WORTHY MATRON:

Sisters and brothers: I know we are all happy tonight because none of us has quite outgrown the pleasurable excitement we experienced in childhood when we had in our homes guests of whom we were particularly fond.

Tonight we have as honored and well-loved guests, the Past Matrons and Patrons of this chapter.

Will these Past Officers stand? (They stand.)

Sisters Conductress and Associate Conductress (or the officers used in your state for conducting visitors) you will escort our Past Matrons and patrons to the east.

As they are being conducted to the east, the members of the chapter will sing the following which should be typed and placed at the stations of the officers (and distributed among the members) before the meeting begins.

SONG: Tune: "Battle Hymn of the Republic."

First verse.

Our eyes have seen the glory of the work which has been done,
By the Past Matrons and Patrons who are marching one by one.
We have lov'd them and shall love them 'till their race in life is run,
And they go marching on.

Chorus:
Glo-ry, glo-ry, hal-le-lu-yah!
We send lov-ing greetings to yah!
While we keep saying to yah -
Your work here was well done.

Second verse:

Their ears shall hear the praises we shall sing for them to-night,
While we honor them and try our best to treat them fair and right,
So we'll sing and speak the words we hope will bring them some delight,
While evening marches on.

Chorus: (Repeat the above chorus.)
When the song is ended and the Past Officers are in the East, the Worthy Matron will introduce the Past Matrons and the Worthy Patron will introduce the Past Patrons. The guests then return to their seats, and the Conductresses return to their stations. The Worthy Matron then speaks as follows:

WORTHY MATRON:
Sisters and brothers: The things that have happened in the past are gone but their influence, and the remembrance of them, lives on in memory.

If the happenings are pleasant, the remembrance of them brings pleasure. If they were good, some benefit or reward has been received.

Past Officers of .... .... .... Chapter: We hope the remembrance of the year you served in the east is pleasant, and that it brings you pleasure tonight. If your year was good, our chapter has benefitted through growth in membership, by increased interest, and from good deeds accomplished.

Yours are the hands that lighted the torch of service, kept the flame burning through the years, and one after another passed it onto us—the present officers.

Yours was the light that has shown us the way, and we are trying to hold aloft the torch, while we follow in your footsteps.

I am very happy because, tonight, it is my turn, as Worthy Matron of this chapter, to stand in the East and welcome you whole-heartedly and lovingly.

In years gone by, I have heard other Worthy Matrons extend welcomes to our past officers and I have mentally and silently said "Amen" to every good thing each Matron has said to them, or about them.

Tonight, I feel sure that each of my corps of officers will be silently endorsing each of the following statements which I shall make.

Past Matrons and Patrons, we think you are dear
So, warm is the welcome we're giving you here.

We thank you so much for the service you gave;
Your present support helps us all to be brave.

Your shining example has given us light—
So we say "God bless you, on this, your night".

WORTHY PATRON adds:
Past Matrons and Patrons
We think you are grand.
The best Past Officers to
Be found in the land.

We follow you gladly; we think you're fine;
We're doing our best to let the light shine
Which you passed on to us, when ending your year;
For this we adore you, and welcome you here. (Sits.)