

BRAZOS VALLEY EMMAUS

DE COLORES,
OCTOBER 2011
VOLUME 20, NUMBER 4

COMMUNITY NEWS BY ROBERT

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ

Brothers and sisters, we just completed another set of walks at Crossroads, and although they were a little light with pilgrims, these two walks were filled with the Holy Spirit, and continued building the “kingdom” in the spirit of the Emmaus tradition. We the community need to solidify behind these new members of the BVEC and make every effort to see that they continue to walk with Christ on their Fourth Day. We also need to express our gratitude to Nancy Goodell, Ed Wetterman, and both teams for a job well done.

I do hope this newsletter reaches you before the Fourth Day meeting and Gathering on November 5th at First United Methodist Church in Brenham, Texas, as I want to encourage all the new members of the community as well as the existing members to make every effort to attend the Fourth Day meeting and Gathering. This is a most important time for our new members to get connected to a reunion group and it is a great opportunity for our existing

members to help connect these new members.

I want to remind everyone to look inside this newsletter for the names and a short bio of the candidates for Brazos Valley Emmaus Community Board of Directors. There are seven candidates and the five receiving the most votes will be elected. The elected candidates will begin serving on the Board at the January meeting on Saturday January 7, 2012 and they will serve for three-years. I would like to thank all of our candidates for their willingness to serve and be the hands and feet of Christ in another capacity. I want to assure all of the elected candidates that you will not regret your decision to serve on the board. It is truly an honor, and a blessing, and I look forward to serving with you all!

Please remember that the ballots will be sent to you via email through a service called “Survey Monkey”. Please don’t delete that email, open it and vote. If you don’t have email, paper ballots will be available at the



gathering November 5th.

My term as a Board member and as president of the Board will end December 31st, so this newsletter will be my last time to write to you and the November Gathering will be my last one to preside over as president. I just want everyone in the community to know that the past year has been truly an honor, a privilege, and a tremendous blessing to me. I will continue to serve as ex-officio on the Board as “past president” for another year, so I’ll still be around. During this next year I will continue to strive for all “P’s” and no “A’s”.

Now may the Lord of peace himself, give you peace at all times and in every way. The Lord be with all of you.

De Colores,
Robert Read
BVEC – Community Lay Director



INSIDE

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One of my fondest memories of my walk is going to breakfast on a beautiful spring morning singing De Colores as a group. We all sing it on the walk (not so much after) but what do we really know about the song. As a music team member of a walk I had the opportunity to give the Friday morning talk that introduces the song to the pilgrims. You all heard it. The broken down bus in Spain on the way home from the first Cursillo, the pilgrims sing the song while waiting for a tow. It's a great story and a great tradition for Emmaus.

After a little research I found;

"**De Colores**" (*Of Colors*) is a traditional folk song that is well known throughout the Spanish-speaking world. The song was brought to the Americas from Spain during the 16th century. In modern times, the song frequently appears in collections of children's songs. It is widely used in the Roman Catholic Cursillo movement and related communities such as the Great Banquet, Chrysalis Flight and Walk to Emmaus. It is also an unofficial anthem for the United Farm Workers union.

You might also be interested to know that it has been professionally recorded by well-known singers, most notably Joan Baez. If you want to hear them there is a collection of recordings on YouTube. My favorite was a live concert by Tao Rodriguez, Pete Seegar, and Arlo Guthrie.

The words of the song are an expression of joy and a celebration of all creation with its many bright colors. It is integral to the walk and the Emmaus experience.

For many of us the following verse might work best

**Sing the chorus, sing the chorus
Because no one can really remember the verses,
Sing the chorus, sing the chorus
cause what rhymes in Spanish does not rhyme in English.
Sing the chorus, sing the chorus
Because all the words never really seem to fit.
Sing the chorus and clap your hands loudly and
No-one will notice you really don't know it !
Sing the chorus and clap your hands loudly and
No-one will notice you really don't know it !**

Ole !

De Colores

Dale Timian, Music

THE 2011 BRAZOS VALLEY EMMAUS BOARD

Lay Director: Robert Read (903) 626-4967
Assistant Lay Director: Kyley Ochoa (979) 436-1338
Spiritual Director: Jeff Gage (979) 822-1730
Treasurer: Doug Summerour (979) 525-9139
Secretary: Wendy Manuel (512) 567 1183
Team Selection: Deborah Hildebrand (979) 567-7751
Nominations: Judy Ball (936) 788-1368
Reunion Groups & 4th Day: Wendy Manuel (512) 567 1183
Registrar: Joddie Carlile (979) 277-9625
Welcoming/Closing: Judy Ball (936) 788-1368
Agape: Kyley Ochoa (979) 436-1338
Music/Entertainment: Dale Timian (979) 272-1676
**Logistics, Transportation, Facility set-up/
breakdown:** Steve May (979) 778-0071

Literature & Supplies: Cindy Van Deventer (979) 567-7737
Sponsor Hour: Currently Open
Candlelight: Currently Open
Gatherings: Sue Houseley (979) 865-3713
Prayer Chapel/Prayer Vigils: Pat Baker (979) 567-0218
Training: Deanie Gold, (979) 567-7155
Kitchen Coordinator: Doug Summerour -9139 (979) 525
Communication/Technology: Jerry Coffman, (512) 430-4065

The Brazos Valley Emmaus Community is guided by a Board of Directors that is elected to three-year terms. Each year in the fall we have elections for new board members to fill the positions of outgoing board members.

And the Nominees Are...

Swen Crone

I was a pilgrim on walk #76, table of Luke. I'd heard of a little of The Walk to Emmaus, but not all. Since my walk, I know a lot, but can't tell all, since my words are not efficient to describe the life changing even that we all know. Since my walk, I see things in a different way, and know that I am loved, forgiven and living for the next life, not today. While still in this life, if God sees that I am needed to serve on the Board of the Brazos Valley Emmaus Community, I will consider it a very high honor. An honor to help direct the community so that we can continue to serve pilgrims and change lives through the Walk to Emmaus!

De Colores!

Mark Dziobala

From Caldwell, attends St. Mary's Catholic Church in Caldwell. Pilgrim from Walk 27 in 1999. Worked as a Table Leader on Walks 31 and 38 and Assistant Lay Director on Walks 42, 44, 50, 58 and 86.

De Colores!

Molly Garwood

I am a native Texan, Born in Pasadena but moved around a lot. I attended the Church of Christ most of my life, but for about three years I attended Gonzales Presbyterian Church. I attended walk # 362 in 1994 in the Southwest Texas community at Cathedral Oaks, Weimar TX. I have worked as TL, ATL, ALD and as what we then called "Angels". I have also worked on a Chrysalis team where I gave a talk. I have sponsored over 10 pilgrims including two this year. There have been a few moves, and changes in my life in the past 12 years. I got away from Emmaus but never away from my God! Having recently gotten the position as Postmaster in Jewett and yet another move, I began searching again for an Emmaus community. I wanted my husband Peter to experience the walk. Low and behold, I found Robert Read right there in Jewett! And with him came the lovely and blessed BVEC that I have grown to love. I can't tell you how pleased I was and how I felt the Holy Spirit lifting me forward like a leaf caught on an upward breeze. Hubby attended walk #84 in the spring and I worked #85 as TL and gave a talk. I still have a lot to catch up on as there have been many changes since I was active 10+ years ago. But I know I need to be involved so am joyfully offering to work with you all on the BVEC board.

Marie Mickey

Marie is from Bryan where she is the Associate Pastor at First Presbyterian Church. She has been the Assistant Spiritual Director on 6 walks as well as the Spiritual Directory for Walk 85.

E. D. 'Dee' Perry

Dee is from Caldwell where he attends St Mary's Catholic Church. He was a Pilgrim on Walk 62.

David L Worden

I went on my Walk to Emmaus on the 4th day weekend of May 31, 2001 (Walk 914) out of Austin TX. I have worked on several Outside Teams in Greater Austin Emmaus on a Full-time basis, but only one walk number stands out (1008). I went on to serve as an Inside Team member at Kairos Walk #1 and an Outside Team member at Kairos Walk #2, both at the Boyd Prison Unit in Teague, TX. I currently go to the De Colores Reunion Group out of Rockdale, TX as my own church (Lexington UMC) does not have a reunion group. My church members hope to remedy that in the near future, although I will probably continue to drive to Rockdale each Wednesday.

As we did last year we are using the Web Site Survey Monkey to process your votes. To cast your ballot for the candidates of your choice go to: http://www.bvemmas.org/board_voting.html. And cast your vote for 5 of the candidates.

Agape

Howdy Friends

Would like to extend a HUGE thank you to all who participated in our fall Women's & Men's walks! All of your Agape, Prayers, Kitchen work, serving was a much needed and appreciated blessing to all of this pilgrims! Thanks for all of your hard work! Be thinking on what your reunion group will make for our spring walks!

Also, PLEASE UPDATE YOUR INFORMATION @ the new website bvec.inetmember.com! Having your correct information there insures you will be kept up to date with all of our BVEC news & needs! Our community NEEDS ALL OF YOU, NOT JUST THE SAME CREWS! We want everyone to be able to participate & having the correct contact info really helps!

Love & De Colores,

Kyley Ochoa

Asst Community Lay Director

Agape Coordinator

Kyleyo123@gmail.com

From the Upper Room:

About the Fourth Day

As participants conclude their Walk to Emmaus weekends, they are introduced to the concept of the Fourth Day -- a symbol of the days of Christian pilgrimage that follow the three-day Emmaus experience. The Walk to Emmaus is a unique opportunity to reflect on one's faith journey and make a deeper commitment to Christ. In fact, "the whole reason for The Walk to Emmaus is to make you a more faithful disciple and active member in your church." (Bob Wood, [Day Four](#)) Thus, the Fourth Day is central to the Emmaus experience, as it extends each individual's experience beyond the weekend and into life in the world.

In living their Fourth Days, participants are encouraged to continue to grow in relationship with Christ and live as faithful disciples in all of life. An important and necessary foundation for faithful Christian living is a vital connection to the Christian community for support, guidance, and challenge. This is most available through local church communities, reunion groups, and the Emmaus/Chrysalis Celebrations. Another way to be connected to the support of the Christian community is through studying the writings of our brothers and sisters in Christ.



Colossians 3:14 *"14 Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds us all together in perfect harmony."*

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What is a Reunion Group?

The Emmaus group reunion is a small accountability group of two to six persons who have usually participated in the three-day Walk to Emmaus and who want to continue their pursuit of a life lived wholly in the grace of God. With the regular support of a few faithful friends, the gift of God's love in Jesus Christ becomes a lifestyle of Christian discipleship through the threefold discipline of piety, study, and action.

New Reunion Groups Will Form at November Gathering

At the Fourth Day Gathering, SATURDAY NOVEMBER 5TH AT 4:00 P.M. AT FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH IN BRENHAM new pilgrims and their sponsors will talk about reunion groups and have the opportunity to create groups. Sponsors will be asked to talk about their reunion groups and help new community members to find a group.



Need help finding an existing reunion group? You can find a list of existing reunion groups in the Brazos Valley Emmaus Community at <http://bvec.inetmember.com> and also on www.bvemmasus.org. You may also contact Wendy Manuel, wendyjean56@yahoo.com and she will make every effort to help you locate a Fourth Day group.

Hello from Your Treasurer

We finish the year in great financial condition thanks in large part to another successful Hullabaloo. A big thanks to buyers as well as contributors. CrossRoads is making a very modest increase in fees, but as of now, the cost of the Walk remains at \$125. Remember, we don't ever want money to be the reason someone doesn't participate (pilgrim or team member).

Doug Summerour,
Treasurer

Pilgrims of Walks 85 and 86: Welcome to the Brazos Valley Emmaus Community!!

I can still remember riding home with my sponsor after my walk (Walk # 22 in 1998). I couldn't stop talking about everything that I had experienced in the last 72 hours. I was on top of the world and couldn't wait to share it with everyone I knew! But, who should I ask? What would I tell them? What should I know in order to sponsor someone on the Walk to Emmaus? These were just a few of the questions that ran through my mind.

Such ideas and questions are common to new community members, but they may also apply to many Walk participants who have never sponsored a pilgrim before. The BVEC Board of Directors continues to place high importance on Sponsor Training as a way to improve the quality of our walks. It seems that on every walk there are at least a couple of pilgrims who were not properly prepared for the experience, so if you would like to sponsor a pilgrim someday, here's a few guidelines to keep in mind:

1. The first time you sponsor a pilgrim you should **have a co-sponsor to help you**. There is a checklist of things you are supposed to do when you sponsor a pilgrim. In most cases, your own sponsor would be a good choice to help you sponsor another pilgrim for the first time. If that's not an option, talk to a member of your reunion group or a board rep for ideas.
2. Before you jump in and ask someone to go on a Walk, **PRAY about it first! WHY** do you want to sponsor this person on the Walk to Emmaus? If your answer is anything OTHER THAN the fact that you love them and want to deepen their relationship with Christ, then think again. Emmaus strives to build servants to serve and work in their own churches. A prospective pilgrim should:
 - a. **already** have a relationship with God
 - b. **be willing to move forward** in their journey with God
 - c. be at a point in life where they can **devote their full attention** to the message and experience of the Walk.
3. There is a substantial list of obligations you accept when you sponsor a pilgrim. Look over the list carefully and **be sure you can meet the expectations required of a sponsor**. It's not a job to be taken lightly and may be a contributing factor in the attitude in which a pilgrim approaches the walk experience.

Remember: The ultimate reason for recruiting a pilgrim is Christ's love in you wanting the same love for a prospective Pilgrim. Building the kingdom of God is serious work, and building a strong Emmaus community starts with these questions.

If you have questions about sponsoring a pilgrim, any of the board members would be happy to assist you. Remember, you should have a co-sponsor the first time you sponsor someone.

Who is God calling you to ask?

DeColores,
Deanie Gold
Training Director

Did You Know?

It takes more than 90 people to serve just **one** weekend Walk? Thirty-three people are needed to serve on the Inside and Outside Teams which require a minimum of 3 days service. The BVEC Team Selection Committee is now accepting applications for the Spring 2012 Walks.

The BVEC Board voted this month to have the men's walk before the women's walk, as it is recommended in the guidelines for conducting the walks. The men's walk will be March 22nd thru March 25th, 2012 with *Andy Perry* as the Lay Director. The women's walk will be April 19th thru April 22nd, 2012 with *Stephanie Ashlock* as the Lay Director.

To serve on one of these teams, please complete the team application and mail it to the address listed on the form no later than November 18, 2011. Copies of the form may be obtained at November 5th Gathering as well as on the web www.bvemmas.org, or apply online at <http://bvec.inetmember.com>. For additional information, email Deborah Hildebrand at team_selection@bvemmas.org or debhildebrand@verizon.net. If you do not have access to the internet, please feel free to call me at 979-567-7751.

If you're unable to get away for that amount of time but would like to serve, many opportunities still exist where you can volunteer for several hours and still receive credit for serving on an Outside Team. These include: working in the Kitchen; Facilities Set-up on Thursday or Facilities Tear-down on Sunday; Welcoming Committee on Thursday evening; and Parking Attendants for Arrival, Candlelight, and Closing. Each of these opportunities requires a very minimal amount of your time and is vital to the Community's ability to proceed with a Walk. If interested in serving in one of these areas, please contact the following people:

Kitchen: Doug Summerour at (979) 525-9139

Facilities Set-up/Tear-Down: Steve May at (979) 778-0071

Welcoming Committee/Parking: Judy Ball at (936) 788-1368

Schedule of Gatherings

NOVEMBER 5
DECEMBER
JANUARY 7
FEBRUARY 4
MARCH 3

FIRST UMC
THERE IS NO GATHERING
CHRIST UMC
ST JOHN'S UMC
PLEASANT RETREAT UMC

BRENHAM
COLLEGE STATION
ROCKDALE
THORNDALE

Be sure to sign in to our online system and verify your information. If you are new to the community send an email to Jerry Coffman at technology@bvemmas.org and we will get you entered into the system.

The web address is <http://bvec.inetmember.com>

BVEC
PO BOX 10491
COLLEGE STATION, TX 77842



We're on the Web!

<http://www.bvemmas.org>

