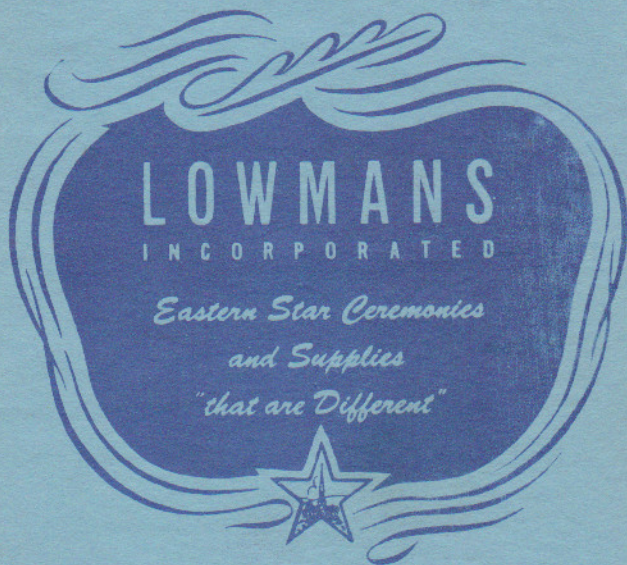


Anniversary Night



WILLOUGHBY, OHIO

REMEMBERING

Anniversary Night Ceremony

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This addendum may be used to commemorate any anniversary, and it will serve nicely for either the twenty-fifth or the golden one. Please dim all other lights and just use a spotlight throughout.

Under the Good of the Order, the Worthy Matron may announce that the chapter is observing its ----- Anniversary and that time is being set aside for that purpose.

SOLO: "Wonderin'"
(To the tune of "Goin' Home" by Anton Dvorak.)

Wonderin' -- Wonderin'
I'm just wonderin'
What you did in those days,
Days so far away.
(Fifty) years, that's not long
Judgin' by the Book.
Were you there with a song
Or just a sweet look?
Wonderin' -- Wonderin'.

How things were back then.
Tho' your group was so small,
Were you all good friends?
Were you all good friends?
Hum -- Hum -- I'm Wonderin'.
Nothing bad, all good
They all understood;
Not much grumbling in that day;
Were they thinking the right way?

Goin' to sing some more;
Eastern Star lights the way;
Deathless is our dream;
Darkness flees with the day
When we live our theme.
There's no time that can end
Just what they've begun.
Some asleep, some still here
Life's fair race to run.

Wonderin' -- Wonderin'
I'm just wonderin'
Can we live as they did
In those days gone by?
I feel sure we can.

A NARRATOR stands in the southeast and speaks:

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So you're wonderin' what took place in those days gone by.

Here's a short history of --- Chapter. (Check minutes for funny incidents and comparisons of note in compiling the history of your chapter.)

At the conclusion of the history, the NARRATOR says:

I want you to see some of the leaders of the past. Will the Past Matrons and Past Patrons of --- Chapter assemble in the west while Sister --- sings the song we like best, "Star of the East".

If the Soloist is a Past Matron, she may walk to the west as she sings to assemble with the group.

You might like to fix descriptive words for all your Past Matrons and Past Patrons who are likely to be present. Give them this descriptive word before your meeting, and as their descriptive word is called by the Narrator, they will step forward one step in the west while a spot light is on them. For example: Narrator speaking: "We've had thin ones, fat ones, short ones, tall ones, quiet ones, husband and wife ones, swift ones, willing ones, neat ones, smooth ones, easy-going ones, Johnny-on-the-spot ones, considerate ones, like to feed ones, dear ones, helping hand ones, jolly ones, interested ones, like to go ones, fast dressing ones, kind ones, appreciative ones, witty ones, etc." Try to give descriptions slowly, allowing each Past Matron or Patron time to be recognized.

While they are still assembled, the Soloist sings the following to the tune of "Put On Your Old Gray Bonnet".

As I think of ---- (year)
The memories come so fast and thick;
I'm dreaming of the years gone by -
How the days were never dreary
None of them were ever weary.
I can see it if I try;
I feel like sweetly humming
As to present days we're coming
Those days passed with such sweet
memories to me;
And to-night the "Pasts" are dreaming;
Yes, all of us here are dreaming
Dreaming as we hear and see.

I wish to sing a sonnet,
And I'm up to date on it.
While I gaze at faces in the west;
And through the years of service
They were never nervous
And they always did their best.

Three golden links about the size of a half-dollar are made and placed on the pedestal of each Star Point before the program begins. As each link has to be fitted into another link, paper clips are used to hold the ends together. A Past Matron slowly advances to Adah.

PAST MATRON says:

You have heard it said that a chain is no stronger than its weakest link. If we think about the meaning seriously, we shall find that it is a true statement. In our beautiful Order of the Eastern Star, we like to think of all of our members as strong Christian people. What if the Order were judged by how each of us lives? Do we live every day as though we had seen His Star in the East? Are we patient, understanding, and kind toward others? The Star Points and I want to show you that the golden chain can teach us a lesson.

Past Matron advances to Adah's station, and so on to each Star Point, collecting the links as she goes.

ADAH says: (Handing first link to the Past Matron.)

I will start this golden chain by reminding you of the strength Adah kept until the very end of her short life. She was not a weak link in the chain of life because of her faith in God.

RUTH says:

Ruth gave up her old friends, her home, the land of her childhood, and all the scenes dear to her, just to show the bond of friendship between her and her Mother-in-law. In leaving the past, she found the real God, the God of beloved Naomi. Nothing was lost, for she was kindly treated in her new place of abode.

In attaching these few golden links, I wish to call them the friendship links, for by giving friendship, Ruth gained many friendships.

ESTHER speaks:

Let me attach the golden links before fitting Esther's story in the chain of life.

Esther faced death and possible hatred from her husband, the King. It would have been easier for Esther not to have faced the issue of her people being in danger. It's always easier not to face the issues of life, but Esther stood for right as she saw it; she saved her people and kept the love of her husband plus her own life. Esther's name is honored today because of her interest in justice for others. Even though she was safe and could have closed her eyes to sufferings of her friends, she proved to be a strong link.

MARTHA says:

Martha gave us insight into life and death by her association with Jesus when she faced the death of her beloved brother. Her faith should remind us today to keep the faith even in the hour of suffering.

These links, I attach, to bring out the point that the rough places are made smooth when we look into the deeper meanings of life -- even beyond - to life after death.

ELECTA says:

I'll complete the chain of life with the links of love and hospitality.

There is no true hospitality without love. We have touched briefly on these ----- (how many) Eastern Star years in ----- Chapter. All of the history could never be told in one brief meeting, but it is written on the pages of God's book. If the Eastern Star Chapter here has brought just one person closer to God or to a fuller understanding of God, it has not been in vain. I'm sure it has led many Sisters and Brothers to a closer walk with God and with friends along the way.

PAST MATRON now says:

The chain is now complete; the links are golden; love brings it into a perfect circle unending. May we never leave love out of the chain of life. (Presents chain to the Worthy Matron and retires.)

SOLO: Tune "Smilin' Through" by Arthur A. Penn. Published by M. Witmark & Sons, New York, New York.

There's a little bright spot shinin' over the years
For each little thing done in the past;
There's a little bright star
That was seen from afar
Where five points so true
Come shinin' through at last.

There's a record for you of the days of the past,
Will your record be woven so fast?
Be your years short or long,
You need never fear wrong.
Those five points so true
Keep shinin' through to you.

THE END