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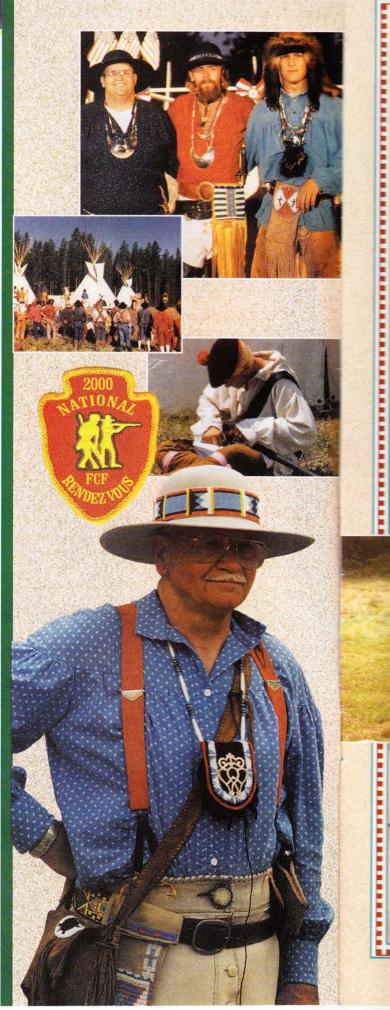
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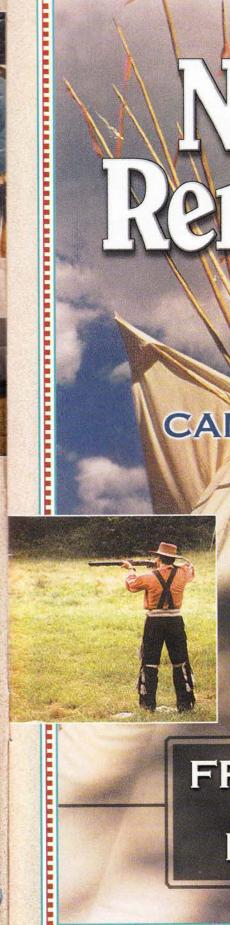




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National Rendezwous 2000

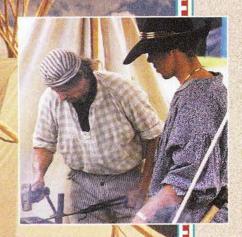
CAMP EAGLE ROCK July 17-21, 2000



For applications, information packets, and Rendezvous promotional videos, contact the

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FRONTIERSMEN CAMPING FELLOWSHIP



A Royal Ranger's TESTIMONY

by Willie Harlow

y parents never really went to church very much, but they did encourage us to attend. A new church in our town, Marshall, Missouri, had started a boys' program called Royal Rangers. I was 5 years old at the time it started, and I attended the very first night because of a friend who picked my brother and me up on the church bus.

I attended every Wednesday night and every Sunday, without fail, thanks to the bus ministry. I continued to attend, and in April 1985 I found Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior, one Wednesday night at Southside Assembly of God Royal Rangers.

My parents would come to special functions but never did attend or join the church. However, that church took this little rug rat in and showed me true Christian love. That was 15 years ago, and I am now 24 years old. I have been preaching in various churches across the state because of God's call on my life.

There are three nights that will forever stand out in my life, the first being the night I accepted Jesus as my Savior. The other two I thank God for daily.

When I was 9 years old, I had a medical condition that was going to require surgery. I dreaded it as much as my family did, but I had heard about people being healed in our church. The Wednesday night before I was to go in and schedule the surgery day, Senior Commander Joe Davis had the boys gather around me and pray.

I will never forget his words: "Boys, if you don't think God can heal Willie, you can go ahead and leave, but if you all really believe, I want us to lay hands on him and pray." Every single boy laid his hand on my body, and I felt the love and power of God.

The next day at the doctor's office, the doctor couldn't believe it, but there was no problem; God had healed me!

Well, I already have tears streaming down my face as I am typing this, but please bear with me for one last testimony. I knew God had called me to preach when I was about 8 or 9 but really didn't understand it.

Commander Joe Davis had asked me to give a devotional to the Pioneers on a Wednesday night. Well, I agreed but was a nervous wreck. I knew it was just the guys I knew from church, but there were about 20 that night in the class. As I started my devotion, I just felt such a power surge through me as I told them about the saving grace of Jesus. At the time I had no idea what it was, but looking back I know it was the power of the Holy Spirit. That night, nine boys gave their hearts to Jesus. I will never forget it.

I just thank God for men who will reach down to help boys, but more importantly will become men who we can model our lives after.

Headin'

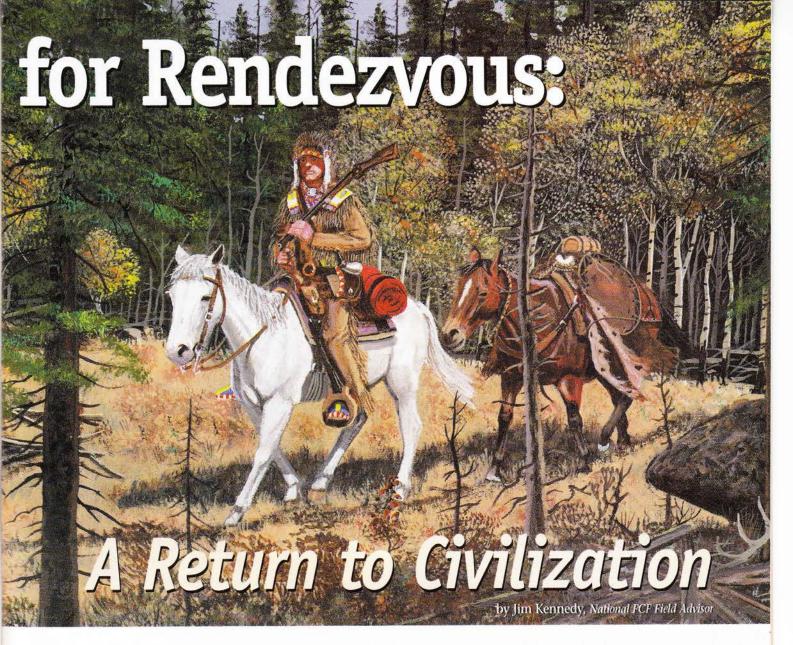
our winters had passed since Joseph and Pasquale, the grizzled old trapper, had become partners. They had met on a cold, December day in St. Louis. Their meeting and eventual partnership had happened under unusual circumstances. They had met when they gave their hearts to Christ. This happened after a circuit-riding preacher shared a message on being fully equipped and being prepared for a journey. They celebrated that Christmas, fully, understanding its true meaning and enjoying fellowship with each other and their Heavenly Father.

Now they were returning to civilization for rendezvous. Their four pack mules were loaded with furs and other items accumulated during their time in the mountains. As they rode along, Joseph reflected on their many adventures. He remembered how little he really knew of the life of a mountain man when their journey first started. He thought about how Pasquale had mentored him. He had shown great patience, teaching him the skills necessary for life in the mountains—things like taking care of the animals and traps, flint and steel, and shooting and dressing game. There were many things Joseph never thought necessary, but were skills needed to survive, and Pasquale was a good teacher. He also realized how the Holy Spirit had been a teacher to each of them.

The first year had been difficult as they struggled to find a productive place for their trapline. They had hopes of success, and their plan was to return to St. Louis after that first winter with enough furs to sell and then return to the mountains as traders. Their dream was to bring goods to rendezvous sites and trade for furs and other native-made goods, letting someone else suffer the hardships of being a trapper. However, the first year was a disaster. They would have perished had it not been for the small tribe of Indians who befriended them. The Indians had not only shared their food, but also their knowledge of the area.

From that rough beginning they had developed not only in their relationship with the Lord and each other, but also their relationship with the Indians. The next couple of years had been successful, but not to the extent they had envisioned. Rather than return to St. Louis, they had been able to send their furs with another pair of trappers. These friends traded their furs for the supplies needed for their survival and limited success. During this time they had greater success in another area of life. The transformation that occurred in St. Louis was evident to everyone they had met. Around one of their first campfires, they read Matthew 28:19,20. The words of Christ struck home, and the desire to fulfill the Great Commission was birthed in their hearts that night. Later they read Paul's letter to Timothy, where Paul instructed Timothy to take what he had learned and to teach others (2 Timothy 2:2). This led to their sharing the good news of the gospel with everyone they met.

During that first winter they had struggled with their traplines, but they had success in sharing the gospel. Their first convert was Morning Dove, the mother of Chief Washakie. At first their success was limited to the women. However, that changed with the healing of Little Raven, the son of Chinook. They were awakened early one morning and summoned to the chief's lodge. They found Little Raven suffering with a high fever. They tried to explain that they were not doctors, nor did they have any training in medicine. Morning Dove looked at them and asked if the Bible they taught was true. This struck them as if they had been slapped. The Holy Spirit began to move within them as they anointed the young man with oil and began to pray for his healing.



After praying they ventured outside to eat breakfast. As they were finishing their meal, Little Deer, mother of Little Raven, came running to them. She was yelling excitedly that he had been made well, healed and made whole. As she explained what happened, Chinook listened intently. Afterward, he approached Joseph and asked him how this God he served, but couldn't see, had accomplished this change in his son. This discussion led to many others before the Holy Spirit's convicting power drew him to accept the Lord as Savior. His conversion was the beginning of other men seeking and accepting God.

The greatest obstacle during this time was Horned Weasel, the medicine man. Joseph felt that the medicine man was threatened by their presence and the healing of Little Raven. Their influence within the tribe increased after his healing. During a time of Bible study, Joseph read Proverbs 15:1. As he pondered this verse, he realized that Proverbs was truly a book of wisdom. He realized, with the help of the Holy Spirit, that he would love the medicine man into the kingdom of God. He would respond with a soft answer to whatever Horned Weasel said. That decision led to many trying experiences during the next several months. As Joseph listened and shared with Horned Weasel, he began to see small changes taking place. Finally the day came when Horned Weasel experienced the

life-changing encounter with the living Christ that Joseph had been praying for.

Suddenly, Joseph and Pasquale topped a hill that overlooked the valley where the rendezvous was being held. It was a beautiful sight. The lodges were set up and campfires were burning. The trappers, Indians, and traders were all dressed in their finest outfits. They were moving about trading, talking with each other, and enjoying themselves. Joseph felt these were shining times in the history of a great nation.

As they drew closer, he suddenly heard the booming voice of a frontier preacher. It was the voice of the man who had shared Christ with them that cold, December day in St. Louis. Joseph's heart began to beat faster and he knew this was going to be a great rendezvous. It would be a time to share with others experiences they had in the mountains. He knew there would be some tall tales shared around the campfires that night. Joseph looked forward to sharing with the preacher all that God had done for them. He could hardly wait to tell him of the miracles and changed lives they saw as new names were written in the Lamb's Book of Life. With that thought, Joseph spurred his horse forward, heading for rendezvous.

James Kennedy serves as national field advisor for the Frontiersmen Camping Fellowship ministry. n an earlier *High Adventure*, I began sharing about my hike on the Appalachian Trail. The AT stretches over 2,100 miles from Georgia to Maine and follows the Smoky and Appalachian Mountain ranges.

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

The Beginning of a Great Adventure

On March 27, 1997, my dad and I began to climb the steep approach to the AT. It took all day and we were exhausted by the time we reached the summit of Springer Mountain. That night we slept in our tent for the first time.

The next day we had drizzle with periods of heavy rain. At lunch I tried to make some hot chocolate, but I discovered the fuel line to my stove leaked. Finally, I was able to seal the leak with dental floss.

After 5 days we arrived at Neal's Gap. We took showers and bought food and supplies. Night temperatures dipped into the 20's. Each day we decided where we would stop for the night. So far we were a couple of miles ahead of schedule.

Word on the trail was that we should not miss the Blueberry Patch Hotel. It was 3.5 miles off the trail, but well worth it. Fifteen dollars paid for a hot shower, a place to sleep, a pancake breakfast, and having our laundry done. Here I met my first "trail angel." He came up to me and offered a ride anywhere I wanted to go. We learned that many people actively search for thru-hikers. These trail angels do whatever they can to help hikers.

We crossed our first state line on April 4. The celebration included a chocolate-frosted cake baked on my stove. Trail walkers



Riding the rail on the Virginia Creeper Trail in Damascus, Virginia.

pick up nicknames. I get my name "Cookin" because I cooked all the meals and hike fast.

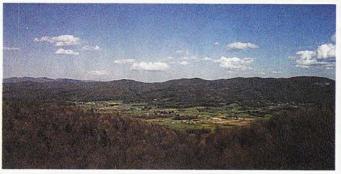
In the Smoky Mountains, we slept inside shelters surrounded by fences. It gave me a cage-like feeling, but it kept the bears out during the summer.

We have hiked our first 20-mile day

to get to a good water supply. We were now one day ahead of schedule and still healthy, except for our sore feet.

The Adventure Continues

It was now over a month since we started. Hiking 15 to 17 miles a day was common. Even the occasional 20-mile day was no problem. Our bodies had slowly gotten used to the weight of our packs and the long days. We found that thru-hikers may consume twice as much food as they did at home and still lose weight.



A beautiful panoramic view on the way to Damascus.

Each day, no matter the weather, we would continue toward our goal. Every few weeks we would take a rest day in town, stuffing ourselves at the all-you-can-eat buffets.

I then received news that I had to return to work. I would be off the trail for 3 weeks. When I returned my dad was unable to continue with me because of an injury.

I couldn't finish the trail before I left on a missions trip to Russia at the beginning of September. Since I planned to finish the trail when I returned in December, I had to hike Mt. Katahdin, Maine, before it closed because of snow. Hiking the trail north for a while, then going to Katahdin and heading south is called "flip-flopping."

I entered the famous 100-mile wilderness-100 miles of trail without any towns or houses. Then my troubles began! The boots

Hike APPA

I borrowed began to give me blisters. I used two walking sticks to help me hobble along. I finally made it to Monson and resupplied.

In Caratunk, Maine, after hiking 150 miles in 9 days with blistered feet, I went off the trail to pick up my newly resoled boots. I had now skipped a section of the trail; this is called "leapfrogging."

I headed north in the company of friends. My feet felt good in my own boots and things were going well. On Mount Washington in Vermont, we faced winds up to 75 mph. Freezing weather greeted us 2 days later.

Then it began to rain day after day. Our gear dried out at night, only to get soaked again the next day. As we approached Avery Peak, we would have our last chance for a good view. The clouds were still hanging over the summits, so we decided to wait. Early the next morning I could see stars. We put on headlamps and headed up the trail in the dark. What a breathtaking sunrise!

On September 2, at Caratunk, Maine, I left the trail to prepare for my missions trip.

Hiking the AT in Winter

I hit the trail on December 1, after having returned from Russia. I was sure snowshoes wouldn't be needed on this well-packed trail. After 3 miles I was wading through waist-deep snow. After struggling all day, I headed for the nearest store to purchase a pair of snowshoes.

The next day I had trouble with fallen trees that lay across the trail, and snow hid the white trail blazes. I only hiked 1 mile an hour.

Six days and 43 miles later, with the chances of becoming lost extremely high, I decided to skip the rest of Vermont. At the Massachusetts border the trail was much easier to follow and I didn't need snowshoes.

Things were going great, until I hit snow-covered ice. Once again I was off the trail until a friend helped me get back on.

Then in New York, I had to stop because of sickness. Two hikers arrived and helped me to a hotel where I spent Christmas Day alone.

After recovering from my illness, I hiked 23 miles to a shelter. Here I could see the Manhattan skyline all lit up. It was one of the most spectacular views of my hike.

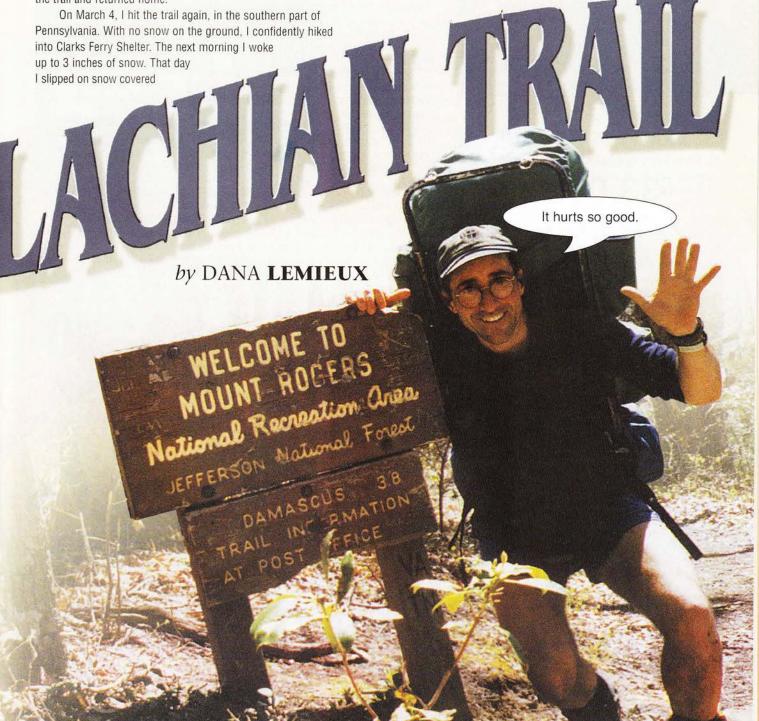
As I headed south, a park ranger reported that there was over a foot of snow ahead. After hiking 275 miles in December, I got off the trail and returned home.

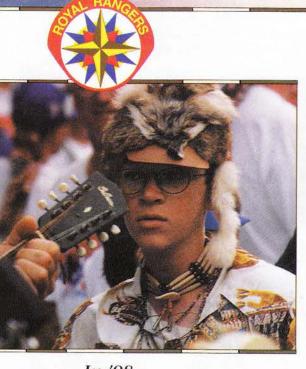
leaves and sprained my ankle. I needed two sticks to walk!

In New Jersey it got colder, one night dropping to 11°F. With only a 20-degree sleeping bag, I slept with almost all my clothes on. I soon finished New Jersey and was on my way to Vermont.

From the first shelter, I was on my own. Soon there was only one more night left — or so I thought. When I called my dad, he encouraged me to hike out that day since a blizzard was coming. "No problem," I said. "It was all easy going today."

The trail was again difficult to find, and I had to use my map and compass to plot a course. After several hours, I was able to follow a side trail back to the AT. From there it was a short walk to finish the trail where my dad met me. The last 16 miles I hiked on snowshoes. With the help of God and many friends, I finally finished my hike, after dark, on the last day of winter 1998.





In '98, TRAPPERS BRIGADE contributed over

\$33,000 and 11,000 HOURS

of volunteer service to ministry projects, countless churches, senior citizens, and ministry groups.

Frontiersmen Camping Fellowship

by JACK E. LORENCEN — National FCF Scribe

When the term "Trappers Brigade" comes up in Royal Rangers, do you envision a Frontiersman wearing a fur cap, buckskins, moccasins, and carrying his trusty old smoke pole with a packet of furs? Well, I hope so, or kind of hope so. For it is the Frontiersman, although not usually dressed in that primitive outfit, that is the backbone and workforce in Trappers Brigade.

The Trappers Brigade may best be described as the physical demonstration of the FCF Motto, "AD DARE SEVIRE," (To Give...To Serve). This ministry outreach is exactly what count-

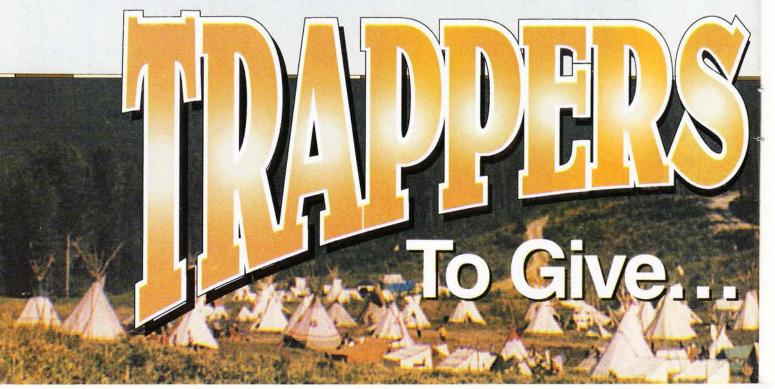
less FCF boys and men do each year.

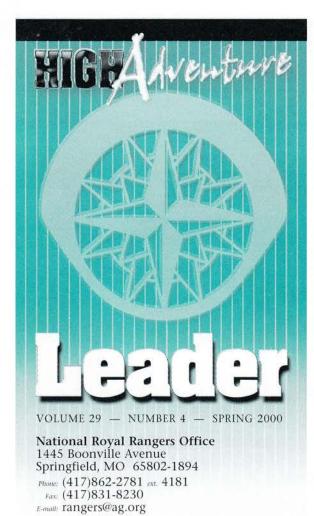
What are some of the projects? The 1998 project list from the Southern Missouri District Daniel Boone Chapter included: repairs of a home missions church; veterans visitation; fund-raising for Speed the Light at Apple Butter Days; volunteering for children's church ministry; stream litter pickup; Travel New Territories mission trip; special event parking attendant; helping with Women's Ministries community float; 4H volunteer leader; repairing a church parking lot; cutting firewood for senior citizens; hospital volunteer; academic team coach; Pathfinder mission trips; and even academic tutoring, to name a few.

Do the boys and men in Trappers Brigade make a difference? In 1998 they contributed over \$33,000 and 11,000 hours of volunteer service to Trappers Brigade ministry projects, and countless churches, senior citizens, and ministry groups have come to

depend upon Trappers Brigade for help.

How can you get involved in the Trappers Brigade? Join the Frontiersmen Camping Fellowship, contact your chapter president for a project, and then roll up your sleeves and dig in.





t was 1969 when the first National Training Camp was held in Marshfield, Missouri, at Camp Arrowhead.

I went there as a trainee, and that's when I met Johnnie Barnes. I completed the course, and in 1970 I was surprised to have an invitation to serve on the staff in Marshfield. Then I really got to know Commander Barnes.

To my surprise, in 1971, I was once again invited to serve on the staff. That Saturday evening, when the trainees were on the overnighter, the whole staff was sitting around talking about the Rendezvous that was coming up. The first national event would take place in Springfield, Missouri, at Fantastic Caverns. But as we were talking, Johnnie mentioned that the guys who were supposed to bring the wild game for the one meal they were going to fix, failed to come up with it.

So I said: "Why don't you butcher a goat and call it Kansas antelope and butcher a hog and call it Arkansas razorback. That will provide the amount of food we need."

So Johnnie said, "That's a great idea! Why don't you provide that for us?" I told him I would, but I wasn't going to cook it.

Next, they asked if I would be in FCF since I wasn't. As a result I went to a Southern Missouri Royal Rangers event and was initiated into the Daniel Boone Chapter of FCF.

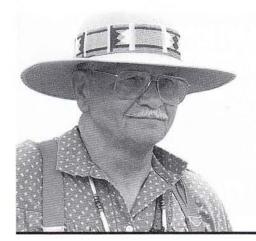
Then I began to prepare for the 1972 Rendezvous. I had been a member of the Osage Muzzle Loading Club for quite some time before I became a member of FCF. Johnnie had asked me if I would conduct the shoot for the Rendezvous.

Well, I'll never forget as we began to gather for the first ever Rendezvous at Fantastic Caverns. There were very few men who had muzzle loaders. I doubt if there were two dozen in the whole group. The number of members who were there was probably less than 200. So, nobody really knew a whole lot about how to conduct a Rendezvous, but we did the best we could.

We started out with our noon meal, and everybody seemed to enjoy the Kansas antelope and the Arkansas razorback. I think that somebody there smoked some salmon, but everybody seemed to enjoy the meal, and we began to get into our activities. We had activities like horn-blowin' and pole climin', and we did have a hawk and a knife throw and a muzzle loading shoot. I recall Don Wray and myself loading and reloading our muzzle loaders for quite some time and allowing everybody to try at least one shot. I remember that the winner of the first muzzle loading shoot ever

ONE-ON-ONE Wray and myself loading and reloading our muzzle loaders for quite some time and allowing everybody to try at least one shot I remember that the winner of the first muzzle loading shoot every members of the First FCF Rendezvous

by Fred Deaver



held in FCF was Jerry Haines of Kansas City. And the winner of the costume was Henry Adolph of New York. It seemed like everything went real good. We had good council fire services, and everybody seemed to enjoy himself. That day, some of the guys had curtain fringe sewed onto their shirtsleeves to make them look like buckskin. Some wore rabbit skin caps with coontails sewed on the back.

I was thinking back to the '72 Rendezvous and to where we are now 'bout to enter the new millennium at the year 2000 Rendezvous in July. What a difference those few years have made! The men now are authentic with their dress. Most have buckskins, colonial costumes, or military-type costumes from Plymouth Rock to pre-Civil War.

We had a good group of muzzle loaders that shot and everybody, just about, entered into the hawk-and-knife throw and the flint steel. The men and boys have become so colorful in their costuming and have sharpened their skills as frontiersmen. I'm so pleased that we've seen the progress that we have.

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It's not only the fun and foofaraw of FCF, but we have a Trappers Brigade now that we use as a benevolent service to help people out in our own country. We also have a Pathfinder organization that travels all over the world to build churches in foreign countries where there are scarcely any facilities such as water, electricity, motels, restaurants, and that sort of thing.

But FCF has really come a long way. I was just thinking about the '96 Rendezvous, when the evening services were so great. Men and boys alike were slain in the Holy Spirit, men's lives were changed, they were given new challenges, and young men were called into the ministry. Some had a new, fresh experience that has encouraged them to continue on to work in the Royal Rangers ministry, reaching boys for Christ.

I said all that to say I believe the FCF is second to none as far as color, excitement, and adventure are involved. But I really believe the thing that makes FCF so great is not our costumes or our muzzle loading or our other activities. It's God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, as men with hungry hearts and boys with hearts that love Jesus Christ come together every 4 years.

It's like a real Rendezvous, I'm sure, that they had back in the days of Jim Bridger and Jedediah Smith. I know that they were all happy to see one another like I am. We see people we haven't seen in a long time, and we see the young boys that have grown up to be men. What a thrill it is to see the fruits of your labor. I know FCF is going to continue to grow and become a real spearhead of frontline troops to help reach boys for Jesus Christ. FCF will set an example and project the Christian male image in the boys as well as the men.

I'm just so excited about the upcoming 2000 Rendezvous! Our theme will be in Joel 2:28, where it speaks about old men shall dream dreams and young men shall see visions. I believe that's really gonna happen. What a beautiful, exciting way to start the new millennium. We see the exciting thought that the return of Jesus Christ may be sometime in this next millennium.

Well I'll tell you what, I was thinkin' about how much I would like to see you guys. You know, my dream is to see at least 2,000 boys and men at the next National Rendezvous. I can remember when I first became the FCF president. The vision that I had has now come to pass. My dream is to see these 2,000 FCF boys and men begin to mature into the staunch warriors that God would have them be. Well, hopin' we see you at the Rendezvous, so watch your hair, keep your eyes on the horizon, and may God bless, guide, and direct your footsteps.

Well, see ya,

Fred ("Old Hawkeye") Deaver

FCF PRODUCTS

The national office, thanks to the financial backing of FCF, now has two new products of interest to FCF members: the *Pathfinder Missions* brochure and the *FCF Scout Handbook*. The brochure highlights the Pathfinder program and how FCF members can participate in this exciting overseas church construction ministry. The handbook includes needed information for FCF Scouts on the district, region, and national levels.

To Order, Call 1-800-641-4310

> Pathfinder Missions Brochure

Cost: \$0.10 ea. ITEM NUMBER: 729-019





FCF Scout Handbook

Cost: \$6.00 ITEM NUMBER: 729-026

ATTENTION DISTRICT COMMANDERS...

Please send us news of your Pow Wows, district/sectional events, and reports of ministry from the Convoy of Hope, Harvest Task Force, and other events happening in your area.

Thank You!



Time To X Rendezvous

by Rich ("Razorback") Mariott

endezvous time! Young Bucks and Old-timers, you don't want to miss the RENDEZVOUS 2000 at Eagle Rock, Missouri. The 21st century will have many firsts, and for Royal Rangers the National Rendezvous will be the first national event of the new century.

The name *frontiersman* comes from our early ancestors, who were the trailblazers of our great country. Although many of the frontiersmen were not Christians, they were instrumental in opening our great county as they moved westward to the Pacific Ocean.

Today's FCF'ers are young and older men of God who use our colorful history and outdoor skills and clothing of an earlier era to reach and keep boys for Christ. A famous theologian, named Fred Deaver, has often stated, "We need to keep the color alive." The "color" is the excitement of being a Royal Ranger—and using the mountainmen theme and excitement of our colorful history.

It's an exciting day to be a Christian man and serving in the Frontiersmen Camping Fellowship. Through this ministry we are enabled to use our tools—such as Bible studies, devotions, recreation, camp-craft, tool-craft, and the FCF ministry to help reach, teach, and keep our older boys for the Lord.

FCF has been a key ingredient for older boys staying in Royal Rangers. It gives them camps with other boys their age, it allows events and activities that are specific to their interests, and it challenges them in an ultimate outdoor experience. The excitement to advance from frontiersman to buckskin and on to wilderness is a tremendous

accomplishment for Young Bucks. The outdoor skills they learn will be ones they can use throughout their lives. The example of Christian men living godly lives plus the inspiration these Young Bucks receive at each evening Council Fire service will challenge them to be men of God.

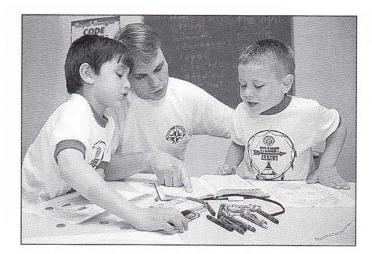
For this reason and many more, the young men in FCF need to attend Rendezvous 2000.

Rendezvous 2000 will be a historical event. General Superintendent Reverend Thomas Trask will be our special guest speaker on Thursday morning. Prior to the Rendezvous, I will present Brother Trask with a complete set of buckskin pants, coat, white shirt, moccasins, and hat. During his devotional, Brother Trask will brandish this prestigious-looking outfit. Other guest speakers will include Terry Raburn, Fred Deaver, Sonnie Green, James McHaffie, and myself.

Activities such as black powder shooting, knife and hawk throwing, flint and steel, Seneca runs, outfit judging, election of national scouts, and old-fashioned camp cookin' are just a few that will take place at the Rendezvous 2000. Skills and outdoor crafts will be going on throughout the week, and best of all we will gather for the great evening Council Fire services.

Some of my best memories are about FCF Rendezvous. It may have been snowing, raining, and cold at some of them, but we always had a great Council Fire service.

Old-timer don't let your Young Bucks miss this oncein-a-lifetime event. Begin now by making plans to attend. I hope to see you there!



An Outstanding Volunteer

by Becky Walters Reigel

Kevin Lee has served Royal Rangers from around the world.

The Arkansas resident, who recently retired from the Marine Corps, said he caught "the Royal Ranger bug" after working with Rangers in Hawaii Outpost 9 at Kailua Assembly of God. His travels with the Marines also allowed him to lead Buckaroos, Pioneers, and Trailblazers, and serve as senior commander for Rangers in Okinawa, Japan, North Carolina, and Virginia.

He recently received the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal for 3 years of service as a Royal Rangers commander at Bethel Assembly of God in Jacksonville, N.C., and Colonial Heights (Va.) Assembly of God.

Announcing the honor, Lt. Col. John E. Kraus wrote: "Your generous donation of time and effort has directly contributed to an enhanced quality of life in these communities. Your selfless and compassionate actions reflect great credit upon the Marine Corps and the Department of Defense."

Lee said working with Rangers from such different cultural backgrounds was challenging and inspiring. "In Japan, half my boys were American and half were Japanese. I kind of felt like a commander/missionary."

The retired Marine said one experience stands out in his 7 years of Rangers service. "There was this one Buckaroo I worked with in Japan. About 3 years later, I was at a Pow Wow in North Carolina and I felt someone tugging on my arm. It was that same boy. He was excited to see me. His dad was in the Air Force, and here it was 3 years later and thousands of miles away that we ended up being at the same Pow Wow."

Now Lee is working with boys and starting a Royal

New Testament 2000 Pin



As the year 2000 quickly approaches, help prepare your Rangers for the greatest evangelism thrust known to this ministry. Begin by involving your Rangers in earning the New Testament 2000 pin. Our goal is to award the pin to every Royal Ranger for having read the entire New Testament by the year 2000. The pin will symbolize more than just the grand achievement itself: It will signify to everyone that Royal Rangers is gearing up spiritually for the year 2000 evangelism thrust.

Begin now by involving the Rangers in outpost activities related to New Testament reading. Boys can read along with an audiocassette recording of New Testament readings, for example. Whatever the approach, start today!

Here's how to order the New Testament 2000 pin:

1) Contact Gospel Publishing House at **1-800-641-4310.**

2) Order item 15-0759 and request the Royal Rangers "New Testament 2000" pin.

Prepare your Rangers today for the great evangelism trust tomorrow.

Rangers program at Spring Mill Assembly of God near Batesville, Ark. His wife Etsuko leads Missionettes. They have a daughter, Megumi— Japanese for "grace"—who is 9 years old.

Pastor Ronald Boyer says the couple is an answer to prayer: "I was praying for the Lord to send somebody to work with the youth in Royal Rangers and Missionettes.

"He's heading up the Rangers program; he's Royal Rangers through and through," the pastor said of Lee.

"It's always been an inspiration working with the boys," Lee said. "The biggest blessing is when I see a boy on a Pow Wow or at a meeting accept the Lord. That's our ultimate goal."

Adventure in Alaska

by Becky Walters Reigel

Looking for adventure? The Alaska District Royal Rangers are ready to deliver.

District Commander Art Braendel and his staff invite Rangers from around the world to join them for the Alaska District Pow Wow 2000. The event will be held June 21-24 at Prospect Creek, a former work pad for a pipeline camp.

Braendel says the adventure will include:

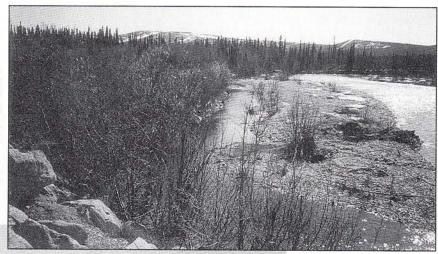
- seeing Alaska's majestic mountains and untouched beauty;
- fellowshiping with Rangers from Alaska and around the world;
- seeing the sun shine 24 hours a day above the Arctic Circle;
- touring one of the Alaska pipeline stations;
- seeing Alaska wildlife (possibly moose, caribou, black and grizzly bears, wolves, and many small critters) in their natural habitat; and
- panning for gold.

"We're going to do some different things. It'll be fun for people to get above the Arctic Circle. We just want people to have the opportunity to see what's up here in the middle of nowhere," said Duane Flick, district charter coordinator. "And, of course, being this far north, it makes us higher than anyone else, so it has to be closer to God," he teased.

The cost will be \$150, which will include bus transportation (about 210 miles straight north) from Fairbanks to Prospect Creek and back. The fee also includes meals, two patches, two T-shirts, one hat, and a camp stool.

"We're hoping to have somewhere in the neighborhood of 500 Rangers. We have room for up to 700 or more," Flick said, explaining that the event is for Pioneers and older Rangers and their commanders.

"Beyond the Pow Wow camp days, there will be opportunities to visit Denali National Park, the home of Mt. McKinley, known as Mt. Denali in Alaska," Braendel said. "There are opportunities to tour the



largest gold mine in Alaska (Ft. Knox Gold Mine near Fairbanks), take river rafting trips down the Nenana River, and visit Fairbanks and its museums as well as other tourist attractions in the area."

Immediately following the Pow Wow, Frontiersmen Camping Fellowship members can piggyback a Pathfinders trip to Camp Agaiutim Nune, a camp approximately 15 miles upriver from Emmonak, Alaska, on the Yukon River Delta. It is run by Jim Schulz, missions director for the Alaska District Council. He also ministers to the Alaska natives along the Kuskokwim and Yukon rivers.

"The Pathfinder trip will be from 5 to 10 days and will require participants to camp in tents," Braendel explained. There is also an opportunity for Pathfinders to serve as camp counselors with approval from the Alaska District.

"This is a wonderful ministry to the native people and a great opportunity to see the backcountry of Alaska accessible only by riverboat," Braendel said.

For information on the Pow Wow or Pathfinder trip, contact Art Braendel at 11174 Kaskanak Dr., Eagle River, Alaska 99577; phone (907) 696-1582; or e-mail, braendel@mtaonline.net.

Or, for information on the Pow Wow, contact Scott Leist, deputy district commander, at 2771 19th Ave., Fairbanks, Alaska 99709; phone, (907) 452-7753; fax, (907) 479-8475; or e-mail, rr2@alaska.com.

YOUNGER BOYS' PROGRAMS

How To Prepare Your Rangers for FCF

by Mickey Click

The perspective of a Young Buck— The article below illustrates how you might involve your Rangers in the Frontiersmen Camping Fellowship.

The outing started about 2 weeks ago when the commander began talking about how the early frontiersmen lived and some of the things they did. It all seemed like a lot of hard work, but he said there would be some fun things to do.

We are going to sleep in a cabin that is about a mile back in the woods. It belongs to a friend of our commander, and he says it is about 100 years old. We are supposed to get a little taste of how the pioneers lived when they first came to Ohio.

Our commander first showed us how to make a bedroll. That was fun, but we had to be careful of what to pack, because the early pioneers traveled light when they were exploring new territory. When they brought their families from back east, they came on rafts down the Ohio River or in wagons pulled by horses or mules. The commander

had already taken our food to the cabin, but we would be

carrying everything else we needed.

The hike though the woods was a lot of fun. We saw two deer and a fawn, several raccoons, a bunch of squirrels, and about a million birds. One kid said he saw a fox, but no else saw it. It was getting dark by the time we came to the clearing where the cabin was located. It didn't look too bad. We had to go right to work to gather wood for our fire before it got too dark. We found out later that it really gets dark in the woods.

After the fire was built, we roasted a chicken on a spit we built with green branches and cooked corn on the cob still in the husk. That was new to me, and they both tasted great. It was really great because the cleanup was pretty easy. After dinner we took turns telling stories about the early pioneers. Our commander had given us some different books to read that he got from the library. They all had some cool stories about exciting, and even dangerous, things that went on in the early days. After a few stories, we got our bedrolls ready for the night. The only light we had was from a couple of candle lanterns the commander had brought out with the food. The floor of the cabin was hard, but we were so tired it didn't stop us from going right to sleep.

Morning came pretty early for most of us, and the floor was still hard. Oh, well, at least we didn't have to put up a tent. We built another fire for breakfast. We prepared eggs, sausage, and biscuits, and they were great. After breakfast we went for a long hike in the woods looking for stuff we needed for our Nature Merit. We were gone most

of the morning, but we all got a lot done on the merit and it was a lot of fun. The morning went by fast, and we were all hungry when we got back to the cabin.

Our lunch was summer sausage, cheese, and a trail mix that our commander had made up. It was real good and there were no dishes to wash. During lunch, our commander talked about FCF and what we had to learn to join. He told us about the merits we could earn at the Trace and Rendezvous. It sounded like fun, and we all determined that we could do it. The Phase I test was about a month away, so he started showing us what to study to get ready. The FCF Adventure sounded really cool, and I started getting excited about joining. None of the kids in school had ever done the stuff he was talking about.

We spent the afternoon learning how to throw a knife and hawk at a wood-block target. It wasn't as hard as I thought. We all got good enough to stick it every once in a

while. Our commander also showed us how to load and shoot a muzzle loader. He told us there was a class we had to take to be qualified to shoot at FCF events, but he let us hold the rifle and shoot at a paper target. Now that was really fun and I started thinking of what I could do to earn enough money to buy my own muzzle loader.

Before we knew it, the day was gone and it was time to pack up and hike back to the van. I learned a lot about frontier life on the outing. It was a lot of work to live back then, but there were some neat things they got to do. I'm glad they were willing to take the risk and do the work. As we hiked back, I was glad there was a van waiting for us for the 25-mile drive back to church.

Mickey Click serves as the Ohio District FCF field advisor and as FCF territorial representative for the Great Lakes Region.

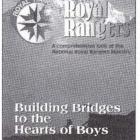




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by Brian Hendrickson

Activities of Straight Arrows & Buckaroos

Royal Rangers has always made a significant focus of discovering the outdoors. FCF is the ultimate attestation to that goal. Rangers has been successful in paving the way for boys to make that natural progression from Ranger to Frontiersman, literally the transition from boy to man. Straight Arrows and Buckaroos, likewise, look forward to that day when they too can join FCF. For the past 6 years, George Strauss, of Las Vegas, Nevada, has held an extremely successful Western theme day for the Straight Arrows and Buckaroos, which utilizes the men and ideas of FCF.

George starts his planning 6 months before the scheduled Saturday. First, he starts by asking for donations of wood, paint, and/or time to make storefronts for his western town. Two sheets of plywood and bracing are all that are needed for each storefront. The essential buildings are a bank and a sheriff's office. He adds other buildings as time and/or resources permit. Second, he plans the lunch for that day or instructs the outposts that the boys must bring a sack lunch. Community and/or church members may be willing to donate or assist in procuring the food.

Next, George confirms the date with all the outposts in his section and encourages all the commanders to participate. He does put one stipulation upon all commanders: they must be dressed in an appropriate outfit. If they come as a cowboy or Indian they need to wear the proper hat, boots, headdress, etc. George also invites the commanders in FCF to attend and set up their lodges in the general vicinity of the storefronts. They can participate in the drama for the day or assist in running the various activities.

Concerning the activities, George determines the number of games that will be needed. It greatly depends upon the estimated number of boys and parents who plan to attend. You can get approximate numbers from the commanders of each outpost. He builds this event up and really promotes it. It will be a day of fun, adventure, crafts, and drama. He sends out flyers with all the information and cost to each outpost. When he is discussing numbers, he seeks assistance from each commander and assigns them a game to organize or hold. The games may include the following: Gold mining (using yellow colored lead), cow milking (with surgical gloves), face painting, driving a nail, ball toss (with metal milk cans), and spear throwing (at animal targets). These games must not take more than 20 minutes each to complete.

The day must be structured. He thinks of it as an expanded meeting plan.

1. Opening Ceremony: He starts the day off, at approximately 10:00 a.m. (This gives time to set up and allows time for the participants to travel to the event.) He begins with a simple yet colorful ceremony.

2. Business/Patrol Corners: He explains the schedule and the events for the day.

3. *Bible Time:* He gives a quick, appropriate Scripture reading to set the tone for the day.

4. Program Feature/Recreation: He sends the boys and

parents off to all the events, reminding them that they must participate in at least one physical event, one craft, and visit the FCF village during the day. He reminds them that lunch (if it is to be served) will be served at exactly 12:00 noon and that all events will close down during lunchtime. Lastly, he reminds them that the closing devotion and ceremony will start at either 3:30 p.m. or 3:45 p.m.

5. Devotions: One example George Strauss uses is to have one of the comman-

ders act like a bad guy all day long. He should not be cruel, but make it apparent that he is a bad guy. The other commanders are let in on this so they can refer to him as the bad guy. For the closing devotion, just as the last few boys are sitting down and the sheriff starts to talk, the bad guy will run into the bank, steal two bags of money, and run out front where everyone is sitting. The kids will start yelling at the sheriff that the bad guy is robbing the bank. The sheriff will turn around and confront the bad guy. As the conversation continues, the sheriff can lead the bad guy in the sinner's prayer.

6. Closing Ceremony: The sheriff can then explain the whole focus of the Rangers program and how important it is for us as commanders to reach, teach, and keep every boy for Jesus Christ.

Lastly, this event can be modified for your section or outpost in a number of ways, as long as it focuses upon the outdoors and FCF. But ultimately the event should

always point to Christ.



Brian Hendrickson serves as the newly appointed Buckaroos-Straight Arrows Coordinator for the national Royal Rangers Office.



The Biq Picture

by Marshall Bruner, editor in chief/ministries & publications coordinator

o you want to be in on a secret-how to excite Rangers about achieving and earning advancements?

A few years ago, while serving as a Trailblazers commander at a local outpost, I became frustrated because the Royal Rangers didn't show much enthusiasm about earning their advancements. Almost all the boys came through

ranks of Royal Rangers since the Straight Arrows program, so their lack of involvement in the program was not the problem. They just needed some motivation, and they discovered it when they attended their first ever district Pow Wow.

Before then the Rangers had been involved in a few sectional activities, but never a district one. Then, when they saw the multitude of other Royal Rangers at the Pow Wow, their eyes lit up-in other words, the light came on.

For the first time, the boys saw several other Royal Rangers. During the initial uniform inspection at the Pow Wow, they observed how other boys proudly wore their uniforms—with lots of awards on them.

Following the Pow Wow, many of my Rangers became involved in the Ranger of the Year competition. Before long, the boys wanted to earn more awards and meritsbecause they desired to be like the other boys they had met at the district events.

I learned a valuable lesson that year. But last year I learned a disturbing fact, which was reflected in our 1998 Annual Church Ministries Report: Only 20.3 percent of our Royal Rangers groups reported having attended a Pow Wow that year.

Are you one of those commanders who has never taken your Rangers to a Pow Wow, along with the many other district functions? If so, your boys are not only missing a great time, they are also missing the opportunity to see the "big picture" of Royal Rangers—that hundreds of boys in your district are excited about Royal Rangers.

Boys who have never been to a large Royal Rangers function have no idea about the magnitude of our ministry. They may not be achieving and earning advancements if they think other Royal Rangers are not interested in advancing either.

If you want your Royal Rangers ministry to grow, involve your boys in sectional, district, and, yes, national activities. Your Rangers may be

amazed to learn just how big our ministry really is, and just how many other Royal Rangers aggressively participate in the advancement program.

Oh, by the way, one of the boys in that local outpost I had mentioned, Jeremy Hahn, became 1998 National

Ranger of the Year for the Gulf Region. Many years before then, as I would bring the national Rangers of the Year to church, he would joke with me that someday he wanted to be "one of them." He saw the big picture and went for it!



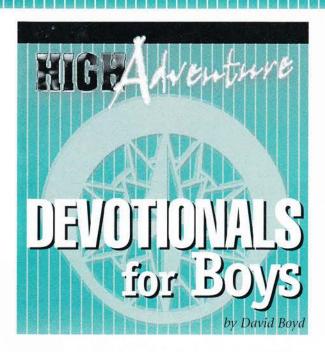
Marshall Bruner, editor-in-chief

YOUNGER BOYS' PROGRAMS









OBJECT LESSON

As Sweet as Honey

SUPPLIES

■ Various candy treats

■ A jar of honey

Frontiersmen learned to live off the land. They learned to eat what they could find, catch, shoot, or grow. What do you think their regular diet consisted of? Give the boys time to respond. Answers might include: Deer meat, fish, rabbit, quail, grouse, wild berries, wild fruits such as apples or grapes, possibly vegetables such as pumpkins, squash, corn, etc.

Hand out some candy treats of various kinds for the boys to snack on. Have a variety. Ask the boys what their favorite kind of candy is. After they have had a chance to respond, ask the boys what a frontiersman might try to find if he wanted something sweet. Give them a chance to respond. There are a few possible answers like hard rock candy or apple pie. See if they will think of honey. If not, give them some clues.

Once the boys have guessed honey, bring out the jar and talk about honey. It was about the only natural, really sweet item a frontiersman might find. Frontiersmen and Indians alike would learn to smoke out a beehive so they could get some honey. Honey was a prized, special treat.

Honey was a special treat in early Bible days too. Honey is talked about way back in the Old Testament when Samson lived. Did you know the Bible compares itself to honey? It does. In Psalm 119:103 the Bible says, "How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth." The author compares the Bible to honey. He says the words of the Bible are better than tasting honey. Ask the boys if they believe that the words of the Bible are better than candy. They are. Candy will be gone in a few moments, but the promises in the Bible last forever. Let me read you two promises from the Bible:

John 3:15: "...everyone who believes in him (Jesus)

may have eternal life."

John 1:12: "Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children

There are many promises in God's Word. These two promise us that God will give us eternal life in heaven if we believe in Him. God's Word is so wonderful; it's better than candy, honey, or anything else you could ever eat. That's why it is so important for us to read and study God's Word. Every time you read God's Word and the promises in it, you are learning something special about God. You should enjoy reading God's Word more than you enjoy eating candy. God's Word is very special.

OBJECT LESSON

Sharper Than Sharp

SUPPLIES

A very sharp knife and something to eat that must be cut. Suggested itmes are: summer sausage, apples, cheese, or bread.

Explain to the boys that a frontiersman had one tool that was more important than all the rest of his tools. This tool helped him in many ways. This tool helped him get food, make a fire, protect himself, make his clothing, carve items out of wood, and much more. Can you guess what it is? The boys will have no trouble guessing a knife. Bring out a sharp knife. The bigger and sharper it is, the more impressive it will be-as always, display it according to Rangers policy.

Explain that a frontiersman's knife was very important to him. He used it in many ways, as we have already mentioned. He could use it to make items out of wood, like a canoe, chair, table, etc. He could use it to cut up small pieces of wood for a fire. He would use it like a sword to protect himself from wild animals. One of the most important ways he would use his knife was to obtain food.

Did you know that when the Bible was written, a knife was a very important tool as well? In fact, like a frontiersman, Bible people also used the knife to obtain food. If a frontiersman killed a deer with a bow and arrow so he could feed his family, he needed a sharp knife to cut deep into the deer to cut it up for cooking. Before he could cook the deer meat, however, he would use the knife to cut out all of the parts of the deer that were unclean and not fit to eat and separate out the good meat to eat. He used the knife to prepare the hide to make leather. His knife was his most important tool.

The Bible compares itself to a sharp knife or sword. Hebrews 4:12 says, "For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart." The Bible is the Christian's most important tool. This verse is comparing the Bible to a sword or knife. Like a knife that can cut deep into a carcass that is being cut up for food, the Bible can cut deep into the attitudes of our hearts to show us what shouldn't be there. That's what it means when it says that the Word of God "judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart."

God's Word is very sharp and very clear. It shows us how God wants Christians to live. It is like a knife. Sometimes when we read our Bibles, the words cut deep into our minds, showing us things that God wants us to

remove. When we read the Bible, God speaks to us and shows us what we are to do and what He wants removed from our lives.

The Bible is a Christian's most important tool, just like a sharp knife was a frontiersman's most important tool. That's why it is so important for us to read it. When we read it, God shows us how to live our lives. God's Word is sharper than sharp.

OBJECT LESSON

Our Daily Bread

SUPPLIES

■ Various kinds of breads, hard rolls, or crackers

Frontiersmen lived mostly off the land. They ate deer, fish, rabbits, squirrels, nuts, berries, etc. However, when a frontiersman could, he would trade his catch of furs for flour in order to bake bread. Bread could be baked in many different forms. (Show various types of bread.) It could be baked as soft bread or hard biscuits. Usually it was baked as hard biscuits that wouldn't spoil as easily. The frontiersman would carry these biscuits with him, and that would give him daily bread to eat to keep him healthy and strong. Breads are made from seeds such as wheat, barley, rye, or corn. These seeds contain a lot of vitamins and nutrients. That makes the bread very good for you.

The Bible compares itself to bread. Just as the frontiersman would like to have daily bread to keep him healthy, Christians need the Bible as their daily bread. Christians should read the Bible every day. Christians should enjoy reading the Bible more than they enjoy eating

breads!

Note what the Bible says: "Man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord" (Deuteronomy 8:3).

This verse is telling us that a Christian needs more than just bread to live. A Christian needs to hear and read the

Word of the Lord in order to remain healthy.

Job 23:12 says, "I have not departed from the commands of his lips; I have treasured the words of his mouth more than my daily bread."

This verse says that God has commanded us to read, hear, and love the words of the Lord. We are to love God's

Word more than we love to eat every day!

In the New Testament, Jesus calls himself the Bread of Life. He explains that everyone who believes in Him won't be "spiritually" hungry.

Jesus is instructing us to read His Word. God's Word is food to a Christian. God's Word will help a Christian to

remain spiritually strong and healthy.

A frontiersman depended upon food to sustain his strength. Bread was one of the foods that he learned to carry with him every day to give him strength. Bread sometimes wasn't available to the frontiersman, but Jesus and His Word are always available to us. A Christian learns to feed upon God's Word as his daily bread. The words of Jesus are our bread to give us spiritual strength and to make us strong.

Decide today to read God's Word every day and to

make God's Word your daily bread.

OBJECT LESSON

Binding Them Tight

SUPPLIES

■ Leather thongs or cords

Did you ever wonder where a frontiersman went to get a spool of rope, a ball of twine, or a roll of string? Did the frontiersman go to the local hardware store to buy some? (No.) What did the frontiersman use to tie up a package, or tie something to his saddle? Can you guess?

People did learn to make rope, but the most useful type of tying materials frontiersmen used are called leather thongs. Leather thongs are thin strips of animal skin cut to make cords. (Show the boys the leather thongs.) They were really strong. Sometimes they were made from the sinews of an animal. Even bowstrings were made from leather thongs or sinews.

Why are we talking about the leather thongs? The Bible says something interesting about using bindings. Let me read this verse to you. See if you can tell me what this verse

means

Deuteronomy 11:18 says, "Fix these words of mine in your hearts and minds; tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads."

Give the boys some time to talk about this verse.

This verse is a command from God. The Israelites were being instructed to "tie" God's Word to their hands and "bind" God's Word on their foreheads. Doesn't this sound like strange instructions? Do you think God wants you to tie your Bible to your hand? Do you think God wants you to tie God's Word to your forehead? What do you think this means?

Give the boys a few more minutes to talk about this

Back in Bible days, people tied items together to protect them and keep them from getting lost. In this passage of God's Word, these words were being used as an object lesson. This verse is saying, just like people used leather thongs to bind things together so they don't get lost, people should memorize God's Word and force it into their memory so they don't lose it and can live by it.

This passage goes on to say that you should write the Scriptures on the door frames of your house (Deuteronomy 11:20,21), so that every time you see the Scriptures it helps

you to remember them.

People do something similar today. Sometimes we give you Scripture verses to take home on a piece of paper and put in your room so you can memorize them. Sometimes people put Bible verses on the refrigerator with magnets, so that every time they open the refrigerator they see them and memorize them.

God wants us to memorize His Word and to learn to do what it says. He wants us to do everything we can to "tie"

God's Word into our hearts and minds.

Why not choose some Scripture verses and stick them up around your house so you can begin to "bind" God's Word to your mind? Don't forget God's Word. Be sure to "bind it into your heart tight!"



Indian Tom-Tom

by Brenda Millhouse

NEEDED ITEMS

- 1 gallon coffe can (or any gallon-size can)
- Spray paint, any color
- 1 6- by 8-inch piece of soft pliable leather
- 2 10- by 10-inch pieces of soft pliable leather, cut it 3 yards of leather lacing

■ 1-inch Styrofoam ball

1 rubber band

■ 1 10-inch small dowel rod

A small paintbrush

Hole punch

■ 12 pony beads in 3 different colors

Start by cutting out both ends of the gallon can. Spray the outside of the can with a flat paint (your choice of color). You may want to do this ahead of time so the paint will be dry and be ready for the boys to work with.

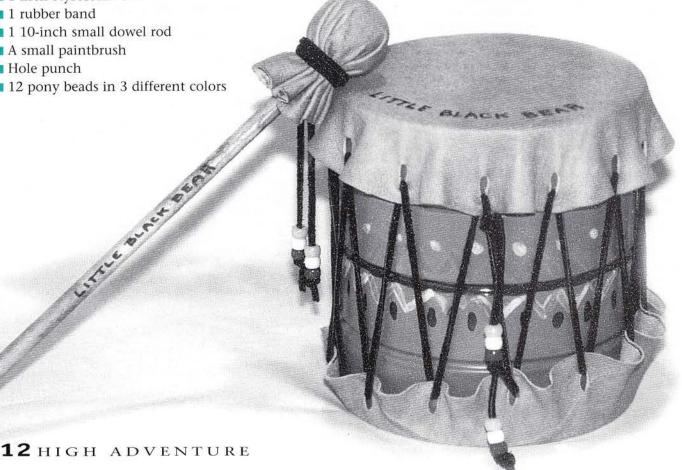
On the two pieces of 10-inch leather circles, mark 12 dots around the edge (spaced like the numbers on the face of a clock). Then using a regular single paper hole punch, punch the 12 holes on each of the circles.

Let each boy paint an Indian design on the outside of his can. Make sure he paints the design in the middle portion of the can so when the leather is laced up, the design will still be seen.

While the paint is drying (you can use a hair dryer to speed up the process), let the boys make their drumsticks. They will do this by carefully pushing the 10-inch dowel rod into the foam ball. Start the hole in the ball with a ballpoint pen or pencil, add a few drops of glue, and slowly push the ball on, being careful not to push the rod all the way through the ball. (Caution: use only a glue that will not cause the Styrofoam to break down.) Let the glue dry and go back to the can, now that it is dry. Place the can onto one of the 10-inch pieces of leather and put the other piece on top. Now start to lace the top piece to the bottom piece, zigzagging back and forth all the way around the can. When the boys have laced all the way around, help them tie the lacing off and leave approximately 4-inch tails to add beads on to finish the tom-tom. Place three pony beads on each end, and tie a knot at the end to hold them on. With the assistance of the commander or helper, each Straight Arrow can write his favorite Indian name on the top edge of the leather.

Now to finish the drumstick, wrap the 6-inch piece of leather around the ball and wrap tightly with the rubber band to hold it in place. Then take a piece of leather lacing and wrap over the rubber band several times and tie off, again leaving 4-inch tails. Take the remaining pony beads and thread on the two lacing ends. Tie knots to hold the beads on.

The boys can hold the drum under one arm and beat on the drum for a deep hollow sound. They will love using the tom-toms when you have a song time with them!





Outreach Ministries

Audio and Video Libraries

The national Royal Rangers Office now offers an audio and video series on outreach ministry, which deal with



various workshop topics on evangelism.

To order, contact the national office, at 417-862-2781, ext. 4177.

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Contains six videos on the following subjects:

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Part 4: "The Role of the Church in Sex Education"

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"The Ministry of Drama" Part 6:

Cost: \$25



Year 2000 Commemorative Gift Set

Limited Edition

Leader, here's a special Royal Rangers collectable you won't want to miss-the Year 2000 Commemorative Gift Set. The set includes a patch, bolo tie, and mug, each bearing the special commemorative design. This one-of-a-kind "millennial" set will commemorate 38 years of successful Royal Rangers ministry-from 1962 to 2000.

Set Cost: \$25 Cost Individually: \$5 patch, \$15 bolo tie, \$10 mug

To order, contact the national Royal Rangers Office at 417-862-2781, ext. 4177. Or send your request via e-mail-to include full name, mailing address, phone number, and GPH account number-to: RANGERS@AG.ORG.

Corrections Notice!

NATIONAL **TRAINING** CALENDAR **FOR YEAR 2000**

Advanced National Training Camp

■ Michigan—Gaylord (Lost Valley Bible Camp) September 14-17

Buckaroos/Straight Arrows Training Conference

- Florida—Fort Meade (Camp Wilderness), January 28-30
- Southern California—Frazier Park (Frazier Park Conference Center), August 11-13
- Washington—Silverlake Bible Camp, September 29- October 1
- Alabama—Springville Conference Center, October 27-29
- Minnesota—Alexandria, April 7-9

National Academy

■ Missouri—Eagle Rock (Camp Eagle Rock), May 10-14 (Phase 2), May 8-14 (Phase 3)

National Training Camp

- Florida—Fort Meade (Camp Wilderness), February 3-6
- Wisconsin—Waupaca (Camp Wilderness), May 4-7
- Northern California—Mineral (Camp Mt. Lassen), May 18-21
- Indiana—Bruceville (Camp Arthur), May 18-21
- Mississippi—Meridian (Waukaway Springs), May 18-21
- Southern California—Frazier Woods Conf. Center. September 7-10
- Southern Missouri—Eagle Rock (Camp Eagle Rock), September 7-10
- New Jersey-Woodstown (Camp Roosevelt, BSA), September 7-10
- Alabama—Springville (Camp Lone Eagle), October 5-8
- North Texas-Maypearl (Lakeview Camp), October 12-15

National Training Trails

■ Northern California—Placerville (Camp Loon Lake), August 24-27

National Urban Leadership Conference consists of 3 days of workshops, interaction sessions, special inspirational services, special speakers, coupled with tours of urban areas. For locations and dates in your region, contact your district commander.

Winter National Training Camp

■ Northern California—Mineral (Mount Lassen A/G Camp), January 27-30

The Last Best Thing Distributed to Fire Victims by Travis Spencer

forest fire wiped out more than 5,000 acres of land and destroyed 30 buildings on an Indian reservation in northeast Arizona. The White Mountain Apache Indian Tribe asked Pastor Robert Jimenez's church to be the main distribution point for emergency food and clothing. Thanks to the Royal Rangers, every bag of supplies that was handed out included *The Last Best Thing*, a copy of the Book of John.

This special edition of the Book of John includes preface pages that discuss life issues and includes the plan of salvation. *The Last Best Thing* was printed using funds raised by the Light for the Lost Junior Councilmen program, a joint effort of the national Light for the Lost and Royal Rangers departments.

More than 7,000 copies of the book were distributed through the fire-relief ministry of Whiteriver Assembly of God. As a result, at least eight people gave their hearts to the Lord, and new families have been added to the church. In the midst of the strife and tragedy, Jimenez said the people also learned to turn to God's Word for comfort and answers.

"One man in our church lost his home, and he said that if it hadn't been for the Word, he would have never made it," said Pastor Jimenez, who serves as the district commander for Arizona. "He lost everything. His whole life was gone. Everything he had ever owned and everything he had ever remembered were gone in a matter of 3 hours. If you could have seen his house after the fire, all you would have seen is a pile of ash and a basketball pole sticking out of the ground. He told me that the only thing he had was the Word of God to replace that emptiness."

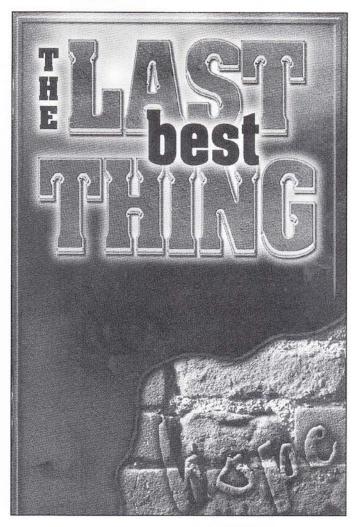
The miraculous part of the story is that neither the church nor Royal Rangers intended for the books to be used during the fire-relief ministry. The initial plan was to provide Whiteriver Assembly with 10,000 copies of the book for a Labor Day evangelism outreach to the Indian reservation.

"But God's timing is always perfect," Jimenez said. "Within 48 hours of receiving the copies, we had an opportunity to distribute the books and make a major impact on the reservation, since the people were hurting and their hearts were open. If it weren't for Royal Rangers, we wouldn't have had copies of the *The Last Best Thing* to distribute to the hurting Apache people."

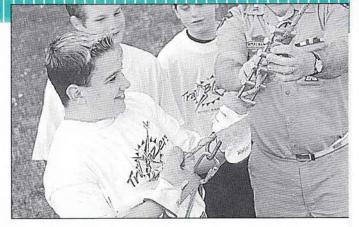
Since the original plan was to distribute the books

during an evangelism outreach, the Royal Rangers national office provided Whiteriver more copies in addition to what was handed out during the fire-relief ministry. About 30,000 people visit the Fort Apache Indian Reservation on Labor Day. This year, about 10,000 of them received a copy of *The Last Best Thing*. Altogether, Whiteriver Assembly distributed more than 15,000 copies of the book during the summer. As a result, Jimenez has heard nothing but good responses.

"We still see people sitting in their cars reading the book," Jimenez said. "I believe this book has impacted thousands of people."



Louisiana Royal Rangers Academy



by Commander Mack Billeaud, district public relations coordinator for Louisiana

ow would you like to spend a week earning a complete rank, swimming each day, sleeping in an air-conditioned dorm, and learning from some of the best commanders in a six-state area? That is what the Louisiana Academy did for the boys last year. Being at a Louisiana Academy is an adventure where eight different camps are taking place all at once.

For the summer 1999 academy, the theme was "Journey to Freedom." Former District Commander D.E. Stroud was the guest speaker. He spoke on the four cardinal doctrines of the Church: salvation, Holy healing, and the Spirit, Rapture. Throughout the week, 31 boys gave their lives to Christ, 59 boys rededicated their lives, 35 were filled with the Holy Spirit, 69 were refilled, and 45 boys were healed. God had His way during the evening services and during the day while classes were being taught.

In keeping with our theme, we honored all the veterans of past wars during each night's service. Each morning we fired a cannon salute to honor those members of a

branch of the U.S. Armed Forces. The Air Force, Navy, and Marines sent men to represent each branch during the week. One of our own commanders represented the Army as an Army Ranger veteran who fought in Vietnam.

A Royal Ranger can start at the Louisiana Royal Rangers Training Academy at the age of 9. If he goes to the Academy every year, he can earn his Gold Medal much easier. Pioneers work on the requirements for advancement to complete the next level toward finishing the Gold Track. The 11-year-olds go through the Pioneer Leaders Training Camp and work on requirements to help them finish the advancements in Pioneers. Each year the Pioneers take swimming lessons toward earning the Swimmer and Swimmer Advanced merits.

The next camp is Frontier Camping Brigade for 12year-old Trailblazers. The Frontier Brigade sleeps in a primitive type camp, but eats most of their meals in the cafeteria to give more time to work on merits. They earn the Hide Tanning, Leather Craft, and Rifle Safety merits, and all the Indian Lore requirements except visiting a reservation or Indian museum.

The following year those now a year older, at age 13, attend the Junior Leadership Training Camp. The JLTC group stays in the woods for a week, earning merits in Cooking, Rope Craft, Fire Craft, Camping, Camp Safety (if they have earned the Safety Merit), and Tool Craft. They also learn about survival, backpacking, and compass. On the last night of JLTC, the Rangers go on a backpacking trip and set up their camp with other patrols. During the overnight backpack trip, the Rangers plan and put on a special council fire. Great things have

happened over the years at these JLTC

council fires.

The Elite Corps,

part of the

Louisiana District's

activities, is very

important because

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and clean up the

cafeteria, along with

attending classes

during the day.

A Ranger can go into the Elite Corps when he is 14. The Elite Corps, part of the Louisiana District's activities, is very important because they serve the meals and clean up the cafeteria, along with attending classes during the day. They serve as the academy color guards at each morning assembly. Some of the classes are Nature, First Aid and CPR, Rifle Marksmanship, Swimming, etc. In the Elite Corps, a Ranger gets his chance to serve as Jesus served us.

The next step is the Junior Training Trails for 15-year-olds. The Backpacking, Hiking, Pathfinder, and Wilderness Survival merits are earned while camping in the Kasatchie National Forest. For 4 days the

Rangers in JTT hike cross-country and eat meals on the trail.

The 16-year-olds attend the Special Forces Corps. They earn the Rappelling and Low Ropes merits. The Special Forces are in charge of security at the academy and learn how to do weddings and funerals as an honor guard. They also go through a course on dating etiquette as Christian young men.

As 17-year-olds, the Pathfinders learn how to do advanced rappelling from a 50-foot tower, so they can perform wilderness rescue techniques. Pathfinders learn how to take a rescue litter across a high line. They learn search and rescue techniques on a 7-mile, cross-country hike using a compass. Those who complete the Pathfinders earn the coveted "Black Beret" and join the ranks of some of the finest young men in the world. Pathfinders is not an easy corps. The Rangers must use everything they have learned in the previous years at Academy and work together to get the job done.

When a Ranger attends our academy, he will begin to form strong friendships that he will remember forever. This is one of the true blessings of the Louisiana Royal Rangers Academy: to come back every year, see all your friends, and become refreshed in the Lord year after year after year.

THE KICKOR

National Rendezvous 2000

CAMP EAGLE ROCK July 17-21, 2000

To order a Rendezyous 2000 packet, containing the Rendezyous application and promotional video for \$5, call 1-800-641-4310 and order item 729-206.

To order a Rendezyous 2000 application, contact either your district commander or the national Royal Rangers Department—address:

ROYAL RANGERS
1445 Boonville Avenue
Springfield, MO 55802-1894
Phone: 417-862-2781 ext. 4177
E-mail: Rangers@ag.org.

FRONTIERSMEN CAMPING FELLOWSHIP

and the

Average Young Buck

any of the Rangers don't think of the Trappers Brigade when they think of advancing in Frontiersmen Camping Fellowship (FCF). Most might attempt to get the Buckskin or, possibly, Wilderness rating, but most wait to do something until they're older. To some it seems there isn't much to do once they get in. This is a mistake that many young bucks make. Though you might not be pre-



pared to advance in the levels of FCF, you might be missing out on something obvious.

Some people believe they can't do much until they get older. When I first heard about the Trappers Brigade program, I had

images of my father taking exotic trips to Panama and Mexico. I also knew there was an age limit to this trip. At the time, I knew it would be years before I could make travel plans. However, I didn't realize what I was missing.

Though I couldn't be backpacking in the jungles of South America, I was still doing things that counted for Trapper's Brigade points. I was working in the church's Sunday school, helping with the Buckaroos and Pioneers, doing visitation with the pastor, and working in the school's tutoring program. When you throw in the activities of my church, like setting up chairs for services, coring apples for the church's apple butter fund-raising project, or helping to sell things at a bake sale, I had a long list. When I made a list, there were several things that counted for Trappers Brigade points. I realized I didn't have to take trips into the unknown to earn points.

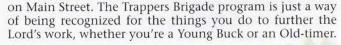
Mission trips are also a possibility, and I have had the fortune to participate in a couple of them. Our Southern Missouri District sponsors a "Travel New Territories (TNT)

program." TNT is a trip to places in the U.S. where Royal Rangers help out a church. They might help witness to the local community, encourage the growth of outposts, paint a house, or be involved in other projects. Other districts and some churches may sponsor similar trips. If you are interested in one of these types of trips, you should contact your local district to see if they have that type of program.

If not, you may be able to help start one. There are several churches across the country that would love to get support.

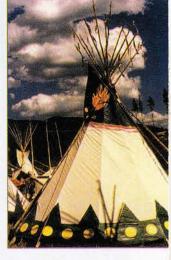
Keep in mind these trips can be fun, but you can get a lot more points and make good things happen in your own community. When I counted up hours of work for my entry level of Trappers Brigade, I found that most of my points came from working in my local church and school.

Many young bucks make the mistake of thinking they can't do much good until they get older, not just in Rangers but in life. The Lord wants us to do as much as we can, whether we're doing His work in the heart of Africa or



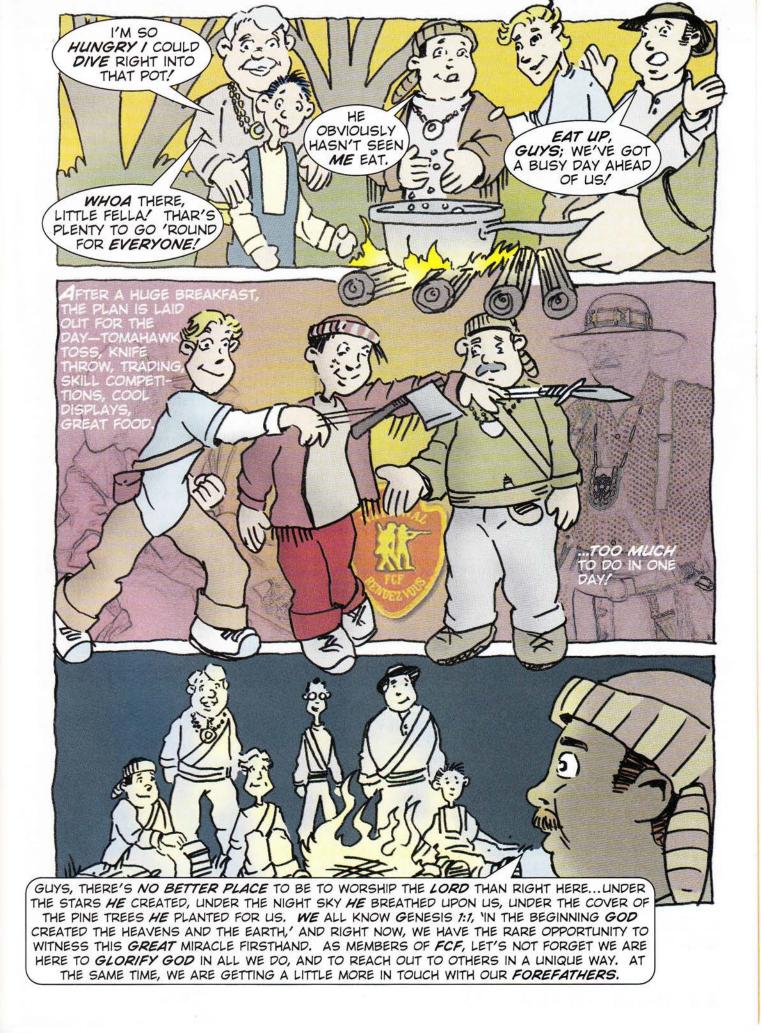


Caleb is an active member of Outpost 200, sponsored by Faith Assembly of God Church, Sullivan, Missouri.











"Absolutely," Dad said. He is also the senior commander at my outpost. "I have finished the Leadership Training Course, and you have your Trailblazers First Class rating. It's time we both take the big plunge. We're going to become Frontiersmen Camping Fellowship members!"

"Will you make us coonskin caps, just like Daniel Boone's?" I begged.

"Sure. Why not? If Daniel Boone can make a coonskin cap, I'm sure I can too."

Well those are the words that set in motion the events that resulted in my dear dad nearly losing his head because of one very angry wife. You see, Dad is a "can do" kind of guy. He lets nothing stand in the way of his getting what he puts his mind to. And now that he had promised that we would both be wearing coonskin caps, it was time to find the raccoons!

For many people this would present a problem. Raccoons don't live everywhere. But they do live in the woods along the highway where my dad drives to work each day. Now raccoons are not the smartest critters. As a matter of fact, when it comes to crossing highways, they are a lot like chickens. They don't have much sense. And, as you can imagine, some don't make it to the other side.

Well those are the words that set in motion the events that resulted in my dear dad nearly losing his head....

i. I'm Darby Jones, Jr., and that tall man in the frontiersman leathers is my dad, Darby Jones, Sr. And that short lady talking loudly and shaking her finger at him ... well, she's my mom, and she's not at all happy.

I guess I have to side with her—after all, she is my mom. But it's not Dad's fault-well not completely, that is. You see, it all started out innocently enough

"Dad, are we really going to do it this year? Really?" I asked.

Now this was Dad's idea on how he was going to get us each a coonskin cap. He didn't have the heart to shoot or kill a raccoon, but if one unfortunately lost its life along a busy highway...well that would suit him just fine.

Then one day it happened: Dad spotted his first "road kill." He screeched his truck to a halt and jumped out to check the dead raccoon. "Pee yooo!" He grabbed a large trash bag from behind his seat. Then came the tricky part: scooping the

THE DIARY OF DARBY JONES . THE DIARY OF DARBY JONES .

poor remains into the bag. He hadn't counted on this. He didn't have a shovel or anything to scoop with, so he finally just grabbed it by the tail and dropped it into the bag. He then tied the bag up tightly and plopped it into the back of the truck.

All the way to work Dad's mind raced. He was already trying to figure out what the next step would be to prepare a coonskin cap. He figured he would have to skin the raccoon and then tan the hide. Surely the local library would have a book on the subject.

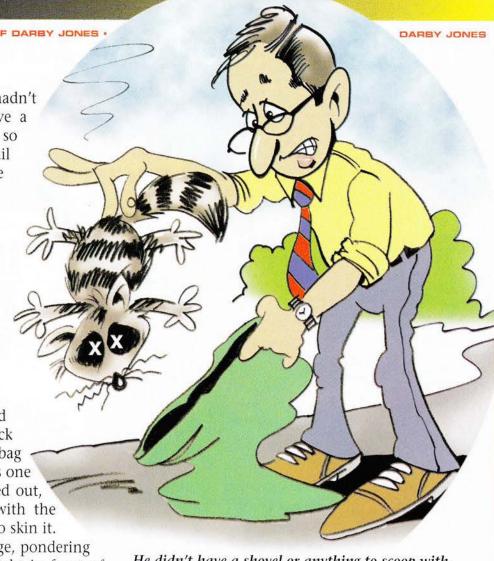
Work was soon over and Dad headed home. He parked the truck in the garage and grabbed the bag with the dead raccoon. There was one part of the plan he hadn't figured out, though—that was what to do with the dead raccoon until he had time to skin it.

As he stood there in the garage, pondering his problem, the answer stood right in front of him: the freezer! *Of course!* he thought. He would just throw the coon into the freezer and get to it later.

Well, you can probably guess what happened. Dad got real busy at work, and the old raccoon just froze up as solid as a block of ice. Dad and I sort of forgot about it sitting there in the midst of the frozen lamb chops.

But then it happened. One day Mom went to the freezer, looking for the bag of frozen corn on the cob. Mom pulled open the door and grabbed that big garbage bag in the back of the freezer. She pulled it out and set it on the floor. She untwisted the tie that held it closed. She then spun the bag open and reached down into the bag, expecting to grab a handful of corn on the cob. Instead, she grabbed a handful of dead raccoon!

The neighbors said they heard the screams three houses away. I guess I'm not surprised. But



He didn't have a shovel or anything to scoop with, so he finally just grabbed it by the tail and dropped it into the bag.

Dad sure was when he got home. As I said earlier, that little lady let Dad have it!

Every once in a while in our lives we will open something up and find what we didn't expect. It looks okay on the outside, but inside it is dead and rotten. There are some people who look like they might be the kind of persons you would want for friends. But when you get to know them, and you get a chance to see what kind of persons they really are inside, you discover they are full of lies, foul language, and dirty thoughts. These kinds of people will only bring you trouble.

First Samuel 16:7 says: "The Lord does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart." Look inside the bag before you stick your hand in!

Light for the Lost AND YOU!

Perhaps you are a Light for the Lost Junior Councilman. 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: God commands you, as a Christian, 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."

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 Last Best Thing*, which includes the Book of John. The foreign missions project is *Edward Elephants Says....* This is a comic book that warns the children in Africa about AIDS and tells them how they can accept Christ as Savior.

You and the entire Rangers group can raise money for these projects—whether you are a Junior Councilman or not. Last year alone, Royal Rangers helped raise over \$196,000 for the home missions project and over \$619,900 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 these projects, 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 or both of the Junior Councilmen projects mentioned below.

Ask your commander to pick a fundraising method (or way) for your Rangers group. Then begin raising funds. For example:

- You can have a candy sale and give the profit 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 pledge an amount of money per each mile you bike.

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 Councilman. 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 Last Best Thing-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



LFTL Junior Councilmen:

It's About Reaching the Lost!

by Rob Barrans

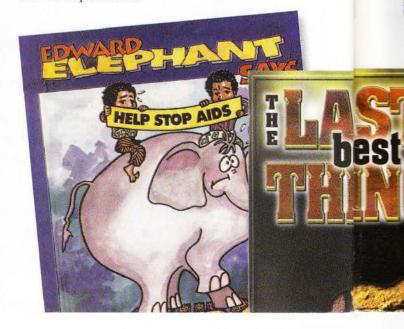
Have you ever dreamed about visiting a foreign country and leading someone to the Lord? Rangers, you may never visit a foreign country, but you can be responsible for leading someone in a foreign country to the Lord.

By earning your Light for the Lost Merit and becoming a Light for the Lost Junior Councilman, you can help many people around the world; you can give them the chance to read the gospel message and to become Christians.

Light for the Lost is responsible for buying literature for foreign missions. When you, as a Royal Ranger, become a Junior Councilman, you will help in the LFTL ministry by raising funds for gospel literature. Though you may never travel overseas, your prayers and contributions can!

Becoming a Junior Councilman

Earning the LFTL Merit and becoming a Junior Councilman is simple. The requirements for the merit are listed in your Rangers handbook. The Light for the Lost Junior Councilmen brochure even lists the requirements.



To become a Junior Councilman, you study the LFTL Junior Councilmen Study Course. The booklet contains brief information about Light for the Lost. The course includes the LFTL history, showing the vision of Sam Cochran, the founder of LFTL. It explains how LFTL money is raised and the use of funding posters.

In my district, the Northwest District, we conduct a 4-hour class prior to the LFTL banquet. During the class, the Rangers study the contents of the LFTL Junior Councilmen Study Course and view the LFTL Junior



Councilmen video. We show the boys the Edward the Elephant Says... video. Boys hear stories of how people come to Christ as a result of LFTL literature. Rangers are given time to write their reports, which are required to earn the LFTL Merit. Then at lunchtime the boys meet missionaries who share their ministries with the boys and sign their gospel tracts.

After the class is finished, the Rangers attend the Light for the Lost banquet. At the conclusion of the banquet, the boys are awarded the LFTL Merit, which they have just earned in the 4-hour course.

Now the boys are eligible to apply for

Junior Councilmen membership. By doing so, they each will receive a year's membership as Junior Councilmen and be awarded the Junior Councilmen patch. Each consecutive year they enroll, they will be issued a new patch, which signifies the number of years they have served as Junior Councilmen.

Snake River Sectional Commander John Sullivan has a fundraiser each year. The project helps pay the membership fees for those Rangers who have completed the 4-hour Junior Councilmen course.

Royal Ranger, ask your senior commander about sponsoring a LFTL Merit workday, which can be held prior to your sectional LFTL banquet. As in our district, this will help you earn the LFTL Merit and become a Junior Councilman. Or ask your commander to

obtain the study materials needed to earn the LFTL Merit.

After you earn the merit and become a Junior Councilman, you can earn the LFTL Award by serving as a worker at a LFTL banquet, then enrolling at least two boys as Junior Councilmen.

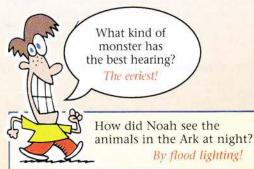
So what are you waiting for? Let's all work together to reach more of the world's spiritually lost through the Light for the Lost ministry! People need to hear of the Lord, and millions are doing so through the printed word supplied by Light for the Lost.

Rob Barrans is the lieutenant deputy district commander with the Northwest District.

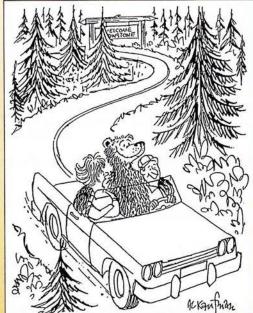




"YOU'LL NEVER CATCH ANYTHING WITH THOSE MECHANICAL FISHING LURES."







EVERYBODY ELSE COMES BACK FROM YELLOWSTONE WITH A BUMPER STICKER AND A COUPLE OF POST CARDS."

A jelly copter. What's red and flies and wobbles at the same time?

Tarzan who? Tarzan stripes forever

Who's there? Tarzan!

Knock Knock...

Attention Senior Commander

Going Camping?

Successful camping trips start with well-packed supplies. Follow these easy steps and you'll be ready to go.

1. Grab your Royal Rangers Backpack-

Royal Rangers Backpack

Pack all your camping supplies in this sturdy navy nylon backpack with two adjustable padded shoulder straps and canvas handgrip. Features roomy zippered compartment for bigger items and front zippered pocket for smaller articles. 12 x 15 x 5" 17JG0358 \$21.95

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08JG5852 \$6.95

3. Fill the front pocket with these just-in-case-of-emergency tools-

Trail Box First Aid Kit

Assortment of +3 essential first aid items stored in a lightweight, unbreakable plastic box. Moleskin and first aid guide included. 3 1/2 x 4"

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High-impact plastic case. Luminous dial. Carrying handle. Blister card. 2 x 2 3/4" 08JG1051 \$6.50

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