

H O N O R A R Y M E M B E R C A N D I D A T E

(Sponsor, Director, or Chapter Honorary Member)

A candidate for Honorary Membership is an outstanding woman of your community chosen because her ideals and interests are in accord with the ideals and purposes of Beta Sigma Phi. Usually, she is a person who has exemplified these ideals through her many unselfish gifts of time, effort, and talent for the betterment of humanity in one or more of many avenues of service.

An Honorary Member of a chapter may serve as a Sponsor, a Director, or she may be a Chapter Honorary Member without any specific duties. Chapters, prior to extending an invitation to any woman for Honorary Membership, usually invite her to be a guest at some chapter affair (it might be a regular meeting or a social) to give the members an opportunity to meet her and become personally acquainted with her. It also gives her an opportunity to meet your members and to learn something about Beta Sigma Phi's ideals and purposes. Usually, chapters like such an opportunity to get acquainted a bit before they even mention any possibility of the person serving as a Sponsor or a Director. After members have come to know her and decided that they wish to extend her an invitation to Honorary Membership, they can proceed.

For a detailed explanation about a Sponsor, a Director, or Chapter Honorary Member, we refer you to the chapter manual in the Book of Beta Sigma Phi, Article IV, Section 12, under "Appointive Positions." As you will see, this explains they are appointed to serve for a period of one year only, but may be reappointed so long as it is mutually agreeable to both the Honorary Member and the chapter. Honorary Members are not required to be present at chapter business meetings since they have no obligation, no voice, and no vote in such meetings.

In the event you decide to honor some eminent personality in your community with an invitation to Honorary Membership in your chapter, she should be given the Pledge Ritual and the pledge pin during that ceremony. Then, immediately afterwards, you would read the special installation ceremony, which you will find on the last two pages of the Installation of Appointive Positions in your Ritual Book. Six months later, she should be given the Ritual of Jewels Degree, at which time her pledge pin is exchanged for a Ritual of Jewels badge.

An Honorary Member is never asked to take the regular pledge training because we know that a woman qualified to serve in this important position, and interested enough to accept an invitation of her own volition, would fully acquaint herself during the first six months with the aims and ideals of Beta Sigma Phi. That is why we suggest that the Ritual of Jewels be given to her at the end of the six months, because it allows time for her to get a clearer and more complete understanding of Beta Sigma Phi, and naturally, then, the beautiful Ritual of Jewels ceremony will have greater significance for her.

You will want to request her pledge pin at least three weeks before the date of the Rituals so the supplies will reach you in time. At the same time, be sure to include her complete name and address, and tell us whether she is to serve as a Sponsor, Director, or Chapter Honorary Member.

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