SHIP AHoy!

A Ceremony to Honor a New Worthy Matron

Declare recess.

Open ceremony with all officers or choir singing. Tune of "A Life on the Ocean Wave".

A life on the ocean wave, a home on the rolling deep;
Where the scattered waters rave, and the winds their revels keep.
Like an eagle caged I pine on this dull unchanging shore,
O give me the flashing brine, the spray, and the tempest's roar.
A life on the ocean wave, a home on the rolling deep,
Where the scattered waters rave, and the winds their revels keep.

JUNIOR PAST MATRON:

Ship ahoy! All a-shore that's going a-shore!! All things are now ready for another voyage through the coming year on the Good Ship -- -- (name of your Chapter) with Captain -- -- -- at the helm. Our Captain has come up through the ranks. She served time as an apprentice seaman, literally swabbing decks and polishing brass. Her apprenticeship was followed by three years at the O. E. S. Naval Academy where she studied charts, maps, navigation, learned Ship's Etiquette, and was graduated with honors. She served the last three years in positions of importance: first, on the port side, then the starboard and finally going aft to serve as Lt. Comm., from which position the O. E. S. is happy tonight to advance her to full command of the Good Ship -- -- --.

But, before we set sail, we feel it is only proper that she should meet her crew and hear their pledges to duty. Ensign (name of Marshal), you will conduct Captain -- -- on an inspection tour of our ship.

Attention!!

Officers rise and salute. Junior Past Matron returns salute and says "As you were". Officers drop salute but remain standing.

Organist plays "Anchors Aweigh* for Marshal to march. Marshal offers her arm to Captain. They circle deck and stop at Adah, then continue to each point.

MARSHAL:

Our five Warrant Officers have completed their basic training and are well versed in the instructions in the "Blue Jacket's Manual". Because they are all specialists they have been assigned to these very important duties amidships. Captain -- --, may I present Warrant Officer Adah?

ADAH:

Every sailor aboard has a job to do;
Though it may seem small, it's important, too.
Fidelity is what I teach.
I pledge to practice what I preach.

MARSHAL:

Captain -- --- --, may I present Warrant Officer Ruth?

RUTH:

My manual I have studied
And constant it bids me be.
I'll stand by my ship and officers
As we sail the stormy sea.

MARSHAL:

Captain -- -- -, may I present Warrant Officer Esther?

ESTHER:

We sail the ocean deep and blue.
Our Good Ship -- is a beauty.
We're proud to have a job on deck.
We'll be loyal to every duty.

MARSHAL:

Captain -- -- -, may I present Warrant Officer Martha?

MARTHA:

The thunder and the gale
Will never make us quail.
We've a Skipper we can trust,
So arrive in port we must!

MARSHAL:

Captain -- -- -, may I present Warrant Officer Electa?

ELECTA:

We'll uphold the records of the Good Ship --
And keep our log book clean.
We'll be reliable, fair, and honest,
As our Skipper's always been.

JUNIOR PAST MATRON:

The remaining officers and men will form an honor guard amidships.
Assembling on Starboard side will be Lt. Comm. (A. M.), Yeoman (Secretary), Radarman (Warder), and Lt. (Cond.). Assembling on port side will be Yeoman (Treasurer), Ship's Musician (Organist), Chaplain, and Lt. (A. Cond.).
Marshal leads Captain through court as choir or soloist sings to "Santa Lucia" the following.

Now neath the silver moon ocean is glowing,
O'er the calm billow soft winds are blowing.
Here balmy breezes blow, pure joys invite us,
And as we gently row
All things delight us.
Hark how the sailor's cry joyously echoes nigh,
On the Good Ship — —, the Good Ship — —.
Home of sweet charity, realm of pure harmony,
On the Good Ship — —, the Good Ship — —.

Officers salute as Captain is led through.  Drop arms after she has passed through.  Marshal causes her to face West.

LT. COMM. (A. M.):

From the time we hit the deck each morning
'Til we hit the sack at night,
We'll help where're we're needed
To keep our course all right.
With the Star in the East to steer by
And a crew all tried and true,
We know there'll be clear sailing
In the Good Ship — — with you.

SECRETARY:

I'll keep the ship's log,

TREASURER:

I'll write the checks.

MUSICIAN:

I'll furnish the music
To resound through the decks.

CHAPLAIN:

I'll say a prayer for fair skies,

WARDER:

So our decks will be high and dry.

CONDUCTRESS:

And I'll study navigation;

ASSOCIATE CONDUCTRESS:

So when we get promoted
We'll know something of our station.
JUNIOR PAST MATRON:

Captain — — —, after hearing the pledges of all your crew we know there can be no doubt in your mind that this will be a pleasant voyage.

Their promises were not idly spoken,
And as we sail the blue,
May God give you strength and courage
To keep a straight course and true.

The End