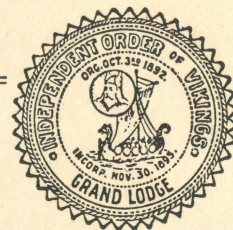




RITUAL

Independent Order of Vikings

RITUAL
and
Order of Business



FOR THE
Independent Order
of Vikings 1947



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Order of Business

Use of the Gavel Indicated thus = ●

One rap calls the Lodge to order or seats it, if standing. Two raps call up the officers. Three raps call up the entire body.

Order No. 1. Opening of the Lodge.

Chief: The meeting will come to order. Officers, take your respective stations and see that the doors are closed and properly guarded.

(When attended to, the Chief proceeds with—)

CEREMONY

Chief: ● The hour for opening this meeting is now at hand. No one who has not passed the requirements for Vikings, or is not in possession of the current quarterly password is permitted to remain. The Vice Chief, you will satisfy yourself that our guards possess knowledge of the signals, signs and passwords of our Order, and instruct them to not admit strangers or improper persons to the ante-room or Lodge hall during the deliberations. The

Herald will ascertain that all present are in possession of the current password.

(The Vice Chief takes up both passwords from the inner and outer guards, and furnishes them with such instructions as they may be in need of to properly perform their respective duties, whereupon he (she) returns to his (her) station, ready to report.

The Herald advances and gives the password to the Chief, after which he (she) circles the room, obtaining from each person, who must rise, the current password.

Should any member be without such password, the Herald will direct him or her to the Chief, if not a member he (she) will request him or her to leave the room. If a visiting member is present, Herald announces this to the Chief with name of Lodge.

Before communicating the password to a member, the Chief must, in every case, inquire of the financial secretary whether the member is in good standing, or member must show receipt book or card.

The Herald, after having satisfied himself (herself) that every one in the room is entitled to remain, returns to his (her) station, ready to report.)

Whenever a substitute officer is appointed for the evening he (she) should be instructed in his (her) duties by the Chief.

The duty of the Herald is to collect from the members in the lodge hall the quarterly password prior to opening; to see that the officers are clothed in proper regalia; to see that the proper

salutation signs are used; and to see that the members strictly observe all rules of decorum.)

Vice Chief: Chief! Our guards have been examined and found to possess the required qualifications for a proper performance of their respective duties.

Herald: Chief! All present possess the password for the current quarter.

Chief: ● ● ● We may then, undisturbed, begin our deliberations. Permit me to remind you of the responsibility that rests upon each and every one of us in the solution of all problems that may come before us, and for the correctness and righteousness of which solutions we entertain great hopes. And we, who have been entrusted with the making and keeping of the records of this Lodge; to guard its treasures; to preserve order and decorum, and prevent the entry of improper persons, should always remember that on a punctual performance of our obligations connected with the positions of trust accorded to us, depends in a great measure the future success of this Lodge. Let us, therefore, do our best, always remembering that reward for our deeds will follow.

Let us join in singing the opening ode.

Ye children of Northland, who westward
set sail,

Ye Vikings, to all a hearty greeting!
May also in Vinland our virtues prevail
And stronger grow each time that we
are meeting!
To fight, we are pledged, for the good and
the true,

If broken we see the laws eternal.
We meet here as comrades our troth to
renew,
And add new links to friendship's chain
supernal!

Chief: Inner guard, notify our outer
guard that the Lodge is open, and is ready
to admit waiting members.

(After this order no one must be admitted
until after the reading of the minutes.)

Order No. 2. Roll call of Officers.

The secretary will here call each official station, together with the name of the regular officer. The Herald will rise and respond: "present" or "absent" as the case may be. If absent he (she) will say: "Station filled by," giving the name.

Order No. 3. Reading of the minutes.

Chief: Brothers (and sisters), give care-

ful attention to the reading of the minutes
of the last meeting. Secretary, proceed.

(Secretary reads.)

Chief: If there are no corrections to
be made, the minutes will stand approved
as read.

Order No. 4. Reports from Investigating Committees.

Chief: Committees of investigation on
candidates for membership will please give
their reports.

Order No. 5. Balloting on applications.

Chief: Herald, prepare the ballot.
Brothers (and) (sisters), we are about to
ballot upon the application of
(giving full names of the applicants) for
membership in this Lodge. White balls
elect, black balls reject. Be careful how
you vote.

(The Herald will exhibit the ballot box to the
Chief and Vice Chief who will examine the same
and see that it is entirely empty, after which he
(she) will proceed to the altar and place the box
upon it. He (she) will then station himself (her-
self) to the left, about four feet from the altar.)

Chief: All desiring to vote may do so
now, beginning to my right.

(All members who wish may proceed to the altar and cast their votes. The Herald will see that they remain at least three feet apart, that the ballot may be absolutely secret. After it is apparent that all have voted who wish, the Chief will ask):

Chief: Have all voted who desire? If so, I declare the ballot closed. ●

(The Herald then takes the ballot box and exhibits it to the Vice Chief, who will rise, open the box and inspect it, close it and resume his (her) seat. The Herald will then exhibit the ballot box to the Chief who will in a like manner inspect it.)

Chief: Vice Chief, how do you find the ballot?

Vice Chief: I find it clear (or if not) I find it unfavorable.

Chief: I likewise find it clear (or unfavorable) and declare elected (or rejected) for membership in this Lodge.

(Ballot is taken on all applicants together, but in case ballot is not clear the Chief must declare the ballot illegal and order a new ballot on each applicant separately. In no case must the Chief or Vice Chief disclose the number of black balls cast.)

Order No. 6. Initiation.

Order No. 7. Presentation of applications.

Chief: Secretary, are there any applications for membership?

(Brother Secretary, read them, if any.)

Chief: Have the necessary fees accompanied them?

Secretary: They have.

Chief: Have these applicants , or any of them, made similar applications to this, or any other lodge before?

Secretary: He (she) has (or they have) not. (If they have, read the statement relating thereto.)

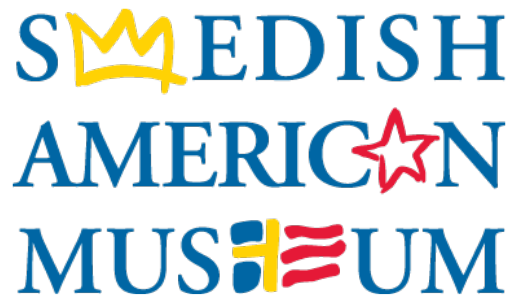
(The Chief and Vice Chief then appoint an investigation committee of three members of the Lodge to investigate as to the qualifications of the candidates. As many committees as expedient may be appointed.)

Order No. 8. Reports of Committees on Sick or Distressed, and other committees.

Chief: (a) Is any brother (sister) known to be sick or in distress?

(b) Has any standing committee any report to make?

(c) Has any special committee any report to make?



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