



2014 Epiphany Annual Report



2014 was a good year for Epiphany of Texas. The local teams led 14 retreats at seven of the units around the state and San Antonio held a retreat at a “new” unit for girls. The board reps for each unit reported very positive, spiritually focused experiences for the young men and young women who participated in the retreats. As always, there were several youth across the state who self-identified as Muslim, Jewish, agnostic or atheist at the start of the retreats. The teams accepted each youth regardless of their stated beliefs, sharing God’s love with them. Many of the youth began the weekend by holding back and not opening up. However by the end of the weekend, most were discussing the talks and some were openly sharing about their lives with Spiritual Directors and other team members. Some began to apply what they heard; for example one young man asked for forgiveness from one of his peers on Saturday night after hearing the forgiveness talk. The peer then turned around and asked for forgiveness too. By the end of the weekend almost with exception at each unit, the youth accepted their crosses as a symbol of their commitment to Christ. As many of you know, Staff at each unit were generally positive and supportive of the retreats.

One new unit came on line in San Antonio. It is a young ladies unit housing 12 young women. After approval by the Board, a San Antonio team put on a retreat for 11 of them including a Jewish girl; it went well with 9 girls completing the weekend and all accepting a cross. The San Antonio team found that it was hard to staff a girls retreat in addition to the two boys retreats this year because of the extra logistics and personnel needed. Because of changes in the facility, it is not likely that they will put on three retreats in the future.

The Board has been very supportive of the development of new units such as the San Antonio unit above. Roy Bradshaw has been working with the Kansas Emmaus community and the chaplain at the Kansas Juvenile Correctional Complex to have the first Kansas Epiphany take place on January 2 in a unit that has 15 young women. Epiphany Ministry of Texas is supporting that through sharing a trailer, equipment and the talents of about 10 Texas Epiphany volunteers. In addition, several board and team members have pursued the idea of starting up an Epiphany down in the Rio Grande Valley. After several years of persistent efforts, primarily by Chuck Talbot, the first Epiphany retreat at the Evins unit in Edinberg is due to take place mid January; again the Board is supporting this development by supplying the Evins team with a fully stocked trailer, \$1000 start up funds and the talents of seasoned volunteers from the Houston, Corsicana, Dallas and San Antonio areas.

Financially the ministry is on a sound foundation; the finances were managed with recognition of the importance of good stewardship of the funds entrusted to the ministry. The donations from people across the state have been most generous and have helped the individual units conduct powerful weekends for the youth incarcerated around the state. Most units had a surplus and sent that to the State Board. Those funds were to stock and/or replenish inventory in several of the units around the state. For example, the trailer that went to the Evins unit was restocked with some new tubs, a new chapel cross and other inventory in anticipation of the start up there. Funds were used to restock inventory in the warehouse such as Bibles in English and Spanish, new updated team manuals, shirts, Star Guides, etc. Training-related activities such as mileage, hotels, etc made up a part of the expenditures during 2014. Finally, funds were supplied to many of the units for Christmas parties. The treasurer continues to look for ways to maximize the use of funds and has explored ways to obtain outside funding.

The Agape coordinator, Paula Swanson, has been very busy this past year; she has brought agape packets to the Board meetings and passed them out to the UAC reps to take back. If she misses a rep, she will mail them out. Keep her informed about contact info for UAC rep, LD and/or unit agape coordinator. Paula has also been busy tending to the website. If you have not already done so, take a look at a beautiful home page and check out the links to the various pages such as upcoming weekends, board members, newsletters, etc. Our warehouse guy, Earl Dague, continues to ship out requested materials from the Houston site. He is a special servant working behind the scenes to keep the units supplied with needed materials.

NUMBER OF STARS, SUPER STARS, TEAM, OUTCOMES AND UNIT STAFF, 2014

Facility	Weekend	Date	Stars	Super Stars	Team Inside	Team Outside	Unit Staff
Brownwood	27	Feb 14-16	28	6	36	5	4
Brownwood	28	Aug 30 – Sep 1	18	6	32	5	4
Clemens	37	Apr 10-13	41	4	32	12	2
Clemens	38	Oct 16 - 19	27	2	30	13	3
Gainesville	28	Jan 17-19	35	11	41	6	4
Gainesville	29	Aug 2 - 4	32	10	40	7	5
Giddings	23	Mar 14-16	36	8	36	10	5
Giddings	24	Nov. 13 - 16	36	9	39	10	5
Krier	16	May 30 - Jun 1	29	6	33	5	4
Krier	17	Nov 21-23	29	6	30	5	4
Mart	20	Mar 14-16	36	12	32	6	10
Mart	21	Oct 2 - 5	36	18	47	5	12
Mission Rd	1	Jun 27 - 29	9	0	15	4	4
Post	14	Mar 7-9	32	2	32	7	3
Post	15	Oct 10 – 12	26	5	31	5	3
TOTAL			450	105	506	105	72

Selected comments of the board reps from a few of the units:

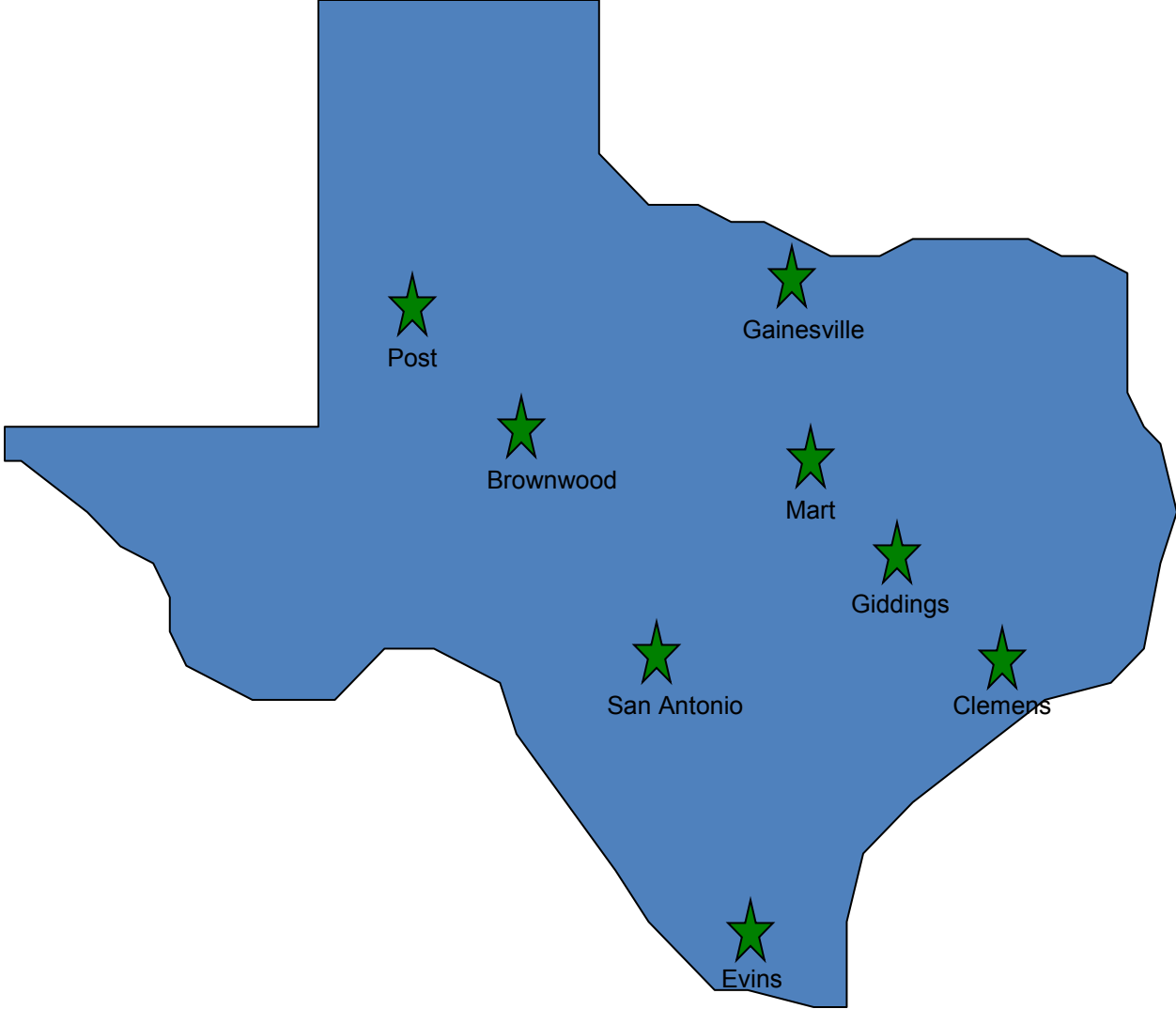
Gainesville: Really great team. It is apparent they have bonded or have served on past Epiphany weekends together. They clearly care for one another. Team was very friendly toward the board rep.

Giddings: Now many of our Stars are going to church services and recruiting their peers to go with them. They are holding Bible Studies on the dorms...praying together. Epiphany is God's Heart Poured Out to these juvenile prisoners, and they're growing in number and influence.

Mart: We really appreciate Chaplain Bob Boggess. He invites new youth to our reunion nights, and it gets them primed for hearing the word and being around us crazy Christians. He really helps us in reaching these young men.

Post: It was amazing to me that Post has been able to pull a team together from the other surrounding communities because they all seem to be just as little as Post. They had 8 clergy on their team, which is amazing. 6 of them have their own churches.

EPIPHANY MINISTRIES ACROSS THE STATE



2014 BOARD OF DIRECTORS, OFFICERS AND COORDINATORS

Position	Servant	City/unit	Email address
State Chairman	Pat Holden	Krier (San Antonio)	03pholden@sbcglobal.net
State Vice Chair	Roy Bradshaw	Brownwood	rbradshaw17@yahoo.com
State Secretary	Dean Jackson	Giddings	fuzzyguy.7144@gmail.com
State Treasurer	Anne Wilkinson	Giddings	amwilkinson.63@gmail.com
Spiritual Director	Frank Smith	Crockett - closed	franksmith@att.net
State Parliamentarian	Tom Kuhn		tekuhnsr@hotmail.com
Brownwood UAC Rep	Tom Cyprian		tcyprian@hotmail.com
Clemens UAC Rep	Ralph Castillo		ralphguy@email.msn.com
Corsicana UAC Rep	Wendy Withers	closed	wendyw378@gmail.com
Evins UAC Rep	Garciano Castaneda		churchofacts1721@gmail.com
Garza County UAC Rep	Dan Swanson		jswan47@aol.com
Gainesville UAC Rep	David Ricks		dricks70@yahoo.com
Giddings UAC Rep	Loretta Ehler		loretta.ehler@yahoo.com
Krier UAC Rep	Sarah Holden		09sholden@satx.rr.com
Mart UAC Rep	Mike Mellina		mikemellina@gmail.com
Northern Region Rep	Bob Bull	Gainesville	bob@aledoumc.org
Northern Region Rep	Kate Mellina	Mart	katemellina@gmail.com
Northern Region Rep	Paula Swanson	Garza County (Post)	pjc903@aol.com
Northern Region Rep	Janet Woodruff	Brownwood	janetmk2003@yahoo.com
Southern Region Rep	Chuck Talbot	Clemens	Resigned - TBA
Southern Region Rep	Ray Tirado	Clemens	raytir1@aol.com
Southern Region Rep	Steve Wilson	Giddings	swils@aol.com
Southern Region Rep	Pat Doughty	Giddings	patriciadoughty@yahoo.com
Agape Coordinator	Paula Swanson	Garza County (Post)	pjc903@aol.com
Documentation, Training	Chuck Talbot	Clemens	Resigned
Growth and Development	Chuck Talbot	Clemens	Resigned
Newsletter Coordinator	Marilyn Jackson	Giddings	Mswj99@yahoo.com
Starter Kit Inventory Coord	Earl Dague		eddague@earthlink.net
Trailer Coordinator	Bob Bull	Gainesville	bob@aledoumc.org
Website Coordinator	Paula Swanson	Garza County (Post)	pjc903@aol.com

