Houston North Emmaus Community

Pilgrim's Journey Volume IX Issue 2 June 2013



'Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?"

The Gospel of Luke 24:32

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From the Community Chairman

Hi Everyone,

I hope and pray that you and your family had a wonderful Easter season celebrating the victory we have in Jesus because of the ultimate agape love he shared with us. His grace is enough for me ©!

We are almost through the halfway point of our "Emmaus Season"! We have had two successful walk weekends in April in which we saw God working through the lives of those pilgrims/new 4th day community members throughout that weekend. I continue to encourage and challenge our new community 4th day to continue to find opportunities to share God's grace and love to others through existing ministries (or new ministries) through your local church or other things such as Kairos, Chrysalis, and Epiphany. I also want to encourage our new 4th day to be part of an accountability or reunion group. Being in accountability with other Christians strengthens your foundation in a life in grace. Christians are not mavericks, but are in community living life in Christ together. Trying to find a reunion group? Check out our Reunion Group section on www.hnec.org

I wanted to mention a few things that have already been announced that I want to remind you of:

- We now offer the capability to pay for walk fees for teams and pilgrims online via PayPal.
- We now offer the capability to support electronic signup for walk weekends.
- You can now update your own information and opt-in or opt-out of our email blasts.

Information about the above can be found on our website (and in the related article on page 10).

Coming on the horizon we have two more walks this summer: **HNEC Walk #74 (July 25-28)** with Richard Smith as Lay Director, and **HNEC Walk #75 (August 1-4)** with Susan Fronk as Lay Director. Teams have been selected and we have our first team training coming in a couple of weeks. Please be in prayer for these teams as they begin the team formation process to be a cohesive unit serving God by Continued on page 2

HOUSTON NORTH EMMAUS COMMUNITY INC 6942 FM 1960 East, #207, Humble, TX 77346 serving the pilgrims, pray for more potential pilgrims, and ask a potential pilgrim if they would want to experience this weekend. Need a refresher with sponsorship training? Send an email to communications@hnec.org and we will help you get that training. Any member of the Houston North Emmaus Community Board can provide that training. God bless you and yours as we begin to move into the dog days of summer!

In Him, Phil Henderson



Community Related Sites

General Walk to Emmaus Information from The Upper Room
Frequently Asked Questions about the Walk

Frequently Asked Questions about the Walk to Emmaus

Houston West Emmaus Community
Houston Bay Area Emmaus Community
Cradle of Texas Emmaus Community
Houston West Chrysalis Community - Newly chartered
Cradle of Texas Chrysalis Community
Kairos Prison Ministry
Texas Epiphany Ministry

Community Locator



Pilgrim Applications

Please make sure you are using the 2013 forms for pilgrim applications!

Application forms should always be submitted in a timely manner and keeping the following in mind:

- > The maximum number of Pilgrims per walk is 36.
- Walk registrations can be accepted up until the beginning Walk date provided openings are still available.
- > Applications are considered received in the order of their postmark date.
- For questions about pilgrim applications, status, etc., contact registrar Tom Hollis at: registrar@hnec.org
- For financial assistance on Walk fees, contact Phil Henderson, Community Chair. ph593756@gmail.com

Go to the "<u>Applications and</u> <u>Documents</u>" link on the web. www.hnec.org

2013 Walk/Dates

Men's Walk 74 July 25 - 28

Women's Walk 75 August 1 - 4

Men's Walk 76 September 26 - 29

Women's Walk 77 October 3 - 6



LET'S TALK SPONSORSHIP!



Being a Good Sponsor

According to the dictionary, a sponsor is <u>one who takes</u> <u>responsibility for another.</u> The suffix "-ship" refers to the skill involved in the activity. So sponsorship is the skill of taking responsibility for another.

As we consider sponsorship, we must all be reminded of how we can be **good sponsors** of pilgrims for the Walk to Emmaus. Each time you sponsor a pilgrim, it would be a good thing to read the section in the Day Four book, <u>The Pilgrim's Continued Journey</u>.

The aim of a sponsor should **not** be "to get all my friends to go," to fill up the weekend, to fix people's problems, or to reproduce one's own religious experience in others. Rather, the aim of the sponsor is to bring spiritual revitalization to Christians who will, in turn, bring new life and vision to the work of the church in the congregation, home, workplace, and community. The aim of sponsorship is to build up the body of Christ.

Sponsorship is an act of love for God, for the participants in the Walk to Emmaus, for the Emmaus Community, and for the church. It is a demonstration of agape love. A sponsor will:

- Pray for the participant's openness to God's call to discipleship. Make an appointment with the participant (or participating couple) to discuss his or her participation in Emmaus.
- Invite the participant to take part in Emmaus for the sake of a more vital relationship with Jesus Christ. The sponsor shares his or her faith, explains the basic purpose, elements, and follow-up dimensions of the Walk.
- Ask the participant to make a commitment by filling out a registration form. If the participant is married, the sponsor will speak with both partners and encourage an equal commitment by both spouses. Support the participant's Walk through prayers and otherwise.
- The sponsor will also support the participant's family by house-sitting, baby-sitting, watering plants, picking up mail, feeding pets, or just checking in with a spouse to see if any help or support is needed. Encourage the participant in his/her continued journey and take the participant to Emmaus "gatherings" after the Walk weekend is over.
- Help the participant re-enter his or her church and consider ways to act out new commitment and enthusiasm.
- Help the participant sponsor others.

Adapted from $\underline{Sponsorship}$ by Richard and Janine Gilmore. Copyright © 1998 by The Upper Room..

Wise Sponsorship

Initially, consider sponsoring those persons who are committed to living a life that is pleasing to God, those who want to grow and increase their knowledge and understanding of God and his will.

- 1. Church leaders (pastors and laypersons), those serving on committees, outreach programs, anyone participating in the ministries of the church.
- 2. Couples: Try to get them to go on the same set of walks or back-to-back walks.
- 3. Single persons who are active in the church.
- 4. Less active members who need their awareness of grace rekindled and their commitments renewed.
- 5. Christians who want to grow spiritually.
- 6. Members of **divers**e congregations, denominations, and ethnic groups. Many times these people are just waiting to be asked to do something.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE SPONSOR

- 1. Spend concentrated time in *prayer* in an effort to discern whom God wants you to sponsor. The overriding purpose of Emmaus is to Christianize the environments such as the home, business, friendships, and churches. The whole weekend experience leads pilgrims to desire a reordering of priorities, to understand and experience God's grace within a community of believers, and to be drawn into deeper discipleship by the Holy Spirit.
- 2. Meet with the potential pilgrim and share with them some of the aspects of the walk: This may be an appropriate point to address the issue of "secrecy." One of the worst mistakes made by those of us who have attended the Emmaus Walk is to be too secretive about what happens on a Walk. The Upper Room Handbook on Emmaus states "**There is nothing secret about Emmaus.**" When your prospective pilgrim asks you a specific question, you should always give an honest and truthful answer. Chances are they aren't going to think to ask you about Candlelight or Dying Moments, but if they do, you should not try to deceive them. It would be better to tell them more than necessary than to be too secretive.

3. Tell your pilgrim about the format of the weekend:

- o There will be fifteen talks, group discussions, and time for fellowship. It's fine to tell them about the type of food served, communion, and the sleeping accommodations. They will be with people they don't know, but in a short time they'll become a close-knit community. This experience will demonstrate the love of God and strong Christian fellowship. Hopefully, this will help to set their minds at ease.
- Also tell them about Reunion Groups and how they can help to encourage them in further spiritual growth.
- 4. After you have answered all questions, give your prospect an application (registration forms can be downloaded from the website). Be sure to explain the application. If you have a pamphlet or book on Emmaus, give this to your pilgrim.
- 5. We schedule based on the date registration forms are received. We will send postcards (if more than three months before the walk) and letters to both the pilgrim and sponsor within three months of the Walk. Let us know if your pilgrim can or cannot go on the assigned walk. It is the sponsor's responsibility to advise the registrar of any changes such as change of address, phone number, or desire to attend the Walk.
- 6. Begin preparations to request the personal agape letters; **12 LETTERS** are needed. Please be sure to get letters from family and good friends. Please ensure that the letters are marked correctly "**Sponsor,**" "**Spouse,**" "**Pastor,**" "**Family,**" **or** "**Friend**" as appropriate. If you have more than 12, give the extra to the pilgrim after closing. Just be sure the most important letters are in the initial 12 the pilgrim will be given on Sunday. If you do not have

- 12 letters, people working behind the scenes (who probably don't know your pilgrim) will have to make up the difference.
- 7. A few days before The Walk event, contact your pilgrim as a reminder about the upcoming Walk. Offer guidance about what to pack for the weekend. There are guidelines in the letters sent to each pilgrim.
- 8. **Get your pilgrim to send off by 7:00 p.m.,** and assist with check in. **Remain** with your pilgrim through send-off, introducing him or her to others. Remember to be sure the pilgrim has eaten supper since only snack food is served Thursday night. Following send-off, **the sponsor is to attend sponsor's hour**. At this time you have the opportunity to pray for your pilgrim and place their cross on the large cross.
- 9. Spend as much time as possible in prayer for your pilgrim. **Be** a part of the **72-hour prayer vigil**.
- 10. During the 72 hours check on your pilgrim's family to provide necessary assistance.
- 11. Attend the Saturday candlelight service and take any additional agape letters you have collected. **Insure they do not contain gifts. Any letters containing gifts will NOT be given to the pilgrim.**
- 12. Be at closing.
- 13. Go to the **follow up meeting** and assist him or her in joining a reunion group.
- 14. Get the new member to a **gathering** and introduce him/her to others in the Emmaus community.
- 15. Teach the new Emmaus member how to be a good sponsor and be sure he/she understands the responsibilities of good sponsorship.
- 16. Tell the pilgrim how to serve the Emmaus community in future Walks.

Remember how you felt when you where a pilgrim and you attended your walk?

- Excited ~ You think you might understand what is going to happen but are really not sure!
- ➤ Nervous ~ You don't know many people and are in a strange new place!
- ➤ Apprehensive ~ A little afraid of the unknown!



Don't leave your pilgrim stranded and alone - be reassuring and excited for them!





For your attention!



DID YOU KNOW YOU CAN FIND AND FILL OUT

Sponsorship forms on the website?

HNEC Sponsor Form

<u>HNEC – Sponsor Checklist</u>

HNEC - Sponsor Request for Pilgrim Letters

HNEC - Information Sheet for Sponsors

Remember!

We now offer the capability to pay for walk fees for teams and Pilgrims online via PayPal!



Table and Pillow Agape

Always make a few extra in case items are misplaced or broken.

- > 50 pieces—Pilgrims & table leaders
- > 60 pieces—Pilgrims & conference room team
- > 75 pieces—All pilgrims and team

LOVE an Agape Servant. Please label your bags, sacks, containers, etc. with:

of pieces.

Preferred time to distribute. Intended recipients.

Thanks!

Community Servanthood www.hnec.org / Community Servanthood link

To volunteer for any area of service or if you have any questions, contact HNEC Board member Sharon Heald at 936.662.0542. hasha0521@yahoo.com

REMEMBER: You can sign up as individuals, reunion groups, groups of Emmaus friends, family groups, or church Fourth Day Emmaus groups. Don't let the total number required for each event intimidate you! We can put you with others who may sign up for the same event.

*** You may also sign up directly via our online registration***

Community Servanthood Online Registration



Our Community Servanthood coordinator for Walk weekends is HNEC Board member: **Janel O'Shea.**713.299.4557. oshea@cebridge.net

Descriptions of Areas of Service

Thursday Snack Supper Requirement: 6-8 people Arrival time: 5:00 pm

Task: Provide light supper for team and arriving pilgrims and sponsors

Saturday Agape Dinner Requirement: 6-12 people

Arrival time: 3:30 for decorations; 4:30 for food preparation, serving, and cleanup

Task: Provide special Agape Dinner for pilgrims and team. Fourth Day persons from multiple churches can join together. If you want to serve, let us know and we will put you together with

others.

Saturday Candlelight Parking Attendants

Requirement: 4-6 people Arrival time: 7:15 pm

Task: Direct traffic to designated parking areas.

Saturday Candlelight Luminary Team

Requirement: 6-8 people Arrival time: 7:00 pm

Task: Set up luminaries for pilgrim arrival and take down after Candlelight is finished.

Saturday Candlelight Service Team

Requirement: 6-8 people Arrival time: 6:30 pm

Tasks: Set up the Fourth Day service area in the Dining Hall; serve as ushers; hand out candles and then collect them; assist in taking down chairs in the Dining Hall after the Fourth Day service.

Sunday Moving Cleanup

Requirement: 4-5 people Arrival time: 1:30 pm

Task: Move furniture from cabins to the conference room; move kitchen supplies from the dining hall to the property room; move agape supplies from the inn to property room; and to assist the servant team in the cleanup of Kaiserhof.

Rose Providers

Requirement: Individual or small group

Arrival time: Saturday night or early Sunday morning

Task: Bring 4 dozen (48) roses to Kaiserhof to be handed out to pilgrims, table leaders, and

assistant table leaders in their rooms prior to breakfast on Sunday morning.

*****To see what opportunities are still available check the Signup Genius website at ****

http://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0F4DABAB23A57-hnec



HNEC Community Spiritual Director, Cliff Ritter

We all felt extremely proud on Tuesday night of the Texas Annual Conference as we watched Cliff receive his ordination from Bishop Huie. The Co-Cathedral in downtown Houston was glowing from the smiles and love!

Thank you, Cliff and Lauri for sharing your special night with us.

EMBRACING THE DREAM

SERVICE OF COMMISSIONING AND ORDINATION MAY 23, 2013 7:00 PM

CONGRATULATIONS, REVEREND CLIFTON RITTER



Website Update

HNEC has continued to move forward in our embracing of the ability of modern technology to make our registration tasks easier. Registration for pilgrims, team, and day servants may be done completely online using our automated pdf forms. They can even be "signed" electronically and forwarded to your Pastor for an electronic signature and then returned, so that a complete "paperless" registration can be accomplished. Instructions for completing the forms electronically are contained on the last page of the form itself once you have downloaded it.

You may also pay pilgrim, team, and day servant fees online for your convenience. A small handling fee is charged for this service, but you'll have the convenience of making immediate payment, an immediate receipt, and an email record of your payment without having to deal with a checkbook, envelope, addressing, stamping, etc.

Both electronic submission of registration forms and online payment are merely options which you can use for your convenience. If you are uncomfortable with doing things electronically you can still use the registration forms in any way that is convenient/comfortable for you, such as - printing them out, filling them in, and mailing them with your check; filling them in using your computer, then printing them out and mailing them, etc.

All of these updated registration forms and the online payment page are available on the HNEC web site at www.hnec.org. If you have problems or questions with these items or anything else on the HNEC web site, please don't hesitate to let the Communications Team know at communications@hnec.org. We can't address your issue if we don't know about it!



All North Emmaus Walks are held at the beautiful Kaiserhof Retreat Center http://www.kaiserholfretreatcenter.com

Walk #72



MEN'S WALK #72 ~ APRIL 11-14, 2013 Kaiserhof Retreat Center ~ Tomball, Texas

Pilgrims

Guy Barba, Robert Bassett, David Bilberry Pilgrim, Gary Boyd, Austin Collins, Mike Cooley, Tom Cykala, Dale England, Ken Ernst, Bill Hamer, Robert Horton, Steven Johnson, Paul Kessler, Joe Laird, Robert Lee, Jim Mastin, Jon McIntosh, William Mills, Tommy Nerren, Wayne Pawlik, John Prince, David Reitz, William Sikma, Michael Wappelhorst, Jason Wygal

Team Members

Lay Director: Sheridan Sanders

Assistant Lay Directors: Tim Ben-Schoter, Sam Sharif, Doug Spitz

Board Representative: Henry Pruitt

Spiritual Directors: Cliff Ritter (SD), Ralph Randolph (ASD), Daniel Hannon, Stephen

Rhoads, Matt Stone (Visiting Clergy)

Musicians: Dan Spencer (Head), Doug Cherry, Cameron Collins

Table Leaders and Assistants: Arch Kennedy (Head), Greg Benge, Rick Bruce, Frank

Davis, Peter Eckdahl, Jeron Furbee, Kevin Kyle, Jeffery Plank, Billy E. Riggs,

Christopher Schreiber, Charlie Trotter, Mark Urban

Servant Team Coordinator: Earl Dague

Agape Servants: Shannon Cheatham, Gerald Pommier (Head), Michael Pubentz, Billy

Ward

Chapel Servants: Tibor Cseszko (Head), Walter Balderach

Kitchen Servants: Scott Holmes (Head), Prentis Collins, Chris Knight, Will Tank

Kitchen Servants: Randy Best (Head), Bobby Hantelman, Henry Edward Vela

Women's Walk #73



WOMEN'S WALK #73 ~ APRIL 18-21, 2013 KAISERHOF RETREAT CENTER ~ TOMBALL, TEXAS

Pilgrims

Carol Bodin, Lisa Burkholder, Tobi Cooley, Stacia Cowan, Lili Cunningham, Margaret Diskin, Sherry Ernst, Martha Farnsworth, Margaret Gannon, Cindy Gharst, Debbie Godbold, Sondra Hawkins, Carmen Jaime, Sonya Johnson, Suzie Johnson, Sheila Kelly, Debra Landry-Peterson, Tracy Martin, Sonya May, Niki Mikeska, Ann Moore, Natalie Nazzal, Mary Rushing, Linda Smith, Debra Tade, Tracy Temple

Team Members

Lay Director: Mary Szilagyi-Ovaitt

Assistant Lay Directors: Kathy Carroll, Connie Dyess, Karen Greco

Board Representative: Sharon Heald

Spiritual Directors: Robyn Bishop (SD), Sandy Burley (ASD), Marc Donaldson, Susan Kent, Pam Wiggins

Musicians: Candy Randolph (Head), Lora Kay Gianardi, Lee Randolph

Table Leaders and Assistants: Salana Yarger (Head), Kimberlee Bolla, Lanie Brown, Robin Collier, Marty Cox, Sarah Fortner, Elizabeth Nelson, Michelle Olson, Janine Saunders, Glenda Stidham, Cindy Van

Rensburg, Sarah Yelverton

Servant Team Coordinator: Pat Smith

Agape Servants: Becky Burks (Head), Robin Castro, Theresa Gaus-Schmidt, Sebrina Marshall, Sandy

Poole

Chapel Servants: Sandra Harper (Head), Trish Bilbo

Kitchen Servants: Kelly Freeman (Head), Melanie Bratton, Janet Chenoweth, Lollie Duroy, Betti Tywater

Church Fourth Day Community Contacts

The persons below are currently serving as the official contact for their church's Emmaus Fourth Day Community. They have agreed to keep their Fourth Day members informed about Houston North Emmaus Community activities and to communicate with the Board regarding changes to their Fourth Day membership (new members, changes to contact information, etc.)

We do not publish the contact information for these individuals. However, you may contact them through the church or through our website contact communications@hnec.org.

If you know of changes (additions, changes, deletions) to the Church Contact list itself, please let us hear from you at communications@hnec.org!

Church Fourth Day Contact Persons (Updated February 2013)

CHURCH NAME	EMMAUS CONTACT PERSON		
April Sound Church	C J Smith		
Atascocita UMC	Walter Balderach		
Calvary Christian Fellowship	Paul Silva		
Christ Church UMC	Sally Henderson; Amy Mitcham		
Coldspring UMC	Barbara Brooks		
Community Christian Church	Dan Spencer; Tim Ben-Schoter		
Cypress Bible	Emil Haddad		
Cypress UMC	Daryn Seidl; Debbie Parcel		
Cypress Trails UMC	Ellen Alfar		
Faith UMC	John Hurlbutt		
Faithbridge UMC	Taani & John Follis		
Fellowship of The Woodlands	Tami Denton		
First UMC-Humble	Shirin Parke		
First UMC-Huntsville	Annella Portalatin		
Foundry UMC	LeRoy Fronk; Jeanne Mueller; Joleen Wright		
Friendship UMC	Sandra Harper		
Good Shepherd UMC	Cynthia Blackshear		
Houston Northwest Baptist	Marilyn Christian; Lorraine Craigen		
John Wesley UMC	Cammie & Rob DeShazer		
Kingwood UMC	Mike and Janel O'Shea		
Klein UMC	Earl Dague		
Lake Houston UMC	Doug Spitz		
Lakeside UMC-Humble	Stephanie Dement		
Lakewood UMC-Cypress	Mike Jackson		
Magnolia UMC	Nancy Thomas		
Splendora Countryside UMC	Bobby Hantelman		
Spring Woods UMC	Debbie Smith		
Strawbridge UMC	CiCi Strube		
Tomball UMC	Tommy Lyles		
Vineyard Church of Conroe	Joel Knox		
The Woodlands Christian Church	Billy Shaw		
The Woodlands UMC	Morris Davidson; Leslie Townsend; Cindy van Rensburg		
Wesley Memorial UMC-Huntsville	Deloris & Tom Gardner		

Houston North Emmaus Community Board Meetings

Board meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at The Woodlands United Methodist Church from 7:00-9:00~pm.

Fourth Day members are welcome to attend as guests. If you have concerns that you would like to address with the HNEC Board, you may contact Phil Henderson, Community Lay Director (ph593756@gmail.com) at least 48 hours prior to the meeting, and you will be added to the meeting agenda.

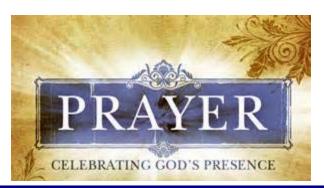
HNEC 2013 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

	1		
Community Chairperson	Phil Henderson		ph593756@gmail.com
Assistant Community Chair	Jeff Mueller	281.890.0080	<u>Jd-mueller@att.net</u>
Past Community Chair	Kathy Reedy	713.385.0748	Kathy.reedy@insperity.com
Secretary/Gatherings/Reunion Groups	Leslie Townsend	281.381.5496	letown01@hotmail.com
Treasurer	Mary Lallier	281.948.8782	marylallier@gmail.com
Community Spiritual Director	Rev. Cliff Ritter	281.297.5913	critter@twumc.org
Assistant Community Spiritual Director	TBA		
Agape - Internal	Sheryl Rowe	832.687.8272	krowefamily@att.net
Community Servanthood-Walk Weekends	Janel O'Shea	713.299.4557	oshea@cebridge.net
Community Servanthood-Volunteer Coordinator	Sharon Heald	936.662.0542	hasha0521@yahoo.com
Community Development	Larry Thieme	281.373.0454	larry.thieme@spx.com
Community Development - Agape, External	Wayne Parcel	713.907.0768	wayne.parcel@timken.com
Community Development – Belize Emmaus	Gerald Pommier	281.364.8245	gwp@staks.com
Database Manager	Tim Ben-Schoter	281.222.2419	timbenschoter@sbcglobal.net
Kitchen	Bud Elkins	281.350.5043	Js_bud@yahoo.com
Music	Terry Nesmith	832.454.5390	terrynesmith515@comcast.net
Property	Randy Jones	936.582.2242	randyjones43@consolidated.net
Property	Henry Pruitt	281.635.8992	henry@rmat1.com
Publications	Marty Cox	281.454.6074	communications@hnec.org
Registrar	Tom Hollis	281.256.2028	registrar@hnec.org
Team Selection	Paul Decker	281.772.5685	paul@deckers-online.com
Team Selection	Margaret Stone	281.894.6374	stonenow@att.net
Training and Documentation	Jodi Lee	713.416.3807	jodilynlee@yahoo.com
Training and Documentation	Mary Szilagyi- Ovaitt	281.363.0711	maryszo@sbcglobal.net
Walk Set-Up Coordinator	Bud Simmons	281.360.8230	bsimmons@wt.net
Walk AV Equipment / Website	Ray Cox	281.454.6074	coxmr@earthlink.net

The 72 Hour Pray Vigil for Women's Walk 75, August 1-4th is posted and ready for you to sign up!

You will want to beat the rush!

http://www.3dayol.org/Vigil/GetVigil.phtml?pvid=8343&commid=102



PILGRIM'S JOURNEY NEWSLETTER

The *Pilgrim's Journey* newsletter is published 4 times a year. All issues will be emailed to all Fourth Day members in our Data file. We recommend that you update your information on the web site. If you miss a Newsletter they will all posted on the Houston North Emmaus web site at www.hnec.org.

The recently updated web site has everything you will want to know about the happenings going on in our Community.

If you have questions or suggestions about ways we can enhance and improve the communication and information to our Community please don't hesitate to contact us.

In Him...

Marty and Ray Cox,



2014 Walk Dates

Men's #78 Mar 27-30th Women's #79 Apr 3-6th Men's #80 July 24-27th Women's #81 Jul 31 – Aug 3rd Men's #82 Sept 25-28th Women's #83 Oct 2-5th

