

History of the National Endowment Fund of the Children of the American Revolution

1958: Endowment Fund is born!

- October 15, 1958, Mr. William M. Parker made the first contribution to the Endowment Fund in honor of his wife.

1959: "Book of Remembrance and Honor"

- April 1959, donated in memory and honor of Gertrude B. Bisbee as a record of honorees and donors to the Endowment Fund.

1963: National Chairman Endowment Fund

- Frazer F. Jones wrote open letter to membership on Endowment; "Save a penny a day!"
- June 4, 1963, SNBM established State and Senior State Endowment Fund Chairmen.

1964: National President's Project

- Van Sternbergh developed the National Endowment Fund Pin for National Project.
- First recipient was Senior National Chaplain Mrs. Frederic M. Senf of CT, in memory of Dr. Frederic M. Senf.
- Tradition of publishing total contributions by state was begun.
- Society Endowment Fund Form published in *C.A.R. Magazine* - Pledge to donate pin, list fundraising ideas. Fundraisers included hosting an informal dinner/dance for all friends \$1 admission, carwash, flag sale, bake sale, plays, concessions, guest lecturers, cards, bookmarks, pictures, auctions, and selling fire starters made of paperclips, sawdust, used candles, plastic bags at \$1.00/dozen, used as table prizes.
- PA challenged NY to see who could purchase the most Endowment Fund Pins.
- "Endowing the Endowment Fund" by David Lee Cherney, 2nd VP - \$100 from every society.
- Recipients published thanks to donors in *C.A.R. Magazine*.
- Sale of National Convention Corsages, a brief tradition, was begun.
- "Earning Money for the Endowment Fund" by Richard Pelletier, 1st VP, Jason Russell Society, MA published in the *Magazine*.
- New Members + Invested Means = Future C.A.R. Income
- Year-end contribution = \$17,066.00

1965: National President Project year-end

- "Traveling Conestoga Wagon" presented to PA - goes to Endowment Fund winner, Peggy Shaw Society.
- Year-end contribution: \$13,668.64 - listed by state and region.

1969: 75th Anniversary of C.A.R.

- "How a Small Society Earned an Endowment Pin" - John Fort Society, NJ, by selling flags. Pin presented by Mrs. Vanderbilt, SNP, to Mrs. W. A. Fenimore.
- "Working Antique Show" Jan Lindsey, publicity chairman, Rachel Fowler Society, OH.

1970: 75th Anniversary of C.A.R.

- "Help our Endowment Fund Grow" by ordering Official 75th Anniversary Corsages to wear at National Convention.
- Endowment Fund contest recommends obtaining corporate/foundation sponsors.

1972: Key to the Future - Endowment Fund featured as 1 of 3 objectives for the year.

- "We Love Our C.A.R.!" bumper stickers sold by Freedom Hill Society, VA.

1973: "New England Cooking" historical cookbook, proceeds to Endowment Fund.

1974: Rodney Schmidt wrote to members about Regional Tour. Using "certain negative words" resulted in a \$1 fine that became a donation to the Endowment Fund.

1976: Endowment Fund promoted in magazine message of National President Stephen S. Miller.

- Suggested money-making ideas included a bakeless bake sale, plant and/or dog sit for neighbors going out of town, and a neighborhood dog wash.
- The National Board recommendation to establish a permanent special fund to be known as the “Endowment Fund Replacement Fund” was denied.

1979: Brandywine Society, PA, held an Endowment Fund Christmas Home Tour.

1990: Fort Pickawillany Society, OH, held a “Walk-a-Thon” to raise funds.

1991: Kansas State Society C.A.R. passed a motion to assess \$1 fee each time a member or senior failed to wear his/her Endowment Fund pin to a meeting.

1992: Cave of the Rock Society, WI, sold round pound cakes with a lemon yellow glaze and 13 stars as an Endowment Fund fundraiser.

1997: National Chairman Sarah-Elise Dunklin encouraged members and seniors to “See Stars” by donating \$100 to the Endowment Fund and wearing the gold circle of 13 stars.

2006: Funds from the designated for Endowment Fund paid for the digitization of National Society membership applications.

2007: Golden Anniversary Endowment Fund Celebration

- “Sale on Membership” launched to rebate application fees to local societies for two years to increase membership and provide money for societies to expand programming opportunities.
- Golden Anniversary Endowment Fund pin for a \$150 donation approved.

Total Principle by decade:

1958 - \$0
1968 - \$74,796.21
1978 - \$224,959.32
1988 - \$417,857.85
1998 - \$722,605.13
2008 - \$1,138,378.88

What we can learn:

- There are many creative ways to raise funds, not only for an Endowment, but all kinds of causes, at little or no cost to our membership.
- The Endowment Fund is about having fun, learning business skills, trying new ideas, encouraging membership, and reaching out to the public to spread the word and help support the C.A.R.!
- Even small contributions make a big difference.
- An Endowment is more than a bank account. It's every investment made to C.A.R., through time, mentorship, volunteering, welcoming new members, hosting fun meetings. It is our membership, our heritage, our future, and our history.

Virginia Heckel
2012-2013 National Chairman
Endowment Fund

Teri Okrutny
2012-2014 Senior National Chairman
Endowment Fund