

## North Georgia Emmaus Board Meeting Minutes June 6, 2023 Meeting

Bobby Butler called the meeting to order at 7:05pm

Attendees: Bill Creech, Andy Burt, Ginny Sternberg, Joe Harrington, Alice Champagne, Duke Ellington, Donald Taylor, Bobby Butler, Erick Glick, Mark Niethammer, Jeanette Karstensen, Gretchen Butler, Tony Fisher, Eric Pool, Martin Conner, Julie Hubach, John Thompson, Hilary Berman

Absent: Kendel Nickens, David Wilkins, Ben Powell, Patti Ann Allen (Patti Cox Bosworth attended in her place), Eileen Hemmati, Heather McCreary,

Devotion & Prayer (<5 Minutes) – Gretchen Butler

Minutes from Previous Meeting – Review & Approve –. 1<sup>st</sup> Mark Niethammer, 2<sup>nd</sup> Bill Creech, All in favor

Treasurer's Report – \$116k in cash. Much better cash position

### Items for discussion:

- **Board Rep report from weekends –**
  - **Women's walk 238.** Hilary Berman. 20 pilgrims. Did have covid exposure. One person did suggest all servants be tested before weekend. There were two servants who should not serve again. There were no instruments on the music team. Patti Ann shared that it was difficult to be on the board and be an LD.
  - **Women's walk 229 –** Ginny Sternberg. 29 pilgrims. Team was very kind and cooperative. Ginny paid attention to what it would be like as a first time board rep. Did have a couple of challenging pilgrims. Brings up the question of good sponsorship. All leadership feedback asked that documentation be reviewed and streamlined.
  - **Men's walk 205.** Bobby Butler. Great to see diversity in leadership in the community. John Fowler (LD) stressed diversity in team and music. John tried to go green and did not print as much as normally is done. Saved \$225 in printing. Got feedback from servants that a barrier to serving is the number of team meetings. Discussed how the number of meetings could be reduced.
  - **Men's walk 206.** Andy Burt. Andy filled in for John Thompson as board rep but was sick at the last minute and had to drop. 12 pilgrims. LD Wally Bradley came down with covid on Saturday night. Managed to wrap up the weekend on Sunday morning. Wally did his talk remotely from the agape room and it was displayed in the conference room.
- **Feedback from teams.** Ginny Sternberg.
  - Candlelight/4<sup>th</sup> Day. Going forward, just call this position 4<sup>th</sup> Day Servant. Documentation to be updated to reflect this.
  - Call both Assistant Head Kitchens "Assistant Kitchen Coordinator" instead of Entertainment Coordinator
  - Consolidate scripts from Upper Room into one document.
  - Add question on the pilgrim application. "Please explain why you want to attend the Walk to Emmaus"
  - Each topic was discussed and agreed to via consensus
- **Committee Nominations**
  - **Hilary Berman. Training.** Daisy Watson. All in favor, Gwen Hamill – All in favor
  - **Tony Fisher – Technology -** Kim Adams. All in favor. Samantha Paulson – All in favor. Robbie Vickers – All in favor
- **Need to determine if ALD training can occur on 8/5 instead of 8/12**
- **Music, Technology and Kitchen training on 8/16.**

## General Information Items:

### Put on your calendars:

August 12, 2023 - ALD Training; – need ALD training prior to Aug 10 as that is W240's Leadership Orientation. Is Sat, Aug 5 available?

August 12, 2023 - CPR Class for board reps

January 13, 2024 - ALD Training – 1-2 weeks sooner if possible, 1<sup>st</sup> men's walk March 7<sup>th</sup>.

January 27, 2024 - Board Training and CPR Class

How transferable is your position to the next chair?

Exception is not the rule.

## Committee Reports

- Agape – Patti Ann Allen – as reported ([report](#))
- Chrysalis – Bill Creech – Report submitted and gave summary ([report](#))
- Communications – Julie Hubach – Need loveletter inputs ([report](#))
- Community Spiritual Director – Joe Harrington – nothing to report ([report](#))
- Development – Gretchen Butler – as reported ([report](#))
- Face to Face – Ginny – F2F walk this week with 10 pilgrims ([report](#))
- Facilities – Eric Glick – as reported. Open house / celebration for Gwen on 8/20. ([report](#))
- Fourth Day Activities – Martin Conner. Want to have Gathering in September. Reviewing reunion groups to help with sponsorship (no report)
- Kitchen – Eileen Hemmati – none ([report](#))
- Music – Joe Johnson – as reported. ([report](#))
- Registration – Jeanette Karstensen - As reported ([report](#))
- Set Up – Eric Pool – no report
- Sponsorship – Don Taylor – as reported ([report](#))
- Women's Team Selection – Ginny Sternberg – Community Trainer is required by upper room but the requirements are too much. ([report](#))
- Men's Team Selection – Andy Burt – as reported. ([report](#))
- Technology – Tony Fisher – As reported. ([report](#))
- Training – Hilary Berman – As reported ([report](#))
- Weekend Communications – Heather McCreary – absent ([report](#))
- Member at Large – Duke Ellington – nothing to report([report](#))
- Member at Large – Alice Champagne – as reported ([report](#))
- Assistant Community Lay Director – Kendel Nickens – absent
- Community Lay Director – Dave Wilkins, Absent.

### Put on your calendars:

- August 12, 2023 - ALD Training (to be rescheduled) CPR Class
- January 13, 2024 - ALD Training (to be rescheduled)
- January 27, 2024 - Board Training and CPR Class

Closing Prayer: Gretchen Butler

Adjourn

Our Next Board Meeting will be: Tuesday, August 1, 2023, Mt. Pisgah UMC, Room S139 at 7:00 PM;

August Devotion & Closing Prayer: Alice Champagne

**APPENDIX**

**From:** ngwteboard@googlegroups.com **On Behalf Of** Ginny Sternberg  
**Sent:** Monday, June 5, 2023 7:20 PM  
**To:** ngwteboard@googlegroups.com  
**Subject:** NGWTE: about teaching De Colores

Board members:

I'm assuming our meeting tomorrow night will be packed, and since we'll be missing some people, I'm offering this commentary via email. Patti Ann's Lay Director report from W238 mentioned some inconsistency with teaching De Colores, so I researched and wanted to share this info here.

- I brought up at one of our earlier meetings regarding some fall season feedback about the cultural insensitivity of the De Colores skit that the women sometimes perform. We agreed and voted not to do this skit anymore. The men seemed unaware of this skit, having never performed it. In prep for the roof repair, Bobby Butler pitched the cardboard bus sometimes used in said skit, which lived in the NG closet.
- Music agreed to include in their January training that we are no longer doing this skit.
- The Music job description still says to share the tradition. This is just a verbal sharing. No dramatic interpretation. It is up to the Music Chair to update this job description if further clarification is necessary. From the current MUSIC job description:

**Friday**

- The Music team sits with the Conference room team at meals.
- Teach the Pilgrims "De Colores", the centering song that will be sung prior to each talk (this is chosen by the Lay Director), and table graces before the talk on Prevenient Grace on Friday morning. **Share in the tradition behind both "De Colores" and the Benedictine graces as explained in the Checklist.**
  - The blessings for the meals are not sung to the tune of Edelweiss.
  - The 2 song boards are stored in the kitchen area.
  - You can access the words and music at [www.upperroom.com/emmas/](http://www.upperroom.com/emmas/).
  - The words are available at the camp on an overhead transparency and the power point CD.

- The Music Team must still teach the song to the pilgrims, so it does remain in the 3-day schedule. **Patti Ann and Hilary:** since you were on W238, do you feel we need to say in the 3-day schedule "a verbal narration only—no dramatic interpretation"? The UR manual referenced in the schedule never endorses or suggests that a skit be done. It's a verbal narration. From our 3-day schedule:

Friday	10:20 AM		Music Director	0	Teach "DeColores," pre-talk song, and meal blessings	Upper Room Director Manual p. 42 Music Servants including Technology Director Introduce themselves. Explain the tradition behind DeColores and singing grace before and after meals
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Thanks,

Ginny Sternberg  
 Women's Team Selection Chair  
 cell/text: 770-317-6811