



North Texas District Royal Rangers “Signal Fire”

April 2001

Greeting Commanders,

Can you believe how fast this year has been going? It is already time for many of our exciting events in the District.

On April 28-29, is our annual commanders conference. Plan to attend and bring commanders from your church with you. We will be presenting an overview of the new Royal Rangers program. Every commander who attend will have an opportunity to see first hand what will be released in 2002. In addition, we will be having additional classes with the annual commanders awards ceremony starting at 2 p.m. If you have earned a leaders medal, and have turned in your paperwork, make sure you do not miss this. Friday night has been set aside as an evening of fellowship with registration beginning at 7:30 a.m. on Saturday morning. We will begin promptly at 8:00 a.m.

Pow Wow will be here before we know it. This year's theme is “Above and Beyond”. Pray that this year the rains will not come. In order to reserve a campsite for Pow Wow, you must come to the Pow Wow workday on May 12. You will also need to bring \$25 for pre-registration. I would like to encourage every commander to start praying for this camp so we can see many boys saved again this year. We have planned many exciting things for the boys this year including a laser light show for the Friday evening pageant. Plan now to arrive at camp early in order to get to the council fire before the activities start. You don't want to miss this.

Sarge Training Academy will also be here before we realize it. This year, it will be held on June 24-29. Our camps will be filling up again this year so if you have boys in your outpost who will be attending, please make sure you get their application into the District office soon. We need them returned by June 1.

I look forward to seeing each of you at these exciting events. Plan now to attend.

In His Service,

Paul Patterson, North Texas District Commander, paul@royalrangers.net

2001 District Calendar

April	7	District Ranger of the Year, Harvest A/G, Fort Worth
	19-22	Advanced National Training Camp (ANTC) - Lakeview
	27-28	Commanders Conference and Awards Ceremony
May	12	Pow Wow Work Day—Lakeview
	26	Sarge SIT Camp
June	1-3	District Pow Wow—Lakeview
	23	Sarge Staff arrives at Camp
	24-30	Sarge Training Academy
July	16-20	FCF Territorial Rendezvous
August	17-18	Academy of Ranger Training—LTC Campout, Basic Ranger Training, Advanced Ranger Training
September	7-8	Instructor Certification Seminar
	28-29	District Commanders Campout
October	11-14	National Training Camp (NTC) - Lakeview
	23	Light for the Lost Banquet
	26-28	FCF Family Days
November	9-10	District Winter Camp
December	8	FCF Family Banquet

Impact of the 24-Hour Prayer Vigil

Thanks to each of you who sacrificed your time to participate in the prayer vigil. You will be blessed beyond your imagination for this effort.

We have asked for protection and guidance for our District officials. This means that they will there for us as they hear from God for the direction of not only Royal Rangers but of the district as an entity. These men take the hits from Satan as they attempt to lead thousand of A/G members. Anything that blesses God will upset Satan. He then likes to take out on the leaders. This is why we pray for them.

We have petitioned God to protect our boys and leaders at all the District and Section events. This means we as leaders can spend time in prayer for these boys instead of treating illness or injury. This means more opportunities to accept Christ or rededicate themselves to God. Our next generation of leaders and pastors will come from these boys. Reaching one boy can impact a family. A family can impact the church. The church can impact a ministry.

You have committed yourself to God to reach more boys to Christ this year than ever before. God will bless this commitment. It may not be monetarily. It may be the car doesn't break down as often. The family doesn't have to see the doctor as often. The groceries will go farther.

You must follow through with your end of the bargain. Remember when altar call is given, be among the first to be on the prayer line. The boys may not remember you but they will remember someone took time for them. This will add significantly to their self-esteem. Many of these boys have no positive role model. You have shown your care enough to pray for them.

When you pray, if you ask for a small thing, God will give a small thing. If you ask for something large, God will give something large. It is no harder for God to give large than small. He can provide thousands of dollars as easily as one. It all belongs to Him anyway. Commit your self to Him, ask for large and watch how he unfolds the blessing. We won't be surprised that He does but will by how He does it.

Be in continual prayer for our officials as they make decisions this year. Let them hear from God. Randy Woods, Harvest Task Force Coordinator, randy.woods@lmco.com

Commanders Conference & Awards Ceremony

First Assembly of God, Waco

April 27-28

Are you interested in finding out more about the new Royal Rangers program that will be released in 2002? If so, plan now to attend this year's commanders conference in Waco, TX. This year's conference will be held at First Assembly of God on 6701 Bosque Blvd., Waco. Registration will be \$10 per person.

Plan on arriving Friday evening for a time of fellowship with other commanders from around the North Texas District. If you have any games, dominoes, etc. bring them also.

On Saturday morning, registration will be at 7 a.m. with the first presentation starting at 8 a.m.

At 8 a.m., we will have a two hour detailed overview of the new Royal Rangers program followed with a time for a question/answer session. Starting at 10:45 a.m., we will have different classes available. These classes currently include: 2002 Camporama, Teaching Methods, Outpost Fund Raisers, Senior Commander Class, Uniform Etiquette, and FCF Sponsorship. Then starting at 2 p.m., we will have the annual commanders awards ceremony. If you have submitted your paperwork and are looking forward to receiving your award, you will not want to miss this ceremony.

For those of you wanting to stay in Waco on Friday evening, the following is a list of hotels you may contact for reservations:

Closest to the church

Fairfield Inn, Highway 6 north at Waco Drive, 254-776-7821

Best Western Waco Mall, Waco Drive just west of Highway 6, 254-776-3194

Located on I-35

La Quinta Inn, 9th St. and I-35, 254-752-9741 (1-800-531-5900)

Motel 6, I-35 south of town (3120 I-35 S), 254-662-4622

Super 8, 1320 S. I-35, 254-754-1023

Clarion Hotel, 4th St. and I-35, 254-757-2000

Comfort Inn, 1430 I-35 S, 254-752-1991 (1-800-228-5150)

For additional questions, please contact Mark Oliver at mark.oliver@royalrangers.net.

Plan now to attend to make sure you get the new color brochures we will have that you can take home showing the new Royal Rangers program.



ATTENTION ALL CHURCHES

ALL Chartered Outposts will be receiving information from the national office this summer about the new Royal Rangers program and the 2002 Camporama. This will include brochures, videos, applications and PowerPoint presentations. If you are not chartered, please do so immediately so you do not miss out on this information being sent to you. You can find a charter application at www.royalrangers.net/ntd/forms.htm. Don't miss out on these exciting changes coming next year.

Instructor Certification Updates

New instructors that completed the ICS in September of 2000.

Athens—Mark Woods

Austin—Wendell Conner, Greg Garza, David Legere

North Dallas—Dewayne Ivy, Tom Lambert, Steve Whitehead

North Ft. Worth—James Huff,

South Ft. Worth—Dana Horner

Wichita Falls—Danny Douglas

New instructors that completed the ICS in February of 2001.

South Dallas Section—Virgil Barnes, Raymond Martinez, Hector Monreal, David Rodriguez

News Flash from the National Royal Ranger Office.

Instructors you will need to phase out all existing LTC courses by the end of December 2002. All certified instructor's certifications will expire December 31, 2002 under the old ICS certifications.

The ICS that is scheduled for September 7-8, 2001 will be held at Lakeview Camp, Maypearl, Texas. If you would like to become a certified instructor, please plan now to attend.. Please make sure you get the ICS Certification paperwork signed before you attend.

If you have any questions about training, please contact me at reesemarty@yahoo.com.

Marty Reese, reesemarty@yahoo.com

North Texas District Training Coordinator

District Pow Wow

June 1-3

Lakeview Camp

Pow Wow packets will be arriving at your church office shortly. Plan now on bringing your outpost for a weekend of adventure and fun. There is a laser light show planned for Friday evening council fire so you want to make sure you arrive early so you will see the planned events for Friday evening. You can start arriving at camp at 12 noon. Registration cost will be \$15 per person. You will also be able to get the Pow Wow packet online at www.royalrangers.net/ntd once it has been mailed.

May 12 Pow Wow Workday

Are you planning on coming to Pow Wow on June 1-3, 2001? If you are, you should plan to attend our annual Pow Wow Workday to help prepare the campgrounds for this camp. In the morning, we will have different areas designated for cleaning. Then once we are completed with these areas, you will then have the afternoon to clean campsites and make your reservations for Pow Wow. Remember, if you do not pre-register for Pow Wow, you will be unable to reserve a campsite. See you on May 12 and make sure you bring your tools with you for mowing, cutting, raking, and cleanup.

Four Days of Fun For a Lifetime of Leadership
PIONEER TRAINING CAMP (PTC)
SARGE TRAINING ACADEMY
JUNE 24-27, 2001

PTC 2001. It's an unequalled opportunity for your Pioneers to become completely oriented into Royal Rangers camping. This camp is planned especially for the Pioneers working on their Powder Horn – Bowie Knife – Tomahawk rating.

At all times the Pioneer campers are overseen and supervised by commanders acting as patrol advisors and class instructors.

The camp starts with Sunday afternoon registration from 2 to 4 pm. Then at 4 pm an orientation session will explain to the Pioneers what to expect during camp and what will be expected from them.

Sunday evening is a Light For the Lost banquet, that helps Rangers complete their Bowie Knife requirements. Then off to a good old time Pentecost Council Fire.

Monday morning the Pioneers will cook their breakfast and perform the daily flag ceremony. Then it's off to fun classes on tool craft, rope craft, cooking, first aid and fire craft. In between classes the Pioneers cook their own lunch. Recreation and quiet time (ha ha!) follow the afternoon classes where they will make patrol bolo ties and patrol flags. After cooking their own dinner, your Pioneer will attend a special council fire prepared just for Pioneers. All day and all through camp these Pioneers are learning and working the Patrol Method.

On Tuesday, your Pioneers will have another fun day of cooking, camping, learning the patrol method and making new friends. Tuesday afternoon we stop classes early to prepare for an enjoyable overnight camp. The Pioneers hike to an overnight camp a short distance away. (They do not backpack – the gear is transported to the site before the hike begins.) The Pioneers set up camp, eat their meal and have a spirit filled joyful time and council fire in the great outdoors. It doesn't get much better than this – this will be the highlight of PTC 2001!

Wednesday begins with a short hike and ride back to camp, the flag ceremony, enjoyable and instructional classes and all the fun of preparing meals. On Wednesday evening families, friends and commanders come to the camp graduation where we will graduate a class of seasoned, happy, (and probably a little bit tired) Pioneers.

This is a valuable and wonderful experience for all involved. The campers grow and learn while having the time of their lives. Commander's benefit from welcoming back experienced Pioneers to help lead and serve as great examples in their Pioneer outposts.

So give your Pioneers a head start on their GMA and on Royal Rangers spirit. Let them experience –
PIONEER TRAINING CAMP 2001

Pat Reilly, reilly1@airmail.net
Camp Commander
Pioneer Training Camp
Sarge Training Academy

Sarge Training Academy 2001

Sarge Training Academy is coming upon us quickly. It is earlier than normal because we've moved the dates this year. This year's camp will take place June 24-29. We will still be having all 5 camps this year: Pioneer Training Camp, Advanced Merits Camp, Junior Leadership Training Camp, Advanced Junior Training Camp, and Junior Training Trails. Every boy needs to have the opportunity to participate in one of these camps to enhance their Ranger lives and their spiritual lives by being involved with other Rangers in these training experiences. Inside this newsletter, you will find the applications for boys and for staff. One of the important things to note on the applications is the pre-registration date and the fees charged for late registration. Also, the price of JTT has been dropped. We are planning for our greatest and largest camp ever; South Texas has committed many commanders to help this year and is bringing a good number of boys also. Get your outpost started now to get ready to attend this year's Sarge. Don't just send them off to kid's camp, baseball camp, or some other camp this year. Include Sarge Training Academy as one of the camps that your boys will attend. As for you the commander, there's not anything more enjoyable and rewarding you can do than to spend a week with the boys, and working toward our main purpose of being here, reaching, teaching, and keeping. If you have any questions about boy's registration, staff registration, how you can help, or any others, please contact me, or the District office. Get those applications filled out early and sent in to the District office.

Jeff Kersey, jeff@royalrangers.net

Outpost 318 Highlights

Outpost 318 Copperas Cove, had 5 boys in 3rd - 6th grade participate in city football. These boys excelled on their teams and were selected to play on the all star teams for their grade levels. The 3rd and 4th grade North division included #20, Brelan Hawkes, and #61 - Stephen Schlipp. The 5th and 6th grade North division included #10 - Camden Kelsay, #55-Joel Mace, and #81 Thomas Schlipp II. Congratulations to the boys of outpost 318.

Tom Schlipp, tschlipprr@juno.com



Are you Ready to Join FCF?

Calling all Frontiersman candidates waiting for the Phase 2 adventure at Pow-Wow 2001, it's time to gather up your bedroll and prepare to join the Shawnee Trail Chapter of the Frontiersman Camping Fellowship. If you haven't completed the Phase 1 testing, there are details elsewhere in this newsletter about the May 5 Phase 1 testing to start your adventure toward Frontiersman membership. If you have completed the Phase 1 testing, your opportunity to become a frontiersman will occur at Pow-Wow. You will need to come to the FCF village when you arrive at the Pow Wow to check in with the company scribe and get your instructions for the evening.

For all you old timers, we are changing up some things with the Phase 2 adventure this year. We are moving out of the FCF village. Several things will occur as a result of this. First, if you are sponsoring someone into FCF this year, you need to come by the village when you arrive as well and let us know so that you can be part of the adventure. You may not be asked to participate as part of the overnight adventure though. One of the changes being made is that the members that will be staffing the adventure for the phase 2 candidates will be selected prior to the Pow-Wow. This allows those staff to make all preparations ahead of time and be ready for the candidates. While the phase 2 candidates are going through the adventure, the village and the other FCF members will be alive with activity inviting visitors into the village and visiting campsites to fellowship with men and boys around the camp. Some members will be asked to stay in the village and portray their trades, skills, and talk with visitors. Others will be traveling the grounds and meeting the boys and telling them about FCF and membership opportunities. Some of you may be working on FCF advancements and need to work in an adventure to count toward that advancement. If that is the case, you need to check in with the village upon arrival Friday, and you will be given an assignment to aid in the village and help promote FCF and our service opportunities.

These changes are all to help make the FCF village more accessible to the boys and men that might want to know more about FCF, and the members more accessible to the rest of the campgrounds. So if you're a commander and a member comes up to your campsite and wishes to come in for a visit, open up your campfire and let your boys have some fellowship. Also, take the time to stop by the village Saturday and see some of the portrayals of a lifestyle from the old frontier and talk to the frontiersmen about their trades, skills, and even take the time to participate in some of them. We'll have blacksmithing, old time candle making, hawk-throwing, and many others. We want the village to be open for commanders and boys to come by and share in the frontier experience. We look forward to seeing many of you "greenhorns" come through the village this Pow-Wow. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me ahead of time or at the Pow-Wow.

Jeff "Skywatcher" Kersey
FCF Vice President
jeff@royalrangers.net

FCF Phase I Testing

If you are interested in joining FCF and meet the pre-requisites, plan now to attend the FCF Phase I testing on May 5th at Lakeview Camp, Maypearl. This year's testing will begin at 8:00 AM at the pavilion. You will need to wear a Royal Rangers Class B uniform, and bring a pocketknife and your Sponsor. Your Phase I application must be submitted to the district office by 4/28/01. Please note the application cost is \$10. Your sponsor will have an application or you can get them at www.royalrangers.net/ntd under forms.

APPLICATION FOR SARGE TRAINING ACADEMY

North Texas District Royal Rangers
Lakeview Camp, Maypearl, Texas

All blanks must be properly filled in, and this application mailed to the North Texas District Royal Rangers no later than June 10, 2001. Any applications received after this date will be considered late registrations and subjected to an additional charge of \$25/camper.

Because of the limited size and advance cost of setting up camp, a \$60 (for PTC), \$85 (for AJTC, JLTC, and AMC), and \$100 (for JTT) pre-registration fee must accompany this application. This fee will be applied toward the total camp fee of \$85.00 and \$115.00 (\$135.00 for JTT), respectively, which is due upon arrival to camp. The registration fee is not refundable, but is transferable, if notification is given by phone or mail 2 weeks prior to camp. **Remember**, if your application is received after June 10, an additional \$25 will be added to your registration cost, \$50 extra for a JTT registration.

Name _____ Age _____ Outpost Number _____

Address _____
(Street or Box) (City) (State) (Zip)

Church _____

Camp Attending: ___PTC ___AMC ___JLTC ___AJTC ___JTT

I agree to abide by the rules and regulations of Sarge Training Academy and will follow the instructions of the Staff at all times.

Signature _____ Date _____

Recommendations: We believe the above boy is mature enough spiritually, mentally and emotionally to successfully attend Sarge Training Academy.

PARENTAL RELEASE

My Son (or Legal Ward) _____ has my permission to attend the North Texas District Royal Rangers Sarge Training Academy at Lakeview Camp in Maypearl, Texas.

I am aware that he will be expected to abide by the rules and regulations of Sarge Training Academy and will be under the care of the Staff and will be expected to obey and follow instructions at all times. Serious, unresolved disciplinary problems could result in his early dismissal from camp.

Signed _____ Date _____

Witness to Signature _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____ Other Emergency Number _____

EMERGENCY MEDICAL INFORMATION: (Allergies, Medications, Limitations, etc.)

Mail to: North Texas District Royal Rangers
P.O. Box 1188
Hurst, Texas 76053-1188

**NORTH TEXAS DISTRICT
ROYAL RANGERS
PATHFINDER MISSIONS TRIP
SEPTEMBER 21-29, 2001**

To: Ibarra, Ecuador

Project: To rebuild a church torn down by persecutors

Host Missionary: Phillip Barber

Cost: \$1850 (50% deposit due by July 1, 2001, balance due September 1, 2001)

Needed: 10-12 men

We need ten to twelve men. Men who aren't satisfied to just send their money. Men who are called by God to go themselves, to leave everything behind for ten days, and build a church on an 11,000 foot mountain. You will have to give up a week of your vacation time. You will work from sun-up to sundown. You will have to raise your own money to go.

It will cost you everything. You will be paid nothing. The rewards will be eternal.

You will leave DFW airport on Friday evening, Sept. 21, 2001. You will fly to Quito, Ecuador. There you will board a rented bus and ride to Ibarra. Then you will climb an 11,000 foot mountain. You will be staying 1-1/2 hours from the closest place that a conventional MAPS construction team would stay. On Saturday you will have to have camp set up by noon, because you will be attending services that afternoon with the nationals for whom you are building the church. You will eat MRE's for the ten days you are there. You will need to bring a coat, because it will get down to the low 40's at night. You will also need a hat and sunscreen lotion, because it will get up into the 90's during the day.

You can raise money two different ways: Within your local church and within the Royal Rangers program. Travel expenses and food account for \$1,000 of the cost. The other \$850 goes toward the construction costs of the building. You will be asked to bring a bag of candy for the children there. You may be called upon to speak at the local church while you are there. You will need to be ready for anything.

You can handle it. You're a Royal Ranger.

The building we build will be a concrete block building with a metal framed roof. It will be 14'x21'. We will pour a chain wall, lay the block, frame the roof columns, and put the metal roof on. If we have time, we may build a foot bridge, because the only bridge to the church has washed out. When we're finished, we plan to spend one day in Quito shopping and sight seeing. We will fly back on Sunday morning, September 29.

If you are one of these men, please give me a call or email me ASAP or sooner.

Clint Grant, clintwgrant@hotmail.com

North Texas District Pathfinder/Missions Coordinator

At our recent ART, a total of 19 people plus staff registered - 13 Leaders for the Blue LTC classes, 1 Leader for the Red LTC, and 5 people came to the Advanced classes. Unfortunately, not enough people registered for the Black Powder class in order for it to make. We heard that the Leaders loved the Advanced classes. So, look for some of these classes at the August ART.

Plainsmen Territorial Rendezvous July 16-20, 2001

Greetings,

The Territorial Rendezvous is about to happen again! It's time to pack your plunder and head for the meeting place to have some fun, trade your goods, and get re-supplied with the spiritual necessities! We have a whole week of activities, fun, and worship planned for you in the mountains of New Mexico! There will be shooting activities and contests, hawk & knife throwing contests, woods walk, bow & arrow, fire starting, stump preaching, and cooking. You need to sharpen your skills and try to win one of the prizes offered at these different activities!

Brush arbor meetings will be a primary focus each evening with special speakers who will have a message especially for you. Please be sure to fast and pray for this camp that God will have His way and that the Holy Spirit will renew lives and open eyes through these special speakers and activities.

An auction is planned for one night. Please bring an item, preferably hand made for this auction and put your name, mark, and date on it.

There will be a cooking contest one evening for a main dish and a desert. Please make sure you bring the necessary items to enter this special event.

We plan to have a special baptismal service one evening in a nearby creek. If you have someone that needs to be baptized or renewed, please let me know. I can't think of a more natural and peaceful setting for this most special event. Please be in prayer for this service.

We will have three separate camp sites this year. The main camp will be the bachelor's camp for the primitive FCF members. Because of increasing family participation a special section will be reserved for FCF members bringing their "Wimmin Folk" for FCF primitive family camp. There will also be a modern camping area for tents and RV's. A strict division between each camp will be enforced and there will be buffalo soldiers on 24-hour patrol enforcing camp rules. Visiting hours will be established for each camp. I am asking each District to supply four men to volunteer for this patrol each 24-hour period during the camp.

We will also have a Wilderness Vigil before the camp on Sunday and Monday, July 15-16. If you would like to participate in this Vigil, please contact me immediately. You will need to be there by Saturday night, July 14.

The cost of the camp will be \$10 each per young buck, \$15 each per old-timer, or \$25 per family unit if you pre-register. It will be \$15 each per young buck, \$20 each per old-timer, or \$30 per family at the camp. There will be a water buffalo in camp and two port-a-johns in each camp. Modern and family camps will have His and Hers and the designations will be enforced. The port-a-johns will be serviced every other day. Please bring a medical form (standard form obtained from outpost) detailing medical history for the First Aid office.

Well, I hope to see you at this Rendezvous! We plan on having a Great Blessed Time!! If you have any questions regarding this camp, please give me a call..

Gary Bierschwale, South Central Region Territorial Representative

Plainsmen Territory Rendezvous July 16-20, 2001

Pre-Registration Form

Name _____ Modern / Primitive camp (circle one)

Address _____

Phone # _____

How many in party _____ Please list each party member below:

Name _____ FCF member: Yes / No (circle one)

Name _____ FCF member: Yes / No (circle one)

Name _____ FCF member: Yes / No (circle one)

Name _____ FCF member: Yes / No (circle one)

Name _____ FCF member: Yes / No (circle one)

Fee is \$10 each young buck, \$15 each old-timer, or \$25 per family unit.

How many members / families _____ Total \$ _____

How many extra patches would you like to buy _____

(first patch is free; each additional is \$3) Total \$ _____

When will you arrive _____ Total enclosed \$ _____

* This form must be received by June 15, 2001 in order to qualify for pre-registration *

Make checks payable to:

SCR FCF Royal Rangers.

Please send to:

Gary Bierschwale

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

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Sectional Commanders: Gary Shelton-Abilene; Roddie McEntire-Athens; Mark Chapman-Austin; Mack Cox-Bryan; David Bolden-Corsicana; Chuck Douglas-Denton; Arlan Williams -Greenville; Shane Vestal-Longview; Billy Daigle -Lufkin; Wayne Word-North Dallas; Jack Woods-North Ft. Worth; Jeff Owens-Palestine; Sammy Kellum-South Dallas; Jeff Kersey-South Ft. Worth; *pending*-Texarkana; Lindsey Lang-Tyler; David McDaniel-Waco; Danny Douglas-Wichita Falls

NEWS NEEDED

Is there anything specific you would like to learn more about? If you have some ideas or articles to place in the Signal Fire, the next deadline to receive news is May 21, 2001. Please send your information to: Mark Oliver, moliver@csc.com.

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Royal Rangers Ministry
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