

Rangers are

'READY FOR ANYTHING'

An interview with National Commander **JOHNNIE BARNES**

as well as responsible conduct.

Actually it gives boys a four-fold development—spiritual, mental, physical, and social. But the spiritual development is the most important.

EDITOR: *Can you cite examples?*

BARNES: We have letters from pastors who report large numbers of boys won to Christ. There are numerous cases of entire families being won through Royal Rangers. Each year approximately 17,000 boys are saved and 8,000 receive the baptism in the Holy Spirit.

EDITOR: *Then would you classify Royal Rangers as an evangelistic outreach?*

BARNES: Primarily it is evangelistic.

The uniforms, colorful badges, and exciting activities are the bait on the hook to attract unsaved boys to the program so they can be challenged for Christ.

EDITOR: *Now that it's 12 years old, is it losing momentum?*

BARNES: On the contrary. In the past year the level of interest and activity has been higher than ever.

We are still in the launching stage. This year, for example, we have had our first National Camperama.

Our list of publications is constantly growing. *High Adventure*, our magazine for boys, has now passed the 21,000 mark in circulation.

EDITOR: *Then you think the program will continue to grow?*

BARNES: I'm convinced that, should Christ tarry, we will see much greater growth and achievements in the future. There are many thousands more boys who need a Pentecostal, Bible-based, Christ-honoring program like Royal Rangers. With the help of dedicated leaders and the support of concerned churches, we can reach those boys for Christ.

EDITOR: *If churches want information about Royal Rangers, how can they get it?*

BARNES: They can write to their District Council office. The district commander will send information; or they can write to me at the international headquarters of the Assemblies of God. We have free literature we will be glad to send, and we have correspondence courses for training men who want to get involved in this live-wire ministry to boys.

What Royal Rangers means to me

By **STEVE GORDON**
Ames, Iowa (age 15)

ROYAL RANGERS has been a great influence in my life. Belonging to Royal Rangers has given me the opportunity to get acquainted with other boys.

It also has given me the opportunity to acquire camping techniques. When I go camping, I enjoy and learn about the many things God has made for all of us.

I have had the privilege of working with many different boys from all over Iowa. I meet many new kids when I go to the spring and fall powwows. I will remember

many of the techniques my commanders have taught me and be able to use them as long as I live.

They have taught me how to camp in the wilderness with very few provisions. They have also taught me how to find natural herbs, berries, and roots that are edible.

I have also learned how to use a compass properly if I ever should become lost. We have studied some astronomy so if we become lost at night, we can tell where we are according to the position of the stars and constellations.

Other techniques we have learned are how to build a proper fire, according to what type we need, and how to tie different knots.

When I became a Royal Ranger, I prayed that God would help me live by the Royal Rangers pledge and that He would help me live up to the motto to be ready for anything. I have vowed to follow the Royal Rangers code to be alert mentally and physically and to be spir-

itually clean in body, mind, and speech.

I will try to be honest in all things and courageous in times of danger or criticism. I will be loyal to my church, family, and friends. I will be courteous to all people and obedient to my parents and leaders.

Most of all, I will be one who prays, reads his Bible, and witnesses to others.

When I went through Frontiersmen Camping Fraternity initiation, I realized how much God had made for me to enjoy. It was a beautiful night out, and the stars seemed extra bright.

After our tests were all over and we had been initiated, we slept on the ground in a small clearing. As I was looking up into the sky, I noticed a falling star traveling to an unknown destination. I thought about this and applied it to my life. My future is known only to God, and I must be willing to follow where He leads.