

North Texas District Royal Rangers Frontiersmen Camping Fellowship Shawnee Trail Chapter Operational Guidelines

March 1, 2008

Name

This organization shall be known as the Shawnee Trail Chapter of the North Texas District Council of the Assemblies of God (hereafter known as North Texas District) Frontiersmen Camping Fellowship (hereafter known as the FCF).

Amenability of the Shawnee Trail Chapter

The chapter is an extension of the Royal Rangers ministry of the North Texas District. It is accountable to the district Royal Rangers commander, children's ministries director, and the district superintendent and district presbytery of the North Texas District. It is also governed by the North Texas District Divisional Ministries Manual.

Purpose and Nature of FCF

Purposes

- To give recognition to boys and men who have shown exceptional interest and outstanding achievement in the Royal Rangers program and in Royal Rangers camp craft.
- To build a brotherhood of "top-notch boys" and men who will, over the years, continue to be Royal Rangers program and camping enthusiasts.
- To emphasize the importance of involvement in the advancement program, development of camp craft skills, and completion of the leadership training programs.
- To develop a corps of proven Royal Rangers who will strive to be the very best in Christian example and leadership.
- To encourage the boys and men of Royal Rangers to always prefer others above themselves and to let their leadership be by example.
- To show a spirit of servant hood, willing to give of time and energy above and beyond what is expected for Royal Rangers.

Nature of FCF

The Frontiersmen Camping Fellowship is a service organization. The members are encouraged to become absorbed in the Royal Rangers program on the level where they are most needed. They can contribute a great deal to the program by being an example in

enthusiasm and involvement. However, because of the caliber of the membership, many members will no doubt be asked to assist in various outreaches of the Royal Rangers program on a sectional and district level.

The FCF Chapter will develop most of its own activities and projects. These are not designed primarily for FCF members only, but occasionally will also be expanded to include non-members (family, guest speakers, visitors, etc.)

The Chapter may also be assigned special duties by the chairman to aid him in carrying out the goals of the overall Royal Rangers program at Pow Wow, camp-outs, training courses, and other times deemed necessary.

Membership

The requirements for membership in the FCF shall be those described in the current FCF Handbook and FCF Chapters Officers Handbook. No additional requirements shall be added for membership in the Shawnee Trail Chapter.

Entrance Policy

Membership in the chapter is open to any boy or man who meets the stated requirements. There will be a fee for participating in the Frontier Adventure. This fee will be set annually by the chapter officers.

Public Selection Ceremony

A public ceremony should take place but is not limited to taking place during the district Pow Wow. It should include: an explanation of the 5 logs and the 6 purposes of FCF, an explanation of some aspect of frontier history and a listing of the names of those candidates who have qualified to participate in the Frontier Adventure.

Frontier Adventure

After meeting the requirements for membership and paying the fee, prospective members (Greenhorns) will participate in a Frontier Adventure. The events and activities at the Frontier Adventure are not to be kept a secret from anyone. There will not be any harassment of Greenhorns. Neither will there be any shameful, harmful, or degrading acts during the Frontier Adventure. Members are reminded that we are a corps of brothers in Christ.

Specifics of the Frontier Adventure are contained in the FCF Chapter Officers Handbook. Those procedures will be followed in conducting a Frontier Adventure.

Steps of Recognition

The steps of recognition in the FCF are:

- Frontiersmen
- Buckskin Frontiersmen
- Wilderness Frontiersmen

The requirements for each step of recognition are contained in the current FCF Handbook. Each candidate is encouraged to obtain a sponsor to assist them in their preparation for a particular level of advancement. This is particularly important at the Buckskin and Wilderness levels.

Active / Inactive Membership

Annual membership dues will be set by the chapter officers in consultation with the district executives. They are due at the beginning of each year. An FCF member may obtain a lifetime membership by paying a life-time membership fee. These funds will be invested in the district church loan fund and the interest used to fund regular operations of the chapter.

An active member is one who pays his annual membership dues and is actively engaged in some aspect of the Royal Rangers program in the district. An inactive member is one who fails to do one or both of these. Any member who has been inactive for 3 successive years will be dropped from the membership list. He may become active again by assisting in a FCF Adventure and paying two year's dues – the previous year and the current year. He must also be active in the Royal Rangers program in order to reactivate his membership. A member who has been inactive for less than 3 years may become active by paying his membership dues for the current year in addition to the previous years

Any person who is an active member of another chapter that moves to the North Texas District and wishes to become active will be accepted for membership. He will have a grace period of the remainder of the calendar year in which he transfers to the chapter before he will be required to pay membership dues. During this time, it is necessary for the transferring member to have an official Letter of Confirmation sent from the former district's scribe to the North Texas District scribe. Failure to provide this letter will automatically result in an inactive status and the same guidelines already mentioned will apply.

Any member who becomes inactive due to being transferred out of the district by the military or because he is attending college outside the district, is considered excused inactive. They will not be required to pay membership dues for the year, but they will have all the rights and privileges due to an active member. There is no limit to the number of years a member may be excused inactive, but if he elects not to return to the district or he becomes active in another chapter, he should request a transfer of his membership.

Rules of Order

Business meetings of the Shawnee Trail Chapter, North Texas District FCF, shall be governed by parliamentary procedure as set forth in the current edition of “*Meyer’s Rules of Order*” keeping with the spirit of Christian love and fellowship, and under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Officers

Chapter officers shall include:

- Chairman
- President
- Vice-President
- Scribe
- Company Clerk
- Trappers Brigade Coordinator
- District Scout
- Two Assistant District Scouts
- Wilderness Representative
- Buckskin Representative
- Historian

Qualifications for chapter officers:

- 1) Must be a member of the Shawnee Trail Chapter of the FCF for no less than 1 year.
- 2) Must be a member of a chartered outpost and must be active in that outpost.
- 3) Must be spirit filled and their life consistent with the guidelines for deacon as set forth in 1 Timothy 3:1-13.
- 4) For adult positions, must meet qualifications of a commander as described in the current *Leaders Manual*.
- 5) Highly recommended by his pastor.

Selection of chapter officers:

- 1) All chapter officers, with the exception of the scout and assistant scouts, will be appointed by the district commander in consultation with the children’s ministries director. The FCF president will also provide input on staff positions below president.
- 2) The district scout and the two assistant scouts will be selected at the Brush Poppin’ Trace or Pow Wow in even-numbered years, following the current FCF Scout selection guidelines as established by the national Royal Rangers office.
- 3) The boys selected as scout or assistant scout should be young enough so that they will be less than 18 years old at the time of the next Territorial FCF Rendezvous (odd-numbered years) so they would be eligible to represent our chapter in the national scout selection process.

Term of Office

With the exception of the scout and assistant scouts, officers of the chapter will serve a term of two years and may serve successive terms if reappointed. These terms of appointment will coincide with the chairman's term of appointment. The scouts and assistant scouts may serve successive two-year terms in office if they meet the age requirement above.

Vacancies

A vacancy in the office of scout will be filled by the assistant scout who had the greater number of points in the selection process. A vacancy in one of the assistant scout positions will be filled with the boy with the next highest number of points. The term of office shall be until the next Brush Poppin' in an even-numbered year. A vacancy in any of the other positions will be filled by the chairman consistent with the appointment process above.

Duties of Chapter Officers

Chairman

The district commander, by virtue of his office, will serve as the chairman of the chapter. He is the senior officer in the Fellowship and will chair all business meetings and staff meetings, and will be responsible for coordinating FCF activities into the overall district Royal Rangers program.

President

- 1) Wears the silver oak leaf insignia
- 2) Must be active in the Royal Rangers program.
- 3) Cooperate and work closely with the chairman.
- 4) Will be the focal point of all FCF activities.
- 5) Encourages outposts to select candidates for FCF.
- 6) Maintains contact with members.
- 7) Will develop ways and means for perpetuating the chapter.
- 8) Arranges FCF public selection ceremonies and Frontier Adventures. These events may be directed by the chairman, but the president is responsible for making the arrangements.
- 9) He must inform the chairman of all things that must be brought up at meetings and all other activities pertaining to FCF within the district.
- 10) Must demonstrate a high degree of expertise and involvement in the program.
- 11) Keep the membership aware of its role in the Royal Rangers program.
- 12) Will attend all National, Regional, and District Royal Rangers Councils as a voting member, as well as attend all national, territorial, district and FCF events.

Vice-President

- 1) Wear the gold oak leaf insignia.
- 2) Must carry the same qualifications as the president.
- 3) He will be actively assisting the president in his responsibilities.
- 4) If the president is not present, the vice-president will assume the duties of the president.
- 5) He should attend as many of the national, regional, and district events as possible but will be a non-voting member.

Scribe

- 1) Wear the gold oak leaf insignia.
- 2) Will be responsible for keeping FCF chapter records.
- 3) He will be responsible for correspondence as directed by the president or chairman.
- 4) Will be responsible for all FCF chapter funds. All funds will be deposited with the North Texas District treasurer and all disbursements will come from that office. All disbursements must be approved by the chairman.
- 5) He will attend all FCF chapter staff meetings and participate in all FCF chapter activities.

Company Clerk

- 1) Will wear the gold oak leaf insignia.
- 2) Will assist the scribe in the performance of his duties.

Wilderness / Trappers Brigade Representative

- 1) Will wear the gold oak leaf insignia.
- 2) Will make periodic surveys in his chapter to determine if there are members qualified for Wilderness status in FCF.
- 3) He will encourage Buckskin members to advance to Wilderness.
- 4) He should rally Wilderness members to play an active part in service to the district.
- 5) He will assist the territorial FCF rep in conducting Wilderness Vigils in the territory.
- 6) He will promote the Trappers Brigade advancement in his chapter.
- 7) He will review all Trappers Brigade applications for points and approve or disapprove with counsel from the president if needed.
- 8) Must be a Wilderness member.
- 9) He will ensure that all steps and paper work required are carried through by the FCF staff.
- 10) He will attend all FCF chapter staff meetings and participate in all FCF chapter activities.

Buckskin Representative

- 1) Will wear the gold oak leaf insignia.
- 2) Will make periodic surveys in his chapter to determine if there are members qualified for Buckskin status in FCF.
- 3) He will encourage Frontiersmen to advance to Buckskin.
- 4) He will ensure that all steps and paper work required are carried through by the FCF staff.
- 5) Must be a Buckskin member.
- 6) Will help set up the Buckskin Advancement Testing and the Buckskin Ceremony.
- 7) He will attend all FCF chapter staff meetings and participate in all FCF chapter activities.

Historian

- 1) Will wear the gold oak leaf insignia.
- 2) He is responsible for compiling a historical log for his chapter. This log should include photos and other information about the major FCF events and personalities in his chapter. The log should be displayed at all FCF events. Photos and reports about events should also be submitted to the district web master for publication on the district web site.
- 3) He should share photos and other information with the national FCF historian.
- 4) He will attend all FCF chapter staff meetings and participate in all FCF chapter activities.

Scouts

- 1) Are the boy representatives on the FCF chapter staff.
- 2) They should endeavor to express the viewpoint of the other boys in FCF in regard to plans for events and activities.
- 3) They should cultivate friendship and understanding among other members by personal example and other means.
- 4) They will attend all FCF chapter staff meetings and participate in all FCF chapter activities.

Annual Events

The chapter will hold the following events each year:

- **Brush Poppin’.** This is our chapter trace. It is for members and potential members (men and boys only). Scout selection will occur in even-numbered years. In all years a variety of events and competitions will be held for those in attendance.
- **Frontier Adventure.** This camp serves as the introduction to FCF for new members. It will be conducted according to the current national guidelines. Only

- active members and prospective members should be in attendance. May be held more than once a year.
- **Family Days.** This family camp is open to any FCF member or non-member and their family. A variety of events and competitions will be held for those in attendance.
 - **Christmas Banquet.** This banquet is for members and their family. Held annually in December, this pot-luck dinner features fun, food, and fellowship.

Business Meetings

Annual Business Meeting

The membership of the chapter shall meet every year at Brush Poppin for their annual business meeting. A quorum of no less than one-third (1/3) of the active membership shall be required. Before participating in any business meeting, a member's dues for the current year must be paid and he must be a chartered member of a local outpost.

Special Business Meetings

The chairman may, from time to time, call a special business meeting of the membership. The announcement for a special business meeting shall be communicated, in writing, to the membership at least thirty (30) days prior to the special business meeting. Publication of notice in the *Signal Fire* or on the district Royal Rangers web site and e-mail list will be sufficient, provided it is mailed at least 30 days prior to the meeting.

Updates to the Operational Guidelines

Updates to the Operational Guidelines for the North Texas FCF to reflect changes in national policy need only be ratified by the district executive presbytery. Updates may be offered at any regular or special business meeting, provided that a thirty-day notice of the proposed changes has been presented to the active membership of the chapter in writing. Ratification by the district executive presbytery will be required for any changes.