

"Signal Fire" is a publication of the Royal Rangers Ministry of the North Texas District Council Assemblies of God.

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**NEWS NEEDED**

The deadline for the information for the next newsletter is August 21, 1997. Please send us your information as soon as possible to:  
Mark Oliver, 8117 Cloverglan Lane, Ft. Worth, TX 76123-2018 or  
moliver@why.net.

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# North Texas District ROYAL RANGERS "Signal Fire"

July 1997

## \* \* \* Sarge Sellers Is Here \* \* \*

It is late, but if you have boys who are interested in attending, please call the district office ASAP.

We had a great time at Pow Wow.

What do you expect next year?

Start Praying NOW.

Theme: "Pow Wow 1998"

## "TEACH ALL NATIONS"

Matt. 28:19

Commanders,

It feels like we just finished chartering, but it is time to get it together by September. New forms will be out by the end of August. Please help in filling them out completely, front and back. Also, please send in the color form that we send you. This is how we can coordinate between years. This helps a lot.

In His Service,

Paul Patterson  
North Texas District Commander

## 1997 District Calendar

July	13-19	Sarge Training Academy
August	22-23	Basic Ranger Training District LTC Campout
September	5-6	District Instructor Certification Seminar (ICS)
	26-27	Commanders Campout
October	24-26	FCF Family Days
November	14-15	Divisional Winter Camp
December	13	FCF Christmas Banquet

The District Royal Ranger Office has a new secretary. Her name is Brandy Wilson. She will be in the office Monday through Thursday from 8 am to 12 noon. Please feel free to call Brandy for any assistance you need. Let's all make Brandy feel welcomed as she adjusts to what is happening with Royal Rangers.



The 1998 Camporama Packets will be mailed to every church during the month of August. Look for them and start planning on attending next year's Camporama. Start early because a lot of planning is required.

## Sarge Sellers Training Academy

PTC	July 13-16
AMC	July 13-19
JLTC	July 13-19
AJTC	July 13-19
JTT	July 13-19

If you should have any questions about these camps, please call Dwain Klopfenstein at 817-281-0081.

You should have your boy's application to the District Office. If you have some boys that would like to attend, please call 817-281-0081 and leave a message. We will get one out to you immediately. We do need some leaders to help us out during the week. Whether it would be for a week-end; 3 days or for the duration of the camp. Please contact us. In addition to staffing the camp we need some camping gear. **Chuck boxes, water cans, ice chests, and 4 man tents.**

If you are bringing some boys to camp, try to bring some of the above items with you. Please let us know if you are bringing some of these items. We will be setting up the camp on Saturday before the boys arrive.

## Chartering

Yes, it's that time of the year again . . . the new chartering year begins October 1 and runs until September 30, 1998. Charter Applications will be mailed during August. This will give you two months to mail your charter to the District Office. If you have a question, you may call the office at 817-284-4856 or metro 817-589-0082.

# Training Opportunities

## Leadership Training Course

This is the basic training for all leaders, regardless of the age of the boys you are working with, or your position in the outpost (Lt. Commander, Commander, Sr. Commander, or Outpost Councilman). This course is designed to provide you with the basics you need to conduct a quality program for your boys, both in the weekly meetings and in the special activities like campouts or outings. There are a number of Leadership Training Courses (LTC) that are currently being conducted right now in the district. If you are interested, contact your sectional commander or the district training coordinator.

## Leadership Training Course Training Campout

For those who are currently taking the Standard LTC, the next Training Campout will be held at the district campground at Maypearl August 22-23. This is a requirement for completing Section IV of the LTC. You will camp as part of a patrol with other commanders who are also completing the LTC, and you will participate in a number of classes that will help prepare you to take your boys camping. These classes include fire craft, cooking and sanitation, rope craft, tool craft, council fires, and others. Your LTC instructor should have more information on this camp.

## Instructor Certification Seminar

To be qualified to teach the Leadership Training Course (LTC), a leader must complete the LTC, attend either National Training Camp or Buckaroo/Straight Arrow Training Conference, and complete an Instructor Certification Seminar (ICS). The ICS is a 10-hour course which is designed to "train the trainer" of the LTC. The next ICS will be held September 5-6 at Oak Cliff Assembly of God in Dallas. The cost is \$35, and includes a complete set of the transparencies for use in teaching a LTC. A "Prerequisite Approval" form must be completed before you can be certified, so you should begin obtaining the necessary information on this form as soon as possible. The Prerequisite Approval form is available from either the district office or your sectional commander.

## National Training Camp

National Training Camp (NTC) is designed "to give leaders opportunity for 1) training in camp skills, 2) leadership development, 3) outstanding fellowship and adventure in the out-of-doors, 4) a new vision of the great potential of the Royal Rangers ministry, ideas for teaching, and administration, 5) more involvement in service, 6) analyzing personal strength and weakness -- plus self-improvement tips, and 7) seeing the program from a boy's viewpoint." If you could use some help in one or more of these areas, then NTC is for you.

The closest NTC to the North Texas District will be held September 11-14 at the National RR Training Center at Eagle Rock, Missouri. Several commanders from our district are making plans to attend this NTC, so transportation should not be a problem. Applications may be obtained from the district office, or your sectional commander.

Information about any of these training opportunities may also be obtained from Jonathan Trower, NTD training coordinator, at 254-420-1941 or e-mail at Jonathan\_Trower@baylor.edu

## E-Mail and Royal Rangers

The Internet is opening up many avenues for communication and sharing among Royal Rangers commanders. Electronic mail (e-mail) has the potential to improve communication within the North Texas District by making it possible to communicate with a large number of commanders very quickly and inexpensively. We currently have a list of about 40 commanders in the North Texas district that have e-mail addresses, including 6 members of the district staff and 5 sectional commanders. If you have an e-mail address, and would like to be added to this list of commanders in the district, send your e-mail address to Ronnie Franklin at ronnie@itexas.net and ask to be added to the NTD mailing list.

## Commanders Campout

Commanders, plan now to attend the commander's campout on September 26-27. This is a wonderful time where commanders can get together and fellowship without the boys. The campout is designed for each commander to come and relax. Bring your cots, sleeping bag, and \$10 while we supply the food, cooking, and tents. Plan now to attend and get to know other commanders from North Texas.

# Regional Ranger of the Year

This years Regional testing was held at First Assembly of God in Colleyville. By the time boys reach this point in testing, there have been over 1400 churches which have tested and eliminated from competition. These boys should have a sense of accomplishment by making it to this level.

North Texas has three outstanding young men who placed at the Regional Ranger of the Year testing. Our congratulations to the following boys for representing the North Texas District.

## ***Straight Arrows***

### **Regional Ranger of the Year**

Robbie Dubose, Outpost 72, South Dallas Section  
(District Superintendent Grandson, Congratulations Papa!!)

## ***Buckaroos***

### **2nd Runner Up**

Andrew Ahles, Outpost 145, North Ft. Worth

## ***Trailblazers***

### **2nd Runner Up**

Josh Teel, Outpost 57, Wichita Falls Section

### **New Sectional Commanders**

<b>Abilene</b>	Dana Farmer
<b>Austin</b>	Jerry Haynes
<b>Denton</b>	Chuck Douglas
<b>Lufkin</b>	Billy Daigle
<b>Waco</b>	David McDaniel
<b>Wichita Falls</b>	Tommy Bennet

# Testimony

One of my assignments as Decade of Harvest Coordinator is to stress the importance of prayer. I have traveled to Central America to support various activities by the Royal Rangers or the local missionaries. I have seen God move in special and unique ways. The ways are not always the same and sometimes not the way we might want them to go, but God is always perfect for the needs of each group.

Many prayers were for groups or individuals and some times over property needed to expand the teaching and training of the local pastors and teachers.

After my last trip to Managua, Nicaragua, God impressed the need for prayer task force ministries in our local church. We at Bethel Assembly of God in Arlington selected prayer warriors to meet for four weeks over particular needs such as the city and local church ministries. We have seen God move mightily and answer many prayers.

We need to rise to a new level in our experience with God. Remember, we are still teaching by example. How can boys be expected to reach God's throne in prayer if we ourselves do not or we do not show them how.

We must be self-less. However, when we pray intercessory prayers for others, our prayers will often be met. For example, at this year's Pow-Wow, I was literally too sick to walk on Saturday and did not physically feel I could go to the evening council fire. But I knew God would be there and forced myself to go. At the altar call, I forced myself down to pray for the boys. As the Holy Spirit began to move on the boys while I was praying, I suddenly realized I had been healed. My energy had returned to normal.

God answers prayer. I encourage you to be a local prayer task for ministry. Call me if I can be of assistance.

Randy Woods  
Deputy District Commander

## PULSE BEAT!!

Somewhere in this great country a Royal Rangers outpost died last week. We are sorry, because it might have been a great power for good. For many months the boys knew that the outpost was sick. The commander thought that his boys were "losing interest," but a postmortem examination showed exactly what ailed the outpost:

1. For 6 years the church Outpost Council had done nothing except fill out the annual charter renewal forms.
2. No one had kept the sectional commander in touch with the outpost, even to the extent of now and then to present advancement awards.
3. No reports had ever been made to the district commander on the work and activities of the outpost.
4. The commander had been powerful enough to manage the outpost alone, so he never bothered to secure a lieutenant commander.
5. There had been some theoretical patrols, but most of the boys didn't know to which patrol they belonged.
6. There was never a father-and-son banquet, a mom's night, or a camp-out.
7. The outpost had never thought of volunteering some definite service (folding church bulletins, yard work for senior citizens, or something of that kind).
8. The commander never earned any leaders awards, so the boys followed his example and did not earn their advancements.
9. The outpost rarely, if ever, attended sectional or district events --such as district Pow Wow, Pinewood Derby, Sectional Campouts, or Straight Arrows-Buckaroos Field Days.
10. The commander had never completed the Leadership Training Course or attended a National Training Camp.
11. National Royal Rangers Week was never celebrated, so the church had no idea what Royal Rangers was all about.
12. No "gang" spirit had been developed to keep the patrols functioning.

13. The parents, knowing little about the outpost and its activities, took no action.

14. The pastor and the board of deacons were so uninformed and out of touch that they had no sense of responsibility to the outpost.

15. The sectional commander decided it was futile to try to keep the outpost operating because "there was no one with whom to work."

So the outpost died when the commander moved away. It died, beyond hope of resurrection.

Commander, does your outpost need a shot in the arm? With prayer, hard work, "gumption," and a desire to minister to boys, the above scenario does not have to happen!

If you need help in strengthening your outpost, call one of your sectional or district officers. He will love you, pray with you, and work with you to strengthen your outpost and its ministry to boys.

Team effort in the local church --along with sectional and district support-- can keep an outpost strong and healthy so it can function as it should: developing the total boy for Christ.

## SARGE TRAINING ACADEMY EQUIPMENT NEEDS

Since Sarge Training Academy started, it has continued to grow yearly with more and more boys attending. When the boys arrive at camp, everything needed for camp is supplied. Since we have seen this camp continually grow, our equipment needs have also continued to grow. If you can assist by donating any of the equipment below to the camp, it will help us train your boys better. Currently we are in the need of:

70 - 8 x 10 tents	14 - 12 x 12 dining flies
14 - sheperd stoves	14 - chuck boxes
14 - 8 foot picnic tables	70 - 2 gal. metal milk buckets
14 - 8" x 16" griddles	28 - 8 qt. cooking pots
28 - 4 qt. cooking pots	14 - 8 man patrol cooking kits
14 - utensil kits	
04 - coleman featherlight 400 backpack stoves	

Contact the office (817-589-0082) if you can assist us with this need.

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| 04 - coleman featherlight 400 backpack stoves |                                |

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# A TRIBUTE

*"A man never stands quite so tall,  
as when he stoops to help a boy."*

There once was a young boy, eleven years of age, who never had the pleasure of living in a Christian home. However, the Lord had His eye upon that boy.

There once was a man, full of God and His spirit, who loved children, but never had the pleasure of having any of his own. However, the Lord had His eye upon that man.

The Lord brought the two together. The boy had joined a scout troop in which the man was a Scoutmaster, and immediately, the two hit it off. The man was aware of the boy's background, but he loved him just the same. He knew that he could not push his Christian beliefs onto the boy, but what he could do was, "lead by example." You see, the man was also a Royal Ranger Commander.

The man taught the boy everything he knew about camping, backpacking, canoeing, and the great outdoors. He also threw in some knowledge about the Lord, at no extra charge. The boy loved that man as if he were his own father, but he was afraid to tell him. The man had no idea how he had influenced the life of that boy, for they were together for only a few short years.

Soon, they parted company and went their own separate ways, but the boy never forgot about the man, nor the influence the man had on his life. Many times throughout the next few years, the boy wondered about the man. Was he still around? Was he still living for God? Was he helping other boys? As the boy grew into a teenager, he came to know the Lord as his own personal Savior. The night he got Saved, oh, how he wanted to call and tell that man. When the boy was

filled with the Holy Ghost, again, he longed for the fellowship of that man.

As the boy grew into a man, he became fully aware of the great influence that man's life had upon his own. He grew in the Lord and married a Christian wife. A few years later, he had a son of his own. As his son grew, the man could not shake the memory of his own childhood, as well as the memory of that special man in his past. One day, the Lord impressed upon the man to become involved in Royal Rangers. It was as if a whole new world had opened up to him. The Lord had given him a new burden to carry, and it flooded his soul. He remembered back to the early years of his life, back to that special man who had helped to shape his own destiny. Then, he realized his purpose in his own life, that if he could help just one boy, the way that man had helped him, it would be worth any price he could ever pay.

Thus, Outpost 539 was born, under the leadership of Sr. Commander Scott W. Stamps. And what about the man that so influenced Scott's life? Oh, he's still around. He's currently the Sr. Commander of Outpost 32, as well as being an Area Commander for the North Fort Worth Section. Commander Bill Eoff has "stooped" many times over the years to help hundreds if not thousands of boys.

Thanks Commander Bill, may the Lord Bless you as much as you have blessed me.

Scott W. Stamps  
Senior Commander  
Outpost 539