

MEMORIES OF YESTERDAY
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Hamilton Chapter, No. 275,
Hamilton, Missouri.

May be used for any anniversary.

Charter members are introduced and escorted to the East, or to position in front of dais where rocking chairs may be provided, with table in front of dais on which has been placed a Bible and a lighted kerosene lamp.

Solist sings: Tune - "Long, Long Ago."

Let us go back to the time we first met,
Long, long ago. Long, long ago;
Back to the time we can never forget,
Back to the long, long ago;
Back to the time when our Chapter was new,
When all together our numbers were few;
When vows were made to remain always true,
Long, long ago, long ago.

Let us go back to the time that's so dear,
Long, long ago. Long, long ago;
Thoughts that tonight will bring to us much cheer,
Back to the long, long ago;
We had a Chapter in which we took pride,
Pledging to always stand right by it's side,
And to be loyal whatever betide,
Long, long ago, long ago.

We've met tonight just to call back the years,
Long, long ago. Long, long ago;
Traveling together through doubts and through fears,
Since long ago, long ago;
We've come tonight just to honor the day
Our Eastern Star shed it's light on our way,
When we took vows that we'd never betray,
Long, long ago, long ago.

Worthy Matron:

Let us turn back the pages of time and recall to memory the institution of
----- Chapter No.-----. ----- years have passed since that time, but the few
Charter members who are here to enjoy this occasion with us, can recall the faith-
ful and untiring efforts of the members of that new organization, and for them we
cherish the tenderest memories.

Worthy Matron gives the history of the institution of the Chapters, first officers,
etc.

Two officers or other members pass to East each with a cake, one with a single can-
dle, the other with as many candles as the Chapter is old. These cakes may be plac-
ed on a table between dais and Altar, and the member with the cake with single can-
dle lights the candle as Worthy Matron continues:

On our first anniversary, we enjoy a cake with a single candle. The light
of that little candle has been kept burning through the years. It was theirs to

tend for awhile then the sacred flame was replenished by other hands who had caught the vision of that beautiful Star in the East.

The member with cake with single candle speaks:

One little candle burned so bright,
Letting it's light shine out on the way,
Giving to all the Star's precious truths,
The lessons of love that are needed each day.

One little candle seemed very great then,
It's light was not dimmed by standing alone,
For all Charter members looked with great faith,
To ----- Chapter, now their very own.

Dear little candle, let your light shine on,
Down through the years to brighten and cheer,
Giving to us a faith in your love,
Dear little candle that marked the first year.

After speaking, officer returns to station.

As Worthy Matron proceeds with the history of the Chapter, a candle on the other cake is lighted for each year as the Worthy Matron gives the names of the Worthy Matron and the Worthy Patron for that year. Other items of interest may also be given. The Past officers stand as their names are given, beginning with the first Worthy Matron and Worthy Patron down to Junior Matron and Patron. They may be escorted to the East, if desired. A candle in the center of the cake (which may be larger than the other candles) may now be lighted in honor of the Charter members and this tribute given:

As Charter members may you find much peace upon your way,
And may you have much happiness with health for every day;
For you have served this Chapter well for the good you might attain,
For many years you have nobly toiled with no thought of selfish gain;
In service may you still find joy, with peace and love in store,
May you be with us many years, yes, many years, and more.

In loving memory we now bow for those who've gone before,
We know that they were always true, but they are here no more;
So as our candle burns so bright for Charter members here,
It also burns in memory of those we still hold dear.

The one lighting candles speaks:

Now many candles throw light on our way,
Reminding us of love that's still true,
For many have served and have given their best,
And have been so loyal all the years through.

So few are now here who walked in the way
Of the one little candle when our Chapter was new,
But their memory to us is as precious today
As when they were serving so loyal and true.

The years which have passed have much to unfold,
They tell us of joys and of sorrows and tears;
We cherish their memory, and know with our love
The light of our Star will shine through the years.

After speaking, officer returns to station.

After verses are given, Adah with lighted candle, rises and speaks:

I light the candle of loving service which has guided our Chapter through the years. The spirit of fidelity has been present at each meeting and guarded it's growth. The influence of the blue ray has made us true to our Chapter, to our fellowmen, and to our God. May we continue to be guided by the blue ray of our Star.

Adah approaches the table on which has been placed the cakes, or cakes may be placed on pedestals, with table for lighted candles between them. She places her lighted candle on the table and returns to her station. As she does so, soloist sings:
Tune - "Beautiful Dreamer."

Dear faithful Adah, loving and true,
For ----- years we've been loyal to you,
You gave us faith in life's darkest hour,
You have been to us a source of great power;
Dear faithful Adah, your ray we see,
Lighting our path with your beautiful blue;
You have been with us in memory,
Dear faithful Adah, we know you are true,
Dear faithful Adah, we know you are true.

When Adah returns to station, Ruth with lighted candle, rises and speaks:

The yellow glow of my candle has been teaching us through the years that constancy to every duty, however, small it may be, will in the end reap a rich reward. The influence of the yellow ray has guided us through the years, keeping us loyal to every station, however humble that station may have been in the path of service. May we continue to be guided by the yellow ray of our Star.

Ruth approaches the table and places her lighted candle on the table just north of Adah's candle. As she does so, soloist sings: Tune - "Beautiful Dreamer."

Dear Ruth so true, we now light your way,
For you have guided us onward each day;
Each year we've given to you our best,
For we know you were so true to each test;
Dear Ruth so loyal to loved ones dear,
That's why we follow your bright yellow ray;
Through the past years you've given us cheer,
Dear patient Ruth, you have guided our way,
Dear patient Ruth, you have guided our way.

When Ruth returns to her station, Esther with lighted candle, rises and speaks:

The pure white ray of Esther has shone in our Chapter through the years, teaching us to forget self, and to be true to our kinsmen and friends. We have the assurance that whatever is just will be ours if we do not fail in the things which we know to be right. The light of our candle will be with us through the days which are to come if we seek that which is loyal and just. May we continue to be guided by the white ray of our Star.

Esther approaches the table and places her lighted candle on the table just north of Ruth's candle. As she does so, soloist sings: Tune - "Beautiful Dreamer."

Beautiful Esther, so young and fair,
We have looked to you to lessen our care;
You risked your life and honor of throne,
Having the courage to face it alone;
Beautiful Esther, we light your ray,
That through your truth and through your loyalty,
Your light will guide us on the right way,
Beautiful Esther, keep us true to thee,
Beautiful Esther, keep us true to thee.

When Esther returns to her station, Martha with lighted candle, rises and speaks:

As we light the green ray, we realize that it has kept our faith alive and glowing through the ---- years which are past. May we continue to have the trustful faith of Martha that we may receive spiritual light that will keep the faith and hope aglow in our hearts that there is a life eternal. May the light of Martha's candle give us faith in the things which are to come, and comfort our grief in times of sorrow and distress. May we continue to be guided by the green ray of our Star.

Martha approaches the table and places her candle on the table just north of Esther's candle. As she does so, soloist sings: Tune - "Beautiful Dreamer."

Dear trustful Martha, we have been led
By thy great faith in the words Jesus said;
And that great hope that He gave to thee,
Lighted our path so thy way we could see;
Dear trustful Martha, thy loving ray
Has guided us through the many long years, (the past 50 years)
Giving to us much faith on our way,
Dear trustful Martha, you've banished our fears,
Dear trustful Martha, you've banished our fears.

When Martha returns to her station, Electa with lighted candle, rises and speaks:

The crimson glow from Electa's point will ever teach us the way of charity and love. Guided by the light of her ray, we know that truth and love will always triumph. This spirit of love has guided our Chapter through the years, and has been present at our meetings thus keeping alive our responsibility to the greatest of all commandments that we love one another. May we continue to be guided by the red ray of our Star.

Electa approaches the table and places her candle on the table just north of Martha's candle and returns to her station. As she does so, soloist sings: Tune - "Beautiful Dreamer."

Our dear Electa, we've turned to thee
When days were dark and we needed to be
Guided each day by lessons so true,
That we might faith in thy teachings renew;
Our dear Electa, we have been led
By thy great truths which have come from above;
Led by the ray of beautiful red,
Our dear Electa, give us of thy love,
Our dear Electa, give us of thy love.

Worthy Matron:

On behalf of ----- Chapter No. -----, I wish to express our appreciation to all members of our Chapter who have served so faithfully through the years. We feel that to them we owe a debt of gratitude for had it not been for past service, we would not have our Chapter as it is today. In appreciation of this service, we lovingly dedicate our closing song to all members who have served our Order in this Chapter (or in any other Chapter for the past ----- years.) Sister Marshal, you will escort any ----- year members who may be present, to the East.

As soon as members are escorted to the East, soloist sings:

Tune: "A Perfect Day."

We have come to the close of a perfect day,
The close of our ---- years, (many)
You can but recall all the many joys,
Not forgetting the hopes and fears;
Did you think on that day ----- years ago, (many)
You would be as you are today,
To our Order still giving your very best,
As together you go life's way.

Well this is the day set aside for you,
The greatest among the least,
And you are as young as you used to be,
When you faithfully served the East;
The years may have silvered your shinning hair,
And furrowed your brow with fears,
But you'll find life still full of joy for you,
After serving for ----- years. (so many years)

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