

Celebrating

The St. Louis Metropolitan

1835

Christmas Day, seven St. Louis physicians meet at the Masonic Hall to discuss the need for a medical society

1836

January 7, constitution adopted and officers elected. Dr. Bernard Farrar is elected first president



1837

The Medical Society of Missouri at St. Louis is incorporated

1837

Society successfully petitions Saint Louis University to establish medical faculty

1840

Demands that death certificates and burial permits be kept in proper order

1840

St. Louis sends delegates to a national convention of medical societies and colleges that led to the 1847 formation of the American Medical Association



1850

Society committee confers with city Board of Health to determine means of obtaining better vital statistics records

Amidst a cholera epidemic, demands that strenuous efforts be made to rid the streets of sewage and filth



1850

Campaign yields official rebuke of "counter prescribing" pharmacist and unauthorized commercialism in refilling prescriptions



1854

Backs city health commissioner in working for a city sewer system and other sanitation measures

1860

1874

Obtains state law requiring that only graduates of medical schools could issue prescriptions

1874

Works for new city charter that would take City Hospital and City Dispensary from political control

1877

Ordinance prohibiting adulteration of milk supply prepared and supported



1896

To help prevent tuberculosis, pressed for measures culminating in stronger sanitation laws and the establishment of tuberculosis sanatoriums

1903

St. Louis County Medical Society forms with 20 charter members

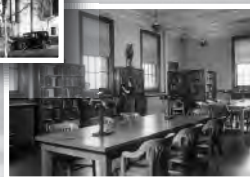
Women's Auxiliary forms

1922

New headquarters opens at 3839 Lindell Blvd. providing space for growing library and larger meeting facilities



1926



St. Louis Medical-Dental Services Bureau established providing payment plans for persons of modest means to pay off medical and dental bills

1935

Instrumental in formation of Group Hospital Service, Inc., which later became Blue Cross

1936

Photos for 1850, 1854, 1869, 1877 and 1913 are courtesy of Becker Medical Library, Washington University School of Medicine.

175 Years:

St. Louis Medical Society Timeline

1841

Medical pioneer William Beaumont serves as president



1841

Expels member for quackery

1843

Society petitions Mayor and Common Council to permit the Society to supply a rotating professional staff for the city's hospitals

1845

Society membership reaches 150

Medical Society nearly dissolves during the Civil War



Cooperative agreement with the St. Louis Public School Library to help maintain a medical library



Society takes a position against substandard medical schools

1861-65

1905

Medical Society moves to 3523 Pine St. and shares occupancy with St. Louis Medical Library Association, an independent organization formed in 1839



1869

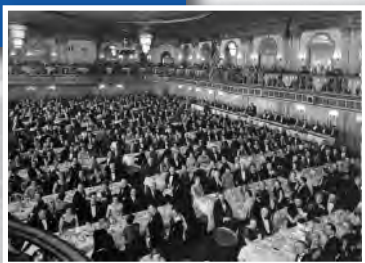
1913

Works with City Health Commissioner Max Starkloff, MD, to wrest municipal hospitals from political control



Medical Society Centennial celebration held

1937



County Society establishes its first office at 14 S. Central in Clayton

1957

Medical Society Members Serving as AMA President



Charles A. Pope, MD, 1854



John T. Hodgson, MD, 1881



Elisha H. Gregory, MD, 1887

Celebrating 175 Years of Organized Medicine

Celebrating 175 Years:

The St. Louis Metropolitan Medical Society Timeline

1965

St. Louis Medical Museum opens with exhibits on medical pioneers, early instruments and techniques of medicine, along with National Museum of Quackery



1970

Forms Bi-State Interagency Council on Smoking and Health in cooperation with the American Heart Association, the American Lung Association and the American Cancer Society

1979

St. Louis Medical Society and St. Louis County Medical Society merge to form St. Louis Metropolitan Medical Society



Campaigns for centralized 911 system and mandatory seat belt laws

1980

Medical Museum is donated to St. Louis Science Center

1985

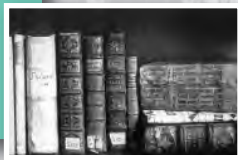
Society has 2,700 members; library contains more than 70,000 volumes

1986



1989

Rare book collection placed on loan to Washington University Bernard Becker Medical Library



1993

Auxiliary changes name to Alliance

Tort reform passes the Missouri Legislature



2005

Moves office to 680 Craig Rd. in Creve Coeur and sells Lindell Blvd. building that had been the Society's headquarters for almost 80 years

2005



AMA
Conventions
in St. Louis

1854

1886

1910

1922

1939

1978