

Summer 1997

HIGH Adventure

LEADER'S EDITION



● Roger's Rangers

● Camporama

● Challengers

● The Right Gear is Essential

Royal Rangers
Celebrates its
35th Birthday

★ PATRIOTISM ★

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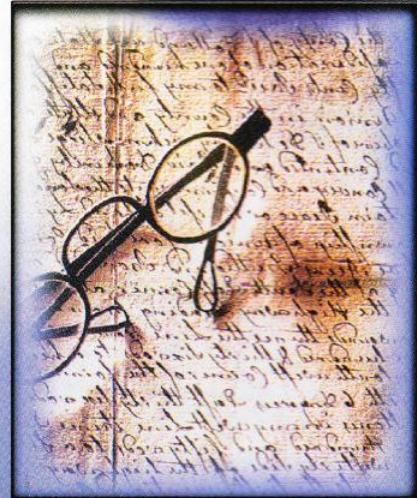
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RON ROBERTS, National Coordinator

HonorBound: Men of Promise

KEN HUNT, National Commander

Director of Publications

MARSHALL BRUNER, Editor-in-chief

CLINT DAVIS, Designer/Managing Editor

JIM ERDMANN, Technical Editor

SHIRLEY SPEER, Technical Editor

BEVERLY DELPORT, Editing Assistant

Happy

35th

Birthday, Rangers!

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CHALLENGERS

update

Read all about it!

Challengers is a new emphasis of the Royal Rangers ministry, designed for Rangers in grades 10 through 12, ages 15 through 17, in the local church. Rangers who are in either of the Air, Sea, or Trail Rangers programs will now be "Challengers."

The Challengers program will include the traditional Royal Rangers program called Trail Rangers plus additional special interest groups. Currently two Challengers programs are being developed and offered: the Trail Rangers and Harvesters programs. The Sea Rangers and Air Rangers programs are being revised for the Challengers program, and several other programs will be developed in the future.

Each Challengers program will offer a five-step advancement program: Quester, Adventurer, Voyager, Navigator, Discoverer. (These advancements may be worn on both the Challengers: Trail Rangers uni-

form and on the new Challengers outfit, which consists of a jacket, T-shirt, and cap. The Challengers advancement pins and merit pins may be worn on either the Challengers jacket or cap.) Another advancement pin any Challenger may earn is the Medal of Excellence. A Ranger who earns all the required merits available in his field of study will earn the Medal of Excellence.

The Challengers: Trail Rangers program alone offers the tradition-

al camping program—with new insights on camping and outdoors adventure—the Rangers uniform, the Gold Medal of Achievement program, the Frontiersmen Camping Fellowship program, and the Ranger of the Year program. However, a Challenger may participate in more than one program.

(con't pg. 14)



A SPECIAL

by John Overton
New York District Commander

It's the 1996 Spring Frontier Camping Fellowship. There has been an air of excitement for most of the day because of the different events—such as formation drills, rifle, hawk, knife, and other skills of the early frontier soldiers of the 1754-63 French and Indian War period. The military uniforms represented are the British Red Coats, the French Marines, and Rogers' Rangers.

One might ask what FCF has to do with boys. This group has given the Adirondack Chapter a tool to create an interest in American history. Rogers had a retreat area near Lake George, New York, called Rogers' Island.

The young men who have a strong interest in Rogers' Rangers have developed a sense of kinship to this group because they research the period uniforms, rifles, and daily soldier's life in the frontier.

The group has also done research on historical skirmishes. The unique part of this is that a narrator uses a script to describe what is taking place as the reenactments are performed. This gives the bystander a sense of involvement in a part of living history. Non-FCF men

and boys who observe this recreation of living historical events usually want to become a part of it. We stress to those coming into the chapter that the authenticity is up to the individual himself.

In the year 1755, a man named Robert Rogers formed a company of rangers and allied with the British. The mission of the rangers was to fight the French and Native Americans on the terms of woodland battle.



The rangers consisted of trappers, farmers, hunters, and some who had experience in other military units. The one thing they all had in common, besides the homespun green uniform and British Brown Bess flintlock rifle, was the knowledge of the northeast woods. They knew how to live off the land as they used the "hit-and-run" tac-

FORCE

tic. One piece of headgear they wore was a green beret; thus they were our first "Green Berets."

The first "Green Berets" still are affecting men and boys after all these years. It is interesting to note that Robert Rogers' tactics are still taught and used by today's military forces.

We have found in the Adirondack Chapter that Rogers' Rangers has offered us other useful historical interests and skills to keep and teach boys for Jesus Christ.

I would strongly suggest that all chapters research their local history, for in it they may find some historical men and events which will attract men and boys' interests.

1. It teaches young men to research historical truth.
2. It creates interaction with members of FCF.



3. It gives men a chance to pass on skills to young members, teaching boys to sew clothing, etc.
4. It adds meaning to one's historical past as an American.
5. As a result of becoming more interested in the history of Rogers' Rangers, the boy develops a stronger interest in other facets of his life such as school and church.



photos courtesy John Overton

MAJOR BUMMER

Robb Hawks

The Not-So-Clean Rangers

The old Rangers van thundered up Interstate 95 as fast as the traffic would allow. Each mile closer to the city had resulted in excitement for both the boys and the driver. The boys were excited because they were beginning a 3-day adventure in Washington D.C., the capital of the United States.

The driver was not actually getting excited; tense would be a better word. For, as the miles slipped past, the traffic became worse and worse.

"I can't wait to meet our senator," Jonathan said.

"Yeah, me too," Shelton added.

"I wonder if we could meet the president?" Matt asked.

"I don't think so, Matt," the commander answered. "It would take a miracle!"

"Well . . . Why not? We believe in miracles, don't we?" Jonathan asked.

The others cheered their agreement. The commander just shook his head. To add to the numerous problems he was facing with the traffic, it was beginning to rain.

"Major bummer! It's raining!" Jonathan exclaimed.

"No problema; I brought my poncho!" Shelton answered with confidence.

"Yeah, but who wants to wear a poncho over our uniforms. I've got all my badges polished, and I wanted to make a good impression on our congressman," Jonathan replied dejectedly.

The Interstate had become I-395 and they soon approached their first stop. The commander pulled through the gates and drove up the hill to the parking area. They had just entered into one of the most famous cemeteries in the whole world—Arlington National Cemetery. As the boys got out of the van, they noticed a couple of new, dark gray vans parked nearby. There were a bunch of men standing around in suits. Now this would not normally draw their attention, but these men all looked like football players.

"Wow, look at the size of those dudes!" Jonathan said.

"I think they must be CIA agents or the Secret Service," Shelton said.

"Alright, boys, let's hit the trail," the commander said. "We will have to move fast if we are going to see the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, President John

F. Kennedy's grave, and still make our appointment with your senator."

The rain grew steadily worse as the boys followed their commander up the trail. Jonathan was hoping that his poncho would keep his uniform dry and clean. The boys all followed their commander up the hill. Arlington National Cemetery is not your typical military graveyard.

The soldiers were allowed to have non-military issued gravestones. Most of the really huge, fancy ones belonged to generals and admirals.

There was one very notable exception that the boys found—the gravestone of General John "Black Jack" Pershing. General Pershing was the first ever appointed General of the Armies as he led the American forces in World War I.

The boys were impressed with the story of how this great general, one of the most honored in all of American history, specifically asked that he have placed upon his grave the exact same standard military issue stone that the privates and corporals received.

The boys made their way up to the Tomb of the Unknown

Soldier. They were amazed at how precisely the military guard executed his march as he guarded the tomb.

A quick stop at President John F. Kennedy's grave, and the boys started back down the hill towards the car. Suddenly, movement at the bottom of the hill caught their attention. It was a motorcade of limousines!

Their curiosity exploded into excitement as the lead limousine opened and out stepped the president of the United States! With a whoop and a holler, the boys began to race down the asphalt trail that led back to the main road.

Jonathan suddenly stopped. The trail was leading them the wrong way! The only thing standing between him and the president was about 400 yards of hillside and a bunch of gravestones!

"Jonathan, NO!" Shelton cried.

Shelton, Matt, and their commander stood in shock as Jonathan bolted from the trail and made a beeline straight across the cemetery toward the president.

"I believe in miracles," Jonathan cried back over his shoulder as he raced down the hill, faster and faster, dodging

and leaping over tombstones. The others just watched in horror. Jonathan was so focused on his own personal desires, that he was showing absolutely no respect for the cemetery and the dead who were buried there.

"I think he's going to make it!" Matt exclaimed.

Jonathan knew he was going to make it. Just another hundred yards to go. He could clearly see the president now.

The president was surrounded by the big guys in the suits. The president was placing a wreath on a grave. With fluid grace, Jonathan leaped into the air to sail across another gravestone . . . only just as he leaped his right foot slipped on the rain-drenched grass.

This minor slip kept him from reaching his maximum jump height, and his left toe caught the top edge of the gravestone sending Jonathan flying headfirst into a sloppy slick of red mud and grass. Jonathan's arms landed first, the impact driving mud up his sleeves all the

way to his armpits. His face crashed next, covering his forehead to his chin in more mud. Finally he landed on his chest and slid about 20 feet to come to a crashing stop against some general's gravestone.

Matt and Shelton quickly reached their mud-drenched buddy and dug him out of the mud. Jonathan stood up and slowly wiped the mud from his face. The three boys watched as their commander made it to the base of the hill.

The president was walking back to his limo and was shaking the hands of those who lined the road. The three boys watched in shock as the president reached out and took their commander by the hand, giving it a good shake, just before he stepped into his limo and then disappeared into the mounting rain.

"We missed meeting the president!" Matt exclaimed sadly.

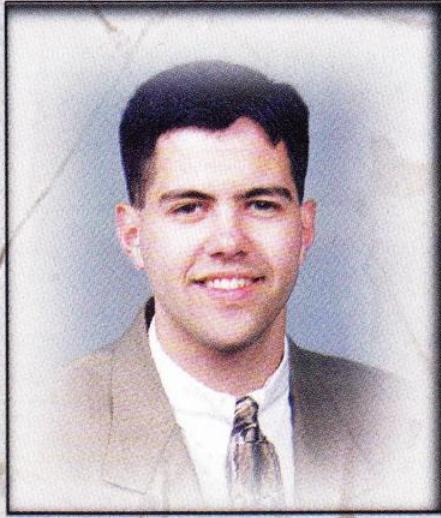
"Yeah, but at least we saw him," Shelton said. "And we do have an appointment to see our senator in a little while; that's something."

"Cosmic bummer! I missed the president . . . and now I look like a mud puppy . . . and the senator . . . my best uniform! AHHHHHHH!"

Jonathan cried in despair. "That's a good point, Jonathan. I guess you don't make a very good Ranger, after all. What does the Ranger Code say?" Shelton asked.

"Yeah, I get it! A Ranger is alert . . . and clean!" Jonathan moaned.





The Right Gear is Essential

by Mike Godzwa

It's your first camp-out. The crisp, fall winds lift your spirit as you open the screen door.

"Come on, Billy," your father yells, with a slight annoyance in his voice, "you're gonna miss the outpost bus."

Your mind shifts from the thoughts of your budding manhood to those of equal importance.

"Where's my coat?"

You are off on the greatest adventure of your life. There will be rough trails for you to conquer, rope courses to challenge your courage, and campfire stories that will make even the bravest shiver. *I'm ready for anything*, you think as the rickety bus travels through the camp gate. *Bring it on!*

A small cloud is on the horizon as you set up camp. You wrestle with guy lines and tent stakes without noticing the sky filling with the dark gray masses of ominous thunderheads. A drop of rain falls unnoticed to the ground. One by one the Rangers turn their eyes heavenward as they acknowledge the coming storm. Frantically the outpost retreats to their packs, retrieving their armor to face the coming onslaught. "Grab your ponchos," is the battle cry heard far and wide.

Calmly, you reach into your new knapsack, pausing a moment to admire your name embroidered on the flap. Your hand passes the neatly folded T-shirts and socks in search of the all-important rain gear. Sweat appears on your brow as the first attempt fails. You look again, and again, and again, each time more and more frantically.

As the rain continues to fall harder and harder, you come to the horrible realization, *I FORGOT MY PONCHO!*

No longer is your mind on the adventures the weekend will bring. The feeling of being warm and dry has been completely erased from your memory. You crawl into your tent defeated, and as you pull off your sponge-like socks you whimper, "When do we go home?"

It has happened to us all. Whether it was your rain gear, flashlight, or hiking boots, leaving important equipment behind on a camp-out can make the weekend miserable. The same can be true when it comes to the area of missions.

New missionaries go to the field with enthusiasm and a vision from God. They struggle for years to prepare and raise funds in order to reach the lost with the gospel.

That spirit can be dampened, however, when they realize gospel literature is too expensive. Because of their limited budget they cannot give God's printed word to those who are perishing. That is where Light-for-the-Lost enters the picture.

The mission of Light-for-the-Lost is to provide missionaries the literature they need to reach a lost and dying world. Since its beginning in 1953, LFTL has contributed almost \$60 million to that very goal, but so much more needs to be done. Every year we fall millions of dollars short of meeting every request for gospel literature.

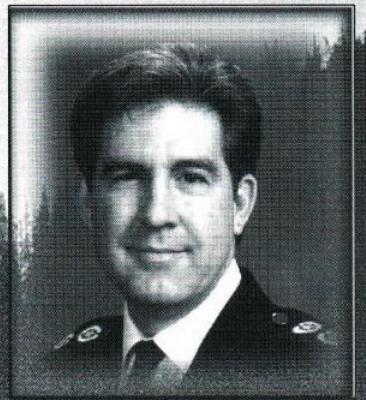
"What can I do?" you ask. "I barely have enough to buy a soda once a week." The answer is simple: Become a Junior Councilman.

Councilmen and Junior Councilmen allow Light-for-the-Lost to function. Because they contribute to this evangelistic ministry program, Light-for-the-Lost can put every dollar pledged to literature in the hands of missionaries who so desperately need it.

Joining this program is easy and will help you along the way toward earning your Gold Medal of Achievement. First you will

HIGH Aventure

LEADER'S EDITION



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National Public Relations Coordinator

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Happy 35th Anniversary, Royal Rangers Ministry!

The year was 1962, and excitement was in the air. A young minister named Johnnie Barnes, who had served as the North Texas District Christ Ambassadors president, had just moved to Springfield, Missouri. On January 1, 1962, Johnnie was officially named the first national commander and assigned the task of heading up a new ministry for the Assemblies of God. It was appropriately named Royal Rangers. Johnnie and Burton Pierce, who then served as department head for Men's Fellowship (now called HonorBound: Men of Promise), spent the next several months detailing the Rangers program.

Who would have known then that Royal Rangers would one day be a thriving ministry expanding into 61 nations and having reached well over 1 million boys in the United States alone?

Today the Royal Rangers ministry celebrates its 35th anniversary. Thousand of boys are being led to Christ each year through Royal Rangers, and multiple thousands are being discipled by godly commanders such as yourself. Under the direction of National Commander Ken Hunt, this worldwide ministry is gaining recognition for its evangelism endeavors into urban America and overseas. New curricula, awards, and training have been developed to better evangelize urban areas. Royal Rangers Harvest Task Force teams are penetrating urban America for times of fasting, prayer, and evangelism; in other nations FCF Pathfinders are boldly going into areas where other MAPS—Overseas Construction teams cannot, due to harsh living conditions, to help build churches.

The Light-for-the-Lost Junior Councilmen program is making new strides to involve boys Pioneers age and up in evangelism through the printed page—the Junior Councilmen program has generated more than \$334,000 to purchase evangelism literature since its inception in 1993! And our office is developing a missions education program for Rangers of all ages.

As you may know, the Pioneers and Trailblazers programs have been revised to offer boys new and exciting activities and advancements. Now the Air-Sea-Trail Rangers programs are being updated as "Challengers" programs to offer new advancements and a collegiate-looking outfit. The Straight Arrows and Buckaroos programs are also being retooled to offer boys additional advancements and materials.

Yes, the Royal Rangers ministry *is alive and growing*. We continually hear glowing reports of how boys are being reached for Jesus Christ and how men who were once Royal Rangers are now faithfully serving Christ as laymen and pastors.

We have a rich, proud heritage. Now let's spread the news: The Royal Rangers ministry is 35 years old ... and improving with age.

CONVOY OF HOPE

by
Joel
Kirkpatrick

When the Convoy of Hope rolls into town, it's hard to miss. It is eighteen-wheel trucks carrying 35,000 pounds of food and a massive play area for kids. It is a stage where people sing worship songs and proclaim the gospel, and thousands of people standing in line to receive free bags of groceries, courtesy of ChurchCare America, the creator and sponsor of the Convoy of Hope.

"The Convoy of Hope is about providing groceries and presenting the gospel to thousands of needy families," said Hal Donaldson, ChurchCare's founder and president. "It's thrilling to see Christians—adults, teenagers, and children—moving outside the walls of the church and rubbing shoulders with those who need hope."

The Convoy of Hope, which gave away more than 700,000 pounds of food in 1996, has two purposes: feeding the hungry and building up the congregations of small churches.

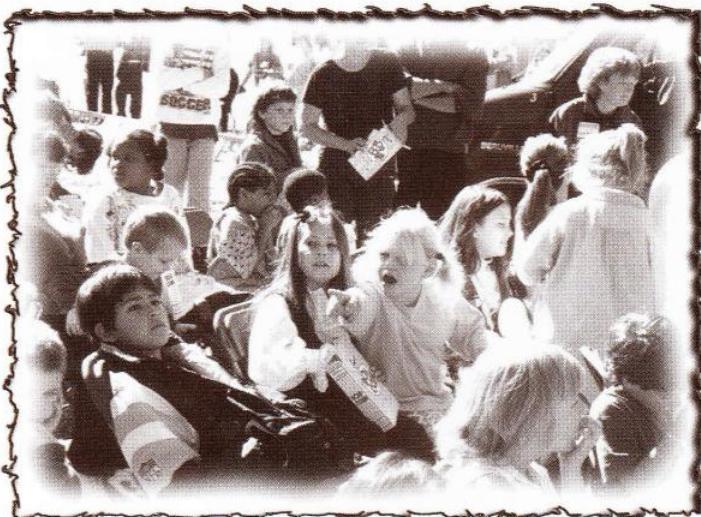
Broccoli, carrots, Rice-A-Roni, potatoes, Cap'n Crunch, oatmeal, bread, cauliflower, and tomatoes are the means to bring the needy into contact with Christian volunteers. They come for the food, but they receive something far more valuable: the gospel message and a special invitation to a local church. As Donaldson says, "The food is the hook to get them to the Book."

The people who turned out for a Convoy in Springfield, Missouri, in September 1996, were like those at most other Convoys across the country. Borrowed clothes, yesterday's fashions, crooked teeth, and

hollowed-out cheeks—they showed the hallmarks of physical poverty, but also a deep sense of gratitude to the Convoy volunteers whom, they knew, were there only to give.

At the Springfield Convoy a local pastor addressed the first 200 people in line. "We're just about to get you some groceries, but a week will go by and there's going to be a need again, isn't there? I want to tell you that there is one need that can be met this morning that never needs to be met again, and that is Jesus, the Bread of Life."

After many people responded to the invitation to receive Christ, the guests came through the food line, and Pastor David



Children are kept busy in a huge play area with puppet shows, jumping gyms, pony rides, and prizes.

Watson, of Central Assembly of God, wept openly as he put bags of food in their hands.

"My heart is overflowing," he said. "I preach that we must get out of the four walls of the church and into the marketplace with the gospel. Here I see it happening. Compassion isn't

just saying, ‘God bless you,’ It’s true,” said John Lindell, pastor of James River Assembly in

Christ’s compassion showed through that day, from bagging the groceries, to looking after the children in the jumping gym, to putting on a dramatic rendition of Carman’s “The Champion,” the battle between God and Satan.

“That drama presentation put a light in my heart,” said Mike Dee, an out-of-work father of six children, as he watched his son tackle the Velcro wall in the kids’ play area. “I’ll remember the message a lot longer than the groceries.”

Behind him the line grew longer, people in want, people out of work, or disabled, or injured in the war, like Mike, who had grenade scars from forehead to ankle. There were mothers who had to fend for their children on \$500 a month because their husbands had left them. Many others were diseased and mentally ill. That day some 3,500 were served, and 500 responded to the invitation to prayer.

“This was like a dream come

true,” said John Lindell, pastor of James River Assembly in

“Jesus taught us to show concern for the poor and hurting—to be His hand extended to the less fortunate,” said Donaldson. “Christ said when you have a banquet, invite the poor. This is a command; it’s not optional. And that’s why we’re throwing these ‘parties’ for the poor and introducing them to

Guests are treated to a gospel message



Springfield. “But it wasn’t my dream. It was ChurchCare America’s dream. The Convoy brought such a celebratory spirit to our church, such a freshness. I was so moved during the whole

Jesus Christ.”

ChurchCare America’s Convoy of Hope is an endorsed ministry of the Assemblies of God and serves tens of thousands of people every year with much-needed groceries.

More importantly, it plugs them into a local church where their spiritual needs are met from week to week.

Now the Honor-Bound: Men of Promise ministry (the national men’s department, which includes Royal Rangers) is partnering with ChurchCare America to help provide manpower and financial support for

the Convoy of Hope trips. For information call:

417-862-2781, ext. 4178.



Local church volunteers hand bags of groceries to thousands of needy people at the Springfield convoy.



thing I could hardly speak.”

The Convoy of Hope keeps growing, going to new places and drawing in the lost, primarily in inner cities and depressed neighborhoods.

Rangers Conduct First-Ever International Cyber Pow Wow

by John Martinez,
San Jose, California

On December 23, 1996, the first-ever Royal Rangers international Cyber Pow Wow began. The Cyber Pow Wow was an idea that stemmed from a world-wide Royal Rangers e-mail mailing list.

The Cyber Pow Wow was hosted on the RangerNet World Wide Web site. It had activities in nature study, a compass course, a Frontiersmen Camping Fellowship village, some humor, and even a scavenger hunt.

All of these activities had an international flavor to them, thanks to the fact that Royal Rangers is an international ministry. We had devotions from Royal Rangers leaders from the United States and other countries. A limited edition patch was also sent to anyone who attended and registered. On RangerNet, some Cyber patrols were formed to keep that Royal Rangers feeling! The proceeds from the registration will be sent to Missionary Doug Marsh, who serves as a Royal Rangers missionary to Latin America.

The following people helped organize the Cyber Pow Wow: Duane Wheeler, Washington, USA; Robby Jernigan, Missouri, USA; Jennifer Wheeler, Washington, USA; Jonathan Trower, Texas, USA; Brian Wood, Great Britain; Fiona Thorne, Australia; Jeff Mortenson, Mississippi, USA; and John Martinez, California, USA. The Cyber Pow Wow was officially hosted by the Royal Rangers Pacific Latin

American District and the North Texas District.

You too can become a part of RangerNet. All you need is an e-mail address. Send e-mail to the following: Majordomo@lists.bats.com and the words "subscribe rangernet" as the only text in the body of the message. The RangerNet World Wide Web site is at <http://www.rangernet.org/>.

Happy cyber camping!

North Central Region Conducts Harvest Task Force

by Jim Dougherty,
North Central Region
Harvest Task Force coordinator

During December 6-8, 1996, the North Central Region conducted its first Harvest Task Force trip in Milwaukee, Wis. The purpose of the



HTF was to target Milwaukee for evangelism through the Royal Rangers ministry. The event was surrounded by a period of fasting, prayer, evangelism, and an urban tour.

The HTF enabled a partnership in urban outreach ministry between the Wisconsin/Northern Michigan District and the North Central Region Royal Rangers with the inner-city pastors and church leaders in the Milwaukee area.

In order to achieve this purpose, the HTF had several secondary goals:

1.) To build relationships and lay the groundwork in introducing the Royal Rangers ministry to inner-city church leaders with the goal of starting local outposts in the inner city target area.

2.) To establish plans for a training program for potential commanders in these churches, including the *Leadership Training Course*, the *Urban Commander's Training Course*, and the National Training Camp, to be accomplished by June 1997.

3.) To prepare and plan for a week-long evangelistic outreach June 28-July 5, 1997, at Washington Park, located in the heart of inner-city Milwaukee. This outreach will be coordinated by the staff of the Wisconsin/Northern Michigan District and will utilize model FCF and Royal Rangers camps set-up in the park with food, demonstrations, and activities designed to interest and attract boys and to acquaint them with the Royal Rangers ministry. Tentative plans also include street ministry to be conducted by outreach teams during the day—with *The Book of Hope* and *The Ultimate* being distributed—plus conducting crusade services each evening in the park itself. Volunteers throughout the North Central Region are being invited to assist in this evangelistic outreach.

4.) To involve the boys reached into an established outpost with well-trained leaders and an ongoing outreach and discipleship vision to reach, teach, and keep boys for Christ. Efforts will also include in placing the boys' families into church.

5.) To lay the foundations and plan for a National Urban Commander's Conference, to be held October 23-26, 1997, in Milwaukee.

6.) To establish a plan and pattern to be used in holding HTF's in the other districts in the North Central Region.

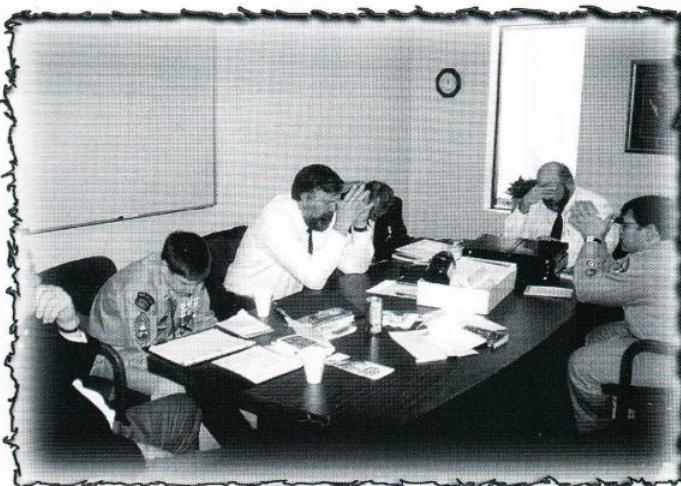
The HTF began with a time of intercessory prayer on Friday, December 6, after which the HTF team attended a Friday evening worship service at The Word Is God Worship Center, one of the Milwaukee inner-city churches implementing Royal Rangers.

Saturday was devoted to fasting and prayer, with an afternoon meeting with Pastor Lamar Davis and several members of The Word Is God Worship Center. Following, the HTF team toured the inner-city neighborhood surrounding Washington Park—the target area for the summer evangelistic outreach in June.

After the tour, the team attended a roundtable discussion at Calvary Assembly of God in Milwaukee.

inner-city churches shared their burdens, vision, and hopes for what the Royal Rangers ministry could accom-

coordinator; Meerl Beever, Iowa District public relations coordinator; and two Trailblazers: J.R. Dougherty, Iowa District, and Joel Woppert, Wisconsin/Northern Michigan District.



plish for the youth of their city. Time was spent in prayer, bringing these needs before the Lord. The round-table time then concluded with a season of worship and Holy Communion. Saturday evening concluded with a time of food and fellowship.

Those participating in the Milwaukee HTF included Don Brock, North Central Region coordinator;

Pacific Latin America District Conference

by Brian Rogers

Christ Cathedral Church in Bakersfield, California, was the site for the Pacific Latin American District Com-

manders Conference, the district's annual meeting for Royal Rangers leaders. Attending the weekend conference, which ran from Friday through Saturday, January 17-18, were 340 leaders and boys gathered from Arizona, California, and Nevada.

The theme of this year's conference was "Catch the Vision: A Heart for the Inner City." The conference began Friday evening with an alumni emphasis "Remembering the Old Days." Rev. Ken Hunt, the national commander, was the speaker at both the morning Junior Councilmen's breakfast and the afternoon service on Saturday. Hunt challenged the district's leaders to catch a burden for reaching boys in the inner cities.

In the Friday night meeting, former commanders were invited to the alumni event in the hope that they would be encouraged to renew their commitment to reaching boys through the Rangers program.

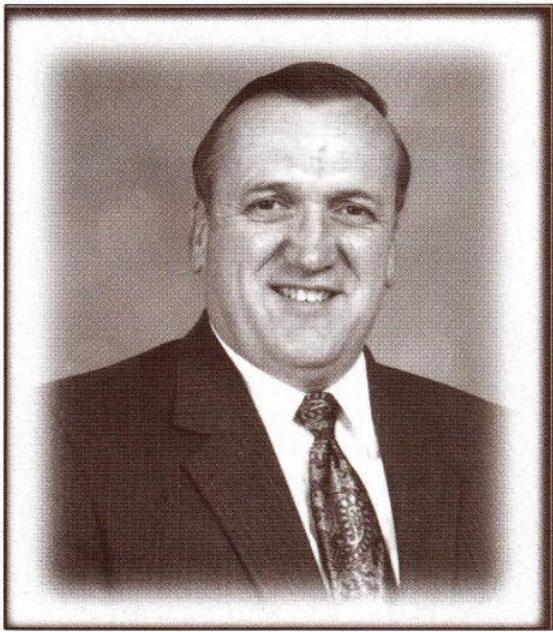
The atmosphere of the conference was upbeat as the leaders were presented with the challenges of reaching out to boys in the inner cities. Freddie Espinoza,



There we met with Pastor Davis and several men from his congregation. During the roundtable discussion, each of the pastors and men from the

Brian Schmid, North Central Region public relations coordinator; myself, Jim Dougherty, North Central Region urban Rangers and Turning Point

con't. p.11



TRAINING:

The Bridge to the 21st Century

*Paul Stanek,
Deputy National Commander*

A new millennium will soon be upon us. Our nation, our institutions, and our values will be challenged by the ever-changing opportunities of the future. Those who shy from the potential of the future will be consumed and left behind. Those who prepare and train themselves for the 21st century will be able to grasp the opportunities that lie ahead. Training is the bridge to the future.

In order to be successful in our entry to the 21st century, we must take that which is proven,

that which is sacred and meaningful with us. To assure that these values and heritage are carried on, we must train our Royal Rangers today.

Those who live in the 21st century will stand in judgment of our religious faith, our educational systems, our democracy, our institutions, and our family values. If we hold these values sacred, we must teach the children.

We as Royal Rangers commanders today have the opportunity to affect the lives of our boys today and those of the 21st century. "Reach-

ing, teaching, and keeping boys for Christ" is still our vocation and ministry. We must hold to the rock (Christ) and gear to the times. The opportunity is within our reach.

The ingredients for building the bridge to the future are in our hands. To build a man, God has given us a boy. How we train that boy will determine the security of a bridge to the 21st century.

The national Royal Rangers Office has recently come out with building blocks (training materials) to help your

boys to grow to their God given potential. These building blocks are as follows:

JUNIOR "GOLD BAR" LEADERSHIP TRAINING—This training packet is a tool to be used by the outpost commander to teach his boys leadership skills within the outpost.

PIONEER LEADERSHIP TRAINING CAMP (PLTC)—This camp is for pioneer age boys. There is a heavy emphasis on the patrol method, gold bar training, teamwork, and leadership skills. This camp also allows commander and boys to train together as a group.

JUNIOR LEADERSHIP TRAINING CAMP (JLTC)—This camp is for Trailblazers or older age boys. The emphasis is on advanced leadership skills, outdoor activities, personal devel-

opment, and spiritual growth.

ADVANCED JUNIOR TRAINING CAMP (AJTC)

This is for boys that have completed JLTC. Emphases of this camp will be on leadership skills, problem solving, teaching methods, and the patrol method.

JUNIOR TRAINING TRAILS (JTT)

This is a camp that is on the move. The boys spend much of their time on the trail learning and developing backpacking skills, trail camping, and other exciting skills

JUNIOR CANOE EXPEDITION

(JCE)—This activity is for those boys who wish to learn more about the art of canoeing. The boys can earn their canoeing merit upon completion of the JCE.

The national Royal Rangers Office is placing

much emphasis on Gold Bar Training. The new gold track Advancement Trail, the Junior "Gold Bar" Leadership program, and the various other junior training events will help your boys to develop into Christian men of the 21st century.

Training boys today is building for tomorrow. Will you help us train and build Christian men for the 21st century?

For more information concerning the above training materials, contact: *The national Royal Rangers Office*; 1445 Boonville Avenue; Springfield, MO 65802-1894. Phone: (417) 862-2781, ext. 4179.

**The Bridge
to the
21st Century**

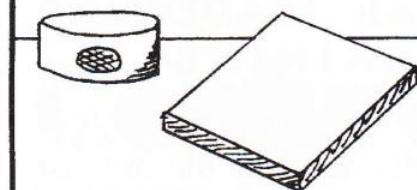
CRAFT

KID ACTION HOT POT PLATE

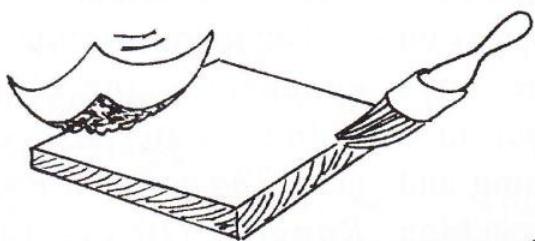
MATERIALS NEEDED....

- 1-CAN, 4" DIAMETER X 2" HIGH
- 1-PIECE OF WOOD, $\frac{3}{4} \times 5 \times 5$
- 1-FLATHEAD NAIL, $\frac{1}{2}$ " LONG
- SANDPAPER, COARSE AND FINE
- PAINT (ANY COLOR)

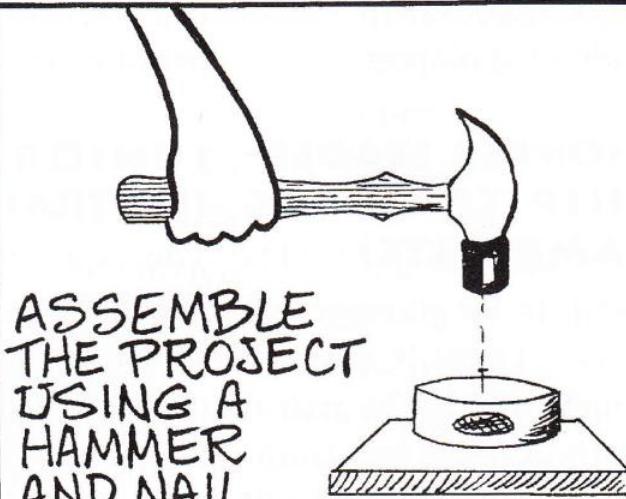
FIND A CAN 4"
DIAMETER X 2"
HIGH AND CUT A
PIECE OF $\frac{3}{4}$ "
WOOD TO A 5 X 5
INCH SIZE.



SAND THE WOOD WITH
THE COARSE THEN
FINE SANDPAPER.

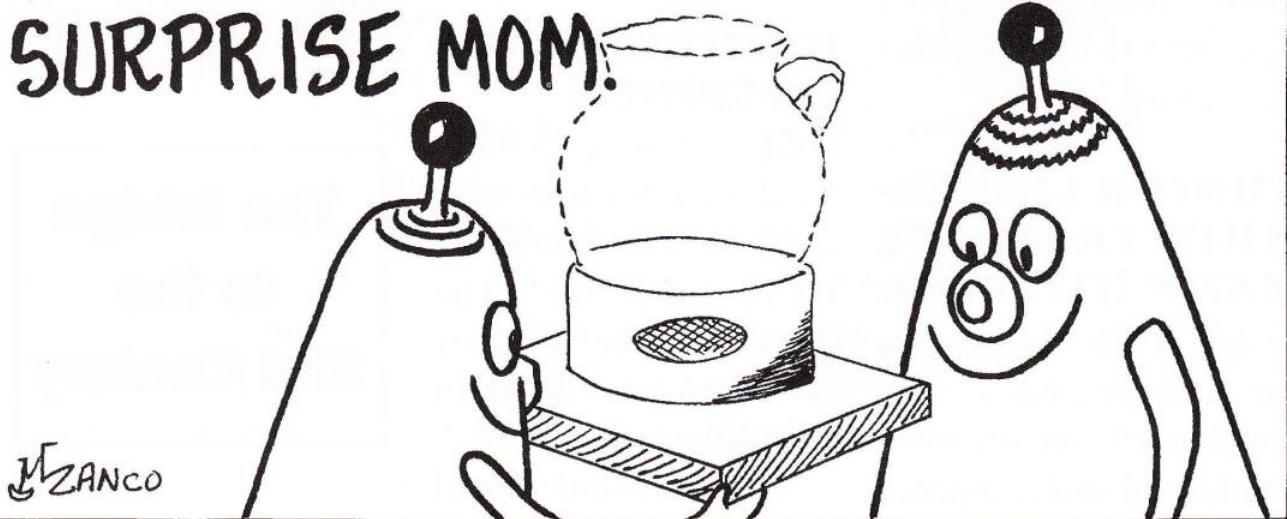


PAINT THE WOOD AND LET DRY.



ASSEMBLE
THE PROJECT
USING A
HAMMER
AND NAIL.

SURPRISE MOM.



A Day At the Farm



by
Mike & C.
Laurain

It was 8:45 a.m., and the buses and vans had begun to arrive. The boys piled out and began running to the barn. The fourth annual day camp in the Michigan District was about to begin. The boys kept arriving until there were 220 in attendance. Leaders and parents who attended totaled 85, as well as 28 leaders who would staff the events.

The theme for 1996 was to be "Camp Cowabunga." The farm was decorated with pictures of cows, and the boys were divided into nine patrols. Each patrol was given a cow name, and colored name tags, to help them stay together. After checking in, the boys were greeted by District Straight Arrows/Buckaroos Commander Mike Laurain. The boys were told of the great things that awaited them, and the fun began.

The schedule allowed for 1/2 hour at each of 10 stations, with a half hour for lunch. At 10:00 a.m. each group was sent to a different spot to start, and a schedule of order to follow was provided. The Holstein Cow Patrol began their day with a hayride. The hay wagon was pulled by a farm tractor, and the

boys were given a scenic view of the farm. Many boys missed some of the sights, however, as they threw hay at their friends and ducked to avoid being hit.

At 10:30 the cowbell sounded, ringing loudly across the farm. That meant that the Holsteins were off to play some cow games. The boys split into three groups and ran the "milk jug relay." The bell rang again, and it was off to the BB gun range. Cans and targets were set up for the boys to shoot down. Each boy had to complete a safety course before he was allowed to begin. This time the bell sig-

naled time to head to the barn for animal care.

Many of the boys had their first experience with baby ducks, geese, chickens, rabbits, goats, and the biggest pig they had ever seen. The bell rang out again, and it was time to head for lunch. The South Central section had brought their chuck wagon and had been busy preparing grilled hot dogs, pop, chips, and fruit snacks. It did not take the full half hour for the food to get devoured.

Back into action! The next stop would take the patrol to the hike. The highlight of the hike

| 1997 Decade of Harvest Calendar | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|------|----|----|----|--------|----|
| June | | | | | | July | | | | August | |
| S | M | T | W | T | F | S | S | M | T | W | T |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 29 | 30 | | | | | | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |

was the chance to cross the rope bridge to arrive back at the starting point. The next half hour was a devotion about the Prodigal Son who had worked on a farm himself, feeding the pigs, before returning home to his father. What an object lesson! The pig at the farm could eat all day.

Many parents also heard the Word, as many of these boys come from unsaved families. Another bell sounded and they were off to the archery range. The target was about 6-feet tall, making it hard to miss. Some boys were still able to send their arrows sailing over the top of the hay bales.

The next bell signaled time to head to crafts. The boys would make a cow sun visor and cow puppet. After a lot of cutting and pasting, the barn was filled with talking puppets. The boys were starting to tire, but it was their time to head to the horseback riding. This was no time to slow down. Off they went. After they received their safety helmets, they were given safety instructions. Finally it was time to ride.

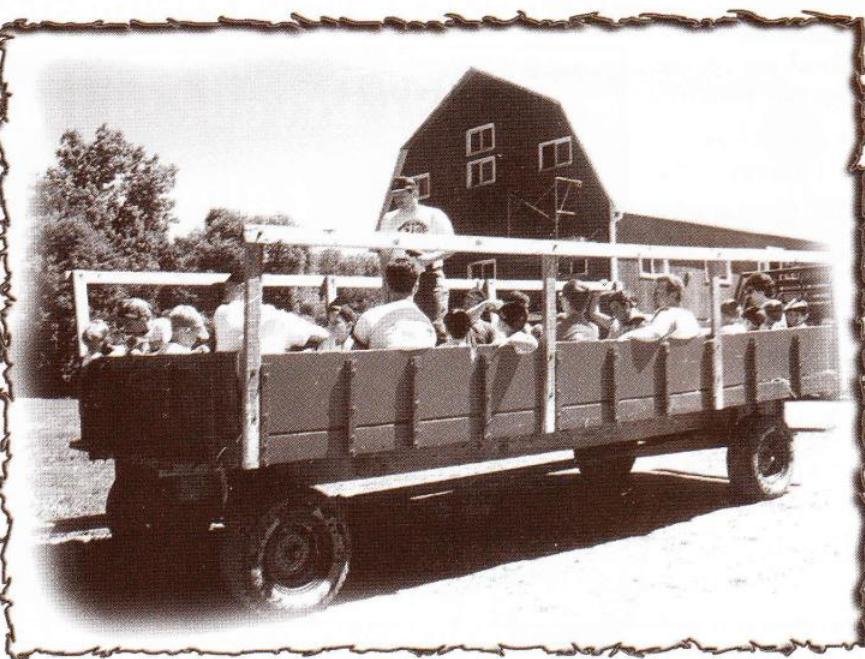
For many of the boys it was the first time they had touched a

help turn the milk into butter.

The bell rang for the final time, and the boys headed back to the assembly area for a snack. A pop tart, juice box, and closing prayer, and the day had ended. The boys received a cow pencil, a patch, and a certificate stating they had survived Camp Cowabunga. God had given us a beautiful, sunny day, but it was now drawing to a close. It would be a quiet ride home for many parents and leaders as boys closed their eyes and headed off into dreamland.

Many leaders from the Michigan District had given of their time. Planning a successful camp takes many hours and must be planned well in advance. But it was worth it as you looked at the smiles on the boys faces. What had begun as one leaders idea of a sectional event, which had 50 boys attend, had turned into a district event with 220 boys attending.

**The use of animals in Royal Rangers activities is not endorsed by the national Royal Rangers Ministry.*



ONLINE, con't.

Pacific Latin District commander who pastors an inner-city congregation, states he has had a growing vision for inner-city ministry for nearly two decades. Espinoza has confidence in the ability of Royal Rangers to reach inner-city boys for Jesus Christ.

Gangs, drugs, school drop-outs, and single-parent families are some of the problems faced by boys and young men in our nation's inner cities. According to Espinoza the Rangers program is effective in ministering to inner-city boys, as Christ is offered as an alternative to drugs and gangs. Camping is good for the boys, and it separates them for a while from their environment.

It was noted during the conference that Fuente de Vida, a church in Sun Valley, California, recently launched a Rangers program and has grown to 23 commanders and over 100 chartered boys in less than 1 year. Pastor Mizrahim Morales places an emphasis on Royal Rangers as a place where boys can meet Christ who is the alternative to drugs and gangs.

The Light-for-the-Lost Junior Councilmen's breakfast was held Saturday morning. There Hunt shared with the 140 in attendance the Junior Councilmen's evangelism outreach, which involves printing and distributing the urban *The Book of Hope* and AIDS literature featuring *Edward Elephant Says ...*, both of which are LFTL Junior Councilmen literature

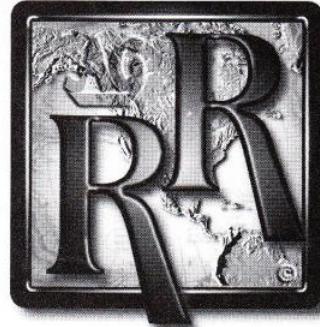
projects. That day 35 boys responded to the call and signed up as Junior Councilmen and several men volunteered to sponsor boys, paying their way to the conference and breakfast, as well as their \$15 annual dues.

Several workshops were held during the day on Saturday. These workshops included such topics as "Saying No to Drugs," "Reaching Boys in Your Community," "Ranger of the Year," and "Frontiersmen Camping Fellowship."

Hunt challenged the leaders during the Saturday afternoon service to invest in the inner cities. Taking his message from Jeremiah 32:24,25, where Jeremiah buys a piece of land at a time when the nation was under siege, Hunt encouraged the leaders to invest in inner cities at a time when they are under siege. Hunt added that Rangers commanders should not grow weary because they can make a difference.

Espinoza states: "The inner city is growing ... and there are boys out there who are just waiting for somebody to go and share Christ with them. And Rangers offers each of us that opportunity."

God is using Rangers to reach boys in the new frontier of the inner cities. As Espinoza says, "Royal Rangers better days are still ahead of us."



Royal Rangers Items Now Offered

The following items can be purchased by calling 1-800-641-4310.

‡ **The Ten Commandments** (leader's guide and group guide) offers 13 Bible lessons on the 10 commandments and the study topics of "Preparing my Heart," "Law and Grace," and "The Mission Statement."

· **Leader's Guide**

Item: 729NZ150
Cost: \$10 each

· **Group Guide**

Item: 729NZ151
Cost: \$8 each

‡ **Walk Thru the Bible**

An excellent method for teaching Rangers about the Books of the Bible and their central themes. Colorful cartoons associate the theme with the name of each book in a bright, fun, and unforgettable way.

Beyond Belief



- Old and New Testament Coloring Book
Item Number: 729NZ114
Cost: \$10.85

Note: The coloring books are ideal for Straight Arrows and Buckaroos groups.

- Old Testament Flash Cards
Item Number: 729NZ118
Cost: \$6
- New Testament Flash Cards
Item Number: 729NZ119
Cost: \$6
- Old & New Testament Transparencies
Cost: \$79

Note: The flash cards, used to reinforce learning, are ideal for all age groups. The transparencies enable the commander to address the entire group as he/she teaches—also ideal for all age groups.

- ‡ **The Ultimate—English** (brochure)
Item: 729NZ007
Cost: \$.05 100-800 brochures
Cost: \$.045 801-1,499 brochures
Cost: \$.04 1,500-plus brochures

- ‡ **The Ultimate—Spanish** (brochure)
Item: 729NZ010
Cost: \$.05 100-800 brochures
Cost: \$.045 801-1,499 brochures
Cost: \$.04 1,500-plus brochures

Note: Both English and Spanish versions of *The Ultimate....* brochure may be obtained free of charge by outposts unable to afford the cost or by outposts conducting Harvest Task Force trips. Such churches must request the items through the national Royal Rangers Office and must pay for shipment.

- ‡ **Urban Commanders Training Guide**
Item: 729NZ009
Cost: \$6.50
A 66-page training manual that offers

new insights to penetrating urban America with the Royal Rangers ministry.

- ‡ **Urban Rangers—Dallas, Chicago**
Item: 729NZ052
Cost: \$10

The video highlights urban Royal Rangers in Dallas and in Chicago—an excellent tool for promoting urban ministry.

- ‡ **Insight Group: Commander's Guide**
Item: 729NZ049
Cost: \$9

- ‡ **Insight Group: Ranger's Guide**

Item: 729NZ050
Cost: \$7
The *Insight Group* curricula is ideal for groups Pioneers through Air-Sea-Trail Rangers. *Insight Group* provides 13 sessions that are ideal for monthly meeting features or a weekly 30-minute values/Bible study. *The Commander's Guide*, a 104-page guide, instructs the leader how to use the curriculum along with the materials that are presented in the Ranger's Guide.

*Order 10-19 copies of each item and save 10 percent or receive a 20 percent discount for ordering 20 or more of each.

- ‡ **Victor's Victories**

Item: 729NZ057
Cost: \$18

For Straight Arrows and Buckaroos commanders: Contains 13 stories with Bible studies and discussion topics that address issues today's young boys face: the single-parent home, death is not the end, controlling anger, peer pressure and gangs, friendship, the importance of winning, and much more.

- ‡ **The Solid Rock**, video and curriculum series:

- **Kids 'n' Gangs**
Item: 729NZ100

- **Streets of Pain**
Item: 729NZ101
- **Finding God's Will for Your Life**
Item: 729NZ104

- **Looking for Life in All the Wrong Places**
Item: 729NZ105
Cost Each: \$32.95

Each packet contains a video on the youth issue and a leader's workbook that can be duplicated.

- ‡ **Meeting Feature Videos:**

- **I Didn't Do It**
Item: 729NZ107
Cost: \$14.99
Topic: Telling the truth
Audience: Straight Arrows, Buckaroos

- **Strangers**
Item: 729NZ108
Cost: \$14.95
Topic: Child Abduction Prevention
Audience: Straight Arrows, Buckaroos

- **Decisions & Consequences**
Item: 729NZ109
Cost: \$19.95
Topic: A look behind prison walls;
teaches the consequences of sin
Audience: All age groups

- **Incest: Solving the Pain**
Item: 729NZ110
Cost: \$19.99

Topic: Child abuse prevention

Audience: Commanders

- ‡ **Urban T-shirt**

Size L: Item 729NZ058
Size XL: Item 729NZ059
Size XXL: Item 729NZ060
Cost: \$9 each
\$7.75, order 7 or more each item

- ‡ **Urban Cap**

Item: 729NZ067
Cost: \$8.50
\$7, order 10 or more



Beyond Belief



OUTPOST FEATURE

Commander Hunt:

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

I want to thank you again for the kindness you showed to the Holy Bulldog Patrol of the Urban Royal Rangers, which are part of Outpost 33 in the North Texas District at Oak Cliff Assembly of God, Dallas, Texas.

Not only is the Royal Rangers program effective as an evangelism tool, but it works extremely well as a discipling program. By applying the Royal Rangers program as I was taught in L.T.C. and N.T.C., and doing what I have learned to do from the Word of God and people who have taught me over the years, these young men are growing in Christ. Three of those young men, from a group of boys living at the Dallas Life Shelter, came up to me over a year ago. They were pretty wild. Today God is using them as leaders. I am teaching them to be evangelists and disciplers.

We are in the process of following up on young men who came to a Christmas outreach program at our church. I was given a list with the names, addresses, and phone numbers of boys whose fathers are in prison. I have many hundreds to contact. Pray and expect that God will make us fruitful in reaching and teaching many of these young men for Jesus.

My vision is to see Oak Cliff as part of an urban Royal Rangers program that functions every day after school, on Saturdays, and in the summer so that boys can escape the perils of the inner city and have a place to get discipled in camping, etc., but most importantly as men of God.

I am teaching these young men that as they grow in Christ, they can and must lead someone else out of that pit they were in. When one of them brings a new member and leads him to Christ, he gets a gold fishhook pin-a coveted reward.

Even though these young men come out of different cultures, environments, and generations, they have a blast on Friday night. I'm suspecting that much of the reason they enjoy themselves is that God is working in their lives, and they recognize the presence of the Holy Spirit. I am also sure that seeing the overall picture of what they are a part of and the acceptance they feel from you and all the other men make them feel real good.

Thank you so much.

In His service,

John E. Denison

DEVOTIONS

The Improbable Disciple

Nicky Cruz was a murderous, uncontrollable gang leader who had killed before and would likely kill again. Without overstating the truth, Cruz was the most unlikely prospect for Christian conversion. He was also one of the first gang members whom David Wilkerson, a rural minister, met on the rough streets of New York City.

Wilkerson left his comfortable surroundings and started a missionary outreach to gang members in New York during the late 1960s. He was idealistic, and sometimes his efforts to gain a foothold for Christ among the vicious gang culture failed miserably.

Time after time, Nicky rejected David's pleas to seek God's forgiveness—once threatening the thin, quaking minister with a knife to his throat. But David replied, "You can cut me to pieces, Nicky, but every piece will still cry out, I love you."

David invited Nicky to attend a city-wide revival meeting he was organizing for gang members. Impressed by the man's courage, Nicky told David he and his gang would be there.

Nicky did show up at the revival, and David invited him to collect the offering. Nicky and his gang did and then headed for the backstage exit, snickering at the gullible preacher.

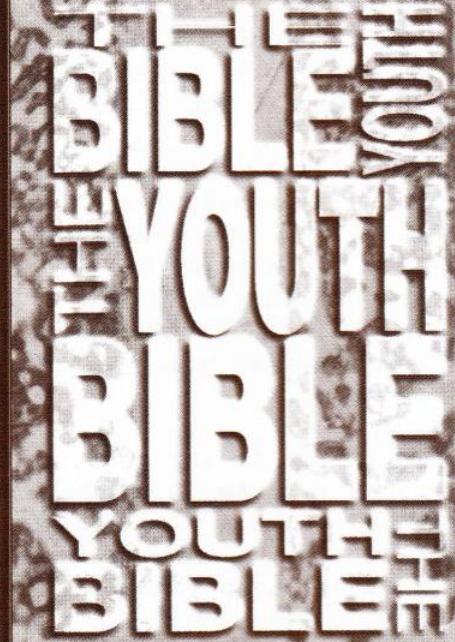
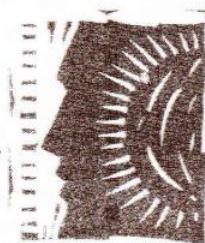
But on the way out, Nicky felt a heavy, almost overpowering weight on his shoulders. He stopped. He couldn't escape the fearful truth: The Jesus about whom David had spoken required something of him. Nicky and his gang returned to meet David on stage. At the end of the meeting, Nicky told David, "I've given my heart to God."

Today Nicky works with tough, inner-city teenagers, helping them turn from drugs and violence and follow Christ. Jesus said one of the Holy Spirit's main responsibilities is to prove the truth to people who are like Nicky Cruz used to be. Read about the Holy Spirit in **John 16:4–15**.

- According to verse 8, how did the Holy Spirit influence Nicky Cruz's change of heart?
 - When have you felt the Holy Spirit working with you? Explain.
- C O N S I D E R . . .
- listing ten words that could replace the word "Holy" and ten words that could replace the word "Spirit." Mix and match the words to come up with combinations such as "Perfect Presence" or "Pure Companion."
 - spending five minutes at the end of each day, thinking of ways the Holy Spirit was with you throughout the day.

F O R M O R E , S E E . . .

- Psalm 51:10–13 (p. 511)
- Luke 11:5–13 (p. 1024)
- Acts 2:1–36 (p. 1098)



A Light in the Darkness

Devon Sparks was heavily into drugs by the time he was fourteen. After being arrested for helping his friends steal a radio, he was placed in an alternative school. But he kept slipping further and further downhill.

He became more distant from his family and friends. And he started using drugs daily to try to escape the pain he felt inside.

One day Devon couldn't stand the pain any longer. He hated himself, and he didn't want to go on living. He felt trapped. The darkness was overwhelming, and he just couldn't see a way out.

Finally, he cried out to God. "Please," he pleaded, "please help me."

Almost immediately he sensed a peace and calm inside, as if the darkness was replaced with a new hope. In the next weeks, he began attending Narcotics Anonymous support meetings and joined a Christian fellowship. Devon had a new beginning.

"Turning my life over to God's direction is the toughest decision I've ever made," Devon later explained. "But my faith is beginning to pay off. I'm making new friends. I found a job, I'm taking art classes. I feel alive. It's a day-to-day struggle to stay free of drugs, but I'm headed in the right direction for once in my life."

Devon was beginning to experience the life and power of Jesus' resurrection. Read about the resurrection in **Mark 16:1–8**.

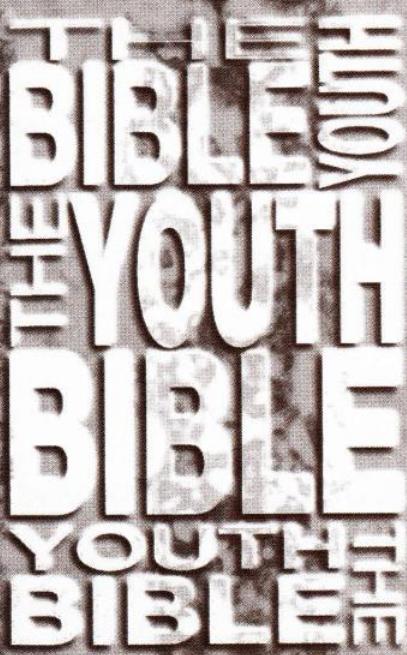
- How was Devon's new life similar to Jesus' resurrection? How was it different?
- How is your response to Jesus' resurrection like or unlike the women's reactions in this passage?

C O N S I D E R . . .

- asking God to "roll away" an obstacle in your life with his resurrection power.
- listing the ways you can "stop the pain" you may be experiencing like Devon stopped his pain. Ask others for help if you need to.

F O R M O R E , S E E . . .

- Exodus 14 (p. 70)
- Matthew 28:1–10 (p. 961)
- John 20:1–18 (p. 1093)



The following excerpts are reprint courtesy Word, Inc. These devotionals and many others appear in *The Youth Bible*. This Bible version is available for \$17.00. To order call 1-800-641-4310, order #729NZ106.

THE YOUTH BIBLE

A New Kind of Friend

Seventeen-year-old Amanda Hughes doesn't worry much about friends. Her attractive smile, engaging personality and sincere personal warmth make people simply want to be with her.

When she went on the service project, Amanda wasn't concerned about being in a new group. Questions like "will they like me?" never entered her mind. She was just excited about this new experience.

Amanda was surprised the first day she worked. She had expected to work on new home construction, interacting only with her crew. But her crew was renovating an existing home—a home full of people, one of whom, Charles, was close to her own age. For perhaps the first time in her life, she was nervous about making a friend. Her skin was a different color, and her life experience was vastly different. She and Charles seemed to have little in common.

Amanda cried as she told her prayer group of her desire to befriend Charles and his family. How could she do it? They were just so different.

One day, instead of taking her break with the work crew, she challenged Charles to a game of basketball. It was no contest, but they had a great time. The next day, he offered to help her paint, and again they had a lot of fun.

On their last work day, Amanda asked Charles if she could have his address and write to him.

"That'd be great," he exclaimed.

After exchanging addresses and phone numbers, they exchanged hugs. Amanda laughed inside as she thought about her confusion, and thanked God for helping bring two of his children just a little bit closer.

Sometimes we're friends only with those who are just like us. See how Jesus felt about that subject by reading **Luke 14:7-14**.

- How did Amanda demonstrate her understanding of Jesus' words in this passage?
- What do these verses say about you and your circle of friends?

CONSIDER . . .

- sending an anonymous letter to one of your friends. Fill it with encouragement from scripture, as well as other affirmations.
- arranging for your youth group to visit another church, preferably one of a different tradition and location (for instance, if you're in the suburbs, visit a city church). See what you can learn from each other.

FOR MORE . . . SEE . . .

- Ruth 1 (p. 239)
- Philippians 4:7 (p. 1274)
- 1 John 4:13-21 (p. 1319)



Once Forgiven, What Then?

Stephanie Broussard silently wept as Ross Walker sat next to her in the front seat of his dad's Buick, buttoning his shirt. The silence seemed to swallow them.

"Ross, we said we'd never do this again," she finally said through her tears.

"Well, we didn't mean to. . . . It just happened," Ross responded.

"That's what you always say." The two sat silently for a long time, and then Stephanie finally spoke. "I don't think we should see each other anymore."

Ross didn't say anything. He just stared out the window. But Stephanie knew by his sniffing that he was crying.

Stephanie reached across and touched his arm. "I'm sorry, Ross, but I just can't keep doing this to us—or to God. We just keep doing it over and over, and then asking God to forgive us."

Ross jerked his head around and looked at Stephanie. "But God does forgive us, Steph," Ross argued. "We won't do it again."

Stephanie started crying even harder. "No, Ross, we say that every time. I'm serious this time. We can't keep sinning and expect God to forgive us. I love you, but this hurts too much. Please take me home."

In **John 8:1-11**, Jesus faced a woman caught in sexual sin. Read what he said to her.

- How are Ross and Stephanie similar to the woman caught in adultery? How are they different?
- What does this passage tell us about Jesus' perspective on sexual sin and the person who commits it? What is there in your life that needs to hear his "don't sin anymore"?
- CONSIDER . . .
- evaluating the movies you watch or music you listen to and deciding what view of sexuality they promote.
- acting on one area of your life where Jesus is telling you to "go and not sin anymore." Tell a friend or parent about the area, and ask that person to support you in your decision.



FOR MORE . . . SEE . . .

- Psalm 51:1-19 (p. 511)
- Ephesians 6:10-18 (p. 1226)
- 1 Corinthians 6:12-20 (p. 1174)

THE YOUTH BIBLE

NATIONAL CAMPORAMA



JULY 13-17, 1998
CAMP EAGLE ROCK
EAGLE ROCK, MISSOURI

LET
FREEDOM
REIGN
ISAIAH 61:1

Have you started raising funds for the 1998 National Camporama? It's coming sooner than you think!

For a free 1998 Camporama information packet, call 1-800-641-4310 and order item 729-202.

CAMPORAMA

need to earn your LFTL Merit. There are five requirements to this award.

1. View the *Carry the Torch* segment on the *Jr. Councilmen Video*.
2. Complete the *LFTL Study Course*.
3. Write a report about LFTL.
4. Get a gospel tract signed by a home or foreign missionary.
5. Attend a LFTL banquet or emphasis service. (Information and materials needed are listed below.)

After earning your merit, you will be given the option of becoming a Junior Councilman.

Sending your yearly dues of \$15 supports the ministry of LFTL and gives you a look into the mission field. You will receive your Junior Councilmen patch, a subscription to the *Spotlight* newsletter, and more information about the ministry of Light-for-the-Lost. Every year you renew your membership, you will receive a new patch denoting the number of years you have been enrolled as a Junior Councilman. But more important than all of the materials you receive is the knowledge that you have personally helped a lost soul hear about the gospel for the first time. That is exciting!

There is another way you can become actively involved. You can give directly to support a literature project sponsored by the Royal Rangers. You may have heard of *The Book of Hope*. In 1994 a special edition was printed with a large part of the funds coming from Royal Rangers outposts across the country. Targeted at reaching the lost in the inner city, thousands of copies have been distributed and many people have been changed as a result.

Royal Rangers and LFTL have also joined forces in producing the comic book *Edward Elephant Says....* Edward the Elephant educates children about the danger of the disease AIDS and presents the gospel in a clear and simple way. Multiple millions of copies have been produced and distributed in over 20 nations with astonishing results. Countries are literally *begging for copies of Edward Elephant Says....* Because of the ravages of AIDS, the gospel can go freely in areas once closed to its message. What a testimony! All of this took place because Rangers like yourself understood the power of evangelistic literature.

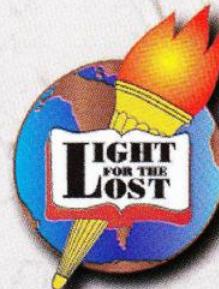
You probably can remember a miserable camping trip in the past. Do not allow a similar experience to happen to a missionary. Join with us in providing missionaries around the world with the proper tools to evangelize the lost.

Help us to meet the requests for evangelistic literature by becoming a Junior Councilman or encourage your outpost to get involved in giving to a Royal Rangers sponsored literature project. And in the meantime, don't forget your poncho!

Junior Councilmen items:

- 728-017—*Junior Councilmen*
Video: \$10.00
728-015—*Junior Councilmen*
Brochure: Free
728-009—*Spanish Junior*
Councilmen Brochure:
Free
728-016—*LFTL Junior Councilmen Study Course:*
\$1.00
728-018—*Leading the Way*
(leader's information):
Free

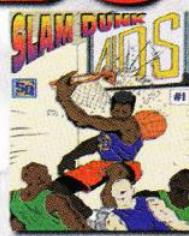
To order call 1-800-641-4310



HELP SLAM DUNK AIDS



A tool for youth outreach and AIDS education.



THE DANGER IS REAL...
"The number one killer of Americans between the ages of 25 and 44 is AIDS."
JULS NEWS AND WORLD REPORT 12/23/93
"Twenty percent of AIDS deaths have occurred in the last 12 months." USA TODAY NEWS NETWORK 12/1/94
A generation is at risk! The youth of America face an epidemic of AIDS. America's youth deserve to know the truth. LIGHT-FOR-THE-LOST has developed a witnessing tool called *Help Slam Dunk AIDS*. *Slam Dunk* is a comic book that warns children and youth of the dangers of AIDS. The sports hero Slam Dunk will capture the attention of the hard-to-win-youth. He presents the facts about AIDS and the salvation message in a way that is easy for them to understand.

JOIN THE FIGHT NOW.
Just fill out the form below and mail with your check to contribute to the *Help Slam Dunk AIDS* comic book.

- Here is my \$1,000 contribution to fight against AIDS.
 Here is my \$500 contribution to fight against AIDS.
 Here is my \$100 contribution to fight against AIDS.
 Here is my \$____ contribution to fight against AIDS.
001-01-023-4001-000 (8897)

NAME: _____

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Please make checks payable to:
LIGHT-FOR-THE-LOST
1445 Bonniville Avenue
Springfield, MO 65802-1894



OR CALL
1-800-988-0292
(8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. CST MONDAY-FRIDAY)

1998

WHAT ROYAL RANGERS MEANS TO ME

Royal Rangers to me means lasting friendships, first with the Lord and secondly with boys and commanders from different parts of the state and world. It means gathering around wonderful, Spirit-filled council fires and praying with and for boys.

I can remember the first time the Lord and I got to know each other in a personal way. I was 10, and I was going to the first International Camporama at Eagle Rock, Missouri. I was so excited because this was my first camp-out out-of-state, and Dad was going with me.

My dad and I had a great time during the day because of all the different activities set up by the various districts. We had an opportunity to meet people from different parts of the world.

What I remember most is the Spirit-filled council fires at night. The first night when they had an altar call I went down but was hesitant to accept Christ into my life. The next day was my 11th birthday, and I was looking forward to something special happening in my life. I was having a wonderful day!

That night, when I went with my outpost to the council fire, I was somehow feeling the presence of the Lord. I came expecting some- thing glorious to happen, and it did!

When I went up for the altar call, I knew my life was changing. One of the older Trail Rangers started to pray with me, and I was raising my hands to the heavens.

On a warm, summer night on a hillside with my dad praying with me, I accepted Jesus into my life. Later that night, as the other boys and commanders were leaving the service, my dad and I headed back to camp.

As we were walking, we noticed that they were still giving hot air balloon rides. I asked my dad if I could go up in one, and the man said yes, but this would be the last ride of the evening.

Another Ranger and I climbed into the basket and lifted off. A local photographer took our picture, and a couple of months later it was featured on the cover of the *Pentecostal Evangel*.

As I began looking through the *Evangel*, my picture appeared a second time as I stood by the altar of the council fire, accepting the Lord into my life. Looking back on my 11th birthday, God really did make something special happen. From that day forward, the Lord has blessed me in so many ways, not only with wonderful Christian parents but with hard-working, caring commanders who have pushed me to get where I am today.

As a young man growing up in today's difficult and challenging world, I believe being a part of the Royal Rangers program has given me a strong foundation and a willing desire to stay on the "straight and narrow" path of life.

No matter what our age, we have choices to make and responsibilities to keep. Knowing the Lord Jesus Christ as my "Master Ranger" gives me that "solid Rock" on which to stand.

The Royal Rangers program has helped me and will help any boy build and maintain the strong Christian principles that can be used throughout one's lifetime for the service of our Lord and to bless those the Lord puts in our lives.

-R. Lantz

Gold Medal of Achievement Essay

Commander,
Obtain your **free 1998
Camporama packet** by
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1-800-641-4310
Order #729-202

JULY 13-17, 1998

CAMPORAMA

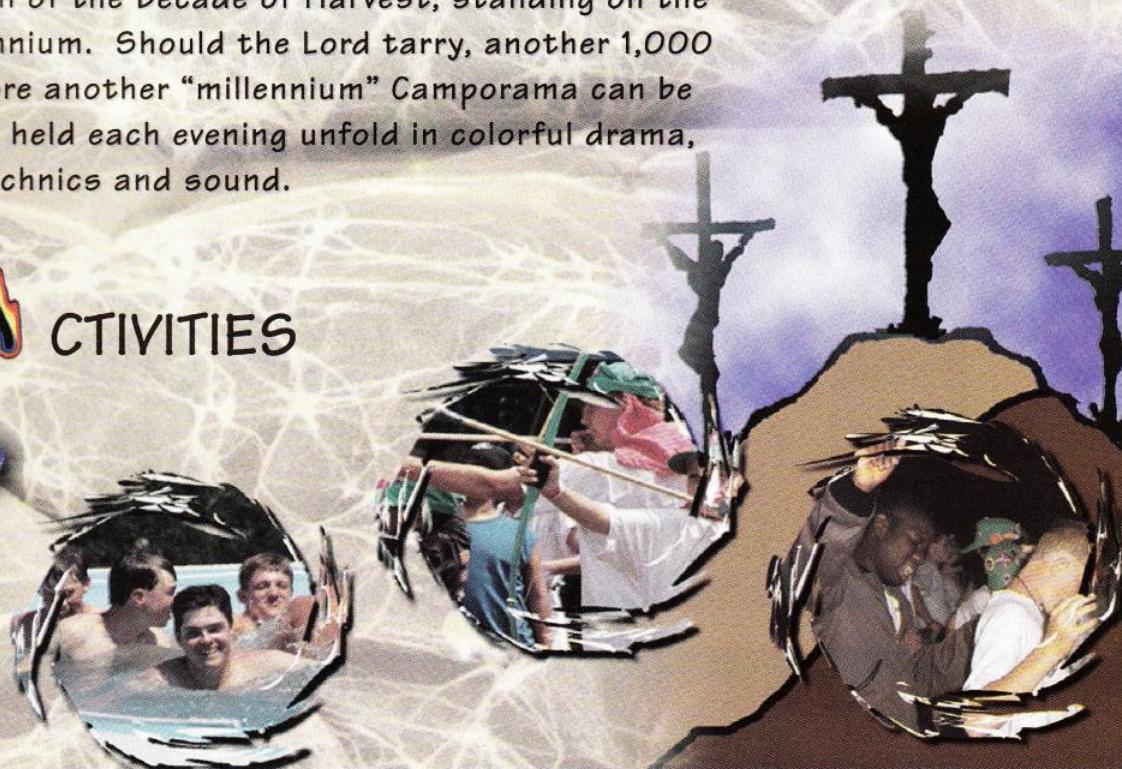
SPECIAL HIGHLIGHT: SIX POW WOW THEME PARKS

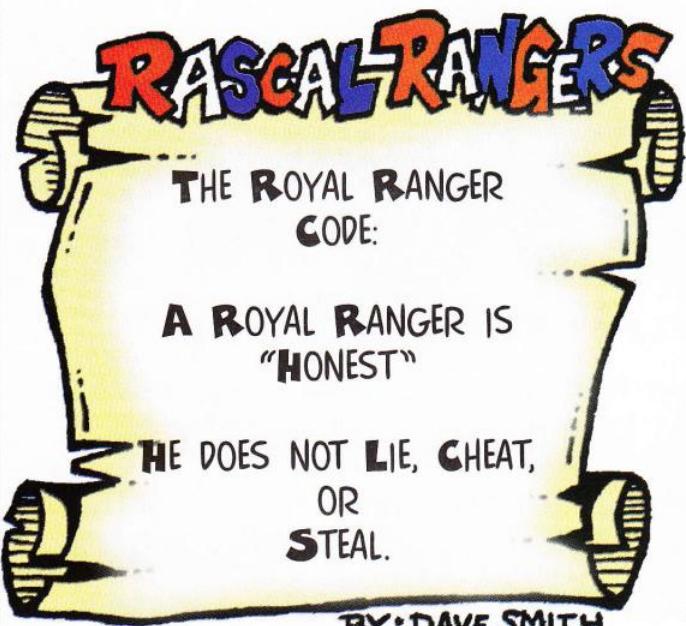
You won't want to miss this once-in-a-lifetime experience. The seventh ever National Camporama is about to begin, and it will be the biggest, most exciting one ever. Nearly 5,500 boys and leaders are expected to attend. Get your walking shoes ready, because hundreds of acres will be filled with Camporama activities. This national 5-day camp will include six theme parks—each having its own theme, decor, and activities. Each theme park will be a Pow Wow full of fun in itself. Be prepared to be blessed by the **FIRE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT** and challenged by 5 days of fun, activity, and adventure!

PAGEANTS

The 1994 Camporama pageantry was directed at the boy and his place in the Decade of Harvest. The 1998 Camporama finds us at the conclusion of the Decade of Harvest, standing on the edge of a new millennium. Should the Lord tarry, another 1,000 years will pass before another "millennium" Camporama can be held. The pageants held each evening unfold in colorful drama, embraced by pyrotechnics and sound.

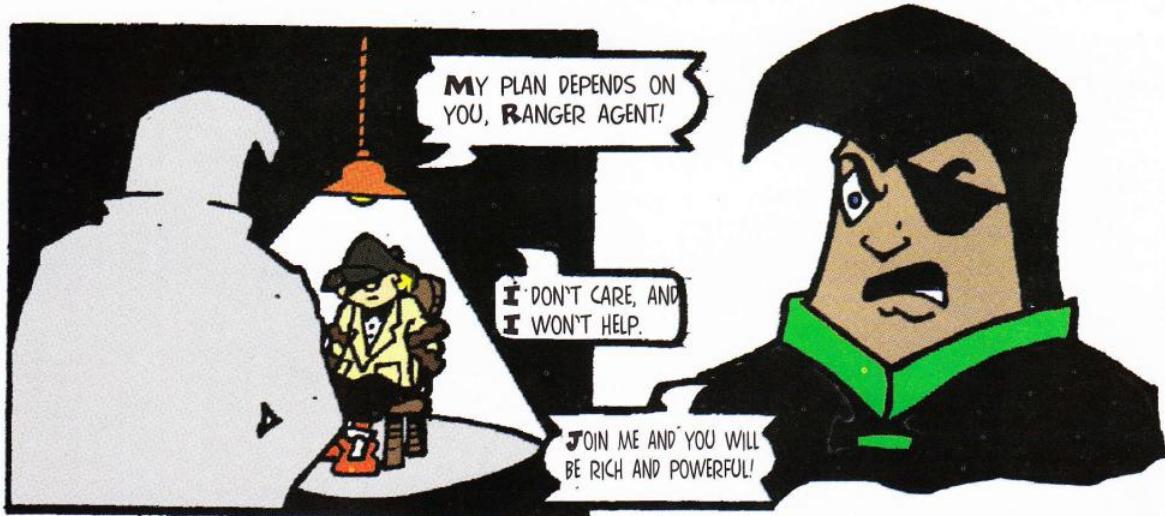
ACTIVITIES

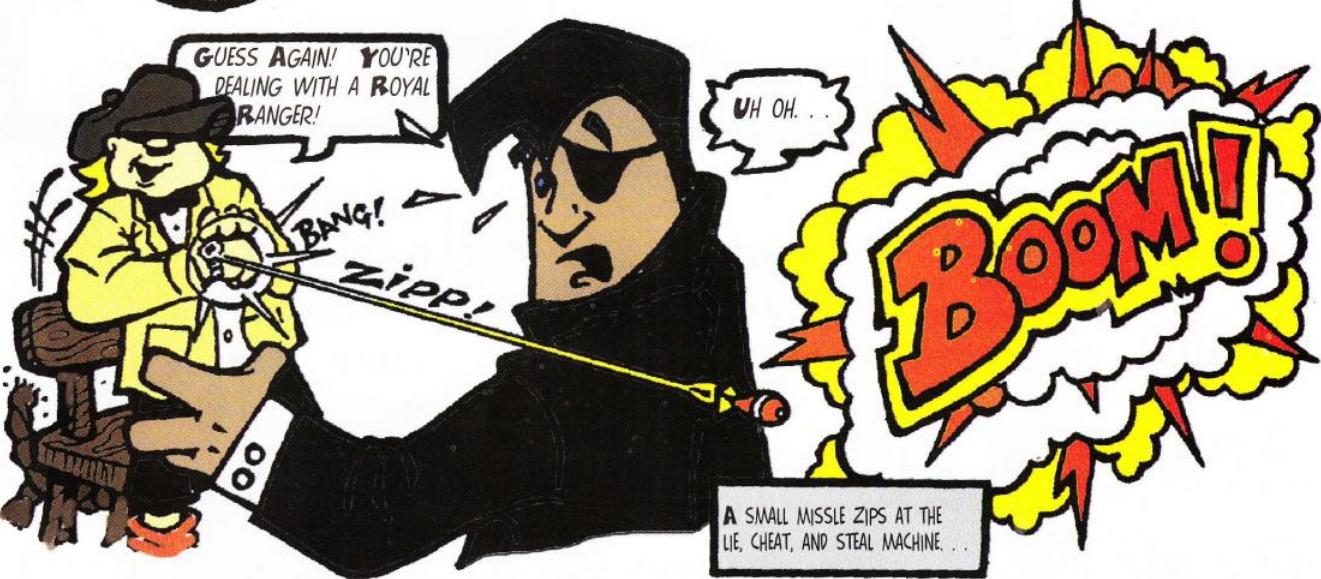




BY: DAVE SMITH

WITH TOP SECRET RANGER
AGENT "DOUBLE-O TAG-ALONG"





PART OF THAT CODE SAYS A ROYAL RANGER **DOES NOT** LIE, CHEAT, OR STEAL.
JESUS TOLD US THAT HE IS THE WAY, THE TRUTH, AND THE LIFE (JOHN 14:6). DO YOU FOLLOW THE LORD OF TRUTH, OR THE FATHER OF LIES, THE DEVIL? WE ALL NEED TO SHOW THE WHOLE WORLD WHO WE SERVE BY BEING **HONEST**.



The Challengers: Harvesters program is a special interest group that enables Challengers to excel in Christian growth, discipleship, and evangelism. For example, the Challenger in the Harvesters program will participate in one or more Harvest Task Force trips—conducted on either a national, regional, or district level—and be awarded the Harvest Task Force Merit pin for doing so.

There's much fun and adventure ahead. Keep on the lookout for the next Challengers update!

SAMPLE OF QUESTER ADVANCEMENT REQUIREMENTS

Requirements

Select two required credits (merits not already earned) from the below list of "Required Merits." Once you have earned a required merit, write its name below.

Merits:

-
-

Electives

Select two electives (merits of your choice) from another special interest group you have not yet earned. Once you have earned the merit, write its name below.

Merits:

-
-

The Spirit Challenge

Successfully complete one of the remaining five steps listed in the Royal Rangers *The Bible and Today's Issues* booklet. After completing that step, write the name of that step below.

Step:

How You Can See Around a Corner

by A. B. Dunn

You can make your own periscope. Here's How:

You will need:

1. Two medium-size milk cartons (rinsed well).

2. Two small mirrors.

3. Adhesive tape.

4. A knife.

With your parents' help, cut off the tops of both milk cartons.

Insert the open end of one carton into the open end of the other, so they form a 16-inch tube.

One inch from the bottom of one of the cartons, cut out a 1 1/2-inch, round window in

the side. (See illustration.)

Cut a slit in the same side, 1/2 inch from the bottom. (See illustration.)

Insert a mirror, face up, in the slit until one end rests along the back of the carton. Secure the mirror with tape at the angle shown in the illustration.

Do the same thing with the opposite side of the other carton.

The reflecting sides should be facing each

other. You have made a periscope.

How to Use Your Periscope

Try looking out the window by looking into the lower part of the periscope, while the upper part is above the window ledge. You can look out the window or around corners while you are out of sight.

How the Periscope Works

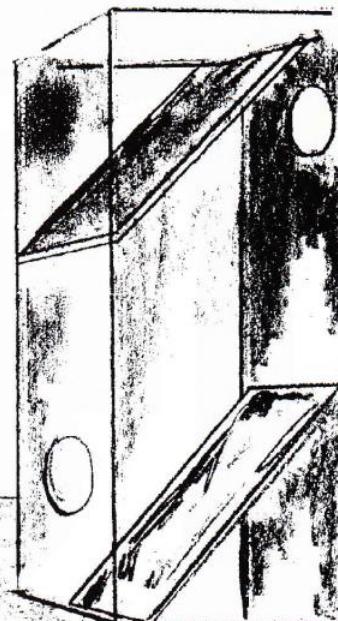
The reason you can

do all of these things is that light travels in a straight line. The mirrors reflect the rays of light.

Try reading through your periscope. Let your parents hold a newspaper and see if you can read the headlines.

The reason you were able to read the headlines in your periscope is because mir-

ror "A" made mirror-writing, which mirror "B" reversed to normal writing.



Comedy Corner



A baseball player in a terrible hitting slump was pulled aside by his batting coach. "Dig in more at the plate," the coach instructed. "Don't be intimidated."

The player took the advice to heart. The very next day he went back for seconds at breakfast, lunch, and dinner.

-Guy Belleranti



A southern preacher called on a minister in New England. He found him at his desk writing. "What are you doin' thar?" he asked.

"I'm preparing notes for my sermon next Sunday. I always write my message in advance," said the New England minister.

The southern preacher shook his head in dismay. "Don't never do that," he said, "The devil's a lookin' over your shoulder and knows everythin' you gwan to say, and he's preparin' for you. Now I don't make no notes, and when I get up to talk neither the devil nor me knows what ahm gonna say."

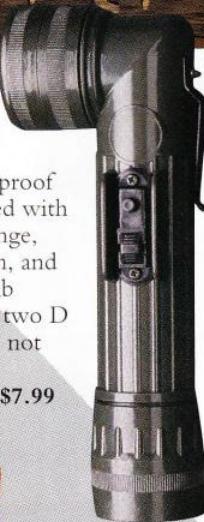
-Thomas LeMance

ADVENTURE AWAITS YOU

WATERPROOF ANGLE HEAD FLASHLIGHT

Military type waterproof flashlight is equipped with five full filters. Orange, white, amber, green, and prismatic. Extra bulb included. Requires two D batteries, which are not included. 8"

08UW5761 \$7.99



SURVIVAL TOOL

This versatile tool serves as a knife, ruler, can opener, bottle cap lifter, screwdriver, wrench, or file. Comes in leatherette case. 1 1/2" x 2 3/4"

08UW5736 \$2.99

BACK PACK

Rugged dark blue nylon backpack works well for camp or school. Large compartment holds all your big items, while medium-sized outer pocket holds smaller articles. Features sturdy zippers and comfortable, adjustable padded shoulder straps. Emblem on front. Small grey looped web handle at top. 12" x 15" x 4"

17UW0358 \$19.95

WRIST COMPASS

Wrist compass is right where you want when you want it. Offers luminous dial for night vision. Adjustable nylon band. Water resistant and liquid filled. **08UW5740 \$3.50**



MAP COMPASS

Your tool for orienteering! Take advantage of the magnifying glass, jewel needle, lanyard, and luminous pointer for night vision. Measures scale in inches, millimeters, and miles. Liquid filled.

08UW5739 \$7.99



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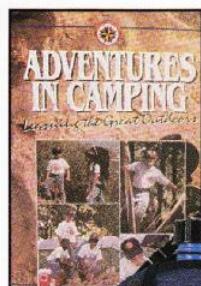
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in God's great outdoors!

ADVENTURES IN CAMPING

Enjoy every outdoor adventure to its fullest! Camping guide gives you winter camping tips, survival suggestions, and an overview of weather conditions. Explains map and compass orientation, constellation charts, conservation, and forest fire prevention. Paper.

02UW1036 \$7.50



ONE-QUART RANGER CANTEEN WITH STRAP

Fill it with H₂O and away you go! Unbreakable brute has canvas cover, web shoulder strap, and attached plastic screw-on cap.

08UW1035 \$6.95

DETACHABLE EATING CAMP SET

Looks like a pocket knife—but it's more. Features fork, spoon, two knife blades, can opener, bottle opener, and corkscrew on two lock-together pieces.

08UW1114 \$4.95



MAGNESIUM FIRE STARTER

Out of matches? No problem. This easy-to-use tool helps you light a campfire without matches. **08UW5731 \$6.99**



SURVIVAL KIT

Avoid catastrophe with a fully stocked survival kit. Contains whistle, matches, candle, emergency blanket, can opener, safety pins, compass, bandages, razor blade, fishing line, hooks, needle, thread, mirror, gauze, tape, antiseptic pads, fluorescent orange marking ribbon, and copper wire.

08UW5735 \$19.99



TWO-MAN TRAIL TENT

High-quality fire retardant vinyl tent fits easily in a small backpack. Unfold and you've got a roomy 6' x 8' area that sleeps two! Equipped with 24' set-up cord.

08UW1118 \$32.50



More camping and hiking accessories are in the **1997 Royal Rangers Catalog**. Request catalog #75-2028 when you call.