

FLOWER (SPECIAL ANNIVERSARY)

The 50th is always referred to as the golden one, and golden it is tonight. We have been greeted by golden friendship, champagne and flowers. What a wonderful, beautiful, fragrant way to say "you're 50 years young!"

It is fitting that the installation message compliment this marvelous theme and mood by selecting certain golden flowers to symbolize the importance and the responsibilities that each of these officers will accept this evening.

Alternate Delegate: Your club has selected you to serve as alternate delegate. You must be ready to attend district meetings and regional conferences in the absence of the delegate. I give you a marigold, symbolic of one of nature's most capable flowers; capable of being an understudy, but when given the signal, ready to accept a position of importance and representative of your club. Do you accept this challenge and responsibility?

Delegates: Your club has elected you as their delegates. You will represent it at district meetings and regional conferences. I give you a Kansas sunflower, symbolic of the traveling you may do. The sunflower was chosen because it turns its head to follow the sun daily across the sky and the sunflower reflects that heavenly beauty in its bloom. Will you go to meetings and conferences and bring back complete information to your club? Do you accept this challenge and responsibility?

Director: You were elected to serve for two years as director. Your duties will be to serve with the officers on the board and you as a group shall administer control over the affairs, funds and the property of the club, except that of modifying any action taken by the club. I give you a gladiola, a multiple bloom flower symbolic of the many responsibilities you must accept as director. As a director you will be part of the body that authorizes payments from the club funds within the budget, acts upon invitations to membership, resignations, terminations, receives reports of committees as may be necessary between business meetings, submits policy recommendations to the club, and performs such duties as the club, region and federation by laws require. Do you accept these challenges and responsibilities?

Treasurer: Your club has given you their vote as treasurer. You are the keeper of the funds. I give you a golden anniversary lily, the flower that has served generations of civilizations, not only for its beauty, but also for its practical uses. The lily is also a symbol of wealth. I liken it to your responsibility to receive all the funds of the club and deposit them in the financial institution as authorized by the board. You will sign all checks, make remittances as required by federation by laws and regional and club procedures, pay authorized bills, and serve as an ex officio member of the finance committee. Do you accept this challenge and responsibility?

Corresponding Secretary: Your club has chosen you to be corresponding secretary. You are to send out notices and carry on such correspondence as does not properly belong to other officers. I give you a golden chrysanthemum, symbolic of your office as a messenger. Just as the mum has been developed to serve when needed, so will you as corresponding secretary. In the absence of the recording secretary, you will assist in recording the minutes of the business and board meetings. A willing corresponding secretary can take much of the load of detail from the president, and do a great deal for the building of goodwill and understanding in promptly handling all correspondence. Much of the club's image depends on you. Do you accept this challenge and responsibility?

Recording Secretary: You have been elected by your club to serve as recording secretary. You are the custodian of the clubs permanent records. I give you a golden daisy, symbolic of your office. The saying has been that "daisies don't tell." In this instance you will tell by virtue of the office you will hold. You will keep the minutes of the meeting of the club and of the board, maintain a roll of membership, and submit to the club the minutes of the business meetings and the recommendations of the board. You must be ever faithful as the daisy, writing your records with clarity and facts. Do you accept this challenge and responsibilities?

Vice President: You have been elected by your club to be their vice president. Yours is the second highest office in this club. Tonight I give you a golden carnation, the coronation flower symbolic of the office you will fill. The carnation has served by request at royal occasions throughout history. It is recognized for its tenacity and ability to enhance and brighten whatever the situation. You, as vice president, will be like the carnation, regal and ready, available to serve in the absence of the president, if necessary. One of your responsibilities will be program planning, which is very important, since forward looking, interesting programs will have a bearing on the success of your club this year. Do you accept this challenge and responsibilities?

President: You have been elected by your club to serve as their president. Tonight, to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary, I give you a golden yellow rose, symbolic of your office. The rose is the noble flower. Nations have used it to depict beauty and dignity on their currency, coins and royal emblems. The rose dates back to ancient Greece, Egypt and Rome, and has been a symbol of heroism, peace and purity. Although it is extreme in its beauty, it is a hardy flower, versatile and appropriate for every occasion. That is your challenge as president. You, as the chief officer, must direct and conduct the business of your club, preside at all meetings of your club and board, set the policy of the club as directed by your board, appoint all committees and be an ex officio member of these committees. Your club members know that you possess the qualities of leadership - wisdom - patience - and understanding. As a presiding officer, you will be fair, tactful and just. Do you accept these challenges and responsibilities?

I ask each of you to pledge to do your best to carry out the requirements of your respective offices. I challenge you to be tolerant, give praise and encouragement, listen, understand, share yourself - most of all, have vision for your clubs future.

I now declare these officers, directors and delegates duly installed in the offices to which they were elected. I wish for you a most successful and happy term in office.

As the steering force of your club, your duties are as numerous and diverse as the design of the flowers you were given this evening. By working together, each of you will bring your special talents to your club, just as each of these flowers brings its own stunning beauty and fragrance to make a lovely bouquet. May you be like the flowers presented to you - serve together, but be individuals, complement each other so that your common goal is fulfilled and your actions will be an inspiration for another fifty years of Soroptimism!

