

## *Installation of Officers*

### **Retiring President:**

“ \_\_\_\_\_, as president-elect, you have been selected by your fellow members to be the leader of our region for the coming year. You are therefore responsible for guiding our region in all its worthy undertakings. May you work intelligently and seriously to fulfill the responsibilities of your office.”

### **Retiring Vice-President:**

“ \_\_\_\_\_, as vice-president-elect, your record of accomplishment indicates you have those qualities of leadership which we should all possess. You are to assist the president in directing the work of our region, preside over meetings in his/her absence and keep all committees working effectively.”

### **Retiring Secretary:**

“ \_\_\_\_\_, as secretary-elect, you have been chosen to keep accurate minutes of our meetings and to carry on the regional correspondence. You should provide the region with the order of business and committee assignments for each meeting. You will also keep a list of members, a record of degrees awarded, and have custody of the constitution and bylaws.”

### **Retiring Treasurer:**

“ \_\_\_\_\_, as treasurer-elect, you have been placed in a position of trust. Your duties require you to keep an accurate record of receipts and disbursements, and to provide regular financial reports. It is also your responsibility to assist in developing the regional budget and maintaining sound financial practices.”

### **Retiring Reporter:**

“ \_\_\_\_\_, as reporter-elect, your duty is to inform the public about the FFA. You are expected to work closely with the news media, including state and national FFA publications. You should keep a record of photographs and articles published concerning the FFA and its members, and be responsible for compiling our FFA history.”

### **Retiring Sentinel:**

“ \_\_\_\_\_, as sentinel-elect, your duties include welcoming our friends, caring for the meeting rooms and FFA equipment, and providing for the comfort of our members and guests. It is also your duty to assist in conducting meetings and ceremonies.”

**Retiring President:**

"It is an honor to be an officer in the FFA. From time to time during the year, you may encounter difficult problems, but through cooperation, hard work and dedication, you will succeed and the FFA will prosper. Do each of you accept the responsibilities of your office and will you do your best to uphold the ideals and principles of the FFA? If so, answer 'We do'."

**Newly Elected Officers:**

"We do."

**Retiring President:**

"I now declare each of you properly and duly installed in the respective office to which you were elected. May your year of service be marked by integrity, dedication, and a cooperative spirit. Seek harmony among your fellow officers and set high standards of leadership for all chapter members. Retiring officers, will you please escort the newly installed officers to their stations?"

## REGIONAL FFA AWARD CEREMONY

This ceremony is to be used by the Regional Organization of FFA who wish to recognize the unusual ability of members of local chapters who have met qualifications of the Regional FFA Award.

(Regular Opening Ceremonies must precede the presentation of this FFA award.)

**President:** At this time we will proceed with the raising of Chapter Degree members to the Regional FFA Award level. Madam Secretary, what have you to report concerning candidates eligible for this award?

**Secretary:** Madam President, I have here the names of \_\_\_\_ FFA members who have been selected by their chapters as qualified candidates for this award.

**President:** Our constitution sets up minimum qualifications, which must be met before candidates are eligible for this award with the honors and privileges. Madam Secretary, will you read the qualifications of the Regional FFA Award?

(Secretary reads qualifications found in the constitution)

**President:** Madam Advisor, have you carefully examined and reviewed the records of these candidates and satisfied yourself as to their eligibility?

**Advisor:** I have, Madam President, and have found all candidates eligible for election.

**President:** FFA members, you have heard evidence that all candidates present are qualified to receive the Regional FFA Award. The Chair is now ready to entertain a motion to this effect: that they be elected to the Regional FFA Award.

(Motion is made, seconded, and voted upon. President announces whether the vote is carried or lost.)

**President:** Will my fellow Regional Officers please take their places beside me, and will the newly elected Regional Award winners please stand. (Regional Candidates stand)

**Reporter:** It is a great honor to be nominated for the Regional FFA Award. It is still a greater honor to be elected to this award by your fellow members of Region II, of the Michigan Association of FFA.

**Treasurer:** When you became Greenhands and later received the Chapter FFA Degree, your charge was to strive for a higher goal. You are still urged to go on higher in our organization by your fellow members who have elected you to this award. They are behind you, and it is your responsibility to justify their belief in you.

**Vice-President:** With your acceptance of this award you accept new responsibilities, too. Just as a man who steps up from a common laborer through positions with added responsibility to the presidency of a large business, so you are accepting new and added challenges to be of greater service to your chosen field, that of scientific agriculture. Help by using your knowledge gained in classes in agricultural education, to keep your region among the leading regions of agriculture in the nation.

**Advisor:** You are entering into a world of growing complexity. The operation of its machinery is a complicated process when taken as a whole. When viewed in small units it is relatively simple. It is this view the operator must get before trying to visualize how all the units work together. You men and women are going to be the future operators of this vast machinery necessary to produce and distribute the world's supply of food. How well you operate depends not on your individual intelligence, but your complete cooperation as a group. Through the FFA, you have learned to cooperate as a group, as well as to appreciate the value of a wise division of labor and responsibility. Find your place, work hard together, and yours will be a satisfying success.

**President:** It gives me a great deal of pleasure to present each of you with the certification of the Regional FFA Award. To you it should be more than a certificate. It should not only remind you of the worthwhile things you have done, but of the possibilities which lie in the future. May it inspire you to loftier ideals and give to you an undying enthusiasm for the future.

(The secretary reads the names of the candidates, in alphabetical order, within chapters. The Regional Sentinel escorts the line of candidates past the podium so the Regional President may present each award. The Regional Vice-President should hold on to the award certificates and supply the correct award to the president for each candidate. Other officers should assist the President in congratulating each candidate.)

## VESPERS/FLAG RAISING

### FLAG

- Betsy Ross - June 1776, General George Washington, Robert Morris and George Ross went to see Betsy Ross to ask her about making a six-pointed star flag. After some compromising they decided to go with Betsy's idea of a 5 pointed star instead of 6 pointed. On June 14, 1777 congress adopted the newly sewn emblem. Thanks to Betsy Ross June 14th is now celebrated as flag day.
- The Crimson Red - The crimson red represents sacrifice, courage, bloodshed, and valor from Lexington Green to DaNang. Immediate self-satisfaction did not spur them on to shed blood or lay down their hard-earned treasury but rather the hope of a good life for their children.
- White - The white in old glory represents the purity of our beliefs about our country and democracy. Democracy is pure in the greatest sense. Most governments dictate in some way. Democracy allows each individual an opportunity to take a stand. The next time you see white stripes, remember purity.
- Blue - Blue represents quality and stamina. Just like we are quality officers, the blue of our flag symbolizes our quality nation, built on honor and trust. Made in the U.S.A. stands for quality. Our nation has gone through tremendous changes. Even when our nation has been divided, the flag represents our common bond. The blue in our flag will always represent a great nation built on quality and stamina.
- Stars - Stars in the field of blue. Have you ever been out star gazing? To me it's like a world apart from all others. Being so independent, but yet so close. This is how the stars on our flag are. They stand for so many different states on a field of blue, which represents respect. Bringing us close as a nation but different as independent beings. So fellow state officers lets grab onto our star and wish to be the best we can be, but also be like the blue and keep together as a team for support. Together everyone achieves more.
- The Eagle - The eagle is our national bird and symbolizes our power. The eagle is a great provided for itself, just as we provide for ourselves. The eagle has powerful eyes to know where he is traveling, just as we have powerful eyes to see our goals. The eagle flies high, just as we do to fulfill our ambitions.

## Flag (con't)

### Constitution -

The American constitution is the greatest document in the history of the United States. Written for the purpose of all men being created equal, the constitution has served as a beacon of hope for over 200 years of American progress. The constitution with its accompanying Bill of Rights and other amendments continues to lead the way for all democratic documents and governments by providing a shining example for all to follow.

In colonial times, the Constitution was the binding force for the 13 individual states to become one nation. During the 1860's, the bloodiest war fought on American soil was fought over the conflict of whether or not the union could be dissolved. Since then, two world wars and numerous other conflicts have been fought over the democratic doctrines set forth in the Constitution.

We are Americans. We live for, because of, and by the Constitution. From the times in the late 18th century when our rebellious forefathers created the constitution to today, when lawmakers hash out additions to and interpret the Constitution, the United States Constitution has protected the rights and freedoms of all American citizens.

Star Spangled Banner - The Star Spangled Banner, originally written as a poem has given us another way to express our patriotism. The flag can represent endurance. The flag has the ability to represent our country at all times and can be seen in many ways.

Francis Scott Key could see the flag in several settings and appreciate dawn's early light, at the twilight's last gleaming, through the rockets' red glare the bombs bursting in air, we see through the night that the flag was still there.

### Patriotic -

Is it a sin to be patriotic any more? Have you forgotten what I stand for? Have you forgotten all the battlefields where men fought and died to keep your nation free? When you salute me, you are actually saluting them, you know. Take a look at the memorial honor rolls some time. Look at the names of those who never came back. Some of them were friends or relatives of yours. That's what you are saluting. !! Not Me!!