- D. After the salute, Flag Bearer turns right and, followed by Assistants, marches to a position short of the right side of hall near the Chaplain's station, turns left and marches to the Master's station, where the Master steps forward, salutes, receives the Flag from Flag Bearer and places it in its standard.
- E. Flag Bearer then retires to his station, the Assistants march opposite their stations, turn left and march directly to their stations.

FLAG RETIREMENT

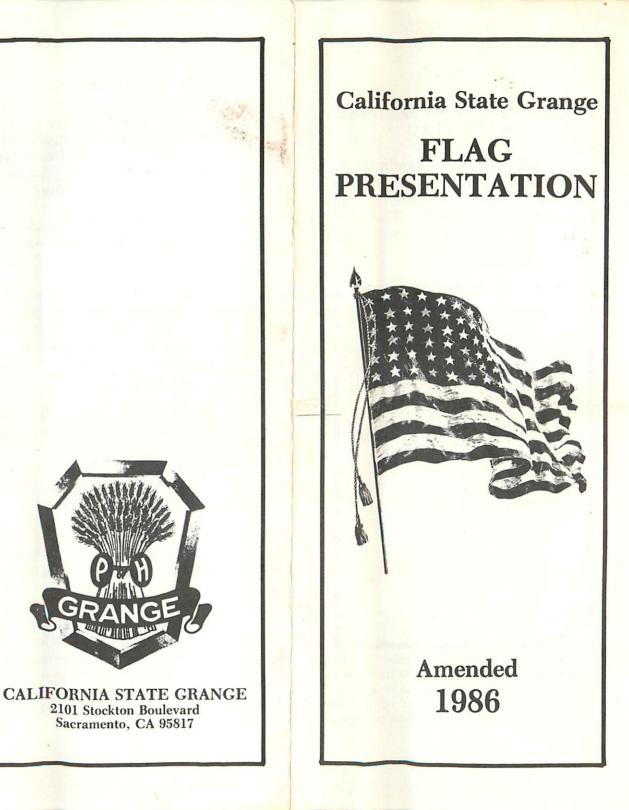
Α.

After the Grange Salutation and at the first note of the March, the Assistants step forward in the same manner as in the beginning of the presentation. They march to a position near the station of the Master. The presiding Grace or the Flag Bearer, upon the first note of the March, proceeds to a point in front of the Flag. The Master takes the Flag from its standard and presents it to the Flag Bearer. The Assistant Steward and the Lady Assistant Steward march abreast two paces behind the Flag Bearer to a position in front of the Treasurer and Secretary's station. Flag Bearer turns, marches toward the Steward, who

will be in a position at the left of the Overseer to receive the Flag.

At a point directly in front of B. the Steward, they all pause. The Steward salutes, accepts the Flag from the Flag Bearer. As the Steward furls the Flag (Blue Field out of sight) the Flag Bearer faces left, the Lady Assistant Steward passes to a position in front of the Flag Bearer with the Flag Bearer falling in file behind the Lady Assistant Steward, the Assistant Steward following. They proceed to a position beyond the Overseer, then all face left and abreast, they all three march to a position in front of the Master. They all turn left, the Lady Assistant Steward passing in front of the Flag Bearer. The Flag Bearer retires to his station, the Assistants march opposite their stations, turn left and march directly to their stations.

You will note that in retiring the Flag, when the Presiding Grace (or the Flag Bearer) has the flag in their possession, the Flag must always, at all times, precede both the Assistant Steward and Lady Assistant Steward. The Flag presentation ceremony officially adopted by the California State Grange provides that no one should precede the Flag when it is in motion on the Floor.



PRESENTATION AND RETIRING OF THE FLAG

In 1949 minimum standards of performance by Granges desiring to use them were adopted by the California State Grange. The procedure was amended in 1986. (See Resolution G-20, 1986)

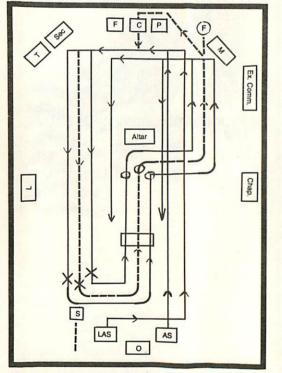


Diagram showing the line of march of the Escorts and the Flag Bearer. The three $x \times x$ show position when Steward passes Flag to Flag Bearer (or receives it in retirement ceremony). The three °° ° show positions at the Altar.

REMARKS

- 1. Neither Presentation nor Retirement of the Flag are to be considered compulsory requirements. They may be used as the Grange determines.
- 2. The music for presentation of the flag may be any suitable march.
- 3. The National Anthem shall be played only when the Flag is stationary at the Altar, never as a march. The Pledge of Allegiance may be used when no Musician is present.
- 4. The Presentation shall follow the Opening Ceremony, as prescribed in the Manual. The Retirement of the Flag shall follow the Grange salutation, as prescribed in the Manual.
- 5. The Master, Steward and Flag Bearer shall carry the Flag with the left hand uppermost.
- 6. The Civilian Flag Salute (right hand open over the heart) shall be given only when the National Anthem is being sung, or the Pledge of Allegiance being recited. The Flag Salute shall not be used when the Flag is in motion.

- 7. Regardless of the position of the Steward in the hall due to varying sizes and layouts, the Steward will take position at left and a few steps forward of Overseer to present or receive the Flag.
- 8. All members assume the position of attention (hands at sides) at the moment the Flag is brought onto the floor by Steward, and remain at attention until the Flag is presented to the Master and placed in its standard.
- 9. The Flag Bearer may be the presiding Grace, or someone appointed by the Master. The Flag Bearer shall not be installed as an officer of the Grange.

FLAG PRESENTATION

A. The Assistant Stewards will march abreast down the right side of the hall to a position short of the Master's station, where the Assistant marks time and permits the Lady Assistant to turn left and assume her position preceding the Flag Bearer and Assistant. They march single file to a position short of the station of Secretary. B. Facing to the left in unison, they march abreast in close rank until they reach a line crossing the hall about three paces in front of the Assistant Stewards' stations, where the Steward, in line with the Flag Bearer, has the unfurled flag.

As the marchers pause before the Steward, he presents the flag to the Flag Bearer in proper carrying position, then steps back in line with the Assistant Stewards' stations, and remains there at attention.

Flag Bearer turns left after receiving the Flag from Steward and marches to a position in front of the Overseer, followed at two paces by the Assistants, turns left and marches to a position in front of but not over the Altar. (The Flag to fall freely, never touching the floor or Altar.)

C. The Escorts assume the position of salute, inclining the staff at arm's length, it's lower end beside the right foot and its upper end pointing to the union of the flag, eyes directed toward the Flag. At the first note of the National Anthem, all members turn toward the flag, assume the position of salute with right hand placed over the heart, and join in singing the first stanza.