

CEREMONY FOR DISTRICT LECTURERS

THEME: FRIENDSHIP WITH FLOWER PRESENTATION

Tonight we are privileged to have with us our own DISTRICT LECTURER SISTER (or BROTHER _____). We are so happy to have Sister _____ with us tonight not only because we admire her personally and hold in high regard the service she does our Order, but because her presence here enables us to carry out one of the basic purposes of our work.

All of us are aware of the importance of true friendship in our lives. Our ritual teaches that no individual need be alone and friendless in this life if she is willing to slip her hand into the Loving Hand of Our Fraternity.

The work of our Chapter is also designed to fill the need of the individual for friendship of another kind. Human beings need the friendship and affection of their fellow man. Within the walls of this room it is our constant concern that an atmosphere conducive to the fostering of friendships among our members be maintained. I am sure that each of you has had innumerable occasions on which you have been grateful for your membership in our chapter because of a friend you have had as a result of our efforts here,

Even if our Chapter had no other aim than this fostering of friendships among our members, it would surely be a worthy undertaking. However, the creators of our organizational structure understood that the sphere of friendly relations could easily be expanded. The District Lecturer represents our interest in friendship between chapters and our own Grand Chapter. While our District Lecturer is with us, it is her aim to assist us with friendly, kindly advice as we strive to perfect the Ritualistic presentation of the work of the Order. It is her function to assist us in our efforts to translate the beautiful teachings of our Order into terms of real love and friendship among those of us who are gathered here.

And Sister----- it is our pleasure to extend to you our warmest feelings of friendship and affection. We know that as the official duties of your office carry you from Chapter to Chapter and eventually back to our Grand Chapter, you will take with you our most cordial interest in our sister Chapters and in our own Grand Chapter.

We wish to thank you for this opportunity to extend our circle of friendship beyond the confines of our own Chapter and into the larger sphere of the total fraternal family. It is through just such opportunities as this that the Chapter may contribute to a world that is finer and better because of the growing number of friendships that exist among both individuals and truly worthwhile groups.

OPTIONAL FLOWER PRESENTATION

Instructions: One or more persons may participate in this ceremony simply by dividing the paragraphs or verses, In this manner the W>M> or other selected person may present the complete ceremony, or two persons may alternate the paragraphs, or as many persons may take part as there are paragraphs or verses.

These little flowers represent for us
Our friendship's dearly treasured bloom.
The seed that turned into a flower
Was sown here within this very room.

As you travel here and there
Across our native land (state),
Treasure them, each one was plucked
By some unknown friend's hand.

And when you return home
And see our officers here.
Be sure to tell our other Sisters and Brothers
How much we really care.

If things you undertake
Don't go just as you plan.
Remember the friends in here
Will help whenever they can.

Thank you once again,
For coming to our meeting,
Accept this little bouquet (gift)
As our most friendly greeting.