

“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 November 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”

October 1997

Greeting Commanders!!

I want to give you an update on Gold Medal Applicants. We have a new form to fill out now. This form needs to be filled out in good print or typed. If you are still within the time limit for old track then write "OLD TRACK" on the very top in large print. I also need the 500 word themes to be typed out. If you send these to me on the old form or the theme not typed I will have to send them back to you.

It takes about 6 weeks for an application to be processed. Please be patient. At the top of the new form there is a "date of ceremony," please fill this out, even if it is a guess. When we have done the interview with the applicant we will be sending a booklet to the Senior Commander that will help him with ceremony ideas. We would like the ceremony to be more than 5 minutes. We will also have someone you can call to help you with the ceremony.

Paul Patterson  
District Commander

## District Calendar

### 1997

October	5-11	Royal Ranger Week
October	24-26	FCF Family Days
November	14-15	Divisional Winter Camp
December	13	FCF Christmas Banquet

### 1998

January	3	District Staff Meeting
January	23-24	Regional Training Seminar - Austin
February	6-7	Instructor Certification Seminar
February	20-21	Academy of Ranger Training - Lakeview

## Upcoming Events

### *Royal Ranger Week*

October 5-11. Make plans now to provide a Royal Rangers emphasis in your local church. Ideas include a RR display in the church, a campsite display on the lawn of the church, brochures or flyers in the bulletin, having your boys present the colors in the morning service and/or having them participate in the collection of the offering (in complete uniform, of course), and a father/son campout.

### *Light for the Lost Banquet*

The LFTL merit is now required for both the Pioneer and Trailblazer regular advancement trail. One of the requirements for this merit is to attend a LFTL banquet. The 1997 LFTL banquet will be held in each section of the North Texas District on October 14. Check with your sectional commander or sectional men's rep to find out the location and time for your section's banquet.

### *FCF Family Days*

October 24-26 at Lakeview Camp. This is a great time for the entire family. Come expecting a move of God in your life, and a relaxing time of fun and fellowship with other families that are involved with FCF.

## North Texas District Internet Web Pages

The North Texas District Royal Rangers are now in a newer faster location. They are located at [WWW.ROYALRANGERS.NET/NTD](http://WWW.ROYALRANGERS.NET/NTD). You may also want to visit the site to see which North Texas Sections have Web Pages. Does your section have a Web Page? Other great Royal Ranger links can be found here for Royal Rangers around the world.

The Royal Rangers District Office can now be reached at [RANGERS@NTDC-AG.ORG](mailto:RANGERS@NTDC-AG.ORG).

intended to hike 7 miles that day, but we wound up hiking about 16. So we hiked about 22 miles in 2 days. Good training, huh? Oh well, everyone had a lot of fun. Some of the boys even saw a bear. Thank the Lord that the bear didn't bother us any.

Wednesday, I let them sleep late (as well as myself). Then we got up and had classes and free time. We just hung around base camp all day. We were able to sign off several requirements on Astronomy, Hiking, Nature Study, and Wilderness Survival.

Thursday, we drove to Lake Colorado City State Park and spent the night there. The boys got to go swimming, then, the Commanders cooked them a steak dinner. They loved it after living off of trail food for three days. We then arrived back at Lakeview on Friday. Back to the dry, hot weather. That was probably the hardest part of the trip, coming back to the heat.

Over all, I count the trip as a success. The boys got to see some of God's beauty. They really enjoyed themselves. We also had some wonderful council fires, especially the one that the boys put on.

As I said, we ALL learned a lot. I thank the Lord for keeping us safe throughout the trip. I also thank him for riding with us in the van for 1200+ miles and no problems. I am looking forward to our next JTT in 1999. I know that each trip will improve as we learn more and more.

Take care and God Bless.

In His Service,

Scott W. Stamps,

JTT Camp Commander,

North Fort Worth Deputy Sectional Commander

**This will be the last issue of the Signal Fire you will receive unless you are chartered. The charters for 1997-98 are due by October 31, 1997.**

**Start planning to attend the 1998 National Camporama in July 1998. Your church has been sent a Camporama package. All applications are due April 1, 1998 to the District Office.**

## **JTT Report**

Well, this was the first JTT, and boy, did we learn a lot. (ha) We really had a great time and I've got a lot of pictures for you to see.

Everyone arrived at Lakeview on Saturday. We had classes that evening. We arose early Sunday morning and were on the road by 6:00 am. It took us twelve hours to drive to Cloudcroft, New Mexico. When we arrived, we had to break out our jackets. It got down into the forties at night. Probably the low eighties during the daytime was as hot as it got. Beautiful weather!!

We set up base camp right above a beautiful waterfall. The waterfall was from a mountain spring which popped right up out of the ground. The boys thought that was really neat. I didn't ask them, but they acted as if they had never been out of the city. They were awed at the beauty of the mountains.

We awoke Monday morning, had a few classes, and was on the trail by about 11:30. Prior to going to New Mexico, I had obtained topographical maps from the Forestry Service. However, we soon found out that the maps were not accurate. We went a couple of miles and the trail just fizzled out. We knew the general area as to where we were, so we pulled out the compass and started going cross-country. And boy, was that some rough country. Well, we hiked about four more miles and never came across the trail that was supposed to be there "according to the map." It was getting late, so I decided to go back to base camp and get a fresh start in the morning.

Tuesday, we got up bright and early and hit the trail. We finally found the trail that was on the map. The problem was that there were more trails than the map was showing, therefore, it was easy to make a wrong turn, and that's exactly what we did, again on Tuesday. Oh, we finally made it to our destination, however, we had to hike about 9 miles rather than the intended 7 miles. Oh yeah, when we got to our destination, all the springs that the map showed, were dried up. So, now we were out of water. We had to have water, so I made the decision to hike until we found water. We finally found the trail that we were originally supposed to be on, so we began hiking down that trail. Well, we finally came up upon some water, all the way back at base camp. We arrived at base camp around 10:30 that night, and we were forevermore tuckered out. The boys decided to skip supper and go straight to bed. Go figure!! We had

## **Academy of Ranger Training Report**

On August 22-23 we held our second Academy of Ranger Training (ART). At this camp, we hold the district-wide Leadership Training Course camp-out, Basic Ranger Training (BRT), black powder shooters training course, and for the first time, the American Red Cross first aid and CPR courses. We had a great turnout for this camp, with over 82 staff and trainees in attendance. Everyone enjoyed the great weather, training, and the great time around the council fire Friday night.

## **Upcoming Training Opportunities**

By the time this newsletter reaches you, the September Instructor's Certification Seminar (ICS) will be history. However, if you would like to become certified to teach the Leadership Training Course (LTC), you will have another opportunity February 6-7, 1998. The cost of the ICS is \$35, and pre-registration is vital. To qualify for certification, you must have completed the LTC and either National Training Camp (NTC) or the Buckaroo/Straight Arrow Training Conference (BSTC). If you are interested in attending, or if you want more information, contact the district office or the district training coordinator.

The next Academy of Ranger Training will be held February 20-21, 1998 at Lakeview Camp near Waxahachie. The cost is \$20, which includes three meals, patch, insurance, and other benefits. We will again offer the LTC training camp-out, BRT, and the black powder shooters training course. Hopefully, we will also be able to offer the first aid and CPR courses again. Watch for more details about the ART in the next issue of the Signal Fire.

Finally, for those of you involved with urban Rangers, or considering starting a ministry to the urban areas of your community, you need to consider studying the Urban Commanders Training Guide. This is a correspondence course that is available from Gospel Publishing House (order number is 729-009). It contains a lot of useful information to help you get started in this very vital and important ministry. Once you finish studying the Guide, there is a 50-question open-book test at the end of the course that you complete and send to the National Office for grading.

Jonathan Trower  
District Training Coordinator  
254-420-1941

Greetings All,

We just finished our ART Camp and had a good attendance! All the people that attended said they learned a lot and had a good time doing it! We will have the ART Camp twice a year. Check your calendars for the next camp and be sure you go to it. The next camp will include: Leadership Training Class (LTC), Basic Ranger Training classes (BRT), and at the next camp in the spring of 98 we will have Advanced Basic Ranger Training classes (ABRT)!

The ABRT is what I would like to tell you about. We will have two ABRT classes during this next camp. These classes will be Friday night and Saturday. The two classes will be advanced ropecraft and advanced compass.

Advanced ropecraft will start Friday night with reviewing your knots and the construction of a rope bridge. Saturday you will actually build the rope bridge... across water... then use it!

Advanced compass will start Friday night with reviewing your compass skills and familiarizing yourselves with the maps and rules for the trek you will go on as a team. The trek will be a sort of scavenger hunt race. Each team of eight will have coordinates and landmarks they must follow and pick something up at each coordinate. The team that shows up with all the items with the fastest time at the end coordinate will win prizes. Oh, I forgot to tell you... at each coordinate there will be a riddle. You will have to solve the riddle in order to find out what it is you are suppose to pick up at that site! The course will be approximately 5 miles.

Well, does this sound like fun??? Make sure you are at the next ART!

We will be having a FCF Camp October 24-26. This is our Family Days Camp and all are welcome to come, even if you are not in FCF you can come and experience our historical camp! We have a lot of activities and a lot of fun! Old time fun! It will be in Maypearl in FCF Village by the lake.

The next Phase I test will be during the Winter Camp at one of the Divisional camps. It depends on how many people want to take it and where most of them are from as to where we will give the test. Please contact me at 972-442-1325 if you are interested and want an application. We will also give a Phase I test anytime and anyplace you want one as long as we can get at least five people to take it.

Well, keep your head up, pray for your leadership, and come to the camps and shine with us!

Your Servant,

Gary "Wild Wind" Bierschwale  
District FCF president

**SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL  
TRAINING SEMINAR  
AUSTIN, TX  
JANUARY 23-24, 1998**

Cost is \$18.00 pre-registration and \$20.00 at the door. Please submit a separate form for each leader. Pre-registration must be post marked by January 18, 1998. **Pastors, Councilmen, Challenger Rangers are encouraged to attend.**

(Please print your name and address clearly)

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street or P.O. Box: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

District: \_\_\_\_\_

Amt. Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I will Bunk-in the Gym (men only), Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

I will be eating the Saturday noon Meal at the Gym  
Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ (\$5.50, pay at the serving line)

My wife will be attending the ladies activities  
Yes/No \_\_\_

Make checks payable to: **SCR Royal Rangers**  
MAIL REGISTRATION TO:

Marvin Lemke

8200 Crestline Ct.

Oklahoma City, OK 73132-1321

Ph (405) 728-1453

Fax (405) 720-8112

*Upon receipt of your registration, an information package will be sent to you.*

## Regional Training Seminar January 23-24, Austin

The Seminar! The Regional Training Seminar. Just those words stand for quality training, stand for exciting fellowship, stand for great evangelical services! Now is the time to start making those plans not to miss any part of this unique experience. The 1998 Seminar will have as guest speaker National Coordinator of the Honor Bound: Men of Promise ... Ron Roberts. You will find Ron Roberts a most dynamic speaker, but most of all a mighty man of God, his message will be a blessing to everyone.

Friday night will be a time of special music and fellowship. New for this year will be a hospitality room. After you check in at the motel and setup in your room, then head down to the hospitality room for some refreshments, sounds like a good place to be doesn't it!

The location of the Seminar will be in Austin, TX at the Church of the Glad Tidings. The motel is the "Drury Inn" located at 6511 IH 35 North. The phone number is 512-467-9500. The room rate is \$59.00 per room for 1-4 persons per room, and this price includes a SUPER continental breakfast.

Marvin Lemke, the seminar coordinator, states that each of the classes will be longer this year. "This will enable the instructors and trainees a lot more time to share in each class. This change should add to the quality that we strive for!" Also this year, Kim Livingston will be hosting special times with and for the ladies that will plan to attend. Look for many exciting times here for the wife of each of the Royal Ranger Commanders in attendance. Friday night will be so special, a gospel singing group will be on hand for the evangelistic service, be in much prayer for a very exciting move of the Holy Spirit. We look forward to seeing needs being met, hearts changed, and souls have burdens lifted. Saturday we will be having the privilege of hearing Ron Roberts speak to us. Men, this will be a time of challenge and of spiritual renewal, plan to make both of these sessions. You will be glad you did!

The Church of the Glad Tidings is a multilevel facility, the exhibits and training will be on many different floors, an elevator is available so that anyone can travel between the floors to see everything. More information can be found the Internet, visit [WWW.ROYALRANGERS.NET/NTD/SCR](http://WWW.ROYALRANGERS.NET/NTD/SCR).

## Sarge Sellers Training Academy 1997

What a success! This year we had 143 boys and 52 staff attending the camp. Last year 92 boys attended. The camp has grown from 17 boys in '87 to 143. The estimate total for the camp in 1999 is 175 boys. There were five (5) camps participating at STA Sarge Training Academy.

PTC	52
AMC	54
JLTC	23
AJTC	9
JTT	5

There were many exciting highlights happening at camp.

A new camp JTT (Junior Training Trails) was added this year. Commander Scott Stamps took 5 boys and 2 other commanders to the mountains of New Mexico. They experienced cool nights (50's degree) while they were there. This must have been tough!

Other highlights was the newspaper being available each morning during the camp. That's correct. Mark Oliver and Robert Johnson were the sponsors and editors of the paper. They did a superb job in getting all the articles.

The boys spent some time swimming each day. This was a cooling off time. Some even spent their time in canoes, row boats, and sail boats.

The evening rallies were the biggest highlight of the camp. Several lives were changed and rededicated to the Lord each evening.

We are expecting a greater camp in 1999. Please continue to advertise this camp in your local outpost.

A special thanks to the STA staff and all of the great work they did teaching the many classes.

Dwain Klopfenstein  
Deputy District Commander  
817-281-0081

Question? Which do we read most....  
.... the Bible or the newspaper?



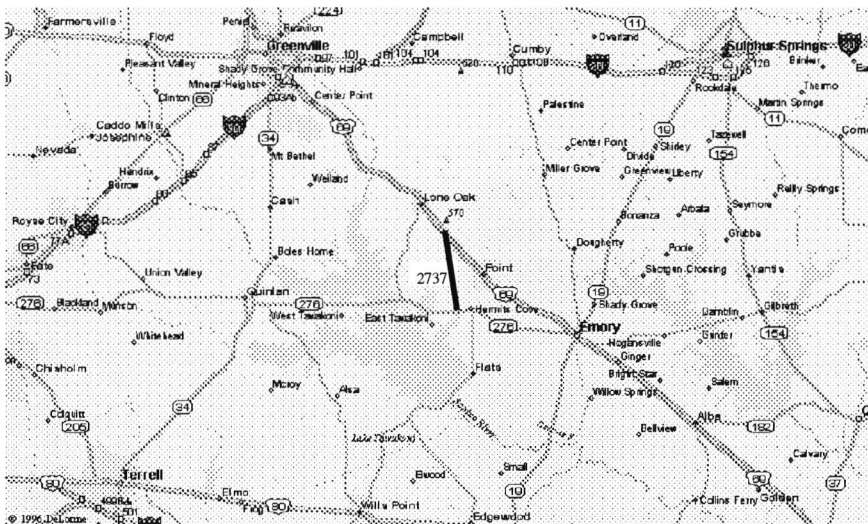
## DIVISIONAL WINTER CAMPS

**DATE:** November 14-15, 1997 (Except for the Southeast Division)

**COST:** \$7.00

Patches will be the same for each Division Camp. Registration will start at 4:00 p.m. on Friday and dismiss at 3:30 p.m. on Saturday. There will be 5 locations for Winter Camp. They are as follows:

**North Division** (Wichita Falls, North Ft. Worth, Denton, and Greenville Section) - This divisional campout will be at the Haderway



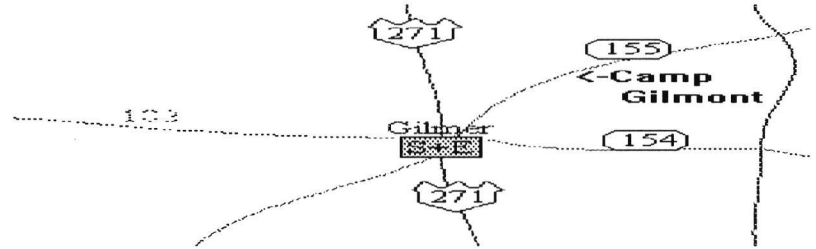
Ranch. Take 69 out of Greenville through Lone Oak. Two roads past Lone Oak Elementary, take a right onto 2737. Stay on this road 4.8 miles to Haderway Ranch.. It will be on the right and look for the signs which will be posted. For additional information, please contact Lee Fogleman at 903-454-9439 (home) or 903-457-5627 (work).

### Northeast Division

Greetings from the Northeast (Minute Man) Division. Serving the Tyler, Longview and Texarkana Sections.

Revival is touching the lives of many in our Division and we are expecting God to touch the lives of our boys at the Divisional Winter Camp. The camp will again be held at Camp Gilmont located on Hwy 155 just 6 miles north of Gilmer. Our council fire speaker will be Rev. Artie Jones, pastor

of First Assembly of God in Arp, TX. Pastor Jones has experienced a fresh touch of God's Glory with revival services for the past two months. I was privileged to attend one these services and witnessed God's power.



We are planning many activities for the boys to enjoy along with a Divisional Pine Wood Derby. Trophies and prizes will be given away to the fastest cars in each category.

It is our prayer that once again God will touch the lives of the boys at our Divisional Winter Camp. For more information, please contact Jody Fauss at 903-882-1040 or 903-882-4001.

**Southwest Division** (Abilene, Austin, South Ft. Worth, and Waco Sections) will have their Winter Camp at Fort Courage, the home of Outpost 81 of First Assembly of God in Lampasas. The fort is located behind First Assembly of God, which is just east of Lampasas on Highway 190. For more information, please contact Ken Farley at 817-483-0565. If you have problems finding the camp, you can call 512-556-2001 (home of David Carlisle, Sr. Commander at First A/G).

**Southeast Division** (Bryan, Corsicana, Lufkin, and Palestine Sections) - This camp will be held one week later on November 21-22. For more information, please contact James Kemp at 409-272-5017.

**Central Division** (North Dallas, South Dallas, and Athens Sections) - For more information, please contact Ken Harris at 254-632-4007 or 214-244-9651.