

# NORTH TEXAS DISTRICT SIGNAL FIRE

October 2003



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**Reaching, Teaching, and Keepings Boys for Christ in the North Texas District**

# What is it like to be a Royal Ranger in Spanish-speaking Latin America and the Caribbean?

If you were one of the more than 45,000 boys and men who make up the Spanish-speaking Royal Rangers Latin America and Caribbean ministry, you would call yourself an *Explorador del Rey* which literally means “Explorer of the King.” “The King,” of course, refers to Jesus Christ. You might live in any one of the nineteen Spanish-speaking countries of the region except Cuba, which due to local restrictions, does not have Rangers.

You would probably have an opportunity to travel to Costa Rica, Central America, for



Gold Bar training or a Camporama at the Royal Rangers “Camp Summit,” an 80-acre spread designed by Royal Rangers for Royal Rangers. You could wake up to the sound of howler monkeys, enjoy swimming in the river that flows along the back boundary of the property, go exploring for tiny red and black poisonous frogs or watch for beautifully-colored toucans and parrots. You would not want to miss seeing a “Jesus Christ” lizard run across the river ON TOP of the water!

The camp food you might get to taste would depend on what country you were in. Tropical countries have an abundance of fresh, juicy fruits. One kind of banana called plantain must be cooked (usually fried) and is delicious.

Mexico and Central America would serve lots of tortillas and a variety of rice and bean dishes. The specially grilled beef (called *churrasco*) of South America would leave you wanting more. The live chickens tied under a camp shade tree would disappear the morning before a delicious chicken and rice (*arroz con pollo*) dinner.

Your outpost activities would be a lot like you are used to . . . weekly meetings where you have a balance of work and play. In areas where bamboo is plentiful, camp craft would be lashed to that instead of limbs. Emphasis on the patrol system would allow you to learn leadership skills and work together as a team. Christian service might include cutting the church lawn with a machete, the universal tool in Latin America. Recreation times would most likely include soccer, the favorite sport. Most importantly, you would learn Bible verses in Spanish and how to please Christ in your Christian walk.

When you really get down to it, being a Royal Ranger in Latin America or the Caribbean is just as much fun as it is in the United States of America . . . just different!

A/G Missionary Eugene Hunt  
Royal Rangers Coordinator  
Latin America / Caribbean



# Spirit of Rangers

**Servant Leadership: lead by doing, lead by serving, lead by example.**

Recently, our Discovery Rangers cooked and served the meal for our church's Prime Timers group (the over 50 crowd). The boys joined the Prime Timers at their tables during the meal and quickly became involved in lively conversations. Following the meal the boys cleaned the tables and then were invited to play checkers and dominoes with the group. The several hours we spent that evening with this group left a lasting impression on all. The boys thoroughly enjoyed the attention they received as much as the Prime Timers enjoyed giving it. The boys learned that the work and effort behind the scenes comes first, then the visible help and service to others, and when done with

the proper spirit is followed by times of enjoyment and rewards. Christ was very clear in Matthew 20:21-28 about the spirit of servant leadership we should have. True greatness comes by serving others first. We need to teach our boys this spirit of servant leadership at every opportunity. We as leaders are in position to create these opportunities for our boys through advancements, merits, and activities we arrange. At every opportunity we need to help them understand the importance of the servant leadership attitude that Christ described and lived.

Dick Harris, Outpost 182

## **So You Want to Join FCF! Great! Here's What You Need to Do**

If you or one or more of your boys want to join the Frontiersmen Camping Fellowship (FCF) during 2004, here's some information that you need to know. Every man or boy who wants to join FCF in 2004 must complete the Trail of the Grizzly, which requires the completion of the following merits: Rope Craft, Fire Craft, Cooking, Compass, Lashing, First Aid Skills, Camping, and Tool Craft. Once you have completed those eight merits, you qualify for the Frontier Adventure, during which you will receive training in many FCF-related skills. At the end of the Frontier Adventure, you will be a member of the FCF.

After completing the eight merits, you will need to complete a membership application. This application may be found on the district web site at [www.royalrangers.net/](http://www.royalrangers.net/)

[ntd/documents/forms.htm](http://www.royalrangers.net/ntd/documents/forms.htm). This application form, along with the \$35 Frontier Adventure fee, should be sent to the district Royal Rangers office at: Royal Rangers, P.O. Box 1188, Hurst, TX 76053-1188. Checks should be made payable to the "North Texas FCF." Once your application is received, you will receive a confirmation letter from the district FCF officers with details about the Frontier Adventure.

The Frontier Adventure for 2004 will be April 23-24. You will need to be at Lakeview Camp by 5:00 p.m. with all of the equipment that will be listed in your confirmation letter. The Adventure will conclude by 7:00 p.m. on Saturday. There will be no "Phase I" test as there has been in the past. That test has been replaced by the Trail of the Grizzly.

# FCF Christmas Banquet

Dear FCF Family,

You are invited to an old fashion Christmas celebration on December 13, 2003 at Central Assembly of God in Greenville, TX. The Christmas celebration will be hosted by the Sabine Trading Company Brigade of the Greenville Section.

There will be a gift exchange so be sure to bring a gift from the pre 1840 time period. No modern day stuff is allowed. Men bring a gift suitable for a man, women bring a gift suitable for women.

Don't forget gifts for the youngins to exchange. You will be given a number at the door and your gift will be put up under the tree.

The Sabine Trading Company will provide the fixins. Your cost will be \$5 for adults and \$2 per child. Better yet bring an item for the silent auction and you will not have to pay. Some of the donations so far include a Longaberger basket, our president Wild Wind has donated a knife, and Prospector will donate several items! We hope to raise enough money on the auction that we don't have to worry about tickets and you bringing

any food. But please bring some money to bid on the silent auction items. We will auction off the FCF quilt. The Sabine women folk are working on the quilt and will have it ready for you to put your totem on it at Family Days. We take our hats off to Faye Spence for her hard work on the past quilts. The head quilter this year will be Soul Stalker's woman, Jill Watts.

We will have a time of singing and fellowship. Please make reservations with Prospector by phone (903)454-9439, or by e-mail [lfogleman@pulse.net](mailto:lfogleman@pulse.net), or by pony express Lee Fogleman 104 Patti J. Greenville, TX 75402. I would like to hear some FCF testimonies, so if you would like to share one please let me know. There will be activities for the youngins.

Come decked out in your FCF finest. Bring your appetite for fun, food, and fellowship.

In His Master's Service,  
Lee 'Prospector' Fogleman

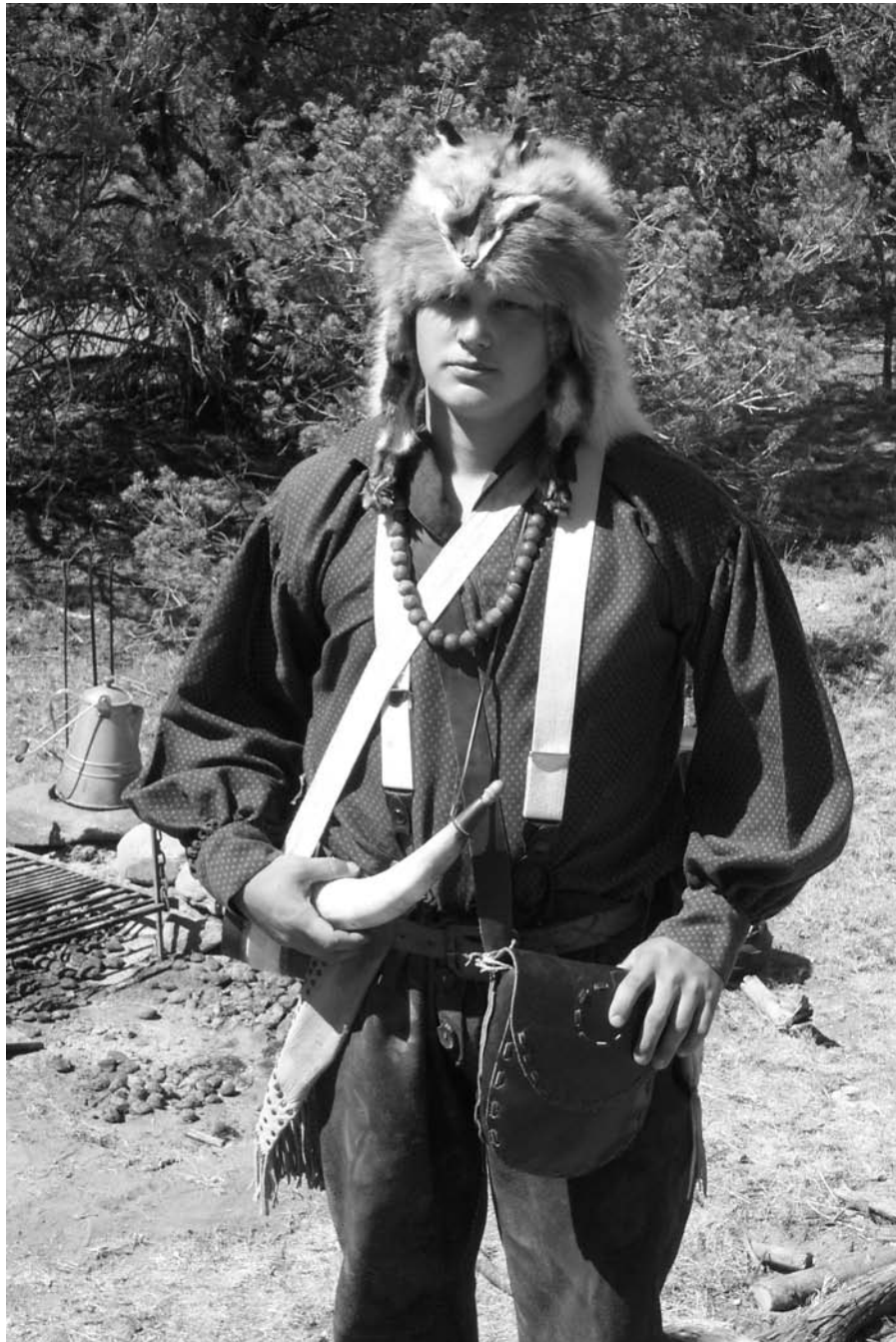


## FCF Youngbuck Earns Territorial Promotion

During the last Territorial Rendezvous in New Mexico we had one of our own youngbucks compete for the title of Territorial Scout and make it! Yep, Curtis Woods (pictured to the right) went to New Mexico and claimed the title of Territorial Scout! This title is not just voted on any more. The youngbucks that want this title must compete for it by way of a point system. The contestants have to prove their FCF skills against one another and build up points during the Rendezvous. The youngbucks with the best scores (they must be a district scout or assistant scout to earn the right to be a contestant) are voted on for this position. The scores are a major consideration for the votes. Please congratulate Curtis the next time you see him for this great accomplishment!

This has made Caleb Bennett the District Scout in North Texas!! Congratulations Caleb!!

The rest of you youngbucks need to contact these two leaders and see what you can do to make their job interesting.... And fruitful....



Gary 'Wild Wind' Bierschwale  
NTX FCF President

# Expedition Rangers Update



It is our hope that the materials you have received to date have been valuable, visually appealing, and well worth the money and wait. We have been hearing some good

reports from the field and from the boys as well. Although we have found some mistakes, such as the compass course game (the correction can be found on the national website: make sure to tell other commanders about this as well!) the materials have proven to be very accurate and useful. We actually invite critique from the field in order to make corrections or obtain ideas for alternative methods of packaging materials.

As you might expect, we are also running behind with the Expedition Rangers materials. We recently met with GPH and they are confident they can get the handbook and Spirit Challenge lessons out to the field by the first part of November. The Silver Merit Reference book will not be available until late January. However, there is a possibility that the answers for the first 10 – 20 Spirit Challenge lessons will be made available on the web after the first of November.

GPH has agreed to release all the support material (uniforms items, advancement material, silver merit patches, posters, etc.) at the end of August. In

addition, all the merit requirements for approximately 80 of the 120 total Silver Merits will be placed on the website so you can download those requirements. The merits related specifically to the specialty programs will be released in November. The new catalog coming out in December will have all the Royal Ranger materials in it, including Expedition Rangers.

What about the materials coming from the national office? These materials are the Leaders Guides for the specialty programs (Air, Sea, High Action, and Trail). They will be released in November. They will be

available on CD from the national office. These guides provide information directly related to the specialty programs, such as how to start a program, the specific advancement options, uniforms, etc. Contact the national office for specific details.

It is our hope that the excitement in the field will result in many more boys entering into the Kingdom of God. As

always, it is the goal of the national office to be a resource to the commanders in the field, the laborers of God, as you reach, teach, and keep boys for Christ.

Brian Hendrickson  
National Programs Coordinator



## 2003 District Calendar

<b>October</b>	9-12	National Training Camp (NTC), Lakeview Camp
	5-11	National Royal Rangers Week (your church)
	21	Light for the Lost Banquet, in each section
	24-26	FCF Family Days, Lakeview Camp
<b>October 31—Nov. 2</b>		RKTC, Turner Falls, Oklahoma
<b>November</b>	14-15	District Winter Camp (contact divisional cmdr)
<b>December</b>	6	District Staff Banquet
	13	FCF Family Banquet

## 2004 District Calendar

<b>January</b>	9	District Staff Meeting	
	10	District Staff Meeting with ALL Sectional Staff	
	30-31	Regional Seminar, Richardson, TX	
<b>February</b>	20-21	Academy of Ranger Training LTA Campout Advanced Training	
	<b>March</b>	5-6	FCF Brush Poppin
	<b>April</b>	3	Staff-in-Training for Sarge Training Academy
17		District Modules Training and Awards Ceremony	
23-24		FCF Frontier Adventure	
<b>April 29—May 2</b>		Advanced National Training Camp (ANTC)	
<b>May</b>	15	Staff-in-Training for Sarge Training Academy	
	22	Pow Wow Workday	
<b>June</b>	4-6	District Pow Wow	
<b>June 26—July 3</b>		Sarge Training Academy	
<b>July</b>	12-16	National FCF Rendezvous	
<b>August</b>	13-14	Academy of Ranger Training LTA Campout, Advanced Rangers Training	
	<b>September</b>	10-11	Instructor Certification Seminar
	25	District Ranger of the Year Testing	
<b>October</b>	3-9	National Royal Rangers Week	
	7-10	National Training Camp (NTC), Lakeview	
	19	Light for the Lost Banquets	
	29-31	FCF Family Days	
<b>November</b>	12-13	District Winter Camps	
	20	Regional Council for District Staffs	
<b>December</b>	11	FCF Family Banquet	

# **NORTH DIVISION**

(Denton, Greenville, North Dallas, and Plano)

## **WINTER CAMP**

**NOVEMBER 14-15, 2003**

Commanders – we have an exciting camp planned for your Royal Rangers this year. We are camping at Rancho De La Roca (that is Ranch of the Rock – [www.ranchoroca.com](http://www.ranchoroca.com)) . There is a great council fire planned for Friday night. Be in prayer for our boys hearts to be prepared to be filled with God, pray for a few commanders too.

There are lots of fun and exciting activities planned for the boys – fishing contest – basketball hoops – volleyball – ever present knife and hawk throw – paddle boat races – compass course – flint & steel – and of course an afternoon nap.

Rancho De La Roca is located in Aubrey – which is northwest of Denton about 10 miles. Take highway 380 from either Denton or McKinney to Hwy 377 go north to the stop light (only one in Aubrey) turn left – go to the second stop sign turn left on Blackjack Rd – about two miles on the left is Rancho De La Roca.

Facilities are not available for each camp to have a camp fire, so there will not be ground fires in most of the camps. You will need a stove or one of the above ground fire containers. Camp fees are \$10 per person, if you are staying over on Saturday night the fee is an additional \$3 per person. This cost - \$10 or \$13 goes to the district, you need to increase camp costs to your boys to cover your outpost expenses.

Every commander (yep you too) is to bring some prize for the boys. We will give prizes for winners of the various games – best camp – best dessert – dirtiest T-shirt – bible quizzes – biggest smile – neatest bolo tie – quote books of the bible – biggest fish. You bring the prize we will come up with the contest.

I am looking forward to a beautiful weekend camp. If you have questions, please let me know – [reilly1@airmail.net](mailto:reilly1@airmail.net) or 214-348-5010.

See ya November 14<sup>th</sup>!

Pat Reilly, North Division Commander

# **EAST CENTRAL DIVISION**

(South Dallas and Waxahachie)

## **WINTER CAMP**

**NOVEMBER 14-15, 2003**

The East Central Division will have their winter camp at Lakeview Camp

The cost will be \$10 per person. Camp will start at 5 pm on Friday, Nov. 14 and officially over at 4 pm on Saturday.

If you have further questions, please call me.

Wayne Word, East Central Divisional Commander, [waynew@templeelectric.com](mailto:waynew@templeelectric.com), 972.564.4405





# Northeast "Minute Men" Division

(Longview, Texarkana, and Tyler)

P.O. Box 1953  
Lindale, TX 75771  
903-882-1040



Dear Commanders and Royal Rangers,

We have another exciting event awaiting your Royal Rangers. Our Northeast Division Winter Camp will be held at Kamp Kreekwood in Lindale on November 14-16.

We are planning more exciting activities such as a frisbee golf course, Ranger challenges and some advanced merit classes for the Discovery and Adventure Rangers.

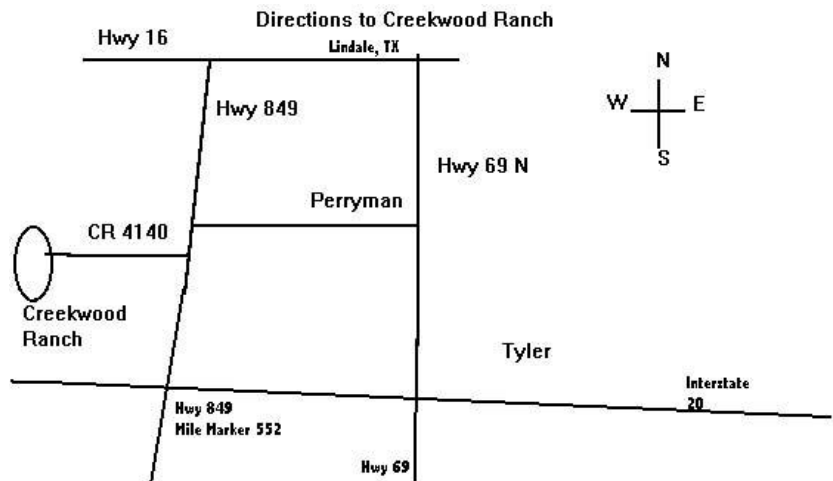
Continue to pray for the council fire service. We desire to see God do a mighty work in the lives of the boys. If your outpost has a song or skit for the council fire service, please let me know at registration.

We are expecting great things to happen,

Jody Fauss  
Northeast Divisional Commander

**Here are the directions to the Northeast (Minute Men) Divisional Camp.**

IF YOU' RE COMING ON I-20 LOOK FOR HWY 849 (Mile Marker 552) . Go North about 3 miles until you see the "World Commission Center" sign (CR 4140) on the left. Turn on CR 4140 and follow the signs to the campground. You can page me at 903-521-5636 if needed.



## SOUTHEAST DIVISION

(Brazos Valley, Lufkin, and Trinity Valley)

### WINTER CAMP

**NOVEMBER 14-15, 2003**

The cost will be \$10 per person. Camp will start at 5 pm on Friday, Nov. 14 and officially over at 4 pm on Saturday.

For location information or further questions, please contact me.

James Kemp, Southeast Divisional Commander, 979.272.5017



**WEST CENTRAL**  
(Mid-Cities, North Fort Worth, South Fort Worth)  
**WINTER CAMP**  
**NOVEMBER 14-15, 2003**

***THE WOLF PACK***

Greetings Commanders;

We had an out standing third quarter this year, South Ft. Worth Section had a great Pinewood derby event. Mid-cities Section also took part in this event. Thanks guys for keeping everyone involved. North Ft. Worth Section held one of the largest Ranger Basic/Transitional Module classes; they had over 30 Commanders present. Remember if you have been (Blue or Red) LTC trained you have until December 31, 2003 to take the Transitional Module.

All Sections except Mid-cities had their Fall Round-up camps; I have heard excellent reports from all of these camps. Keep up the good work guys.

The North Texas District Commanders Camp was a great success. All that attended had a great time of fellowship and relaxation, and a great speaker Friday night. (Pastor Scott Meador – Southlake Assembly of God) On Saturday we had a great day of training for the Commanders. The Discipleship I and Discipleship II Modules were offered. We had a great time in the Lord. I would like to take this time to thank all the Sections for furnishing the meals for this camp. Thank you for a job well done guys.

We are now into our fourth quarter, and we have a lot of work to do. The month of September is Charter month, and I would like to see the number of outposts in our sections grow by 50%. This means that the area commanders need to start working the telephones and visiting these churches in our sections and try to help them get chartered this year. All churches were mailed a chartering packet in August.

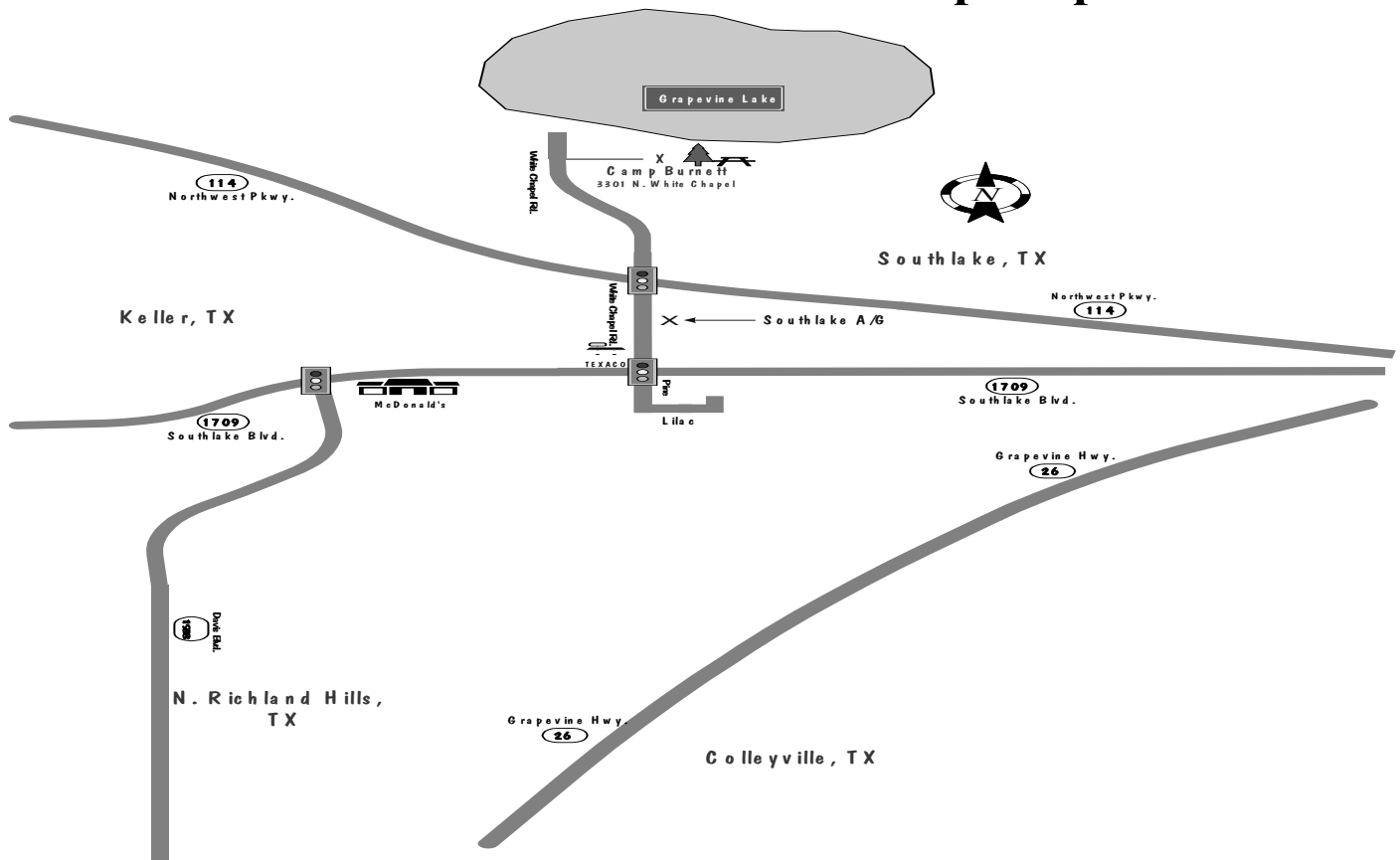
The next Divisional event will be Winter Camp:

Location: Camp Burnett -  
Southlake TX  
Dates: November 14, 15, 2003  
Cost: \$10.00 per person  
covers (insurance,  
patch, and other camp  
expenses)

Looking forward to seeing everyone there, we will have a great time with the Lord.

Roger Stewart, [rstewart@itexas.net](mailto:rstewart@itexas.net),  
West Central Divisional Commander

# West Central Divisional Camp Map



## **SOUTHWEST “Rough Riders” DIVISION WINTER CAMP (Austin, San Angelo, and Waco) NOVEMBER 14-15, 2003**

This years winter camp will be the same location as last year (Fort Courage in Lampasas). You can plan to arrive Friday afternoon and then camp will conclude Saturday at 3 pm. The cost is \$10 per person.

Fort Courage is located behind 1st A/G in Lampasas. This is about two miles east of Lampasas on Highway 190. It will be on the south side of the Highway. You can't miss it.

From I-35, take highway 190 west out of Belton.

This camp will feature Pioneer / Camp Craft skills training and games. Also, don't forget our annual egg toss so you will want to bring some extra eggs. Our campsites are also being pioneered, so bring your campsite clearing tools with you. Each outpost will need to provide their own meals and remember, this is winter camp so camp will be held in any sort of weather. Come join us for an exciting time. If you have any questions, please give me a call.

Ken Farley, Southwest Divisional Commander, 817.483.0565

# Frontiersman Camping Fellowship Family Camp

Have you marked your calendars? Family Days 2003 is round the corner! Held October 24 - 26 at the Lakeview Camp, this great event is one you don't want to overlook. This year's theme, "Bringing in the Sheaves" is taken from Psalms 126:6. What a wonderful way to spend quality time with your family. Don't miss this relaxed, fun weekend. Remember, you do not have to be an FCF member to attend this camp. It is open for you to bring your family and find out more about FCF and relax with your family for the weekend.

I would like to encourage everyone (especially young bucks!) to bring your family and invite friends. Any "pilgrim" is welcome to visit for the day or spend the night. What a great way to introduce your church family and potential Rangers to FCF. It will cost \$10 for old timers, \$5 for young bucks or \$25 per family.

The first event of the weekend is our PIE AND DESSERT AUCTION, held Friday evening at 8:30 pm. After the auction, the desserts are shared for a great time of fellowship. Your dessert can be brought with you or made at camp, which ever is easier for you. In



years past, members have donated other FCF-type items for auctioning. Feel free to bring a donation and your checkbook. All proceeds go to the Chapter.

Don't forget to pack your TRADE GOODS. We all look forward to buying, selling, trading and giving away, right men?

As always, we look forward to our awesome church services with great music and The Word, so don't forget to bring your Bible.

If you have an idea for a fun game or event, please let me know. Some of our Saturday events will be:

- Games such as horseshoes & washers, old-fashioned clothes washing race, hunker hog and knife & 'hawk throw
- Help your family create the true checkerboard game (supplies will be provided) and enjoy the camp-wide checkerboard competition
- Quilting bee
- Saturday Night's Campfire Cooking Competition - main dish and dessert (Note: Plan your dish ahead of time so you don't miss out.)
- Black Powder Shooting Contest
- Much, much more!

Saturday night's camp-wide dinner is always a great feast. Plan to cook enough to share and bring your appetite!

See you there!

Mark "Brave Beaver" Woods, FCF Historian

## Bitter or Better?

It seems that many of us are facing difficulties or opportunities in proportions that we have not seen before. Family problems, health issues, employment, financial problems and even problems within the church are bombarding us from every side. We often feel we have no place of solitude or rest from these attacks. At home, family issues attack. At work, the stress of more work with fewer personnel and less money push us to our limits. Even in our churches, dissension and disagreement take away the peace God gives.

But we need to tell our problems to Jesus, not other people. Telling others will cause the problems to grow. Telling Jesus gives us calm during the storm. Things that are happening are not new to mankind. These problems have existed since creation. About 10% of the problem is the problem. The remaining 90% is how we respond to the problem. Will we get bitter or better?

God never allows things to happen to us without a reason and His permission. He

even limits Satan in his attacks. Nothing happens without God's awareness.

Mark 5:21-24 tells of an incident where a man asked Jesus to come and heal his daughter. The focus for this article is on the phrase "and Jesus went with him." Jesus didn't send him away, ignore him or belittle his problem. Instead, the King of Kings and Lord of Lords stopped what He was doing to go **with** the man and did heal his daughter.

Even Job's problems were only with God's permission and within specific parameters. After his testing, Job was given twice the blessing he had before and a hedge of protection was placed around him. Remember payback is coming and the devil is deeply in debt. God will repay for your faithfulness to Him. No matter the problem, never give up on God.

Randy Woods

District Royal Rangers Missions Coordinator

## LMA Transition Module Deadline

If you completed your Leaders Medal of Achievement (LMA) through the Leadership Training Course (LTC), and have not yet taken the LMA Transition Module, you need to do so before the end of 2003. Instructors have until December 31st to get current LTC-trained leaders through the Transition Module so that they may earn the new LMA. After this date all current LTC-trained leaders who

what to earn the new LMA will need to complete the required modules for the new LMA. The Transition module is 6 hours long; nothing less than that qualifies a LTC-trained leader for the new LMA. If you have questions about what the Transition Module consists of, or if you need to take the Transition Module before the deadline, check with your district training coordinator.

# **Northwest Division Winter Camp**

(Abilene, Cross Timbers, and Wichita Falls Section)

**NOVEMBER 14-15, 2003**

The Northwest Division will have their winter camp at Fort Richardson State Park. This park is located 1/2 mile south of Jacksboro on US Highway 281.

Come prepared to have a fun and exciting time. Fort Richardson has lots of activities for the boys. Throughout the 454 acres, you will see seven of the original Fort Buildings that have been restored. These include the post hospital, the officers' quarters, a powder magazine, a morgue, a commissary, a guardhouse, and a bakery, which makes 600 loaves per days. Bring your boys because they will have a fantastic time. Additional activities include fishing, hiking, and nature study. The boys can even bring their bicycles with them.

The cost will be \$10 per person. Camp will start at 5 pm on Friday, Nov. 14 and officially over at 4 pm on Saturday.

More detail about the state park can be found at <http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/park/fortrich/fortrich.htm>

If you have further questions, please call me.

Thanks,

Robert Johnson, Northwest Divisional Commander, 940.723.6210

## **2004 Regional Conference**

You are invited to attend the 2004 South Central Regional Conference. This year's conference promises to be one of the best we have had yet. It will be held January 30-31, 2004 at the Omni Hotel in Richardson, Texas. Commanders from all over the region will be at the conference for outstanding fellowship, training, and spiritual renewal.

### **Friday Afternoon Classes**

We will again have classes Friday afternoon for those who want to attend. Each class will last from 1 to 5 p.m. The classes scheduled for Friday afternoon are:

- Impressive Awards Ceremonies
- Expanding Your Ministry by Reaching Your Community

- Safety and the Church (LTA Module)
- Instructor Trainer Seminar (approval of your district commander will be required to attend this particular class)

### **Friday Evening Service**

The evening service will be at 7:00 p.m. Friday night at the hotel; this service will feature a time of praise and worship, and the ministry of our special speaker Randy Ruiz. This service is open to everyone.

### **Special Guests**

Our special speakers for the conference include:

- Randy Ruiz, an evangelist who was called into the ministry

while attending a Royal Rangers camp where Fred Deaver was the speaker. Randy was the keynote speaker at the 2003 National Royal Rangers Council, and has spoken at numerous district and national camps and conferences, including the National Honor Bound Conference

- Richard Hammar, the general legal counsel for the Assemblies of God since 1978, will be sharing with us on how to protect our kids and our ministries
- Marshall Bruner, coordinator of ministry development for the Children's Ministries Agency in Springfield, will be sharing with us on effective techniques for reaching beyond our church walls with the Royal Rangers ministry

### **Saturday Schedule**

Saturday will begin with a general session at 8:00 a.m., and then there will be five sessions for training, ending at 5:00 p.m. Classes for Saturday include:

- Weather Spotting for Royal Rangers
- Kids and Chemistry
- How to Keep an Outpost ALIVE!
- Involving Children in Missions
- The Value of Royal Rangers
- Legal Issues Every Commander Should Know
- Legal Concerns for Staff Members (for pastors, sectional and district staff members)
- Changes to the Ranger of the Year program

- Others will be added to this list; check the regional web site for the latest list of classes for Saturday

### **Hotel Information**

The host hotel where all of the activities will be held is the Omni Richardson, 701 E. Campbell Road (intersection of US 75 and Campbell Road) in Richardson, Texas. This is undoubtedly the nicest hotel we have ever had for our Regional Conference, and we have an exceptionally low rate for rooms for our conference. Rooms will be \$69 per night for 1-4 people per room. For a reservation, phone 1-800-843-6664 and be sure to mention the "Royal Rangers Conference" for the special room rate. This rate will be honored before and after the conference if you want to come early and/or stay after the conference for shopping, sight seeing, or golfing (the hotel has their own golf course 5 minutes away with special rates for hotel guests).

We encourage everyone to stay at the Omni during your time in Dallas. Each room booked at the Omni helps offset the cost of the meeting rooms that we use for the Friday and Saturday sessions. Those in the Royal Rangers block of rooms at the Omni will receive a gift of appreciation from the region during their stay.

Additional information about the hotel can be obtained from their web site at [www.omnirichardson.com](http://www.omnirichardson.com)



### **Registration**

The registration form for the conference will be available in October. At that time it will be posted to the regional web site, and will be made available through the Signal Fire. The registration fee for the conference is \$30. There will be a \$2 discount per person if you pre-register by mail by January 21<sup>st</sup>. If you pre-register on the regional web site, there will be a \$5 per person discount. Pre-registration fees may be paid by check or money order, or by credit card. If you have at least four paid registrations from the same church, your pastor can register for FREE for the conference.

Boys who have earned their Gold Medal of Achievement and who are willing to help out at the conference as a GMA Staff Aid will have their registration fee waived.

### **Ladies Activities**

If your wife is not involved in the Royal Rangers ministry, we encourage you to

bring her along anyway. Everyone is welcome for the Friday evening service, and Saturday morning there will be a time for our wives to get acquainted and to have a devotion, and then transportation will be available to several sites around the hotel, including the Allen Outlet Mall and the Northpark Mall, or the light rail connection to the Dallas West End.

### **Additional Information**

Additional information about the conference will be in future editions of the Signal Fire, and will also be posted on the regional web site at [www.royalrangers.net/scr](http://www.royalrangers.net/scr)

Make plans now to attend the conference, and to bring your pastor and the other commanders from your outpost. You will enjoy the ministry, fellowship, and training that you receive, and you will return to your church charged up for ministry to the boys in your outpost and community.





# Family Days

Dan "Metalbender" Syrcle

Well old-timers, young bucks, pilgrims and greenhorns, Fall is finally here! All us FCFers know what that means, Family Days is just around the corner! Big doins out at Maypearl this year, Family Days will be 24<sup>th</sup>- 26<sup>th</sup> of October. Friday the 24<sup>th</sup> will feature a pie auction and then of course pie



eatin... If you old timers and young bucks have any trade goods for this auction just throw on in. This is a fundraiser for us. I am sure any of you young bucks that have stayed in the new tent appreciate it.

Any guesses were that money came from? You're right on the money guys! You helped raise it! I hear tell Saturday there will be an old time checkers tournament and maybe even something called horseshoes if the smith can get some shoes made. For you camp gourmets (that's French for "fellers that like to eat") there will be a camp cooking contest. I myself plan to throw in a pot of slow cooked jerky. You folks just ain't had good grub till you get some

jerky stew! Heard a rumor about some feller named "Soul Stalker" being pretty sharp with a shootin iron. Well we have some shootin going on fer shure! This year is going to be a blanket shoot open to all comers young buck, old-timer and even the lady folks! Shucks, we'll even open up to the green horns and pilgrims if they can come up with a shootin iron! Entry to the shoot will be \$20 value in trade goods for old timers, \$10 value in trade goods for young bucks, ladies, pilgrims and green horns. Best shooters will then compete for top gun honors. If you don't know how a blanket shoot works, here is the deal. Everyone who is shooting puts something of value on the trade blanket. Best shooter gets first choice; second best gets to choose next and so on down the line. Everyone should go home with some sort of prize. The top gun shoot will be a peg and string shoot at 50 yards. Rules will be explained at the shoot. Course we will also have a knife and hawk throw, blanket trading and fun. Also, prayerfully expect a mighty

move of God and the services that weekend. The hand of God is really touching the local churches, Royal Rangers and FCF. This will be an awesome weekend! Primitive camps in the FCF area should be pre 1840. If you do not have a primitive tent yet and yer buddy does not have room, we will have a campsite for those "modern" nylon tents. Also welcome would be any day campers who just want to come and spend Saturday with us.



# Wild Wind's Wood Shop Corner

## Build a Solar Oven

If there is anything we have plenty of in Texas, its sun light and heat. For all you campers that camp where fire wood is scarce, this is a nice little project you can build and cook without having to gather any firewood. Besides, who wants to cook over a fire when it is 100+ degrees outside anyway! The nice thing about the solar oven is that it is hard to over- cook anything; you don't have to be around when the food is ready to eat. Several more hours in the cooker won't hurt most foods: meats just get more tender. Food won't burn, so there is no need to stir or check on them until you are ready to eat. Also you can close the reflector flap on the glass and put a blanket over the cooker to keep food hot longer. Food will cook if there is at least 15 minutes of sunshine each hour. Another thing nice about this little solar oven is that it is made so you can knock it down for travel.

The scale of the diagram is 1/8"=1". You can make this project with one sheet of 3/4" plywood, a few other pieces of hardware, and some 1/16" thick sheet aluminum. The preferred way of attaching those pieces that need to be attached is with screws and woodworkers glue.

There are a few things you need to know about your solar oven to get the best use of it.

- This oven will cook about 10-15 pounds of food on a sunny day
- Only use black or dark colored pots with lids for cooking
- Prop top lid of oven open in such a way it reflects sun into oven
- Oven works best when sun is high in the sky
- This oven works much like a slow cooker, so the recipes would be about the same

How much time will it take to cook?

Time - 2 hrs

white rice

chicken

fish

cakes

fresh vegetables

Time - 3 hrs

brown rice

potatoes

apples

breads

Time - 4 to 5 hrs

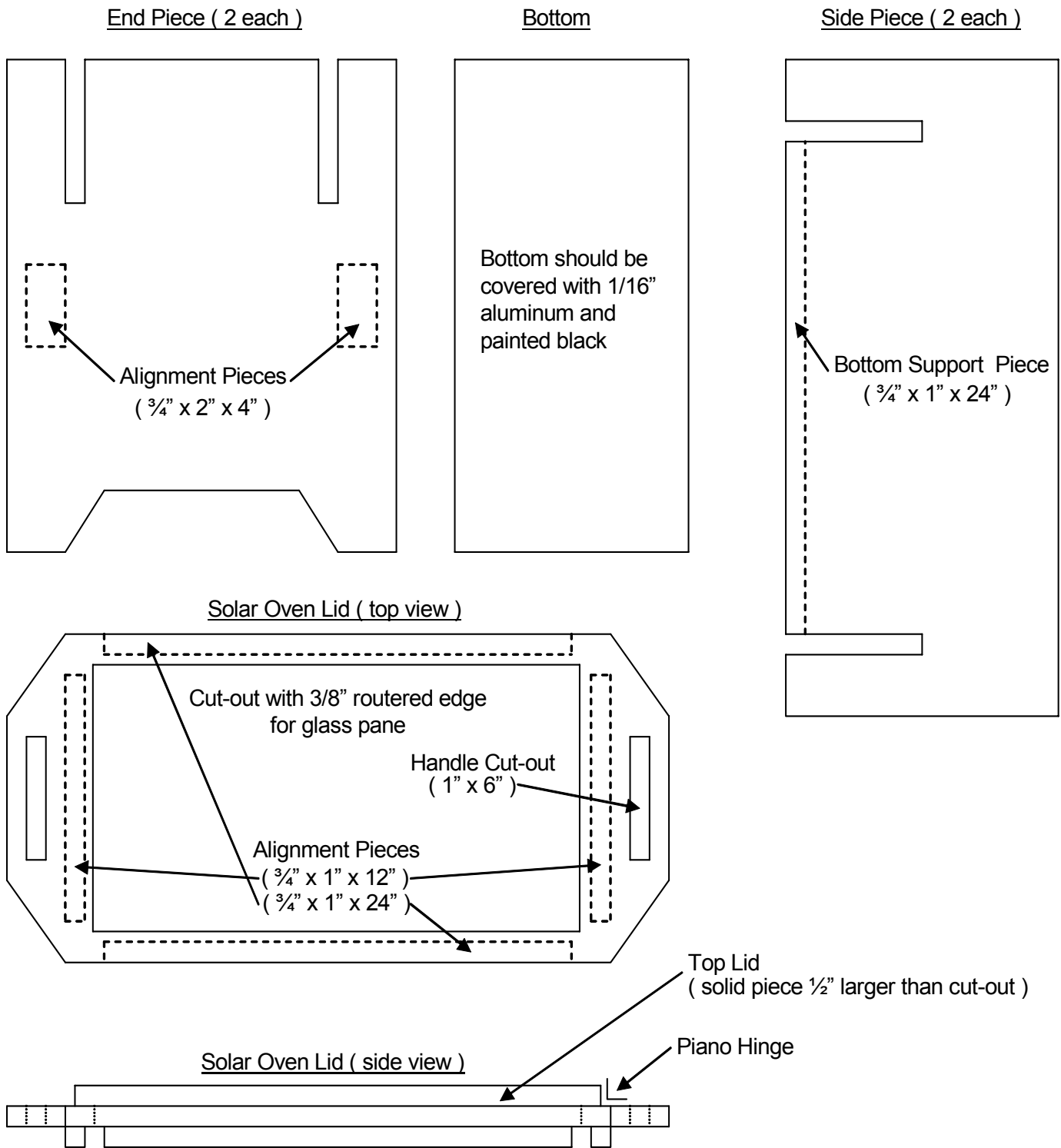
dried beans

beef

So, get the outpost together and make this an outpost project! It will be fun making and using it on your next campout! I hope to see some of these solar ovens in use the next time I camp with you.

Till next time! Camp right and be wise!

Wild Wind



- ✓Top Lid is covered with 1/16" aluminum with shiny side out
- ✓All inside of oven is covered with 1/16" aluminum with shiny side out
- ✓Rubber gaskets can be used where Top Lid fits against top of box for a good seal
- ✓Rubber gaskets can be used where glass fits on Top Lid for a good seal
- ✓Scale is 1/8" = 1" and all lumber is 3/4" plywood

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District Commander .....	Paul Patterson	paul@royalrangers.net
Deputy District Commander .....	Dwain Klopfenstein	dwain.klopfenstein@tccd.net
Deputy District Commander/Missions Coordinator....	Randy Woods	randy.woods@lmco.com
Deputy District Commander .....	Sammy Kellum	longhorn@t-oe.com
Public Relations Coordinator .....	Robert Johnson	rwjohnson3@msn.com
Productions Coordinator .....	Jeff Kersey	jeff@royalrangers.net
Training Coordinator .....	Marty Reese	marty@royalrangers.net
Programs Coordinator/“Signal Fire” Editor .....	Mark Oliver	mark@royalrangers.net
FCF President .....	Gary Bierschwale	gary.bierschwale@verizon.net

**Divisional Commanders:** Robert Johnson-Northwest; Pat Reilly-North; Jody Fauss-Northeast; Ken Farley-Southwest, James Kemp-Southeast; Roger Stewart-West Central; Wayne Word-East Central

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**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 November 21, 2003. Please send your information to: Mark Oliver, 8117 Cloverglan Lane, Ft. Worth, TX 76123-2018 or mark@royalrangers.net.

**North Texas District Council**  
***Royal Rangers Ministry***  
**P.O. Box 1188**  
**Hurst, TX 76053-1188**

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