



RANGERS

Mentoring Future Men

Now

The official newsletter of the National Royal Rangers Ministries.

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SAYING FAREWELL TO STEVE SCHULTZ

Steve Schultz came to the Royal Rangers national office in 1999 as the productions coordinator. One of his major responsibilities was planning and executing the evening services at National Camporama and National Rendezvous. Although many of his duties have changed throughout the years, he has continued to oversee the evening services at these events.

Steve has always enjoyed being involved in his local outpost in California and later when he moved to Missouri. Although his travel schedule didn't allow for much interaction with his local outpost in recent years, Steve has a heart to mentor. This made him a great choice as national training coordinator. Under Doug Marsh and Steve Schultz, National Ranger Ministry Camp (NRMCMC) and National Elementary Education Conference (NEEC) were created. Together, they dreamed of an event that took the best parts of National Training Camps (NTC) and added deep, spiritual manhood sessions so that leaders

could connect to God in a setting with other men that would help them to become better men—better husbands, better fathers, better leaders, and better mentors. For any man who has attended a NRMCM, you would say, “Mission accomplished.”

Our office announced over a year and a half ago that Steve would be leaving our office to take the training coordinator position with Royal Rangers International (RRI), which also meant he would become a full-time missionary. We have now come to that bittersweet moment when we have to say, “Goodbye.” He has been such a blessing to the national staff both professionally and personally. However, we are so excited to see what God has in store for him as he tackles international training to create events and experiences that will grow and change leaders around the world.



It's Chartering Season!

By Karl Fleig, National Director - September 2016

It's chartering season for Royal Rangers. Every year around this time, the national office receives the following questions: "Why do we charter? What is the need to charter?" These are important questions, and understanding the reasons is vital. There are many benefits to chartering to the district and national organizations and to the local outpost.

Organizationally, chartering strengthens the ministry. Chartering your church, leaders, and boys gives the district and national offices vital metrics for measuring and evaluating the strength and success of the ministry's outreach and influence. Annual numbers from chartering give the ministry a benchmark to know the numbers of boys and leaders who are in the program. It also helps the ministry identify areas of strength and areas that may need more attention in the coming years.

Chartering provides a much needed funding process for the ministry. A portion of each charter helps to fund the district departments, the national campground, and the operation of the national office. It ensures ongoing curriculum development, training, and outpost support from the national level. Subsidy from charter income helps keep the cost of the above from being passed on to curriculum, patches, medals, and other product.

Finally, and most importantly, chartering protects the ministry and brand of Royal Rangers. Currently, over 70 denominations and fellowships are approved to use Rangers. The requirement and enforcement of chartering ensures the Royal Rangers brand, logos, reputation, and materials are protected by confirming they are being used by only those who reflect and agree with our standards of morality and faith. Chartering is the gateway of permission for groups to start or renew an outpost and the process of reviewing and protecting the national ministry.

Individually and for outposts, chartering guarantees the highest caliber of ongoing ministry from Rangers. It allows individuals/outposts to focus on the task of influencing the next generation of Christlike men, knowing that curriculum is being reviewed and updated, ongoing

training of leaders is being provided, and the core values of the organization are being upheld. Additionally, chartering places the church/outpost in the Outpost Locator on the national Rangers website. The national office regularly fields phone calls from families looking for a Rangers outpost in their new location. Chartered outposts have the potential of gaining these new families for their churches. By chartering, individuals also enjoy negotiated discounts for products from GPH and My Healthy Church, national and district training events, and other Royal Rangers events. These discounts can far exceed the cost of chartering. The national office is continually looking for other benefits to provide chartered members.

The current charter fee in most districts for Royal Rangers is \$11/boy and \$13/leader per year. Great effort is put into maximizing the benefit and keeping this cost as low as possible. Outposts decide how this cost will be covered. Some churches write it into their budgets. Others have families pay for their boys, hold fundraisers, or ask for sponsors to underwrite the cost for boys in need. With chartering fees for comparable programs ranging from \$26 to \$46 annually per boy, our chartering fees are a small price to ensure we evangelize, equip, and empower the next generation of Christ-like men.

Fun, Discipleship, and Worship Abundant at 2016 Camporama

By Dan Van Veen, August 10, 2016

Every four years, thousands of boys and their leaders from across the country make the trek to a remote location in Southwest Missouri to experience [Royal Rangers Camporama](#). It may not have all the comforts of home, but Camporama has a level of fun, camaraderie, excitement, and spiritual impact that few other events can ever hope to equal.



This year, more than 3,000 boys and their leaders gathered for Camporama — called “The Ultimate Event for Guys — in Eagle Rock, Missouri. With wooded areas for adventure and vast wide-open fields for setting up hundreds of tents, the quadrennial Camporama got underway with a Sunday evening movie in the outdoor amphitheater on July 17 and ran through Friday, July 22.

“What’s special about Camporama is that it’s a ‘community’ event,” says John Hicks, the [Royal Rangers](#) national programs coordinator. “Ranger guys like to come together, see each other — they do it at the district and, through Camporama, the national level. Camporama gives Rangers that unique opportunity to interact with other Royal Rangers and leaders from across the country — and even from other parts of the world.” Hicks says 50 [international Rangers](#) attended this year’s event.

Of course, July and warm temperatures go hand-in-hand in Missouri. This year was no exception.

“It was hot,” Hicks says with a bit of a laugh, “the heat index was at or above 100 degrees each day. But we used misting stations, swimming pools, and water games to help keep campers cool and we provided trams to help reduce walking distances. But what was really nice was the temperatures dropped significantly at night, so it made sleeping comfortable.”

Rangers started each morning off with regional devotions and then had a wide variety of activities and events to participate in throughout the day. Some of the activities included zip lines, clay target trap shooting, inflatables, soccer, flag football, archery, BB gun target shooting, high rope courses, repelling and climbing towers, swimming, paint ball, laser tag, and something new this year, archery tag.

“Archery tag is similar to paintball in that you wear protective gear,” Hicks explains, “but you use customized bows and arrows with large pads on them.”

One of the special features of this Camporama was the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the start of the [Frontiersmen Camping Fellowship](#) (FCF). This arm of Royal Rangers started in 1966 and was originally begun to give special honor and opportunity for men and older boys who wished to distinguish themselves in advancements, training, and camping.

“FCF is an integral part of Royal Rangers, and has played a significant role in the success of this ministry,” says Karl S. Fleig, national director of Royal Rangers. “Our FCF members serve to inspire brotherhood among our members, promote continued personal development, as well as provide valuable service to the Ranger ministry and others.”

“The best thing about Camporamas is what God does in the men and boys' lives,” says Jim Allen, camp director, who credits feedback from the 2012 event for many of the improvements to this year's event. “It's an entire week of discipling as men work side-by-side with boys!”

But even with all the fun going on during the day, it didn't compare to what God was doing through the evening services.

“Paul Walters, president of Frontiersmen Camping Fellowship, spoke on Monday night and Karl Fleig, Royal Rangers national director, spoke the remaining nights,” Hicks says. “It was powerful. Hundreds of boys came forward each night to dedicate or rededicate their lives to Christ or to seek the baptism of the Holy Spirit. And on Wednesday night, the presence of the Spirit was so powerful, Karl never presented his message — we went right into an extended altar time of prayer and worship.”

Fleig says prayer was the reason for the powerful presence of God as many churches, outposts, and leaders have been praying for the event.

“I knew God was up to something when men and boys were telling me they sensed something as they drove through the front gates at registration,” Fleig says. “Each night there was a building of anticipation and openness as God challenged all of us to not just go through the motions of Christianity, but really live the adventure He has planned for us. All the work and effort of this event was worth it, watching men, boys, and entire outposts seeking God hours after the altar call.”

AG General Treasurer Doug Clay was impressed with his stay at Camporama. “It was thrilling for me to watch the mentoring of boys in action,” he says. “Hundreds of men from all across the nation providing opportunities for thousands of boys to experience life change. No doubt the future of many these young men will now be on a different trajectory.”

Following its conclusion, the 2016 Camporama has received numerous accolades from those who attended.

“Many have emailed, wrote, and called to let us know they felt this years Camporama was the best one ever,” Fleig says. “Every part of Camporama was executed nearly flawlessly by the hundreds of volunteers and workers. Boys and men truly experienced the ultimate event for guys and went home inspired by the Holy Spirit to live the adventure God has designed for them!”

Visit our Facebook page to see a gallery of photos of National Camporama.
<https://www.facebook.com/RoyalRangersUSA/>



CHANGES TO THE ROLE OF THE GMA

Important changes to the advancement system have been implemented that effect the Gold Medal of Achievement (GMA) and the Adventure Rangers advancement trail. These changes have been made in an effort to retain the prominence of the GMA within the advancement system while retaining the structure of the current Adventure Rangers advancement trail.

A transition period through the end of 2016 has been established during which boys may earn the GMA under either the old 2010 system or the new 2016. But after December 31st of 2016, only GMA earned under the new system will be awarded.

The details for this change are here:

2016 Advancement System Changes

The Gold Medal of Achievement (GMA) has long held a position of prominence as the highest award in the Royal Rangers program. Often regarded as the Royal Rangers counterpart to the Boy Scout Eagle Scout award, the GMA is a well-recognized symbol of achievement for boys.

Through the years, the position of the GMA within the Royal Rangers advancement system has changed, as have the requirements to earn the award. The most recent change was released in 2010 when the requirements to earn the award were limited to the completion of the Adventure Rangers advancement trail. This change resulted in the GMA becoming roughly equivalent with the highest awards in Discovery Rangers and Expedition Rangers, which led to the perception that the GMA was no longer an award of special significance.

In 2010 a new award, the Honor GMA, was also created to recognize boys who have completed the entire Royal Rangers program - Ranger Kids through Expedition Rangers. Although this award is highly regarded, it is commonly perceived as being a separate and higher award than the GMA.

To correct this perception, the following changes to the Adventure Rangers advancement system and the GMA were announced by the Royal Rangers national office in March 2016. A timeline for implementation is described below.

Advancement System Changes

1. The GMA has been removed from the Adventure Rangers advancement trail and moved to a new position in the advancement system that is similar to the historic role and significance of this award. Boys may now earn the GMA by earning the highest award in any TWO age groups (excluding Ranger Kids). Recipients must still meet the minimum age requirement of 12 years & complete the Capstone Project.
2. A new award has been created known as the "GMA with Merit." Boys may earn the "GMA with Merit" by earning the highest award in any THREE age groups (which may include Ranger Kids).
3. The Honor GMA award has been renamed the "GMA with Honors" and awarded to boys earning the highest award in all FOUR age groups.
4. The GMA, the GMA with Merit, and the GMA with Honors are considered to be a single award and are

represented on the uniform by the standard GMA insignia. Boys earning the "merit" distinction will wear a single star on their GMA ribbon or medal, while boys earning the "honors" distinction will wear two stars.

5. The three annual awards in Adventure Rangers have been renamed so as to disassociate them with the GMA. All requirements for these awards remain unchanged (other than the special requirements associated with the GMA).
 - The year 1 Bronze Medal of Achievement has become the Adventure Bronze Award.
 - The year 2 Silver Medal of Achievement has become the Adventure Silver Award.
 - The year 3 Gold Medal of Achievement has become the Adventure Gold Award.
6. Silver Buffalo awards remain a part of Adventure Rangers, worn on the Adventure Gold Award. Buffalos are no longer associated with any of the GMA series of awards.
7. The Capstone Project remains unchanged and continues to be required for the GMA.

Implementation & Transition

These changes went into effect in the spring/summer of 2016. Additional details are as follows:

- ◆ Through the end of the year (12/31/16) boys have the option of earning the 2010 GMA (with the Capstone Project) or the 2016 Adventure Gold Award (without the Capstone Project). After 12/31/16 the 2010 GMA will no longer be available.
- ◆ Through the end of the year (12/31/16) boys have the option of earning the BMA and SMA awards or the Adventure Bronze and Adventure Silver Awards. After 12/31/16 the BMA and SMA awards will no longer be available.
- ◆ Boys who have earned the BMA & SMA awards may continue to wear them or wear the new Adventure Bronze & Adventure Silver Awards in their place, but they cannot wear both.
- ◆ Boys who have earned the 2010 GMA may replace it with the Adventure Gold Award, and then count the Adventure Gold Award as one of the two pinnacle awards required for the 2016 GMA. If he qualifies for the 2016 GMA he would wear both the Adventure Gold Award and GMA.
- ◆ Boys who have earned the 2010 GMA will still be considered GMA recipients but must earn the highest award in three age groups to qualify for the GMA with Merit, and all four age groups to qualify for GMA with Honors. That is, the 2010 GMA represents the completion of one age group, not two.
- ◆ Boys who have earned the 2010 Honor GMA may continue to wear that insignia or the GMA with Honors insignia but they cannot wear both.

These changes effectively restore the GMA to its historical position as the highest award in Royal Rangers while giving boys an incentive to continue their advancement progress beyond the GMA to complete the entire program.



Rangers Climb Mt. Kilimanjaro

Royal Rangers across the nation and around the world often find new and exciting ways to "live the adventure" of the Christlike life. Roger Davis, a Royal Rangers leader from Hope, Arkansas, joined his two sons, Chris and Phillip, on an adventure of a lifetime climbing Mount Kilimanjaro, the highest mountain peak in the entire continent of Africa. Here's their story.

"Our adventure began in July 2015. Phillip invited me and his brother to join him on this great adventure. After selecting a tour company and making the arrangements, our strength and endurance training program began. For five days a week for an entire year, we lifted weights and did cardio workouts to get our bodies into shape for our Kilimanjaro adventure. We got yellow fever and hepatitis vaccinations, and we purchased malaria pills and Diamox pills, which help with altitude sickness, to take with us. After a long year of preparations, we were finally ready!"

"On Sunday, September 4, we arrived in Nairobi, Kenya. After an overnight stay, we took a van down to Arusha, Tanzania, where we rested for a day before the hike began. We decided to take the Lemosho 8-day hike because it is the most successful for intermediate hikers. The additional days on the trail allowed our bodies to adjust to the elevation as we ascended through five climate zones. On the first day, we hiked through a rain forest/jungle and saw several monkeys. By the third day, we were hiking above the clouds. By the fourth day, my body began feeling the effects of the altitude-nose bleeds, headaches, and upset stomach."

"We hiked each day with 28 lb.-packs full of our gear. Throughout the trip, our porters/guides did an amazing job; they would carry 30 lbs. of our additional gear and made sure we ate enough carbs to have energy for the hike. After reaching camp for the day, we would rest for a short time. Then, the guides would take us on a 2-3-hour acclimation hike. They explained that we needed to hike to a higher elevation than the camp and then sleep at the lower camp elevation because this would help us rest better at night."

"After seven long days of hiking, summit day finally arrived. The guides woke us up at 11:00 p.m. after about four hours of sleep. We packed our gear, had a quick snack, and left for the summit at 12:30 a.m. The goal was to make Stella Point at 18,885 ft. by sunrise. Then, we moved on to make Uhuru Peak at 19,341 ft. by 8:00 a.m. That was a very long, hard 14-hour day of hiking."

"We made it down safely with no injuries or serious altitude side effects. It was an amazing trip with my two sons-a trip we will never forget."

We salute Roger, Chris, and Phillip for their adventurous spirit in living out the Christlike life. If you or your group has experienced an adventure you'd like to share, contact the Royal Rangers national office with details.



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