

OUR CHAPTER BIRTHDAY
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To celebrate the birthday of Chapter.

Speech for Worthy Matron:

When we celebrate the birthday of friends, we extend to them our very best wishes for all the years which are to come as well as that of the present time. Since we have reached another milestone in the history of our Chapter, it is right and proper that we pause and wish for it our very best for its future success and prosperity, and to extend to it our thanks for the good it has done during the years that have passed and gone.

Tonight we are here together to bring our very best to the Chapter we love. It has been ----- years since this Chapter was first instituted, and during this time we have all united our efforts to make it one of the very best. The success of any Chapter depends upon the faithful work of its members, and as no chain is stronger than its weakest link, so we find that the strength of our Chapter is governed by those who have taken our Obligation, and have their names on our membership roll. Let us strive therefore to keep in touch with every member, that our chain of friendship may never be weakened by an unfaithful link. On this happy occasion, may we renew again our Obligation, and the fellowship which this Chapter has provided for us through the years. May we give it the very best there is in us, that we may promote to the fullest its success and prosperity.

We bring our best wishes dear Chapter to you,
Through all the past years you have to us been true;
And as we light each candle that gleams from afar,
Happy Birthday to you, our own dear Eastern Star.

Five members (or girls) with lighted candles form line west of Esther's station. Their candles should be in Star point colors, in colored holders, or tied with ribbons of Star point colors. Unlighted candles are on the tables of Star points. The five candle bearers, after line is formed, pass to position at respective Star point stations.

As soon as all are in position, Adah's escort lights the candle of Adah, after which Adah gives verse as follows:

Adah: The light from my candle shines out very clear,
 For it is a part of our work for the year;
 As its light now reflects its true shade of blue,
 We say to our Chapter, "Happy Birthday to You."

After Adah speaks, Ruth's escort lights Ruth's candle and Ruth speaks as follows:

Ruth: The gleams that are golden shine out on our way,
 To help us remember this wonderful day;
 As we light our candle with wishes so true,
 We say to our Chapter, "Happy Birthday to You."

After Ruth speaks, Esther's escort lights Esther's candle and Esther speaks:

Esther: The rays that are white always shine out so clear,
 To say we'll be faithful each day of the year;
 As the light of my candle sheds rays that are true,
 We say to our Chapter, "Happy Birthday to You."

After Esther speaks, Martha's escort lights Martha's candle and Martha speaks:

Martha: My candle throws light of a lovely green ray,
That gives us a faith to suffice for each day;
For this we are here, and that we may be true,
We say to our Chapter, "Happy Birthday to You."

After Martha speaks, Electa's escort lights Electa's candle and Electa speaks:

Electa: My candle is lighted with red rays of love,
Giving comfort and help that comes from above;
And as each coming year we will try to be true,
We say to our Chapter, "Happy Birthday to You."

A cake may be placed on a pedestal in front of dais on which may be placed a small unlighted candle for each year of Chapter history. (This cake may be placed on the pedestal before the beginning of the ceremony, or it may be carried to the East and placed on the pedestal as the Associate Matron passes to the East to light candles.)

As soon as the candles on the cake are lighted, the Asso. Matron turns (and with other officer) passes to west. As she does so the escorts turn and pass west and all form line back of Esther's station. If the cake is carried in during the ceremony, the Asso. Patron may hand lighted candle to the one who carried the cake, so all in line will have lighted candles.

When all are in position back of Esther's station, soloist sings:

Tune: "America, The Beautiful."

A happy birthday, Chapter dear,
We bring our birthday cheer,
We wish for you the very best,
Of good things through the year;
A happy birthday, Chapter dear,
We will to you be true,
From you we learn the way of truth,
To help us all life through.

A happy birthday, Chapter dear,
Great strength is given thee,
That will lead us to higher things,
With grace and loyalty;
A happy birthday, Chapter dear,
For you we pledge our all,
We'll stand by you through coming years,
Whatever may befall.

A happy birthday, Chapter dear,
We give our best to you,
And we will strive to do our part,
And be to you so true;
A happy birthday, Chapter dear,
We're for you all life through,
And now together we will sing,
Happy birthday to you.

If desired five candles may be placed on the cake, and lighted as each Star point gives her verse.

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