



ROYAL RANGERS LEADERS

DISPATCH



SUMMER 1975



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ABOUT THE COVER

Featured on the cover of this issue is Mrs. Bonnie M. Eller, former District Missionettes Director of Southern Missouri, talking with Commander Joe G. Peace, Vice-President of the Volunteer FCF Chapter. They are discussing ways Royal Rangers and Missionettes may relate.

Mrs. Eller engineered a Powette in 1973 which attracted 400 women and girls to a rugged camp experience.

In the background is First Assembly of God in Milan, Tennessee.

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DISPATCHER'S EXPRESS

"What is so rare as a day in June?"

This question indicates perception and foresight. The advantage of warm summer days for outdoor activities is sometimes taken for granted because of their repetition. But the favorable time betwixt Blackberry Winter and Indian Summer fades all too quickly.

Outpost leaders should make these days count, since most of our country is located north of the subtropical zone, and subject to seasonal change. Friendly as the weather may now seem, autumn and winter are lurking in the shadows.

A boy's summer should always be memorable, especially when he is a Royal Ranger. School is out, vacation is here, and each day should be filled with fun, adventure, excitement, and anticipation.

Another writer, reminiscent of a vacation well-spent, once wrote, "The things we did last summer, I'll remember all winter long."

Go fishing, take a float trip, or go swimming. Go on a hike, a nature trail, a cook-out, or a camp-out. Plan sporting activities and field events, go boating and sight-seeing, attend your District Pow Wow.

But wherever you go and whatever you do this summer, make it memorable for your boys most of all because the Master Ranger, our Lord Jesus Christ, is honored in all you do.

—John Eller, National Dispatcher



WORKERS TOGETHER

by Bonnie Eller

Royal Rangers Commanders and Missionettes Sponsors encounter many of the same difficulties and challenges. Both are involved in training tomorrow's leaders. These future citizens are impressionable, excitable, and eager to learn. What a responsibility to prepare these tender young lives for the great task of operating tomorrow's church!

There are many ways in which Commanders and Sponsors can work together. Let me share a few with you—

Girls should know how to change a tire. Where could you find a better instructor than a Royal Rangers Commander?

Boys could profit from learning how to sew on a button or how to prepare a simple meal. Missionette Sponsors are great teachers in this area.

Have a co-ed meeting sometime and switch responsibilities. Let the men introduce the Missionettes to the mysteries of an automobile. Meanwhile, the ladies can give practical sewing and cooking lessons to the Royal Rangers. At the close of the meeting, let everyone gather in the kitchen area to enjoy a good meal cooked by the chefs.

If you are located in the country, you have a very fascinating world at your fingertips. Organize a nature treasure hunt. Competition sharpens the vision. You may look for a variety of rocks, leaves, trees, birds, insects, etc. Offer a worthwhile prize for the winners.

If your groups are in the city, load a bus with Rangers and Missionettes and head for the hills!

En route, seat the Rangers on one side of the bus and the Missionettes on the other. Have a sponsor and a commander to keep score. Keep track of the different cars your group spots: Ford, Chevrolet, Dodge, etc. Give bonus points for a motor home, ambulance, cement truck, and so on. If you pass a cemetery on your side, you must bury all points, and start over!

Let your destination be a farm where boys and girls can get close to nature. City youngsters usually enjoy making acquaintance with Mrs. Cow and discovering that you don't pump her tail to get milk! Equally fascinating is the source of eggs, bacon, or ham.

Another area which may be tapped, is co-ed camping. We have practiced this successfully in our youth camps for many years. With proper division and supervision, co-ed tent camping can also score a success. Awards and prizes may be offered for the best camp and the various aspects of camping, with the added incentive of boy-girl competition.

These suggestions are just to challenge your thinking. Use your imagination. Tailor ideas to fit your locality and the needs of your individual outposts and clubs. Put new life into your group: Be Workers Together!

SURVIVAL STAFF

by Gene Hale

That Complete Walker himself, Calvin Fletcher, recommends a walking staff for backpackers, and that's good enough for me. The man who has walked the length of the Grand Canyon, California, and the British Isles ought to know what he is talking about.

But if you need more reason than

this to carry a staff on your wilderness treks, here are a dozen good ones: In Fletcher's words, a staff converts you from "an insecure biped into a confident tripod."

On rugged stretches of trail it's a fishing pole or tent pole. It's a prop for

(Continued on page 15)

JUNE

WEEKLY THEME	WEEKLY PROGRAM FEATURE	SPECIAL ACTIVITIES	PROJECTS & RESOURCE
FISHING	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Demonstrate fly casting 2. Fishing demonstrations 3. Menus 4. Plan fishing hike 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Invite expert to demonstrate fly casting 2. Prepare fishing demonstrations 3. Different ways of preparing fish 4. Equipment needed for hike 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fishing Merit Badge Book, Boy Scouts of America
FISHING	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Spin casting 2. How to rig tackle 3. Fish identification 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Invite expert to demonstrate 2. Rig tackle and various kinds of poles 3. Pictures of various kinds of fish 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Allow time for boys to practice 2. Cane pole, fly rod and spinning
FISHING	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bait casting 2. Outdoor code 3. Fishing knots 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Expert to demonstrate 2. Read outdoor code to boys 3. Knots used to tie hook to leader, leader to line or leader to leader 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Allow time for boys to practice 2. Outdoor code found in R. R. Camping Handbook 3. Boy Scout Fishing Merit Badge Book
FISHING	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fish conservation 2. Biologist 3. Live bait 4. How to take care of fishing tackle 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Invite Conservation Officer to meeting 2. Have a professional fishery biologist explain this subject 3. Types of live bait and how to hook live bait 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Boys will learn about the qualities of good fishing water and what conservationists are doing to improve fishing
FISHING	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fish fry overnight 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Father-Son fish fry 2. Overnight hike putting into practice all the boys have learned about fishing 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cook fish boys have caught 2. How to clean fish. Fish taste best if eaten soon after they are caught

WEEKLY THEME	WEEKLY PROGRAM FEATURE	SPECIAL ACTIVITIES	PROJECTS & RESOURCE
AQUATIC SKILLS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Rescue line 2. Use of buddy tag 3. Each patrol to develop a 5-minute demonstration on a simple lifesaving technique for next week 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Teach chain knotting & pineapple methods of wrapping rescue line and use 2. Have boys make their own buddy tags 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Life Saving Merit Badge Book, Boy Scouts of America 2. Show a film on lifesaving from local library
WEEKLY THEME	WEEKLY PROGRAM FEATURE	SPECIAL ACTIVITIES	PROJECTS & RESOURCE
AQUATIC SKILLS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Practice methods of checking into swimming area 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Set up imaginary waterfront area. Use string for shore line. Demonstrate safe swim defense. Use check-in procedures, buddy checks and strict discipline 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Invite firemen or someone from Telephone company that can demonstrate mouth-to-mouth resuscitation
WEEKLY THEME	WEEKLY PROGRAM FEATURE	SPECIAL ACTIVITIES	PROJECTS & RESOURCE
AQUATIC SKILLS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Meeting to be held at pool or beach 2. Conduct a swim ability check 3. Introduce instructors 4. Review check-in procedures 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Instruct and practice floating & drownproofing techniques 2. Practice lifesaving demonstrations 3. Strive for 100% of patrol staying afloat for 5 min. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lifesaving demonstrations <ol style="list-style-type: none"> A. Reach B. Throw C. Row D. Go
WEEKLY THEME	WEEKLY PROGRAM FEATURE	SPECIAL ACTIVITIES	PROJECTS & RESOURCE
AQUATIC SKILLS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Meeting at pool or beach 2. Divide groups according to ability 3. Have instructor on hand for ability groups 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Informal competition 2. Have buddy check 3. Allow free time for Rangers to enjoy the water 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ability groups <ol style="list-style-type: none"> A. Nonswimmers B. Beginners C. Swimming D. Lifesaving

AUGUST

WEEKLY THEME	WEEKLY PROGRAM FEATURE	SPECIAL ACTIVITIES	PROJECTS & RESOURCE
FIELD SPORTS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Outpost committee provides transportation to a supervised range 2. Archery 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Instruction on basic archery skills & safety by qualified instructor 2. Set target 10 yards from shooting line. Sighting only by looking at target 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Method of instruction <ol style="list-style-type: none"> A. Group B. Equipment C. Handling D. Safety E. Demonstrate and practice
FIELD SPORTS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Outpost committee provides transportation to supervised range 2. Rifle and Shotgun 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Instruction on gun safety by a qualified instructor related to the ability of the boys 2. Assign boys in pairs to practice sighting and gun handling 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Practice session <ol style="list-style-type: none"> A. Trigger squeeze B. Breathing 3. Prone position D. Use of the set backrest
FIELD SPORTS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Outpost committee provides transportation to lake or river 2. Fishing 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Display hooks, sinkers, plugs and poles 2. Instruction on fishing safety, casting techniques, fishing knots and baits 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In pairs practice casting and fishing knots 2. Don't get hooked
NATURE	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Plan nature hike 2. Identification of animals 3. Identification of trees & shrubs 4. Build campfire 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Show films on nature 2. Trip to local weather station 3. Tour of rock quarry 4. Visit a nature conservation interpretation center 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. List of nature centers and trails Nat. Science for Youth Foundation, 114 E. 30th St., New York, N.Y. 10016

THE OUTPOSTER

*Go my sons, burn your books.
Buy yourselves stout shoes.
Get away to the mountains, the deserts,
And the deepest recesses of the earth.
In this way and no other
Will you gain a true knowledge of things
And of their properties.*

Peter Severinus
1571



NTC NTT
ANTC NCE

TRAINING EVENTS 1975

- NTC Northwest, July 17-20, American River Camp, Wash.
 - NTC West Central, August 21-24, Red Feather Lakes, Colo.
 - NTC Northeast, Sept. 11-14, Mountain View Camp, Sherburne, N.Y.
 - NTC North Woods, Sept. 18-21, Lost Valley Camp, Gaylord, Mich.
 - NTC Southeast, Oct. 6-19, Flaming Arrow Camp, Lake Wales, Fla.
 - NTT Hill Country, June 5-8, south central Texas
 - NTT Rocky Mountain, August 7-10, Gore Mountain Range, Colo.
 - NTT Adirondack, Oct. 2-5, Adirondack Mountains, New York
 - NTT Appalachian Trail, Oct. 9-12
 - NCE Okefenokee Swamp, April 2-5, Suwanee River
 - NCE Ely, Minnesota, Sept. 3-7
 - ANTC Camp Arrowhead, Marshfield, Mo., Sept. 24-28
- All camps, trails, and expeditions are limited. Register early. NTT, NCE, and ANTC open only to graduates of NTC.

Advanced National Training Camp is held in one location only, and once every two years. Next ANTC tentatively slated for September, 1977.

The tallgrass prairie once covered more than 400,000 square miles. It's only taken a century or so to whittle it down to bits and pieces of its original self. Some of the remains should be saved as a valuable reminder of what was; there is currently a drive underway to establish a tallgrass prairie park on the eastern slope of the Kansas Flint Hills—a 60,000-acre national park.

Another trail guide: *Hiking Trails In The Midwest* (Greatlakes Press, Tribune Tower Suite 3200, Chicago, Ill. 60611, \$5.95 plus \$.55 for handling) is a must book for anyone who backpacks or hikes in the Midwest.

It covers Missouri, as well as Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin and the Canadian province of Ontario.

Ticks are enjoying another summer of bloodletting. One way to fight them, suggested by a Springfield doctor, is with rotenone dust. Dust your clothing with it, particularly the inside of trouser legs and socks. It's available from farm supply stores.

HUNTING KNIVES

Hunting or sheath-type knives can be very valuable to Royal Rangers. However, because of the wide range of choice available, care must be taken in selection. This article will not attempt to discuss *all* knives in this category, only certain ones in particular.

Skinner. Skinner knives come in various sizes, depending on the size game. The *Case XX Kodiak Hunter* is excellent for large game. *Westmark* is good for deer, while *Soligen* makes a variety of smaller skimmers with point or blunt.

Buffalo. Unlike many skimmers, the Buffalo skinner is made with a special thumb rest. This modified skimmer has the usual upward sweep to its blade, with a corrugated thumb rest near the hilt. *Puma* or *Edgemark* make fine buffalos.

Remington. The Remington pattern is characterized by a long slender blade, straight on the backside, and with a blood gully. This handsome knife is crafted by *Western* and *Soligen*.

Bowie. The Bowie is the most famous of all American patterns. Designed by Jim Bowie of Alamo fame, it has enjoyed great popularity. Authorities disagree on the exact dimensions of this knife since no original is known to exist. Perhaps the most authentic is made by *Kabar*. Highly recommended is the *Western* and the *Case XX*.

A good bowie may be used to carve an elk, split kindling, or break trail. Jim Bowie is said to have pinned flies to the ceiling with his.

All Purpose. After examining hundreds of knives, this writer is convinced there is one which out-performs and out-lasts them all. It's the *Uncle Henry Pro Hunter*. Super sharp, heavy bone handle, brass fittings, and a uniquely designed blade, this knife is equally adaptable for skinning, meat carving, blazing trail, or general camp use.

The Pro Hunter is so good that the company will *replace* it in case of loss within one year of purchase—at no cost to you!

Many prefer pocket knives for the safety feature of folding closed when not in use. However, some tasks at field and stream are better performed and with less chance of injury by a hunting knife. -John Eller



Skinner



Buffalo



Remington



Bowie



10½" Long

Uncle Henry Pro Hunter

CLAMP KNIFE IN VISE PROVIDING PROTECTION FOR HANDLE, WITH EDGE AWAY FROM YOU. VIRTUALLY ANY STONE WILL DO WITH WATER OR OIL.



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- Participation
- Recognition
- Symbolism

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Write the Royal Rangers' National Office



OUTPOST DEVOTIONS



BRANDING IRONS

(Submitted by Gary Bennett,
Sunnyside, WA)

Equipment: One branding iron, several pieces of pine board.

Build a fire and place the branding iron on it. Allow it to get hot. While it is getting hot explain its use as a means of identification of animals. Give a little history of its origin. Tell the boys how God heats us, too, to just the right temperature to do a work for Him. Point to a hot ember and tell them we should be as much on fire for God as is the ember. By comparison show them how (if we do not pray and read our Bibles as we should) we would become as dead ashes, totally useless for the Master.

Have one boy hold a piece of wood. Have another boy take the branding iron from the fire and use it to make a "brand" on the piece of wood. During the devotion let each boy try this. Explain how we are "branded" for the world to see, after we have become identified as one of God's people. Take a knife and dig into the brand to show how deep the burn is. Tell them that the harder we press with the branding iron, the deeper goes the "brand." And the deeper our experience with Christ becomes, the more noticeable our Christian lives become. Ask the boys, "Whose brand is on you?"

HONESTY

(Bobby Hoover, Lynwood, CA)

Scripture text: Second Corinthians 8: 21. Theme: Providing for honest things, not only in the sight of the Lord but also in the sight of men. Hebrews 13: 18. "Pray for us: for we trust that we have a good conscience, in all things willing to live honestly."

Boys, when we keep ourselves honest we are not only obeying one of the teachings in God's Word but we are

demonstrating a very important Christian attribute. An attribute, when practiced faithfully, will attract the attention of others who may not know Jesus as their personal Saviour. Living daily lives showing good Christian character is one of the best methods of witnessing.

Dishonesty is not only telling out and out lies—it can take other forms as well. Dishonest can be when someone looks over the shoulder of someone else during a test and copies answers. Crowding into line ahead of someone else who has been waiting longer than you could be dishonest. Not trying to return a lost object to its rightful owner could be dishonest.

Boys, consider this Scripture found in James 4:17: "Therefore to him that knoweth to do good and doeth it not, to him it is sin."

Prayer: "Dear Jesus, we want to be honest Christians, showing others that we do love you by obeying your teachings. Help us to keep ourselves honest at all times before everyone. This we ask in your name, amen."

PATHFINDER

(Submitted by Charles E. Travis, Jr.,
Lewisville, TX)

Setting: Boys gathered around a campfire in a clearing, where the stars will be visible to everyone.



Boys, tonight we're going to talk about finding our way, using two instruments that can keep us from becoming lost.

Our first instrument, as you all know, is this compass (show them a compass as described in *Adventures in Camping*). It has 360 degrees (points) which, when used *correctly*, can lead us to any part of the world, whether it be by land, sea, or in the air. Notice, boys, I said *when used correctly!*

There are certain rules that must be applied when using the compass. One rule is that it must be held level; another rule is that it must be kept away from metal; another rule, when using the compass in certain areas, is to know the degree of error for that particular area, in determining true north. If each one of these rules are faithfully followed, the compass can be your most valuable tool whenever you are hiking or camping out.

Our second instrument, one you know quite well, is the Holy Bible. (Hold up your Bible.) The Holy Bible, unlike the compass, boys, has only ten (10) points—yes, we call them the Ten Commandments—God's laws. And, like the compass, the Bible can keep us from becoming *lost*—lost in sin. Read Matthew 22:37-40.

The more we use the compass the more advanced we become in it's understanding.

We can advance in the Holy Bible similar to our advancement in the use of the compass. How? (Pause here and let it sink in.) That's right—by *using* it! And, boys, by using it we begin to *understand* through the Holy Spirit what God expects from us and what we can expect from God.

BE YE DOERS OF THE WORD THROUGH DAILY BIBLE READING

(Submitted by Marvin Smith
Dallas, TX)

Scripture: 2 Timothy 2:15

Have you ever received a letter in the mail? If so, you probably were a little excited and thrilled to know that someone was thinking about you. We cannot imagine anyone getting a letter from a

good friend and not opening it up and reading it, can we?

Yet, very often this is what all of us may do, especially if we fail to read our Bible every day. Actually the Bible, especially the New Testament, is made up of letters, the letters of Paul the great apostle.

For instance, our Scripture verse is from a letter of Paul written to his young friend and preacher by the name of Timothy. In fact, we have two letters Paul wrote to Timothy. The first one was written from the city of Laodicea. The second one was written from Rome where Paul was to be charged in the courts of Nero. Timothy must have read the letters immediately after he received them, for Paul was his good friend and he was concerned about Paul's welfare.

But then, in a real sense, the Bible is God's letter to us! When we read what the Bible says, it seems that it speaks directly to us. When we are sad it can give us joy. When we are lonely it can be a companion. When we are happy, it helps us to give thanks. When we seek the Lord, the Bible shows us how to find Him.

No doubt all of us here tonight have and own a Bible. But this has not always been so. Before the days of the printing press, Bibles were very few in number. They had to be written by men called, "scribes." Those men wrote every word in all of the 66 books by hand! No mistakes could be made. Often a Bible would be chained in front of a church and people would stand in line, sometimes for hours, just to be able to read it for a few minutes. It was very precious to them!

We should take advantage of reading and studying our Bibles, God's personal letters to us, daily. In doing this we can become "...workmen that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

Rangers, let's be sure to read our Bibles *every day!*



OFFERINGS

(Submitted by Damon Williams)

Scripture: Genesis 28:20-22

Once there was a man who loved God very much. He always paid his tithes. He started his business and kept on paying his tithes to the church.

His business began to grow and grow, so he decided to pay more than just 10% of his income. He began to pay 20%, then 30% of his income to God. God blessed that man so much that his company grew to be one of this nation's largest businesses. That man's habit of giving tithes and offerings to God proved to be a great blessing to his church and to himself, as well.

Boys, let me say right now that as you worship God with your mind, so worship Him with your earnings. God will add unto you what you need as you keep Him first in your heart.

Let's get back to this mystery man—who do you think I am talking about? (Let the boys guess who it is.) I'll give you a hint—he makes toothpaste! (Let them guess some more.)

Are you ready for his name? Here it is—his name is Mr. Colgate, of the Colgate-Palmolive Company.

Boys, this is only one example of how God blesses us when we put Him first by remembering to pay our tithes and give Him our offerings.

What are tithes? Tithes are 10% of our income, to be given to God at our church. God knows when we give and when we don't give—He keeps records. God let's us keep 90% of our income. His part is only 10% of our earnings. As we remember to faithfully pay our tithes and give our offerings, God will prosper us as He has other people.

WITH GOD OUR DISAPPOINTMENTS ARE HIS DISAPPOINTMENTS

(Neil Agnes, Dallas, TX)

Purpose: To increase each boy's confidence and trust in God regardless of the circumstance.

In Daniel, chapter three, we read that King Nebuchadnezzar, King of Babylon, made a large golden image. He had it proclaimed throughout the land that when the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, and other instruments of music

were heard, the people should fall down and worship the golden image. It was further proclaimed that whoever disobeyed this order would be thrown into a fiery furnace (describe).

The Hebrews, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, disobeyed the King's order (Nebuchadnezzar). They would not bow down to worship the golden image. Their God was not made of stone, mortar, or silver and gold—their God was instead a living person. He was the same God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

The King was very angry so he declared that the three young men must be thrown into a fiery furnace that was heated seven times hotter than normal. But what strange thing happened? As the King and his counselors looked into the furnace they saw, instead of three men, now *four* men, not bound but loose, walking in the middle of the giant fire. And one of them "looked like the Son of God!"

We're also reminded in Daniel, chapter six, how God sent the Angel of the Lord to shut the lion's mouths to deliver Daniel in the lions' den. Again, in Acts, chapter 12, we're told how Peter was freed from jail by the Angel of the Lord. And, also, in chapter 16, how Paul and Silas were delivered from prison by means of an earthquake that set them free.

In each case we have mentioned, one might say that the circumstances were disappointing and discouraging, BUT each time there was a divine intervention, a confrontation with the Son of God, the Angel of the Lord, and the power of God.

So—you see, boys, we can be encouraged to know that when circumstances and events seem disappointing and discouraging, and things just don't seem to be going right, that God is preparing an appointment for those who put their faith and trust in Him for deliverance.

Proverbs 3:5,6 says, "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge Him and He shall direct thy paths."

FOUR STAR



IDEAS



THE BEAN GAME

Ernest F. Garcia, Houston, TX

This game is played with one spoon for each player and two beans (one for each group). The group leader will pass the bean to his partner behind him with the spoon in his mouth. Each player must have a spoon in his mouth and the use of the hands is not permitted.

The group that finishes passing the bean all the way down the line and back without dropping the bean is the winner. If a player should drop the bean, the group must start over again.

SHOE KICK

Harry F. Gamm, Milwaukee, WI

In this game boys compete as individuals. The boys loosen their shoelaces and stand at the foul line. With just the toe inserted, the boys see how far they can kick their shoe.

A first, second and third place winner should be picked for both the right and left feet. Award a can of wax for first, a bottle of polish for second, and a shine cloth for third.

TORCH RACE

O. L. Sullenger, Bakersfield, CA

Indians used lighted sticks for their sporting activities, but candles will do better for this torch race. Line the boys up according to tribes. The players are

to run, in relays, with candles to a large lighted taper.

Each player must run to the finish line and return with his candle lighted from the larger one. He must then blow out the fire and hand it to the next player in line.

The team that finishes first is the winner.

HOT POTATO

Jerry E. Mulkey, Sr., Fenton, MO

Have the group sit in a circle with a leader standing in the middle. The leader should have a handkerchief knotted into a ball, called the "hot potato." He throws this to someone in the circle. The object is to pass it on quickly.

Anyone tagged by the leader while holding the hot potato becomes the next leader.

PENNY RELAY

Calvin F. Anderson, Sedro Woolley, WA

Divide Rangers into teams of 8 or 10 depending on the size of the outpost. Each team has a penny and two pie tins or paper plates. Teams are divided up so one half of each team stands on opposite sides of the room.

The first player on each team places the penny between his knees and at a given signal makes his way to the other side of the room. There, he drops the penny into the plate. The next team member picks it up, puts it between his knees, and hurries back to the other side of the room. Another team member takes the penny and so the race continues.

The first team to finish wins. If the penny is dropped, that carrier must start over from the plate.

ANKLES AWAY

(Duane Garrison, Albuquerque, NM)

Divide boys into two even teams. Pick one boy as a leader and have him take a long piece of string and tie the ankles of each team member together in a crisscross manner. The first team to successfully untangle itself without breaking the string, wins. When tying the boys' ankles, be sure to tie them in the same manner, to be fair.

GUESS THE KNOT

(John Jiminez)

Divide group in half. Have one group form a huddle and prepare a knot in a point. If he guesses right, his team gets rope (use ¼-inch rope). Blindfold one boy from opposing team and have him go over and feel the knot and guess which kind of knot it is. If he guesses wrong, the group who made the knot gets a point. Be sure to have everyone participate, thus learning knots both visually and by feel.

RUBBER FACES

(Daniel Vasquez)

Equipment: Several large, sturdy rubber bands.

Call several boys up front and give each of them a rubber band. Instruct them to stretch the rubber bands over their heads, placing them on the tips of their ears. On a given signal, they are to "work" the rubber bands from their noses down around their necks without using their hands.

PING PONG BASKETBALL

(Orange, CA)

Supplies needed: One large coffee can, nine Ping-Pong balls. Prepare three sets of three each, each set marked differently.

Have three boys try to shoot the ball into the can that is hanging on the wall. Regulate height according to height of boys' heads. Set a one minute time limit. Each boy has a set of three Ping-Pong balls. After the time limit is up, count the number of balls the boys have successfully tossed into the coffee can, identify and credit to the person shooting it. Regulate the distance from the shooters to the target as needed.

CHICKEN FIGHTS -

(Raymond Avilis, Hacienda Heights, CA)

Every person grabs one, upraised ankle with both hands and stands unassisted on the one remaining foot. There is no holding or pulling. This is an entire game of balance.

Everyone starts in the center of the room and bumps each other. The object is to make other persons lose their balance. When someone falls to the floor, that person is out of the game. The last one to remain standing upright is the winner.

TIC-TAC-TOE

(Indoor)

(By Kenae Viena, Torrance, CA)

Set nine chairs in tic-tac-toe formation in the middle of the room. Face all chairs in the same direction. Divide boys into two teams. Let each team alternate and attempt to line up three boys in blocks, the same way you would in tic-tac-toe. The game can be played in five games. The winner must win three games.

INDIAN WRESTLING

(Indoor)

(By Kenae Viena, Torrance, CA)

Have two boys face each other. At the signal have each boy shake hands and try to pull each other off balance. The first one to be knocked off balance loses.

QUOTE A VERSE CATCH -

(By Fred Johring, Cerritos, CA)

Form boys in a large circle. Begin playing catch with a ball of any kind.

Any boy that misses or drops the ball has to recite a Bible verse by memory. Or, if he cannot do so, he must drop out of the game.

No verse should be used more than once. When only one boy is left, he is declared the winner.

CRAB WALK

(Ray Summers, Carlsbad, CA)

Six boys can play the game at a time. Mark a line for a starting point and a line about 20 feet away for finishing point. Have the contestants bend over backward so their hands will be flat on the floor. Then they will move backward (like a crab) to the finish line. The first one to cross the finish line wins.

MARBLE RELAY

(L. K. Jones, Albuquerque, NM)

Equipment: Two teaspoons, two marbles.

Make two teams. Have relay race by placing the marble in the teaspoon and try to carry the spoon and marble without dropping it to the end of the room and back to the starting line while walking backward. If marble is dropped, player must go back to beginning line. First team completing a roundtrip wins.

SURVIVAL STAFF—

(Continued from page 3)

your pack when you're not using the latter for a backrest. It serves as a balancing pole when negotiating a log bridge. It helps companions up to your level when you're scrambling up steep hillsides.

Also, this staff keeps your hands from swelling if you alternate from one to another as you walk. It's a monopod for steadying a camera or binoculars. It even tests the footing ahead when the going is soft.

The Survival Staff checks out undergrowth and rock crevices for snakes, and, more often than anything else, a walking staff is for leaning on.

Okay, let's say you're convinced. But before you start whittling away at the nearest chunk of hardwood, let me introduce you to the Survival Staff. It will do all the jobs of a traditional walking staff and as a bonus, keep all your survival gear where you need it most, literally in your hands.

You need a 6' length of 1¼" (outside diameter) aluminum tubing. This should be anodized and extruded or there will be a weld bead on the outside. These are available at most hardware stores at a very nominal cost (\$4.00). Plugged at either end, it's a light, strong, functional walking aid, just the right diameter for a comfortable grip and a clear improvement over the weighty, knobby, splintery wooden variety.

But left that way, more than 80 cubic inches of handy space would go to waste. This is roughly equal to a box 9 x 3 x 3 inches. And if there is anything the average backpacker needs, it's more space to put things!

Here is a suggested filler list: (1) topographical map of the area, tightly rolled; (2) two-cell penlight; (3) two voltaic-style (round) candles, trimmed down to fit, for starting fires; (4) metal match; (5) police-style whistle for sig-

naling; (6) two large sheets of aluminum foil for cooking, rolled into a compact cylinder; (7) folding camp knife; (8) 15 feet of parachute cord wrapped around a pencil for leaving messages; (9) 35 kitchen matches, waterproofed; (10) a cutter snake-bite kit; (11) 6 gauze pads; (12) several feet of adhesive tape; (13) a supply of soap for washing wounds; (14) water purification tablets; (15) several small plastic bags; (16) a Space Rescue blanket; (17) 6 fishhooks with leaders; (18) 6 sinkers; (19) 30 feet of fishing line; (20) a razor blade (single edge); (21) a dime for a phone call, if you should be so lucky to find one on the edge of the wilderness.

That's a total of 21 different survival items, with enough of each, hopefully, to see you through an emergency.

The packaging process is no mystery. One way or another, everything winds up in a roughly cylindrical shape. Some of the smaller items such as gauze pads, fishhooks, sinkers, razor blades, etc., fit in a plastic prescription vial, cut to the appropriate length with a hot knife.

The matches go into another vial, cut to size, then filled with hot paraffin. The Space Rescue blanket is unrolled and rolled again to fit the tube. Baggies and aluminum foil are wadded and stuffed into odd spaces to keep the whole thing from rattling and clattering too much.

Whittle a wooden plug for the bottom end from 1¼" dowling, and seal it in place with silicone plastic sealer, making it waterproof. For the top, use an aluminum 35mm film can and wrap with electrician's tape.

Filled, the staff should weigh just over 4 pounds. A bit hefty, but nothing you wouldn't carry anyway. The tube alone weighs 16½ ounces, lighter than wooden walking sticks of comparable size.

Choose your survival gear to fit your needs: add, subtract, or replace. It's useful and fun to make a Survival Staff.

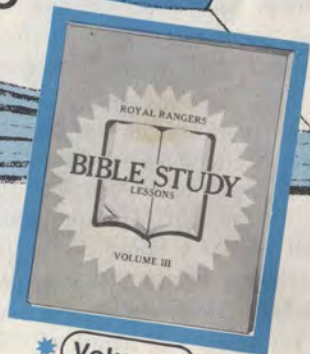
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