

Steel Magnolias

Breast Cancer Support Group, Inc.

New Beginnings and Me

July 17, 2017

The first New Beginnings Banquet was held in the RMC Private Dining Room. From the beginning, this special event has been held the fourth Tuesday, of the month of July. The month of July was chosen because that is the day we, US citizens celebrate Independence Day. The event was named New Beginnings because every cancer survivor is required to have a new beginning. Our theme song is and has been from the start of Steel Magnolias, "I Hope You Dance." This is not a reference to any formal dance but rather, "The Dance of Life," what ever that means to each individual.



A new beginning is required of everyone, whether they have ever been diagnosed with cancer, and usually several times. Years ago, I wrote a poem, comparing the seasons in a person's life to seasons of the year. Depending on where we are on our life's journey, tells something about what a new beginning means to us:

Sharing love through support

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Like us on Facebook

Email any officer by typing
Their—first name
@steelmagnoliasinc.org

Seasons of Life

By Lenora Washington Johnson

Oh Life! So full so rich so sweet;
From which there is but one retreat.
So like the seasons of the year;
You bring laughter, sadness, joy and fear.
Oh Spring of Life! So sweet and pure;
Reaching out with your beckoning lure.
Walk among the trees and calm brooks of life;
Where gentle winds erase all sadness and strife.
Come sit in the sunshine of a sultry day;
As life moves to summer, with fickleness and play
Like waves of the ocean that that roar and breaks;
Youth walks tall, and spirited, and brave.
Shadows are gathering across endless skies;
As autumn approaches and summer dies.
Like the parching of leaves in a cool dry breeze;
Life replaces youth with wisdom that old eyes see.
Oh the darkness of a winter's night;
So like the retreat of a man's short life.
Stealing the spring, the summer, the fall
To leave only darkness without recall.
No sound of singing or drum and fife,
To announce the end of mortal life;
Just the voice of our risen King,
"Come my child, spend eternity with me.

As we attend this 14th annual New Beginnings Banquet, let us all celebrate our New Beginning! Let us make the commitment that when we get the chance to sit it out or dance, WE WILL DANCE! "For this is the day the Lord has made, we will rejoice and be glad in it." Psalm 118:24

Submitted by Lenora Johnson, Founder

**Steel Magnolias & Men of Steel Meeting
June 27, 2017**

The Steel Magnolias Breast Cancer Support Group Inc met on Tuesday, June 27th in the private dining room of RMC.

The meeting was called to order by President Elaine Johns. We had no visitors.

Our meal of baked sweet and iris potatoes was provided by RMC and the side dishes and desserts were provided by Steel Magnolia members.

Our guest speaker was Adam Portwood from Walgreens. Adam discussed several topics including a new Walgreen App that can be used with your smart phone, brand name versus generic drugs, Walgreen discount cards, and scams. A question and answer session followed with a lively discussion about scams.

BUSINESS MEETING:

Secretary Connie Stephens read the minutes from the May meeting. Steve Stephens made the motion to accept the minutes as read and Della McNeil 2nd the motion. The meeting minutes were accepted.

Treasurer Chuck Trull gave the financial report.

Elaine continued a discussion from our May meeting about changing our meeting start time from 5:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. After a short discussion and a vote by the members, it was agreed that our meetings will start at 5:30 p.m. beginning in August.

Elaine told the group that Steel Magnolias has been invited to set up our tent at the Lobster Fest in October. A decision will be made later after gathering more information.

Margaret Taylor gave out invitations and tickets to the New Beginnings Banquet which will be held at Classic on Noble on July 25th at 6:00 p.m. Tickets must be presented for entry to the banquet.

Chaplain Sherry Grinstead gave a short devotional and ended with a prayer after going over the prayer list.

There was a drawing for prizes and the following members were the lucky winners: Shirley Barger, Chuck Trull and Margaret Taylor.

Steve Stephens made the motion to adjourn the meeting and Chuck Trull 2nd the motion. Meeting was adjourned.

SUBMITTED BY:

Secretary Connie Stephens



Steel Magnolias Men of Steel June Meeting

Quad City BBQ

On June 10th around 16 or 17 Steel Magnolias and Men of Steel met at the Quad City Fire Department on Hwy 9 somewhere between 9:30 and 10 am. We set up our table and displayed our information and began meeting the stream of people that came for the BBQ and the homemade ice cream. You could smell it for miles! We made some good contacts and enjoyed the day. "Melissa" the Pink Fire truck was there for everyone to sign. There were representatives there from several local and state (fire, rescue, and law enforcement) agencies. There also were booths there with unique items for sale. It was a good day! This is an annual event and we have a standing invitation every year. If you didn't make it this year, plan on coming next year. You will have a good time!

Submitted by Elaine Johns



Birthdays and Survivor Years!

August 2nd is Susan Dupree's birthday and she is 10 year survivor from her first cancer and this past February was 5 years from her second cancer!

Up Coming Events

July 25th is our 14th New Beginnings Banquet at Classic on Noble at 6pm. Our guest speaker will be Edie Hand. She is a business woman, speaker, television/radio celebrity, author and Mom. The business world knows her for her many acts of kindness and work in various charities. She is the founder of Genuine Pearl Girls Society who promotes these acts of kindness to make lives better for women and children. Dave Roberts will be our MC again this year. Our musical talent will be Tiffany Hamilton.

Don't forget to bring your tickets, you MUST have a ticket for entrance to the banquet.

August 14th is the next newsletter mailing day.



President's Corner

It is time again for our New Beginnings Banquet at Classic on Noble. I know that Nancy Burnell has put in a lot of work to bring everything together for a great evening of entertainment and a delicious meal. Our theme for the banquet is "Mopping with Pearls".

We have a lot of hard working people in our group and we want to recognize them at the banquet. Make sure you have confirmed your reservation by the instructions on your invitation. Remember to bring your ticket for entry to the banquet.

I want to encourage you to write your story to be published in our newsletter. Our newsletter wants to be encouraging to others and to share your story can be so helpful to others facing cancer. I know every story is not easy and the struggle is hard, but all we can do is fight. Sometimes it is a mental fight more than a physical one. Trust in the Lord and he will help you. I know He has helped me and many others in our group. Our group is founded on the Prayer of Jabez and the Lord has blessed our group in many ways. He will bless you too if you will put your trust in Him.

If you would like for us to pray for you or someone else please call the office and leave just your first name and what type cancer you have. The number to call is 256-231-8827 and we will add you or your loved one to our prayer list.

We want to invite you to our meeting held the 4th Tuesday of each month in the private dining room at RMC. The private dining room is located down the hall from the cafeteria at RMC. Just come and you will hear the laughter! The only months we do not meet are July, November and December. We have our banquet for active members in July, November's meeting would be 2 days before Thanksgiving and we have a Christmas Brunch in December for our active members. Come be a part of us, we would love to have you.

I have enclosed a thank you from Cindy Norred. Her thank you makes everything we do worthwhile.

Submitted by:
Elaine Johns

To all the wonderful
Steel Magnolias,
I received my Knitted Knockers
just 3 days after talking with you.
They are wonderful - so light
and can be adjusted perfectly.
When you 50 and diagnosed with
Stage 3 breast cancer it's hard to
take in, then when you're given
a wad of cotton + told to wear that
until you can get a (heavy) prosthesis
that's even harder. But, thank God
I found you. My Knitted Knockers
is perfect and I have some of my
"normal" back. I am still in my
first phase of chemo so I have a
little bit more to go, but at least
I have a way to at least look
normal. Thank you - thank you -
to all the volunteers, the knitters,
the fund raisers and all involved.
You really do make a difference! 

Joggin' Inside

Chess

We were celebrating the 100th anniversary of our church, and several former pastors and the bishop were in attendance. At one point, our minister had the children gather at the altar for a talk about the importance of the day. He began by asking them, "Does anyone know what the bishop does?" There was silence. But finally, one little boy answered gravely, "He's the one you can move diagonally."

Cutting Carbs

The teacher in our Bible class asked a woman to read from the Book of Numbers about the Israelites wandering in the desert. "The Lord heard you when you wailed, 'If only we had meat to eat!' " she began. "Now the Lord will give you meat. You will not eat it for just one day, or two days, or five, or ten or twenty days, but for a month—until you loathe it."

When the woman finished, she paused, looked up, and said, "Hey, isn't that the Atkins diet?"

False Advertising

A computer salesman dies and meets St. Peter at the Pearly Gates. St. Peter tells the salesman that he can choose between heaven and hell. First he shows the man heaven, where people in white robes play harps and float around.

"Dull," says the salesman.

Next, St. Peter shows him hell: toga parties, excellent food and wine, and everyone looking as though he's having a wonderful time.

"I'll take hell," he says.

He enters the gates of hell and is immediately set upon by a dozen demons who poke him with pitchforks. "Hey," the salesman demands as Satan walks past, "what happened to the party I saw going on?"

"Ah," Satan replies. "You must have seen our demo."

Forced Into It

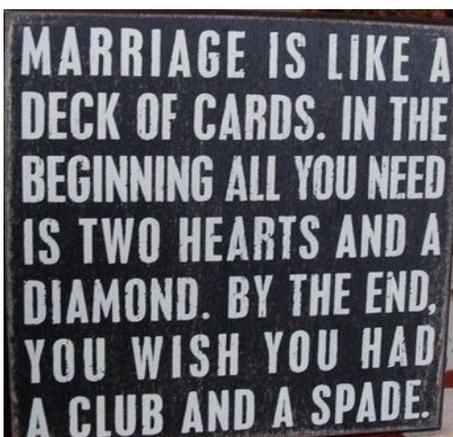
We accompanied our son and his fiancée when they met with her priest to sign some pre-wedding ceremony papers. While filling out the form, our son read aloud a few questions. When he got to the last one, which read "Are you entering this marriage at your own will?" he looked over at his fiancée.

"Put down 'yes,'" she said.

In The Army Now

During his fourth week of basic training, my grandson was able to make a brief phone call to me. He said he was attending church on base every week, which I was pleased to hear.

"Everyone goes to church here," he added. "It's the only place we don't get yelled at."



We all know
mirrors don't lie...
I'm just grateful
that they don't
laugh!



Services Offered By Steel Magnolias Breast Cancer Support Group, Inc.

1. Group Meetings

Steel Magnolias meet on the 4th Tuesday of each month at 5:00 p.m. in the 1st Floor Private Dining Room of RMC.

2. Steel Magnolias' Office

Our office is located in suite 407 of the Physicians Center in Anniston. Currently our office is staffed (part time) by Steel Magnolias volunteers Monday through Friday, 11:00 am - 4:00 pm. Every effort is made to have someone in the office when our staff is sick or on vacation. Phone (256) 231-8827

3. PINKS Boutique

Located in the Physicians' Center across from the Steel Magnolias Office, we are stocked with Mastectomy Bras, Breast Prosthesis, Wigs, Hats and Scarves. These items are of no cost to cancer patients.

4. Care Packages

Steel Magnolias provide a comfort package including inspirational and educational materials to breast cancer patients the day of surgery at Regional Medical Center. Packages are mailed or taken to newly diagnosed patients who do not receive them on day of surgery.

5. Dining Vouchers

Dining vouchers are provided for two family members of any patient, in surgery, at Regional Medical Center. Each provides a meal in the hospital cafeteria.

6. Snacks

Steel Magnolias provide the following: (1) snacks in Anniston Oncology chemo treatment room - Suite 602 Physician Center (2) chemo treatment room on the 4th floor of RMC and (3) the Radiation / Oncology Center on 2nd Floor of RMC.

7. Breast Cancer Awareness Program

Available to girls in grades 7-12, this program is taught in the school by a trained volunteer under the supervision of a Registered Nurse. Anyone interested in having our program presented, contact our office.

8. Speakers Bureau

Speakers are available to civic clubs and churches. To schedule, contact our office.

9. Steel Magnolias Newsletter

Our monthly newsletter is an informative and inspirational publication about upcoming events, meetings and activities. Also included is a joke page and current information regarding cancer testing and treatments.

10. Web-Site

www.steelmagnoliasinc.org is a great source of information and inspiration. Also, 

11. Men of Steel

Group of men (husbands, friends or family) of breast cancer patients or survivors and for men who themselves are breast cancer survivors. Meetings are held jointly with Steel Magnolias (see Group Meetings #1). Contact Jimmy Taylor (256-463-4313) or email tjimmeg63@aol.com for additional information.

12. Prayer

We are praying for you with love and blessings.

WAYS YOU CAN HELP

1. VOLUNTEER YOUR TIME

- attend our meetings and get involved with us
- volunteer for office work or Pinks Boutique
- help with our fund raisers (2 per year)
 - a. Bake and jewelry sale (annually the Saturday before Easter at Quintard Mall)
 - b. Golf Tournament at Pine Hill Golf Course (in the spring each year). Numerous opportunities to serve.

2. CONTRIBUTE - contributions are tax deductible (a 501(c)3 tax exempt organization) and can be made to: Steel Magnolias, P.O. Box 2208, Anniston, AL 36202. ALL contributions are used to provide services to breast cancer patients who reach out to us.

3. DONATE UNUSED JEWELRY (new, vintage or broken) - it is cleaned, repaired and resold at our events. Drop off at the following: Steel Magnolia Office, Cotton Antiques, 508 Main Street, Oxford or call Marti Warren 256-237-0206.

4. PRAY FOR OUR MINISTRY

THE MYSTERIES OF CHRIST

G R R E N N O I T A V L A S
 O D E R U G I F S N A R T A
 S V S T N C P B R R U E N V
 T L U S S R H M L E P S O G
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 E O R L T A T L I A I A Y E
 R Y A C S E V F H O P E M S

ANNUNCIATION	GABRIEL	MYSTERY	SALVATION
ASCENSION	GOSPEL	PASCHAL	SAVIOR
BIRTH	HOPE	PASSION	TRANSFIGURED
CROSS	INCARNATE	PRAYER	TRINITY
EASTER	LAMB	REDEMPTION	
EUCARIST	MIRACLES	RESURRECTION	