



THE PONY EXPRESS



Summer 1997

Volume 3 Issue 4

2 FUN DAYS START THE SUMMER OFF

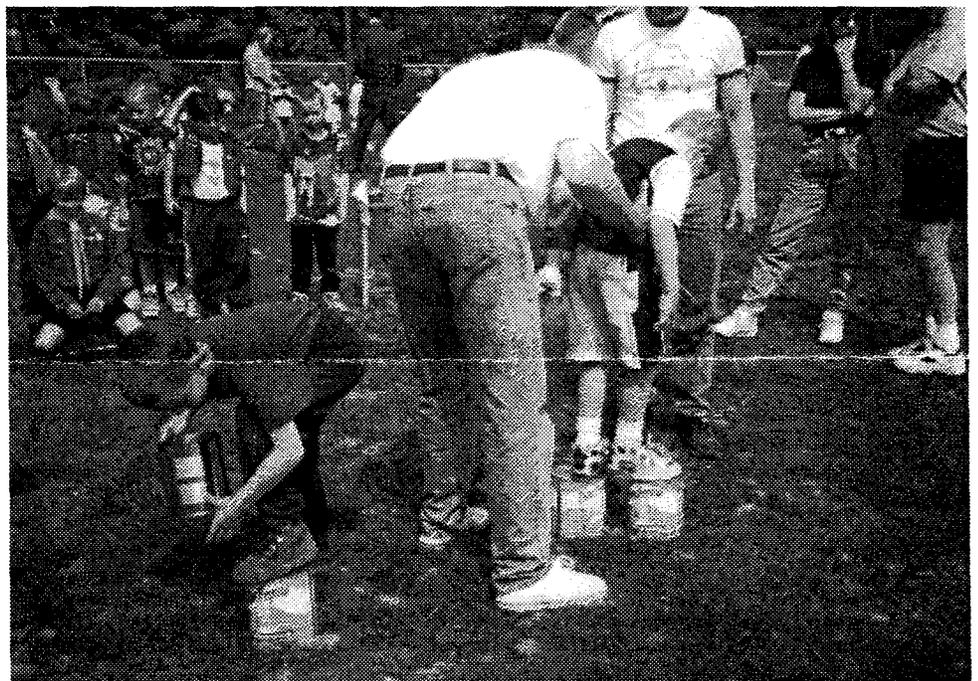
This June saw lots of excitement in the three states of the Northern NewEngland District. Straight Arrows and Buckaroos from around these states gathered at one of two outstanding Fun Days.

In Laconia, over 125 people came for fun and excitement. The fun began on Friday night as nearly 40 early arrivals enjoyed a kids crusade put on by Gary and Cindy Besaw. Featuring songs, puppets and stories, this was an excellent time of fun. Besides fun, 8 boys came forward for salvation at the end of the evening.

The next day, the boys had an outstanding time competing in the various events put together by Gary Ladeau. From Peanut Tossing to Chariot Racing, this fun day had it all. With over a dozen events for the boys to partake in, everyone was sure to find something they liked. At the end of the day, George Tusi gave a great devotion. When he finished, there was a tremendous response from the kids to his altar call. Overall, this was an excellent combination of fun and spiritual challenge.

Meanwhile, in Maine, another exciting event was taking place. The fun day here involved a great field trip to the Maine maritime Museum in Bath. Leaders had expressed an interest in trying something different for their fun day and this was the outstanding result. The boys expressed that they greatly enjoyed the models of ships in the museum and the one hour boat ride. The leaders and parents all expressed how much they also enjoyed this change of activity from the regular fun day style with several incorporating it into their home schooling day trip plans.

The group was given a tour of the buildings, with their displays of equipment, old boats, and some stories of how it used to be!!! Everyone brought a brown bag lunch and enjoyed the fresh air. Time was found to play on the grounds and investigate what they didn't get shown on the tour! The day closed with a devotion about how you can change and improve the methods of building boats, but God still uses the same pattern for making boys and girls into men and women. Over all, this trip was a very positive experience and one which everyone hopes will be repeated in the future.



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Here are just a few of the items inside!

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Meet the man known as *Two Feathers*.....See page 4

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A Note From the D.C.

Mark A. Blanchette - District Commander

Greetings Commanders! This year has already reached the half way point and shows no sign of slowing down. It makes you sit back and wonder where does the time go? The scriptures tell us that life is but a vapor or mist. Those words are so true, as is all scripture. We have just a short time to Reach, Teach and Keep boys for Christ in our community and nation.

The Pow Wow packet has been sent out to all of the outposts and you should begin to prepare for this big date. It is the district's goal to have at least 350 rangers in attendance. The first step in reaching this goal is to pre-register. We have the numbers to do this but we need your help. So, please send in your pre-registration to the Pow Wow Camp Commander, Gary Besaw. There are a lot of exciting events scheduled for the boys but the most exciting event is the council fire! That is where the Master Ranger will meet you and your boys. I trust that all of you are taking the time to fast and pray for this event. Let's go to Pow Wow with the expectancy of "Let's go and see what God will do."

I would like you to join me in welcoming three new senior commanders and outposts to NNED. They are: Sr. Commander Allan Mark of Outpost 17 in Jaffrey, New Hampshire, Sr. Commander Scott Stone of Outpost 19 in Milford, New Hampshire and Sr. Commander Harrison Hicks of Outpost 46 in Livermore Falls, Maine. The Northern New England District has 20 Chartered outposts with 90 Straight Arrows, 117 Buckaroos, 155 Pioneers, 74 Trailblazers, 13 Challengers (TrailRangers) and 124 Commanders. Those of you who haven't yet chartered please get them in. Also, if you know of any outposts that are currently running encourage them to charter as well.

The district staff is beginning to grow and there have been three new appointments made over the past few months and others are considering appointment. The Northern Section has Phil Adams as Sectional Commander and Ken Bustard as Deputy Sectional. The White Mountain Section recently brought on Ken Hatch as an Area Commander. There will be two strategic changes that will be taking place immediately after Pow Wow. The

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The Pony Express is a quarterly publication of the Northern New England District. Royal Rangers, Mark Blanchette - District Commander. The Pony Express is an excellent way to promote what is happening in your outpost, section and district. We welcome you to submit articles, photos, etc. Please send your articles to the address found on the back page. Articles may also be send to us via the internet at READYPGE@sover.net

While a subscription to this newsletter is sent free to the senior commander of each chartered outpost, any offerings to help defray the cost of this publication would be appreciated. If you, or anyone in your outpost would like their own copy, subscriptions are available for \$5.00 per year. Subscription requests may be sent to us at the address found on the back page. Checks should be made payable to N.N.E.D. Royal Rangers.



Christian Greetings to all my brothers & sisters. Praise God!!! He is moving in New England, and His revival is headed your way if you will let Him work through you. The work God is doing with people at CWC is awesome. People are being set free, healed, filled with the Holy Spirit and saved. God is moving, are you moving with Him? Reach out to Him now, He is waiting for you.

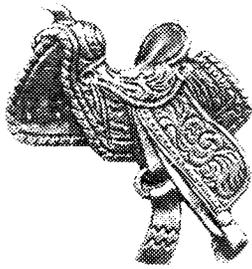
Guess I had better get back to the King's Pine news, but that is also part of it. We have started to hit the outdoors again and it is great to be together as a family again. The first event was the Family Rendezvous which was held over the Memorial Day weekend. We had a great time in fellowship and of course we ate good. We cooked the turkeys on a string this year. The rendezvous was kind of laid back this year, we did throw the Hawks and shoot a little, but mostly we just enjoyed being together again and starting the year off.

The fire service set for Friday night never was held, because everyone was too busy setting up and getting things ready. It seemed like a big hurry all the time and you couldn't relax. Our Lord knows when the time is right and Saturday night, it was the right time for communion with our Lord. Around 8:30 p.m. we started to sing and worship Him around the fire, no big setting just getting together as a family to worship Jesus. (Our version of the upper room, all in one accord). I had asked *Tall Timber* to sing a song that the Lord uses to really touch hearts, (Be Magnified, Oh Lord) when he sings it. After *Tall Timber* finished singing it, we just praised & worshipped Jesus and *Strong Bow* led us in to communion with our Lord. To say that our Lord was there, with us and pleased would be an understatement.

Continued on page 3 - FCF

FROM WHERE I SIT...

Rev. Gregg Randall
Men's Ministries
Director



STAYING ON THE CUTTING EDGE

Keith Drury e-mailed me an interesting article in his Tuesday Column some months ago that I think is good food for thought for those of us who are in various leadership capacities.

Why is it that some leaders reach their zenith and then plateau or enter a period of decline, while others continue to grow and expand, staying ahead of the pack even into old age? How is that some leaders fall off the cutting edge?

1. Leaders who fall off the cutting edge quit pushing after they got the leadership position they always wanted. Leaders who last keep dreaming.
2. Leadership tends to remove the leader from the people. The person who becomes out of touch with those whom he is leading soon falls off the cutting edge. Leaders who last listen.
3. Some leaders quit reading, attending seminars, learning. Leaders who last keep growing.
4. Leadership is risk taking. A leader must be willing to defy fear and introduce the future into the present. Get scared of change and fall off the cutting edge. Leaders who last take action in spite of their fear.
5. Some leaders fear recruiting others under them. They carefully and strategically work to eliminate strong people who "cause trouble" or ask "bothersome questions." Leaders who last recruit strong people, not weak people.
6. Fatigue quickly knocks a leader off the cutting edge. Imbalanced

FCF

ment. The Holy Spirit spoke through *Music Maker* and *Strong Bow* was the interpreter the first time. The second time the Holy Spirit spoke it was through Pat (*Eagle Claw's* wife). The message was, "The Lord is here waiting for you, reach out to Him, what are you waiting for?" He is waiting for you to reach out to Him. If you could have seen the Lord heal hurts and mend hearts that night. You would know how hard it is to put into words. Teens with tears streaming down their face, men & women crying out to God. Brothers & Sisters praying for one another as our Lord touched them. What blessings we received from our Lord because we had opened our hearts to him. That night we sat around the fire and worshipped with one another for around four hours and it seemed like minutes. I wished it could of been Friday night when there was more of our brothers & sisters there but it wasn't the Lords time then.

Sunday we had a small song worship and Sunday evening we went to Christian Worship Center (CWC) to hold the service as requested. *Two Feathers* was the guest speaker and he did a great job. (a mite long winded) :- heehee Just kidding *Two Feathers*. You did a real bang up job and I learned thing that Rangers were involved in ways that I didn't know about. Thank you for the fine job of telling what God had laid on your heart. We were blessed by it. Of course the fact that when you fired your muzzleloader to wake them up had their attention on you. After the service we went for pizza. Can you just picture 40 people

workaholism will weary a leader. Leaders who last pace themselves.

7. Personal sin sequestered somewhere in a leader's life is a time bomb that will one day explode. A leader who lasts, repents of private sin and makes a commitment to live a holy life in Christ.

Scriptures exhort us to "not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up" (Gal. 6:9) and "whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him" (Col. 3:17). May we always remain on the cutting edge as leaders.

going into a pizza place with outfits on? Some still had the knife and hawks on, right, *Firestick*. Of course Willow looked sharp in her Indian dress also. George, the owner of Kozy's Pizza in Barrington really got a kick out of it and he treated us great. Maybe *Two Feathers* still had his muzzleloader with him :-), although I didn't see it. We did see new faces this year and more teens Praise God. The total numbers was 72 which was great. I have to admit, it is nice to see the young people there, especially the teens. When somebody tells me that teens are trouble makers into drug, sex, etc. I just look him in the eye and tell him he has to meet our teens. They look great in outfits too.

The Second event was the King's Pine Phase one testing. This is the first step in becoming a King's Pine brother. I received 18 applications but only 14 showed up for the test. 11 passed the Phase 1 test and will move on to the Frontier Adventure. Out of the 11, 7 are boys (Praise the Lord). Jesus is moving in Rangers and in the King's Pine chapter, so be looking for Him. Some of the ones trying to join have already picked (been given) a name, right *TinyBear?* (*Little Bear* likes that because he is shorter than him) and of course there is *Wandering Pete*. Seems he just likes to 'wander' around looking for the north star. Everyone who took the test fit right in with us and we had a great time with them. Hope they learn how to cook :-). Does anyone know what a Peanut butter sandwich with nothing else on it taste like? (dry, dry, dry) right Ken?

As I close I would like to thank the brothers who showed up to test and help out. Also to those who didn't pass the test, please try again next year. A King's Pine brother will be contacting you to help you.

The next event is the Pow Wow work day July 26th, then it is on to Pow Wow in Aug. Remember the village is a working village and outfits are required for all living in the village. If you stay in the village please contact me for the registration form.

Love in Christ

Woolly Bear

P.S., Thanks *Music Maker* for the painting, outstanding job. *StrongBow*, you are truly blessed.

FOCUS ON THE STAFF



MEET GEORGE TUSI

I was born in Brockton Massachusetts and raised in the suburbs of Boston where I attended Royal Rangers. From the age of six to thirteen, I would often cross town on the subways to get to Everett and Revere where I was actively involved with S.N.E.D. outpost #2 and outpost #22. Eventually, the Quincy Glad Tidings A/G started Royal Rangers outpost #31 where I attended Sunday school and enjoyed the anointed sermon of Rev. Hugh Corey and later Rev Bill Mcpherson.

Each Sunday afternoon I would go with my father (an evangelist) to nursing homes and help in ministering to senior citizens who lived there. I also recall helping pioneer a church in South Weymouth which later moved to Rockland, Mass. At age thirteen my family moved to Laconia, NH. There, I became a trailblazer with outpost #2 and completed the Boatmaster rating as a Sea Ranger. A couple of years later in 1978, I complete the L.T.C. and was initiated into F.C.F. as one of our district's first Young Bucks. Today I am a member of the Trapper's Brigade and have complete the Wilderness Rating. I have also completed the Buckaroo/Straight Arrow L.T.C. the outpost councilman and the Urban Commanders L.T.C. I have served on the district training chief staff for a couple of years and completed NTC, BSTC and I am especially proud to be an active Light for the Lost councilmen. I still live in Laconia and serve the district men's ministry department as the White Mountains Sectional Commander.

I have a beautiful wife named Devina and four children. Steven 14, Shawna 8, Saundra 7, and Crystal 5. Steven is in trailblazers and a Jr. LFTL councilman. Shawna, Saundra and Crystal are Missionettes, Daisies and Prims and are growing in Christ daily. As for me and my house, we shall serve the Lord. I currently attend church at Praise Assembly of God in Tilton NH. where I am under the Holy Ghost teachings of Jesus Christ through the anointed Reverend Mike Washburn. I serve as a commander at Outpost 36 and enjoy working with a quality staff and an outstanding group of boys. My highlight in Royal Rangers is when God answers prayer. I pray earnestly for divine appointments asking the Lord for just one more, one more boy to reach teach and keep for Jesus Christ.

*George Tusi
Two FEATHERS*



George Tusi, shown here giving the closing devotional at the NH/ VT Fun Day.



READY FOR ANYTHING?

(OR Pillsbury Dough Boy
Wanted for Attempted Murder)

AP, Arkansas A woman named Linda went to Arkansas last week to visit her in-laws, and while there, went to a store. She parked next to a car with a woman sitting in it, her eyes closed and hands behind her head, apparently sleeping.

When Linda came out a while later, she again saw the woman, her hands still behind her head but with her eyes open. The woman looked very strange, so Linda tapped on the window and said "Are you okay?"

The woman answered "I've been shot in the head, and I am holding my brains in."

Linda didn't know what to do; so she ran into the store where store officials called the paramedics. They had to break into the car because the door was locked. When they got in, they found that the woman had bread dough on the back of her head and in her hands. A Pillsbury biscuit canister had exploded, apparently from the heat in the car, making a loud explosion like that of a gunshot, and hit her in the head.

When she reached back to find what it was, she felt the dough and thought it was her brains. She passed out from fright at first, then attempted to hold her brains in!

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It's time for you to send in your \$5 subscription fee. Remember that your subscription helps us send the Pony Express out to all the outposts. Thank you for your support of this communication tool!

Commanders Online

Yesterdays 'E-Mail'?

In this age of Email and the World Wide Web, there are many dangerous things that you can get into as a Christian, but as with many other things in this world, there are many positive uses for this technology. The power of information is sometimes underestimated. Having the right information at the right time can save lives, and maybe even souls. What I'm talking about is Royal Rangers online and connected, sharing information to help each other in the battle we wage for a boy's soul. We share information in our monthly commanders meetings as well as the district commanders meetings and this is a very useful tool to unite us with fellow Commanders and other Christians, but sometimes we can't make it to these important meetings and important information is delayed or sometimes lost. Imagine having the minutes of every meeting that happens in the district at your finger tips, whether you were personally there or not, or maybe online training tips for new commanders or training material online for every outpost in the world to share.. sounds incredible doesn't it? It's happening today all over the world. Royal Rangers from Australia are communicating with commanders in the US, Britain and many other places around the globe. Royal Rangers are ready, ready for anything - even cyberspace. The potential for the sharing of information and the Gospel is unlimited.



The beginning of the end for the Pony Express.

Another positive aspect of the WWW is the ability to research questions about earning Rank and Merits. I am developing a Web page that will list links or pointers for each and every Merit that a boy can earn. This page applies to Commanders as well as boys in researching topics for Merits/Features as well as learning things they might never have the resources to check out. Check out the GMA links page at: <http://www.tiac.com/users/kpoirier/outpost3.htm>

The District Web Page has pointers to:

- The online Pony Express
- The online 1997 Pow-Wow Packet
- The 1997 District Calendar
- The NNED Staff members and Email Addresses

Some Other links:

The unofficial national ranger website is <http://www.rangernet.org/>

The NNED district page is located at <http://www.tiac.com/users/kpoirier/nned.htm/>

Keith Poirier

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Royal Rangers and Boys Scouts

(The following was sent via email. It reflects one young man's views about the merits of both Royal Rangers and Boy Scouts).

I have been asked to express my reflections of both the Royal Ranger Program and the Boy Scout Program. I earned both my Gold Medal of Achievement with a Gold Buffalo and my Eagle Scout with a Bronze Palm. I have spent over ten years in both programs. During that time, I made some observations about both programs which have allowed me to compare them. I cannot say one is better than the other. I can only compare my own personal experiences in BSA Troop 1 of Somers, N.Y. and Royal Ranger Outpost 118 of Yorktown, N.Y. I think both programs offer a wealth of knowledge and experiences.

“The young Rangers have direct contact with someone that cares about them”

Before I begin, I would like to say that being an active member in both programs, playing sports, and keeping up with your grades in school is possible. I did it, but I will not deceive you, it will take a lot of work and even more dedication on your part. However, it is worth the work and time you spend. My experiences in both programs has prepared me for my future. Presently, I attend the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado. I am working towards an officer commission in the United States Air Force. Those days as a Royal Ranger seem so far in the past, but there are certain things that I will always remember. Some of my favorite memories are of the campfires on Pow Wows, the friends that I made though Royal Rangers and Boy Scouts and, of course, the special GMA and Eagle Scout ceremonies.

The Boy Scouts is set up so the older Scouts can take charge of the Troop and teach the younger boys the skills and knowledge they need to advance. There are no age divisions in a Troop to cause problems, especially in a large Troop like mine. Too many boys with no guidance causes mass confusion and chaos. There was very little guidance or supervision on the part of the parents. We were left to do what we wanted to and the parents assisted us in planning trips and whatever else we asked of them. There was very limited adult involvement. In fact, most parents did not take any role in the Troop at all. As a result, our Troop played games most of the night or just fooled around and talked. You did not learn anything unless you took your own initiative and did it yourself. The Troop was not very focused and, as a result, we were there just to be there and have fun.

The Royal Rangers is a similar program for boys. It is divided into different age groups and a few adults are active in each group. The young Rangers still have a lot of responsibilities and are the fundamental piece of the program. However, the Ranger Leaders guide the boys and young men and teach them important skills. Rangers hone their camping skills. They learn the requirements for advancement. Most importantly, they learn about Jesus Christ and grow in their relationship with Him. The Leaders and the boys build a team, and together strengthen their walk with Jesus Christ. The adult involvement is a key difference between the two programs. The young Rangers have direct contact with someone that cares about them. A boy will notice that and will respond to the dedication of their leaders. The dedication of the boys and, more importantly, the leader in the small groups of Rangers is what makes it successful in teaching young men about God. There are still games and fun activities, and through

those activities and lessons a boy begins to understand who Jesus Christ is and how to live for him. God is the focus of Rangers.

The Boy Scout Code and the Ranger Motto are similar to each other in text but very different in application. The Boy Scout Code is: A Scout is Trustworthy, Loyal, Helpful, Friendly, Courteous, Kind, Obedient, Cheerful, Thrifty, Brave, Clean and Reverent. These concepts are difficult for most adults to understand. It is even more difficult for teenage boys. Without good role models to teach the boys what each part of that code means, the words are meaningless. In the Rangers, the adults that are working with the boys exemplify the Ranger Motto. The Ranger Motto is: A Royal Ranger is Alert, Clean, Honest, Courteous, Loyal, Courageous, Obedient, Spiritual. ***The boys not only memorize the words, but they learn what these concepts mean by seeing them displayed and followed.*** The concepts are still hard to grasp, but it is easier when there is someone there to explain them.

Both the Eagle Scout Ceremony and the Gold Medal of Achievement Ceremony are very special events that I still hold dear in my heart. Behind the Eagle Scout Rank is a lot of hard work, organization, and paperwork. It is memorable in my mind because I had completed the Boy Scouting program. Some of my fellow Scouts that achieved their Eagle before I did had a joint ceremony. I would discourage this. I think that when a young man has put forth the amount of work that is necessary to obtain such a high honor, he should receive his own ceremony. It makes that achievement even more special in his mind.

When I got my Gold Medal of Achievement, I thought about all of the friends that I had made in Rangers. I also remembered the support from not only my parents and my Ranger Leaders but the church body as well. It marked the completion of the Royal Ranger program. At my ceremony, political figures among others were invited. I think this was important because it increased the awareness of the Ranger program in the political arena. It allowed the politicians to realize that even in today's society people still uphold Christian values and morals. I would encourage

Continued on page 7 - RR

Here are some
ACTION photos of
this years Family
Rendezvous...

*(Hmmm... seems like the action in
FCF usually centers on food...
Where do we sign up???)*

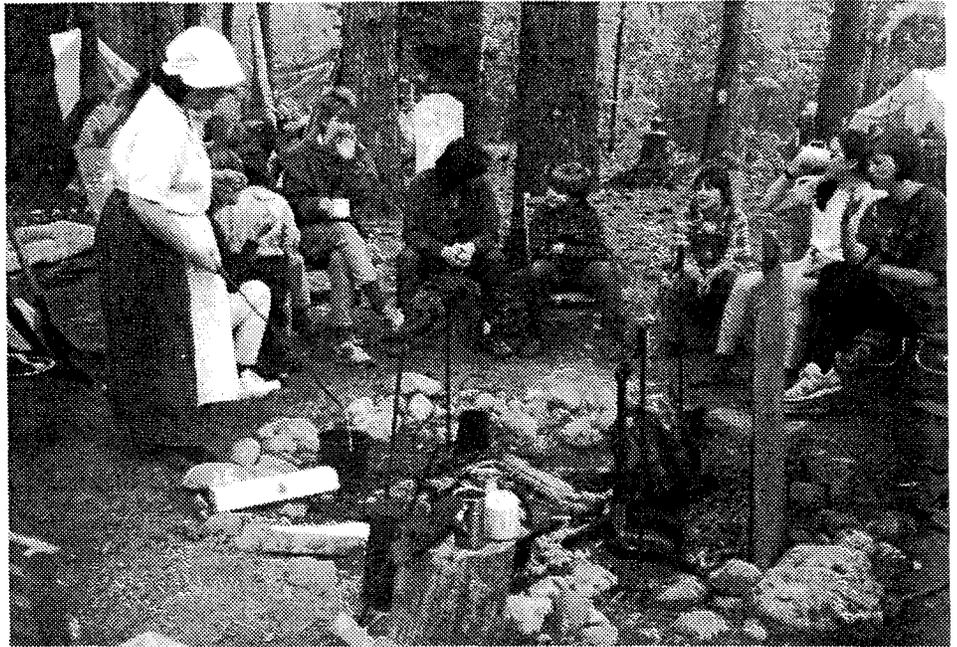
RR

the leaders of both programs to go to each other's ceremonies if possible. I think you will understand more about the other program and what it is all about.

As I close, I would like to offer encouragement. To the Young Rangers—you can do it! It takes dedication, hard work and time but it is worth it in the end. I guarantee it. To the Trailblazers and Air/Sea and Trail Rangers—stick with it. High School is going to offer you a lot of opportunities. Prioritize your life and put God first. He will show you the way to go. Help the younger boys. They look up to you even though you don't think so. To the Leaders—you hold in your hands the future. Trust in God and seek Him with your boys. He will show you what is right. They are a part of your family. They look to you for guidance. Some of them look to you for a paternal role model. It is a long road and the impact you have on them will be great. You will be rewarded accordingly.

If you would like to talk to me about anything, feel free to. My E mail address from 2 August 97 until 20 May 99 is: LandgrebeDL99.CS15.USAFA@USAFA.af.mil
Or my Mailing address is:

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May God Bless You-
Donald Landgrebe



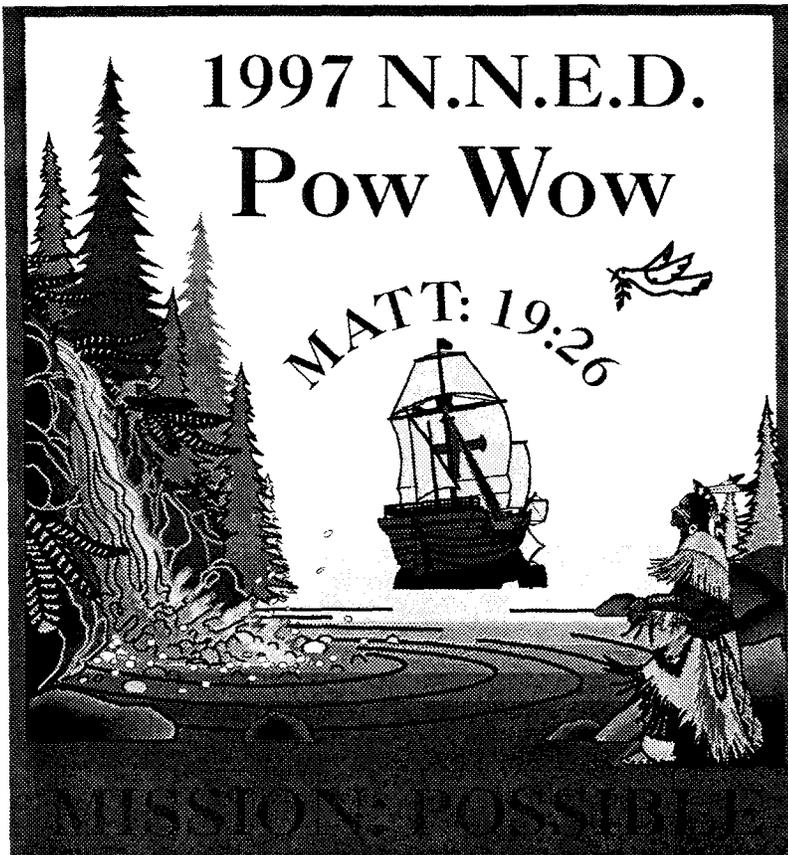
DC

Training Coordinator position will be filled by Steve Melcher and Gary Besaw will be the Public Relations Coordinator. I am still looking for some men to fill other positions on the district staff. If you are interested and feel that God wants you in a staff position please give me a call.

I would like to remind you of this years theme; "MISSION POSSIBLE". I know that some of you men have been going through some tough times both physically and spiritually. The Word says that "With God all things are possible". When we are weak, it is then we realize that we are made strong through Christ Jesus. He is faithful to strengthen us when we think we have nothing left to give. Until then, peace be your journey.

His bondservant,

Mark A. Blanchette
District Commander



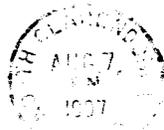
SEE YOU
AT
POW WOW!
Coming in the
Next Issue:

- The District Pow Wow
- Fall Trace
- Meet Your Staff

All this and more in
the next Pony Express...

THE PONY EXPRESS

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