



## “Wings of Eagles” Maine Yukon Day 2008

By Commander Jay M. Woodward  
Pony Express Editor

On February 15-17, 2008, NNED Royal Rangers held its 14th Annual Maine Yukon Day – Winter Pow Wow at Camp Fairhaven in Brooks, Maine. This year’s event saw 244 attendees- 159 boys and 85 leaders-the second highest total in MYD history, representing 13 Outposts. The Scripture Verse of this year’s MYD was Isaiah 40:31, “...but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.” On Friday, Outposts arrived for registration and claimed their sleeping quarters. It was a smooth process. That evening, after all the Outposts had put their gear away, there was an evening introduction by Camp Commander Ken Bustard and District Commander Jerry Love, and to help bring the spiritual emphasis on the weekend, the MYD Camp Chaplain, Pastor Tim Haynes led the group through a couple of worship songs and gave a brief devotion, reminding all that it was no coincidence that everyone came, and that God has ordained this event. Following this



service, boys were off to their bunks, and leaders soon followed, after the evening Commanders’ meeting.

On Saturday morning, it was up and at ‘em, as breakfast was served, followed by morning assembly and devotion. During this time, as well as evening service, patrols got to perform their songs, skits, and yells, which

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of course had to meet Commander Ken's mark of approval, as he was watching with his gong right by his side. These all added up to points for the Top Outpost! In addition, patrol guides had to present themselves with their patrol standards as "all present and accounted for" properly before District Training Coordinator Jason A. Wright, who professionally executed his duty! Following the morning assembly, it was time to begin the Yukon Race for Outstanding Patrols. There were twelve different stations that each patrol had to pass in order to receive points: Dog Sled Review, Fire and Hot Chocolate Stop, Ice



sleeping overnight outdoors, in order to earn the Polar Bear patch; the Yukon Jack Snowmobile Trek, which involves traveling 10 miles with a snowmobile and camping out overnight; the Yukon Jack 10-Mile Trek, which involves a 10 mile round-trip overnight hike; finally, there was the Yukon Jack Hunter's Trek, which boys had to have patches from the first three events in order to participate, as well as Frontiersman Camping Fellowship membership. Three Ranger boys, Ryley Paquette, Nathan MacGilvray, and Troy Lavasseur, completed this challenging event!

On Saturday night, all of the boys and leaders gathered for the evening service. Following worship and songs, skits, and yells, as well as the presentation of Commander's Awards, it was time for the Guest Speaker. Pastor Nick



Rescue Station, Matchless Fire, Over The Ridge, Emergency First Aid, Fire Craft, Ladder Lashing, Marksmanship, Orienteering, Snare, and of course, "The Wall"! There were also activities for Ranger Kids who were present. Commander Rick Philbrick and his daughter Bethany led Ranger Kids in various indoor activities, as well as downhill sledding on the slope outdoors! They were definitely not left out of having a good time!

Many brave boys, and some brave leaders, got to participate in one of four different outdoor treks: the Polar Bear Club, which consists of building snow shelters or pitching a tent and

Bemis, Youth Pastor for The Rock Church in Bangor, Maine, gave a timely devotion based on this year's Scripture Verse that resonated in the hearts of boys. Commander Jerry commented, "I think he was real good...so good I wish he would have gone on longer. Pastor Nick had a message that seemed to be reaching the boys, and we could have taken more of his great devotion". Many boys eagerly responded to the Holy Spirit during the altar call, and received prayer from Commanders as well as other boys. It was indeed a moving time! Following the service, boys who were heading outdoors for the night headed off on their respective treks.



On Sunday morning, following breakfast, the top patrols were announced, and boys could pick up prizes in order of the most patrol points. The Top Outpost for MYD 2008 went to Outpost #60 in Waterville, Maine, a new Outpost in only its first year of existence, but went home with this prestigious award! Congratulations to Outpost #60!

It was also a bittersweet occasion on Sunday morning, as Commander Ken announced to the men and boys present that it would not only be his last year as MYD Camp Commander, but that after MYD, he was leaving his current position in Rangers, to begin a new season of ministry in his life. Commander Jerry commented, "It was

a great 'swan song' for Commander Ken. He went out on a high note, and he will certainly be missed in the future. I can assure you, we haven't heard the last of Ken Bustard in Royal Rangers." Also, thank-you's went out to the women who helped out at MYD; namely the ones who made and served all of the meals. Once again, Grace Beaufort, Linda Blomerth, Sue Haynes, and Rhonda Clark worked together wonderfully to prepare breakfast, lunch, and dinner and keep men and boys well-fed and happy. Once again, thank you, ladies! Following the awards and recognitions, Pastor Tim gave the closing prayer and dismissal, and MYD 2008 came to a close!

It was indeed a great Maine Yukon Day. Reflecting on the weekend, Commander Jerry observed, "I think things went very smoothly, probably as well as they ever have. On the whole, it was probably one of the finest winter events we have ever put on!" Commander Ken added, "This was a bittersweet event for me, since I will be 'passing the mantle.' I have invested a lot of hours and sweat into building the incredible team of leaders that make MYD possible. I will miss working with them." Commander Ken may be gone, but have no fear: next year, Maine Yukon Day will be back, and NNED will carry the mantle and continue the tradition of excellence! The best is yet to come!



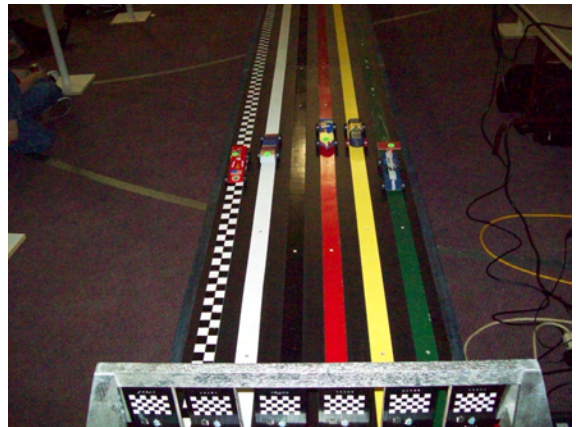
## “Revved Up” for Pinewood Derby 2008

By Commander Jay M. Woodward  
Pony Express Editor

On Saturday, April 12, NNED Royal Rangers held the 3rd annual NNE 600 Pinewood Derby at the Curtis Lake Christian Church in Sanford, Maine. A total of 41 boys and 15 leaders registered cars for the Derby. The contestants spent weeks cutting, sanding, painting, fine-tuning, and putting the finishing touches on their sleek racing machines, and now they were ready to compete. Deputy District Commander Kendall Sperrey, who served as Pinewood Derby Coordinator, along with his pit crew, had spent hours preparing the church gymnasium and track for the day’s event! Indeed, everyone who came was really “revved-up” for this year’s Derby, which included many proud parents cheering in the stands!

After the morning registration, participants got their cars weighed to determine if they qualified, went to the tune-up station if necessary, and waited on the edge of their seats for their car to go zooming down the track. After the opening prayer from the track chaplain, Pastor Tim Haynes, and then the reciting of the Pledge of Al-

legiance, it was time to hear the familiar, “Start Your Engines!” The race announcer was none other than District Commander Jerry Love. Each age group raced together: first Ranger Kids, then Discovery Rangers, Adventure Rangers, Expedition Rangers, and finally Leaders. Following these races, there was the Grand Championship, which was the big prize that everyone was most excited about!



When boys weren’t watching the races, they got the chance to drive the simulated NASCAR racing video, complete with a protective PVC pipe cage! There was also concession stand, stocked with freshly made hamburgers and hot dogs, soft drinks, nachos and cheese, and more. The concession was manned by Heidi Dickey, along with Andy and Ruth Carver, who kept the food coming to satisfy the racers’ appetites!

To keep the focus of the day on Christ, District Training Coordinator Jason A. Wright gave a half-time devotion, keyed on the importance of keeping and playing by the rules, not just for Pinewood Derby, but playing by and obeying God’s rules. Following this, the races were back on!



When the final cars were raced in the competition for the Grand Championship, boys and leaders eagerly awaited the results. For Ranger Kids, Davis Furge of OP #25 won first place; Kyle Sperrey, also of OP #25, won first place for Discovery Rangers; Jonah Crandall of OP #36 took the top prize for Adventure Rangers, and Steve Kroh of Op #11 was tops for Expedition Rangers! Commander Greg Stanley of OP #25 won first place in the Leaders/Dads category. There were also Special Recognition Awards given for Best Paint Job, Most Unusual, Best of Show and Most Authentic (for a complete list of winners, see below). The Grand Championship Prize went to GMA recipient Ryley Paquette of OP #11, who was unable to attend, as he and his father, Commander Bruce Paquette, were in Panama on a Pathfinder missions trip. However, his presence was still made known on the race track! Congratulations, Ryley! Along with trophies, boys got to pick from various prizes, such as NASCAR shirts, hats, and pens, donated by various individual donors and auto dealerships. Afterwards, Pastor Tim closed the Derby in prayer, and Pinewood Derby 2008 crossed the Finish Line!

Commander Kendall commented, “Overall, it was a great Derby. We had some awesome

trophies to hand out and competition was really tight in most races. I’ve noticed a big improvement in the quality and speed of our the cars since the first District race three years ago.” And it should continue to improve, as boys and leaders get revved-up for the next Pinewood Derby!



### DERBY RESULTS

#### Ranger Kids

1st Place	Davis Furge	OP25
2nd Place	Steve Southard	
3rd Place	Zach Stanley	OP25
4th Place	Corey Combs	OP21

#### Discovery Rangers

1st Place	Kyle Sperrey	OP25
2nd Place	Dawson Furge	OP25
3rd Place	Josh Crandall	OP36
4th Place	Jarrrod Dyer	OP36

#### Adventure Rangers

1st Place	Jonah Crandall	OP36
2nd Place	Derrick Stanley	OP25
3rd Place	Justin Kroh	OP11
4th Place	Richard Southard	



Expedition Rangers

- 1st Place Steve Kroh OP11
- 2nd Place Ryle Paquette OP11
- 3rd Place Deven Dickey OP25
- 4th Place Kaleb Sperrey OP25

Leaders/Dads

- 1st Place Greg Stanley OP25
- 2nd Place Bruce Paquette OP11
- 3rd Place Dale Montoya OP40

Grand Championship Race

- 1st Place Ryley Paquette OP11
- 2nd Place Jonah Crandall OP36
- 3rd Place Steve Kroh OP11
- 4th Place Deven Dickey OP25

Special Recognition Trophies

- Best Paint Job David Furge/  
Corey Combs
- Most Unusual Ken Kroh
- Best of Show Dan Bernier
- Most Authentic Wayne Sawyer

## Northern New England's Best-District Ranger of the Year 2007

By Jay M. Woodward  
Pony Express Editor

On November 17, NNED Royal Rangers held the 2007 District Ranger of the Year (ROTY) testing at the Curtis Lake Christian Church in Sanford, Maine. 7 boys from around the District came to have their Ranger skills tested to earn this prestigious honor. Anyone who has been involved in the Royal Rangers ministry knows about the Gold Medal of Achievement (GMA) and the stories about the boys who have

earned it along the way. But ROTY is another special recognition for boys who have demonstrated outstanding ability in Rangers. The purpose of ROTY, according to the National Royal Rangers Office, is to challenge boys to set goals for achievement that have a pre-determined set of rewards. As District Commander Jerry Love said, "What better way to measure a boy's real progress, than to have him evaluate his own learning on a yearly basis. ROTY is where the rubber meets the road...there's no getting around it. If a boy is learning and leading, then he will show it when he goes to Ranger of the Year." Commander Rob Cunningham, ROTY Coordinator, added, "it gives them the opportunity to be a goal-oriented person, to set goals for their future, goals that they have to challenge themselves to achieve."

Despite its title, more than one boy can be a Ranger of the Year! The new ROTY program is designed to develop and train as many boys as possible to become Rangers of the Year. Under the old ROTY program, only one boy could receive the award. The award is given to each age group at the Outpost, Section, District, Regional, and National Levels. Boys from all four age groups (Ranger Kids, Discovery, Adventure, and Expedition) must first have earned a





required number of points on their ROTY application for their respective age group. Upon qualification as Ranger of the Year at the Outpost level, they first test at the Sectional level. The boys in Discovery, Adventure, and Expedition Rangers who qualify as Sectional Ranger of the Year are eligible to participate in District ROTY testing. In order to become a District ROTY, the boys must study and be well-versed in the various skills that they learn in Rangers. The skills that the boys are evaluated on at ROTY are centered around the four ways boys grow: Mentally, Physically, Socially, and Spiritually.

On November 17th, the boys were given a warm opening from Commander Love, who gave a brief devotion from 1 Corinthians 9:25, telling the boys to “run in such a way as to get the prize.” Following dismissal, the boys were tested in different areas for each age group, as outlined in their respective curriculum. All boys were evaluated on their uniforms, which were given intense scrutiny by Security/Color Guard Coordinator Jason A. Wright. They were also tested on their memorization of the plan of Salvation, the famous “Romans Road”.

There were the different areas of testing for each of the age groups present. Discovery Rangers were evaluated on their choice of three

of four Red and Blue merits; Insect Study, Tool Craft, Rope Craft and Astronomy, as well as eight Orange Bible Merits. Adventure Rangers were evaluated on their choice of three of four Gold and Green merits; Camp Safety, Cycling, First Aid/CPR, and Orienteering, as well as eight Brown Bible Merits. The lone Expedition Ranger who was testing, GMA and Saber recipient Ryley Paquette, chose to be tested in the Trail Rangers merits of Advanced Backpacking, Wilderness Survival, and the optional merit of Atomic Energy! Also, Ryley was evaluated on Spirit Challenges, which is the Expedition Bible Study Curriculum.

In addition, Adventure and Expedition Rangers each had to give a 3-to-5 minute informative speech on the topic, “How can I as a Christian change or influence a secular world?” They also had to answer questions in an interview, with questions on hobbies, interests, and their goals in Royal Rangers and the church. Commander Jerry listened to their speeches, asked questions, and provided his own wisdom and advice to the boys. All of these different areas of study, even the proper completion of application forms, added up to valuable points! Boys who received a total score between 70% and 85% received the Excellent Level of Achievement. Boys who scored higher than 85% were given the Outstanding Level of Achievement.

When all of the testing was completed, and the scores were checked and re-checked, it was time for the awards to be given. At the closing ceremony, Commanders Jerry and Rob had the privilege of presenting the awards. Four boys received the Excellent rating, and two boys received the Outstanding rating, for a total of six boys becoming Ranger of the Year!

For three boys, Ryley Paquette and Nathan MacGilvary of Outpost 11, and Kyle Constable

of Outpost 21, it wasn't over yet. They were invited to attend the Northeast Region Ranger of the Year testing, held on January 5, 2008 in Staten Island, New York, and the opportunity to become Regional Rangers of the Year, alongside other boys throughout the Northeast. Ryley Paquette noted, "I've got some pretty good friends down there. It'll be fun to see them again and get back into the old competition."

To become a Ranger of the Year is a reward that is earned, the result of lots of hard work, study, devotion, commitment, and plenty of guidance, encouragement, and especially prayer, from dedicated Royal Ranger leaders. It doesn't stop with ROTY however. As Commander Jerry noted, "The boys who go to Ranger of the Year, are the ones who, in the end, become the top leaders in their Outposts". These boys who have achieved Ranger of the Year, and all the parents and Commanders who helped them along the way, truly are Northern New England's Best!



### ROTY Results

#### Outstanding Level of Achievement:

- Ryley Paquette, Outpost 11
- Nathan MacGilvary, Outpost 11

#### Excellent Level of Achievement:

- Corey Combs, Outpost 21
- Kyle Constable, Outpost 21
- Derrick Stanley, Outpost 25
- Zachary Stanley, Outpost 25

#### Certificate of Participation:

- Daniel McKinney, Outpost 36

## Around NNED- News and Notes

### NNED Royal Rangers at National Council

On February 15-17, the 2008 Royal Rangers National Council was held in Springfield, Missouri. District Commander Jerry Love and five other District Staff members (and one Ranger wife-Sue Haynes) traveled out to the annual Conference, whose 2008 theme was "Taking Rangers to the iPod Generation." They joined Ranger leaders from around the United States to listen to National Commander Doug Marsh and the National Staff unveil an exciting new vision for Rangers to be unveiled in the next several years, including important changes and updates to the different aspects of the ministry! District Commander Jerry Love and Commander Jason Wright dressed up as Ice Cream vendors, and performed a humorous skit regarding "choices" in front of the national audience! Staff members Tim Haynes, Kendall Sperrey, Dana Lemieux and Jay Woodward, as well as Love and Wright, attended many different workshops and classes, and brought back lots of vital information! In their spare time, they got to explore the huge Bass Pro shop in Springfield, tour the James River A/G mega-church, and, of course, catch thrown rolls at the famous Lambert's Café! Indeed, it was a National Council to remember!



## Regional Conference 2008- A New Vision

By Commander Jay M. Woodward  
Pony Express Editor



On January 24-25, Northeast Region Royal Rangers held its 18th Annual Leaders Conference at the Lehigh Valley Hotel and Conference Center in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. The Conference's theme was "Great Father, Great Son!" For the previous 17 years, the annual conference was held in Falling Waters, West Virginia, but the Regional Staff decided to take a step of faith and embrace a change. As a result, a near-record 355 commanders and spouses turned out for this important weekend of fellowship, training, and drawing closer to the Lord. From Northern New England, eight leaders made the journey to the Conference, bringing with them a full-fledged winter scene, to help promote Maine Yukon Day and Winter National Training Camp (WNTC). The facility proved to be a big change from the previous location. As District Commander/Regional Public Relations Coordinator Jerry Love observed, "The facilities were good.....the

rooms were great, the food was good, and overall, it was a huge step up."

In addition, there was a very special Guest Speaker: National Commander Doug Marsh came to share his heart and his vision for the Rangers ministry, and meet with Commanders. Indeed, the Conference began with much anticipation and excitement. By Friday morning, when most Commanders arrived and checked in to their spacious hotel rooms, the classes began. During Friday and Saturday, leaders were given a wide variety of training classes in enhance their ministry skills, including the NRA Range Officer Safety Course, First Aid/CPR, and different LTA Modules, including Ranger Basics, Ranger Kids Skills, Discovery/ Expedition Activities, Outpost Chaplain, Senior Commander, and Your Legacy. District Training Coordinator Jason A. Wright served as an instructor, as did Instructor Trainer Dana Lemieux, who taught a class on a subject he knows an awful lot about: Backpacking!



There were also activities for the ladies, with a special ladies devotional, craft time, and a shopping trip to a nearby mall! And of course, on Saturday there was the world-famous Regional Auction, with Commander Jerry play-



ing his famous role of auctioneer, selling items donated from all across the region, from New Jersey blueberry iced tea to food baskets to FCF costumes, and even a bottle of home-made root beer that ended up selling for \$800! All for a good cause, as the proceeds go toward missions and operating expenses to help Northeast Region Royal Rangers. NNED even brought some special new friends: on Saturday night, a flock of 10 penguins joined Commander Jerry in singing “WNTC” to the tune of “YMCA”, to motivate leaders into attending February’s WNTC in Winthrop, Maine. These fine-feathered friends were brought to the conference courtesy of the talents of Commander Judy Tilton. They re-



ceived a roaring applause! Northeast Regional Coordinator Dwight Walters commented, “I am always amazed at the things Commander Love and the NNED come up with. I even noticed some non-NNED dressed up as penguins...it’s contagious!”

On both Friday and Saturday night, leaders were led into the awesome presence of God by the Dunamais Worship Team from Bethlehem. Following worship, Commander Marsh shared an important message with the audience, reminding that Rangers is not a program, it is a ministry to “preach the gospel.” Using the Conference’s Scripture verses, Luke 1:14a and 1:15a, he also encouraged Commanders to believe in the dreams that God has given them for the ministry, no matter how big they are. Many leaders responded to the Holy Spirit’s leading during the altar calls, and poured out their hearts before the Lord. It was indeed a powerfully moving experience! As Commander Dwight observed, “I thought Commander Marsh delivered two excellent messages for the leaders of our Region. I believe this was indeed God’s Word for us at this time and I feel that the leaders will respond.” At the Conference’s end, leaders went back to their Outposts with greater training and a greater sense of God’s purpose for their ministries, and their lives!

As Commander Jerry commented, “I think this was a great Conference, seeing as it was a huge move for the Regional Staff to pull off. The response was overwhelming, actually, with near record Rangers ministry, the best is yet to come!

## 2008 District Wide Commander's Conference- Reaching the iPod Generation

By Commander Jay M. Woodward  
Pony Express Editor

On March 28th and 29th, NNED Royal Rangers held the Fourth Annual District Wide Commander's Conference and Banquet at the Curtis Lake Christian Church in Sanford, Maine. A combined total of 67 Commanders and their spouses from around the District gathered for this time of fellowship, sharing and learning. The theme of this year's Conference was "Reaching the iPod Generation"; that is, making Rangers more interactive and attractive for the current generation of boys. Indeed, the Conference is truly an interactive experience unto itself, as leaders get to meet face-to-face and interact with the District Staff. District Commander Jerry Love explained DWCC this way: "It's the one time each year that leaders from around our District get to spend time together, where the District Staff gets an opportunity to build relationships with the men in the trenches, and we have the opportunity to give honor where honor is due".

The Conference started on Friday evening for those who were taking First Aid and CPR training, as the District Staff put the finishing touches on preparing the church for the many leaders who would be in attendance the next day. On Saturday morning, leaders arrived for registration, and during the opening session, they were prepared for the day's activities with worship and a devotion led by Pastor Tim Haynes. Commander Jerry then introduced the District

Staff, and also gave a brief overview of changes in the ministry introduced at the 2008 National Council. Following the general session, leaders went off to various leadership Training Modules, including Navigator for Beginners, guest-taught by Commander Ray Skinner of New Jersey, creator and designer of Navigator, the official National Royal Ranger Data Manager for Leaders! The ladies were not left out, either. There were activities throughout the day, led by Rita Love and Karen Poirier, including devotion and sharing, craft displays, bargain shopping, and an afternoon fellowship tea!

Lunch was also a special experience, as it marked the debut of the new Royal Ranger Missions BBQ Trailer, personally crafted by Commander Willy Gusha, who served up some great



hamburgers and hot dogs. Hats off to Commander Willy, who truly was "Grillin' for God"! Following lunch, it was back to classes. During the afternoon, leaders also got to attend various breakout sessions on District Events, Training, Programs, and Missions, and hear in-depth, the changes coming from the National Office. Also, Commander Jerry got to share his heart at a special meeting for Senior Commanders.

Again this year, the District Superintendent,



Dennis Marquardt, and the Director of Men's Ministries, Ed Shearer, graced the Conference with their presence, both greeting the leaders of the District with words of praise and encouragement.

Following these sessions, and a closing wrap-up in the sanctuary, it was time for the evening banquet, which featured dinner music by the group September, including Commander Jerry and Rita's daughter Ginger Garcia. A wonderful dinner was served by Teen Challenge of Manchester, after which it was time for worship and the evening message from Pastor Tim Katon of Family Worship Center in Plymouth, NH, who gave a passionate, motivating message on reaching out to this lost generation of boys. The message clearly stirred the hearts of those in attendance! Following this, it was time for the District Auction, with Commander Jerry reprising his world-famous role of auctioneer, and raising hundreds of dollars for NNED Royal Rangers! After the auction, the various Commander's and Outpost Awards were handed out. One of the evenings presentations was given to the District office; a framed certificate for the "Wall of Fame" at the District office honoring Nathan MacGilvary of Outpost 11. The certificate is only the second of its kind awarded to

a Royal Ranger in the Northern New England District by the National Office. It's the Medal of Courage for saving a life. Retiring Commander Ken Bustard was the honored, receiving a special video tribute and a reading of a moving letter written by his son, Ben "Broken Limb" Bustard, as a tribute to his father. Commander Ken also received a special gift from the District: a wonderful pastels portrait of himself in his Ranger glory! And if that wasn't enough, he was also inducted into Royal Rangers Alumni! Congratulations, Commander Bustard!

After this, the Conference closed in a word of prayer, and DWCC 2008 came to a wonderful close! Indeed, it truly was a special event for all who came, fellowshiped, taught, learned and served. Reflecting upon this year's DWCC, Commander Jerry said, "This was a special Conference. So much new information was imparted to the leaders of our District, we introduced our new BBQ, showed off our new District patch collection, and awarded more leadership awards than ever before. I believe we all came away enriched by the weekend".

The men and women who serve as leaders in NNED Royal Rangers are "Ready" to Reach, Teach, and Keep the iPod Generation of Boys for Christ!



## Commander Ken Reflects

Interview by Commander Jay M. Woodward  
Pony Express Editor

It's safe to say that Commander Ken Bustard has had a tremendous impact on the Royal Rangers ministry in Northern New England. From his start in 1994 as a Pioneer Commander at Outpost #29 in Bangor, Maine, to Maine Yukon Day Camp Commander, District Training Coordinator, father of GMA recipient Ben "Broken Limb" Bustard, and most recently, Senior Commander of Outpost #17, Commander Ken has impacted the lives of countless men and boys during his years of service to Rangers. Now, as Commander Ken hangs up his uniform to enter a new season of ministry, he reflected upon his Ranger career to the Pony Express, in his own unique way:

**[PE] Describe how you came to be involved in the Ranger ministry.**

[KB] I cannot recall life before Royal Rangers. I do remember, though, exiting the womb and a Doctor tying my umbilical cord off with an overhand knot, and I immediately screamed and changed it to a square knot. That just seemed like a more appropriate knot, for some reason.

**[PE] What has it been like for you being MYD Camp Commander for 12 years?**

[KB] Cold. Lots of noise. Little sleep. Two days to recuperate (Three this last MYD) But, the food has improved beyond my wildest dreams !! Thanks to the absolutely greatest pastor's wife in NNED -- Sue Haynes (and her fantastic help!)

**[PE] What is your proudest accomplishment as a Commander?**

[KB] There is no single event. However, learn-



ing the proper order to wear my Class B ribbons was definitely a shining moment. Thanks to Moose Call.

**[PE] Describe your craziest memory with Commander Jerry.**

[KB] My craziest memory with Commander Jerry. Well, first, I am trying to think of a memory with Commander Jerry that WASN'T crazy. Let me wrestle with that one for a while first....

**[PE] What next for you in your life, and what is the direction God is leading you?**

[KB] I would like to find myself in the middle of nowhere, sitting around a campfire with some aborigines and dining on monkey meat. The wife doesn't seem too excited about that, though. So I guess we'll roast hot dogs instead. . . Seriously, though, the only plan I have to is not have a plan. The Master Ranger has already marked out a trail. I just need to stay on that.

NNED Royal Rangers salutes you, Commander Ken, for your tireless service and devotion to this ministry and making it work. You will be definitely not be forgotten!

## Around NNED- More News and Notes

### Seth Tilton-Fogg “Goes To the Dogs”

It's been quite an exciting time for Expedition Ranger Seth Tilton-Fogg of Outpost #36, son of Commander Judy Tilton and stepson of District Training Coordinator Jason Wright. In January, Seth earned his Bronze Medal of Achievement, a distinguished award in Royal Rangers. Then on February 11, he got the chance of a lifetime: to parade his Nova Scotia Duck Rolling Retriever “Billie” at the 132nd Annual Westminster Dog Show in New York City, in front of a sold-out crowd at Madison Square Garden, donning a tuxedo and displaying a very special dog! Seth also has future plans of becoming a veterinarian, so he is indeed one of NNED's Top Dogs!



### Hatch Family Adopts Boy- “From Russia With Love”

District FCF President Tim “Red Oak” Hatch and his wife, Becky, have an exciting new addition to their family! In March, they traveled to Russia to bring home their new two-year-old adopted son, Jesse Kirill Hatch. After months of planning, preparation and waiting, God put all the pieces into place. Red Oak says, “He is a stocky, solid, and pure boy, with a heart of compassion”. On Easter morning, he was brought home to Maine, and he is already adjusting well. According to Red Oak, he is even learning English quite rapidly! All of this is in no small part due to the support and prayers of the many Rangers throughout NNED! Congratulations to the Hatch Family!

### NNED District and Sectional Royal Ranger Staff

#### *Executive Staff*

**Executive Director, Men's Ministries**

Ed Shearer

**District Commander**

Jerry Love

**Deputy District Commander**

Kendall Sperrey

**FCF President**

Tim “Red Oak” Hatch

**FCF President Emeritus**

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**Missions Coordinator**

Pastor Tim Haynes

**District Training Coordinator**

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Dale Bishop – District Range Officer

Rob Cunningham – ROTY Coordinator

Ron Daigle – Aroostook Sectional Commander

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Dana Lemieux – Instructor Trainer

Bruce Paquette – FCF Vice President

Keith Poirier – Webmaster

Dan Richard – Assistant FCF Scout

Jay Woodward – Pony Express Editor

The Pony Express is a publication of the North New England District Royal Rangers – Jerry Love, District Commander. Subscription to the Pony Express is given to every chartered outpost in the District as part of the annual chartering dues. The Pony Express is an excellent way to promote what is happening in your outpost, section, and the district. We welcome you to submit articles, photos, etc. Please e-mail your articles to Cdr. Jay Woodward at: [jaymwoodward@gmail.com](mailto:jaymwoodward@gmail.com).

Questions or comments?

Call the NNED Royal Ranger Office at:

(603) 323-7120

# ADVANCED NATIONAL TRAINING CAMP



**July 24-27, 2008**  
**Camp Collier, Gardiner, MA**

Don't miss out on this exciting National Training Opportunity! The Camp Fee is \$200. A pre-registration fee of \$50 must accompany your application. Apply by June 20 and receive a \$25 Discount! Applications are available at the National Royal Rangers Website:  
**<http://royalrangers.ag.org/training>**

*Note: Commanders must have taken NTC as a pre-requisite.*



“Reaching, Teaching, and Keeping Men and Boys for Christ.”  
**WWW.RANGERS-NNED.ORG**

## From the Editor's Desk

By Commander Jay M. Woodward  
Pony Express Editor

This is the first time that I have done this; that is, write an opinion piece. I have always been writing about events in the this fine ministry, but I have never done an commentary piece like this. Until now. With Commander Jerry's blessing, I have chosen to do this. I also have asked God what He would have me say.

Recently, I have heard a message heard several times, at different Ranger events: It is no accident that I am here; I am here for a reason, a purpose. I am not an accident. I reflected upon this message that God was speaking to me. Believe it or not, God has already ordained my presence in this great ministry that we call Royal Rangers. Not only Royal Rangers, but my church, my job, even the very place I live, here in Northern New England. I have often thought of what it would have been like to had different life circumstances, been living in a different part of the country, and to not have all of the different struggles I have gone through in my life. But then I realize that God wants to use me, all of me, shortcom-

ings and all, in the very place I am in now. God does indeed want to restore our lives, and that he even uses all of our failures, shortcomings, and the hurts and pain of our past for His Glory and His Purpose. Think about it. Our experiences, whether good, bad, or ugly, have been used by God to not only develop Christ-like character in us, but He also uses it to touch the lives of others. Though we don't always see it through the eyes of the present, we can rest assured that it was not in vain. One of my favorite Scripture verses, Romans 8:28 states, "And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to they that are the called according to His purpose." For us Ranger leaders, we are indeed called according to His purpose, into this awesome ministry, to touch the lives of men and boys for eternity, and the Master Ranger will use all of our life experiences to accomplish this, as they have made us into who we are now. I know that many of you out there who are reading this would agree.

So no matter who you are or whatever role you play in this ministry, you are here for a purpose: To Reach, Teach, and Keep Men and Boys for Christ!