

NATIONAL



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FROM THE DESK OF RICHARD MARIOTT, NATIONAL COMMANDER

NATIONAL TRAINING CALENDAR FOR YEAR 2000

Advanced National Training Camp
 Michigan—Gaylord (Lost Valley Bible Camp), September 14-17

Buckaroos/Straight Arrows Training Conference

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

National Academy

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

National Training Camp

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

National Training Trails

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

National Urban Leadership Conference

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

Winter National Training Camp

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

PRAY FOR...

...God's direction to our national ministry as the foundation is laid for program revisions.

Richard Mariott Shares Goals for Royal Rangers

by Tarrah Teigland

Changes big and small, but all exciting, are in store for Royal Rangers, the national boys' program of the Assemblies of God. Perhaps the newest change is the appointment of National Commander Richard Mariott. Mariott left his position as district commander of the Northern California/Nevada District to fill the position upon the retirement of Ken Hunt, previous national commander.

Mariott will pursue 100 percent participation in the Royal Rangers program across the Assemblies of God. Currently, about 55 percent of churches participate in Royal Rangers. Looking at the churches not yet reached, Mariott and Royal Rangers leaders discovered a great need among churches with congregations under 200.

"We had too many training requirements for leaders, and a smaller church had very limited resources as far as leaders," Mariott says. Because the Royal Rangers program required a church to have 8 or 9 leaders, many of the smaller churches felt discouraged to be active in the program. Leaders in the older program were required to go through such an extensive amount of training that many dropped out within the first year. Mariott says this is where key changes begin. New books will help to consolidate training information in one area and are designed especially to be "commander-friendly."

There will also be changes in the Royal Rangers advancement system. The present system, a linear advancement system, is designed to begin and end just as a normal school year. Though there are many benefits to this system, Mariott says a potential circular system would have "an 8-10 week cycle, and you would get an advancement for completing that cycle. The advancement system would not be based on anything but completing a quarter." This would mean that visitors would have more opportunities for advancement. (Missionettes has already begun this type of system with 1-month cycles and finds it to work well.)

Royal Rangers has always had the vision to reach boys for Christ. "Through the years," Mariott says, "we've done this primarily through the camping program. We're going to be looking at all possible other areas, possibly in skills, crafts, and trades, to see how we can integrate all of this into different ways of reaching boys."

Boys can also find ministry opportunities in Royal Rangers. The Trappers' Brigade allows them to earn points by going out and working on home missions churches and helping in their own church through ushering, youth activities, and other events. Royal Rangers has recently linked with Light for the Lost, giving Rangers the chance to serve as LFTL Jr. Councilmen. Royal Rangers focus



is also on Bible-study and memorization of Scripture throughout the programs.

As the Royal Rangers program strives to train boys mentally, physically, and spiritually, it is Mariott's hope that the program will grow in size and influence. Says Mariott, "Royal Rangers best days are ahead of us. Get ready for some exciting times! There's going to be things that boys will want to be involved in as we're getting ready to go into the new millennium with the power of Jesus."

Direct From Richard Mariott...

Royal Rangers is on the threshold of our **GREATEST OPPORTUNITY**. This grand occasion is this: an opportunity to expand our horizons to reach into areas such as camping and non-camping activities, extreme outdoor sports activities, while teaming up with other ministries to offer specialized missions and ministry opportunities. Opportunities also present some challenges—the challenge of working out details, revising curricula and advancement structure, and optimizing promotions are just a few. But if you are like myself, I thrive on challenges. Challenges cause us to take the ordinary and with God's help to "do the extraordinary."

I want to share with you some thoughts from myself and comments from the National Royal Rangers Executive Committee. Keep in mind that some of what I am sharing is still in "clay" and may be molded differently as we get closer to National Council in March, where I can share the presentation with you.

RANGER KIDS—combining the programs of Straight Arrows and Buckaroos into one non-thematic arena, keeping in mind that Straight Arrows adopts the "Indian" theme and Buckaroos uses the "cowboy" theme. With the name Ranger Kids, we would continue to have two different 2-year programs while being enabled to accomplish several objectives. Here are some examples:

1. Have a name that is non-thematic in context.

2. Have additional topics within "Ranger Kids" that are not related to the Indian and cowboy themes.
3. Retain the Indian and cowboy themes ...but provide additional themes.

ROYAL RANGERS—continued as our camping-based program. In Royal Rangers, we would combine the Pioneer, Trailblazer, and Trail Rangers advancements into one easy-to-understand approach, with a focus on achieving the Gold Medal of Achievement. With camping more popular than ever, this is no time to get out of camping activities.

DISCOVERY RANGERS—A side-by-side or stand-alone non-camping-base program. The Discovery Rangers program would apply an advancement system similar to Royal Rangers, but giving optional non-camping activities and advancements—making this program an instant success. Here again, the advancement system will be one easy to understand and focus on, enabling boys to accomplish the Gold Hawk Award, which will be the Gold Medal equivalent for the Discovery Rangers.

CHALLENGERS—to be an all-new, exciting "X-treme" sports-type program. Challengers will operate differently than the current program in that the new Challengers will be an activity and ministry-based program but not a curriculum-based one. In this program advancements would be optional and would use the merit awards system.

Challengers would incorporate the X-treme sports such as the following: mountain biking, cross-country skiing, whitewater rafting, and canoeing, just to name a few. Ministry opportunities such as Shake the Nations, Convoy of Hope, disaster relief, MAPS trips, and district Prayer Task Force trips are just a few exciting applications in this program.

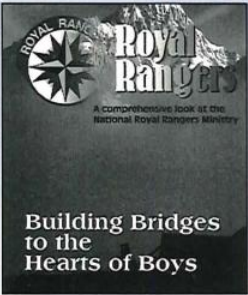
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A Challenge To You

Commander, you are an example to the boys who often lack the influence of a positive male role model. Join with me in prayer that you and I will have the opportunity to share the salvation message with at least 10 boys each year. If this happens across America collectively, over 250,000 boys a year—or 2.5 million in 10 years—will come to accept Jesus Christ as their personal Savior.

That's EVANGELISM with a big "E"!

Discipleship will maintain them throughout their teens and adult life.

CURRENT EVENTS

National Urban Leadership Conference

Beginning with the year 2000, the national office will set into motion new standards concerning the NULC. This was announced to the trainees during the NULC Staff Training last March. To conduct an NULC, the region should:

1. Ensure the staff positions of Conference Coordinator, Conference Commander, Senior Patrol Guide, and Chaplain are filled by certified NULC staff members. They must complete the *Outreach Ministries Training Guide* and NULC Staff Training and must have served as a staff member at an NULC. If you are unable to fill these positions with such qualified staff, give Paul Stanek or Marshall Bruner, at the national office, a call and we can assist you. By the year 2001 all staff members must complete these qualifications.
2. Ensure the staff positions of all other staff members have completed the *Outreach Ministries Training Guide*. The best scenario would be to have staff members who have also completed the NULC Staff Training; if this is not possible an NULC Staff Training could be conducted by the certified Conference Commander the day before the NULC.
3. Ensure that the Planning Coordinator has thoroughly read and understands the NULC Staff Notebook.
4. Ensure the Planning Coordinator has discussed at length the planning of the NULC with Paul Stanek and Marshall Bruner.
5. Ensure that each trainee receives prior to the NULC the *Outreach Ministries Training Guide*, which must be completed prior to the NULC and which test must be administered during the NULC.
6. Ensure that the NULC format is followed according to the national office standards.
7. Ensure that the NULC application is that of the national office standard and is approved by the national office and that an electronic copy of the application is sent to the national office.

Funds Needed for Urban Ministry

Thanks to the FCF ministry, thousands of dollars worth of Royal Rangers curricula have been donated to urban outposts that are limited financially. Now, however, all funds for such assistance are depleted. If your district wishes to participate in this ongoing benevolent cause, please send your offerings to the national Royal Rangers Office, marked "Inner City Funds, account 001-01-031-4149-000." Your help is much appreciated by the urban commanders who want a successful Rangers ministry. Thank you!

New Zealand Camporama 2000

See the beginning of the new millennium in the Royal Rangers setting. Enjoy the fellowship, revel in the rallies, meet new friends, trade stories and patches, and demonstrate your Rangers skills. The New Zealand Camporama 2000 is January 3-7, 2000, for \$81 in U.S. currency. New Zealand National Commander David Spurdle adds: "To accommodate overseas visitors and others who will seek to enjoy Royal Rangers company, we are hosting a pre-Camporama millennium welcome camp December 31 to January 2000."

The events will be held at Katikati, New Zealand. For registration information: NZ National Commander, 350 Roscommon Road, Manurewa, Auckland, New Zealand; Phone/Fax: 001-649-267-6788; E-mail: omega.graphics@xtra.co.nz.

Australian Camporama

"Please be advised that we are postponing the Australian Camporama from January 2001 to January 2002," notes Australian National Commander Warren Billson. "This has become necessary because of the Sydney Olympics to be held just 3 months prior to the original date of our event. Because of the Olympics, school holidays have been rescheduled, and many people will not have the time off or the finances to attend a camp in 2001."

THANK YOU'S

The New LFTL Junior Councilmen's Stateside Project, *The Last Best Thing*—In June, during their "Homeless" outreach efforts of the New York School of Urban Ministry, a homeless man came running toward Home Missionary Steve Kulish. Steve learned that "Mike" had read *The Last Best Thing*, which was given to him earlier during Steve's outreach effort. Mike hugged Steve and Steve led him through the sinner's prayer. Steve reports the good news that Mike found the "love, hope, and peace that only Christ can give."

Steve writes: "Dear Brother Bruner, We truly have been blessed by the gift of *The Last Best Thing*, which we've used in our outreaches here at the New York School of Urban Ministry. Thank you so much for making this available."

PAST EVENTS

I started in Royal Rangers in 1975 and stayed in until I turned 18, then went into the Army. During the Army I had a lot of training in survival and outdoors. I recently attended NTC at Camp WildCat in Oregon, and my military training helped me during NTC. I didn't expect to receive much more training out of NTC—boy was I wrong! It was a very uplifting experience. We had

District Commander, to order this ad for your district newsletter, contact Marshall Bruner — 417-862-2781 ext. 4177

FRONTIERSMEN CAMPING FELLOWSHIP

National Rendezvous 2000



CAMP EAGLE ROCK July 17-21, 2000

eight outstanding staff members, led by two other great Rangers leaders: Camp Commander David Franklin and Senior Guide Bob Killian. We couldn't have had a better group of guys to show us how to teach our boys in our outpost. In my patrol, the Panting Antelopes, I met some top-notch guys that I hope I can keep in contact with for a long time. The teamwork and fellowship were among the best. I would encourage any commander to go to NTC. It was worth every bad night's sleep I got.

— Commander Bruce A. Shaffer
("Spotted Eagle")

Southern Missouri District Pow Wow 1999

For several months prior to our district Pow Wow, I knew the Lord wanted me there. As the Pow Wow drew closer, I sensed that something special was going to happen. I didn't know it would happen to me or to the boys that I went with. I went to the Pow Wow with Outpost 94, Boss, Missouri. We took seven boys and four leaders. On Friday night Fred Deaver, FCF national president, delivered a mighty message. All the boys from our group went forward for rededication. Later that evening, I spoke to the boys in my outpost on baptism of the Holy Spirit. Several boys wanted [the infilling] but none received that night, as the timing was not right. On Saturday night, Fred spoke another mighty message and asked those boys who wanted the baptism of the Holy Spirit to come forward. Seven of the boys went forward and six received the baptism of the Holy Spirit. The senior commander of the outpost was... given a new vision for Royal Rangers. There at the Pow Wow, we could see the change in those boys lives.

— Noel "Spirit Rider" Bell

Paiute Sectional Camporee

The Paiute Section Camporee was an absolute blast this year. Twenty-plus boys accepted Christ into their hearts, even more rededicated their lives to the Lord and/or were filled with the Holy Spirit.

Every night we witnessed an outpouring of the Spirit. Commanders and boys alike were slain in the Spirit; the altar overflowed. Teens formed up and prayed for the anointing of the Holy Spirit to fall over the camp; to give all the commanders a fresh anointing; to rebuke the demons, principalities, and powers in high places; to give teens courage and strength to witness to their unsaved friends; to encourage their saved friends; and to say "No" to the devil's devices; to pray for their city and state officials and for the nation and its officials.

In short, the sectional Camporee was a true revival!

— Chandler Wible, Outpost 217
Mountain View Assembly of God
Las Vegas, Nevada

The following article is reprinted courtesy
AG-News Services

[Editor's Note: Read and realize that potential Royal Rangers can have when involved in the Great Commission.]

WEDNESDAY, August 4, 1999

Kids Return to Inner City

Nineteen third through sixth graders from Tri-County Assembly of God, Fairfield, Ohio, recently returned from an inner-city ministry trip to Nashville, Tenn. Their unique ministry of drama, choreography, mime, flags, clowning, singing, and human video touched kids and adults alike. P.A.R.K. (Praising and Rejoicing Kids) shared the love of Jesus using the theme "I'm free!"

Beginning in February, participants met one night a week to practice and pray about the trip. They also had an all-night session and one all-day practice to cement the many ministry ideas. Since P.A.R.K. did not want to make the trip to Nashville their only ministry, they spent much of the summer helping out in day camps, VBS programs at different churches, and inner-city Dayton.

In July, P.A.R.K. left for Nashville to assist at an inner-city mission, "Provision Ministry," in the Henry Hale Housing Project. They worked each morning sweeping floors, setting up chairs and tables, cleaning toilets, and walking from house to house to gather kids for the service.

Pastor Bob Frymire, children's pastor at Tri-County says, "Before we ever left, the two things we really stressed were being humble and being respectful to the people we worked with."

The kids also participated in a park party, "Saturday Night Live," held within the project. Using the wordless book, a witnessing tool designed with colors to stand for different aspects of Christianity, the children were able to communicate the gospel of Jesus Christ.

On Sunday, P.A.R.K. led the service at Trinity Music City Church in Hendersonville, Tenn. There, they experienced the power of God in an awesome way. During the altar call, they saw a man delivered from alcoholism, a woman set free from bondage, and many souls added to the kingdom of God. Prompted by the Holy Spirit, P.A.R.K. began to lay hands upon the pastor and his wife and pray an anointing on their ministry.

Monday night found the group at the Nashville Riverfront. Across the road from "Hard Rock Café," a carousel, and a football stadium, P.A.R.K. began to minister in song. Soon, the homeless people of Nashville stood to listen and watch. After the program was finished, the kids passed out tracts and Bibles and shared with the people there. Those in the audience started to share their needs with the children and the children responded in prayer.

They spent 2 hours there letting the people know about the hope in Jesus. Tears and smiles co-existed as the homeless people began reading the Bibles they had been given.

Says Frymire, "We saw God move miraculously not because of our hours of practice, but because of the hours of prayer, fasting and intercession on behalf of Nashville by the kids. We taught the kids to respect all people and to humble themselves in servanthood. During preparation, worship times were set aside to thank God for what He was going to do on the trip. During these times of worship and prayer, kids were being filled with the Holy Spirit and weeping over the lives of lost people. We learned that when we pray in God's will, our prayers will be answered. God really confirmed that on our trip."

When evaluating the warm response of the homeless to the P.A.R.K. team, Frymire believes "the homeless were almost being treated like lepers where they had to sit at the side of the city and shout 'unclean.'" Just as Jesus unreservedly reached out and touched the lepers, the kids followed suit by reaching out and giving hugs to the homeless, telling them they loved them. "They had tears running down their face and were very appreciative that we would come and talk to them."

Adults at Tri-County Assembly were touched by the kids' trip when they saw pictures and videos of the kids ministering along the riverfront to the homeless and to tourists.

"They were just shocked at how bold these kids could be," Frymire says. "They have started wanting to do the same thing. It has challenged them to step out and do something they aren't comfortable doing."

LEGAL UPDATES

The following is an excerpt from *Church Law & Tax Report*, prepared in part by Richard Hammar, legal counselor, The General Council of the Assemblies of God. This is not a publication of the Assemblies of God. For detailed information pertaining to these church-related legal issues, e-mail your subscription request to <http://www.iclonline.com>.

"A recent Georgia case addressed the liability of a church for the molestation of a 4-year-old girl by a 10-year-old boy on church premises. The court concluded that churches have a duty to exercise reasonable care in the supervision of young children and that this duty was breached in this case because the victim had been released from a nursery area and was allowed to roam freely throughout the church without adult supervision."

ROYAL RANGERS
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