Preparation-
Remove Bible from the Altar. Make a large cardboard ship. This may be filled with favors or flowers for the past matrons and patrons, if gifts are to be presented. Five smaller ships to represent life boats are also necessary for the ceremony.

Characters-
There are parts for the Worthy Matron, Worthy Patron and six others. If the six sisters taking part wear some type of sailor suits it will add to the spirit of the occasion.

Music-
Theme music for marching and singing throughout should be songs of the sea. Suggestions as "Sailing, Sailing" "Anchors Aweigh", or any other that may be procured.

The Gavel is sounded. The Worthy Matron instructs the Marshall and Conductor to escort the past matrons and patrons to the East. They are introduced, given a hearty welcome and then seated on the North East and South East sides of the Chapter room.

Music-A ship song either played or sung.

The six sisters carrying the ships enter single file through the Chapter room door. The leader carries the large ship. They march around the room once then form a straight line behind Esther's station and face East. The leader then enters the labyrinth between Ruth and Esther's stations and places the large ship upon the altar. She takes a position on the West side of the altar and facing East bows. She stays at this place throughout the ceremony.

The Worthy Matron speaks:
Sisters and brothers, we are thinking in terms of ships. Life is a sea and each of us leaves his port and must sail on the Sea whether he wills it or not. The Sea we are interested in tonight is the Great Sea of the Star. The Ship placed upon the altar represents the Good Ship "Victory", which has sailed in this Sea for the past......years. The many Captains who have manned this ship are our honor guests, the past matrons and patrons of our Chapter. Each year since we organized a new Captain piloted the Ship and at the close of the year brought it safely and happily back to the port. They turned the wheel over to another, who in turn set sail on the Sea again.

The Worthy Patron speaks:
Captains of the Ship, you have always steered a straight course, you have always brought the Ship and its crew into the harbor of happiness and joy. You have had to stop at many ports and have had to weather many gales. But your zeal and good judgement have kept the ship moving forward and homeward to Victory.

A short phrase of music is played here.

The five sisters carrying the life boats speak in turn, each holding up her ship as she does so.
First Speaker:
The Good Ship "Victory" are several life boats which you have kept painted brightly and in good order. The first of these is called Service. By setting fine examples yourselves you have encouraged those sailing with you to do likewise-and forgetting self, worked to keep the decks clear, for the good of all.

Second Speaker:
The second life boat is called Friendship. You have been good friends to us all, showing no partiality or favors. You have been just and fair and kind, as true friends and good mariners.

Third Speaker:
The next life boat is the Ship of Happiness. It was added to the Good Ship "Victory" because you all realized that victory without happiness was not complete. You have striven to bring this happiness to the Sea of the Star and have left much joy at each port of call.

Fourth Speaker:
Another life boat was named Love. By your loving kindness you kept this boat bright and shining and all the crew rallied around this little ship constantly.

Fifth Speaker:
The last life boat was called Peace. Victory with peace and understanding after a year at the helm is indeed worthy of mention. The Good Ship "Victory" has entered this safe and peaceful harbor each year, thanks to you, our able pilots.

When all have spoken music is again played. The sisters march into the labyrinth single file between Ruth and Esther's stations, place the life boats around the big ship and leaving the labyrinth between Martha and Esther's station reform the line.

Worthy Matron speaks;
Captains of the ship, our own dear past matrons and patrons, we leave this Ship-Victory and its life boats with you. The ship and the cargo are yours. May each of you find a bit of joy therein. As you continue life's journey, may you ever have smooth sailing and safe harbors.

The sister who carries the large ship removes it from the Altar and passes it before the guests of honor, each of whom removes a gift or a flower. The ship is then placed on the Altar. The sister joins the line and all retire from the Chapter room to music.

end.