

A dream coming true

The new Royal Rangers training center is a dream coming true for Johnnie Barnes, Royal Rangers founder and national commander.

"In 1962," Johnnie said recently, "I had a dream of an army of men and boys around the world; lifting high the banner of Jesus Christ; making an impact on their generation for God! With the expansion of Royal Rangers into 42 countries and thousands of boys accepting Christ each year, this dream is becoming a reality."

"I have had another dream for many years of a National Training Center for Royal Rangers: a center to train leaders in this far-reaching ministry; a site for national events and specialized camping opportunities for boys across the nation."

On October 18, 1984, the Executive Presbytery of the Assemblies of God authorized the purchase and development of nearly 1,500 acres of land for just such a facility.

Where is it?

The 1,445-acre site of the training center is located on the Missouri/Arkansas border between Roaring River State Park and Eagle Rock, Missouri. It is bordered on three sides by the Mark Twain National Forest. The southern edge is in Arkansas and includes the mouth of Cedar Creek where it flows into Table Rock Lake.

What is it like?

The property is mostly white oak and hickory forest, with 1,500-foot mountains, several streams, springs, ponds, and hundreds of acres of meadowland. It is ideal for camping, hiking, mountain and rock climbing, and cave exploration. Cedar Creek and Table Rock Lake, with its over 1,000 miles of shoreline, offer excellent opportunities for swimming, boating, canoeing, and other aquatic activities.

The land has been in the same fam-

ily for over a hundred years. It has a rich historical heritage. Some of the legal descriptions on the deeds still list landmarks such as "from the large pin oak tree due north to a flat rock etched with a cross." There is even a legend of a lost silver mine on the property.

How will it be used?

As a training center for Royal Rangers leaders it would be used for National Training Camps, National Training Trails, Advanced National Training Camps, National Aquatic Camps, National Canoe Expeditions, NTC Staff Schools, Buckaroo and Straight Arrow Leader's Conferences, District Staff Training Conferences, and Junior Leader Training Camps.

As a site for special events, uses include National Camporamas, National Rendezvous, Regional Conferences or Camporees, District Powwows and Buckaroo/Straight Arrow Field Days.

Plans also call for facilities to allow boys to live for a week or more in a Plains Indian village, a Western ranch, or a frontier fort. A special-

ized aquatic camps facility is also planned.

How will it be developed?

The goal is to keep the site as natural and rustic as possible. One headquarters lodge with a kitchen, staff quarters, rest rooms, and shower facilities will be built first. Campsites, a council fire area, and docks will follow.

Water supplies, sanitation, and shower areas for special events would be developed next, followed by buildings and facilities for specialized camps.

How is it being funded?

Money to purchase, develop, and maintain the land will come from one-time donations from churches, Royal Rangers groups, and individuals. Under the "Stake A Claim" program each claimholder will underwrite the purchase, development, and perpetual maintenance of one of the 1,445 acres with a single \$500 donation.

As Johnnie Barnes says, "Dreams are wonderful, but they must be shared by many people before they become a reality." e

TELL ME MORE ABOUT HOW TO

STAKE A CLAIM

IN THE LIVES OF BOYS THROUGH THE
ROYAL RANGERS NATIONAL TRAINING CENTER

Please send me information on how I, our Royal Rangers Outpost, or congregation can help purchase, develop, and maintain land for the Royal Rangers National Training Center with up to 2 years to pay.

Enclosed is \$_____ for _____acre(s) at \$500 per acre.
(A claim conveys no legal interest)



NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____

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ROYAL RANGERS

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