

Flowers

1 We're here tonight on the threshold of a beautiful
2 summer and a new year of fellowship and service. How
3 many times in the last few days or weeks have you gone
4 to your window or out in the yard to see if the old
5 flowers are blooming, if the grass is coming, or to see if
6 new flowers in your garden is growing? We are richly
7 blessed this time of year in our part of the country. We
8 are fortunate in that we can watch these flowers grow.
9 Somewhere an ugly little seed or bulb can produce the
10 most beautiful flowers. A tiny speck of almost nothing
11 grows day to day into something that all admire and
12 enjoyed. This last year, was such of a growth to be
13 admired. This past year as Soroptimist we accomplished
14 much. We blossomed forth in many areas under capable
15 leadership. Can I have all the officers from this past year
16 stand so we can thank you for your service? May we at
17 the end of another SI year remember the love we have
18 shared, the good times we have had, the service we have
19 given and above all, the growth and blessings we have
20 received in return.

21 Delegates: Your club has selected you to serve as
22 delegates. You will represent the members at district
23 meetings and regional conferences. I give you the Forget-
24 me-nots, symbolic of the traveling that you will do. The
25 delicate flowers turn their heads toward the sun as it
26 travels across the sky. You too will travel to these
27 meetings and bring back complete information to your

28 club. The meetings can be long and full of great
29 information, so heed well your responsibility. You club
30 will be depending upon you to be their spokes-person to
31 voice their opinions on anything that might come up at
32 the meetings. Do you accept this responsibility? Thank
33 you.

34 Director: You were elected to serve your club as the
35 director. Your duties will be to serve with the officers on
36 the board and you as a group will administer control over
37 the affairs, funds and the property of the club. I give you
38 the orchid. With many flowers on the stock, it represents
39 the many jobs and responsibilities you must accept as
40 director. As a director you will be part of the body that
41 authorizes payments from club funds within the budget,
42 acts upon invitations to membership, and submits policy
43 recommendations to the club. Do you accept these
44 responsibilities? Thank you.

45 Assist treasurer: Your club has given you their vote of
46 confidence by electing you Assist Treasurer. You are the
47 keeper of the funds. You are the Dalia- tall and straight
48 keeping the fund in line. It is a symbol of wealth. I liken it
49 to your responsibility to receive all funds of the club
50 which will be mighty and to make the deposits in a timely
51 fashion. (Like the day after you receive them)

52 Treasurer: Your club has given you, too, their vote of
53 confidence by electing you to this position of trust. You

54 will keep the books making sure that all funds balance
55 and you will give a report at each board meeting and
56 business meeting. You will sign all checks, pay authorized
57 bills and serve as an ex officio member of the finance
58 committee. I give you the rose which is a noble flower as
59 a symbol of your office. Nations have used it to depict
60 beauty and dignity on their currency, coins and royal
61 emblems.

62 Your club has given you the opportunity to serve as
63 corresponding secretary. You are to send out notices and
64 carry on such correspondence as does not properly
65 belong to the other officers. I give you the daisy as
66 symbol of your office as a messenger. Lots of petals will
67 represent the letters you will send out. In the absence of
68 the recording secretary, you will assist in recording the
69 minutes of the business and board meetings. You do a
70 great deal for building of goodwill and understanding in
71 promptly handling all correspondence. Much of the clubs
72 image depends on you. Do you accept this challenge and
73 responsibility? Thank you

74 Recording Secretary: You have been elected by your club
75 as recording secretary. You are the custodian of the clubs
76 permanent records. I give you the Hyacinth. You will tell
77 by virtue of your office the history of your club. You will
78 keep the minutes of the business meetings and the
79 recommendations of the board. You must be ever

80 faithful as this flower by writing your records with clarity
81 and facts. Do you accept this challenge and
82 responsibilities? Do you accept this challenge? Thank you

83 2nd Vice President: You've been elected by your club to
84 this high position because of their trust in your ability.
85 Yours is the third highest office in this club. Tonight I give
86 you the lilac flower. It's recognized for its ability to calm
87 and settle people. You will be keeping every one calm
88 during our programs of service and projects that your
89 club does to improve the lives of women and girls in your
90 community and around the world. Do you accept your
91 office? Thank you

92 1st Vice President: Yours is the second highest office your
93 club can elect you to hold. Tonight I give you an Iris- a tall
94 stately flower usually found in a royal purple color. This
95 flower is recognized for its tenacity and ability to
96 enhance and brighten whatever the situation. You, as
97 vice president, will be like iris, regal and ready to serve in
98 the absence of the president, if necessary. One of your
99 responsibilities will be program planning which is a very
100 important task. Please book forward looking, interesting
101 programs will have a bearing on the success of your club
102 this year. Do you accept this challenge and
103 responsibilities?

104 President: You have been elected by your club to serve as
105 their president. Tonight I give you the passion flower as a

symbol of your office. This noble flower is used by nations and states to depict beauty and dignity. 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. By working together, each of you will bring your special talents to your club, just as these flowers bring 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 many more years of Soroptimism.!