Presenting the Gavel

A HUMOROUS PROGRAM FOR THE
OUTGOING WORTHY MATRON
O.E.S. GRAND
CHAPTER LIBRARY

For this outgoing Matron’s Program you will need the following articles:

A croquet mallet
Two rubber balls of considerable size, one twice as large as the other, both blackened with shoe polish or paint, one lettered "500 lbs." and the other "Two Tons".
A Horseshoe
A large green cardboard four-leaf clover.
A rabbit’s foot (you will find key chains at your 10¢ store with rabbit’s foot attached.)
A very thick appearing book to represent Knowledge.
Chains or ribbons in your colors for attaching these articles to the outside gavel made from the croquet mallet.

YOUR SPEECH: Sisters and Brothers, it is now my privilege to turn over to our new Worthy Matron the emblem of authority in this Chapter, THE GAVEL.

Sisters Conductress—and Associate Conductress, please assist me in presenting this very heavy responsibility to our Worthy Matron. (Music should be played here as the Conductress and Associate Conductress meet in the West and secure from the Associate Matron’s station the heavy "gavel" with all the items attached. As they lift it, they should pretend it is very heavy and as they shoulder it and start toward the East as the Organist plays the Volga Boatman, and the Conductress and Associate Conductress should keep time to the music, pausing or slowing as the music does. This will cause a great deal of amusement. When they reach the East, they should pause and droop, holding the gavel so that all present may see articles suspended from it.

The outgoing Worthy Matron speaks:

Worthy Matron, you’re wondering about all these heavy things attached to the gavel and I’m going to put you wise. This weight here gets heavier when folks don’t come to Chapter, and oh, so much lighter to carry when they do come, (touching the 500 lb. weight). This great big two-ton weight is the heavy responsibility you are taking on, because you’re going to have to try to please everybody and still do what you think is right, too!

This big heavy book represents Knowledge—you not only have to please everybody, but you’re supposed to know everything, too. And this horseshoe, and the four-leaf clover and the rabbit’s foot represent my sincere good wishes to you. I know you’re going to have a wonderful year, because if your officers are as sweet and smart as mine have been you’ll be happy all year long.

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Sisters Conductress and Associate Conductress, now that you've had a demonstration of how heavy the gavel is, what do you think of it?

CONDUCTRESS and ASSOCIATE CONDUCTRESS (Speaking together):

It's too heavy for us now -- here, Worthy Matron, YOU take it!

(You may start the applause!)

The Worthy Matron will then reply and this will close the program.