

INFORMATION YOU NEED TO KNOW: (IYNTK)

There was a man sent from God and his name was _____ your name.

A transition deadline of July 31, 2011 has been set for all boys and leaders to transition to the new 2010 uniform standards.

Making Merits Interactive

Fun and Interactive Meetings are the Key to Reaching & Keeping Boys!

Since its inception in 1962, Royal Rangers has been at its core an outdoor, action-oriented program. Our aim, as stated in the 1998 edition of the *Leaders Manual*, is "to instruct, challenge, and inspire our boys in the areas of Bible doctrine, Christian service, moral conduct, and basic beliefs of our church *through interesting activities the boys enjoy.*" [Emphasis added.]

In keeping with this tradition, page 4 of the Leaders Guides for both the Discovery and Adventure Rangers programs begin by **describing Royal Rangers as "an action-packed, life-changing ministry to boys of all ages."** These resources go on to describe the program as having weekly meetings "filled with the activities, camaraderie, and spiritual challenge that boys need."



It has long been understood that boys *need* activity and learn best in an environment rich with hands-on activities and student participation. It is, therefore, essential that the weekly Royal Rangers meeting be a place where boys are given the opportunity to learn by interactive means and to be directly involved in a variety of physical activities. *Lecture sessions with PowerPoint presentations where the boys' primary means of participation is limited to listening and writing should be avoided.* In order to maximize our effectiveness, it is essential that we utilize methods of instruction that are most effective for teaching boys.

With these thoughts in mind, consider the following as tips and alternatives when teaching your next weekly meeting:

Good meetings are FUN! for boys as well as leaders

completed as a group discussion. Every boy present may then receive credit for having completed that requirement.

- Whenever possible, complete merit requirements orally as a group rather than in written format. Requirements beginning with words like *explain*, *list*, or *tell* do not need to be completed in written format but may be completed as a group discussion. Every boy present may then receive credit for having completed that requirement.
- Allow essay requirements to be satisfied orally by short individual presentations to the group. This will satisfy the purpose of the requirement (i.e., knowledge of the subject) while avoiding a written format that could be a major obstacle to younger boys. For those who aren't comfortable with oral presentations or when the size of the group makes this option unsuitable, the boys may create illustrated reports by researching and assembling collages of photos or images with captions describing the subjects.
- Look for ways to get the boys physically involved in the learning process. Requirements that begin with *demonstrate* should always involve physical activity not merely explaining or writing a response. "Sit and listen" times should be limited to approximately 1 minute per age. For example, a 7-year-old Ranger Kid can "sit and listen" for approximately 7 minutes; a 12-year-old Adventure Ranger for about 12 minutes. Look for

ways to utilize the "hear, see, do" principle of instruction. Let the boys *hear* you explain how to do something, *see* you demonstrate the skill, and then *do* or practice the skill themselves.

- Provide opportunities for the boys to complete requirements as a group or patrol. Interaction with friends makes any task more fun and enhances learning for everyone.

It should be noted that the requirements for the merits cannot be changed and should be completed as written. The handbooks and workbooks are still necessary resources to direct and track each boy's progress through the advancement system. However, the methods used to satisfy requirements should be flexible, allowing for differing abilities and maturity levels of boys.

As Royal Ranger leaders, we enjoy a tremendous privilege to serve our Master Ranger, Jesus Christ, through the ministry of Royal Rangers. Along with any privilege comes responsibility. **It is our responsibility to provide our boys with an "action-packed, life-changing ministry" that will "instruct, challenge, and inspire" them in their personal growth and achievement as they daily grow into the image of Christ.**

John Hicks
National Communications Coordinator
National Royal Rangers Ministries

WANTED: Mentors!

Often commanders need help in their outposts but are not sure how to ask for it. The path of least resistance is typically putting something in the church bulletin. This is a good idea but does not always bring the desired results. I know because I have put many inserts in bulletins that sounded like these:

"Want to be a positive example and influence in a young boy's life? Royal Rangers invites you to be a leader or helper for the Discovery Rangers (grades 3-5). If you are interested in working in any area of Rangers, please contact ____."

"We need caring and patient individuals to work with boys in K-2nd grade. If you are willing to Reach, Teach, and Keep young boys for Christ, then please volunteer for this ministry!"

Many times, we get what we ask for. We ask for teachers who do not quite understand the important role they are stepping into. According to Webster's Dictionary, a teacher's job is to "cause to know something (or know how)." A mentor on the other hand is "a trusted counselor or guide."

Would you rather have someone who causes another to know something (a teacher) or a trusted counselor or guide (mentor) in your outpost? While Jesus was certainly a teacher, He held a much more important role with His closest disciples; He was a mentor. We need mentors who, as part of what

they do, teach in our outposts. However, teaching alone does not define their role!

What if the next time you saw (or placed) bulletin inserts that read:

“Wanted:” MENTORS to help evangelize, equip, and empower the next generation of Christ-like men in the world’s premiere, most sought after church ministry to future men—period! For more information, please come to an informational meeting at

Now that’s a ministry I want to be a part of!

There came a man sent from God and his name was _____

Calander:

We will move the date for the Junior Missions Camp because we did not have but three boys wanting to attend. That date will be determined at the Executive Staff Meeting this weekend. I will send out an e-mail next week to inform all of this and cover why this camp is the most important camp offered.

April

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- April 1-3, 2011 **Junior Mission Camp**
- April 2, 2011 **Range Essentials * Bread Of Life Lexington** [Class Click here for registration form](#)
- April 15-17, 2011 **FCF Big Adventure** (Rotary Scout Reservation) [Click here for registration forms](#)

May

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- May 6-7 2011 **Rotary Scout Work Day** (Sign up available) call Gilbert Kerby
- May 14, 2011 **Ranger Kid Field Day** [Click here for registration forms](#)
- May 20-21, 2011 **Honor Bound Men's Convention**

June

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- June 3-4, 2011 **Rotary Scout Work Day** (Sign up available) Call Gilbert Kerby
- June 18 2011 Regional Instructor Trainer Seminar Ind.
- June24-26, 2011 **Kentucky District Pow Wow**