

2020 CANDLE LIGHTING

“IT’S A GRANGE ROAD TRIP”

Lecturer: We’ve all heard the saying: “Life’s a journey, not a destination.” This year, 2020, signifies the beginning of a new decade in our Grange journey and we need to be prepared for what we may encounter. As with any trip, let’s make a checklist of what needs to be done to ensure our efforts are successful. I light this candle to represent our **Road Trip** for this year 2020.

Speaker 1: It’s difficult to get somewhere if we don’t have a map. Have we developed our Mission and Vision statements for our Grange. Have we as a Grange had a planning meeting to establish what we hope to do this year? This planning should help provide a clear vision of what we plan to accomplish – think: “Is the windshield clean for looking ahead?” I light this candle to represent our **Map** for our road trip.

Speaker 2: Once we know where we’re going, we need to make sure we have the proper equipment that will make our journey fruitful. Do we have the materials that will guide us – our officers have listened to and understand their duties as outlined in the installation charges; we as members have reviewed the obligations we heard or read in the ritual work that makes up much of what Grange has historically been; do we know who the Deputy for our county or area is to help us as we progress or if we hit roadblocks. I light this candle to represent our **Owner’s Manual** that can provide answers if we get into trouble.

Speaker 3: Are we ready to go? As members, are we getting challenged by the materials being presented by the various departments – Lecturer, Family Living, Juniors, Youth, Membership and Community Service. These should be providing the **Fuel** we need for our journey. I light this candle to represent our fuel.

Speaker 4: The **Mirrors** – don’t forget them. They help us look back at where we have been. However, don’t spend too much time looking back or you will end up in a rut (to put it mildly!) The past is just a reference point – we need to be focused on the future! I light this candle to represent our moving forward.

Speaker 5: As we progress on our Grange Road Trip this year, don’t forget the **Tune-ups**. We need to re-visit our checklist periodically to ensure we are still on the right road. I light this candle to represent our tune-ups.

Lecturer: This checklist is just that – a checklist. As we journey forward we may find obstacles or stray off course. It is our journey and we can revise it as we wish. Just remember – we have a definite starting point, which is today but our end point is what we make it. Let’s make this a fun Road Trip!