

This simple and pretty ceremony honors the wedding anniversary of any Grand Officer, or Member. This is written for the Worthy Matron to honor the anniversary of a Grand Officer, but any one may speak the lines of the Worthy Matron, and by a change of name or title it may be applied to anyone.

It may be used in any Chapter, regardless of size. In the smaller Chapter, one couple may take the marching parts, and the Drill Team may be omitted. In a larger Chapter, there may be four couples (for Brides and Grooms) and the Drill Team may have as many couples as wished.

The Brother taking the part of the groom should wear a tuxedo, and the bride should wear white, with a veil, --which may be made from a large white curtain. These accessories may be as inexpensive as desired, or may have all the frills a real wedding would have, if the Chapter is large enough that it is not a burden.

At each entrance, --preceding the opening of the door, have bells ringing in the anteroom, --or even farther away. They sound beautiful from a distance, and carry out the theme.

Worthy Matron: Tonight we are going to honor an anniversary . . . an occasion that is a little unusual, --but a very happy occasion. It is the wedding anniversary of Sister _____ and Brother _____, and it makes it a memorable evening for us, and we are sure it is a memorable occasion for them. Sister Secretary, what do the records say of the events leading up to this momentous event?

The Secretary opens a huge book, and reads . . . If at all possible have these records authentic. Date of their meeting; place of first meeting; bride's name before marriage; and any events that could be mentioned. Then, embroider them a little . . . for instance, if bride was a shy person, say she pursued him, and then popped the question on a happy Leap Year, etc. And vice versa, if he is shy.

As soon as this is finished, bells are heard ringing in the distance, the Chapter room door opens, and Drill Team enters to tune "Here Comes the Bride". They make a lane just inside the door, and a very young couple enter, dressed as bride and groom. They continue to same music until they pass the A. Conductress' station, when music changes to "The Bells of Saint Mary's". Play this slowly, accented for minuet time. (This is not a true minuet, but it can be managed.) The couples in rear slowly dance the minuet. Have Soloist sing the words. It is also lovely if the Drill team can be dressed in old fashioned dress for this portion.

The balance is in pantomime, and as the bride and groom reach East, and continue South, a Brother dressed to resemble a minister rises, stands in front of Worthy Matron's pedestal. Couple halts, and he raises his hand in benediction, then they continue to circle room. As they reach rear of room, couples break their dance and form a double line. Couple pass through, followed by the Drill Team. While Secretary reads, they hurriedly change costume. Bride and Groom are now an older couple, or they dust their hair with talcum to appear older.

Again, Secretary reads. This time, the family are named, if any; work of husband listed; and activities of both. If any Member knows of any amusing personal incident it is of course included. The closing remark is . . . "And so we reach the end of the first 25 years."

Bells are heard in the distance, --the Chapter room door opens, and the Drill Team, dressed as flappers of some years ago, enter. They bustle about, forming a double line for couple to pass through. The music and singing for this section is "I'll Dance At Your Wedding", and while they briskly circle the room, (Again the

pantomime in the East) the couples at the rear jitterbug to the music. This should be exaggerated to appear ridiculous. Again Drill Team form a lane as couple retires, and follows them.

Again Secretary reads. . . family marriages; business successes, grandchildren, Club work; travels; and some amusing situations that may be learned or imagined. In closing . . "And so we reach another milestone."

Distant bells are heard, Chapter room door opens, and Drill Team enters in formals, preceding couple who appear quite elderly. Music for marching and singing is "Anniversary Song". Couples could dance the waltz quadrille, or any quadrille that is in waltz time. If not, they must bow and change partners regularly, to appear like a quadrille. (The music COULD be changed to 4/4 time, but it is not nearly so effective.) Minister has unobtrusively powdered his hair, and looks older. They retire as before.

Secretary reads . . . "Our record changes from history to prophecy. This happy couple are reaching the sunset years. Retiring from business gave more time for friends and neighbors, and they keep up their Club activities. They never miss a meeting of Chapter, and keep happy and busy. They are now waiting for the first atom-powered passenger plane, so they may have a ride."

Distant bells preceding the opening of Chapter room door. Drill Team enters, dressed in old fashioned clothes. The couple are VERY elderly, and both have canes, which they use as they totter along. The minister also has a cane, and hobbles out to stand. Couples dance a SLOW waltz to tune "When I Grow TOO Old to Dream", which is sung as couple circles the room.

As they retire as before, the bells ring continuously in ante-room and two little girls (small Members will do fine) come in, each carrying a basket of flowers for each honored Guest. Gifts may be in baskets if desired. To tune of "Love's Old Sweet Song", (bells ringing softly all the time), the two come forward and curtsy to honored Guests in East.

1st Girl, presenting to lady: Weddings are times for good wishes. My flowers contain the everlasting good wishes of every Member here. May your joys increase, and happiness be with you all the way. (She presents basket).

2nd Girl: Our wish for prosperity and good health is just one of the many good wishes contained within the flowers. Our happiness is multiplied in sharing this occasion with you, and we return it to multiplied. May the good in your life never be less. (She presents basket to man.) They retire to same music.

This concludes ceremony.

Couple active in Eastern Star (work) celebrate Golden Anniversary. Notes from write-up from National Auxiliary--Oct. 1957, p. 6)

Golden candles tied with golden tulle--lighted by 2 granddaughters. Several piano melodies played--last number was "The Little Brown Church." Song very appropriate to the occasion as the actual wedding ceremony was performed in the little brown Trinity Church 50 years ago. The minister of the Church was --- who performed the wedding service.

Short program --- "Bless This House." ---Poem, "These Golden Years"

Lord's Prayer sung by--- Eastern Star members extended a special greeting to Sister and Brother--with the hope that many "golden years" would be added to the ones they have already shared.