

Rooster Tales

Vol. 7 No 9

November 2006

Gathering/Training Schedule

Flagstaff Area (all at Trinity Heights UMC, Fellowship Hall, childcare provided):

Nov. 18 - Training 2:00 p.m., Gathering at 5:00 p.m.
Cindi Martinez's email for more information is [cjmartinez@juno.com](mailto:cjemartinez@juno.com)

Phoenix Area:

Nov. 10 - 4th Day Dinner at 6 p.m., Gathering at 7:15 p.m. at Epworth UMC, 4802 N. 59th Ave.

Steve & Toni Berg's email for more information is toni.berg@bnanenuro.net

East Valley Area:

1st Sunday of each Month- Gathering at 11:45 a.m. at Grace UMC at the corner of Gilbert & University.

Rich & Nancy Foster's email for more information is ndnfoster@aol.com or (480) 982-9141

Tucson Area: (potlucks @ 5 p.m., gathering to follow)

Nov. 18 - St. Marks UMC (1431 W. Magee Rd., Tucson)

Jan. 20 - Sierra Vista UMC (3225 St. Andrews Dr., Sierra Vista)

Dave Camp's email for more information is J.D.Camp@msn.com

Yuma Emmaus/Cursillo Community:

Paula Volenstine's email for more information is volenstine@earthlink.net

NW Valley Area:

Gathering at Shepherd of the Hills UMC (13658 W. Meeker Blvd. right off Johnson Blvd.) the first Sunday of every month at 6:30 p.m. starting the first Sunday of October - April.

Mary Jo Torbet's email for more information is Marjot4@cox.net



Walk Schedule

Walk 169, February 8-11, Grace Fellowship, Buckeye, Art Brooks, Lay Director

Walk 170, February 22-25, Grace Fellowship, Buckeye, Dusty LaNoue, Lay Director

Walk 171 April 12-15, 2007, St. Paul's UMC, Tucson, Harry Magargee, Lay Director

Walk 172 April 26-29, 2007, St. Paul's UMC, Tucson, Jessie Hansen, Lay Director

Walk 173 June 14-17, 2007, Trinity Heights UMC, Flagstaff, Michael Fredrick, Lay Director

Walk 174 June 21-24, 2007, Trinity Heights UMC, Flagstaff, Marcia Brown, Lay Director

From Your President

God spoke very clearly to me after all the awesome experiences serving on walks and on the board that it was time to step forward and run for the president of the Arizona Walk to Emmaus. The Walk to Emmaus was my "born-again", mountaintop experience, and I have loved serving in any capacity for the Arizona Walk to Emmaus. This is just another way to keep serving. We have a wonderful board, filled with members who all give so much of themselves by serving as your leaders. It's really a pleasure to work with them, and keep our Arizona Walk to Emmaus going just the way it has grown to be today.

Jack and I live in Chino Valley and are members of Chino Valley UMC. With the incredible tool of computers and email, it really isn't a disadvantage to be anywhere in our beautiful state and be a member of the AZ Walk to Emmaus Board. We have walks all over the state, and we are one big community. Praise God!

MOVING?

Please, Please let us know when you move! Email the Director of Communications, Julie Jensen, at skyacres01@msn.com; or by calling the Emmaus Office at 623-937-9391 and leaving a message on the answering machine; or mailing us notification at Arizona Walk to Emmaus, 6826 N. 55th Dr., Glendale, AZ 85301.

We have walks coming up in February in Buckeye at Grace Fellowship, in April in Tucson at St. Paul's UMC, and in June in Flagstaff at Trinity Heights UMC. In October we just completed walks in Mesa at First Mesa UMC. We praise God and walk with Jesus all over Arizona. You may have served on walks in Prescott or Page or Yuma, too. We may be holding walks at different churches, and in different cities in the future. I see this as an opportunity to spread the wealth of God's agape love. Isn't God grand? And aren't we blessed to serve Him in this awesome way?

Only God knows what He has in store for us, but I am sure that He is with us on our Walks to Emmaus, and with all of us who serve on Walks here in Arizona. It is my pleasure to serve in this manner, and I can't wait to see what He has in store for us here in The Arizona Walk to Emmaus.

God doesn't call the qualified, He qualifies the called. Praise God for His unconditional love and DeColores! Lynn Garner

Po Folks

One day a father of a very wealthy family took his son on a trip to the country with the firm purpose of showing his son how poor people can be. They spent a couple of days and nights on the farm of what would be considered a very poor family. On their return from their trip, the father asked his son, "How was the trip?" "It was great, Dad." "Did you see how poor people can be?" the father asked. "Oh Yeah" said the son. "So what did you learn from the trip?" asked the father proudly. The son answered: I saw that we have one dog and they had four. We have a pool that reaches to the middle of our garden and they have a creek that has no end. We have imported lanterns in our garden and they have the stars at night. Our patio reaches to the front yard and they have the whole horizon. We have a small piece of land to live on and they have fields that go beyond our sight. We have servants who serve us, but they serve others. We buy our food, but they grow theirs. We have walls around our property to protect us, they have friends to protect them. With this the boy's father was speechless. Then his son added, "Thanks, Dad, for showing me how poor we are." Too many times we forget what we have and concentrate on what we don't have. What is one person's worthless object is another's prize possession. It is all based on one's perspective. It makes you wonder what would happen if **we all gave thanks for all the bounty we have** instead of worrying about wanting more. Take joy in what you have, and see the treasure in it.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

The Best Prayer I've Heard in a Long Time

Heavenly Father, help us remember that the jerk who cut us off in traffic last night is a single mother who worked nine hours that day and is rushing home to cook dinner, help with homework, do the laundry and spend a few precious moments with her children.

Remind us, Lord, that the scary looking bum, begging for money in the same spot every day (who really ought to get a job!) is a slave to addictions that we can only imagine in our worst nightmares.

Help us to remember that the old couple walking annoyingly slow through the store aisles and blocking our shopping progress are savoring this moment, knowing that, based on the biopsy report she got back last week, this will be the last year that they go shopping together.

Heavenly Father, remind us each day that, of all the gifts you give us, the greatest gift is love.

It is not enough to share that love with those we hold dear.

Open our hearts not to just those who are close to us, but to all humanity.

Let us be slow to judge and quick to forgive, show patience, empathy and love.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

THE DAFFODIL PRINCIPLE

Several times my daughter had telephoned to say, "Mother, you must come see the daffodils before they are over." I wanted to go, but it was a two-hour drive from Laguna to Lake Arrowhead. "I will come next Tuesday," I promised, a little reluctantly, on her third call. Next Tuesday dawned cold and rainy. Still, I had promised, and so I drove there. When I finally walked into Carolyn's house and hugged and greeted my grandchildren, I said, "Forget the daffodils, Carolyn! The road is invisible in the clouds and fog, and there is nothing in the world except you and these children that I want to see bad enough to drive another inch!"

My daughter smiled calmly and said, "We drive in this all the time, Mother."

"Well, you won't get me back on the road until it clears, and then I'm heading for home!" I assured her.

"I was hoping you'd take me over to the garage to pick up my car." "How far will we have to drive?" "Just a few blocks," Carolyn said. "I'll drive. I'm used to this."

After several minutes, I had to ask, "Where are we going? This isn't the way to the garage!" "We're going to my garage the long way," Carolyn smiled, "by way of the daffodils."

"Carolyn," I said sternly, "please turn around."

"It's all right, Mother, I promise. You will never forgive yourself if you miss this experience."

After about twenty minutes, we turned onto a small gravel road and I saw a small church. On the far side of the church, I saw a hand-lettered sign that read, "Daffodil Garden." We got out of the car and each took a child's hand, and I followed Carolyn down the path. Then, we turned a corner of the path, and I looked up and gasped. Before me lay the most glorious sight. It looked as though someone had taken a great vat of gold and poured it down over the mountain peak and slopes. The flowers were planted in majestic, swirling patterns—great ribbons and swaths of deep orange, white, lemon yellow, salmon pink, saffron, and butter yellow. Each different-colored variety was planted as a group so that it swirled and flowed like its own river with its own unique hue. There were five acres of flowers.

"But who has done this?" I asked Carolyn.

"It's just one woman," Carolyn answered. "She lives on the property. That's her home." Carolyn pointed to a well kept A frame house that looked small and modest in the midst of all that glory. We walked up to the house. On the patio, we saw a poster. "Answers to the Questions I Know You Are Asking" was the headline.

The first answer was a simple one. "50,000 bulbs," it read.

The second answer was, "One at a time, by one woman. Two hands, two feet, and very little brain." The third answer was, "Began in 1958." There it was, The Daffodil Principle. For me, that moment was a life-changing experience.

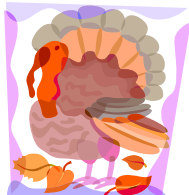
I thought of this woman whom I had never met, who, more than forty years before, had begun—one bulb at a time—to bring her vision of beauty and joy to an obscure mountaintop. Still, just planting one bulb at a time, year after year, had changed the world. This unknown woman had forever changed the world in which she lived. She had created something of ineffable (indescribable) magnificence, beauty, and inspiration. The principle her daffodil garden taught is one of the greatest principles of celebration.

That is, learning to move toward our goals and desires one step at a time—often just one baby-step at a time—and learning to love the doing, learning to use the accumulation of time. When we multiply tiny pieces of time with small increments of daily effort, we too will find we can accomplish magnificent things. We can change the world.

"It makes me sad in a way," I admitted to Carolyn. "What might I have accomplished if I had thought of a wonderful goal thirty-five or forty years ago and had worked away at it 'one bulb at a time' through all those years. Just think what I might have been able to achieve!"

My daughter summed up the message of the day in her usual direct way. "Start tomorrow," she said. It's so pointless to think of the lost hours of yesterdays. The way to make learning a lesson of celebration instead of a cause for regret is to only ask, "How can I put this to use today?"

-- Author Unknown



Spanish Anyone?

The Arizona Walk to Emmaus Board of Directors is exploring the idea of having a Spanish-Speaking Walk. We want to include our Spanish-speaking brothers and sisters in our Arizona Walk to Emmaus community, and have them experience a comfortable and meaningful weekend.

In order to do that we need all of you in the Arizona Walk to Emmaus Community who speak Spanish, and would like an opportunity to serve on a Spanish-Speaking Walk to notify us. We also need to know if there are any of you who have served as Assistant Lay Directors (ALDs), speak Spanish, and would be interested in serving on the leader's team of such a walk.

If you are Spanish speaking and would like to serve on a Spanish-speaking Walk, please email Lynn Garner at jack2lynn@cablone.net. Please indicate if you have leadership experience or would like to serve on the cook or talk team.

This is a wonderful opportunity for the Arizona Walk to Emmaus Community, but we need to know the interest level, and if we have enough members of our community who speak Spanish. If you speak Spanish, let us know right away.

DeColores,
Lynn Garner
President

Calling for God's Hands!

Did you notice the article in the April and May issues of Rooster Tales looking for a few good men to work on an ongoing project? Well, no one to date has answered, so we'll try it again.

We need a few, 2-4, people that like to do things with their hands, would like to do an ongoing project that will serve the AZ Walk to Emmaus in a powerful, Christ-filled, passionate way. Do you love the Walk to Emmaus and wish you could somehow give back the awesome love/agape you received? This project will fulfill that wish. You would stay anonymous, except with God, of course, have fun with some other brothers or sisters-in-Christ, and do your "Call to Discipleship", "Christian Community Action", and maybe even your "Closest to Christ". PLEASE, if you feel called to serve Christ's people, this is a wonderful way to do that. Let us know by contacting Lynn Garner at 928-710-2915. DECOLORES!

NOVEMBER, 2006



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