

Ceremony for creating a Companion of the ORDER OF THE PELICAN

The candidate and their entourage should assemble at the back of court.

Herald: Within the fellowship of the Society four orders of great merit have been created to honor those who have excelled in Arms and Chivalry, in Arts and Letters, in Service to the Realm, and in Rapier and Courtly Comportment.

A companion of each of these four orders is one whose skills are freely manifested and willingly taught, whose efforts on behalf of others are unstinting and above all, who is an example of courtesy and grace.

The Order of Chivalry honors martial achievements in armor; the members of the Order are the swords of the King. The Order of the Laurel honors those skilled in Arts and Sciences who create works of service and beauty. The Order of Defense honors those wielding the deadly rapier and with noble comportment.

In the sixth year of the Society, there was called into being the third great order of Peerage: The Right Noble Order of the Pelican, to salute those who distinguish themselves in areas not otherwise recognized: by their sustained and exemplary service to the Society.

It is the privilege of the Crown to elevate into companionship in this order such persons as it sees fit.

Therefore, the Crown now calls into its presence the Companions of the Right Noble Order of the Pelican here present:

As an option, the members of the order may be called forward by name, in order of precedence, but this must be arranged in advance.

Members of the Order come forward and kneel, leaving an aisle.

Herald: The Crown now calls _____ to come before this Court and Company.

Escorting Herald: Your Majesties, Now before you comes _____, <FULL AWARDS AND TITLES> who bears the arms, to wit: <BLAZON>

Their Majesties stand.

King: _____, have you undertaken to accept Companionship in the Right Noble Order of the Pelican that was offered to you at _____.

Candidate: I have.

King: This greatly pleases us.

Queen: Bring forth the medallion.
Medallion bearer hands it to Her Majesty and may explain the significance or history of it.

Let this Medallion pass from hand to hand among the members of the order gathered here, to symbolize the bond you shall have with each of them.

Her Majesty hands the medallion to the nearest Pelican.

Queen: Sir/Master/Mistress _____ (Chivalry representative), Master/Mistress _____, (Laurel

representative), Master/Mistress _____, (*Pelican representative*),
Master/Mistress _____, (*MOD representative*),
<OPTIONAL> _____, (*Royal Peer representative*),
as members of the Peerage, do you now affirm that
_____ has grown in gentle virtue and
chivalrous grace, the hallmarks of a true and faithful Peer?

Chivalry Rep.: *Replies in their own fashion*

Laurel Rep.: *Replies in their own fashion*

Pelican Rep.: *Replies in their own fashion*

MOD Rep.: *Replies in their own fashion:*

<OPTIONAL>

Royal Peer Rep.: *Replies in their own fashion*

King: Gentle Peers, we thank you for your wise counsel.

Bring forth Lightning, the Great Sword of State.

Swordbearer hands Lightning to His Majesty, who holds it so Her Majesty and the Candidate can support it.

(The Candidate can either state their oaths in full, or answer as scripted below:)

King: _____, you have been deemed fit for this high estate by your peers, and have indicated your willingness to accept this honor from Our hands. Do you now swear by all that you hold sacred, true, and holy that you will honor and defend the Crown and Kingdom of the Outlands?

Candidate: I will.

King: That you will persevere in your pursuit of excellence, thereby bringing honor to yourself, your Order, and the Outlands?

Candidate: I will.

Queen: That you will further your knowledge of the ways of service, and give aid to others in this endeavor?

Candidate: I will.

King: That you will be courteous and honor your peers, of the Chivalry, and of the Laurel, and of the Pelican?

Candidate: I will.

Queen: That you will conduct yourself in all matters as befits a Peer, continuing to practice the virtues of chivalry, nobility, and personal integrity, to the benefit of your own good name and the greater glory of the Outlands?

Candidate: I will. *Or some more elaborate response.*

King: Then having sworn these solemn oaths, know now that We, _____ and _____, by right of arms, King and Queen of the Outlands, do proclaim you to be a Companion of the Right Noble Order of the Pelican.
His Majesty hands Lightning back to the swordbearer.

Queen: Let the medallion be brought forward.

Medallion is handed to Her Majesty.

Take from Our hands this medallion, which bears the symbol of your Order: a Pelican in her piety. For this creature was believed, in ancient times, to nourish her young, if necessary, with blood from her own breast, and thus came to symbolize the good and true servant. Wear it always with great honor; wear it always with humility.

Her Majesty places the medallion around the new Pelican's neck.

<OPTIONAL>

Pelican: Your Majesties, at this time I would swear fealty to the Crown of the Outlands.

King: It shall please Us to accept your fealty.

[to Swordbearer] Bring forth Lightning.

Swordbearer hands Lightning to His Majesty.

Pelican: *Speaks own words, or text below, prompted by the herald:*

This day do I render

homage and fealty

to my Sovereign Lord and Lady,

_____ and _____

by Right of Arms,

King and Queen of the Outlands,

who will, from this day forward,

Be my Liege Lord and Lady.

I will remain true in all ways,

serving them faithfully.

This do I swear,

by my honor and the high ideals

which I hold as a Peer of this Realm.

So say I, _____.

King: We accept your homage and fealty

and pledge to you that from this day forward

until the end of Our Reign

you are Our Liege [man/woman]

that We will honor your order

and defend your rights as a Peer,

and that We will protect the trust

that you have placed in Us,

mighty with justice, tempered with mercy.

(If there are other items such as a Mantle or Chapeau they would be presented here)

King: Arise [Master/Mistress] _____!
Let the scroll be read!

Herald: *Reads the scroll or text below:*

Unto all who come by these present letters, _____
and _____, King and Queen of the Outlands,
send Greetings.

Whereas, _____ has shown through
[his/her] long and steadfast service to Our realm that quality of
effort which is the mark of a peer, We are minded to advance
[him/her] in honour and admit [him/her] to the Order of the
Pelican. We do hereby elevate and affirm those Arms previously
granted by the College of Arms by these Letters Patent, to with:
<BLAZON> which [Master/Mistress] _____ shall
hold for [his/her] sole and unique use throughout the Known
World.

To which We set Our hands this ____ day of _____, Anno
Societatis _____, being _____ Gregorian.
_____, King _____,
Queen _____

King: Go now and greet your Peers.

Herald: For [Master/Mistress]
_____, HIP, HIP,..... (3 cheers).