

NORTH TEXAS DISTRICT SIGNAL FIRE

ntd.royalrangers.net

August 2010

NORTH TEXAS ROYAL RANGERS 2010 Pow Wow



ROYAL RANGERS

Evangelizing, Equipping, and Empowering the Next Generation of
Christlike Men and Lifelong Servant Leaders in the North Texas District

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2010 District Royal Rangers Calendar

September	10-11	Academy of Ranger Training— Lakeview
	17-18	FCF Adventure— Lakeview
	25	District Ranger Kids Day Camp—Lakeview
October	1-2	Commanders Retreat—Lakeview
	22-24	FCF Family Days—Lakeview
	29-31	National Ranger Ministry Camp—Lakeview
November	12-14	District Winter Camp— Lakeview
December	11	FCF Christmas Banquet
	26-31	Junior Missions Camp—Lakeview

2011 District Royal Rangers Calendar

January	7	Executive Staff Meeting
	8	District/Sectional Staff Meeting
February	5	Instructor Certification Seminar
	25-27	FCF Brush Poppin
March	10-12	National Royal Rangers Council
	26	Pow Wow Work Day
April	8-10	FCF Adventure
	29-1	Pow Wow
May	7	Junior Academy
	14	Commanders Conference
June	TBA	JLTA staff reports
	Week of June 6th	Junior Leadership Training Academy
August	5-6	World Class Outpost Seminar, Corsicana
	26-28	Ranger Kids Training Conference
September	9-11	Academy of Ranger Training
	16-18	FCF Adventure
	24	District Ranger Kids Day Camp
October	7-8	Commanders Retreat
	21-23	FCF Family Days
	28-30	National Rangers Ministry Camp
November	11-13	Winter Camp
December	10	FCF Christmas Banquet
	TBA	JLTA Camp

From the District Director

The year 2010 is over half over, but in Royal Rangers we are about to launch another year of ministry during the 2010-2011 academic year. Collectively as a district we have accomplished a lot so far in 2010:

- ◆ At Pow Wow in April we saw 643 Rangers registered with over 75 saved and dozens filled with the Holy Spirit.
- ◆ At our JLTA camps in June we had 92 boys registered and a staff of over 35. We saw over a dozen boys saved the first night, and many more were saved or filled with the Holy Spirit during the week. This included 9 in Advanced Junior Training Camp, 16 in Academy Merits Camp, 16 in Adventure Training Camp, 15 in Discovery Training Camp, 4 in Frontier Brigade Camp, 6 in Junior Academy, 22 in Junior Training Camp, and 4 Rangers serving as senior patrol leaders. In July we had another 10 Rangers complete Advanced Junior Training Camp in a second camp of the season.
- ◆ The new Rangers Ministry Academy has launched with the revised Ranger Basics and the new Ranger Essentials courses for training leaders. Several of these classes have already been held in our district.

There's a lot still to happen this year in Rangers. You will find details in this newsletter about all of them, including:

- ◆ Academy of Ranger Training — hands-on training for leaders and older boys in your outpost
- ◆ FCF Adventure — a chance for boys and men to join the Frontiersmen Camping Fellowship
- ◆ District Ranger Kids Day Camp — a fun day just for your Ranger Kids
- ◆ Commanders Retreat — a chance for leaders to get together, relax a bit, and share with each other
- ◆ FCF Family Days — a family camp for everyone in Royal Rangers, not just FCF members
- ◆ National Rangers Ministry Camp — a new camp designed to train leaders in outdoor skills and other skills needed to take their Ranger boys on exciting outpost activities outside the weekly meetings
- ◆ Winter Camp — a chance for you and your boys to practice all the campcraft skills they have been learning in your outpost
- ◆ Challenge Course Facilitator Training — a chance for us to get some Royal Rangers leaders certified as facilitators for the challenge course at Lakeview so we can begin utilizing it more in our district camps

I hope you and your boys can take advantage of many of these events that are still to come this fall.

Over the Christmas break there will be a Junior Missions Camp (JMC) held at Lakeview for boys who have completed at least Advanced Junior Training Camp. More information about that camp will be posted to our district website a little later. This is for boys who have already completed at least Advanced Junior Training Camp (AJTC) and who are interested in learning about missions and in gaining skills that would be useful on short-term missions trips.

Many of you may have some time off during Christmas break also. While the JMC is going on at Lakeview I invite you to come down for a day during the Christmas break and help clear trees and brush at our campground. Limited lodging may be available if you want to spend a couple days at camp. But we have a lot of brush that needs cleared and trees that need trimmed. The cool days around Christmas would be an ideal time to tackle this task.

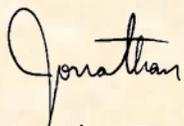
From time to time I'm asked about any needs we may have at Lakeview. We have certainly been blessed with the facilities we have at Lakeview; they are the envy of many other districts. However, there are always needs. If you, your outpost, or your church could help with one of these that would be great!

- ◆ Several members of the district staff have been talking about starting a competitive shooting team so we will have one ready for the national competition at Camporama in 2012. To purchase two sets of competition guns — BB and pellet — would run about \$1500 at the discounted rates that Daisy gives Royal Rangers.
- ◆ Our kitchen facilities in the Ollie Henley Lodge are not adequate for what we ask of our cooks. Often 3-4 people are trying to cook meals for 50+ people out of a kitchen that is the size for one person. We have plans already drawn to take our existing kitchen space and convert it into more usable space with commercial equipment. This project would require about \$40,000.
- ◆ The North Texas District purchased the 40 acres of property just north of our pavilion and challenge course in 2007. We have been referring to this as our "north 40." A recent GMA project opened up the fence line to part of this new property and we have started seeing groups camp up there. However, we really need to get water piped up there before this really is usable for larger groups to camp, and it would be nice to get a new bath house constructed up there as well. I don't have as good of a cost estimate on this project as I would like, but I doubt we can do this for less than \$25,000.
- ◆ Siding on the upper portions of the lodge and first aid building needs to be replaced. Several thousand dollars are needed to fund these needed repairs.
- ◆ In the lodge we could use some 6 foot white plastic tables. We have several 6 ft by 18 inch tables that work great when the lodge is set up for meetings or classes, but they don't work as well when the lodge is set up for meals or work sessions. These plastic tables run about \$50 each and we could use a dozen of them.

There are other pieces of equipment, big and small, that we could use at our camps. And there are multiple projects that would make good GMA service projects or outpost service projects if you would like to take on something like that. Just let me know if you want more information about any of these projects or needs.

Thank you for all you do to minister to the boys in your community. I know that there are a lot of changes happening in Royal Rangers right now (many of them are discussed later in this newsletter) and it would be easy at times to throw up our hands and say "STOP!" But all of the changes are designed to help us better minister to the boys that God has placed in our care. If you need help with understanding the changes or how to implement them in your outpost, feel free to contact your sectional commander or one of the district staff members. The commanders retreat in October would be a perfect opportunity for you to sit down with leaders from other outposts to see how they are doing things and how they are implementing the new ideas.

In His Service,



Jonathan Trower
District Director

jonathan.trower@hot.rr.com

P.S. Don't forget to charter starting August 15!

Upcoming District Events

FCF Pathfinder Trip—August 9-14

The North Texas Shawnee Trail Chapter of the Frontiersmen Camping Fellowship is planning a bronze Pathfinder trip to Jacksonville, TX August 9-14. They will be working on the church buildings of First Assembly of God, pastored by Rev. Mike Eddy, one of our FCF members. Young bucks are especially encouraged to participate in this trip, as they will be mentored in the building trades by several of our very experienced members. The cost to participate is \$100 to cover the cost of the food during the trip. Contact Art Sullivan for more information. Art's e-mail address is art.fcf@gmail.com.

The team that is going to help work on this church could use some financial help as well. Any type of construction project requires money. If you can't help as a member of the construction team you can still help with a financial contribution. Donations of \$25, \$50, \$100, or even \$1000 are needed. Whatever you can give will bless this church and the boys who will have the opportunity to do this work for the church. Contact Art at the e-mail address above for information on how to donate.

Frontiersmen Camping Fellowship Adventure—September 17-19

The Shawnee Trail Chapter of the FCF is taking on new members one more time this year. Boys who have successfully completed the Trail of the Grizzly and are at least eleven years old, and men who have completed the Trail of the Grizzly and Ranger Basics are qualified to join. The Trail of the Grizzly includes:

- ◆ Earn the following merit awards: Compass, Cooking, Fire Craft, First Aid Skills, Rope Craft, Lashing, Tool Craft, and Camping
- ◆ Explain the plan of salvation
- ◆ Explain the meaning of the four red points, four gold points and the eight blue points of the Royal Rangers emblem



To participate in this FCF Adventure, download the application from [here](#), complete it with your sponsor, and send it to Rodney "Bow Breaker" Briggs. You may e-mail it to him at bow.breaker@yahoo.com, or you may e-mail him for his fax or mailing address. All applications are due no later than August 31 to be able to participate in this Adventure..

All applicants will then attend the Adventure coming up September 17-19 at the Royal Rangers Camp at Lakeview. Once your application is received you and your sponsor will receive a letter outlining the next steps each has to take.

Upcoming District Events

Ranger Kids Day Camp—September 25

Our 2010 Ranger Kids Day Camp will be held Saturday, September 25 at the Royal Rangers Camp at Lakeview. The theme this year is “Treasure Island Spectacular” and your boys will have a true pirate experience as we’ll provide six different games/activities along with crafts, lunch, concessions, and a special devotion.

The day camp will begin at 10:00 a.m. (registration at 9:15) and will conclude at 2:30. Games will include: Sword Fighting, Inflatable Buccaneer Ship, Dunk the Pirate, Treasure Rock, Parrot Paradise, and Cannonball Ahoy.

Cost for the day will be \$10 per person if your outpost pre-registers and is chartered. It will be \$12 if you are not chartered. If you fail to pre-register, the price increases \$5 per person. The registration fee includes all of the activities, lunch, and a Day Camp patch. T-shirts will be available for pre-order with your pre-registration.

A complete Day Camp information packet will be available on our website and will also be mailed to every chartered leader and every church in August. For more information or to volunteer to help you may contact Karla Aaron, our district Day Camp coordinator, at karlamaaron@gmail.com



Commanders Retreat—October 1-2

Our Commanders Retreat will be held at the Royal Rangers Camp at Lakeview. As leaders we need fellowship with each other, and we often can’t get that when we are camping with the boys. It’s been many years since we had an event like this, but they used to be well-attended which means leaders saw value in the camp. The cost is \$20 and that covers all three meals (Friday supper about 8:00 p.m., and Saturday breakfast and lunch). We will have devotions and times of sharing both Friday night and Saturday morning. The lake will be open for those who want to do some fishing, and Ken Harris will open up the gun range for those who want to bring their favorite .22 or shot gun for some skeet shooting. We’ll need to pitch some tents as the lodge won’t be big enough to hold everyone, so bring a cot, some board games or dominos, the commanders from your outpost, and come enjoy the weekend. If you have questions about TRaCclub, changes in the Royal Rangers program or uniforms, or anything else related to Royal Rangers feel free to bring those questions too; there will be people at the retreat who can help answer your questions!

FCF Family Days—October 22-24

The Frontiersmen Camping Fellowship Family Days will be held at the Royal Rangers Camp at Lakeview. This camp is for all FCF members and their family, and their guests (who do not have to be FCF members). Ladies may stay in the Ollie Henley Lodge if they wish, or they may stay with their family in the campsite. Lots of good fun and fellowship are planned for this year’s Family Days. Check out the FCF website (<http://fcf.ntxrr.org/>) for more details.

Upcoming District Events

Winter Camp—November 12-14

Our theme for Winter Camp this year is “Ready!” Ready for the return of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! A complete packet of information on Winter Camp is available for download on the district website (<http://ntd.royalrangers.net>). This is the district camp during the year that focuses on camping skills. Bring your boys and have them help set up camp, cook the meals, clean the dishes, and keep the fire going so everyone can stay warm.



Challenge Course Facilitator Training—November 20-21

Several years ago our district built the challenge course that is at our campgrounds. Over the years we have had some of our Royal Rangers leaders certified as facilitators for the challenge course, but not enough for us to have it open on a consistent basis for our district camps. We now have the opportunity to get up to 20 leaders certified as facilitators for our course, and if we can make that happen, we can open the challenge course during Pow Wow, Winter Camp, and our JLTA camps. The certification will be conducted by the lady who now runs the course for Lakeview Camp, and will be site specific (we will only be certified facilitators on the Lakeview course). The certification will be held Saturday and Sunday, November 20-21. If you are interested in participating in this certification course and in helping open this course for our boys at future district events, let the district director know (jonathan.trower@hot.rr.com). He will get you the particulars about the course. With food for the two days the cost of this certification will be \$125 per person. Individual facilitators may want to purchase their own equipment also; that would be an additional cost.



North Texas Royal Rangers Academy of Ranger Training September 10-12, 2010

Greetings to all! At our September 2010 Academy of Ranger Training (ART), we will be offering some very interesting and needed classes for older boys and commanders to attend. ART was created many years ago as a weekend where hands-on skills are taught to our older Rangers and leaders. You may choose any ONE of the classes below to attend during the weekend. Some of the classes are open to women to attend also (noted in the description below).



All of the classes have a minimum number of people required in order to hold the class. So if you want to help assure that your desired class is held be sure to get your pre-registration into the district Royal Rangers office before the deadline. In the event of a cancelled class you will be notified and given the opportunity to attend a different class or to receive a refund of your registration fee.

All classes will be held at the Royal Rangers campground at the Royal Rangers Camp at Lakeview (see map below).

Don't miss out on the following classes being offered:

FCF Trail to the Wilderness Merits (Friday – Sunday)

This 3-day class offers a great opportunity for ALL current FCF members (Old Timers and Young Bucks) to earn their Christian Service, Primitive Snares, Primitive Shelters, and Wilderness Survival Merits – the four merits required for advancement to Wilderness in the Frontiersmen Camping Fellowship.

Archery Merit (Friday – Saturday)

Earlier this year our district FCF chapter invested in a set of Genesis bows. These bows are ideal for teaching archery. Our first time to use the bows in teaching the Archery merit will be ART. This class will be open to any leader or Adventure or Expedition Ranger who would like to learn about archery and the Genesis bows, and to earn the green Archery merit.

Black Powder Safety Course (Friday – Saturday)

For many years this popular class has offered to leaders and boys who are Frontiersmen Camping Fellowship (FCF) members the opportunity to earn the Black Powder Shooters Card that is needed to shoot at any FCF event. Completion of this class also earns boys the silver Black Powder Merit. This class is also open to women and girls who are 12 years old or older, but all attendees must make plans to spend the night camping out Friday night (bring your own tent).

Black Powder and Rifle Instructor Course (Friday – Sunday)

This is a Friday through Sunday class offered to MEN or WOMEN ONLY who already hold NRA Certified Status! Completion of this course will qualify you to teach the NRA black powder, BB, and center fire rifle safety courses. Lodging will be in trainee-provided tents.

Leadership Training Academy (LTA) Camp-Out (Friday – Saturday)

This camp is for new commanders who want to learn to take a group of boys on a fun and successful camp-out. Through this camp you learn how to camp in an actual camp setting. Topics include campsite layout, camp safety and sanitation, fire craft, camp cooking, camp recreation and activities, rope craft, and tool craft. This is a 2-day training module that is required to earn your Leaders Medal of Achievement.

LTA Camp-Out for Girls Ministries Leaders (Friday – Saturday)

The same training we have been providing to Royal Rangers leaders on how to take a group of boys on a fun and successful camp-out is now available to ladies who work with the Girls Ministries. Come participate in this hands-on training camp-out so you will be prepared to take your girls on the district Girls Ministries camp-out or other camps. Learn how to take your girls camping in an actual camp setting. Topics include campsite layout, camp safety and sanitation, fire craft, camp cooking, camp recreation and activities, rope craft, and tool craft.

First Aid/CPR Class (Saturday only)

This class is offered on Saturday ONLY (9 a.m. to 2 p.m.) for all commanders who need this vital training (it is one of the requirements for the Leaders Medal of Achievement). This course is open to Adventure or Expedition Rangers who lack the First-Aid/CPR to complete their Gold Medal of Achievement.

Class Check-in Times

For all 2- or 3-Day camps, please register at camp between 5:00 and 6:00 p.m. Classes will begin promptly at 6:00 p.m.

For Saturday only classes, please register at camp between 8:00 and 9:00 a.m. Classes will begin promptly at 9:00 a.m.

ART Registration Form

The registration form for ART may be found online at <http://ntd.royalrangers.net>

ART Trainee Equipment Checklist

(for those attending overnight classes)

Clothing:

- ◆ 1 Royal Rangers T-shirt or Girl's Ministries T-shirt
- ◆ Royal Rangers or Girl's Ministries Hat
- ◆ 1 Royal Rangers sweatshirt or Girl's Ministries 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)
- ◆ 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
- ◆ Tent (larger ones may be shared by several people)

Optional Items:

- ◆ Cot or sleeping pad
- ◆ Camera

Note:

All other gear checked out at camp from the Equipment Supply Officer

Directions to the Royal Rangers Camp at Lakeview

Lakeview Camp is seven miles southwest of Waxahachie on FM66 (exit 399A from I-35E) or three miles northeast of Hwy. 157-FM66 intersection in Maypearl. Maypearl can be reached from I-35W via FM 66 (exit 8), FM 916, or U.S. 67 to Hwy 157. Look for the "Royal Rangers Entrance" banner by the highway for our entrance (we do not use the main Lakeview Camp entrance).





Royal Rangers
NATIONAL BOYS MINISTRIES

L. Alton Garrison
Division of Church Ministries, Chairman

Doug Marsh
National Director

Chartering is now online.

Hello, Fellow Ranger Leaders!

Last year at this time, the transition from paper chartering to online chartering was just beginning. Based on your feedback, it was an overwhelming success. Here are a couple of comments we received from the field about the process:

"Very well done. I really liked the idea that I could print my charter certificate right away!" – Commander, Pennsylvania/Delaware District

"It was very simple. I actually was a bit apprehensive when I saw a tutorial was offered. But, then was relieved as I went through this entire process. Good job!" – Children's pastor, Minnesota

I am pleased to announce that again chartered outposts will receive a 15% discount on Ranger gear when ordered via the online Rangers Superstore located on the national ministry web site. After you charter, I encourage you to take advantage of this discount when ordering all your Ranger gear. Please read the information inside to learn **how** and **when** to charter online. As you go through the online charting process, you will also notice many enhancements to make the process even more efficient.

You are familiar with many of the other chartering benefits. All boys ages 5-17 will receive an annual magazine called *Rangers NOW*. These annual publications are designed for specific age groups and their interests.

There is also a brand new **Outpost Promotional Kit**, loaded with letterhead, business cards, postcards, and banners — most of which can be customized with your outpost's information and locally reproduced. Also included are high-quality videos and other great resources, designed to shape the image of your outpost in the church and community. *Plus much more!*

Let me just say **thank you** for becoming a chartered outpost. Beyond the outstanding benefits you will receive, chartering helps all of us build a stronger and expanding Royal Rangers ministry that is better able to **influence more** boys and young men than ever, **more effectively** than ever!



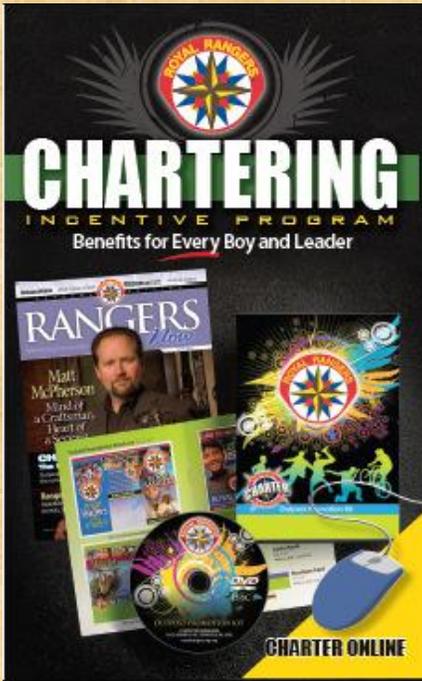
Gratefully,

Douglas E. Marsh

Doug Marsh
National Director



Why Charter?



Chartering seems like an expense — \$11 for every boy and \$13 for every leader. However, if you look closely, you will see that the benefits received outweigh the costs — by a big margin. In fact, it's too expensive **NOT** to charter!

Benefits of chartering include:

- ♦ 15% discount on all Royal Rangers items ordered online through GPH. This includes annual subscriptions to TRaCclub (more about this later in this Signal Fire)
- ♦ 15% discount on national and regional events and training
- ♦ 15% discount on district Royal Rangers events and training (events like Pow Wow, Ranger Kids Day Camp, Winter Camp)
- ♦ The annual publication *Rangers Now* for each member of your outpost. There is an age-specific version of this magazine for each group in Royal Rangers
- ♦ Annual version of the Outpost Promotional Kit

The online chartering process will be available to our outposts beginning August 15. Fees may be paid via credit card. Chartering is available at <http://royalrangers.ag.org>

Master's Toolbox Project

Many churches and outposts made pledges to the Master's Toolbox RRI Translation Project during the missions tour earlier this year. In total over \$40,000 was pledged by North Texas churches to this project!

RRI — Royal Rangers International — would like to translate the Royal Rangers curriculum into five additional languages. It already exists in English and Spanish. We need it translated into German, Russian, French, Portuguese, and Mandarin in order to expand the reach of Royal Rangers into another 48 countries.

It takes \$50,000 to translate one language.

If your church made a pledge to this project, THANK YOU! We hope you are well on your way to raising the funds for your pledge. And it would be great if you exceeded your pledge!

If you didn't have the opportunity to make a pledge during the missions tour, that's OK. You can still participate in this missions opportunity. Get your boys involved. Be creative. Find ways to raise funds for this effort. Your church will receive BGMC credit for all funds given to the Master's Toolbox RRI translation project. Be sure all funds sent to the national headquarters are marked for account number 244001. Last year some of our Master's Toolbox funds didn't get marked with the right account number and they ended up in general BGMC funds instead.

Use the form on the next page to make sure your funds end up in the right account.



ROYAL RANGERS IS ACTIVE IN 80 NATIONS!

Help us expand
into another 48.

Support the BGMC
Master's Toolbox -
RRI Translation Project

www.RoyalRangersInternational.com

Royal Rangers International (RRI) is trying to gain access to forty-eight new nations and reach thousands of youth for Christ, but we need **YOUR** help!

RRI has developed curricular resources with all the lesson plans needed to teach Rangers ages 5-17. Currently, these resources are only available in English and Spanish.

Imagine living in a different country and holding a Royal Rangers meeting using resources in a language you do not know well. This is the reality in many outposts around the world. To help solve this problem, RRI plans to translate its curriculum resources into five more languages: Russian (already underway), German, French, Portuguese, and Mandarin.

With your help, we can see the number of nations with Royal Rangers increase by over a third, potentially adding forty-eight new nations to the Royal Rangers fellowship, simply by providing curricular resources in their languages.

As mentioned earlier, we need your help. The curriculum for each new language will fill five CDs. Translating the content of each CD will cost \$10,000. To meet the need for these new languages, content for twenty-five CD's will need to be translated. (Each language, consisting of 5 CDs of curriculum, will cost \$50,000 to translate.) RRI has partnered with BGMC on these translation projects; therefore, all giving will receive RR-BGMC Master's Toolbox credit.

Please pray, plan, and dig deep. Make a sacrificial gift so we can see souls saved around the world.



ROYAL RANGERS
INTERNATIONAL



The Master's Toolbox: Royal Rangers - Acct. #244001

CHK _____
M.O. _____
CLNR _____
CD _____
TOTAL _____

Donor Name _____ Donor - Acct #: _____

FIRST LAST

Mailing Address _____
STREET CITY STATE ZIP

Phone # _____ E-Mail _____

Church Credit _____ GC-Acct #: _____

Check enclosed. (Please make checks payable to BGMC - Master's Toolbox.)

MasterCard VISA Discover Credit Card # _____ Exp. Date _____

Cardholder Name _____
FIRST MI LAST

Cardholder Address _____
STREET CITY STATE ZIP

Signature _____

Enclosed is my one-time RRI gift
for The Master's Toolbox.



PLEASE MAIL THIS FORM WITH YOUR CONTRIBUTION TO: BGMC • 1445 N. Boonville Avenue • Springfield, MO 65802-1894

South Central Regional Powamu

For many years our region held a Powamu -- a FCF-themed family camp for all Royal Rangers and their families. For a number of reasons we quit hosting this camp, but in 2010 we have a unique opportunity to hold another Powamu because there is no other national or territorial event scheduled. So earlier this year we started planning a Powamu to help fill this gap in our national/regional scheduling.

The Powamu will be held Labor Day weekend (September 3-6) at Camp Adventure in Chandler, OK. Camp Adventure is the campground for the Oklahoma District Royal Rangers, and they have some great facilities for this camp, from a huge lodge and cabins to RV parking to plenty of camping space. Camp Adventure will be a great location for this Powamu whether you want to camp FCF style or in a modern camp.

Powamu will cost \$30 for an individual, or \$60 for the entire family. There will be lots of fun FCF-style games and activities, prizes, great services in the evening, and fellowship with Royal Rangers and their families from across the region (and beyond!)

For the registration form, a copy of the Powamu flier, t-shirt and medallion order form, medical form, and knife & hawk permission form visit the regional website at <http://scr-royalrangers.org>



North Texas Royal Rangers E-Mail List

For a number of years the North Texas Royal Rangers have had an e-mail list for communicating announcements and prayer requests to the leaders across the district. If you are not receiving those e-mails, you can sign up today by sending an e-mail to ntd-request@royalrangers.net with the words "subscribe NTD" (without the quotes) in the body of the message.

We are also exploring the use of another e-mail service that will allow us to send less frequent, but nicely formatted e-mails, to the entire list. If you sign up for the current e-mail list we will make sure you are added to the new list when it becomes available.



Thank you to everyone who made the 2010 Pow Wow a huge success! We had 643 registered. We had over 75 come forward for salvation Friday night, and dozens responded to the altar call to seek the infilling of the Holy Spirit on Saturday. And THAT is what it is all about!

I apologize in advance for those I accidentally forget to thank, and there are so many involved I know it will happen.

First, thanks to every commander who brought a boy to camp! YOU made it happen. Thanks to our district director, Jonathan Trower, who put together an incredible camp. This was Greg Garza's first camp as our district camps coordinator, and he did a great job stepping into this new role. Thanks to Duane Swanson, our district Children's Ministry director, for his continued support.

Thanks to:

- ◆ Rick Adkinson, for putting together an incredible array of games and activities, and to all those who helped run games.
- ◆ Ken Harris for shooting sports.
- ◆ Nolen Fox and his great security detail who kept us safe
- ◆ Sammy Kellum for helping with ticket sales and tram runs
- ◆ Gary Bierschwale and Kim Leitner for running concessions!!
- ◆ Bowbreaker for running FCF games and his crew.
- ◆ Prospector for ministering to us and doing what he does best.
- ◆ Greg Garza for helping with the T-shirts and caps and Expedition Activities on Saturday night.
- ◆ EVERYONE involved in sound and pageantry- Jody Fauss and David Trower, and many tireless workers, as well as the praise band and our guest speaker.
- ◆ Mark Oliver and Chris Trower, for their work around camp.
- ◆ Rick Beebe and Randy Woods for helping with registration.

Sorry if I have forgotten anyone.

THANKS AGAIN!!!

Lindsay N. Lang
District Communications Coordinator





2010 Pow Wow Photo Contest Winners

Thanks to all who submitted photos!



**Colton Ritchie
Discovery Ranger
Outpost #135**



**Caleb Phipps
Adventure Rangers
Outpost #390**



**Glenn Hershberger
Leader
Outpost #294**

Program Updates

◆ Advancement Trail Changes

◇ Merit Changes

⇒ In each age group (except RK) there will be one color merit for skill merits, one for leadership merits, and one for Bible merits.

⇒ Colors of existing merits will change as GPH orders new inventory.

Age Group	Skill Merits	Leadership Merits	Bible Merits
Discovery Rangers	Blue	Red	Orange
Adventure Rangers	Green	Gold	Brown
Expedition Rangers	Silver	Sky Blue	

⇒ In the existing advancement trail, if the requirement states “red _____ merit” and you receive a blue merit from GPH, that’s OK. The merit still counts toward that advancement.

◇ Leadership Merits

⇒ There will be six leadership merits for each age group (excluding RK)

⇒ Leaders will be encouraged to teach two merits per year to their boys.

⇒ These should be taught at the local level by local leaders;

- * They should not be taught at a sectional or district camp
- * The reason for the local teaching is so that both the boys and the leaders are exposed to the material, so that after the merit is earned both the boys and leaders know what is expected of each other.

⇒ Completion of leadership merits will be required for advancement in each age group.

⇒ Each merit will have five sections (S-E-A-L-S):

- Social
- Equipping
- Attitude
- Leadership
- Service

⇒ Each of the first four sections has a short written lesson called a “distinctive”

- * For example, one of the “Social” distinctives for the Discovery Rangers is entitled “Hey What’s Your Face” and has to do with the importance of learning people’s names and using them appropriately. So a distinctive is a lesson on a leadership topic.
- * Each distinctive is coupled with two initiative-type activities/games/challenges that help reinforce the material covered in the distinctive. Some of these are very simple, while others are very challenging and require a great deal of teamwork. They are activities with a purpose...not just games to have a

good time. Then there are “debriefing questions” included that help boys “get the point” of the initiative activities as they complete them. These are done as a group discussion.

⇒ The fifth section (Service) involves a 3 hour service project planned and conducted by the patrol.

- * Each project has a different theme.
- * Since there are four Leadership Merits now required for the GMA now, the boys are still getting to complete their 12 hours of service, which was kind of the unofficial minimum number of hours required for the GMA service project.

⇒ Devotions are included in the lesson plans that help drive the point home.

⇒ There are two planning guides for each merit:

- * One for teaching it in a weekend format (MUCH PREFERRED).
 - May be done in a Saturday-only format OR in an overnight Friday/Saturday format.
 - Friday/Saturday format is preferred because it allows you the time you need to complete everything in such a way that it’s meaningful and gets the point across.
- * One for teaching it in a weekly meeting format.
 - This format severely limits the amount of time you have to complete everything, especially the initiative activities.

◇ Bible Merits

⇒ DR and AR Bible merits being re-written.

⇒ New AR Bible merits will be released later this year as part of TRaCclub (more later); DR Bible merits still being rewritten.

⇒ Will retain current patches and five-week format.

⇒ Each lesson will focus on one of five attributes of godly manhood:

- * Doctrine
- * Sexuality
- * Biblical worldview
- * Cultural issue
- * Godly manhood.

⇒ Bible merits will have components of reading, reflection, and response.

⇒ They will also include a six-year Bible reading plan of select Scripture passages

- * Will equal the reading requirements of the Green Bible Merit (required for GMA under new guidelines).

◇ Writing Changes

⇒ This change is already in effect. For any merit that requires writing, the leader may choose some other way for the boys to complete the equivalent work.

- * For example, if the merit state the boys are to write the steps to do some task, the boys could instead show the steps or explain the steps orally
- * Role playing, oral reports, demonstrations, and group projects are all appropriate ways for boys to demonstrate their knowledge of the material
- * As merits are released in TRaCclub we will see the writing requirements reduced substantially

◇ Honor GMA

⇒ To be awarded to a boy who completes the highest award in each of the four age groups (after 9/1/01).

- * Ranger Kids Gold Trail
- * Discovery Rangers Gold Eagle
- * Adventure Rangers Gold Medal
- * Expedition Rangers E3
- * Plus must have read entire Bible and presented plan of salvation to his pastor

⇒ Application available now

- * Requires pastor's endorsement.

⇒ Medal, ribbon and patch available Summer 2010.

◇ GMA

⇒ Now requires pastor's endorsement — be sure to use the current application on the national website; without the pastor's endorsement your application will be returned

- * "To the best of my knowledge, the named Gold Medal of Achievement applicant has lived a life consistent with the high biblical ideals expressed in the Royal Rangers Code, Pledge, and Motto and has exemplified Christlikeness in his family, church, and school."

⇒ Service project may be completed by doing 8-week capstone project using the Foundation Level of the Fire Institute.

⇒ Boys who have earned their Silver Medal should complete their GMA under the current GMA plan.

⇒ Boys who have not yet earned their Bronze Medal should complete their GMA under the new GMA plan.

⇒ Boys in between the Bronze and Silver Medal can use a transition calculator built into the newest version of Navigator to determine which path is best for them.

◇ **GMA New Track**

⇒ New path will require:

- * 4 gold leadership merits
- * 24 brown Bible merits
- * 3 required green merits (Bible, Global Missions, Healthy Body)
- * 11 elective skill merits (green and/or silver)

⇒ Service project is replaced by the service projects in the leadership merits; now required to do 12-week capstone project using the Foundation level of the Fire Institute.

◇ **National Processing of Award Applications**

⇒ The top medal in each age group now requires national processing; applications are sent to the national Royal Rangers office. See the national website for the new applications.

- * GMA application to district first for district review board and district director's signature.
- * Adventure Rangers Bronze and Silver Medal applications also go to the national Royal Rangers office.

◇ **Expedition Rangers E3 Medal**

⇒ New award to replace the existing four medals in Expedition Rangers.

⇒ E1 and E2 are preliminary medals.

⇒ E3 requires national Royal Rangers office processing.

⇒ To earn the medal requires:

- * Completion of 75 Spirit Challenge lessons (earn three SC patches)
- * Four sky blue leadership merits
- * Three required silver merits (16 Fundamental Truths, Budget & Finance, and Citizenship)
 - * Eleven elective silver skill merits



⇒ Stands for “The Rangers Curriculum Club”.

⇒ An online system for distributing content from Leaders Guides, Merit Reference Books, and Workbooks.

- * Helps assure that up-to-date content is always available to the local leader.

⇒ Will launch in time for Fall 2010.

- ⇒ Individual annual subscriptions.
 - * Multiple leaders could share a subscription, but will be limited in the number of lesson plans that can be downloaded in a given year.
 - * You will be able to download all the materials for a weekly lesson and then make any copies that are needed for your assistant and boys.
- ⇒ Pricing is supposed to be less than 1/3 of the cost of the equivalent printed curriculum.
- ⇒ This will be the only mechanism for the distribution of:
 - * New Bible merits
 - * New Leadership merits
- ⇒ Tracks will be available for:
 - * Ranger Kids (will be less expensive than DR, AR, or ER)
 - * Discovery Rangers
 - * Adventure Rangers
 - * Expedition Rangers
 - * Leaders (2 year subscription included in price of the new Leaders Manual)
- ⇒ The Leaders Manual and the boys handbooks will **NOT** become part of TRaCclub.
- ⇒ Code for logging into TRaCclub will be sent to the individual's e-mail address.
 - * If your church purchases the subscriptions they will need the e-mail addresses for the individual leaders.
- ⇒ Previously announced CD option will not exist.
- ⇒ More information available at <http://royalrangers.ag.org/programs/curriculum/tracclub/>

◆ Uniforms

- ⇒ Guidelines for wearing the uniforms have shifted from the Leaders Manual to the national Royal Rangers website (<http://royalrangers.ag.org/programs/uniforms/>).
- ⇒ Uniform options include:
 - * Formal Uniform (formerly Dress Blues; for leaders only).
 - * Dress Uniform (formerly Class B; for leaders, Expedition and Adventure Rangers).
 - * Utility Uniform (for all leaders and boys).
 - * Special Uniform (formerly Class C).

◇ Uniforms in North Texas

- ⇒ Following national guidelines, each outpost is encouraged to define their own local uniform.
- ⇒ At district camps like Pow Wow and Winter Camp we encourage everyone to wear a Royal Rangers uniform (typically this would be a special uniform).
 - * Uniform transitions should be final by July 31, 2011
- ⇒ Organizational leaders in North Texas are requested to make transition by end of summer 2010.
 - * Flag patches, IT/CI pins, old style district strips and district/sectional staff patches, campaign hats,

and other obsolete items should no longer be worn.

◆ Training

→ Junior Training

◇ Junior Leadership Training

⇒ Policy change concerning marching training

⇒ For the past 10 years or so Rangers in the AJTC have been taught a style of marching called stomp marching. While very impressive, this style of marching places a great deal of stress on the bones in the feet and legs. On advice from our medical director and the medical community we will no longer be using stomp marching in any district camp, and individual outposts are discouraged from using it either.

⇒ Leadership Merits (local level)

⇒ Junior Training Camps (district level)

- * DTC
- * ATC
- * JTC
- * AJTC
- * Elite JTC

⇒ Action Camps (district level; men and boys).

- * For example, backpacking, canoeing, shooting, and aquatics

◇ Trail of the Tomahawk

⇒ North Texas-specific award.

⇒ Presented to boys who complete three specific camps:

- * Discovery Training Camp
- * Adventure Training Camp
- * Frontier Brigade Camp

◇ Trail of the Saber

⇒ Nationally-recognized award (new medal for recipients).

⇒ New requirements include (will be phased in over 4 years in North Texas as the new leadership merits are released and taught by the outposts):

- * Earn eight leadership merits (any color)
- * Complete two district junior leadership training events (JTC or higher)
- * Complete one additional district junior leadership training camp or Action Camp
- * Serve as a junior staff member at a district junior training camp OR attend one additional Action Camp
- * Read all leadership distinctives in the DR, AR, and ER handbooks
- * Read *Next Generation Leader* by Andy Stanley
- * Complete requirements before 18th birthday or HS graduation

TRAINING



the **Church Leader**
the **Support Staff**
the **Junior Leader**

Ranger Orientation
 Benefits/Value of Rangers training for pastors and those in church leadership.

Outpost Committee Training
 Training for current or potential Outpost Committee members and other support staff.

Junior Leadership Foundations
 Training for Discovery, Adventure & Expedition Rangers ready to serve in a new group leadership position.

Local Leadership Merits
 Two taught each year in a five-week meeting format or in a retreat setting. Designed to develop leadership skills for Discover, Adventure, & Expedition Rangers.

District Junior Leadership Development Camps
TRAIL OF THE SABER
 District level training that reinforces the lessons offered in the local leadership merits. Districts have great flexibility with a common philosophy and minimum core curriculum, the "Trail of the Saber".

Action Camps
 Hands-on, high action camps for high school students and adult leadership. Training intended to prepare local leadership to deliver meaningful and fun local activities.

the **Outpost Leader**

OUTPOST LEADER ADVANCEMENT LEVELS

<p>READY</p> <p>Ranger Basics Training for new leaders ready to serve in the outpost.</p> <p>Ranger Essentials Training for leaders prepared to deepen their knowledge and commitment.</p>	<p>SAFETY</p> <p>Ranger Safety First Aid/CPR training. Additional training to prepare leaders to safely lead exciting Rangers activities.*</p> <p><small>*AVAILABLE AS ONLINE MODULES LATE 2016.</small></p>	<p>TRAINED</p> <p>National Elementary Education Conference Training for leaders eager to serve K to 2nd grade Rangers with excellence.</p> <p>National Rangers Ministry Camp Training to prepare adult leaders to mentor boys and young men through a diverse range of activities.</p>	<p>ADVANCED</p> <p>World Class Outpost Designed to develop outpost leadership through the use of best practices, strategies, and tools.</p> <p><small>WCO = 3 CONTINUOUS LEARNING OBJECTIVES</small></p>
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Medal of Excellence

Represents a level of commitment and dedication to both the leaders' personal growth as well as the spiritual and leadership development of boys and young men. Earned by completing the four levels of Outpost Leaders Advancement and by taking at least one boy on a journey culminating in the earning of the highest medal in any of the four Ranger groups.

the **Trainer**

<p>Training Academy Training in teaching methods for potential certified instructors and those seeking recertification.</p>	<p>National Academy Training in the disciplines required to serve as a staff member at leadership development events.</p>	<p>Advanced Academy Training in the art of leading staff at leadership development events.</p>	<p>Academy Instructor A member of the instructing staff at a National Academy or Advanced Academy.</p>
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Continuous Learning

Both national and district online and classroom training may be offered. Some training may allow the participation of junior leaders.

→ Adult Training

You may be to this point and feel overwhelmed with the changes. That's understandable, as there ARE a lot of changes. Your sectional commander is available to help answer questions about these changes. The national Royal Rangers website has a lot of information that may help you with answers (<http://royalrangers.ag.org>). And finally, feel free to come to the district commanders retreat October 1-2 at the Royal Rangers Camp at Lakeview and you can discuss any questions you may have with other leaders and the entire district leadership team.

◆ Terminology Changes

Old Term	New Term	New Insignia
Pastor	Pastor	
Outpost Council	Outpost Committee	
Outpost Chaplain	Outpost Chaplain	
Senior Commander	Outpost Coordinator	
	Asst. Outpost Coordinator	
Commander	Commander or Group Leader	
Lt. Commander	Lt. Commander or Asst. Group Leader	
Junior Commander	Junior Commander or Junior Group Leader	
Senior Patrol Guide	Senior Patrol Leader	
	Asst. Senior Patrol Leader	
Quartermaster	Gear Master	
Scribe	Communications Specialist	
	Historian	
Chaplain Aid	Chaplain's Aid	
Patrol Guide	Patrol Leader	
Assistant Patrol Guide	Asst. Patrol Leader	
Scout	Scout	

Annual Leaders Awards

This year leaders have two chances to earn their leaders awards, as the national Royal Rangers office has shifted the dates for earning the awards from the calendar year to the school year. Thus, at the end of August you may begin filling out your applications for awards for the 2009-10 academic year. Application forms may be found online at <http://royalrangers.ag.org/programs/leadersawards/>

Names have changed for the awards for the local level to match the new position terminology. However, there are still awards for every leader at whatever level of involvement they have in Royal Rangers. These new award applications should be sent to the district Royal Rangers office by September 30, and awards will be presented at Winter Camp in November. The price for the first year for an award is \$16 and includes both the medal and ribbon award. If this is more than your first time to receive the award the price is \$3 for the number pin for both your medal and ribbon. If you will not be attending the ceremony at Winter Camp and need your award and certificate mailed to you there is an extra charge of \$3 to cover the mailing costs.



Outpost
Coordinators
Award



Outpost
Service
Award



Pastor's
Award



Outpost
Leadership
Award



Junior Leaders
Service
Award

The Outpost Coordinators Award replaces the Senior Commanders Award. It is for the leader who coordinates the overall Royal Rangers ministry in a church. The Outpost Service Award is for assistant commanders and outpost committee members. The Pastor's Award is for the senior pastor or associate pastor with oversight of Royal Rangers in the local church. The Outpost Leadership Award replaces the Outpost Commanders Award and is for the leader who has overall oversight for a particular age group in the outpost. The Junior Leaders Service Award is for your older boys who serve as junior leaders in the outpost.

The Blue Cluster and Gold Cluster awards have been replaced by a new award called the District Leadership Award. It can be earned by any member of a sectional staff, or by non-executive district staff members. This includes FCF scouts and assistant scouts. The Silver Cluster and Silver Eagle awards have been replaced by the District Executive Leadership Award and is for members of the district executive staff.

National Rangers Ministry Camp (NRMC)

This year the national Royal Rangers office is launching a new training camp for men. It is called the National Rangers Ministry Camp (NRMC). This camp replaces National Training Camp that has been offered for over 40 years in Royal Rangers.



NRMC is designed to give leaders instruction in basic outdoor skills and activities that you will need to take your Rangers on exciting outpost activities and camps outside the normal weekly meeting times. The patrol method will be taught and utilized in this camp as a means to facilitate junior leadership development in your outpost. Leaders who attend the NRMC will also be challenged to connect with God and to explore spiritual manhood.

We are hosting one of the NRMCs at the Royal Rangers Camp at Lakeview on October 29-31, 2010. National Director Doug Marsh and National Training Coordinator Steve Schultz will be with us to help conduct this camp, along with a staff drawn from across the South Central Region and beyond.

The early registration deadline (which means you get a discount!) is October 1. If your outpost is chartered you get another discount!

Application forms are available from the national Royal Rangers website at <http://royalrangers.ag.org/training/schedule/>

In 2011 our district plans on hosting three national training events: NRMC, World Class Outpost Seminar, and Ranger Kids Training Conference. Dates for these camps will be released later this year once the national training schedule is finalized.



Upcoming Pathfinder Projects

Jacksonville, TX (August 2010) This bronze Pathfinder trip is an excellent opportunity for boys to learn building trades while working on projects at one of our home missions churches in our district. More details later in this newsletter.

Chile Pathfinder 101 Training (Fall 2010)

Ecuador Pathfinder 101 Training Fall 2010)

Crisis Center , Nashville ongoing (Bronze)

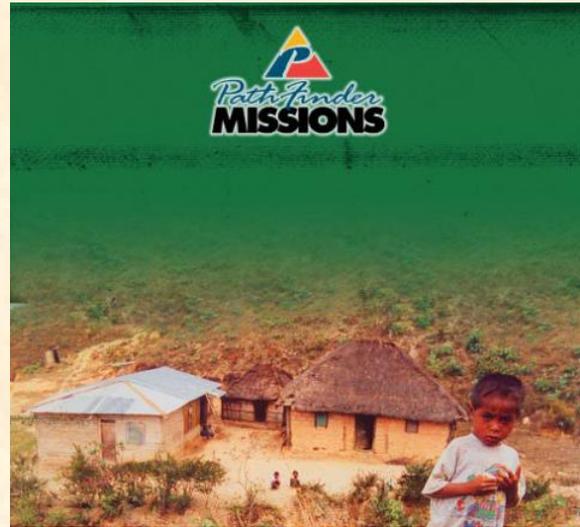
Thanks for all you do to help us in the ministry. If you can add us to your monthly giving, please let me know.

Mike King

National Pathfinder Missions Coordinator

e-mail: mikeking5@bellsouth.net

ROYAL RANGERS
assisting missionaries through
construction in America
and in harsh, remote areas
of the world



PathFinder Missions trips are classified by three levels of intensity, from entry level to advanced, and awarded accordingly:



The Bronze PathFinder Mission — U.S. Missions construction projects outside one's home district. *(Such as Indian reservations or in urban settings.)*



The Silver PathFinder Mission — Overseas projects to moderately accessible construction sites with basic conveniences. *(Such as churches, Rangers camps, or orphanages.)*



The Gold PathFinder Mission — Overseas construction projects to harsh, remote areas of the world where other teams are unable to go due to the tough living conditions of these assignments. *(Such as packing or boating equipment and building supplies to site.)*

***Boys 14 & 15 years-of-age may participate in a PathFinder Missions trip when accompanied by their legal guardian and all necessary forms have been completed and mandated insurance secured; Boys 16 & 17 years-of-age may participate without being accompanied by their legal*

guardian when all necessary forms have been completed and mandated insurance secured. All Gold PathFinder Missions must be pre-approved by the PathFinders Committee which reserves the right to impose additional age restrictions on select gold level projects. No one under the age of 14 may participate in a PathFinders MAPS Builders project.

For more information contact:

Mike King
National Pathfinder Missions Coordinator
e-mail: mikeking5@bellsouth.net

Or

Visit the PathFinder web page at: <http://www.pathfindermissions.com/>

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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 August 31, 2010. Please send your information to Lindsay N. Lang at lindsay.lang@att.net.