

TRAVELING TOGETHER

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To Welcome New Members or Affiliates.

Worthy Matron's welcome speech:

It is a great pleasure to welcome you as new members to our Chapter. You will find that we are just a group of friends traveling along together and sharing with each other our fellowship and our fraternal love. We are very sure that you will be happy as you travel along the way with our great caravan. Your friendship will mean much to us during the days which are to come, and as we clasp hands and walk along together, the road will be much smoother for all of us.

We know that you will find much joy in the service of our beloved Order, and as you follow each day the teachings of our Star in the East, you will remain true to these teachings and you will find much happiness in the days which are to come. We are very happy to add your names to our list of membership, and as new members and affiliates, we extend to you a most gracious welcome. The amount of help which you will receive from membership in our Order will depend greatly upon the effort you put into it, and we trust that from your service you will reap a rich reward, which will add much to the welfare and prosperity of our Order.

As members of our Chapter we extend a welcome true,  
For we are very happy to share all our joys with you;  
We know you will be faithful to our Order every day,  
And will find so much pleasure traveling with us on our way.

At close of welcome speech, Marshal escorts guests by way of the East, then back of Altar to Adah's station where Adah gives the following verse, after which she presents ribbons to each new member. After the blue ribbon is presented by Adah, the Marshal escorts the guests to Ruth's station, where they are given yellow ribbons after Ruth's verse is given. Marshal passes with guests to each Star point who in turn gives her verse, after which she presents her ribbon. If there are too many new members to be escorted to the Star points, they may be escorted to position in semicircle west of Altar where chairs are provided. After they are seated (they may remain standing if desired) each Star point in turn approaches the south end of line, gives her verse, and then presents her ribbon, after which she returns to her station.

Verses for Star points:

Adah:

Adah will be always loved,  
For she was to vows so true,  
Teaching us fidelity,  
From her lovely point of blue.

Ruth:

When we see the yellow ray,  
We're reminded of our Ruth,  
Always humble and sincere,  
Speaking to us words of truth.

Esther:

Esther was a lovely Queen,  
So her color is pure white,  
For she saved her chosen race,  
Giving to them life and light.

Martha:

Martha's faith was so sincere,  
Having hope in things unseen,  
And because of her great faith,  
We give you her emerald green.

Electa:

From Electa's point of red,  
Comes her lessons which are true;  
And because of her great love,  
Rays of red will shine for you.

After ribbons are presented, the Associate Matron (or other member) may present the Rituals as follows:

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you into our Chapter, and to present to you on behalf of this Chapter these little gifts. It is very necessary that we have a Ritual by which we are rightly guided in the work of our Order, for it is very essential that we study to make ourselves as perfect as possible in the ritualistic work which is so necessary in all fraternal organizations. By making yourselves familiar with the duties of each office, you will not only be more efficient in your line of duty, but you will add beauty and dignity to every part of our ceremonies. We trust that you will each receive the gift in the spirit in which it is given, for it carries with it our best wishes and our sincere promise to be of help to you as we travel along the highway of life together.

This gift is to remind you that we are your friends so true,  
And every day together we will walk along with you;  
You will enjoy our Chapter and the friends you meet each day,  
For they will take you by the hand and lead you on the way;  
And when your work is over, you'll be better off by far,  
Because you've been a member of our own dear Eastern Star.

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