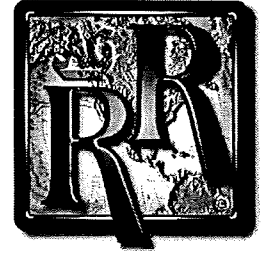


April-May-June 1998

NATIONAL NETWORK



HonorBound: Men of Promise
National Royal Rangers Office; 1445 Boonville Ave.; Springfield, MO 65802

National Commander Ken Hunt

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

National Urban Leadership Conference

- Aug. 6-8, San Jose (First Assembly), Calif.
- Sept. 17-19, Seattle, Wash.
- Oct. 10-12, New York, N.Y.
for applications, contact the district office in that area

National Harvest Task Force

- October 8-9, New York, N.Y.
for further information, contact Marshall Bruner, national office

Significant Events

- May 3: Light-for-the-Lost Sunday
- May 3-9: National Family Week
- May 7: National Day of Prayer
- May 10: Mother's Day
- May 25: Memorial Day
- May 31: Pentecostal Sunday/World Assemblies of God Fellowship Day of Prayer
- June 14: Children's Day
- June 14: Flag Day
- June 21: Father's Day
- June 21: National Men's Day

CAMPORAMA PLANNING

* *Camp Eagle Rock Work Week: Workers are needed to complete multiple tasks in preparing for the National Camporama. For details on how to assist, contact the National Royal Rangers Training Center, Ralph Glunt—(417) 271-3900, or the national office—(417) 862-2781.*

Labor Needed:

- Carpentry
- Stone Masonry
- Electrical Work
- Plumbing
- Tree Trimming
- General Labor

PLEASE PRAY FOR ...

... David Norcross, who underwent surgery April 24 for removal of a goiter in his neck. The biopsy results were negative. Please pray for his complete recovery and that his thyroid will not be affected.

FAREWELL & WELCOMES

Ron Roberts, director of the national HonorBound: Men of Promise Office, has resigned following two highly successful years at the national office and having restructured the ministry to men in great fashion. Ron is returning to his home of Minneapolis, Minn., where he will resume his ministry as an associate pastor of Bloomington Assembly of God. Ron

resigned after hearing God's call to resume his pastoral role. We have greatly admired his outstanding leadership and will miss his guidance, though we are praying for God's richest blessing to his ministry.

The Executive Presbytery of the Assemblies of God, in session March 17 and 18, appointed Charles A. Brewster, Sr., of Issaquah, Wash., as director of HonorBound effective May 18.

Brewster is a 23-year veteran of the U.S. Secret Service. His assignments included supervising security at the vice presidential residence and coordinating the security plan for the 1992 Democratic National Convention. Besides his work in the Service's political arena so familiar to the public, Brewster was involved in law enforcement projects such as the implementation of a multi-agency Counterfeit Crimes Task Force in Chicago.

South Central Region Coordinator: Marvin Lemke, of Oklahoma City, Okla., has been appointed to serve as regional coordinator for South Central. He comes with years of Royal Rangers experience, serving as training coordinator for that region. Marvin, we welcome you and know you will do an outstanding job. Congratulations on your new assignment!

PAST EVENTS

1998 Council Points Toward Future—The Royal Rangers commitment to vision, both in the development of ministry programs and in the spiritual training of young boys, was evident at our 1998

Program Updates Forthcoming In Handbooks

Age Limitations: To accommodate the local church, the Royal Rangers program allows a dual promotion system of age/grade, providing the boy is no more than 1 year younger than that of the national school-age standard of the age in question. For example, if a church promotes by grade, a boy who is promoted to Buckaroos could not be younger than age 6, a Pioneer could not be younger than age 8, a Trailblazer could not be younger than age 11, and a Trail Ranger could not be younger than age 14. In instances where the boy is more than 1 year younger than that of the national school-age standard, the dual promotional system is not optional—the outpost must promote by age only, not grade.

Ranger of the Year Competition: In the outpost, boys compete against each other in their outpost group on Royal Rangers know-how. The winner in each outpost group earns the appropriate title of that group, such as Buckaroo Royal Ranger of the Year.

These outpost winners, then, can compete in sectional competition. In Royal Ranger of the Year testing, boys are tested according to their age, not grade level—Straight Arrows (test ages 5-6), Buckaroos (test ages 7-8), Pioneers (test ages 9-11), Trailblazers (test ages 12-14), Trail Rangers (test ages 15-17). (Note: The outpost must be chartered during the period when the boys are competing for outpost Ranger of the Year in order for the winners to compete sectionally.) Sectional winners of each division—Straight Arrows, Buckaroos, Pioneers, Trailblazers, and Trail Rangers—may then compete for district Ranger of the Year.

Under the new Challengers program, boys 15-17 years of age must compete as Trail Rangers. Rangers in other Challengers special interest groups must also be in Trail Rangers to compete in Ranger of the Year competition.

Among the district winners of each division, Trailblazers and Trail Rangers division winners advance to regional competition. The Trail Rangers finalists of each region are named National Royal Rangers of the Year.

Gold Medal of Achievement: After having earned the highest rank of the Trailblazers standard and Gold Track ratings, a boy may earn the top award of the Royal Rangers program: the Gold Medal of Achievement. A Royal Ranger may earn the GMA as early as age 12, although numerous requirements must be successfully completed.

The following five GMA requirements must be completed after a boy earns his Trailblazers standard and Gold Track ratings:

1. Be at least 12 years old—regardless of grade.
2. Complete all the required merits.
3. Read the Royal Rangers Leaders Manual.
4. Obtain from his commander a statement that he qualifies for the award and a list of the merits he has earned.
5. Write a 500-word theme on the subject "The Value of Royal Rangers." It should include the most important benefits the boy has received by being a Royal Ranger and what he believes this program would do for other boys. (This theme, along with the statement from his commander, must be sent by the commander or senior commander to the district commander.)

Upon earning the GMA, the boy may also be commissioned to the rank of junior commander in his outpost if he is at least age 14 and is approved by the senior commander. He may hold this rank until his 18th birthday. Then he will have the opportunity of becoming a lieutenant commander.

Junior Commanders: The junior commander must be 15 to 17 years of age. Exception: He may be age 14 but must have earned the Gold Medal of Achievement and be appointed by his senior commander.

National Council here in Springfield.

The March 18-21 activities were kicked off with the Silver Eagle banquet, where George O. Wood, general secretary of the Assemblies of God, addressed a record crowd of 417 national councilmen, their wives, and guests, on the the subject of leadership. During the banquet 30 district commanders were awarded the Silver

Eagle Medal for their outstanding service to the Royal Rangers ministry during 1997.

Prior to the council business on March 18, various standing committees gathered to plan for ongoing and future projects of the Rangers ministry. Among these was a 5-hour seminar, attended by 60 councilmen, devoted to the National Urban

Leadership Conference (NULC). The Royal Rangers Harvest Task Force established the NULC in 1995 as a means to train commanders in areas of urban ministry and to heighten their awareness of urban evangelism.

During council business, which convened March 20, the Harvest Task Force Committee reported that six NULC's are slated to be held in 1998, compared with two in 1997. The HTF also reported that New York City is the thrust for the 1998



National activity patch awarded to Rangers and leaders who have served in The Giving Plan. For program outline and patches, contact Marshall Bruner, ministries coordinator, national office, 417-862-2781, ext. 4177.

missions project. The three-fold outreach, scheduled for October, will involve extensive fasting and prayer, a National Urban Leadership Conference, plus a Convoy of Hope.

Another business highlight was the introduction of The Giving Plan, a new Royal Rangers outreach program developed in conjunction with the Convoy of Hope. Under The Giving Plan, host Convoy of Hope cities will mobilize local Royal Rangers outposts 6 months before the event to gather food and other supplies to be used in the outreach.

Marshall Bruner, ministries coordinator at the national office, says: "As the boys go door-to-door to collect food, they will also spread the gospel of Jesus Christ. It will give them a great hands-on ministry experience."

Officer elections were held on the council business floor. James Barger, Great Lakes Region coordinator, was elected council president. Freddie Espinoza, Pacific Latin American District commander, was elected vice president. And Harry Hunt, Ohio District commander, was elected secretary.

Among the many Royal Rangers projects for the remainder of 1998 and 1999 are New Testament 2000, the National Camporama and the Challengers program. The councilmen were introduced to the New Testament 2000 program, which will

encourage every Royal Ranger to read the entire New Testament in 1999. This effort is intended to spiritually prepare boys for the new millennium.

A report about the 1998 National Camporama revealed that a record crowd of 5,500 boys and leaders are expected to attend July 13-17 at Camp Eagle Rock in Eagle Rock, Mo.

A new Challengers program for boys ages 15-17 premiered at the council. The new course offers the traditional advancement and camping program through Trail Rangers, while offering a non-camping program that focuses on various independent special interest studies. In related news, the Buckaroos-Straight Arrows program will be totally revamped by the year 2000.

Following a report Robert Jimenez gave on his ministry at White River Assembly of God to the Indian-Americans in White River, Ariz., the councilmen collected an offering of over \$1,400 for his ministry.

The National District Leadership Seminar, which targets district commanders and challenges them to develop their ministry programs, was held on March 19. Among the highlights was an in-depth training given by the Frontiersmen Camping Fellowship Pathfinder ministry. FCF Pathfinders conduct church construction trips to foreign fields where other MAPS teams cannot travel due to harsh environmental conditions. It was reported that eight trips are scheduled for 1998.

The final event of National Council was held March 21 at the Assemblies of God Headquarters. There, 205 councilmen and their wives gathered for the Light-for-the-Lost Junior Councilmen Banquet. Royal Rangers councilmen pledged over \$166,000 toward LFTL Junior Councilmen literature projects.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Congratulations, Don and Shirley Brock—December 15 marked Don and Shirley's 46th anniversary. Don serves faithfully as the North Central Region coordinator. Our sincere congratulations to you both!

National Trends—Here is some information from the Barna Research Group that may be of interest to you. Without comment, the following lists of predictable trends for the next three years from the Barna group are presented:

Top 10 Social Trends for the Coming 3 Years:

1. Ethnic fragmentation
2. Generational differences and intolerance
3. Information overload and techno-stress
4. Depersonalization and loneliness
5. Redefined family
6. Ever-changing values
7. Rejection of absolute truth
8. New thinking/learning styles
9. Health threats (new diseases)
10. Deterioration of the social safety net (e.g., welfare, insurance, etc.)

Top 10 Spiritual and Religious Trends for the Coming 3 Years:

1. Emergence of new models of spirituality (e.g., decline of congregational church, rise of cyber-church, expansion of house churches)
2. Decreased church loyalty; multiple church involvement
3. Acceptance of choices for salvation
4. Ideological polarization
5. Necessity of relational evangelism
6. Redefining of religious faith as personal needs satisfaction
7. Fragmentation of giving among religious organizations
8. Theological syncretism; doctrinal homogenization
9. Engagement in spiritual warfare
10. Reshaping of religious education strategies

Top 10 Leader Development Trends for the Coming 3 Years:

1. Inadequate communication skills of potential leaders
2. Specialization mindset (i.e., parameters as to what people are willing to do)
3. Willingness to accept the leadership of others
4. Creating meaningful cross-generational relationships
5. Gaining full ownership of the corporate ministry vision
6. Accountability for character issues
7. Remaining encouraged amid change, competitiveness, and other leadership opportunities
8. Time crunch and priorities
9. Providing proof of the worth of involvement in the church
10. Embracing realistic evaluation criteria

—Trend Information Provided By All Together, At One Time, In One Place, Indianapolis, Ind.

A/G News & Resources: Assemblies of God Ministers Decry Anti-prayer Ruling by Alabama Judge—An October 29 permanent injunction issued by U.S. District Judge Ira DeMent in Alabama prohibits the governor, state attorney general, and

state board of education from enforcing a 1993 state law permitting prayer in schools. According to Governor Fob James, Jr., Judge DeMent, "threatened to hold in contempt of court all teachers and students in Alabama who offer public prayer to God while at school or even near a school."

The ruling, Governor James noted, "cuts at the heart of all that is good in America and brings shame on our nation." Alabama Attorney General Bill Pryor is challenging portions of DeMent's injunction. He has also called on Jay Sekulow, chief counsel of the American Center for Law and Justice, based in Virginia Beach, Va., to assist in appealing DeMent's injunction.

According to Religion News Service, Sekulow described DeMent's order as unconstitutional because it is "vague, overreaching, and flies in the face of numerous Supreme Court rulings."

Assemblies of God ministers across Alabama decried the injunction. The Rev. William Tyndall, pastor of First Assembly of God in Mobile, pointed out that judicial authorities like DeMent are "wrongly interpreting the Constitution. We all know that. But when you're dealing with a humanist mind, a secular mind, a God-hating mind, then I can understand why they cannot rightly interpret. We need to pray for them, but we also need to have strength to stand."

The injunction specifically targets schools in DeKalb County in response to a lawsuit there, but if undefeated it would create a precedent for other cases.

Some Christians might wonder if anything good could come from a judicial measure passed against prayer. But Pastor Ricky Holmes, of Beth Haven Bible Church (Assemblies of God), can identify at least one positive outcome.

"I think we're in for a revolution, not in a military sense, but a revolution spiritually in our prayer life with Christians bonding and coming together regardless of our denominational barriers. I'm seeing people come together now as a result of this that cross all the barriers of Christian denominationalism."

Holmes noted that court action has sparked a variety of protests. "I heard this morning that one of the PTA organizations in the Florence area had always opened their PTA meetings with prayer. There's a controversy there because the meetings are held on school grounds. As a protest they

1998 National Camps

NATIONAL TRAINING CAMP is designed to give leaders professional training in camping and leadership, plus the opportunity of outstanding fellowship and adventure in the outdoors. Locations and dates: Goodlettsville, Tennessee (Camp Ambassador), May 21-24; Cedar Creek, Arizona (Fort Apache A/G), June 25-28; Cle Elum, Washington (Koinonia), August 23-30; Castail, California (Verdugo Oaks Camp), September 3-6; Woodstown, New Jersey (Camp Roosevelt), September 10-13; Grass Lake, Michigan (Fa-Ha-La Conference Center), September 17-20; Eagle Rock, Missouri (Camp Eagle Rock), September 24-27; Springville, Alabama (Camp Lone Eagle), October 15-19.

ADVANCED NATIONAL TRAINING CAMP is designed to provide Royal Rangers leaders with additional training beyond that offered at the National Training Camp. It will also help inspire leaders to greater involvement in the Royal Rangers ministry. A leader must have attended NTC before enrolling. Location and dates: Woodworth, Louisiana (Woodworth A/G Camp), October 29-November 1.

NATIONAL CANOE EXPEDITION is designed to give leaders specialized training on how to conduct canoe trips and to provide outstanding adventures in some of the most beautiful canoe country in America. Locations and dates: Jackman, Maine, June 11-14; Great Falls, Montana, August 12-15.

NATIONAL URBAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE consists of 3 days of workshops, interaction sessions, inspirational services, and special speakers, coupled with tours of urban areas. For locations and dates in your area, contact your district commander or regional coordinator.

have moved their meetings to one of the churches in town.”

National Prayer Center: Operating the Assemblies of God's National Prayer Center is not easy, admits the Rev. Sandra Clopine, national coordinator.

“Besides technological glitches that occur, we have callers who abuse our volunteers verbally, try to obstruct the phone lines, and generally cause confusion when possible,” she said. “However, the vast majority call from a world of hurt and express appreciation for our being available to pray with them.”

Since the center's founding in October 1994, more than 300,000 calls have come in. Reporting to the Denominational Prayer Leaders Network, Clopine said the center received more than 700 calls a day during the first 11 months of 1997. The National Prayer Center can be reached at 1-800-4-PRAYER (1-800-477-2937). Operating hours are Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., CST.

During the first weeks of January, the center added 5 new Satellite Prayer Centers to the 23 that were already active. The satellites are located across the country at

churches and other ministries. When online, these additional volunteers have calls routed to them along with the volunteers at the National Prayer Center in Springfield, Mo.

—Reprint Courtesy A/G News & Resources

NEW ITEMS

Hearts of You: Jacque Blauvelt's new release includes the “The Campout,” a popular request Jacque has sung at the National Royal Rangers Council functions. If you want to laugh and are not afraid to cry, then this heart-warming audiocassette or CD is for you and your spouse. It is an excellent gift for your spouse in thanks for all she has done to support your Rangers ministry.

Order by calling the national office and requesting “Hearts of You.” Call 417-862-2781, ext. 4177.

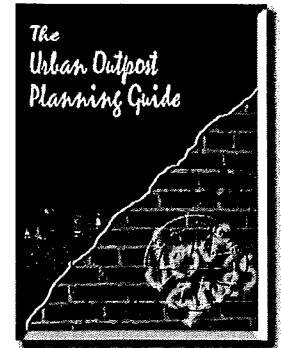
Audiocassette: \$12,
CD: \$15



“The Campout”
Song You've
Heard at Council

The following Royal Rangers department items may be ordered by calling 1-800-641-4310.

Urban Outpost Planning Guide: For commanders working in urban areas or for leaders reaching their communities, this manuscript offers a year's worth of meeting features, Achievement Badge activities, devotionals, and confidence building activities for boys in all age groups. Regardless of the geographic location, if the boys in your community face the plight often seen in urban settings, then this planning guide is for you.



Item: 729NY012
Cost: \$13.45

Royal Rangers Promotional Video: This 9-minute VHS video explains the mission and purpose of Royal Rangers and reflects three dynamic testimonies of Rangers who were eternally changed.

Item: 729NY131
Cost: \$15

Thumbs Up Football Game: This “fun-tastic” game could be the next best game and competition to follow the Pinewood Derby. And it is a great fundraiser. The game is a great year-round activity for the outpost and can be used for a tournament playoff that begins at the outpost level and concludes at district finals—proceeds, for example, could be designated for urban ministry or a scholarship fund.

Thumbs Up Football Game Set—1 playing board, 1 kicker playing piece, 8 trophy kicks, 1 score pad

Item: 729NY302, Cost: \$15.99

Thumbs Up Outpost Starter Packet—3 playing boards, 3 kicker playing pieces, 24 trophy kicks, 3 score pads

Item: 729NY303, Cost: \$39.95

**Royal Rangers ...
More than 1
million have
joined the ranks!**



Help feed the physically and spiritually hungry!

Royal Rangers has joined hands with the Convoy of Hope in an effort to evangelize communities across the nation, using the vehicle of offering free groceries to the needy. Hundreds of people are led to Christ at each Convoy of Hope—where children's crusades and carnivals, medical screening, and adult crusades are conducted.

Participate in "The Giving Plan" by involving your outpost in this nationally endorsed food-gathering project. Rangers can assist their community by gathering food for the Convoy of Hope. In doing so they can earn the national activity patch shown above while enabling the Convoy of Hope to lead people to the Lord.

For a Convoy of Hope schedule, contact the national Convoy of Hope today. If your outpost is in a district where a Convoy is scheduled and you wish to involve your outpost in "The Giving Plan," contact the national Royal Rangers Office for details.

For Convoy Schedules:
Convoy of Hope
P.O. Box 1476
Springfield, MO 65801
Phone: 417.823.8998

For further information on "The Giving Plan":
Royal Rangers
Attn: Marshall Bruner
1445 Boonville Ave.
Springfield, MO 65802-1894
Phone: 417.862.2781, ext. 4177



**Earmark your
calendar for the
grand cannon
firin' event—year
2000!**

**National FCF
Rendezvous
July 17-21,
2000**

**Camp Eagle Rock
Eagle Rock, MO**

If you are a Royal Rangers commander, then you are an HonorBound man! Many new opportunities are now available to men through our national HonorBound Office. Check out the 1998 GPH Catalog for details.

For example: Are you aware that your Royal Rangers joining the Challengers Harvesters program can earn mandatory credit by participating in a Convoy of Hope—a partnering ministry with HonorBound? Did you know that District Men's Directors will be looking for your participation in developing disaster relief teams?

**Much awaits the man of honor. HonorBound:Men of
Promise—it's the ministry for today's man!**

HONORBOUND™
Men of Promise

ROYAL RANGERS

HonorBound: Men of Promise

General Council of the Assemblies of God
1445 Boonville Avenue
Springfield, MO 65802-1894
U.S.A.



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



NATIONAL ROYAL RANGERS HARVEST TASK FORCE OBJECTIVES

Royal Rangers Decade of Harvest Goals

- A 50 percent growth in membership
- To win 200,000 boys to the Lord
- Enroll an additional 20,000 leaders
- A 25 percent increase in Assemblies of God churches with Royal Rangers outposts
- A 100 percent increase in training camps for leaders
- Develop training programs for our older boys
- Emphasize evangelism in the *High Adventure/High Adventure Leader*
- Encourage districts to set district goals for Royal Rangers

1998 Harvest Task Force Objectives

- Conduct a yearly Harvest Task Force prayer trip, sponsored by the national office—the trips to be attended by Challengers young men and commanders.
- Conduct annual Harvest Task Force church development trips, sponsored by the national office—the trips to be attended by Challengers young men and commanders.
- Encourage each district to appoint a Harvest Task Force coordinator, so that evangelism goals can be established by districts and so that objectives can be clearly stated and worked toward.
- Encourage each district to conduct at least one Harvest Task Force prayer trip per year—the trips to be attended by Challengers young men and commanders.
- Encourage districts to conduct Harvest Task Force church development trips—the trips to be attended by Challengers young men and commanders.
- Promote Turning Point training in regions, districts, and local churches across America.
- Promote the National Urban Leadership Conference in regions and districts—goal of conducting NULC's nationwide.
- Promote section, district, and region training on the Urban Commanders Training Guide.
- Strengthen our approach to sponsoring local urban outposts.
- Promote the Urban Leaders Training Course Program, the joint Royal Rangers and Teen Challenge program for Teen Challenge graduate students.
- Develop relationships with urban pastors and missionaries and work toward a common goal with them: establishing and strengthening their Royal Rangers programs in urban settings.
- Promote Outreach Ministry efforts in urban, suburban, and rural areas.
- Strengthen our promotion and reporting of Decade of Harvest activities.