Amendments of Bylaws.

At annual or special meetings of members properly noticed proposed amendments to the bylaws may be voted upon with such voting restricted to one vote for each chapter president. Passage of the proposed bylaw requires at least a two-thirds vote of the chapters present and voting at the meeting.
Proposal No. 1:

Bylaw 9, Section 1(b):

Current

(b) The annual income from the permanent fund shall be accumulated and one-half shall be transferred to the Unallocated Fund and one-half shall be reinvested in the permanent fund at the beginning of each fiscal year.

Proposed

(b) The annual earnings (defined as income, dividends, realized and unrealized gains) from the permanent fund shall be accumulated, and one-half shall be transferred to the Unallocated Fund and one-half shall be reinvested in the permanent fund at the beginning of each fiscal year.

Rationale

This will bring the bylaw into conformity with NSSAR investment policy, and best business practices.
Proposal No. 2:

Bylaw 2, Section 3(b):

Current

(b)—In the case of any withdrawal from all accounts containing five hundred dollars ($500.00) or more, all funds expended by a chapter shall be by check signed by two (2) authorized members in good standing of the chapter who do not reside in the same household, or who are not employed at the same place of business.

Proposed

[Eliminate Section 3(b) in its entirety, and re-letter Section 3(c) to 3(b).]

Rationale

Banks will not honor the two signature requirement – as long as one signer on the account signs the check, they will honor it. Chapters should adopt a check request process in their bylaws similar to what CASSAR has.
Proposal No. 3:

Bylaw 4, Section 5:

Current

Section 5—TREASURER—The treasurer shall collect and keep the general operating funds of the society. They shall be deposited in a banking institution approved by the board and shall be placed to the credit of the CALIFORNIA SOCIETY OF THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION. The treasurer shall expend funds of the society only as directed by the board through adoption of a budget or by specific direction for a particular item. Contracts for unbudgeted expenditures in excess of $1,000 shall be pre-approved by the Executive Committee. Funds shall be expended by checks signed by any two (2) officers so authorized. He shall keep a true account of his receipts and disbursements and at each annual meeting render the same to the society. He shall also make such other reports as may be requested by the board.

Proposed

Section 5—TREASURER—The treasurer shall collect and keep the general operating funds of the society. They shall be deposited in a banking institution approved by the board and shall be placed to the credit of the CALIFORNIA SOCIETY OF THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION. The treasurer shall expend funds of the society only as directed by the board through adoption of a budget or by specific direction for a particular item. Contracts for unbudgeted expenditures in excess of $1,000 shall be pre-approved by the Executive Committee. Funds shall be authorized by a check request expended by checks signed by any two (2) officers so authorized. He shall keep a true account of his receipts and disbursements and at each annual meeting render the same to the society. He shall also make such other reports as may be requested by the board.

Rationale

Banks will not honor the two signature requirement – as long as one signer on the account signs the check, they will honor it. The CASSAR check request process already requires 2 signatures on the check request.
Proposal No. 4:

Bylaw 2, Section 6:

Current

Section 6—To further the work of this society, women who are related to SAR members shall be encouraged and assisted by the society in the establishment and operation of an independent organization to be named the Ladies’ Auxiliary of the California Society of the Sons of the American Revolution.

Proposed

Section 6—To further the work of this society, women of good repute in the community who are related to SAR members in good standing shall be encouraged and assisted by the society in the establishment and operation of an independent organization to be named the Ladies’ Auxiliary of the California Society of the Sons of the American Revolution.

Rationale

To make the bylaw consistent with CASSAR and NSSAR bylaws.
Proposal No. 5:

Bylaw 5, Section 2(a):

Current

(a) **BUDGET AND PLANNING COMMITTEE.** The executive vice president shall be chairman, and the other members of this committee shall be the other vice presidents, the treasurer, the secretary and three other members appointed by the committee chairman. They shall estimate income and expenditures, and recommend such fiscal actions as they consider in the best interests of the society. One of their main duties is to prepare a recommended annual budget for the following year.

Proposed

(a) **BUDGET AND PLANNING COMMITTEE.** The executive vice president shall be chairman, and the other members of this committee shall be the other vice presidents, the treasurer, the secretary and three other members appointed by the committee chairman. It shall be comprised of the executive vice-president (who shall be chairman); the vice president north; the vice president south; the treasurer; and a chapter president from the north, and a chapter president from the south, appointed by the state president. The state president shall appoint a state officer to replace the executive vice president, vice president north, and vice president south, if any of them are unable to serve on the committee. The chairman of the invested funds trustees shall be a non-voting member of the committee. They shall estimate income and expenditures, and recommend such fiscal actions as they consider in the best interests of the society. One of their main duties is to prepare a recommended annual budget for the following year.

Rationale

The change was requested by the April 2017 Audit Committee to give the regional vice presidents exposure to the budget process before they become chairman of the committee, and refine the composition of the committee.
Proposal No. 6:

Bylaw 5, Section 2(b):

Current

(b) AUDIT COMMITTEE. It shall comprise at least three (3) members, two (2) of whom shall be other than elected officers. The executive vice-president shall be chairman. At least one member of the Audit Committee shall be ‘financially literate’ meaning substantial prior experience and knowledge of financial matters. It shall audit the books and records of the treasurer and of the trustees of the permanent fund, and shall report to the president at the annual meeting.

Proposed

(b) AUDIT COMMITTEE. It shall comprise at least three (3) members, two (2) of whom shall be other than elected officers be comprised of the executive vice-president (who shall be chairman); the vice president north; the vice president south; and a chapter president from the north, and a chapter president from the south, appointed by the state president. The state president shall appoint a state officer to replace the executive vice president, vice president north, and vice president south, if any of them are unable to serve on the committee. The treasurer and the chairman of the invested funds trustees shall be non-voting members of the committee. At least one member of the Audit Committee shall be ‘financially literate’ meaning substantial prior experience and knowledge of financial matters. It shall audit the books and records of the treasurer and of the trustees of the permanent fund, and shall report to the president at the annual meeting.

Rationale

The change was requested by the April 2017 Audit Committee to give the regional vice presidents exposure to the audit before they become chairman of the committee, and refine the composition of the committee.
Proposal No. 7:

Bylaw 8, Section 2(a):

Current

Section 2—MEETINGS OF THE BOARD
(a) Three (3) regular meetings of the board shall be held annually, one as soon as is practicable following adjournment of the annual meeting of the membership for the purposes of organization and for the transaction of other business properly presented. A second shall be held the first Saturday in November, alternately in the northern and southern areas of the state, unless otherwise scheduled by the board as soon as practicable, but not less than ninety (90) days prior to the date of such second meeting. A third shall be held as close to the opening of the next annual meeting of the membership as is practicable for the purpose of transacting necessary business properly presented.

Proposed

Section 2—MEETINGS OF THE BOARD
(a) Two (2) regular meetings of the board shall be held annually, one as soon as is practicable following adjournment of the annual meeting of the membership for the purposes of organization and for the transaction of other business properly presented. A second shall be held the first Saturday in November, alternately in the northern and southern areas of the state, unless otherwise scheduled by the board as soon as practicable, but not less than ninety (90) days prior to the date of such second meeting. A third shall be held as close to the opening of the next annual meeting of the membership as is practicable for the purpose of transacting necessary business properly presented.

Rationale

To make the bylaw consistent with CASSAR practice.