

DISPATCH

FALL 1980

Happy 18TH Birthday
ROYAL RANGERS



A ROYAL RANGERS MAGAZINE FOR MEN
EXCLUSIVE: FATHER & SON RELATIONSHIP
RESOURCEFUL: ROYAL RANGER CODE
ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL: EIGHTEEN BIG ONES
ACHIEVEMENT: GOALS FOR THE EIGHTIES
ADVENTURE: OL' GABE TO THE RESCUE

DISPATCH

FALL 1980

Vol. 17, No. 1

**LOVE IN ACTION.
RANGERS
HELPING THOSE
AROUND THEM.**



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OUR COVER: Graphic illustration by Robin Barnes brings back memories of the past and determination for the future as Royal Rangers comes of age, celebrating its 18th birthday this October. Make plans with your outpost to do something really special!

The Royal Rangers of the Calvary Assembly of God in Walkersville, Maryland, designated December as Christian Love Month.

The Rangers wanted to express their love to some of the older and handicapped members of the congregation.

They scheduled December 8 as a workday and they undertook three projects. The leaders and boys formed three groups, one for each project. One group painted the room of a handicapped brother who lives in a nearby nursing home. Another group raked leaves, repaired rain spouting, and did other minor yard work for an elderly couple. The other group cut, split, and delivered a load of firewood to a family in the church.

Then on December 16 they honored the elderly widows and widowers by taking them out to dinner at a local restaurant. *

**MARYLAND
OUTPOST**
They're dedicated.



EDITORIAL CORRECTION: Through an oversight we failed to include the name of Cindy Deaton as the artist for the illustrations on the article entitled "Little Johnnie." Our apologies to Cindy.

Staff

Editor: David Barnes, Assoc. Editor: John Eller, Art: V. I. Productions, National Committee: Silas Gaither, Paul McGarvey, Johnnie Barnes, Paul Stanek.

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FATHER & SON RELATIONSHIP

By Johnnie Barnes

A friend of mine was engaged in conversation with a number of peers at the close of a church service. I observed his 8-year-old son slip quietly up to his father's side and take hold of his hand. The boy said nothing but simply hung on to his father's arm. With a cross expression on his face, my friend shook the boy's hand loose and growled, "Don't bother me son, I'm busy." I almost cringed. With a dejected look on his face, the boy walked away. His action had demonstrated his desire to identify with his father. Now he felt rejected and his father had violated a cardinal principle of good father-son relationship.

A good father and son relationship is no accident, it is something you must work on continually. A lion's share of the responsibility of this relationship falls upon the father. This is particularly true in a boy's more formative years. A father has the potential of exercising more influence upon his son's life than anyone else.

In a recent book entitled, "Teenage Rebellion," by Reverend Truman Dollar and Dr. Grace Ketterman, the statement is made "One hundred young people were asked the following question: 'What person in your life has exercised the greatest influence in determining your behaviour and beliefs? The influence can be either for good or bad and the person may or may not be a part of your family.' The quick response the majority gave was 'my father.'"

In light of the awesome responsibility placed upon a father, what should he endeavor to give his son. In "Teenage Rebellion" they listed seven things a father should give his children: strength, protection, discipline, values, respect, laughter and example. May I add—love, understanding and good memories.

STRENGTH

Most fathers will readily accept the responsibility to be a strong father. However, many are confused about what is real strength. Some mistake toughness for strength.

My father was a rugged man. He worked as a cowhand on the famous King's Ranch—later went into ranching for himself. Many of his exploits gave him the reputation of being a real "man's man." One of his mistaken codes was, a real man never cried in public. Even when my thirteen-year-old sister died, Dad cried in private away from the eyes of the family. He never cried a tear at the funeral. The first time I saw my father cry in public was the night I preached my first sermon. He came down the aisle with tears streaming down his cheeks to make a decision for Christ. I stepped down from the platform and hugged his neck and loved him for crying.

Sometimes gentleness and understanding show greater strength than stubbornness and toughness. Sometimes the determination to stand by principles, the courage to face problems and make decisions, and the willingness to understand other family members, shows greater strength than the so-called macho image seen so often today.

PROTECTION

A boy badly needs the security of knowing, if I need my father's protection, he is there to give it. When I was a

boy, my brother and I were caught in a violent storm some distance from home. Racing toward home we were twice blown down by the wind. We saw the wind blow the roof from the barn. When we reached the house at the height of the storm the family had already retreated to the dugout cellar for protection. But not my father, he stood braced against the post waiting for us boys to arrive. The image of my father facing into the teeth of the storm made an impression I'll never forget. Even after closing the cellar door, he stood vigil on the cellar steps. I went to the back of the dugout, lay down, and fell asleep. What did I have to be afraid of? My father was on the steps of the storm cellar. I'm sure many fathers have experienced the calming effect of their presence near a child after a bad dream or a frightening experience.

There are many ways a father can provide protection other than that of a physical nature. The important thing is to be there when your son needs you.

DISCIPLINE

One of the greatest needs of children in today's society is good discipline. It is a proven fact that children who are kept within the bounds of certain restrictions and guidelines are much happier than those without restriction. Believe me, they will test the length of those bounds over and over again. However, they feel more secure and more loved when there is discipline. May I hasten to explain, discipline should not be authoritarian in nature, but must be seasoned with love.

When punishment is necessary it should be given in a spirit of love—never in anger or frustration. Also, discipline achieved through fear is never ideal. There must be a balance.

VALUES

I would like to preface this paragraph with the question: "What are the most important values a father should teach his son?" Then ask yourself the personal question: Am I teaching these values to my son?

Truman Dollar states in "Teenage Re-
CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE ►



Fathers, take time to teach.

“There are times when a boy badly needs someone to talk to.”



bellion,” dads rarely talk about their values or beliefs with their children. In our survey, one hundred young people were asked the question, “Does your father personally communicate to you his moral and spiritual ideals?” Only two answered yes.

As Christians most of us know what we consider important values; we must spend more time sharing these with our sons. What a tragedy for a boy to grow up not knowing what his father believed was important.

RESPECT

Each boy is an individual and should be respected. Emily Post once stated this fact quite well when she said, “Children are people.” This does not mean he should be treated as an adult. But he should be respected as a valuable member of the family. We should respect his right to express himself.

There are times when a boy badly needs someone to talk to—someone who will really listen with an open heart. He may wish to talk out a problem, share an achievement, or complain of an injustice. At such times he needs someone to hear and to care.

Respect his opinion in personal and family matters. This doesn't mean he necessarily has an equal voice in family decisions. The amount would depend on his age and circumstances. But we should hear his opinion.

Allow him to make decisions for himself. I realize there are areas which involve the physical, mental, and moral welfare of our son—areas in which a conscientious father must maintain control.

However, there are many other areas in which a boy can make decisions—good or bad—that will have a minimum effect on his well-being. Boys who learn to make decisions are better prepared for life—plus it will help you gain their respect.

Encourage him to identify with you and the family. This will give him a sense of self-esteem or self-worth. Sometimes this will require some effort and time on the father's part.

The story at the beginning of the presentation illustrated a situation where a father was too busy for his son. A father who makes his son feel unwanted and unimportant has driven a large wedge between a good father-son relationship.

On the other hand, when mistakes are made, I have found six words very helpful in bridging the gap. They are, “I was wrong, please forgive me.”

LAUGHTER

I think perhaps some of the most memorable times I have spent with my son were times of laughter. Laughter at the humor of a situation, laughter at ourselves, laughter from the joy of sharing adventure and fun. A sense of humor is vital to good relations. An overly serious father will have difficulty in making his children feel comfortable around him. I enjoy humor and laughter, and I'll admit I spent a lot of time “clowning with the kids” during their formative years—and still do. Many times it has helped relieve a lot of tense situations.

The other day I heard a boy pay his father a high compliment when he said, “My Dad is a lot of fun to be with.” I

would like to be remembered that way.
EXAMPLE

Some things can only be taught by example. One thing is attitude. Your son's attitude toward his family, circumstances, people, religion, and life in general will reflect greatly upon your own attitude.

A boy made a trip about town with his father. During the drive he observed with interest the comments his father made about other drivers. Upon arriving home he exclaimed to his mother, “Guess what, we passed 5 idiots, 4 dumb dumbs, and 3 knuckleheads!”

Your son will remember your actions and attitudes long after your words are forgotten. To paraphrase the statement of a famous sage, “What you are speaks so loud your son can't hear a word you're saying.” The cliché “Like father like son” may have more truth than we realize.

The closeness of home relations seem to exaggerate all our flaws and shortcomings. When we should be at our best, we often demonstrate our worst. Being a good example may not always come easy, but it pays high dividends in father-son relationships.

Another strong need is spiritual example. Too often the spiritual guidance is left to the mother. It should be the father's role. Your son should have the privilege of hearing you pray, hearing you read the Bible, seeing you lead the family in spiritual things.

LOVE AND UNDERSTANDING

As Christian fathers it is essential that we make our son feel he is loved, and that



we are trying to understand his needs and problems. He must feel loved when he is bad as well as when he is good. (This does not exclude discipline.) When he faces the rough and tumble game of life, he must know home is a haven where he can always find love.

Your son needs understanding; the stresses, the temptations, and the obstacles a boy faces do not make it easy for a boy in today's world. The one person he should look to for support and understanding should be his father. Sometimes it can make the difference between success and failure. Three of the most important and most influential words in the English language are "I love you." Say them often to your son, and back them up with your actions. There are many other needs, however. Let me conclude with one final one:

BUILD GOOD MEMORIES

I heard a touching story of a father and son who spent an exciting trip together. Both agreed it was the highlight of their lives together. Returning home they made a pact. If there was ever difficulty between them in the future, they would use a "code word" that would remind them of this time together. The story related how this word was used many times to smooth the rough waters of disagreement and resentment. Periodically plan a special trip for you and your son to spend together; it may be the most valuable time of your life.

Good memories will cement a father and son relation better than anything I know. Start building some now!

THE END.

On December 20, 1979 Dave Deppe was killed in a tragic automobile accident. His homegoing created a great loss to the overall Royal Rangers ministry, the Ohio District, his church, and his family.

He was involved in many levels of the Royal Rangers ministries. He served in local, sectional, and district leadership, and on the National Royal Rangers Council. He served each area with distinction and gave performance par excellence to each task he assumed.

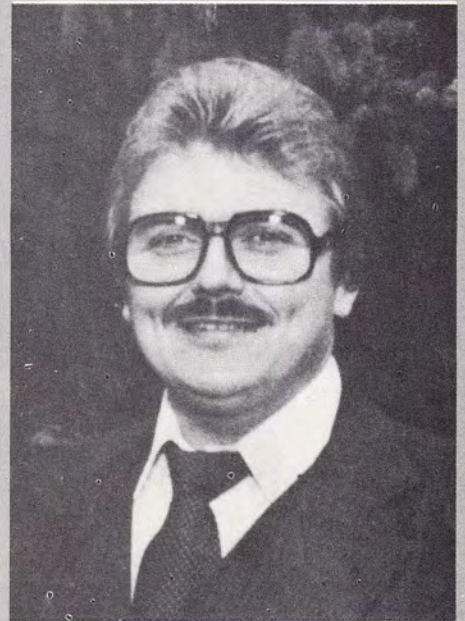
We on the National Staff pay special tribute to a great man, a great leader, and to one who performed a great service to Royal Rangers.

All of us who knew Dave personally were impressed by his life and dedication. He was a fine Christian gentleman in every way. Those who worked closely with him were personally enriched by that association.

One of his fellow colleagues, Gary Lutz, writes: "Dave was a man who sold out to the Royal Rangers ministry and the Lord! He made leaders out of men. He gave confidence and direction to everyone he came in contact with. It is because of Dave that I am the kind of person I am today. He saw potential in me. I am not the only story of a man being changed because of Dave Deppe. Although Dave is gone from us, the efforts he began are still being carried out, and his influence is still with us."

Dave Deppe was a giant among Ranger Leaders. He will be greatly missed!

Johnnie Barnes



DAVE DEPPE

*"He gave confidence
and direction
to everyone he came
in contact with."*

A ROYAL RANGER IS LOYAL

He is faithful to his church, family, outpost and his friends. With dignity, self-possession and a sense of accomplishment, the boys and leaders recite the fifth article in the Royal Rangers code.

In the realm of the church, and in particular, Assemblies of God churches, LOYALTY, both as a word and a principle could be reconsidered with profit. Loyalty, well defined, is "constant and faithful in any relation or obligation implying trust and confidence." Some of its synonyms are: "faithful," "true," "devoted," "constant," "dutiful," and "truehearted." As Royal Rangers commanders and leaders God has placed in our hands clay which is to be gently and carefully molded. We learn the principles of leadership, the significance of the emblem, the Royal Rangers pledge and the motto. They are practiced and recited endlessly.

I would like to insert a word of caution through the old adage which states, "Familiarity breeds contempt." There is always the possibility that an exercise will become a mechanical routine; a learning of words without much atten-

tion to the significance; a mere rote without intelligent attention.

Primarily I am concerned with the loyalty which we as leaders express by our deportment.

If you refer to your Leader's Manual, page 4, you will find "Advice Concerning Enlisting a Commander." Article 2 asks, "Is he loyal to his church?" Article 10 asks, "Does he cooperate with the program of his church?" It is my conviction, both as a pastor and as a Royal Rangers leader, that if I expect my church to be loyal to me and support my program, that I should extend to it the same courtesy and fidelity.

Disloyalty in any form will never convince such a person that the program is worthwhile. We may teach loyalty by our conversation, while our actions and arguments display infidelity.

A Royal Rangers leader considers it his first priority to be faithful to his church. He is a part of it. He is there to serve in it and not to be served by it. He is polite, kind and thoughtful (Courteous—item 6 in the code). Ingrained loyalty will give a sense of direction in times of stress. He will "stick" with the church and his pastor. Johnnie Barnes says, "The pastor, by virtue of his call by the Lord and the church, is the FIRST key to a successful

Royal Rangers program."

Never exploit your position as a district, sectional, area or local commander to achieve a personal advantage. Your pastor and your church are a living example of that which you are teaching their boys. You cannot serve the program by neglecting your own church on the pretense of benefitting another. Some pastors become disillusioned and fail to give us the support we feel deserving of. Often because we have failed to follow through in faithful attendance and monetary support in the church where we profess membership. Be well advised that your tithes belong in the church and not the Rangers program.

Faithfulness, or loyalty, is an attitude as well as an act, and I would like to ask you, "Is your attitude showing?" It is almost impossible to lead the boys where we have not arrived. How can anyone be faithful to family, outpost and friends without first showing loyalty to God, his pastor, and his church?

I exhort every leader from the Men's Department Director and the District Commander on down to the Lt. Commander of the smallest outpost to reflect upon this word, loyalty. Think of its shades of meaning and the areas into which it reaches. It covers allegiance and attitude toward God, Christ, the Holy Spirit, the church, Christians, our wards (the Royal Rangers) and their families. Ponder loyalty. Have you expected it, but not expressed it? Have you desired but not displayed it? We can indignantly denounce those who do not see eye to eye with us and miss the whole reason for our existence. Pious propositions and platitudes only whitewash disloyalty. They never replace it.

Remember, ours is only one arm of the church's outreach. Exemplify loyalty to the church's other endeavors and they will reciprocate. Loyalty is a prerequisite of success. Remember, "United we stand; divided we fall apart."

Deliver the goods. Be loyal!

A ROYAL RANGER IS COURTEOUS

He is polite, kind and thoughtful.

The Bible principle is, "In honor preferring one another" (Romans 12:10). The RSV says, "Outdo one another in



ROYAL RANGERS CODE

BY AIMER HARRIS

showing honor." "Give precedence and show honor to one another" (Amplified). "Delight to honor one another" (Living Letters). Practically each version of the New Testament underlines the "willingness to let the other man have the credit."

Naturally, the underlying truth and basis to success in the whole structure is LOVE. We assume then, that where love is absent, so also is courtesy.

Our present society is in a most deplorable state. Deterioration and decay is not only the norm, but the expected.

Unregenerate men refer to their existence in such terms as "survival of the fittest"—"might is right"—"rat race"—"dog eat dog," etc.

But for the Royal Rangers force, life with all of its tricks, tirades and trifles, presents us with the challenge to be living letters known and read of all men.

The "code" says, "he is courteous," which simply means he makes a habit of exercising heart-controlled consideration for others and especially those rated subordinate.

One philosopher succinctly stated, "The sword of the best tempered steel is most flexible. So the truly generous are most courteous in their behavior to their inferiors."

An interesting synonym for courteous is "affable." The Royal Ranger will look for a common ground of interest in order to communicate.

In Acts 17 the Apostle Paul reasoned with the Jews "out of the Scriptures." He showed them consideration by discussing something of mutual interest, the Word of God.

It has been said that courtesy of the heart is akin to love and from it springs the purest courtesy of outward behavior.

Courtesy is a science of highest importance. It is like grace and beauty in the body which charm at first and lead on to further intimacy and friendships.

HE IS POLITE

The mind equates many things with politeness—mannerly, obliging, unassuming are just a sample.

To put it briefly, he is well-behaved. A Royal Ranger is polite to his family, out-post, peers and underlings. He is especially polite in the House of the Lord.

Consideration is the true source of politeness. It is a moral sense which never loses sight of the rights, claims and feelings of others. It is one quality that distinguishes the polished persuader from the genuine gentleman. True politeness requires humility, good sense and benevolence.

Lack of it springs from several malignancies, such as vanity, ignorance of what is due to others, indolence, stupidity, distraction of thought, contempt for others and jealousy.

We are always polite to those we respect and esteem. There are qualities in the most unseemly character worthy of these considerations.

A Royal Ranger does not stoop to pushiness, but is attentive, amiable, and cultured (improvement and development through study and effort).

HE IS KIND

The Bible teaches, "Be ye kind one to another"; "Love suffereth long and is kind."

Contemporary society has been denuded of any semblance of charity and longsuffering. There is a famine of the kind of love that is real and genuine.

Modern man equates love with the erotic, erogenous and sensual. But Scripture dignifies it and says love is shed

lavishly in the hearts of Christians by an act of the Holy Spirit.

Kindness gives birth to a desire to deal magnanimously with the less fortunate, the wayward and the downright arrogant.

Satan has implanted in the hearts and deranged minds of many of his servants a bent to meanness and devilry.

Royal Rangers, on the other hand, are constrained to goodness and fellow feelings. They have no desire to intentionally hurt, harm, or defame a fellow human being, friend or otherwise. They are foreigners, aliens and strangers to any form of treachery, cold-heartedness, spite or uncharitable disposition.

HE IS THOUGHTFUL

William Booth, founder of the Salvation Army, was asked if he were allowed just one word to reecho around the world, what would it be? He answered very definitely, "OTHERS."

This, although not necessarily found in the handbook, is the watchword of the Rangers ministry.

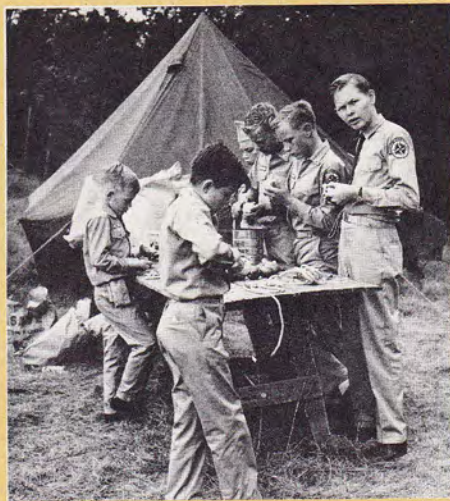
Interest and thought for others is a compelling force, deeply ingrained in the very texture of the Ranger's person and personality.

The Bible injunction is, "Look not continued on page 15 ►



PART TWO OF A THREE PART SERIES.





Think back to your 18th birthday; what a special day! A person's 18th birthday is one of the most important. Well, during October 6 through 12, 1980, the Royal Rangers program will be having its birthday, and that calls for a celebration! For 18 years the Royal Rangers ministry has been leading thousands of boys to Christ, strengthening and establishing them in the faith. So let's all do something special to celebrate this special anniversary!

Celebrate by setting up an information booth in a nearby public place. Our outpost set one up in a McDonald's Restaurant lobby. We set up a table with copies of the handbooks, pictures of activities, posters and free copies of the "Doorway to Adventure" pamphlet (available from

the National Office). Local restaurants and stores are good places to inquire. If no such place can be found, then ask your pastor if you may set up a booth in your church lobby.

This will serve as an excellent recruitment effort. Make sure that all of the literature has the church's name, and address, and phone number on it, and make doubly sure that the church's name is printed in large letters on the display. Include a calendar of upcoming outpost events and free copies of any newsletter that your outpost may publish.

Another excellent way to celebrate our 18th birthday is to have an open house outpost meeting. Make it exciting and tell the Rangers to invite their parents and friends. Sing a lot of songs, have some

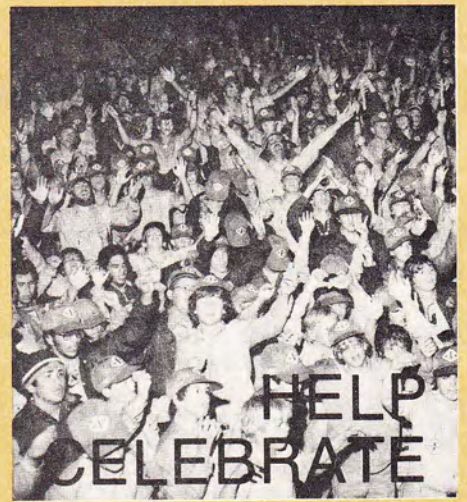
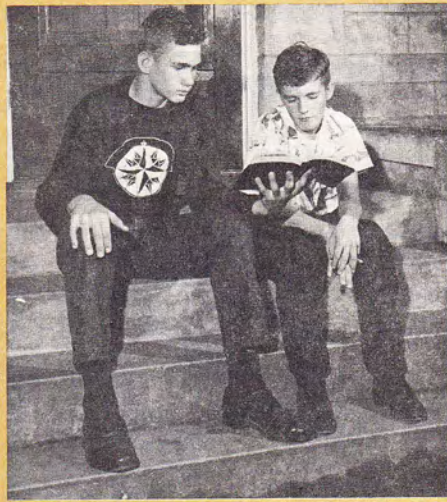
skits, play some exciting games and have a challenging and interesting program feature, Bible study and devotion. It might be a good time to recognize advancement, or pay special recognition to something a Ranger (or Rangers) has done. The words to remember are *variety* and *excitement*.

Getting outdoors is a great way to make Ranger week special. Have your first camp-out of the fall season. Or, have a theme hike; follow a stream, or do some orienteering, practice some stalking. Whatever you do, make it unique. Avoid doing the same old thing—it brings the same old response, boredom. Make it challenging and make it fun.

If a weekend trip is not possible, consider some type of outdoor event that you

EIGHTEEN ROYAL RANGERS





can do during your regular outpost meeting time. A night hike to view the stars is good, if there is an area close by. Pointing out star formations with a flashlight, or showing your boys how to tell direction by the stars can be a great way to spend a meeting.

Our outpost held an outdoor Council Fire during Royal Rangers Week. We sang, did some skits, told lots of jokes, had a super devotional, and one boy rededicated his life to Christ. It is not necessary to have a camp-out to have a Council Fire. The boys seemed to really enjoy it, and it was much easier to plan. If you are planning to have one within the city limits, be sure and check with the local Fire Department. You may have to secure special permission.

Other outdoor activities might include holding an outpost Mini-Pow Wow, with Rangers competing for awards in Ranger-craft; or any type of outpost sports events such as football, soccer, a softball game, etc. You might have a trip to a park to learn about plants or a trip to the zoo.

Celebrating with a community service project is another good idea. Your outpost could clean up a nearby stream, pick up trash in a local park or along a highway, hold a paper drive or bottle collection, clean refuse out of an empty lot, or hold a bicycle safety inspection for neighborhood children. Contacting a local newspaper and television or radio station would let the community know that Royal Rangers is involved in the

city. It's a good testimony.

And don't forget that Sunday, October 12 is a National Royal Rangers Day. Make sure the Rangers wear their uniforms to Sunday school and church. Perhaps they can bring in the flags, serve as ushers, help take up the offering, hand out the Pentecostal Evangels, etc. If your outpost has some slides or movies that you have taken during the past year, this is an excellent time to show them. It is also a good time to hold a Council of Achievement. Most pastor's are glad to let the Royal Rangers share in a service.

Whatever you do to celebrate this year's Royal Rangers Week, make sure it is special. After all, it is our 18th birthday!

HAVE FUN.

—LARRY D. BOHALL

BIG ONES. HAS GROWN UP.



Devotions for Boys

Off the beaten path.

Purpose: To explain to the boys to make sure of what they hear. Not to just believe.

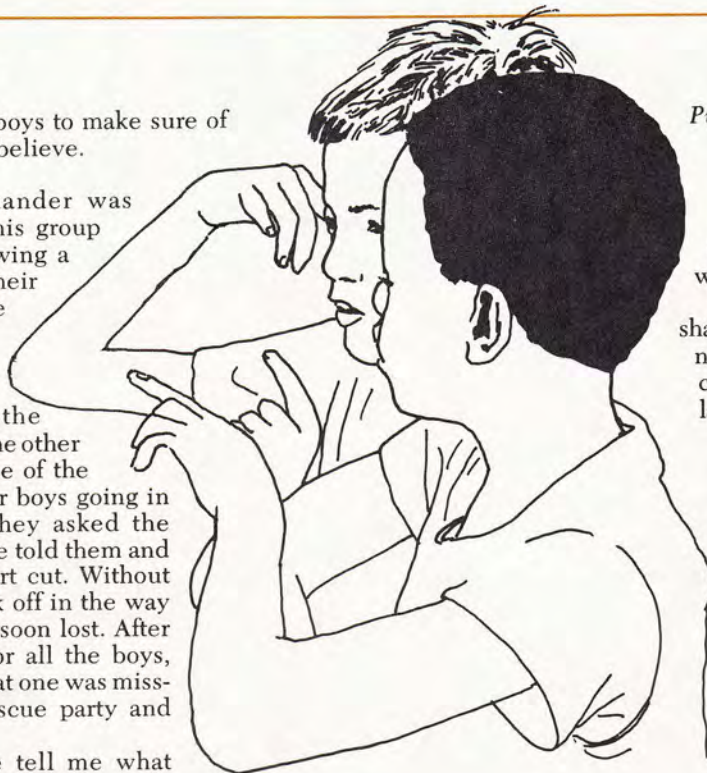
Commander: The Commander was going to test the skills of his group on reading maps and following a compass. They were to use their own compass and the Commander supplied the maps.

His directions were for them to hike over the mountain and come out on the other side at a specific point. One of the boys came upon some other boys going in the opposite direction. They asked the boy where he was going. He told them and they said they knew a short cut. Without consulting his map, he took off in the way they had directed. He was soon lost. After check-in time had come for all the boys, the Commander realized that one was missing. He arranged for a rescue party and found the lost boy.

Discussion: Can someone tell me what the lost boy did wrong? (Wait for their answers.) How can you apply this to your Christian walk? (Pause.) After they give their thoughts, give yours.) Many, many times young people are led astray, because they hear something and follow that instead of consulting the Bible, which is God's Word.

Scripture: The way we study our maps to make sure we know where we are going. We need to study God's Word. The Bible says in 2 Timothy 2:15 to "study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

Fred Van Horn
Vancouver, WA



Campfire service.

Purpose: To emphasize Christian influence.

Time and setting: Boys gathered around evening campfire. Boys, look past each other, and what do you see? By the light of the campfire, the night is filled with shadows. Look around to each one; and notice that everyone of us casts a completely different shadow: some larger, some wider than others—nevertheless, everyone casts some kind of shadow. If I walk between you and the campfire, my shadow falls on you. This brings to my mind the story of Peter's shadow. Acts 5:15 tells us that sick people were brought out to the street on mats and beds so that at least Peter's shadow would fall across them as he went by. Everyone of them were healed!

Boys, every day our life's shadow touches someone. People we come in contact with are influenced by the lives we lead.

But sometimes, people that we don't even know are watching, are influenced by the way we are living. Some people will be anxious to find fault . . . I'm sure that you have heard the expression many times, "If that is what being a Christian is, then I don't want it." That may not seem fair, but it is true so much of the time. People *do* judge God by what they see in us. You are God's witness to the world. Ask God to direct us, so that the shadow we cast will reflect Him.

Robert Young
Chipley, FL



JESUS

He died
so that
we might
live.



GOALS FOR THE EIGHTIES



A GUIDE TO ACHIEVEMENT

BY JOHNNIE BARNES

THERE CAN BE AS MUCH JOY IN THE DREAMING and planning as in the reality. Perhaps that is why I'm so excited about the next ten years for the Royal Rangers ministry. I'm very grateful for what has happened in Royal Rangers over the past 18 years. The achievements have surpassed our highest expectations. Over 100,000 decisions for Christ, the program in 40 countries, 25,820 leaders enrolled in leadership training, worldwide membership of 200,000; just to name a few. However, I am just as excited about the next decade! This is not a time to sit back and congratulate ourselves on past achievement. I believe we are on the threshold of the greatest years yet for Royal Rangers. If we utilize our capabilities, the achievement of the next ten years could boggle our minds. In light of this expectation, we have set a number of goals for the 1980's.

DOUBLE IN EVANGELISM

I am praying that the Royal Rangers ministries will win over 100,000 boys for Christ in the next ten years, and that over 30,000 will be filled with the Spirit. At our present rate of evangelistic results, we can easily reach these goals, and even go far beyond. Add to this the spiritual development and Christian education of these boys—then you can understand my excitement.

ONE-HUNDRED PER- CENT GROWTH

Yes—we can double in growth in the next ten years. We are reaching less than 50 percent of our churches with this ministry. There are several countries that are just now opening up to the program. Other denominations using the program are only in the beginning stages. There are also thousands of unsaved boys in our communities who need Royal Rangers. With a unified effort we can do it!

BOYS AT THE CENTER

We want to reemphasize "the boy" as the central purpose of the Royal Rangers ministries. His total development (spiritual, physical, mental and social) as our major objective; that all phases of the program should be geared toward this goal. We are praying that God will implant on your mind the image of a boy. That you will ask yourself the question, "How do my endeavors affect this boy and his needs." I am personally "haunted" by a vision of such a boy, and everything I do, every decision I make in Royal Rangers, I automatically relate to this boy. May I challenge each of you to spread this message in all areas of your influence. ►

"This is not a time to sit back and congratulate ourselves on past achievement. We are on the threshold of the greatest years yet for Royal Rangers."

“If we can involve at least 80 percent of our active leaders in some phase of leadership training, this will have an amazing effect on the total program.”



MORE EMPHASIS ON ADVANCEMENT

The advancement program is the gauge we use to determine how well boys are absorbing this ministry, and how well a leader is meeting the outpost goals for his boys. We plan to stress this need in our future communiques and our periodicals. You can help by placing more emphasis on, and giving greater recognition, to boys who earn top awards in your areas. However, the real acid test in achieving this goal, is to challenge local leaders to cultivate more advancement in their local outposts. Our national goal is at least five percent of our rangers earning the Gold Medal of Achievement. **AT LEAST 80 PERCENT INVOLVEMENT IN LEADERSHIP TRAINING COURSE**

The secret of our success, I believe, has been trained leaders. If we reach our future goals, it will depend on a continuous emphasis in leadership training. I would like to see 100 percent of our leaders involved. However, we must be realistic. Therefore, if we can involve at least 80 percent of our active leaders in some phase of leadership training, I'm sure this will have an amazing effect on the total program. The utilization of the certification program by many districts will result not only in higher quality

training, but also in leader involvement. We also plan to place greater emphasis on the importance of training in periodicals such as "Dispatch."

Another ambitious goal is to develop the Leadership Training Course into a multi-media form. This will greatly aid the instructor in teaching the course. This concept is now being prepared. **SIXTY PERCENT ATTENDANCE AT NATIONAL TRAINING CAMP**

The event that has had the greatest single impact upon leaders has been the National Training Camp. We need more men to attend this training event. One plan to step up involvement is to combine the LTC camp-out with an NTC. Several districts are doing this in 1980.

If this proves successful, we plan to eventually make NTC a requirement for the completion of the LTC. By the end of the 1980's we hope that at least 60 percent of our active leaders will have attended WTC.

BUCKAROO AND STRAIGHT ARROW NTC

Closely related is the need of a special National Training Camp for Buckaroo and Straight Arrow leaders. These camps will be activated in the near future. **AN ANNUAL NTC STAFF SCHOOL**

With the increase in trainees at NTC there will be a greater demand for quali-

fied instructors. To develop a backlog of instructors we plan to conduct annual NTC staff school. Eventual goal is to select all NTC staff personnel from this school. The school will be open to all leaders who have attended an NTC. If the enrollment is too large, we will conduct more than one school annually. **NATIONAL TRAINING SEMINARS FOR DISTRICT LEADERS**

Many District Commanders have expressed a desire to receive more specific training in their area of responsibility, and the opportunity of exchanging ideas with other commanders. These seminars will probably be held in conjunction with the National Council. FCF chapter presidents have also expressed a need for training in specialized areas. As a result, an FCF chapter officers training event will be conducted in 1981, just prior to the 1981 National council.

We wish to provide all the assistance possible so each of our district leaders can develop their full potential for Royal Rangers.

REGIONAL MEETINGS

We propose the development of a regional training seminar in each of our regions. This has been a very successful effort in the South Central Region. These meetings could be combined with an IT seminar, a regional staff meeting, and a regional business meeting. There is a possibility that the National Office could share in advance some of the items on the

Continued on page 15

Australian National Camporama

January 14-19, 1981, is the date for the quadrennial National Camporama in Australia. The site is beautiful Gosford Showgrounds near Sydney. The Gosfordshire area is fast becoming one of the major tourist sites in New South Wales. So this should prove to be an outstanding Camporama.

Along with all the other exciting Camporama events, there will be a special day at Old Sydney Town. This site is a reconstruction of the first major settlement in Australia, complete with people arrayed in historical dress. The Australians really know how to put on a colorful event, so I know this will be a fantastic Camporama.

National Commander, Will Thorne wants the American's to be a part of this event. He is very keen on having a sizeable American Ranger delegation at the Camporama. We are therefore, coordinating a group tour for those who wish to attend. Since both men and women, boys and girls are involved in Royal Rangers in Australia, we encourage both men and women to become a part of the American delegation. Our tour will include 3 days in New Zealand, 11 days in Australia and 2 days in Hawaii. Space will not permit us to list all the things we'll see and do, but it will be a trip of a lifetime! If you're interested in being a part of this outstanding opportunity; contact Johnnie Barnes at the National Office. ★

TAKE THE FAMILY ALONG.





Ol' Gabe To The Rescue

BY CARL CRACKEL

Jim Bridger, noted mountain man, explorer, and bourgeois, was known to most trappers of the great beaver trapping era as Ol' Gabe.

Jim Bridger acquired the name of Ol' Gabe because he was always a friend to whoever needed one. He was always willing to give a hand to those that had a need. Many a trapper's life had been spared from the Indians by the daring rescues of Ol' Gabe.

This time it was his old hunting and trapping companion, Joe Meek. It seems that one day, Joe Meek decided to go off trapping by himself. Joe set up his trap line about three days ride from Bridger's camp. One day while out checking his traps, he was come upon by a Sioux war party. Upon spotting Joe, the Indians immediately gave chase. Now, Joe was riding a mule—certainly no match for the fast Indian ponies. So, he decided to stand his ground and fight. Joe knew that unless he received help from somewhere, the beaver stream he was now standing in would soon become his deathbed.

Now, the first warrior to come upon Joe and find himself staring down the muzzle of Joe's rifle, was Chief the Bold. Chief the Bold, not being in any hurry to go to the happy hunting ground in the sky, called out to Joe, "Lay down your

weapons, and you will be taken alive."

Joe didn't much like the idea of parting with his weapons, especially Sally, his favorite rifle. But Joe thought it best to accede to the Chief's wishes and hope for a chance of escape later.

Joe was then taken to the Sioux village where he was placed in a tipi under guard. The chiefs all had gathered together to decide Joe's fate. After about three hours, Joe was summoned to the council. Chief the Bold spoke. "We know all white men to be liars, but if you will tell the truth, then you shall live."

Now, Joe knew that they would get the truth out of him somehow, if there be any truth in him. "Who is your captain and how many men in his camp?" asked Chief the Bold. "My captain is Jim Bridger, known to the Indians as Casapy, the Blanket Chief," replied Joe. "How many men in his camp?" demanded Chief the Bold. Now, Joe, sizing up the situation, had been counting the number in this war party—187 warriors, nine boys, and three squaws—no match at all for Bridger's 240 trappers. So, with coolness and a straight face, Joe spoke up; "Casapy has forty in his camp." Now all the Indians wore smiles. With only forty white men in Casapy's camp, it would be an easy victory, and soon forty scalps would newly decorate their lodge poles.

Preparation began immediately for the

march to Bridger's camp. Joe was made to lead the way on foot, carrying heavy bundles of spare moccasins stuffed with dried meat, while being prodded with sticks by the three squaws. During the three day's travel, Joe was mighty thankful that there were only three squaws to prod him along.

When they were close to Bridger's camp, six warriors were sent ahead to spy out the camp. When the six warriors returned and reported what they had seen, Joe figured that Chief the Bold would kill him for lying. Now, he decided to use him one more time. "Go to the top of the hill, and call out to those riding guard around the camp. Have them come up to you," said Chief the Bold. Joe figured out that Chief the Bold hoped to kill the guards and take Bridger's camp by surprise. So, Joe called out to the guards, "Stay back or be killed. Tell Ol' Gabe it's me Joe Meek, and I've been taken prisoner."

When the guards told Bridger that his friend Joe Meek had been taken prisoner by Indians, without hesitation he grabbed his rifle and rode out to rescue Joe. When Bridger reached the bottom of the hill where the Indians were holding Joe, he halted and sized up the situation. With a plan in his head, he called out to Joe. "Joe, it's me, Ol' Gabe. We're gonna git you free, so have hope. Tell them to send down a lesser chief to parley." Have hope, said Ol' Gabe, and Joe certainly did. He knew Ol' Gabe would do everything he could to save him.

The Sioux war party sent down Chief Little Gun to meet with Bridger. Both men laid down their weapons and walked toward each other. Now, the traditional custom of the Sioux Indians at such councils was to hug their enemy first. So, before any words were spoken, Bridger and Chief Little Gun began to hug each other.

On three sides surrounding the two men, ran a ravine covered with brush. Bridger's plan was to keep Chief Little Gun occupied until his men could position themselves in the ravine. They then would have Chief Little Gun cut off from the war party, and have him as their prisoner. At the same time, they could protect Bridger in case of any Indian treachery. So, Ol' Gabe put a bear hug on that Indian and acting real friendly, he just held on. Ol' Gabe was beginning to think he would have to hug that greasy, painted-up Indian all afternoon, but he knew his men had to move slow and cautious so they wouldn't be seen. When Ol' Gabe saw that his men were ready, he let go of Chief Little Gun, who then realized that he too, was now a prisoner. Little Gun called out to Chief the Bold, who then realized that Bridger had tricked him. Ol' Gabe, being familiar with the Sioux language, told Chief the Bold he would trade Little Gun for Joe Meek. Chief the Bold, figuring that no white

man's scalp was worth the loss of a Sioux Chief, made the trade.

Later, both sides met, and a peace treaty was made. The Indians received trade goods, and Bridger's men could trap on Sioux land, and Joe Meek was given back his weapons and possessions.

Like Joe Meek in this story, I, too, was a prisoner, only my enemy was sin. It looked hopeless—no escape in sight; but just like Joe Meek I also had a rescuer. No, it wasn't Ol' Gabe, but one who proved himself a friend above all friends—one who would never hesitate. He even died for me. Who was my rescuer? None other than Jesus. Ol' Gabe could rescue the person, but Jesus can rescue the soul and give us everlasting freedom from the fear of death.

Do you need to be rescued? Just call for Jesus; He won't hesitate. He wants to be your Saviour—only Jesus can wash away the sin and cleanse your heart—only Jesus can give everlasting life. ★

ROYAL RANGERS CODE CONTINUED



every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others" (Philippians 2:4).

It is difficult, if not impossible to be thinking of others and still be obsessed by selfishness and absorbed in self-need.

On one occasion when Jesus was dealing with a soul, four barriers had to be hurdled. The sin, sex, race, and religion of the woman stood in the way. Christ delicately surmounted each obstacle because of His thoughtfulness for a soul.

The Royal Ranger exemplifies thoughtfulness for the least and greatest persons in need. It must be so, for he is motivated by love.

GOALS FOR THE EIGHTIES

CONTINUED.



National Council agenda with the regions—to discuss at their business meeting.

RANGER OF THE YEAR

Plan an annual "Big Adventure" for district and regional Rangers of the Year winners. An experience such as a backpacking trip or canoe trip. The location would be in some of the most scenic parts of the USA. What better way to evaluate candidates for National Ranger of the Year, than by watching them in action on such a trip? The cost would be underwritten by each district as part of the district Ranger of the Year award. The trip would probably be limited to boys 12 years and older.

TRAINING ACADEMIES

There is a need for boys to have more time in a camp atmosphere; and an opportunity to pass specialized advanced awards. The answer is a training academy. This concept has proved quite successful in the Louisiana District. This academy would run for a 5-day to a week-long period. It is not a substitute for a Pow Wow. But would be an additional opportunity for boys. These academies could be combined with a JLTC. Our goal: all districts now conducting Pow Wows would add a training academy by the end of the 1980's.

OTHER COUNTRIES

A top priority is to encourage the development of Royal Rangers in other countries. One goal is to translate Royal Rangers materials into German, Portuguese and French—and also to translate additional books into Spanish. We have discovered that NTC's are just as effective in other countries as here. We therefore, have set the goal of conducting more of this type of training in other countries. There are many wide-open doors; we must seize these opportunities.

HIGH ADVENTURE

With the popular acceptance of High Adventure (now 45,000 circulation), we hope to expand this magazine to six issues (bimonthly) a year.

TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY

In 1982 Royal Rangers will be 20 years

old. This is also the year of our next National Camporama. We are designating 1982 as a time of celebration for Royal Rangers. A highlight presentation of our 20 years will be given at the Camporama.

Special articles will also be written on this theme. Your input would be greatly appreciated.

We will probably also stress our 25th anniversary in 1987—which will also fall in this decade.

BOOKS AND NOTEBOOKS

To assist in our expanding program, we plan the production of the following books and notebooks (some are already in production).

Outpost Ideas, Devotions for Boys #2, Awards and Medals Booklet, enlarged District FCF Officers Notebook, Aide-de-Camp Promotional Notebook, District Training Officers Notebook. If you have any input in any of these areas, please share with us.

ROYAL RANGERS FILM

There is a great need for a film on Royal Rangers. A film that will dramatize what this ministry will do for boys. We hope this will become a reality in the 1980's.

TOGETHER

The final outcome of what will be achieved in the Royal Rangers ministry in the 1980's cannot be determined by one person, one office or one geographical area, but will come through the combined effort and vision of every region, every district, every division, every section and every outpost. Together we shall reach our goals, together we will be a part of the most exciting and most productive ten years in Royal Rangers history.

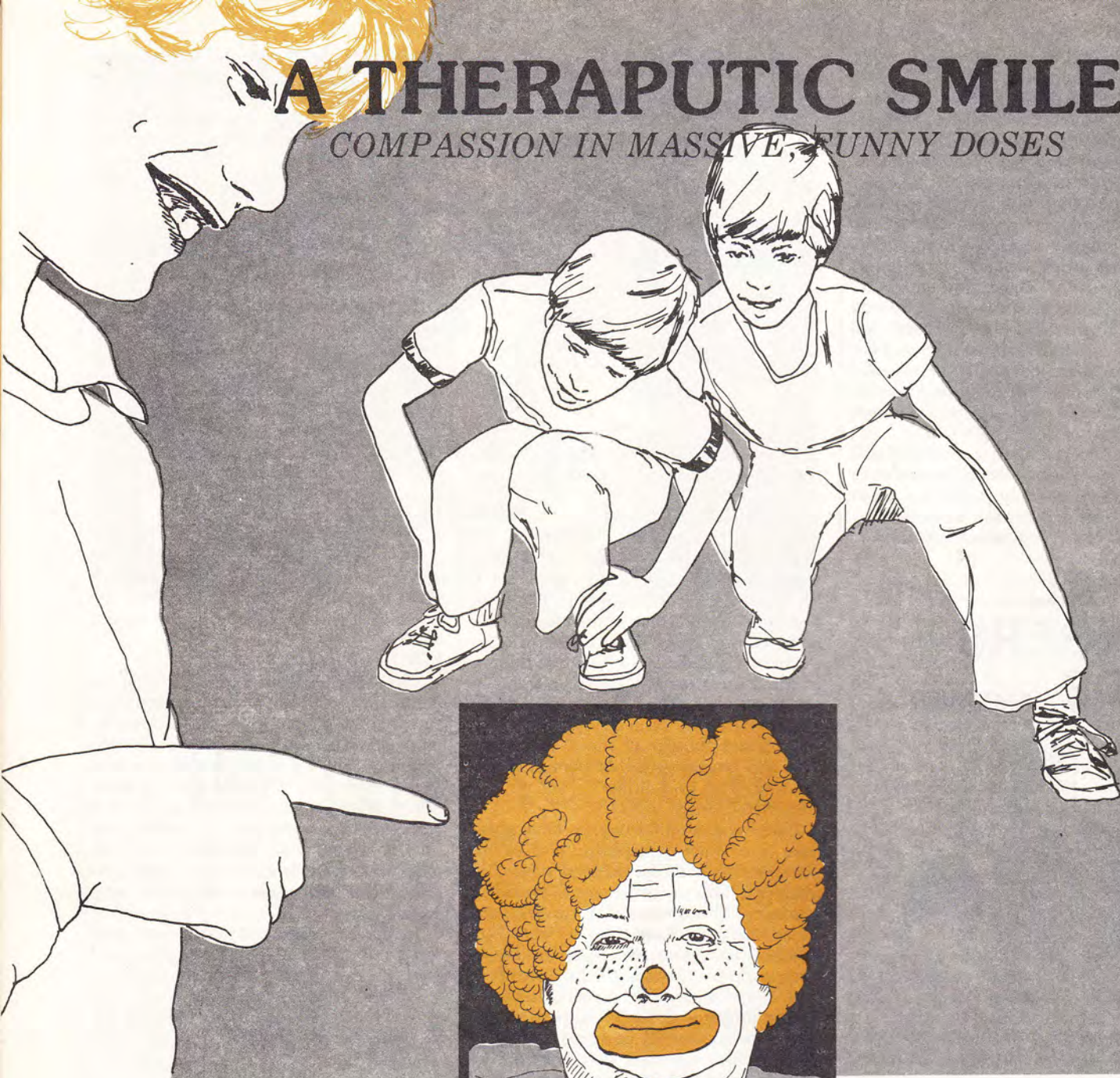
In the background I can almost hear the bugle call to a great spiritual battle, I feel the assurance of great spiritual victories. Like an old war horse, I'm "straining at the bit," ready to surge forward for Royal Rangers and the Lord Jesus Christ. ★



"LET'S STAND UP AND REST FOR A WHILE."

A THERAPUTIC SMILE

COMPASSION IN MASSIVE, FUNNY DOSES



It was a familiar Halloween sight—costumed children, entertained by a clown called Hobo Joe. But this party had a different twist.

All the children were under treatment for leukemia. And so was the clown.

Beneath Hobo Joe's "happy face" makeup and costume is Royal Rangers Commander Loddie Bridges, Arlington, Texas. Earlier this year, a routine blood test confirmed the disease in an early stage.

During treatment at a Dallas clinic, Bridges learned of a program for children with leukemia called PAL—Protection Against Leukemia. Program directors said they needed a clown for an upcoming Halloween party. With 26 years of youth work under his belt, Bridges felt a natural attraction for the job. He volunteered.



Twenty-seven children, from as far away as Abilene and Wichita Falls, attended the party. A Wichita Falls television crew covered this event. Bridges, decked out in full makeup and costume as the happy clown "Hobo Joe," entertained the group with 13 illusions.

Following the party, Bridges went room to room, entertaining children who could not leave their beds.

"I was just going around making a fool of myself!" Bridges commented later. "And I was having a ball!"

Being a clown isn't as easy as it looks. After the necessary costume and makeup were purchased, Bridges enrolled in a clown course at a local college. "We

study makeup, costuming and basic illusion," Bridges said. "We're also concerned with developing 'patter'—a continuing dialogue to keep the show running." Bridges is also in the process of obtaining membership in the Society of American Magicians.

The Halloween party, Bridges said, "was my first official production." He has since appeared at several churches, a convalescent center and the Texas State Fair. The PAL children are again on his agenda in December for a Christmas party.

Bridges plans to continue with the clown avocation in the leukemia program and other local civic and church groups. He said he is still refining the costume, makeup and character of Hobo Joe. But one thing will remain the same—"I'll still be a happy hobo.★