

ISSUE 01



SPRING 2004

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LEADER'S EDITION

High Adventure

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF ROYAL RANGERS

*Guide me in your truth
and teach me,
for you are God
my Savior,
and my hope
is in you
all day long.*

— PSALM 25:5



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To the man who pleases him, God gives wisdom, knowledge and happiness. — ECCLESIASTES 2:26



inside

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Royal Rangers**

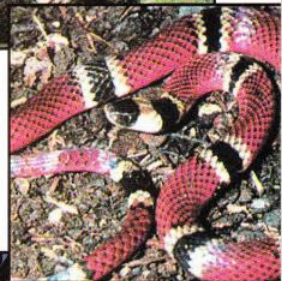
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GOLD MEDAL of Achievement

The Value of Royal Rangers

by David M. **KAYE**

OUTPOST 50 —

Fountain of Life Center, Burlington, New Jersey

I started Royal Rangers as a Rainbow at the age of 3. I have been active ever since. It was very important to me because I was living in a single-parent home. The men of Outpost 50 were my male role models. They always took time, even extra time, for me. This is a tremendous group for boys who do not have godly male role models. It is also good for boys that do, because we all learn to work together and help each other. We become like brothers. Royal Rangers has given value to my life most in the areas of mental growth, social growth, and spiritual growth.

Royal Rangers has taught me to think before I speak. Instead of speaking when I get angry and hurting someone, I stop and think first. When my friends are trashing someone, Royal Rangers has helped me to make a stand for what is right. Other boys can also learn to think before they speak. Royal Rangers has also encouraged me to do my best in school. The commanders push the Scripture that says we are to study to show ourselves approved unto God, a workman worthy of God's hire. If an "A" is my best, then reach for it. If a "C" is my best, then reach for it. I believe that every boy should have the privilege to belong to Royal Rangers.

Royal Rangers has added value to my life socially. I used to be shy. My commanders have taught me to communicate with people. They talk about how to respect elderly people. This area could be valuable to other boys because a lot of boys don't know what to do. Royal Rangers has taught me to assist my church in service whenever necessary. It is also important to be helpful in the community and not to expect anything in return. Royal Rangers has taught me to respect any government and to be a good citizen. I think other boys could learn to be a good citizen.

Royal Rangers has taught me several valuable things spiritually. They have devotions. During devotions, the Spirit of God touches us. They encourage us to have personal devotions, to study God's Word, and to share God's Word. During council fires at powwows, we have great praise and worship where the Spirit of God falls. Boys pray for boys. Commanders pray for boys. Boys pray for commanders. This has given me confidence to pray for other people even in my own church.

Royal Rangers has taught me the value of a soul. They teach us the importance of sharing Christ with other people. I believe that Royal Rangers is important to other boys. It can change their lives. At our outpost, there is a boy from the inner city who gave his heart to Jesus and became active in Rangers and in anything that goes on at the church. Not only did it change his life, but the life of his stepfather, who now helps in our outpost.

One of the most valuable things that happened to me I owe to Pastor Brent Buck's willingness to be used by God. I was going through a lot of personal issues that had hurt me and my family really badly. It was really hard. I began to get angry with God and Christians because I felt that they were at fault for my pain and confusion. I went to my first year of Advancement Academy confused and hurt.

God used Pastor Buck to talk to me and to pray for me. He never asked me what the problem was. God gave him the exact words to say for me to realize that God truly loves me and would never hurt me. All the ugly and confusing feelings left. He was encouraging.

Not too long after Advancement Academy, Pastor Buck died. God had him there for me. I miss Pastor Buck, but am grateful and excited for what God did through him for me. My life will never be the same.

Through Royal Rangers, I have received the wisdom and confidence to share Jesus with everyone. I believe that Royal Rangers will help all boys. It has given me the confidence to be a bus pastor at my church and to share Christ. My commanders have taught me survival skills, not only in the physical world, but also in the spiritual world. Every boy, everywhere, should be a Royal Ranger.

by Alex **COPPOCK**

OUTPOST 42 —

First Assembly of God, Claremore, Oklahoma

I've been in Rangers since I was 12, and in that time Royal Rangers has given me many experiences and values that I probably would not have picked up elsewhere. Rangers has given me an avenue in which I can spend my time constructively. It has also given me the opportunity to meet other kids my age that share the same values as I do. Royal Rangers

has equipped me with the tools and training I need to reach other boys my own age with the gospel of Jesus Christ, and through all of this it has helped me to grow spiritually.

As I grow and mature, Rangers has given me a constructive use of my time. Instead of arguing with my parents or fighting with my brothers, I have been able to go into my room and do everything from learning to tie a new knot to working on my next advancement. Looking back, I can see many times where I could have done something stupid or gotten in trouble, but because I had something better to do with my time, I was saved from those negative experiences.

While in Royal Rangers, I have had the privilege of meeting many kids that share the same morals and values I have. I feel that this is important because it is much easier to stand up for what you believe in and to share your faith if you are not standing alone. I believe that Solomon said it best in Ecclesiastes when he said, "Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken" (4:12).

Being in Royal Rangers has prepared me to minister to other kids my own age. In Rangers I have learned five scripture verses that can be used to lead souls to salvation by showing them that they are sinners and the only way to be in right standing with a perfect God is to put their faith in Jesus who paid the price for their salvation. This is a valuable tool because, as most of us know, that is what Jesus was on earth to do—He came to seek and to save that which was lost.

Rangers has also helped me to grow spiritually. One of the advancements requires reading the whole New Testament and virtually all of the Old Testament. I found that while I did this I learned more about God than I had imagined. In reading Paul's epistles, I learned about the great work that God was doing in many churches around the world, and I related with them in things that I needed to improve upon. Also, in Rangers you are taught by godly men whom

you can learn from and who disciple you. I thank God for all the commanders, for their friendship and encouragement through the years.

In conclusion, Rangers has been one of the most influential things in my life. It has taught me respect, discipline, and that the most

rewarding things in life are the things that you have to work the hardest to get. Most importantly, it has shown me that with all the knowledge and wisdom I have, I still cannot trust in my own understanding, but I must rely on Christ.

"Rangers has been one of the most influential things in my life."

by Steven **KROON**

OUTPOST 236 —

*Maranatha Community Church of God
Frederick, Maryland*

Being involved in Royal Rangers the past eight years has changed my life. Because of my involvement, I accepted Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior. As a new believer, I saw almost every part of Royal Rangers differently. It was still fun, I enjoyed the campouts and activities, but I realized that Royal Rangers was God's way of making me into who he wanted me to be.

Our Motto is "Ready: Ready for anything!" Ready to work, play, serve, obey, worship, live, etc. For me, the ready to obey part can be a struggle. Now, because of Rangers, I know with God's help I am learning that obedience is really obedience to the Word of God. "Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right" (Ephesians 6:1). As teenagers, we have trying times, but I know I

am in a learning and growing process which I must go through. It is that process that will make me the person God wants. Royal Rangers has helped me to realize just how much I need God. This is especially true when I am really struggling, and then I remember Philippians 4:1: "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

The most important part of being ready, though, is being ready for the return of Jesus Christ. Sharing God's plan of salvation with

others is also another way we can help others be ready. This is important to me because my reward is not just if I get to heaven, but who I can bring with me. At a powwow, I had great joy when I was able to help lead a younger boy to the Lord. In Rangers we reach out and teach boys about the gift that God has given us through His Son, Jesus Christ. In addition, we have fun activities and invite boys to come to our Wednesday night meetings. It's there where we really talk and share about the Word of God. As a junior commander, I hope to have a greater influence in helping new boys come to know Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

The Ranger's Code is a map for me. It has shown me that there are important things needed to be a Christian. Many of the devotions and conversation we had around our campfires reminded me of the importance of honesty, integrity, and obedience. These teachings have helped me in my Christian growth. I know that these teachings are what I want to use to build my life. I want to be a good example for all those around me.

A Royal Ranger's personal appearance and cleanliness is another part of the Ranger Code, which is vital. We should not be clean just on the outside, but we also have to make sure we are clean and healthy in body, mind, and spirit. A clean mind is very important, especially with the temptations present in this world. When Satan is working overtime and temptation is strong, I think back to our commanders' teachings and a special scripture: "Whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is admirable, if anything is excellent or praiseworthy, think of such things" (Philippians 4:8). Keeping a clean mind takes a lot of work because we have to learn how to train our minds to focus on the good things of God rather than on all of Satan's counterfeits. Royal Rangers can reach, teach, and keep boys in our community, and Rangers can be the difference in many boys' lives.

I am proud to be a Royal Ranger, proud to wear the uniform, because I know who I am really representing. Many people ask me, "What Scout troop are you in?" This gives me another opportunity to share a little about God with that person. Even if only for a minute or two, it gives me a chance to plant a seed. In my earlier years as a Ranger, I didn't feel the need to share God—I was even afraid to. Now through my devotional and prayer time, I have learned that this is what God wants me to do. It's because of the Royal Rangers program that I know I have the character to share Jesus Christ with others.

My family and commanders have helped me, directed me, and prayed for me since I have been in Rangers, especially while working on my GMA. I'm so thankful I have Christian parents who prayed for my salvation. That is the best gift I could ever have.

Finishing my GMA is a major accomplishment, but I know it is just the beginning of the rest of my life's journey.

"In Rangers we reach out and teach boys about the gift that God has given us through His Son, Jesus Christ."



The Surprise Prize

by Phyllis DeTAR

Just six and a half more days and I'll be back to video games and TV, Karl thought while waiting for Rick, the camp commander, to make the evening announcements around the campfire. *I'm probably the only guy who doesn't want to be here for all this fun in the sun. I couldn't even bring my old Game Boy.*

"You have all done well this past week in your survival training," Rick began. "You can now recognize poison ivy, poison berries, and poison snakes. You know your compass is your best friend. Tomorrow you will put it to the test."

"At 0600 you will be 'jeeped' in pairs to various spots in the wilderness surrounding the camp. The first team back will receive a prize. Take your compass, water bottle, and any other survival gear you might need. You will receive an area map and trail mix. Just remember, what you pack in, you pack out."

"We might as well be teammates too, OK?" Brad, his bunkmate, suggested on the way to the bunkhouse.

"If we gotta go, we gotta go, so I guess so."

When Karl and Brad were dropped off the next morning, they squinted and blinked their eyelids to adapt to the bright sun.

They found themselves on the crest of a densely forested hill with three overgrown paths leading in different directions. Neither the camp nor the creek that flowed through it were visible.

Ron, their counselor, yelled as he drove off. "Use your compass and your brains. Don't follow the jeep road, you'll be disqualified. I'm counting on you two to win the prize. Believe me—especially you, Karl—it's worth it."

Karl opened the map with determination. "Here is the top of a hill with three paths leading in different directions, but no jeep trail, which is probably on purpose."

Brad pulled out his compass. "OK, that's north, but I lost track of directions when he drove around in circles before leaving."

"The sun was on my face most of the way, so we were headed east. Let's take that path." Karl pointed to the steepest one heading west that led to a creek.

"Well, it's bigger than our house, and I can see some bats hanging from the ceiling. I think I'm sitting in their **you-know-what.**"

"This reminds me of a computer game I play, except you have to find your way through a cave," Karl remarked as they wound down the path.

"Mountain goats must have made this trail," Brad moaned and sat down to use his hands as well as his feet. "Yikes!" he yelled as he slid out of control.

Karl also sat down, but grabbed shrubs and weeds to slow himself. Frantically, he grasped a small tree, just in time to avoid going over the edge of a rock formation and into a hole, which was all but hidden by brush. Brad's hollow-sounding yells came from inside it.

"Help! I can't see! I've hurt my ankle! Help me!"

"I hear you, Brad! Oh gee! Are you OK otherwise? The path made a sharp turn, and you didn't. I managed to grab a tree, or I would be in there with you! Can you find your flashlight to see what is around you?"

"I've got it. Geez! It's a real cave! I see some stalagmites and stalactites, and a pond not far from me. Man, this place is cool in more ways than one, but I want out. My ankle really hurts. I want out of here!"

"Chill out, Brad, while I try to figure a way to get you out." Karl crouched to look inside the hole.

"I can see you looking at me."

Karl aimed his flashlight down the hole. "I can see you too. The rock walls look pretty smooth—no place for snakes to hang out. That's the good news, but there's no way you can climb out."

"That's the bad news!" Brad wailed.

Karl emptied his backpack on the ground. "Hey, I found a rope Mom put in my pack to hang stuff on. I can make a ladder with it. I'll cut a limb into pieces to tie into it for handholds. Then I'll tie it to this tree and lower it to you."

"Sounds great, Karl, but please hurry."

"Have some trail mix while you're waiting."

Karl stripped the leaves from a limb with his knife and cut notches about a foot apart to make it easier to break into pieces.

"Tell me what you see. I almost wish I had been the one to fall down there. How big is it?"

"Well, it's bigger than our house, and I can see some bats hanging from the ceiling. I think I'm sitting in their you-know-what."

"It's called guano, Brad."

"I know. It's really awesome down here, Karl, but I still can't wait to get out."

"I've finished the ladder and am tying the rope around the tree. Heads up. I'm dropping it down."

"I've got it." Brad began pulling himself up, placing his good foot and back against opposite walls while reaching for the next stick. As soon as his head and shoulders were out, Karl helped him the rest of the way.

"Thanks, Buddy. It's fantastic down there, but it's great to see sunshine and breathe fresh air! My foot feels better."

"Just be glad Mom put the clothesline in. We need to hit the trail. I sure hope we chose the right one."

At last, they reached a clearing and saw everyone gath-

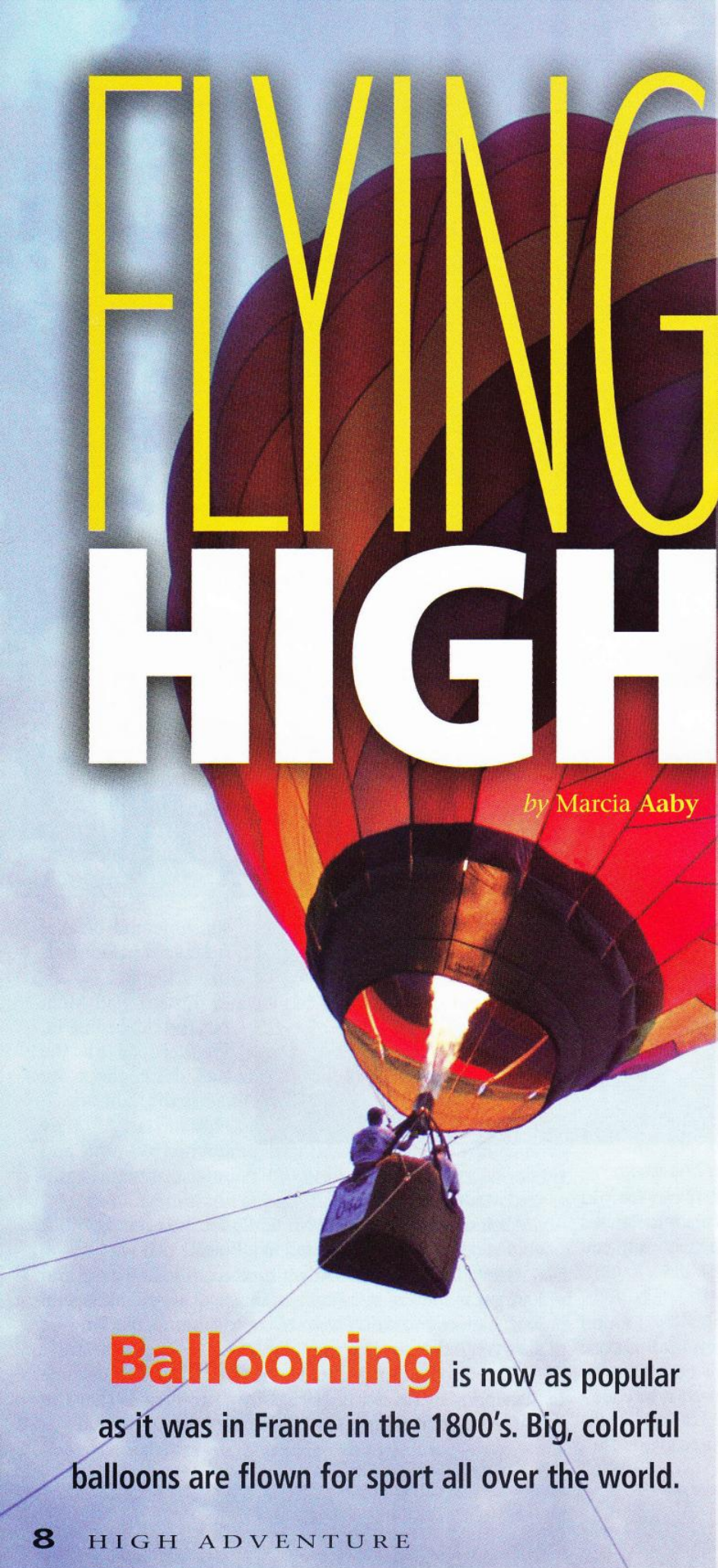
ered around the campfire.

"You missed getting the Nintendo for the evening," Rick chided. "What did you do, fall in a hole?"

"How did you guess? Only it turned out to be a cave, and Karl got me out of it," Brad exclaimed. "Gee, thanks again, Karl. I know you didn't want to come to camp, but I'm sure glad you did."

"I'm glad too...now," Karl answered with more shame than pride in his voice. "I guess my real prize is that I've learned there is more to win in life than video games."





FLYING HIGH

by Marcia Aaby

Ballooning is now as popular as it was in France in the 1800's. Big, colorful balloons are flown for sport all over the world.

W

hat is old and new, big and colorful, and full of hot air?

Hot air balloons.

Did you know that hot air balloons existed before airplanes? In fact, hot air balloons were the first way that man found to get off the ground.

Here is how it happened. Joseph Montgolfier and his brother Etienne were relaxing by the fireplace in their home in Paris, France. The year was 1783. They noticed that smoke always rose upward from the fire.

"Hmm," they thought, "is there something special in smoke that will make things rise in the air?"

The brothers set up experiments to answer their question. They put a dry leaf in the smoke. It rose in the air and disappeared up the chimney. They trapped smoke in small paper and cloth bags, and the bags too traveled upward!

They knew they had discovered something important. They experimented with bigger bags and more smoke. They found out that very large bags filled with smoke could carry weight. Would it carry a person?

They decided to send up animals first. If they returned safely, humans could be next. The brothers made a lightweight basket and put in a duck, a rooster, and a sheep. They filled their large balloon with smoke, attached it to the basket, and let it go into the sky.

Were the animals scared? That we will never know. What we do know is that they all returned to the ground safely. This meant that balloons were safe to carry people. Ballooning became very popular. Everyone wanted to try it.

But how did it work?

It turns out that the Montgolfier brothers didn't know everything. They thought it was smoke that made their balloons rise in the air. What really made them rise was *heated air*. The fire they made to create smoke heated the air that was inside their balloon. Hot air always rises. So their balloon, which contained hot air, rose too.

Did the balloon just keep rising and rising? Yes and no. As long as the air inside the balloon was warmer than the air outside the balloon, it kept rising. But



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HIGH ADVENTURE

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Royal Rangers in Singapore & Malaysia

by Richard MARIOTT



"It's going to be an exciting trip," I said to Doug Marsh, Brian Hendrickson, and Jim Rounsiville when we all met in the Toyko/Nika Airport in Japan. Doug and Brian had flown from Chicago to Japan while Jim and I had flown from San Francisco. We stayed overnight at the Nika Hotel and were off for six hours of air travel before arriving at Kuala Lumpur Airport in Malaysia.

National Commander Wong and several of his staff met us at the airport and took us to dinner and to their church's apartment for much-needed rest Monday evening.

The purpose of this trip was to bring a three-day National Academy and a one-day seminar for the staff of Malaysia and Singapore. Wednesday through Friday we held the National Academy, and Saturday was the seminar.

Tuesday was a day to set up and review the schedule, as well as a day for sightseeing and shopping. None of us are professional shoppers, so sightseeing seemed to be in order.

On Wednesday, we met Commander Chia Kiat, national Royal Rangers commander of Singapore, and his staff. The U.S. "delegation" were impressed with the lead-



ers' professionalism and their commitment to wearing complete uniforms. (We did allow the Class "C" uniform one day to do the Rangers Kids activities.)

Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday long and intense training; several days went from 9:00 a.m. through 9:00 p.m. We brought updates and new materials for the new program since Malaysia and Singapore were the first two countries to express a desire to implement the new program when they first heard about the changes.

The National Academy had 52 in attendance, with approximately 50 percent from each country, and about 50 percent were ladies. Singapore and Malaysia have many outposts with both boys and girls, and run their outpost meetings in separate boy-girl groups. The one-day seminar with nearly 150 in attendance was packed with training and awards.

Friday an FCF Buckskin and Wilderness ceremony was conducted by Jim Rounsville, our national FCF vice-president. These first members to attain wilderness status had colorful costumes representing the histories of Malaysia, Singapore, India, and China.

Sunday morning we gave greetings to Commander Wong's church congregation in the morning service, and in the evening we were at Kuala Lumpur with Jim Guneratnam, the senior commander and son of Pastor Prince Guneratnam, for a complete awards ceremony service for the boys and parents with excellent attendance. It was very well planned—our compliments to Jim Guneratnam and the Royal Rangers leaders for an excellent presentation. After the evening service, Jim

Guneratnam and his staff took us to a western meal at Chiles restaurant, a short shopping trip in Chinatown, and Commander Wong's satellite church to pray for a Royal Rangers youth group going on a missions trip to Thailand.

Monday was a travel day as we traveled to Malacca in southern Malaysia for their minister's retreat. We had dinner hosted by an outpost from Malacca and had great time in fellowship. Tuesday morning the national leadership kindly allowed us to do a presentation for the minister's conference to show the new materials and issue a challenge for them to use Rangers to reach their youth and communities with the gospel.

In the afternoon, Commander Wong and Commander Desyand took us on to the Malaysian/Singapore border, where Commander Chia and staff took us into Singapore. Singapore is a small, beautiful, and very modern country.

Wednesday Commander Chia took us sightseeing, shopping, and in the evening to a four-hour seminar for pastors and commanders from Singapore. Everyone was excited about the new program and the tremendous possibilities available.

Commander Chia Kiat shared that Singapore Royal Rangers had been going through a "desert experience"

for the past seven years. Some of the same problems the U.S.A. was experiencing in Royal Rangers, such as difficulties retaining leaders; the long training needed for the





old program; and the lack of weekly plans, adequate boys handbooks and workbooks; added up to commander drop out and Royal Rangers being dropped by many churches. Commander Chia also said many pastors had asked to try and get Royal Rangers into the schools.

In Singapore the pre-college school (high school) students must select an additional credit area, requiring weekend time, for entry into college. Sports such as track, Boys Brigade (a Methodist boys camping program), and Boy Scouts were the most popularly selected programs. The government was not open to having Royal Rangers because of the religious connection. (Interesting: the Boys Brigade, a Methodist program, was put in years previous when Singapore was under British rule and has been retained all this time.) Commander Chia said they had tried but were not able to find any inroads.

A Ranger's parents knew their school principal very well. This school was a private school, however very well-respected for the quality of students there. The woman principal had more than 4,200 students. This parent was

able to discuss how her son enjoyed Royal Rangers and that the program was similar to Boys Brigade. The principal invited Commander Chia to come and present the Royal Rangers program. She was very pleased with the presentation and the new program materials, so she approved a presentation at a rally for students to sign up.

The response was so overwhelming that they had to limit numbers until they were able to get additional funding and leaders to help.

Commander Chia said, "The new materials were timely, and in God's time, we hope to use this school as a model to public schools, which would eventually allow us to get approved."

This trip to Singapore and Malaysia was a tremendous opportunity for us in the

U.S.A. to see that many of our brothers and sisters are committed to reach, teach, and keep their youth through Royal Rangers.

Please pray God will open doors of opportunity for these nations. They have very qualified leadership and a heart to reach the lost.





*Sending, equipping,
and accompanying
missionaries to empower
national leaders to
reach boys for Christ.*



Royal Rangers International: TO THE NATIONS!

Royal Rangers has a task—present the Gospel to every boy in every nation. Matthew 28:18-20 is an urgent command that Rangers are obeying.

Currently Royal Rangers is in 65 nations. While we rejoice in these numbers, we are not satisfied. There are approximately 100,000 members outside America, yet this is just a scratch on the surface compared to the need.

The words of Loren Triplett, former director of Assemblies of God World Missions (AGWM) ring loud in our ears: "A missionary never measures success based on his accomplishments, but on the unfinished task."

Royal Rangers' unfinished task is huge!

In the region south of our U.S. home, Latin America and the Caribbean, live an estimated 85 million unsaved boys under the age of eighteen. Each day thousands of

Africa's 200 million boys die from AIDS, conflict, and famine. Add these numbers to those in Europe, Eurasia, and Asia Pacific and the lives that represent Royal Rangers' unfinished task total well over 970 million.

What a massive un-reached population! 970 million. That's right, 970 million!

To meet this challenge, AGWM and Royal Rangers have created Royal Rangers International (RRI). The goal is to declare Jesus-salvation to millions of unsaved boys.

The strategy is so biblical it is working! We are sending, equipping, and accompanying missionaries to empower national leaders to reach boys for Christ.

Sending: Russ Turney, Asia Pacific Regional Director, often says, "Wherever we have sent missionary personnel, the Kingdom has grown."



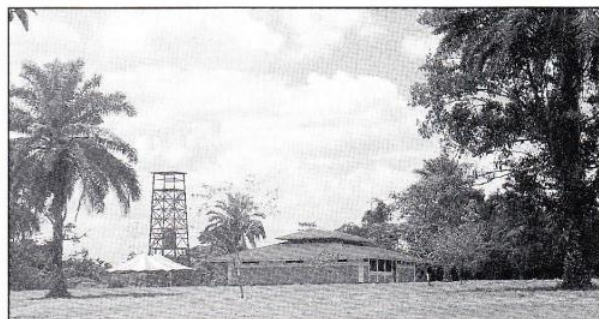
Today, five missionaries devote themselves to preparing today's boy to become tomorrow's man. We pray that God will raise-up a host of Royal Rangers missionaries to span the globe. As more devote themselves to reaching boys, the Church will grow.

We pray for Royal Rangers to go, and we pray for those who send them. "Our challenge to every outpost in America," says Richard Mariott, National Commander, "is that they participate in sending a missionary, with prayer and monthly support (\$15/month is recommended), who is involved in evangelizing boys."

Equipping: Royal Rangers are actively equipping missionaries with tools for effectiveness.

Rangers from every state raise thousands of dollars for Boys and Girls Missionary Crusade (BGMC) each year. David Boyd, National Director, explains, "Royal Rangers across America are involving their boys in BGMC which teaches kids to know, care, pray, and give to reach the world for Jesus. Together the boys in America are reaching the children of the world!"

Hundreds of boys are Junior Light-for-the-Lost (LFTL) Councilmen and raise thousands of dollars for evangelism. Benny Ferguson, National Coordinator,



exclaims, "Royal Rangers clearly have a heart for missions! It is evident by their partnership with LFTL to raise literature funds and become Junior Councilmen."

Accompanying: For some Royal Rangers this will represent a career that will take them to the ends of the earth.

For most, however, this involves periodically walking alongside a missionary. Royal Rangers specialists like Andy Whitman in Macedonia, Mark Broberg and Rawie Haas in Russia, Jeff Cooper in Costa Rica, and J.R. Gould in Kenya, often need qualified personnel to participate in leadership training and evangelism. As this list of missionaries grows, so do the opportunities to serve overseas.

Another way men and older boys help missionaries is through Pathfinders. These teams are comprised of individuals with skills to serve on construction projects. "Pathfinders," according to Gerald Jackson, AGWM-MAPS Representative, "has met a need to help build churches in remote areas where other teams would not go resulting in multitudes of people being able to respond to this Gospel which we proclaim around the world."

Royal Rangers are sending, equipping and accompanying missionaries, with the purpose of empowering national leaders to impact boys. Empowerment is providing the resources and setting the conditions that make people successful.

The resources needed overseas by those occupied in evangelizing boys is quality curriculum and training. In

addition to these resources, RRI is occupied in promotional and consultative roles. These create the conditions that make Royal Rangers effective around the world.

Be involved in sending Royal Rangers to the world's 970 million "unfinished tasks," by presenting Christ to every boy in every nation. You are invited to contact the author.

Douglas Marsh
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Changing the World - One Boy at a Time

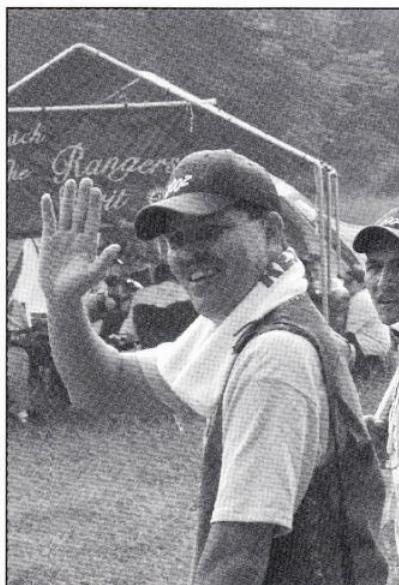


by David Moore

National Commander, International Pentecostal Holiness Church

You hear a lot today about "spiritual formation", the process of making disciples. I recently received a letter from a National Men's Ministries organization that stated, "Only one out of eighteen men who profess faith in Christ understand how to live a Christian life. The rest have not been disciplined about how to be godly men, husbands, and fathers." One of the main reasons for this problem, I believe, is that we wait too late before starting to disciple these men. Several studies have shown that people form their spiritual beliefs by the age of thirteen. Yet we as churches, continue to focus most of our time and resources on those individuals older than that. This is why Royal Rangers is such an important part of the ministry of any church. Royal Rangers realizes that children are important to God.

So many times leaders get caught up in the day-to-day activities of life and all the work that go in to Royal Rangers, we often forget the impact that we do make on the lives of these boys. We get so caught up in ourselves with what we are doing; we forget that after all - it really is all about Him anyway. I am always overwhelmed at the goodness of God. He will send things your way just when you need them so that you can be encouraged and renewed in your commitment to do His work.



Two things happened just last week that reminded me once again the important role we play in shaping the lives of the boys we work with. A young man came by my office because he wanted to say thank you for all that Royal Rangers had done to keep him in church. In 1990 he and his brother were the National Rangers of the year. He said that because of Rangers he is still in the church today.

Then this past weekend, I was asked to give the devotion at a Christmas party. After speaking a woman came up to me and said that she wanted to thank me for the work I did in Royal Rangers. She went on to tell me how that her husband left her when their children were young. The Royal Rangers leaders stepped in and became fathers to her children. She was so appreciative for the help they had been to her.

The boys in our outpost will tell you that you can get a devotion from just about anything. You should hear some of the things they see God in. We'll be doing something and they will say, that is just like Jesus when He did this or when He said that. After all, that is what discipleship is really all about, making God a part of your everyday life.

II Thessalonians 3:13 tells us, "But as for you, brethren, do not grow weary in doing good." You are making a difference in the lives of boys. You are changing the world, one boy at a time.

Adventure of a Lifetime!



by Steve Schultz

National Boys Camps Coordinator

This summer Adventure and Expedition Ranger boys will have the opportunity to experience fun and challenging activities at the Eagle Rock Adventure Camps. Two camps are scheduled for August 1-6 and August 8-13, 2004 at the national campground in Eagle Rock, Missouri. Campers will arrive on Sunday afternoon to settle in their bunkhouses and start off with a special pool party and evening council fire service. The week-long camp will allow the boys to make new friends and experience great activities. Five different activity tracks will be available.

TRACK A: (Rappelling, High Ropes, Low Ropes, Rock Climbing)

Work with experienced climbing guides to learn the basics of rappelling and climbing. Progress through increasingly challenging climbing activities to develop personal skills and confidence.

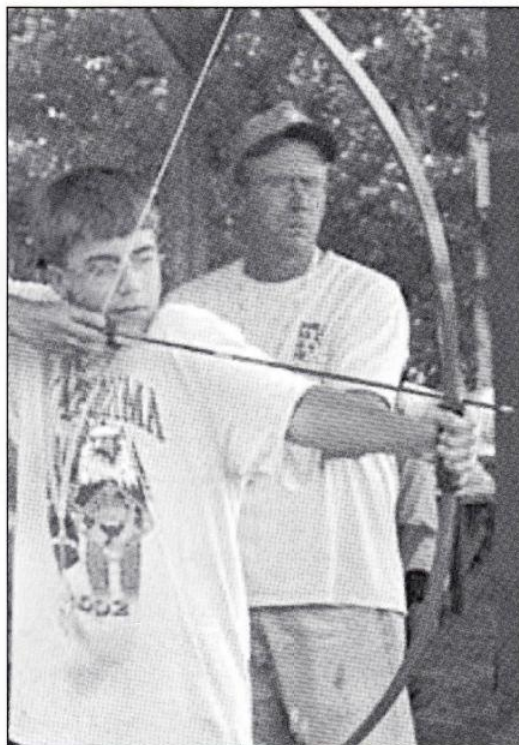
TRACK B: (Mountain Biking, Paintball)

Experience the thrill of biking over challenging trails while exploring the Mark Twain National Forest Wilderness. Learn about one of the fastest growing sports today and work towards completing the new Paintball Merit.

TRACK C: (Shooting Safety, BB Gun, Air Rifle, Archery)

Review and complete Shooting Safety Merits. Then spend time at the range shooting BB guns and air rifles while completing the Shooting Merit requirements. Learn archery with our new longbows and Genesis™ compound bows. There will also be an opportunity to compete in the National Postal Competition in all three events.

TRACK D: (Smallbore Rifle, Blackpowder Rifle, Safety & Shooting)



Review and complete the required Safety Merits. Then spend time on the range with smallbore and blackpowder rifles while completing the Shooting Merit requirements. There will also be an opportunity to complete the new Silver Merits and compete in the National Postal Competition.

TRACK E: (Horsemanship, Archery, Paintball)

Complete the Horsemanship Merit while learning to care for and ride horses; leading to a trailride in the Ozark's backcountry. Also, learn about one of the fastest growing sports today while completing the new Paintball Merit.

Each track will allow boys the opportunity to work on exciting merit requirements as well as

develop new friendships and participate in other fun activities. Each camper will stay in the new Deaverton Old West Town western-style bunkhouses. The camp kitchen staff will provide all meals. Days and nights will be filled with fun, challenging activities led by a top-notch staff of experienced Royal Rangers leaders. Specially designed devotions and council fire services will minister daily. You do not want your boys to miss this camp. For more information and an application, check out the National Royal Rangers website at www.royalrangers.ag.org or contact the national Royal Rangers ministries at 417-862-2781, extension 4181.

It's important to note that the tracks are limited to 20 campers each (Campers must be current Adventure Ranger or Expedition Ranger members.) and will be determined by the order the applications are received. So don't delay, have your boys send in completed applications early to ensure a spot at this special leadership event. I look forward to seeing your Rangers there!



Eagle Rock Adventure Camp

Eagle Rock, MO

Check camp preference

☐ August 1-6, 2004 or ☐ August 8-13, 2004

Camp Fee \$200



Indicate order of track preference. (1st-5th)

- ☐ **Track A:** (Rappelling, High Ropes, Low Ropes, Rock Climbing)
☐ **Track B:** (Mountain Biking, Paintball)
☐ **Track C:** (Shooting Safety, BB-Gun, Air Rifle, Archery)
☐ **Track D:** (Smallbore Rifle, Blackpowder Rifle, Safety & Shooting)
☐ **Track E:** (Horsemanship, Archery, Paintball)

Tracks (limited to 20) are determined by order the applications are received.

LAST NAME										FIRST NAME										DATE OF BIRTH			GRADE COMPLETED	
<div></div>										<div></div>										<div></div> <div></div>			<div></div> <div></div>	
MAILING ADDRESS										MO			DAY			YEAR								
<div></div>										<div></div>			<div></div>			<div></div>								
CITY										STATE		ZIP CODE			DISTRICT									
<div></div>										<div></div>		<div></div>			<div></div>									
T-SHIRT INFORMATION: (ADULT SIZES ONLY) Check one:										<input type="checkbox"/> M			<input type="checkbox"/> L			<input type="checkbox"/> XL			<input type="checkbox"/> XXL			OUTPOST NUMBER		

Requirements for attendance

- ☐ Current Adventure Ranger or Expedition Ranger member
- ☐ Completed application with all required signatures and camp fee
- ☐ Be recommended by your commander

I RECOMMEND THIS APPLICANT PARTICIPATE
IN THE EAGLE ROCK ADVENTURE CAMP.

COMMANDER'S SIGNATURE _____

DATE _____

METHOD OF PAYMENT

The registration can be paid by an adult with check or credit card.

- ☐ CHECK ENCLOSED Make payable to: **Royal Rangers** (include current address and driver's license number.)
☐ CREDIT CARD If paying via credit card include the following information: ☐ VISA ☐ MC ☐ Discover Card

Registration Fee

\$200.00

CARD HOLDER'S NAME (PRINT) _____

CARD HOLDER'S ADDRESS _____

CREDIT CARD NUMBER

CARD HOLDER'S PHONE # (_____) _____

EXP. DATE

List other campers being paid for by this charge. (PLEASE PRINT)

CARD HOLDER'S SIGNATURE _____

Please complete both sides of this form and send with payment to the national Royal Rangers ministries:

Royal Rangers
1445 N. Boonville Ave.
Springfield, MO 65802-1894

All applications must be received by June 30, 2004.

Medical Record

A Sports physical examination by a health practitioner with his/her signature is required for participation at camp.

Applicants Name _____	/ / Examination Date	Height	Weight
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Health History

To be completed by the health practitioner.

Has the applicant experienced the following?

Check either "Yes" or "No."

If "Yes" explain under "remarks and Medical Facts we should know."

<u>Sinus condition</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<u>Any medical care in past year?</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<u>Ear problem</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<u>Any surgery within past year?</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<u>Lung problem</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<u>Exposed to infectious:</u>	
<u>Heart trouble</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<u>Disease past 3 weeks</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<u>High blood pressure</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<u>Hepatitis past 6 months</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<u>Allergy-Asthma</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<u>Any disorder preventing strenuous activity?</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<u>Fainting or dizzy spells</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<u>Taking prescription medicine of any type?</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<u>Diabetes</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<u>Any reaction of drugs or medicine of any type</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<u>Appendix removed</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
<u>Shortness of breath</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
<u>Skin infection</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
<u>Hearing difficulty</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
<u>Bad eyesight</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
<u>Wear contact lenses?</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		

Food or drug allergies _____

I am currently taking following medications _____

Remarks and Medical facts we should know: _____

Give latest date of inoculation or vaccination against following:

Tetanus _____

Measles _____

Diphtheria _____

Polio _____

Typhoid _____

Small Pox _____

Health Practitioner's Name (Print) _____	Address _____	
Health Practitioner's Signature: _____	City _____ State _____ Zip _____	

In case of emergency please notify:

LAST NAME												FIRST NAME												RELATIONSHIP																	
MAILING ADDRESS																		STATE				ZIP CODE				DAYTIME CONTACT PHONE NUMBER															
HEALTH INSURANCE COMPANY'S NAME																		HEALTH INSURANCE COMPANY'S PHONE NUMBER												EVENING CONTACT PHONE NUMBER											
POLICY NUMBER																		CERTIFICATE NUMBER												EFFECTIVE DATE OF COVERAGE											

Parent/Legal Guardian Consent: The signature of a parent or legal guardian is required for a minor to attend the Eagle rock Adventure Camp held at Camp Eagle Rock, MO. The parent's or legal guardian's signature below indicates: Permission to administer medical attention to the minor in the event of a medical emergency.

PRINT COMPLETE NAME OF MINOR _____ PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____



TURNING DREAMS INTO REALITY

by Jim ROUNSVILLE



Superheroes are in all cultures of the world, but the high-tech superhero has been a hallmark of America. Batman, Superman, and Spiderman all have special powers and wear clothing with special characteristics that help them perform their amazing feats of courage to overcome evil supervillains. Their physiques display bulging muscles and proud stances, which are the envy of little boys everywhere.

There is a superhero whose mission is to defend good and overcome evil, but this one uses Bible scripture as the power behind his ability to defeat his evil foes. His audience is young boys and girls who are dedicated followers of the world's superheroes. He is known by his faithful following as "BibleMan." Although many children come to know BibleMan through the video series, BibleMan also performs live appearances in churches each year during nationwide tours. Tours include other characters like BibleGirl and some villains. The one-hour presentation is designed with high-tech stage props, lighting, and studio-recorded sound. At the end of the presentation, a salvation call is made by BibleMan, and children have the opportunity to accept Jesus Christ as their Savior.

BibleMan uses a variety of media to promote the

superhero character and the message that he brings. Posters, toy action figures, DVDs, VHS tapes, and other promotional products provide collectables to fans of the high-tech Bible hero.

For many years BibleMan has been portrayed by Christian television actor Willie Ames, who is widely recognized for his acting role in the television show, "Eight Is Enough." In September, Willie stepped down from his role and passed the mantle to a new BibleMan who would be entrusted to carry on the character.

The new BibleMan just happens to be a close friend of mine. His name is Robert T. Schlipp, and for those who know him well, "T." I've known T for many years, first as a Royal Ranger, then as a children's pastor, and now in his new ministry as BibleMan.

As a young boy, T joined a Royal Rangers outpost in California. As a teen, he received the Gold Medal of Achievement and joined the Frontiersman Camping Fellowship. During his teenage years, he competed nationally in drama and short sermon categories at the Fine Arts Festival. After high school he attended Evangel University in Springfield, Mo. He received scholarships in drama and speech. He joined the debate team, where he competed in the state tournament.



I met Rob T in 1992 at the Royal Rangers National Council. He was attending college and held the position of territorial scout during that time. I remember him voicing his concerns about how boys should have more participation in leadership at the national level. A few months later he was elected as assistant national FCF scout at the national rendezvous. It wasn't hard to see why. He even ended up having his picture printed on the front of the FCF promotional brochure. Needless to say, T was an enthusiastic young man. For those of you who may have one the FCF brochures, T is the one in the green calico shirt.

After completing his degree, a B.A. in biblical studies and broadcasting, he began working for a local television station as a weather anchor and spent two seasons serving as the producer of Strobellite Music Television. Later he took a job with Fox 27 in Springfield as a promotions editor and a weekly personality on the Kids Club show.

T later interviewed with Sunset Christian Center in Rocklin, Calif., for the position of children's pastor and was hired. He immediately became responsible for putting together volunteer staffing, curriculum, and planning for the weekly children's church; overseeing Royal Rangers and Missionettes; managing a nursery care ministry; and putting on summer camps, children's musicals and other special events. It was baptism by fire, but T was up for the challenge. As a children's pastor, T believed in the Royal Rangers ministry and knew firsthand how it had helped to shape his own Christian walk with God.

What most people don't know is that T has had a long time desire to become the next BibleMan. Living one's dream is uncommon for most men, but Pastor T is

finally getting to do just that. When T first saw "BibleMan Live" at a friend's church, he made it his goal to become the next BibleMan. It was a natural fit and it just seemed to be his destiny. He had always loved theatrics and live performances.

His wife, Anayansi, who I also know very well, copastored with T during the time they were at Sunset Christian. A licensed minister as well, she has embarked with T on this new ministry and is very excited about what the future holds. She will be portraying the role of BibleGirl. She hopes to bring the BibleGirl superheroine closer to little girls across the county to demonstrate that they can be a strong and powerful influence on the world and have power over evil through God's Word.

They both see "BibleMan Live" as an opportunity to present God's Word in a new forum that appeals to children. This unique delivery spiritually impacts children with every presentation. As T states in his own words, "This one-hour presentation isn't about the characters, the lights, the costumes, or any of the high tech staging. It's about bringing a child face to face with the power of Jesus Christ to change their lives." Both Anayansi and T believe in dedicated ministry to children. They both believe in Royal Rangers and the impact it has on young boys around the world. It is their hope that BibleMan and BibleGirl will continue to touch children and lead them into new relationships with the Master Ranger and the greatest superhero of all—Jesus.

Contact BibleMan at: Bibleman@kidsministry.com

*BibleMan is a registered trademark of Pamplin Entertainment.

Now Available!



NEW FRONTIERSMEN CAMPING FELLOWSHIP BOLOS

Here's your chance to purchase these brand new
FCF Bolo ties at a great price of \$6.00 apiece.
For further information contact the national office at

417-862-2781, ext. 4190.



AN ADVENTURE You Will Never Forget!

by Jason Rhode, Children's Pastor, Christian Life Fellowship A/G, Port Edwards, Wisconsin

It was a May 27, 1994. I awoke early in the morning and double-checked the clothes and gear I had packed with the camp checklist. I was both nervous and excited, and couldn't wait for the camp to begin. This wasn't just another powwow or outing. I had attended many Royal Rangers camps before and had some wonderful times, but little did I know that this camp would change my life forever. This was Junior Leadership Training Camp!

As I arrived at the campground, I quickly became reacquainted with friends I had met at previous Ranger events. I put on my uniform, received my beret and camp notebook at registration, and then waited for further instructions. The camp commander greeted all of the trainees, and we then ate lunch together. After that, we finally met our senior guide, and I was assigned to the Fox Patrol. I had begun a unique training experience I

would never forget. Throughout that weekend, I was provided with opportunities and responsibilities that would stretch me in ways I had never been stretched before. The camp activities helped me to step outside my comfort zone, and I realized that as a patrol we could accomplish tasks I never thought possible on my own. During the final evening council fire service, I rededicated my life to Christ and to serving him in ministry.

After graduating from what is now called Junior Training Camp (JTC), I was inspired to continue my involvement in Royal Rangers and to earn my Gold Medal of Achievement.

Nearly 10 years since then, Adventure Rangers and Expedition Rangers are now able to attend many more camps beyond Junior Training Camp. Each of these camps has a different spiritual and instructional emphasis. Some of these camps include Junior Training Trails, Junior Canoe

Expedition, Junior Survival Camp, Junior Missions Camp, and Junior Winter Camp. There are even camps now available geared specifically for Discovery Rangers (Discovery Training Camp) and Adventure Rangers (Adventure Training Camp). Not only do the trainees who attend these camps graduate with new skills and even several advanced merits, but they've had numerous times of spiritual refreshing through Bible reading, scripture memorization, morning devotions, and evening council fire services.

These Junior Leadership Training Academy (JLTA) camps will give boys intense, professional training along with powerful spiritual ministry. This training experience is designed to be a catalyst and springboard of spiritual encouragement. The goal of the JLTA is to prepare young men for a gradual, ever-increasing role of leadership in their local outpost. It is typical that a young man will experience a deeper, more meaningful relationship with Jesus Christ during his training through the JLTA. He will learn things about himself and what he needs to do in order to follow the Lord's will for his life. That high sense of spiritual awareness will become infectious in his outpost. The entire outpost will desire to have the same experience: to learn, to advance, and to respond to the challenge of the JLTA. In short, through the JLTA, boys are learning the importance of assuming their role of leadership within their church, thus training boys to become leaders!

Since that experience I had as a JTC trainee, I've had numerous opportunities to serve on staff at JTC as well as several other junior camps, and I continue to see boys' lives changed completely as a result of their experience at a JLTA camp, just like mine was 10 years ago. Every Discovery Ranger, Adventure Ranger, and Expedition Ranger should attend at least one of the Junior Leadership Training Academy camps. After just one camp, you'll look forward to attending additional camps where you can develop both your skills and your relationship with Christ. For more information on attending a JLTA camp, contact your district training coordinator. Each camp will be an adventure you'll never forget!

EAGLE ROCK, MISSOURI
SITE OF THE

National Rendezvous 2004

CAMP EAGLE ROCK

July 12-16, 2004

FOR APPLICATION

Check our website www.royalrangers.ag.org
or call the Rangers National Office

417.862.1447 Ext. 4181

NATIONAL REGISTRATION FEE:

Early registration postmarked on or before

— JUNE 19, 2004 —

\$60 — Old-Timers \$50 — Young Buck

Postmarked after

— JUNE 20, 2004 —

or Walk-in registration

\$75 — Old-Timers \$60 — Young Buck

Registration Includes:

(To receive at registration)

2 — 2004 National Rendezvous Patches

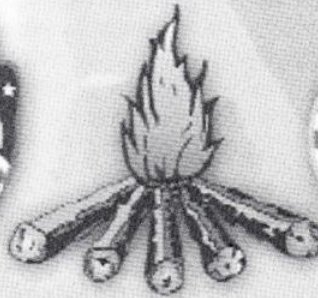
1 — 2004 National Rendezvous T-shirt

1 — 2004 National Rendezvous Hat

1 — 2004 National Rendezvous Registration Medallion



Patch



Medallion

Return to:

ROYAL RANGERS

1445 North Boonville Avenue
Springfield, MO 65802-1894

Attn: FCF Rendezvous

Make checks payable to:

Royal Rangers Account #0000256



Devotionals for Boys

by David BOYD

LESSON 1: When Things Get Hot, Get Poppin'!

ITEMS NEEDED:

Popcorn and a way to pop it.

Ask your boys, "Who likes popcorn?" Most likely they will all answer affirmatively. Reach into a bag and bring out some unpopped popcorn and give each of the them a few kernels. The boys will let you know that they don't want unpopped popcorn, they want popped popcorn. Pretend you don't know what popped popcorn is. Ask them to explain how the unpopped popcorn will turn into popped popcorn. They will describe to you the process of heating up the popcorn in a pan or microwave until it gets so hot that it pops. Ask the boys if they think it is a painful process for the popcorn to turn into popped popcorn.

Explain to the boys that the heating up of the popcorn caused the popcorn to grow in size. Compare it to the scripture found in 1 Peter 1:6,7 which reads, "Now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. These have come so that your faith—of greater worth than gold, . . . may be proved genuine and may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus is revealed." This scripture is teaching us that sometimes we go through difficult times, but we will be bigger and stronger once we get through the trial.

Pull out a popcorn popper and pop some popcorn for a snack. As it is popping, ask the boys about trials they may have to go through. These may include things like a bully at school, a parent who is sick, moving to a new town, getting a new teacher, etc. Talk about how we can become stronger with God's help when we are all done.

LESSON 2: The Holy Spirit, Our Coach and Counselor

Read the following story. Have the boys answer the questions at the end.

Nathan was about to step up to the plate for the very first time to bat in a little league game. He was very

nervous because of all the people watching. He could feel the butterflies in his stomach as he waited for his turn to bat. Would he strike out? Would he be able to hit the ball. He was so nervous.

Suddenly Mr. Dan, his coach, came up and put his arm around his shoulders and said, "Isn't it exciting, Nathan? This is your very first time up to bat. Everyone is going to be so surprised at you, because even though you are the youngest guy on our team, you have such a great eye for the ball. I want you to step up to the plate and let the first ball go by, but watch it. You'll see it looks just like the hundreds of balls that come by in practice. After that first ball comes by, you'll know you can hit the next one or the next. After the first ball, pick one of the next balls out and hit it just like in practice. Just keep your eye on the ball and smack it over the third baseman's head like you do all the time in practice. You'll do great!"

Nathan suddenly felt very different. Mr. Dan gave him just the right instructions. His counseling made all the difference. He was now relaxed and stepped up to bat. He let the first ball sail right past. The coach was right. It looked like all the rest of the balls in practice. He knew he could hit the next one, and he did!

Compare this story of Nathan and his coach to the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is our counselor. He is our coach. The Holy Spirit is God. He tells us what to do and encourages us when we are sad or scared. The Holy Spirit gives us power to live our lives for God. The Bible describes the Holy Spirit as our Counselor, our Comforter, our Guide, and our Teacher. The Holy Spirit is the third part of the Trinity. The Holy Spirit wants to baptize us with power. This is the special gift Jesus said we would receive. It is the baptism in the Holy Spirit.

QUESTIONS:

- What was Nathan feeling as he was waiting his turn? (nervous, scared, worried, etc.)
- What did Mr. Dan his coach share with him?
- What is a coach or a counselor?
- Do we sometimes feel lonely, sad, nervous, or scared?
- How can God the Holy Spirit help us when we feel this way?

LESSON 3: Prayer Works!

Tell the following true story to your boys, and then ask them the questions at the end.

One year at Christmastime, John and Lucille Mazurek and their sons, Bobby and Jim, gathered in the living room of their home in Clinton, Iowa, to pray before going to bed. Grandma Berndt was with them. Suddenly 6-year-old Bobby piped up with, "Daddy! Daddy! Pray for the people in the boat!"

What people? What boat? Nobody knew, not even Bobby. But he spoke with such urgency that the family prayed for the "people in the boat."

Two-and-a-half years passed. That summer, Grandma Berndt attended the Nebraska State Camp Meeting. Norman Correll, a missionary from Tanzania, Africa, was also there. When he spoke, he told this story of God's deliverance.

At Christmastime in Tanzania, the Norman Corrells and the Delmar Kingsriters, another missionary family, packed a picnic lunch, took two African pastors, and went up the river in their Speed the Light boat to have a baptismal service in a nearby village.

On their way back, they decided to go ashore to eat their lunch. A crowd of curious Africans gathered to watch these strange white people as they ate. Suddenly the villagers began to cry, "Nyuki, nyuki!" ("Bees, bees!") Frantically they raced toward their huts where the smoke from their fires would protect them from these lethal insects.

The missionary group was immediately surrounded in a cloud of killer bees. Where their bodies were not covered with clothing, the bees began to sting them. Delmar Kingsriter ran to get the motor started on the boat, while Norman Correll waded into the river carrying and pushing the women and children into the boat.

At this exact moment, half a world away, the Mazurek family was praying over Bobby's urgent request.

At first the missionaries tried to outrun the bees down the river. Seeing that this was impossible, they stopped near a village on the opposite bank and ran toward the huts. When the villagers saw them coming, they screamed, "Nyuki, nyuki!" and threw green leaves on the fires to create more smoke. The smoke was effective in repelling the bees.

Both of the African ministers, as well as the Americans, were covered with bee stings. Delmar Kingsriter could understand the language used in that part of Tanzania. The villagers were saying that those who had been stung would quickly die. The death wail began to rise from the villagers.

Mrs. Correll felt like she was dying. She became unconscious, and the others laid her on a mat. They gathered around and began to pray.

Suddenly, the Spirit of God fell on the missionaries and the African pastors. They quoted the promise in Mark 16:18. As they prayed, color came back into Mrs. Correll's cheeks, and she sat up. The children stopped crying. Everyone began to feel better.

Later, a missionary doctor told them their recovery was as miraculous as if a cobra had bitten them. The venom of those killer bees is so poisonous that just one or two stings can be fatal and cause death. It was a miracle that no one had died.

As Grandma Berndt listened to this story that day at the camp meeting, her excitement mounted. After the service she spoke with Mr. Correll and found out that the attack of the killer bees occurred at the exact moment that little Bobby said, "We must pray for the people in the boat!" Because God was able to use 6-year-old Bobby and his family, the lives of those missionaries were saved. When God places a missionary or a special need on your heart, be sure to pray. You never know what could be happening somewhere else in the world.

QUESTIONS:

- What did God ask Bobby to do?
- What was the danger that the missionaries were suddenly faced with?
- Why was the bee sting from one of these bees so dangerous?
- Why was it important for Bobby to pray?
- What does this miracle show us?

LESSON 4: Tools for Life

ITEMS NEEDED:

Gather an assortment of tools. These would include hammers, screwdrivers, pliers, saws, etc. Also have some nails, screws and such.

Ask the kids to talk about what each of the tools is for. Have them use the hammer and screwdrivers. Use this time to teach the children about using tools. It is very good for the boys to learn about tools.

After you have had time to use the tools for a while, ask the boys which tool is the most important. They may discuss it for a while, but the correct answer of course is that each tool is equally important depending upon what the task is. If you need to nail something together, what good is a screwdriver? If you need to remove a screw, what good is the saw? Each tool was created with a purpose. The biggest tool isn't necessarily the best. Sometimes the smallest tool is the best.

Compare this to the family of God and to each of the boys. Some of them are tall; some are short. Some are strong some are fast. Some are good with computers; others are great at reading books. Each of you have different talents. God made you that way. Each of you are going to be something different when you grow up. Each of you have different talents. Absolutely everyone has a purpose in God's eyes.

Read 1 Corinthians 12:14-27. Talk about how Scripture teaches us we are all part of God's Christian body. We all have different tasks and purposes. Verse 27 says, "You are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it."

Sometimes, you get one right!

By Paul and Karla Aaron, Arlington, TX

Paul and I have two sons. Brandon recently turned 20, and Kolton just graduated from sixth grade. Like most Christian parents, we strive to bring up our children "in the way they should go." At times, this proves to be a real challenge.

Making the decision to involve our sons in the Royal Rangers program has been very rewarding. Family vacations have taken on special meaning as we spent travel time learning Scriptures and earning merits, such as studying nature and wildlife in places like the Grand Canyon, Monument Valley, the Pacific Ocean, and Pikes Peak. Summer visits at the grandparents allowed time to study birds, create an Indian costume, and practice fire craft.

After Royal Rangers was initiated in our home church, we proudly watched Brandon transform from a follower to a leader. While attending a campout, he received the Holy Spirit. He excelled in all areas of Royal Rangers, winning the Royal Ranger of the Year award. He gave his first devotion in a Royal Rangers meeting and gained the skills and confidence to later preach a sermon in front of his peers in his youth group.

Kolton began Royal Rangers as the only Straight

Arrow in the outpost. He has wonderful memories of the time and attention his Straight Arrows commander gave him. As he was promoted into Buckaroos, we changed churches. I decided to make the transition from teaching Missionettes to becoming a Royal Rangers commander. This allowed me to be very involved in his Royal Rangers training. Royal Rangers has provided a consistent source of discipline, training, friendships, and opportunities to build both self-esteem and trust in God during these last few years of grade school. Serving as a patrol leader has taught him valuable leadership lessons. He has been honored as Ranger of the Year in his outpost. Now an Adventure Ranger, Kolton is striving toward the goal of earning his GMA by the end of the year.

As parents, we urge other parents to become more actively involved with their Royal Rangers. Take the time to find out what the requirements are for merits that he needs or wants to earn. There are numerous categories. Using merit earning and Rangers preparation as a catalyst for spending quality time with your son will create many memories and parenting opportunities, whether it is building and racing a Pinewood Derby car, learning about computers, collecting insects or sitting around a council fire at a powwow.

We found that our goals as parents coincided with the Royal Rangers goals—to see our boys grow mentally, physically, spiritually and socially; to live by the Ranger Code; and to make the Golden Rule their daily rule. Sometimes, you get one right!

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hot air eventually cools. When that happened, the balloon came back down.

Jacques Charles saw the first balloon rides and wondered if there was something other than air that would make a balloon rise. He tried filling a balloon with a gas called *hydrogen*. Because hydrogen is lighter than air, it worked. Soon there were both hydrogen balloons and hot air balloons flying around Paris.

But there was one problem. How did they make the balloons go where they wanted them to go? Once a balloon was in the air, it went wherever the wind took it. Not all balloon rides ended in soft landings. Sometimes they crashed.

A person named Henri Giffard created the first *dirigible*. Dirigible means steerable. Henri Giffard made a hydrogen balloon that looked like a fat cigar. He attached a small motor that powered a propeller which drove the balloon forward. Rudders made the balloon able to turn right and left.

Dirigibles were a huge hit. Countries all over the world began making and flying them. In order to carry engines and passengers and luggage and lunch, the dirigibles kept getting larger and larger to hold more and more hydrogen. People began making dirigible voyages from country to country, and even across the ocean.

But dirigibles had one serious problem. The hydrogen gas that filled the balloons was *flammable*. That means any flame would make it explode. The engines that made the dirigibles go could cause sparks. When that happened, people died.

The most famous dirigible was the Hindenburg. It could hold more than 100 people and was 800 feet long! The Hindenburg made many successful trips, but as it tried to land on May 6, 1937, it exploded in midair. That was the last time dirigibles were used. Airplanes took over as the main form of traveling in the sky.

But what about hot air balloons? They were all but forgotten as dirigibles and then airplanes came along. Then in 1961, the United States Navy wanted to create an inexpensive way to study the atmosphere. *Atmosphere*, or the air above the earth, could be studied best with a hot air balloon.

Strong, lightweight fabrics were used for the balloon part,

and a portable propane heater was attached to the basket. Propane makes a lot of heat and no smoke. It turned out to be the perfect thing for ballooning.

Three of the Navy men who designed the new kind of balloon thought it would make a great sport. In 1967, the Federal Aviation Administration approved their idea. Safety rules were created. Balloon pilots were carefully trained to read ballooning instruments and follow the air currents.

Ballooning is now as popular as it was in France in the 1800's. Big, colorful balloons are flown for sport all over the world. There are festivals, games, and races using balloons. The most well-known festival is the Albuquerque International Balloon Festival in Albuquerque, New Mexico. On a clear, crisp day in October, hundreds of brightly-colored balloons lift off into the blue, blue sky.

Anyone who rides in a balloon will tell you there is nothing like it. Except for the occasional roar of the propane heater, the ride is completely silent. People, cars, houses, and buildings are soon far below you. There is no wind in your face, because you are flying with the wind. You have time to look around, relax, and enjoy the view. A couple of hours later you float safely back to earth.



SOURCES

Science Experiments: Flight by John Farndon (Marshall Cavendish Corp., N.Y., 2002); *Invention* by Lionel Bender (Alfred A. Knopf, Inc., N.Y. 1991); *Flying in a Hot Air Balloon* by Cheryl Walsh Belville (Carolrhoda Books, Inc., Minneapolis, 1993); *Balloons, Zeppelins, and Dirigibles* by Aaron W. Percefull (Franklin Watts, N.Y., 1983); *Up, Up, and Away* by LeRoy Hayman (Julian Messner, N.Y., 1980); *The Smithsonian Book of Flight for Young People* by Walter J. Boyle (Atheneum, N.Y., 1988); *Experimenting with Air and Flight* by Ormiston H. Walker (Franklin Watts, N.Y., 1989); *Amazing Flying Machines* by Robin Kerrod (Alfred A. Knopf, N.Y. 1992); *Hot-Air Henry* by Mary Calhoun (William Morrow and Co., Inc. N.Y., 1981); *Shortcut* by David Macaulay (Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston, 1995); and *Full of Hot Air* by Gary Paulsen (Delacorte Press, N.Y., 1979).

Do you know Jesus as your personal Savior?

If you haven't asked Jesus into your heart as Savior and asked Him to forgive you of your sins, it is as simple as following these steps:

A. ADMIT YOU HAVE SINNED. "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23).

B. BELIEVE IN JESUS. "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16).

C. CONFESS AND LEAVE YOUR SIN. "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9).

If you would like someone to pray with you about your decision to know Jesus as your personal Savior, talk with your Royal Ranger commander, your pastor, or call: 1-800-4PRAYER, the National Prayer Center.

ROYAL RANGERS ADVENTURES

"TRAIL OF THE GRIZZLY?" I DON'T KNOW IF I'M READY FOR THAT, GUYS...

C'MON, AL--COMMANDER MEADOWS WOULDN'T HAVE RECOMMENDED YOU FOR THE FCF PROGRAM IF HE DIDN'T THINK YOU COULD CUT IT.

BESIDES, WE'VE BEEN RECOMMENDED, TOO, SO WE CAN DO THIS TOGETHER. I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO IT, DUDE.

*FRONTIERSMEN CAMPING FELLOWSHIP

HEY, I LOVE BEING A ROYAL RANGER, BUT THAT FRONTIER STUFF IS EXTRA TOUGH.

BESIDES, I'M REALLY A CITY-BOY, YOU KNOW...

POOP!!

YOU MEAN TO TELL ME YOU WOULDN'T LIKE TO GET AWAY FROM ALL THIS ONCE IN A WHILE?

CRASH

BEEP

BEEP

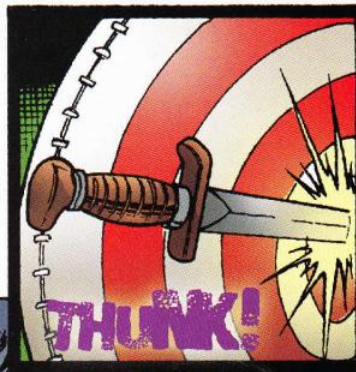
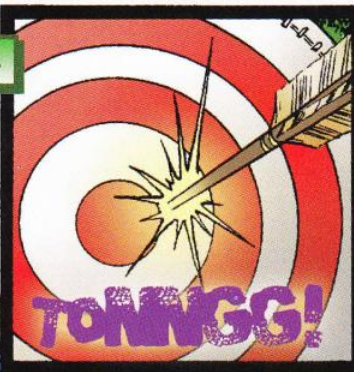
WELL... NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT...

BEEP

Story, color & letters: Craig W. Schutt
Art: Tom Lyle



A WEEK LATER...



WOW, AL--YOU'RE A NATURAL! ALL THOSE BULL'S-EYES TODAY!

I DIDN'T KNOW YOU HAD IT IN YOU!

FRANKLY, NEITHER DID I.

ADMIT IT, AL, YOU'RE HAVING THE TIME OF YOUR LIFE, AREN'T YOU?

YEAH. AND YOU KNOW WHAT? I HAVEN'T MISSED MY I-POD OR PDA OR CELL-PHONE ONE LITTLE BIT.

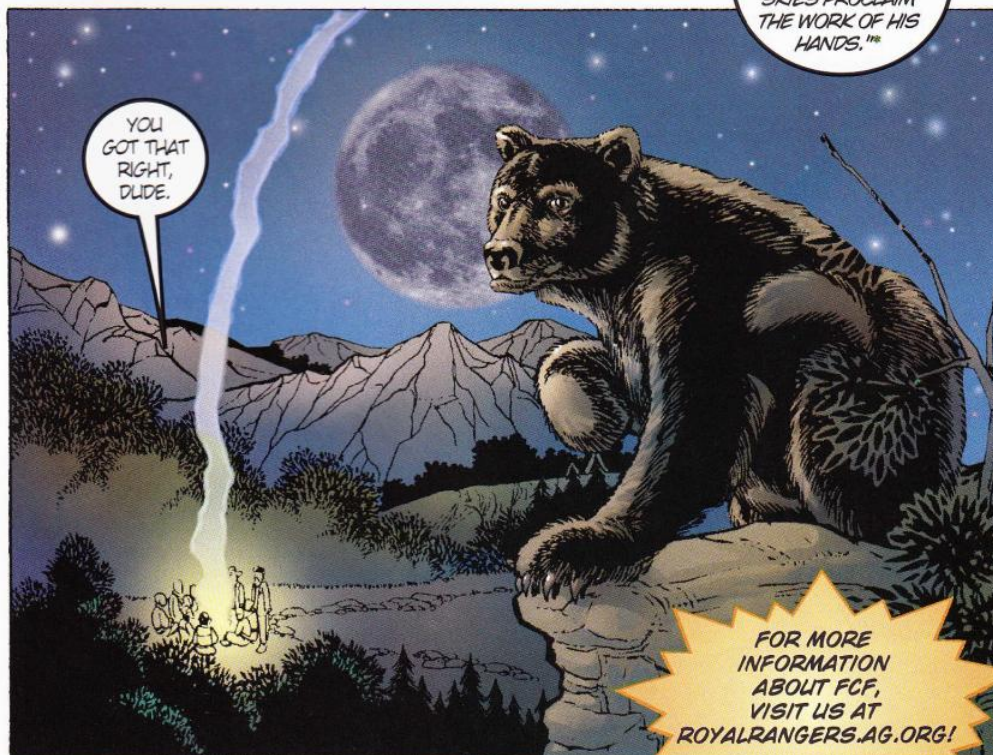
CAN YOU IMAGINE?



AND LOOK AT THAT SKY-- ALL THOSE STARS.

REMINDS ME OF PSALMS 19...

"THE HEAVENS DECLARE THE GLORY OF GOD; THE SKIES PROCLAIM THE WORK OF HIS HANDS."



YOU GOT THAT RIGHT, DUDE.

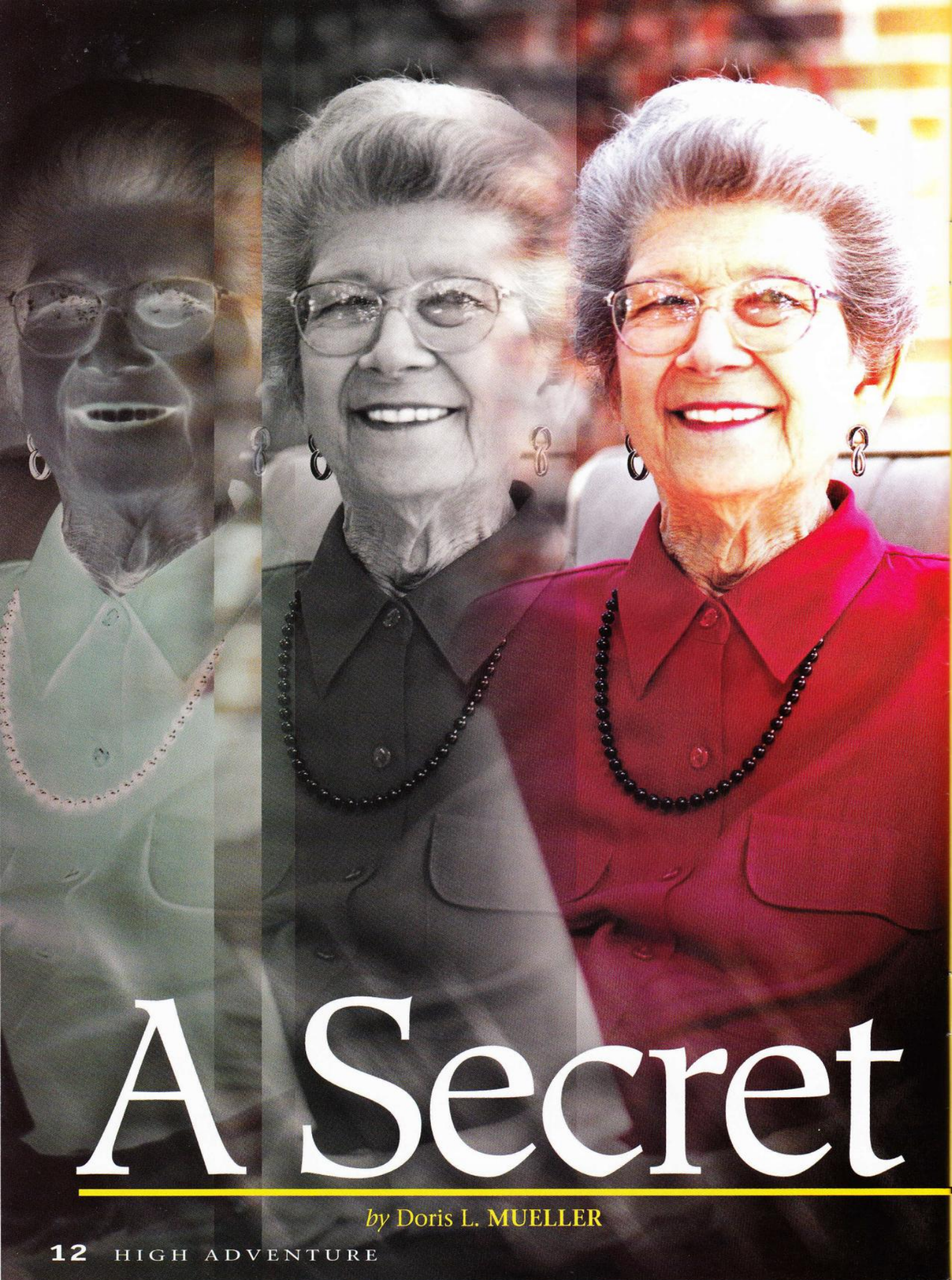
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The FCF Pledge

"I share with you the warmth and glow of this campfire. These crimson flames are a symbol of our fellowship and adventures in camping.

"I promise to share with you the warmth of Christian friendship and with others the light of my Christian testimony.

"I promise to keep alive the spirit of FCF in my personal life and to observe at all times the principles of Royal Rangers."



A Secret

by Doris L. MUELLER

Andy scratched the back of his neck where his sweater had rubbed the skin almost as red as his hair. He squirmed uneasily on the hard wooden chair and slapped at a fly on his arm. It was OK visiting Gram in the nursing home, but now he was ready to leave. Just then his mother looked up and gave him a smile and a wink that told him, "It won't be much longer."

Gram patted his knee that was dusty from playing marbles at noon recess. "Andrew, I'm so glad you came to see me." She sighed and twisted in her wheelchair. "I know I should be more patient, but I can hardly wait to get out of here."

Andy grinned and nodded sympathetically. He knew Gram needed to stay in the nursing home until her broken hip finished healing, but it must be hard for her, being away from home. He remembered how boring it had been when he'd broken his arm. He bet Gram missed visiting with her neighbors and working in the yard. Just then his stomach growled, which reminded him that he and his mother wouldn't be going to Gram's for Sunday dinner for a while. Bummer, no fresh-baked cookies.

Andy's mother went over and hugged Gram. Andy jumped up and stretched. "So long, Gram. I hope you can bust out of here pretty soon." Gram held out her hand to him, and he gave her a high-five and a big grin. As he turned to leave, he heard his grandmother whisper to his mom, "He has the most infectious smile!"

Just last week Andy's fourth grade class had been studying about infectious diseases. He didn't see how a smile could be catching. He shrugged. Grown-ups were funny sometimes.

Just then, a little old woman in a wrinkled blue dress tottered through the door. She looked all around with watery blue eyes, then muttered, "This ain't my room! Where's my room?"

Gram spoke gently to the woman. "How are you today, Mrs. Brown?" Then Gram whispered to Andy's mother, "Sometimes she gets lost."

Andy's mom put her arm around the trembling old lady. "I'm Sally, and this is Andy. We'll walk you to your room." Before she could ask Gram where that was, a nurse's aide came hurrying down the hall.

"Oh, there you are, Pearl!"

On the way to her room, Andy heard Mrs. Brown mumble, "Hope that ol' woman's gone." Nobody else seemed to be listening, but Andy wondered what she was afraid of. He could remember, when he was a little kid, he'd thought a monster lived in his closet. When they reached the old lady's room, the nurse's aide pointed to the sign by the door that read "Mrs. Pearl Brown."

"Here's your room, Pearl. Now, say goodbye to your friends."

A few days later, Andy and his mom visited Gram again. After awhile, he asked his mother if he could go to see Mrs. Brown. Although the old lady acted glad to see him, Andy wasn't sure she really remembered him. He could see she was still frightened. She put her finger to her lips and whispered, "Did you see her?"

He looked around. "See who?"

She flapped her hand. "That old woman! She watches me through the window and frowns at me."

Andy walked over to the window and looked out. "Nobody here."

She didn't seem convinced. She got up from her chair and paced restlessly across the room, passing in front of a large mirror on the wall. Suddenly she whirled around. "See her? She's watching me now." She faced the mirror again and shook her fist. "Shoo! Go away!"

Suddenly Andy realized what she had seen. He patted Mrs. Brown's hand and talked to her, until gradually she seemed to forget about the imaginary intruder.

When Andy got home, he thought and thought—and even prayed—about his new friend's problem. Was there some way he could help? Would Mrs. Brown believe him if he told her she was seeing her own reflection? Or would she just feel insulted? At last an idea came to him. He could hardly wait to visit the nursing home again.

On his next visit, he stayed awhile with Gram, then announced that he needed to see Mrs. Brown. As soon as he arrived, his new friend started to tell him about the mean old woman. He sat beside her and said, "I've got a plan. It's like a secret weapon. Wanna hear it?" He leaned over and whispered his idea into her ear.

Mrs. Brown pursed her lips doubtfully.

"It'll work—I promise," he assured her. "Try it next time."

"Well, I'll try—but I don't know."

Soon Andy left to return to Gram's room, but he had gone only part way down the hall when he heard Mrs. Brown yelling, "Come here, quick." He rushed back to see what was wrong.

Mrs. Brown was beaming. "It did work—just like you said. When that old woman frowned at me, I made myself smile at her—and guess what? She quit frowning and smiled back!" She gave Andy a big hug and said goodbye, still smiling.

Andy arrived at Gram's room with a huge grin spreading across his face.

"What's that big smile all about?" asked his mom.

"Oh, nothing. I just discovered a secret weapon."

WEAPON

Feature Creature

by Ann M. BAUERS



Coral & King SNAKES

Summer will be here soon, and it will be time to camp before you know it. Camping is fun and has potential for a lot of activities, including seeing and learning about wildlife. The outdoors has hundreds of birds, mammals, and (as I am sure you know) bugs. There are also many kinds of reptiles out there, including snakes.

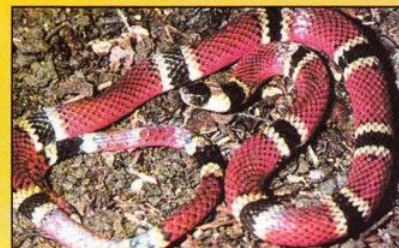
In nature there are about 2,700 species of snakes, so it should not be hard to find one! Two species of snakes every camper should be aware of live in North America. They are king snakes (*Lampropeptis getula*) and coral snakes (*Micrurus fulvius*). All snakes are interesting, but these two snakes might very well be the most interesting. The reason is that the coral is a poisonous snake and the king is harmless, but they look exactly the same—almost.



The king snake is known as a mimic because they are a mimic, or copy, of the coral snake. Animals know the coral snake is poisonous, and when they see its coloring they avoid it. By mimicking the coral snake the king snake is able to fool the other

animals into thinking it is a coral snake, so the animals leave it alone. Mimicking is God's way of helping to protect the king snake. Do not be frightened by this information. You are going to learn a very simple way to tell a coral snake from a king snake. There are some other tips you may already practice that will help avoid a confrontation with a snake of any kind too.

If you look at the picture above it is very hard to tell the snakes apart. Remember this, and you will never have trouble telling these look-alike snakes apart:



*Red and black, friend of Jack;
Red and yellow, kill a fellow.*

Now look at them again closely and use what you just learned to see if you can tell which snake is which. The snake with red stripes next to black is a king; the snake with red next to yellow is the coral, the poisonous snake. Try guessing a few times and soon you will become an expert at identifying the snakes.

Some other tips to help avoid being bitten by a snake, especially a poisonous one, are:

- Wear high top leather hiking boots when you walk or hike in the woods or in rocky areas.
- Never reach under rocks or logs, that is where snakes like to hang out.

- Be alert. You do not have to be afraid of snakes, but it is very important to be aware of the environment around you.

Don't be afraid of snakes. They are not looking for you, nor do they want to hurt you. Just stay alert and be smart, and you will have a lot of fun camping. If you respect the area you camp in, never litter, and enjoy the wildlife, the snakes will probably be pleased you decided to visit their neighborhood!

Which is a friend of Jack?



**"Looks like Dad is making the ...
chicken extra-crispy again..."**



**"No, I don't think you've made every mistake
in the world — you've only been camping
since this morning!"**

What is the dot over the letter "i" called? *A "Tittle."*

Silence!

What is so fragile that when you say its name you break it?

COMEDY CORNER

A grandson was visiting one day when he asked,
"Grandma, do you know how you and
God are alike?"

Mentally polishing her halo the Grandma asked,
"No, how are we alike?"

"You're both old," the grandson replied.

Game Warden: "Fishing?"

Man without a license: "No. Drowing worms."

Two Eskimos sitting in a kayak were chilly, but
when they lit a fire in the craft it sank...
proving once and for all that you can't have
your kayak and heat it, too!

The catfish has over 27,000 taste buds.

*(What can be so tasty on the bottom
of the pond?)*

What's the difference between a hunter
and a fisherman?

A hunter lies in wait. A fisherman waits and lies!

If they are dumb enough to eat off a hook,
how can fish be considered "brain food?"

Little Johnny didn't do very well in his
classroom. During an oral spelling exam,
the teacher wrote the word "new" on the
blackboard. "Now," she asked Little Johnny,
"what word would we have if we placed a
"K" in the front?"

After a moment's reflection, Little Johnny
smiled and said, "Canoe?"

A potato baked in the coals for three hours
makes an excellent hockey puck.

The sight of a bald eagle has thrilled
campers for generations.

The sight of a bald man, however, does
absolutely nothing for the eagle.

The flea can jump 350 times its body length.
It's like a human jumping the length of
a football field.

What object has keys that open no locks, space
but no room, and you can enter but not go in?

A keyboard!

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Christopher Dalla Rosa,
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