

Expressive Hands

Introduction to Installation:

We, as human beings, may pride ourselves on our vast comprehension of the technologies of our world and our tremendous grasp of the minutely detailed way in which we operate. Yet, when we seek to understand ourselves, to fathom the truly miraculous distinction between man and all of God's other creatures, invariably we resort not to the technical, but to the symbolic.

Our ability to reason is associated with our heads. "He has ahead on his shoulders." Our capacity to feel emotion is symbolized by our hearts. "His heart is broken." Yet, when we wish to illustrate the power to translate thoughts into action, we use our hands. When we are extremely busy, "our hands are full." If a situation is impossible, we say it is "out of hand" or that "our hands are tied." If we are not part of the action, we had "no hands in the matter." If we support someone, we are "at his right hand." Something used before is "secondhand." There is handwriting, good and bad hands of cards, and "helping hands." We can "hand it down," "hand it out" or "hand it over." We communicate with our hands; we pray with our hands; we console with our hands; we create beauty with our hands.

Therefore, it is quite appropriate that we use the hand as a symbol for this installation service. Today, the hand will represent the transfer of leadership of this organization from one administration to another. When one action is compatible with another, we say they fit together like the "hand in a glove." So should each officer and each club member blend into one harmonious group with increased friendship, devotion and strength.

We will now introduce the incoming officers for the new term of our club.
(Introduce officers and indicate where they are to stand.)

Each of these incoming officers will receive garden gloves as a symbol of her leadership role and as a reminder that the leader and those she leads must work closely together like a "hand and its glove."

(At this point, install the officers by mentioning their duties as given in the club's Bylaws. Present gloves to each officer. End by installing the President.)

Officers, you have accepted the duties of your respective office. Each of you holds gloves that symbolize your work on behalf of this club. You are therefore declared duly installed officers of this organization.

Properties:

Garden gloves are needed for each of the officers being installed.

