

NORTH TEXAS DISTRICT SMOKE SIGNALS

Shawnee Trail FCF Newsletter

1st Qtr., 2013

<http://www.ntxrr.org/fcf/>

Welcome to the latest edition of the Shawnee Trail FCF Chapter "Smoke Signals" newsletter. With this newsletter, we pray that you will get the information you need to better plan your involvement in our district's FCF activities.

We plan on publishing this electronic newsletter each quarter, so

if there is information you would like to see, please drop us an email letting us know. In-between newsletters we will use the district's e-mail newsletter for updates on forthcoming events.

After events, we plan to PR the highlights of what happened. We hope this information will encourage you and your boys to be involved in future events.

Together, we can grow the Shawnee Trail FCF Chapter.



Letter from our FCF President

Well, it has been a very busy year. I have had 2 staff meetings and constant phone conversations regarding all the things that we need to get done. I would like to ask all our members to please be patient with my staff. Some are new and others are waiting for direction. We have changed a few things that some of you might like to know about.

1. We are doing away with young buck dues; all young bucks will now be current and active members until they reach age 18.
2. We have always waived dues for active duty military members but we will also waive dues for active full time missionaries, active full time senior pastors, and active full time students (12 hours of college a semester or more). Please complete and submit a "Dues Waiver" form from the district FCF website so we can keep your information up to date.
3. There will be a love blanket after all Adventures to GIVE and serve our new members and help with their outfits.
4. We will be starting an FCF store. We already have a store keeper for this effort. This will allow us to take donations of hand made and purchased FCF gear and the proceeds from this store will be used to further help bless our new FCF members at future Adventures.

So why the changes?!??

Well first the boys. We all do Royal Rangers to Evangelize, Equip, and Empower as many boys as possible. If the boys do not come to camp (because they are late on dues or unable to pay them) then how are we going to reach them? It is easy to say that they need to ask for help. Yet even leaders have trouble with that, and we know better!

Second, the love blanket idea stems from a financial donation that was given to be used for the boys. I would truly like all those going through the Adventure to leave with a bit of their FCF outfit so they can feel a part of what we do and really take ownership.

When my son Matthew and I went through the Adventure we were overwhelmed by the generosity of our sponsor. We both had the same one. On the way home I spent no small amount of time discussing with God how he would seriously need to help me if he truly wanted me involved in this FCF ministry. I was very low on finances as well as had no outfit or know how in making one. Upon my arrival home Craig McCracken was there and gifted both Matthew and me with FCF clothes and just stuff that we were able to trade later. It set the tone for our FCF ministry.

That leads me to the last item, the FCF store. This was set up to keep money coming in for the above love blanket to be spent on the boys. I want this money to go into the same account that the donation was made to so we do not deplete it. In this way the members and those who feel led will be able to donate (we will give you a receipt) articles to be sold so that we may continue to give the boys shirts and belts and whatever on a love blanket even after I am no longer president and the donation money is gone!

I have a strong passion for our FCF ministry. There are other changes to the Adventure, to Buckskin testing, JLTA, and all of it is about lining up with national guidelines. The national office is the authority over us and we need to submit (I know some are cringing) to that authority over us. They have not asked us to do anything against God's word they are trying to protect Royal Rangers and FCF from those that might seek to destroy it. **THERE IS BLESSING AND PROTECTION IN SUBMITTING TO THE AUTHORITY OVER YOU!!**

I would like to also say please do not wait until the last minute to register for any camp, especially an FCF event. We need your pastor's forms as well as pre-registration forms for Brush Poppin', the Adventure, Family Days, and other camps. I will be following this letter up with camp info so everyone can get it done.

One thing I have not stated is THANK YOU. I appreciate all the congratulations in welcoming me to this new position. It has been shown to me to be a tool for mentoring boys and it is an awesome opportunity; for that I need all your prayers as well as any help you can give me and my staff. If you would, let them know how much you appreciate them, and if something is not "just right" let us know that also, but understand there is no good time to take over a new position so we are all just jumping in and running as hard as we can to get it done.

Ron "Pure Heart" Goodnow, NTX FCF Shawnee Trail Chapter President

Meet North Texas FCF Staff

With a new FCF president, the new staff has been finalized and approved. Below is the contact information for each.

Chairman

Jonathan "Bigfoot" Trower, Outpost 377,
jonathan.trower@hot.rr.com, 254.420.1941

President

Ron "Pure Heart" Goodnow, Outpost 561,
rgoodnow@napgladu.com, 903.467.2138

Vice President

David "Little Beaver" Kohn, Outpost 65,
djkohn92@yahoo.com, 512.619.1970

Scribe

Frank "Jawbone" Super, Outpost 55,
usmcrcsuper@sbcglobal.net

Buckskin Rep

David "Spotted Bull" Shook, Outpost 101,
fcfbuckskinrep@outlook.com

Wilderness Rep

Eli "Blazing Heart" Harris, Outpost 427,
samhoustonplumbing@gmail.com

Company Clerk

Michael "Bald Eagle" Clay, Outpost 346,
ntdscribe@yahoo.com

Trappers Brigade Rep

David Wilson, Outpost 42,
davofamily4@hotmail.com

Chaplain

Lee "Prospector" Fogleman, Outpost 86,
leefogleman@tx.rr.com

Jr. Field Advisor

Matthew "Red Wood" Goodnow, Outpost 561

Historian

Matthew "Kind Heart" Kohn, Outpost 65

Scout

Weston "Fracture" Weitner, Outpost 72

Asst. Scout

Luke "Pathlighter" Goodnow, Outpost 561

Asst. Scout

Kameron Kersey, Outpost 55



Wilderness Preparation Day

For the wilderness candidates and sponsors we are having a wilderness preparation day at "That Church." This is outpost 561 and this day is planned for Saturday, February 9th. We plan to start around 9:00 am and will be done around 1:00 pm. Please show up in outfit and come prepared for shooting either your smoke pole or stick thrower. Lunch will be provided. Email Ron Goodnow (rgoodnow@napgladu.com) for directions to That Church in Corsicana. If you are not a candidate or sponsor, please do not come. This day is for those individuals only.

NTX Royal Rangers Email Lists

Are you subscribed to the NTX Royal Rangers email lists? You can get updates on news, FCF information, and prayer requests. If not, visit http://www.ntxrr.org/email_lists.htm and sign up to be on our mailing list today.

2013 Spring Adventure

- ★ Our first Adventure this year will be April 8-10. In order to attend, pre-registration is mandatory.
- ★ The only way we can keep costs down for our events is to know who is coming so our groceries and other supplies can be purchased correctly.
- ★ If you are interested in working the Adventure, please contact Ron Goodnow (rgoodnow@napgladu.com). You will also need to fill out a camp pre-registration form. For this Adventure, the camp fee will be \$20 for each FCF member serving on staff of the Adventure, and \$35 for each candidate (traditionally paid by the sponsor).
- ★ This is an awesome camp. We do have outstanding council fire services.
- ★ When you register to help with the Adventure, we take care of the food so you can plan to come help and mentor your young bucks and new green horn old-timers.
- ★ The registration packet for this camp will include a model release and adult registration form (includes background check). You will also need to make sure that each person from your outpost attending also has their Knife and Black Powder permission slip completed.
- ★ With the requirements for all the different types of forms needed, please do not wait till the last minute to get these completed. By completing them early, you prevent us from having to turn you away when you arrive at camp.
- ★ The pre-registration deadline for this adventure is March 15, 2013. Please make sure all your paperwork reaches the district office by this time.



Trappers Brigade

Now that 2013 has begun, have you been thinking about how you can earn your Trappers Brigade points for FCF this year? There are many different ways for you to earn your points. Read more about the Presidential Volunteer Service Award. We will be using what you enter for your Trappers Brigade Points.



Brush Poppin' 2013



Brush Poppin' will be held at The Royal Rangers Camp at Lakeview March 8-10, 2013. Our theme this year is "Are You Ready." Registration will begin around 5:00 p.m. on Friday; the camp will open that morning if you want to come in early and setup your camp. Our speaker for the camp is Lee "Prospector" Fogleman, and music will be provided by Ken Harris.

During the day on Saturday we will have a couple special competitions—a Seneca run and a tug-o-war. Make sure your skills are ready for the Seneca run!

Friday night Flintlock will be preparing a stew like was done for Family Days.

Everyone will be welcome to come by and get their Friday night meal once the stew is ready (bring your own bowl and spoon). He has asked everybody to bring a veggie or other ingredient to go into the stew. If you have questions about what is needed, or if you would like to volunteer to help, contact Flintlock (art.fcf@gmail.com).

Camp will conclude Sunday morning after a time of worship, and a final devotion from Prospector.

If you plan to attend, you will need to pre-register and submit the required paperwork (model release, 2013 pastor approval form). These must be completely filled out and signed if you plan to attend. Please do not miss these important forms later in this newsletter or on the district website (<http://www.ntxrr.org/fcf/>).

Remember we will be doing a round robin and boys and old timers need to plan on bringing a donation for the new FCF Store.

This camp will cost \$25 for members and \$35 for non-members or for those not current on their dues. If you are an old timer and are behind on your dues we are offering a 10 month amnesty. In order to take advantage of this offer you must pay this year's dues and work an Adventure. After this is done, we will mark you current and up to date. This is only good until Family Days 2013, so please do not wait. You can complete the dues form and send it to the district office today.

2013 FCF Calendar of Events

March 8-10	FCF Brush Poppin'
April 5-7	FCF Adventure
April 13	Workday at Camp
April 26-28	District Pow Wow
June 20-23	Junior Leadership Training Academy
July 8-12	Territorial Rendezvous, The Range, New Mexico
Sept 6-7	Commanders Conference / Academy of Ranger Training (ART)
Sept 13-15	FCF Adventure
Sept 21	Ranger Kids Day Camp
Oct 6-12	Royal Rangers Week at your local church
Oct 18-20	FCF Family Days
Nov 8-10	District Winter Camp
Dec 14	FCF Christmas Banquet
Dec 26-29	Junior Leadership Training Academy

Are you a Frontiersman?

OK. So you are finally in FCF as a Frontiersman. You have been to Brush Poppin' and got to stay in the FCF village at Pow Wow. You have had a lot of fun right? Well now what?

Buckskin.

Yep, Buckskin. Don't be afraid. It's easy! First, get the merits out of the way!



Both Old Timers and Young Bucks need to earn these. Get those done!

Once the merits are finished, there are some advancement items you need to accomplish. Here they are:

Young Bucks (17 and younger):

Adventure Rangers Bronze Medal of Achievement or Expedition Rangers Medal of your choice

Participate in a Frontier Adventure...not the one that got you into FCF

Old Timers (18 and older):

RMA Safety Leader Award

RMA Trained Leader Award

Sponsor a boy into FCF

Participate in a Frontier Adventure...not the one that got you into FCF

All the difficult stuff is now finished...maybe. Now you have to do some praying. Let God tell you what HE wants your FCF name to be and what verse you will be using with that name. Then work out a totem that displays that name in a graphic manner.

Spend some time looking at FCF crafts. You have to have a craft and show a level of competence in that craft. You don't have to be an expert master craftsman, but you do need to prove you can do it!

Get your persona together and figure out what outfit you need to put together. This is important. It's part of what draws people to you so that you can witness to them! Determine what time period you want to portray and stick to that period. Wear period correct items. Don't wear a coat from 1830 if your time period is 1776.

Have you seen those cool sticks that FCF guys have outside their lodges? That's an ID staff. It lets folks know you are home! Make it look sharp and have something to do with your persona and craft.

I bet you are thinking "WOW! That's a lot to do!" Well it is! But once you get it all done, it's all done. Plus you don't have to go through it by yourself. Get yourself a sponsor! There are LOTS of FCF guys that are more than willing to help you out! And I bet you are also thinking "Why do I want to go through all the effort and get my Buckskin pin?"

The answer is simple. It's what you should do! You have spent your entire Royal Rangers career working towards that next advancement. And this isn't just your "next advancement." It's a step forward in ministry. Buckskin shows you have a desire to be "just that much better!" You know you want to be Wilderness, right? Well you have to be a Buckskin member first.



So, to get started send me (David 'Spotted Bull' Shook) an email at fcfbuckskinrep@outlook.com. I will get you an application (or it is available at <http://www.ntxrr.org/fcf/forms.htm>). Fill it out completely. Get all the signatures and then mail it back to the address on the form with payment. I will then receive it, look it over, and if all the essential elements are done, I will mail or email you a

workbook. Once you finish the workbook and have gotten all the practice and polish you need, let me know and we can get you tested. Then we will have a Buckskin ceremony and make you a Buckskin member. Easy!

Current Shawnee Trail FCF Statistics

(status based on 2013 paid dues as of 1/20/2013)

	Active YB (current)	Inactive YB (1-3 years)	Inactive YB (> 3 years)	Active OT (current)	Inactive OT (1-3 years)	Inactive OT (> 3 years)	Total
Frontiersmen	61	0	20	11	41	307	440
Buckskin	3	0	1	7	14	51	76
Wilderness	1	0	0	20	8	36	65
Total	65	0	21	38	63	394	581

For additional information about anything you found in this newsletter or for additional FCF answers, please contact the FCF President, Ron "Pure Heart" (rgoodnow@napgladu.com), or the FCF Vice President, David "Little Beaver" Kohn (djkohn92@yahoo.com).

Presidents Volunteer Service Award

In recognition of the outstanding service that FCF members display each year, the North Texas Royal Rangers is proud to announce the availability of the PRESIDENT'S VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD, a prestigious national honor offered in recognition of volunteer commitment. Established in 2003, this new AWARD is given by the President of the United States and honors individuals, families and groups who have demonstrated a sustained commitment to volunteer service over the course of 12 months.

The North Texas Royal Rangers has teamed with hundreds of organizations and businesses across the country to deliver this Award to our most outstanding volunteers. As a Certifying Organization of the PRESIDENT'S VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD, we can nominate potential recipients and distribute the Award to those who meet or exceed the AWARD criteria.

You do not have to be a member of the FCF to receive this award. Children, adults, families and groups can receive the AWARD and, given their ongoing service activity, many of our volunteers may already meet the requirements (see sidebar). To qualify for the PRESIDENT'S VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD, volunteers simply submit a record of their service hours to the district, and we will verify the service and deliver the AWARD.

Volunteer service hours are not limited to those performed on behalf of Royal Rangers and the FCF. In fact, service hours can be accumulated through work on a variety of projects throughout the year. The only requirement is that the necessary hours be completed within 12 months; recipients can qualify for a new AWARD each year.

The PRESIDENT'S VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD is issued by the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation – created by President George W. Bush to recognize the valuable contributions volunteers make to our nation. To learn more and find out how to qualify for the AWARD, contact David Wilson, our AWARD administrator, at davofamily4@hotmail.com or visit www.PresidentialServiceAwards.gov and register. Our Record of Service Key is KZF-45700.

SIDEBAR

To be eligible to receive the PRESIDENT'S VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD, applicants' service hours must be confirmed by a registered Certifying Organization. There are three levels of the AWARD varying by hours of service completed within a 12-month period:

Kids - 14 and younger

Bronze Award	50 - 74 hours
Silver Award	75 - 99 hours
Gold Award	100 or more hours

Young Adults—Ages 15-25

Bronze Award	100 - 174 hours
Silver Award	175 - 249 hours
Gold Award	250 or more hours

Adults - Ages 26 and up

Bronze Award	100 - 249 hours
Silver Award	250 - 499 hours
Gold Award	500 or more hours

Families and Groups (two or more people)*

Bronze Award	200 - 499 hours
Silver Award	500 - 999 hours
Gold Award	1,000 or more hours

*Each member contributing at least 25 hours towards the total

PRESIDENT'S CALL TO SERVICE AWARD

Individuals who have completed 4,000 or more volunteer service hours over the course of their lifetime are eligible to receive the PRESIDENT'S CALL TO SERVICE AWARD.

**2013 North Texas District
Adult Registration Form (For those 18 years old or older)**

Complete one of these forms for each adult who is registering for a district Royal Rangers event during 2013. The pastor's signature is required. The form may be signed by the senior pastor or a staff pastor who is familiar with the adult who is attending the event. Complete contact information, church information, and background check information is required.

If a copy of this form has already been submitted at a previous 2013 district Royal Rangers camp then the pastor's signature is not required for this camp. If you need to verify that a form has been submitted previously, e-mail jonathan.trower@hot.rr.com to confirm.

Form must be completely filled out and signed by your pastor to be valid.

Name (only one person per form) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone Number _____ Outpost Number _____

Church Name _____ Church City _____

Pastor's Certification for Church Worker/Adult: I am personally acquainted with the adult applicant for the North Texas District Royal Rangers camps, and in my opinion he is a competent and qualified youth worker. I know of no facts or allegations that raise any questions concerning his suitability for working with minors in any Royal Rangers activity. The church has on file the applicant's youth workers screening form. I acknowledge that my certification of this church worker/adult is good from now through the end of 2013.

Background Check Information (must have been completed within the past two years)

Date criminal background check was completed: _____

Name of company used for background check: _____

Results of background check: _____

If the background check revealed issues relevant to working with children, provide a detailed explanation on the back of this form.

Pastor's Signature _____

Printed Name _____

Position _____ Date _____

Reproduce this form as needed; one copy is needed for each adult attending an overnight event

Frontiersmen Camping Fellowship Knife and Black Powder Permission Form

I am the parent or guardian of _____ who is a member of the Royal Rangers Program. I give, him permission to sell, trade, give, receive, or barter and have in his possession during any FCF event, any knife or black powder firearm as is appropriate for his type of historical reenactment activity.

Please consider this document as written consent for my son to participate in any of the Frontiersmen Camping Fellowship activities which include black powder loading and shooting, knife and hawk throwing, flint and steel – fire starting, frontiersmen crafts and workshop classes, and any other activities conducted.

Signature of Parent or guardian

Date

If you do not want your son, _____ participating in any of the above activities list: _____

Signature of Parent or guardian

Date

If you are under the age of 18, you must have this form signed by your parent or guardian in order to participate in the above mentioned activities at the Trace and/or Rendezvous.

Parents please complete:

Name of Minor: _____

Name of Parent completing form: _____

Address: _____

City _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home phone and work phone: Home _____ Work _____

Age _____ Birth date of minor: _____

Any information we should know about:

**Shawnee Trail Chapter
Frontiersmen Camping Fellowship
2013 Dues**

Dues are \$30 per year for Old Timers (18 years old and older), and \$0 per year for Young Bucks (under 18). They are due and payable at the beginning of each year.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Outpost Number: _____

- Young Buck (under 18 years old)\$0/year
- Old Timer (18 years old or older).....\$30/year

Complete this form and mail it, along with your check (payable to North Texas Royal Rangers), to:

North Texas Royal Rangers
PO Box 838
Waxahachie, TX 75168-0838

For Office Use Only

Check Number: _____

Credit to: 11-4681