

NATIONAL FRONTIERSMEN CAMPING FELLOWSHIP

FRONTIER GAZETTE



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Art Sullivan- Plainsmen
John Robinson- Riflemen
John Hembree- Voyagers
Bob Triphahn- Rivermen
Larry Norris- Trappers



A Conestoga Wagon was part of one of the featured Territorial Events in the FCF Village during the 2016 National Royal Rangers Camporama.

About the cover: A selection of photos from the 2016 National Royal Rangers Camporama showing some of the activity going on during the camp.

Photo credit: Anthony Hubbard & Chris Trower



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Grey Owl National FCF President

2016! The exciting 50th Anniversary for the Frontiersmen Camping Fellowship! 50 years of ministry, exciting color and inspired brotherhood. It is great to look back at the foundation and history. It is better to look ahead, with great anticipation of how the Lord will continue to bless the FCF.

My thanks and gratitude to the 226 FCF members that were a part of the FCF Village at the National Camporama. The village was great and offered so many fun events and fellowship. You represented the FCF well. The morning devotions were inspired and ministered to many. Many lasting memories were made.

The charge to "Fan The Flames" and "Live The Adventure" was given. We must be a light to our families, churches, outposts, community and world. God has blessed us with a unique and special ministry. Let us all commit our work and energy to reach our world for God. There is much to do.

See you around the campfire!

"Ad Dare Servire".

Paul "Grey Owl" Walters II
National FCF President





Did You Experience Camporama 2016?

Sunday July 17, 2016 at 1 PM the gates to Camp Eagle Rock officially opened for the 11th National Royal Rangers Camporama!

By Monday night, over 3000 Rangers and leaders would be busy putting the final touches on camp sites and preparing for the next days activities.

Tuesday morning the camp was alive with activity! In the FCF Village you could hear the ring of the anvil in the blacksmith shop, the explosion of the cannon being fired, laughter of old friends catching up, retelling old stories and listening to new ones.

This Camporama was the celebration of the 50th anniversary of FCF. FCF officially started July 8, 1966 in Southern California.

The FCF historical trail began at the FCF Museum housed in the National FCF Headquarters at the Simpkins Cabin in Stanekville.



Each territory conducted a different activity to campers that upon completion earned them a stamp for their camporama stamp book.

In the center of the village was a full sized square fort that housed some of the territorial events.

Monday night, Paul Walters, National FCF President brought the word and reminded us to continue to "Fan the Flame" of FCF. The remaining nights of the camp Karl Fleig, National Royal Rangers Director and National Chairman of FCF Challenged us to "Live the Adventure."



In other areas of the camp there was archery tag, paintball, laser tag, chain saw carving, soccer tournament, Royal Rangers International, high ropes, zip line and more!

Pin trading was the best it has ever been. Several districts had more than one pin to combine to make a set, while others had various colors- making some more rare than others. (Anybody got a pink New York?)

The best part of camporama was the spiritual atmosphere around the altar. At each nights service there were hundreds of young men and leaders who filled the altars seeking the Lord and what He had for them.

Alas, all things must come to an end, and almost as quickly as they went up, tents came back down and Camp Eagle Rock became quiet again.

Folks ask why we do this every four years? We do it because we are compelled to. We do it because we are called to. We do because we want to see young men's lives changed forever, just like the first time we went to camporama.

So if you didn't get to be a part of Camporama 2016, make plans now to get to Camporama 2020. You won't be disappointed!



Is Your Chapter a Five Star Chapter?



Each year every FCF chapter in America reports on their activity to earn a the "Chapter Star Rating".

Chapters earn points for each new member, advancements, Trappers Brigade points, conducting events, attendance at national or territorial events, and much, much more.

When the points are tallied, each chapter earns a star rating based on the number of total points that are earned during the year. In addition, the region that has the top chapters with the highest number of points is awarded the Hawkeye Award. The winning territory is awarded a certificate and flag streamer, and each chapter in that territory is awarded a flag streamer.

The reporting period begins September 1 and ends August 31 of each year. The star rating awards and the Hawkeye award are awarded each year at the LEAD National Council and Conference.

Below is a listing of each chapter and how they scored in 2015:

Five Star Chapters

Adirondack (New York)
Blue Ridge (Potomac)
George Washington (Penn-Del)
John Fenwick (New Jersey)
The Minutemen (S. New England)
Chippewa (Wisconsin-N. Michigan)
Rough Rider (North Dakota)
Gila River (Arizona)
Sierra Grizzly (No. Cal-Nevada)
Indian Nation (Oklahoma)
Jedediah Smith (New Mexico)
Shawnee Trail (North Texas)
Creek (Alabama)
Okefenokee (Georgia)
Old Hickory (North Carolina)
Seminoles (Penn-Florida)
Choctaw (Mississippi)
Daniel Boone (So. Missouri)
Volunteer (Tennessee)
Marcus Whitman (Northwest)
Coureur de Bois (Ohio)

Four Star Chapters

Lewis and Clark (No. Missouri)
Northstar (Minnesota)
Eldorado (Southern Pacific Latin)
Texas Independence (South Texas)
Ponce de Leon (SE Spanish)
Jim Bowie (Louisiana)
Henry Rowe Schoolcraft (Michigan)
Simon Kenton (Indiana)

Three Star Chapters

Pathfinder (Spanish Eastern)
High Sierra (Northern Pacific Latin)
Kit Carson (Rocky Mountain)
Agueybana (Puerto Rico)
Appalachee (West Florida)
Swamp Fox (South Carolina)
Abe Lincoln (Illinois)
Long Rifles (Kentucky)
Quapaw (Arkansas)

Two Star Chapters

Kings Pine (No. New England)
Davy Crockett (Iowa)
Juan Seguin (Texas-Louisiana Hispanic)
Hudson Bay (Oregon)
Jim Bridger (Southern Idaho)

One Star Chapters

Kanawha (Appalachian)
Hugh Glass (South Dakota)
Denali Frontiersmen (Alaska)
Little Big Horn (Montana)

Chapter Reported—No Star awarded

Palo Duro (West Texas)

Chapters not reporting

Ft. Kearney (Nebraska)
Grand Canyon (Southwest)
Kamehameha (Hawaii)
Sequoia (Southern California)
El Rio Colorado (Central Latin)
El Vaquero (Midwest Latin)
Hawken Rifle (Kansas)
Washakie (Wyoming)

How many stars will your chapter earn next year?



National FCF Scouts 2015-2017

Every two years at each of our eight Territorial Rendezvous across the nation a National FCF Scout is selected from among the Chapter Scouts that are present at the rendezvous. The young man who becomes the national scout is the highest point scorer in the selection process. Points are awarded for Royal Rangers advancement, FCF advancement, Trappers Brigade advancement, Muzzle loading Rifle/Archery, Tomahawk throw, Knife throw, Flint and Steel and FCF Outfit.

Our National Scouts represent the boys of FCF at the National FCF Action Team meeting held at the LEAD Conference and are members of the National FCF Action Team during their two year term. The input they provide is quite valuable to FCF.

The Scouts pictured below are the National Scouts for the 2015-2017 term and have represented the boys of the U.S. well!

Our national scouts were a great asset to the FCF village at this years National Camporama. They helped the national staff with a great many projects that were vital to the success of the camp before, during and after Camporama.

If you see one of these young men, shake their hand and thank them for their service!
Who knows, you could be one of the next national scouts from your territory. Do you think you have what it takes to be a scout? Keep working hard to be the best and you just might be!



Pictured left to right: Sean Kennedy-Mountainmen, Brandon Love-Voyagers, Jaccob Nattrass-Explorers, Giovanni Quintana- Plainsmen, Alexander Hamilton-Trappers, Joshua Kave-Rivermen, Johnny Martin- Colonials.
Not pictured- Zachary Rathnell- Riflemen



National Historians Notebook

We have all read the story of the beginning of FCF many times: "High in the San Bernardino mountains..." but, did you know that there was an initiation before the one conducted at Camp Pinecrest?

In preparation for the 50th anniversary celebration of FCF, I began to research the beginnings of FCF beyond the history in the FCF handbook and workbook. Johnnie Barnes could have very easily chosen any district in the United States to conduct the first FCF call out and induction, but he chose Southern California. I wanted to know why.



Bob Reid being presented the Silver Eagle trophy by Johnnie Barnes, 1966.

In my many conversations with the old timers of FCF who have been members for much of our 50 year history, I discovered that the former District Commander of Southern California Ron Halverson was available and willing to discuss the pre-history of FCF.

In our conversation, Ron Halverson related to me the story of how Southern California was chosen to be the place FCF would be introduced.

Commander Bob Reid was the first outpost commander in the nation who worked with the first pilot outpost in Springfield, MO. In 1963, he was appointed to serve as the National Training Coordinator working with the National Royal Rangers office. He accepted a position in 1964 as the Athletic Director at Southern California College in Costa Mesa, CA (now Vanguard University), and some time after moving to California he was appointed as the Southern California District Commander.

This was the connection to Southern California I was looking for.

Commander Ron Halverson had recently been appointed as the new District Commander in 1966, shortly after Bob Reid stepped down. What made the difference in Southern California was the Leadership Training Course or LTC. At that time, the LTC was a correspondence course, not live training like we have today. Commander Reid and Halverson both believed that they could develop better trained leaders by teaching the LTC rather than simply allowing commanders to work at home and mailing the books to the national office for grading. Because of this approach to training, the Southern California district had more trained leaders at that time than any other district. Naturally, Johnnie Barnes had to see what was going on in California.

Johnnie already had the concept for FCF and California was just the place to introduce it. Commander Halverson was the first full time District Commander in America, so this allowed him to devote time to the development of FCF. Johnnie, Ron, Bob and Wes Kilcrease, the Southern California deputy district commander met at the Southern California district office everyday for a week as they brainstormed and took Johnnie's idea for FCF and made it a reality.

Now that they had an outline, they needed candidates. Commander Halverson spent the next few months seeking out qualified candidates from among the leaders who had attend the LTC's that they had taught. From these men they accepted recommendations for young men to join FCF. In the end, five men and five boys were approved by the district to be "Called Out".



Ron Halverson conducting LTC training in Southern California, 1967

As the 1966 Southern California Pow Wow approached, Johnnie made plans to travel back to California to formally introduce FCF to Royal Rangers for the very first time.

Shortly before the pow wow, a trial run initiation for the staff was planned. Commander Barnes conducted the first "initiation" at the BSA camp at Barton Flats in the San Bernardino mountains. Ron Halverson and Bob Reid were the first to be inducted into FCF during this first initiation. This is the true first ever initiation into FCF.

This is where the story of FCF that is familiar to all of us picks up.

The 1966 Southern California pow wow at Camp Pinecrest was a pivotal moment in the history of Royal Rangers and FCF. It is doubtful that those in attendance at that pow wow understood the significance of that moment. Royal Rangers was only four years old, and new things were being developed and presented all the time in those early days. But over time, FCF grew. As FCF developed, exciting experiences and updates were presented and met with great anticipation by Rangers everywhere!

Now, we stand fifty years later looking back through the lens of history at the beginnings of the FCF. Looking at those who were pioneers in admiration for their efforts. From our place in history, it is easy to see that God guided the steps of every one who was involved in those early days to establish the FCF.

We hold those who came before us in high esteem, and we thank them for their vision, endurance, and willingness to answer the call.

As we look to the future, it is bright! Let us continue to feed the flame of FCF with Courage, Achievement, Friendship, Leadership and Woodsmanship so that in fifty years when FCF celebrates its 100th anniversary, those who come after us will look back and remember how the Lord has blessed Royal Rangers because of FCF!

Ad Dare Servire!
Anthony "Black Arrow" Hubbard
National FCF Historian

**NEW FRONTIERSMEN
CAMPING FRATERNITY**

We are happy to announce the beginning of a new Royal Ranger camping fraternity similar to the Boy Scouts' "Order of the Arrow," except our emphasis will have a frontier background instead of Indian lore.

**PURPOSE OF THIS
ORGANIZATION**

1. To give recognition to boys who have shown exceptional interest and achievement in the Royal Rangers.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Contact your District Commander for information about the development of the Frontiersmen Camping Fraternity in your District.

Announcement of the beginning of FCF in the March-April-May 1967 edition of the Royal Rangers Leaders Dispatch.



The attendees of the 1966 Southern California District Pow Wow where FCF was introduced. The leaders pictured at the bottom of the photo L to R: Bob Reid, ?, Johnnie Barnes, ?, Ron Halverson, Wes Kilcrease.



On March 1, 2016, Fred "Hawkeye" Deaver, National FCF President Emeritus passed into the presence of our Lord and Savior.

There are few who have impacted the Royal Rangers ministry as Commander Deaver did. He served with our founder and first national commander Johnnie Barnes for

many years, serving as an Aid-de-Camp for the Kansas district, National FCF President, Vice President of the National Royal Rangers Council, and as National FCF President Emeritus. Fred traveled around the world, training men and in some countries women, how to be better ranger leaders through the National Training Camp. He was known as "Mr. Senior Guide" to the many who were trainees under his tutelage.

As a boy growing up in Joplin, Missouri, Fred was a cowboy who loved to ride horses and was at one time a bull rider. He joined the army at age 17 and became the youngest Master Sergeant in the Army at 19. While in the Army, he became a paratrooper with the 11th Airborne Division during World War II under General Douglas MacArthur. He made several combat jumps and was then recruited as a drill instructor to train men for combat. He was once featured on one of the Army's publications for soldiers carrying a World War II era inflatable field howitzer over his head. Even then, he was a larger than life character.

He had a great love of the outdoors, and was an avid hunter of big game and loved to tell you the latest story of the big buck that passed under his tree stand or show you the picture of his most recent deer.



With no formal training in art, Fred became a nationally known western and wildlife artist. He eventually left his 9 to 5 job, to as he put it "slop paint" full time. His art has graced many covers of the Royal Rangers magazine High Adventure, Muzzleloader Magazine, the Pentecostal Messenger, and many Royal Rangers and FCF Handbooks. Commanders all across the nation own Fred Deaver original paintings, prints and bronzes. In the 1979 he was commissioned by the Boy Scouts of America to paint a portrait of the actor John Wayne that was presented to the actor. It is the only portrait privately held by the Wayne Family. It hangs six months of the year in the Los Angeles BSA Council offices and six months in the home of Patrick Wayne.





Fred was always quick to give all the praise and glory to God and his beloved wife Joyce for his success.

As a Royal Ranger leader, Fred had a passion for souls. He has literally led thousands of boys to know Jesus as their Savior. He would pray each year for a certain number of boys to be saved each year, until one year it struck him while he was praying, "Give me what ever you want me to have Lord!"

Hawkeye ably led the Frontiersmen Camping Fellowship for 27 years from 1974 to 2001.

The greatest love of his life was his wife Joyce, who he married in 1951. They were married for 65 years.

His quick wit and sagely cowboy wisdom will be missed by us all.

Thank you Hawkeye for your leadership. Until we meet again!





FRONTIERSMEN CAMPING FELLOWSHIP

OUTSTANDING FCF SERVICE AWARD

Two pioneers of the FCF were honored by the presentation of the Outstanding FCF Service award during the 2016 National Camporama. Ralph "Grey Fox" Palmerton and Wes "Fire Eagle" Kilcrease. Commander Ralph Palmerton served as one of our original FCF Vice Presidents, as a Territorial Representative, and was one of the first Wilderness members in America.

Commander Wes Kilcrease was one of the first Royal Rangers leaders to be inducted into FCF membership July 8, 1966. He served as the Southern California Deputy District Commander and was one of our past National Council Presidents. Both Commander Ralph and Commander Wes were both instrumental in the early development of FCF.

Thank you both for your dedicated service to the FCF!



Pictured to the left:
Paul Walters, National FCF President,
Ralph Palmerton, and John Hembree,
National FCF Scribe.



Pictured to the right:
Paul Walters, National FCF President,
Wes Kilcrease.

