



GAR ALLIED ORDERS
CENTRAL REGION ASSOCIATION

Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky,
Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio, Tennessee
Wisconsin and Wyoming



Established 1940

OPENING CEREMONIES

[The hour for the meeting having arrived, the Commander, or ranking officer will call the conference to order, proceeding as follows.]

COMMANDER:

The officers and members of the _____ annual conference of the GAR Allied Order's Central Region Association will now come to order. Guide, you will ascertain if all present are entitled to remain. Color Bearer, you will assist on the right.

[The Guide and Color Bearer will check credentials and report to Commander.]

COMMANDER:

The Region Secretary will call the roll of the officers of the Central Region Association.

[The roll being called, the Commander fills any vacancies and the Region Secretary report.]

SECRETARY:

Sir (Ma'am), the roll is called.

COMMANDER:

Brothers and sisters, upon what principles are our Orders founded and what duties do we teach and practice?

ALL:

FRATERNITY, CHARITY, AND LOYALTY!

COMMANDER:

Brothers and sisters, we meet again as the GAR Allied Orders' Central Region Association in annual session to review the work of the past and to plan for the future. May our conduct and deliberations be marked by mutual forbearance and fraternal courtesy, ever keeping in mind our duty to our country, to our order and to ourselves. The Region Chaplain will invoke the Divine blessing.

[Three raps *** of the gavel.]

REGION CHAPLAIN:

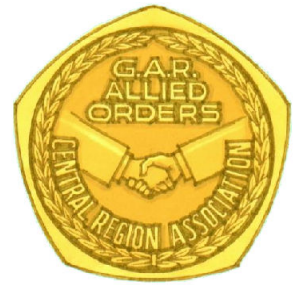
Our heavenly Father, the High and Mighty Ruler of the Universe, who from Thy throne, looks down upon the governments of men, most humbly do we ask Thy favor to bless our native land and to preserve in purity and integrity its free institutions for all coming time. Bless our Orders, grant that they may long exist and that they



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may continue to be instruments in Thy hands of great good to all; give us willing hands and ready hearts properly to carry out the objects of our Orders. Keep green in our minds the memory of those who sacrificed so much that the life of the nation might be preserved and deal with them in all things with Thy special mercy. Give us Thy aid in conducting the business of this regional meeting for which we are assembled and grant that Charity, Justice, Peace and Harmony shall remain and bide with us. Amen.

ALL:

Amen.

COMMANDERS:

Brothers and sisters, we will now give the Pledge of Allegiance. Color Bearer, you will present the colors.

ALL:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and to the republic for which it stands; one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

COMMANDER:

By virtue of the authority vested in me, I hereby declare the _____ annual conference of the GAR Allied Orders' Central Region Association duly opened for the transaction of such business as may legally and properly come before it. The Guard will admit all brothers, sisters and visitors.

[One rap * of the gavel.]

[The Commander proceeds with the Order of Business.]



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ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Opening of Meeting
2. Roll Call of Officers
3. Roll Call of Members
4. Approval of Minutes
5. Appointment of Committees:
 - a) Nominations
 - b) Resolutions
 - c) Officers' Reports
6. Reports of Officers
7. Reception and reference of communications
(All communications shall be submitted in writing and be referred to the proper committees without debate.)
8. Unfinished Business
9. Reports of Committees
10. New Business
11. Nomination of Officers
12. Election and Installation of Officers
13. Closing Ceremonies

[Note: This order may be transposed except that the election and installation of officers shall not be held until all other work has been completed.]



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OFFICER INSTALLATION CEREMONIES

[The Central Region business meeting having been completed, the conference may designate or the commanding officer appoints a member of the meeting, preferably a past commander, to install the officers; the various stations being filled by retiring officers or detail or as circumstances require. The installing officer will bring the Conference to order and say:]

INSTALLING OFFICER:

Commander, in relieving you of the command of the conference, on behalf of the officers, I convey to you their thanks for the manner in which you have discharged your duties. I trust that in surrendering the command of this Conference, your interests in the welfare of the Region will not cease. Having received the highest honors, which your fellow members can confer upon you, your continuing commitment will point the way for others who still serve our Orders.

[The Commander's Badge is surrendered and the Past Region Commander's badge may be presented at this time to the outgoing commander.]

Please be seated on my left. The Region Secretary will call the roll of officers-elect, who as their names are called, will arise and remain standing. Commander-elect, if you have any appointments to announce at this time, please do so and they will rise as their names are called.

[Thee raps ***]

Brothers and sisters, these are your regularly chosen officers for the ensuing term. If anyone has any valid reason why any of them should not be installed, let him now speak or forever hold their peace.

[One rap *]

Brother (Sister), you will act as Guide and present these officers-elect before the Altar for installation.

[Guide will conduct the candidates as described.]

GUIDE:

Sir (Ma'am), your orders have been obeyed.

INSTALLING OFFICER:

Officers, you have been selected to positions of great honor and trust. With the Commander, you will be responsible for the financial and material prosperity and interests of this Region, and the members of this conference confidently expect that your discharge of the duties and responsibilities devolving upon you will be



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conspicuous for zeal, ability and good works. I trust that you appreciate the great confidence placed in you and that you will remember that upon the manner in which you discharge the duties of your respective offices will depend very largely the success or failure of the administration of your Commander.

Are you willing to be solemnly pledged to the faithful performance of your several duties?

[Each responds, "I am."]

[Three raps ***]

INSTALLING OFFICER:

You will raise your right hand, place your left hand on the Bible and repeat after me, using your name where I do mine:

I, _____, having been regularly chosen as an officer of the GAR Allied Orders' Central Region Association / hereby renew the sacred obligation / given at the time of my initiation, / and in the presence of Almighty God / and the members of this conference here assembled / do furthermore / solemnly and sincerely / promise and declare / that I will to the best of my ability, / in word and deed, / and without fear or favor, / faithfully, / honestly / and impartially / perform all the duties of the office / upon which I am about to enter. / So help me God. [Lower hands.]

Guide, you will conduct the officers to their respective stations, acting officers vacating.

[Guide escorts officers tot their stations.]

GUIDE:

Sir (Ma'am), your orders have been obeyed.

INSTALLING OFFICER:

Guide, you will conduct the Commander-elect to this station.

GUIDE:

Sir (Ma'am), I have the honor to present the Commander-elect of the GAR Allied Orders' Central Region Association.

INSTALLING OFFICER:

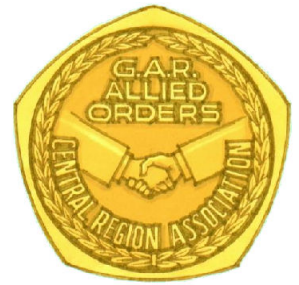
Commander, by the votes of the members of this conference, you have been elected to the highest honor within their gift. Your election to this honorable position is evidence not only of their regard and appreciation of your work and ability as a member of the GAR Allied Orders, but is an assurance that your conduct of the affairs of



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this Region will be characterized by faithful, earnest and conscientious devotion to the responsibilities devolving upon you. Grave trusts and grave cares await you, and to their faithful performance I now most solemnly urge you.

[Three raps ***]

As no work of this nature can be a success without the assistance of the Divine Provider, the Chaplain will ask His assistance and guidance.

CHAPLAIN:

Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, we humbly ask You to send Your blessing unto these assembled for installation. Grant unto them Your wisdom, that they may perform the duties of the office into which they are to be installed, with the knowledge that You are ever watching over them. Keep them in good health that they will not falter on the way. Endow them with Your great mercies that they might be more competent to attend to the many problems that will confront them. Bless their every endeavor in Your name through the mediation of Your Blessed Son Jesus Christ, Our Lord. Amen.

INSTALLING OFFICER:

Commander, your officers are now at their respective stations and I am about to place you in full control. But first, I place in your care the ritual of our Central Region Association. I advise you to study it with care and be prepared to represent and support this Region at all times. Next you will receive this gavel, the emblem of your authority. One rap (*) calls the conference to order and seats the same when standing; two raps (**) calls the officers to their feet; three raps (***) calls up the entire meeting.

[The installing office will exemplify the use of the gavel as he/she instructs.]

And now, by virtue of the authority invested in me, as the Installing Officer of the _____ Central Region Conference, I hereby declare the officers of this Region legally elected, installed and qualified to enter upon the discharge of their several duties for the term ending _____, 20_____, or until their successors are regularly qualified and installed.

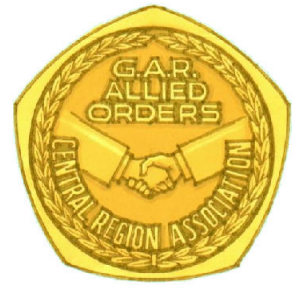
Commander, assume your command. Be true to your vow, faithful to your trust, unflinching in your loyalty and rule with urbanity, impartiality and firmness, and may your administration be successful.

[The Commander may address the conference and complete any remaining business.]



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CLOSING CEREMONIES

Commander:

There being no further business to come before this Region Conference, we'll proceed to close.

[Three raps ***]

You will now give attention while the Chaplain asks God's blessing on our deliberations. Parade rest.

[The Chaplain will approach the Altar and salute.]

Chaplain:

Our Father in Heaven, we pray Thee to deal with the events of this Region Conference as may most be expedient for us. Preserve us in health, strength and integrity while You keep us here, and when our mission on earth has ended, during which time You have kept us mindful of our duties to our God, our Country, its Flag and our endeavors to instill in the hearts of all mankind the ideals of the Grand Army of the Republic, take us to a better world. Amen.

[The Chaplain will slowly close the Bible and return to his/her station.]

Commander:

Attention. Officers and members, we are now about to leave this Region Conference and return to our respective homes. Let us strive to regulate our conduct that the honor and credit of our Order may be fully sustained. In conclusion, permit me to thank you for your attendance and for the assistance you have rendered in conducting the business of the conference.

I now declare the _____ annual conference of the GAR Allied Orders' Central Region Association duly closed until our next meeting.

[One rap *]