

NORTH TEXAS DISTRICT SIGNAL FIRE

ntd.royalrangers.net

Jan 2007



Royal Rangers

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

Note from Paul

Commanders;

14 years ago this month, I was presented the duty of being North Texas District, District Commander. At that point I sat in the District office with the staff and said I can't do anything to build this district's Royal Rangers, but we can. In those 13 years we've done a lot. We've built a first class campground recognized as first class around the nation. We have done a lot of things! This year presents some new challenges with the first ever Great Texas Pow-Wow where we're expecting 1500-2000. Effective the 31st of January, I will resign my position as District Commander. You

have built the district, the Lord has allowed me to sit and watch. I love you guys, and I don't use that word loosely. We'll stand behind and along side the new District Commander as he is chosen by the District Office.

In His Service,
Paul Patterson



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How Can You Lose One Shoe?

Many times as I drive through streets and highways in the Metroplex, I see one piece of footwear lying on the shoulder of the road. It can be a boot, a tennis shoe, one high heel shoe or an overshoe. Since shoes come in pairs and I have never seen a foot in one of the shoes, I often wondered, how do you lose one shoe?

As I thought about it, I found several possibilities. Often, passengers will play with other passengers' shoes in a moving car. Then, as a prank, throw one shoe out the window. Some people do not pack properly when they are moving from one residence to another, causing items to become dislodged and fall off the truck. Others may be getting rid of evidence for someone being with them. Reasons could go on forever.

As I considered these reasons, I thought this could have spiritual applications. What are shoes used for? Shoes from sandals to boots are made to give us better mobility and protect our feet from hot sand, rocks, burrs, sticks, broken glass, cactus and other objects that can injure us. If one shoe is missing, we have lost half our mobility and protection. Instead of walking upright, we will be limping.

Ephesians 6:15 states that in order to stand against the wiles of the devil, among other things, our feet must be fitted with the preparation of the gospel of peace. The preparation is being ready to give the gospel to whomever God sets in our path. We must not forget that we must be fully prepared to present the gospel at anytime without advanced notice. We may be asked to give ex-

planations of God's Word. I have experienced on several occasions where someone has come to me at random and asked serious questions concerning God and His Word. We are a messenger whether it is through music, speaking or a weekly Royal Rangers meeting. We must continuously show God's love.

If we lose one of our gospel shoes, we lose the ability to proclaim the gospel. We become a spiritual invalid. We become weak and ineffective. How does this happen? The devil has no power to steal a shoe so he must devise other methods. We may decide to not read the Bible just one night. That goes to the next night and so on until the Bible has no place in our life. We omit daily prayer from our routine. We may try to please others; thus distracting us from closely walking with God. We may be involved in things God says are not right. We hide the Bible to keep from hearing our conscience. Overtime, God is no longer number one in our life.

We don't often lose a shoe by accident. It is through negligence on our part. It is usually by not taking proper care to assure God's Word is predominant. God must always be number one. There is an old saying that rings true: "If God is not Lord of all, He is not Lord at all."

Take care of your shoes!

Randy Woods
District Missions Coordinator



Thank you to all of the commanders and leaders for the honor that was shown at Todd's funeral service. Todd loved Royal Rangers and I thank you for the love that was returned to his family during this time.

Courtney, Christi and I had a good time at Family Days. I would especially like to thank Rodney Briggs, Art & Deborah Sullivan and Gary & Sheri Bierschwale for making our weekend a pleasant experience. Thank you "Prospector" for the bolo tie that

you made for Todd and for the necklaces that you presented to me and the girls.

Thanks for all the prayers that have helped us get through this great loss.

"Because of the Lords great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness." - Lamentations 3:22-23

Sincerely,
Heidi Haddix



Great Texas PowWow

May 31—June 3, 2007

Lakeview Campgrounds



Are you “Ready” to experience a Pow-Wow like you’ve never seen before?

May 31 thru June 3 will bring together for the first time North Texas, South Texas, and West Texas Districts for one awesome event, The Great Texas Pow-Wow. Four days and three nights of fun, fellowship, food, and camp full of Rangers from across the state. The nightly services will challenge you and your boys while the Holy Spirit moves across the pageant site changing lives young and old.

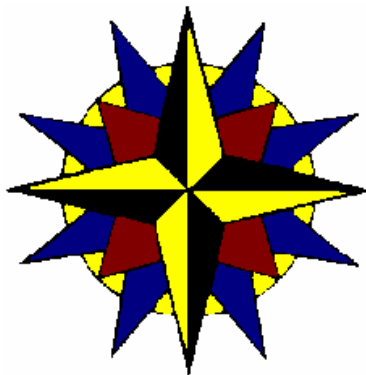
We will be blessed with some of the best speakers during the Pow-Wow that God has called into ministry. Evangelist/Pastor Steve Hill will greet us Thursday evening with a message of salvation and faith. You may re-

member Pastor Steve as the vessel that God used to bring about one of the great revivals of our lifetime, Brownsville. Friday and Saturday, Evangelist Randy Ruiz will bring his dynamic ministry in word and song. Many of you have heard Randy at one of the Regional Conferences or at Camporama 2006. His words and testimony reach out to the boys in easy to understand terms.

The staff of all 3 Districts are working to bring a magnificent event for you and your boys to attend. Please be in prayer for the staff as they continue to work out all the details. More importantly, be in prayer that those in attendance will be changed by the power of the Spirit and that boys, men, outposts and churches will be challenged to a more spirit filled life.



Pastor/Evangelist Steve Hill



Evangelist Randy Ruiz



Great Texas PowWow

May 31—June 3, 2007

Lakeview Campgrounds



Important Information

Cost

The Great Texas Pow-Wow will cost \$55/camper pre-registered. Late registration will be \$75/camper. The registration will cover insurance costs, activity costs, patches, and this year it will cover all meals. Registration is due May 1.

Meals

All meals will be provided for the campers from Thursday evening through Sunday morning. Meals will begin Thursday evening with a pizza meal welcoming you to the camp. The meals will be served in 30 minute intervals.

Activities

Some of the activities available during the daytime: Shooting Sports—Archery, Riflery, Shotgun; Water Sports—Water slides, kayaking, canoeing; Pinewood Derby; FCF Battle re-enactment; Field games; special interest displays; and much, much, more.



FCF

The largest FCF village ever assembled will be gathered from all districts. If you are an FCF member and wish to stay in the village, contact your FCF president. The village will

display trades, have demonstrations, FCF games, and FCF traders will be available.

Campsites

Campsites will be assigned as outposts register. There will be no need for kitchens in the campsites as all meals are provided. Due to the number of campers expected, no kitchens allowed in campsites. An outpost may maintain a cook stove and small supplies for snacks, cleaning, etc. No Chippewa kitchens, no camp trailers, etc. There will also be no open fires. All campsite space will be needed for tent space. Every outpost needs to identify their campsite in some manner, flags, standards, etc.

Miscellaneous Info

- Registration begins at noon Thursday
- Patrol Standard judging Saturday after flag raising
- 60 hour prayer vigil during the entire Pow-Wow
- Concession Stand/Camp Store/T-Shirt sales
- Sunday School classes Sunday Morning
- www.greattexaspowwow.com for info
- Expect the Holy Spirit to change lives



Karla's Koncepts-an idea, a thought, a plan...

NOTICE: Balloon Artist at Work!

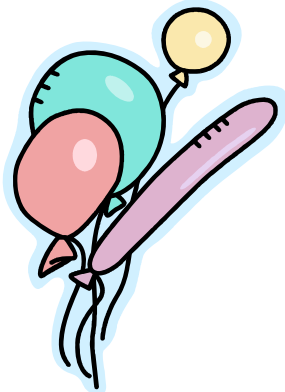
I love teaching, but one component of how I make my living is by building balloon sculptures to decorate events. Through this experience I have made some observations about balloons that you might also find interesting!

~A bag of balloons seems small, but balloons have dynamic potential to change the atmosphere of any event.

~You can take the same balloons, and have either a balloon release or a balloon drop – it all depends on what you fill the balloons with.

~Balloons are kind of hard to control; until you get them “trained” with the proper guidelines and weights, which creates a beautiful, unique sculpture.

~Balloons must be handled with care; otherwise they



can deflate quickly and loudly.

~Balloons bring joy to people and make them feel special. They are a wonderful gift for celebrated occasions.

~Balloons come in many shapes, colors and sizes; but when artfully integrated, they reveal a wonderful mosaic.

*You know - when you really think about it - balloons and **Ranger Kids** have a lot in common!*

~**”Ranger Kids”** are a gift from the Lord. They are a reward from him. Psalms 127:3

Train a **“Ranger Kid”** in the way he should go and he will not depart from it. Proverbs 22:6

Karla Aaron
Ranger Kids Commander Outpost 5
SFW Ranger Kids Coordinator
karla@royalrangers.net

Commanders and Leaders,

2006 has come and gone. It is time again to start seeing if you qualified for any RR medals this year! So take some time and see if you qualified. If so, great. If not, see what you need to do to qualify next year.



These medals are to show the Royal Rangers boys you work with and come in contact with that you are progressing and advancing as a leader. This will make them want to advance too including spiritually since RR advancements involve the spiritual aspects in their requirements!

I know some of you are humbly thinking you don't want any medals, but as I stated up above their purpose is to inspire the boys, not for your bragging rights!

If your uniform hasn't changed in the last 18 months in some small way, what are you not showing your boys? Remember we "Lead by Example."

So take a little time and fill out those applications, even if it only adds an additional numeral to your ribbon/medal. Boys pay attention to those too!

Sincerely,
Commander Kevin Sluder

P.S.- Senior Commanders, be sure to look at the Pastor's Medal application for your pastoral staff. If they qualify and are supporting your Royal Rangers ministry, they deserve one too!



TOUR OF ALASKA HIGHLIGHTS WINTER CAMP!

By Rick Beebe, West Central Division Commander, Photos by Chris Trower

It started with weather that brought images of Alaska! Howling wind and the thermometer taking a nosedive wasn't enough to stop us from starting camp with an awesome council fire! 17 brave young men accepted Jesus Christ and fanned the flames of God's power into their lives!

Saturday brought a genuine tour of Alaska. Boys visited 10 different "cities" of Alaska, gaining hat pins, a free hat, maps, rare collectable postcards, nuggets, and even some rare patches. Along the way, they got to drive remote control trucks, shoot BB-guns, throw knives and hawks, harpoon whales, fish for salmon and pan for gold. The day ended with campers scrambling to pull their sleds in a recreation of the Iditarod! Boys who visited enough cities earned a special patch!

West Central Division was joined by North Central Division and some special visitors from Waco!

In all 125 attended- 78 boys and 47 commanders!



North Division's "Flow Out" Experience at Winter Camp 2006

by Martin Smith, North Divisional Commander

It was everything we hoped for and an answer for what we prayed for. Gorgeous weather, good turnout, great food & fun, and last but not least...a gracious presence of God's Spirit as we honored him through our council fire, games and fellowship. This year's Winter Camp for North Division took place at the southern shore of Lake Texoma. Friday night's council fire was filled with praise and worship, skits from various outposts, and a word in due season from Nick Rogers, Youth Pastor of Harvest Time Assembly of God from Sherman, TX. Pastor Nick shared some good lessons about using the tools the Lord has given to us for His kingdom and His glory.

Saturday morning began with breakfast, pledges and a devotion by Cmdr. Will Townson at the flag pole, and an introduction to 'Clyde' – the prize for the most points collected during the games, shortly to follow.

Oh, Clyde happens to be the full skull of an Arkansas wild bore! Cool! Then the boys built and decorated their own personal sail boats. Strings were attached so they could navigate across part of Lake Texoma during the games.

After lunch and a camp-wide dessert sharing time, the games were afoot. The boys took the opportunity to **Flow Out** in four different game stations. At Station #1, they sharpened their skills at witnessing to the unsaved, praying for the sick, resolving bully problems, and even assisting the elderly. We were im-

pressed at how much the boys knew and were excited about teaching them even more to help them in their quest of becoming fully equipped for the work of the Lord.

Station #2 is where the boys actually got to lash together the foundation, saw the lumber into the building blocks, and then nail the pieces together to form a pretty awesome-looking church structure – complete with a cross to make it official.

After the boys made their contribution to church-building, they took part in a golf-ball tossing game where they "planted churches in one of ten different countries where there is current

A/G missions work underway. From Costa Rica to Russia and beyond, these camping missionaries were planting churches left and right and scoring big for the kingdom. But because we have a faithful God, every ministry finished the course...in one form or another...



North Division's "Flow Out" Experience at Winter Camp 2006

by Martin Smith, North Divisional Commander



Station #3 took us lakeside, where the boys engaged their hand-made water crafts and launched their ministries on the waters of opportunity. After attaching



their boats to the pulley system with a life line, the boys set sail across some 130 feet of treacherous seas. (Remember, it was pretty windy that weekend. ☺) Not only did they have commanders praying for a successful and safe ministry, but they were in full control of the speed at which they progressed. Some started a little too fast, causing their boats to capsize. Others navigated with gradual but determined faith. And as if that weren't enough, the boys experienced

adversity firsthand. A few other boys played the part of the tools of the enemy and chucked rocks at these nautical novices

The boys found out that there really are giants in the land! Nonetheless, they employed their spiritual warfare skills in the form of slings and javelins and took that giant out in true David, the Giant-killer fashion at Station #4. The effort began by skipping three smooth stones across the water. Each skip counted as one toss at the giant. And then the challenge began. Javelins



through the middle and slings around any arm, leg or neck all counted as direct hits against their large but beatable adversary.

As the boys completed the games and other activities during camp, they earned a bead. Once they collected all seven they solved the puzzle by defining each color and were then rewarded with a seven-bead bracelet. Oh, by the way, the top scorer and winner of 'Clyde' was David White from Outpost 108. And to all the boys who attended and the hard-working commanders who helped plan and work this camp, a **BIG THANKS** for making it a successful and blessed event. His very best to you all.

Martin Smith
North Divisional Commander

ACADEMY OF RANGER TRAINING (ART)

By Samuel Kellum, Deputy District Commander



Commanders, remember that the Bible tells us in Proverbs 22:6 to, *“Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it”* (NIV). Because the training we receive influences our lives and the decisions we make now and for the future, allow me to encourage you to embrace every available training opportunity.

Training is an essential component to becoming a qualified leader. That’s why every year we offer all **NEW** Royal Rangers Commanders working with Discovery, Adventure, and Expedition Rangers the opportunity and necessary training tools to reach their potential goals in giving boys a memorable camping experience. Right now, we are finalizing our preparation for our next **“ART”** training event on **February 16 - 17, 2007**.

The **LTA CAMP-OUT Module** is held annually at Lakeview Camp located in Maypearl, Texas as an alternative camp to attending a National Training Camp.

Some important facts to remember for the **LTA CAMP-OUT Module**:

LTA CAMP-OUT PURPOSE – SKILLS – UNIFORM:

- The purpose of this camp is to provide trainees with the basic outdoor skills necessary to safely and effectively take a group of boys on an overnight camping activity
- All classes and activities will only focus on introducing and developing basic camping skills and will not include any material relating to more advanced outdoor skills or the use of the Patrol System
- Camp Cooking, Fire Craft, Tool Craft, and other interesting skills will be taught
- All Trainees must wear the "Class B" Royal Rangers uniform during the Trainee Orientation at 6:00 PM; at the 8:00 AM Morning Assembly, and at the 4:00 PM Afternoon Final Assembly

LTA CAMP-OUT EQUIPMENT

LIST:

• **CLOTHING:**

1 Complete "Class B" Royal Rangers uniform; 1 Royal Rangers T-shirt (traditional style, white with large emblem centered on front); 1 Royal Rangers sweatshirt (for cold weather camps only); 1 pair blue jeans or fatigues; 1 pair camp-type shoes or hiking boots; 1 rain poncho or other rain clothing; Socks and underclothes; Light jacket if needed; Extra clothing as desired

• **PERSONAL ITEMS:**

Sleeping bag or blanket with pillow; Personal hygiene kit (soap, shampoo, comb, toothpaste, toothbrush, deodorant, razor, etc.); Towels and washcloth; Watch (or small portable alarm clock); Small personal mess kit (including plate, cup, bowl, and silverware); Insect repellent; Flashlight with extra batteries; Pocketknife; *Adventures in Camping* handbook; Small Bible or New Testament; Paper and pen; Canteen or water bottle

• **CAMPING GEAR:**

Cooking equipment (utensils, pots, pans, cook stove, dishwashing equipment, etc.); Tent or tents (enough for you or your group which you came with); Lantern, tools (shovel, axe, saw & hammer)



On Saturday, **February 17, 2006**, all **Ranger Kids Commanders** will not want to miss out on the following special training opportunity:

RANGER KIDS SKILLS MODULE

- **PURPOSE** of this Module focuses on the hands-on skills needed to safely take a group of Ranger Kids on a fun and exciting outing; *This Module can be taken in lieu of a Ranger Kids National Training Conference (RKTC)*
- **RECOMMENDED** for Commanders working with Ranger Kids to take before planning any type of extra activity
- **ITEMS** needed to bring: pen, pencil, Royal Rangers Leaders Manual; Optional items: Ranger Kids Leaders Guide, LTA Binder
- **TIME SCHEDULE** - Saturday morning **8:00 AM until 2:45 PM** Saturday afternoon
- **EVERY CLASS SESSION** must be attended; complete Workbook and any hands-on work
- **PRE-REGISTRATION OR AT-CAMP REGISTRATION** covers the cost of Workbook and Lunch; Save money by pre-registration; (*Check the NTD web-site for the latest form.*)

ADVANCED CLASSES:



- **Black Powder Shooters Card:** Registration starts on Friday at 5:00 PM; Class begins at 6:00 PM Friday; Class ends at 4:00 PM Saturday; *For male Commanders & 6th Grade & Up age Boys ONLY*
Note: All participants need to bring own personal shelters to sleep-in
- **Black Powder Instructor's Course:** Registration starts on Friday at 5:00 PM; Class begins at 6:00 PM Friday; Class ends at 4:00 PM Sunday; *For Commanders ONLY*
Note: All participants need to bring own personal shelters to sleep-in
- **PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING BIG CHANGE REGARDING BLACK POWDER SHOOTERS MERIT:** Registration starts on Saturday at 8:00 AM; Class begins at 9:00 AM; Class ends at 4:00 PM Saturday; *For ALL FCF, Royal Rangers Boys, & Royal Rangers Commanders*
 - ◆ **Everyone must bring own personal Black Powder RIFLE, Accessories, and Black Powder**
 - ◆ **Priority given to BOYS first, because this is a boy's merit**
- **First Aid - CPR Course with cards:** Registration starts on Saturday at 8:00 AM; Class begins at 9:00 AM; Class ends at 5:00 PM Saturday; *First Aid Book is required*

OTHER IMPORTANT FACTS TO REMEMBER:

- Only, LTA Camp-Out Module, Ranger Kids Skills Module, and Advanced Training Classes will be taught at ART 2007
- *No over-night camping in the Commanders' Lodge for Advanced Class participants*
- Visit the "NEW" NTD RR web-site <http://ntd.royalrangers.net/> to obtain the Registration Form, and to get the Deadline Date to send the Registration monies to the District Office
- Only Certified Instructors will be teaching at ART
- All Certified Instructors interested in teaching, please contact Samuel Kellum, ASAP at samuel.kellum@royalrangers.net
- NO OTHER MODULE TRAINING will be taught at ART. For other modules, attend the NTD Module Training 2007

Commanders, we look forward to seeing you for this once-a-year training opportunity at **ART 2007**. God bless all of you!

Ready in His service,

Samuel Kellum, Deputy District Commander and ART Coordinator

EXAMINE YOUR LEADERSHIP STYLE, ARE YOU A "BOSS" OR A "LEADER".

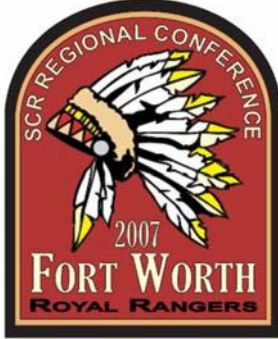
<p>BOSSES AND LEADERS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A BOSS DRIVES. ● A LEADER COACHES. ● A BOSS DEPENDS ON AUTHORITY. ● A LEADER ON GOODWILL. ● A BOSS INSPIRES FEAR. ● A LEADER INSPIRES ENTHUSIASM. ● A BOSS SAYS, "I." ● A LEADER SAYS "WE." 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A BOSS FIXES BLAME. ● A LEADER FIXES PROBLEMS. ● A BOSS KNOWS. ● A LEADER SHOWS. ● A BOSS SAYS, "GO." ● A LEADER SAYS, "LET'S GO!" ● AUTHOR UNKNOWN ● SUBMITTED BY RODNEY BRIGGS
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2007 Regional Training Opportunities



South Central Regional Conference. January 26-27, 2007 is the date for the annual Regional Conference. This conference is for all commanders from across the South Central Region. This year it will be held at Christ Church A/G in Ft. Worth. We have a huge selection of classes to choose from, including three brand new LTA modules. Doug Marsh, director of Royal Rangers International, will be our special speaker during Friday night's service. More information about this conference, and an online registration form, may be found on our web site at scr-royalrangers.org



chance-in-a-life-time trip for them. Our new territorial rep Ted "Oak" Schmidt has many new and exciting things in store for us at this rendezvous, so you won't want to miss it. Further information and registration forms are available on the web at scr-royalrangers.org under FCF.

World Class Outpost Seminar. The World Class Outpost (WCO) Seminar is a brand new training opportunity for commanders. It was first taught to district staff members last March at National Council. This seminar is designed to help your local outpost staff to formulate plans and strategies to improve your Royal Rangers ministry, ultimately striving for "world class" status. This national training event will be held in San Antonio on February 16-17, 2007, and it would be ideal if multiple members of your outpost staff could attend at the same time. The application form and further information may be found at royalrangers.ag.org/training/registration/



Territorial FCF Rendezvous. Every two years FCF members gather from across the territory (region) for a big rendezvous. Our next one is coming up July 18-22, 2007 and will be held high in the mountains just outside Pecos, NM. Start making plans now to bring the young buck members of FCF with you to this rendezvous, as it may be a



National Training Camp. If you are a commander of Discovery, Adventure, or Expedition Rangers and you have not yet attended NTC, you should give serious consideration to attending the next NTC to be held September 13-16, 2007 at Chandler, OK. This camp is designed to place commanders in the shoes of boys, giving you outstanding training in camp craft skills and in leadership. You will experience the patrol method from the boys' perspective.



An application form for this camp may be found on the web at royalrangers.ag.org/training/registration/

Advanced National Training Camp. ANTC is for the commander of Discovery, Adventure, or Expedition Rangers who want to take their training to the next level. After NTC this is an ideal next camp. You will again experience Royal Rangers from the boys' perspective, working together as a patrol. But your projects will be BIGGER. You will receive advanced training in cooking, pioneering, pageantry, orienteering and GPS, survival, and many other topics. The next ANTC that is close to commanders in our region will be held October 25-28, 2007 near Lagrange, TX. You can find an application form for this camp on the web at royalrangers.ag.org/training/registration/



South Central Region Royal Rangers
<http://scr-royalrangers.org/>

National/Regional Staff Changes

Over the past several months there have been a lot of changes that have occurred at the national level in Royal Rangers, and throughout our region as well.

In October Richard Mariott submitted his resignation as the national commander of Royal Rangers, effective the end of 2006. At the same time Mike Laliberty submitted his resignation as the deputy national commander and national training coordinator. Both men had known for several months that their time in the national office was drawing to a close, as they had accomplished what they had gone to Springfield to accomplish. They felt that this was the right time to make the change. If our new national commander has been chosen by the time you receive this newsletter, we need to hold him up in prayer as he makes the transition to the national office and as he selects the deputy national commander/national training coordinator to assist him in this ministry. If he hasn't yet been chosen, then we need to be praying for our national A/G leadership as they go through the process of selecting God's man for this job.

Other changes at the national level include Rick Dostal leaving his position at Camp Eagle Rock and JR Whinery shifting half of his time from the national Royal Rangers office to the Royal Rangers International office which is also in Springfield. Both of these changes have come about just in the normal course of changes at the A/G headquarters.

Effective the end of November 2006 Marvin Lemke stepped down as the first national president of the Royal Rangers Alumni so he can focus more of his time and energy serving as the Okla-

homa district commander. Ronnie Franklin (NTX) has been appointed to serve the rest of Marvin's term as the national RRA president.

On the regional staff there have been four changes in recent months. Ronnie Franklin announced early in the year that his other duties in Royal Rangers would make it difficult for him to continue to serve as the regional missions coordinator, so Randy Woods from NTX was appointed to fill this position. Right after the regional conference in January Bart Garrison stepped down as the regional training coordinator and Trey Mitchell from STX was appointed to that position. In April Mark Oliver resigned as our public relations coordinator and Ted Schmidt (NM) was appointed to fill that position. And in August John Permenter decided it was time to step down as the territorial FCF representative, and Ted Schmidt was appointed to fill that position (giving up the PR position). This new staff will be instrumental in helping to host the 2007 regional conference January 26 and 27 at Christ Church A/G in Ft. Worth.

Within the region there have been four recent changes in district commander. In April Jim Eubanks (OK) resigned so he could travel to China for an extended time with his wife. Marvin Lemke is now the district commander for Oklahoma. In August Pat Patterson (WTX) resigned as the district commander and Troy Young is now serving in that position. And at the end of 2006 Ken Watkins (KS) and Tracy Stambaugh (NM) both stepped down and Keith Fichtner is now serving as the KS district commander and Bart Garrison as the NM district commander.

NORTH TEXAS DISTRICT ROYAL RANGERS TRAINING CORNER

Greetings Commanders, I hope that everyone had a wonderful, and blessed Holidays, now that 2007 is here, we need to make the best of it. Let us look at what is to come in 2007 as far as training.

First the Academy of Ranger Training (ART) February 16 & 17th at Lakeview Camp in Maypearl, TX. This is one of the most exciting camps that you can go to and gain the knowledge and skills to make you a better Royal Rangers Commander. The following is a list of some of the classes that will be offered: LTA Camp-out, Ranger Kids Skill Module, Black Powder Shooters Card, Black Powder Instructors Course, Silver Merit-Black Powder, & First Aid & CPR Course.

Commanders, please make your plans now to attend this exciting camp, and add to your Royal Rangers skill level, please go to the North Texas District Web Site at ntd.royalrangers.net for all the information you will need.

The next training opportunity will be the NTD Module Training Day on April 21st, 2007. We are going to change the format of the Module Training Day a little this year with the addition of more advanced classes that will be offered.

We will still have a Ranger Basics Module for our new commanders, but we will be adding other classes like: FCF Sponsorship Class, FCF Outfits, Advanced Camping, Canoeing Class, Advanced Hiking, Wilderness Survival Class, How to Correctly

run a Royal Rangers Outpost Meeting, & Outpost Fund Raising. Please make your plans to attend by going to the district's web site, and download your application, all information, cost, and location will be on the application, fill it out, and mail it to the district office at P.O. Box 1188, Hurst, Texas 76053-1188. Looking forward to seeing you there.

ATTENTION ALL CERTIFIED INSTRUCTORS

If you are a Certified Instructor with the North Texas District Royal Rangers, you must re-certify in September 2007 if you would like to continue teaching in the district. It has been two years since you have been to an ICS, and everyone must re-certify in 2007. Instructors, please go to the District Web Site, and download the ICS Application, fill it out completely, and mail it to the NTD Training Coordinator;

Roger Stewart
2931 Cripple Creek Trail
Grapevine, Texas 76051

Please make sure you have your applications to the Training Coordinator by the DEADLINE on May 31st 2007, it is very important that you get your application in by the deadline, so you can receive your training packet before ICS. **NO APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER MAY 31st 2007.**

Commanders, let me take this opportunity to thank each of you for the work you do for the boys in your community, this is Gods work, let no soul slip by you.

Roger Stewart
Training Coordinator

FCF Family Days 2006

Reach Out

Once again our FCF Family Days camp was a huge success. We had a tremendous group of members and non-members join us for a great weekend of food, fun, and fellowship. It was such a privilege to have Todd Haddix' wife and daughters there as our special guests. On Friday evening, our traditional Dessert and Craft Items Auction raised over \$3000.00 for the special Royal Rangers fund set up for the Haddix girls.

On Saturday morning after our morning devotion, we had a ladies tea for all the ladies in the camp. This was a nice time for some of our more experienced FCF ladies to get to know our newest members' wives and visiting ladies. We always want our ladies to know how welcome they are in our FCF family and that they are greatly appreciated.

Also, on Saturday, we had games for kids and adults. There was a Scavenger Hunt consisting of over 25

primitive FCF period items with a special bonus item. The winners of the Scavenger Hunt were Courtney and Christy Haddix who not only found all the items in record time, they also managed to get the bonus item which was a Perch from the lake! Congratulations girls!



SHAWNEE TRAIL CHAPTER

FCF BRUSH POPPIN'

March 9 & 10, 2007

Old Fort Parker, Groesbeck, Texas

Calling all Old Timers and Young Bucks!

Brush Poppin' is going to be held at Old Fort Parker this coming March. I would like to encourage all of you to attend as this is going to be a great Brush Poppin'. Young Bucks, this is definitely an event you won't want to miss as this will give the Old Timers an opportunity to really get to know you and bless you.

Events at the Fort will include Flint & Steel, Knife & Hawk, Cooking, and a Blackpowder

Shoot. You will need a partner for these events and your partner must be as follows: a Wilderness or Buckskin member must partner with a Frontiersman member. A Frontiersman can partner with a Young Buck. So work with your partner and brush up on your skills so you can shine at these events.

You can arrive any time Friday and the Fort will open through Sunday.

We will camp just outside the Fort and we will be entering the Fort during the day. The cost for Brush Poppin' is \$20.00 per Old Timer and \$15.00 per Young Buck.

Some History about the Fort and a Map with directions to it are on the website <http://www.oldfortparker.org/home.htm>. Please mark your calendars and don't miss one of the premier events of the year!



We Climbed the Great Wall!

On November 5, Paul Patterson, Gary Bierschwale, Travis Brann and Randy Woods boarded an aircraft to Beijing, China. We went there to climb the Great Wall; not the physical wall around China but the spiritual wall.

Our original plan was to do site work on one of the church buildings near Wuhan but God and the government had other plans. Just before we departed, we were told we would be constructing benches for the churches in Hubei Province. One word that relates to any Pathfinder trip is flexibility.

After more than twenty hours in four airports, we arrived in Beijing, the Chinese capital. By the time we went to bed, we had been awake about thirty hours. Needless to say, the night was very short. We left early the next morning to Wuhan.



Tuesday morning, we arrived at Thanksgiving Church. This building serves as a gathering area, a church, a seminary and a residence hall for the seminary and church leaders in training. The church is currently running about two thousand.

We did our construction work on the first floor.



During the day, singing of gospel songs could be heard throughout the building from the upper floors. Though we could not understand the words, we did recognize the tune and the Spirit.

Pastor Shoo told us there were about six hundred churches but only sixty pastors. The rest had to be led by trained laymen. This pastor is about forty years old and is the oldest pastor in China. In past years, he has been jailed, beaten and harassed for his work for the church. In recent years, the government has been more tolerant. In Wuhan, they are limited but still have more freedom than Beijing.

Paul and I were privileged to bring morning devotions to the construction team which consisted of about sixteen people.

The night before we started construction, we talked with the missionary about the details of the work. He said we were going to assemble a hundred benches. When we asked about getting more material, he laughed and said it would take all week to do these. By Wednesday afternoon, we were basically finished. They then rushed to get more material.



That took a large part of three days.

By Saturday, we received enough material to assemble one hundred eighty five with a few small sub assemblies left over. The missionary said he had never had a team complete as much as we did. North Texas has heard that before.

I feel my job is not complete until I cut myself. I managed to cut my ring finger on one of the saws; so I can truly say I shed my blood over China.

We traveled back to Beijing on Sunday for a few days of site seeing. We toured the Summer Palace, Tiananmen Square, the Forbidden City and the Great Wall. Our guide, Jackie, was well versed in the history of the places we visited. We prayed for him several time. Though he said he did not share our faith, he admitted he did feel the Spirit and was visibly moved by our prayers.

As with most missions projects, we realize how fortunate we are in America to have complete freedom to worship as we please.

Please seriously remember to pray for the pastors, church bodies and missionaries in China that the current freedoms will continue and become even more free.

Remember to pray for Jackie that he will continue to feel God's presence. That may be why we were really there.

Here are our North Texas Heroes:



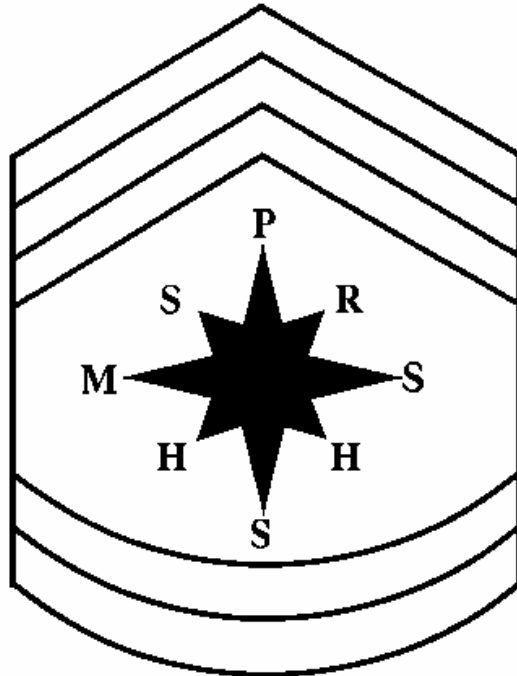
Paul, Randy, Travis, and Gary



And the product of a week's work at Thanksgiving Church.

Randy Woods
NTD Missions Coordinator

North Texas District Sarge Training Academy



June 24 – June 29

Lakeview Camp, Maypearl Texas

DAC, AMC, FBC, JTC, AJTC, JCE

For information and/or forms contact the NTD Office or visit the NTD website:

North Texas District office 817-284-4856

ntd.royalrangers.net

Discovery Adventure Camp (DAC)

Sunday – Wednesday

\$90

DAC is a 3 day camp geared just for the Discovery Ranger age boy who has completed grade 3. This camp gives special emphasis in the following skills: Rope Craft, Fire Craft, Tool Craft, First Aid, Compass, Nature Study, and Cooking. The classes are designed to cover the basic camping skills.

Junior Training Camp

Sunday – Friday

\$125

JTC is a 5 day camp for all Royal Rangers who have completed the 7th grade, and have completed the camping merit. The boy must be a member of an up-to-date chartered outpost. JTC is designed to give boys training in camping and leadership in their local outpost. JTC offers training in these specific areas: The Patrol Method, Rope Craft, Lashing, Nature Study, Tool Craft, Fire Craft, First Aid, Compass, Safety, Camp Layout, Cooking, Sanitation, Soul Winning, Junior Leaders in an Outpost, Council Fires, Model Outpost Meeting, The Advancement Trail, Camp Recreation, Backpacking, and Overnight Backpacking Trips.

Advanced Merits Camp (AMC)

Sunday – Friday

\$125

AMC is a camp designed for the purpose of helping boys earn advanced merits on their way to earning their Gold Medal of Achievement. Each boy can choose from a list of advanced merit classes offered. AMC can be attended by boys who have completed 4th grade and DAC, or have completed the 5th grade. The AMC camp is a relaxed camp that gives emphasis to passing off advanced merits in a low-key atmosphere. Each day is filled with lots of fun and accomplishment.

Frontier Brigade Camp (FBC)

Sunday – Friday

\$125

FBC is a camp designed for the purpose of helping boys earn the Trail of the Grizzly merits on their way to earning their Gold Medal of Achievement. These classes will be taught in an FCF village setting by instructors in FCF outfits, creating a unique atmosphere and learning experience for the boys working on the Trail of the Grizzly merits. FBC can be attended by boys who have completed 6th grade and have previously attended an AMC, or are a current member of FCF. The FBC camp is a relaxed camp that will present each boy with a fun and exciting atmosphere.

Advanced Junior Leadership Training Camp (AJTC)

Sunday – Friday

\$125

AJTC is a 5 day camp for all Royal Rangers having completed the 8th grade who have successfully completed a JTC. Boys interested in this camp will apply for an invitation. Only 16 boys will be invited to attend this camp. AJTC is designed to give boys advanced skills training and more intense leadership training. The following is a list of AJTC classes: Advanced Leadership, How to Teach a Class, Soul Winning, Council Fires, and The 16 Fundamental Truths.

Junior Canoe Expedition (JCE)

Sunday – Friday

\$150

JCE is a 5 day camp for Royal Rangers having completed 8th grade and successfully completed JTC. This course is designed to provide basic instruction in canoeing skills and water safety while traveling and camping on the river. Those participating in JCE will assemble on Sunday at the Lakeview Camp in Maypearl, TX, and will travel for the expedition. Once there, you will enjoy four full days of canoeing down the river, finding the campsite, and experiencing the power of God during nightly services. While on this trip, campers have the opportunity to work on such merits as the Wildlife, Astronomy, Nature Study, and others. Graduation from JCE will be held with the rest of the camps Friday evening at Lakeview Camp.

All participants must be pre-approved to attend this camp, and will be personally interviewed by the Camp Commander and Sarge Training Academy Program Director.

I Love to Be a Royal Ranger

By Commander Martin Smith

This past Spring I was listening to a song by Billy Joel called “We Didn’t Start the Fire.” I wasn’t as impressed with the song as much as the simplicity of the tune and design of the lyrics. Sooo, I thought that a Ranger song with the same basic format would be a neat thing to do. And here it is. Our joint Spring Round-up got a foretaste of it with its four simple chords for verse and chorus alike. Listen to the song, then grab a guitar and strum it out...or just stop by North Division’s Winter Camp and hear the song for yourselves. Share it with your boys and enjoy.

I LOVE TO BE A ROYAL RANGER (G D Em C)

CHORUS:

I love to be a Royal Ranger
Merits I’m earning while the campfires keep burning
I’m proud to be a Royal Ranger
As a Christian I’m living with my heart set on serving



Ranger Kids, Elk Trail, JB Beaver, Golden rule
Physical, Social, Mental, and Spiritual
Red shirts, Bolo ties, Memory verse, BGMC
Outposts, Cougar Trail, Songs & pledges, God & Me

(REPEAT CHORUS)



Discovery, Falcon trail, Campouts, First aid skills
Tool craft, Fire craft, Rope craft, the Grizzly trail
Tan vests, Khaki pants, Ranger code, and Rocketry
Golden Eagle, Pow Wow, God & Family, DAC

(REPEAT CHORUS)



Adventure, Gold & green, Bible merits, Hawk & knife
Powder horn, Bowie knife, Bronze trail, Family life
Ranger cap, Purple tie, shiny buckle, Class A
FCF, JTC, God & Church, my GMA

(REPEAT CHORUS)



Expedition, Air & Sea, Trail Rangers, Ministry
Missions, Discipleship, Evangelism strategy
Adventurer, Masonry, Voyager, Oceanography
Spirit challenge, Pageantry, Speed the Light, Electricity

(REPEAT CHORUS)

North Texas District Twenty Four Hour Prayer Vigil March 9-10, 2007

<u>DAY</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>SECTION</u>
Friday	6:00 to 7:00PM	North Ft. Worth
	7:00 to 8:00PM	South Ft. Worth
	8:00 to 9:00PM	Mid Cities
Saturday	9:00 to 10:00PM	South Dallas
	10:00 to 11:00PM	Waxahachie
	11:00 to 12:00AM	North Dallas
	12:00 to 1:00AM	Texarkana
	1:00 to 2:00AM	Tyler
	2:00 to 3:00AM	Longview
	3:00 to 4:00AM	DC & DDCs
	4:00 to 5:00AM	FCF Officers
	5:00 to 6:00AM	Other Staff
	6:00 to 7:00AM	Trinity Valley
	7:00 to 8:00AM	Lufkin
	8:00 to 9:00AM	Brazos Valley
	9:00 to 10:00AM	Waco
	10:00 to 11:00AM	Austin
	11:00 to 12:00PM	San Angelo
	12:00 to 1:00PM	Wichita Falls
	1:00 to 2:00PM	Cross Timbers
2:00 to 3:00PM	Abilene	
3:00 to 4:00PM	Denton	
4:00 to 5:00PM	Plano	
5:00 to 6:00PM	Greenville	

2007 NTD Calendar

January 5-6 Staff Meeting	May 31-June 3 Great Texas Pow Wow
January 26-27 Regional Conference	June 23 Sarge staff due
February 16-17 Academy of Ranger Training (ART)	June 24-30 Sarge Sellers
March 9-10 FCF Brushpoppin'	August 17-18 FCF Frontier Adventure
March 15-17 National Conference	September 7-8 Instructor Certification Seminar
March 24 Pow Wow work day	September 22 ROTY
April 7 Staff in Training (SIT) camp	October 26-28 FCF Family Days
April 21 Commanders Conference & Awards	November 9-10 Winter camp
May 5 Staff in Training (SIT) camp	December 1 Staff Christmas
May 19 Pow Wow Work day	December 8 FCF Christmas banquet

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

District Commander.....	vacant.....	
Deputy District Commander.....	Dick Harris.....	d-harris@ti.com
District Royal Rangers Alumni (RRA) President.....	Dwain Klopfenstein.....	
Deputy District Commander/Missions Coordinator.....	Randy Woods.....	randy.woods@lmco.com
Productions Coordinator.....	Jeff Kersey.....	jeff@royalrangers.net
Deputy District Commander.....	Sammy Kellum.....	samuel.kellum@royalrangers.net
FCF President.....	Gary Bierschwale.....	gary.bierschwale@verizon.net
Training Coordinator.....	Roger Stewart.....	roger@royalrangers.net
GMAA Coordinator.....	vacant.....	

Divisional Commanders: Robert Johnson-Northwest; Martin Smith-North; Jody Fauss-Northeast; Mark Chapman-Southwest; James Kemp-Southeast; Rick Beebe-West Central; Wayne Word-East Central

FCF Staff: Paul Patterson-Chairman; Gary Bierschwale-President; Art Sullivan-Vice President; Mark Woods-Scribe; vacant-Buckskin Rep; Lee Fogleman-Wilderness Rep; Mark Woods-Trappers Brigade Rep; Mark Horner-Historian; Harlan Dixon-Scout; Josiah Bennett-Asst. Scout; Ethan Groce-Asst. Scout

Sectional Commanders: Jerry Lewis-Abilene; David Kohn-Austin; James Kemp-Brazos Valley; Israel Perez-Cross Timbers; Alan Armentrout-Denton; Lee Fogleman-Greenville; Shane Vestal-Longview; Jimmy Sils-Lufkin; Rod Sanchez-Mid Cities; Dick Harris-North Dallas; Jack Woods-North Ft. Worth; A.P. Warne-Plano; Jerry Lewis-San Angelo; Bruce Wadsworth-South Dallas; Rodney Briggs-South Ft. Worth; Jody Fauss-Texarkana; Roddie McEntire-Trinity Valley; Lindsey Lang-Tyler; Tom Schlipp-Waco; Tim Avrit-Waxahachie; Thomas Watson-Wichita Falls

District Aides: Ronnie Franklin-Communications Coordinator; Scott Stamps-First Aid Officer; Ken Harris-Shooting Sports; Nolen Fox-Security Coordinator; Ron Church-Games Coordinator, ROTY Coordinator-Pat Reilly

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 March 1, 2007. Please send your information to Jeff Kersey at jeff@royalrangers.net.

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

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