

ARTICLES AND BY-LAWS

ROCKY MOUNTAIN SPIRITUAL FELLOWSHIP

*"...a God-knowing person is inwardly illuminated by worship
and outwardly devoted to the wholehearted service
of the universal brotherhood of all personalities,
a service ministry which is filled with mercy and motivated by love,
while all these life qualities are unified in the evolving personality
on ever-ascending levels of cosmic wisdom, self-realization,
God-finding, and Father worship."*

The URANTIA Book, page 1175

SEPTEMBER 6, 1980
AS AMENDED THROUGH JANUARY, 1992

PREAMBLE

We of the Rocky Mountain URANTIA Society of Denver,
in order to form a more perfect unity in diversity with
the hope of advancing human recognition of the existing
spiritual brotherhood, do hereby inaugurate a formal
organization to be called Rocky Mountain URANTIA Society
of Denver, whose members shall live to inspire all men
to express the spirit of divine love by awakening their
thoughts to the value and meaning of the URANTIA BOOK.

ARTICLE ONE: NAME

The name of this organization shall be Rocky Mountain URANTIA Society of Denver.

ARTICLE TWO: PURPOSES

The purposes of the Rocky Mountain URANTIA Society of Denver shall be: to foster the formation and growth of URANTIA BOOK Study Groups; to help achieve the goals of URANTIA BROTHERHOOD; to provide representation in URANTIA BROTHERHOOD for the Society's members and for religious purposes within the meaning of Section 501 (C) (3) of the Code.

ARTICLE THREE: AFFILIATION

This URANTIA Society, while autonomous in the conduct of its local affairs, is subject to the Constitution of URANTIA BROTHERHOOD and by virtue of its charter, its members are ipso facto members of URANTIA BROTHERHOOD.

ARTICLE FOUR: MEMBERSHIP

4.2 Membership in this URANTIA Society is open to those who have:

- a) attained the age of eighteen (18) years
- b) affirmed their belief in the teachings of the URANTIA BOOK
- c) affirmed their support in this Constitution and the URANTIA Foundation in its mandate to maintain legal protection of the Concentric-Circles symbol, the word "URANTIA" as a trademark and service mark and the copyright of the URANTIA BOOK.

In addition, in order that the Society may judge a candidate's eligibility for membership, the Membership Committee shall consider the following:

- a) Maturity of the candidate
- b) Participation of the candidate in group study of the URANTIA BOOK as circumstances allow, for a period of not less than one (1) year
- c) Completion by the candidate of an orientation course conducted by the Membership Committee
- d) Sponsorship of the candidate by two (2) members of the Society who have known the candidate for at least one (1) year

4.3 Application for membership in this URANTIA Society shall be made in writing to the Membership Committee, in the form determined by that Committee.

4.4 Transfer of membership shall be governed by the Constitution of URANTIA BROTHERHOOD.

4.5 No member shall be expelled from membership in this URANTIA Society unless as judged by the Society, the attitude, conduct or influence of said member shall be prejudicial to the interests and work of this URANTIA Society. Upon expulsion of a member, he or she shall cease to be a member of URANTIA BROTHERHOOD, except as appeal is allowed in the Constitution of URANTIA BROTHERHOOD.

4.6 Expulsion from this Society shall follow the procedure listed below:

- a) A petition for expulsion must be filed with the Coordinating Committee by at least two (2) members of the Society. A unanimous vote for expulsion by the Coordinating Committee will forward the petition to a Special Meeting of the Assembly. The member under consideration shall be notified in writing of the action and of all pertinent information of procedure, and of the time of the Meeting.
- b) If a quorum is present, the case for expulsion shall be presented to the Assembly by a member of the Coordinating Committee. The defendant in question may be his own counsel, or choose counsel from the membership.
- c) After the presentation of facts, a majority vote by secret ballot of the total Assembly of the Society shall determine the outcome.
- d) The expelled member shall be notified in writing within thirty (30) days of the vote's outcome.
- e) An appeal may be made as provided in the Constitution of URANTIA BROTHERHOOD.

ARTICLE FIVE: GOVERNMENT

The government of this URANTIA Society shall be of the congregational form, and shall be known as the Assembly of the Society. The Assembly is fully autonomous in all matters except as limited by the Constitution of URANTIA BROTHERHOOD. It shall have a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Study Group Officer, Membership Committee and such other committees as may be determined by the By-laws of this URANTIA Society.

ARTICLE SIX: MEETINGS

- 6.1 There shall be a Biennial Election Meeting of the Assembly for the purpose of electing officers and members of the Membership Committee. Terms of office will be for a period of two (2) years.
- 6.2 There shall be a Triennial Meeting of the members of this URANTIA Society for the purpose of electing one (1) delegate and one (1) alternate delegate to the Triennial Delegate Assembly of URANTIA BROTHERHOOD, in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution regarding elections. The time of the election, the report of its results and the certification of delegates shall be in accordance with the requirements of the By-laws of the Constitution of URANTIA BROTHERHOOD.
- 6.3 There shall be at least two (2) Special Meetings of this URANTIA Society every twelve (12) months for the purpose of conducting the general business of this URANTIA Society.

- 6.4 The time and location of all meetings shall be announced by the Coordinating Committee at least thirty (30) days prior to the meeting.
- 6.5 A quorum of this URANTIA Society shall be at least thirty (30) percent of the membership. For items listed on any agenda for any Society meeting, a total of present members, plus absentee ballots will be considered toward meeting the thirty (30) percent stipulation.
- 6.6 The Assembly of the Society shall have the power to govern and represent this URANTIA Society, and to adopt or change the By-laws to amend this Constitution at any Society meeting upon a vote of two thirds of the total membership of this URANTIA Society.

ARTICLE SEVEN: OFFICERS

- 7.1 The officers of this URANTIA Society shall be President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Study Group Officer. These officers shall comprise the Coordinating Committee.
- 7.2 The officers shall be elected at the Biennial Election Meeting, and will hold office for two (2) years. In the case of a vacancy for any reason, the Coordinating Committee shall call a Special Meeting of the Assembly within thirty (30) days in order to fill the vacancy. This officer shall hold office until the next Biennial Election Meeting. All nominations shall be from the floor, and voting shall be by secret ballot. No officer may succeed himself in the same office for more than two (2) consecutive terms.
- 7.3 Duties of Officers:
 - a) The President shall be the principal executive officer, and shall preside at all meetings of the Assembly of the Society and of the Coordinating Committee.
 - b) In event of the inability of the President to act, the Vice-President shall perform the duties and exercise the powers of the President. The Vice President shall also serve as Chairman of the Membership Committee, as a voting member of that Committee.
 - c) The Secretary shall record, keep copies of and transmit any information of value regarding the activities of this Society. The Secretary shall also perform any duties required by the Constitution of URANTIA BROTHERHOOD. In event that both the President and Vice President are unable to act, the Secretary shall perform the duties and exercise the powers of the President until an election is held.
 - d) The Treasurer shall be the principal financial officer and shall administer the monies and properties of this URANTIA Society as authorized by the Coordinating committee.

- e) The duties of the Study Group Officer shall be advocacy, liaison and coordination with existing Study Groups and promotion of new Groups.

ARTICLE EIGHT: COORDINATING COMMITTEE

- 8.1 The Coordinating Committee shall consist of the officers of this Society. The President and Secretary shall serve as Chairman and Secretary of the Coordinating Committee.
- 8.2 The Coordinating Committee shall meet at the call of any of its members.
- 8.3 A quorum of the Coordinating Committee consists of three (3) of the five (5) officers. Members shall call a meeting at least twice a year.
- 8.4 The Coordinating Committee has the power to call and set the agenda of meetings of the Assembly of the Society. The Coordinating Committee also shall authorize the disbursement of the funds of this URANTIA Society.

ARTICLE NINE: STANDING COMMITTEES

- 9.1 The Membership Committee shall pass upon the qualifications of all candidates for membership in this URANTIA Society. The Membership Committee shall consist of four (4) members and the Vice President of the Society, elected at the Biennial Election Meeting with the same election and vacancy provisions as the officers.
- 9.2 A quorum for membership consideration shall consist of all five (5) members (absentee ballots included) with a unanimous decision required for membership in this URANTIA Society. Any rejection may be appealed to the Coordinating Committee by the candidate's sponsors. A unanimous decision by the Coordinating Committee, with the Vice President abstaining from the vote, shall override the decision of the Membership Committee.

ARTICLE TEN: SUCCESSION OF DISSOLUTION

In event of the dissolution of this URANTIA Society, all its assets will be distributed to the successor organization of said Society if any, if the same shall qualify for exemption from federal income tax. If there is no successor to this URANTIA Society, then all of its assets will be distributed to URANTIA BROTHERHOOD.

ARTICLE ELEVEN: PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER, REVISED will be the parliamentary authority in all matters not specified in this Constitution.

BY-LAWS APPROVED AND ADOPTED SEPTEMBER 6, 1980

ARTICLE ONE: AMENDMENTS

Amendments to the Constitution may be made in the following manner:

- a) The Coordinating Committee shall recommend the adoption of the amendment by a favorable vote of three fifths (3/5ths) of its total membership.
- b) The Secretary shall mail a copy of the proposed amendment to each member of this URANTIA Society not less than thirty (30) days before the next Assembly of the Society.
- c) At the next Assembly of the Society, the proposed amendment shall be presented to the membership and voted upon. In event that two thirds (2/3rds) of the votes are favorable, and a quorum of the membership is present, the amendment shall then become effective and a part of this Constitution.
- d) Each amendment shall be proposed separately and shall be presented to the Assembly of Society as a separate recommendation. Each proposed amendment shall be submitted separately to the vote of the Assembly of Society.

ARTICLE TWO: BY-LAWS

By-laws may be adopted and changed in the same manner as amendments to this Constitution.

ARTICLE THREE: MEETINGS

The Annual Meeting of the Society shall be held on the first Saturday in February each year, and the members shall be given thirty (30) days notice of said meeting.

- a) Election of officers shall be conducted at the Annual Meeting every other year, beginning with 1980.
- b) The annual program of Society sponsored events and projects for the following year shall be presented at the Annual Meeting by the Coordinating Committee for discussion and approval of the membership. Other program ideas may be presented for discussion from the floor. Each program or project shall be

voted on separately and a majority of favorable votes by those present shall determine adoption. The annual program may also include funds for other events to be used at the discretion of the Coordinating Committee.

- c) Each program shall have a Chairman, who is a Society member, to be elected at the Annual Meeting by a majority of those present. Chairmen shall serve until the Annual Meeting of the following year.
- d) Committee Chairmen shall select at least two (2) other persons for each committee, and these persons shall serve a one (1) year term concurrent with the Chairmen. Committee Chairmen may be asked to attend Coordinating Committee meetings as needed.

ARTICLE FOUR: SOCIETY FUNCTIONS

The Treasurer shall prepare a report of financial condition of the Society, together with a recommended budget and recommended annual dues for the following year, and shall present the recommendations for membership approval at the Annual Meeting.

- a) Annual dues for each active member of the Society, shall be payable by check or cash in advance; one half (1/2) being due February 15, and one half (1/2) being due August 15. Each new member shall be charged with dues (prorated) beginning the month of his or her initiation.
- b) The dues of inactive members shall be set at ten dollars (\$10) a year.
- c) The dues schedule for active members shall be reviewed by the Treasurer and the Coordinating Committee to assure proper funding for all recommended Society administration, sponsored events and projects.
- d) No special assessments or fees shall be levied on members without first voting a Resolution of Authority by a two thirds (2/3rds) favorable vote of the membership present at a regular or special meeting.
- e) Upon written petition stating financial hardship, the Coordinating Committee has discretion to exempt, postpone or discount the dues of a member in a given dues period (i.e. February to August or August to February).

ARTICLE FIVE: MEMBERSHIP

- a) Active members of the Society are defined as all members duly initiated into the Society: who have participated in at least one (1) meeting or project of the Society in the previous twelve (12) months and who are current in their dues. The participation requirement shall be recorded on the honor system and may be waived upon petition to the Coordinating Committee and a majority favorable vote by the Coordinating Committee.
- b) An inactive member is defined as any member who fails to take part in at least one (1) meeting or project of the Society for a period of twelve (12) months; or any member who is sixty (60) days delinquent in dues, or any member who requests inactive status by written request to the Secretary.
- c) Any member who becomes inactive as outlined above shall be deemed to be an inactive member and shall be transferred from the roll of Active Members to the roll of Inactive Members by the Secretary.
- d) Should an inactive member wish to regain his or her active membership, a written petition may be presented to the Coordinating Committee with the payment of current dues, and a favorable vote by the Coordinating committee will restore active status.
- e) Any member who fails to pay his or her dues within sixty (60) days of the scheduled date shall be notified by the Treasurer. If such dues are not paid in full within thirty (30) additional days, the Treasurer shall notify the Secretary and the member shall be transferred to the roll of Inactive Membership by the Secretary.
- f) Only active members in good standing shall be allowed to vote and hold office in the Society. Should an acting officer become inactive, the Secretary shall promptly notify the Coordinating Committee and a special meeting shall be called to fill the vacancy in the manner outlined in the Constitution.

- e) Any active member who fails to pay dues within sixty (60) days shall be notified by the Treasurer. If such dues are not paid in full within the next sixty (60) additional days, the Treasurer shall notify the Secretary and the inactive member shall be dropped from the mailing list. If contact is not made within two (2) years, the Membership Committee shall attempt contact with the member. If no verbal or written communication is possible within a period of sixty (60) days, the inactive member shall be dropped from the membership rolls. The Secretary shall then notify the URANTIA BROTHERHOOD Membership Committee of this action.