

Expressing You As You Adapt This Material

These suggestions apply equally well to addresses (given by one person) as to ceremonies (presented, usually, by a group of persons). Any material planned for a specific lodge can be readily adapted for use by any of the other fine organizations founded on traditional Christian principles.

ADAPTING A CEREMONY/ADDRESS CAN IMPROVE IT

If the title of this ceremony is not the same as that of the ceremony you had in mind, don't toss it aside. It may meet your needs, as is, or *even better* by adapting.

For best results we recommend that you use this material as a framework.

We suggest you make it more effective by changing somewhat — into your own words, using your own expressions and ideas as presiding officer — individualized for your own chapter or lodge.

Broad in scope, thought-provoking in content, our ceremonies have a wide range of uses — for other than just those indicated by the title and description.

Remember, it is your ceremony or your address. It should sound like you. It should reflect your individual self — and organization. It should express you — throughout.

HOW TO ADAPT THIS CEREMONY/ADDRESS

First, read the material carefully. Then read it again and mark "ok" the parts that fit your planned theme, changing unfamiliar words to those you commonly use and introducing some of your own phrases or expressions. Then, add parts to more individualize the ceremony (or address) — such as, personal remarks, anecdotes, quotations.

TURN TO INSIDE BACK COVER

HONORING GOLDEN AGE MEMBERS

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HONORING GOLDEN AGE MEMBERS

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NOTE: Since it is usually best not to expect elderly members to stand a long time or to do much walking, it is suggested this program take place after Chapter closes, just before officers march from room. Guests could be seated in East or in rocking chairs near East. Officers leave their stations as it is time for each to participate.

WORTHY MATRON

We could not have special guests more important to us than those seated in the East. She calls names of the elderly people and tells a little about each. In fact, you are so much loved by us that our officers have something to say to you.

MARSHAL

Holding wand. I wave my magic wand over you so that you will enjoy, not only this evening, but many more years of happiness. Waves wand over each, and steps to one side.

Conductress and Associate Conductress with batons (one for each guest) approach guests. (Little drum sticks, painted, make excellent batons.)

CONDUCTRESS

Your leadership has been wonderful. You took many steps for our Chapter. Perhaps you are tired walking, but we have an idea.

Associate Conductress

Yes, why should you bother to walk around leading people? We have for each of you a baton. Just wave this in the direction you want people to go, and they will do as you command. Each guest receives a baton. Conductress and Associate Conductress step aside.

Sentinel

Speaks as he and Warder hurry toward East. Wait for us. We have something to say to our guests.

Warder

After the two have reached guests. For many years you kept watch. Perhaps you were not at a door. No, that is not the way you watched. You always watched for the opportunity to help others.

Sentinel

That is the greatest watch that can be kept. We are grateful to you. We want each of you to have a little magnifying glass. When you are thinking of a deed of service you rendered, which might seem small to you, look through this glass. You will see how big the meaning of those deeds was to others. Coming here tonight is another good deed you did for us. Warder gives each guest a small magnifying glass. Warder and Sentinel step aside.

Secretary and Treasurer approach guests.

Secretary

A secretary has nothing to give, but I want you to know you will have an important place in our minute book tonight. Early minutes show what an important part you played in our Chapter work. More important than that, you are written in the minds of every member, and the influence of your work is felt every day.

TREASURER

I have no money to give you like the kind you gave us. You gave gold — gold smiles, gold deeds of kindness, gold words of encouragement, and gold hours of work. You put much gold into the treasury of our lives. We cannot repay you, but we will never forget the debt we owe you.

Treasurer steps to one side and Secretary to other.

Star Points approach East. One or more of them will carry containers of mixed flowers (depending upon the number of guests as each guest will receive one container). Be sure guests and audience can hear speaker.

Adah

Star Points and flowers go together. These flowers remind us of your strength and loveliness of character.

Ruth

All the different flowers put together remind us of you. Your deeds were different, yet all together, they made our Chapter beautiful.

HONORING GOLDEN AGE MEMBERS

Esther

When these little flowers stand by and hold their heads up, they seem to say, "We are with you." That is exactly what your loyalty has said to us.

Martha

The flowers that bloom in our yards always look up. You are like those flowers because you set an example for us. You always looked up for strength to grow.

Electa

Flowers express love, and that is the way we think of you. Please accept these flowers, and remember you are our prized Eastern Star flowers.

Flowers are presented, and Star Points step aside.

Associate Matron and Associate Patron approach guests. They carry horseshoes, enough for each guest to receive one. These may be made from cardboard, painted and sprinkled with glitter. If desired, they could be made wider, painted, and have rows of pennies stuck on them. The number of pennies on each would be determined by the age of each guest.

ASSOCIATE MATRON

You have brought us good luck through the years. We want you to have this good-luck piece to hang in your home.

ASSOCIATE PATRON

The number of good-luck pennies represents your age.

This gift in your home will be a reminder of the love and good wishes your Chapter extends to you. *Present shoes.*

CHAPLAIN

Approaches guests, and with hand raised, faces guests and prays.

Dear Father, show us the way that we can live to be loved and respected as we love and respect these dear ones. May the golden years of their lives be filled with peace and happiness as they continue to reflect the light of His great star in the East. Amen

WORTHY PATRON

Friends, your Chapter loves you not for just a day but always. That is the song our Officers wish to leave in your minds tonight.

Officers form close group, face guests, and sing "Always." At close of song officers return to stations for retiring march.