



## *Christmas in October*



In Shreveport Chapter #1634 we have red stockings for **Mooseheart** and green stockings for **Moosehaven**. (These are about 4 inches and made from craft felt.) When we have our Chapter Activity Night in October, we give each member one red and one green stocking for the Monetary Gift Walk. They place their donation inside and drop them in the appropriate basket to be counted after the meeting. We have been doing this since the 1992-93 chapter year.

Reason why is: Something I noticed and understood was, as people dropped their money in the MHT & MHN baskets, those that gave bills just laid it in and the ones that only had change or nothing had it doubled in their fist and carefully dropped in with an embarrassed look. Remarks I overheard were, "Next year I am not coming to this meeting." Those less fortunate were intimidated by those more fortunate. The next year I made these stockings to use. Now, the members are more relaxed and no one knows who gives what. We sometimes have empty stockings and some with just small change, but no one is embarrassed by not being financially able to give more.

We put the stockings away and reuse them each year. In fact, we are still using the same stockings. The co-workers like them and ask for the stockings when they come into the room. Of course now, you can buy the stockings usually 3 or 4 for a dollar.

*Fraternally,  
Mary Anderson  
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