

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

ARTICLES AND BY-LAWS

of the ROCKY MOUNTAIN SPIRITUAL FELLOWSHIP (R.M.S.F.)

Approved and Adopted September 6, 1980

as amended through January, 1992.

PREAMBLE:

We of the Rocky Mountain Spiritual Fellowship (R.M.S.F.), 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 Spiritual Fellowship (R.M.S.F.), 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.

CONSTITUTION:

ARTICLE ONE: NAME

The name of this organization shall be Rocky Mountain Spiritual Fellowship (R.M.S.F.).

ARTICLE TWO: PURPOSES

The purposes of the Rocky Mountain Spiritual Fellowship (R.M.S.F.) shall be:

- 1) to foster the formation and growth of URANTIA Book Study Groups;
- 2) to spread the teachings of The Urantia Book throughout the region;
- 3) to enrich the community through loving service and to foster cultural development among Urantia Book readers;
- 4) to provide representation in The Fellowship (F.E.F.) for R.M.S.F. members;
- 5) for religious purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Code.

ARTICLE THREE: AFFILIATION

R.M.S.F., while autonomous in the conduct of its local affairs, is subject to the Constitution of The Fellowship (F.E.F.) and, by virtue of its charter, its members are also members of The Fellowship (F.E.F.).

ARTICLE FOUR: MEMBERSHIP

- 4.1 Membership in R.M.S.F. is open to those who have attained the age of sixteen (16) years, who are inspired by The Urantia Book and who wish to be associated in service and fellowship with other Urantia Book readers.
- 4.2 Membership procedure:
Those who wish to become members shall contact any officer of R.M.S.F. and express their desire for membership. At the next meeting of R.M.S.F. that the candidate for membership attends, the new member will be introduced and welcomed by the assembly as a new member.
- 4.3 Transfer of membership shall be governed by the Constitution of The Fellowship (F.E.F.).
- 4.4 Active members of R.M.S.F. are defined as all members duly welcomed into R.M.S.F. who have participated in at least one (1) meeting or project of R.M.S.F. in the previous twelve (12) months. The participation requirement shall be recorded on the honor system.
 - a) An inactive member is defined as any member who fails to take part in at least one (1) meeting or project of R.M.S.F. in the previous twelve (12) months; or any member who requests inactive status by written request to the Secretary.
 - b) An inactive member may regain his or her active membership by participating in a meeting or project of R.M.S.F. and notifying the Secretary.
- 4.5 No member shall be expelled from membership in R.M.S.F. unless as judged by R.M.S.F. that the attitude, conduct, or influence of said member shall be prejudicial to the interests and work of R.M.S.F. Upon expulsion of a member, he or she shall cease to be a member of the Fellowship (F.E.F.), except as appeal is allowed in the Constitution of the Fellowship (F.E.F.).
- 4.6 Expulsion from R.M.S.F. 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 R.M.S.F. A majority vote for expulsion by the Coordinating Committee will forward the petition to a Regular or 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 2/3 vote by secret ballot of the active members present 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 the Fellowship (F.E.F.).

ARTICLE FIVE: GOVERNMENT

The government of R.M.S.F. shall be of the congregational form, and shall be known as the Assembly of R.M.S.F. The Assembly is fully autonomous in all matters except as limited by the Constitution of the Fellowship (F.E.F.).

- 5.1 R.M.S.F. will use its best effort to fund its operations through contributions and donations and dues may be voted in by the Assembly if necessary in accordance with Article 6.6.
- 5.2 The Officers of R.M.S.F. shall be President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Study Group Officer. To qualify for election and remain an Officer, Officers must have read The Urantia Book and must be an active member of R.M.S.F. in good standing. These officers shall comprise the Coordinating Committee.
 - a) The Coordinating Committee shall meet at the call of any of its members. A quorum of the Coordinating Committee consists of three (3) of the five (5) officers.
 - b) The Coordinating Committee has the power to call and set the agenda of meetings of the Assembly of R.M.S.F.; provided, however, that an item may be placed on the agenda by the majority vote in accordance with Article 6.6 hereof. The Coordinating Committee also shall authorize the disbursement of the funds of R.M.S.F. Any disbursement of funds of more than \$1000 per project or item must be approved by the Assembly in accordance with Article 6.6.
- 5.3 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.

5.4 Duties of Officers:

- a) The President shall be the principal executive officer, and shall preside over meetings of the Assembly of R.M.S.F. 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 oversee the induction of new members as put forth in Article 4.
- c) The Secretary shall record, keep copies of, and transmit any information of value regarding the activities of R.M.S.F. The Secretary shall maintain a membership mailing list and be responsible for notifying the membership of meetings in accordance with Article 6.5. The Secretary shall transfer any member who becomes inactive to the Inactive Roll. The Secretary shall also perform any duties required by the Constitution of the Fellowship (F.E.F.). In the 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 R.M.S.F. as authorized by the Coordinating Committee. The Treasurer shall be responsible for payment of the tithe to The Fellowship (FEF) and for the filing of all pertinent tax information with the proper authorities. The Treasurer shall maintain a financial record and shall present a report of the financial conditions of R.M.S.F. at the Annual Meeting to be mailed out to the membership.
- e) The duties of the Study Group Officer shall be advocacy, liaison, and coordination with existing Study Groups and promotion of new Groups.

- 5.5 No member shall be removed from an office or committee chairpersonship in R.M.S.F. unless as judged by R.M.S.F. that the attitude, conduct, or influence of said member shall be detrimental to the interests and work of R.M.S.F. Upon removal of an officer or committee chairperson, the resulting vacancy shall be filled through a special election held at the same meeting. Removal from office or committee chairpersonship shall follow the procedure put forth in Article 4.6 a.b.c.d.

ARTICLE SIX: MEETINGS

- 6.1 There shall be an Annual Meeting of the Assembly to be held on the first Saturday in February.
- 6.2 There shall be a Biennial Election Meeting of the Assembly to be held on the first Saturday in February for the purpose of electing officers.
- 6.3 There shall be a Triennial Meeting of the members of R.M.S.F. for the purpose of electing one (1) Delegate and one (1) Alternate Delegate to the Triennial Delegate Assembly of the Fellowship (F.E.F.), 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 The Fellowship (F.E.F.).
- 6.4 In addition to the Annual Meeting, there shall be at least one (1) Special Meeting of R.M.S.F. every twelve (12) months.
- 6.5 The time and location of all meetings shall be mailed out to the membership by the Coordinating Committee at least thirty (30) days prior to the meeting.
- 6.6 A quorum of R.M.S.F. shall be at least thirty (30) percent of the active membership. For items listed on any agenda for any R.M.S.F. meeting, a total of present active members, plus absentee ballots, will be considered toward meeting the thirty (30) percent stipulation.

ARTICLE SEVEN: SUCCESSION OF DISSOLUTION

In event of the dissolution of R.M.S.F., all its assets will be distributed to the successor organization of R.M.S.F., if any, if the same shall qualify for exemption from federal income tax. If there is no successor to R.M.S.F., then all of its assets will be distributed to the Fellowship (F.E.F.).

ARTICLE EIGHT: PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER, REVISED will be a guideline for the conduct of R.M.S.F. meetings.

ARTICLE NINE: AMENDMENTS

Amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws may be made in the following manner:

- 1) The Coordinating Committee shall recommend the adoption of the amendment by a favorable vote of three-fifths (3/5ths) of its total active membership.
- 2) The Secretary shall mail a copy of the proposed amendment to each active member of R.M.S.F. not less than thirty (30) days before the next Assembly of R.M.S.F.
- 3) At the next Assembly of R.M.S.F., the proposed amendment shall be presented to the membership and voted upon. In the 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.