

Grand Chapter of Colorado
Order of the Eastern Star

SILVER ANNIVERSARY

Adaptation for Golden

By

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Price ~~\$1.00~~^{1.10}

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2410 Paris Avenue N.E.
GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN

SILVER ANNIVERSARY

(For Less Elaborate Program See Page 6)

The aura of this occasion will of course be silver and the more this is brought out the more effective it will be.

This outline was originally written for a Chapter who made presentations of shoulder bouquets and silver spoons to each Past Matron and Charter Member also to Grand Visitors. It may be modified or re-adapted to suit the plan or possibilities of the Chapter using it. The Officer's Club also presented the Chapter with twenty-five silver dollars in a silver basket, which was carried out in their behalf by a group of girl members in the guise of fairies.

PRELIMINARY

To permit freedom of movement it is always better to have the Bible closed during this and similar ceremonies.

Suggest therefore if this is at a regular Chapter meeting a recess be called and the Bible informally closed between opening and closing ceremonies and informally reopened at conclusion of ceremony.

This allows free entrances and exits, avoiding guarding of doors and salutation sign.

This may be introduced under the head of Good of the Order.

N.B. This ceremony may be used as a whole or in part, making eliminations if desired to make less elaborate, or suit in any way to occasion.

Scene—Chapter Room Full Set.

Characters—Past Matrons, Charter Members; Grand Visitors, Twenty-five Representatives of Officer's Club, and Flower Bearers.

Costumes—White.

Properties—Five Silver Candlesticks. (Each containing a star point color); 1 Silver Crown; 1 Silver Fairy Wand; 25 Tiny Flashlights; Long stemmed flowers equivalent of number of Flower Bearers; Flower or shoulder bouquets equal to number of those to receive presentation; Same number of Silver Spoons.

ADDRESS OF WORTHY MATRON

Today we are twenty-five years old. We have all enjoyed marching forward along the Eastern Star road to its Silver Anniversary.

In this organization years have swiftly passed, guided by members who have given so much to the beautiful Order.

Some among us have been associated with our Chapter from the beginning, pioneers and founders.

These are entitled to great satisfaction in seeing the Chapter grow from a small beginning to its present prosperous condition.

But all along the way other good friends have joined the circle. And it is very clear for me to see how this membership constitutes the silver threads that truly shine through life's woven pattern tonight.

So it is not hard to welcome a group such as this when one believes in the Order and loves it as you do.

And to you our guests of the evening and to all assembled with us———— Chapter extends a hearty welcome.

Enter down north or Matron's aisle senior charter member wearing sash of suitable color for background crossed diagonally from shoulder to waist, on which is inscribed in silver lettering the year of the chapter organization.

This member will present the silver spoons to the grand visitors.

Enter through south or Patron's aisle junior (or baby) member of chapter similarly decorated, sash inscribed with current year date.

This member carries a basket in which repose the shoulder bouquets which are presented the grand visitors.

Senior or Charter Member,
Worthy Grand Visitors:

I come to you as a representative of the past, and the founding of.....
Chapter, Number (State chapter Name and Number).

On (Date or organization) we laid the cornerstone, and in the twenty-five years of service that have followed we have watched its growth.

As we celebrate this our silver anniversary we realize that time has silvered many heads which then were dark or golden, but it has also left rich deposits in fraternal wealth and association.

As silver is the aura of this event, we would leave with you, our honored guests of the evening, each a small silver token as a souvenir of this our twenty-fifth birthday.

(Presents silver spoons.)

Baby or Junior Member,
Worthy Grand Visitors:

I come representing the present, and the culmination of these twenty-five years of our Chapter life, and my outlook is to the future; facing the rising sun.

There is a language which is universal—the language of flowers.

They are Love's messengers and as such we ask you to accept this expression from.....
Chapter, Number..... on this occasion of our twenty-fifth birthday.

(Presents bouquets or flowers)

PRESENTATION OF FLOWERS AND SILVER SPOONS TO PAST MATRONS AND CHARTER MEMBERS

Enter from Preparation Room in double file, twice the number of Flower Bearers as there are Past Matrons and Charter Members or such members as the occasion is designed to honor.

Alternating, one of each couple carries in her right hand a silver spoon, the other a shoulder bouquet, dropped at her side.

All carry in left hands long stemmed flowers.

Form parallel lines diagonally through the Star from Northwest to Southeast entering between Esther and Martha, passing South of Altar to point between Adah and Ruth approxime.

With long stemmed flowers they form an arched lattice or grill through which the line of Past Matrons and Charter Members are to pass.

The entrance of the Flower Bearers is the signal for the Marshal to leave her station and pass around to head the line of Past Matrons and Charter Members who occupy seats at the East end of the South side line.

These should be placed in order of seniority from West to East and will follow the Marshal in the following outline march. (Be ready to start as soon as the arch is formed).

West and North till in line with the flowered archway. Pass through once to allow all to see the pretty specatacle and be prepared for what follows. Out between Adah and Ruth, West to Matron's line. North and again pass through archway, this time each receives from one side a spoon, and from the opposite side a bouquet of flowers.

Each Past Matron's spoon should be tagged or otherwise marked with the year of her service in the East.

Those of Charter Members with the date of organization.

Tie bouquets with silver ribbon or wind stems with tinfoil.

Or they may be made up as corsages with silver marginal back.

The line advances to Honor Line (East) turns South, outside aisle to Matron's Line; across West to North aisle, turn again East to seats assigned at east end of North side line.

(Marshal retires in usual manner)

As the last of this line leaves the flowered passageway the two Flower Bearers at West end of line will follow through the arch to East end of line, alternating deposit with the right and left bearer at this end the flowers she has held, each succeeding couple doing the same.

Turn South at Honor Line (East) follow South aisle to Matron's Line (West) turn South of Esther's chair, march diagonally North-east through Star, leaving below Electa's chair, West to Matron's Line and either pass directly to ante-room or around to seats formerly occupied by Honor Members on the South, as preferred.

The last two Flower Bearers follow the line West, separate, one each side of Esther's chair advance to East, bow to the Worthy Matron and Worthy Patron who receive their flowers and place in receptacle placed for the purpose or otherwise dispose as preferred.

The two now retire to seats in regular form.

If the presentation is made by Officer's Club or Past Matrons in person, announce that these will retire and prepare for the concluding ceremony. If there are not twenty-five of these add substitutes.

If as may very prettily be done the presentation is carried out by a group of girls or young members representing organization they may be already prepared and waiting in the ante-room.

"Warder reports an alarm at the door. Alarm is attended and report made that:—

A group of Fairies are bringing gifts of silver in honor of our silver anniversary."

FAIRY EQUIPMENT

All wear flowing robes which they manipulate to simulate wings. Or wings may be made of theatrical gauze or similar material.

A generous sprinkling of silver stars or of star dust will enhance the effect in costuming. Thin gauze veils which conceal the features and are lifted in the final climax add to the mystery and surprise as the personnel of the group stands revealed.

Domino masks which cover only the eyes may be substituted for veils.

The Queen wears a silver crown and carries a silver wand.

If possible have all carry tiny electric flashlights which they press intermittently to give the effect of fireflies in the dim light supplied by tapers alone. Or if desired there may be a single dim light elsewhere in the room, or even the illuminated star, as taste and conveniences dictate.

Fairies enter through separate doors and cross in alternating lines to give the effect of flitting movements attributed to fairies, this enhanced by the intermittent firefly flashes.

The Queen is first to enter, using her wand to direct the movement of her fairies.

Following her is one bearing the silver basket which she places in the center of the Altar (or this may have been previously placed.)

Next follow five taper bearers of the five colors of the degrees which they deposit (lighted) in silver candlesticks placed in proper alignment on the Altar.

Others follow and all form a fairy ring around the Altar.

QUEEN SPEAKING FROM CENTER FRONT

Fairies as you have surely been told
Have magical powers and gifts manifold.
And things which for mortals are hidden from sight.
To us are revealed as plain as daylight.

The stars in the heavens so sparkling and bright
Shine over this scene in soft silver bedight.
And wishes most potent to gladden the hours
We bring you with silver from fairyland bowers.

One gift for each year my fairies in turn
Will drop in the heart of this bright silver urn.

As the dollars are deposited each in turn will name a year, commencing with the year the Chapter was organized and ending with the current year.

The basket may be flower lined and each dollar wrapped in tinfoil, have a ribbon attached to fall over side.

Another idea in case the presentation of spoons to members is omitted would be to attach to each ribbon a silver spoon for the Chapter.

After all have deposited gifts the Queen directing with her wand leading, and the basket bearer next, the fairies round Electa's chair and from there wind the regular labyrinth march which will bring them to position in the East where they will form a line back of the Queen.

All face Chapter

Queen addressing Chapter:

Fairies in the days of old
By their magic we are told
Wondrous transformations made
As they plied their mystic trade.

Coaches out of pumpkins came
Beauty's beast a prince became,
Fairies have not lost their dower
Watch—you shall behold their power.

(Waving wand to and fro.)

As I shield this magic wand
See my fairies quick respond.

Sisters leave your fairy guise,
Reveal yourselves to mortal eyes.

All raise veils and Officer's Club (or representatives) stand revealed. After brief interval to allow effect, all turn to face chair.

Worthy Matron, we trust you will pardon this little by-play and accept from us, as representatives of ----- this gift, a silver basket with a silver dollar for each chapter year.

Presiding Officer.

My Sisters:—

Your little by-play as you express it has been a beautiful introduction to a beautiful presentation.

We are told that "speech is silver". Your fanciful mode of expression in connection with this gift carries with it a silver spell.

There is no occasion tonight to "turn clouds inside out" to find a silver lining. The clouds are entirely obscured by the brightness of each and every feature of this silver anniversary.

With gratitude your chapter accepts your wonderful gift.

The silver dollars will find a warm welcome I am sure and the beautiful basket will be a perpetual reminder of this occasion and of the (Name, Organization presenting gift,) of Current Year.

Conclude with solo, or quartet.

Easterners' Prayer.

Note: Star Points approach altar and kneel while the above song is sung—A spotlight on altar would be beautiful.

DIRECTIONS FOR LESS ELABORATE PROGRAM

If you do not choose to carry out the elaborate fairy program you may use the following new address to Past Matrons, Patrons and Charter members.

Young ladies in formals may form aisles for guests or honored members to pass through.

Other gifts may be substituted wrapped in silver paper with ribbon streamers, knots of flowers etc.

Past Matrons and Charter Members having passed through aisle or garden gate, pause a moment for introduction and spotlight-while (Reader carrying a large memory book covered with silver paper) turns the pages and gives some choice bit or incident during the year they served their Chapter.

Marshal conducts honored members of Chapter from preparation room to a line in front of the Associate Matron. All face East.

W. Matron: Past Matrons, and Patrons and Charter Members I extend to you a special and loving welcome.

It is indeed a privilege to honor those who have guided the destiny of the Chapter through the many years of its existence.

Because of your loyalty and untiring efforts we are able to enjoy the results of twenty five years of progress known to this Chapter. This was only made possible by the culmination of your united endeavors.

Your lives of service inspires and makes us feel we wish to continue your good work and uphold the high ideals and principles which has meant so much to you. We also admire you for this trait because you fully realized the decisive facts the years you served, was not a desire for applause, but rather a sense of duty and fairness which would guide your year of service. Your Motto was: Service above Self- Who could give more?

This is why we are so happy tonight to pay you respect and honor which you are so justly entitled to.

Sisters: You will present these sisters and brothers with a small token in recognition of the record of their worth while aims.

MEMORIAL THOUGHT

This Memorial Thought may follow the Worthy Matrons first address or at any other proper time.

W M—At this time let us reverently pause, in the midst of joy and reunion, for a two minute interval of solemn respect, for those members who have answered the summons of the Silent Messenger.

We like to recall with tender thoughts, the record of their work. A record of remarkable ability and influence which has left a decided mark upon the molding of our Chapter's life.

Gavel: Sister—You will kindly place blossoms of remembrance for them on the Altar in recognition of the silver memories we dearly hold for them. Gavel—

WORTHY MATRON'S CONCLUDING ADDRESS

In closing I wish to say this occasion brings renewed appreciation of friends of twenty-five years standing and a feeling of gratitude for the new ones that we have acquired.

It will always be a happy memory for me to recall that this Silver Anniversary date fell during my term of office and it was my pleasant privilege to preside.

I feel your contribution of loving service will be an important factor in the future success of the Chapter. It is my sincerest wish that this work you have accomplished be reflected back into your lives as an added SILVER LINING.

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY ADAPTATION

This ceremony may be adapted to use for the fiftieth chapter celebration by substituting the word "golden" for "silver" where this occurs and by the following substitutions.

WORTHY MATRON'S ADDRESS Change to Read:

Although sages have pronounced speech silver and silence golden, we cannot feel that this celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of our Chapter's birth is an occasion for silence.

Tonight we celebrate our golden jubilee, and it is my proud privilege to voice the welcome of ----- Chapter to our grand visitors, and to all who join with us on this joyous occasion.

SENIOR OR CHARTER MEMBER'S ADDRESS Change to Read:

As we celebrate this our golden anniversary, we realize that time has silvered many heads that then were dark or golden, but hearts are golden still. And time has also left rich deposits in fraternal wealth and association.

As gold is the aura of this event, we would leave with you, our honor guests of the evening; each a small golden token as a souvenir of this fiftieth birthday celebration.

(Presentation of souvenir optional)

QUEEN SPEAKING FROM CENTER FRONT Change to Read:

The stars in the heavens looking down with delight.

Seem to soften their lustre to pure gold tonight.

And wishes most potent to gladden the hours

We bring you with gold from fairyland bowers.

One gift for each year my fairies in turn

Will drop in the heart of this bright golden urn.