

Spring 1999

HIGH Adventure

WHAT'S INSIDE:
CONQUERING
THE A.T.
CLOWNING AROUND

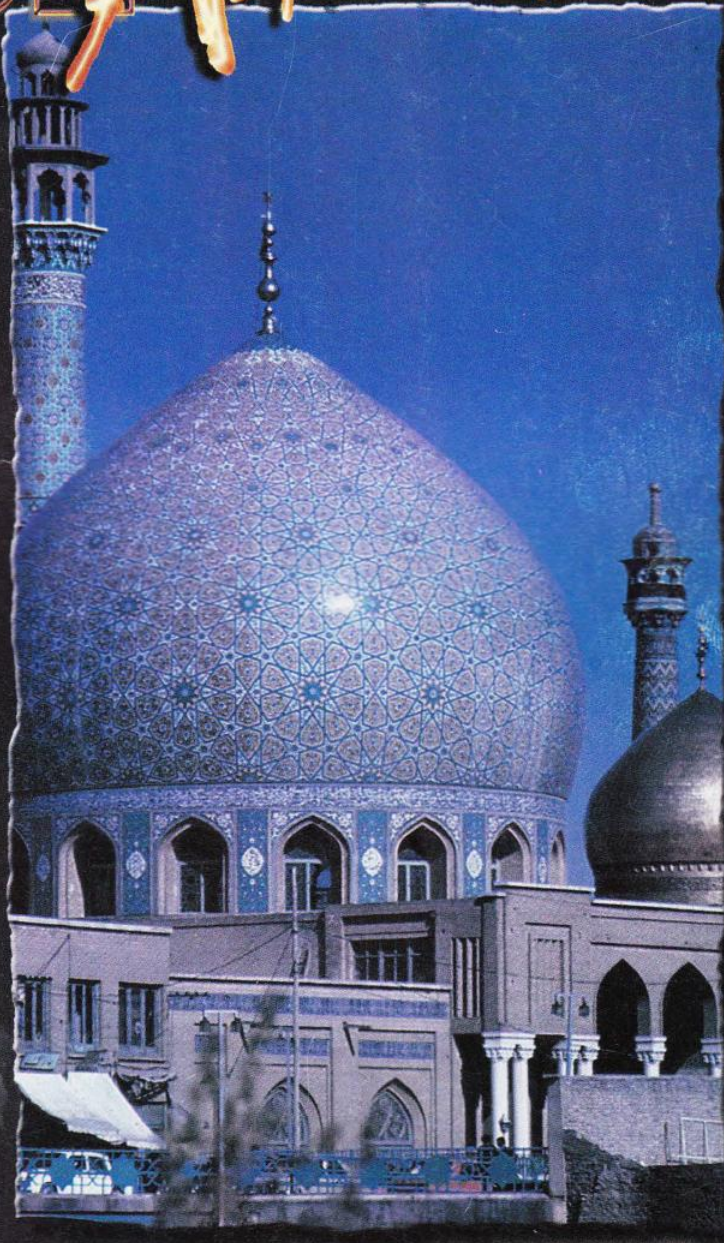
EASTER IN
HIDING

DIARY OF
DARBY JONES

PLAYING FOR
THE PRIZE

RASCAL RANGERS

DANGER IN
THE HILLS



RUSSIA
CZECH REPUBLIC
MIDDLE EAST
ROMANIA
AFRICA
CHINA
VIETNAM
PERU
BRAZIL
CHILE
INNER-CITY U.S.A.

MISSIONARIES

SPREADING THE GOOD NEWS

LEADERS EDITION

THE MISSION



Conquering the A.T.

3

Safe in a Storm

4

Easter in Hiding

6

Danger in the Hills

8

'Clowning Around' for Jesus

10

Rascal Rangers

12

Diary of Darby Jones

14

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CONQUERING

by Dana Lemieux

The Appalachian Trail



Follow me through the next several issues of the High Adventure as I set out to hike the entire Appalachian Trail. In this issue I will discuss my plans. Then in future issues you can read how these plans have worked, or didn't work!

The Appalachian Trail (A.T.) is a rugged footpath. It stretches over 2,100 miles from Georgia to Maine. The trail climbs straight up mountains, goes through bug-infested swamps, follows mud-filled trenches, and leads over wet rocks and slick, wooden log bridges.

Every year thousands of people try to hike the entire trail. Only a few hundred actually finish, yet people of all ages have successfully completed the trail. Perhaps someday you will successfully join the few who proudly call themselves "thru-hikers."

The first step before getting on the trail is planning. To help you plan you will first need to obtain several books and the trail maps. The *Appalachian Trail Data Book* is a must for every thru-hiker. It tells you where you can find shelters, water, food, hotels, meals, and everything else a hiker desires. Then either the *Appalachian Trail Thru-hiker's Companion* or *The Thru-hiker's Handbook* is suggested. They both give detailed descriptions of the services available in the towns along the trail.

All this material can be obtained from the Appalachian Trail Conference (ATC). Members of the ATC receive a large discount by purchasing the maps in December. The ATC can be reached at www.atconf.org, or call them at (304) 535-6331.

To hike the entire trail will take just under 6 months. The cost for equipment, lodging, food, etc., will range from \$2,000 to \$4,000. Some keep the cost well under \$2,000, but it becomes more difficult. It all depends on the quality of the gear you choose and the amount of comfort you want when you stay in a town.

After I obtained the books and maps, I began to do some serious planning. The next step was to decide how I would get more food. The books I purchased from the ATC described the food stores along the trail. They also listed the post offices along the trail, with the zip code and hours open. Now I can figure where I will resupply or, if I want, to mail myself food.

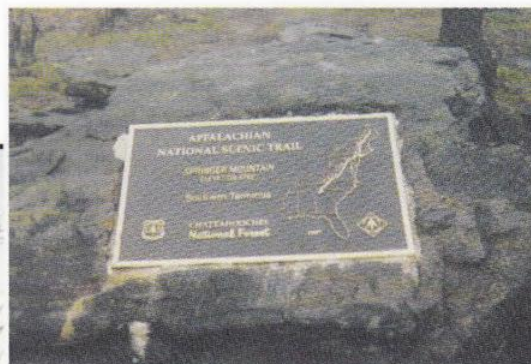
My first planned stop will be the store at Neal's Gap right on the trail. Then I planned ahead and made sure I didn't run out of food before the next resupply point. After hiking 9 more days there will be another store on the trail at Wesser, North Carolina. There will be some smaller stores along the way where I can obtain a few items if needed.

My dad and a friend Bill will be hiking with me. Bill will be bringing us to Fontana, North Carolina. From there we will hire a shuttle to the trail. With three people going, it will keep the cost down. We should be back in Fontana after 17 days. Maps and food can be left in the van. Anything else we need can easily be obtained using the van. This will also be our first real rest. We will stay at a hiker friendly motel, get showers, and do laundry. After Bill returns home, my dad and I will head into the Smoky Mountains.

The first post office stop is planned for Hot Springs, North Carolina. The package will consist of food and maps for the next section. Here we will stay at a hostel and stuff our faces at the local restaurants.

This plan requires us to hike around 8 miles for each of the first 5 or 6 days. As our bodies slowly get used to hiking with a heavy pack, the mileage will increase. After 17 days the mileage will average 10 miles per day. The mileage will continue to increase until we finish with an average of 12.7 miles per day.

Some choose to do little planning before they leave. I have the feeling that my trip actually started when I began planning. It has been loads of fun trying to figure where to purchase food and send supplies. Assembling the supplies has also been exciting. Before I know it, I will begin my trip, I hope you will join me.



Appalachian Trail photos by Dana Lemieux

Safe in a storm



This story is reprinted courtesy *Mountain Movers* magazine, Division of Foreign Missions

The dark, gathering clouds and gusty winds could mean only one thing: Rain was coming. The people along the coast of Andhra Pradesh, India, looked at the sky with dread.

They knew the next few hours could bring another fierce storm.

Rain and storms are not unusual to people in this area of India.

Often they are welcome. Rain is needed for healthy crops of rice, coconuts, and bananas. But last November the state of Andhra Pradesh received more than enough rain, yet the storms kept coming. Flooding was a growing problem.

And the worst was yet to come.

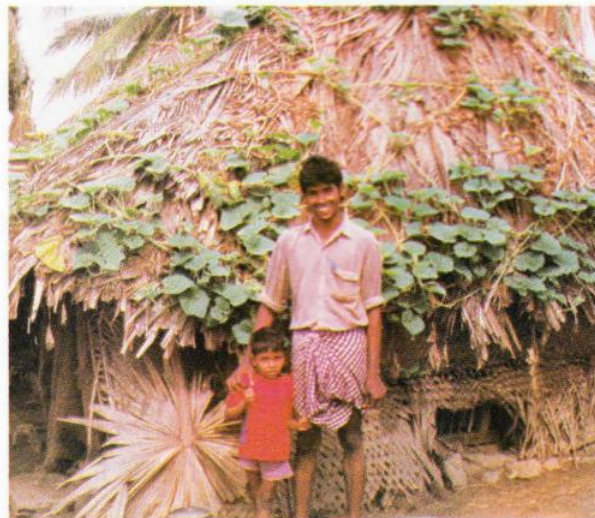
As night fell, rain pelted the area, and the winds increased. Soon the coast of Andhra Pradesh was caught in the path of a cyclone, a violent wind similar to a tornado. The people feared for their crops, their homes, and their lives.

In one village, Mani* heard of the approaching storm. He knew he could not protect his small thatch house from the cyclone's fury. The high winds would surely blow it away.

No storm shelters or homes with basements existed in Mani's village. Nothing offered protection from the wind and rain. But Mani knew Someone who could help him. He decided to stay inside

his home and pray for God's protection.

Soon a few others joined him. As they prayed, the worst of the storm struck. But Mani and his friends were unaware of the howling winds and pouring rain. The thin walls of Mani's house did not rattle; the rain did not



Karen Becker photo

A thatch house was protected during a cyclone, while other homes were destroyed.

THINGS YOU CAN DO

drip through the thatched roof.

More people joined the prayer meeting, seeking safety from the storm. Soon some 50 people were packed inside the small house. Mani told the frightened group that Jesus is a rock of safety during difficult times. As the people listened, they felt peace, even though the winds raged outside.

At last the storm was over. Mani and the others went to look at the damage. Every other house in the village had been blown down. A sturdy brick house only a yard away from Mani's frail thatch house was destroyed. But Mani's house was unharmed. Even the pumpkin vines growing along the outside walls were untouched by the wind.

Most people in India follow the Hindu religion. They worship many gods. When they saw Mani's house surrounded by rubble and ruin, they thought it had special powers. They wanted to worship the house, but Mani stopped them. "Do not worship my house," he said. "Worship the Creator of the universe. He is the One who protected my house."

"Your God is the real God," the people told him, "for no other house was safe in the storm."

Mani and other Christians are trying to help the people of the village. Along with food and clothes, they share the gospel. The people are listening. They want to know more about Mani's God, who has power to protect His people from a raging storm.

*Not his real name

This article was adapted from information supplied by HealthCare Ministries and Jim and Jeanne Lowell, DFM personnel in Southern Asia.

1. Find India on a globe or world map. If the map is detailed, locate Andhra Pradesh State. What ocean does it border?

2. About 80 percent of India's population is Hindu. Look up Hinduism in an encyclopedia or reference book. What does the Hindu religion teach? How does this differ from what Christians believe?

3. In India, families are very important. Three generations—grandparents, parents, and children—often live in the same house. Children are taught to treat their grandparents with love and respect.

If your grandparents live nearby, make plans to do something special for them. If they live far away, write letters or send cards to them. Let them know they are special and loved.

4. People in India like a variety of spices, especially curry. They often add curry to meat dishes. But meat is expensive, and many people cannot afford it. A common Indian food is lentil soup called dal. Many people do not use spoons to eat dal. Instead they use chapatis, flat bread similar to pancakes. A chapati is rolled, dipped into the dal, and eaten.

Here is a recipe for chapatis.

Serve them with soup at a family meal. See

how many in your outpost can keep from using a spoon during the meal!

(Projects for Rangers and Commanders)

Chapatis

2 cups whole wheat flour
1/2 teaspoon salt
2 tablespoons melted margarine
4 to 6 tablespoons water

Mix the flour and salt in a bowl. Add margarine and 4 tablespoons water. Mix. If dough is too dry to form a ball, add water to the mixture, using a teaspoon at a time.

Knead the dough for 5 minutes. Cover with a damp cloth and let it rest for an hour. Then knead again for 2 minutes.

Shape the dough into golf ball-size mounds. Then pat each ball into a flat circle about 1/4-inch thick. Dust with flour.

Heat a heavy skillet and cook the chapatis for 2 minutes on each side. When all have been cooked, brush the skillet with margarine and lightly brown each piece. Serve hot.

Easter

by Genovieva Sfetcu Beattie

in Hiding

Finding a secret place for the Easter service was quite a task for 12-year-old Petru. It was 1979 in the city of Iasi, Romania.

"It has to be a safe place," Genovieva told him.

"I will try," he whispered. He would have done anything for his choir director.

Petru was a boy of medium height with green eyes, arched brown eyebrows, and freckles on his flat nose. He kept his round lips tight. *I always wanted to get back at those secret policemen, he thought.* They call Genovieva

all the time for interrogation—just because she teaches us Christian songs. Also they bother my grandfather. It is true, he handled many Bibles in secret.

At Easter services, teachers would disguise themselves as monks or nuns. Then they would attend services to see which of their students were there. For those caught, there would be trouble. A service held in secret would stand a better chance.

Petru took his job very seriously. *If we get caught, he thought, it will be my fault.*

After walking for

hours through the forests, he was quite sure about the place. It was near his grandparents' house. It could be reached by taking a steep footpath a mile or more. By the weekend, he had passed the word around.

It was a nice, sunny morning at Cetatus Hill, and by 8:30 all the boys and girls were there, sitting on the soft grass. Young people came with guitars and mandolins. Then some of the elders



arrived, bringing bread and wine. A Danish missionary called Ulf was going to speak to them. He was hated by the police, but much loved by the Christians. The

place chosen was a wooded clearing on the side of the steep hill. Every-where trees and bushes were in blossom.

Soon the Easter service started. There was singing, strumming of guitars, buzzing of bees, and chirping of birds. "Christ is risen!" they said to each other, as others joined the group.

But Petru was on duty. His mission was not yet finished. From the top of an acacia tree, he was watching the surroundings like an eagle. There was a monastery at the top of the hill. Petru saw

approaching the hill?

Petru's heart started to beat fast. He quickly climbed down the tree, then jumped to the ground from the last branch. "Police!" he shouted. "They have surrounded the hill!"

"Run!" said Genovieva and the whole group stood up.

"No!" Petru said. "They have dogs and will let them loose on us!"

"On our knees! Let's pray!" the missionary shouted.

"Lord Jesus, save us!" was heard from every mouth.

Within minutes the wind started to blow and clouds filled the sky.

It began to rain,

first a few drops and soon there was a violent storm. The blossoms were blowing in the wind like swirling snow.

"Now we can run. The dogs cannot smell

us in the rain," Petru said. "See you at my grandparents' house. The back door is open!"

Everybody ran down the hill on untrodden paths, grasping hold of bushes and trees and slipping and sliding in the mud. In record time everyone was at the bottom of the hill—wet, muddy, and full of scratches.

The storm was violent and visibility was poor, but they all made it. Petru was happy. "We are all free!" he said, gasping for breath.

After a while the rain stopped. Petru peeped through the back window. He saw the policemen and their dogs all soaking wet, getting into their vans and leaving. A rainbow appeared in the sky. There was no doubt in Petru's mind: *the Lord of Easter was risen and was with them!*



a monk looking from a window. He didn't like the sly posture. *Was he really a monk?*

The communion was over. But whose were those cars

A Worldview for Rangers

Danger in the Hills

This story is reprinted courtesy Mountain Movers magazine, Division of Foreign Missions

Isaac trudged down a narrow path in southern Bangladesh. Occasionally he stopped at the top of a hill, searching for signs of a village in the distance. After walking for 2 days, he was eager to reach his destination.

Walking to remote villages is part of Isaac's job. He travels around Bangladesh, visiting the 35 Assemblies of God schools. Children who attend these schools are sponsored by people in the United States who want them to have a better life.

Less than 1 percent of the people in Bangladesh are Christians. At the schools, children receive an education, nutritious meals, and a chance to learn about Jesus. Isaac takes pictures of the children and gathers information about them to send to their sponsors.

Travel is difficult in Bangladesh. Often Isaac's trips take him away from home for 3 months at a time.

In areas with no roads, Isaac must walk or ride in a boat.

Isaac grew up in Bangladesh, so he is accustomed to the inconveniences. But the hills of southern Bangladesh are unlike the rest of the country. The people in this area have different customs, languages, and foods.

As Isaac continued his journey, he knew of the dangers he might face. He listened carefully for a wild boar brushing against the leafy plants, an elephant lumbering through the trees, or a wildcat prowling for food. He hurried on, trying hard to watch for cobras or pythons that sometimes slithered along the riverbank.

At last Isaac finished his trip and returned to his home in Dhaka, Bangladesh's capital. He had successfully avoided an encounter with a boar, elephant, wildcat, python, or cobra. But he hadn't escaped unharmed. Instead, he was attacked by the deadliest creature in Bangladesh—a mosquito.

Mosquitoes in tropical areas often carry a disease called malaria. This disease can kill a person. In southern Bangladesh, mosquitoes carry a form of malaria that is almost always fatal.

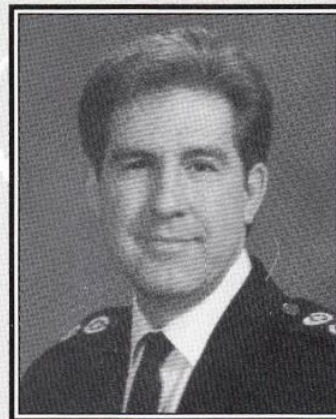
A few days after his trip, Isaac began feeling itchy and feverish. His temperature climbed to 104 degrees.



Snakes are a constant danger in some parts of Bangladesh.

HIGH Adventure

LEADER



Marshall Bruner
National Ministries/Publications Cdr.

One-on-One

Online

2

Camporama

7

Overcoming

8

Training

10

Devotions for Boys

12

Crafts & Games

14

The silence was almost deafening. All who were present knew the time would come, but after they saw with their own eyes what was about to occur, they were speechless. At first they felt numb from the reality of what would soon transpire. For a moment many had a glazed look on their countenances as though they were overwhelmed, their minds frozen. Then, after the initial shock, most who were standing in the large gathering began to look around at those close by, at those from a distance. They each had the same look on their faces: the look of wishing the coming days on earth could be avoided. The great multitude did not move, did not speak. The joyous sounds everyone was accustomed to hearing were suddenly gone. Among the sea of believers were thoughts like this:

"If only I had been a better witness."

"If I could do it all over again, I would have"

"Why didn't I share the joy and love of the Lord as He told me to?"

"My boy is down there, and he's going to face hell on earth, why didn't I"

The "great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language" (Revelations 7:9, NIV) were standing in the very presence of the Lamb of God garnishing white robes, yet they could not utter the joy. As the angelic host watched on, they must have known the thoughts of God's people who wished they had done more on earth, and they must have contemplated the soon-coming consequences of sin and man's rebellion against God.

For half an hour heaven was silent. It must have seemed like an eternity, for everyone who was present saw what was written when the seventh seal was opened.

What I just described may occur in heaven in the near future. Only God knows when. Though I have added my imagination to what could happen in the minds of believers on that faithful day, the scriptures reveal in the Book of Revelation—read Revelations, chapters 7 and 8—that the continual praises to the Lamb of God will be interrupted after He opens the seventh seal.

So what am I saying to us today? Friend, we cannot rest in complacency knowing that we "have it made" eternally. We must reach the lost. This conviction, and the thoughts as I have described above, help keep me focused on doing all I can today for God, instead of someday wishing I had done more.

Remember the movie *Back to the Future*? In that film the young man and his friend, a scientist who had invented a time-traveling machine, went back in time to change the circumstances of his parents, which in turn improved the present situation of his parents for the good of the family. Though we cannot travel in time to change situations for the better, we can come "back to the future" by living our lives now as God wants: reaching the spiritually lost whom God wants in heaven with Him one day. By doing what Christ commands—"Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation (Mark 16:15, NIV)—will change the eternal destination for thousands of people.

This issue focuses on world missions. May I challenge you—before you share with your Rangers the focus of this quarter—to drop a knee and to reconsecrate your life wholly to Christ Jesus. Ask Him to place a burning desire in your heart to be a living testimony, to reach the spiritually lost. Then challenge your Rangers, as never before, to reach their world for Christ ... so we can change the future!

ONLINE

news

HonorBound National Coordinator Talks with AG-News

Brewster, desire to see men leading their families and this country into a revival unparalleled in history.

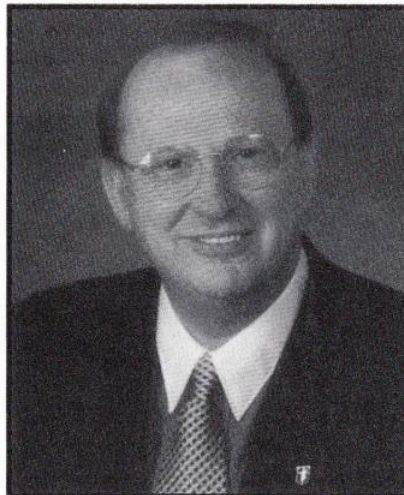
The following interview is provided by AG-NEWS, an e-mail news service of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

The Executive Presbytery of the Assemblies of God, in session March 17 and 18, appointed Charles A. Brewster, Sr., of Issaquah, Wash., as director of HonorBound: Men of Promise effective May 18. Brewster succeeded the Rev. Ron Roberts, who served in that position the past 2 years. He recently shared his goals for HonorBound with AG-News:

AG-News: What's your vision for men in the Assemblies of God?

Brewster: It is my desire to see men leading their families and this country into a revival unparalleled in history. I want HonorBound to stay out in front, bringing leadership and discipleship materials for this revival effort. I believe this army of men will usher in the last day's harvest as "The hearts of the fathers will turn to their children and the hearts of the children to their fathers." HonorBound needs to help equip men for these last days efforts.

AG-News: What do our men need to know about HonorBound?



Brewster: The biggest thing I see right now is to continue to get the word to men that HonorBound is not a participating ministry of the Men's Department. HonorBound actually is the Men's Ministries Department. HonorBound is the nucleus from which the ministries to and by the men are formed. If you could imagine HonorBound as a local church, then Royal Rangers would be the ministry for boys, Light-for-the-Lost would be the ministry for missions giving of printed material, Discipleship and Evangelism Training would be the Sunday School Department, and Evangelism would be efforts to reach the lost in areas such as Convoy of Hope or other outreach ministries.

HonorBound is the center that coordinates all those efforts. HonorBound ensures men are being ministered to so they can minister to others more effectively.

AG-News: You are really promoting ministry training for men. Tell us about it.

Brewster: We, in the Assemblies, stand on the leading edge for ministry to men. The *Blueprint Training*, for the senior pastor and his core group of men's leaders, is designed to formulate and/or refine the ministry to men in your local church. According to Promise Keepers, the HonorBound *Blueprint Training* we developed using their material and adding our own, is a first class presentation.

AG-News: What does the future hold for HonorBound?

Brewster: I am continuously seeking God for more ways to reach men. We will have a home page at <http://www.ag.org> in the very near future. If you want an e-mail contact until then, you can e-mail me at <mailto:honorbound@ag.org>. I will try to answer you as much as my schedule permits.

If you want to be included on the HonorBound Team and our mailing list, please send us your name and address to: HonorBound; 1445

Boonville Ave.; Springfield, Mo. 65802-1894. We are hoping to have a monthly newsletter up and running very soon.

AG-News: You recently promoted National Men's Day in conjunction with Father's Day. Will this be an annual event?

Brewster: As in any endeavor that is larger than your own effort, HonorBound's ministries cost money. God can and will provide. We just had the "National Men's Day" on June 21st, Father's Day. The National Men's Day is going to be Father's Day each year. This is the time when HonorBound asks for contributions for the national office to fund new and existing endeavors. You may give at any time during the year, but Father's Day is the day to highlight HonorBound and the men we serve. Prepare now for next year! Speak to your pastor about honoring men, all men, on that day.

AG-News: You've emphasized that your office is very accessible to the "man in the pew."

Brewster: Absolutely. I would welcome to hear what God is saying to you about HonorBound and our efforts to reach the men of this nation. I feel that God is saying to us, at HonorBound, to go and build godly men who are obedient to God's Word so they will be able to withstand the refiner's fire in these last days. If you feel that passion, write to me and pray with me that all men will hear God's Word and will be entrusted to teach others.

AG-News: What's your greatest need at HonorBound?

Brewster: Keep me in your prayers. I need it! When I was in the U.S. Secret Service, I protected presidents, but now I serve a King, my Lord Jesus Christ. Before I carried a gun, but now I carry a sword. I was clothed with a bulletproof vest, but

now I am clothed with the full armor of God. The enemy I am fighting will be defeated; my King has told me so. Join with me in the Army of God—HonorBound: Men of Promise!

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA SECTION SEES REVIVAL

James Biltion

The desert Royal Rangers section of the Southern California District is expanding its scope of ministry beyond boys to include parents and families. As a result, Rangers outposts have seen a dramatic increase in attendance and boys, as well as adults, are accepting Christ.

manders seek to create a support base for boys to continue in the program, as well to minister to adults.

"We found that boys were coming to church without parents," Bucholzer says. "Because of this, our outposts started giving away prizes to the kids who brought the most friends. Many of the kids began bringing their parents.

"The church hasn't been able to reach these people, so we decided we're going to try to reach them through the boys," Bucholzer continues. "Pastors can't be everywhere."

One rally, a mother went forward—along with several boys—to receive Christ at the altar call. She



photo by Ken Hunt

"I think we're having a genuine revival," says Lyle Bucholzer, Royal Rangers sectional commander. "We've had 124 decisions for Christ since October 1997, and this includes rallies, camp-outs, and other events."

When Bucholzer became sectional commander in March 1997, the sectional rallies averaged about 60 in attendance. The last rally drew 210. At the section's 1998 winter camp-out, 15 boys made decisions for Christ—kids who had never been to an altar—and one was called into the ministry.

By encouraging parents to attend the events, the sectional com-

stood alongside 8- and 9-year-old boys, with tears in her eyes, and prayed the sinner's prayer with the Royal Rangers. Indeed, the love of Christ transcends age, experience, and background.

The desert section stretches along U.S. Interstate 10 in southern California and includes Assemblies of God churches from Calimesa to Indio. The area's climate and terrain make it conducive to outdoor activities, camp-outs, and Pow Wows.

In March, the section held a Royal Rangers Pinewood Derby at Valle Vista Assembly of God in Hemet. Hundreds of boys, comman-

ders, and family members participated in the event. To encourage participation, the section provided trophies for individual and team (outpost) championships. The section also held a race for super-modified cars (weight limit increased to 10 oz.), and a car design competition.

"We really promoted this event to the commanders," Bucholzer says. "We tried to get them enthused and they, in turn, got the boys enthused. It was a wonderful event"

The derby drew front-page news coverage in *The Hemet News*. Hemet is a community of about 75,000 people. Bill Clancy, pastor of Believers Bible Church in Romoland, gave the paper a witty comment: "I think it's wonderful how God brings kids together like this to get them on the right track."

The story included a full-color photo on the front-page and a detailed description of the Royal Rangers ministry. The large crowd of boys that responded to the Pinewood Derby caught the paper's attention.

ROYAL RANGERS IN NEW YORK EXPERIENCE REVIVAL

REPRINTED COURTESY
JOEL KILPATRICK, PENTE-
COSTAL EVANGEL

A group of 200 Royal Rangers and commanders in New York state experienced a sovereign move of God during a camp-out in February. Over 200 were saved, and 71 boys and men were baptized in the Holy Spirit. The event has stirred hearts in the New York District and heightened expectations that God will keep moving among Royal Rangers.

"I don't know if I've ever seen anything like it," says Brent Buck, pastor of Central Assembly of God in Horseheads, N.Y., who preached the camp's services. "The first night they were weeping with their noses in the dirt. This wasn't just, 'Come forward if you love God.'"

The next night, the Holy Spirit baptized 71 of those present. "When I invited them to come forward and be baptized in the Holy Spirit, I was inundated by boys and commanders, many of whom had been praying for years to receive the Baptism," Buck says.

The next morning they realized the extent of God's work.

"I asked how many had been baptized in the Holy Spirit," Buck says. "Hands went up all over, so I said, 'Maybe you didn't understand,' and I explained in detail what I meant. Then I asked the question again and 71 people stood up."

New York District Commander John Overton says he has seen major changes in the lives of men who attended.

"One guy I knew had been having problems and was starting to get his life back together," Overton says. "But when the power of God fell at that camp, he came back a changed man. He cried as he described what happened."

Overton says the Holy Spirit is moving on the young men in his district, and the result is impacting their families. Indeed, boys have taken the revival home. Two brothers, 9 and 11, were found kneeling in the living room with an unsaved friend and leading him to the Lord. Similar reports are still coming in.

"God continues to pour out His Spirit in our Royal Rangers and among our youth," says Tommy Reid, pastor of The Tabernacle in Orchard Park, N.Y., whose church sent a large contingent to the camp.

Overton speaks of an anticipation that God will continue to touch the youth in his district.

The Whispering Commander BOBBY ("TWO MOONS") W. LEWIS

For many years now, I have been involved in the Royal Rangers ministries. My first introduction was in 1965 just before I received my draft notice to serve in the armed forces.

This was a shock to me due to involvement in church activities and a new ministry that had been needed for the male youth of the Assemblies of God since the days of my youth. It was, however, the best thing that could happen to me at the time. It totally prepared me for camping, hiking, compassing, and communicating. I was placed in the Army in an infantry division (ground pounder) and served in Vietnam for 1 year.

After returning home in 1967 and getting used to not diving for cover to backfiring mufflers and fireworks, I returned to work and back to my now 5-year-old Royal Ranger ministry at the church I attend. My pastor sent off for literature and a training course and we started a small, shaky ministry.

Over the years the Lord has allowed me to receive training up to Advanced National Training Camp and to serve on sectional staff and to help teach several LTC's in our section of Corpus Christi, Tex.

In 1997 I was diagnosed with cancer of the larynx, with a carcinoma on my left vocal cord, which had to be removed to save some voice at least. In the process of rebuilding that vocal cord, the surgery has left me with the inability to swallow. Satan thought he had gotten rid of me—ha, no way! God has held the position open for me to continue working in the section. Of course I am limited to a very raspy, hoarse voice with little volume, but I can be heard in a quite room (is there such a thing with Rangers?).

With the computer skills and access the Lord has given me, the section's needs can be met in a more professional way than ever before. God always knows what He is doing, and we must be obedient and follow His lead. I am looking forward for what God still has in store for me and the Rangers.



DEPARTMENTAL ITEMS

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National Office Items Now Available—Call 1-800-641-4310

Below are several Royal Rangers products that are ideal for outpost application.

Prices below do not include shipping fees or state sales tax. Order directly by calling **1-800-641-4310**.

- *Building Bridges Promotional Video*

Item Number: 729NZ131

Cost: \$15.00

- *Thumbs Up Football Pack*

12 individual games:

Item Number: 729NZ300

Cost: \$35.95

- *Thumbs Up Football Pack*

24 individual games:

Item Number: 729NZ301

Cost: \$69.95

- *Thumbs Up Football Game Set*

1 playing board:

Item Number: 729NZ302

Cost: \$15.99

1 Sidekick™, 8 trophy kicks, 1

Cross Bars™ scorepad.

- *Thumbs Up Outpost Starter Packet*

3 playing boards:

Item Number: 729NZ303

Cost: \$39.95

3 Sidekicks™, 24 trophy kicks, 3

Cross Bars™ scorepad.

- *Reaching Boys for Christ*

Item Number: 729NZ128

Cost: \$10

- *Harvest Task Force:*

Reaching Urban America Video

Item Number: 729NZ129

Cost: \$10

- *Harvest Task Force:*

Breaking Powers Through Prayer Video

This video is ideal for commanders who want to promote the Harvest Task Force.

Item Number: 729NZ064

Cost: \$10

- *Frontiersmen Camping Fellowship Brochure*

The full-color brochure is ideal for promoting FCF.

Item Number: 729NZ018

Cost: \$.10 ea., min. order 100

- *Rangers WinTracker, ver. 2.xx*

The software program for DOS computers with Windows enables a commander to effectively track the advancements and profiles of his Royal Rangers. The program includes the new Challengers/Trailrangers Advancement Trails.

Item Number: 729NZ140 (3.5" disk)

Item Number: 729NZ142 (CD)

Cost: \$65 ea.

- *Rangers Trailtracer*

The software program is designed for DOS computers without Windows. It enables the commander to create profile sheets for each Royal Ranger and to track his advancements under the new Advancement Trail.

Item Number: 729NZ141

Cost: \$45

- *Gold Medal of Achievement Bulletin*

The 11- by 8 1/2-inch format, which folds in half, enables the user to print the GMA ceremony schedule and service activities on the opposite side, which has a full-color design.

Item Number: 729NZ069

Cost: \$15, per 100

- *The Youth Bible*

Contains numerous devotional topics ideal for the commander's devotional resources.

Item Number: 729NZ106

Cost: \$17

- *Walk Thru the Bible*

An excellent method for teaching Rangers about the Books of the Bible and their central themes.

- *Old & New Testament*

Coloring Book

Item Number: 729NZ114

Cost: \$10.95 ea.

- *Old Testament Flash Cards*

Item Number: 729NZ118

Cost: \$6

- *New Testament Flash Cards*

Item Number: 729NZ119

Cost: \$6

- *Bible Flashcards*

Item Number 729NZ121

Cost: \$6

- *The Ultimate—English*

Item Number: 729NZ007

Cost: \$.05, min. order 100 *

- *The Ultimate—Spanish*

Item Number: 729NZ010

Cost: \$.05, min. order 100 *

The brochure highlights the "ultimate experience" for a boy, then presents the salvation message. This evangelism tool is ideal for canvassing neighborhoods to invite boys to Royal Rangers. The brochure is designed so the outpost number and telephone number can be printed on the back of it.

* 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 outreach ministry. Such outposts must request the items through the national Royal Rangers Office, Marshall Bruner, and must pay for shipment.

• *Outreach Ministry Training Guide*

A 66-page training manual that offers new insights to penetrating urban America with the Royal Rangers ministry.

Item Number: 729NZ009
Cost: \$6.50

• *Insight Group: Commander's Guide*

Item: 729NZ049
Cost: \$9

• *Insight Group: Ranger's Guide*

Item Number: 729NZ050
Cost: \$7

• *Outreach Ministry Outpost Planning Guide*

Item: 729NZ012, w/binder
cost: \$13.45
Item: 729NZ013, w/o binder
Cost: \$10

The *Insight Group* curricula is ideal for groups Pioneers age and up. *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*.

• *Victor's Victories*

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.

Item Number: 729NZ057
Cost: \$18

• *Camporama Videos:*
33-Minute, Item 729-080
13-Minute, Item 729-081
6 Minute, Item 729-082
Cost Each: \$15

• *Incest: Solving the Pain Video*
Topic: Child abuse prevention
Audience: Commanders
Item Number: 729NZ110
Cost: \$19.99

• *Urban T-shirt*

Size S: Item Number:
729NZ073

Size M: Item Number:
729NZ074

Size L: Item Number:
729NZ058

Size XL: Item Number:
729NZ059

Size XXL: Item Number:
729NZ060
Cost: \$9

• *Urban Cap*

Item Number: 729NZ067
Cost: \$8.50

NEW NEW NEW NEW NEW

The following items may be purchased from the national Royal Rangers Office by calling (417) 862-2781, ext. 4179, Tim Lyman.

➤ *Royal Rangers Family Activity Book*, which focuses on the Parent-Commander Association

Cost: \$5

➤ *Gold Bar Orientation*, booklet that assists leaders in implementing the Junior Guide program.

Cost: \$5

The following items may be purchased from the national Royal Rangers Office by calling (417) 862-2781, ext. 4177, Laura Martinez.

➤ **Royal Rangers Specialty Cap:** The white cap with royal blue brim is embroidered on front with the words "Royal Rangers" in blue and red and on side with the 16 points of the Rangers Emblem in their perspective colors.

Cost Each: \$15

➤ **Royal Rangers Lapel Pin:** This 5/8-inch, gold-plated lapel pin is an added attraction to any commander's suit or clothing.

Cost Each: \$2

'98 CAMPORAMA SALES ITEMS

➤ **Camporama Patch or Pin:** The Camporama logo patch and pin issued as part of the registration fee can be purchased for gifts.

Cost Each: \$2

➤ **Camporama Specialty T-Shirt:** This specialty T-shirt includes a full chest, four color logo that reads "Enter The Millennium ... '98 Camporama ... 'Let Freedom Reign.'"

Sizes: L, XL

Cost Each: \$9

➤ **Camporama Penlight Flashlight:**

This miniature flashlight is black with gold lettering "1998 National Camporama" ... "Let Freedom Reign."

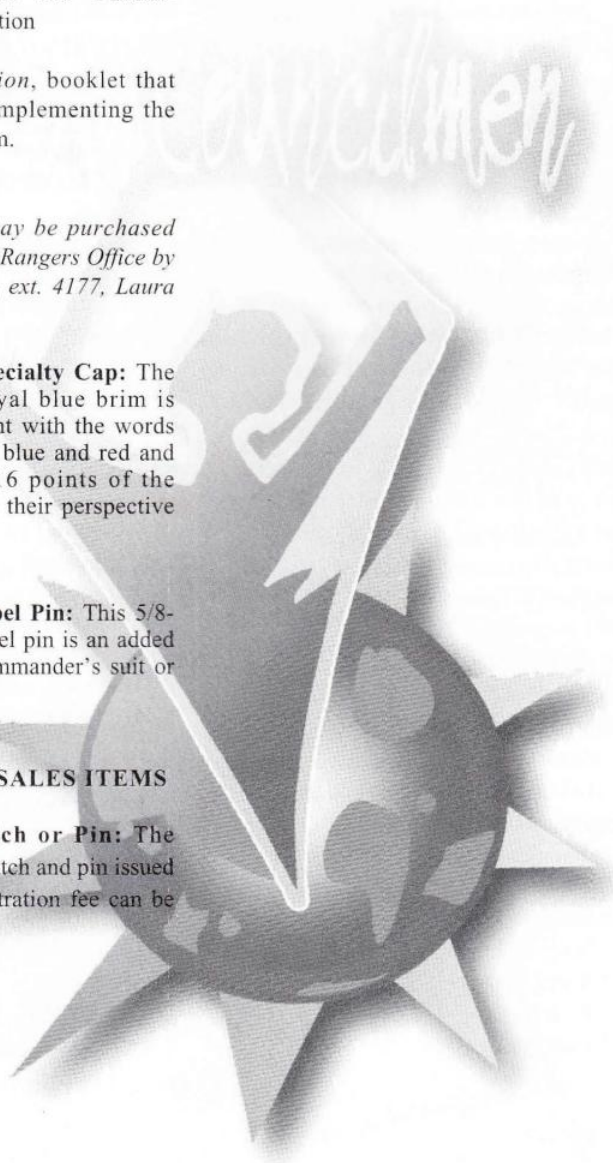
Cost Each: \$2.75

➤ **Jacque Blauvelt's "Hearts for You"**

This new release contains the heart-touching Royal Rangers song "The Campout"

CD: \$15.00

Cassette: \$12.00



Camporama: It's not just a picnic!

Scott Harrup

He was about 12 years old. Tussling with friends the last full day of Camporama, he fell and cut his scalp on something sharp in the grass. Within minutes, he was taken to a first aid station. The personnel there radioed the main clinic at the Johnnie Barnes Lodge, and soon he was transported there on an ATV.

"I'm going to be honest with you; this is going to sting pretty bad," Dr. Steve Parrillo admitted as he prepared to administer a shot of anesthetic. "But once the medicine works, you won't feel any pain from the stitches."

The shot did sting, as the boy's knotted fists clearly showed. But when the injection took hold, the stitches were genuinely painless. Sterile wax held the boy's hair away from the small gash as Parrillo expertly applied and tied several sutures.

"Are you done?" the Ranger asked tentatively.

"Almost, just about. Where are you from?"

"North Carolina. Are you done?"

"Just tying the last knot here. Collect a lot of pins while you were here?"

"Yes. Are you done?"

"Am I done? I am done."

Parrillo was one of three doctors on hand to address the more serious injuries incurred during the week. Dr. Nick Andriacchi, a foot surgeon from Illinois, took his turn with the stitches earlier when a commander was brought in nursing a severely lacerated thumb.

"It's like I never left home," said Parrillo, an emergency medicine physician with Albert Einstein Medical Center in north Philadelphia. "But it's on a much lower scale. We've had an excellent week for 5,000-plus people to be here. We've done very well. This has been a unique experience. I've enjoyed every minute of it."

Most injuries at Camporama are minor. Sitting on the cot across from the boy with the scalp wound, another Ranger rested. His ankles were freshly bandaged because of some insect bites that had gotten out of hand.

Then there were the dozens of heat-related incidents. Boys simply forgot to drink enough water in the July heat. Most of these were handled at the first aid stations spread among the district camps.

"In the little regional first aid centers we have several other EMTs (Emergency Medical Technicians) who are out there," explained Charlie Compton, an intensive care nurse working at the main clinic. "If somebody comes up with something minor, they can put on some Calamine lotion, a Band-Aid, take their temperature, and check them out. If they need something, they can call in and we'll bring them back here."

If a medical condition arises that is beyond the scope of the clinic, no one takes any chances. Helicopters evacuated a commander with chest pains and, later, a Ranger with a mild concussion.

Chest pain or no chest pain, the man's enthusiasm for

Camporama never waned. "We were going to tear his Camporama shirt to give him an IV," Compton remembered. "Not my shirt! he said."

The national Royal Rangers Office goes to extraordinary lengths to make each Camporama a safe experience for the thousands of Rangers and commanders involved. The medical facilities are only part of the picture.

With what amounts to a small town cropping up on Camp Eagle Rock, order has to be carefully maintained. That task rested with Sergeant Paul Etheridge, a 20-year veteran of the Missouri Highway Patrol. Including Etheridge, three state troopers, three deputy sheriffs, and one city police officer vigilantly enforced common sense rules in order to keep things operating smoothly throughout Camporama.

A lot of confrontations are minor.

"Someone might park in an entryway and back up a bunch of cars," Etheridge said. "Nobody can go anywhere. People will park on a one-way road and start setting up camp."

The security staff at Camporama is also ministry oriented. Each officer brought a number of boys to the event, and Etheridge made his Highway Patrol car available as a key prop in one of the evening pageants.

The medical staff tried to keep Camporama's masses healthy; the security staff worked hard to keep everyone safe. It was the job of Ken's Catering Service out of Springdale, Arkansas, to keep them fed. Seventy-seven people—a combination of full-time employees and part-timers who responded to a want ad in the paper—worked from morning to night to prepare the three solid meals needed to satisfy more than 5,000 very healthy appetites. Ken's Catering was up to the task. As a company record, they once served catfish to 2,500 people in 12 minutes.

It took longer than 12 minutes to feed all the district camps that came in turn to the cafeteria tent. But the lines were orderly; the kitchen crew and the commanders assisting them kept everyone moving through the large tent with little interruption.

"The first part-time crew comes in at 5:30 and works till 1:30, and the other from 1:30 till 9," explained a smiling lady with "Kaye" on her name tag. "Those of us on the full-time crew come in at 3:30 in the morning and we start cooking breakfast. And we work until about 7:30 or 8 at night. It makes for very long days."

But she didn't mind. "The Rangers," she pointed out, "are very polite and never present any real problems. They try to sneak in for an extra juice because it's so hot," she said. "We're in this nice tent and they're out there sweating. It's been fun. I've enjoyed it and I like kids."

"Like" is probably too weak a word to describe the feelings of most support staff at Camporama. They *love* kids. They worked hard, at this largest of Royal Rangers gatherings, to make sure boys and commanders had a wonderful week they'll never forget.

TASK FORCE

james bilton

Overcoming the Odds

Love was as foreign to 8-year-old Anton Jenkins as a good meal or a clean pair of clothes. His mother was strung out on drugs and his father had long since left the family. As a child growing up in the heart of Washington, DC's projects, his world was filled with violence, deprivation, and loneliness.

But one day, a group of Christians from New Life Assembly of God in Capitol Heights, Maryland, visited his neighborhood, bringing candy, puppets, and a gospel message. A man in the group lifted Anton in his arms and told him that he loved Anton and that God loved him too.

"Being in the household I was in, I didn't really hear anybody say they loved me," Anton, now 19, recently told the Washington Post. "I'll remember that conversation for the rest of my life."

And so began a spiritual journey that led Anton through the darkness of a lonely childhood, into a loving, Christian home, and eventually, to a podium in June 1998, where he received a prestigious high school diploma.

"If it wasn't for God's help," Anton told the Post, "I wouldn't have succeeded."

As a toddler, Anton lived with his mother Mildred and older sister in his grandmother's apartment. Before long, Mildred moved them to her own place and developed a drug habit. Home for young Anton became a crack house. He started to skip his elementary school classes because he didn't have any clean clothes. He would often go to school hungry, which caused him to fall behind in his reading skills.

"I didn't have a good male role model until I got to Royal Rangers."

But then the man from New Life Assembly introduced Anton to an almighty God who loved him. "At that time in my life I really wondered if anybody cared about me," Anton said. "But the man's words about a loving God really touched me."

Anton later was befriended by a D.C. home missionary, Rev. Ken Brown. "Anton was always soft-spoken; he hid his pain well," Ken said. "But underneath his sweet exterior was a hurting kid who needed God. We noticed right

away that Anton had a heart for God, even before he accepted Christ."

Brown later invited Anton Jenkins to attend a week-long Assemblies of God Potomac District kids camp. Jenkins enthusiastically accepted the offer because "it was a way to get out of the environment I was in, and a lot of other kids in the neighborhood were going."

During one of the camp services, a preacher spoke about the love of God—just like the man of the street in D.C. Desperate and hungry for love, Anton accepted Christ into his heart.

God's grace was evident in Anton's life in the years that followed. The hardships continued. After a stint in a homeless shelter, Mildred and Anton got another apartment in a bad part of town. Police and gang members—"the stickup boys"—often broke into the place to search for drugs. The stickup boys even held a gun to Mildred's head on several occasions.

"The hardest thing about growing up was not having a positive male role model around," said Anton. "My father was gone and my uncle was in jail. The only man in my life abused and molest-

ed me. I didn't have a good male role model until I got to Royal Rangers."

After moving in with his grandmother, Anton started going to school more often. His sixth grade teacher noticed he had trouble reading and talked Anton into staying after school each day for extra reading lessons.

In middle school, Anton grew intellectually and spiritually. A teacher helped him overcome a speech impediment and his grades started to climb. His nightmarish home life, however, continued to spin out of control. His mother moved them into a small apartment that was already home to nine people, and she fell back into her crack habit. At his mother's request, Anton stayed with the Browns for a few days during the 1993 Christmas season.

Anton's temporary housing situation eventually turned into a permanent one. The Browns decided to keep Anton and to become his guardian.

"It was tough bringing a fifth child into our house," Ken said. "But we saw his need, we fell in love with him, and we wanted to minister to him—so we took him in."

Anton began attending New Life Assembly with the Browns. He also got involved with the church's Royal Rangers program. He grew to love the camp-outs, Pow Wows, and Pinewood Derbies. Rangers, however, provided more for Anton than just recreation.

"Royal Rangers really helped build my relationship with God," Anton said. "Rangers taught me not only to pitch a tent, but it also taught me about the Bible. It wasn't just about camping

and having fun; it ministered to me and prepared me for Christian service."

"Royal Rangers really helped build my relationship with God," Anton said. "Rangers taught me not only to pitch a tent, but it also taught me about the Bible. It wasn't just about camping and having fun; it ministered to me and prepared me for Christian service."

Through his participation in Rangers, Anton developed a love for kids ministry and community service. Eventually he became a helper in children's church. "I love doing puppet shows." He also got involved with several community service programs, including one for kids recovering from sexual molestation.

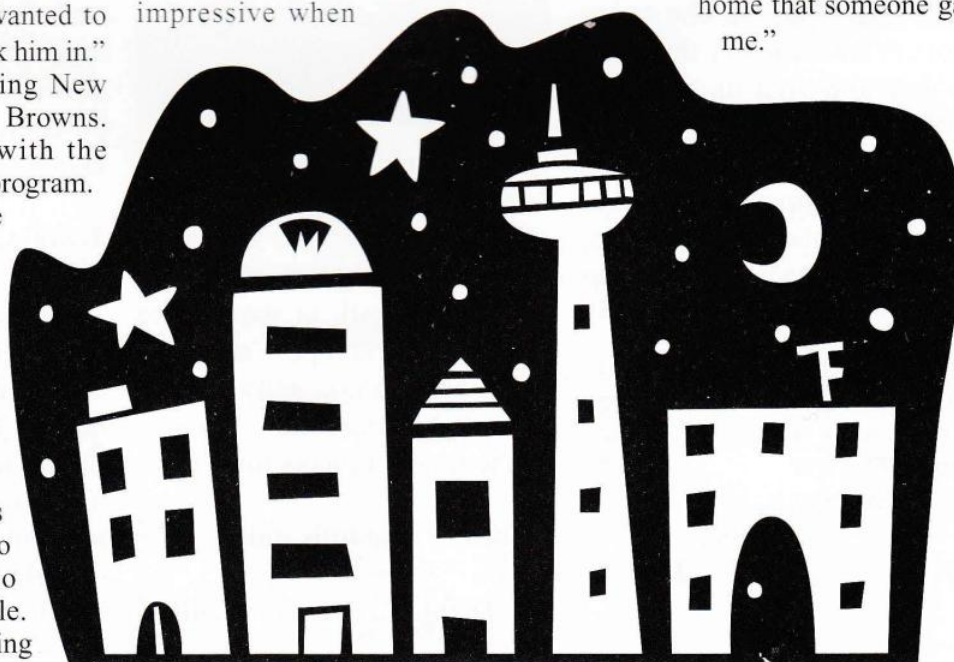
Anton's high school graduation is all the more impressive when

considering the school from which he earned his diploma—academically challenging School Without Walls, a public school in northwest Washington D.C., that accepts only 100 new students each year from an application pool of about 1,000.

"He came through with flying colors," Mildred Jenkins, now 40 and living in a transition house for recovering addicts, told the Washington Post. "I tell myself, if he can do it, I can too."

Anton spent the 1998-99 school year with Master's Commission—an Assemblies of God missions training program. Next he hopes to attend Southeastern Bible College in Lakeland, Florida, to study child psychology.

When asked about his future, Anton speaks confidently, like a man on a mission: "I believe God really wants me to start children's homes in D.C. and throughout the nation. I really think God is going to bless the homes. I don't want to limit the ministry to D.C.—there are kids hurting all over the place. I don't want to reach just inner-city kids, but kids in suburbs too. I want to give kids the same home that someone gave me."



TRAINING

paul stanek

Building a Winning Team

Training has been the success and core of the Royal Rangers ministry. Our training endeavors and ingredients have given us a platform to promote and implement our programs and advancements systems. We need to take pride in our accomplishments as commanders and teachers. However, we need to refocus on our purpose and goals. Training is without spirit if our main purpose is training in itself.

If we are to be successful in the Royal Rangers ministry, we must stand pat on the team effort. The team is the conveyance to a vital ministry. A football quarterback is not a quarterback without the linemen. The linemen are not linemen without the running backs. Everyone is needed to make up a team.

The term "TEAM" means:

Together
Everyone
Achieves
More

Training demands a gift.

A team is made up of individuals who have different skills, talents, energies, and gifts. This is what makes a quarterback different from a lineman and a running back different from a center.

"A team is made up of individuals who have different skills, talents, energies, and gifts."

Everyone has a special gift and contribution to build an effective team. One gift is no greater than that of any other individual's gift, or that of the team. Individual gifts and contributions are necessary for the team to be successful. So it is in the Royal Rangers ministry.

Training demands unity.

Thank God for individual

gifts such as the gift of administration, the gift of helps, the gift of teaching, etc. Individual gifts outside the body (team) lack potential and accomplishment. Learning to blend and position individuals' talents and skills together, will build the fiber of a team.

Unification helps build strength, morale, creativeness, and wholeness in our programs, training endeavors, and curriculum. Building a good football team demands unity of individualism and their gifts. This is what makes an organism grow and develop. This is what makes the team and the individual grow to their greatest potential. Together everyone achieves more.

Training demands focus.

Having a team does not make you a winner. A football team without focus is a losing team. Focus is a non negotiable item in a winning team. Your organization, structure, training programs, and individual talents can and will change. The focus of your existence can

not change. A focused team is a winning team. A team without focus is a brief wind with nowhere to go.

So it is true in Royal Rangers. We all have a vital part in the operations of Royal Rangers and our other local church programs. We should not be focused solely on our own unique programs or functions. The focus has to be on Christ and His message of redemption. This is what has made our program successful. This is what has created our team spirit and power.

A Christ focused ministry is a Christ filled ministry. The focus should burn in us and energize all our efforts, no matter what function we serve in the body of our local church. Christ is our focus.

We often state that our mission in Royal Rangers is to "Reach, teach, and keep boys for Christ." The focus of that mission ought to be Christ, Head of the team.

A team needs individuals and their gifts. A team needs unity of their gifts. A team needs focus—focusing on Christ and His redemption message.

Together

Everyone

Achieves

Ministry



CONVOY OF HOPE

See "The Giving Plan," page 16

1998 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
CONVOY OF HOPE, P. O. BOX 1476, SPRINGFIELD, MO 65801-1476

(417) 823-8998 FAX: (417) 823-8244

EMAIL: NATCCA@aol.com

FEBRUARY

27 - Long Beach, CA

MARCH

13 - Hesperia, CA
20 - Memphis, TN

(tent.)

27 - Indio, CA

APRIL

3 - Los Angeles, CA
17 - Modesto, CA
Philadelphia, PA
24 - Panama City, FL
Marysville, CA

MAY

22 - Chicago, IL
New York, NY
Merced, CA
29 - Miami, FL
Muskogee, OK

JUNE

12 - Cleveland, OH
19 - Wayne/Patterson, NJ
Toledo, OH

JULY

17 - Charlotte, NC
24 - Agawam, MA
Elko, NV
31 - Detroit, MI

AUGUST

11 - Orlando, FL
13 - Orlando, FL
21 - Denver, CO
28 - Seattle, WA
Richmond, VA

SEPTEMBER

11 - Cedar Rapids, IA
Winston-Salem, NC
18 - Boise, ID
Santa Ana, CA
25 - Fremont, CA
Miami, FL
Lakeland, FL

OCTOBER

23 - Toronto, CAN
30 - Mesquite, TX

NOVEMBER

20 - Austin, TX

DECEMBER

29 - WE CARE LA
30 - WE CARE LA
31 - WE CARE LA



DEVOTIONS

david boyd

***1**

Tug of War Game **Supplies: None**

Choose an adult assistant or a larger boy. Have him spread his legs and extend his hands out to the left and right of his body. Choose two more volunteers and position one on each side of the person you have in the middle.

Have each of the two volunteers take this person by the arm and pull. Instruct your center volunteer to try to stay in the middle and not move in either direction. (He won't have a problem doing this since he is being pulled equally from both sides.)

Next, have the center volunteer pick either the person on his left or right to be on his team. Whichever one he picks, becomes a team of two against the one who is left. Have them pull. The team of two will have no problem winning. Now reverse what you have just done and let the center individual team up with the opposite person. Try it once again. You will note that whichever side the

person in the center chooses to team up with is the side that wins.

Compare this with the battle that goes on for our lives. Explain that there is a "tug of war" going on for every person's life. God is on one side and Satan is on the other. God is tugging on your heart's door and Satan is tempting you to

s a y



"no" to God. Whoever you choose to serve is the person who will win the battle for your life.

Missionaries have the job of going to other nations and telling people about God's willingness to pull them from their life of sin and bring them into His sheltering arms. God is not willing that anyone perish. Missionaries are God's vital arms to nations around the world!

***2**

Faith Walk Game **Supplies: Tape, blindfold**

Tape a small circle to the floor on the far side of the room. Blindfold a child and turn him around once. Face him toward the circle, and let him try to walk to the circle blindfolded. He is to try to find the circle and stand in it. When he has done his best, take off the blindfold and show him how close he came. Let several boys try this.

After several boys have tried this, repeat the process, but the rules will change slightly. This time, allow a second boy to guide the blindfolded boy by giving him verbal instructions.

The boys will be able to stand on the circle because the boy who can see is able to guide him to it.

Explain to the kids that God is our guide and He guides us toward things that we cannot see. If we trust Him, listen to what He tells us to do, and act in faith, then God will lead us through difficult times.

Missionaries have to learn to follow God's commands as well. They must learn to know where God wants them to go and what country they are to minister in. They have to learn which town or village God wants them to live in. It's

important for them to continue to trust God because He sees what is ahead. He sees what we cannot see. He will guide missionaries to the exact spot where He wants them to share the good news of Jesus.

*3

Blind Man Game

Supplies: Can of soda, blindfold

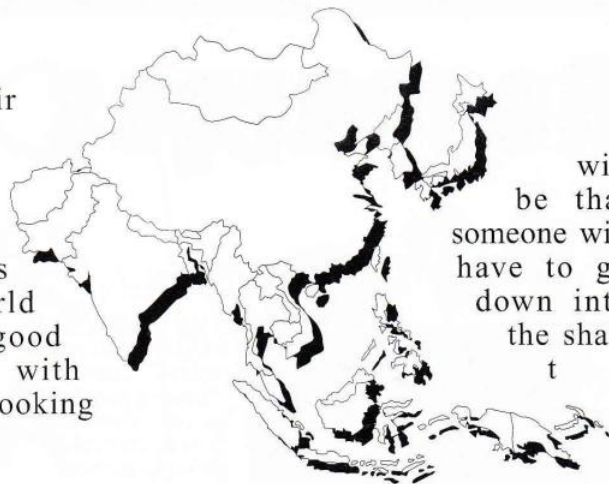
Blind man:
Blindfold one boy. Place a can of soda on the floor somewhere in the room. Give the boy 60 seconds to crawl around feeling with his hands to try to find the can of soda. If the boy can find it, he can keep it. The rest of the group has to keep very quiet. Do this a couple of times. Don't let the kids help. Remind them that once the soda is gone, the game is over.



When the game is over, talk about how it would feel to be blind. Talk about the blind men mentioned in the Bible. Imagine how they felt going home to their families and being able to see after Jesus healed them. Talk about what it must be like to be spiritually blind. Talk about the people around the world who don't know about Jesus. They are groping around trying to find God. They know there is a God, but they don't know who He is or where to find Him.

That's why God sent us mis-

sionaries. Their job is to go and help the world find Jesus! They go to countries around the world and share the good news of Jesus with those who are looking for Him.



will be that someone will have to go down into the shaft to

*4

Both Ends of the Rope

Supplies: A rope

Hold a rope up and show it to the group. Tell them to imagine that a small child has fallen into an old mine shaft or an open well. The child is only about 2 or 3 years old. How could the kids in this group get the child out without anyone else's help. Allow them time to discuss this. Soon the logical answer

grab

the child, since the child cannot hold onto the rope. Someone will have to go down, the others will have to lower this person and hold onto the rope to pull the person out with the child.

Compare this to missionaries. Their job is to go into the far off places of the world. Our job is to send them, support them, and pray for them.

Missionaries could not do their job without the help of people like us to give money to support them. We give money to Light-for-the-Lost to help supply materials and we pray.

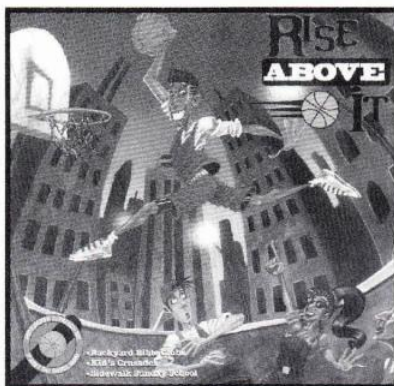
1999 Harvest Task Force Calendar

The first Saturday of each month is dedicated to prayer and at least 1 hour of fasting for the Royal Rangers ministry.

March							April							May									
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S			
	1	2	3	4	5	⑥		1	2	3	4	⑤		1	2	3	④						
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	5	6	7	8	9	10	11			
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	12	13	14	15	16	17	18			
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	19	20	21	22	23	24	25			
28	30						27	28	29	30	31			26	27	28	29	30					

Resources of Interest

Outreach Ministry Products



If you are looking for a tool to assist you in outreach ministry, the following may be just for you. Two audio-cassette/curriculum packages are now developed that offer lesson plans, games, and praise songs centered around sports themes. *Rise Above It* has a basketball theme and is offered in English. *El Equipo Campeón* is geared to a soccer theme and is

offered in Spanish, with the curriculum in both Spanish and English.

Rise Above It
Item Number: 732-062
Cost: \$50

El Equipo Campeón
Item Number: 732-064
Cost: \$65

To order these items, call Customer Services at 1-800-641-4310.

Dr. Richard D. Dobbins' Audiocassette Libraries

God's Man in Today's World

In this life-changing audiocassette tape series, Dr. Richard D. Dobbins equips you with the practical spiritual tools you need to succeed—conquering your limitations and becoming all that God has called you to be as a Christian man in today's world. This series is ideal for personal or group application.

Tape 1: God's Man in the Church: Learning I
Tape 2: God's Man in the Church: Learning II
Tape 3: God's Man in the Home: Loving
Tape 4: God's Man in the Community: Living
Tape 5: God's Man in the World: Question/Answer
Item Number: 1001
Cost: \$25, plus \$4 shipping

People of Presence

Audiocassette series designed to help you tap into your full God-given potential ... expressing His life, His message, and His power to the world.

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Tape 2: Developing the Presence of God in Your Home
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Tape 4: Demonstrating the Presence of God
Item Number: 1002
Cost: \$20, plus \$4 shipping

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Cost: (call for pricing)
Item Number: 1003
To order the items above, call 1-888-400-2001
Or send your check with order to:
Media Ministries of the Assemblies of God
PO Box 70
Springfield, MO 65801

Book Reviews for inspirational reading

The below books can be special ordered through Gospel Publishing House by calling 1-800-641-4310.

When God Whispers Your Name, by Max Lucado, publisher: Word Publishing

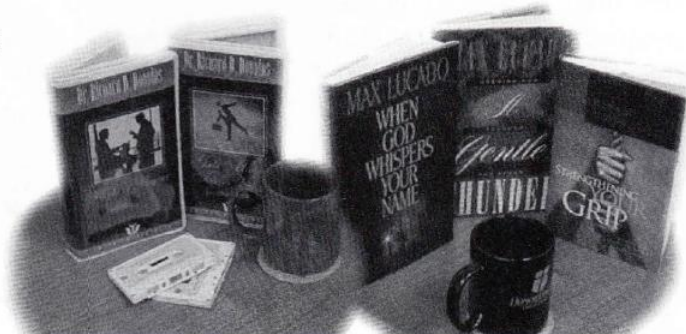
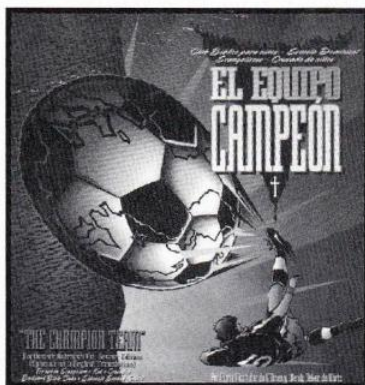
Somewhere, between the pages of this book and the pages of your heart, God whispers your name. He knows your name. In fact your name is written on the hand of God (Isaiah 49:16). Max Lucado's book *When God Whispers Your Name*, inspires the reader—in the way Lucado is famous for—through refreshing glimpses of how God the Father designs the life of His believers.

Hearing God Through the Storm: A Gentle Thunder, by Max Lucado, publisher: Word Publishing

With pictures and parables from everyday life, Max Lucado calls us to trust in tough times. God's goal, Max reminds, is to get us home safely. He will do whatever it takes to save His children. In this touching book, hear a message of hope. Today's struggle may be tomorrow's blessing.

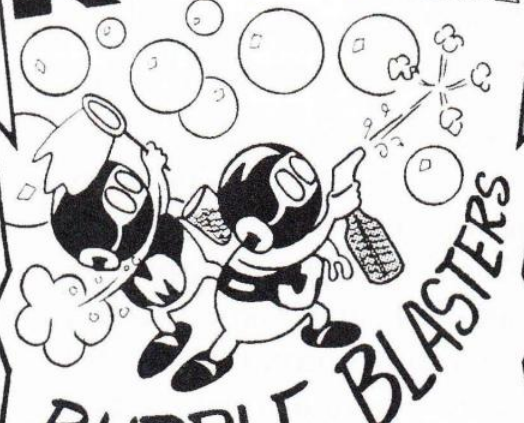
Strengthening Your Grip, by Charles R. Swindoll, publisher: Word Publishing

Combining poignant stories and spiritual insights, *Strengthening Your Grip* can strengthen your will, impart courage, and rekindle your desire for a well-aimed, stable, and satisfying life. Swindoll's writings are designed to inspire you and strengthen your grip on issues such as family prayer, integrity, priorities, and attitudes. Swindoll applied timeless, proven principles to everyday life.



CRAFTS & GAMES

K★POWER




BUBBLE BLASTERS

GET SOME BUBBLE MIX AND A CLEAN, PLASTIC SPRAY BOTTLE FULL OF WATER. ONE PLAYER MAKES THE BUBBLES AND THE OTHER ONE BLASTS THEM.

MZANCO

K★POWER




2.4.6 Mix

LAYOUT THREE CIRCLES AND A STARTING LINE USING STRING. TOSS A PLASTIC TOP INTO THE FIRST CIRCLE THAT COUNTS FOR 2. THE SECOND CIRCLE=4, AND THE THIRD CIRCLE=6 POINTS. THE PLAYER WITH THE HIGHEST TOTAL AFTER 3 TOSSES WINS. TO COUNT, THE TOP CANNOT TOUCH THE STRING.

MZANCO

K★POWER



CAN CATCHERS

EACH PLAYER FLIPS BOTH RUBBER BALLS (THAT ARE TIED TO THE CANS) INTO THE AIR AND TRIES TO CATCH THEM IN THE CANS. CATCHING BOTH BALLS IN ONE FLIP WINS THE GAME. CATCHING 1 BALL IN 1 CAN COUNTS FOR 5 POINTS. THE PLAYER WHO TOTALS 25 POINTS FIRST ALSO WINS THE GAME.

MZANCO

K★POWER



STRING TIC TAC TOE

USE STRING AND LAYOUT THE GAME FOLLOWING THE DRAWING. FIND 10 PLASTIC TOPS, MARK 5 OF THEM WITH YOUR INITIALS USING A FELT TIP PEN AND PLAY TIC TAC TOE FOLLOWING THE REGULAR RULES.

MZANCO



The Giving Plan

The Giving Plan is a new partnership with Convoy of Hope whereby local outposts are called upon to assist in a food drive—through door-to-door campaigns and churchwide projects led by Royal Rangers. The food drive, called The Giving Plan, is coordinated by an appointed Royal Rangers commander in a city or district where a Convoy of Hope is scheduled. The nonperishable goods gathered by the local outposts will be used to assist in conducting a Convoy of Hope in that community. Boys and leaders who participate can earn the Convoy of Hope national activity patch.

About 50 Convoy of Hope events are scheduled each year throughout the United States. A semi-truck loaded with groceries is placed in a needy area of the city to attract the

“guests of honor” to receive free groceries. As the guests wait in line, their children participate in a children’s crusade and carnival. Guests often participate in medical screening. The primary focus is to introduce the guests to Christ Jesus. Prior to receiving their free groceries, the guests participate in a 30-minute crusade, where they are exposed to drama, music, and a simple presentation of the gospel message.

An average Convoy will lead 150-plus children to Christ. This provides the

Royal Rangers ministry an ideal opportunity to

invite boys to Royal Rangers.

The Giving Plan coordinator’s role is to develop a community-wide food drive, whereby local outposts throughout the community participate. These food drives are generally conducted in areas where Convoys of Hope are scheduled. However, food drives can be conducted throughout a district and delivered to the Convoy of Hope site(s) scheduled to appear in that district.

For locations of upcoming Convoys, see the schedule on page 11. For further information on The Giving Plan, contact the national Royal Rangers Office, Marshall Bruner, or the Convoy of Hope Office.

National Royal Rangers Office
417-862-2781, ext. 4177

Friends took him from one hospital to another to find out what was wrong.

Finally Isaac went to one of the best hospitals in the country.

Doctors determined that he had cerebral malaria. They said that 98 percent of patients with this disease die.

Isaac grew worse by the hour. He slipped into a coma. But his friends did not give up. They sent messages to people all over the world, requesting prayer for Isaac. Soon thousands of people joined local believers and Assemblies of God mission workers as they

asked God to do a miracle.

God heard their prayers. Soon Isaac awoke from the coma, and his temperature returned to normal. A few days later he was back at his job.

Some people feel that their prayers can't make a difference. But Isaac is proof that good things



Isaac is back at work following his illness.

happen when people pray. Huge elephants, poisonous snakes, and deadly mosquitoes are no match for our mighty God.

Information for this story was supplied by Larry Smith. He and his wife Sharon have been missionaries to Southern Asia since 1979.

LIGHT FOR THE LOST

Light-for-the-Lost and You

by Marshall Bruner

Perhaps you are a Light-for-the-Lost Junior Councilmen. Maybe you're too young to be one, or you just haven't yet joined this great missions program. Whatever the case, one thing is certain: As a Christian, you are commanded by God to share your testimony with others. God also expects each of us to share the gospel with others—we call this sharing the "good news."

As a Royal Ranger you have the perfect opportunity to do just that: share the good news. You can do this by telling others about Jesus and how He loves them. You can give your friends at school and in your neighborhood a gospel tract. And you can share the good news by giving money to Light-for-the-Lost (LFTL).

Light-for-the-Lost has two gospel literature projects just for our Junior Councilmen. The home missions project is *The Hope* or *The Book of Hope*—a presentation of the scriptures. It includes additional messages about Christ's love. The foreign missions project is *Edward Elephant Says...* This is a comic book that warns the children in Africa about AIDS and tells them how they can accept Christ as Lord.

You and the entire Rangers group can raise money for these projects ... whether you are a Junior Councilmen or not. Last year alone Royal Rangers helped raise over \$37,000 for the home missions project and over \$113,000 for the foreign missions project. This means that literally thousands of children and adults are receiving a gospel witness through the printed page... because we helped!

But there's so much more to do. Millions of people still do not know that Christ died for them. Will you help tell them? You can easily do so. Here's how:

1. If you have Junior Councilmen in your outpost, they take on yearly Light-for-the-Lost literature projects. Your Rangers group can help the Junior Councilmen generate money for this project, even if you are in Straight Arrows or Buckaroos. If your outpost has no Junior Councilmen, you can still raise funds and give the offering to either of the Junior Councilmen projects mentioned below.

2. Ask your commander to pick a fundraising method

(or way) for your Rangers group. Then begin raising funds. For example:

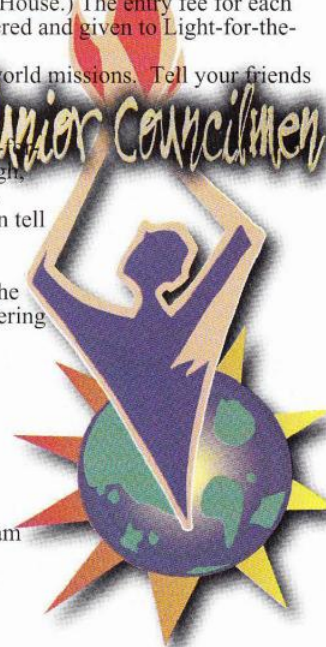
- Candy can be sold and the profits given to Light-for-the-Lost.
- Your group can do a car wash.
- A bike-a-thon is fun, and you can get church members to give so much money per each mile you bike.
- Your outpost can have a Thumbs Up® football contest. (The Thumbs Up® Football Game Set and Thumbs Up® Outpost Starter Packet are Royal Rangers products that can be ordered through Gospel Publishing House.) The entry fee for each player can be gathered and given to Light-for-the-Lost.

So get started today in world missions. Tell your friends about Christ. Get involved in missions in your outpost and church. Raise funds for Light-for-the-Lost. If you are old enough, become a Junior Councilmen. There are lots of ways you can tell the world that Jesus saves!

List with your offering the project number(s) so your offering will go to the right place.

- *The Hope*, or *The Book of Hope*—Project #8581
- *Edward Elephant Says...* Project #1800

Send your offering to:
Light-for-the-Lost
c/o Junior Councilmen Program
1445 Boonville Ave.
Springfield, MO 65802-1894



'Clowning Around' for Jesus

This story is reprinted courtesy Mountain Movers magazine, Division of Foreign Missions

Raul shuffled down the street, looking for something to do. Life was boring for the 15-year-old boy from Valladolid, Spain. Nothing ever seemed to happen in his neighborhood.

At last he spied his friends and dashed toward them. Maybe they knew a way to have some fun.

Raul spent most of his time with a group of boys his age. People in the neighborhood called them a gang. The boys didn't wear certain colors to identify them as some gangs do. They didn't carry weapons. But they did cause an uproar at times. When they were bored, they created their own excitement. Most of the time, their ideas were destructive.

Raul's favorite activity was setting fires to nearby fields. The boys' reputation became so bad, people avoided the street where Raul and his friends spent much of their time.

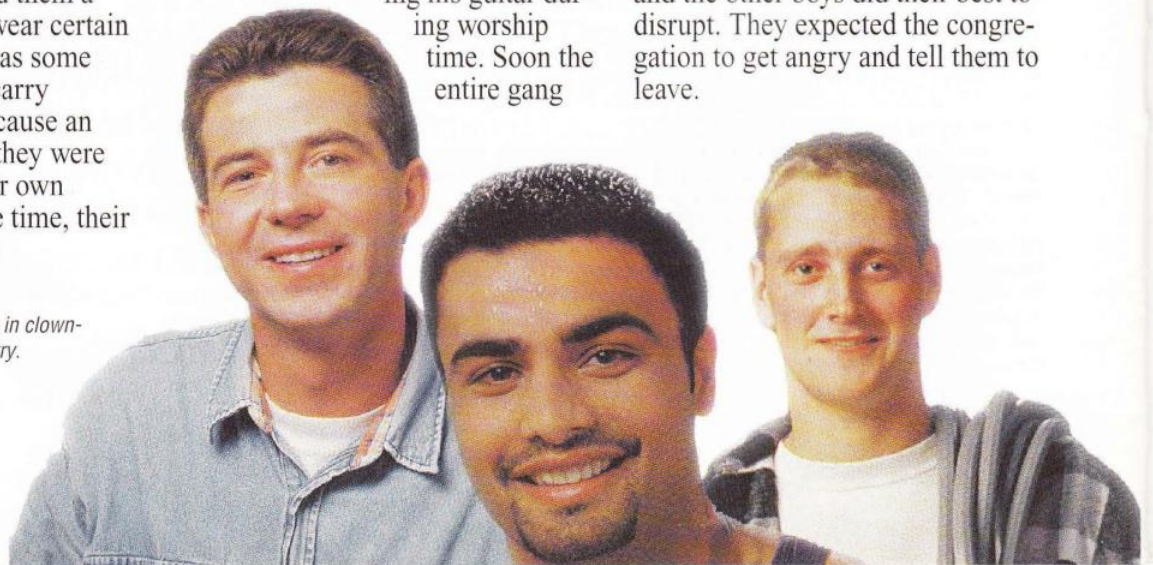
When an Assemblies of God church opened on that street, the boys were curious. Their interest grew when they heard the missionary, Scott Smith, playing his guitar during worship time. Soon the entire gang

was attending the services, hoping Missionary Smith would teach them about the guitar.

Missionary Smith tried to be friends with the boys. He quickly noticed that Raul seemed angry all the time. He rarely talked, but he watched intently during the guitar lessons. Soon he was the best guitarist in the group.

During services, however, Raul and the other boys did their best to disrupt. They expected the congregation to get angry and tell them to leave.

Raul and Marta use their talents in clowning as a profession and a ministry.



Instead, the people were kind to them. The boys were surprised; they had never seen such patience and love.

One night Raul and three other boys went forward and asked Jesus to forgive their sins. Immediately Raul's life changed. His anger was replaced with peace.

When the church started a street ministry, Raul volunteered to be a clown, use puppets, and do pantomime. He discovered that being a clown can attract a crowd and open doors to tell others about Jesus.

Later Raul went to the Assemblies of God Bible school near Madrid, Spain's capital. He met a young woman, Marta, who also enjoyed clowns and puppetry. Soon they were married.

Today Raul and Marta are professional clowns. They perform for birthday parties and celebrations across central Spain. They also give clowning seminars. But Raul's greatest enjoyment is working for Jesus. He is helping in a new church in Palencia, Spain. He and Marta also have traveled to Romania to be clowns and puppeteers at a summer camp for orphans.

An angry Raul once turned to mischief as a way to be happy. Today he knows the source of real happiness is in Jesus. He wants to spend the rest of his life "clowning around" and helping others experience the same joy he has found.

Things You Can Do

(Projects for Rangers and Commanders)

1. Find Spain on a globe or world map. If your map is detailed, locate Madrid and Valladolid. Find Romania, the country where Raul and Marta participated in a summer camp. What countries separate Spain and Romania?

2. Become a family of clowns by practicing face painting on each other. Begin by applying baby oil or cold cream to your face. Dust your skin with flour. Use eye liner, eye shadow, and lipstick to make exaggerated features. Add wigs, string mops, and funny hats to complete the look. Remove the makeup with baby oil or cold cream.

While boys and their leaders act as clowns, experiment with ways to show emotions through facial expressions. Sit in front of a mirror and practice looking sad, happy, surprised, angry, and frightened. Then play a game by taking turns making a face while the others guess what emotion is being acted out.

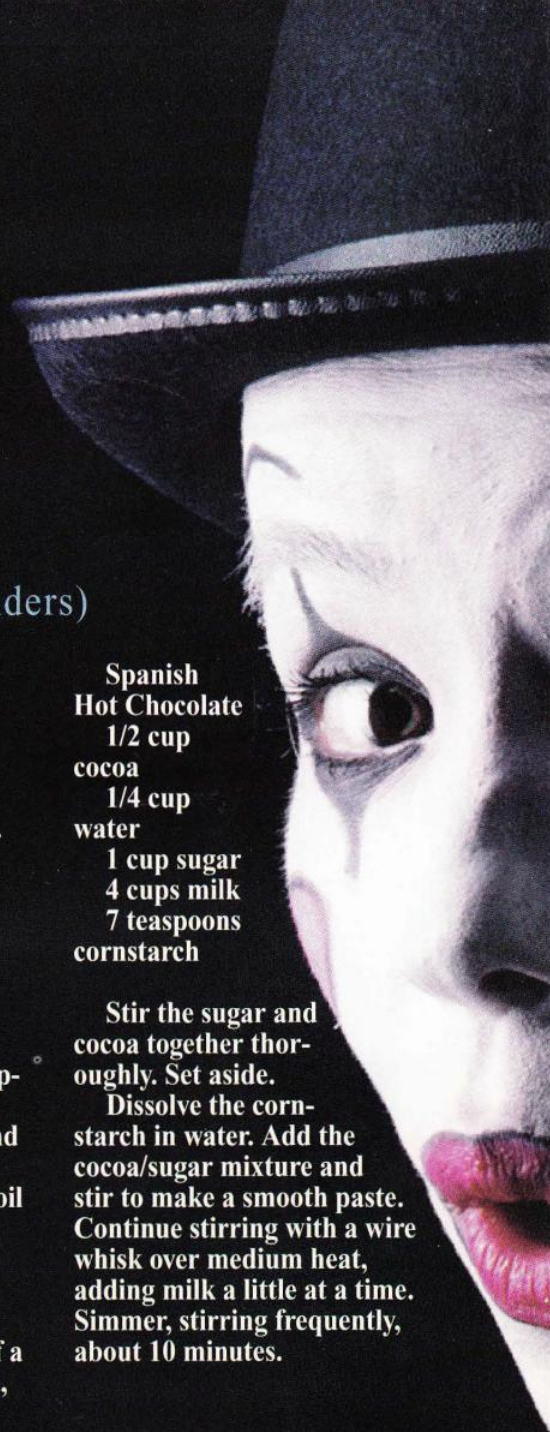
3. The cooler weather of spring is a perfect time for an outdoor party. Invite boys to your outpost for games and refreshments. Your outpost group can dress up as clowns and act out a short skit.

4. Try this recipe for Spanish Hot Chocolate as an outpost treat or to serve at the outpost party. (This drink is thick, so you may want to supply spoons!)

**Spanish
Hot Chocolate**
1/2 cup
cocoa
1/4 cup
water
1 cup sugar
4 cups milk
7 teaspoons
cornstarch

Stir the sugar and cocoa together thoroughly. Set aside.

Dissolve the cornstarch in water. Add the cocoa/sugar mixture and stir to make a smooth paste. Continue stirring with a wire whisk over medium heat, adding milk a little at a time. Simmer, stirring frequently, about 10 minutes.

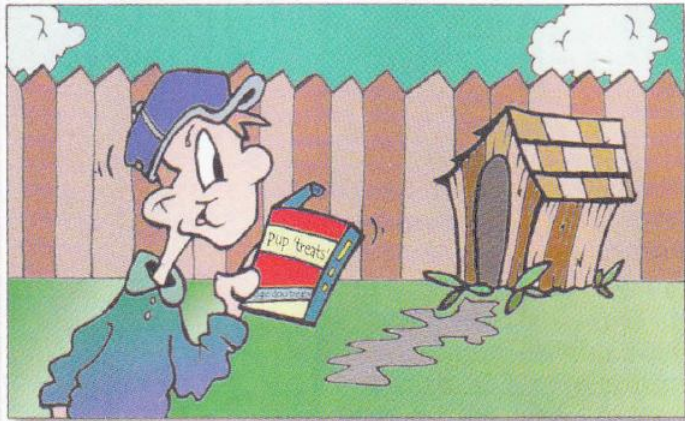


Rascal Rangers

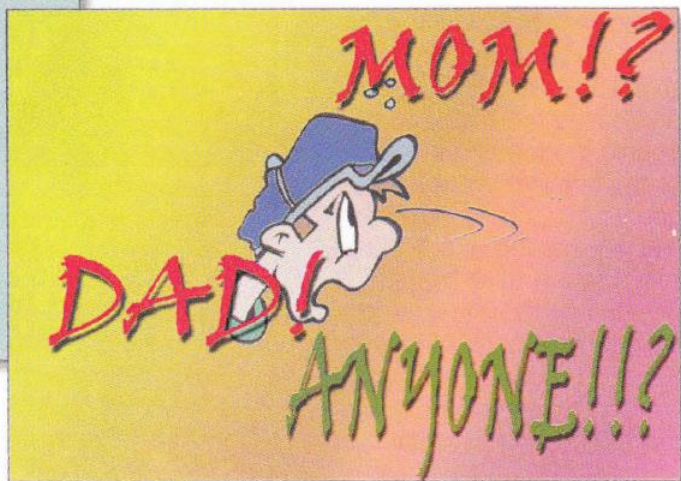
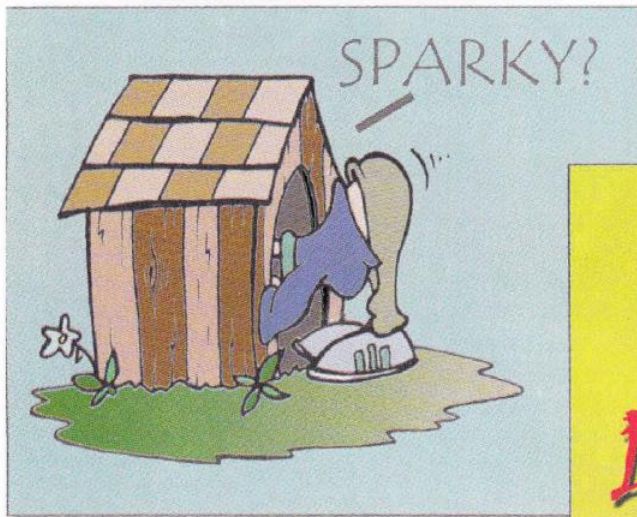
YO! EVERYONE, I'M HOME!



HEY SPARKY I'M HOME,
COME GET A TREAT!



OH NO...
SPARKYS GONE!!



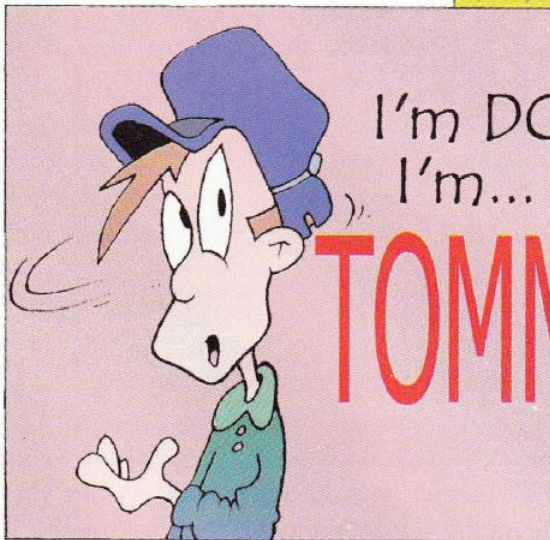
NO ONE IS HERE! EVEN THE DOG IS GONE!!!
WHERE COULD THEY HAVE



OH NO! It's Not the

RAPTURE!

It can't be!! I can't be left behind!!
And HE took SPARKY and not ME?



I'm DOOMED...
I'm...

TOMMY?!



We're home from taking
Sparky to the vet...
Hope we didn't worry you!



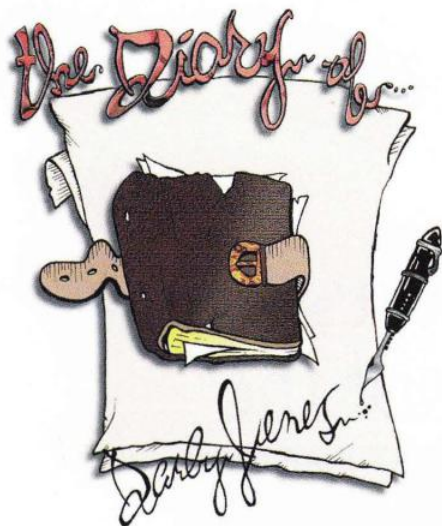
Uh...no
I'm..uh
fine...
'Be right
there...



Thank You
GOD!

I want you
to come
back, but I
want to go
too!!

**DO IT THE RANGERS WAY:
BE "READY" FOR JESUS!**



by Robb Hawks

RUNNING FOR DEAR LIFE

Have you ever had one of those eerie feelings that something terrible was going to happen? Well I did! And I learned something really valuable from it.

It all started when my dad, Darby Jones, Sr., flew halfway around the world to a small Asian country. He was there to deliver supplies to missionaries. He had been there for 2 days when I got this really bad feeling. You know, the kind that sort of makes you sick to your stomach.

I don't know why I was feeling that way, but I was really worried about my dad. It got so bad, I finally stopped playing my video game. And you know it really had to be bad for me to do that. I got down on my knees and began to pray....

"What was that?" Missionary Kendra Harber asked.

"It sounded like an explosion," Darby Jones, Sr., answered in surprise.

"Oh, no! It has started again!" Kendra said sadly.

"There has been political fighting going on for a month now. But it has never been this close before."

Suddenly the phone rang. Kendra and Darby almost jumped out of their skins, it startled them so. Kendra only talked a moment and then hung up.

"We've got to go," she said.

"What?" Darby asked.

"We have to leave the country now! I just got the word that all the missionaries are being evacuated!" Kendra said excitedly as she ran for her overnight bag that she kept packed for emergencies just like this one.

They raced through the house gathering up a few important items she had to have with her. Then it was out the door and into the car park.

"You've got to be kidding!" Darby said, watching as Kendra pulled a motor scooter out of a shed. "Let's call a taxi!"

"We don't have time. The last flight out of the country leaves in 1 hour. Jump on!" Kendra insisted as she kick started her scooter.

Darby hopped on the back of the motor scooter. He had the

luggage under one arm and a hand on Kendra's shoulder to steady himself.

Vroom! Vroom! Then suddenly, with a lurch, the little scooter took off. They raced across the courtyard, through the gate, and out onto the road. Darby leaned to the left as Kendra turned up the road, accelerating as fast as the little scooter would go. Darby just held on for dear life.

Suddenly, Kendra slammed on the brakes and the little scooter began to slide sideways. It hit a pot hole and Darby popped up into the air and almost flew right over Kendra's head. At the very last moment, Kendra straightened the scooter out, and Darby settled back onto his half of the motor scooter seat.

"Are you trying to kill us?" Darby asked with a shout.

"No! Trying to keep us alive!" Kendra shouted back as she spun the scooter around. Then Darby saw it! Coming right up the middle of the road toward them was a tank!

"Ahhhhhhhhhhhhhhhh!" Darby screamed, as the little scooter putted forward being chased by a

tank. Down the road they raced. Kendra deftly avoiding the huge pot holes in the road. Darby was soon totally lost. Kendra was taking every little side road she could find, threading her way through the city toward the airport.

Rat-a-tat-tat. The sound cracked through the air. Machine-gun fire! And it sounded like it was coming from the direction they were going! Ka-boom! An explosion shook the ground.

"That felt a little close!" Darby yelled.

"A few blocks away's my guess!" Kendra called back over the sound of the scooter.

Another left turn and up the street they flew.

Suddenly, Kendra slammed on the brakes again and came to another abrupt stop.

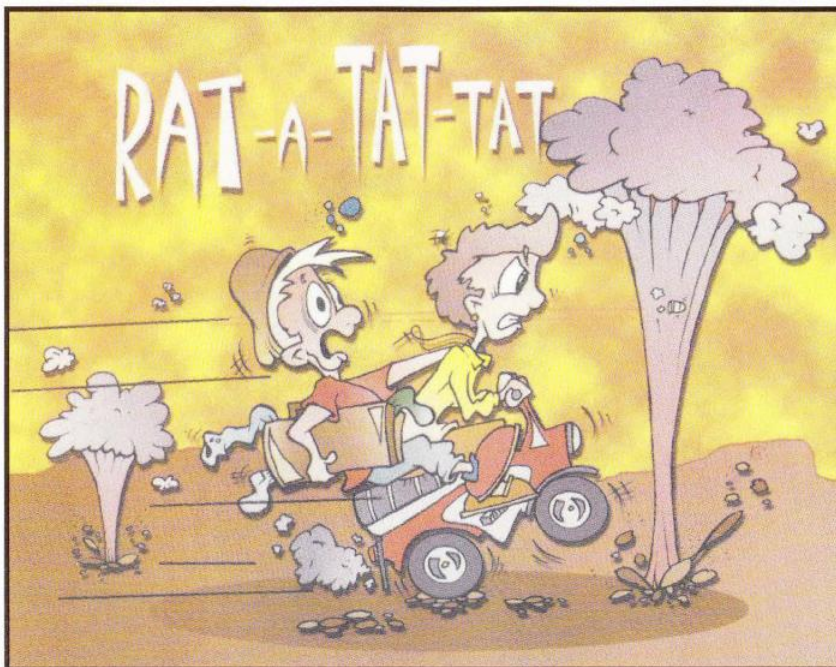
People were running toward them! Not just a few people, but hundreds of them! People with fear in their eyes! Some were carrying their children, while others carried the few belongings they could manage. Darby heard a small groan escape from Kendra.

"What's happening?" Darby asked.

"These people are the Khmer. They are running for their lives. I'm not sure what they are running from, Darby," Kendra answered. "But whatever it is, it's something we don't want

any part of!" Kendra spun the scooter around again and they raced back in the direction from which they had just come. The crackle of rifle and machine-gun fire echoed down the streets after them.

Suddenly the ground shook and the scooter bounced. Another explosion! And this one felt closer! Another turn to the left, then a turn to the right. Oh, no! A dead end! Back the way they came and then down another side road.



"Ahhhhhhhhhhh. Soldiers carrying machine guns!" Darby shouted to Kendra. There marching up the street came hundreds of soldiers carrying rifles and machine guns! Another turn and yet more soldiers!

"We're trapped! There is no way across town!" Kendra shouted.

"What are we going to do?" Darby asked.

Honk! Honk! Honnnnnnk! Kendra and Darby looked up, and there in front of them was a van full of fellow missionaries.

"Kendra! We need to get across town!" the driver of the van said.

"We've been trying to do just that for the past 45 minutes! It's impossible. All the roads are blocked!" Kendra answered.

"What are we going to do? There are eight of us in this van and three of them are kids!" the driver answered.

"I guess we'd better go back to my house and hole up there!"

Kendra, Darby, and the others ended up back at the missionary house. Before long there would

be 17 people hiding for their lives in the house.

A short time later they would all be airlifted out of the country.

Well, that's the end of the story. I learned that it is important to pray when the Spirit of God prompts you to. Perhaps this time it helped to save my dad's life.

NOTE: This story is based loosely upon the events that transpired in an Asian country in July 1997. Kendra Harber is a missionary working with children in that country. She had to be evacuated during a time of political violence.

Anywear & Everywear



Royal Rangers Black
Low-Profile Cap
08YD6220 \$12.99



Ready Low-Profile Cap
08YD1410 \$12.99



Royal Ranger 2-Tone
Low-Profile Cap
08YD6240 \$12.99

READY FOR ANYTHING T-SHIRT

You're ready for anything through the power of Christ. Let the world see your testimony with this heavyweight, 100% cotton, black T-shirt. Features *Ready* logo in white on front of shirt with Royal Rangers logo and *Ready for Anything. Period!* in white on the back.

Boys S	08YD1411	\$8.99
Boys M	08YD1412	\$8.99
Boys L	08YD1413	\$8.99
Adult S	08YD1414	\$9.99
Adult M	08YD1415	\$9.99
Adult L	08YD1416	\$9.99
Adult XL	08YD1417	\$9.99
Adult 2XL	08YD1418	\$10.99
Adult 3XL	08YD1419	\$12.50
Adult 4XL	08YD1420	\$16.50

SPECIAL FORCES T-SHIRT

Show that you are part of the team with this stone-colored, 100% cotton T-shirt with *Special Forces* in dark red on the front. Back features full-color Royal Rangers logo.

Boys M	08YD6227	\$8.99
Boys L	08YD6228	\$8.99
Adult S	08YD6229	\$9.99
Adult M	08YD6230	\$9.99
Adult L	08YD6231	\$9.99
Adult XL	08YD6232	\$9.99
Adult 2XL	08YD6233	\$10.99



Back view
of T-shirts



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