



The Importance of the Mason Jar



Have you ever thought why someone invented the Mason jar? Women for over one hundred years have preserved their seasonal fruits and vegetables in the many sizes, shapes, and colors of the Mason jar. But what's even more significant than preservation are all the other wonderful uses for these amazing jars. If you look on Pinterest, there are thousands of creative and profound uses for these marvelous jars. For example, they can be used as centerpieces for a table at a country wedding, a lovely candle, a glass to drink lemonade or sweet tea, a piece of art, or a holder of wondrous treasures!

Just like these jars, the officers of a chapter are amazing in their own individuality and talents. Each is unique in her own way. The many duties and responsibilities they perform, using their skills and talents as well as their imaginations in order to create a wonderful mixture of a truly successful chapter.

(The Sergeant at Arms/or a sister will bring each officer forward.)

Chaplain:

_____ As chaplain it is your responsibility to set the tone of your chapter by giving a brief thought, poem or prayer to begin the chapter meeting. You must be sensitive to the needs of your chapter sisters offering encouragement and support. You will be a part of initiation ceremonies and perform memorial services for any Omega sisters. Because of your kind and inspirational heart, you receive this miniature jar as a reminder that many times your sisters may come to you empty, needing kindness or a friend. You may be the one who fills that emptiness.

Sergeant At Arms:

_____ As the Sergeant At Arms your duties will be to keep the meeting going smoothly by closing doors to signal the start of your meeting, meet and greet sisters as they arrive, assist guest speakers, distribute materials, agendas, or other important handouts, and any other duty your chapter president may ask of you. You receive this miniature jar to remind you of your dedication to the needs of the chapter. Like the jar, if the seal is broken, the food spoils, but if

the seal is good, the food is preserved and tastes delicious. You help fulfill the needs of your chapter.

Historian:

_____ As Historian, you are the preserver of the past and the present for your chapter. You will collect publicity and pictures which represent the activities of the chapter. You can create a scrapbook or digital archive to bring to state convention. You are responsible for writing a short history of your chapter's biennium. You will need to send pictures to both the district and state historians so they also will have a pictorial history of your chapter. Mason jars are wonderful tools to use in preserving fruits, vegetables, and even peanuts! In the winter, these foods taste wonderful. You receive this miniature jar to remind you that you are the preserver of the past, just like the jar is the preserver of food.

Secretary:

_____ As secretary, you are a collector of knowledge. You will take accurate minutes of all of the business of your chapter. You will record all actions taken, motions accepted and defeated, and share these with your chapter to check for corrections and remind the chapter of decisions decided upon by the chapter. You may read correspondences to the chapter. You may also help complete forms to send to International or state. Jars are so versatile. You can use them in so many ways and they come in many shapes, sizes, and now colors! You receive this miniature jar to remind you that you are a versatile and important member of the leadership team.

Treasurer:

_____ As treasurer, you are the collector of the monies needed to sustain the chapter. You will receive dues, ways and means money, and scholarship funds. You shall keep accurate records which will be shared with the chapter, state, International and the IRS. You shall also prepare the chapter budget for the biennium and have it approved by the chapter. You shall also have monthly financial reports to give to the chapter in order to keep them informed of disbursements and money received by the chapter. When my children were small, they collected seashells, lightning bugs, and rocks and we kept them in jars. You

receive this miniature jar to remind you that you collect the treasures of the chapter just like the Mason jar may collect the treasures of a child.

Vice President for Membership:

_____As Vice President of Membership it is your duty to assist the members of your chapter in their membership endeavors. You encourage the members to bring outstanding female educators to meetings and help prepare them by providing information about the purposes of our organization. You are also responsible for seeing that the appropriate forms are completed and sent to International, the State Treasurer, the state Vice President of Membership and the State President. When a jar is used numerous times, it sometimes may become cracked or may have to be replaced for some reason. But, the seals must always be replaced for each use to insure no harmful bacteria comes into the jar and ruins the contents. You are given this miniature jar to remind you that the future of your chapter lies in new membership.

President Elect:

_____As President Elect of your chapter it is your duty to assist your chapter president and preside in her absence. You may chair the program committee to provide interesting and creative programs which will inspire your members to attend meetings. The wonderful thing about a jar is you can use it in so many creative ways like a flower vase, a drinking cup, or a piece of art. You receive this miniature jar to remind you of all of the creative ways you will use your abilities as you lead your chapter.

Immediate Past President:

_____As Immediate Past President, your role is one of advisory and mentoring. Your experience will be extremely important to your chapter president in guiding her in her role as leader of the chapter. Also, you may have to fulfill her role as president if by some unforeseen reason she is unable to perform her duties. Like the jar, you are recyclable. You may be used for other leadership purposes like offering for a district or even a state office. Receive this miniature jar as a reminder of your recyclability.

Does each of you accept the duties of your office? If so say "I do." Raise your right hand and repeat after me: "I do solemnly vow to perform the duties of my office."

President:

_____As president of the chapter you have been given the highest honor. You will lead and motivate your chapter during chapter meetings, altruistic projects, and ways and means promotions. You will appoint committees and preside over both chapter and committee meetings. You and these executive board officers will lead this chapter in many wonderful ways. Jars throughout history have held artifacts and precious treasures. They have been used as candles which light the way—you as president light the way for your chapter. Receive this miniature jar as a reminder of all the wonderful ways one can use a Mason jar—all of those attributes, reflect in you. Do you pledge to fulfill your duties as president of _____chapter? If so say "I do."

Will all the members please stand. Will you pledge to support these officers? If so, say "We will." You may be seated.

It gives me great pleasure to present to you your 2018-20 _____chapter officers. Congratulations.