

# CONVERSATION

## KEN HUNT DISCUSSES REACHING BOYS FOR JESUS

**Ken Hunt**, national commander of Royal Rangers, recently spoke with Scott Harrup, *Pentecostal Evangel* news editor.

**Evangel:** In what ways does Royal Rangers help boys and young men mature in their walk with Christ?

**Hunt:** Royal Rangers teaches leadership. This goes beyond our primary focus of reaching, teaching, and keeping boys for Christ. The point is to help a boy develop skills and hopefully he'll get plugged into his outpost as a junior leader and then as an adult leader. It's discipleship.

**Evangel:** When leaders are excited about the program, they become role models for the boys. What are some current developments in the Rangers program that excite you?

**Hunt:** We are going through our advancement trail to determine how to motivate and award the boys as much as possible at an early age.

We are also becoming part of the answer for the dysfunctional family—especially in the inner city. When inner-city kids have loving adults taking an interest in them, they turn to

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them. We are training men to see the need in the inner city. Compassion—

that's what's making the difference right now.

**Evangel:** Ed Peecher, a pastor near Chicago, said Royal Rangers is really nothing more than God's gang.

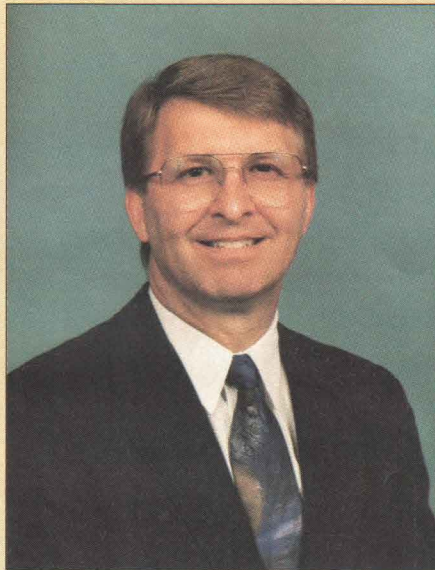
**Hunt:** Royal Rangers can be a substitute for a gang. It becomes an interest group. In the psychology of peer pressure, it's not the kid who invites himself into the group; it's the group that invites the kid. So Royal Rangers has its own colors, its own theme, its leaders who care, etc. It's a beautiful model of a gang.

**Evangel:** Rangers has gone international. What countries have recently established programs?

**Hunt:** The program is running big time in about every Latin American country. That's not so much with direction from our office—we just help coordinate it. One of the most exciting stories I have right now is that a brother in Germany has

made several thrusts into Russia. The German thrust is powerful. They now

have some 115 churches there with Royal Rangers programs. Today there is a Eurocamp, which is the same as our national campo-rama.



**INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH:** “The program is running big time in about every Latin American country.”

**Evangel:** If you were approached by a pastor wanting to begin a Royal Rangers program, how would you advise him?

**Hunt:** Train your leaders. Royal Rangers can be a great evangelistic thrust of the church if it's run correctly. Annually we have

some 20,000 boys saved through the ministry and some 7,000 filled with the Spirit.

**Evangel:** What is your vision for Royal Rangers?

**Hunt:** Royal Rangers is one of the ministries being used to bring in a harvest for the Lord. If pastors and laypeople will focus in on the needs and have a heart of compassion, we will continue to reap a harvest.

We are seeing a revival of the family. Fathers are turning back to their families and loving them. Royal Rangers will play a big part in that.

A man with a burden and calling who is trained and a pastor with a vision will reap a bountiful harvest for the Lord. ■