

NATIONAL



NETWORK



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FROM THE DESK OF KEN HUNT, NATIONAL COMMANDER

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

- February 14, Valentine's Day
- February 15, President's Day
- March 5, World Day of Prayer
- March 25-27, National Royal Rangers Council
- March 28, Palm Sunday
- March 28, Good News Crusade Day
- April 4, Easter
- Daylight Savings Time begins
- April 15, Income Tax Day
- April 25-27, District Men's Director's Conference

PRAY FOR ...

... **Don Brock and family.** Don, who serves as our North Central Region coordinator, lost his daughter, Sandra, following years of battling cancer. Pray that God will encourage and strengthen the Brock family during this difficult time of loss.

WELCOME & FAREWELL

Mike Simmons is the new district commander for West Florida. Congratulations, Mike! Welcome aboard as district commander. Mike formerly served as training coordinator. Our thanks to Paul Coroleuski, who had faithfully served as district commander.

Bobby Forehand has accepted a pastorate and will no longer serve as national commander for the Royal Rangers ministry with Pentecostal Holiness. Thank you, Bobby, for your years of dedicated service. David Moore, training coordinator for Pentecostal Holiness, has been appointed the new national commander.

Darren Geesaman is the new regional coordinator of the Northeast region. He replaces Angel Ortiz, who resigned a few months ago.

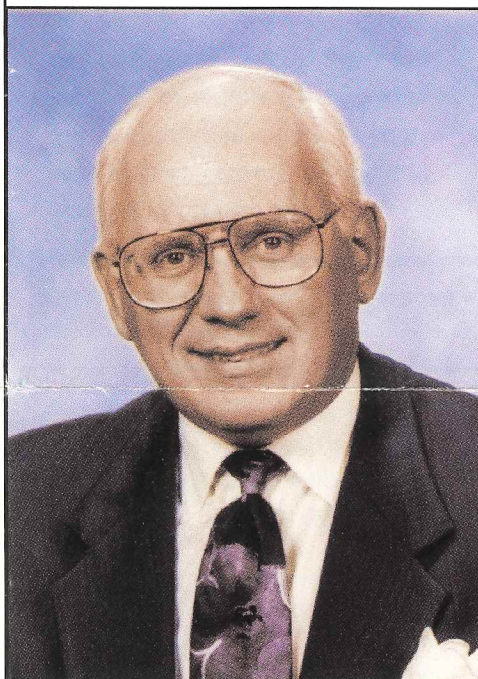
The Superintendent

Rev. Thomas E. Trask

For some time now the officers in our great Fellowship and I have felt we need to enter the new millennium with a time of rejoicing for what God has done and renewing our vision for the future. I believe we can expect God to lead us on to marvelous victories for His kingdom's sake in the 21st century.

It has been almost 100 years since God poured out His Spirit in an unprecedented way, giving birth to the Pentecostal movement and the Assemblies of God.

We have never attempted in this century to gather together in North America "at one time, in one place, and of one mind." As great a celebration of that magnitude might be, it is not enough unless we come together with a clear, common vision that unites our efforts on one common purpose.



Rev. Thomas E. Trask

It is my firm conviction God has put in the hearts of our church leaders and congregations a vision for ministry in the new millennium. God is calling our Fellowship to be and do things beyond what we can even imagine. I have commissioned a process to develop and contribute

to a common vision that will equip our entire Fellowship for the future. The outcome of this process, leading to the year 2000, will be our shared goal for our work for the Lord in the 21st century.

Should Jesus tarry, I am asking all Assemblies of God clergy, lay leaders, and as many members of congregations as can attend to meet for 3 days—August 8-10, 2000—for a great celebration in Indianapolis, Indiana. We will honor God's faithfulness for the past and humble ourselves before Him toward a new collective vision of the 21st century. It will be a time when we commission ourselves to the common goals set before us.

I am asking you to commit to this crucial process and resolve to attend this great event. I believe as we move toward developing a united vision God will bind us together in accomplishing more than we could ask or think in the opening years of the 21st century. I look forward to your participation. May the Lord richly bless you in our sincere prayer.

PAST EVENTS

LFTL Junior Councilmen, Idaho—Eight Royal Rangers and three commanders attended a LFTL banquet at Calvary Christian Church in Pullman, Idaho, in November. Senior Commander John Sullivan reports, "We were treated like King's kids with formal dining, China plates, servants in tuxedos, and fabulous food."

He continues, "We heard the message of the Great Commission and felt the call to reach the world for Jesus Christ with evangelistic literature. The boys prayed for our evangelists worldwide and took the challenge to earn \$100 to send to Dour Marsh, our Royal Rangers missionary to Central America. The Royal Rangers met Rev. Tony Salisbury, who is a missionary to Japan."

1999 National Camps



ADVANCED NATIONAL TRAINING CAMP

- Florida: Fort Meade (Camp Wilderness), Feb. 4-7
- Iowa: Ogden (A/G Campgrounds), May 20-23
- Maryland: Whiteford (Camp Spencer, BSA), Sept. 16-19
- Puerto Rico: San Sebastian, Nov. 18-21

B/SA TRAINING CONFERENCE

- North Texas: Maypearl (Lakeview Camp), Feb. 26-28
- Iowa: Ogden (A/G Campgrounds), April 9-11
- West Virginia: Falling Waters (A/G Camp), April 15-17
- Utah: Liberty (Camp Utaba), Sept. 10-12
- Ohio: Big Prairie (A/G Camp), Sept. 16-18
- Missouri: Rocky Mount (A/G Camp), Oct. 22-24

EAGLE ROCK ADVENTURE

- Missouri: Eagle Rock (Camp Eagle Rock), July 11-17

EAGLE ROCK ADVENTURE

- Missouri: Eagle Rock (Camp Eagle Rock), Phase 2—May 12-16
- Missouri: Eagle Rock (Camp Eagle Rock), Phase 3—May 10-16

NATIONAL CANOE EXPEDITION

- Minnesota: Pillager (Lake Placid Camp), July 22-25

NATIONAL TRAINING CAMP

- Florida: Fort Mead (Camp Wilderness), Jan. 28-31
- N. Texas: Maypearl (Lakeview Camp), March 4-7
- Iowa: Boone (A/G Campgrounds), April 29-May 2
- N. California: Mineral (Camp Mt. Lassen), May 20-23
- Maryland: Whiteford (Camp Spencer, BSA), May 13-16
- Kentucky: Mt. Sterling (McKee Scout Res.), May 20-23
- Oregon: Harlan (Camp Wildcat), June 22-25
- Alaska: Wasilla (Camp Little Beaver), Aug. 19-22
- New Jersey: Woodstown (Camp Roosevelt), Sept. 9-12
- Missouri: Eagle Rock (Camp Eagle Rock), Sept. 9-12
- N. Mexico: Carlsbad (Guadalupe Christian Camp), Sept. 16-19
- Utah: Ogden (Camp Utaba), Sept. 16-19

NATIONAL TRAINING TRAILS

- Michigan: Iachine (Beaver Lake Community Church), May 27-30
- New York: Baker's Mill, Sept. 23-26

past events, con't.

"Five new Royal Rangers earned their Light-for-the-Lost Merit and will become LFTL Junior Councilmen," reports Sullivan. "Three Rangers will renew as Junior Councilmen. Two commanders renewed as LFTL Councilmen, and one commander became a first-time Councilman."

GENERAL NEWS

The Last Best Thing

Our office is working with the American Bible Society to develop a new Bible portion that will replace The Book of Hope. The Last Best Thing will become our new stateside LFTL Junior Councilmen project, and funds raised for the stateside project will go toward additional purchases of The Last Best Thing. It will include eight auxiliary pages—on topics such as salvation and how to receive prayer through the A/G 1-800-4-PRAYER line. It also includes the Book of John in the Contemporary English Version, which is on a third-grade reading level. Numerous copies of The Last Best Thing will be donated to the Convoy of Hope, our partner evangelism ministry. Royal Rangers can distribute copies during their routes among neighborhoods while gathering food for The Giving Plan..

A portion of The Last Best Thing will be given to outposts and to Harvest Task Force coordinators of the Rangers ministry for use in their evangelism efforts.

If printed in time, you will receive a complimentary copy of The Last Best Thing during National Council. You will like what you see!

Letter of Thanks

Commander Hunt, I would very much like to thank you for the letter and GMA certificate that was presented to me on your behalf at my GMA Ceremony. It was an event that I will remember and cherish for the rest of my life.

Your Friend,
Randy Mourning, Rio Rancho, New Mexico

NEW ITEMS

Royal Rangers Handbooks Available on Audiocassette

The following Royal Rangers audiocassettes are offered free to individuals who are visually impaired.

To order, contact:
The Whitney Library for the Blind
Phone: 417-862-2861
Fax: 417-862-5120
E-mail: blind@ag.org

Royal Rangers Buckaroos Handbook
Revision Date: 1966

Royal Rangers Buckaroos Leaders Handbook
Revision Date: 10th printing, 1996

Royal Rangers Devotional for Boys
Revision Date: 1973

Royal Rangers Leaders Manual
Revision Date: Unknown

Child Abuse Prevention

Legal Updates: Excerpt taken from the Assemblies of God MINISTER newsletter, Oct. 1998 issue

Below is some information we feel is vital as it pertains to this church in light of some recent rulings by our courts. Hundreds of churches have been sued in recent years as a result of the sexual molestation of minors by church workers. A single incident of child molestation can devastate a church. The membership is outraged, parents question whether their own children have been victimized, the viability of the church's youth programs is jeopardized, and church leaders are blamed for allowing the incident to happen. Such incidents often result in massive media attention, sometimes on a national scale. Local residents associate the church with the incident of molestation. But far more tragic is the emotional trauma to the victim and the victim's family, and the enormous potential legal liability the church faces.

But there is good news! You can take relatively simple yet effective steps to significantly reduce the likelihood of such an incident happening in your [outpost]. Here are

some suggestions for your consideration:

Step 1: The 6-month rule. Adopt a policy restricting eligibility for any position involving the custody or supervision of minors to those persons who have been members in good standing of the church for a minimum period of time (e.g., 6 months).

Step 2: Screening forms. Have every applicant for youth work (volunteer or compensated) complete a screening application that asks for references and any criminal conviction.

Step 3: Contact references. Having an individual complete a screening application form is in itself not enough to protect a church and its members. Significant protection only occurs if the church follows up and contacts references. This can be done by telephone or mail. If you contact references by telephone, be sure to make a written record of all contacts.

Step 4: Two-adult rule. Adopt a two-adult rule that prohibits minors from being alone with one adult.

Step 5: The appropriate response. Don't immediately deny allegations of molestation, blame the victim, or minimize what happened. Respond with concern and compassion, taking the allegations seriously. Be sure to comply with your state child abuse reporting law.

Step 6: Education. Periodically provide your staff with training. An excellent idea is to have an employee of your local child welfare agency address your workers once each year about child molestation and abuse.

Step 7: Accountability, not mercy. Many churches have given known sex offenders a second chance by allowing them to work with minors. They err on the side of mercy. But what the church views as mercy the courts may view as reckless behavior. Churches assume an extraordinary legal risk in giving such persons a second chance.

UPCOMING EVENTS

1999 NATIONAL COUNCIL—Mark your calendar for the March 25-27 National Royal Rangers Council. The event will be held at the Holiday Inn-University Plaza. Guest speaker for this year's Silver Eagle Banquet will be John Bueno, national director for the Division of Foreign Missions. That banquet will follow the District Leadership Training Seminar on the evening of March 25.

Among other workshops, the DLTS will host a special day-long class that will serve as a prerequisite for trainers who staff National Urban Leadership Conferences. The Executive Committee is encouraging each district to send a representative to this NULC workshop. It will differ from that conducted last year in two ways: 1) Using "hands-on" training, participants will be led through an entire NULC. For example, participants will be involved in outreach ministry in a needy area of Springfield. 2) Those who are staffing future NULC's should take this training plus participate in an NULC before conducting one themselves.

Registration packets were mailed out by my office in January. Detailed information will assist you in making hotel reservations and registering for the various Council activities for councilmen and their wives.

Trailblazers Handbook
Revision Date: 2nd edition, 1995

OTHER ITEMS FOR SALE
The following items may be purchased from the national Royal Rangers Office by calling 417-862-2781, ext. 4179.

District Leadership Training Course, on CD
Cost: \$5

National Training Camps video
Highlights the NTC, ANTC, and WNTC
Cost: \$15

Royal Rangers Family Activity Book
Focuses on the Parent-Commander Association
Cost: \$5

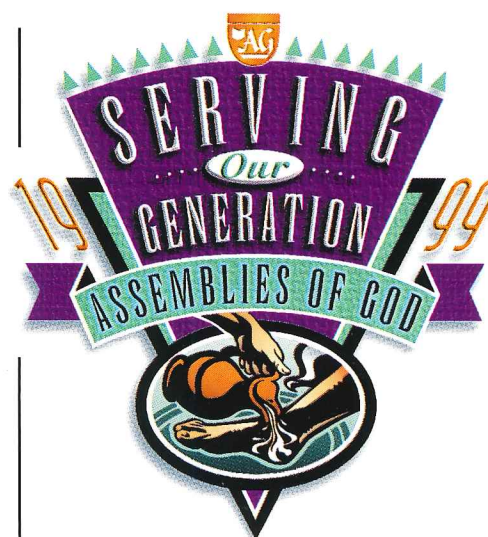
Gold Bar Orientation
Booklet that assists leaders implementing the Junior Guide program.
Cost: \$5

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

Hearts of You
Jacque Blauvelt's new release includes the "The Campout," a favorite for commanders. The CD or audiocassette is an excellent gift for anyone.
Audiocassette: \$12
CD: \$15

Royal Rangers Specialty Cap
The white cap with royal blue brim is embroidered on front with the words "Royal Rangers" in blue and red and on side with the 16 points of the Rangers Emblem in their perspective colors.
Cost Each: \$15

Royal Rangers Lapel Pin
This 5/8-inch, gold-plated lapel pin is an added attraction to any commander's suit or clothing.
Cost Each: \$2



Join in the fun of EURO CAMP '99
Neufrakenroda/Germany
July 30 - August 4
For preregistration application and information, contact:
Royal Rangers
Bundesverwaltungstelle
Vogelsangstra. 20
73614 Schorndorf
GERMANY
E-mail: rr.kasse@t-online.de