

# The Challenger

April 2007



From the Desk of the DOM



## CHURCH GROWTH WORKSHOP

A great opportunity is coming soon for your church to discover the following things:

1. Where your church is in the light of God's Word.
2. Where your church needs to go in light of the vision/dream God has given you.
3. The barriers that keep you from moving to the next level.
4. Organizational issues and normal patterns and plateaus of growth in churches and tools to help your people discover these.
5. The two important principles for healthy, reproducing churches.
6. The six issues that must be addressed to develop healthy, reproducing churches.

**Jim Brunk, specialist with the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, will lead this Workshop. The pastor and several key decision makers in your church are invited to attend. It will be held at First Baptist Church, Colbert, beginning at 1:30 on Friday, May 4 and close at noon on Saturday, May 5. There is no cost involved.**

**Any pastor and/or church leader wishing to grow his church spiritually, numerically, and reproductively should attend. Please call me for more details. Terrell Suggs**

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## February 2007 Financial Report

<b>Achille:</b>	Bushnell - Kim McGehee ----- \$ 0	Stone Creek -- Fred Resz ----- \$ 61.05	Silo -Buddy Johnson ----- \$ 440.27
Community -Bob Stevens----- \$ 115.00	Caddo - ----- \$ 158.76	Sunset View-Harry Boydston ----- \$ 0	Utica --Jay Perry ----- \$ 99.33
First ----- \$ 0	Calera - Jacob Toews ----- \$ 0	W. Meadows-Darrell Edwards----- \$ 0	Wade - Charles Williams ----- \$ 40.50
<b>Albany:</b>	Cartwright - Ray Earley ----- \$ 262.79	Hendrix - Roddy Arnold ----- \$ 96.23	Yuba -Joe Smith ----- \$ 208.75
Albany - Jackie Robinson - ---- \$ 64.02	Cobb - Bruce McLaughlin----- \$ 0	Kemp -Roger Speer ----- \$ 0	<b>Account Balances as of Feb. 28, 2007:</b>
RRV Cowboy - George Toma - \$ 18.00	Colbert - Tobey Clements----- \$ 0	Kenefic ----- \$ 131.98	BBA Checking ----- \$ 5035.21
Armstrong -Monty Wood ---- \$ 106.09	<b>Durant:</b>	<b>Mead:</b>	Falls Creek ----- \$ 2243.40
Bennington----- \$ 342.50	Calvary -Darel Bunch ----- \$ 453.51	Mead - Kerry Groce ----- \$ 401.83	Disaster Relief ----- \$ 4070.53
Blue - Randy Lewis ----- \$ 84.22	Fairview - Bill Ledbetter ----- \$ 609.00	Emmanuel ----- \$ 378.00	Carrell Hooper Mission ---- \$ 953.85
<b>Bokchito:</b>	First -James Robinson----- \$ 947.56	Streetman Rd ----- \$ 0	Sunset Cove ----- \$ 3413.99
Faith -Scott Melton----- \$ 144.96	Grace - Anthony Williams ---- \$ 660.87	Platter, 1st ----- \$ 121.29	Roadrunners ----- \$ 2125.59
First- Preston Burns----- \$ 0	Iglesia Bautista -Alejo Benito----- \$ 0	Roberta - Bud Jenkins ----- \$ 186.40	
ReynoldsChapel-Bob McLean\$ 204.49	Lake Point - Jared McIntire----- \$ 0	Robinson - Donald Ford ----- \$ 142.17	
Brown -Dale Ballard ----- \$ 149.88			

**Attention:** This report reflects only what was received by the BBA during the reported month. Churches contribute however they choose: weekly, monthly, quarterly or annually.



# Church News



An Associational Bible Drill will be held at **First Baptist Church of Durant on April 22nd** at 2:30pm in the fellowship building. All churches that would like to participate please contact **Jean Fortenberry at 580-775-0875.**

**John Cotton**, director of the **Driver's Christian Center (Trucker's Ministry)** is in the process of setting up an office. He is in need of office furniture and supplies.

If you have anything you would like to donate to this ministry you can bring it to the BBA office. Some of the things he is needing are a desk, file cabinets, chairs, computer, book shelves, maybe an electric stove, refrigerator, microwave. Anything you can share would be greatly appreciated.

**Reynolds Chapel** has a "Singing" every 3rd Friday at 7pm. Please feel free to join in!



## Word of Truth Radio Ministry

Every day at 7:45 a.m., 12:45 p.m., and 6:45 p.m. ministers from Bryan Baptist Association share with you truths from God's Word. Many of you have come across this ministry as you've turned your radio dial to 91.1 FM.

You've heard from us. Now we'd like to hear from you. Many of you, I'm sure, have had your lives touched as God used this ministry to speak the Word you needed to hear for your situation. In 100 words or less would you tell us what "The Word of Truth" has meant to you.

You can send your stories by mail to: Bryan Baptist Association, 1925 W Main St., Durant, OK 74701. Or you can email them to: [sdmelton@liberty.edu](mailto:sdmelton@liberty.edu). Thank you for sharing with us. It is our prayer that this ministry will continue to encourage and to motivate you to live for Christ with all that you are.

In Christ, Scott Melton



**The Challenger**

Have you appreciated silence with God lately? Psalm 46:10 - says, "Be still and know that I am God, I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in all the earth." Most of us who have spent the better part of our lives in church have that verse committed to some level of our memory...unfortunately for many of us it has escaped our practice. That was largely true for me until the last month or so. Sure, I was intentional about turning off the radio in the car from time to time, and there were always "accidental" episodes of silence in my life, but I missed the joy of an intentional time of prayer and silence with a small group of other believers. For the last month or more, I have been meeting with the Lord and some students for one hour, three times a week. We sit in silence, read scripture, and listen for the Lord to lead us in prayer. As he brings people and events to mind we join in prayer for them together. Wow. I'm not sure how I did without this precious time. God has been faithful to speak as we have been faithful to be still and know that He is God. He was speaking all along...we were just too busy and noisy to hear his voice. What I'm finding is that He is still going about His business...and that He is the greatest and that He is intent and confident that He will be exalted among the nations and in all the earth. Have you sat in the stillness and listened to your Creator today...this week...this month...if not, try it and experience the joy of two-way communication...that's what prayer is supposed to be after all.

Brandon



Every Dollar Counts! Our churches in partnership with other churches, associations, state conventions and NAMB support more than 5,100 missionaries who serve in the United States, Canada and their territories. One hundred percent of the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering goes directly to support them and their ministries. The national goal is fifty-seven million dollars. That's not a lot when you consider that three out of four people in North America do not know Jesus Christ. Pray for and give to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering.

WOW! What a great turnout for the Ministry Project at the Crescent Creek Apartment Complex. There was prayer walking, door to door witnessing, and the Block Party Trailer was put to good use ministering to the children as well as some adults. Many contacts were made for local churches. Many seeds were planted that will reap a harvest for Christ in that area. If you missed this opportunity, another project is scheduled for May. More details will come soon. THANKS TO ALL WHO HAD A PART!

Please continue to pray for Betty's recovery. All your prayers are appreciated.

Betty Stout & Ethel Gray WM&M Co-Consultants



## BBA Disaster Relief (DR) News BBA Disaster Relief (DR) News

The Disaster Relief team prepared the evening meal for the Baptist Singing Women at First Baptist Church in Durant January 20<sup>th</sup>. We are always blessed by this event. We give a big thanks to the members of the church that were there to help out and for all the scrumptious desserts that were prepared by the ladies of the church.

The Associational Blue Caps and team leaders from around the state met at Camp Hudgens February 23 and 24 to participate in a seminar on maximizing the Associational team's resources. We had a good time and learned many things vital to the efficient and effective functioning of our team at the associational level.

Charles Loyd and I met with area Fire Departments on February 27<sup>th</sup> to explain what we do and to seek an opportunity to work with other local emergency related groups. Brother Charles has responded to requests for support by firemen by taking bottled water to sites where they were engaged in fire fighting activities.

Our training session held on March 3<sup>rd</sup> at the First Baptist Church in Durant was a success with ten people being trained. Six trained for the feeding unit and four for the chainsaw team. Again, we give a big thanks to FBC Durant for allowing us to use their facilities. They have been very gracious to let us use their rooms and equipment.

The team prepared lunch for the Southeast Oklahoma Emergency Management county manager's meeting Friday, March 9<sup>th</sup>. Their Southeast Oklahoma area covers the very same area our Southeast Zone Disaster Relief team covers. I gave a short talk to the group of managers while they had their lunch to familiarize them with Disaster Relief and to open a line of discussion and communication for further planning on how we or other SE Zone Disaster Relief teams might operate in conjunction with Oklahoma Emergency Management in the event of a local disaster.

Clark Harp, BBA DR Blue Cap



### GET YOURS FREE

For 3 months!!!

The Messenger is a newsletter from the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma. It has news from all over the state. If you would like to start subscribing to it, simply call DeeDee at the BBA office or email your name, address, and name and city of your church to slane@okbaptist.net. Talk to your pastor. Some churches subscribe as a group. The Challenger (this newsletter) will be wrapped around the Messenger soon. So if you subscribe to the Messenger, the Challenger will come with that. If you do not get the Messenger you will still get the Challenger just like you always have. Call DeeDee if you have any questions at the BBA office. 580-924-2351

### Upcoming Senior Events

**Trips:** (Please call the BBA office to reserve your place on the bus, leave your name and phone number.)

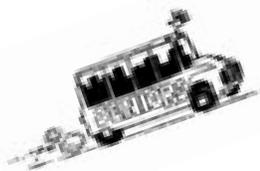
- April 20 - Tyler to Azalea Show
- May 18 - Sulphur Springs Museum
- June 21 - 22 - Sand Springs to a play

**Luncheons:**

- April 11 - Bushnell
- May 9 - Fairview
- June 13 - Western Meadows

If you or your church has any announcements or news you would like to be in next month's Challenger, please call the BBA office before

**April 17. 580-924-2351**



### Happy Birthday & Happy Anniversary !!

**Birthdays**

- 4/1 - Peggy Howard
- 4/1 - Cindy Ford
- 4/2 - Jane Loper
- 4/3 - DeeDee Pena
- 4/7 - Terri Melton
- 4/10 - Bobbie Curtis
- 4/10 - Anthony Williams
- 4/12 - Bob McLean
- 4/12 - Tony Simmons
- 4/21 - Lon Bolan
- 4/23 - Annie Broder
- 4/26 - Jacob Toews
- 4/26 - Jane Dunegan
- 4/28 - Monty Wood

- 4/29 - Cora Holloway
- 4/30 - Carla Robbins



**Wedding Anniversaries**

- 4/7 - Joey & Carri Gosnell
- 4/7 - Jacob & Sharon Toews
- 4/19 - Danny & Lisa Spoon
- 4/25 - Jim & Vesta Baker
- 4/26 - Bill & Shirley Paddock

**Ministry Anniversaries**

- 4/95 - Vicki McLarry - Silo
- 4/02 Danny Spoon - Emmanuel
- 4/76 - Gene Jackson - Armstrong
- 4/6/03 - Joe Smith - Yuba



**Please Pray for our Pastorless Churches:** Achille First , Bennington, Platter, Caddo First.

**Music Ministers** Fairview Baptist Church is searching for a Music Minister. Please send your resume to 1200 W. University Blvd, Durant, OK 74701.

**Youth/Music Ministers** Albany Baptist Church is searching for someone that could possibly do **music and/or youth**. Please send your resume to Albany Baptist church, PO Box 97, Albany, OK 74721.

**Youth Ministers** Western Meadows Baptist Church is searching for a **part-time youth minister**. Please send your resume to Western Meadows BC, 53 Shawna Dr., Durant, OK 74701 or call 580-924-6006.

Return Service Requested

1925 West Main  
 Durant, OK 74701

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 dpenabba@sbcglobal.net  
 Website: bryanbaptistassociation.com

Director of Missions-----Terrell Suggs  
 Moderator-----Ray Earley  
 Vice Moderator-----Bill Ledbetter  
 Clerk-----Gerald Kelly  
 Treasurer-----J.C. Curtis  
 Administrative Assistant ---DeeDee Pena  
 Office Hours - Mon. - Thurs. 8:30 - 4:30  
 Fri. 8:30 - 1:00



April 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> Palm Sunday	<b>2</b> Executive Committee Meeting 11:30 Pastor/Staff Conference	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> Budget & Finance Committee Meeting 11:00	<b>6</b> Good Friday BBA Office Closed	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> Easter Celebration	<b>9</b> Pastor/Staff Conference	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Senior Luncheon Bushnell BC	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> Cooperative Program Sunday	<b>16</b> Pastor/Staff Conference Executive Board Meeting Colbert 7:00	<b>17</b> OKSB Secretaries Association Spring Meeting	<b>18</b> FFF Meeting @ 10:00	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> Roadrunners to Tyler, TX to Azalea Show	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> VBS Clinic @ Colbert FBC - 2 - 4pm	<b>23</b> Pastor/Staff Conference	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> WMU Retreat OK Baptist Men's Retreat at Falls	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> Pastor/Staff Conference					

