

NORTH TEXAS DISTRICT SIGNAL FIRE

ntd.royalrangers.net

March 2009

FIRST NORTH TEXAS ROYAL RANGERS Saber Recipients



ROYAL RANGERS

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

Inside This Edition

Page 3	2009 District Calendar
Page 4-6	North Texas District Junior Leadership Training Academy
Page 7	Karla's Koncepts Flying By the Seat of Your Pants... District Ranger Kids Day Camp
Page 8-9	North Texas District Thirty Five Hour Prayer Vigil Sectional Schedule
Page 10	Junior Missions Camp
Page 11	2009 District Pow Wow
Page 12	2008 District Winter Camp an Absolute Blowout
Page 13	North Texas District Training Corner
Page 14	Why Charter?
Page 15	2008 Ranger of the Year Results 2009 FCF Brush Poppin
Page 16	Buckskin Advancement
Page 17	Trail of the Saber/Trail of the Tomahawk
Page 18	National Ranger of the Year
Page 19	NTX RR Annual Report
Page 20	Ask the District Commander Pow Wow/Camp Work Day
Page 21	2009 FCF Territorial Rendezvous

2009 District Royal Rangers Calendar

March	19-21 28	National Council—Springfield Pow Wow/Camp Work Day—Lakeview
April	3-4 24-26	FCF Adventure—Lakeview Pow Wow—Lakeview
May	2 16	Junior Academy (for JLTA staff)—Lakeview Commanders Conference
June	6 7-12 7-11	JLTA Staff reports to Lakeview Junior Leadership Training Academy—Lakeview North Texas District Council—SAGU
July	14-17	Territorial FCF Rendezvous—New Mexico
September	11-12 26	Academy of Ranger Training—Lakeview District Ranger Kids Field Day
October	2-3 5-11 23-25	Commanders Retreat National Royal Rangers Week FCF Family Days—Lakeview
November	13-15	Winter Camp—Lakeview
December	12	FCF Banquet



North Texas Junior Leadership Training Academy



June 7 – 12, 2009



Discovery Training Camp (DTC) - Sunday - Wednesday

DTC is a 3 day camp for the Discovery Ranger who is at least 9 years old and completed 3rd grade. The purpose of DTC is to train and prepare Discovery Ranger boys for leadership roles in the local outpost. To learn the importance of the patrol system and how they, as leaders, can promote the outpost and an esprit de corps among boys. This camp gives special emphasis in the basic camping and camp craft skills.



Academy Merit Camp (AMC) - Sunday - Friday

AMC is a 5 day camp for boys who are 10 years old and completed DTC, or are 11 years or older. 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.



Adventure Training Camp (ATC) - Sunday - Friday

ATC is a 5 day camp for Adventure Rangers who are at least 11 years old, or have completed the 5th grade. Boys will learn to camp in a basic "outpost" setting, working as patrols, sharing duties and responsibilities. Focus merits include: Camp Safety, Cooking, First Aid Skills, Fire Craft, Rope Craft, and Tool Craft. Each day is filled with exciting classes and balanced with recreation.



Frontier Brigade Camp (FBC) - Sunday - Friday

FBC is a 5 day camp for boys who are at least 12 years old, or have completed 6th grade. FBC is a camp designed to generate a learning environment that challenges boys to learn, excites boys about FCF, and brings a spiritual emphasis of personal growth. Classes will be taught in an FCF Village setting by instructors in FCF outfits, creating a unique atmosphere and learning experience for the boys. The FBC camp will present each boy with a fun and exciting atmosphere.



Junior Training Camp (JTC) - Sunday - Friday

JTC is a 5 day camp for Royal Rangers who are at least 13 years old, or have completed the 7th grade. JTC is designed to give boys training in camping and leadership in their local outpost. JTC trains boys in these specific areas: The Patrol Method, Cooking, Lashing, Nature Study, Compass, Camp Safety, Soul Winning, Junior Leadership, Council Fires, Camp Recreation, and Overnight Backpacking Trips. Boys will work in patrols to accomplish each day's activities and guided recreation designed to build leadership skills which can be applied in their outpost.



Advanced Junior Leadership Training Camp (AJTC) - Sunday - Friday

AJTC is a 5 day camp for Royal Rangers who are at least 14 years old or have completed the 8th grade and who have successfully completed JTC. AJTC is designed to give boys advanced skills training and build on the leadership training of JTC. Key areas of focus: Advanced Leadership, Soul Winning, Conducting Council Fires, Orienteering, Pioneering, and The 16 Fundamental Truths.



Junior Canoeing Expedition (JCE) - Sunday - Friday

JCE is a 5 day camp for Royal Rangers having completed 9th grade and successfully completed AJTC. Those participating in JCE will assemble on Sunday at the Lakeview Camp in Maypearl, TX, and will travel for the expedition. Graduation from JCE will be held with the rest of the camps Friday evening at Lakeview Camp. Due to the physically strenuous nature of JCE all participants must be pre-approved to attend this camp.

North Texas Junior Leadership Training Academy

June 7-12, 2009

Lakeview Camp, Maypearl, TX

To register to participate in one of the camps in the North Texas Junior Leadership Training Academy (JLTA), you need to complete both sides of this registration form and both sides of the attached medical information/release form. There are multiple places for parents/guardians to sign. Applications postmarked on or before April 24, 2009, will receive a \$25 discount on the total camp fee. Also, there is an additional \$10 discount available to members of chartered outposts.

The price includes camp meals, special beret or ball cap, camp patches, three camp t-shirts, insurance, activities, merit patches, transportation (depending on camp and merits chosen) and much more.

The camps offered this summer in the North Texas JLTA, and the camp fees, are:

Mark Camp Attending	Camp	Dates	Pre-Requisites	Camp Fee	Pre-registration Discount ¹	Charter Discount	Pre-registration Fee
	Discovery Training Camp	June 7-10	9 years old or completed 3 rd grade	\$135	\$25	\$10	\$50
	Academy Merits Camp	June 7-12	11 years old or have completed the 4 th grade and attended DTC	\$190	\$25	\$10	\$75
	Adventure Training Camp	June 7-12	Adventure Ranger or 11 years old and completed the 5 th grade	\$190	\$25	\$10	\$75
	Frontier Brigade Camp	June 7-12	12 years old or completed the 6 th grade	\$195	\$25	\$10	\$75
	Junior Training Camp	June 7-12	13 years old or completed the 7 th grade	\$190	\$25	\$10	\$75
	Advanced Junior Training Camp	June 7-12	Completed JTC and 14 years old or completed the 8 th grade	\$190	\$25	\$10	\$75
	Junior Canoe Expedition	June 7-12	Completed AJTC and the 9 th grade	\$240	\$25	\$10	\$100

Name _____ Age _____ Last Grade Completed _____

Home Address _____
 (Street) (City) (State) (Zip)

Circle your t-shirt size – Youth Size S M L Adult Size S M L XL XXL

¹If application is postmarked by April 24th. After April 24th, the full camp fee will be due.

Mail this application, along with your pre-registration fee payable to North Texas Royal Rangers, to:
 North Texas Royal Rangers, PO Box 1188, Hurst, TX 76053-1188

Home Phone _____ Mom's Cell _____ Dad's Cell _____

E-mail Address² _____

Church Name _____ Outpost Number _____ District _____

To be signed by applicant: I agree to abide by the rules and regulations of the North Texas JLTA, and will follow the instructions of the staff at all times.

Signature _____ Date _____

Because of the limits on the size of some of these camps, and the costs we incur setting up the camps, a pre-registration fee must accompany this application. This fee will be applied toward the total camp fee that will be due at the beginning of camp. The pre-registration fee is not refundable, but is transferable, if notification is given by phone or mail no later than two weeks prior to camp. You may call the North Texas Royal Rangers at 817-284-4856.

Parental Release

My son (or legal ward) _____ has my permission to attend the North Texas District Junior Leadership Training Academy at Lakeview Camp in Maypearl, Texas. I understand that he is expected to abide by the rules and regulations of the North Texas JLTA and to obey and follow the instructions of the staff at all times. Serious, unresolved disciplinary problems could result in his early dismissal from camp.

I am also aware that my son, if he is involved in the Junior Canoe Expedition, or if he signs up for certain merits in the Academy Merits Camp that require travel to alternative locations, will be transported by the Academy staff to those locations, and by registering my son for that camp or those merits I give permission to the North Texas JLTA staff to provide transportation for my son to those activities.

During the course of the JLTA, numerous photos will be taken by individual staff members and our official camp photographer. These photos will not be used in any way that would individually identify any of the participants in the photos. I give permission for my son to appear in photographs from this camp that do not individually identify him as a participant in the JLTA. This permission extends to any possible publication of the photos in Royal Rangers publications or on the North Texas Royal Rangers web site, or in promotional materials for future JLTA camps.

Name of Parent or Guardian _____

Relationship to Ranger _____

Signature _____

²Parent's e-mail address is preferred; if you are under 13 years old, only give a parent's e-mail address.

Mail this application, along with your pre-registration fee payable to North Texas Royal Rangers, to:
North Texas Royal Rangers, PO Box 1188, Hurst, TX 76053-1188

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

FLYING BY THE SEAT OF YOUR PANTS!

It had been a week full of distractions and I really wasn't ready for Ranger Kids class, but there I was. On top of that, even my most serious kid was jumping off the furniture! I quickly harness the energy into playing Bible story charades.

The last scene they act out is the story of Noah building an ark. I decide that's a good story and launch into the drama, emphasizing how Noah obeyed God and was saved; and how the people rejected him and made fun of him and were lost. As I tell it, the children interject their questions along the way.

"Did it really rain 40 days?" Yes! "Did they really take all those animals on the boat?" Yes! "Did God tell the animals to go on the boat?" Yes!

I throw out the answers as I go and then transition into how the story correlates to our lives today. It was then I realized my most serious student was no longer jumping off furniture – he has his head in his arms sobbing! I try to comfort him as I struggle to keep the story going at its most important spiritual application point, my mind racing to figure out what I said to put him in tears.

"Did those people really die?" Yes! "Are we all going to

die?" Yes!

I have taught myself the lesson tonight. There is a vast difference in "Seizing the Moment" under the anointing of the Holy Spirit and "Flying by the Seat of Your Pants!"

Karla Aaron
District Ranger Kid Coordinator

I pray that "my mouth will speak words of wisdom; the utterance from my heart will give understanding" (Psalms 49:3) "Lord, reach out your hand and touch my mouth and say to me, "Now, I have put my words in your mouth. (Jeremiah 1:9)

Fun Facts:

"Flying by the seat of your pants" means to do or take action without a plan, to go by feel, to make decisions in the moment. This phrase dates from the early years of aviation when airplanes had few navigational aids. The pilots relied greatly upon their own experience, intuition and senses to gauge the plane's position and performance. With the seat being the largest point of contact between the pilot and the plane, it was from the seat of his pants that the pilot could feel how the airplane was reacting to his controls and how well the engine was operating.

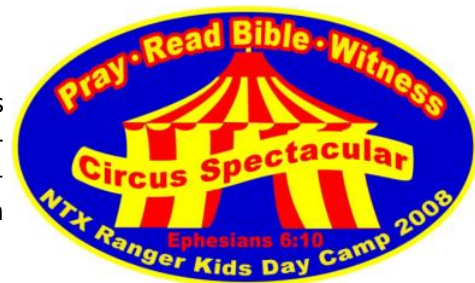
SPECTACULAR RANGER KID DAY CAMP!

So, have you ever asked yourself why we don't have a District Ranger Kid Day Camp?

Well, after about a decade of not doing it - we did it! CIRCUS SPECTACULAR was attended by over 300 Ranger Kids, commanders and parents. They enjoyed circus activities, midway games, an exotic petting zoo, tram rides, an airsoft shooting gallery and a Finale Circus that included Hobo the Monkey, Daring Dan magic and unicycles, the Diablo yo yos, and a human cannonball!

Whether you missed it or enjoyed it – get ready this year for WILD WEST SPECTACULAR! Make plans now to bring all your Ranger Kids so they can enjoy this exciting event planned just for them. A combination of Old West, Wild West, and Rodeo activities are in the works. Activities that let them shoot, rope, race, prospect for gold, compete and just be boys! Lunch, crafts, concessions and devotions are included. But hang around, you don't want to miss the Finale!

Have ideas, skills, items of interest, questions? karla@royalrangers.net



35 Hour Prayer Vigil Pow Wow 2009

On April 24 - 26 during the North Texas District Pow Wow, we will be conducting a 35-hour prayer vigil. Our goal is to have prayer in progress the entire time that the boys are at the camp from 7:00PM Friday through 6:00AM Sunday. The salvation and safety of the boys and leaders may depend upon your participation. You may be the one to reach God at the right time for a boy to accept Him.

There will be a designated area set aside for continual, uninterrupted prayer for the duration of the Pow Wow. Each section has a specific time assigned and will be provided with a copy of the agenda. If you think you cannot pray for an hour, try the agenda. If you follow it, you may there longer.

Commanders, bring your boys to prayer time. **Mentor them; Train them to be "A Threat to the Kingdom of Darkness"!** Over 1,000 men and boys in prayer will

bring down some strongholds.

Prayer is a priority during the Pow Wow. Pray especially at your time designated but also be in continual prayer. Remember you are speaking to and listen to God Himself during this time. He is your best friend and loves to hear from you.

Those who participate will receive favor and a blessing from God for the sacrifice of time, energy and, in some cases, sleep.

A copy of the schedule is included below. If you have any questions, contact your sectional commander or me.

Randy Woods
North Texas District
Royal Ranger Missions Coordinator

North Texas District Thirty-five Hour Prayer Vigil Section Schedule

Friday, 24 April 2009

Brazos Valley Section	7:00PM to 8:40PM
Waco Section	8:40PM to 10:20PM
Austin Section	10:20PM to 12:00AM

Saturday, 25 April 2009

San Angelo Section	12:00AM to 1:40AM
Wichita Falls Section	1:40AM to 3:20AM
Cross Timbers Section	3:20AM to 5:00AM
Abilene Section	5:00AM to 6:40AM
Denton Section	6:40AM to 8:20AM
Plano Section	8:20AM to 10:00AM
Greenville Section	10:00AM to 11:40AM
North Ft. Worth Section	11:40AM to 1:20PM
South Ft. Worth Section	1:20PM to 3:00PM
Mid Cities Section	3:00PM to 4:40PM
South Dallas Section	4:40PM to 6:20PM
Waxahachie Section	6:20PM to 8:00PM
North Dallas Section	8:00PM to 9:40PM
Texarkana Section	9:40PM to 11:20PM
Tyler Section	11:20PM to 1:00AM

Sunday, 26 April 2009

Longview Section	1:00AM to 2:40AM
Trinity Valley Section	2:40AM to 4:20AM
Lufkin Section	4:20AM to 6:00AM

2009 Prayer Vigil Agenda

Cum time

- 10 I. Meditation (10 Minutes)**
Plan of Salvation given in RR handbooks
God's unwillingness that any should be lost
God's Word will not return void
God inhabit the praises of His people
Be clean before God as you continue to approach Him
- 40 II. Prayer Focus (30 Minutes)**
Pray for the A/G district officials.
Pray for the district commander and district staff.
Pray for the divisional commanders.
Pray for the sectional commanders and section staff.
Pray for the area commanders.
Pray for Pow Wow staff.
Pray for the Pow Wow pageants and musicians
Pray for a greater number of men and boys who will receive salvation and the Holy Spirit or rededicate themselves.
Pray for safety at: Brush Poppin', Sectional Round-Ups, Pow Wow, FCF Adventure, Day Camp, Family Days, Winter Camp and other RR activities.
Pray for the Royal Rangers building program at Lakeview.
- 65 III. Personal Prayer Time (25 Minutes)**
That you will have the faith to believe that God will reach more boys this year than ever before
That you will have faith and commitment to **participate** in reaching, teaching and keeping boys for Christ
For unity in leadership and direction for the district
A personal **commitment** to reach boys
- 80 IV. Prayer for the boys (15 Minutes)**
Pray for the moving of the Holy Spirit.
Pray for a Godly response to the skits and participants.
Pray for the musicians.
Pray for the speakers.
Pray for the young men to be touched in the way God desires.
Pray for commanders to respond in a way God desires.
- 90 V. Prayer Requests (10 Minutes)**
Many will have unwritten and unspoken prayer requests during this time. Please pray for those at this time.
Pray that you will become or will continue to be a threat to the Kingdom of Darkness.
- 100 VI. Praise (10 Minutes)**
Thank God for victory over Satan and any hindrance he might bring against Royal Rangers.
Praise God for what He is doing in the district to reach boys in 2009.
Praise God for allowing you to participate in this outreach.

Your time is complete. Thank you for your participation. You may quit or continue to pray as God leads.

JUNIOR MISSIONS CAMP December 28, 2008, to January 2, 2009



Eleven young men – 10 from North Texas and 1 from South Texas – spent the week after Christmas attending the first Junior Missions Camp hosted by the North Texas Royal Rangers. The objective of this camp was to prepare young men for their decision to participate, and to be ready for their participation in a missions trip. Through

hands-on projects, merit work, and conversations with missionaries and 15 different Royal Rangers leaders who have been involved in various missions projects over the years the Rangers gained a thorough understanding of what missions work entails. Outstanding council fire services were held nightly, and the Holy Spirit moved in the lives and hearts of these Rangers during these services.



All of the Rangers at the camp completed the following merits: 16 Fundamental Truths, Preparing to Win, Carpentry, Electricity, and Puppeteer.



At the conclusion of camp the graduation ceremony was held. This was the fifth training camp in the Junior Leadership Training Academy (JLTA) for three of the young men – Joshua Husketh, David Woodbury, and Matthew



Tompkins – and all three of the qualified to earn the JLTA saber. All three Rangers were first exposed to the Academy saber at a national JLTA camp in 2003, and they set their goal to earn the saber for themselves. Each Ranger was presented their saber in a special ceremony at the conclusion of the graduation ceremony.



2009 North Texas District Pow Wow

April 24 – 26, 2009



BE TRANSFORMED!

That's the theme for the 2009 North Texas District Pow Wow. With the praise band from Praise Temple A/G in Waco and special speaker Ryan Beaty, National Programs and Outreach Coordinator, this year's Pow Wow promises to be one of the highlights of the year. Ryan is a GMA, and grew up in south Texas.

What does it mean to be transformed? Is it the same as these giant transformers I see in cartoons? Ryan will share from his heart God's vision for us to be transformed.

Games for Pow Wow will be a great deal of fun. We will have:

- Water Balloon Launch – see if you can hit the giant transformer with a water balloon.
- RC Race cars – Race the track with RC cars for the best track time.
- Dodge Ball – This is a favorite that we have done before but this year it will be done by Groups.
- Paintball activities, including 5-on-5 competition for Adventure and Expedition Rangers
- Shooting sports — shot gun, .22, and archery
- BMX bike races
- Skateboarding
- Canoeing and kayaking for Adventure and Expedition Rangers
- Cardboard boat races for all
- FCF-style activities in the FCF village

Stop by the concession stand, where Gary "Wild Wind" Bierschwale and his crew will serve you up a funnel cake, nachos, or any number of exciting items! We have seen the concession grow in size and quality over the last few years.

As you arrive Friday night, we will have pizza waiting for you for dinner! Expect another great round of meals to be catered in from across the lake.

This year's FCF Village promises to be one of the best ever! Visit Art "Flintlock" Sullivan and the gang to step back in time where trapping and hunting are a way of life. Frontier games rule the day!

Special hat pins will be handed out for participation in games and various activities. The more you do, the more you earn.

See the Pow-Wow packet for full details at <http://ntd.royalrangers.net>

2008 Winter Camp an absolute blowout!



When our public relations coordinator asked me to write about winter camp, one word came to mind....UNBELIEVEABLE! It was a cool night in registration. The truth be told, we were already a bit nervous about attendance projections. Our initial numbers had us set at last minute in the 340 range. We had patches for up to 400. Normally, that would have been fine, but we were getting some last minute word on a few more outposts, pushing out numbers up to 370-380. That didn't leave much room for walk-ins. We simply were not prepared for our final numbers- 554!!!!

Those who came were blessed. I, myself, was healed of a major back issue that had left the doctors stymied. Great music. Great worship and prayer time. Many were saved and filled with Holy Spirit!

FCF put together a great village! In addition, Gary Bierschwale and the concession crew kept the funnel cakes flowing! If you didn't have powdered sugar spilled on you somewhere, you obviously didn't come to camp.

Winter Camp games were great with David and Goliath sling shot game. We had wrist rockets and Blow Gun target shoot. The boys enjoyed javelin and football throw as well as an obstacle course. The weather was great for all the games on the parade field.

Rick Beebe



NORTH TEXAS DISTRICT ROYAL RANGERS TRAINING CORNER

I encourage every commander to continue to build on your skills and experiences with additional training each year. If you have not earned your Leader's Medal of Achievement (LMA) I encourage you to set this as a goal for the coming year. 2009 is the last year you will be able to earn your LMA, as it will be replaced in 2010 by the leader's Medal of Excellence. Most of the training classes offered during the year are coordinated by the sections. Many of these opportunities are broadcast on the NTD email list. Also many Sections have communication lists. I encourage you to tap into these communication opportunities.

Dick Harris
District Training Coordinator

NATIONAL TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Details and applications for National Training events are available on the National Royal Rangers website:
<http://royalrangers.ag.org/training/index.cfm>



NTC 7/8/09 – 7/12/09 Chandler, Oklahoma

National Training Camp is designed to give leaders professional training in camping and leadership, plus the opportunity of outstanding fellowship and adventure in the outdoors. 2009 will be the last year that NTC is offered. Starting in 2010 it will be replaced by the National Rangers Ministry Camp.



ANTC 11/5/09-11/8/09 Maypearl, Texas (Lakeview Campgrounds)

Advanced National Training Camp is designed to provide Royal Rangers leaders with additional training beyond that offered at the National Training Camp and will help inspire leaders to greater involvement in the Royal Rangers ministry. A leader must have attended National Training Camp before enrolling. This will be the last ANTC ever offered anywhere. If you have been holding off attending ANTC, don't wait any longer.



RKTC 10/2/09 – 10/4/09 Ruidoso, New Mexico

Ranger Kids Training Conference is designed to give leaders training in various techniques and methods of leadership. Leaders will also receive training in various aspects of the Ranger Kids ministries.



NTT 12/3/09-12/6/09 Salt Flat, Texas

National Training Trails allows leaders to participate in outstanding, rugged outdoor activities surrounded by some of America's most beautiful scenery. Leaders will be on the trail 4 exciting days, carrying all their gear and food in backpacks.

Why Charter?

Chartering is the annual process of registering your outpost with the district and national offices, and of financially supporting these two areas. The charter year in North Texas runs from October to September. Every church should recharter during the month of October.

Charter packages were sent to every church in the district, and to every senior commander in our database, in mid-August 2008. If you did not receive your charter packet, you can request one from our [district commander \(jonathan@royalrangers.net\)](mailto:jonathan@royalrangers.net) or on the [Chartering page](#) of the North Texas District web site (<http://ntd.royalrangers.net>). If you need forms, or if you prefer to fill them out electronically, you will find links to the forms on this page also.

Completed charter applications were due by October 31. If your form is mailed after that date, it is subject to a \$25 late fee.

You may ask "**why charter?**" Here are four reasons for chartering:

- 1. Discounts.** Every district-level Royal Rangers event will provide a discount to chartered leaders and boys. For example, chartered outposts that attend the District Pow Wow this April will receive a \$10 per person discount on their registration fee. Many sections will begin offering similar discounts for sectional events. In addition, the national Royal Rangers ministry will soon be providing discounts; look for details in the near future.
- 2. Participation.** In order for leaders to receive their annual leaders service awards your outpost must be chartered.
- 3. Participation, part two.** This is one of those intangible benefits to most outposts. Chartering is a main source of financial support for both the district and national Royal Rangers offices. Often commanders wonder why the district or national office can't do more. The answer is frequently because it takes money to do more, and if outposts don't charter, or don't charter everyone, there are limited financial resources available to help further this ministry throughout the North Texas District and across the country. Charter funds are a major source of funds for the national Royal Rangers ministry.
- 4. Publications.** The district maintains a mailing list of chartered leaders, and several different mailings are sent each year, including the Pow Wow packet and notices about publications like this Signal Fire. In addition, the national office will soon be mailing the first issues of *Rangers Now*, the new publication that replaces the High Adventure magazine. As of the last weekend in February the *Rangers Now* are off the presses at GPH and being prepared for mailing. Outposts will also receive the first of what is to become an annual media kit with videos, PPT templates, and graphics for posters, letterhead, business cards, and more.

2008 District Ranger of the Year Results

<u>Name</u>	<u>Outpost</u>	<u>Section</u>	<u>Age Group</u>	<u>Standing</u>
Joel Abraham	65	Austin	DR	Excellent
Jonathan Foster	108	Denton	DR	Excellent
Isaac Carbajal	55	South Fort Worth	AR	Participant
Timothy Foster	108	Denton	AR	Outstanding
Caleb Saucedo	65	Austin	AR	Participant
Joey Trevino	412	Wichita Falls	AR	Excellent
Steven Outland	336	Brazos Valley	ER	Participant
Spencer Phinney	65	Austin	ER	Outstanding
Stephen Warne	65	Austin	ER	Outstanding

2009 FCF Brush Poppin'

Brush Poppin' 2009 was a great success. We had over 90 people in attendance with the best showing of Young Bucks in recent years.

This year's Brush Poppin' occurred at Fort Vision on the property of That Church in Corsicana. The theme for Brush Poppin' was "Coming Home." We had a great time in our evening services and morning devotion where God moved during our times of praise and worship and also spoke through His word and the speakers.

During the day on Saturday, Young Bucks and Old Timers were able to compete in several different frontiersman skills. The results of these competitions are available on our chapter FCF web site which is found at <http://fcf.ntxrr.org>

We had our annual business meeting on Saturday evening. During the meeting, Art "Flintlock" Sullivan talked about the different items that FCF has purchased or acquired throughout the last year. FCF members are encouraged to attend the district Pow Wow Work Day on March 28. As a result of a trade the chapter made for a marquee tent, we have a Trapper's Brigade work day at Mark Wood's house to get it painted and fixed up on April 18. Then FCF members are encouraged to help make a large FCF village at District Pow Wow, April 24-26.

If you didn't make the 2009 Brush Poppin' you missed a great camp. There will be other great FCF camps this year, including the territorial rendezvous (more on this later in this newsletter) and the FCF Family Camp in October. Make plans now to attend these camps, and plan on bringing some Young Bucks with you.

Buckskin Advancement

Lis'n up all you Tenderfoot Frontiersman! it be time to become bonified Buckskin members!

Last I herd there was an accident at the frontiersmen forever meetin' place. Apparently somin' dirnt know that black powder don't like the smoke house ? So you see the club well boom!! So my suggestn is to become Buckskin members!!

Now ya need some o them there merits first an that aint no hard thin' just getum done.

Red church merit.....Hawk an Knife.....Black powder or Archery.

Ya need ta partiapate in one Adventure (besides the one ya got in with).

Ya gonna need a trade an a outfit.

Ya need ta know from yer head the FCF pledge an know the meanin' o the FCF symbol an recite those FCF purposes.

Gotta have a FCF name an mark to go with it, as well as one o those id staffs

After that ya need to be a member in good standin' and complete the workbook I send ya.

Young bucks yer gonna need a Bronze medal or 1 expedition ranger medal.

Old Timers yer gonna need to sponser a boy in ta FCF an earn yer LMA.

First things first ya gonna need one o' them there sponsors now ifin' ya dont have one dont ya go panicin' just yet you just send me a lil cyber smok sinal and me 'in my parners il fin ya one. Next ya need ta fill out a lil parchement application wich we will send ya. Return that there to me via that cyber smok an I'll get ya that there much needed Buckskin workbook.It will walk ya though the test an all.

Now before ya go sayin' " I just wana stay a fronteirsman I don't need any of that there buckskin rankin stuff" Let me tell ya a little bit about that there membership in FCF. One o' those there need to know purposes of FCF, is an I quote:

" To emphasize the importance of involvement in the advancement program, development of campcraft skills, and completion of the leadership training programs"

So stop fer a minut an get yer sponsor fill out yer application and gett'er done.

I hope ta hear from all you frontiersmen an yer sponsors soon so ya can join us all at the Buckskin cerimony....

Thank you all

Ron "Pure Heart" Goodnow

903-874-6904

7goodies@airmail.net

Trail of the Saber/Trail of the Tomahawk

On the cover of this Signal Fire is a photo of the first three Rangers from North Texas to earn the JLTA saber in the NTX JLTA. They each set the goal years ago to earn this honor, and when they completed the Junior Missions Camp in early January they completed the final requirement to earn their coveted saber. It is our goal in North Texas to see many more Rangers earn this honor over time.



To earn the Academy Saber requires completion of five JLTA training camps and a minimum of 25 Spirit Challenge lessons. The JLTA camps for the saber begin with Junior Training Camp (JTC) and Advanced Junior Training Camp (AJTC). After that, the Rangers can complete any three elective camps from a pretty long list of camps: Junior Survival Camp, Junior Training Trails, Junior Canoe Expedition, Junior Missions Camp, and Elite Junior Leadership Camp.

Sabers will be presented to those who earn them at the end of their fifth training camp. An application for the saber is available on the district website at <http://ntd.royalrangers.net>

Starting this summer we will also be honoring boys who complete the Trail to the Tomahawk. This new award is for boys who complete three specific training camps: Discovery Training Camp (DAC will count if the Ranger has already completed it), Frontier Brigade Camp, and Adventure Training Camp. We will be presenting these ceremonial tomahawks during the JLTA graduation ceremony in June. There is an application for the Tomahawk presentation on the district website at <http://ntd.royalrangers.net> that needs to be completed before the tomahawk can be presented.



National Ranger of the Year

In January three Royal Rangers from North Texas attended the regional conference and competed in the regional Ranger of the Year competition. All three represented our region well. Once all the scores were tallied the results were announced. They were:

Adventure Rangers	First Runner-up	Joey Trevino	Wichita Falls Section
Expedition Rangers	Second Runner-up	Stephen Warne	Austin Section
Expedition Rangers	National Ranger of the Year	Spencer Phinney	Austin Section

Congratulations to all three of these Rangers on their accomplishments in the Ranger of the Year program.



2007-08 National Ranger of the Year Spencer Phinney with two of his commanders.

North Texas District Royal Rangers

Annual Report 2008

We have seen many areas of continued improvement in the Royal Rangers ministry this past year. Charter numbers and participation in events are both up, training is increasingly available to leaders in their local area, and boys are being ministered to and mentored by godly men and women who work with them every week.

Charter Numbers

In our most recently completed charter year (2007-08) we saw a net gain of ten churches chartering Royal Rangers. This was almost a twelve percent increase over the previous year. This is against the backdrop of continuing declines in charter numbers nationwide. One of our churches (Christ Church in Ft. Worth) is now one of the twenty-five largest outposts in the country.

Event Participation

We have had strong participation in all of the district events this year. One recent example is our Winter Camp held November 14-16 at Lakview. In 2007 we had about 330 boys and leaders in attendance. This year, despite the very cold weather, we had over 560 boys and leaders in attendance. They had a great time with the activities on Saturday, and enjoyed the ministry of Jason Abney and the youth praise and worship team from Church of Living Hope in Tyler. Saturday night the entire camp responded to the altar call from Pastor Jason.

We held our very first Ranger Kids Day Camp in the district since the early 1990s in October. Over 330 boys, leaders, and parents participated in this camp, and all had the opportunity to hear the Gospel message during the devotion time. Many responded to the message.

Training

National training has returned to North Texas after an absence of several years. Men and women from across North Texas (and across the country) received outstanding training at our National Training Camp, Ranger Kids Training Conference, and World Class Outpost Seminar.

We held a series of Leadership Training Academy (LTA) sessions at Lakeview earlier this year, and many sections have stepped up their level of training of leaders as well. We are way ahead of where we were last year in terms of total training modules taught, leaders taught, and Leaders Medals of Achievement earned.

One outpost that attended our Winter Camp brought the most boys to a camp they ever have. In conversation with the leaders it is obvious that the training these leaders have received through the LTA and the national training events in our district this year is directly impacting their ministry to boys in their community, leading to growth in their ministry.

Ministry

We have seen incredible responses to the gospel message at all of our camps and events this year. At Pow Wow, the Junior Leadership Training Academy, Ranger Kids Day Camp, Winter Camp, FCF Family Days and Brush Poppin, etc. the focus has always been ministry to the boys. Our methods are to use activities and events to attract boys, but boys and men alike return over and over because of the dynamic evening services. Throughout 2008 countless boys have been saved and/or filled with the Holy Spirit through our Royal Rangers ministry.

(This annual report was recently submitted to the North Texas District for the annual District Council to be held in June, 2009.)

Ask the District Commander

Here are several questions that have recently been asked of our district commander and his responses:

Q. Why is the fee for Pow Wow so high this year?

A. Starting with the 2007 Pow Wow (the Great Texas Pow Wow) we have included all meals in the registration price. The meals are catered by CiCi's Pizza (Friday night) and Lakeview Camp for the remaining meals. This allows leaders to spend more time with their boys at the camp. In addition, Pow Wow includes a custom-designed ball cap and hat pins for the boys, plus new activities (this year BMX bikes and RC car races). These items and events cost money and unfortunately have to be included in the Pow Wow price. Our goal with Pow Wow is to have so many activities that your boys won't have time to do them all so they will be excited about coming again next year.

Q. What are your goals for Royal Rangers in the North Texas District?

A. The national Royal Rangers office just asked us to establish five-year goals for our district. The goals I turned in are to double the number of chartered churches and to double the number of boys and leaders in the district. This may seem like a stretch, as that would give us 190 chartered outposts. However, when you consider that in our peak year for charters in the early 1990s we had 161 chartered outposts, this isn't that much of a stretch. Nationwide charter numbers have declined since 1990, and our district has mirrored that trend. But if we can encourage more A/G churches to start/restart Royal Rangers, and to reach out to non-A/G and PCCNA churches, we can reach this goal. The thing about this goal is that it's not about the numbers, but about the number of boys who would be reached for Christ through the Royal Rangers ministry.

Q. Why are there so many events on the district Royal Rangers calendar?

A. Because it takes a wide variety of activities to interest all of our boys. And many of the activities on the calendar are training events that will help us, as leaders, do a more effective job of ministering to the boys. The interesting thing about having a lot of activities scheduled is that it's not the boys who complain about having too much to do. Often they complain that they don't have enough to do. Whether it's a district event, a sectional event, or just a local outpost activity, the boys want and need activities.

Pow Wow/Camp Work Day

On Saturday, March 28 we will be holding a work day at Lakeview Camp to help get it ready for Pow Wow. We only have one work day a year to work on our campground, and we need your help. The Lakeview Camp staff do a great job of mowing and making the grounds look good. We need to do some work on our pageant site, our buildings, clear brush, etc.

Bring your tools and your boys to help with this work day. Lunch will be provided for those who are working. If you want to come out the night before and camp with your boys you are certainly welcome to do so.



2009 FCF Territorial Rendezvous “Where the Plains meet the Mountains”

The Plainsmen Territory will join with the Mountainmen Territory (SW region) this summer for the 2009 territorial rendezvous. More than 300 FCF members from the southwest part of the country are expected to come to Tres Piedras, New Mexico. We will be above 9,000 feet for this camp.



The camp will be held July 14-18, 2009 with an optional Frontier Trek two days before that. We will

also be holding a Wilderness Vigil the day before Rendezvous for those who qualify for the Vigil.

The Shawnee Trail Chapter from North Texas is planning on taking a bus or two to rendezvous so travel expenses will be minimized for all. This will also make it possible for boys to attend even if their leaders can't. Contact Art Sullivan (Art.fcf@gmail.com) if you would like a spot on the bus.

Registration information and forms for this special Rendezvous may be found on the regional website at <http://www.scr-royalrangers.org>

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

District Commander	Jonathan Trower	jonathan@royalrangers.net
Deputy District Commander	Rick Beebe	irarescue@yahoo.com
Training Coordinator	Dick Harris	d-harris@ti.com
FCF President	Art Sullivan	Art.fcf@gmail.com
District Royal Rangers Alumni (RRA) Coordinator	Sammy Kellum	samuel.kellum@royalrangers.net
Missions Coordinator	Randy Woods	randy.woods@lmco.com
Productions Coordinator	Jody Fauss	jfauss@suddenlinkmail.com
Public Relations Coordinator/Signal Fire Editor	Lindsay N. Lang	lindsay.lang@att.net

Divisional Commanders: *open*-East; *open*-North; Jody Fauss-Northeast; Rick Adkinson-South; *open*-West; *open*-East Central; Rodney Briggs-West Central.

FCF Staff: Jonathan Trower-Chairman; Art Sullivan-President; Rodney Briggs-Vice President; Michael Clay-Scribe; Ron Goodnow-Buckskin Rep; Jeff Kersey-Wilderness Rep; Jeff Ortner-Historian; Tim Avrit-Company Clerk/Trappers Brigade Rep; David Trower-Sutler/Promotions; Curtis Woods-Junior Field Advisor; Harlan Dixon-Scout; Taylor Mattney-Asst. Scout; Matthew Goodnow-Asst. Scout.

Sectional Commanders: *open*-Abilene; David Kohn-Austin; Shannan Outland-Brazos Valley; *open*-Cross Timbers; Alan Armentrout-Denton; Lee Fogleman-Greenville; *open*-Longview; *open*-Lufkin; Manuel Gamez-Mid Cities; Steve Hyatt-North Dallas; Jack Woods-North Ft. Worth; Will Townson-Plano; Jerry Lewis-San Angelo; Bruce Wadsworth-South Dallas; Danny Tatum-South Ft. Worth; *open*-Texarkana; Roddie McEntire-Trinity Valley; Kevin Husketh-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; Jeremy Chester, M.D.-Medical Director.

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 April 31, 2009. Please send your information to Lindsay N. Lang at lindsay.lang@att.net.