

GIFTS FROM THE SEA II

Today... it is my privilege to install the officers of the Good Ship _____ GFWC of Louisiana Club. Our group has a special place in our hearts... we have seen lots of changes with new friends added to the rolls... yet it is still a group of ladies who enjoy the associations, projects and special programs. Our theme for the installations will be "Gifts from the Sea"... This reminds me of the famous John Manfield Poem

"Sea Fever":

I must go down to the seas again,
the lonely sea and sky,
and all I ask is a tall ship and a star to steer her by,
And the wheel's kick and the wind's song and white sails shaking ...
and a gray mist on the sea's face and the gray dawn breaking,
I must go down to the seas again,
for the call of the running tide is a wild call and a clear call that my not be denied,
And all I ask is a windy day with the white clouds flying,
and the flung spray and the blown spume and the sea gulls crying,
I must go down to the seas again,
the vagrant gypsy life, to the gull's way and the whale's way where the wind's like a whetted knife,
And all I ask is a merry yarn from a laughing fellow rover, and a quiet sleep and a sweet dream when the
long trip is over.

Shells are a part of these ... shells occupy a unique place in the natural world. No other animals are as widely collected, traded, bought and sold because of their beauty, attractiveness and rarity. Shell artistry has a long time-honored history, dating back to the stone-aged period. Primitive man, attracted by the delicacy, the beauty, the shape and the color of shells, used them as ornamental decorations and in religious settings. Shells are still very popular today for the same reason. In the United States many of the Indian tribes used shells as wampum, a form of monetary exchange. We will use them as wampum too... (I put a shell on the end of a wire and coat the wire with floral tape. I have a big shell that I use to hold the individual shell sticks.)

We need to give the **Out Going President**, _____, a big hand for her leadership this past year. _____, wonderful president.

Treasurer, _____, you shall receive, disburse and keep an account of all the funds of the club. You shall prepare an annual report and shall help collect the luncheon fees.

Corresponding Secretary, _____, you shall keep and reply to all correspondence of the organization and send appropriate greeting cards to members. You shall keep an accurate list of all the members names and addresses.

Recording Secretary, _____, it will be your task to keep accurate minutes of the meetings. You will also have an updated copy of the bylaws and send a copy of the minutes to the president after each meeting.

Vice President - in charge of fund raising, _____, it will be your task to chair all the fund raising opportunities _____ schedules and you will preside at the meeting in the absence of the President and the First Vice President.

Vice President - in charge of programs. _____, as program chairman you will serve as chairman of the program planning committee. You shall preside at the meeting in the absence of the president and act for her in her absence or disability.

President - _____, you are to preside over all meetings, appoint committees, help plan interesting programs and special events.

If each of you performs your job well, our members will be happy as clams....they will help when needed and as sure as the Good Ship, _____ stays afloat for many years.

Stars of the Sea

*At the very bottom
Of the briny sea,
Lives a creature well
Known to you and me.*

*He will never sow,
But always reap,
All the luscious delicacies
Of the mysterious deep.*

*He dines on oysters
And romps all day;
He lives like a king
And never has to pay.*

*And if you and I
Could only have our wish,
We'd all live as carefree
As this little starfish.*