

MIDLOTHIAN #85 NEWSLETTER

Barbara Burtchett, W.M. March 2010 Herman "Moe" Staton, WP.

FROM THE EAST

It's almost March again and time for our last meeting in the East. It has been a pleasure to serve as your Worthy Matron and Worthy Patron this year. Our officers have done outstanding work and been faithful in their attendance. We have had many visitors during the year and look forward to more on our Friendship Night, March 9.

Our fund raisers have been successful and we had a good time working together. A special "Thank You" to all who worked on these projects.

We are sorry to have lost Sisters Carol Jean Cole and Doris Dickerson through death and the three members who demitted. We are delighted to have initiated two new members both who are eager to get involved in the work of the chapter.

We enjoyed working with the members of Powhatan Chapter on the Holly Day's Bazaar. We also had good fellowship with the members of Masonic Lodge No. 211 on our stew days, at our joint picnic, and participating in the parade and open house on Midlothian Day.

We thank Jean and Bobby Joe Weatherford for their work in arranging for us to attend several plays, dinners, and a delightful evening at the Gospel Chicken House. A thank you to Sam Shealy for spearheading our attendance at the gospel singing at the Amelia campground during the summer. We look forward to this continuing next year.

At Christmas our chapter provided for an entire family through the Chesterfield Christmas Mother and we also provided gifts for two children from the Angel tree.

Two young ladies received help with their education through the Joe Talley Scholarship and chapter's generosity.

I extend a special thank you to Brother "Moe" Staton for being our Worthy Patron, driving from Gloucester to Midlothian at least once a month and filling his station so beautifully. I also thank Sister Kitty for encouraging him in this even when she was not feeling well enough to accompany him.

Together we thank our officers and members for their support this year.

ON THE ROAD AGAIN?

We have had a wonderful time traveling to more chapter's meetings than we have attended in many years. It has also been a learning experience as we have observed how other chapters do

their work. We have been able to participate in many chapters by filling vacant stations. We also have picked up some good ideas and some wonderful recipes.

In our travels we have often included sisters and brothers from Powhatan Chapter. We have represented Midlothian, Powhatan, and, by virtue of Anna's dual membership, Manchester. Your Worthy Matron's traveling jewel has been worn all over Virginia and also at the Grand Chapters of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island. Our chapter has received a special invitation from the Worthy Grand Matron of Nova Scotia and PEI to attend her session in July. It's cool in Canada in July. Join me?

PLAY REPORT

There were eleven around the big table at the Swift Creek Mill Playhouse for a delicious meal before we were entertained by **PETE AND KEELY**. This musical comedy was for the most part a two person show with a very talented pianist putting in a word from time to time. Just going to Swift Creek Mill is an education. The building has an illustrious history and could well serve as a museum as well as a theater. It is hoped that those who attended the plays this year, here and at Barksdale at Willow Lawn, enjoyed themselves and "soaked up a little culture."

CONCERNS

The snow and cold weather have not served to improve our health very much except that it might have washed some germs out of the air and kept us at home and out of crowds for a while.

Sister Mary Arbogast is suffering from asthmatic bronchitis and would appreciate our prayers - as would Duane.

Julie Marshall's mother continues to need round the clock attention. Please remember her as well as Julie and her sister as they provide this help.

Retha Shealy and Barbara Robison both continue their battle with cancer.

Maxine Watson and T L Jernigan are improving. Mike Colley is back at work.

Ruth Smith is still having problems.

Several of our members have been laid low by bad colds and sinus problems and the damp weather is not helping those with arthritis.

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

We wish a happy birthday to these sisters

March 10 - Barbara Robison

March 20 - Julie Marshall

March 27 - Liz McNeer

March 27 - Charlotte Boyce

SCHOOL OF INSTRUCTION

There will be a School of Instruction on March 2 at 7:30 to go over our opening, closing, and installation. Please - all present officers and all those to be installed make every effort to be there.

MARCH MEETING

This will be our weather delayed Friendship Night. Annual committee reports, the audit committee and trustees report will be given and we will have the election of new officers.

We hope to welcome a lot of visitors and look forward to a wonderful social hour as we end one chapter year and anticipate the next one. Thanks to Dianna and her refreshment committee for goodies.

Lady officers wear your happiest formals and gentlemen wear your tuxedos.

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

Sister Anna Helms and Brother Sam Shealy and their corps of officers will be installed at 2:00 on Saturday, March 13. Anna has asked that her lady officers wear white. Please sign up after our meeting to provide food for the reception following the installation.