



RANGERS

Now

Mentoring Future Men

ISSUE NO. 2 / 2009-2010

Matt McPherson

Mind of a Craftsman,
Heart of a Servant

CHARTERING: The Next Generation

Outpost chartering debuted around the same time as *Star Trek* — 47 years ago

Rangers Ministry Academy

Mobilizing, Inspiring, and Resourcing
ROYAL RANGERS LEADERS



DISCIPLING
Young Men & Adults
into Christlike Manhood

Don't Miss This Historic Event!

July 9 -13, 2012



Celebrating 50 Years of Royal Rangers!

Mark your calendars!

The 2012 Camporama will be held July 9-13, at Camp Eagle Rock in Missouri! It will be here before you know it! This exciting national event represents the pinnacle of Royal Rangers' activities and serves as the highlight of many boys' involvement in Royal Rangers. Many exciting events at Camporama will coincide with the golden anniversary of Royal Rangers as we celebrate 50 years of ministering to boys with some special events!

The 2012 Camporama will be like none before it! Plans are already being made! Many of

your favorite activities will return—swimming, shooting and biking competitions, the FCF Village, and, of course, powerful evening services in the presence of God! Events never before seen at past Camporamas will also be unveiled.

Look for more information in the spring of 2010. Start planning those fundraisers now to help offset the cost for those attending from your outpost. We are earnestly praying and believing to have thousands in attendance from all over the world.

Don't let a single eligible boy miss it!

For more information visit royalrangers.org/events/camporama



RANGERS

Evangelize. Equip. Empower. *Now*

Taking Royal Rangers to the iPod Generation.

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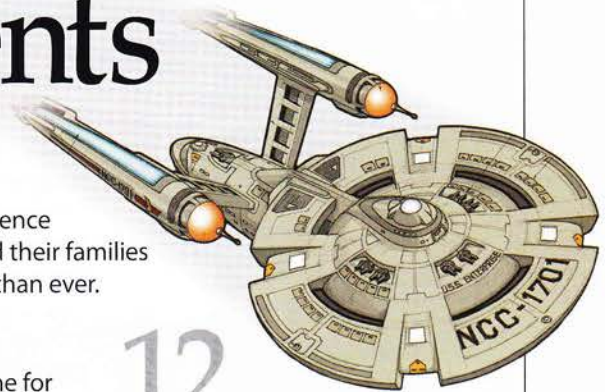
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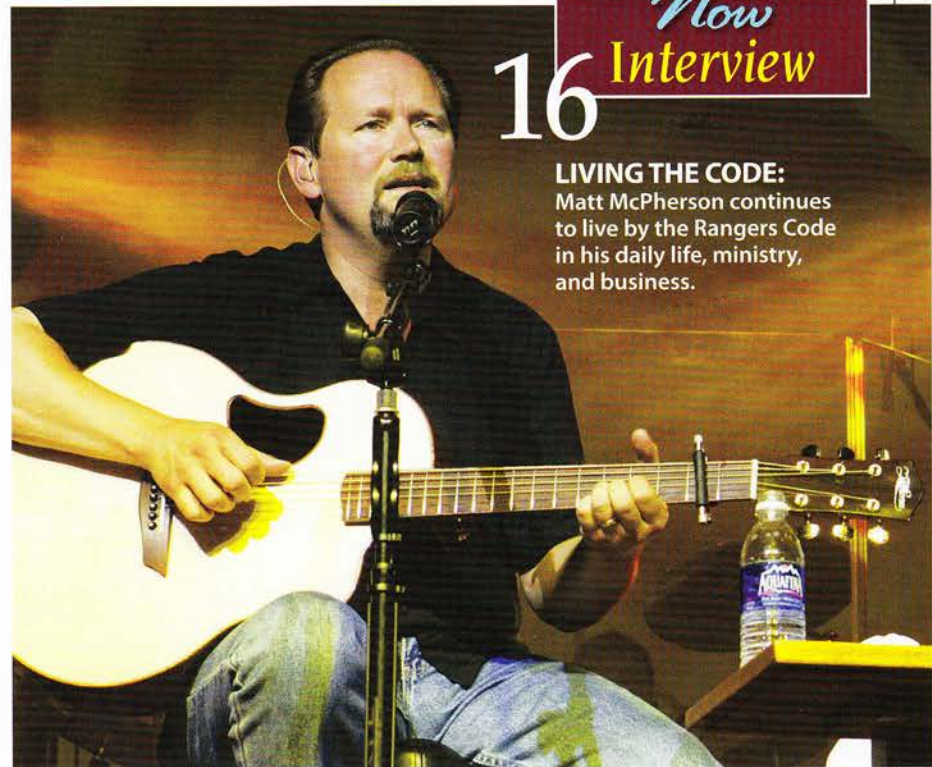
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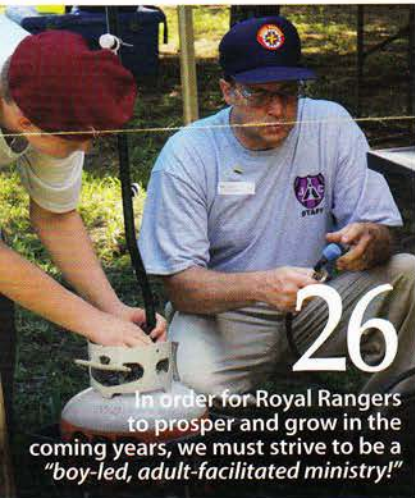
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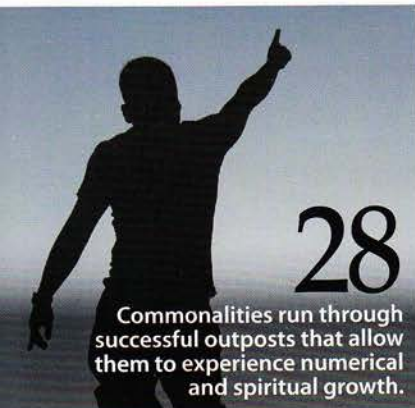


Mentoring Future Men.



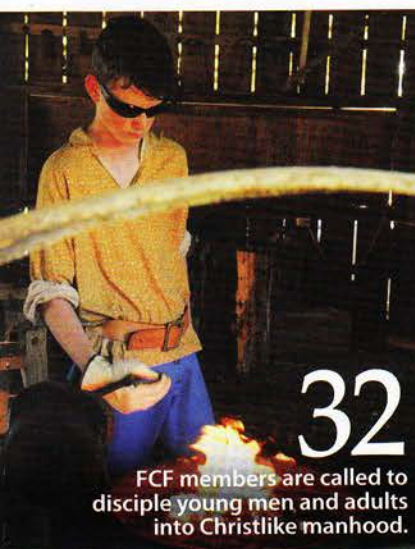
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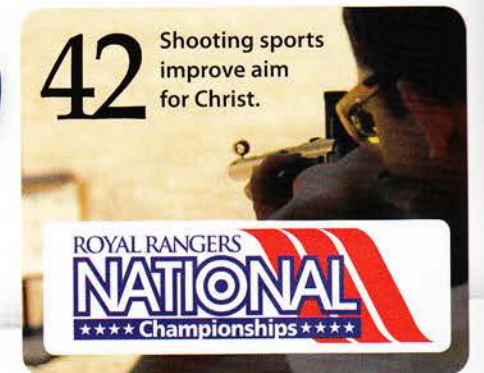
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RANGERS *Now*

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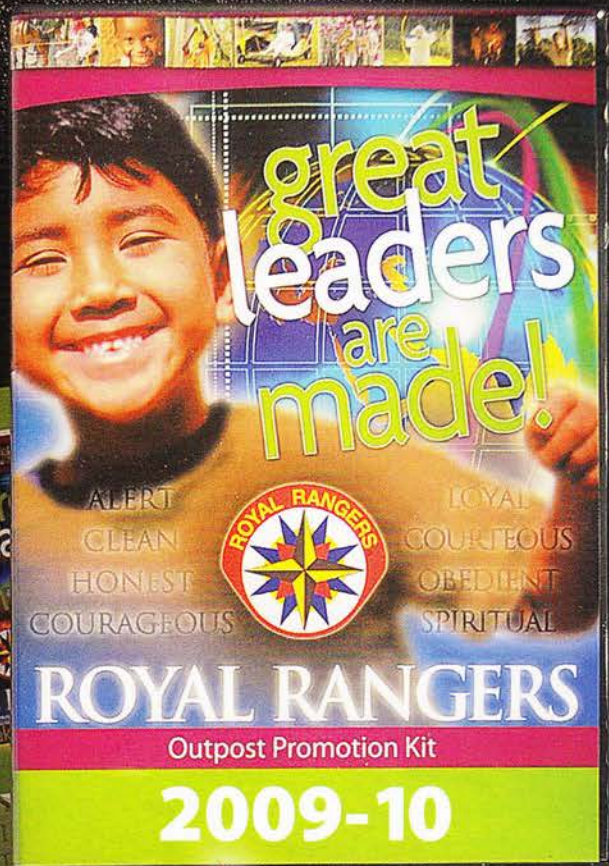
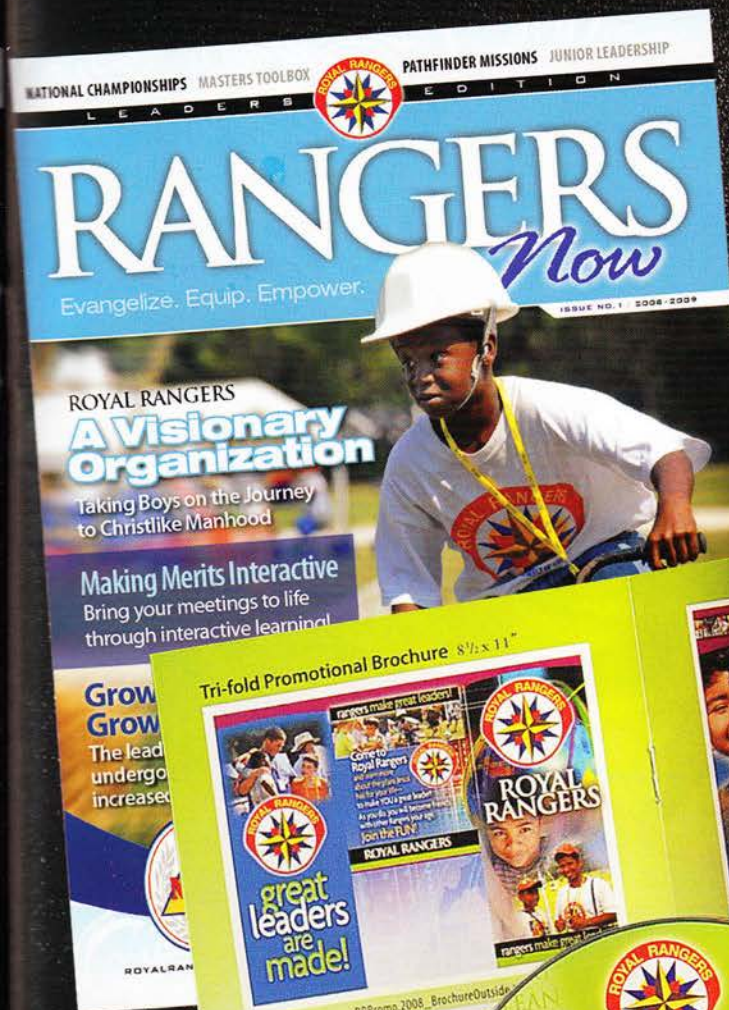
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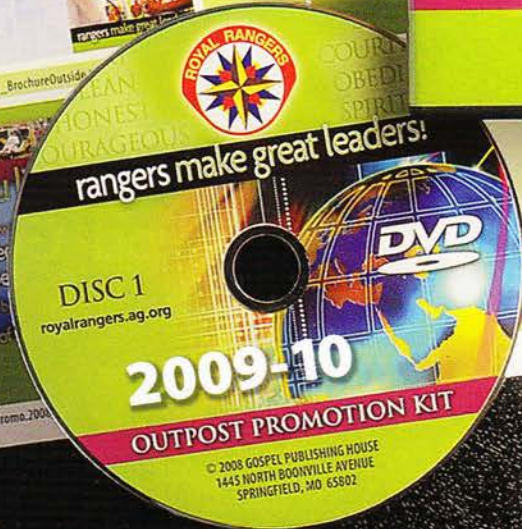
Cover photograph courtesy of Matt McPherson.

THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY TO GET THE NEW OUTPOST PROMOTION KIT

AND THAT'S TO CHARTER.



Tri-fold Promotional Brochure 8 1/2 x 11"



There's a reason the exclusive Royal Rangers Outpost Promotion Kit was in development for over a year. It meant developing entirely new promotional materials with the needs of the outpost in mind. Over 40 different components like videos, banners, and artwork have been professionally designed and produced from the ground up because we believe what we want for your outpost is exactly what you want — for the Royal Rangers ministry to be the premier Christian program for boys in the world.



royalranger.ag.org/chartering



Taking Royal Rangers to the iPod® Generation.



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DOUG MARSH
NATIONAL DIRECTOR

Hello fellow Ranger Commander!

Last year, we presented the exciting journey of renewal the Lord is leading us on—together we are taking Royal Rangers to the iPod® generation!

Now, you are beginning to see many of the dreams delivered. The new utility uniform is available, online chartering with its enhanced benefits are yours, and many new and exciting training events are being released now and in the months ahead.

In 2010, the new *Inspire the Journey: Royal Rangers Leader Manual* will be released, the National Rangers Ministry Camp and Ranger Essentials will premier, and The Rangers Curriculum Club will launch. TRaCclub, for short, will allow us to leverage the Internet to deliver up-to-date Royal Rangers curriculum to you. Once you become a member, you will find the promised Discovery, Adventure, and Expedition Rangers leadership merits and the new brown Adventure Rangers Bible merits. Then, over time you will see skill merits revised as well as new ones introduced. We are living in exciting times as we prepare to influence more boys and young men than ever, more effectively than ever!

I would personally like to urge you to stay current as we take this journey together. Read (or reread) the revised *Seek & Save* articles. Periodically check the national FAQ pages and my personal blog. Also, watch my video podcasts on *Nehemiah: A Leader of Purpose and Priority*. Nothing dispels fear of change like knowledge; we are working hard to provide you full information, which is also available on the national ministry website.

As I visit outposts, talk with leaders, pastors, parents, boys, and young men, and speak at churches and conferences, I meet Royal Rangers' finest. You are everywhere—in the city and country, in

big, medium, and small churches, and in the Assemblies of God and the independent Pentecostal churches. I've begun to notice at least three things outstanding outpost leaders do consistently:

- 1) You are mission-focused. The leaders are always willing to look at their programming and methodology with fresh eyes in order to reach unchurched boys and their families at home and abroad. They are married to our mission—to evangelize, equip, and empower the next generation of Christlike men and lifelong servant leaders—not our methods.

That's why we describe our journey as "taking Royal Rangers to the iPod® generation." You see, your iPod® and my iPod® are functionally the same, but each reflects our unique preferences in music. So it is with Royal Rangers. Your church requires a robust mentoring ministry to future men, but it should be simple and flexible to adapt effectively to your pastor's vision and to the culture of your church and community. Flexible Rangers methods help you accomplish the never changing Rangers mission.

I'd like to introduce you to a few of the excellent leaders I've been honored to meet who are taking Royal Rangers to the iPod® generation. Visit the national ministry website and watch the "What If?" videos. You will meet leaders and pastors who dared to ask, "What if?" What if we go into our community and reach unchurched families using Royal Rangers? You will be inspired, and I think you will see yourself. It will reaffirm your calling and validate what you are doing faithfully as you reach out to mentor future men.

- 2) You strive to be a "boy-led, adult-facilitated" outpost. Thriving leaders grow personally and encourage the growth of the adult and junior leaders around them. They don't see leading as something you do *to* people but something you do *with* people, thus they involve their boys and young men in the evangelize, equip, and empower mission. Boys reaching boys for Christ.
- 3) You depend on God! I have been overwhelmed by the humility and wholehearted dedication of our leadership across the nation. Leaders who know it's not about them but about our Master Ranger. You are asking Him, "What are You doing, and how can we be part of it?" You are deeply spiritual leaders, who mentor future men from the overflow of your walk with God and who quietly and confidently rely on the lead of the Holy Spirit.

We are part of an outstanding ministry! Let me salute you, Commander, for your dedication. It is making an eternal difference in the lives of boys and young men and in the lives of everyone they will influence for the rest of their lives. Indeed, we are on a journey together to influence more boys, young men, and their families than ever, more effectively than ever!

Honored to serve,



As a special token of appreciation for all you do in service to Royal Rangers, we've enclosed a new Royal Rangers vinyl magnet. Place it on your car, your filing cabinet at work, or any place else to represent your membership in Royal Rangers. Additional magnets are also available for purchase by calling 800-641-4310. Ask for item #729897.

Programs Update



by Ryan Beaty, National Programs & Outreach Coordinator

It is definitely an exciting time for Royal Rangers with all of the cool changes and enhancements that have already been made. (They are already receiving rave reviews.) Here are some of the curriculum updates taking place, and some exciting things you can look forward to!



TRaCclub: Curriculum the Way You Always Wanted!

TRaCclub, The Rangers Curriculum Club, is an online curriculum delivery system that is scheduled to launch in 2010. TRaCclub will allow local churches to purchase memberships in any or all of five tracks: Ranger Kids, Discovery Rangers, Adventure Rangers, Expedition Rangers*, and Leaders.

For those rare churches that do not have Internet access, CDs will be developed for a premium price and will be available for a season of time.

By moving to online delivery, curriculum can be updated quickly and efficiently. The local outpost will save money both in the short and long term. This does mean, however, that we will no longer be using print materials as the primary delivery option. For those rare churches that do not have Internet access, CDs will be developed for a premium price and will be available for a season of time. The obvious downfall of the CD option is the infrequency of updates. The online option is the only way to ensure outposts have the most current information.

The boys' tracks* will give leaders access to:

- » Leadership merits
- » Skill merits
- » Bible merits
- » Achievement awards
- » Up to forty-eight (48) weekly lesson plans
- » Numerous other supplemental materials

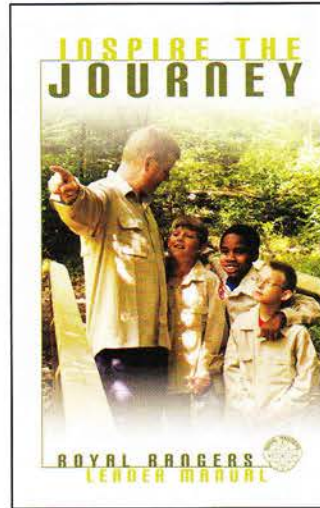
* The ER track will also have access to all AR merits so boys who are working on the BMA, SMA, and GMA may complete them.

With the leader's track, users will have access to:

- » Program materials, e.g., devotions, games, activities, etc.
- » Event, outing, and project planning helps
- » Other valuable materials

* A complimentary 2-year membership to the leader's track is included with every purchase of new *Leaders Manual*.





BIBLE MERITS Growing in Christlike Manhood

Bible merits, the backbone of the weekly meeting, are key tools Royal Rangers uses to mentor future men. The redesigned Bible merits will better equip boys and young men to grow in Christlikeness. They are developed around five topics: doctrine, biblical worldview, sexuality, Christlike manhood, and cultural issues. They will be based on the books of the Bible that the current merits are and will maintain a five-week completion format. The redesigned brown Bible merits will be available with the launch of TRaCclub. The updated orange merits will be available later in 2010.

Inspire the Journey: The Royal Rangers Leader Manual

Inspire the Journey: The Royal Rangers Leader Manual will be available through the Rangers Superstore in early 2010. It is the backbone for all Royal Rangers training in the Rangers Ministry Academy. The *Leader Manual* carries the philosophy of Royal Rangers as a ministry and provides untold help and assistance to local leaders. It is spiral bound, allowing you to use it in the classroom, on a hike, in a boat, or wherever Royal Rangers adventures may take you! When purchased, the leader also receives a complimentary two-year membership to the leader's track of TRaCclub.

Logbooks and Sticker Sheets **NEW for 2010!**

Local churches need more low-cost options. Understanding this, the National Royal Rangers Ministries has developed logbooks and sticker sheets. These allow boys, young men, and adults to display the awards they have earned, training events they have attended, and activities in which they have participated. The logbooks and sticker sheets will be available through the online Ranger Superstore in early 2010. ■

SKILL MERITS Designed with FUN in Mind!

Skill merits provide the activities that facilitate the mentoring relationship. In 2009, the National Royal Rangers Ministries appointed a merit development coordinator to oversee and spearhead the creation of new merits and the revision of current merits. There are three goals for skill merits: to be fun, hands-on, experience based learning; to be completed during the weekly meetings or on outings while in patrols; and to foster relationship building between boys and leaders and between boys. As new merits are completed and current merits revised, they will be released as updates in TRaCclub, providing members with the most current information.

New and revised merits will be released as updates in TRaCclub, providing members with the most current information.

Uniform Options

by Ryan Beaty, National Programs & Outreach Coordinator

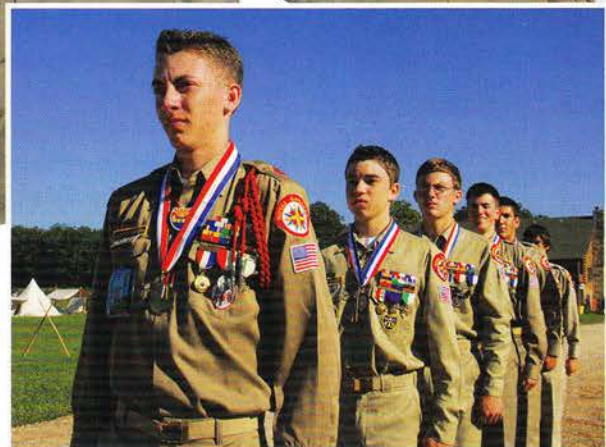
For its entire history, Royal Rangers has been a uniformed ministry, a precedent that continues to this day. The reasoning behind such a program decision is two-fold. First of all, teams dress alike. Whether one is a member of a sports team or works in a certain business field, teams dress alike in order to identify with each other and build morale. Royal Rangers seeks to develop a team atmosphere through the patrol system, and uniforms are a key component. Secondly, socio-economic barriers are broken down when kids from different backgrounds all dress alike. By having young men in uniforms, boys who come from less affluent homes are not discriminated against based on their clothing and are made to feel equal with all the members of their patrol.

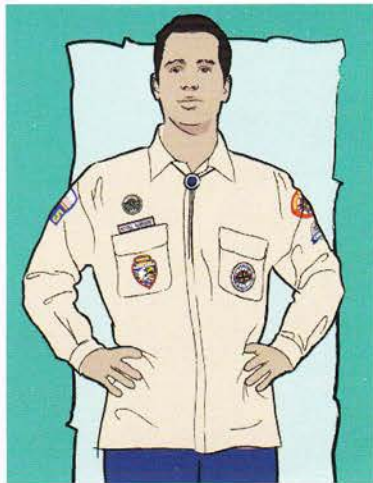
Royal Rangers offers a number of uniform options that vary in use according to situation and economic viability. The local Royal Rangers outpost should choose the uniform option that is best for them, based on the boys' preferences, planned activities, and affordability. The culture of the church and community in which the outpost is located should also be given heavy consideration.

The local outpost should choose the uniform option that is best for them, based on the boys' preferences, planned activities, and affordability.

Formal Uniform – The formal uniform is perfect for meetings with pastors and businessmen. It conveys a professional look and the right appeal when promoting Royal Rangers. All adult Royal Rangers leaders may wear this uniform when the situation calls for it. The formal uniform consists of a navy blue blazer, sky blue shirt, red and navy diagonally striped Royal Rangers tie, grey slacks, black belt, black socks, and black dress shoes. Women will not wear a tie and may opt for a knee length grey skirt.

Dress Uniform – The dress uniform is designed for ceremonial Royal Rangers events and services. It displays Royal Rangers awards and medals. This uniform is an option for adult leaders, Expedition Rangers, and Adventure Rangers. The dress uniform consists of khaki pants, a long sleeve khaki shirt, khaki web belt, bolo tie of the individual's choosing, black socks, and black dress shoes.





Utility Uniform –

The utility uniform was made for outdoor action and adventure. It has a contemporary, rugged look for use during any number of activities. This uniform is an option for all adult leaders and every age group. The utility uniform consists of a long sleeve khaki shirt, made from wicking fabric, with cool Royal Rangers features and navy blue RangerTac pants. Socks and shoes for this uniform depend on the activity in which the group is participating. Ranger Kids will wear blue jeans with the utility shirt, which is also an option for all groups and adult leaders.

Special Uniform – The special uniform offers options for the local outpost for various types of activities. The outposts are also able to personalize these uniforms. They are available for adult leaders and all Royal Rangers groups. These uniform options consist of but are not limited to polo shirts, long sleeve shirts with embroidered Royal Rangers emblem, Royal Rangers t-shirts, and Royal Rangers sports jerseys. These shirts can be worn with blue jeans, shorts, cargo pants, or fatigue pants. ■

Church & community culture help determine the style of uniform for an outpost.



The New Utility Uniform Shirt

The ultimate in function and comfort!

Lightweight and breathable, it's suitable for indoor or outdoor use, any season of the year. Light-weight fabric and a vented back with mesh lining allows for ventilation and superior performance. Roll-up sleeves with button tabs help you adapt to changing temperatures. Ample pocket space includes two chest pockets with hook and loop flap closure. Royal Rangers emblem patch is on left sleeve. Shirt buttons down front.

Visit the online
Rangers Superstore at
royalrangers.ag.org/gear
and order yours today!

Available in boys sizes YXS to YXL and leaders sizes S to 6XL.

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS MASTERS TOOLBOX **ROYAL RANGERS** PATHFINDER MISSIONS JUNIOR LEADERSHIP
LEADERS EDITION

RANGERS

Now

Evangelize. Equip. Empower.

ISSUE NO. 1 2008-2009



ROYAL RANGERS
A Visionary Organization
Taking Boys on the Journey to Christlike Manhood

Making Merits Interactive
Bring your meetings to life through interactive learning!


Grow Grow
The leaders undergo increase



Tri-fold Promotional Brochure 8 1/2 x 11"




RRPromo.2008_BrochureOutside



great leaders are made!

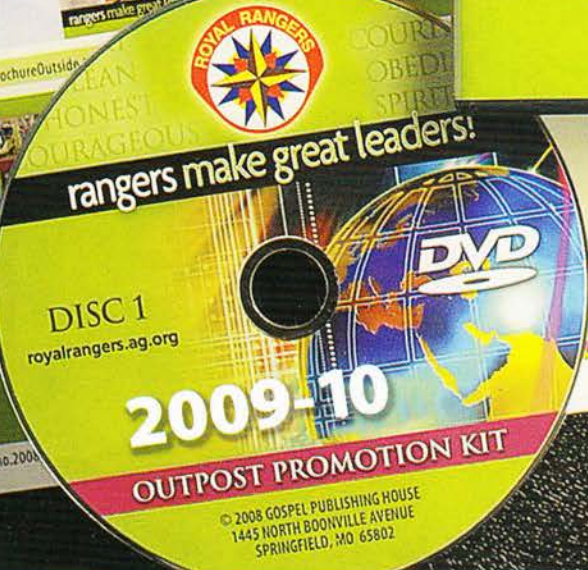
ALERT
CLEAN
HONEST
COURAGEOUS



ROYAL RANGERS

Outpost Promotion Kit
2009-10

Would you like to see new Merits? Experience Growth! Be Part of it!



DISC 1
royalrangers.ag.org

2009-10

OUTPOST PROMOTION KIT

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1445 NORTH BOONVILLE AVENUE
SPRINGFIELD, MO 65802

Letterhead
8 1/2 x 11"
RRPromo.2008_LetterHd.tif

Business Card
3 1/2 x 2"
RRPromo.2008_Estimate



Chartering: The Next Generation

by Jim Allen, National Events & Administrative Coordinator

I'm sure many of you remember the original *Star Trek* show from the late 1960's. Twenty-five or so years after the original series went off the air, the first incarnation of this franchise was introduced, called *Star Trek: The Next Generation*. The new series was set in the future some seventy years after the time of the original. After seventy years, technology changed! It seemed ships were faster, phasers were stronger, and the captain had less hair!

So it is with chartering (with the exception of the less hair of course)! Chartering has been around since the inception of Royal Rangers forty-seven years ago. Some things have changed and some have not! Today when an outpost charters, the benefits to chartering are so many! Hopefully by the time you read this article, you will have taken advantage of the benefits available!

What are some of those benefits? I'm sure you are aware of some of them, while others may not be so obvious. Are you familiar with acrostics? On the next page you'll find an acrostic for chartering. Let's look at the benefits in a little more detail!

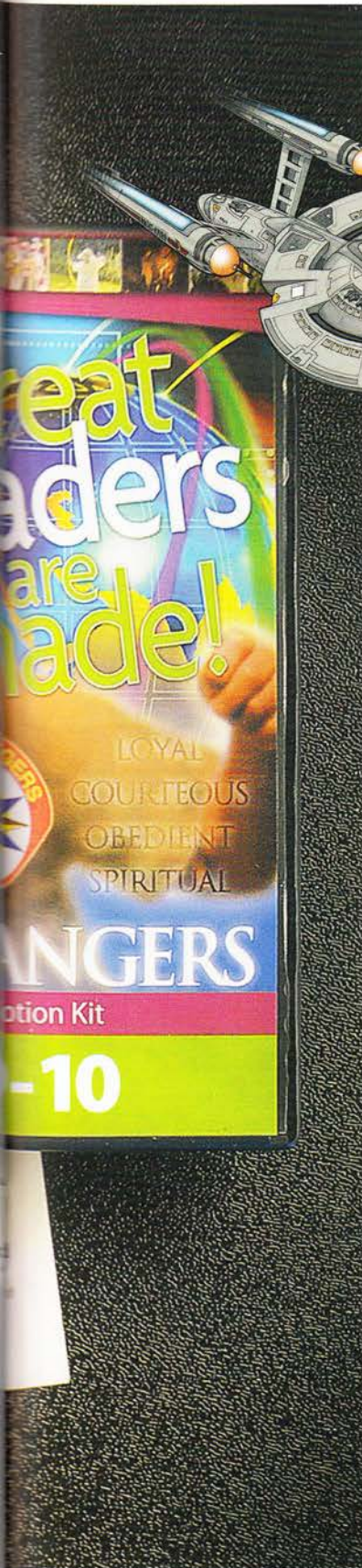


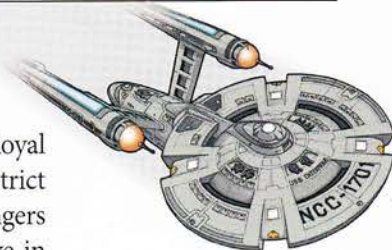
ILLUSTRATION: © 2009 Gene Roddenberry

Chartering: The Next Generation



Commitment to Royal Rangers

Chartering is evidence of a financial commitment to help Royal Rangers not only on a national level but also at your local district as well. Let's talk about the district first. We all know Royal Rangers costs money to run effectively. To help make it more effective in achieving our mission to evangelize, equip, and empower the next generation of Christlike men and lifelong servant leaders, your district needs financial resources to make that happen! On a national level, your chartering dollars help support the ongoing development and improvement of the ministry. Chartering gives you a vested interest in the success of Royal Rangers at all levels!



Helpful Resources

When an outpost charters, it receives a copy of the Outpost Promotional DVD kit, which contains resources you can use in your outpost immediately. Developing advertising can be time consuming and expensive. The kit includes customizable banners and flyers to advertise Royal Rangers instead of coming up with something new. Included are promotional videos, clip art, and much more!



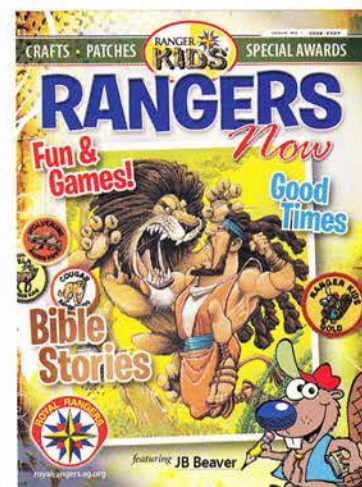
Advance Biblical Cause

This compliments the first statement of "Commitment to Royal Rangers" where we mentioned the mission of Royal Rangers. As a ministry to boys, our purpose is evangelism and discipleship. Our message is God's Word. Our power comes from the Holy Spirit, while our call and expression come from God. We are to love and serve our communities extravagantly. Finally, our discipline is prayer! Chartering helps to advance God's cause!



Rangers NOW

The new *Rangers NOW* is far different from previous magazines chartered outposts received. *Rangers NOW* is age specific, meaning the national office produces one magazine for each one of the five groups (Ranger Kids, Discovery Rangers, Adventure Rangers, Expedition Rangers, and Ranger leaders) that is geared specifically to the interests of the boys in that group or to leaders. The magazine helps boys know how to get the most from their Rangers experience during the current school year. Leaders will get relevant and timely information they can use immediately in their local outposts. Topics for Rangers leaders may include the latest news and updates for Royal Rangers or effective leadership skills.





Tracking Tool: Navigator

Navigator is an outstanding software program written by Royal Ranger leaders for Royal Ranger leaders. Navigator tracks boys' and leaders' advancements and training and offers help with forms and event planning. If you have not signed up for Navigator, go to www.rangerdepot.com. Here is a snapshot of the home page.



Efficient

Technology has made Rangers more efficient through online chartering by eliminating paperwork that takes time to process and space to store. When you charter online, your outpost can print its chartering certificate immediately. New outposts who have never chartered receive their outpost numbers immediately!

Ranger Superstore Discount

This is by far one of the best benefits of chartering. For the 2009-2010 charter year, outposts receive a 15% discount on all Ranger Gear ordered online through the Ranger Superstore. Just go to www.royalrangers.ag.org to order what you need! This alone could pay for the cost of chartering.

Incentive Program

There are so many benefits to chartering. Besides the ones already mentioned, other benefits include a 15% discount to all national events, including Camporama, Rendezvous, and the National Council and Conference. The discounts don't stop there. A 15% discount is also available for chartered outposts at all national, regional and district training events as well as certain district Royal Rangers activities, which is where the savings really begin to add up.

National Championships

Boys love to compete! Not only do they like to compete but they also like to win, and if they win, they want to be recognized for it. The Royal Rangers National Championships are designed for that purpose. By chartering, your outpost has the latest information on the championships, including events, rules, winners, etc.

Go for It!

What else is left to say about chartering except to pass along a hearty, "Thank you!" Since chartered outposts receive a copy of *Rangers NOW*, we know your outpost is committed to the mission of Royal Rangers and is now receiving the benefits mentioned. So, thank you for chartering. Don't forget to charter next year. You and your boys will be blessed in so many ways. ■



Thank You! for Chartering

Matt McPherson

Mind of a Craftsman, Heart of a Servant

by John Hicks, National Communications Coordinator

*W*hen Matt McPherson was a young man, God placed within his heart a desire to reach the lost with the gospel of Jesus Christ; however, the talents and skills Matt embodied led him to pursue this passion for the lost in a very special way.

Photographs courtesy of Matt McPherson.



Early, Matt realized the crucial role finances play in the success of a ministry. Many times ministry concepts and ideas fail due to inadequate financial support. In 1992, Matt started his own bow manufacturing company, Mathews, Inc., with a core objective of supporting the work of ministry. He committed to honor God in all he did, and God blessed his business. It became one of the fastest growing companies in America, earned the distinction of *Inc.*® magazine's top 500 companies two years in a row, and received over twenty patents.

With all of his business accomplishments, Matt continues to consider his personal relationship with Christ to be his highest priority. "I came to Christ at a very early age," Matt declares. "My father was a pastor, and my mother would have devotions every night with us kids. She would pray with us. I realized at a very early age that Christ and the Bible made sense to me, and I began to ask God to help me to find ways to reach others for Him."

Matt credits his success at Mathews, Inc. completely to God. "I learned early on to depend on God for everything and that keeping God in the center of my business would be my first priority. I have to admit there were times when things got tough, and we were nervous. We would have hundreds of thousands of dollars in invoices coming due, and it wasn't clear how we were going to pay them. But time and again, we would pray for God's wisdom, asking Him for help with our finances and for guidance in making a better product to better serve our customers. He always came through for us."



Catch us if you can!

As one of the fastest growing companies in America, Mathews, Inc. earned the distinction of *Inc.*® magazine's 'Top 500 Companies' in two consecutive years.



After the success of Mathews, Inc., Matt turned his attention to his long-standing love for music ministry and started making his own unique style of guitar. "I started redesigning a guitar in the late 90's. Again, I got on my knees and began to ask God for wisdom and direction to make a better guitar, something really unique."

The McPherson guitar is indeed unique in both sound and style. Now, this finely crafted instrument has become a hit with music professionals, including Steven Curtis Chapman, Amy Grant, and MercyMe.

Matt's success in bow and guitar making has enabled him to provide substantial support to ministries across the nation and around the world. "We're typically involved with ministries that focus on evangelism and give people the opportunity to come to Christ. I believe that's ultimately the most important role of any ministry, and it's the role I'm most passionate about."

In 2005, Mathews, Inc. made a substantial contribution to Royal Rangers for the development of an archery range at Camp Eagle Rock. This range, named in honor of Mathews, Inc., continues to be a core element of the various events conducted at the camp, including National Camporama.

Matt has also played a direct role in the creation of programs and resources for outreach activities. One such program is *Centershot Ministries*, an archery-based youth outreach program used by churches, Christian schools, or other groups. Centershot can be used as a midweek program, a summer outreach, or an after school program and can be an excellent way to reach young people with an interest in archery.

Matt is one of the founders of the National Archery in the Schools (NASP) program. This nationwide program uses the medium of archery to teach character building to children and young people in schools all across the country.

The archery range at
Camp Eagle Rock is named
in honor of Mathews, Inc.



“Royal Rangers was a bright spot in my life. I remember the awesome feeling of being a part of something big, something greater than ourselves or our small group.”

The unique and expertly crafted McPherson guitar is played by many music professionals such as Steven Curtis Chapman, Amy Grant and MercyMe.

One of Matt’s, and his wife Sherry’s, favored accomplishments is the creation of the Salvation Poem. This simple, easy to remember poem represents an individual’s personal commitment to Christ. The poem has also been recorded as a song and is publicly broadcast in both English and Spanish.

Through it all, Matt continues to give God the credit for all his successes. “It’s clear to me that God has been part of this process from the beginning. There is simply no way I

could have accomplished all these things without His direction.”

Matt also acknowledges his years in Royal Rangers as a time when much of his faith and commitment to God was shaped and molded. For several years, Matt attended the City of Lakes Assembly of God in Minneapolis, Minnesota where he, his brother, Randy, and his cousin, Tim, attended Royal Rangers. Under the personal mentoring and leadership of Commander Dennis, the boys enjoyed participating in a variety





ILLUSTRATION: www.thesalvationpoem.com

SALVATION POEM

Jesus, You died
upon a cross
And rose again
to save the lost
Forgive me now
of all my sin
Come be my Saviour,
Lord, and friend
Change my life
and make it new
And help me, Lord,
to live for you



of Ranger activities. However, the greatest impact Royal Rangers had on Matt's life was the time Commander Dennis spent investing in the lives of his boys in personal and spiritual ways.

"Royal Rangers was a bright spot in my life. I remember the awesome feeling of being a part of something big, something greater than ourselves or our small group," says Matt.

The time Commander Dennis spent teaching them to pray, sharing Christ with them, and building into their lives is something Matt remembers to this day. "It really was a special time in our lives."

Through the years, Matt has learned an important lesson about focusing on the right things. "I've always felt it was better to focus on doing what's important rather than being important. People who try to be important, ultimately, make poor decisions because their focus is on themselves. But people who set out to do what's important rather than become important will not only achieve success

but also, ultimately, become important as a result. The fact that they are doing the right things makes them important and causes others to trust them and follow them. God uses reluctant leaders."

Matt McPherson is an excellent example of a Royal Ranger who continues to live his daily life by the standards of the Royal Rangers Code. Matt continues to invest in the lives of others, influencing the world around him according to the unique talents and opportunities God has given him. Through him, the spirit of Royal Rangers is alive and well. ■

For more information on the various projects and ministries Matt McPherson is involved in, check out these web sites:

<http://www.thesalvationpoem.com/>

<http://www.autumnrecords.com/>

<http://mcphersonguitars.com/>

<http://mathewsinc.com/>

<http://www.centershotministries.org/>

<http://www.nasparchery.com/activea.asp>

Rangers Ministry Academy

Mobilizing, Inspiring, and Resourcing Leaders

by Steve Schultz, National Training Coordinator

Plan to attend the March 2010 National Council & Conference for the premier launch of Ranger Essentials.

All adult leadership training is part of the Rangers Ministry Academy (RMA). This includes classroom instruction (*formally known as Leadership Training Academy modules*) and national event based training.

Leaders can attain four new Outpost Leaders Advancement Levels by completing the following training. (*Note: Though each training level builds upon the previous one, you can take them in any order.*)

READY: Complete Ranger Basics and Ranger Essentials.

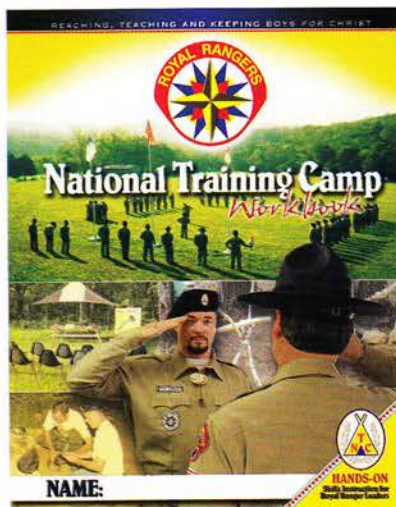
» **Ranger Basics** will continue to be a critical training element for the local leader. This eight-hour course will focus on “evangelism through the weekly meeting.” Sessions are based on a “here, see, do, teach” philosophy. The whole day will be a fun, interactive journey, and leaders will gain a better understanding of how to work and minister to boys through the weekly meeting.

» **Ranger Essentials**, a new eight-hour session, is designed to equip leaders to mentor skillfully boys and young men. During fun, interactive sessions, you will learn how to connect with today’s boys and to recognize ministry needs and outreach opportunities. Would you like to learn how to give devotions like Billy Graham, experience a model spiritual service, and keep your life and ministry in balance? Then this new training is for you.

SAFETY: Complete First Aid/CPR training from a recognized provider and either the Safety and the Church module or the online Safety module (*coming in late 2010*).

TRAINED: Complete National Training Camp (NTC), the new National Ranger Ministry Camp (NRMC), Ranger Kids Training Conference (RKTC), or the new National Elementary Education Conference (NEEC).

» The NRMC will be available in 2010. It focuses on developing personal leadership and mentorship skills and on discovering what biblical manhood really is and how you can mentor boys into manhood. Leaders will live the patrol system to experience what it means to be a “boy-led, adult-facilitated” ministry. Even if you have attended NTC, you will want to consider attending NRMC. You will have fun in an interactive learning environment and be challenged!





ADVANCED: Complete the World Class Outpost (WCO) seminar and two continuous training opportunities and/or two Action Camps (*available in 2011.*) WCO is very dynamic and effective when attended with your entire local leadership team.

If you have already completed the Leaders Medal of Achievement or are currently in that process, refer to the Equivalency & Transition Schedule in the *Seek & Save* articles, available on the national ministry web site, to evaluate how to transition your training. The current Leaders Medal of Achievement award will no longer be available after December 31, 2010.

The Ready, Safety, Trained, and Advanced level patches will be available to order from the national Royal Rangers training department after March 2010.

The new Medal of Excellence (MOE) embodies what Royal Rangers leaders are about, which is taking a boy on a journey to Christlike manhood and lifelong servant leadership. This trek will include success and growth for both leader and boy. It will be a nationally restricted item and will be numbered and tracked in the same way as the Gold Medal of Achievement. It will be available sometime in 2010. The focus of the MOE is twofold:

- » **Ranger Development** – Work with boys so they complete the highest award within their age group
- » **Personal Development** – Complete all Outpost Leaders Achievement Levels, which demonstrates a commitment to personal excellence and growth

For more information on adult training, visit the national ministry website at <http://royalrangers.ag.org/>.

RANGER Essentials

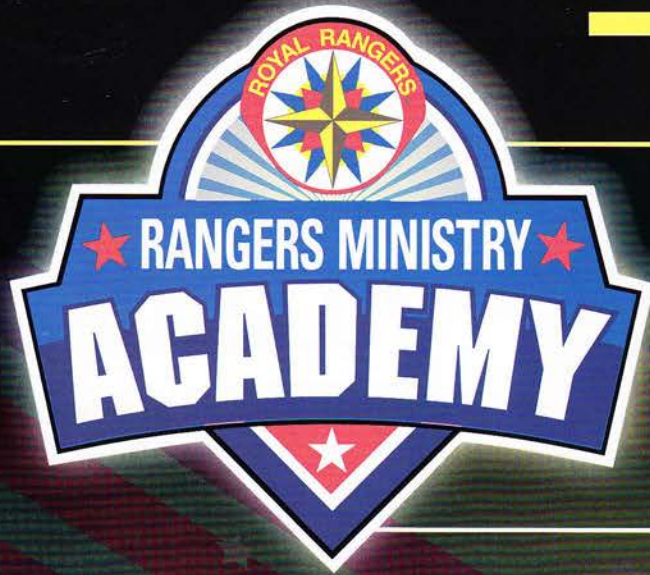
RANGER Essentials is a new 8-hour, interactive training module. It's designed to equip leaders to mentor future men by developing relational and servant leadership skills.

Topics include:

- » *How to Mentor Boys*
- » *What is a Servant Leader*
- » *Outpost Chaplaincy*
- » *How to Connect with Boys*
- » *Components of an Effective Discipline System*
- » *Seven S's for a Spiritual Service*
- » *Delivering a Life-changing Devotion*
- » *Recognizing Ministry Needs and Outreach Opportunities*
- » *Achieving Balance in Ministry*

RANGER Essentials is part of the Outpost Leaders Advancement Levels. It is also the transition seminar for those who have already earned (or will soon earn) their Leaders Medal of Achievement. Plan to attend the March 2010 National Council & Conference for the premier launch of **RANGER Essentials**.

www.royalrangers.ag.org



TRA

the Church Lea
the Support St
the Junior Lea

Junior Leadership Foundations

Training for Discovery, Adventure & Expedition Rangers ready to serve in a new group leadership position.

Local Leadership Merits

Two taught each year in a five-week-meeting format or in a retreat setting. Designed to develop leadership skills for Discover, Adventure, & Expedition Rangers.

District Junior Leadership

— TRAIL OF THE
 District level training that reinforces in the local leadership merit flexibility with a common minimum core curriculum.

the Outpost Leader

OUTPOST LEADER ADVANCEMENT

READY



Ranger Basics

Training for new leaders ready to serve in the outpost.



Ranger Essentials

Training for leaders prepared to deepen their knowledge and commitment.

SAFETY



Ranger Safety

First Aid/CPR training. Additional training to prepare leaders to safely lead exciting Rangers activities.*

*AVAILABLE AS ONLINE MODULES LATE 2010.

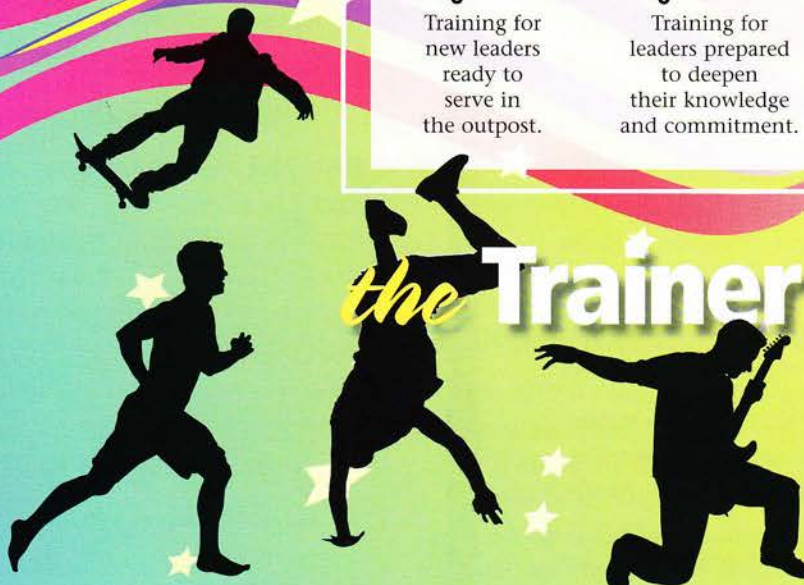
TR



National Elementary Education Conference

Training for leaders eager to serve K to 2nd grade Rangers with excellence.

the Trainer



Training Academy

Training in teaching methods for potential certified instructors and those seeking recertification.



National Academy

Training in the discipline required to serve as staff member at leadership development events.

TRAINING

Leader

Ranger Orientation

Benefits/Value of Rangers training for pastors and those in church leadership.

Staff

Outpost Committee Training

Training for current or potential Outpost Committee members and other support staff.

Leader

Leadership Development Camps

TRAIL OF THE SABER — Training that reinforces the lessons offered in leadership merits. Districts have great success with a common philosophy and curriculum, the "Trail of the Saber".

Action Camps

Hands-on, high action camps for high school students and adult leadership. Training intended to prepare local leadership to deliver meaningful and fun local activities.

Leader

ADVANCEMENT LEVELS

TRAINED



OR



ADVANCED



National Elementary Leadership Conference

Training for leaders to serve in 2nd grade with excellence.

National Rangers Ministry Camp

Training to prepare adult leaders to mentor boys and young men through a diverse range of activities.

World Class Outpost

Designed to develop outpost leadership through the use of best practices, strategies, and tools.

WCO + 2 CONTINUOUS LEARNING ELECTIVES



National Academy
Training in the disciplines to serve as a leader at leadership development events.



Advanced Academy
Training in the art of leading staff at leadership development events.



Academy Instructor
A member of the instructing staff at a National Academy or Advanced Academy.



Medal of Excellence

Represents a level of commitment and dedication to both the leaders' personal growth as well as the spiritual and leadership development of boys and young men.

Earned by completing the four levels of Outpost Leaders Advancement and by taking at least one boy on a journey culminating in the earning of the highest medal in any of the four Ranger groups.

Continuous Learning

Both national and district online and classroom training may be offered. Some training may allow the participation of junior leaders.

ILLUSTRATION IMAGES: © 2009 iStockphoto LP

Grow Junior Leaders

and Together You Will Grow the Outpost

by Steve Schultz, National Training Coordinator



To grow your
outpost, it is
important to
create a growth
environment by
providing boys
the training and
opportunities
necessary to develop
their leadership
potential.

For Royal Rangers to prosper and grow in the coming years, we must strive to be a “*boy-led, adult-facilitated ministry!*” By giving boys and young men the training and the opportunities to lead, they will take ownership of their outposts; they will no longer be spectators but participants in the cause of evangelizing the world, equipping the next generation of Christlike men, and empowering lifelong servant leaders.

Leadership development takes place primarily in the outpost where opportunities consistently abound to develop leadership competencies during the meetings and outings. Two new tools to help you accomplish this are Junior Leadership Foundations (JLF) and the leadership merits (*available 2010*).

The ongoing guidance comes as you share your leadership with the boys and young men as they exercise servant leadership within the weekly meetings and outings. That is what the patrol system is all about, and why it is so important; it gives everyone a place to serve and strengthen his leadership potential.

Each time a young man assumes a new leadership position within the group, he applies JLF. At the same time, every outpost should complete a new leadership merit every six months. Junior leadership development is not a one-time event; it is a cyclical process. You, the leader, are coaching, or mentoring, your junior leaders every week.



Junior Leadership Foundations (JLF)

JLF is the first step in a junior leader's development process. He has been appointed or elected to a position of leadership and needs to know what is expected of him and how to be successful.

The newly appointed or elected junior leader's training begins in the group immediately with a personal interview to acquaint the new junior leader with his job. Each junior leader's job is different, and you will need to tailor interviews accordingly. The leader's track of TRaCclub will provide a guide for conducting an interview with each of your junior leaders. However, each interview should contain the following elements:

- » Explain the importance of Christlike character in the life of a junior leader.
- » Discuss the junior leader's job description and be sure he understands it.
- » Explain to him what the group expects of him and what he can expect of the group.
- » Identify the junior leader's resources.
- » Explain that this job is just a beginning; other training sessions, including the leadership merits, will help him develop and improve his patrol or outpost.
- » Inspect the junior leader's uniform.
- » Answer any questions he may have.
- » Assign him an achievable job-related task that he can complete within one week. This task should be simple but should require some leadership.
- » Evaluate the completed task with him. It is important that you follow up to ensure that the task is complete. Now assign another task and follow up.

Leadership Merits

By teaching the leadership merits, you acquaint yourself with the principles of facilitating junior leadership in the group, and you will be able to help the boys and young men put what they are learning into practice weekly. Actually, the leadership merits will profit you as much as the junior leaders because the teacher always learns more than the students do.

There are five universal skills required to effect positive influence on others that future men should learn to apply from an early age.

- 1. Social skills:** If people like you, they will follow you.
- 2. Equipping skills:** When you facilitate people's successes, they will flourish and, in combination with others, will make the cause flourish.
- 3. Attitude skills:** As the adage goes, attitude determines altitude, and, yes, attitude is a choice — something boys (*and the rest of us*) need to remember.
- 4. Leadership skills:** There are aptitudes boys can learn to help them manage and lead well.
- 5. Servant skills:** How to serve and minister to others.

Practical application

These skills—easily remembered by using the acrostic **SEALS**—are all built into each leadership merit. Yes, your group is a training ground for lifelong servant leaders, and you are the mentor!

To grow your outpost, it is important to create a growth environment by providing boys the training and opportunities necessary to develop their leadership potential. It is vitally important that local outpost leaders assume their roles as leadership coaches, empowering boys and young men to become lifelong servant leaders on a journey to Christlike manhood and lifelong servant leadership. This trek will include success and growth for both leader and boy. It will be a nationally restricted item and will be numbered and tracked in the same way as the Gold Medal of Achievement. It will be available sometime in 2010. The focus of the MOE is twofold:

- » **Ranger Development** – Work with boys so they complete the highest award within their age group
- » **Personal Development** – Complete all Outpost Leaders Achievement Levels, which demonstrates a commitment to personal excellence and growth

For more information on adult & junior training, visit the national ministry web site at <http://royalrangers.ag.org/>.

SUCCESSFUL Outposts

by Ryan Beaty, National Programs & Outreach Coordinator

Everyone wants to be the best at everything he does. You want to play on the best sports team, do the best possible job at your place of employment, be the best parent for your children, and be the best spouse to your mate. There is an innate desire in all people to make whatever they are a part of the best it can be. A Royal Rangers outpost is no exception.

Several common threads run through successful outposts that allow them to experience numerical and spiritual growth. There are three key components of a successful outpost: authenticity, discipleship focused, and others centered. If a church can incorporate these philosophies in their Royal Rangers group, the resulting maturity and growth will be beyond any they have experienced previously.





Authenticity

For several years, *relevance* has been a buzzword in Christian circles. Thoughts like, “We must be relevant to our culture. We need relevant worship, or I want a relevant ministry,” have permeated Christian culture and brought change to many churches. The downside to the idea of relevance is asking people to change their personalities and natures in order to “reach” others. That is why authenticity is more appropriate. To understand authenticity better, check out the “What If...?” video from Huntsville, AL on the national ministry web site at royalrangers.ag.org.

Royal Rangers outposts must be authentic. They should reflect the church, community, and leadership context in which they are located. Attempting to be something you are not is detrimental. Authenticity is reflected in your outpost through the uniforms you choose to wear, the activities you participate in, and the merits you choose to earn.

The uniform your outpost chooses should reflect your community and outpost activities. If you live in a rural setting or participate in many outdoor activities, then the utility uniform may be the best option for your outpost. If you live in a town with a strong military influence, your outpost may want the dress uniform. If you live in a city with a strong little league system or the outpost plans to have sports related activities, then your outpost may choose the Royal Rangers jersey or t-shirt options. Whichever uniform option you choose, make sure it reflects who your outpost is and what your young men want to wear.

The outpost’s activities and merits taught should reflect the interests of the boys and the personality of the community. For example, don’t try to make technology specialists out of boys interested in sports. You may want to allow the boys and young men to choose merits they want to learn. Use men in your church with expertise or interest in those areas to provide the best possible learning opportunities and to draw more men into Royal Rangers leadership.

The outpost’s activities and merits taught should reflect the interests of the boys and the personality of the community.

Discipleship Focused

The Great Commission in Matthew 28:19, “Therefore go, and *make disciples...*,” is clear as to the responsibility of service in the kingdom of God. Every outpost should be alike in its focus to make disciples. In Royal Rangers, we not only have the opportunity to make disciples but also through the course of the years get the chance to watch them grow as we continue influencing them toward Christlikeness and godly manhood. A great example of this is the “What If...?” video from the German outpost on the national ministry web site.

There are three main mechanisms built into the Royal Rangers program structure to facilitate the discipleship process: side-by-side activities, Bible merits, and devotions. Side-by-side activities should happen at the weekly meetings and at all outpost events. While women tend to build relationships “face-to-face” through conversation, men build relationships “side-by-side” through doing activities. Relationship-building opportunities should be constantly utilized. One way leaders and young men can do something together is to work on skill merits. They lead to more than teachable moments; they lead to relational moments. Being a successful outpost means planning for these moments and organizing events and activities that will have men interacting relationally with boys and boys interacting relationally with each other.

Bible merits are intentionally designed to build disciples and to grow boys and young men in Christlikeness. The updated merits will focus on five topics: doctrine, biblical worldview, sexuality, Christlike manhood, and cultural issues. They will be based on the books of the Bible that the current merits are. These merits will help the young men in your outpost grow deeper in their relationships with Christ, individually and corporately.

Devotions leave the young men with a sound spiritual thought. The devotion is perfect for prayer, for worship, and for building up young men. One way to encourage spiritual development and discipline in young men is to allow them to deliver the devotions. The more young men can be involved in and grown through things like giving devotions, the more Royal Rangers becomes a boy-led, adult-facilitated ministry and a strong community of faith for men and future men.

SUCCESSFUL Outposts

— continued from previous page

Others-Centered

A successful Royal Rangers outpost must be others-centered. It must be missional, which means being “the opposite of self.” Local outposts must think beyond the current outpost members and reach outside the walls of their churches. Outpost service projects and missions opportunities are great ways to accomplish this. On the national Royal Rangers web site, there are two “What If...?” videos that feature outposts in Camden, NJ and Springfield, MO, who regularly live out others-centeredness in their outposts.

Outpost service projects provide young men opportunities to express the love of Christ to others and to experience something greater than themselves. Service projects are built into the leadership merits. By completing the leadership merits, boys learn to follow Christ’s example and become servant leaders. Service projects also promote Royal Rangers inside and outside of your church.

Royal Rangers is a missions supporting ministry. We have partnered with many different missions agencies so that you, with the help of the Holy Spirit, can instill in your outpost a heart for reaching and ministering to the lost. Every church has the opportunity to support Royal Rangers International in its quest to provide Royal Rangers materials and training to the seventy-eight countries with Royal Rangers and to develop Royal Rangers in new nations.

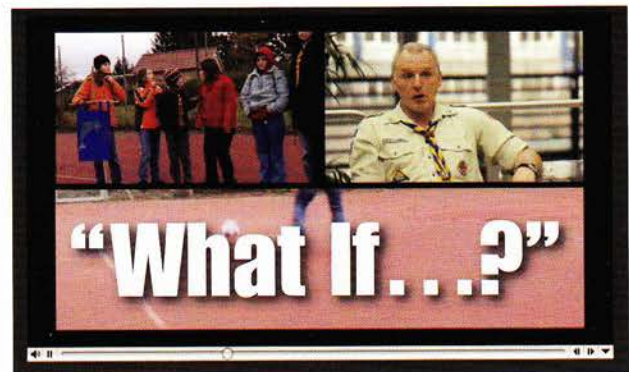
Ranger Kids and Discovery Rangers can give to Master’s Toolbox, a Boys and Girls Missionary Challenge partnership, for projects like translating Royal Rangers curriculum, drilling water wells in Africa, or purchasing generators for international Bible schools. Through Royal Rangers/STL Christmas Project, Adventure and Expedition Rangers can purchase a major mode of transportation for missionaries to use to spread the

gospel. Outposts may also support ministries like Light for the Lost, Latin America Child Care, and Convoy of Hope. Further information on these and other ministry opportunities can be found at royalrangers.ag.org.

Older Royal Rangers boys and adult leaders can participate in missions trips. Pathfinder Missions opens doors for construction missions to be done in some of the most remote areas of the world. Every year, Royal Rangers groups join MAPS trips that minister to people around the world. There are all kinds of missions opportunities for the Royal Ranger who has a heart after God’s!

Conclusion

Royal Rangers was designed to be a ministry that influenced our world by being in it but not of it. Members are part of the ministry support team for the local church. If Royal Rangers can accomplish the goals of being authentic, discipleship focused, and others centered, then local outposts become more effective at reaching their communities and operating within the vision of the church, and their young men will be better spiritually developed as men. ■



Check out the “WHAT IF...?” videos available on the national Royal Rangers web site at royalrangers.ag.org.

RR-QLC

A Tool for Learning & Growing!



RR-QLC is a continual cycle intended to keep Royal Rangers relevant by being responsive to regular cultural shifts.

QUESTION: We invite pastors, parents, boys (*Rangers & non-Rangers*), and the community at large to provide input to our ministry programs and events.

LEARN: We synthesize feedback received with other data.

CHANGE: We take action. Our ministry is true to its biblical purposes, yet evolves with the culture while influencing it. Then, the cycle begins again in perpetuity.

You know what FYI means (“*for your information*”). And you know what TMI stands for (“*too much information*”). Let me introduce you to **RR-QLC!**

RR-QLC stands for “*Royal Rangers—Question, Learn, and Change*”. It is not a program or a theme. It is a leadership attitude and tool that enables Royal Rangers leaders to listen, learn, and pursue excellence in ministry. Learning leaders create a learning organization that embraces evaluation, which precedes improvement and growth.

The purpose of **RR-QLC** is:

- 1) To solicit input from the field (*by asking questions*)
- 2) To synthesize the information with other sources of data (*learning*)
- 3) To improve programs, events, and services in response to the feedback (*changing*)

By being responsive to the needs and interests of those we serve, Royal Rangers will remain relevant to boys in our ever-changing culture.

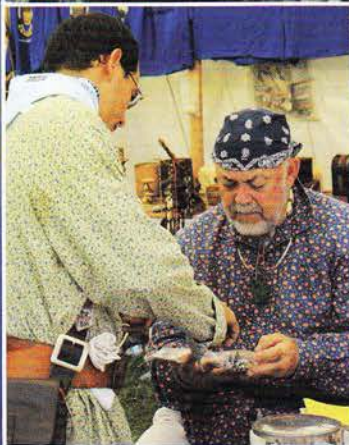
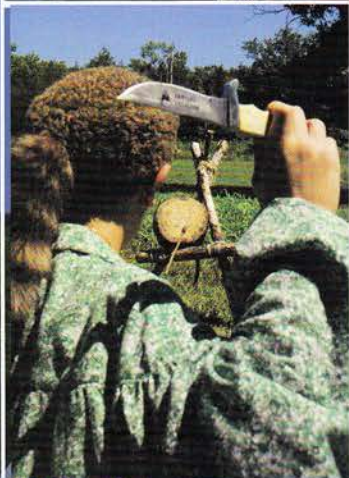
To initiate **RR-QLC**, the national Royal Rangers ministries office is requesting constant feedback about the program, publications, products, services, and key events using the following mediums:

- **INTERNET:** Pastors, parents, Ranger boys, non-Ranger boys, and others are invited to complete an on-line survey at www.royalrangers.ag.org/qlc
- **E-MAIL:** Anyone at anytime is welcome to e-mail the national ministries office with suggestions and ideas. Send your comments to RR-QLC@ag.org.
- **SURVEYS:** Post-event and general surveys are used to collect timely and targeted feedback.
- **CONVERSATIONS:** Face-to-face, focused dialogue will also be sought as members of our staff have the opportunity to interface with boys, parents, leaders, pastors, and others around the country.

We invite **YOU** to be a part of this feedback process. **QLC** is open to everyone and we want to hear from **YOU!** Follow the links above to give us your feedback today!

Thank You
for your participation!

Royal Rangers Leader





The Value of Frontiersmen Camping Fellowship



**FCF members
are called on
to disciple
young men
and adults
into Christlike
manhood.**

*by Paul Walters,
National FCF President*

The boys of today will become the leaders of tomorrow. Therefore, one of the foundational roles of Royal Rangers and the Frontiersmen Camping Fellowship (FCF) is to challenge and inspire our older boys to develop their outdoor and leadership skills in preparation to become the next generation of leaders in our churches and communities. Early frontiersmen serve as examples of this spirit of determination and growth. They were not afraid to explore new lands, face unknown dangers, and seize exciting adventures. Daily, there is a spiritual battle going on for the lives of our young men. Today's FCF members are still called on to be on the front lines and be innovative in discipling young men and adults to face the many challenges that confront them.

“...what it all comes down to is that I understood that the chief application of all these things was for the service and support of others.”

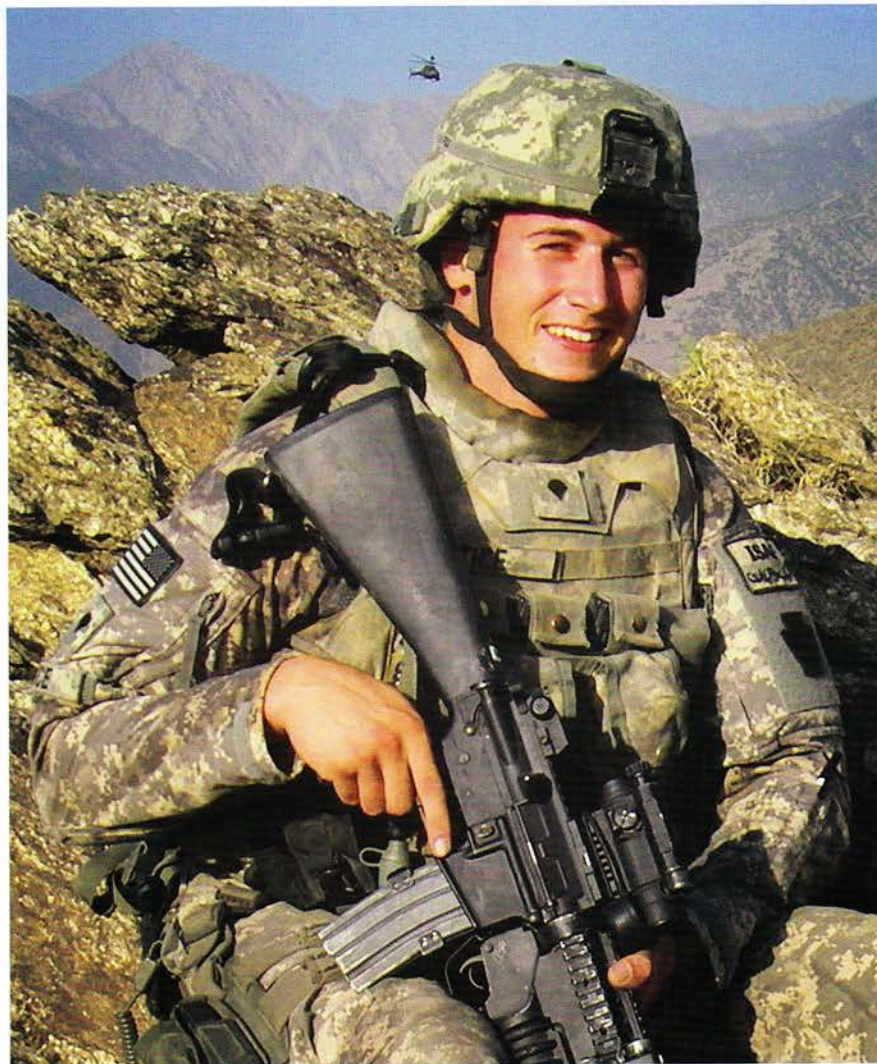


PHOTO COURTESY OF DAVE TICE

Dave Tice is one example of how Royal Rangers and FCF are able impact a life. Dave, from Sciota, Pennsylvania, joined FCF in 1998 and earned his GMA in 2001. Dave served in Afghanistan in 2008. Here are his words...



“As a Cavalry Scout [in the U.S. Army], there is a rich heritage built around the role these troops have played in the history of U.S. military service. Traditionally, they have been often relied on to operate beyond the front lines in advance of the main force. And, in the changing face of today’s modern warfare, the Cavalry Scout has also become very much a jack-of-all-trades, on top of their primary role of reconnaissance; whether it’s interacting with civilians at Traffic Control Points, checking a route for IEDs, mentoring the local police and national security forces, or sitting out on a remote Observation Post, these were just a few of the many duties I performed while recently deployed as a Scout in Afghanistan.



“Looking back, it’s pretty neat to realize how many different ways my participation in Royal Rangers and the FCF prepared me for that experience. For one thing, I understood the critical importance of finding and staying in regular fellowship with Christian brothers for mutual support in our spiritual lives. Doing what was necessary to be ‘Ready’ for any situation I might encounter was second nature to me while preparing for combat operations. Other benefits I owe to the Royal Ranger ministry were more physical in nature: the numerous camping and cooking skills that came into play while occupying a small Combat Outpost up in the mountains. (Yes, almost all of our meals there had to be cooked over an open fire—and we ate pretty well, if I might say so myself!) But I think what it all comes down to is that I understood that the chief application of all these things was for the service and support of others. That is the principle tenet of FCF—“Ad Dare Servire”—living a life that is devoted to doing, giving, and sacrifice. In other words, applying aspects of our personal lives for the spiritual and physical benefit of those around us.

“I don’t know if I ever would’ve taken the steps I did in choosing to involve myself with the military if it were not for the role models I looked up to as a boy in Royal Rangers. Some of them were in my extended network of commanders, and some of them were young men not much older than myself. But I saw many things in those who had the opportunity to serve in the military that I wanted to emulate personally, and I know that had a lot to do with my decision to follow in their steps. Now I understand that I have become that role model to my younger brothers, the boys in my outpost, and the boys I get to interact with at Royal Ranger campouts and training Academies every year. It is for those boys that I choose to remain involved with the Royal Rangers ministry as an adult. Although my military obligations have gotten a bit in the way of many Royal Rangers functions more recently, I believe both avenues of service are critically important for me to remain involved with as much as possible. Both of them are tremendous passions of mine, and I am fully committed to continue pursuing both of those callings here on Earth in whatever capacity I can for as long as God might allow me such an honor.”

— Dave Tice

Through the years, countless boys have participated in the Royal Rangers program and gone on to a life of service to others. Dave Tice is one of the many whose life was powerfully impacted by dedicated Royal Rangers leaders who faithfully invested in him over an extended period of time. Through the ministry of Royal Rangers, boys then and now continue to be led down the path of Christlike manhood, daily becoming the men of God they were created to be. ■



Royal Rangers commanders are role models to boys as they live the principle tenet of FCF—a life devoted to doing, giving, and sacrifice.



Pathfinder MISSIONS

BUILD A NEW BOX WITH PATHFINDER MISSIONS



PATHFINDERS don't just think outside the box; *they build a whole new one!* Every year, men and boys all across the country put their faith into action as they set out for faraway lands.

PATHFINDER MISSIONS is the construction missions outreach program of Royal Rangers. **PATHFINDERS** combine their advanced outdoor skills with a heart for missions to complete building projects in some of the most remote areas of the world.

To embark on the adventure of a lifetime click on PathfinderMissions.com.

(Previous construction experience is preferred but not required.)

SPEED THE LIGHT



What is STL?

Speed the Light is a youth missions endeavor of the Assemblies of God. Students give money in order to provide our missionaries with the "essential transportation and creative communication" equipment they need to reach the lost.

Why STL?

The concept is simple: we give so that others can speed the light of the gospel to a world in darkness. And Royal Rangers is partnering with STL to provide missionary Don Triplett in Nicaragua with the boat he needs to reach remote villages with the gospel.

How do I STL?

Encourage your Rangers to give to STL! Pick one week to take up a STL offering or to do a STL fundraiser. Send offering to the national Speed the Light office (just write STL/RR offering in the memo line). Visit www.speedthelight.com for more info on STL.

THIS CHANGES EVERYTHING

Are you ready...ready to give, ready to go?

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LEATHERCRAFT & ROYAL RANGERS

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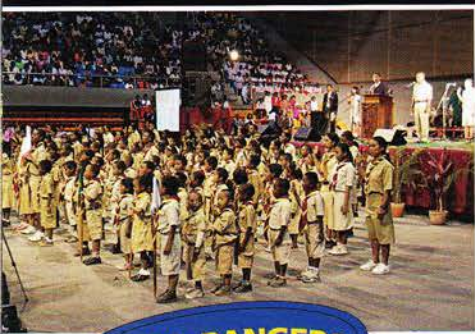


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Africa: Madagascar

Royal Rangers Around the World

by Nate Lashaway, Assemblies of God Missionary



ROYAL RANGERS
INTERNATIONAL

IN RECENT YEARS, DreamWorks Animation SKG® made the island nation of Madagascar, located off the east coast of Africa, very popular.

Today, Madagascar is an example of the great things that God is doing through Royal Rangers. In 2004, missionary Nate Lashaway moved his family to Africa and learned to speak French and Malagasy (their native language). His heart was to help churches minister effectively to children. Little did he know his background in Rangers would be so helpful in his mission.

In 2004, I came to Madagascar to target basic children's ministry training. Most churches had no idea how to minister to their children effectively. In early 2006, Pastor Laurent, the pastor of the largest Assemblies of God church in Madagascar, asked me what I could tell him about Royal Rangers? I told him that it was a great program for reaching boys that I had run effectively in the United States in several churches. I also expressed to him my doubts that it would work well in Madagascar since children's ministry itself was so new. He asked me if I had any books he could review. I went home and found a very dog-eared

English version of the Pioneers handbook that I gave him. Soon after that I returned to the United States on furlough. During my absence, Doug Marsh and Andy Whitman held the first Africa Summit in Kenya, and Pastor Laurent and Pastor Hery (pastor of the second largest church on our island) attended the conference with missionary Manny Prabhudas.

On my return, these two pastors had already begun a rudimentary Rangers ministry and had been receiving some help with camping skills from a German Rangers leader who was volunteering for a few months in Madagascar. In consultation with Andy Whitman, I began teaching some basic Rangers principles,



ROYAL RANGERS INTERNATIONAL

To learn more about Royal Rangers International or to learn how you and your outpost can influence boys and young men all around the world by joining the "READY" Evangelism Force, visit the RRI ministry web site.

www.RoyalRangersInternational.com



meeting techniques, and how to work with children. The Madagascar Royal Rangers program is severely hampered by language. All Rangers material and program discs are in English, so each course, training, and outpost meeting plan must be painstakingly translated into the Malagasy language. Amazingly, this has not slowed down the work here. Several outposts have gone on ministry hikes into the countryside to just randomly be Jesus to local villagers by helping them make bricks, helping in fields with farmers, or playing games with local children. All the time these Rangers were wearing their uniforms and sharing Jesus.

In another instance, a large group of Rangers led by Pastor Hery went to a nearby village for intentional evangelism. When they arrived, the younger Rangers began to play and draw the village children into games while the elder villagers watched. The older Rangers (age 12 and older) had practiced their testimonies and all began to go door to door in the village and invite people to

come to the center of the village for a special meeting. By the end of the day, over 130 people accepted Jesus and a new church was planted in the village.

This past spring we were able to attend the second Africa Summit in Malawi. What an encouragement to see what God is doing across Africa. Back in Madagascar we are still working on translating the vast amount of materials required to run the Rangers program as intended, but Rangers is alive and well. Currently, we have five pilot outposts with over 500 Royal Rangers involved. This coming year at least five more outposts will begin in other parts of the island. Please pray with us as this important ministry grows and expands throughout the entire island. Even in the midst of recent political unrest, God's kingdom is advancing and Royal Rangers is right there in the middle of it. ■

In our first 40 years (1962-2002), Royal Rangers around the world grew at a rate of 1.25 nations per year. But since the creation of Royal Rangers International in 2002, we are growing at the rate of 4.5 nations per year. Royal Rangers is active in 78 nations. We are influencing more boys and young men than ever, more effectively than ever!



Left to right:
Patick Kawe, Pastor John Smith,
Nate Lashway, Andy Whitman



Royal Rangers International Translation Projects

by Andy Whitman — RRI Communications

ADVANCEMENT LOGBOOK

EXPEDITION

LIBRO DE REGISTRO DE AVANCE

SEGUIDORES de la Senda

EXPLORADORES DEL REY

ROYAL RANGERS Earned RRI Requirements of RECRUIT REQUIREMENTS

REQUISITOS DE RECLUTA

- Promesa a la bandera nacional
- Promesa a la bandera estudiantil
- Promesa de Exploradores del Rey
- Significado del Emblema
- Lista de Exploradores del Rey
- Inscripción completa del cuestionario
- Lectura y firma de los padres de Promesas a la bandera nacional y el afijo de inscripción

CHINESE · FRENCH · MALAGAS



RRI wants to make Royal Rangers easy and enjoyable for children around the world by having everything they need in their language.

The Royal Ranger ministry is now in seventy-eight countries all around the world. Many countries use curriculum created by Royal Rangers International; however, it is only available in English and Spanish.

Imagine attending your Royal Ranger meeting, opening your workbook, and finding everything written in Dutch. Would you have a hard time completing your merits? Of course, you would. You would probably have to study the pictures in the book carefully and wait patiently as your leaders look up the words in an English/Dutch dictionary to understand what they were supposed to teach. You can imagine how frustrated and confused you would get with this process. Unfortunately, many Royal Rangers have the same experience with their English curriculum because it is not their native language. The curriculum needs to be translated into several other key languages so that Royal Rangers in Asia, Europe, and Africa can easily use them.

This year Royal Rangers International is targeting some new languages for translation—Chinese, French, Malagasy, Russian, and Portuguese. There is an immediate need for curriculum and other materials in these languages. If one out of every six people in the world is Chinese, imagine the number of Chinese

children that could become Royal Rangers if they had the books in their own language. Because Portugal explored and made colonies all around the world, many countries speak Portuguese. Brazil in South America and East Timor in Asia are two examples. Other countries are very isolated from the rest of the world and speak unique languages. In order for Rangers to grow and do well, they need everything to be written in their language. One such country is the island of Madagascar off the coast of Africa, which speaks Malagasy.



Royal Rangers International wants to make Royal Rangers easier and more enjoyable for children around the world by having everything they need in their language. Your outpost can help by giving offerings to one of the language projects through BGMC. Royal Rangers in one district have “adopted” the Madagascar project (Malagasy language) and are raising funds for it. More help is needed from other outposts and districts. Contact Royal Rangers International for more details and ways you can be directly involved.

Please know that you and your outpost can always pray for Royal Rangers International and its translation projects. Pray that many people will come to Jesus. Pray for the Royal Rangers around the world. Prayer is powerful, and it will help accomplish these big goals. ■

For more information - visit royalrangersinternational.com

ASY • RUSSIAN • PORTUGUESE

Shooting Sports

Improves Aim for Christ

by Nikki Blake

THE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS PROGRAM has long been an integral part of the South Texas district Royal Rangers. For several years, boys and men from South Texas have achieved great success in the various competitions, particularly in the area of shooting sports. The following article describes their successful experience.



Different stations are set up with a variety of targets and calibers, allowing each participant the opportunity to improve proficiency with multiple firearms.



When shooting sports was introduced to the South Texas district, no one could have predicted the powerful effect it would have on the boys, their fathers, their pastors, and the local commanders. Not only have they grown in their knowledge of firearm safety and marksmanship but also in their relationships with each other and, more importantly, in their relationships with the Lord.

At our shooting sports events, we are able to match Christian men with boys and young men who normally would not have male role models in their lives. These events open the door for the men to teach the outdoor skills that build confidence and produce life skills, such as following directions, listening, patience, self-discipline, courtesy, etc., to boys and young who might not have the opportunity to learn them elsewhere.





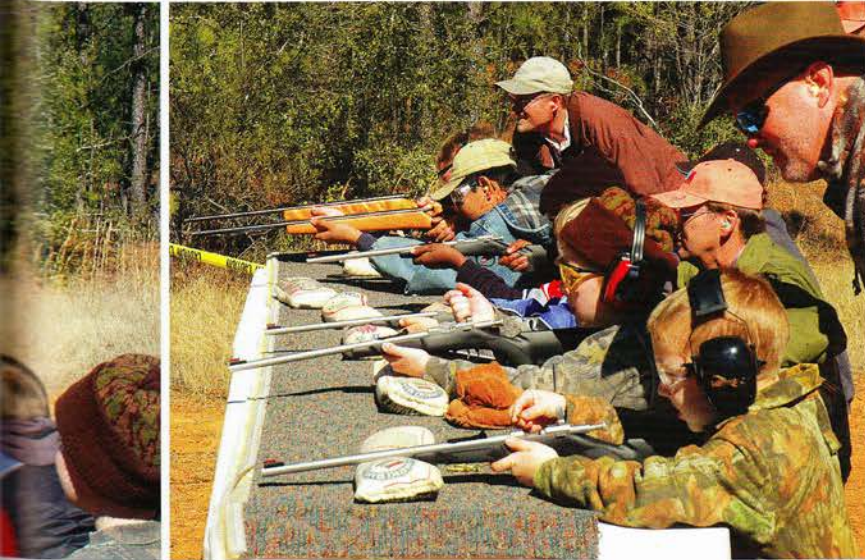
When boys learn a new skill from a leader, many times they become receptive to spiritual instruction as well.

Since these shooting events provide many boys their first opportunity to handle firearms, safety is the primary focus. Over the course of an eight to twelve-hour day, their myths and fears about firearms are dispelled; respect and appreciation for firearms and safety are forged. In the years since the introduction of the shooting sports program, there has not been one incident of inappropriate

Our media is inundated with stories of domestic and international gun violence; however, the leaders teach that there is a right and a wrong way to think about firearms. They teach that in the hands of a well-trained, responsible individual, firearms can be useful tools for sport, for competition, and for the satisfaction that comes with mastering a new skill. The young men learn self-discipline and marksmanship, which could ignite an interest to serve and protect their communities

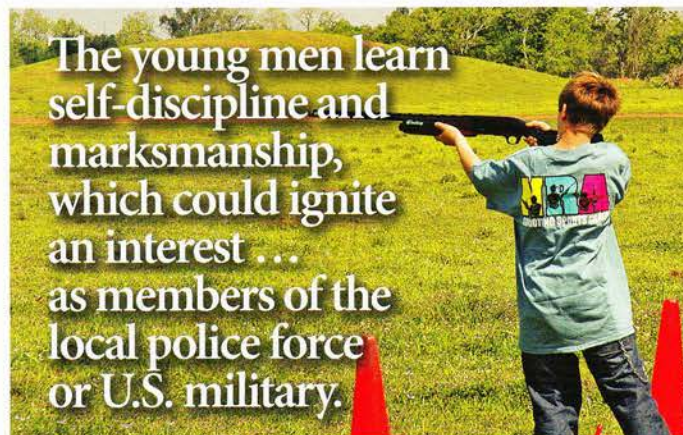
or country as members of the local police force or U.S. military.

Shooting sports is a method that our district uses to bring men and boys together for hands-on activity. When boys learn a new skill from a leader, many times they become receptive to spiritual instruction from the leader. Introducing boys to God and teaching them to be godly men motivate these leaders to give of their time and talents several times a year, every year. They consider it an honor and a privilege and, frankly, just plain fun! ■



behavior with the firearms because this concept is reinforced continually. With as many as seventy-five boys and leaders in attendance at any one event, the Lord's hand has definitely covered this ministry.

After establishing an atmosphere of firearm safety, the fun of instruction and competition begins. Different stations are set up with a variety of targets and calibers, allowing each participant the opportunity to improve proficiency with multiple firearms. This provides time for interaction with several staff members. Spending time with Christian men who love them is a benefit that often has greater impact in the lives of these boys than learning how to shoot.



For more information on the various National Championships your outpost can participate in, visit the national Royal Rangers web site at royalrangers.ag.org/programs.

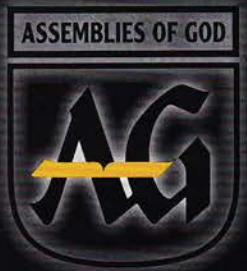
What others are saying about



The ministry of Royal Rangers plays a vital role in the future of this Fellowship. Never before has the need been greater to provide our churches with an effective method of reaching and mentoring young men into Christlike manhood. A strong, Bible-based Royal Rangers ministry can provide the foundation for personal spiritual growth and a passionate commitment among our men and boys to reaching the lost in our families, schools, and communities.

Effective ministry can only occur within the context of relationships. Royal Rangers provides a unique opportunity for boys and young men to develop lasting bonds of friendship within a uniquely male environment.

Dr. George Wood
General Superintendent
Assemblies of God



Royal Rangers serves as an excellent medium for ministering to the unique needs of boys in today's culture.

Alton Garrison
Assistant General Superintendent
Assemblies of God



Getting the right message across to boys in today's culture is a tough job. Royal Rangers provides the right tools to challenge both leaders and boys alike to develop mentally, physically, spiritually and socially with one objective in mind: defining proper boundaries for daily living. Royal Rangers is a ministry with lasting impact!

Candy Tolbert
National Director
National Girls Ministries



Royal Rangers is the best of ministry opportunities for men to mentor the next generation. You do not need to look any further than Royal Rangers for the finest in resources to invest in your boys.

Tom Greene
National Director
Men's Ministries





ut Royal Rangers...



The ministry of Royal Rangers helps to prepare and mature boys to live for Christ in a challenging and difficult world. I appreciate the dedicated efforts of the national department and men in churches across the country who work with boys from the many family types existing in our culture today....nuclear,

step, blended, single parent, separated, expanded and other types of families. These boys desperately need and benefit from the ministry of Royal Rangers!

Dennis Franck
National Director
Single Adult Ministries

In a time where reaching children for the cause of Christ has arguably never been more important, the Children's Ministries Agency of the Assemblies of God is doing just that! We believe that through intentionally reaching children's leaders we can impact a generation of kids with the gospel, and that those kids can in turn reach this nation and ultimately the world!

With this focus at the forefront of the CMA, we are also excited to announce that we are not walking along this journey alone! As we faithfully implement the plans the Lord has given to us it has been exciting to see the people God has also brought to this team! Doug Marsh and the national Royal Rangers are reaching boys across the nation and around the world and we are excited about the opportunity to work closely together!

As we move into the future, we believe the potential for a global impact for the Kingdom has never been greater! This partnership is truly one that we are proud to be a part of as we eagerly anticipate all that God is going to do in the lives of His children!

Jason Noble
National Director, Children's Ministries Agency

In an age where single mothers are ever increasing, the need for godly men influencing the lives of boys is more important than ever. For seventeen years I had the privilege of leading Royal Rangers in the three churches where I was pastor. I found that an increasing number of parents were looking for quality ministry for their kids. In

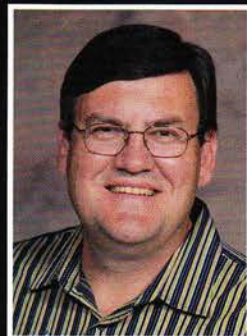
every church, the Royal Ranger ministry done right flourished. Families were added to our church as their boys (and girls) became a part of this ministry and their parents followed. We are in a time of change, trends, and transition. What remains the same? A mother's desire to see her boy have a quality relationship with a godly man. Rangers is that ministry.

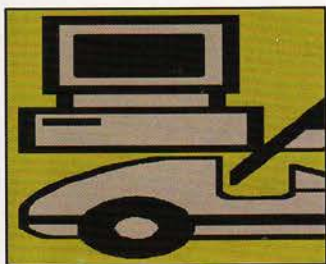
David Boyd
National Director
Boys & Girls Missionary Challenge



Royal Rangers is a valuable and powerful compliment to any church's youth ministry. The discipleship they build and the leadership they teach and model are key components of what we are trying to instill in the lives of teenagers. I love the ministry of Royal Rangers and appreciate them being a part of the National Youth Ministry team. Any youth pastor should be excited to work with the Royal Rangers leaders in his/her church.

Jay Mooney
National Director
Youth Ministries





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SuperTrack comes with a slide-in starting gate, a car catching garage, a plug together ramp/stand and ten US flags. Each section is 7' long and two lanes wide for easy handling. A five minute installation video is also provided. It's available in 4 or 6 lanes with lengths of 35, 42 or 49 feet, in Yellow or Blue or split in two lane increments. Lanes are numbered at both the start and finish.

SuperTimer II



SuperTimer II is a self-contained, precision timer especially designed for Pinewood Derby Racing. It

automatically announces the times and/or places of each lane in a heat. It includes a solenoid activated start function so that each racer can start a heat. Solenoid starting is adaptable to existing tracks. And, SuperTimer II features solid state finish line sensors which don't obscure the view and that eliminate the nagging problems associated with photo or IR detectors. SuperTimer II is available for 3 to 6 lanes with or without RaceManager software.

RaceManager



RaceManager is a Windows compatible software program that manages your Pinewood Derby Race. It connects to SuperTimer II through a USB port and interacts with SuperTimer II to schedule and manage a fair race with lots of winners. All cars run the same number of races. No

one is 'eliminated'. RaceManager can create Teams, such as Dens or Patrols, and produce an overall Team winner as well as results within each team. Its unique speed-matched scheduling means lots of close races with no one eliminated. Use your video projector to show the heat results on a wall!

Philosophy

At SuperTimer we keep in mind our answer to the question, "What's the purpose of the Pinewood Derby?" We don't think the answer is, "To find a winner." Rather, we think the purpose of the Pinewood Derby is, "To provide a positive experience for the organization, the parent and the child." (With emphasis on the child.)

We try to think like an 8 year old. [Some would say we succeed even when we don't try!] Would an 8 year old like to be eliminated? Would an 8 year old like to run only twice, losing both times? What would an 8 year old do (and get in trouble doing) once he was eliminated? How would an 8 year old feel if he lost due to a slow lane?

All of our products are designed to eliminate those kinds of problems and, as we said, "To provide a positive experience for the organization, the parent and the child." (With emphasis on the child.)

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Both Leaders & Boys

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Hear National Director Doug Marsh as he opens up God's Word to the Book of Nehemiah. This Old Testament book has many insights and lessons that are applicable to the Royal Rangers leadership and ministry among boys. You can listen online at www.royalrangers.ag.org or subscribe at iTunes® to have new programs automatically downloaded to your mp3 player.



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