

ALTRUSA OFFICER INSTALLATION

FLOWERS THEME

Tonight, as we are about to begin a new year, we would like to use flowers and candles as a part of the installation service.

Some of us have a flower garden filled with various plants of many colors. We plant to have blooms from early spring into fall. We like variety and so it takes thought. Altrusa is very much like our garden, for classification assures us of variety. However, we need more than variety. We need flowers that bloom early. We need long blooming varieties. We need soft gentle flowers and we need some of the bolder ones. Each flower in Altrusa should be an individual with special blooms. Altrusans, like flowers, will bloom differently and must be nourished accordingly.

Very few flowers grow without love and help from someone and as we accept a new flower into Altrusa, we must remember our responsibilities to that flower. Pick your flower--nourish it. Watch your garden grow.

Altrusa's strength is in its diversity. In local clubs with diverse career fields, this strength is insured by our classification system. At the district level, it is insured by diversity of clubs and geographical areas presented. There are many ways to symbolize this diversity. Let me try to find a way that is meaningful for us tonight. Each of use must do what we are qualified to do and it must be done in our own way.

The white candle that I am going to light represents Altrusa International. In 1917, Mamie L. Bass saw the need of women working together and assisted with the founding of Altrusa. The red rose adorning the candle represents Love. Altrusans, through service, have given much Love, and in giving have received great rewards.

As I call your name, please come forward and stand behind the table of flowers. Together, we will make an Altrusa Bouquet.

(Call each officer by name and ask her to light the candle of her office. Designate its color to avoid confusion.)

PAST PRESIDENT: FLOWER COLUMBINE CANDLE PURPLE

As we start our flower garden, we find a most unusual plant, the Columbine. It has been said that no two people see the same thing when they look at the flower. Some have said it resembles an eagle, while others see doves touching beak to beak. When we look at the flower with its beauty and warmth, we are reminded of one that has served Altrusa well as President. We know that you will lend your eye of experience to your position as Past President. The Club is grateful to you and takes great comfort in knowing that they may continue to call on you for guidance.

DIRECTORS: FLOWER PANSY CANDLE LAVENDER

As a Director, you have to be many things; however, most of all, you must be productive. Your flower, a pansy, is a small imp of a flower that borders our gardens. It is an interesting plant with little faces that sometimes appear mischievous. Years ago, the English used pansies for medicinal purposes. This should be a challenge to you--to bloom as the pansy blooms and to guide and direct with a plan that your club will be united as one.

CORRES. SECRETARY FLOWER DOGWOOD CANDLE PINK

The dogwood is usually one of the first blooms of spring. As we all look forward to spring, so will your club look to you a Public Relations Officer. It will be through your correspondence that your club will be known. The dogwood blossom is one of our most perfectly shaped flowers. Your club does not expect you to be perfect. However, they do know your capabilities and will expect you to perform accordingly.

RECORDING SECRETARY FLOWER CROCUS CANDLE YELLOW

The crocus is a hardy little flower that has paper-thin blossoms and many times can be found peeping through the snow. As Recording Secretary, you too will need to withstand the weather and attend all the meetings of your club. You must remember that the records you keep this year will in years to come be history. Keep your books up to date and accurate and as the crocus comes through the snow, so you will also.

TREASURER FLOWER AZALEA CANDLE MED. CORAL

Azaleas grow taller than many plants in our garden. Matter of fact, with azaleas, you need no other flowers. They are more visible than most flowers and people will drive for miles to see them. Your position as Treasurer is similar to that of the azalea. It is more specialized and more visible and you do have more tangible duties. The azalea is steadfast. You too must be steadfast and dependable in the dispatch of your responsibilities. Timing is most important to your position. Schedule it well. Many will have their eyes on you feeling confident that the right person was elected.

VICE PRESIDENT FLOWER DAISY CANDLE WHITE

He loves me - - He loves me not. How often we played that game when we were children. The richness of its golden center and the purity of its white petals identify the daisy. Your position as Vice President must be pure in its dedication to Altrusa. You must always be ready to act in the absence of the President. Your duties will require time and thought, as you step into the position second only to the President. Be as pure as the Daisy. You reflect the beauty of your Altrusa membership.

PRESIDENT FLOWER DAFFODIL CANDLE GOLD

Daffodil or Buttercup--by either name is a long fluted trumpet framed by a sextet of rounded petals, petals that follow the sun across the sky, sometimes cupping themselves around the flower center. During your term as President, you will be a cup, filling yourself with knowledge of your club and the skills of each member. The petals of the daffodil may represent our motto: **PATRIOTISM, EFFICIENCY, SERVICE** and perhaps the Past, Present and Future. You, in your position as President, represent much

of the past and the present. Now, you will be looking to the future. You are the Chief elected leader of Altrusa International of (Name of Club). Be unique. Be nourished by the diversity and strength of your officers and members. Be rich in your thoughts and enriched by the joys of your office. You have been elected President and that is the greatest honor your Club could award you.

Officers of Altrusa International of (Name of Club), have you familiarized yourselves with the responsibilities of your office? If so, please answer, "I have."

Do you accept the responsibilities of your office? Please answer, "I do."

I now declare you installed officers of Altrusa International of (Name of Club).

Will the Past President please pin the President and present her with the gavel?

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Governor-Elect District Three 2001-2003