

PEARLS

There is nothing stranger than the history of pearls and the esteem in which they have been held. The powerful of the earth in every age have used and loved these mysterious ornaments. Pearls were among the most prized treasures of kings. Genuine pearls are extremely valuable; for it takes an oyster many years to produce a fine pearl. Pearls as they come out of the shell, are not ready to be made into a beautiful necklace. The pearls must first be washed, polished and graded as to size and color. It is the polishing and grading of the pearl that makes it the beautiful mysterious treasure.

In order to keep the Soroptimist organization growing, useful and valuable, each pearl or member must be educated in Soroptimist, must be dedicated in service, and must be enthusiastic. Members must be made to feel important, not only to their individual clubs, but to their district, region and to the federation as well.

This evening, we have gathered together to witness the installation of members we have elected to lead the _____ Club. Those special individuals who will work to enhance the value of beauty of the pearls within our club and lead us to new heights in growth, commitment and service.

It is my honor to be the installing officer this evening, and at this time I would like to ask our Immediate Past President to please come forward.

_____, your duty as the Immediate Past President will be in an advisory capacity. Your counsel and understanding is like the grading of the pearls.

BOARD MEMBERS: As Board members, you are charged with the responsibility of administrative control of all the activities of our club, as set forth in its by-laws. You will have a voice in all the deliberations of the Board. May your voice be raised always in support of the ideals and high objectives of Soroptimists and all that they stand for. You will represent the pearl "Sincerity of Friendship". Do you accept these duties?

TREASURER: As Treasurer, you will receive all membership dues and all other funds of the club, depositing them in such banks as are designated by the Board; the Board at regular intervals as they may direct; you will faithfully guard all club funds coming into your possession and use them wisely as the Board and the club authorize you; you will be meticulous in your care of the books of account and such other records as may be under your jurisdiction. Your pearl will be "The Joy of Achievement". Do you accept these duties?

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY: As Corresponding Secretary, it is your responsibility to keep the correspondence current and perform the clerical work of the club and such other duties as the by-laws may direct. The pearl you represent is "Integrity of Profession". Do you accept these duties?

RECORDING SECRETARY: As Recording Secretary, it is your responsibility to be custodian of the permanent records and such other duties as the club may direct. You will represent "The Dignity of Service". Do you accept these responsibilities?

VICE PRESIDENT: As Vice President, you must always be ready in the absence or disability of the President and perform such additional duties as the club or the Board of Directors may require. You will be the center pearl and represent "Our Love of Country". Do you accept these responsibilities?

PRESIDENT: As President, you are the chief officer and direct the conduct of business of the club. You must at all times keep yourself well-informed, and wisely guide and counsel with your Board members.

President _____, the members of the _____ Club have given you a precious gift, the privilege of accepting the high office of President. We have watched you grow in your years of Soroptimist service. You were carefully selected, polished and graded through your years of dedication in our club. You will now be responsible for threading the fine gold chain of "Soroptimist Service" through each pearl and bind the entire strand together. You are the strong and efficient clasp which firmly joins and holds the chain of Soroptimist ideals and the members together.

It is the strength and beauty of the clasp that makes our strand priceless. You, President _____, have loyalty, vision and steadfastness of belief in the pearls making up your board.

The members of your Board and our club look forward to a most successful year under your guidance. Do you accept the responsibilities of the office of President?

To you, President _____, I give the entire strand.

As installing officer, I now declare all of you, officially installed Board Members and Officers of Soroptimist International of _____, SIA. My best wishes for a successful year.

Props: Strands of faux pearls or individual pearls (craft store) for all officers except president