

ISSUE 01



SPRING 2005

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LEADER'S EDITION

High Adventure

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF ROYAL RANGERS



OVER 7,000 CAMPER • NATIONALLY KNOWN SPEAKERS
WORLD RENOWN MUSIC ARTIST • COLORFUL PAGEANTRY



JULY 17-21

THE ADVENTURE *of a Lifetime!*

Please send me the official packet for the

**2006 National
Camporama**

NAME _____

ROYAL RANGERS POSITION _____

OUTPOST NUMBER _____

CHURCH ADDRESS _____

Send completed coupon to:

NATIONAL ROYAL RANGER MINISTRIES
1445 N. Boonville Ave., Springfield, MO 65802-1894



How To Attend...

Each boy must be accompanied by a commander of his outpost and his district leadership.

Outpost leaders should submit applications through their respective districts.

Two Easy Steps To Start

1 Return the coupon for a Camporama packet, which includes a colorful Camporama poster, fundraising ideas, and Camporama information.

2 Contact your district commander for application forms and additional Camporama information. The application for and registration fee — made payable to "Royal Rangers," (credit cards accepted) — are due to your district Royal Rangers office, postmarked by April 3, 2006.



High Adventure

ISSUE 01 SPRING 2005

Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. — JAMES 1:4



inside

HIGH ADVENTURE — Volume 35, Number 1

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Richard Mariott, *Publications Manager*
Jerry Parks, *Editor-in-chief*
Don Jones, *Design*
Ginger Casebeer, *Technical Editor*
April Breon, *Special Assistant*

High Adventure Needs Your Help!

We would like to give you the best *High Adventure* publication possible and we are asking for your assistance. Send your name, address, what Royal Rangers group you are in (Ranger Kids, Discovery Rangers, etc.) along with your comments to: High Adventure Readers' Panel
Royal Rangers Ministries
1445 N. Boonville Avenue
Springfield, MO 65802-1894
rangers@ag.org

Hope to hear from you soon!

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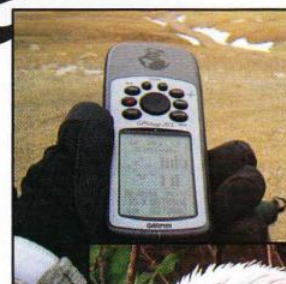
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GOLD MEDAL of Achievement

The Value of Royal Rangers

by Forrest Caleb **BROWN**

OUTPOST 33 *"The Oaks Fellowship, Red Oak, Texas"*

Royal Rangers is an amazing program that I truly love. Royal Rangers and its commanders have loved me, personally motivated me, developed me, and prepared me in ways I never imagined.

I have received a lot of love while in Royal Rangers. I still remember when I first got started in Royal Rangers. I thought all the older boys were so cool in their uniforms, and I wanted to be just like them. My mom was a single mother. We shared a small trailer with another single mom and her daughters. I was so glad to be around men who were like fathers to me. They showed fatherly love to me and took me camping, fishing, and other male activities. One day the best father figure of them all, Commander Bill Brown, showed his fatherly love by becoming my real dad!

I have received a lot of personal motivation through Royal Rangers. I had always wanted to be a senior guide. One day Commander Stan looked me in the eyes and told me, "Caleb, I will only appoint you to the position of senior guide under these conditions. You must stop pouting when you don't get your way, make good decisions, and stand proud when times are hard." Commander Stan helped me to overcome my insecurities by offering words of encouragement and advice. Commander Stan trusted me with leadership opportunities. He always supported me and would come to my school at times to acknowledge my accomplishments.

I have received development towards manhood because of my Royal Rangers experiences. Royal Rangers has exposed me to wonderful friendships and a safe and fun environment. This environment has become a second home to me. Rangers has exposed me to camps and leadership. It has exposed me to how deep of a relationship I have with my mother. She takes the gold for helping with my requirements and encouraging me to participate in everything Rangers had to offer. Everyone in Royal Rangers has helped me to develop so much. There are not enough thanks to go around to everyone who has impacted me.

I have received preparation for a God-centered life. Even now at school I use what I have learned to witness to my friends. This preparation helps me resolve hard choices based on God's Word. I enjoy working the altars during service and praying with my friends. I have learned what it takes for a real man to say no. I can now say no to the things that the world says are OK. When times are tough, I try to hold my head high, just like Rangers has taught me.

As I said, Royal Rangers is an amazing program which I truly love. It is wonderful to have this ministry and its commanders love me, personally motivate me, develop me, and prepare me for a godly life. I want to assure everyone that after earning my Gold Medal of Achievement, I shall not slack on my duties to the Royal Rangers ministry. I will use my new achievement for God, because I want to always reach, teach, and keep others for Jesus. I will take this mindset wherever I may go. Thank you.

by Nathan Elijah **CYRUS**

OUTPOST 211 —

New Life Outreach International, Richmond, Virginia

What is the value of Royal Rangers to me? When you ask the value of something, you put a price on it. To me, Royal Rangers is priceless, because there are some things you can't even hope to buy. It's invaluable to me for a few reasons.

For instance, you can't buy a good friendship with money; you have to build your friendships from the ground up. When I accepted Jesus in my heart as my personal Savior, He became my Friend. I didn't pay Him; I just gave Him my heart and my life in exchange for the sacrifice He made for me. I made a commitment to stay with Him forever.

You also can't pay to have all your work done for you and learn something at the same time. The reason why you can't pay someone to do your work for you and learn something at the same time is because you learn from the mistakes that you make, and that is also what makes you stronger as a person.

Campouts are one reason the Royal Rangers program is priceless. We had to do many difficult jobs, for example: setting up camp, finding firewood after it rained (Try burning wet wood!), cooking for the other Rangers, setting up the tool craft area, pitching or helping to pitch other people's tents who were helping to do other things, and then draining the tents of other Rangers after it rained. When the work was over, we all knew how to kick back, relax, and have fun though!

Another reason the Royal Rangers program is priceless is learning qualities from different situations as you go along throughout the program. I learned how to be an effective leader, a hard worker, and a team player, as well as how to be persistent and teachable. I learned how to be consistent in helping other people. All these qualities help to build my character and will help me in witnessing to the lost.

Also, the program is invaluable because of the things you learn personally. For example, I learned that if I need extra help, extra strength, or an extra push, then I need to give that extra prayer, extra time, and extra page of Bible reading.

The time spent with my outpost—that time when friendships get stronger between Rangers and with commanders—is priceless. That brotherly bond is something money can't even come close to buying.

Another reason is the spiritual growth, because without that we would be lost with no direction, like sheep in the middle of nowhere without a shepherd. But thankfully, we have people who are there like sheepdogs to keep us from straying away from our Shepherd.

Those are all good reasons why some things that are never tagged, and never bought, but are either earned or accepted or, sometimes out of generosity or love, are given, are invaluable.

by George "Tony" **WEAVER**

OUTPOST 68 —

First Assembly of God, North Little Rock, Arkansas

It all began in a little town in Maryland called Camp Springs. This is where I first got introduced to Royal Rangers. Even though I didn't know it at the time, I was starting on the trail of the gold medallist. I didn't really know much about Royal Rangers when I first got involved, as did hardly any of the other boys in my group. All I knew was that it looked really fun: to be outdoors in the peace of nature, in God's wonderful creation, and to be astonished by what an amazing thing God could create in only 6 days. I started out as a Straight Arrow in Outpost 86 in the Potomac district. Straight Arrows seemed pretty cool, with getting to wear the vest and all. I thought it was just awesome. Then when I saw that you could earn awards to put on your vest, I thought that was just the coolest thing ever. At the time my Dad was in the U.S. Air Force. I saw all the little shiny things he had on his uniform, and I was always envious of that. I wanted to be just like him when I got older, and I figured that this was one way that I could be more like him.

Eventually I moved up to Buckaroos. I thought that was even cooler than the vest, because I got to wear a shirt with this neckerchief around my neck. I thought that was the most awesome thing in the world, because it made me feel more like my Dad. I ended up earning just about every medal you could get in Buckaroos, except for my Top Hand award. That made me upset, because I knew I could've gotten it if I would've just applied myself.

I stayed with Outpost 86 until I was halfway through Pioneers, when my parents decided they wanted to move back to Arkansas, which is where they were originally from. That's also where all my extended family lived, so of course I didn't mind moving back there.

When I got involved in Royal Rangers in Arkansas, it was with Outpost 68 at this really big church called First Assembly of God, North Little Rock. Here I continued to be a Pioneer, and here is where I met some of my best friends, like Nathan McKenzie and Marty Lacy, just to name a few. They have been very inspiring to me. I really enjoyed getting to work side by side with them. I was always competing with Nathan for Ranger of the Month and little awards like that. We just found joy in the competition.

Nathan has already earned his GMA, which has been a big inspiration to me. Seeing him get that made me really want to get mine. I had a long way to go however. So I just started working as hard as I could, doing my best. I am very thankful to the Royal Rangers ministry, for they took me in and let me participate in everything, even though I have Cerebral Palsy (CP).

Royal Rangers has helped me to have the power to witness to people and to become a leader in my community. Some of the major influences on my life that have helped me make it this far were of course Nathan, my Dad (who is now the Senior Commander of Outpost 68), and other commanders such as Roger Chapman, Richard McKenzie, Sr., Richard Stafford, Ryan Workman, David Stafford, and Aaron Frisby. They made sure I was always able to go to the powwows as well as all the other activities and camps. They helped me to accomplish things that were challenging for me due to having CP, such as the Hiking Merit and Physical Fitness Merit.

I would like to thank all the commanders for the time and effort they gave of their own for me, but most of all I would like to thank God, because without Him, I literally wouldn't be where I am today

by Kyle **YOUNG**

OUTPOST 153 —

New Covenant Tabernacle, Buffalo, New York

What does being a Royal Ranger really mean? Quite a few people would say that Rangers is just about camping and goofing off and having a good time. Sure Rangers go camping and have a blast doing so, but there is something so much more important about being a Ranger, whether it's being a Ranger for God, your parents, your family, and yourself.

I have been in Rangers since I was very young. I accompanied my father on many outings when he was a commander. I was probably only 4 or 5, not quite able to be in Rangers. I officially entered late into Rangers as a second year Buckaroo with Paul Ronca as my Commander. I gradually became accustomed to the way things were, and I progressed very quickly through the ranks. Unlike other boys, I had a much easier time progressing in the beginning because my dad was a commander and he would help me with my advancements.

Currently, my dad serves as the Outpost commander, as well as serving as the commander of the younger group of Discovery Rangers and the Ranger Kids groups.

I grew through Rangers experiencing many different commanders, each one unique and special in their own way. Some of those people include Commanders Larry Rogers, Kent Arneith, Art Evans, Paul Ronca, and Peter Young (just naming those who helped me in my beginning years). There are many other commanders both from my outpost and other outposts in and out of our section.

Rangers encourages spending time with friends, family, and God—all of which are very important to me. It is so much fun to share a tent with a bunch of your best friends. It is a great experience telling fun stories and playing games all night. It is a great chance to get to know other kids from church which normally you wouldn't talk to. If it wasn't for friends, Rangers wouldn't be the same.

Some of my best experiences at campouts have been with FCF, the Frontiersmen Camping Fellowship, an elite group of older Rangers who wear period-correct clothing from different time periods. New York district reenacts the late French and Indian War and the Revolutionary War. FCF drew me in to more opportunities at campouts that I would not have been allowed to do otherwise.

A great moment for the Rangers in New York was when we purchased land for the entire state. Our land at Greene holds all of our district functions. One of those events, the powwow, is an annual summer event filled with good food, games, and competitions. I can remember at the last powwow, after the service was completely over, Rangers stayed at the altar for almost 2 hours in the complete dark under the stars worshiping God. Our outpost's campsite was just up the hill from the stage. We watched in amazement as God moved throughout those Rangers who went up for the altar call 2 hours before. This is just a small example of the work that God is doing through Rangers across the entire world.

I have learned many things from being in Rangers. I have built better Christian character that will follow me all my life. Rangers is like my second family. I know all the kids really well, even those not in my outpost. All of the commanders are really cool, and they teach us many new things.

Another important part of my Rangers family is my dad's involvement. We are constantly teaching each other new things and helping each other out. He was the one who got me involved and kept me interested, ever since he took me when I was little until now.

I sure hope that there will be many more years for me in Rangers, and that may include becoming a commander someday. One final reason for me to complete my GMA is for my grandpa. I am finishing this award in remembrance of him. He was my inspiration for this award. I remember him telling me never to give up on anything I do. I know he would be proud of me for getting this award.

Rangers is not just about the awards though. It is about developing yourself into a more godly person. It's also about giving yourself up to do the work and will of God to help touch others.

A Gadget-Crazy WORLD



The GPS instantly locks on satellites to pinpoint our position.

Using coordinates of our present and desired locations, GPS navigation plots courses with graphics or compass-steering guidance.

by Beth A. CLARK

A lone figure strides confidently up a mountain trail. Clutched in one hand is an object that looks like a television remote control. He stops suddenly and scans the surrounding forest. Leaving the trail, he slowly edges deeper and deeper into the trees, peering intently in all directions. A few minutes later, he turns around and hesitantly begins retracing his steps. After several unsuccessful attempts, he touches a keypad on the handheld instrument. A plotted course, complete with landmarks, hazards, and his exact location, appears on a pixel screen. He studies it and walks straight back to the trail.

This scene may seem like science fiction, but today, for as little as \$100, anyone can own one of these pocket-sized Global Positioning Systems. The GPS instantly locks on satellites to pinpoint our position. Using coordinates of our present and desired loca-

tions, GPS navigation plots courses with graphics or compass-steering guidance. With a memory to mark favorite destinations, some models can program up to 100 landmarks at a time. These also help us backtrack and tell us the distance and time to any of our targets. Orienteering features include latitude, longitude, and even sunrise, sunset, and lunar calculations.

A high tech GPS is quite a unique way to avoid human error. It certainly would be useful to anyone who spends a lot of time outdoors. We all read and follow directions every day of our lives, but how many of us really know how to find our way?

According to Search and Rescue team members, the main reason people get lost is that they are unable to orient themselves on our planet. They can't use the sun or stars to guide them if they don't understand the relationship between the earth and the solar system. A compass won't help them if they don't know how to read a map. While satellites can now tell us exactly where we are, we still have to be able to read

The biggest drawback to celestial navigation, poor visibility due to fog or bad weather, was solved by the invention of the compass.

The first crude magnetic compasses forever changed man's ability to travel.

a map if we want to plot our own course. Knowledge is the key.

All navigation requires knowledge, practical experience, and sound judgment. To navigate, you must be able to figure out your present position and the direction you need to travel to reach your goal. Your position is a point on the earth's surface that can be recognized as part of an accepted set of coordinates, such as latitude and longitude.

Direction is the position of one place, relative to another, from true north. It's easy to get confused in unfamiliar settings, but the position of the sun or the location of Polaris, the North Star, can get you pointed in the right direction. If it's too dark or foggy to see anything, you can trust your compass to lead you to safety.

For centuries, man has relied on the directional signs of nature to help him find his way. In order to survive, he had to plan his paths by the location of the sun and stars. Mapped since ancient times, the celestial bodies are described by a system similar to the earth's coordinates of latitude and longitude. Using the stars as a map, it was possible to travel across thousands of miles of unmarked water. To find heavenly coordinates which correspond to the land's latitude, a navigator used a sextant. A sextant is an instrument that measured how high the celestial bodies were above the horizon. To determine longitude, he used a chronometer, an accurate timepiece, to set the time of the measurement. Today, yearly almanacs figure out these coordinates. These coordinates are given to automatic star-tracking systems which use computers to record positions.

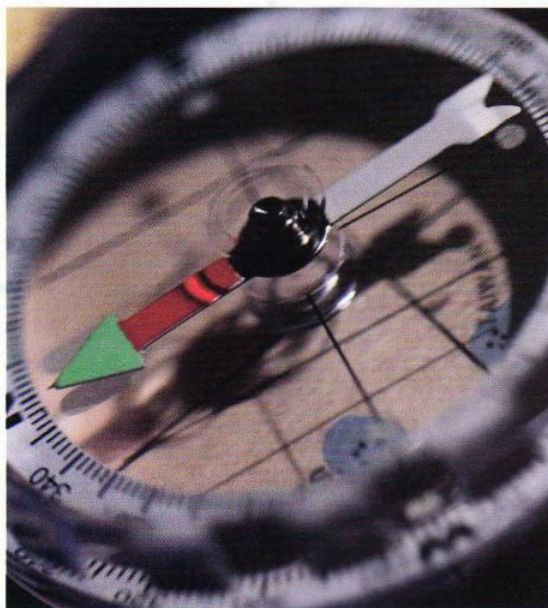
The biggest drawback to celestial navigation, poor visibility due to fog or bad weather, was solved by the invention of the compass. Magnetic compasses helped man find his direction by aligning themselves to the earth's magnetic poles. The first crude magnetic compasses, used by Chinese sailors more than 10,000 years

ago, forever changed man's ability to travel. For the first time, he was able to navigate no matter what time of day or what kind of weather. These days, radio waves and electronics work together with high speed computers to help us navigate. But even now the magnetic compass still keeps its original role as the basic navigational instrument.

These skills, used in the early exploration and settlement of our world, can still help you today in everyday life. You may need to plan auto trips, find your way in strange cities, or just locate stores in a shopping center. Although orienteering is best learned in the field, books

and charts can be very helpful. If you study and practice what you learn, you will be ready to make good decisions if the need arises.

Even with all the modern technology, we still rely on the skies as much as ancient man once did. He tracked the sun and searched the night sky for familiar stars to guide him. We track communication satellites and search for new gadgets that do our work for us. No invention will replace the need for knowledge, experience, and good judgment. In case you do get lost though, be sure you're carrying a lithium back-up battery for your GPS. If you have to use your pager or cellular phone to get help, you can tell someone exactly where you are.



Feature Creature

by Ann M. BAUERS



The American Bald Eagle

GENUS: *Haliaeetus*

SPECIES: *leucocephalus*

SIZE: Female — 35 - 37 inches
Male — 30 - 34 inches

WINGSPAN: Female — 70 - 90 inches
Male — 72 - 85 inches

WEIGHT: 10 - 14 pounds

The American bald eagle is our nation's symbol and one of the most beautiful and majestic birds. The American bald eagle is the largest of the predatory birds, and they grow to almost three feet tall with a wingspan of close to seven feet! Aside from their massive size and obvious gracefulness, you can identify an American bald eagle by its bill. It has a long, solid yellow bill that is curved. The reason the eagle's massive bill is curved is to tear its prey.

Adult American bald eagles are blackish-brown in color with a white "bald" head and tail. If you see what you think might be an American bald eagle but it is mostly dark, including its head and tail, it could be a young eagle. They do not get the white head and tail until they are grown adults.

Fish are a major part of the American bald eagle's diet, so they live near lakes, marshes, rivers, bays, and oceans. If you spot an eagle, chances are it will be perched in a

tree near the water or flying high above the water looking for their lunch. They look for fish from high in the air, either flying or in tree tops because they really do have eagle eyes!

Eagles have great speed and agility. When going after a fish or other prey, the American bald eagle can dive at speeds of up to 200 mph, can fly at speeds near 65 mph in regular flight, and they can swim too!

About the time they get their white head and tail feathers at age 5, they are mature and will breed. Yet another amazing and interesting fact about these birds is that they stay with the same mate for life unless one of them dies.

The nests of these birds are as impressive as the creature itself. Their nests are huge and can measure up to 10 feet across. These massive nests of the American bald eagle can weigh up to two tons and are made of large branches, sticks, grass, moss, leaves and weeds. They build these huge nests in tall trees, like eastern white pines and aspens. Each pair of eagles builds a nest, as they are together for life. Once they have built the nest, they use it every year and add branches or other materials to keep it in good shape.

The pair of eagles builds the nest when they first breed so they are prepared for the eggs to hatch. The female lays two or three eggs. The nest and eggs are protected by both of the eagle pair. When the eggs hatch, the pair feeds the eaglets until after they have learned both to fly and to hunt on their own. The young eagles can fly when they are 3 months old.

During the 1970s, this amazing creature nearly became extinct. This was because of DDT, a chemical that was used in pesticides at the time and is now illegal. This chemical caused the eagles to lay eggs with no protective shell on them, and the eagles were not able to reproduce. DDT has been banned in the United States, and the eagles have fought their way back.

The American bald eagle is a beautiful, majestic animal, and its use as our nation's symbol is reason enough to be proud to be an American!

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 HIGH ADVENTURE *Leader*

VOLUME 35

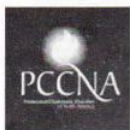
SPRING 2005

NUMBER 1

— NEWS FLASH! —

Royal Rangers Approved for PCNNA DENOMINATIONS

by Richard MARIOTT



In a historic move the National Royal Rangers Ministries has been approved to provide nationwide chartering for churches affiliated with PCCNA dominations.

Districts have the option to become the district chartering steward and PCCNA steward as well.

WHAT IS THE PCCNA?

Pentecostal Charismatic Churches of North America is an organization of which the General Council of the Assemblies of God is a member. The following is the second paragraph of the purpose of the PCCNA.

The purpose of the Pentecostal /Charismatic Churches of North America is to provide a framework for fellowship, dialogue, and cooperation between the various Pentecostal and charismatic denominations, churches, and ministries in North America that agree with the purposes and goals of the organization. Since these churches and fellowships share a common history of Holy Spirit renewal and an overriding goal of evangelizing the world, they wish to join in a common witness to the outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon all flesh in the last days. (Excerpted from the Preamble of the PCCNA Constitution)

For more information about the PCCNA go to their website at www.pccna.org.

"It is a great ministry for churches to offer to the boys to evangelize and disciple them into godly men of the future."

WHICH DOMINATIONS WERE APPROVED FOR NATIONWIDE CHARTER?

The following were approved for nationwide charter. National Royal Rangers Ministries is currently in the process of contacting these denominations to determine if they are interested in promoting and providing Royal Rangers as a ministry through their denomination.

- Anchor Bay Evangelistic Association
- Assemblies of God
- Association of Vineyard Churches
- Christian Church of North America
- Church of God (Cleveland, Tenn.)
- Church of God in Christ
- Church of God Mountain Assembly
- Church of God of Prophecy
- Church of God of the Apostolic Faith
- Congregational Holiness
- Independent Assemblies of God International
- International Church of the Foursquare Gospel
- International Pentecostal Church of Christ
- International Pentecostal Holiness Church
- Italian Pentecostal Churches of Canada
- Mt. Sinai Holy Church of America
- Open Bible Churches
- Open Bible Faith Fellowship
- Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada
- Pentecostal Assemblies of Newfoundland and Labrador
- Pentecostal Church of God
- Pentecostal Free-Will Baptists
- Pentecostal Holiness Church of Canada
- The Fellowship (FGFCMI)
- United Holy Church of America



WHAT ABOUT CHURCHES BELONGING TO PCCNA, BUT NOT TO A DENOMINATION?

We currently have a process for these churches to apply for chartering. Now called Charter Form "C", these churches may complete the charter application and forward to either the district chartering coordinator or the national chartering office.

THIS IS BIG!

I trust you can see the tremendous opportunity. When we say the sky is the limit, it applies here. Recently I was speaking with a district superintendent, and he made the following statement,

"Royal Rangers is a perfect ministry to take to other denominations. You have the structure from the outpost, section, district, and national to support the new churches. It is a great ministry for churches to offer to the boys to evangelize and disciple them into godly men of the future. It's a natural! Let's share it with these churches, and it will be a win-win situation!"

Sincerely,

Rich Mariott
National Commander



Dear Boys and Girls of BGMC,

It is with a happy heart and a lot of excitement that we write this email to say thank you for all you are doing for missionaries around the world.

In October 2004 we received our first disbursement of BGMC funds of \$1,300. We immediately put it to use by purchasing Royal Rangers teaching materials, class supplies, a CD player, TV/VCR combo, children's church worship CDs and teaching materials, and a fax machine. Can you believe that the first disbursement covered all this? It was amazing.

God has used BGMC to help us reach children for Christ in the Canary Islands. For example, I would like to tell you about Juan Felipe Estrela. When Juan Felipe was 6 years old, he and his Mom & Dad arrived in the Canary Islands.

For several weeks Juan Felipe rode his bike past the open door to our church. On Wednesday evenings his mother, Luz, was attending the English class being offered at the church. They had never been in church and didn't know what went on inside the building.

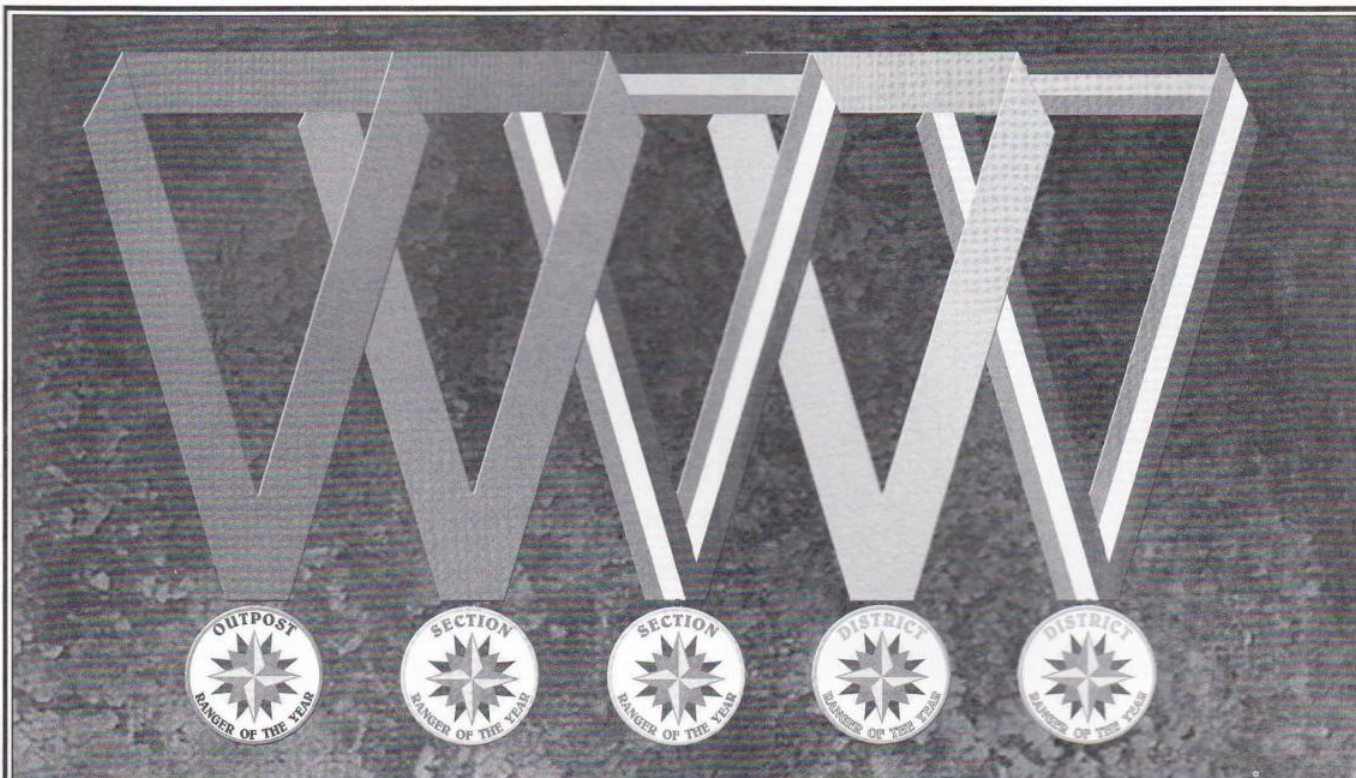
He was invited to come to Royal Rangers, which met at the same time his Mom was attending the English class. This seemed to work great since he would not be outside or at home by himself during this time. After two weeks of attending Rangers, Juan Felipe accepted Jesus as his personal Savior. Now he and his mom, Luz, have made the church their second family and they love being there—and we love ministering to them.

Thank you BGMC for making it possible to purchase the needed items for teaching the Word of God to the children of the Canary Islands.

You are making a difference.

With much thanks,

Larry & Melinda, Austin, Jake & Olivia Henderson



Ranger of the Year

by Brian HENDRICKSON

Ranger of the Year—what a great way to have a Royal Ranger set goals for his future!

As the first year of the new ROTY program is coming to an end, we have solicited comments and recommendations from the field and have made adjustments to help accommodate those suggestions. Some of the comments were:

■ I like the new system, but it was a bit difficult to adjust to.

■ It was wonderful to see the new ROTY system because it established a standard for all boys, instead of boy against boy, because much of the old system was based on subjective testing left to the judges' interpretation.

Many sections stated they had not prepared or had not planned well for the new ROTY system, however they said they were determined to plan better for the district and the ROTY events for next year. Many stated they had an increase of ROTY participation at their outposts, and they really like the new format that allowed many recipients to be honored. Indeed, the majority of the comments after district and region were more positive, and we received some very helpful

suggestions. The result of some of those suggestions can be found on the National Royal Rangers Ministries website now.

This article will address your comments and solutions, which will enable us to provide better ROTY experiences for next year.

CONCERNS

There were three basic concerns that occurred: lack of consistent **information**, **logistics**, and **manpower**. The first concern dealt with information. It is very apparent that not all our commanders and churches are aware of the new program or how it works. Some confusion was also a result of unclear wording on our part. For example, it was stated in only one part of the ROTY packet that the outpost, section, and district has the option to send at least two boys for each Rangers group. Now, if more than two boys qualify, send as many as qualify, but try to send at least one or two boys from your outpost or section to the next level so you are properly represented.

The second concern was the logistics of the new system. Because we enabled the boys to choose from a number of options, it expanded the intricacies and



workload for leadership putting on a ROTY event. Those men who put on the section ROTY learned a great deal and were able to put on a less stressful district event. But it still required a great deal of preparation, communication, and work.

The third concern dealt with the manpower issues. Each level required a large amount of leaders in order to run an effective and efficient ROTY event. One section needed 22 leaders to run the event because of the number of options the boys chose. As it turned out, the section could have run three times the number of boys in the same amount of time, but nearly every station had to be manned to meet the needs of the boys. The results of these issues was a lower attendance at ROTY events this year compared to previous years.

SOLUTIONS

Information: The new ROTY packet and website information has been updated to accurately inform parents, boys, and commanders. Of course, changes will continue to occur, so it is important to make National Royal Rangers Ministries aware of any confusion or inaccuracies you might find in any of the materials.

Logistics: The logistics have also been greatly

reduced. The new manual coming out in April or May of 2005 will be smaller, more efficient, and less complicated. There has been discussion about reducing the size of Achievement forms, but there were only some minor revisions, keeping in focus the desire to give proper credit for all the things the boys do in Royal Rangers, their church, and their community.

Manpower: The last concern resulted in our most important and quickest adjustment to the ROTY program. The solution was to reduce the number of merits available and the number of merits on which the boys were to be evaluated. Instead of choosing six of 10 merits, the boys now choose three of four. Therefore, there will no longer be any confusion or consternation if a boy shows up to be evaluated on a merit to find out that the merit station was not set up or that the correct number of copies of the written forms were not made available.

WHAT'S NEXT?

The question of where we go from here must be properly addressed. First, we must promote the ROTY program. We have done this through the national website, National Council, and attendance at various events over the past 18 months. We need you—the outpost commander, the section leader, and the district representative—to promote it as well. Take the time to read through and understand the ROTY process. You can do this by visiting our website or talking to your district leaders. If you are involved in the ROTY program, please take the time to read the ROTY manual.

The second thing we must do is focus on the positive results. If you were reading carefully above, you will note that the problems occurring with ROTY were largely related to how the commanders were able to implement the program. The majority of comments about the reactions and results from the boys at all levels were very positive. I can tell you from a personal perspective that my Discovery Rangers came back very excited from the section and district events. The rest of my boys have been pushing harder now to earn merits so they too can become a section or district Ranger of the Year. Therefore, the expressed purpose of the ROTY program has been accomplished, but we are hoping to make it even better for all involved, both boys and commanders.

*If you are involved
in the ROTY
program, please
take the time
to read the
ROTY manual.*



Ranger Commanders Philosophy



by Commander Ken Bustard, District Training Coordinator (NNED)

The ABCs all Ranger Commanders should demonstrate.

ATTITUDE! – Make it Positive

BEHAVE like a Christian

COACH the individual performance of others

DEVELOP professional competencies in yourself and others

EMPOWER others to be all God wants them to be

FUTURING and planning for Reaching boys

GRATITUDE for the gifts you have been given

HUMILITY in the face of success

INTEGRITY, honesty and sincerity

JUST and fair treatment of all people and situations

KNOWLEDGEABLE and always Teaching

LISTEN closely to what others have to say

MOTIVATE yourself and others

NEGOTIATE successful win-win outcomes

OBJECTIVELY consider situations and possibilities

PASSION for Reaching, Teaching and Keeping Boys for Christ

QUIZZICAL - to get to the bottom of things

RESPECTFUL of yourself and others

STEWARDSHIP for the Royal Ranger ministry

TEAMWORK, TEAM PRIDE, TEAM SPIRIT

UNDERSTAND DIVERSITY

VALUE DIVERSITY

WORK ETHICS demonstrated and taught

X-EMPLARY role modeling for others

YEARNING to make a difference

ZEALOUS advocacy for Keeping boys



A Tune-Up for a Classic Training Event

by Mike Laliberty

"Change, change, change. Are you folks at Royal Rangers Ministries ever going to stop changing things?" asks a commander. With a smile of assurance, Commander Mariott would answer, "No. Successful organizations never stop changing."

The last five years, Royal Rangers has undergone revitalizing changes in the area of curriculum to prepare for major growth. Few stones were left unturned as the entire organization examined itself for ways to improve and effectively serve the local outpost leaders.

At the same time, input from pastors, the national executive committee, the national training committee, and Royal Rangers leaders at all levels steadily developed a plan for improving National Training Camp.

CLEANING THE PLUGS

Let's examine some questions whose answers motivated updating NTC.

Is NTC relevant to the local outpost?

The majority of NTC graduates and non-attendees said, "No."

Some replies included:

"NTC was fun and a great spiritual experience, but truthfully, we don't cook over campfire pits. We use propane stoves and other modern equipment."

"We use large dome tents that have extra room."

"Our equipment is modern, not antique."

Is the NTC training relevant to the young Royal Rangers leader?

Again the answer was no.

"I wanted information to take back and practice what I was taught. Most of the classes helped me do that, but overall I felt like we were camping in the 1950s."

"The senior guide position shown at NTC was not how we are supposed to use him in the outpost. Why not show us how to use the senior guide correctly?"

Are teaching techniques current?

Again the answer was no. Many referred to the instruction style received as "old military." This style

included negative reinforcement, which is no longer used in modern military training. Modern educators agree that this is one of the least effective methods of learning. Many did not want to attend another NTC event for advanced training after experiencing NTC. Interestingly, many with a military background understood why it was done this way, but stated it was not a positive method.

What suggestions do you have to improve NTC?

"If the staff is going to give examples of what we should not do, explain first,

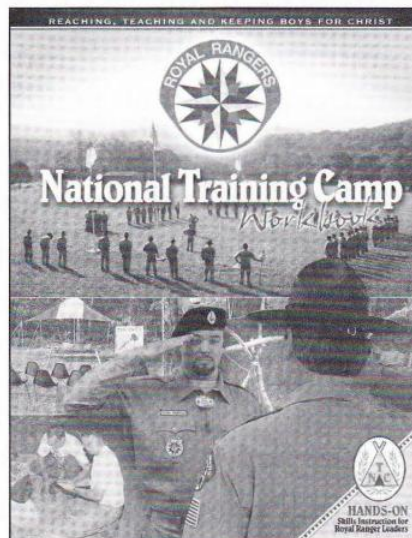
then give the demonstration. (For example, the senior guide's temper tantrum.)"

"Demonstrate innovative ideas to take back to improve camping at the local outpost."

"Do most of the cooking over a camp stove. Keep the tin-foil cooking meal to gain the open-fire cooking experience, but not for every meal."

"Provide the patrol the opportunity to be successful, without degrading them in the process."

"Treat trainees with respect, while being firm with standards and expectations."





"Provide quality handouts and notebooks for future reference at the outpost."

"Show how the outpost staff should relate to the boys and each other for the entire camp, not just the model outpost meeting session."

Are we presenting NTC as a "world class" model to replicate in our outposts?

I believe you would agree that the answer would be no.

KEEPING THE ENGINE

Although our goal was to identify areas of NTC needing improvement, a number of positive comments were made about NTC.

"The class material was very important in helping me prepare for my first outpost campout."

"I enjoyed the friendships built with other patrol members."

"Overall, it provided a good spiritual experience."

"It helped me evaluate my personal commitment to the boys in my outpost."

"There was a good spirit of morale by the end of the camp."

"I would really like to be on staff some day."

Although there were a number of areas in NTC needing improvement, the evaluation team agreed that a number of strengths still made NTC a valuable resource to national training.

TEST DRIVE

During the first half of 2004, an updated NTC format was developed addressing all of the major areas of concern. Four separate NTCs across the country then pilot tested the concept. More than 130 men successfully completed the new NTC.

Beginning May 2005, all NTCs operate under the new format. A major training certification event for a majority of qualified NTC staff will occur at the National Royal Rangers Council, March 2005, in preparation for the new format launch.

The updated NTC format includes:

- A new NTC workbook containing nearly 200 pages of NTC training session and outpost resource information will be issued to each student.
- All updated camp craft classes are referenced to Royal Rangers merit awards.
- Complete teaching outlines for instructors reference materials are included in the student workbook.
- Information needed to successfully complete all aspects of NTC is provided.

The requirements needed for each patrol to reach the Bronze, Silver, and Gold Patrol achievement levels are listed and prioritized. These requirements provide a clear understanding of which projects patrols should successfully complete before each evening training session.

REVVING IT UP

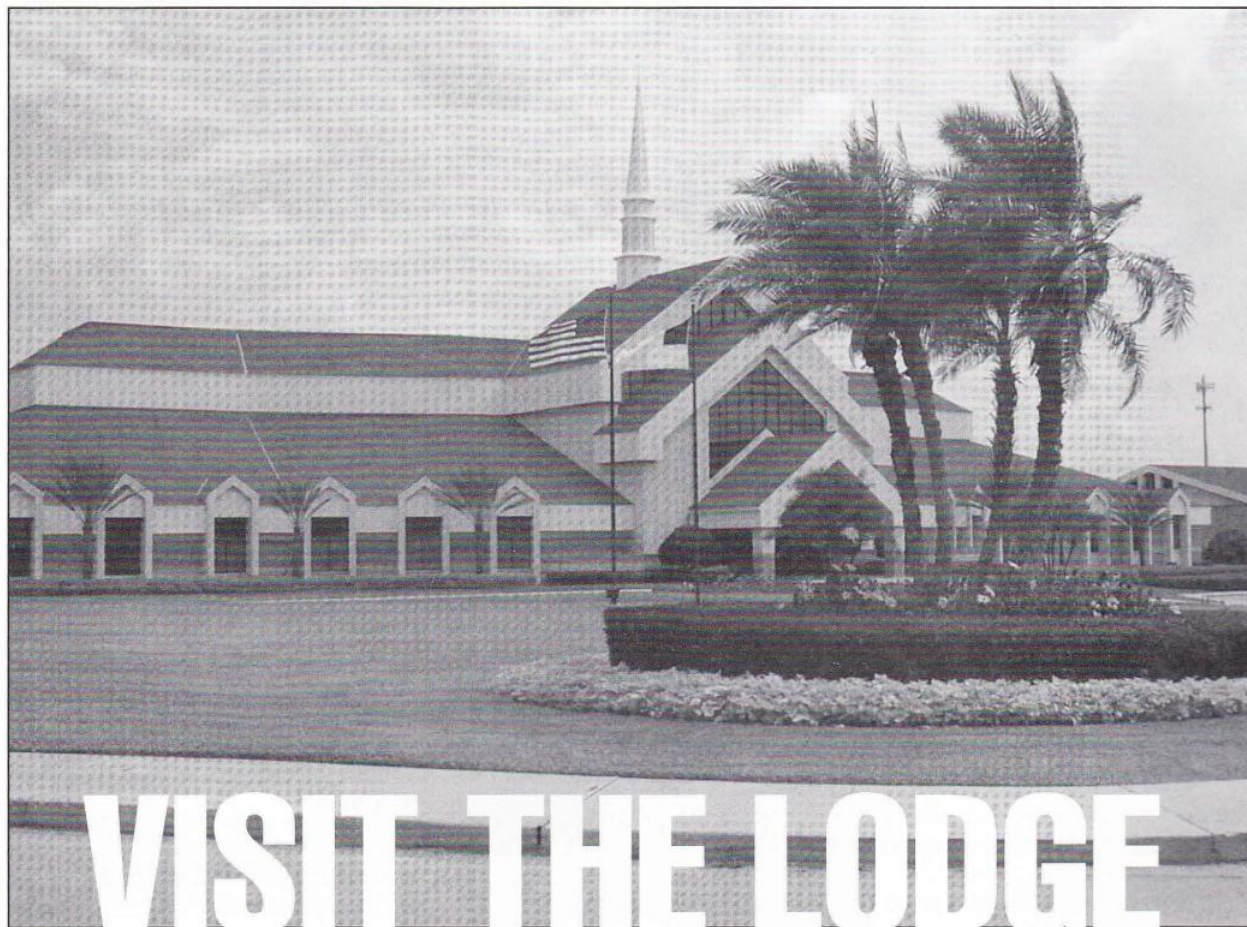
You will be experiencing an outpost campout from the view of a boy. The updated training methods utilize positive reinforcement and self-motivation techniques. "Knotty" will no longer be part of NTC.

Eight 14-foot regional NTC trailers have been built to supply each region with its own set of modern camping equipment. New NTC equipment provided includes large 2-burner propane camp stoves, propane lanterns, cook sets and kitchen utensils, large dome tents (four tents for each patrol of eight trainees), food boxes for cold storage, 10 feet by 20 feet portable carport-type dining flies, and numerous other items.

LET'S ROLL

As you can see, NTC has a new look and feel. So if you're a man, 18 years or older, don't miss out on a chance to attend one in a district near you. Not only will NTC provide you with new skills to work with your boys, it will allow you to view the Royal Rangers ministry in a life-changing new way.





VISIT THE LODGE at Victory Church!

— by Jerry Parks

"Merit work is not the ultimate goal of Rangers. Classroom activities are simply preparatory for spiritual victories God desires to do through loving and pliable commanders once the boys are under the stars and around the council fire."

— Children's Pastor, Kim Kelley

Victory Church in Lakeland, Fla., has a "kickin'" Royal Rangers program that draws boys from the inner city and surrounding neighborhoods. Victory's leadership team recognizes the value of this ministry to boys and young men. This is evident from the moment you enter the Lodge, which was built especially for the Royal Rangers ministry. A state-of-the-art log structure was built inside the current church structure, inviting the boys to come early and stay late to enjoy computer games or skillfully manipulate a controller in the cool game room. They can also purchase snacks from the Canteen, then sit around

the lounge area and just relax. In addition, they can take advantage of the available Rangers products and curriculum for sale over the counter.

What is the heart of Royal Rangers at Victory Church? Senior Commander Wayne Elliott says, "to reach, teach, and keep boys for Christ through outreach and activities where relationships are established outside of the outpost environment. Reach boys through the camping program; teach them in the classroom; keep them through the relationships that are developed." Elliott also encourages his leadership team of commanders to "lead by example." Commanders who earn the respect of the boys will witness them returning that respect and becoming more accepting of the Royal Ranger Code.

Elliott's method of recruiting and developing leaders is to present the need at a powwow or a church ministry fair and allow God to lead the right people to the outpost at the right time. It must be a true "heart" decision to come and work in Royal Rangers, not just the response to a specific need.

Children's Pastor Kim Kelly emphasizes the gold track and earning the Gold Medal of Achievement. "Those who stay in the gold track generally stay in the Rangers program," Kelly states. "Currently we have 120 boys and 30 commanders in the program with an emphasis on parental involvement. Parents are encouraged to remain in the classroom and stay with their boy as he develops. It helps to develop strong leadership." He adds, "Quarterly Council of Achievement ceremonies held in the outdoors with a council fire gets everyone excited, and special awards and recognitions help to keep the staff motivated."

A further indication of Victory's emphasis on the Rangers' ministry is the construction of a western town in the wooded area adjacent to the church. This western-style town will be used for summer camp evangelism, Vacation Bible School events, and other similar ministries for the boys to enjoy. A recent VBS was held at the church, and at one altar call 200 kids responded to the Holy Spirit's invitation for salvation.

So what do the boys think of their Royal Rangers program? Brent Fry, an 11-year-old Discovery Ranger states, "[Rangers] is a good way to help me learn about God...accept the challenge and fun of earning merits." Alan Langdale, an Adventure Ranger in eighth grade, is thankful for the active involvement of his Rangers commanders



as male role models in his life. His most fun activities are canoeing and camping.

"I learned about God and am able to teach and preach about God. I would like to become a missionary or children's pastor. By the way, I am looking forward to a great time at Camporama 2006!" says E. B. Larkin, an 11-year-old Discovery Ranger.

Commander Kenny Fountain, a Discovery Rangers commander and a GMA recipient, remembers a special moment in his life as he prepared for a Camporama event. "I washed buses all summer in 1978 to attend the Camporama event in Idaho. Sixteen of us won the 'Skill-o-Rama' and had a great time. The most memorable times center around ministry to

the boys from Victory Church."

The leadership team was mentioned, but what about the leader? Senior Pastor M. Wayne Blackburn has a true heart for ministry to children and youth. Through five building programs at Victory, he is still the driving force behind these life-changing ministries. They are now in the process of building satellite facilities in Lakeland, which are also committed to reaching children and youth.

Pastor Blackburn visits the Royal Rangers Lodge every Wednesday evening to meet and greet the Rangers boys and commanders. His presence is evidence of the church's philosophy regarding children and youth. "A lively children's ministry... is the future!"



This western-style town will be used for summer camp evangelism, Vacation Bible School events, and other similar ministries for the boys to enjoy

What is One of the Best Kept Secrets in Royal Rangers?

by Steve SCHULTZ

Did you know that every chartered outpost can participate in the National Championships? There are several areas you can compete in and, who knows, you may have what it takes to be a National Champion.

You can compete in traditional events like JBQ and TBQ, sponsored by BGMC or the Youth departments. The top finishers at the JBQ and TBQ National Competition will also be recognized by the Royal Rangers Ministries Office. You can also participate in BB Gun, Sporter Air Rifle, Smallbore Rifle, Black Powder Rifle, Trap Shooting (sponsored by the NRA), or Archery (sponsored by the National Alliance for the Development of Archery). This can be done at outpost, section, or district events. Simply follow the rules and guidelines that can be found on the Royal Rangers Ministries national website at <http://www.royal-rangers.ag.org/> under Events. You can participate in as many of the events as you want. Have your commander set up an event so you can find out if you have what it takes to be a national champion.

The results from the 2004 National Championship events are included in this edition of "High Adventure."

Let's see if you have what it takes to be a national champion. You will never know unless you try. Have you scheduled a date to compete yet?

**See the 2004 National Championship Results below.*

NRA/ Royal Ranger BB Gun

Place	Age	Name	Outpost	District
1	9	Zachary Foley	257	So. Cal
1	10	Joshua Cox	105	So. TX
2	10	Courtland Sherreitt	257	So. Cal
1	11	Justin Molina	105	So. TX
2	11	Nick Tischio	257	So. Cal
1	12	Christopher Driver	105	So. TX
2	12	William Krajewski	257	So. Cal
1	14	Rodney Reyna	105	So. TX
1	15	Richard Reyna	105	So. TX
1	16	William Foley	257	So. Cal

BB Gun Team Results

1	Southern Texas	105
2	Southern California	254

NRA/Royal Ranger Sporter Air Rifle

1	Sub-JR	Christopher Driver	105	So. TX
2	Sub-JR	Joshua Cox	105	So. TX

NRA/Royal Ranger Smallbore Rifle

1	Adult	LeRoy Tanner	105	So. TX
2	Adult	Bobby Simer	105	So. TX

NRA/Royal Ranger Black Powder Rifle

1	Adult	LeRoy Tanner	105	So. TX
2	Adult	Bobby Simer	105	So. TX

2004 Archery Postal Results — Recurve Division

Name	Age Class	District	Outpost	Score	Place
Brandon Hubbard	8 & under	Michigan	139	105	1
Nathan Tones	8 & under	So. Cal.	10	19	2
Aaron Cizek	8 & under	Michigan	139	3	3
Ricky Liuchan	9	So. Cal.	215	91	1
Issac Chapa	9	So. Cal.	106	84	2
Karim Reyes	9	So. Cal.	268	72	3
Derek Hasselbach	10	Michigan	139	93	1
Abner Melendez	10	So. Cal.	104	83	2
Jacob Hodge II	10	So. Cal.	106	67	3
Patrich Malone	11	So. Cal.	126	126	1
Amosd Sialoi	11	So. Cal.	215	112	2
Christian Anaya	11	So. Cal.	307	94	3
Isaiah Hever	12	So. Cal.	52	165	1
Timmy Veldhuizen	12	Michigan	139	144	2
Chris Lisdoux	12	So. Cal.	106	132	3
Morgan Mead	13	So. Cal.	34	235	1
Justin Torrey	13	So. Cal.	210	176	2
Markis Tohio	13	So. Cal.	215	162	3
Richard Brannan	14-15	So. Cal.	267	187	1
Danielson Sialoi	14-15	So. Cal.	215	183	2
Matthew Baxton	14-15	So. Cal.	154	154	3
Anthony Ledoux	16-18	So. Cal.	106	249	1
Jason Eckes	16-18	So. Cal.	106	220	2
Matthew Barnhill	16-18	So. Cal.	106	204	3
Harry Walker	Adult	So. Cal.	106	254	1
Patrick Henley	Adult	So. Cal.	81	252	2
Mike Eckes	Adult	So. Cal.	106	250	3

2004 Archery Postal Results — Compound Division

Name	Age Class	District	Outpost	Score	Place
Michael Warren	8 & under	Michigan	94	8	1
Jordan Warren	10	MN	94	23	1
Jon McIntyre	11	MN	94	148	1

JBQ 2004 Results — GOLD: 1 - 33 SILVER: 34 - 66 BRONZE: 67 - 100

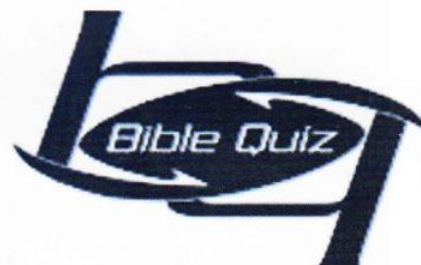
Name	Award Level	Church
Josh Matejka	GOLD	First A/G, St. Charles, Missouri
Justin Williford	GOLD	Willington Village A/G, Little Rock, Arkansas
Hunter Funk	GOLD	Glad Tidings, Austin, Texas
David Worthington	GOLD	First A/G, Humble, Texas
Dillon Rockrohr	GOLD	Evangel Temple, Kansas City, MO
Alex Starr	GOLD	Red Mountain Christian Center, Mesa, Arizona
Kennan Gore	GOLD	Central A/G, Springfield, Missouri
Eric Ferreira	GOLD	Calvary A/G, Dunwoody, Georgia



Justin King	SILVER	Concord, First A/G, Concord, North Carolina
Elijah Walker	SILVER	Helena 1st A/G, Helena, Montana
Zachery Adams	SILVER	The Worship Center A/G, Leesburg, Virginia
Joshua Saunders	SILVER	Orange County Worship Center, Santa Anna, California
Aaron Sellars	SILVER	Abundant Life Community Church, Newburgh, Indiana
Trevor Vam Kempen	SILVER	Mountain View A/G, Las Vegas, Nevada
Caleb Palensky	SILVER	Glad Tidings, Omaha, Nebraska
Ty King	SILVER	Maranatha A/G, Jena, Louisiana
Nathaniel McHaffey	SILVER	Central A/G, Springfield, Missouri



Austin Buboltz	BRONZE	Crown Pointe Church, Lee's Summit, Missouri
Mitchell Brown	BRONZE	Chandler First A/G, Chandler, Arizona
Joseph Arcuri	BRONZE	Calvary A/G, Dunwoody, Georgia
Kellen Hall	BRONZE	Radian Church, Colorado Springs, Colorado
Connor McGraw	BRONZE	The Rock A/G, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
Paul Dunn	BRONZE	Calvary A/G, Greensboro, North Carolina
Philip Idun	BRONZE	Evangel Temple, Kansas City, Missouri
Jason Stogner	BRONZE	Paradise Hills A/G, Phoenix, Arizona
Andrew Ingerson	BRONZE	Cornerstone A/G, Bowie, Maryland



TBQ 2004 Results CHAMPIONSHIP DIVISION

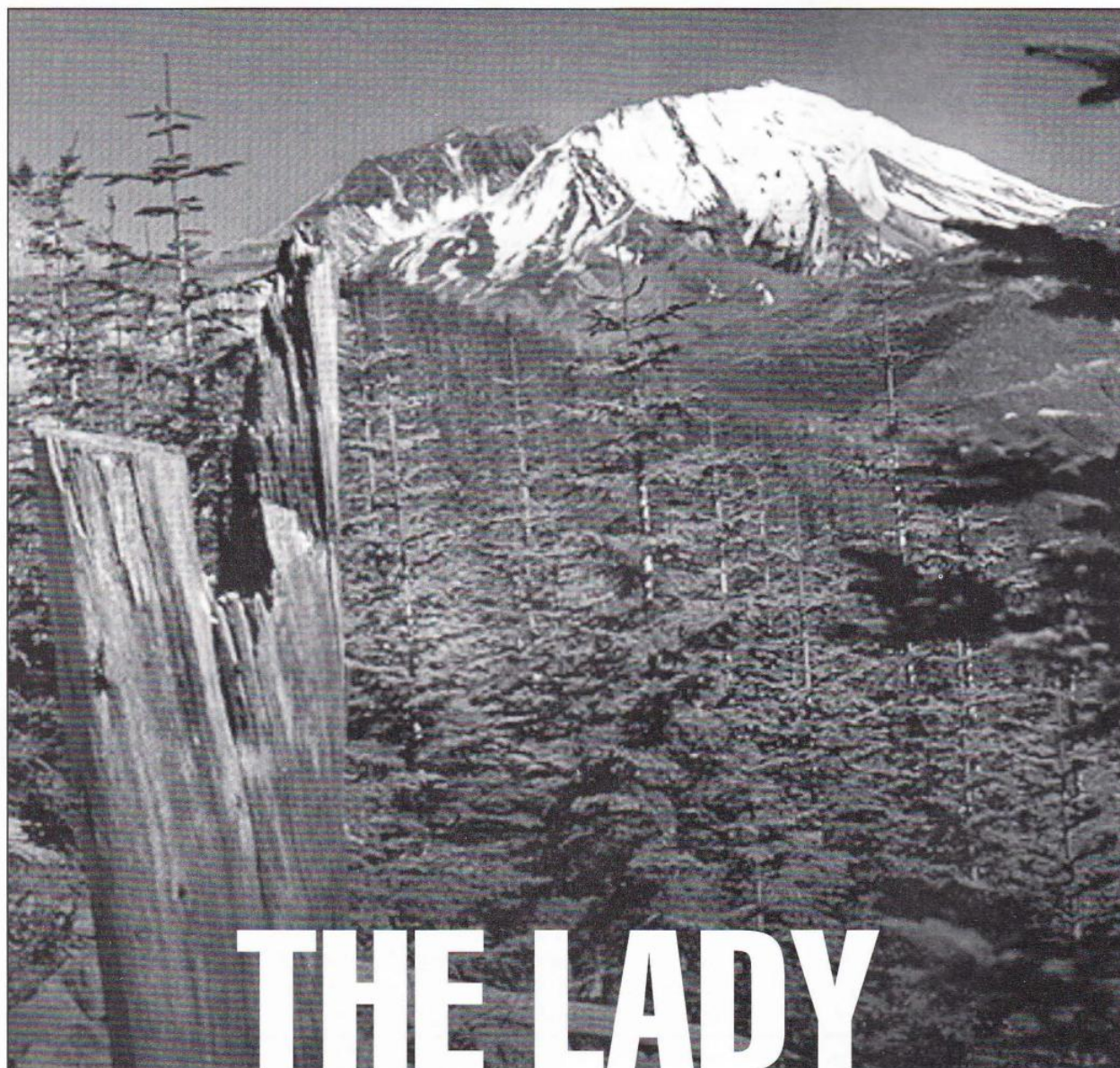
Name(s)	Finish Team/Ind.	Church
Jeff Richmond	3/69	Grace A/G, Spring City, Pennsylvania
Nathan Tuttle	7/11	Nixa Assembly of God, Springfield, Missouri
Stephan Hahn	7/43	Nixa Assembly of God, Springfield, Missouri
Timothy Hahn	7/64	Nixa Assembly of God, Springfield, Missouri
Joshua Sholly	11/46	Living Waters Chapel, Lebanon, Pennsylvania
Jed Gosnell	12/22	Tacoma Life Center, Tacoma, Washington

CHALLENGER DIVISION

Isaiah Hunter	3/7	First A/G, Hermitage, Pennsylvania
Brennen DeFazio	3/10	First A/G, Hermitage, Pennsylvania
Jared Burkhalter	7/46	Faith A/G, Orlando, Florida
Alberto Oquendo	7/52	Faith A/G, Orlando, Florida
Kyle Heyne	7/64	Faith A/G, Orlando, Florida
Jordan Smith	9/48	Noble A/G, Noble, Oklahoma
Dwire Micah	12/64	Church at Briargate #2, Colorado Springs, Colorado
James Pryer	14/43	Orange County Worship Center, Santa Anna, California
Allon Loven	18/64	Good News Assembly, St. Cloud, Minnesota

QUOTING BEE — INDIVIDUAL FINALISTS

Daniel Godfrey	SILVER	Albuquerque Revival Center, Albuquerque, New Mexico
Billy Branham	SILVER	Calvary A/G, Marinette, Wisconsin



THE LADY

by Karleen Caruthers

Many visitors loved The Lady's pristine beauty. Hikers explored her dense, pine-scented forest while campers caught trout from her clear streams. The Toutle River Valley teemed with fish and various crops. All admired her snow covered peak as the setting sun painted pastel colors on her white slopes. Her friends rested at old Harry's lodge beside Spirit Lake. The clear lake was known to those who loved her as The Lady's mirror. None of the mountains in the Cascade Range was as loved as their youngest sister.

The 9,766 foot mountain had been inactive since 1857, until the Lady started to wake up in early 1980. On March 16, unrest stirred her plates as tremors raced along her slopes; pressure was building in her core. Despite Mount St. Helens' warnings, most of her friends didn't want to believe that she would erupt.

Warning signs of a possible eruption are earthquakes and rumbles that sound like thunder. Earthquakes happen when two plates rub together on a fault line. Volcanoes are formed on faults

because the Earth's crust is weaker there. Rumbles are caused by gas movements from the molten rock that's held under pressure. During this time, levels of nearby lakes might rise or fall; some are drained of water completely. Many hot springs are created before or after an eruption.

Mount St. Helens had a mini-eruption on March 27. Governor Dixie Lee listened to those warnings and ordered an evacuation.

Harry Truman, no relation to the former president, was a feisty old man with a soft spot for the Lady. To some he showed frontier hospitality, while others he kicked out just because he didn't like their looks. Perhaps Harry wanted to protect his property, rather than to make a statement. Either way, after spending 50 years with the Lady, he refused to leave his beloved mountain.

Two weeks later deep cracks snaked across the summit as the crater's diameter grew to 1,300 feet. In May, geologists noticed a bulge on the mountain's northwest slope. Magma had risen high into the volcanic cone to push the slope out to 450 feet. David Johnston was a geologist who stayed close to the Lady to study her bulge. On Sunday, May 18, he stood on a ridge a few feet from the growing crater as he observed. At 8:31 a.m. the ground beneath his feet rumbled as the volcano came to life. He watched as the north slope gave way into a massive landslide. David yelled into his radio, "Vancouver, Vancouver, this is it!"

Mount St. Helens let go of her pent up pressure. A gray column of ash, dust, and steam shot out of the crater. The lateral blast was 15 miles high. It shocked geologists who had expected a vertical blast. Rocks and part of the dome flew up to 17 miles away at speeds of 250 mph. A super-heated blast charred the trees to a petrified state.

More explosions rocked the ground as the magma's gases expanded. With these explosions a second eruption occurred. This new eruption started what is called a pyroclastic flow. Pyroclastic flows are a combo of hot ash, pumice, and gas. It gushed out of the crater and oozed five miles to the north. Hot rocks and gas teamed together to melt the snow and ice from what remained on the mountain. The melted snow mixed with rocks and other debris to form a volcanic mudflow. The mudflow raced down valleys, picking up water and trees. The lahar's size increased when it joined the previous landslide. Down the Toutle River Valley the force of the flow destroyed houses and bridges and submerged cars. At midnight it reached the Cowlitz River, 50 miles downstream from the mountain. Logs jammed up the Columbia River for 20 miles. Traffic was congested between Longview, Wash., and Astoria, Ore., for days.



Filtered masks were mandatory to breathe through the silicone-laced ash. On May 25, the mountain expelled another ash cloud. This time it went toward the Puget Sound. Fine ash came down like fallen snow and covered 6,000 miles of road. Cars refused to start when it got into their engines. The ash spread all over the world in different amounts. Major cleanup began with crews that had to work in shifts.

Fifty-seven lives were lost in the eruption. Countless large game died, along with millions of salmon and trout. About 150 square miles of timber and crops were destroyed around Mount St. Helens.

Spirit Lake, Harry Truman, and his 46 cats were buried by landslides and mudflows. Some called him foolish for not leaving the mountain. Others admired him for standing up for what he believed in and holding his ground. They call it the American Spirit.

Johnston's Ridge was named after a man dedicated to his job. David Johnston died doing what he loved. How many can say that? He will forever be remembered for his sacrifice. In the late nineties Johnston's Ridge Visitor's Center was built to honor and remember him. Visitors can see into the horseshoe-shaped crater to view the new dome.

Elk and other animals have returned to feed on new vegetation. New trees grow taller each year, while the spotted owls live in what was left of the old forest. Spirit Lake has begun to return and a new lake was created. Mount St. Helens is now a national volcanic monument open to visitors every summer. New life begins even in the worst destruction. As a plaque at Johnston's Ridge says, "change is constant."

More About Mount St. Helens

- The Lady's first recorded eruption was in the early 1800s. Native Americans called her "Fire Mountain."
- Several people were able to keep ahead of the ash cloud by driving 65 to 100 mph! The eruption lasted all day. Strong winds blew 520 million tons of ash across the United States. It caused total darkness in Spokane, Wash.; which is 250 miles from Mount St. Helens. Her eruption cloud spread across the U.S. in 3 days. It circled the Earth in 15 days.
- The landslide buried 14 miles of the Toutle River Valley's north fork with an average depth of 150 to 600 feet. The pyroclastic flow had reached speeds of 50 to 80 mph.
- Mount St. Helens blew off 1,410 feet of her summit. Huge parts of her summit became big hills called hummocks.



Devotionals for Boys

by David BOYD

PROVERBS LESSON 1:

How Do You Handle YOUR TONGUE?

ITEMS NEEDED:

Shoes of various sizes (Make sure all of these shoes have a tongue.)

Show the boys the box full of shoes. Ask them to look at each shoe and determine the age of a person who would use the shoe and what the shoe is used for (dress shoe, tennis shoe, etc.). Ask the boys to look at all the shoes and look for something the shoes have in common. Items that all the shoes have in common will be that they all have a sole and they all have a tongue.

Begin by comparing the sole to the human soul. All of us, like the shoes, are different ages and have different purposes in our lives, but we all have a soul. Talk about this for a while. Use this as an opportunity to lead a boy to Jesus if there is a boy in your class you doesn't know Jesus.

Now talk about the tongue. Explain that just like each of these shoes have tongues, each of us has a tongue as well. Our tongue can help us throughout our life and our tongue can cause our lives difficulty. Proverbs 15:4 says, "The tongue that brings healing is a tree of life, but a deceitful tongue crushes the spirit." Use this time to talk about how the boys should use their tongues in positive ways and talk about how a deceitful tongue can get us into difficulty. Remind the boys that God hears everything that our tongue says. He wants us to use our tongue to bring healing to ourselves and others.

PROVERBS LESSON 2:

How Do You Handle DISCIPLINE?

ITEMS NEEDED:

Heavy plastic bag, hammer, and an old vase or jar

Tell a story of a boy who was running through the house and knocked over mom's beautiful vase and broke it. When you tell the story, make up details for

the story such as the boy's name, his age, why he was in such a hurry, etc. Mention that the boy's mom had often told him not to run in the house.

After you tell the story ask the following questions:

- After the boy broke the vase, what should he do?
- If the boy was punished by his mother, what should he do?
- What should the boy not do?

Proverbs 13:18 says, "He who ignores discipline comes to poverty and shame, but whoever heeds correction is honored." This verse tells us that when we do something wrong, we need to learn from the correction that we receive. If we ignore rules and ignore discipline then we won't learn how to behave in the future.

Pull out the plastic sack. Place the vase or jar you brought in the plastic bag. Explain that all sin is like the breaking of the jar. You can't take it back. If you call someone a name, you can't really take it back. If you hit someone, you can't take it back. Break the jar in the plastic bag. Once we sin we can't take it back. We can and should ask forgiveness of God and the individual we hurt or disobeyed, but we can't take the sin back. Ask the boys what things they have done in their lives that they wish they hadn't. Ask them if they learned some lessons from the discipline they received.

PROVERBS LESSON 3:

How Do You Handle DIFFICULT TIMES?

ITEMS NEEDED:

Soccer ball, big bandage, suitcase

Use the soccer ball and ask the kids what disappointing things can happen when you attempt to join a sports team. The kids will have various answers such as getting hurt, not getting the position you wanted, not getting to play much, not getting chosen, etc. If the kids don't bring up the subject of not being chosen for the team or not being chosen for first string, bring this subject up. Talk to the kids about how it feels when they don't get chosen for what they wanted. Ask them how they feel when they are facing difficult times. Ask them how they should handle difficult times. Ask them what

things they shouldn't do at times like these such as: getting mad, pouting, feeling unworthy, etc.

Bring out the bandage. Ask the kids what this bandage might represent that is sad or difficult. Answers will include getting hurt, getting sick, etc. It might even represent someone in the hospital who passes away. Ask the following questions again. How do you feel during difficult times? How should you handle difficult times? What things should you not do during difficult times?

Proverbs 3:5,6 says, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight." What is God telling us about how we should handle difficult times? What does God mean when He says He will make your paths straight?

If you have time, bring out the suitcase and talk about moving to a new town and how we should handle those types of difficult times.

PROVERBS LESSON 4:

How Do You Handle TEMPTATION?

ITEMS NEEDED:

Mousetrap, fishing lure

Use the mousetrap and talk about how the mouse is tempted to stick his head in the trap and eat the cheese. The mouse's nose allows him to smell the cheese. The mouse's eyes allow him to see the cheese. The mouse is tempted. It may even sense that it is a trap, yet still the mouse will try and eat the cheese. Ask the boys, "Do you think the mouse thought that it was trading its life for the little bit of cheese? Do you think the mouse would have eaten the cheese if he had know about the deadly trap?"

Explain to the boys that the devil doesn't want us to live for God, so the devil will set traps for us to try and teach us to lie, cheat, or steal. The devil tempts people to drink alcohol and drive, causing a car accident and possibly death. Explain how the devil tries to tempt us.

Proverbs 1:10 says, "My son, if sinners entice you, do not give in to them." Ask the boys, "Does the devil ever use other kids to try and talk you into doing something wrong?" Give the boys time to answer this. It is good for them to admit what other boys may try and get them to do. Boys may bring up looking at dirty magazines, watching dirty movies, or listening to bad music. They may talk about lying, cheating, stealing, or disobeying their parents. Remind them of what God's Word says. Explain to them what "entice" means.

Bring out the fishing lure and take time to talk about the mistake the fish is making if it tries to eat the fishing lure. Remind the children to watch out for the traps of the devil. Spend time praying in class asking God to make us aware of when we are enticed to sin. Ask God for help to say no.



THE ADVENTURE

Are You Ready for the Adventure of a Lifetime?

It's not too early to start making plans to attend the next national Camporama at Eagle Rock, Mo., July 17-21, 2006. Our theme is the Adventure. Many enjoyable and exciting activities will be based on adventures in technology/communications, automobiles, flight, space, water, trains, cycling, skating, sports, exploration, and history. Some additional activities to look forward to are archery, air guns, bouldering wall, climbing wall, and swimming pools. Everyone should plan to participate in the second National Pinewood Derby championships too. If you like to race bicycles, there will be a competitive BMX and mountain bike course. You will want to visit the incredible 1800s frontier village sponsored by the FCF filled with craftsmen and displays where you can also test your skills at the Hawk and Knife events.

Many improvements have been made to Camp Eagle Rock since the last Camporama. New shower and bathroom facilities, expanded camping locations and roads, a new archery range, an improved rifle range, a food service facility, and the Deaverton frontier town to name a few.

The evening services will focus on exploring God's plan for our lives. We have lined up some great speakers to minister to you. Tom Green, Randy Ruiz, Dave Roevers, and Terry Raburn are excited about the message God has placed on their hearts. We have also arranged for a great band to lead us in praise and worship. Bob Kilpatrick will be with us again for a closing concert and fireworks display. You won't want to miss a single service!

You will have the opportunity to meet and make new friends, since Royal Rangers from across the United States and around the world will be in attendance. How many hat pins will you collect? Start making your plans to attend now. Mark July 17-21, 2006, on your calendar! Commanders, check with your district to see what travel plans are being made since you will be camping by district. Begin your fundraising so you can bring as many from your outpost as possible to this great event.

You won't want to miss this one!

by Mark BROBERG

Did you know that every chartered outpost can participate in the National Championships? There are several areas you can compete in and, who knows, you may have what it takes to be a National Champion.

I want to take this time to thank individuals and teams who in the last year sacrificed their time and finances. Your investment into the lives of commanders and children, cannot be scaled by earthly means. Often we do not see the fruit of our ministry, but look to the future when all things will be made clear.

Wisconsin Pathfinders come to the old part of Russia

FCF Pathfinder from Wisconsin braved the Russian rainforest and endless meals of cabbage.

In August 2004, 12 pathfinders traveled to the oldest region in Russia. Novgorod is the oldest city in Russia dating back to 8th century, when Vikings planted a city along the Volhov river. Churches in this area saw a need for a camp and decided to purchase an old Soviet Pioneer camp. Years of neglect and village scavengers, eager to tear down old log building to heat their village homes, destroyed the camp.

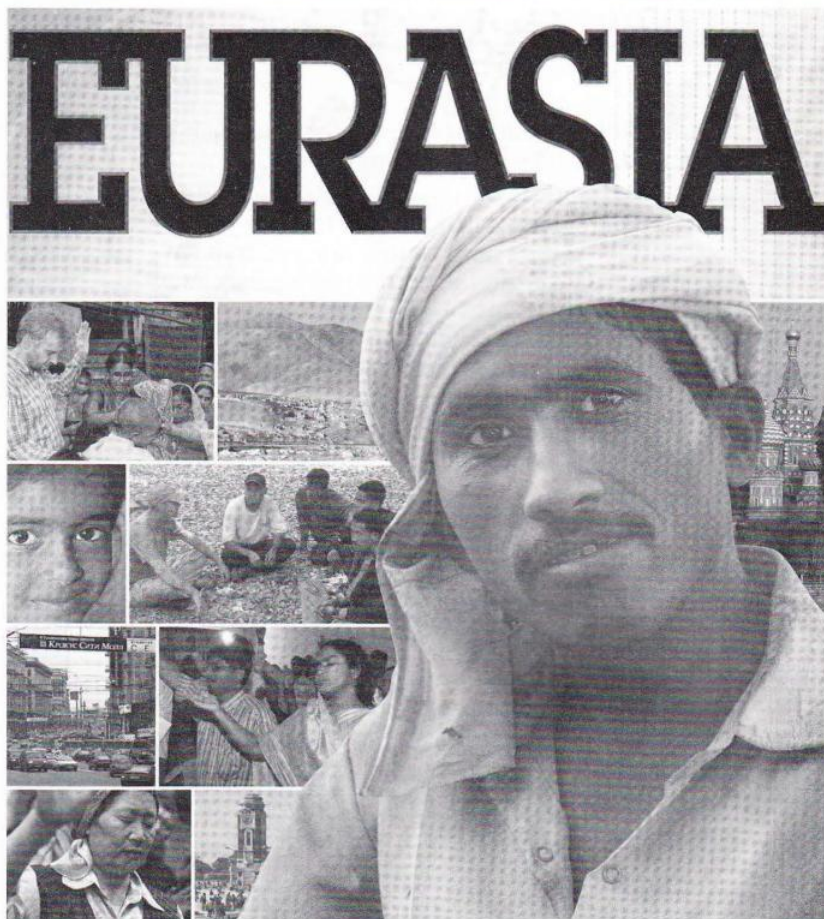
For years the communists used this camp to indoctrinate young boys and girls, Stalin created pioneers to teach the essentials of Soviet Communism. He created hundreds of thousands of camps all over Russia for the purpose of propaganda.

Wisconsin Pathfinders committed themselves to putting a roof on the new camp building. The camp building will be utilized throughout the long Russian winter. At present, the camp will be used for Royal Rangers, children, and youth.

Eurasia Royal Rangers would like to thank the Wisconsin Pathfinders for the great investment and sacrifice to further the kingdom of God in Russia.

Eurasia Royal Rangers Website

The official Eurasia Royal Rangers website is coming in the near future. Right now it is under construction.



Please visit us at: www.EurasiaRoyalRangers.com

You can download previous newsletters from our website in PDF format.

ANTC Team Comes to Russia

We want to thank the ANTC team for coming and training Royal Ranger leaders in Russia. In Russia Royal Rangers is a new program and we need experienced trainers and leaders to share their wisdom, skills, knowledge and hearts with rising young leaders in this great country. We appreciate your time and willingness to come and build relationships with future leaders and giving them an example of what real Rangers should be in everyday life.

Need Royal Rangers program resources, leader's supplies, uniforms, merit information or awards?

Planning a campout and need tents, supplies, or backpacks?

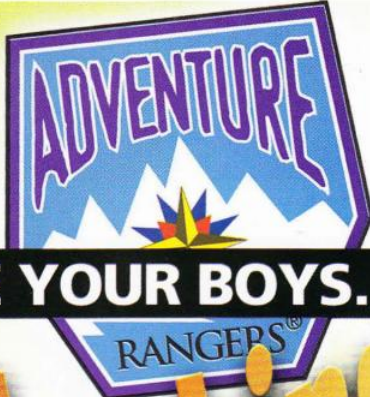
Gospel Publishing House has everything you need.

To receive a **FREE** catalog of all available Royal Rangers products or to place an order, simply contact us.

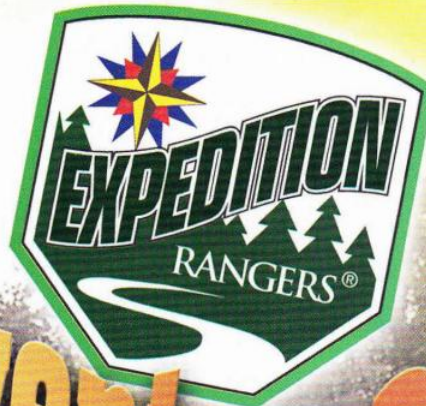


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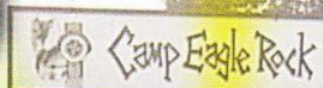
Intl. fax: 1.417.862.5881 • Visit: www.royalrangers.ag.org



ARE YOUR BOYS...



Looking for Adventure?



Adventure and Expedition Rangers, how would you like to attend a national camp specially designed for you?

Would you be interested in horseback riding, rock climbing, rappelling, archery, swimming, paintball, mountain biking, or shooting BB guns, air rifles, .22 caliber rifles or black powder rifles? These are some of the exciting activities you can participate in at the **EAGLE ROCK ADVENTURE CAMPS** scheduled for **June 26-July 1 or July 24-29, 2005**. You will receive top-notch instruction as you work on the merits for the above activities.

Imagine yourself staying at the new Deaverton Old West town at Camp Eagle Rock. **All meals will be provided** by the camp staff at the Johnnie Barnes dining hall, allowing you more time to participate in the great activities. The camp will **start Sunday afternoon with a pool and pizza party** as you get to know other Rangers from around the country. The first evening will kick off with a **special Council Fire service** followed by great devotions each morning and evening.

Do any of these **ACTIVITY TRACKS** sound interesting to you?

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

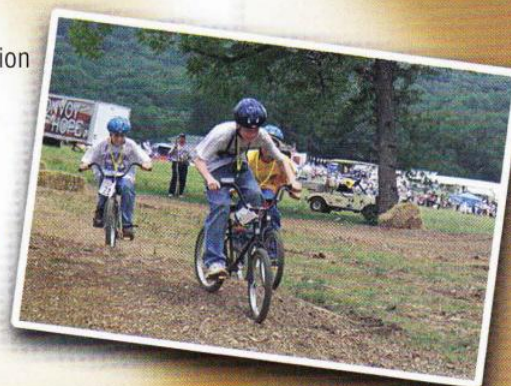
Each of the five tracks will be **limited to 20 campers**. This will allow for individual instruction and a great learning experience. Campers must be current Adventure or Expedition Rangers to attend, due to the high action level of the camp. **The camp fee of \$200 covers five nights of camping, 14 meals, all equipment necessary for each track, and a top-notch staff to give you the best camping experience of your life.** Track C and D (shooting disciplines) will allow each camper to compete in the national championships.

So if you think you would like to earn some high action merits at Camp Eagle Rock, Missouri, this summer, visit our national website at <http://www.royalrangers.ag.org> to get further information. Download the application and send it in soon so you can reserve the camp and track of your choice.

We look forward to seeing you there!



CAMP EAGLE ROCK
Eagle Rock, Missouri



SPRING 2005 9



ROYAL RANGERS ADVENTURES

STORY, COLOR AND LETTERS BY CRAIG W. SCHUTT
ART BY JAVIER SALTARES

CAPTAIN SPITZ!

DO YOU READ?
MAN, WHAT'S GOIN'
ON OUT THERE?

WE NEED THAT
SOLAR PANEL
RECALIBRATED
NOW!

UHHHH...

IT'S SO
BEAUTIFUL...

YOU CAN SIGHTSEE LATER, CAPTAIN--
THE STATION IS ABOUT TO RUN
OUT OF POWER, REMEMBER?

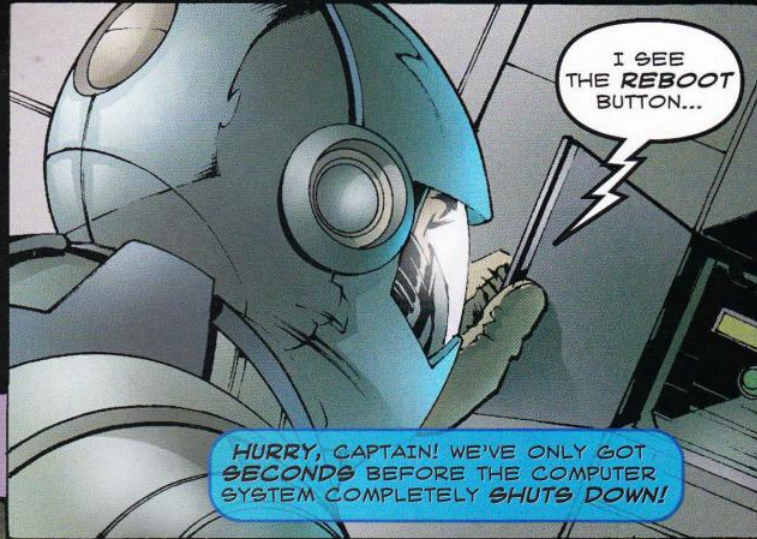
WE
NEED YOU
SHARP FOR
THIS, SPITZ. SO
SNAP OUT OF
IT!

WHAP?

OH, RIGHT!
I'M ON IT,
SIR.

I
SEE THE
PANEL,
SIR...

LET'S HOPE THAT
ASTEROID COLLISION
DIDN'T DO ANY
DAMAGE.



I SEE
THE **REBOOT**
BUTTON...

**HURRY, CAPTAIN! WE'VE ONLY GOT
SECONDS BEFORE THE COMPUTER
SYSTEM COMPLETELY SHUTS DOWN!**



CONSIDER
THIS STATION
OFFICIALLY **OUT-
OF-DANGER,**
SIR!

AND JUST IN TIME, TOO!

**GOOD JOB, CAPTAIN SPITZ.
YOU CAN MAKE YOUR WAY BACK TO
THE AIRLOCK NOW.**

I'LL
BE THERE IN A
MINUTE, SIR.

"WHEN I CONSIDER YOUR HEAVENS, THE WORK
OF YOUR FINGERS, THE MOON AND THE
STARS, WHICH YOU HAVE SET IN PLACE, WHAT
IS MAN THAT YOU ARE MINDFUL OF HIM O
LORD, OUR LORD, HOW MAJESTIC IS YOUR
NAME IN ALL THE EARTH!"
--PSALMS 8:3, 8:4, 8:9 (NIV).



"SIR?"
WHAT'S WITH THIS
"SIR" BUSINESS?

WAKE UP,
SPITZ!

...MMM...

JUST ONE
MORE MINUTE,
SIR. BE RIGHT
THERE...



**WHA!
WHERE?**

MANOMAN,
WHAT A **CRAZY**
DREAM.

AT
LEAST YOU
FINISHED YOUR
RED MERIT
REPORT ON **SPACE**
EXPLORATION
BEFORE YOU
NODDED OFF.

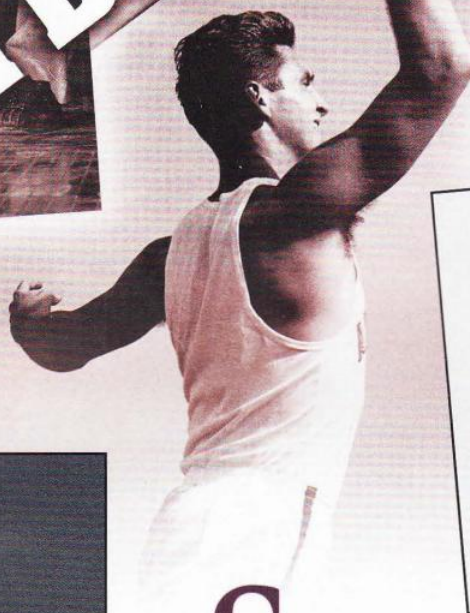
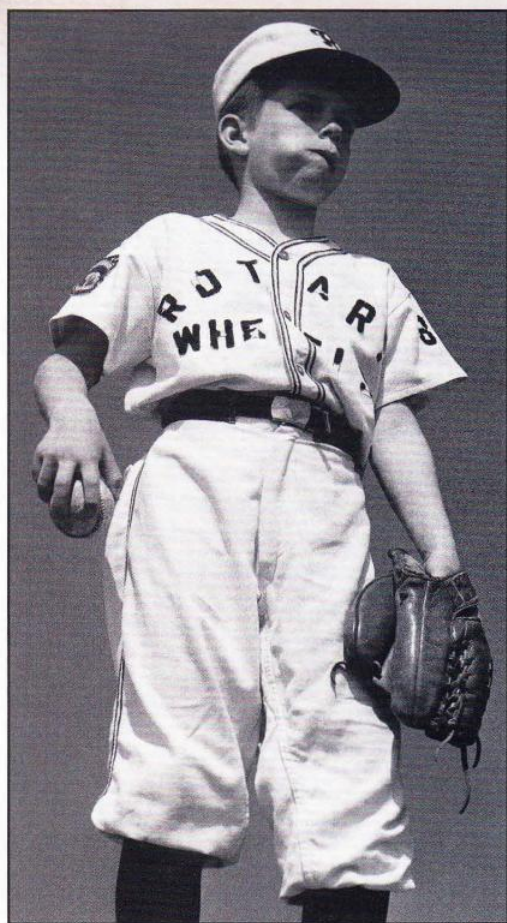
AND I
SAVED THE
SPACE STATION,
TOO.

WHATEVER.

THE END

Can You Believe That?

by Ann MUSICO



SUPERSTITION — what comes to mind when you hear that word? Bad luck if you walk under a ladder or break a mirror? If these are the only thoughts that come to mind, chances are you don't play a sport. The world of sports, from Little League up to the pros, is full of crazy rituals and wild superstitions. Sports superstitions have been passed from generation to generation of athletes.

"I always put my uniform on in the same order before every game," says Matt, a 15-year-old JV baseball player. "For instance, I put my left sock on first when I dress for a game."

His teammate, Brian, adds, "I always try and do the same stuff before a game—keep things the same, wear the same stuff. I don't really like to change things, like wear a different hat or an arm band, because I'm afraid it will affect my game."

These pre-game rituals qualify as superstitions. A superstition is a belief about why something happens. Superstitions don't have to make sense. Most of the time they come from fear of the unknown or a desire to manipulate things we can't control. Any strong belief is a powerful force. So it is very important to know the truth about what you believe.

TRUTH doesn't change depending on your feelings or the situation.

If you think superstitions are just kid stuff, think again. Most professional athletes have rituals they follow. Baseball players seem to be the most superstitious.

Pitcher Turk Wendell, who just may be the "King" of superstitions, chews licorice and brushes his teeth between innings. He jumps over the third and first base lines coming on and off the field. He never just drops the rosin bag, he hurls it to the mound as if throwing one of his 90 mph fastballs.

Wade Boggs would only eat chicken on game day and in fact, he ate chicken every day for more than 20 years.

Nomar Garciaparra, Red Sox short-stop, gets dressed the same way each day, steps on each dugout step with both feet, tugs at his batting gloves and taps his toes during each at bat.

Some players refuse to wash their uniforms during a winning streak. Some actually sleep with their bats to keep a hot streak going or to break out of a slump. Other common rituals for luck are spitting into your hand before picking up a bat and stepping on one of the bases before running off the field at the end of an inning. To avoid bad luck, a player never lets a teammate use his bat and never steps on one of the base-lines when running on and off the field.

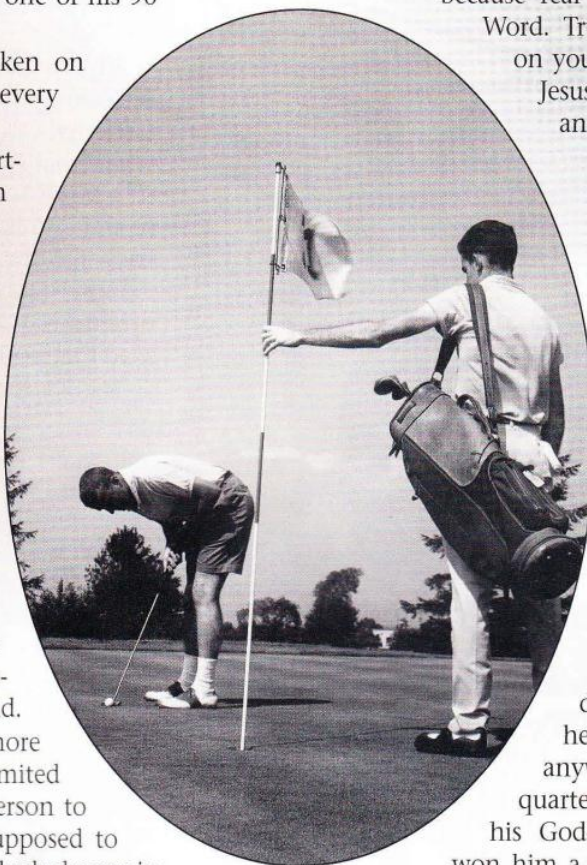
While baseball seems to have more than its share, superstitions are not limited to this sport. In basketball, the last person to shoot a basket during warm-up is supposed to have a good game. Bowlers carry good luck charms in their bowling bags or pockets or wear them around their necks. Double numbers on a football player's uniform are thought to bring good luck. Tennis players avoid stepping on court lines. Golfers start only with odd numbered clubs to ensure a good round. Hockey players never leave ice hockey sticks lying crossed—it's bad luck.

Even sports fans create their own superstitious explanations for their hero's performance. For instance, their favorite player has long hair and is hitting .500. If he cuts his hair and then slides into a batting slump, their explanation is the haircut. If you consider this sensibly, the hair couldn't possibly have anything to do with his slump. Anyone can see that is ridiculous! Don't try and convince the fans or the player of this though. Superstitions seem crazy, but they can make you feel as if you have some control over a situation, whether you really do or not.

While it's fun to read about your favorite player's rituals, you must decide how much power they'll have in your life. A belief is complete acceptance of something as truth. For example, if you step up to the plate fully believing you can't

hit this pitch because the pitcher is older or throws curves or because you forgot your lucky armbands, chances are you won't get a hit. Why? A belief is a powerful force, and what you believe will happen often will. The good news is that you have total control over what you believe about any situation.

Choosing to think on what is true, noble and right, as Philipians 4:8 instructs us to, is critical. Truth is powerful because real truth is found only in God's Word. Truth doesn't change depending on your feelings or the situation. Like Jesus, it is the same yesterday, today and forever!



Matt, the player who opened our story, shared this interesting experience. "I found a quarter on the infield during my first year of summer league. I made sure it was in my uniform pocket every game. We made it all the way to state that summer. The quarter was always in my pocket during JV tryouts the following spring. Well, almost always. Halfway through tryouts I lost it somehow. When I realized it was gone, I was pretty sure I was done. But I kept doing my best, trusting God to help me, and I made the team anyway, even without my lucky quarter." Matt realized the truth—his God-given ability and hard work won him a spot on that JV team, not the "lucky" quarter.

What you believe has a great impact on what you do and how well you do it. You alone can decide what makes you or your favorite sports hero a good player. Is it talent or talisman? A God-given gift or a good luck charm? Choose your thoughts carefully, because they will form your beliefs. Base them on something you can depend on, something that will never let you down. Choose to believe the truth.

A BELIEF is complete acceptance of something as truth.

**A belief is a powerful force,
and what you believe
will often happen.**



by
Dave STURGILL
commander, Outpost 66

GOD and the DERBY

We all start out planning how we will design our Pinewood Derby cars. We decide the finest ways to make the cars, the shape that the cars will be crafted into, and what colors will be used to paint them. Jeremiah 29:11 states, "I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

Then we begin carving our cars for the Derby out of a chunk of pinewood, and it takes shape and form. Carefully, the car is created the best way we can make it. God did the same when He created us. Genesis 2:7 says, "The Lord God formed the man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being."

The cars are designed to travel on the course of a narrow track. But things can happen while traveling on the track that causes cars to break down or even jump off the track. Our cars need repaired and restored so that we may put them back on the track to continue racing.

Sin is a lot like that to us. It causes damage and breakdowns in our lives. We may even go off the track that God has set us on. We can end up somewhere that God never intended us to go. We need to ask the Lord to fix and restore us. If we don't repent and have God repair us, we may never get back into the race again. God's Word in Matthew 7:13,14 states, "Broad is the road that leads to destruction...But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life."

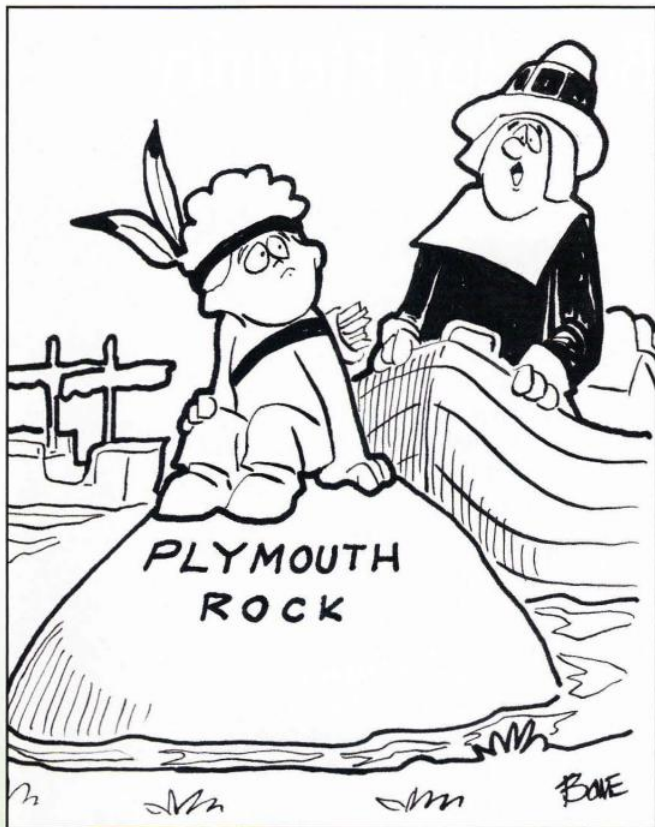
The derby cars are limited to being powered by gravity, which pulls them toward the end of the course. We have been given a much greater power that can run our race of life. It is the power of the Holy Spirit. Acts 1:8 says, "You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you." Colossians 1:11 says we can please God in every way by, "being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance."

We build our cars with a purpose, not only to enter the race, but also to complete the course and to finish the race. God wants all His children to finish our race in life too. In Acts 20:24, Luke states, "I consider my life worth nothing to me, if only I may finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me."

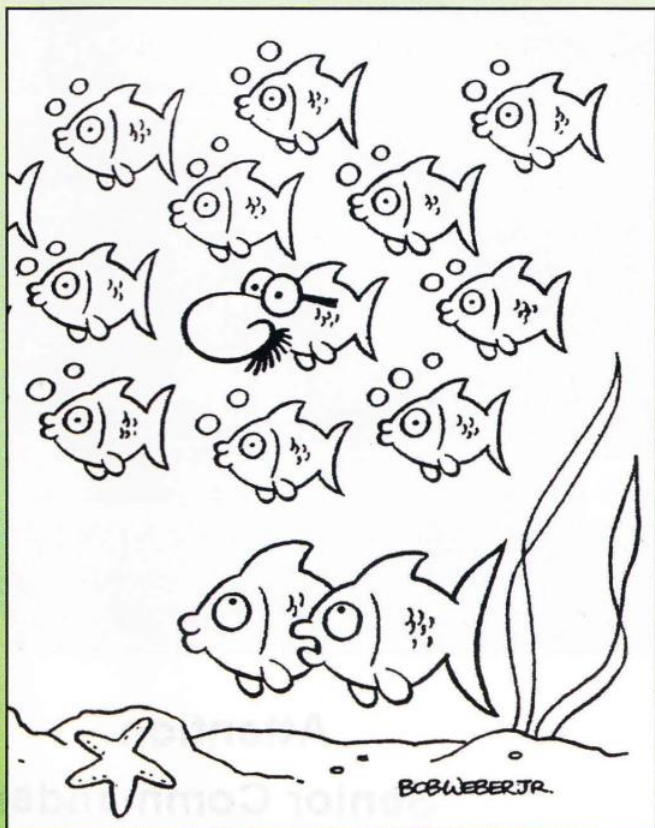
After we race our cars down the track and across the finish line, the judges are there, and they reward the winners. All of us who finish the race of life have a reward waiting for us too—eternal life. Second Timothy 4:7 says, "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award."

We enjoy racing our cars, and Jesus wants us to enjoy life with Him too. In John 10:10, Jesus states, "I am come that they may have life, and have it to the full." In other words, our Lord wants us to live life to the fullest. I think that the Pinewood Derby is an excellent chance to do just that.

So have fun with all your friends as you race your cars in a Pinewood Derby. You can be a witness as you share the similarities of the Derby to God's Word.



"Could you please move, I'm trying to discover this place."



"There's a class clown in every school."

What part of the ship is made out of cards? *The deck!*

What goes up but never comes down? *Your age!*

The deck!

What part of the ship is made out of cards?

Your age!

What goes up but never comes down?

The deck!

Your age!

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Stewardship for You— Impacting Boys for Eternity

Mike Laliberty,
Deputy National Commander

Christopher Dalla Rosa,
Adventure Rangers Program

Matthew Klika,
Ranger Kids Program

Alice Laliberty,
Ranger Kids Commander



The Royal Rangers is an Assemblies of God organization that can benefit from your good stewardship when you consider an Assemblies of God gift annuity. An Assemblies of God gift annuity guarantees you a regular annuity payment with no investment worries or responsibilities. Other benefits you may receive include:

- Immediate tax deduction for the gift portion of your investment.
- A portion of each annuity payment may be tax-free.
- If funded with appreciated assets, only a portion of your capital gains is taxable.
- At your death, the ministry of your choice, such as the Royal Rangers will be blessed.

With one call, let us show you how an Assemblies of God charitable gift annuity can work for you.

Gift Annuity Sample Rates

YOUR AGE	ANNUAL RATE
60	6.4%
63	6.6%
66	6.8%
70	7.2%
73	7.6%
76	8.0%
80	8.9%
83	9.7%
86	10.8%
90	12.0%

Gift annuity rates change. Please call Assemblies of God Foundation to receive the current gift annuity rates based on your age and circumstances.

Call toll-free: 1.877.242.8112



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729040

**Attention
Senior Commander**