



Michigan RR District Director Scott Donald announces his Resignation

Almost two decades ago, on a Wednesday night church service, a guy came upstairs and asked me if I could come down and help him with his Ranger Kids class. I assured him I had no idea what he was talking about, and he must have been talking to the wrong person. Little did I know of the journey that God had for me over the coming years.

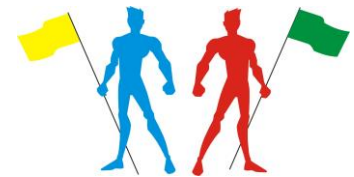


I was blessed in that opportunity of passing out scissors (round end) and crayons. Then I had the joy of being the 'game' guy, who came early and kept the kids busy before the classes started to allow the leaders some time to get ready for the evening. My pastor then asked me to be a part of his class and I soon was teaching the compass merit to the Pioneer class at Outpost 12.

I have been a part of merits, medals, camps, and classes, events across the state and the nation that I never could have ever imagined. Winter camping merit in 9 degree weather, absolutely freezing, to trying to sleep at 91 degrees at Eagle Rock, Missouri. I have been a part of camps in numerous states and dozens of cities throughout the years.

Worried that I had been neglectful as a father, I asked my son Luke if I cheated him as a dad. He replied enthusiastically that we had done so many amazing things and been to so many cool places because of Rangers that we would not have as just a father and son.

The memories of people and places are too numerous to list but stored away in my heart (and sore back) are so many events, so many conversations, so many times when I was able to stand shoulder to shoulder with men and boys from across Michigan. So many boys and men at the altar, so many tears shed, sweat wiped, cuts bandaged, coffee drank, fires started, and prayers said. So much God has given me in this adventure called Royal Rangers, and how much I have been blessed: the love and support of my wife and family to help shore me up when it got tough, great leaders walking down this path at my side, seeing people meet Jesus for the first time, and working together with all of you.



Feb 17 - 19

Our great winter retreat, Avalanche Winter Camp, will be held on **Feb 17-19** at D-A Ranch. The 2017 theme is **Two are Better than One** from Eccl 4:9-10. Avalanche games and activities will focus on team competition.

Our Avalanche speaker will be **Eddie Marcum**, Pastor at River of Life in Belleville, MI.



For Avalanche we will be bringing back some of the favorite activities – Gaga ball, ranges, sledding, hiking – and introducing some new team games and crafts. This event is a great opportunity to invite new men and boys.

Once again we will offer credit card payments as an option for this event. Visit the website (michrr.com) for flyers and information packet.

District Children's Ministry Director Josh Wellborn is currently reviewing candidates for this position however no new announcements at this time.



Sectional Ranger Derbies



Although it is early in 2017, it may be a good time to plan and think about derby car racing. It may also be a great time to get your car kits ordered. Use your imagination and skill to build a colorful car!

Various sections are conducting races which are open to all churches and outposts, even if it is outside of your section.

Take note of these upcoming races:

Metro West, March 11,
Brightmoor, Novi, MI

Metro South, March 25,
Fair Haven AG, Dearborn Hts, MI

Northern, April 1,
Mt Hope Church, Gaylord, MI

Ed Link Birthday Wishes



Ed link will be celebrating his 75th birthday on February 25th! His daughter Sherry has asked me to request birthday cards, well wishes and stories of Commander Ed. Ed has dedicated his life to the service of Royal Rangers and has personally touched many of us.

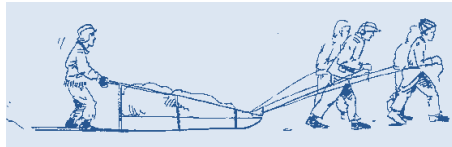
Send cards to:

Sherry Smith
165 Opdyke Rd
Auburn Hills, MI 48326

Well wished and stories can be e-mailed to Sherry at
sherrysmith117@outlook.com

Please keep this news confidential as we want to surprise him!!

Metro / Metro South 2017 Klondike Derby



This classic event has been moved to a later date due to scheduling conflict. On **Saturday, January 28th** Metro/Metro South Sections will host their annual Klondike Derby at **Real Life Day Camp** in Canton.

This fun, outdoor event is open for all boys in Discovery, Adventure and Expedition ages. Boys form patrols or groups and compete at various stations while pulling a Klondike sled with their materials. As they travel around the campgrounds they will be tested in: compass, first aid, toolcraft, ropecraft, firecraft, Ranger knowledge and Bible knowledge. Medals will be given to the top 3 patrols in each age group. The cost is \$10 which includes an event patch and lunch.

This event is open to all Royal Rangers in Michigan. Contact Don Fraser 734-564-8288 or Pastor Greg Roy at 734-621-3690 for questions.

Upcoming Event Reminders

- Jan 28** Klondike Derby, Metro Section, Canton, MI
- Jan 27-28** FCF Business Meeting Grand Rapids, MI
- Feb 2** Deadline for Avalanche Registration
- Feb 17-19** Avalanche Winter Camp, D-A Ranch
- March 11** Metro West Ranger Derby, Novi, MI
- March 25** Metro/Metro South Ranger Derby, Dearborn Hts, MI
- April 1** Northern Ranger Derby, Gaylord, MI

