

# Steel Magnolias

## Breast Cancer Support Group, Inc.

### Without Warning

Before Hurricane Harvey came ashore in South East Texas, dumping a record amount of rain, overflowing rivers, failing dams, etc., displacing hundreds of thousands of people, destroying their homes and taking the lives of both people and animals, I had planned a much different homepage.

On September 2, 1945, General Douglas McArthur, traveled into Tokyo aboard the USS Missouri and signed the declaration of peace with the Japanese. The war was over!! There is so much more in the background of this eventful day that most of us never learned in our history classes. Miracle after miracle, happened, because of little known events and people, miracles that led to this eventful day. I hope to one day return to this subject.

Hurricane Harvey, not the strongest hurricane to hit East Texas, was expected to still be bad but the breakdown of infrastructure added to record rainfall was not expected.

The most life altering events in each of our lives, usually comes without warning. At least warnings we are aware of. This was true in March 1993 when my husband had a major heart attack the evening after "The Storm of the Century" dumped 14 to 16 inches of snow at our house. It was true when I was diagnosed with breast cancer in September 1999 and it was true in March 2013 when I found my beloved Prentiss Johnson, sitting on his tractor, dead. We are always shocked by what changes, unexpected disaster means in our lives, not to mention the suffocating grief.

We read in God's word: "Do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own." Matthew 6:34 "Now listen, you who say, 'Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money. Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. Instead you ought to say, 'If it is the Lord's will, we will live and do this or that.' As it is, you boast and brag. All such boasting is evil. Anyone, then who knows the good he ought to do and doesn't do it, sins."

September 18, 2017



### Sharing love through support

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**It has been a joy to see the multitude of people from all over this country who had a boat, or other water worthy vehicle go to Texas, and states just east of Texas to rescue stranded people and animals. Many refugees have found shelter not only in public buildings but in churches, even furniture stores on mattresses displayed for sale. Now that some people have been able to return and see the devastation that awaits them, multitudes more have come to offer help in whatever way possible. Many individuals, as well as athletic departments in colleges and professional teams have donated, money, bottled water, food and clothing, for the water rose so quickly that Texan's fled with only the clothing on their backs!**

**As people offered help, there was no thought about race, religion, color of skin, rich or poor. Suffering and loss has no respect of persons. What the world has been witness to in Texas, has overshadowed the work of those who would divide us. In Philippians 4:8 we read, "Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable-- if anything is excellent or praiseworthy--think about such things."**

**Several years ago, after marrying and becoming the mother of three beautiful sons, Van, Bill and Greg Johnson, I wrote the following poem to honor my memory of a loving man and woman who, when I was a child, displayed all these attributes, just as the helpers of those devastated by Hurricane Harvey are displaying.**

**Generous Ways  
Lenora Washington Johnson**

**A gentle conductor on a southbound train;  
An humble neighbor in a strange new place,  
Gave of themselves in tender ways,  
Displaying to me our Savior's grace.  
For those who paused along their paths,  
Who gave of themselves in generous actions.  
For those who loved three isolated children,  
Introducing to us Christ's spiritual direction;  
Thank you Lord for special people  
Who planted seeds that produced salvation.  
Let there be in the world today,  
People who will pause along their paths  
To reach little children in generous ways,  
Revealing to them God's saving grace.  
Make me, God, one who will take the time,  
Who'll pause along my busy days,  
That children can see the love of Christ  
That was shown to me in generous ways.**

**In less than two weeks time after Hurricane Harvey came ashore in E. Texas as a category 4 hurricane on August 26, battering Texas, until finally moving on to Louisiana on August 30; Hurricane Irma, the largest and strongest hurricane ever to form in the Atlantic, after battering the Caribbean and Cuba, made landfall as a category 4 in the Florida Keys, taking a north western path. While Irma caused much damage across the entire state of Florida: damaging winds, flooding and disruption to power throughout Florida; the devastation and loss of life cannot be compared to the damage and loss of life caused by Harvey. It will take Texas many years to recover. The remnants of Irma finally made it to N. E, Alabama and onto states to the north.**

**Submitted by Lenora Johnson, Founder**

**Steel Magnolias & Men of Steel Meeting**  
**August 22, 2017**

The Steel Magnolias Breast Cancer Support Group Inc. met on Tuesday, August 22nd in the private dining room of RMC.

The meeting was called to order by President Elaine Johns. We had two visitors, Chuck Trull's grandson, who is leaving to go into Basic Training at Ft. Benning in September, and Jessica Rich.

Ina Rooks said the blessing before our meal of ham and turkey croissants provided by RMC. Side dishes and desserts were provided by Steel Magnolia members.

Our guest speaker was our own Ina Rooks. Ina is a 13 year cancer survivor and was diagnosed in March 2004. She spoke about her journey with cancer and how much becoming a member of Steel Magnolias helped her. Ina said that being a member of our group and helping others has made her a much stronger person.

**BUSINESS MEETING:**

Secretary Connie Stephens read the minutes from the June meeting. Steve Stephens made the motion to accept the minutes as read and Linda Barton 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. The meeting minutes were accepted.

Treasurer Chuck Trull gave the financial report.

Elaine went over upcoming events and reminded everyone that planned to go to the Survivor Dinner at the Anniston Meeting Center to see her for the phone number to call and sign up. She also asked for volunteers to work at the Rumble Around the Loop on Aug. 26<sup>th</sup> and passed a sign up sheet for those that would be able to work. She also reminded us about Tutus for Tatas that will be held at Mt. Cheaha Harley-Davidson in Oxford on October 8<sup>th</sup> and passed out flyers.

Executive Director Nancy Burnell discussed the New Beginnings Banquet stating that we had 114 in attendance. We all agreed that requiring a ticket for entry to the banquet was a good idea. Nancy also told us to be thinking about where we want to have our Christmas Brunch this year. We can go to Classic on Noble or find another location.

Jimmy Taylor discussed the 2018 Lea Fite Golf Tournament which is tentatively scheduled for April 21<sup>st</sup> at Pine Hill Golf Course. He encouraged everyone to try to get at least one hole sponsorship for the tournament.

Margaret Taylor announced that we need more volunteers to work in the Pinks Boutique and stated that if we can't get someone to work on Tuesday's we may have to shut the office down on Tuesdays. She asked that anyone who can volunteer even for just a few hours a day to see her after the meeting.

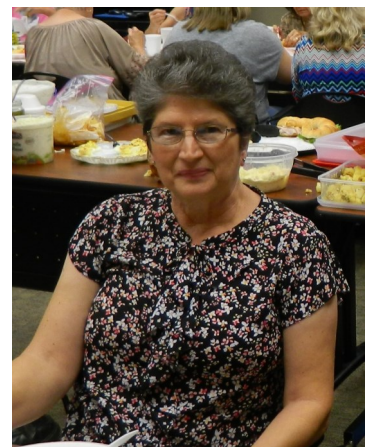
Chaplain Sherry Grinstead gave a short devotional and ended with a prayer after going over the prayer list.

There was a drawing for prizes and the following members were the lucky winners: Jimmy Taylor, Ina Rooks and Nancy Johnston.

Steve Stephens made the motion to adjourn the meeting and Kenny Guldin 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Meeting was adjourned.

**SUBMITTED BY:**

Connie Stephens Secretary



## **Birthdays and Survivor Years!**

September 20<sup>th</sup> is Steve Stevens' birthday, he is a Man of Steel!  
September 21<sup>st</sup> is Jimmy Taylor's birthday, he is a Man of Steel!  
September 24<sup>th</sup> is Pat Yates' birthday, she is a volunteer!  
October 6<sup>th</sup> is Linda Barton's birthday, she is a volunteer!  
October 11<sup>th</sup> is Margaret Martin's birthday, she is a 30 year survivor!  
October 13<sup>th</sup> is Karen Davis' birthday, she is a volunteer!

## **Upcoming Events**

September 22<sup>nd</sup> will be our next meeting in the private dining room at 5pm on the first floor at RMC. We will have chicken fingers, Steel Magnolias please bring side dishes and deserts. We will have no speaker. Be ready to work at this meeting, we have wash cloths to roll and tie ribbons around them, we also have rings to tag with sizes. All these items will be for sale at Oxfordfest on the 7<sup>th</sup> of October. Please bring any ideas for fundraising.

During October RMC will be providing 3-D mammograms at a reduced rate for the entire month of October at the Oxford Mediplex encouraging preventative healthcare. Please come take advantage of this service!

October 7<sup>th</sup> is Oxfordfest! We will be in front of Cotton Antiques on the sidewalk not in the street. We will have sign up sheets at the meeting to man our tables. We will talk about this in our meeting on the 22<sup>nd</sup>.

October 8<sup>th</sup> will be the Tutus for Tatas at Mt. Cheaha Harley Davidson in Oxford from noon until 3:30. There will be a pink fire truck at this event! The ladies from Hog Chapter #3476 have put in a lot of work for this event to raise money for us and to recognize us in the community.

October 16<sup>th</sup> is our next newsletter mailing day.

October 27<sup>th</sup> from 7am until 8:30 RMC's Break for Breakfast at OXFORD MEDIPLEX 1400 Highway Drive Oxford, AL 36203. Stop by for a free healthy breakfast and information about the early detection capabilities available to you at RMC, including our new Genius 3D Mammography technology, without ever leaving your car!

## **Updates from Rumble on the loop and RMC's Cancer Survivor's Celebration**

Thanks to everyone that helped out at the Rumble on the loop. We shared our information with a lot of folks, sold shirts and bags and received several donations. We had a wonderful day with such an awesome group of people. Many thanks to the ladies from Mt. Cheaha Harley Davidson!

RMC's "ant" no stopping us now Cancer Survivor's Celebration at the Anniston Meeting Center was at hit again this year. It was a packed house this year. We had a wonderful meal and all survivors got a t-shirt also. Tripp Johnson, Asst. VP of Operations welcomed everyone and Dr. West was our guest speaker. Dr. West was very entertaining, but he also stressed the importance of cancer screening.

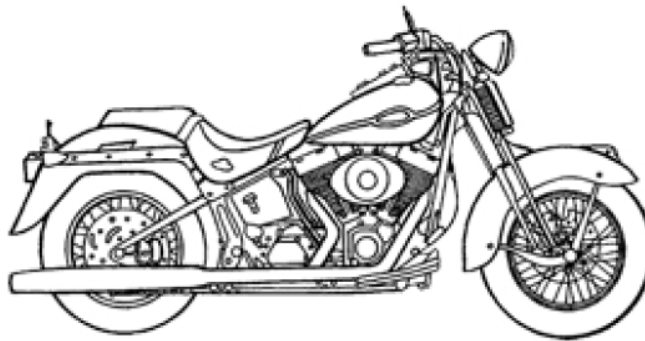
Cindy Justice called the numbers again this year for BINGO and with the help of all the volunteers gave out the gift cards to the lucky ones that won! Cindy also led everyone in singing Blossoms of Hope. Thank you RMC for celebrating life with us!

# Tutus for Tatas

PRESENTED BY MT. CHEAHA H-D HOG CHAPTER #3476  
ALL PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT THE STEEL MAGNOLIAS  
BREAST CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

**ALL BIKES WELCOME!**

**There will be awards for  
BEST COSTUME &  
BEST DECORATED BIKE**



**When:** Sunday, October 8rd, 2017  
Register from Noon-1:30pm  
Kick Stands Up @ 2:00pm  
Awards Ceremony @ 3:30pm

**Where:** Mt Cheaha Harley-Davidson  
231 Davis Loop, Oxford, AL 36203

**Ride:** Police escorted ride through Calhoun Co.  
to show off our costumes, bikes, & cause!

For more information, call Linda Green at (256) 283-5965  
or Dianne Tidmore at (256) 390 6738

## **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.

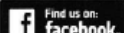
### **8. Speakers Bureau**

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.steelagnoliasinc.org](http://www.steelagnoliasinc.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](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**

## President's Corner

October is almost here and we have several events scheduled. We do not have the information on the Pink Fire Truck at the Anniston Fire Department yet, but we will let everyone know when we find out. I hope everyone tries to be at Oxfordfest at some time during the day and we need a good showing at the Tutus for Tatas also. Please mark your calendars for these events.

Our time change for our monthly meetings only applies to the actual start of the meeting. We will still meet at 5 so that everyone has time to set up side dishes and greet one another and then the meeting will start at 5:30. It gives everyone a chance to be there in time for the meeting. Please call the office and leave a message with any prayer request for the meeting by Monday the 25th to ensure that they make the list.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone on the 26th. If you have never been to our meeting and would like to come just see the previous page and the Up Coming Events for locations and times. We would love to have you.

Submitted by: Elaine

## “Joggin” Inside

### Familiar Faces

Vacationing in Hawaii, two priests decide to wear casual clothes so they won't be identified as clergy. They buy Hawaiian shirts and sandals, and soon hit the beach. They notice a gorgeous blonde in a tiny bikini. "Good afternoon, Fathers," she says as she strolls by.

The men are stunned. How does she know they're clergy? Later they buy even wilder attire: surfer shorts, tie-dyed T-shirts, and dark glasses. The next day, they return to the beach. The same fabulous blonde, now wearing a string bikini, passes by, nods politely at them, and says, "Good morning, Fathers."

"Just a minute, young lady," says one of the priests. "We are priests and proud of it, but how in the world did you know?" "Don't you recognize me? I'm Sister Kathryn from the convent."

### Grandmother's House

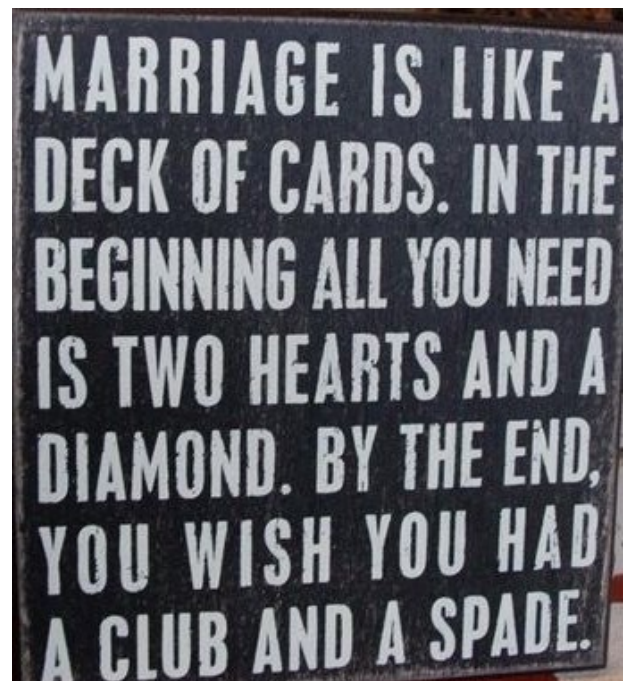
Young Ernie and his family were invited to have Easter Sunday lunch at his grandmother's house in Monkey's Eyebrow, Arizona. USA. Everyone was seated around the table as the food was being served. When Ernie received his plate he started eating straight away.

'Ernie, wait until we say grace,' demanded his father.

'I don't have to,' the five year old replied.

'Of course you do, Ernest,' his mother insisted rather forcefully. 'We always say a prayer before eating at our house.'

'That's at our house,' Ernie explained, 'but this is Grandma's house, and she knows how to cook.'



# SERVICE – STEEL MAGNOLIAS

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

BAKED GOODS

GROWTH

PINKS

TRANSPORT

CARE PACKS

JABEZ

PRAYER

TUTUS

CHAPLAIN

JEWELRY

QUAD CITY

VOLUNTEER

CLASSIC

KNOCKERS

SERVE

VOUCHERS

ENCOURAGE

LOVE

SNACKS

WATER

FRIENDS

OXFORDFEST

SPEAKERS

WIGS

GOLF

PICTURES