



Grand Guardian Council of Oregon

Karie Will, Grand Guardian

It's Election Time!

Dear Daughters,

Election of line officers is a privilege given to Bethel Daughters each term. Elections shall be held at the 2nd meeting in April at a regular Bethel meeting. For Bethels in reorganization there is no election - the Honored Queen and officers are appointed by the Executive Bethel Guardian Council members. So that you understand both processes, I am providing information for both.

Just as a refresher, here are a few reminders regarding election of officers and the importance of your choice for line officers.

- **NO ONE CAN TELL YOU HOW TO VOTE!** Not a daughter, not an adult. This is your ballot, and you choose who you want to serve your Bethel. Your vote counts!
- **CAST YOUR VOTE!** According to Roberts Rules of Order, when you cast a vote for election of officers you have 3 options: 1) Vote for the person you think will do the best job, 2) vote for "No One", which counts as a vote and constitutes a valid ballot (does not change the necessary ballots to majority for an election), or 3) cast a blank ballot, which will reduce the majority required to be elected.
- **THE LINE IS A PROGRESSION!** Unless you have a hole in your line, or serious problems with someone (they don't attend meetings, activities, etc.) then give them the opportunity to proceed. The line officer stations in Job's Daughters were designed to be "progressive"—and each station offers opportunities for learning and growing on the way to being Honored Queen. Allow for mistakes. Be gracious. Think how you'd feel if suddenly you were voted out of the line before you cast that ballot. The original design was that the "baby of the line"—the Marshal—would have two full years to learn before she became Honored Queen. Let's work hard to make sure our line officers have that opportunity to learn. It takes courage to enter the line—and support to make it to Honored Queen.
- **CHOOSE WISELY!** You make a commitment to someone when you elect them—so choose wisely. This isn't about who is "most popular." It's about who has worked hard and grown enough to enter the line. This person will be your Honored Queen someday, so choose them for the work they do today—it's the best predictor of tomorrow!

Attached are instructions for Bethels which will hold elections and for Bethels in reorganization. Please study them and consider them carefully prior to making your selections for Bethel Line Officers. The future of your Bethel depends upon your thoughtful consideration of these important decisions.

Karie Will, Grand Guardian

Bethels in Reorganization NO ELECTION TO BE HELD

Since many Oregon Bethels are in reorganization, it is important to outline the procedure for designating officers for Oregon Bethels, including all Line Officers and all Floor Officers.

According to Supplemental Instruction 18.1:

Section (h)

- [1] A Bethel under reorganization shall not hold election of officers. Should a vacancy occur in a line office, the Executive members of the BGC may appoint a substitute officer. Should a vacancy occur in an appointive office, it may be filled by a member recommended by the Honored Queen and approved by the Executive members of the BGC.
- [2] The Executive BGC of a Bethel under reorganization may appoint all Bethel Officers, including Line Officers, for the ensuing term. All Officers having been appointed shall be installed at a Bethel Installation at the time, date and place prescribed in the Bylaws of that Bethel. If the Honored Queen is serving consecutive terms, she shall be reinstalled by a PHQ of the Bethel or another PHQ.
 - (i) Honored Queens appointed by the Executive members of the BGC shall be eligible for a PHQ's jewel as outlined in B-Bethel, Art. VIII provided they have served for at least six (6) months.

It is important to note that although elections are not held in Bethels in reorganization this does not mean the Daughters should have no say in the upcoming term's officers or activities. The Bethel Guardian should prepare a list of Daughters who have passed their proficiency and have attended all Bethel meetings during the current term. She should provide some way for the Daughters to give their input on what office they would like to hold, what Bethel committees on which they would like to serve and to provide feedback for what activities they would like the Bethel to support in the coming term.

The Bethel Guardian should then take this information to the Executive Bethel Guardian Council for their consideration and decision. I would recommend that once the EBGC has selected a Daughter to serve as Honored Queen for the upcoming term that she be invited to assist in the appointment of other Bethel officers, specifically the appointment of floor officers and Bethel Committees. This is one of the responsibilities and learning opportunities faced by all Honored Queens. Please don't deny her this chance to build an effective team.

Please be certain to think of the good of the Bethel in the appointment of all Bethel officers. Daughters need the opportunity to explore new challenges, learn new skills and prove their potential. If you have further questions about this, please contact Karie Will, Grand Guardian or Diane Gay, Chair of the Jurisprudence Committee. Thank you.

Bethels Not in Reorganization

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

According to Supplemental Instruction 11, Uniform Code for Bethels, election of officers shall follow the procedure listed below. This information is also to be read to the Daughters of the Bethel, as outlined in a script attached.

ARTICLE VI

ELECTION/APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS

Section 1. Eligibility for Election

- (a) To be eligible for election to any elective office, a Daughter shall have satisfactorily passed the Proficiency Test, current edition of the Ritual, and except in case of a new Bethel, she must have been a member of the Bethel and in regular attendance during the entire term in which the election is held.
- (b) Regular attendance shall be interpreted to mean present at all regular meetings of the Bethel unless excused by the Executive members of the BGC for good and sufficient reasons.

Section 2. Election

- (a) Election of officers shall be held at the second meeting in the months of May (*in Oregon we elected at the 2nd meeting in April*) and November.
- (b) The election shall be by ballot without nomination. A majority vote shall elect.
- (c) The method of balloting shall be:
 - (1) secret ballot
 - (2) viva voce
- (d) Detailed procedure to be followed in conducting the election shall be determined by the Executive members of the BGC.
- (e) Election shall be from members present, except in case of sickness or other unavoidable absence. The Executive members of the BGC present shall decide upon and announce the eligibility of the absentee.
- (f) All members shall be entitled to vote until the end of the term even though they become twenty (20) years of age during the term.
- (g) By special dispensation given by the Supreme/Grand Guardian, the Bethel may elect officers at a time other than that prescribed in Sec. 1(a) of this Article. Requests for Special Dispensations from Bethels under Supreme shall be submitted on Form 200 and sent to their Supreme Deputy.

Section 3. Appointment

- (a) Appointive officers shall be appointed by the Honored Queen-elect, with the approval of the Executive members of the BGC.

The Bethel Guardian should prepare a list of Daughters who are eligible for election based on this criteria noted above. She should confirm this list with the Guardian Secretary who has the records of Bethel members who are proficient and can research the attendance of members. Remember that if a Daughter is absent from a meeting, she may still be eligible for election if she has been excused by a vote of the Executive members of the Bethel Guardian Council for good and sufficient reason.

Following is a script to be used by Bethels which are entitled to hold Election of Officers.

Election of Officers 2018-2019

(Items in **BOLD** to be read by Honored Queen)

We will now have election of Officers.

- (a) Election of officers shall be held at the second meeting in the months of April and November.
- (b) The election shall be by ballot without nomination. A majority vote shall elect.
- (c) The method of balloting shall be:
 - (1) secret ballot
 - (2) viva voce
- (d) If Bethels so desire, when there is but one (1) member aspiring to an office, the rule requiring the election to be by ballot may be suspended, and the election to be by viva voce vote. The Honored Queen, Senior Princess, Junior Princess and Guide may be elected by viva voce vote. The Marshal shall be elected by secret ballot without nomination. A majority of the members present and voting shall elect.

There are only two requirements to be eligible for election to the office of Marshal. A daughter must have passed the proficiency test (*Ritual pages 143-147*), and except in the case of new Bethels, she must have been a member of the Bethel and in regular attendance during the entire term in which the election is held. Regular attendance shall be interpreted as present at all meetings of the Bethel, unless excused by the Executive Members of the Bethel Guardian Council for good and sufficient reasons (*See Supreme C-Bethel II, Article VI, Section 1(a) and (b)*).

Voting for elective offices is done by secret ballot or by viva voce vote. **NO electioneering or campaigning is allowed. A girl may be disqualified if she or someone else campaigns for her.** "Electioneering" is defined as saying or implying that a daughter should vote for a specific person or should not vote for a specific person for any elective office. This applies to both daughters AND adults. If you believe this has occurred in your Bethel, please speak with the Bethel Guardian.

When you vote for a Marshal, keep in mind that in two years, she will likely be your next Honored Queen and will be a leader in your Bethel. She should be a girl who will work for the good of the Bethel, keeping in mind the high principles and ideals of Job's Daughters. She should be neat, friendly and a credit to the organization. It is preferable that once in the line, a daughter progresses in the normal order, unless she violates the obligation or bylaws or fails to support the Bethel and do her job to the best of her ability.

If election is desired by viva voce vote, a motion is required to suspend the rule of secret ballot and vote viva voce for Honored Queen, Sr. Princess, Jr. Princess and Guide. Marshal shall be elected by secret ballot without nomination. I would entertain a motion at this time. (*If no motion is offered, please continue*).

Members will now number off. (*Members rise when they say their number. HQ is 1, SP is 2. then backwards to confirm, and members sit down.*)

There are _____ members entitled to vote. A majority of votes cast for each office is necessary for election. Blanks are not counted as votes, however, there is no rule against casting a blank ballot or not voting if a member so desires.

Bethel Guardian, you will read an alphabetical list of the daughters who have qualified for elective office. (BG reads list).

Any daughter not desiring to hold an elective office may stand and withdraw her name from consideration at this time. If a daughter is elected to a position she does not wish to hold, she always has the right to decline that position and still be eligible for election to other offices.

Appoint tellers prior to the meeting. PHQ's, members who are not eligible for election or Majority Members of the Bethel may be appointed as tellers if there are not enough daughters present:

_____ and _____ **will you please report to the Secretary's desk and assist the Bethel Recorder as tellers?** *(if you do not have a Recorder, please select a third teller).*

The custodians (or tellers, if you don't have Custodians) will pass out the ballots and return to their stations. *(Wait until they return to stations to continue.)*

Are there any questions before we begin?

IF BY VIVA VOCE VOTE:

This term of office is drawing to a close and the station of Honored Queen (Sr. Princess, Jr. Princess, Guide) will soon be vacant. The Senior Princess (Jr. Princess, Guide, Marshal) is eligible. Are there others? *(pause, look around and see if anyone else indicates they are eligible)*

If not, all those in favor of electing the Senior Princess to the office of Honored Queen will vote by the voting sign of the order.

All opposed same sign.

_____ **has been elected to the office of Honored Queen.**
(Sr. Princess, Jr. Princess, Guide) Do you accept?

_____ **is your Honored Queen-elect.** *(Sr. Princess-elect, Jr. Princess-elect, Guide-elect)*

(Use the same text for additional offices as needed: Jr. Princess to Sr. Princess, Guide to Jr. Princess, Marshal to Guide)

IF BY SECRET BALLOT

No ballot is to be cast until balloting is declared open. Write the full name of the person you wish to vote for legibly. Cast only one vote per ballot. Ballots are to be folded only once. Please only write names of eligible candidates. If you do not wish to vote for an eligible candidate, please leave your ballot blank—otherwise, the ballot may be disqualified.

You will now cast your ballot for the office of Honored Queen (Sr. Princess, Jr. Princess, Guide, Marshal). . . . VOTING. . .

The custodians will collect the ballots. (Custodians collect ballots and take them to the Recorder's Desk).

Have all ballots been cast? If so, I declare the ballot closed.

Tellers, you may count the ballots.

. . . TALLYING . . .

(Read the Tally Sheet as follows. See attached Tally sheet, and have available for Tellers).

Number of ballots cast: _____

Number of blanks: _____

Number of votes cast: _____

Necessary for Election: _____

Read each Daughter's name & the number of votes she received

(If needed) **** There is no majority, we will vote again... ****

If majority is reached

By your vote, you have elected _____ as Honored Queen.
(Sr. Princess, Jr. Princess, Guide, Marshal) **Do you accept?**

_____ **is your new Honored Queen-elect.** (Sr. Princess-elect, Jr. Princess-elect, Guide-elect, Marshal-elect)

After all offices have been elected

I will now entertain a motion to destroy the ballots. (Proceed with a routine motion.)

This completes election of officers. (1 rap)

TELLER DUTIES

(Please give to the tellers in advance of Elections so they may understand their duties)

Three (3) members of the Bethel will serve during elections as tellers. Two (2) will collect the ballots when directed to do so by the Honored Queen and return them to the Tellers table. When the Honored Queen says "Tellers, you will count the ballots",

1. The first teller will open each ballot, one at a time, look at it and pass it to the second teller, without saying anything.
2. The second teller will read the name aloud without saying anything else.
3. The third teller will write the name (the first time read) and repeat the name and number of vote this is (example: Susie - one) as she strokes tallies on the Teller's report by each Daughter's name. When any one Daughter reaches 5, 10, 15, etc. the third teller will repeat the name and vote number as "Susie - tally".
4. When all votes have been counted, the third teller will complete the Teller's report by writing the number of stroke tallies beside each Daughter's name. She will show the report to the other two Teller's to make sure there are no mistakes, then take the Teller's report to the Honored Queen and return to her seat at the Tellers table. The Honored Queen will read the report.

If **ANY** teller has a question about any ballot received (can't be read, etc.) she should ask the Bethel Guardian / Associate Bethel Guardian or other Executive BGC member who is observing the counting about the eligibility of the ballot. The tellers do not decide among themselves about the eligibility of any ballot.

Teller's Report

Number of ballots cast: _____

Number of blanks: _____

Number of votes cast: _____

Necessary for Election: _____

Daughters Name	Tally	Total Count
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

(If needed) **** There is no majority, we will vote again...****

If majority is reached

By your vote, you have elected _____ as _____.

Do you accept?

_____ is your new _____-elect.