

The Long Rifle



Information about Royal Ranger Events in Michigan

Special Edition

Edited in Wixom, MI

October 2013



Release of 2014 Michigan District Calendar Plan your 2014 Outpost Calendar Ideas to Fund your Outpost and Bring Boys to Events



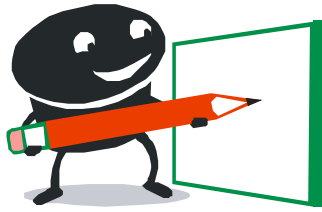
Michigan District Royal Rangers – 2014 Calendar

January 31 – Feb1	FCF Annual Business Meeting	Grand Rapids First
February 21-23	Avalanche Winter Camp	D - A Ranch, Metamora
March 13-15	Royal Rangers National Council	Dallas, TX
April	District Staff Planning Meeting	TBD
May 16-18	Adventure Training Camp / DTC Camp	Connection Church, Canton, MI
May 16-18	FCF Spring Adventure Trace	Ligon Park, Clio, MI
June 21-23	Junior Leadership Training Academy	Ligon Park, Clio, MI
July 9-12	Junior Aquatics Camp	TBD
July 14 – 18	FCF National Rendezvous	Camp Eagle Rock, MO
July 31- Aug3	Pow Wow	Lost Valley, Gaylord
September 26-28	FCF Fall Trace	Potterville, Shady Green
October 5-11	National Royal Ranger Week	District wide
October	District Staff Planning Meeting	TBD
December	FCF District Staff Meeting	East Lansing

2014 Holidays: *Easter – April 20, Memorial Day – May 26, Labor Day – Sept 1, Thanksgiving – Nov 27*

Visit our website – michrr.org – for latest information, changes and forms

Planning for your 2014 Calendar



This is the time of year to reflect back on 2013 and layout plans for 2014. What do you want to improve? What events went well but need to be even better? How many boys did you bring to special events? Could you reach a few more? The investment in planning is like precious seeds that will yield a great harvest in the next year. Plan for a great future in 2014 by working with the leaders in your church to equip, evangelize and disciple future men.

Perhaps there are leaders in your outpost that need training and inspiration. Contact District Training Coordinator Frank Fenbert to schedule a training session that will make an impact.

SKREET SHOOTING COMPETITIONS • ICE FISHING
• SKIING • 22 TARGET COMPETITION •
SKATING • OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES • ARCHERY
• TRAINING CLASSES • PEDRO TRAIL HIKING
AND MUCH MORE!

Ideas to Fund Your Outpost and Bring Boys to Events

Just like gas in a car tank, money is the fuel to grow your outpost, and reach boys in your outpost and community. But what can you do? Perhaps you don't have the ideas or experience in this area!

First don't give up before you even start. When you have a passion for something you can find the ways and means. Maybe you just need a little inspiration followed by some perspiration.

Let's start with some things that won't work and some that will:

Ideas that Probably Won't Work

- Powerball Lottery ticket
- Catch a leprechaun
- Grow a money tree
- Find an Uncle Bill Gates
- Bet all your money on the Lions to win the Superbowl



Ideas to Ponder

- Service Projects – Spring & Fall
- Make and sell items - Bird house, Picnic tables
- Sell ready made special items
- Meals and Competition - Chili Cook-off, Breakfast, lunch and dinner
- Bottle & Can Drive

Follow along on the next few pages for inspiration and details on special ideas that may work for your outpost.



How will you get there?

Service Projects

As I drive around the state, I am reminded of God's majesty when I look at the changing of the season. The majestic trees that are changing and dropping their leaves; the magnificent colors, all mixed together; it is an amazing thing to behold, and a sign of the beauty and majesty of our Creator.

These leaves also remind me of an event I was involved in a couple of years ago. A student decided to get his friends together and rake leaves in our small town to raise money for his cause. He picked a Saturday in October, contacted his friends, got the local radio station to let him talk about it during the morning program, and then had people email him, or call him if they wanted their yards raked. He went to local grocery stores for donations of water and lawn and leaf bags, and then got a local recycler to purchase each bag of leaves as it was dropped off. He then arranged for a couple of men with trucks and trailers to haul the leaves to the recycler. The coordination of this was done in 10 days, using the local media, social media, and the great communication tool of "word of mouth". He collected thousands of dollars for his cause.

You can do the same thing, on a scale that matches your group size, or your town, or your church. The leaves are falling around us, and you and your boys could be out raking leaves in your community to raise funds to get to camp.

Avalanche Winter Camp is right around the corner, and what a blessing it would be to have the funds to take your outpost and their friends to this amazing event because you used some forethought and raked some leaves.

The other great benefit is that your local community will see your boys out doing community service, and know that you are helping to guide them in the right way, to be men of God, and contributing members of our society.

There are many similar service projects in your area where boys and men can plan, promote and perform. Snow shoveling for a month, cleaning out a shed, raking leaves, cleaning out gardens, cleaning out garages and the list goes on. Think about needs in your community and where you can You can auction off your and your boys' services. There is still time for a car wash this fall. Find a local location that will allow you to use their water, and set up on a sunny Saturday morning. Promote in all of the local businesses.



Hand Made is the Best!



Project Builds

There are some plans on the Michigan web site to make bird feeders. It was a great winter project that we enlisted some older men from our church to cut boards over the winter, and then we had a work bee to assemble the bird feeders in the spring and then sell that at our local Wal-Mart. We had so many sales, we should have made more that day. **We raised a couple of thousand of dollars** that we used for many needs!

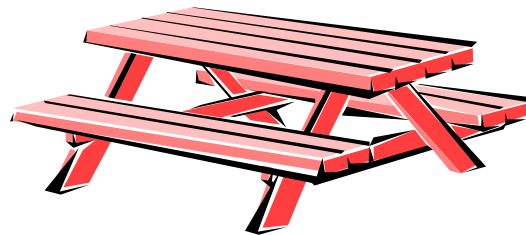
Doing this will secure you funds in the spring (bird feeders sell best in the early spring) but will also replenish a depleted budget that was used to take boys to *Avalanche Winter Camp*.

The benefit of these hand made projects is that enable boys to learn and use skills such as using tools and pride of workmanship. You could also draw in some men (carpenters and craftsmen) outside of your Ranger world to assist. Often materials for these projects can be donated or obtained at low cost. Did you know that Home Depot, Lowes and other retailers have monthly donation budgets for groups? Yes, you will have to go in and talk to the manager and fill out paperwork but the savings will be worth it.

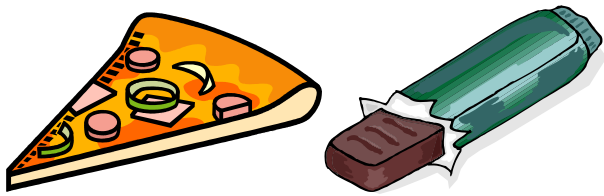
Another clever project (suitable for spring) is to build kids' size picnic tables and sell them. The materials are simple – usually all 1x6 stock and screws. Recently I saw this type of picnic table (plastic style) selling for \$100 at Sam's Club warehouse. Your boys could build them at material cost of about \$20 and sell them at \$40 to \$50. The profit would be even greater with donated materials.

Many retailers, such as Walmart, will allow groups to sell items near their store entrances. Just one Saturday morning of selling can produce great results.

Use your imagination and internet to search for ideas and plans for hand made items. Many people value this type of items over the mass production products and it also helps to have boys in uniform or RR t-shirts selling to customers.



Easy to Sell Items



<http://www.pizzakit.com/getting-started>

Ready Made for Quick Sales

Selling items seems to be a challenge for men but if it is a clever product and boys are upfront selling it, then it can work well. You can sell candy bars. Many places such as Costco, Sam's, and GFS have candy bar packs that allow you to make a good profit to get your boys to camp.

Here are 2 new ideas that you may not know about:



<http://www.hungryhowiesproperties.com/fundraising.html>

- Each "Fundraiser Card" is sold by the organization for \$10.
- The organization keeps 50% of proceeds
- Card is [valid at 48 Hungry Howie's restaurants](#). Locations are listed on the back of every card.
- Hungry Howie's will supply as many "Fundraiser Cards" as you request.
- There is no up front cost to the school. You only pay for the cards that are sold (\$5 each). Unsold cards will be taken back by Hungry Howie's, at no expense to you.
- It's simple, it's easy, and everyone loves to eat pizza – especially for a good cause! Great for small or large fundraising groups.

We are not promoting either Howie's or Caesars; only that these are great, easy ways to raise funds to get boys to camp. There is no hard selling involved, and people are happy to eat, and to support a great cause like getting boys to one of the greatest camps available.

You can also look for creative, low-cost items that are new, seasonal, clever and popular. One good product idea can turn a quick profit on a Saturday or weekend.

I often hear men tell me that they are not salesmen, that they cannot sell things. Remember what we are doing, and remember the boys and men whose lives can be affected by the Word of God, delivered by an anointed Youth Pastor at a powerful, exciting, "men and event", like *Avalanche Winter Camp*. Selling seems pretty small in comparison.

People Love to Eat!



Meals and Competition

A prime asset of most churches is their kitchen and hungry attenders. It can be overdone but the occasional and well promoted church meal can draw in many people and raise valuable funds.

A Saturday morning pancake breakfast can be an amazing fundraiser, and a great opportunity for Royal Rangers to unite with the *men's* ministry of your church. Pancake mix is pretty inexpensive, some sausage links, good coffee and syrup, and you can fill your church dining hall with men from every walk of life. You could then ask your senior pastor, youth pastor, kid's pastor, elders, or whoever your men are in your church to come and attend and just walk around and talk to the men as they are eating breakfast. They may find hurting men from your community that just needs a word, or prayer, or a friend. That is evangelism in the making, as well as funding your boy's opportunity to experience an amazing camp this winter. You will also get a chance to invite the fathers of the boys that do not attend your church to come and help you flip pancakes, or wash dishes.

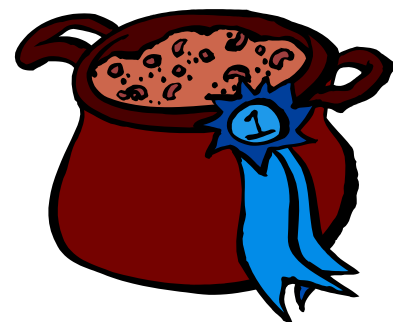
Having a harvest dinner, getting local stores to donate some turkeys and the ladies of your church to bake some pies and you have a great fund raising event in the making. The attendees pay for dinner (you make profit) and then you have an auction of the skills you and your boys have to offer.

Consider a church luncheon with a fun theme – taco lunch, fish fry or wild game lunch with donations from hunters in your church. Make it a festive event with music, decorations and pageantry. The extra effort and work by the boys will enthruse your outpost, church and community.

Commander Frank Fenbert conducts an annual Chili Competition at the Canton Connection church. This event has become very popular for the whole church and as a result has become his singular fund raiser for his outpost for the entire year. He has improved it year to year with rules, judges, trophies and excitement.

Your church will see that you are willing to work for the funds you need, and will be generous, and you will once again show your church and community that Royal Rangers is raising up men and boys that will be contributing members of our future societies.

Yes, it is getting late in the year, and yes, it will take some effort, but think of the harvest of souls of men and boys when Pastor Kelly Presson brings them the anointed word of God at *Avalanche Adventure Camp* and the men and boys lives are changed forever. Our efforts now will pale in effort when the kingdom rejoices over them.



district, so that hundreds can come and hear the word of God at these amazing events.

Set aside time to seek His face and pray, and to humble ourselves to diligently reach the coming generations for the kingdom.

It's in these moments when one will see what Royal Rangers is REALLY all about. **Evangelizing, Equipping, and Empowering the next generation of boys and Christlike men.**

Wrap Up



We hope to inspire you with this Special Edition Long Rifle. We desire to see all the outposts of this Michigan District to grow and reach the boys in their community. These ideas for fund raising are a start so you can have 'gas in car' and drive boys to life changing events. For even more, type "**fundraising ideas**" into a Google search, and you will have more options that you ever imagined.

You will have the opportunity to share your testimony with them, and what Jesus has done in your life, and let them know that is why that invest in the lives of boys. Once again, you will have a great opportunity for evangelism.

¹⁴ if My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land. 2 Chronicles 7:14

When I think of this verse, my heart goes right to the whole purpose and vision of Royal Rangers. The campouts are fun, the events are a blast, but they are all merely methods. Every campout and event we offer is merely a method of humbling ourselves, to serve the young men and men of this

