

YOU DID YOUR BIT -- WE ADD OURS.

ANNIVERSARY CEREMONY.

(Honoring both the birthday of the Chapter and the Charter Members.)

by

Katharine Curzon Lowman, P. M.

8 -- 9.

This may be given on a regular meeting night under the "Good of the Order", or after the close of the chapter.

The regular officers are in their stations. The Worth Matron begins this addendum by arising and speaking as follows:

WORTHY MATRON: Sisters and brothers, ----- years ago there was established in -----, -----, (town and state) an Eastern Star Chapter, for the purpose of providing for the welfare of the wives, daughters, mothers, widows, and sisters of Master Masons.

-----Chapter was established with ----- Charter members of which ----- are present to-night and are (is) our guest(s) of honor.

Sister Conductress and Associate Conductress, you will escort our guest(s) of honor to the East.

SONG. While they are being escorted. TUNE. "Stand Up For Jesus".

Stand up, Ye Charter Members,
As long ago you stood,
Lifting on high the emblem
Which stands for Truth and God;
From Vic-t'ry un-to vic-t'ry,
The members here you led;
Now comes our birthday par-tv.

And *you* are led instead.

When they have arrived in the east, the Worthy Matron welcomes the Charter Members with the following:

WORTHY MATRON:

Charter Members of chapter, On behalf of the chapter which was born years ago, I am indeed happy to extend a most loving welcome to those (or to one) who were (was) present at its birth and have had an important part in caring for it, both during its infancy and through the intervening years. It has now reached the age of years.

From your unselfish labor and devotion, it got a good start (or healthy start).

Through intervening years, it received your encouragement, and the benefit of your prayers.

To-night, it stands a monument to your achievement, and a testimony to the demonstration of brotherly love, relief, and Truth, lived and loved.

The members of this chapter are most grateful for your work and for the steadying influence of your guiding hands, through the years.

To-night, we are honoring both theth. birthday of our chapter and *YOU*, its foster Godparents - the Charter Members.

You will please be seated here in the East, in seats of honor for this - our birthday anniversary service. (Charter members are seated in chairs placed there beforehand for them.)

Worthy Patron, have you a birthday present for our guests of honor?

WORTHY PATRON:

Worthy Matron, Charter Members of Chapter, Present members, Sisters and Brothers:

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When the Order of the Eastern Star was originally founded, it was decided that the Worthy Patron was not to be its *chief* officer. And so, he isn't. Yet he has in his power the ability to perform one of its *chief* and most important duties: that of extending welcomes. In his vocabulary also are to be found the *chief* words necessary to the proper performance of this duty and privilege. These words are; "You are welcome". And these three, sincere, valuable words are *my* birthday present to you - the Charter members of ----- Chapter. I extend them with a grateful appreciation for you and a great respect for your accomplishment and work in the past. (He turns from addressing the charter members to the Associate Matron and Associate Patron, and says:)

Let us have the gifts from the West. (He is seated.) (The Associate Patron arises and speaks.)

ASSOCIATE PATRON:

Salutation, -----: Charter Members of
----- Chapter:

I hav no gift ma-ter-i-al
To bring this eve to you;
I have a gift spir-it-u-al
For those to whom 'tis due;
And this gift is - our grateful thanks
Wrapped up in words of praise,
Which I extend to you to-night -
For work in former days.

(He sits.)

ASSOCIATE MATRON arises and says:

Charter Members of----- Chapter,
There is no gift that I could bring,
From anywhere, to you,
That could express just ev'rything
That I should wish it to.
But like the widow with her mite,
Which rated best of all,
I bring you love from ev'ry one
Who's present in this hall.

(She sits.)

A knock is heard on the west door of the chapter room. The Warder announces the alarm. The Worthy Matron gives instruction to ascertain the cause of the alarm, and to admit the person. A person enters, carrying a cake. (This person may be the Marshal.) She goes to stand behind Esther's chair from where she addresses the Worthy Matron.

BIRTHDAY CAKEBEARER: Worthy Matron,

Jane

I hear there is a birthday which
You're hon-or-ing to-night.
I hurried with a birthday cake,
Although it's not done quite,

Because it lacks the trimming which
On birthday cakes should be;
I'm won-der-ing if some one here
Can finish it for me.

WORTHY MATRON answers:

You've heard aright. This is a date
Which we, to-night, should celebrate.
So take your cake to the Five, who
Can add the needed trim for you.

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Cakebearer goes to the Star Point Officers - beginning with Adah who adds a blue candle to the top of the cake. Each Star Point Officer adds a colored candle appropriate to her station.

ADAH arises and says to the Cakebearer:

It seems to me this chapter here,
Has been just like a mother dear;
And so - with love from daughters, glad,
A bit of *blue trim-ming*, I'll add. (She sits.)

RUTH arises immediately and says to the Cakebearer:

It seems to me this chapter fine
Has been *your* folks as well as *mine*;
For Youth and Age, who've come this way,
I'll add this yellow, if I may. (Sits.)

ESTHER arises and says:

Fi-del-i-ty to kith and kin
Has govern'd all who have come in
To membership within our Star,
Whether they've come from near or far;
And so I'm glad to add to-night
This symbol of "pure joy" and "light". (Sits.)

MARTHA arises and says:

Both faith in immortality
And trust in Truth - has seemed to be
The motive power gov-ern-ing
The acts of those whose praise we sing
To-night - for or-gan-iz-ing this
Which, had they not, we'd surely miss!
And so, I'm glad to add a bit
Of cheerful *green* - for them, and it.

(Sits.)

ELECTA arises and says:

Beneath, around, about, above,
The everlasting arms of love
Have held our Star high in its place,
Above that which would bring disgrace.

'Twas Love which caused its timely birth,
When it was needed on this earth;
'Twas Love which brought it through the years,
To be an in-flu-ence that cheers.

'Twas Love which govern'd those who are
Now Charter members in our Star;
For them, and for the way they've led -
I'm glad to add this bit of red.

(Adds the last candle. Sits.)

CAKE BEARER to the Worthy Matron:

Worthy Matron,
My cake is finished. Shall I bear
It to its place, and leave it there?

WORTHY MATRON answers:

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Yes, bring it to the East, so they
May have their birthday cake today.

MUSIC. The Cakebearer takes it to the Secretary's desk, where she will present the cake to the Charter Members with the following. (May set cake on Secretary's desk after presentation speech.)

CAKEBEARER to the Charter Members:

Willl you accept this birthday cake?
We made it just for you;
With pure ingredients to start,
We stirred - and then it grew
Until, just like the chapter which
You started years ago,
It became something worthy of
Respect from friend or foe.

(Deposits cake.)

WORTHY MATRON: Let us unite in prayer.

Music while Chaplain goes to the altar and Cakebearer goes to seat.

PRAYER BY THE CHAPLAIN.

CHAPLAIN;

Dear Father of us all, we come
To Thee with words of thanks
That Charter Members like those here
Are numbered in our ranks.

Mary Liffany

We thank Thee for the chapter which
They founded years ago,
So that the lessons of our Star,
We members all could know.

We thank Thee for the loving care
Which through the years has shown
That Thou hast prosper'd it, because
They claimed You for their own!

We thank Thee for the priv-i-lege
Of being here to-night;
We ask Thy blessing on our Star -
Oh, never may its light
Be dimmed nor lessened through the years
Which lie before us all;
We ask this, Father, since you've said
You'll hear us when we call. Amen.

MUSIC while Chaplain returns to her station.

Song by all - familiar hymn.

Then you may have speeches by the guests of honor. Or, you can have a musical number or two, or a reading, or a game, if you wish to have a longer program.

----- THE END -----