

# Steel Magnolias

## Breast Cancer Support Group, Inc.

### Blessings and Thanksgiving

This is the time of the year when families gather together to give thanks and to be with the ones they love. They give thanks for their salvation, their families, their jobs and the list goes on and on. The Steel Magnolias also have a lot to be thankful for this year.

Sunny King Automotive Group again this year has been a blessing to our group. They pledged \$50 per new or used vehicles sold during the month of October at any of the three Sunny King Dealerships. They raised \$18,750 for the Steel Magnolias! That is a blessing! On top of that they included us in their commercials on TV. We have worked so hard for many years to get our name out in the community and they have also helped us do that.

It is hard to put into words how thankful we are and how much we appreciate the support that Sunny King has provided. It goes a long way to pay for prosthesis, bras, wigs, compression sleeves, snacks and items for our care packages for Cancer patients. We operate on a yearly budget of approximately \$35,000 and this money helps out tremendously. Last year I shared with Mrs. King that we were founded on the "Prayer of Jabez" and with this help we can broaden our support to others.

I hope everyone reading this will thank Mrs. King, John Bryan, Lynn Freeman, Vernon Thomas, Tony Russell and Nathan Jordan for supporting the Steel Magnolias during Breast Cancer Awareness month.

Remember to buy local and give back to the people that support us!

Give thanks and be a blessing to someone!



November 19, 2018



### Sharing love through support

Steel Magnolias  
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Anniston, AL 36202

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Nancy Burnell Co-Vice Presidents  
Brenda Parker, Secretary  
Chuck Trull, Treasurer  
Group Chaplains: Gloria Woosley  
& Sherry Grinstead  
RMC Chaplain, Jim Wilson  
Historian & Photographer  
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Pinks Boutique: Call the office for  
an Appointment @ 256-231-8827  
Physicians Center, STE 407  
901 Leighton Ave.  
Anniston, AL 36207  
[www.steelmagnoliasinc.org](http://www.steelmagnoliasinc.org)

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Their—first name  
[@steelmagnoliasinc.org](mailto:@steelmagnoliasinc.org)

## Seasons of Life

Until age 22, when my family moved from Collier County, Florida to Calhoun County, Alabama, I had never experienced the changes that occur to God's created world. We arrived in Calhoun County in July, 1963, so my first season was autumn, with all the colorful leaves. I was so affected that in 1964, I wrote a poem, "The Seasons of Life." From that Poem I will share one verse:

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.

Now in 2018, like me, many others have reached that season in their lives. This should not be a time of sadness and regrets! Rather, this should be a time of rejoicing that we have lived through our spring and summer seasons. As all of us know, many do not.

Our faces are not glowing smooth as in our youth and our hair is not as thick and strong in texture and color as it once was. Many of us have lost the love of our life, our soul mate and are struggling with health problems; however, God has sustained us for a purpose. On an old daily calendar, I recently read: "Those misunderstandings, that mortification, that disappointment, that loss, that defeat--all these are chariots waiting to carry you to the very height of victory you have so longed to reach." "Even to your old age and even to gray hairs, I am He, I am He who will sustain you; I have made you and I will carry you; and I will rescue you." Isaiah 46: 4

When discussing our youth, most of us remember mistakes we made when we had too few life experiences to make wise decisions. As we age, some of us allow these regrets to steal our peace. In Psalms 103: 11-12, we read: "For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is His love for those who fear Him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us." Commentary in my Application Bible reads: "East and west can never meet. This is a symbolic portrait of God's forgiveness."

It is my prayer that every person reading these words will remember and trust in God's promise in Isaiah 40: 28-31 "Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow weary, and His understanding no one can fathom. He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men fall; but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint."

Submitted by Lenora Johnson  
Founder of Steel Magnolias Breast Cancer Support Group, Inc.



**STEEL MAGNOLIAS MEETING  
OCTOBER 23, 2018**

**Elaine Johns, President, called the meeting to order.**

**Minutes from the previous meeting were read. Motion made by Judy Elders and seconded by Steve Stephens that minutes be accepted as read.**

**Chuck presented the Treasurer's Report with beginning balance of \$14,017.96 and ending balance of \$16,683.11. Chuck pointed out some of the totals of the month's fund raisers: \$257.00 at Tutus for Tatas in sales; \$1847.00 total donation from Harley Davidson; and \$885.00 at Oxfordfest.**

**Our guest speaker was Mark Ford, Director of Radiation Oncology at RMC. Mr. Ford presented the group with a very comprehensive overview of the new Radiation Oncology building for RMC. This building will house all of the radiation/oncology treatment facilities, doctors, snack bar, and even an office for Steel Magnolias and our Pink Boutique. The plans for the building were awesome and are being built as a joint venture with UAB.**

**Jimmy Taylor talked with the group about next year's golf tournament. He is meeting with Pine Hill, Cider Ridge, and Silver Lakes golf courses and will present his recommendation at the first meeting of the golf committee.**

**Elaine reminded the group of several functions that Steel Magnolias has been invited to participate in during the rest of the month of October: Oct 26 is the "Break for Breakfast" at the RMC Mediplex in Oxford; Oct 27 is the Breast Cancer "PINK" breakfast at Golden Corral. She also reminded us that we would not be meeting in the month of November.**

**Nancy Burnell talked to us about the Christmas Brunch scheduled for December 1, 2018, at Alexander's at Noble Street at 10:00 AM. She handed out invitations and encouraged everyone to RSVP so that we would not have to pay for meals not eaten.**

**Nancy also talked to the group about the nominating committee not being able to meet and come up with a slate of officers for the next year. She suggested the current officers stay in place until 1<sup>st</sup> Qtr. of next year. By then the committee will have had a chance to meet and present the group with a slate of officers. This was unanimously accepted by the group.**

**Sherry went over the prayer list and gave a short devotion about the fact that God is our protector for anything that comes our way.**

**Door prizes were won by Vicky Norman, Brenda Cosper, Della McNeal and Janet Reese.**

**No further business, motion was made by Steve Stephens and seconded by Judy Elders that meeting be adjourned.**

**Submitted by Brenda Parker  
Secretary**







## **Birthdays and Survivor Years!**

**November 26<sup>th</sup> is Christie Renfroe's birthday and she is a volunteer**  
**December 9<sup>th</sup> is Kenny Guldin's birthday and he is a Man of Steel**  
**December 13<sup>th</sup> is Marti Warren's birthday and she is a 34 year survivor!**  
**December 17<sup>th</sup> is Judy Elders' birthday and she is a 22 year survivor!**  
**December 17<sup>th</sup> is Doris McWhorter's birthday and she is a 11 year survivor!**  
**January 7<sup>th</sup> is Janet Reese's birthday and she is a 19 year survivor!**  
**January 12<sup>th</sup> is Jessie Rhodes' birthday and she is a volunteer.**

## **Upcoming Events**

**December 1<sup>st</sup> is our annual Christmas Brunch at Alexander's at Noble Shops. If you are an active member and have received your invitation, please do not forget to RSVP by November 23<sup>rd</sup> by emailing Nancy at [nancyburnell@gmail.com](mailto:nancyburnell@gmail.com) or call 256-835-5380. If you are bringing guest, let her know that also. The cost for your guest is \$10 per person and needs to be mailed to Nancy or the office.**

**January 14<sup>th</sup> is the next mailing day for the newsletter. There will be no December newsletter. If you have something to go in the newsletter please send it to [elaine@steelmagnoliasinc.org](mailto:elaine@steelmagnoliasinc.org) or mail it to Elaine Johns c/o Steel Magnolias PO Box 2208 Anniston, Al 36202. We still invite you to share your story. You can email it or mail it in and it can be anonymous if you want. It can be such inspiration for someone starting this journey.**

**January 22<sup>nd</sup> will be our next meeting in the private dining room at RMC. We will provide our speaker information and what we are having for supper in the January newsletter.**

## **Other October Updates**

**Nancy, Elaine and Della attended Tangelia's "Passionate 4 Pink" breakfast at Golden Corral. Gwen Smith welcomed everyone and Michael Morrison, Elaine Johns for Mike Rayburn and Nancy Burnell spoke to the group. It was a very informative event and we enjoyed the great fellowship. Tangelia put on a run, the breakfast and sold chances on a "breast cancer survivor basket" this month to raise money for the Steel Magnolias! She raised \$500 for us! Next year her run will be in Anniston. Way to go, Tangelia!**

**Nancy Burnell was featured in the Anniston Star's "Breast Cancer Awareness" section during October. She shared the background of the Steel Magnolias and the services we offer. We have sent out 40 care packages, we have assisted 102 women in the Pinks Boutique and provided 179 meal vouchers so far this year.**

**Submitted by Elaine Johns**



# **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](http://www.steelmagnoliasinc.org) is a great source of information and inspiration. Also,  Find us on: facebook.

## **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](mailto:tjimmeg63@aol.com) for additional information.

## **12. Prayer**

We are praying for you with love and blessings.

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## **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**

**"Joggin' Inside"**

**A man forgot to buy turkey for Thanksgiving**

It's the day before Thanksgiving, and the butcher is just locking up when a man begins pounding on the front door.

"Please let me in," says the man desperately. "I forgot to buy a turkey, and my wife will kill me if I don't come home with one."

"Okay," says the butcher. "Let me see what I have left." He goes into the freezer and discovers that there's only one scrawny turkey left. He brings it out to show the man.

"That's one is too skinny. What else you got?" says the man.

The butcher takes the bird back into the freezer and waits a few minutes and brings the same turkey back out to the man.

"Oh, no," says the man, "That one doesn't look any better. You better give me both of them!"

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**Bigger Bird**

A lady was picking through the frozen turkeys at the grocery store, but couldn't find one big enough for her family. She asked the stock boy, "Do these turkeys get any bigger?" The stock boy answered,

"No ma'am, they're dead."

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**HOW TO START A FIGHT**

One year, I decided to buy my mother-in-law a cemetery plot as a Christmas gift

The next year, I didn't buy her a gift.

When she asked me why, I replied, "Well, you still haven't used the gift I bought you last year!"

And that's how the fight started.....

**Times are changing**

A couple took their children to one of those restaurants where the walls are plastered with movie memorabilia. The father went off to see the hostess about reserving a table.

When he returned, he found his 10-year-old granddaughter, Kaitlyn, staring at a poster of Superman standing in a phone booth.

Kaitlyn looked puzzled. "She doesn't know who Superman is?" he whispered to his wife. "Worse," his wife replied.

"She doesn't know what a phone booth is."

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**While I was running today I heard someone clapping but it was just my thighs cheering me on.**

**Improving**

A little girl was sitting on her grandfather's lap as he read her a bedtime story. From time to time, she would take her eyes off the book and reach up and touch his wrinkled cheek. She was alternately stroking her own cheek, then his again. Finally, she spoke up:

"Grandpa, did God make you?"

"Yes, sweetheart," he answered. "God made me a long time ago."

"Oh," she paused. "Grandpa, did God make me too?"

"Yes indeed, honey," he said. "God made you just a little while ago."

Feeling their respective faces again, she observed, "God's getting better at it, isn't He?"

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Back in the woods, a redneck's wife went into labor in the middle of the night and the doctor was called out to assist in the delivery. Since there was no electricity the doctor handed the father-to-be a lantern and said "Here you hold this high so I can see what I'm doing". Soon a baby boy was brought into the world. "Whoa there," said the doctor. "Don't be in a rush to put the lantern down. I think there's yet another one to come." Sure enough within minutes he delivered a baby girl. "No, no, no, don't be in a great hurry putting that lantern down, it seems there's yet another one in there!" cried the doctor. The redneck scratched his head in bewilderment and asked the doctor, "Do you think it's the light that's attractin' 'em?"

## SEASON OF ADVENT by Donna Houston

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

Find the words in **bold**:

The season of **ADVENT** is the **FIRST** season of the church year (The First **SUNDAY** of Advent is the beginning of the liturgical **CALENDAR**). The **TERM** advent comes from a **LATIN** word meaning coming or **ARRIVAL**. During Advent, the **CHURCH CELEBRATES** not only the historical **EVENT** of the Messiah's **COMING** and **BIRTH**, but **ALSO** the arrival of Christ in our **MIDST TODAY**, and the future coming of our **RISEN** Savior who will **RETURN** as **JUDGE** of the living and the **DEAD**. Throughout Advent, **THEN**, we are always encountering God's **WORK** through Jesus Christ in the **PAST**, **PRESENT** and future. It is a time of **EAGER** anticipation, where Christians throughout the **WORLD PREPARE** for and **REFLECT** on God's **LOVE** and **GRACE** before the celebration of Christmas. The **SEASON** reminds us that we are at all times **EXPECTANT PEOPLE**—people **WAITING**, preparing, proclaiming and rejoicing.