society luncheon held shortly thereafter, Dr. Etienne B. Renaud, former French Counsel in Denver and current head of the Department of Anthropology at the University of Denver, spoke to the membership on the subject of General Charles DeGaulle and the Free French Forces.

On May 13, 1941, the Board ordered a State of Colorado flag from Annin and Co. of New York to be added to the National Society collection of state flags. Annin was asked to perform the difficult task of completing preparation of the flag in time for it to be available for presentation at the National Congress being held in Columbus, Ohio, beginning on May 18th -- a period of five days. The finished flag was delivered in time to be presented at the Congress on the morning of May 19, 1941. The cost of the new flag was \$40.00. (Note: Annin Company had been employed previously by the Society to make the traveling banner used as the "Colorado Award").

At the Society's annual meeting and banquet of February 23, 1942, the guest speaker was President General G. Ridgely Sappington. At this meeting, Compatriot George E. Tarbox, Jr., moved that the Society form a committee to "develop ways and means of bringing about the merger of the Colorado Society's of the Sons of the Revolution and the Sons of the American Revolution. The motion was approved. (Note: The Colorado Society of the Sons of the Revolution became inactive shortly thereafter and a number of its members then joined the Colorado Society, Sons of the American Revolution).

In July of 1942, a letter was received by the Colorado Society's President from the President General of the National Society. It proposed that a "Corps of Minutemen" be formed in each state society and chapter to supply information on observed subversive activities to FBI field offices. The Society President, in turn, forwarded the letter to the Secretary of the Board of Managers for consideration. Nothing further appears in the records regarding the disposition of this matter. (Note: Since this letter was written soon after this country entered World War II, it does not appear to be an unusual request. However, in view of its sensitivity, it is understandable that the Society's records contain no further mention of the matter).

In August of 1945, the Board reportedly asked Robert R Peale, a descendant of the noted artist Charles Willson Peale and a long-time member of the Colorado Society, to paint a reproduction of

the original Peale portrait of George Washington for the Society. (Note: The replica of the portrait, which depicts Washington in full military uniform, was not completed until 1960. It was unveiled at the Society's Washington Birthday banquet of that year).

The Colorado Society completed its first half century of existence with approximately 170 members on its rolls. The chapters in Denver and Pueblo appear to have been the only remaining active chapters. It was reported at this time that "57% of the members reside in Denver, 16% are in the Pueblo, 17% reside out-of-state, and the remaining 10% reside in various towns throughout the state but are too scattered to form a nucleus for new chapters". At its meeting in November of 1946, the Board approved a proposal for a member to present a summary of the Society's first 50-year history at the upcoming annual meeting. (Note: If presented, a record of this history has not been found).

1947 - 1956

At the Society's annual meeting of 1947, the group was informed that the local chapter of the Sons of the Revolution had ceased to exist. Accordingly, a plan was approved whereby the Colorado Society would extend an invitation to all members of this former SR group to become members of the Sons of the American Revolution with no initiation fee charged for one year. The National Society also agreed not to charge its fee. The Society President sent letters to all members of the inactive Sons of the Revolution in Colorado inviting them to become SAR members. (Note: As a result of this effort, ten former SR members eventually became members of the Colorado Society).

Also, at the annual meeting of 1947, a change in the Society's Constitution and Bylaws was approved to provide that the President of the Pueblo Chapter would automatically become the Colorado Society's Second Vice President.

Members of the Board visited the office of the Archivist of the State Museum located in Denver in October of 1947. They were given a tour through the "newly constructed vaults and work rooms of the State Archives Department where Colorado State documents, correspondence of the Governors, and early newspapers from throughout the state were being placed on microfilm". The visiting Board members expressed an interest in using the State Historical Library as a repository for Colorado Society records. (Note: This visit probably was the forerunner of a serious effort to preserve the historical records of the Society. Some of these records, plus bound books containing copies of membership applications beginning with State No. 1, are stored in the Stephen H. Hart Library of the Colorado History Museum at 1300 Broadway, Denver, Colorado, Call No. 585).

In May of 1948, members of the Society participated in a ceremony to unveil an old historic marker being placed in Denver's Overland Park. This marker, that originally comprised a stone monument holding a bronze plaque, had been initially installed by the Colorado Society in 1924 on the bank of the Platte River at Evans Avenue in Denver. Its purpose was to mark the site of the first white settlement -- then known as Montana City -- that was the forerunner of Denver. It was reported that the bronze plaque on the stone marker had been "stolen by vandals". (Note: The Society had granted the State Historical Association permission to move the stone to a more appropriate place in Overland Park in 1928. However, since no action had been taken following the 1928 request, the Curator of the Historical Library had again requested Society's approval to move the stone in 1948. Apparently the "stolen" bronze plaque had been retrieved by the Society in 1931).

At the annual meeting of 1949, a recommendation was made that the Society Bylaws be amended to make the Registrar-Historian and the Chaplain ex-officio members of the Board of Managers. However, at a Board meeting held immediately following the annual gathering, it was voted that "all elected officers", as well as those elected to the Board and "the three immediate past-presidents", would be members of the Board. As a result of this action, the Society Bylaws were

amended to establish the Registrar-Historian and Chaplain as voting members of the Board.

The Society's Bylaws were again amended in 1950 to accomplish the following: (a) eliminated the Council of Past Presidents; (b) provided that no past-president should serve on the Board of Managers unless he was elected to that position; (c) required that nine members not holding offices be elected to the Board; (d) established that the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Registrar-Historian, and Chaplain of the Society are automatically members of the Board; and (e) provided that any National officer other than the Trustee should be a member of the Board.

Because of a perceived apathy in the Colorado school system concerning the Bill of Rights, the Board of Managers approved a plan in 1950 to have a recording dealing with the subject made to be furnished to the public schools. Accordingly, a long-time member of the Society made a radio address on the subject that was recorded. Copies of the recording were then distributed to several junior and high schools in the state. Then, in 1951, a Denver radio station arranged to have a question and answer period involving members of the Society recorded for subsequent broadcast. During the recording session, several Society members discussed the history and mission of the Sons of the American Revolution and of the Colorado Society.

At the annual meeting of the Society in February of 1952, approval was granted to endorse the candidacy of Compatriot George E. Tarbox, Jr., a long-standing member of the Society, for the position of President General of the National Society. As a result, a resolution to that effect was drawn up by the Board of Managers and forwarded to the Secretary General. (Note: Compatriot Tarbox lost this bid to become President General on this occasion. However, as will be noted later, he was elected to the position at the National Congress in 1957).

The National Society endorsed a proposal in 1952 to "de-emphasize Constitution Day and in its place put 'Citizenship Day' or even 'World Citizenship Day'". Upon presentation of this proposal to the Board of Managers, a motion was promptly approved directing the Society President to inform the National Chairman of the Program Committee for Citizenship Day activities by letter that the Colorado Society "was not in sympathy with the motives of the program" and would continue to observe Constitution Day as it always had. Copies of this letter were sent to all DAR chapters and other patriotic organizations in the area.

In April of 1953, the Board of Managers established a Program Committee "to select the time, place, and entertainment" for all Society meetings. It was noted at that time that many of the SAR societies held five meetings each year, i.e., Washington's Birthday, Patriot's Day, Flag Day, Constitution Day, and Bill of Rights Day. At this meeting, the Board also established the first Awards Committee charged with the responsibility of recommending recipients of all awards made by the Society. Heretofore, the selection of recipients for Society awards had been handled solely by the Board of Managers. (Note: With the reintroduction of local chapters in the mid-1980s, a majority of events for the patriotic days listed above are now scheduled at chapter level. However, the Society continues to arrange its annual conference to coincide as closely as possible with Washington's Birthday. Also, the Society now holds an annual picnic for all members in conjunction with Independence Day).

A bequest of \$1,500.00 was received by the Society in 1953 from the estate of Compatriot Duncan Bond, deceased. The stated purpose of this legacy was to establish an investment account, the income from which was to be used for the upkeep and maintenance of a flag pole on the ground of the State Capitol of Colorado or for other patriotic purposes. (Note: The Society subsequently invested these funds in a U.S. Government Bond to earn sufficient interest to carry out the stated purpose of the bequest).

Considerable effort was expended by the Board of Managers during 1954 to reactivate the Pueblo

Chapter and to collect dues from that organization that had gone unpaid for several years. It was necessary for the Society to recover these back dues since, for a period, it had remitted payments to the National Society in an amount that included dues for Pueblo Chapter members. In September of 1954, an SAR member in Pueblo, who was attempting to reactivate the Pueblo Chapter, made payment in full for all back dues that had been itemized by the Board of Managers as being owed by that chapter to the Society. As a result, Pueblo compatriots were given until January 1, 1955, to reactivate the chapter).

During 1954, the Board of Managers began serious consideration of ways to recognize new members at the time they were approved for SAR membership. Accordingly, for the first time, membership certificates were presented to new members upon acceptance along with lapel rosettes compliments of the Colorado Society. Rosettes were also presented to those who had obtained one or more new members during the year. Discussions by the Board regarding the need for better arrangements to obtain new members led to consideration of the need to establish "a real program for our State Society in order that we will have something worthwhile to offer the membership". (Note: In 1956, the Board appointed a Sustaining Programs Committee whose purpose was "to study and develop feasible and worthwhile sustaining programs for expanding activities at all levels of the Society").

As the end of this decade approached, it was noted that "1956 would be the 50th anniversary of the incorporation of the Colorado Society and the 60th anniversary of its founding." It was suggested at a Board of Managers meeting that some form of recognition be planned. However, there is no record of any special event being held during this period to celebrate the occasion. (Note: By 1956, the Society had only 137 members on its rolls and all efforts to reactivate the Pueblo Chapter had failed. The end of this decade appears to mark a low point in Society membership history).

1957 - 1966

An unusually significant event in the history of the Society occurred in May of 1957 when Colorado Society member George E. Tarbox, Jr. was elected to be the 57th President General of the National Society at its 67th Congress held in Salt Lake City. Compatriot Tarbox had again consented to be a candidate for the President General position in September of 1956. The Board of Managers had met shortly thereafter to complete arrangements for presenting him as a candidate and formal announcements had been mailed to all state societies and chapters.

At the Congress, Tarbox was nominated for the office of President General from the floor by Compatriot John E. Dickinson of Wisconsin. The nomination was seconded by Compatriot John R. Holt of the District of Columbia plus Compatriot Bradford Bosley of California. Tarbox won the election by 79 votes out of a total of 145 ballots. It was immediately moved that his election be made unanimous. (Note: Upon their return to Colorado, a reception was held for Compatriot and Mrs. Tarbox by the Society at the Cherry Hills Country Club in Denver. Eighty-five members plus their ladies and guests attended the event. To this date, Tarbox is the only member of the Colorado Society ever to hold this highest SAR office).

In September of 1957, the Superintendent of Parks & Recreation of Englewood, Colorado, asked the Society for approval to move a stone marker -- placed earlier by the Society at a site in that area to commemorate the first discovery of gold in Colorado -- from its present "precarious place" to a new place in Englewood City Park along the north bank of Dry Creek at an agreed site. The Board promptly informed the superintendent that the Society concurred in the request. (Note: This granite stone marker commemorating the first discovery of gold in Colorado had initially been erected by the Society many years earlier).

In 1958, the Colorado Society initiated a project to assemble a listing of the dates of important

events in the early history of the United States. The list was then placed in the hands of local radio and television stations as well as newspapers for their use, as appropriate, in informing the public of these matters. The purpose of the project was to assist in encouraging an appreciation of American history.

On June 1, 1959, Compatriot George E. Tarbox, Jr. of the Colorado Society, representing the National Society, initiated an important annual event by presenting the first award made on behalf of the SAR to a graduating cadet of a U.S. Service Academy. The presentation was made at the Individual Awards Parade of United States Air Force Academy to honor the outstanding student in Humanities studies. Designated as the General Barton K. Yount Award, it comprised a wrist watch plus a silver card tray and was presented to Cadet Gerald J. Garvey of Chicago. The widow and son of General Yount were present to participate in the presentation ceremonies. (Note: Cadet Garvey was commissioned a Second Lieutenant with the aerial rating of Navigator. His first duty assignment with the U.S. Air Force was to enroll at Princeton University for graduate studies).

This award – that was presented for the first time at the U.S. Air Force Academy in 1959 -- was initially proposed by the Executive Committee of the National Society in 1958. The proposal was accepted by the U.S. Air Force Academy soon thereafter. This SAR awards program was later expanded to include the U.S. Naval Academy in 1960, the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in 1961, and the U.S. Military Academy in 1962. The criterion for each award was determined after consultation between Service Academy officials and the Special Awards Committee of the National Society, SAR. (Note: Presentation of the General Yount Award to the outstanding cadet in the Humanities at the U.S. Air Force Academy continued through 1967 and was usually made by a member of the Colorado Society representing the National Society. However, the event appears to have ceased after that date and no record has been found to indicate the reason for this termination).

Also starting in 1959, Compatriot George E. Tarbox, Jr., of the Colorado Society personally sponsored and presented the Colonel Paul W. Brosman Award at the U.S. Air Force Academy to the graduating cadet having the highest record in the study of law. (Note: The last recorded presentation of this award by Compatriot Tarbox was in June of 1962).

A highlight of the Society's annual Washington's Birthday banquet on February 22, 1960, was the unveiling of a replica of the portrait of General George Washington in full military uniform by Charles Willson Peale. The reproduction was made at the request of the Society by Compatriot Robert R. Peale, great-great-great-grandson of the famous artist and a long-standing member of the Colorado Society. The painting was presented by the artist to the Colorado Society which, in turn, donated it to the Colorado State Historical Society – with the artist's approval – for display in the Colorado Historic Museum. It was subject to it being borrowed by the Society for use at annual banquets in honor of Washington's birthday. (Note: The Registrar-Historian of the Colorado Society met with the Curator, Decorative & Fine Arts Division of the Colorado Historic Museum in May of 1996 in an effort to locate the portrait. It could not be found in the inventory of the Colorado Historic Museum and there is no record of its disposition).

Because of the large size of the Rocky Mountain District, the National Trustees approved a plan in April of 1960 to split it into two districts. As a result, an amendment to the Bylaws of the National Society was prepared that established the Inter Mountain District (Idaho, Montana, Utah, and Wyoming) and reduced the jurisdiction of Rocky Mountain District to three states – i.e., Colorado, New Mexico, and Arizona. The amendment was approved at the 1960 National Congress.

At a meeting of the National Trustees in February of 1965, an invitation was presented to hold the 1969 Congress in Denver, Colorado. A motion to approve the invitation was passed subject to approval of the proposed date of the 3rd week in June and, also, to availability of satisfactory hotel accommodations in Denver. At the Trustees meeting the following April, it was stated that lack of

satisfactory proposals by the hotels under consideration created doubt as to the advisability of selecting Denver. The Trustees were then polled on their choice between Denver and Los Angeles. Following the vote, it was announced that the 1969 Congress would be held in Los Angeles.

During the decade, the Society placed considerable emphasis on its ROTC awards program. The practice of making annual presentations of SAR medals to ROTC cadets at various colleges and universities in Colorado with senior ROTC programs, as well as to cadets at high schools having junior ROTC units, was now in its fortieth year. The awards were made to selected cadets based upon qualities of outstanding leadership, soldierly bearing, and general excellence during military training. A total of sixteen medals and certificates were awarded by the Society in 1966.

1967 - 1976

The speaker at the Society's Patriots Day meeting on April 19, 1968, was NBC News Commentator Arthur Gaeth. He spoke on the subject of "The Five Needles in the American Haystack". The five "needles" were described as the Vietnam War, the Middle East War, Inflation, Violence, and Youth. He ended his presentation with an appeal for action in restoring the stack to order rather than burning it down. The speech was received with much interest by the audience at the well-attended meeting.

Both Colorado Governor John Love and Denver Mayor Tom Corrigan signed SAR Constitution Day Proclamations to honor the Colorado Society celebration of that occasion on September 17, 1969. Speaker for the event was Judge Hilbert Schauer, Director of the Colorado Bureau of Investigation.

During this period, the Society complied with changes in the Colorado Corporation Laws by incorporating and qualifying as a non-profit corporation. Also, a revised Society Constitution and Bylaws was approved in 1974 and a statement of Society objectives and purposes was developed and published the following year.

At a meeting of delegates of the Rocky Mountain District in November of 1974, considerable dissatisfaction with the National organization was expressed due to the perception that State Societies were being ignored. It was indicated that the Trustees from these areas were merely acting to approve whatever proposals National Society officials wished to implement. To resolve the matter, a recommendation was made that Trustees be informed in advance of business items to be considered at National meetings so that these items might be studied prior to the meetings. (Note: A similar situation was again discussed by the Board of the Colorado Society in 1995. As a result, the Board approved the text of a letter sent to the President General suggesting that National Trustees be provided (a) written information concerning procedures to be followed in the conduct of trustee meetings plus (b) advance copies of agenda items and committee reports to be considered at these meetings. There has been no indication of change in procedures).

The speaker at the George Washington Birthday banquet, held on February 22, 1976, was Lt. General James R. Allen, Superintendent of the United States Air Force Academy. (Note: While the Society had used facilities of the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs for meetings on several occasions, e.g., the Officers Club, this is the first recorded instance of an Academy Superintendent serving as a speaker for a Society event).

The 1967-76 decade ended with 185 members on the Society rolls. No chapters were active at this time and all SAR functions were being carried out at the Society level. A majority of the members resided in the cities and towns east of the Continental Divide and only few members lived in the western part of the state. In addition, a number of Colorado Society members made their home in other states.

1977 - 1986

At a Board of Managers meeting in April of 1979, a procedure was approved whereby the Society's Historian was authorized to purchase books for donation to the Genealogy Section of the Denver Public Library in memory of deceased members. He was also authorized to prepare and present a card to the family of deceased compatriots. (Note: On October 21, 1989, the Board decided that the \$25.00 being contributed by the Society to the Denver Public Library in memory of deceased members would be limited to "at-large" compatriots only. Since local chapters had come into existence after the 1979 authorization, it was now left to the prerogative of each chapter to make these contributions. This revised arrangement enabled a chapter to provide a memorial donation to the library nearest the home of a deceased member).

At the Society's 82nd George Washington Birthday Banquet, held in Denver on February 22, 1979, the SAR Gold Good Citizenship Medal for outstanding and unusual and patriotic achievement of national importance was presented to Astronaut Jack Swigert of Colorado. The selection of Astronaut Swigert to receive this award was announced at a meeting of the Board of Managers in November of 1978 and was subsequently approved by the Executive Committee of the National Society. (Note: Up until this time, the Society had awarded only seven such medals).

A proposal was made in July of 1980 to amend the Society's Bylaws to permit the awarding of honorary membership for life to (a) any member elected and serving as a general officer in the National Society and (b) any member over 65 years of age who had been a member in good standing for fifteen years and who has served the Colorado Society "in an outstanding manner over a period of five years as interpreted by the Board of Managers". Such members would have their Society dues waived. However, at a Board meeting the following December, this proposed change to the Society Bylaws was disapproved.

In October of 1981, the Vice President General of the Rocky Mountain District announced that Compatriot George E. Tarbox, Jr. — a member of the Colorado Society and former President General — had proposed a new National Society award. To be designated as the Tarbox Award, it would be presented annually to the State Society having the largest percentage of eligible delegates at the National Congress. It was subsequently announced that the proposal had been approved at a meeting of the Trustees of the National Society. (Note: The first winner of the Tarbox Award was the Nevada Society in 1982. The Colorado Society did not win this award until 1990).

At the annual meeting of 1982, approval was given for the Society to obtain and present a plaster replica of the Colorado State Seal to the National Society. In a letter dated May 4, 1982, the National Society acknowledged receipt of the Colorado Society's gift and indicated that it would be placed in the Genealogical Library at the National headquarters along with other state seals.

In 1983, a prominent member of the Colorado Society — Compatriot James G. McGrew — died. He had been presented the Minuteman Award that same year for his unstinting service to the SAR in numerous capacities including Society President, National Trustee, and Vice President General. A memorial fund was established in his name by both the Colorado Society and the National Society. The Society's McGrew Memorial Fund grew to \$600.00 in that year. The memorial fund established in his name at National headquarters reached \$1,600.00 before the year ended. (Note: In December, 1985, Mrs. James McGrew asked that the fund held by the Colorado Society, which had grown to \$2,136.00, be given to the Youth Leadership Fund of the Freedom Foundation. Her request was honored. Also, in October of 1988, the Board approved a proposal by the National Society that \$1,200.00 of the McGraw Memorial Fund remaining at National headquarters be used to purchase Colorado and Nebraska census microfilm for its library).

Soon after the death of Compatriot McGrew, as stated above, it was realized that much unrecorded

information that is important to the Society is lost when an active member dies. As a result, a recommendation was made that a Colorado Society Handbook be developed for future reference which would include the approved standing operating procedures of the Society plus a listing of the duties and responsibilities of each Society officer. (Note: This Handbook was completed by a committee in 1990 and adopted at the Society's annual conference on February 23, 1991).

By 1984, membership had grown to approximately 235 compatriots and efforts began to re-establish chapters in Denver, Colorado Springs, and northern Colorado. At a meeting of the Board on March 29, 1984, the establishment of a chapter in the Colorado Springs area -- to be known as the Pikes Peak Chapter -- was discussed and a petition containing seventeen signatures of potential members was presented. The Board then approved acceptance of the petition. Subsequently, at a ceremony held at the Broadmoor Golf Club in Colorado Springs on January 19, 1985, the Pikes Peak Chapter was formed and officers installed. The Colorado Society presented the new chapter with an American flag. A formal presentation of the Pikes Peak Chapter charter was made at the Society's annual conference at the U.S. Air Force Academy Officers Club on February 22, 1985.

On July 27, 1985, a petition containing 27 signatures of potential members requesting the establishment of a chapter in the Denver area -- to be called the Mount Evans Chapter -- was presented to the Board. It was unanimously approved. This new chapter became operational shortly thereafter. As was customary, it received a new American flag from the Society.

During a meeting of the Board in March of 1986, the Chairman of the Budget Committee stated that the Society had suffered an operating deficit of approximately \$2,000.00 in 1985. In order to rectify the situation, it was recommended that dues be remitted to the National Society only for those members who had paid their annual membership dues on schedule. It was also proposed that a more aggressive effort be made to collect dues from delinquent members. Based on these recommendations, the Board approved a resolution on May 17, 1986, which stated that, beginning the following year, the Society Treasurer would not be permitted to send dues to the National Society for any member who had not paid his full membership dues.

Significant changes to the manner in which Society meetings were held - both annual conferences of the general membership and periodical meetings of the Board of Managers -- were initiated during the latter portion of this period. Heretofore, the Society's annual meetings were not usually held in conjunction with an annual luncheon or dinner to celebrate Washington's Birthday. Also, Board of Manager meetings were generally conducted at the home or office of the Board President.

In May of 1986, the practice began of holding the Board of Manager's meetings in public places. The first meeting of the Board ever held outside of the Denver area occurred on April 9, 1988, when it met at the U.S. Air Force Academy Officers Club in Colorado Springs. In March of the following year, an arrangement was initiated whereby Board meetings were scheduled in conjunction with a luncheon at a public place in the town of Castle Rock. (Note: This site was selected to balance the driving distance for Board members living in the Denver area with those residing in the Colorado Springs/Pueblo area. The arrangement proved to be most convenient and is the one currently being followed).

In October of 1986, the Board approved a schedule to hold the forthcoming February conference of the general membership in a public place with a business session being conducted during the morning hours. The plan called for the meeting to be followed by a luncheon for the members plus their wives and guests, at which time a guest speaker was scheduled to be introduced, awards presented, and new Society officers formally installed. (Note: This arrangement proved to be very successful and continues to be followed to this day. The procedure has been incorporated into the Society's Bylaws -- to include the provision that the annual conference will be held on the Saturday that falls nearest to February 22nd in honor of Washington's birth).

1987 - Present

The beginning of this decade marked a significant loss to the Colorado Society. Compatriot George E. Tarbox, Jr. (National No. 50000, State No. 767) died on September 18, 1987. He was 84 years of age. Compatriot Tarbox had served as President of the Colorado Society from 1945 to 1947, as Vice President General of the Rocky Mountain District from 1949 to 1951, as National Trustee for Colorado from 1953 to 1957, and as President General of the National Society for the 1957-58 period. Born in Connecticut, he became a member of the Society in 1929. During his many years of SAR membership, he made numerous valuable contributions to the National Society as well as to the Colorado Society. (Note: In July of 1990, a ceremony was held to place a SAR marker on the gravestone of Compatriot Tarbox that is located in Denver's Fairmount Cemetery).

In June of 1988, the Colorado Society began sponsoring an annual award to the Outstanding Male Gymnast at the United States Air Force Academy. (Note: In 1958, the Sons of the American Revolution began sponsoring an award to the graduating cadet at the U.S. Air Force Academy who had achieved the highest record in the Humanities. It was usually presented by a member of the Colorado Society representing the National Society. The award was subsequently initiated at the other service academies. This award to the USAFA ceased after 1967 for unknown reasons).

On June 14, 1989 (Flag Day), an American flag containing 38 stars -- that had been donated to the Society in 1985 -- was presented to the museum in Del Norte, Colorado, by a delegation from the Society representing both the Pikes Peak and the Mount Evans chapters. Considerable research by a member of the Society revealed that this flag had been flown over a building in Del Norte in celebration of Colorado's admission to the Union.

The El Pomar Foundation in Colorado Springs gave \$1,000.00 to the Society in October of 1988 to be used to locate and purchase a vintage civil war cannon barrel for installation on a gun carriage located in Pioneer Park in Colorado Springs. (Note: This project was completed in 1991 with the restoration of the piece and installation of a plaque. A dedication ceremony was then held).

At the National Congress of 1990, the Colorado Society won the Tarbox Award for the first time. Also at this Congress, the original SAR membership certificate of General Douglas MacArthur, a former member of the Colorado Society, was presented to the National Society by Colorado Society President. (Note: The Tarbox Award was established by Compatriot George E. Tarbox, Jr. -- a member of the Colorado Society who served as President General during 1957-58 -- for presentation to the State Society having the largest percentage of eligible delegates present at the annual Congress).

At the annual conference of the Society membership on February 24, 1991, several amendments to the Society's Constitution and Bylaws were adopted. The documents were incorporated into a handbook that also included approved operating procedures to be used by Society officers and Board members. (Note: The revised documents and handbook were prepared by a special committee formed by the Board of Managers in March of 1990. The committee was charged with the task of developing updated versions of both the Constitution and Bylaws because these documents had undergone numerous amendments since their last revisions. This committee was also given the task of incorporating the revised documents into a handbook that would include a section on procedural matters previously approved by the Board over time but published only in the minutes of past Board meetings).

A project to insure the preservation of all membership applications of the Society was continued during 1992. As a result, all remaining membership applications through State No. 1506 were placed in bound volumes and stored in the Stephen H. Hart Library of the Colorado History Museum, 1300 Broadway, Denver, Colorado, under Call Number 585. A publication was also

prepared listing the names of all past Society Presidents, National Trustees for Colorado, Rocky Mountain District Vice Presidents General from Colorado, plus all past recipients of Patriot and Meritorious Service Medals as well as Gold/Silver Good Citizenship Medals.

In compliance with an amendment to the Society Bylaws that was approved by the general membership at the annual meeting in February of 1992, the position of Chairman of the Board of Managers was eliminated. As prescribed in the amendment, the Society President was designated as the presiding officer for all regular and special meetings of the Board.

During 1992, the Board of Managers changed the fiscal year of the Society to begin on April 1st instead of January 1st of each year in order to coincide with the deadline for payment of annual dues by Society members and the forwarding to the National Society of dues owed by the Colorado Society. (Note: As a result of this change, the budget for 1993-94 was prepared to cover a period of fifteen months in order to bring it in line with the fiscal year change).

The cost of the numerous medals awarded each year by the Society had become a significant annual expense item in the Society's budget. Accordingly, the Board implemented a program in 1992 whereby members could make donations to the Society for this purpose. These funds were used to purchase SAR Silver and Bronze ROTC Medals awarded to selected cadets of various ROTC units at high schools and colleges throughout Colorado as well as other medals awarded annually to include the Patriot Medal, the Silver Good Citizenship Medal, the Law Enforcement Medal, and the SAR Medal of Appreciation. (Note: This program proved to be a very worthwhile undertaking. For example, during the 1992-93 fiscal year, Society members contributed over \$900.00 to this special fund. The amount was \$275.00 in 1993-94 and \$744.00 in 1994-95. The program proved to be so successful in covering this major expense that, in 1995, the Board decided that letters would be sent to members after January 1st of each year seeking the donations).

To encourage recruitment, the Board of Managers approved a policy in 1993 whereby a SAR Medal of Appreciation would be awarded to any member of the Daughters of the American Revolution who helped the Society secure three additional members by March 31, 1994. The award was contingent upon the applicants membership being accepted by the National Society. (Note: In 1994, the Board voted to continue this arrangement. In addition, a decision was made to permit the chapter bearing the cost of the medal to make the presentation at an appropriate time).

In February of 1994, several boxes of old Colorado Society records were retrieved at an auction of the estate of a former member of the Society who had died in 1983 after holding SAR positions of State and National importance. The recovery was made by a member of a local chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution who recognized the value of the records to the Society. She took action to place the retrieved records -- which covered a ten-year period beginning in the early 1900s -- in the hands of the Society's Registrar- Historian. These records were subsequently inventoried and referred to the committee planning the 100th anniversary celebration of the Colorado Society for possible use at that event. It is planned that the records eventually will be stored with other Society records in the Colorado History Museum in Denver. (Note: The DAR member who made the records retrieval was awarded the SAR Medal of Appreciation by the Society).

In 1995, the Board of Managers approved the adoption of the Pikes Peak Chapter's History Education Committee as an ad hoc committee of the Colorado Society in support of the National Society's Task Force for preservation of the teaching of U.S. History in the classroom. This committee was initially formed by the Pikes Peak Chapter to review the proposed UCLA standards for teaching U.S. History in the public schools and to recommend a plan of action. The committee collected data and presented a proposed position paper to the Society's Board of Managers for consideration. The Board approved the position paper and it was subsequently presented at the

National Congress by the Society President. The Pikes Peak Chapter ad hoc committee was then supplemented by members from the other chapters and adopted as a special committee of the Colorado Society. A packet of literature was subsequently developed that set forth opposition to the UCLA Goals 2000 History Education Standards. It was provide to various public officials and school superintendents in Colorado .

The Society won the Officers Streamer Award at the National Congress in Louisville in 1995 as a result of officer and trustee attendance at the last previous National Congress and both last previous Trustee meetings. In addition, the Society again won the Tarbox Award for full authorized delegate representation at the Congress.

An event that served as a proper ending to the first full century of Colorado Society existence -- as well as to the conclusion of the current decade -- occurred at the beginning of 1996 when ceremonies were held in Westminister, Colorado, to install an additional chapter of the Colorado Society. The Board had voted during the previous year to grant a charter to this new chapter --the third active chapter within the Society -- to be known as Longs Peak Chapter. At the January meeting, officers were elected, a constitution and bylaws were adopted, and -- in accordance with tradition -- representatives of the Colorado Society presented an American Flag to its new chapter.

Conclusion

Upon completion of its first century of operation on July 1, 1996, the Colorado Society comprised three chapters with 227 active members. A total of 97 (43%) of the membership belonged to the Mount Evans Chapter, 56 (25%) members were on the roster of the Pikes Peak Chapter, the newly activated Longs Peak Chapter had 16 (7%) compatriots, and 51 (25%) individuals held at-large status. A total of 35 members of the Society resided outside the State of Colorado.

During the Colorado Society's first hundred years, 1,625 individuals applied for and received approval to become members of the organization. A total of twenty members served as National Trustees for Colorado, nineteen performed the duties of Regional Vice President General, and one member -- Compatriot George E. Tarbox, Jr. -- held the office of President General. Six members of the Society received the Minuteman Award, thirty-four compatriots were awarded the Patriot Medal, and the Gold Good Citizenship Medal was presented to eleven individuals. Also, during the latter part of the period, the Colorado Society annually awarded Silver ROTC Medals to ten cadets in the university program and Bronze ROTC Medals to twenty cadets in the secondary school program -- an activity which the Society continues to support vigorously.

Appendices:

- Appendix A - Past Presidents
- Appendix B - Past National Officers
- Appendix C - Awards & Medals