

#### May, 2013 Volume 13, Issue 4

## G.R.A.C.E. Website www.gracemmaus.org

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Men's Walk # 66 Camp Gilmont, Gilmer September 19-22, 2013 Pat Thompson

Women's Walk # 67 Camp Gilmont, Gilmer October 10-13, 2013 Jana Russell

Jim and Betty Buchanan G.R.A.C.E. <u>REGISTRARS</u> 306 Cedar circle Marshall, TX 75672

Tyler Emmaus GRACE Community P.O. Box 132212 Tyler, TX 75713-2212

## DEAR G.R.A.C.E.

## A NOTE FROM YOUR COMMUNITY LAY DIRECTOR

Well, Walk 65 is now in the record book. Thank you to JoAnne Skeen and her team of faithful servants for making this the "Best Walk Ever." Things are already set in motion for Walks 66 and 67 to be held at Camp Gilmont, Gilmer, in the fall. Please be praying for Pat Thompson and Jana Russell as they seek God's guidance in preparing to lead these walks.

In the next few months you will be hearing a lot about a topic near and dear to my heart – Sponsorship. I know, I know – you are reading this and saying "I've sponsored so many people for these Walks there is nothing new I need to know." Well, if you just thought that you are mistaken. At the last Walk there were a few Pilgrims that only had a scant few letters to read on Sunday afternoon. I remember getting my letters when I went on my walk and what an impact they had on me. Someone had taken the time from their busy schedule to actually sit down and write me a letter telling me what I meant to them. I still have mine and sometimes re-read them. It is an instant pick-me-up if I am feeling a little down on myself.

Apparently many 4<sup>th</sup> Dayers think that the only thing required as a sponsor is getting the Pilgrim to the camp and home again on Sunday afternoon. Sponsorship is so much more than that. In order to truly sponsor, you need to have a relationship with the person, or at least have an invested interest in his or her spiritual well-being. This should occur before AND after the Walk. So many people sponsor and then never contact the person again. You should make sure your Pilgrim gets in a Reunion Group, attends Babe Chick/Sponsorship meetings and gatherings. Help them get involved in the Community. Obviously Sponsorship is a vital step in the growth and health of G.R.A.C.Emmaus. However, it should never be taken lightly. Be prayerful as you consider whom God would have you sponsor. Can you perform the requirements of sponsorship: Getting the Pilgrim to and from the camp; Attending Sponsor's Hour; Attending Candlelight; gathering ALL (at least 10) of the letters; help with finding a Reunion Group; and Attending Gatherings? Sponsorship is not a "by proxy" activity. If you commit to sponsor then it is YOU who needs to sponsor!

There will be much more in the near future regarding sponsorship.

I hope you will attend the next Gathering on May 18, 2013 at Pollard UMC in Tyler. The Babe Chick meeting will begin at 4:00 p.m., followed by a Pot Luck Dinner at 5:00 p.m. and worship at 6:00 p.m.

If you are interested in working either of the Fall Walks, don't forget to go to <u>gracemmaus.org</u> and complete you application.

Sponsorship applications are also on the website. Should you have any questions regarding Sponsorship please contact either me or Pat Moser.

De Colores, Cindy Hooser

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## GATHERING NEWS

MAY 18, 2013 Pollard United Methodist Church Tyler, Texas 4:00 Babe Chick Meeting 5:00 Potluck Dinner 6:00 Praise & Worship

David McPherson dtmold26@embarqmail.com

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But they that wait upon the LORD...



## ... shall renew their strength

## **\*\*\***

## Walk 65 Recap

Walk 65 is now part of the G.R.A.C.E. history. What a walk it was. Thank you to all who made the weekend possible: the conference room team, the outside team, the fourth day, all those who sent agape gifts and who prayed and most especially the Pilgrims. God was truly at work all weekend. I was truly blessed to be a part of the weekend. I look forward to seeing everyone at the May Gathering at Pollard to visit with the team and pilgrims of Walk 65.

DeColores! Jo Anne Skeen

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## HAVE YOU UPDATED YOUR REUNION GROUP INFORMATION?

PLEASE CHECK THE WEBSITE FOR THE UPDATED LIST OF REUNION GROUPS. ©

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## Notes on the Team Selection Process

The time for selecting the teams for the next walks is near. The teams are selected by a committee appointed by the Board. This team consists of the future walk lay director, the board representative (if that person has been appointed) and other board members. Prospective team members are strongly encouraged to submit a team application. Every effort is made to place those who submit an application on a team. There are, however, certain criteria set by the Upper Room and stated in the Emmaus Handbook. One of these is a progression of Emmaus responsibilities. These responsibilities start in the support roles – outside servant team and then moving to the conference room. The conference room progression is assistant Table leader, Table leader, Assistant Lay Director, Lay director. How many times a person serves at each position varies. The one exception is the Lav director position. The Lay director will have worked outside team, assistant table leader, and Table leader and at least twice as an Assistant Lay Director.

There is another criterion – the one-third rule. This means that the conference room team will be made of one-third new conference room team members, one-third second or third-time members and onethird team veterans. Because of this one-third rule, those submitting an app to work a walk may not be tapped to work the position they want or may not be able to work at all. But there are so many other equally important ways to help on a walk.

\*Praying comes to mind! \*Providing agape gifts is another.

\*Attending any of the Walk activities (sponsor hour, gathering and candlelight, closing).

\*Working with the outside servant team, even if it is just for a day.

All of these are important and contribute to the success of every walk.

If you are contacted to serve, please prayerfully consider working. If you aren't contacted, please pray for the team and for the walk. You will be blessed either way.

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Well it's hard to believe but we had our second weekend retreat for **KOET** (Kairos Outside of East Texas) #2, which is similar to the Walk to Emmaus, but is tailored for the female relatives of the inmates that go through the Kairos Inside Prison ministry. The closing services were Sunday afternoon May 5, 2013 at <u>Green</u> <u>Acres Baptist Church Retreat</u> <u>Center</u> just outside of Whitehouse on the shores of Lake Tyler



REUNION GROUPS – HAVE YOU SENT IN YOUR MONEY????

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GOAL – \$3000.00 Minimum is \$50.00 per reunion group each year.

Remember – you can ALWAYS donate/raise more than the minimum \$25.00 – twice yearly requested.

<u>Now</u> is the time to get applications in for the upcoming walks. Applications are on the website and can be printed off. Let's have FULL walks with 36 pilgrims on each one.

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## AGAPE REMINDERS

\*\* Put the number of agape items included on the outside of the container.

\*\* Bed/Pillow agape is 36

\*\* Dining Room agape is 48 (pilgrims only)

\*\* Dining Room agape for team and pilgrims is 61

\*\* Try to include a scripture or inspirational word with each agape item. Remember these are to tie into the talks given.

\*\*Placements –Homemade (especially children's are a joy)

48 for pilgrims

61 for team and pilgrims

\*\* Bring agape to the walk on THURSDAY night

Remember taking time to make something is memorable but purchased items are fine too. Start getting "crafty" today!

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## **BANQUET SET-UP for WALKS**

If you are interested in serving with a group of fellow Emmaus members to set up the banquet room tables, chairs, and decorations for the upcoming walks, please contact KAYLA HAMM. Escorts are needed for these

dinners as well. If you sponsor someone for the walk or your spouse is on the walk, you will not be able to serve as an escort.

Women are needed for the Men's Walk and men are needed for the Women's Walk.

Mark your calendars to assist in Gilmer in the fall of 2013.

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## BOOK DONATIONS FOR WALKS!!

Please remember that you can donate books for the walks for pilgrims to read.

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SPONSORSHIP TRAINING INFORMATION – APPLICATIONS

Check the website for information to print off.

The next sponsor training will be held at the gathering in May.

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Team selections for the fall walks will soon be underway. Remember you must fill out a new application for each walk you would like to be a part of. Walk 66 will be in Gilmer and led by Pat Thompson followed by Walk 67 led by Jana Russell. The 2014 walks will be held in Athens on these dates: Men: March 13-16 Women: March 20-24

Gilmer Walks for 2014 will be held:

Men: October 2-5 Women: October 9-12

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## 2013 GRACE BOARD

Gathering Coordinator David McPherson Dtmold26@embarqmail.com 903-894-3547 home 903-316-4272 cell

Team Selection/Nomination Chair Mac Young imacyoung@aol.com

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Wall Agape/Prayer Vigil Coordinator Janis Johns Jjohns519@gmail.com 817-714-8208 (c)

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## **NON-ELECTED POSITIONS**

Registrar Jim & Betty Buchanan jimbet@cobridge.tv 903-938-1421 (h) 903-930-2360 – Jim (c)

903-930-2678 – Betty (c) Webmaster

Tom Perdue tomdue@gmail.com 903-218-1578 (h) 903-571-3199 (c)

Spiritual Director Doug Smith ddsmith2000@yahoo.com (903) 968-3833

Assistant Spiritual Director(s) Richard Luna

## **GRACE EMMAUS**

The G.R.A.C.E. Emmaus Community wishes to continue to spread the life changing experience that an Emmaus weekend can deliver. Won't you help us by donating funds for scholarships for both Pilgrims and team members, or the general fund of our community?

We are asking you to consider donate \$5, \$10, \$25 monthly or whatever amount you would like to set the donation to. This monthly donation will be debited automatically from your bank account on or about the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month.

Thank you for your continued support of our Emmau DeColores	s community.			
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City, State, Zip:				
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	BANK INFORMA	TION		
I (We) hereby authorize GRACE Emmaus to initiate deb monthly. This authority is to remain in full force and ef				
Monthly gift amount \$				
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