

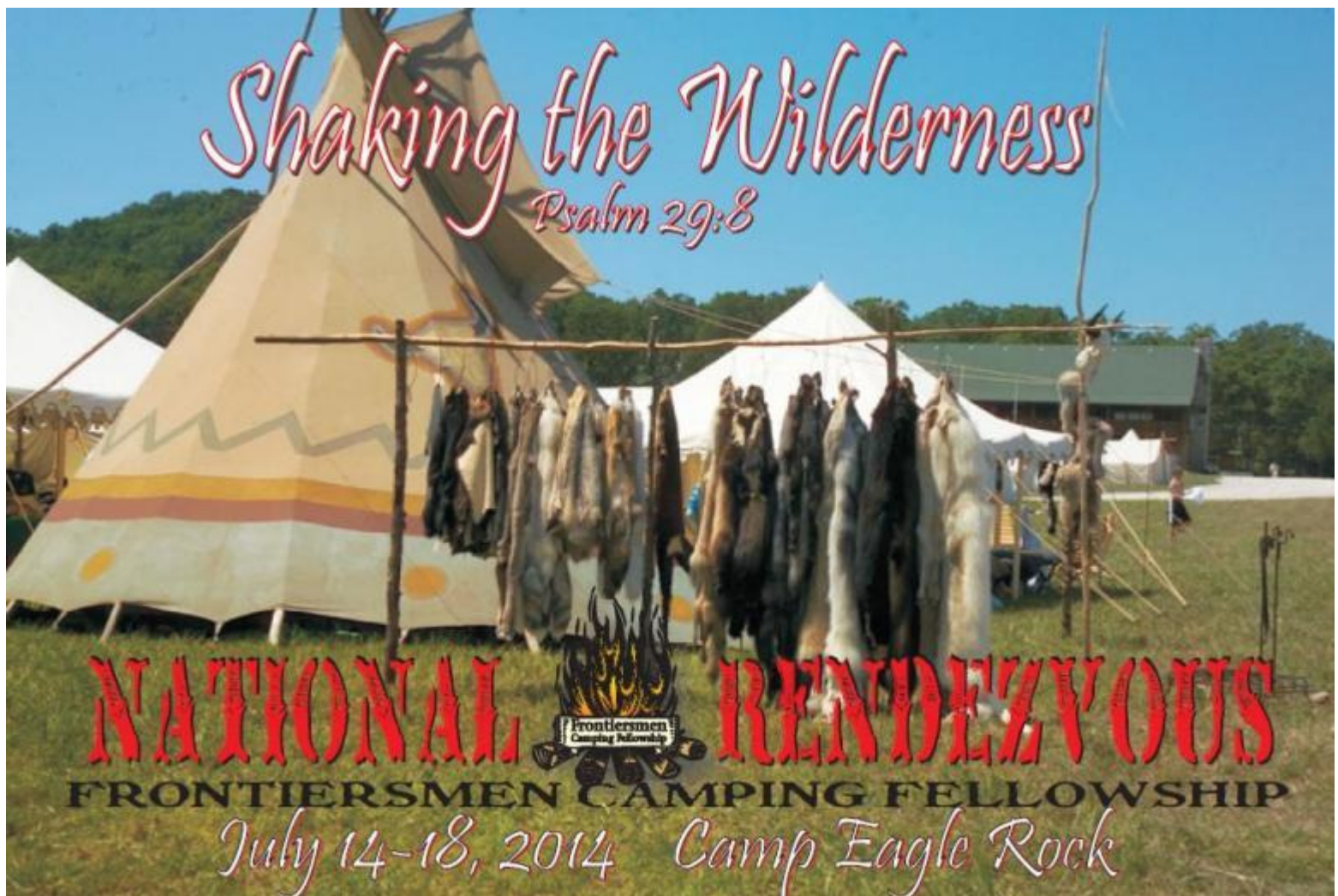
NATIONAL FRONTIERSMEN CAMPING FELLOWSHIP

FRONTIER GAZETTE

CAMPORAMA EDITION



www.nationalicf.org



Begin making plans now to join us for our eleventh National FCF Rendezvous as we “Shake the Wilderness”! Be looking for updates and more information at www.nationalfcf.com, www.royalrangers.com, and the National FCF Facebook page.

See you there!

About the cover: Camporama attendees move through the FCF Old Time Village archway leading to some of the activities for the FCF Village event at the 2012 National Royal Rangers Camporama.

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GREY OWL

NATIONAL FCF PRESIDENT

What an exciting summer of 2012!!! Over 5200 Royal Rangers converged on Camp Eagle Rock in the scenic Ozark Mountains of southwest Missouri!!! The grand 50th Anniversary celebration of the founding of Royal Rangers in 1962 was a focal point of the 10th National Camporama.

Early in the planning of the National Camporama, Royal Rangers National Director Doug Marsh challenged the Frontiersmen Camping Fellowship to host the biggest, exciting and most colorful FCF Village ever. 300 FCF members rallied to participate in the "Old Time Rendezvous" that was one of the focal points of the Camporama. It was shining times for the FCF. There were many who commented that they felt like they were at a National Rendezvous. The Old Time Rendezvous covered the grounds in and around Stanekville and across Cedar Creek and filled the large field that lies below the Brownells and Daisy ranges. The views from atop the adjoining hills provided a grand look back into the daily lives of our early frontiersmen forefathers.

The Old Time Rendezvous was alive with activity from early in the morning to the late afternoon and beyond. Vendors and FCF members had a full array of their chosen FCF skills exhibited for the Camporama participants. The blacksmith shop was alive with activity as the 'smiths tutored willing souls to pound out and form their very own historically correct nail. The historical FCF display and headquarters shelter was jammed with those eager to find out what being an FCF member is all about.

Hot and thirsty campers found the old- fashioned root beer, ice cream cones and floats were a great way to cool down and listen to some tunes from the FCF musicians. Fred Deaver and Sonny Green, FCF President and Vice President emeritus were busy every day recounting important Royal Rangers and FCF events and even signing some autographs. Sights, sounds and the wonderful smell of FCF style vittles filled the air.

Across Cedar Creek, the meadow was filled with exciting historical territorial events, frontier demonstrations and games, hawk and knife throwing and much, much more. Thankfully, none of the frontier darts found their way to the road and any of the golf cart tires.

It was too much to take in during a single visit and campers returned to the Old Time Rendezvous many times during the week.

And FCF members, all the fun and foofaraw aside, I commend you for your efforts and time taken to mentor, disciple and fellowship with the next generation of FCF members. Those moments will linger in the minds of the boy's and men who visited the Old Time Rendezvous in 2012. "To Give and To Serve".

Paul "Grey Owl" Walters II





NATIONAL C

Old Time





CAMPORANIA

Rendezvous



National FCF Scouts



At Camporama 2012, we were blessed to have all eight of the National FCF scouts from across the nation in attendance. Pictured from left to right are:

Matthew Goodnow, Plainsmen Territory, Samuel Bakke, Explorers Territory, Anthony Hembree, Voyagers Territory, Austin Franklin, Trappers Territory, Wesley Church, Riflemen Territory, Zack Gill, Colonials Territory, Caleb Pittenger, Rivermen Territory, and Kevin Montgomery (not pictured), Mountainmen Territory.

During Camporama, these young men held a national young buck meeting to discuss likes and dislikes, ideas, and more with the young bucks who were in present at Camporama. The frontier chapel was the site for this meeting and there was standing room only.

They also took on responsibilities in the FCF village headquarters stamping books, handing out hat pins, and answering questions. Without a doubt, we are well represented across the nation.

Great job scouts! Thanks for all your help!





OLD TIME RENDEZVOUS

After several years of planning, dreaming, building, and development, the Old Time Rendezvous at Camporama is finally complete!

The village began coming to life on the Saturday before the start of Camporama. Vendors began rolling in to set up, the blacksmiths were setting up and burning their coal forges, and campers were running to and fro to complete all of the final preparations for the Ranger event of a lifetime.



Sunday saw some much needed rain and cooler temperatures to start the week off as campers from the four corners of the globe began to arrive at Camp Eagle Rock.

By Monday, the village was in full swing and the sounds of Rendezvous were heard on the breeze. Banjo music playing, the ringing of the blacksmiths hammer, the sound of laughter and friendship filled the air.

Thousands of men and boys moved through the village, to see what activities were being offered and to receive their FCF Hat pin (pictured to the left.)

Across Cedar Creek, the canvas village continued- campers experienced what life was like during the fur trade era with the Explorers demonstrating a beaver skin press, the Riflemen were challenging boys to experience several Indian games, the Mountainmen were making fresh salsa and drilling holes with push drills, while the Colonials were running a Declaration of Independence scavenger hunt. The Plainsmen brought the Iron Mountainman Challenge, the Trappers chased hoops with their sticks, the Rivermen had boys playing Massachusetts tag ball, and the Voyagers were enlisting boys to learn how to march and hold rifles just like our forefathers.

We had three hundred FCF members camped as part of the Old Time Rendezvous FCF Village, making it the largest FCF Village in Camporama history. There were many comments made about the fact that this village felt more like a Rendezvous than a Camporama village.

Every FCF member who was a registered camper and who was a part of the FCF Village received a special Camporama FCF Village Resident patch (pictured to the right). This patch holds the same design as the FCF hat pin, but rather than the FCF in the background, the background design bears the FCF totems of Grey Owl, Oak, Many Waters and Black Arrow. These were only available to those who at Camporama and will not be sold beyond the event.







On Thursday during the camp, FCF took over the Brownells Rifle Range and was in charge of shooting black powder rifles for fun and competition.

Many boys and men participated in this event, and even some of the foreign delegates participated and were privileged to not only fire a gun for the first time, but fire a muzzleloader for the first time.

Other activities that were taking place in the village were brain tanning deer skins, bead working, the cannon crew doing demonstrations, the territorial stores, FCF vendors and so much more than can be told here.

Without a doubt, this was the greatest event in Royal Ranger history, and now, it is history.

For more photos of the event, they can be viewed on the National FCF website.





Remembering John "Strong Leader" Eller, First National FCF President

Reverend John Eller, passed into the presence of our Lord, June 29th, 2012 at the age of 73. He was born March 20th, 1939 in Tucapau, South Carolina.

Commander John Eller became involved with Royal Rangers in December of 1962, and became an FCF member in 1967.

Commander Eller served as the Daniel Boone Chapter President, Midwest FCF Representative, National FCF

President, National Dispatcher, National Aide de Camp, and as a staff member of numerous National Training Camps.

He also served as a pastor in Missouri, Tennessee, Arkansas, Kansas and Georgia.

John was one of the first Wilderness members of FCF and one of the first to become a Free Trapper in Trappers Brigade. He was also presented the FCF Flame of Honor in 2010.

A pioneer of this ministry, he saw and was involved in the beginnings of much of what we know today in Royal Rangers and FCF.

As we remember his life, we echo the words that Commander Eller himself used at the funeral of Johnnie Barnes: "Good night Commander, may you rest well. We will see you in the morning!"

