

THE PATH OF FRIENDSHIP

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Hamilton, Missouri.

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Worthy Matron speaks:

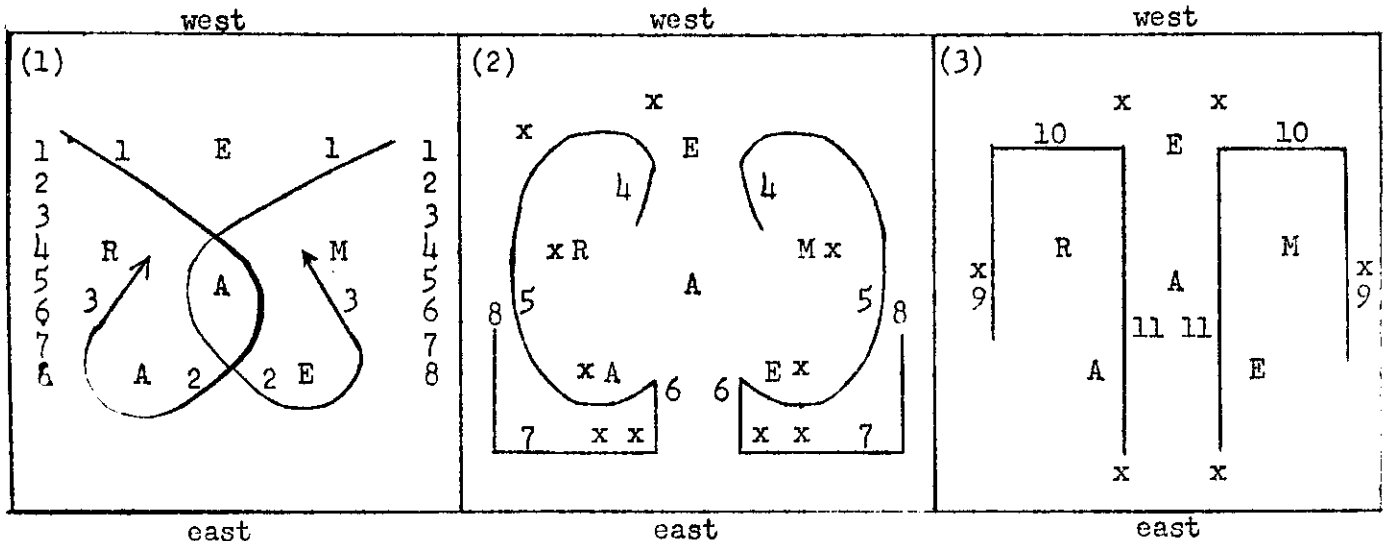
It is a great pleasure to extend a greeting and a cordial welcome to those whom we call our friends. We are happy because of the fellowship which we enjoy in our Order, and for the loyalty to the tasks which we are able to share. One of the outstanding privileges which we enjoy in the Order of the Eastern Star is that of friendship, and with it few pleasures or enjoyments of this life can compare. Friendship has certain characteristics without which it would be unworthy of the name, for the basis of true friendship is self-sacrifice, truth, virtue, and constancy. In friendship we find nothing false or insincere, for there is an entirely satisfied feeling of mutual good will and affection. We rejoice in the joy of our friends, and we grieve equally as much with them in their sorrow. We have only to follow the teachings of our Order to be a friend in the truest sense of the word.

More precious by far than a ruby or pearl
Is a friend whom we know to be true,
For the greatest of all that this world can give,
Is a friend who will love and trust you;
A lily is fair, and a rose is so sweet,
But we doubt if they're any more so
Then the friend who will daily walk by our side
To share with us wherever we go.

(Worthy Matron continues speaking:)

The Secretary will call the list of officers, who when their names are called, will give name of friend whom she has selected to fill her station, and will escort her to proper position north or south of Esther's station.

Officers are called as follows: Worthy Matron, Worthy Patron, Associate Matron, Associate Patron, Conductress, Associate Conductress, Secretary, Treasurer, Marshal, Chaplain, Adah, Electa, Ruth, Martha, Esther and Warder.



Line up for officers:

On North.		On South.	
1. Worthy Matron	5. Chaplain	1. Worthy Patron	5. Marshal
2. Associate Patron	6. Electa	2. Associate Matron	6. Adah
3. Assoc. Conductress	7. Martha	3. Conductress	7. Ruth
4. Treasurer	8. Esther	4. Secretary	8. Warder

As soon as officers are in line, Fig. 1, line of march is followed. Fig. 2 and Fig. 3, marching by twos, each officer with friend. Officers stop at stations as indicated by (x), and each officer remains standing with friend until Worthy Matron and Worthy Patron are escorted to the East. Officers then bow to friend, friends take stations and officers are seated.

Officers may carry candles and extinguish them as soon as friends are escorted to stations, if desired.

The following song is sung as soon as friends assume stations.

Tune: "My Hope Is Built" (Hymn)

Dear friends of ours we welcome you,
There are no other friends so true;
When morning comes at break of day,
You walk beside us on our way.

Chorus: Dear friends of ours we welcome you,
There are no other friends so true,
There are no other friends so true.

When comes the heat of noonday sun,
You're by our side to share the fun;
And when the clouds o'ercast the sky,
As friends we find you standing by.

Chorus: (Repeat)

When evening comes and twilight fades,
When night time draws the darkened shades;
You are the friends who without fears,
Stand by our side and share our tears.

Chorus: (Repeat)

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