CEREMONY HONORING DISTRICT DEPUTY
THEME—FRIENDSHIP
With Flower Presentation

One or more people may participate in this ceremony simply by dividing the paragraphs or verses. In this manner the Presiding Officer or another selected person may present the complete ceremony, or two people may alternate the paragraphs, or as many people may take part as there are paragraphs or verses.

Tonight we are privileged to have with us our own District Deputy (substitute the proper title if used by other lodges), Sister ______. We are delighted to have Sister ______ with us tonight not only because we admire her personally and hold in high regard the service she does our Order, but because her presence here enables us to carry out one of the basic purposes of our work.

All of us are aware of the importance of true friendship in our own lives. Our work teaches us that no individual need ever be all alone and friendless in this life if he is willing to slip his hand into the Loving Hand of the Eternal Friend of all Mankind.

The work of our Lodge is also designed to fill the need of the individual for friendship of another kind. Human beings need the friendship and affection of their fellow men. Within the walls of this room it is our constant concern that an atmosphere conducive to the fostering of friendships among our members be maintained. I am sure that each of you has had innumerable occasions on which you have been grateful for your membership in our Lodge because of a friend you have as a result of our efforts here.

Even if our Lodge had no other aim than this fostering of friendships among individuals, it would surely be a worthwhile undertaking. However, the creators of our organizational structure understood that the sphere of friendly relations could easily be expanded. The District Deputy represents our interest in friendship between the local lodge and our own state organization. While our District Deputy is with us, it is her aim to assist us with friendly, kindly advice as we strive to perfect the ritualistic presentation of the work of our Order. It is her function to assist us in our efforts to translate the beautiful teachings of our Order into terms of real love and friendship among those of us who are gathered here.

And Sister ______, it is our pleasure to extend to you our warmest feelings of friendship and affection. We know that as the official duties of your office carry you from lodge to lodge and eventually back to our State Grand Lodge, you will take with you our most cordial interest in our sister lodges and in our own Grand Lodge.

We wish to thank you for this opportunity to extend our circle of friendship beyond the confines of our own Lodge and into the larger sphere of the total fraternal family. It is through just such opportunities as this that the lodge may contribute to a world that is finer and better because of the growing number of friendships that exist among both individuals and truly worthwhile groups.
OPTIONAL FLOWER PRESENTATION

These little flowers represent for us
   Our friendship's dearly treasured bloom.
The seed that turned into a flower
   Was sown here within this very room.

As you travel here and there
   Across this, our native land,
Treasure them: each was plucked
   By some unknown friend's hand.

And when you return home
   And see our officers there,
Be sure to tell our other sisters
   How much we really care.

If the things you undertake
   Don't go just as you plan,
Remember the friends in here
   Will help whenever they can.

Thank you, once again,
   For coming to our meeting.
Accept this little bouquet
   As our most friendly greeting.