

Steel Magnolias

Breast Cancer Support Group, Inc.

February 17, 2014

WHY

Since starting a support group, now known as Steel Magnolias, I was asked "Why do you do this?" The long and short of it is, "LOVE." Love is at the root of every endeavor ever launched that has no other objective than making another person's life better.

February is celebrated as the month of LOVE. From 1st Corinthians: 13, the love chapter of the Bible, we have a description of love and how vital it is to everyone.

1st Corinthians 13: 1– 10, 13

If I speak in the tongues of men and angels, but have not LOVE, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have a faith that can move mountains, but have not LOVE, I am nothing. If I give all I possess to the poor and surrender my body to the flames, but have not LOVE, I gain nothing. LOVE is patient, LOVE is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. LOVE does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. LOVE never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away. For we know in part and we prophecy in part, but when perfection comes, the imperfect disappears. **And now these three remain:** faith, hope and LOVE. But the greatest of these is LOVE.

Life Application Bible 1st Corinthians 13: 13—In morally corrupt Corinth, love had become a mixed-up term with little meaning. Today people are still

confused about love. Love is the greatest of all human qualities, and it is an attribute of God himself. Love involves unselfish service to others to show it gives evidence that you care. Faith is the foundation and content of God's message; hope is the attitude and focus; love is the action. When faith and hope are in line, you are free to love completely because you understand how God loves.

Becoming a Steel Magnolias Member

We have received phone calls from breast cancer survivors who wanted to know if they could attend meetings and some wanting to know how to become a Steel Magnolias member.

Don't need to call before attending

If you are a breast cancer survivor or currently in treatment—Please just come! 4th Tuesday of each month.

Steel Magnolias is a progressive group. We meet and eat and have fun but we provide services for newly diagnosed patients, patients in treatment and are ever mindful of the families and friends who care for the precious women in their lives. Not only do we maintain services, we look for ways to make those services better and we have long range visions.

If you are a survivor with a heart of love, thinking about how your life, after becoming a survivor, can have special meaning, we hope you will attend a meeting, or visit our Steel Magnolias office. Office personnel are in office,



Sharing love through support

**Steel Magnolias
P.O. Box 2208
Anniston, AL 36202**

Lenora Johnson, Founder, Editor,
Executive Director
Elaine Johns, President
Nancy Gillespie, Vice President
Connie Stephens, Secretary
Chuck Trull, Treasurer
Group Chaplains: Marti Rogers &
Sherry Grinstead
RMC Chaplain, Jim Wilson

Pinks Boutique: Marti Warren, Mgr.
For Appointment (256) 239-0855

Office 256-231-8827
Physicians Center, STE 407
901 Leighton Ave.
Anniston, AL 36207
lenora@steelmagnoliasinc.org
www.steelmagnoliasinc.org

suite 407 of the RMC Physicians Center in the afternoons. The best time to come is 1:00 p.m. Please call (256) 231-8827. Besides caring for the office, personnel carry snacks to treatment centers for patients and assist patients with wigs, bras, etc. in Pinks Boutique.

ARE WE COLD YET?

Are we cold yet? I am! This winter, especially January has been the coldest we've had in many years. A few weeks ago, a cousin who lives in Oregon, took a picture of a daffodil, in bloom in SW Oregon. Just the sight of a daffodil fills me with hope as I wait for the warmth of Spring. A few years ago I wrote a poem for a March newsletter, "The Promise of Daffodils." After the snow storm that hit suddenly on Tuesday, January 28 and shut NC Alabama down for several days; my poem seems especially appropriate.

The Promise of Daffodils
Lenora Washington Johnson

Beneath my lovely willow tree
Her graceful limbs, bowing and spinning;
Laid bare, in the cold, north wind,
Her once rich leaves lay quivering.

Her cold and naked branches
Sleep through the winter's wind and snow
Till spring's warmth once again
Clothes her with a beauty that entrances.

In the grip of Winter's night,
My being aches with Mother Nature.
Go away day, cold and gray,
Come warmth, come beauty, come light.

While earth lays frozen and still,
In a relentless winter's chill;
My spirit is made to soar
By the promise of daffodils.



Thought For The Month

You have never really lived until you have done something for someone who can never repay you.

2013 Annual Report of Services to patients

<p>Dining Vouchers: Vouchers are given to Family or caretakers of every cancer patient in surgery at RMC and to family/care takers of patients in treatment in RMC 4th floor Oncology: 550</p>	<p>Care Packages are given to Breast Cancer patients in Same Day Surgery—Mailed to other zip Codes or picked up from the Steel Magnolias Office: 66</p>	<p>Pinks Boutique: Clients served in 2013: 104 Transportation: Quarterly Contribution Water Cooler in Chemo Treatment Rooms</p>	<p>Other Services Provided— Snacks to: Patients in: Chemo Treatment in Physicians Center and RMC 4th Floor Radiation Oncology Special Needs.</p>
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Steel Magnolias Newsletter to patients in snail mail, in email boxes, at <www.steelmagnoliasinc.org> and on Facebook. Please like us on Facebook

Participation in Group Meetings: From a low of 34 to a high of 40. **New Beginnings Banquet:** 114
Christmas Brunch: 80

Follow up of newly diagnosed breast cancer patient: Office Manager and Correspondence Chaplain, Marti Rogers, sends a “Steel Magnolias are praying for you,” card.

Birthday Remembrance: Birthdays are important to cancer patients. Everyone who attends Steel Magnolias meetings receives a card on her/his birthday, also sent by the Steel Magnolias’ Correspondence Chaplain. If you are new to Steel Magnolias/Men of Steel, make sure Marti has the month and day of your birthday.

School Girl Breast Cancer Awareness Program, under the direction of Margaret Taylor, has now helped teach about 7500 girls how to do self breast exams. In 2013 Margaret applied for a grant from the Anniston Education Foundation. Steel Magnolias School Girl Awareness Program received a grant to take the program into Oxford High School. We look forward to expanding this program into other schools in 2014.

Caring and Sharing Group: Should you need someone to talk with, Monday through Friday, a cancer survivor is in the Steel Magnolias office, except when that office personal is away because of sickness or some other personal issue. Please call (256) 231-8827. Any one of these ladies will be ready to spend time with you. If no one answers in the Steel Magnolias office, please call Chaplain’s Services in the Cancer Resource Center, (256) 235-5146. Steel Magnolias is trying to establish a “Caring and Sharing Group,” the first Monday of each month in suite 406 of the RMC Physicians Center at 1:00 p.m.. This group is designed for cancer survivors who have been very deeply wounded by cancer, either physically, mentally or emotionally. Heading this group is Chaplain Wilson, Lenora Johnson, Stephanie Thornton and Gladys Denizard. If you wish to be part of this group, please call (256) 235-5146. We don’t expect anyone to share intimate problems in a group setting, however this will give an opportunity to meet people with like concerns and to make an appointment for private counseling.



Sincere Thanks

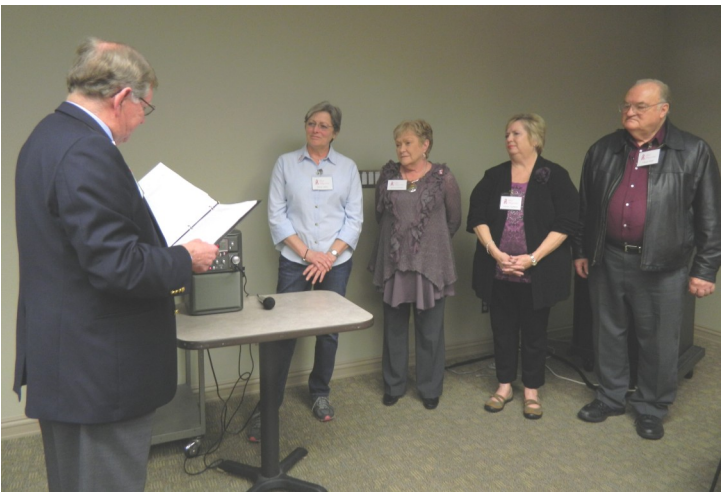
Steel Magnolias & Men of Steel sincerely thank Debra Moore for designing the beautiful banner with which our group won the 2013 RMC Calendar contest. The prize was a pizza party, paid for by the Cancer Registry Dept., directed by Wendy Watson. Sincere thanks to Dr. George Crawford for making Steel Magnolias/Men of Steel’s picture with our beautiful banner and Wendy Watson for the delicious pizza from Papa John’s Pizza. Thanks Alexandria Foodland Deli for making such a beautiful eatable image cake.

Steel Magnolias & Men of Steel Meeting

The Steel Magnolias Breast Cancer Support Group, Inc., met on Tuesday February 4th at 5:00 pm in the private dining room, of RMC. *(Editors Note: Weather conditions that made for dangerous travel on November 26, 2013 forced the RMC Calendar Pizza Party, a prize awarded by the Cancer Registrar Office, to be postponed until the January 28, 2014 meeting. The January 28th ice and snow storm that stranded travelers, made for rescheduling the January, 2014 meeting and pizza party a week, later, on February 4, 2014.)* Jimmy Taylor asked the blessing on the food. A pizza party celebrating Steel Magnolias' winning calendar page was enjoyed by all and dessert was a special cake provided by Lenora Johnson.



The new officers were installed by Chaplain Jim Wilson who began with a prayer and then read a description of each officers' position. Steel Magnolias' new officers are: President, Elaine Johns; Vice President, Nancy Gillespie; Treasurer, Chuck Trull and Secretary, Connie Stephens.



After the new officer installation, Lenora Johnson, Executive Director, presented a gift to outgoing officers and thanked them for their service.





President, Elaine Johns asked volunteers for the Health and Wellness Fair that will be held at the Quintard Mall on March 1st from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and told anyone able to work that day to see Vice President, Nancy Gillespie to sign up.

Also discussed, was the jewelry and bake sale that will be held at the mall on April 19th. We should ask friends and businesses to donate baked goods and jewelry. Lenora can provide tax exempt certificates to those who donate. Some of the ladies will be making scarves to sell and there was some discussion of having scarf and jewelry making classes in the future.

The golf tournament will be held at Pine Hill Golf course on April 26th. Jimmy Taylor passed out forms and requested that we all help get sponsors and door prizes for the tournament.

There was discussion on the contents of the care package given to breast cancer patients and adding more to the package. Elaine suggested the devotional book, "Jesus is Calling" be purchased to add to the care package. Nancy Gilles-

pie made the motion and Deanna Dean seconded the move. The motion passed.

Marti Warren shared with the group that her daughter is having her bills paid through the Medicaid Breast and Cervical Cancer Treatment Act, a result of HB147, legislation that Steel Magnolias pushed through the 2009 Alabama general session, by unanimous vote.

Lenora has made reservations with Classic on Noble for the New Beginnings Banquet on July 22nd and our Christmas Brunch is on December 6th.

Jimmy Taylor discussed ordering Steel Magnolias t-shirts at a cost of \$5.00 per shirt with printing on one side. Nancy Gillespie made a motion that Jimmy order 50 shirts and Deanna Dean 2nd the motion. All present were in favor and the move passed.

Stephanie Thornton said anyone who is uncomfortable being in groups at the Sharing & Caring sessions could call her, Chaplain Wilson or Lenora Johnson to set up a private session.

Nancy Gillespie is making a directory to match members based on their diagnosis so that they may connect one on one. To be included in this directory, please email your information to nancycgill@att.com.

The speaker for the February 25th meeting will be Dr. Melissa Baird, Oncologist.

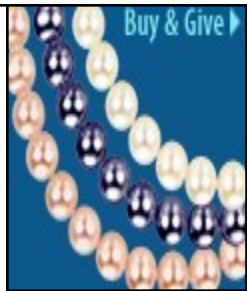
Chaplain Sherry Grinstead presented a short devotional and ended the meeting with a prayer. Meeting was adjourned—Connie Stephens, Secretary

Financial Report

January 2014	Balance Brought Forward	\$31,874.06
02 (-) 200.00	Lenora Johnson, Monthly Expense	31,674.06
24 (-) 28.50	Kyuka Waters—Anniston Oncology	31,645.56
24 (-) 441.00	Wide Net Consulting for website	31,204.56
24(-) 66.25	Moore Printing—Christmas Brunch Programs	31,138.31
24 (-) 50.00	Anniston Oncology Mammogram for Abernathy—Grant money	31,088.31
25 (+) 620.00	Deposit—Long contribution in honor of Margaret & Jimmy Taylor's 50th wedding anniversary 500, Wade donation 100, Hayes donation 20	31,708.31
24 (-) 219.22	Margaret Taylor—Reimburse (Sam's Club) Chemo..Radiation oncology & RMC 4th floor chemo patient's snacks	31,489.09

Candid Photos from Group Meeting





Quintard Mall Bake & Jewelry Sale

Saturday, April 19, 2014

Steel Magnolias need contributions of costume jewelry. The older the better, but we accept all contributions. Your contribution is tax exempt. Please include your name and address with your contribution so that we can get a tax exemption certificate to you. Jewelry contributions can be

carried to suite 407 of the RMC Physicians Center or call Marti at (256) 239-0855.



Swing For A Cure

Lea Fite Memorial Golf Tournament

Saturday, April 26, 2014

Pine Hill Golf Course

Sponsored by Men of Steel

Benefiting the services of:

Steel Magnolias Breast Cancer Support Group, Inc.

Call Jimmy Taylor (256) 463-7620 email tjimmeg63@aol.com

Correspondence

Dear Sweet Magnolias, thank you so much for your support and thoughtfulness. It is so touching to know that someone so many miles away is sharing my experiences. That has meant so much to me. I really enjoyed the package with such lovely things, it helped to cheer me. With chemo and surgery behind me, I will now begin radiation. All has been very successful with surgery indicating clear margins and no cancer!! Carole.....Brandon, FL

I would like to say thanks for all that you all do to brighten up any one's day. I've enjoyed all my letters each month. The Joggin' Inside has done more good than you will ever know. I'm sending 2 names and addresses that I would like for you to send them the packages like I got at the start. They both had breast cancer and they both had them removed. Closing to say you all are a great group of people. A cancer survivor, Quaylene.....Crossville, AL

Thank you Steel Magnolias for all you do. This donation is in honor of our daughter, Claire, a 6 year breast cancer survivor. Claire is doing GREAT! We appreciated you being there for her. Love, Jeanne and Bobby...Anniston, AL

Dear Steel Magnolias Sisters, God bless & thank you for all you do in your wonderful ministry. May God's love & peace be with you all. Given with love, CarolAnniston, AL

Mark Your Calendar

Tuesday, February 25, 2014: Steel Magnolias & Men of Steel Meeting, 5:00 p.m. in the RMC Private Dining Room. Special Guest, Dr. Melissa Baird, Oncologist. RMC will provide chicken fingers with condiments. Steel Magnolias please bring side dish or light dessert. Q & A, following Dr. Baird's talk.

Monday, March 17, 2014: Newsletter mailing day. Meet in suite 406 of Physicians Center at 12:30 p.m. to stuff envelopes.

Tuesday, March 25, 2014: Steel Magnolias & Men of Steel meeting, 5:00 p.m. in the RMC Private Dining Room. Special guest, Joe Weaver, COO. In the January newsletter Mr. Weaver wrote an article about the Affordable Care Act. This will be a Question and Answer session. This is not a political gathering but an opportunity to understand better what recent insurance policy changes will mean to each individual. Please have your questions ready. RMC will provide turkey croissant sandwiches with optional mayo or mustard. Steel Magnolias please bring favorite salad or light dessert.

Joggin' Inside

Quick Thinking

Several weeks after a young man had been hired, he was called into the manager's office. "What is the meaning of this?" the manager asked. "When you applied for the job, you told us you had experience. Now we discover this is the first job you've ever had." "Well," the young man said, "In your ad you said you wanted somebody with imagination." Courtesy of Allie.....Portland, Maine

Q & A From AARP Forum—Courtesy of Faye Roberts.....Jacksonville, AL

Q: Where can men over the age of 60 find younger, sexy women who are interested in them?

A: Try a bookstore under fiction

Q: What can a man do while his wife is going through menopause?

A: Keep busy. If you're handy with tools, you can finish the basement. When you're done, you'll have a place to live.

Q: How can you increase the heart rate of your 60-plus year old husband?

A: Tell him you're pregnant.

Q: How can you avoid that terrible curse of elderly wrinkles?

A: Take off your glasses

Q: Seriously! What can I do for these Crow's feet and all those wrinkles on my face?

A: Go braless. It will usually pull them out.

Q: Why should 60-plus year old people use valet parking?

A: Valets don't forget where they park the car.

Q: Is it common for 60-plus year olds to have problems with short-term memory storage?

A: Storing memory is not a problem....Retrieving it is the problem

Q: Where should 60-plus year olds look for eye glasses?

A: On their foreheads.

Q: As people age, do they sleep more soundly?

A: Yes, but usually in the afternoon

Sometimes We Must Pay For Others

A woman phoned her dentist when she received a huge bill. "I'm shocked!" she complained. "This bill is three times what you normally charge." "Yes, I know," said the dentist "But you yelled so loud, you scared away two other patients." Courtesy of Allie....Portland, Maine

A Minister Tells A Joke

A preacher, who shall we say was 'humor impaired,' attended a conference to help encourage and better equip pastors for ministry. Among the speakers were many well known and dynamic speakers. One such boldly approached the pulpit and, gathering the entire crowd's attention, said, "The best years of my life were spent in the arms of a woman that wasn't my wife!" The crowd was shocked! He followed up by saying, "And that woman was my mother!"- The crowd burst into laughter and he delivered the rest of his talk, which went over quite well. The next week, the pastor decided he'd give this humor thing a try, and use that joke in his sermon. As he surely approached the pulpit that sunny Sunday, he tried to rehearse the joke in his head. It suddenly seemed a bit foggy to him. Getting to the microphone, he said loudly, "The greatest years of my life were spent in the arms of another woman that was not my wife!" The congregation inhaled half the air in the room. After standing there for almost 10 seconds in the stunned silence, trying to recall the second half of the joke, the pastor finally blurted out, "...and I can't remember who she was!" Courtesy of Pokey....Anniston, AL

It Pays To Be Truthful

George had responded to a call from his attorney insisting they meet at once. He arrived at his lawyer's firm and was ushered into his office. "Do you want the bad news first or the terrible news?" "Well, if those are the choices, I guess I'll take the bad news first." Your wife found a picture worth a million dollars." "That's bad news?" George was stunned? "If you call that bad news, I can't wait to hear the terrible news." "The terrible news is that it's of you and your secretary." Courtesy of Allie....Portland, Maine

Sunday School

At Sunday School they were teaching how God created everything, including human beings. Little Johnny, a child in the kindergarten class, seemed especially intent when they told him how Eve was created out of one of Adam's ribs. Later in the week his mother noticed him acting like he was ill and said, "What is the matter?" Johnny responded, "I have pain in my side, I think I'm going to have a wife" Courtesy of Pokey....Anniston, AL