**Penlight Dueling Banjos Skit**

**NOTES ABOUT THIS SKIT:**

* It is important to use penlights for this skit. Search online for ‘white diagnostic penlight’ – there are many options for purchase online for around $1.25 - $3 apiece. Look and order early to avoid having to pay rush shipping charges.
* The music for the skit is available as mp3 files in the WW\_TeamSkits folder; the music is also available on a CD (CD copies are in the conference room tub and the Lay Director’s File Box; if you wish to use, but cannot find, the CD, contact the Supply Chairperson (supply@new-arkemmaus.org)).
* There are two versions of the song: a shortened version, and the original version. It is recommended that you use the shortened version of the song. There is a several-note run played by the guitar, and then one by the banjo, and then the main part of the song (and skit) starts.
* Choose two persons to help lead the ‘guitar’ part vs. the ‘banjo’ part. Divide the rest of the team into two groups in whatever way is easiest to remember. The two lead persons will each help her group know when it is time for them to flash their penlights in time with the music. There are parts of the music where just the guitar plays, or just the banjo plays; there are other parts where things cut loose and everyone plays. For the parts where everyone plays, folks should be encouraged to move/dance around ‘hoe-down’ style.
* There is a bit of a ‘technique’ for shining the light up your nose ☺ The tip of the penlight should be placed inside one of the nostrils at an angle so that it is pressing against the septum (the cartilage ‘wall’ that divides the nose). If done correctly, the entire nose area will glow red, and no white light will be visible.
* It is suggested that one team member (Lay Director or other) be the keeper of all the penlights until the Walk weekend, rather than have everyone keep track of their own. For sanitary purposes, have marked zipper-lock sandwich bags available to store each individual’s penlight, then place all in a larger container.
* Consider whether you want folks to dress in a similar manner so that you look like a ‘choir’; a very simple way to do that is to have long strips of colorful fabric (e.g. 4” wide by 6’ long, etc.) that can be draped around each person’s neck like a choir ‘stole’. [Choir ‘stoles’ have been made, and should be in the Emmaus storage area.]
* It is suggested that an iPad (or similar device (e.g. cellphone) & speakers, or a portable CD player, be used in the dining room to play the music. The CD player can be set up after dinner by the microphone ALD, or can be carried into the dining room by one of the other team members just prior to the skit.

**PERFORMING THE SKIT:**

* The team meets in the conference room to distribute the penlights and put on their ‘stoles’ (if used). Make sure someone is charged with holding onto the microphone ALD’s penlight.
* The team lines up in the conference room in two lines behind the two leaders. Just before the skit, the team moves, one group at a time, to the hallway just outside the dining room.
* At the end of the other announcements, the microphone ALD asks the pilgrims to push the tables toward the back of the dining room (away from the kitchen) and bring their chairs forward to form two rows in front of the tables. If the mini-spotlight ‘mood lights’ are still on in the corners of the room, they should be turned off. Once the room has been rearranged and the pilgrims seated, the ALD joins the rest of the team in the hall.
* Once the ALD has left the dining room, the Spiritual Director introduces the ‘special musical presentation,’ and invites the team in from the hallway.
* The team comes in one group at a time, and stands in front of the kitchen, with the two group leaders standing just slightly out in from of their groups. When walking in, the group can look appropriately formal or somber, with their hands clasped in front of them (to hide their penlights).
* On cue, team members start the music and turn off the lights (practice this to make sure you know where all the switches are!).
* After the music concludes, team members stop the music and turn on the lights. The team takes a bow, and then exits back out into the hallway; if desired, the team can sing a song while exiting (e.g. ‘This Little Light of Mine’ while waving penlights in the air would be appropriate ☺).

[Updates to this file’s information may be sent to communications@new-arkemmaus.org.]