
Beta Sigma Phi

DIAMOND CIRCLE RITUAL

Instructions: *The Ritual Table is set with a white cloth. A large white pillar candle is placed in the center, with the Ritual colored candles arranged in order in a semi-circle across the table, back of the pillar candle (may use two groups of Ritual colored candles, one on each side or one group with three on one side and three on the other).*

The Ritual should be read by another 60-year member, or by a member specially selected for this honor. May appoint one or two assistants to hold white candles to provide light for the officiant. The room is darkened with only the candles lighted before the recipients enter. Members attending form a circle beginning at one end of the table and ending at the other end. They may be seated or standing. Recipient(s) stand in the center of the circle.

Officiant reads: When you joined Beta Sigma Phi sixty years ago, the world was a different place. It was a slower and kinder world. People, not only your sisters, were able to spend time with you. There was true understanding and true caring. You were very much a part of that world. You are very much a part of the world as it is now.

Yes, you are part of the world as it is. Still you have not forgotten to understand and to care. Beyond doubt, your sisters have supported you in these most important virtues. Over the years, you have grown, not only in goodness, not only in stature, but in those virtues that distinguish a Beta Sigma Phi.

Let us recount those virtues to which you have shown absolute loyalty. The first of those is courage. You have shown it in abundance as you faced the realities and the challenges of this world.

Elected or not, you have been a leader. You have shown the courage to live life to the fullest.

The second is vision. Nothing is possible without it. You must see and understand, if you are to accomplish anything.

The third is humility. With all that you have accomplished over all the years, you are still humble. Humility is required as we grow older. All that you have accomplished could lead to conceit, but humility is the emotion by which we charm the world.

The fourth virtue is loyalty. The combination of courage and vision go together to create loyalty. It is through loyalty that you display both courage and vision. Over your years in Beta Sigma Phi you have displayed loyalty again and again. No other virtue could have led you to remain so many years a member. For this International and your sisters are profoundly grateful.

There is no other virtue that will take the place of fellowship. That its color is green is appropriate. All the world finds green a cool and comfortable color. No other virtue is so readily demonstrated, and so well received. Your sisters have found in you a true example of fellowship. May it be a part of you forever.

The last virtue is service. It does not mean that you serve every cause and find all things worth serving. It means that you are ready and willing to provide service to a cause in which you believe. More than that, it means that you are ready, and have over the years shown that service is a part of your nature.

Please accept the award of The Diamond Circle. You have richly deserved it.