



1908



2008

# One Hundred Years *of* **Royal** **Ambassadors**

*An overview of the  
Royal Ambassadors  
organization including  
RAs in Texas*





# One Hundred Years of Royal Ambassadors



2003 - 2008



1908 - 1957



1957 - 1961

**CELEBRATING**  
**100**  
**ROYAL AMBASSADORS**  
**YEARS**  
1908 ~ 2008



1994 - 2003



1961 - 1987



1987 - 1994

*An overview of the Royal Ambassadors  
organization including RAs in Texas*



## **One Hundred Years of Royal Ambassadors**

An overview of the Royal Ambassadors  
organization including RAs in Texas

Keith Mack and Herb Weaver

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Jerry Bob Taylor – Personal Collection, Brownwood, Texas  
Murrie Wainscott – Personal Collection, Italy, Texas  
Herb Weaver – Personal Collection, Houston, Texas  
Al Wise – Personal Collection, Arlington, Texas



This book is dedicated to the many boys whose lives were changed through Royal Ambassadors and to all the leaders who invested their lives in leading these boys. Special appreciation is expressed to the individuals and organizations who contributed information and materials to produce this book.

*“Remember your leaders, who spoke the word of God to you. Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.”*

Hebrews 13:7-8

## *Meet the Authors*



*Herb Weaver in his study.*

Herb Weaver joined the Royal Ambassadors chapter of First Baptist Church Eastland at age 9 in 1944. He earned the rank of Knight and received his RA sword in 1944. He became a full ranking Ambassador and received his Ambassador shield in 1945. Herb served as a RA Counselor at 7th & James Baptist Church in Waco in 1952-53. He also served as RA Counselor at Gaston Ave. Baptist Church, Lucas Baptist Church, North Dallas Baptist Church, and Park Cities Baptist Church in Dallas from 1961-1977. Herb served on the RA Committee for Dallas Baptist Association and worked with the Dallas Associational Staffers in coordinating the wilderness camp at Camp Chuala. He became a Campcraft Instructor in 1964 and has conducted many training events. Herb has served as a member of the State RA/Challengers Committee since 1975 and served as State Vice President for Royal Ambassadors from 1990-92. Herb moved to Houston in 1977 and in 1980 became the Royal Ambassadors Director for Union Baptist Association (UBA). He directed the Leadership Training Camp from 1982 until 2002 and served as the state staffer trainer. Herb is currently serving as the Region 14 Director for Texas Baptist Men and RA/Challengers Director and Baptist Men on Missions Coordinator for UBA. Herb is affectionately known as “Mr. Royal Ambassadors” in Texas. Herb’s fingerprints are so evident upon a host of RA leaders in Texas, that his life’s work will continue to impact many future generations.



*Keith Mack and Jeremiah at Leadership Training Camp*

Keith Mack was first introduced to Royal Ambassadors as a 10 year old camper at the boys’ camp at Camp Copass in 1970. He remembers the leaders and state staffers conducting a camp fire service entitled “My Life was Never the Same.” Keith served as the Royal Ambassadors Counselor at Highland Village Baptist Church from 1983-84. He served as the Royal Ambassadors Director at FBC Lewisville from 1985-89. Keith also served as the RA Director for Denton Baptist Association from 1985 until 1991 and coordinated the RA Camp at Camp Copass from 1983 until 1995. He began attending Leadership Training Camp in 1984 and became a Campcraft Instructor in 1986. Keith served as a member of the State Royal Ambassadors Committee from 1991 until 1999. Keith responded to God’s invitation in 1999 to serve as the Children and Youth Missions and Ministry Consultant (State Royal Ambassadors/Challengers Director) for Texas Baptist Men and is currently serving in this position. Keith has established meaningful friendships and working relationships with many RA leaders and youth. He is well known and respected among the RA/Challengers national leadership and his fellow state RA/Challengers leaders. He works closely and well with the TBM staff and the State RA/Challengers Committee. He directs and oversees the activity of the Challengers State Staffers.

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*"We are Ambassadors for Christ."*  
2 Corinthians 5:20



# Early Beginnings of Royal Ambassadors

The Bible speaks about the importance of educating boys concerning God's Word. Moses directed the leaders of Israel to teach their children about a relationship with God.

*"These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them to your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up."*  
(Deuteronomy 6:6-7)

The author of Proverbs talks about the wisdom of teaching children. *"Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it."* (Proverbs 22:6)

The earliest recorded missionary organization for boys in the Southern Baptist Convention dates back to 1883. In that year, a group of boys from 12 to 14 years of age had a definite missionary organization at Owensboro, Kentucky. They met regularly with their pastor to study missions and gave money to support a girl in Miss Lottie Moon's school in Tengchow, China. There were other sporadic efforts in providing missionary training for boys in the 1890s and into the first years of the twentieth century. Five "Boys' Mission Bands" reported gifts to missions in North Carolina in 1907.

## National Beginning – 1907-1908

Miss Fannie E.S. Heck, president of the Woman's Missionary Union, was aware of the fact that boys' missions groups were already meeting in a number of Southern Baptist churches. She, along with other WMU leaders, recognized the need for a convention-wide organization for Baptist boys. In October 1907, the Executive Committee of the Woman's Missionary Union appointed a "Committee on Mission Work for Boys," with Miss Heck serving as the chairman. During that year, Miss Heck and another member of the committee, Miss Elizabeth Briggs (later Mrs. T.C. Pittman) attended a young people's missionary conference in Asheville, NC. A quartet of young men from Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN, sang a hymn entitled "The King's Business" that was written in 1902. The women discussed a phrase from the song, "Ambassadors to be of realms beyond the sea," and its appropriateness for a boys' mission organization. Miss Briggs suggested the name "Ambassadors" and Miss Heck added the "Royal." "The King's Business" became the first hymn for Royal Ambassadors.



*Miss Fannie E.S. Heck*

At the 20th annual meeting of the Woman's Missionary Union, held in Hot Springs, Arkansas in May 1908, Miss Heck asked Mrs. E.J. Willingham of Georgia to preside while she presented the report of the Committee on Mission Work for Boys. On behalf of the committee, Miss Heck moved that the Woman's Missionary Union sponsor a missions organization for boys ages 9-17, that the name be the "Order of Royal Ambassadors," and that it fit into the WMU organization under Sunbeam superintendents. The committee also had suggestions for a Royal Ambassadors Constitution, Motto, and Pin.

There was considerable debate on the motion and opposition seemed to focus upon three areas. Some wondered how a women's organization would be able to enlist the support of men, believing that men should be involved in the work with boys. Others felt there would be a problem finding someone to promote the new organization, since WMU employees at that time were not salaried. Still others felt that the organization would be more appealing to boys if it were separate from the Sunbeam bands for children. The motion was adopted by a vote of 40 to 25.

Mrs. W.M. Petway, a messenger from North Carolina, was so excited about RAs that she left the convention early and hurried home to Goldsboro, NC to form the first Royal Ambassador chapter in the Southern Baptist Convention – the Carey Newton Chapter of First Baptist Church, Goldsboro.

### **Texas Beginning – 1908**

Mrs. F. S. Davis (Mary Hill Davis), President of the Women's Missionary Union for Texas brought the following recommendation in her report to the annual WMU meeting in Fort Worth, Texas, October 1908:



*Mary Hill Davis*

*Before closing, I will state that the Women's Missionary Union, during the progress of its last annual meeting, launched a new line of work, namely, mission work among boys. They are to be organized into chapters instead of societies, and are to be known as the Order of Royal Ambassadors, having a special constitution, motto, and pin. Until further developments, these organizations are to be directed and supervised by the Juvenile Leaders of the various states.*

On motion of Mrs. George W. Truett of Dallas, the recommendation was adopted as read. Thus, Royal Ambassadors officially began in Texas.

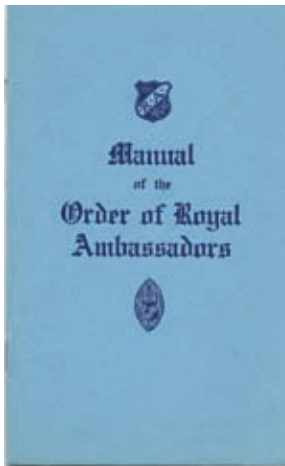


# Order of Royal Ambassadors 1908-1957

Royal Ambassadors began as a Baptist missionary organization for boys, with its own constitution, motto and pin. The purpose of RAs is found within the RA constitution.

The object shall be to study God's Word for a better knowledge of Him, of His principles, precepts and plans; to study the lives and works of great missionary heroes who, as His ambassadors, have represented Him in other lands, in other times as now; to endeavor by our conduct and contributions to make Christ known to the world that many may know and be reconciled to Him.

The Royal Ambassador Motto, taken from 2 Corinthians 5:20: "We are Ambassadors for Christ." was selected in 1908 and has remained the RA Motto for 100 years.



The first manual of the Order of Royal Ambassadors and the RA pin became available October, 1908. The manual was offered free to anyone interested in organizing a RA chapter. The RA pin, in gold plate with blue and white enamel, cost 25 cents.

Within the RA constitution is the first meaning for the RA insignia. "The colors of the Order shall be royal blue and gold. The RA pin is shield-shaped, done in blue enamel with the crown for faithful service and the laurel of victory; the letters R. A. are on the white band of the shield."



RA Pin  
1908-1953

Any boy between the ages of 9 and 17 was eligible to become a member on recommendation of the recruiting embassy (committee). A member of the recruiting embassy presented the boy's name for membership at a regular chapter meeting. He became a member of Royal Ambassadors by receiving a majority vote from the members. He maintained his membership on good behavior, regular attendance and participation in the work of the chapter and was expected to give to missions and serve in some capacity in the chapter.

The first five chapters of Royal Ambassadors in Texas were reported at the 1910 annual meeting, but did not include the names of the churches. Each RA chapter was to register with the state WMU office each year. RA chapters that registered with the state office received a certificate of registration suitable for framing and displaying in the chapter room.



1920s Certificate of Registration, 12"x14"



Each Royal Ambassador group was encouraged to organize into a chapter with boys serving as officers that presided over each meeting with adults serving as counselors. The officers of the chapters were elected annually or semi-annually. Work that was usually entrusted to committees by other organizations was done in RA chapters by embassies. Embassy leaders or chairmen were called chief envoys of their embassies. The following list the titles for each of the Royal Ambassador Officers and their responsibilities.

**Chief Counselor** provided the general oversight of the RA work, and served as a member of the Advisory Staff and ex-officio member of all embassies. The Chief Counselor was elected by the church after nomination by the Woman's Missionary Society.

**Ambassador-in-Chief** presided at each meeting and appointed embassies not otherwise covered. As presiding officer of his chapter the success of the RA work largely depended upon him. He was encouraged to lead a life of strong manliness with prayerful thought and study of mission work and Royal Ambassador plans. He served as the chief envoy of the Program Embassy.

**First Assistant Ambassador** presided in the absence of the Ambassador-in-Chief, or at his direction. His work demanded careful living up to Royal Ambassador aim and ideals, and knowledge of Royal Ambassador activities outside of the local chapter. He served as chief envoy of the Recruiting Embassy.

**Second Assistant Ambassador** presided over meetings when both major officers were absent. He served as chief envoy of the Recreation Embassy.

**Chapter Recorder** kept minutes of each meeting and a roll call of members according to rank. He served as chief envoy of the Ranking Embassy.

**Chapter Scribe** corresponded with state officers, sent reports as directed, and kept his chapter in contact with other chapters. He served as chief envoy of the Knightly Deeds Embassy.

**Chapter Steward** enlisted members in systematic giving to missions and the church program according to the plan of the church. He was responsible for the money collected and forwarded as directed. He kept an accurate account of all money received and spent and balanced his account book monthly with the Recorder. He served as chief envoy of the Stewardship Embassy and aided in teaching stewardship in giving.

**Chapter Custodian** kept and carefully filed all papers, clippings, maps, and curios written, collected or made by the chapter and was in charge of the missionary library of the chapter. He served as the chief envoy of the World Alliance Embassy.

**Chapter Herald** was responsible for the publicity work of the chapter, reporting activities to the newspaper, preparing announcements and placing posters of RA interest in prominent places. He served as chief envoy of the Publicity Embassy.

In chapters where fewer than eight boys attended regularly, the duties of some officers could be combined such as "Recorder-Scribe" or "Herald-Custodian" to allow chapters to meet the requirements for a charter. The nine officers of the RA chapter served as an Executive Committee known as the Advisory Staff. The Ambassador-in-Chief served as chief of the Advisory Staff. The advisory staff met at least quarterly for discussion and planning of RA work.





Each time a meeting of the Order of Royal Ambassadors was called to order, the members participated in the following responsive reading known as the Commission and Declaration. The first Commission and Declaration of the Order of Royal Ambassadors provided an emphasis for most of the officers. The Commission and Declaration was modified several times in later publications.

### *Commission and Declaration of the Order of Royal Ambassadors*

**Ambassador in Chief.** What is an Ambassador?

**All.** An ambassador is one who represents the person of a king at the court of another.

**Amb. in Chief.** To whom must an ambassador render an account?

**All.** To the king from whom he receives his commission.

**Amb. in Chief.** As ambassador whom do you represent?

**All.** We are ambassadors for Christ

**Amb. in Chief.** For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ.

**All.** That everyone may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.

**1st Asst. Amb.** Knowing therefore, the terror of the Lord we persuade men.

**2nd Asst. Amb.** For the love of Christ constraineth us.

**All.** He died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves but unto him which died for them and rose again.

**Chapter Scribe.** Therefore if any man be in Christ he is a new creature.

**Recorder.** Old things are passed away.

**All.** Behold, all things are become new.

**Chapter Steward.** God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself.

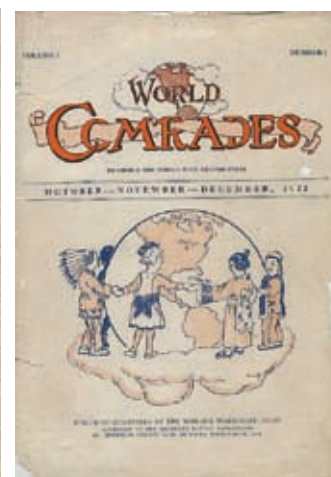
**All.** And hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.

**Amb. in Chief.** Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ.

**Herald.** As though God did beseech you by us.

**All.** We pray you in Christ's stead be ye reconciled to God.

Program materials for boys first appeared in *Our Mission Fields*, a WMU publication for women that included materials for youth organizations. Beginning in July 1908, the boys' programs were called "Suggestions for the Boys." In the October 1908 issue, the title of the program was changed to "Suggestions for Royal Ambassadors." In 1914, the WMU magazine *Royal Service* replaced *Our Mission Fields*. October 1922, *World Comrades*, a new magazine designed for youth organizations, was published and presented curriculum ideas for RA leaders. These program materials offered suggestions to Royal Ambassador leaders on ways to make the organization appealing to boys in addition to teaching them mission principles.





Mission study certificates were first issued in 1919 as an incentive for individual participation. A boy was awarded a certificate after he completed reading his first missionary book. A mission study stamp was awarded for each additional approved missionary book that he read.

*Mission Study Book*



*RA Mission Study Certificate - 1928*

In 1919, it was suggested that some simple form of secret initiation be prepared for new RA members. In 1920, Miss Bernice Green, the Young People's Secretary in Texas, reported participating in a "secret ritual for RAs." RA leaders contacted the state office to receive a pamphlet that outlined how to conduct an initiation ritual. RA Chapters were encouraged to use the initiation ritual as a welcoming ceremony to affirm each boy as he made a commitment to be a part of the chapter and serve as an Ambassador for Christ.

In 1924, RAs were divided into two age groups, Junior Royal Ambassadors (ages 9-13) and Intermediate Royal Ambassadors (ages 13 and up). Also in 1924, a ranking (advancement) system for Royal Ambassadors was established, written by Mr. John Cunningham of Alabama, Mr. G.L. Boles and Mr. O.E. McCullough of Arkansas. The ranking system was built upon ambassador ideas set forth in 2 Corinthians 5:20 and the knight errantry. The advancement plan called for boys to pass four ranks – Page, Squire, Knight and Ambassador. Each level of the ranking system was designed to help educate the boy how he is part of a missionary organization within his chapter, church, state, nation and world. After the boy completed all requirements for each rank to the satisfaction of his counselor, he appeared before a Reviewing Council that was comprised of leading men (pastor, deacons, and laymen) in the church. The assignment of the Reviewing Council was to see how well the boys knew and understood, as a whole, the work that they had completed.



RA Armbands introduced in 1926 were worn by RAs to signify each part of the Royal Ambassadors ranking system completed. The original armbands constructed from felt were comprised of four parts: the armband with the RA shield (4½" x 5"), RA bar, crown, and laurel branch. Pages wore the armband with the RA felt shield outlined in gold felt. Squire ranking RAs added the felt white cross bar with the embroidered letters RA. Knights added the felt crown in the upper part of the shield. Ambassadors added the felt laurel branch to complete the RA insignia. In 1953, ranking pins replaced the original RA armbands to signify ranks completed. A new RA armband with blue letters was worn by all members that completed the rank of Page.



*Texas Royal Ambassadors - 1950*

## ROYAL AMBASSADOR ARMBANDS



1926 - 1953



1953 - 1961



RA Shield



RA Bar, Crown, Laurel



Page



Squire



Knight



Ambassador





The first RA Pennants for the Chapter room and RA members were introduced in 1926.



*All Wool Felt Pennant 15" x 36"*



*Processed Pennant 12" x 30"*

The following Royal Ambassador Yell was adopted in 1926 as the official RA Yell and continued throughout the late 20s at RA gatherings.

### ***Royal Ambassador Yell***

"Rah! Rah! Rolled!  
Blue, white and gold:  
Ambassador are we,  
Royal we will be!  
Rah! Rah! Rolled!  
To the blue, white and gold!"

The Standard of Excellence for Royal Ambassadors was printed in the manual for RAs and served as a working goal for chapters to measure their accomplishments and reporting their work. Leaders were encouraged to view these standards as the minimum requirements and assist the chapter to exceed these requirements to become an exemplary organization and achieve the rating of an A1 organization by accomplishing all eight points of the standard. Listed below is the original standard of excellence that was established in 1913.

1. At least twelve regular meetings a year, with a devotional service and definite missionary program, preferably one each month.
2. An increase in membership during the year of at least ten percent of the number enrolled at the beginning of the year.
3. An increase in gifts to missions of not less than ten percent of the preceding year's contributions to similar objects.
4. Regular reports to the state officers according to the plan outlined by the state.
5. Observance of at least one meeting of the special seasons of prayer for state, home and foreign missions.
6. At least one mission study class during the year.
7. Some definite organized personal service for the spiritual uplift of the community, conducted by the members of the chapter under its oversight.
8. An average attendance at the twelve meetings of a number equal to one-half of the membership.

In 1926, the first two RA chapters in Texas achieving the rating of A1 were reported to the state WMU office.





The Standard of Excellence underwent several modifications over the years as changes in the program were reflected within the standard. Chapters that reported achieving all eight points of the standard were recognized as A1 organizations.

# STANDARD OF EXCELLENCE CHART

## Royal Ambassador Chapter

OF WOMAN'S MISSIONARY UNION, SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION

### Meetings

12 Royal Ambassador Chapter logos

### Attendance

12 empty boxes for attendance tracking

### 10% Net Increase in Enrollment

12 empty boxes for enrollment tracking

### Gifts According to State Plan

12 envelopes and 2 money bags

### Regular Reports to State Officers

3 envelopes for reports

### Special Prayer Seasons Observed

Map of the United States and globe

### Mission Study Classes

2 open books and a cross

### Knightly Deeds

12 empty shields for deeds tracking

**DIRECTIONS for MAKING Royal Ambassadors STANDARD of EXCELLENCE CHART**

**How to Use:**  
Place this chart in the center of the room in a hall or in the study. It should be the first thing you see when you enter the room. It should be the last thing you see when you leave the room. It should be the first thing you see when you enter the room. It should be the last thing you see when you leave the room.

**How to Use:**  
In the top half of each month place the average attendance for the month. In the bottom half of the chart place the average attendance for the month. In the bottom half of the chart place the average attendance for the month.

**How to Use:**  
In the top half of each month place the average attendance for the month. In the bottom half of the chart place the average attendance for the month. In the bottom half of the chart place the average attendance for the month.

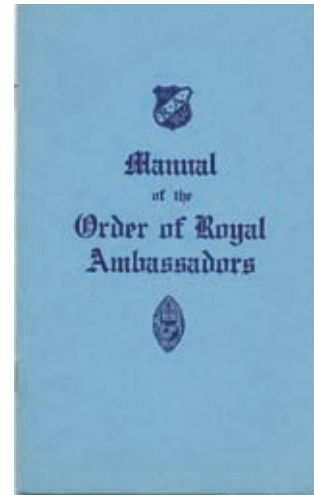
**How to Use:**  
In the top half of each month place the average attendance for the month. In the bottom half of the chart place the average attendance for the month. In the bottom half of the chart place the average attendance for the month.

Standard of Excellence Wall Chart



In 1927 the Education Committee of the Northern Baptist Convention (now American Baptist Convention), desiring a mission organization directly for boys, spent a year in the study of plans used by different bodies. This committee selected the Order of Royal Ambassadors as best suited for necessary training for boys. The Northern Baptist Convention in 1928 approved the report of the committee and employed Mr. Floyd Carr as a full-time secretary to promote the work. At times he was invited to Southern Baptist territory for leadership conferences because there was no man employed to promote the work in the Southern Baptist Convention.

The 1928 copy of the Manual of the Order of Royal Ambassadors was used by both the Junior and Intermediate Royal Ambassador chapters. This manual provided the order for the chapter meetings in addition to the requirements for Page, Squire, Knight and Ambassador. A simplified Commission and Declaration was introduced in 1928 for Junior RAs.



*Commission and Declaration for Junior RAs*

**Ambassador in Chief.** What is an ambassador?

**All.** An ambassador is one who represents the person of a king at the court of another.

**Amb. in Chief.** To whom must an ambassador render an account?

**All.** To the king from whom he receives his commission.

**Amb. in Chief.** As ambassador, whom do you represent?

**All.** “We are ambassadors for Christ” – 2 Corinthians 5:20

**Amb. in Chief.** What is the motive of your service?

**All.** “The love of Christ constraineth us” – 2 Corinthians 5:14

**Amb. in Chief.** What is the eternal message of your service?

**All.** “We pray you in Christ’s stead, be ye reconciled to God” – 2 Corinthians 5:20

Two additional lines were added in 1933 to the Commission and Declaration.

**Amb. in Chief.** What is the King’s command?

**All.** “Go ye therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I commanded you: and lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world” – Matthew 28:19-20

The simplified Commission and Declaration was adopted by both Junior and Intermediate Royal Ambassador chapters in 1933.

*1930s Patch*



*1930s Banner*



In 1929, two higher ranks, Ambassador Extraordinary and Ambassador Plenipotentiary, were added to the RA Ranking system for Intermediate RAs for boys ages thirteen and up. An Ambassadorial Sash, 4 inches wide that was half blue and half gold grosgrain, was worn over the left shoulder across the chest to the right side of the boy that completed ten projects and earned the rank of Ambassador Extraordinary. A Plenipotentiary Stripe, a white grosgrain stripe that snaps over the sash to form a white line separating the blue and gold in the sash was worn by boys that completed eight additional projects and reached the rank of Ambassador Plenipotentiary.



*Ambassadorial Sash*

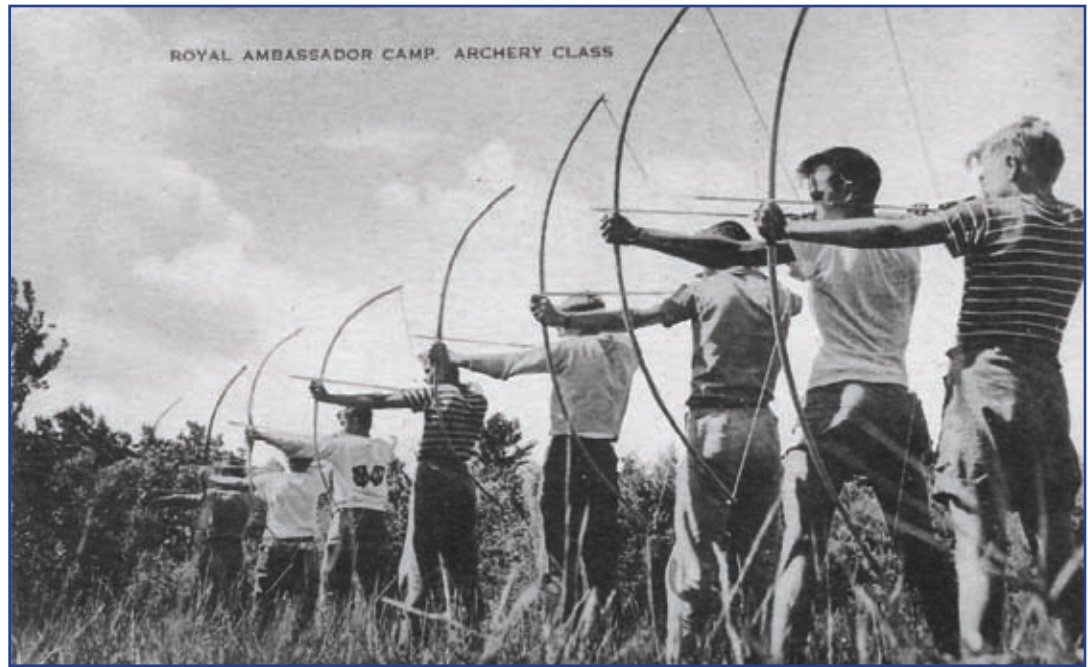


*Five Ambassador Plenipotentiary recipients from West University Baptist Church, Houston, Texas, 1956*

Although Royal Ambassadors was sponsored and promoted by the WMU, the women sought to get men involved in the RA work. They recognized the importance of male role models in working with the boys, although much of the overall planning and leadership in the local churches was carried out by the ladies.



*RA Chapter - 1940s*



*RA camp - 1930s*

Camping became a very important part of the Royal Ambassador work in Texas. District RA camps began being conducted around the state in the early 1920s. WMU reports from this period combined summer camps information with house parties attendance making it difficult to trace when RA camps began in Texas. In 1930, Rev. Obey Nelson and Rev. M.O. Cheek joined together to conduct a RA camp in central Texas at Latham Springs Baptist Encampment. Rev. Obey Nelson sold advertising space to raise money to cover all of the expenses for the RA camp except 47 cents. They purchased 100 pounds of beans and rice to feed the campers. Although they did not know much about feeding a bunch of boys, they knew that boys liked camping and that this was a great opportunity to teach them about Christ. This RA camp at Latham Springs became the state sponsored RA camp in 1931 and continued until 1940. Many of the District RA camps that began in the early 1920s are still being held annually and are now known as Associational RA camps.



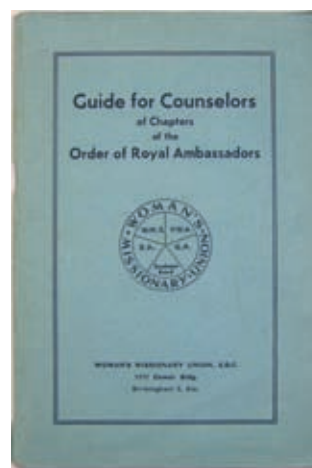
*Royal Ambassador Camper Patches*





1933 was a banner year for Royal Ambassadors. It marked the 25th anniversary for the Order of Royal Ambassadors. Part of the celebration was a national Royal Ambassador Broadcast from Station KWKH, Shreveport, LA on Friday evening, March 10th from 8:45-9:30 p.m. (C.S.T.). This radio broadcast was to conclude the Week of Prayer for Home Missions. Every boy and his dad were invited to listen to the radio that evening following a time of prayer. Chapters were encouraged to use this radio broadcast to reach un-enlisted boys and also help organize new RA groups. The Royal Ambassador Broadcast included messages from SBC denominational leaders, the President of the Baptist World Alliance and Mr. Floyd Carr, R.A. Secretary of the Northern Baptist Convention. Boys participated in the program by extending a welcome and singing “The King’s Business”. Harold Lavender, a full ranking Ambassador from Murfreesboro, AR spoke about the importance of being an Ambassador and the different steps in the ranking system. Numerous telegrams were received from Royal Ambassador chapters around the nation that listened that evening. In one location, 200 boys with their fathers and counselors, enjoyed the program while participating in a conclave hosted by Union Baptist Association in Houston, Texas.

The *Guide for Counselors of Chapters of the Order of Royal Ambassadors* was published in 1933. Mr. John Cunningham, a pastor in Selma, Alabama and state counselor for Royal Ambassadors, and Mr. O. E. McCullough, a prominent educator and RA counselor in Arkansas, served with a committee from the WMU to produce this first guide book for counselors. This book contains a catch phrase that was echoed in later publications: *“It is better to build boys than to mend men.”* These leaders emphasized the importance that missionary education has in training future church leaders in addition to creating denominational loyalty. “The purpose of Royal Ambassadors is to meet the need of missionary education of the boys in our Southern Baptist constituency to develop in the areas of missionary knowledge, prayer, stewardship, and service.”



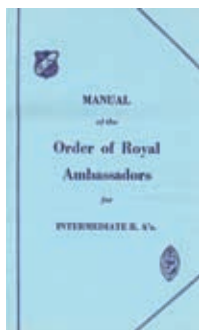
The Royal Ambassadors ranking system was revised slightly in 1933. Instead of combining methods and materials for both Junior and Intermediate chapters into one manual, two manuals for the Order of Royal Ambassadors were produced. The manual for Junior RAs contained slightly simplified requirements for Junior Royal Ambassadors. The Intermediate manual included the two higher ranks for Intermediate Royal Ambassadors.



1933



1944



1952



1954



1955



1955



The Royal Ambassador Pledge of Allegiance first appeared in the guide for counselors in 1933 and also in the junior and intermediate manuals for RAs. The RA Allegiance was recited at the beginning of chapter meetings and Royal Ambassador gatherings.

## Royal Ambassador Pledge of Allegiance

**I PLEDGE** myself to try to live worthily of the name of our order:  
to guard my lips against profanity and untruth;  
to keep my body clean and useful;  
to study the lives of noble ambassadors set forth in God's Word and in world history;  
to give what I can to support missions and by every possible deed of service to help bring in Christ's Kingdom.

**I ASSERT** my allegiance to Jesus Christ, my desire to live for Him and serve Him always.

**I WILL** "Live pure,  
Speak truth,  
Right wrong,  
Follow Christ the King  
Else wherefore born?"

The last two paragraphs, beginning with, "I assert my allegiance to Jesus Christ" was only to be repeated by boys in the chapter that professed Christ as Savior.





Also in 1933, the Royal Ambassadors insignia was described with more meaning and representation within the guide for counselors and manuals for RAs.

- The Shield which forms the background speaks of faith and means that the boy is an Ambassador for Christ. (Ephesians 6:10-17) It was to remind him that he was to live worthily of the name that he had taken upon himself by becoming a member of the Order of Royal Ambassadors. It signified the rank of Page.
- The Bar across the shield with the letters R.A. upon it means that a Royal Ambassador is a worker. It was to remind the boy that his task was to give Christ to the world and show what it means to be a Christian. It signified the rank of Squire.
- The Crown means faithful service to Christ the King and fellow men. The five points of the crown represented the five points of the Royal Ambassador Allegiance and also for the five ideals of RA work: Bible study, Mission study, Prayer, Stewardship, and Service through Knightly Deeds. It signified the rank of Knight.
- The Laurel Branch represents victory and is a symbol of the victory which must be gained through Christ and for Christ. It was to remind the boy of two promises. The first promise of God the Father that His Word, when preached to any people, would not return unto Him without results. The second promise of companionship with Christ who is with us always even unto the end of the world as we are obedient to His commands and abide with Him. It signified the rank of Ambassador.
- The colors of the insignia are royal blue, gold and white. Blue stands for Loyalty: Loyalty to Christ the King; Loyalty to his church and its program; Loyalty to the RA organization and its ideas. White stands for Purity: Purity of body; Purity of mind; Purity of soul in the worship of one God and Him alone. Gold stands for Worth: The Worth of Christ to the boy when he takes Him as his Savior, Counselor and Guide; The Worth of the boy to Christ as he finds God's place of service for him and serves in that place to the best of his ability; Worth in stewardship and in service.



The first convention wide promotion of Royal Ambassadors was RA Focus Week, in August, 1936. In 1940 the RA Focus Week was moved to the first week in November. This event has been promoted every year since. In 1960 the name was changed to "RA Week."

In 1937, an enamel pin for Royal Ambassador Extraordinary and Key Guard for Royal Ambassador Plenipotentiary were introduced. The Counselor's pin was also introduced in 1937. This pin was smaller than the RA members pin and was designed to be worn on the coat lapel. The Star Ambassador pin (not shown) was also introduced at this time to be worn by Ambassadors chosen to the rank of Star Guard by their chapters.

### RA PINS



Ambassador Extraordinary



Ambassador Plenipotentiary



Counselor Pin



A Royal Ambassador Sword and Shield were added for use in recognition ceremonies and chapter decorations. The Royal Ambassador Sword (constructed from plywood 42 inches long) was given to each boy that passed the rank of Knight. The Royal Ambassador Shield (16" x 18" made of wood and patterned on the shape of the RA insignia, painted in official colors) was given to each boy that passed the rank of Ambassador. The RA Shield first appeared in 1939 and the RA Sword appeared in the early 1940s. The RA Sword and Shield continued until 1961.



On September 1, 1943, the National WMU employed Mr. J. Ivyloy Bishop to become the first full-time Southern Baptist Royal Ambassador Secretary. Mr. Bishop had served for two years prior in Mississippi, Alabama and South Carolina promoting Royal Ambassador work within these states. Mr. Bishop served as the National RA Director until the fall of 1953. During his ten years of leadership, Mr. Bishop emphasized the importance of getting men involved in leading boys in missions education. He worked with each state WMU department in selecting men to lead the Royal Ambassador work within their state.

Mr. Bishop established the Young Men's Mission Conference that was conducted annually at Ridgecrest Conference Center in North Carolina that began in 1944 and continued until the 1960s. Intermediate age RAs were selected by each state as representatives to attend this national mission conference.

Mr. Bishop noted that many chapters viewed the ranking system that was established in 1924 as an extra and chose not to incorporate it into their chapter plans. The chapters that incorporated the ranking system into their chapter plans found that it was a method of building



*Ivyloy Bishop with full ranking Ambassadors*

a lasting foundation of mission interest in the hearts and minds of the boys. In 1944, Mr. Bishop added the ranking system as part of the Standard of Excellence for RA Chapters. Also in 1944, the requirements for membership were changed to read a boy "shall become a member upon completing the requirements for the rank of Page." Boys age 9 and up were considered a candidate for membership after they had attended three chapter meetings. Once he completed the requirements for Page to the satisfaction of the chapter and participated in an initiation service, he then became a full member of the RA group and could wear the RA pin. Prior to 1944, a boy became a member of RAs by receiving a majority vote from the members of the RA chapter.





In 1945, the Texas WMU employed Mr. W.M. Haverfield to serve as the first State RA Leader. Mr. Haverfield served in this position until the fall of 1946, resigning to allow more time for his studies at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas. In the summer of 1946, Mr. C.W. Farrar had served as the RA field worker in Missouri and was elected in the fall of 1946 to serve as the new State RA Leader for Texas and served in this position until 1947. Jimmy Allen served as the State RA Leader from 1948 until 1950. These three young men served as the State RA Leader while attending Southwestern Seminary. For years the Woman's Missionary Union had sought to get men involved in leading RA chapters with little success, but now with both state and national male RA leadership in place active efforts were made to enlist men to become more involved in leading Royal Ambassador chapters.

The first RA Flag appeared in the November, 1945 issue of *World Comrades*. Chapters were encouraged to order the new flag and new charter for RA Chapters to use during the Focus Week for the Order of Royal Ambassadors which was held the first week of November.



*RA Flag 3' x 5'*



*Ambassador Life*, a magazine designed to promote missions and interest activities for boys, was first published in June, 1946 and continued in circulation until September, 1970. *Ambassador Life* contained stories about missionaries, Royal Ambassadors groups, RA mission projects, sports, camping and other boys' interest articles.

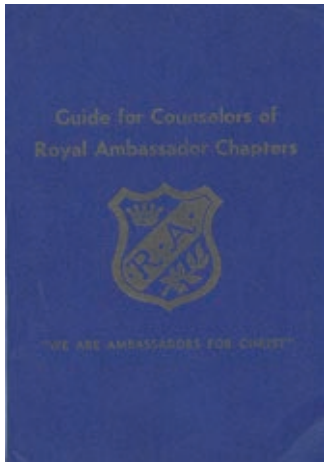
Official Royal Ambassador T-shirts became available around 1947 and could be worn by RA members that had completed the rank of Page. T-shirts were available in two styles: white shirts with block lettering and the RA logo in the center or gold shirts with script lettering and the RA logo on the left side of the shirt.



*Crafts at RA Camp*



*Snack time at RA Camp*



*Guide for Counselors of Royal Ambassador Chapters* written by Mr. Bishop was published by the WMU in 1953. This manual points out “that a boy needs a missionary organization that will open his eyes to the most thrilling adventure and the highest challenge that has ever laid claim to the boy life of any country. Royal Ambassador chapters seek to give an adventure with Christ that will lead each boy to be God’s man in God’s place seeking to carry out God’s will for his life. Royal Ambassadors is an organization to reach each boy through the study of the Bible from a missionary viewpoint, through mission study, prayer, stewardship, and service.”

The *Guide for Counselors* listed the object for Royal Ambassadors within the RA constitution: The object is to study God’s Word from a missionary viewpoint that his kingdom plans may be known; to study the lives and works of missionary heroes who as his ambassadors, have represented him in all lands, in other times as now; to endeavor by our conduct, contributions, and prayers to make Christ known to the world that many may know and be reconciled to him.

## RANKING PINS 1953-1961



Page      Squire      Knight      Ambassador      Ambassador Extraordinary      Ambassador Plenipotentiary



*RA Member Armband  
1953-1961*

On July 1, 1953, a complete set of RA Ranking pins became available to signify ranks completed by the Royal Ambassador members. The Page, Squire and Knight pins were introduced. The original RA insignia pin that was worn by RA members now represented the rank of Ambassador. The complete RA insignia Armband that originally indicated that the person had completed the rank of Ambassador was now worn by those who completed the requirements for Page and became a member of the Royal Ambassador chapter.



In 1953, ranking cards were introduced and issued to each boy and served as a membership card. The cards were folded as illustrated and kept in the boy’s pocket or billfold. One card was issued for the lower ranks of Page, Squire, and Knight. The high ranking card was issued for the ranks of Ambassador, Ambassador Extraordinary, and Ambassador Plenipotentiary. The cards listed the requirements for each rank and were signed by three members of a reviewing council.





The *Royal Ambassador Advanced Ranks Projects* manual outlined 56 projects that an Ambassador could choose from to earn the ranks of Ambassador Extraordinary and Ambassador Plenipotentiary. He completed ten projects to earn the rank of Ambassador Extraordinary and an additional eight projects to earn the rank of Ambassador Plenipotentiary.



The first National RA Congress was held in Atlanta, GA on August 18, 1953. More than 5,000 Ambassadors from twenty-two states and four foreign nations participated in the Congress. Many of the participants purchased new RA pins for ranking recognition in addition to the new RA armband. Mr. Bishop resigned as the National RA Secretary. In his speech he challenged the RAs to hold to their faith and live up to the ideas of their order. “Royal Ambassadors is not built around any person, but is built around Jesus Christ whose Ambassadors we are.”



*First National RA Congress 1953*

States were encouraged to hold district or statewide conclaves as an opportunity for two or more chapters to get together for fellowship and hear from missionary speakers. Royal Ambassadors in Texas began participating in annual district conclaves in the 1920s. Associational and District leadership continued to plan and promote RA events as an opportunity for RA groups to participate with other churches in mission education and mission action within Texas.



*First Convention Wide Royal Ambassador Congress - Atlanta, Georgia, August 1953*



The first State RA Congress in Texas was held at Hardin-Simmons University in December, 1955. The Royal Ambassadors Congress began as a state event so that RAs and their leaders could participate together with other chapters around Texas in missions awareness by hearing from missionary speakers.

The Royal Ambassadors Jacket became available in the mid 1950s. The official RA Jacket could be worn by RA members.

The second National RA Congress was held on August 12-14, 1958 in Fort Worth, Texas. There were 8,500 registered participants with 3,915 of those from Texas, although over 12,000 reportedly attended the opening meeting that was held at a rodeo in Weatherford, located 30 miles west of Fort Worth.

In Texas, state and district RA leaders held training conferences for RA leadership on church, association, and district basis that has been recorded since the mid 1940s. It was reported that in 1950 and 1951 State RA Counselor Camps were held at Latham Springs Baptist Encampment. These camps included time for RA leader training and fellowship. From 1951 until 1960, more than 4,100 people were trained as RA leaders.



*Royal Ambassadors Jacket*



*Second National Congress  
Winners of the Tent Pitching Contest*



*Second National Congress  
Missionary Table*





Robert (Bob) Chapman became the Texas RA Secretary in 1953, jointly employed by the WMU and Brotherhood Department. Bob Chapman moved his office from the WMU department to the Brotherhood Department in 1954. Bob served as the State RA Director until 1966. During these years he established the Royal Ambassadors Congress, participated in many leadership training conferences, attended summer RA Camps and Regional Rallies, and organized the state baseball and basketball tournaments.

Royal Ambassadors began experiencing rapid growth and expansion of the organization during the 40s and 50s. Several factors are listed below that helped influence the growth in the RA program in Texas:

- State and National RA leadership working together in promoting RAs, in addition to enlisting and training men to work with Royal Ambassadors.
- In 1954 the Southern Baptist Convention voted to transfer the sponsorship of Royal Ambassadors from WMU to the Brotherhood Commission over a three year period.
- The population explosion known as the “Baby Boom” that began in 1945 and tapered off in 1961 accounted for the large number of boys during this period.
- Denominational loyalty to Southern Baptist publications and programs.

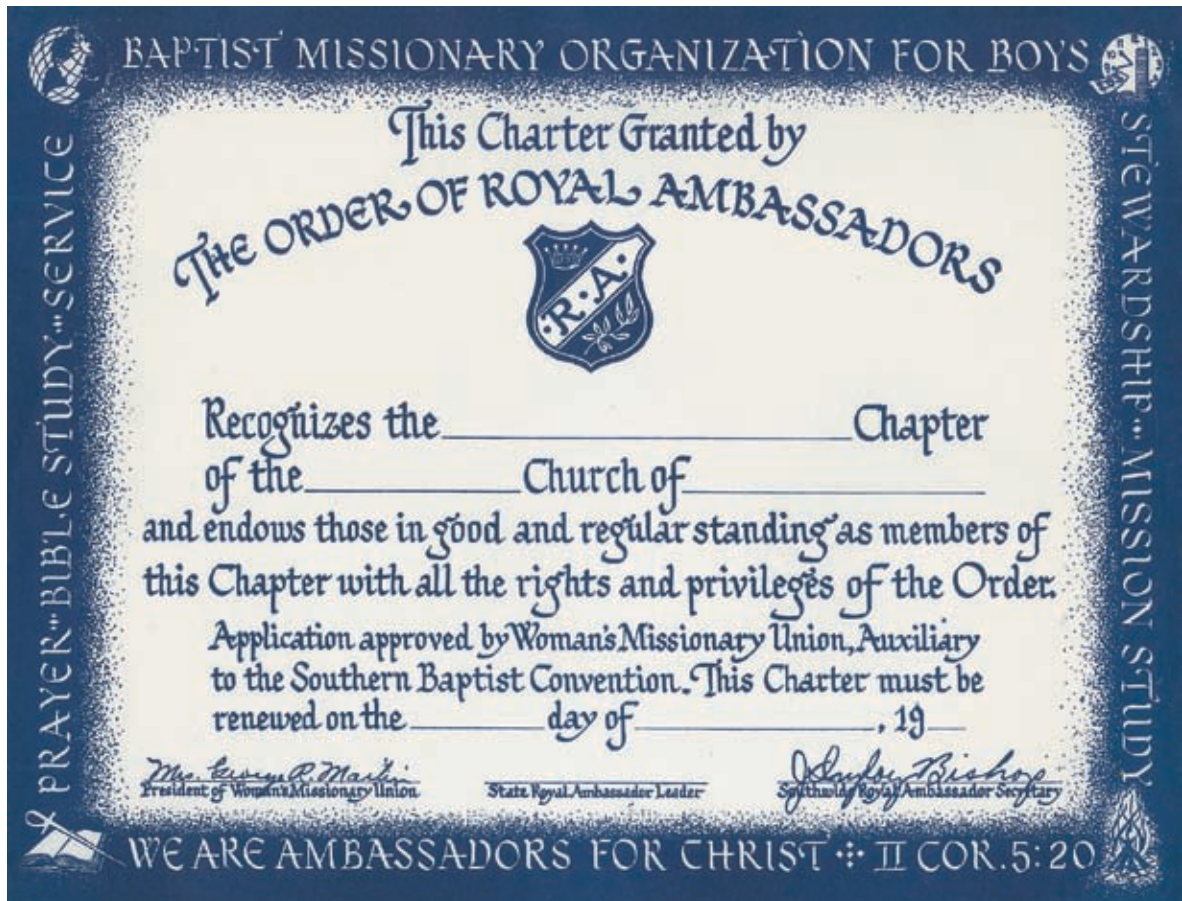


*RAs at South Main Baptist, Houston 1953*

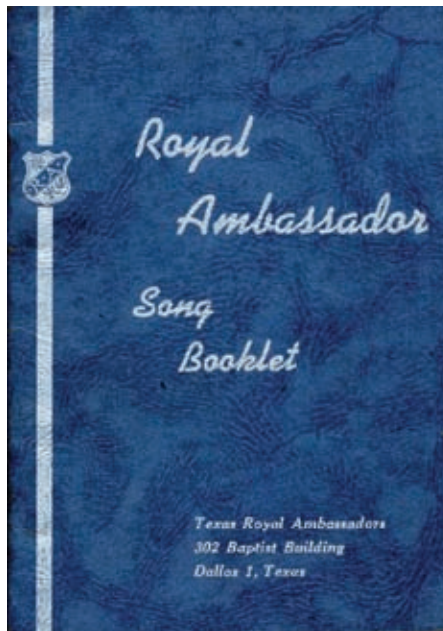
The first *Royal Ambassador Planbook* was published by the Brotherhood Commission in 1955. The planbook for counselors included forms to record information on officers elected, budget sheets, prospect list, monthly roll call, monthly planning sheets, ranking sheets, guidance information sheets for each RA member, the Standard of Excellence chart, chapter minutes sheets, monthly and quarterly report forms, and a Royal Ambassador calendar of activities. Prior to this date, each registered chapter received a report book annually from the state WMU office.



*WMU and Brotherhood Commission Joint Committee in Memphis - 1955*



1943 Royal Ambassadors Chapter Certificate







# Order of Royal Ambassadors 1957-1961



*Edward Hurt pointing at RA Shield*

The Brotherhood Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention assumed sponsorship of Royal Ambassadors in 1957 under the leadership of Edward Hurt, Jr. Mr. Hurt's background as a coach and teacher was a tremendous factor in the success of his leadership in RAs. He served as the National RA leader from 1955 until 1968.

In 1957, the State Brotherhood President, W. A. Stephenson accepted for the Brotherhood Department of the Baptist General Convention of Texas the responsibility of Royal Ambassadors from the Texas WMU.

The Brotherhood Commission introduced a new RA insignia, flag, and pins.



## RA PINS 1957-1961



Member



Counselor

The RA insignia consisted of the Ambassador shield encircled by the name of the organization and the irregular outline of the Brotherhood insignia, showing the relationship that RAs is part of the Brotherhood organization. The meaning of the RA insignia was revised as follows:

- The Shield at the center of the emblem speaks of faith and that the boy is an Ambassador for Christ. It was to remind a Page that he was a member of the Order of Royal Ambassadors. He was to try to live worthy of the name and purpose of the organization that he has chosen to join.
- The Bar across the shield with the letters R.A. upon it means that a Royal Ambassador is a worker. It was to remind a Squire that their task was to give Christ to the world and what it means to be a Christian each day.
- The Crown means faithful service to Christ the King and fellow men. It signified the rank of Knight. The five points of the crown represented the five points of the Royal Ambassador Allegiance and also for the five ideals of RA work; that are, Bible study, Mission study, Prayer, Stewardship, and Service through Knightly Deeds.
- The Laurel Branch represented victory through Christ and for Christ. It signified the rank of Ambassador and completed the shield. The Bible says that God's Word will not return without results, and that Christ will be with his followers even to the end of the world.
- The colors of the insignia are royal blue, gold and white. Blue stands for loyalty: loyalty to Christ our King, loyalty to his church and its program, loyalty to the RA organization and its ideals. White stands for purity: purity of body, mind, and soul. Gold stands for worth: the worth of Christ to the boy when he takes him as his ideal, accepts him as his Savior and builds his life around that great example.





The Royal Ambassador Pledge of Allegiance was reprinted with the new Order of Royal Ambassadors insignia.

**Royal Ambassador  
Pledge of Allegiance**

**I PLEDGE** myself to try to live worthily of the name of our order:  
to guard my lips against profanity and untruth;  
to keep my body clean and useful;  
to study the lives of noble ambassadors set forth in God's word and in world history;  
to give what I can to support world missions and by every possible deed of service to help bring in Christ's Kingdom.

**I ASSERT** my allegiance to Jesus Christ, my desire to live for Him and serve Him always.

**I WILL** "Live pure, Speak truth, Right wrong, follow Christ the King, Else wherefore born?"

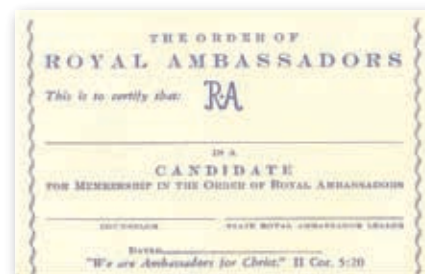
The last two paragraphs, beginning with, "I assert my allegiance to Jesus Christ" was only to be repeated by boys in the chapter that professed Christ as Savior.



The content of the leadership and boys' manuals remained similar to WMU publications. RAs continued using the same organizational leadership structure in addition to the advancement plan and awards established by the WMU.

Any boy between ages nine and thirteen (Junior RAs) or thirteen and up (Intermediate RAs) could become a candidate for membership of the chapter upon recommendation of the recruiting embassy and a majority vote of the chapter membership. The boy became a member when he completed the requirements for the rank of Page. He maintained his membership on good behavior, regular attendance and participation in the work of the chapter. He earned other ranks when he fulfilled their requirements.

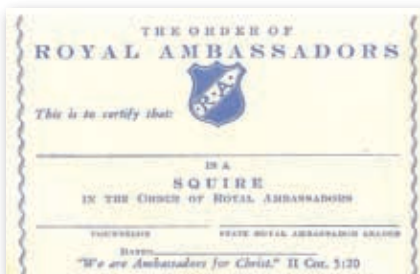
In 1957, new ranking cards were issued to the boys by the counselor as they progressed through each rank: Candidate, Page, Squire, Knight, Ambassador, Ambassador Extraordinary, and Ambassador Plenipotentiary. These seven cards served as membership cards and included a check list on the back of each card that outlined the requirements to be completed to achieve the next rank. The cards also included a section to record the names of the men that participated on the Reviewing Council that examined each boy. These cards could be folded as illustrated to be carried in the boy's billfold.



Candidate Ranking Card



Page Ranking Card



Squire Ranking Card



Knight Ranking Card



Ambassador Ranking Card



Ambassador Extraordinary Ranking Card

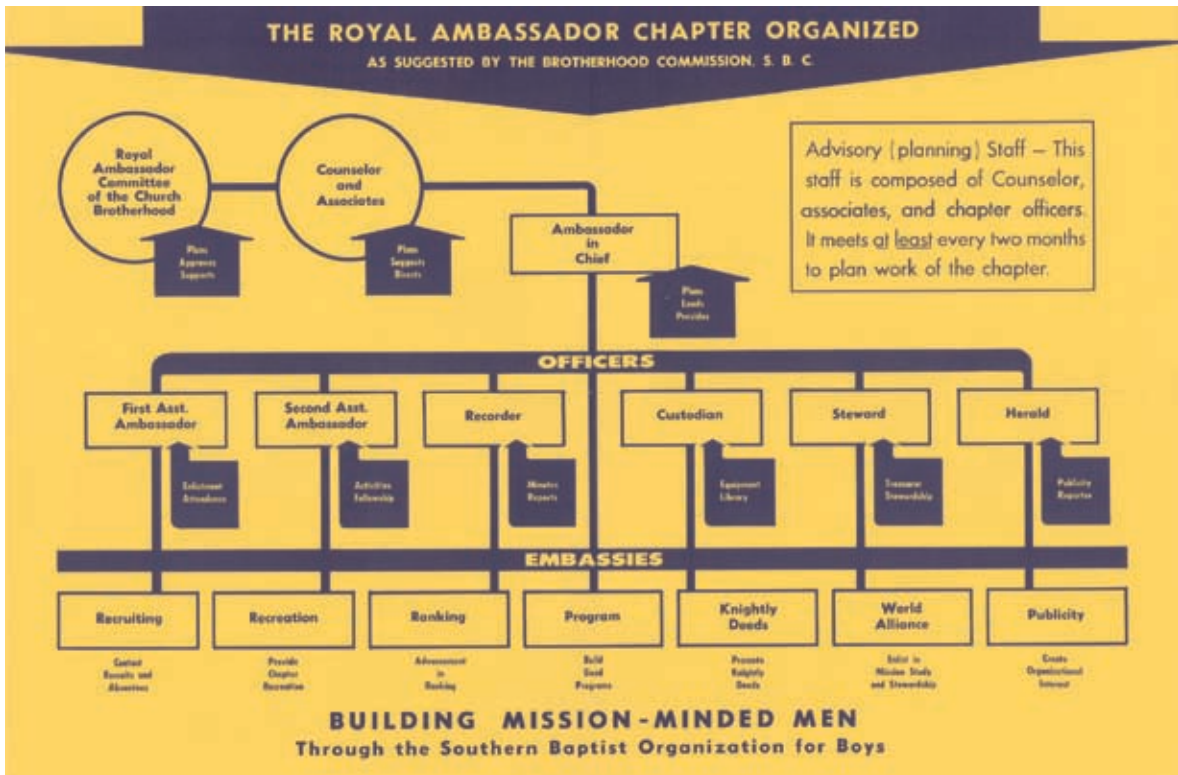


Ambassador Plenipotentiary Ranking Card





Chapter officers were elected annually (or semi-annually) to allow boys to develop leadership skills. Elections were scheduled one month prior to officers taking office to allow the boys to learn their responsibilities. No officer was allowed to succeed himself more than once to allow for new leadership. Work usually entrusted to committees by organizations was done in RA Chapters by embassies. Embassy leaders or chairmen were called chief envoy of their embassies. RA Counselors were encouraged to spend time in helping the elected officers and envoys understand their responsibilities and the best way to accomplish their assigned task. The organizational chart below outlines each of the RA officers and their primary responsibilities.




The second *Royal Ambassador Planbook* that was published by the Brotherhood Commission was released in 1957. The planbook included forms to record semi-annual chapter roll, information on officers elected, budget sheets, prospect list, monthly planning sheets, ranking sheets, guidance information on each RA member, the Guide for Achievement, meeting minutes sheets, monthly and quarterly report forms, and a Royal Ambassador calendar of activities.





In 1957 the Guide for Achievement replaced the original Standard of Excellence. The purpose of the guide was to establish a well-rounded mission program and improve the quality of work done by the chapter. Chapters that registered with the state office received a large Guide for Achievement poster. Chapters that reported exceeding the minimum standards of the guide received a Certificate of Recognition and were recognized as an Approved Chapter.

 <h1 style="text-align: center;">ROYAL AMBASSADOR</h1> <h2 style="text-align: center;">GUIDE FOR ACHIEVEMENT</h2> <h3 style="text-align: center;">FOR AN APPROVED CHAPTER</h3>	
I	<p><b>MISSIONARY EMPHASIS</b></p> <p>A monthly missionary program and stewardship emphasis, using basic materials provided in <i>Ambassador Life</i>. Include the regular Periods of Prayer and Offerings for Foreign, Home and State Missions according to church plan.</p> <p>*Complete a mission study book listed in <i>The World in Books</i>.</p>
II	<p><b>LEADERSHIP</b></p> <p>A minimum of one meeting of the Royal Ambassador committee of the sponsoring organization.</p> <p>An adult counselor recommended by the sponsoring organization and elected by the church.</p> <p>The counselor studying, or having studied, the <i>Guide for Counselors of Royal Ambassador Chapters</i> and <i>Junior or Intermediate Manual</i>.</p>
III	<p><b>RANKING</b></p> <p>A minimum of three ranking meetings.</p> <p>*A minimum of twenty-five per cent of beginning enrollment advancing at least one rank during the year.</p>
IV	<p><b>MEMBERSHIP</b></p> <p>An average attendance of at least fifty per cent of the beginning enrollment at regular chapter meetings.</p> <p>Fifty per cent or more of beginning enrollment receiving <i>Ambassador Life</i>.</p>
V	<p><b>KNIGHTLY DEEDS</b></p> <p>Chapter Knightly Deeds performed three times under the direction of the counselor and Knightly Deeds Embassy.</p>
VI	<p><b>STEWARDSHIP</b></p> <p>At least fifty per cent of the Baptist boys enrolled giving regularly to the Cooperative Program through the church—or</p> <p>At least twenty-five per cent of beginning enrollment enlisted as tithers.</p>
VII	<p><b>REPORTS</b></p> <p>*Chapter registered in the state office.</p> <p>Reports forwarded to the state Royal Ambassador leader as requested.</p>
VIII	<p><b>RECREATION</b></p> <p>Participate in at least one planned out-of-door activity (camping, hiking, athletics, etc.), or in at least one handicraft project.</p>



The first embroidered Royal Ambassador patches became available in 1960. The Royal Ambassador patch on the left was available from the Baptist Book Store (now called LifeWay) and was to be worn on the left sleeve. This patch was also sewed on the Royal Ambassador Baseball Cap. The Order of Royal Ambassador patch was produced by the Brotherhood Commission.



*Royal Ambassador Patches  
1960 - 1961*



Camping has always been a very popular interest activity with Royal Ambassadors. The first *Royal Ambassador Campcraft* manual, written by Frank Black, was published in 1960. The first RA Campcraft patches were done in the RA colors (blue, gold, and white). The campcraft manual (\$1.00 each) and patches were only available from the Brotherhood Commission. The first convention wide campcraft course was held at Camp Kittiwake in Mississippi. All state Brotherhood and Royal Ambassador Directors, Commission staff and other key leaders who attended the training course were qualified as American Camping Association Campcrafters. The Brotherhood Commission chose to use this already established ACA adult campcraft training certification for RA leaders.



*Campcraft Patches - 1960*



*Frank Black*





Royal Ambassador clothing, with the new RA insignia, became available for chapter members and leaders in 1957. RA T-shirts constructed from 100% cotton were available in either white or gold color with the words “Royal Ambassadors” on the front with the RA emblem in the official RA colors. The RA Sweat Shirt (not shown) was available in either white or navy blue with the RA emblem imprinted on the shirt. The RA Polo Shirt was a white cotton mesh Ivy League style shirt with the RA emblem imprinted on the shirt. The RA Jacket was available in a navy blue water-repellant nylon, imprinted with the RA emblem in gold on the left breast. The RA Baseball Cap was a blue twill cap with a RA emblem sewn on the front.



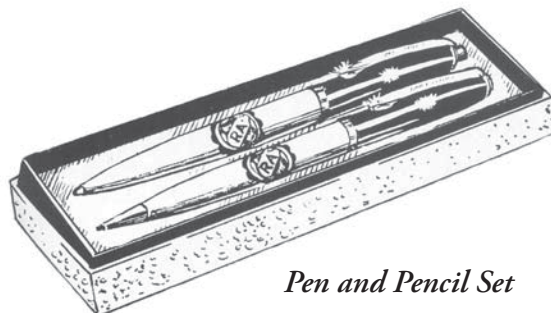
Royal Ambassador Cuff Links, Tie Bar and a Pen and Pencil set with the Order of Royal Ambassadors insignia were introduced in *Ambassador Leader* in 1959 as products for Royal Ambassador Counselors. The first RA Bolo Tie (not shown) for Counselors with the Order of Royal Ambassadors insignia slide was introduced in 1960.



*Cuff Links*



*Tie Bar*



*Pen and Pencil Set*





Embajadora del Ray (Embaixadores do Rei in Brazil) began in 1947 and experienced rapid expansion to Latin American countries during this time period. Many members of Embajadora del Ray still associate with the scalloped Order of Royal Ambassadors insignia.

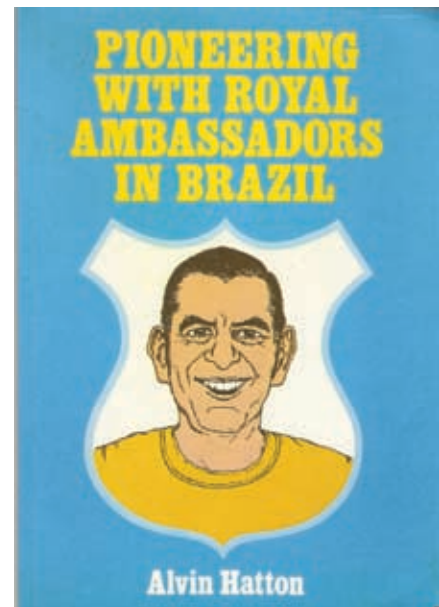


*ER Pin*



Alvin Hatton was one of the pioneers of the ER organization. In his autobiography, Alvin shared his experience of growing up in Abilene, TX, and being one of several boys invited by Mrs. White to her home for a series of meetings to learn about Royal Ambassadors. The purpose of these meetings was to train officers for a new RA chapter. In 1931, Alvin, a timid 10 year old boy, was honored to be chosen to serve as Ambassador-in-Chief. During his years of service as a member of the RA chapter, he learned how to be an Ambassador for Christ and personally led several boys to Christ. In 1939, at age eighteen, he served as a Counselor for the RA chapter and responded to God's call in his life to go where He directed.

In 1945, while attending Southwestern Seminary, he meet Mr. J. Ivyloy Bishop who was interviewing for RA summer interns. Alvin served that summer as the RA Field Worker for Arkansas. He returned and served as the RA Secretary in Arkansas from 1946-1947. In 1947, Mr. Bishop had just returned from a long trip in South America and knew of Alvin's interest in Brazil. Ivyloy shared, "Alvin, there surely is no mission field in the world larger or riper than Brazil. And boys . . . there are millions! Brazilian Baptist need the Royal Ambassador program, and some of the missionaries and pastors showed a lot of interest in doing something about it." Alvin responded to this invitation and spent the next 32 years of service in Brazil beginning and supporting Embaixadores do Rei chapters. He also helped to begin Embajadora del Ray chapters in Cuba.





# Royal Ambassadors 1961-1987

October 1961, the Brotherhood Commission introduced newly revised program materials for Royal Ambassadors. The new manuals emphasized providing experiences in group participation, individual advancement, relationships with others, and service projects.

The name of the organization officially changed from “Order of Royal Ambassadors” to simply “Royal Ambassadors” with a new RA insignia, flag, patch, pins, and RA Pledge.



## RA PINS 1961-1987



Member



Counselor

## Royal Ambassadors 1961-1970

Royal Ambassadors were divided into the following three age divisions (chapters): Crusaders (ages 9-11), Pioneers (ages 12-14), and Ambassadors (ages 15-17). The Royal Ambassadors insignia illustrated the three divisions within the RA organization.

At the center of the Royal Ambassadors insignia is a Shield that represents faith in Christ. The Crown identifies the Crusader program. The crown represents Christ the King, and the five points of the crown represents the five parts of the RA Pledge. The Wagon Wheel identifies the Pioneer program. The eight spokes of the wheel represents the virtues of the Pioneer Code found in 2 Peter 1:5-7. The Torch identifies the Ambassador program and the lighted torch represents the light of the world, Jesus Christ. The Laurel Branch represents victory in Christ. The colors of the RA emblem are blue, gold and white. Blue stands for loyalty to Christ, to the church, and to the RA organization. Gold stands for the worth of Christ to each RA who accepts him as Savior and Lord and the worth of each boy who seeks God’s will and serves in the place God has chosen for him. White stands for purity of body, mind, and soul, as each boy tries to pattern his life after Christ.



RA Patch 1961-1970

Each boy received the RA Pin and/or RA Patch when they became a member of Royal Ambassadors. RA Chevrons designated age level group and leadership responsibility. These chevrons were worn under the Royal Ambassador Patch.



RA Chevrons 1961-1970

Royal Ambassador Officers were elected and served as leaders within the Crusader, Pioneer, and Ambassador chapters. The three RA Officers were: President, Vice-President, and Secretary.





The Royal Ambassador Pledge written by Frank Black in 1961 replaced the RA Allegiance. The RA Pledge served as a focal point for Royal Ambassadors. RA members recited this pledge at each chapter meeting and were encouraged to live out the principles contained within the pledge.

# the Royal Ambassador PLEDGE

*As a Royal Ambassador I will do my best:*

*to become a well-informed,  
responsible follower of Christ;*

*to have a Christlike concern for  
all people;*

*to learn how the message of Christ  
is carried around the world;*

*to work with others in sharing  
Christ; and*

*to keep myself clean and  
healthy in mind and body.*







## Crusaders

The Crusader Motto: “Serve Others in Christ’s Name.” Boys, ages 9 through 11, were eligible to join Royal Ambassadors when they completed the following membership requirements:

- Attend three out of four regular chapter meetings.
- Learn, recite and explain the RA Motto, “We Are Ambassadors for Christ.”
- Learn, recite and explain the Royal Ambassador Pledge.
- Read John 6:1-15. Read these verses to your parents and talk about what they mean.
- Learn and recite the Crusader Motto, “Serve Others in Christ’s Name.”
- Describe and explain the meaning of the Crusader shield.

Each boy was to have his parents initial that they had completed each of these requirements. Then the members of the Crusader chapter welcomed each boy by:

- Accepting them as a member by a majority vote of the chapter members.
- Officially welcoming them into the chapter by participating in a Welcoming Ceremony planned by the chapter members.



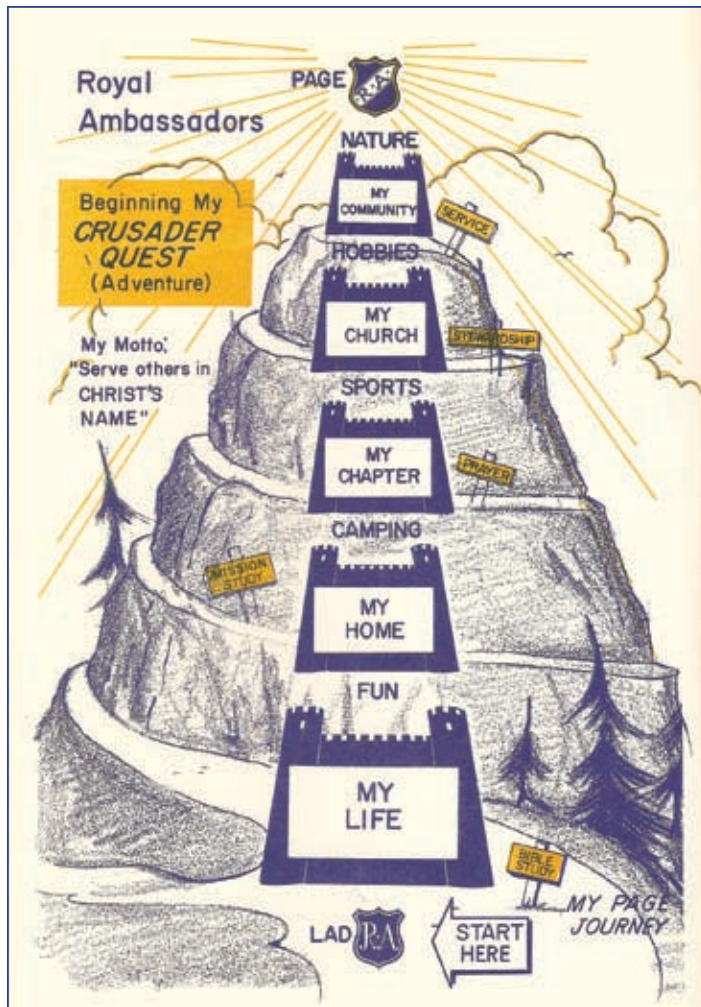
*Lad Shield*

Each boy that completed the membership requirements and participated in the welcoming ceremony received the Lad shield, membership card and the Royal Ambassador pin and/or patch. Then they could begin the Crusader Quest.



The Crusaders advancement known as the Crusader Quest (Adventure) used three advancement manuals: *Page* (age 9), *Squire* (age 10) and *Knight* (age 11). A boy could begin earning their age level shield or choose to earn the advancement pins in sequence. Crusader leaders used the *Crusader Counselor’s Guide*.





The Crusader Quest was built upon the following mission fields: My Life, My Home, My Chapter, My Church, My Community (Page), My State (Squire), My Nation (Knight), and My World (Knight). Once a boy earned his advancement pin, he could earn elective awards known as “Bars and Stars” by completing additional projects.

## CRUSADER PINS 1961-1970



Lad



Page



Squire



Knight



Elective Bars



Elective Stars

The meaning of the Crusader shield is symbolized in the Crusader pins. Each pin is in the shape of a shield that represents faith in Christ and signifies that the life and teachings of Christ guide Crusaders in their daily lives. The white bar across the shield of the Page pin represents service to others in Christ’s name. The crown on the Squire shield represents Christ the King, and the five points of the crown represents the five parts of the RA Pledge. The laurel branch on the Knight shield represents victory as Crusaders worked to achieve the points of the RA Pledge. The Royal Ambassador colors are blue, gold, and white. Blue stands for loyalty to Christ, to the church, and to the Crusader chapter. Gold stands for the worth of Christ to each Crusader who accepts him as Savior and Lord and the worth of each Crusader who seeks God’s will and serves in the place God has chosen for him. White stands for purity of body, mind, and soul, as each Crusader tries to pattern his life after Christ.



## Pioneers

The Pioneer Motto: “Go Forward in Christ’s Name.” A boy was eligible to join a Pioneer chapter when he reached 12 years of age and continue to participate in the program until age 15. He became a member by completing the following requirements:

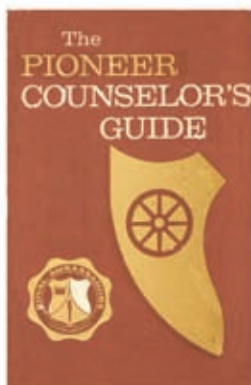
- Learn and explain the Royal Ambassador Pledge.
- Learn and explain the Pioneer Motto.
- Learn the eight parts of the Pioneer Code (2 Peter 1:5-7).
- Learn and explain the Pathfinder verse (Psalm 27:1) and the meaning of the Pathfinder badge.
- Be accepted by the members of the Pioneer chapter by participating in a Pioneer Initiation Service planned and conducted by the chapter.



Each boy received the Pioneer membership card and the Royal Ambassador pin and/or RA patch during the initiation service.

Pioneers used one advancement manual entitled *The Pioneer Manual*. The Pioneer advancement plan known as the Pioneer Trail included four stations: Pathfinder, Trailblazer, Ranger, and Guide. These stations were earned in sequence. At each of these stations a Pioneer had to complete the

following four requirements: Pioneer Check-Up, Pioneering in God’s Word, Pioneering in Missions, and Pioneering with Your Chapter. Pioneer leaders used the *Pioneer Counselor’s Guide*.



The Pioneer Code (a system of principles or rules) outlined in 2 Peter 1:5-7 (faith, virtue, knowledge, self-control, steadfastness, godliness, brotherly-kindness, love) served as a statement of general guideline to help a young man fulfill the Pioneer Motto: “Go Forward in Christ’s Name.”

## PIONEER BADGES 1961-1970



Pathfinder



Trailblazer



Ranger



Guide

The Pioneer badge is a shield enclosed by a gold circle. The shield stands for faith in Christ and signifies that the life and teachings of Christ guide Pioneers in their daily lives. The circle represents God’s unending guidance available to Pioneers. The colors on the badge are blue, gold, and white. Blue stands for a Pioneer’s loyalty to Christ, to his church, and to his Pioneer chapter. Gold stands for the worth of each Pioneer who accepts Christ as Savior and Lord. It indicates the worth of each Pioneer who seeks God’s will and serves in the place God has for him. White stands for purity of body, mind, and soul as each Pioneer tries to pattern his life after Christ.





## Ambassadors

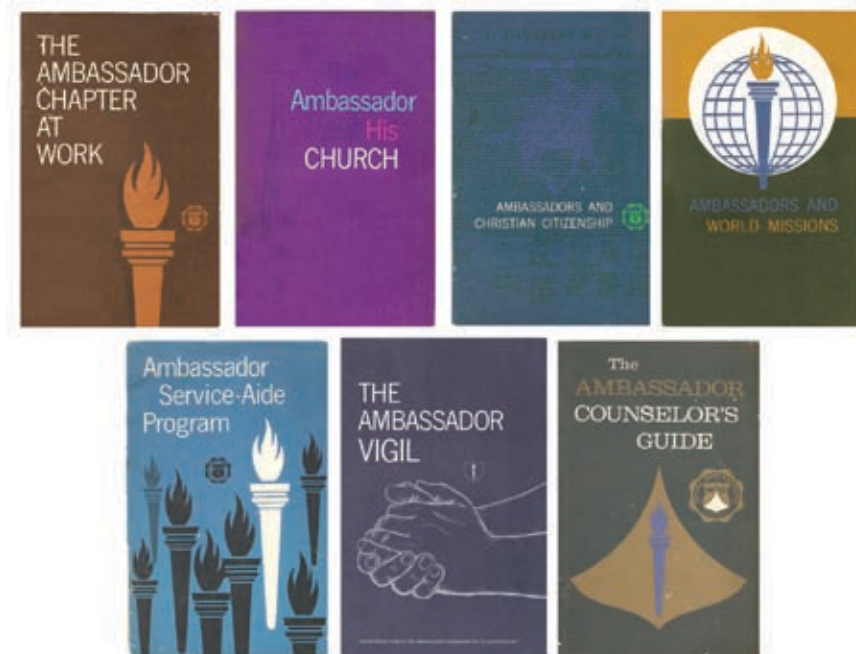
The Ambassador Motto: “Share the Light of the World.” A young man had to complete the following requirements to become a member of an Ambassador chapter:

- Be at least 15 and not more than 17 years of age.
- Know and willingly subscribe to the Royal Ambassador Pledge and Motto.
- Know and willing subscribe to the Ambassador Motto.
- Explain the significance of the Ambassador shield.
- Attend at least two chapter functions, including at least one regular chapter meeting.



When a young man completed the above requirements, the members of the Ambassador chapter voted to admit him as a new member. Young men that receive an affirmative vote participated in the Ambassador Vigil and an Ambassador Signature Service. The Ambassador Vigil was a time alone with God participating in a spiritual inventory. The Ambassador Signature Service was the welcoming ceremony for Ambassadors. Each young man received the Ambassador membership card and the Ambassador pin and/or patch during the signature service.

The *Ambassador Counselor's Guide* was used by Ambassador leaders. Ambassadors used four booklets to become aware of their mission fields: *The Ambassador Chapter at Work*, *The Ambassador and His Church*, *Ambassadors and Christian Citizenship*, and *Ambassadors and World Missions*. Through the *Ambassador Service-Aide Program*, a young man could earn a Service Aide award by completing 150 hours of study and service in several ministry opportunities.





## AMBASSADOR AWARDS 1961-1970



Ambassador Patch



Ambassador Pin

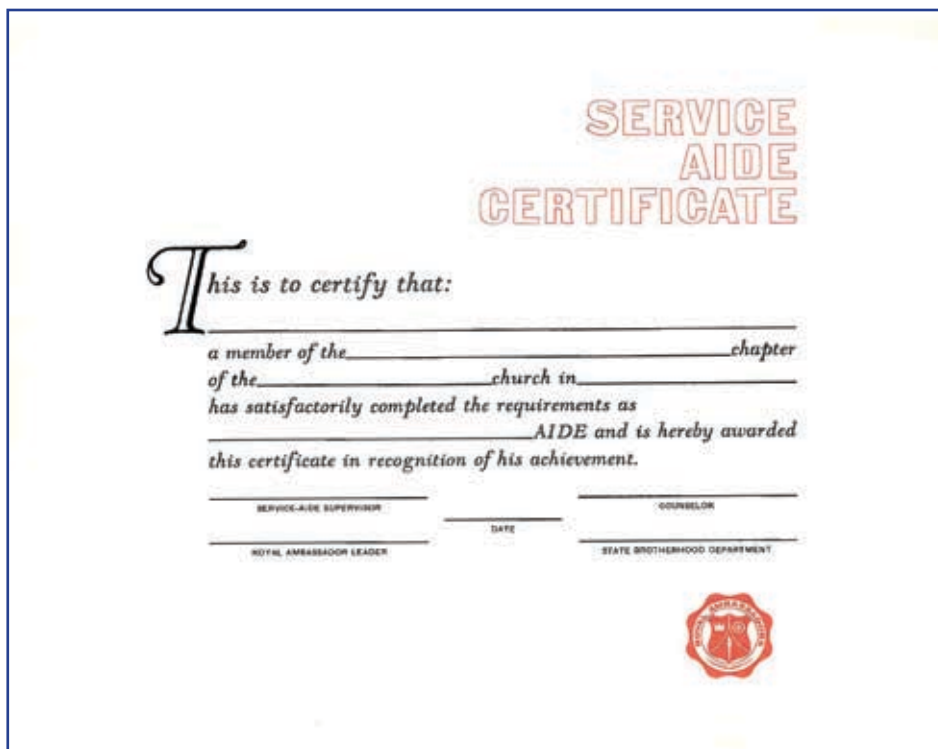


Service Aide Award

Ambassador Star Tabs (not shown) were worn under the Ambassador Pin and indicated the number of years that a young man was active in the Ambassador program.

The Ambassador shield is comprised of a lighted torch of gold on a background of blue. The shield stands for faith in Christ and signifies that the life and teachings of Christ guide Ambassadors in their daily lives. The lighted torch represents the light of the world, Jesus Christ.

The Service-Aide Award was a gold wreath that attached to the Ambassador Pin. This was the highest achievement that a young man could earn as an Ambassador. Ambassadors that completed 150 hours of service and study under the supervision of a service-aide advisor earned a Service-Aide award and received a Service Aide Certificate.



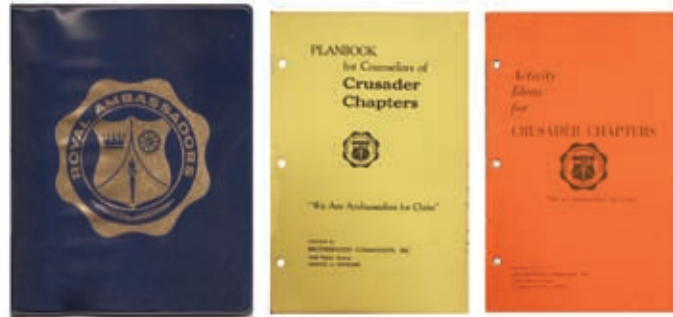
Young men could earn one or more Service-Aide awards in each of the following suggested ministry areas: Pastor's Aide, Educational Aide, Music Aide, Royal Ambassador Program Aide, Church Office Aide, Church Library Aide, Camp Counselor's Aide, and Camp Conservation Aide.



## Royal Ambassador Resources

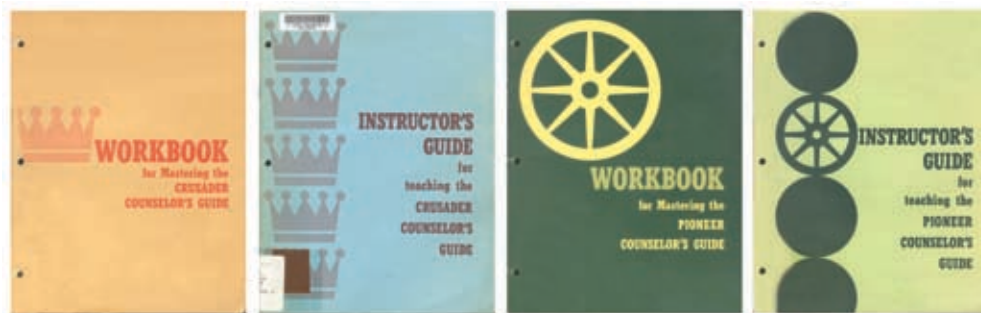
*Ambassador Leader*, a magazine for RA leaders, began in the spring of 1959 and continued in circulation until the fall of 1970. This magazine provided helpful suggestions for leaders.

The *Planbook for Counselors* provided forms, guidance sheets, ranking record sheets and other valuable materials for leaders. The *Activity Ideas for Chapters* provided suggestions for mission projects and games. Both of these undated resources fit into a 7"x9" three ring binder.



*1961 Leadership Materials*

Leadership Training Conferences provided an opportunity for new and experienced leaders to get together and exchange ideas. Each year hundreds of leaders attended training conferences that were hosted by regional leadership within each state. Workbooks and instructor's guides provided structure and curriculum in learning the basics of working with Royal Ambassadors.



Small advancement booklets (3" x 4") were introduced in 1961 to serve as a method of record keeping for the advancement awards. Boys initialed and dated each advancement requirement and counselors signed and dated each section when the boy completed the requirements. Advancement booklets were replaced by advancement record charts that were displayed on a wall of the chapter room.



*Advancement Booklets*





In 1961, a new Standard of Achievement was introduced, replacing the Guide for Achievement. Listed below are the twenty goals of the Standard of Achievement:

1. The chapter has elected officers on an annual or semi-annual basis.
2. Every member of the chapter has been given an opportunity to participate in each meeting and serve on committees.
3. The chapter has a counselor approved by the Brotherhood and elected by the church.
4. Meetings of the chapter are held weekly.
5. The counselor of the chapter participates in regularly scheduled training sessions.
6. Training sessions for officers are held at least annually.
7. The counselor spends some time with officers preceding each meeting to plan and check on plans.
8. Membership in the chapter is open to new boys and young men.
9. The members of the chapter are formally welcomed into the chapter at a well-planned ceremony.
10. Each member is properly recognized for his advancement in the Crusader Quest, Pioneer Trail or Ambassador Service.
11. The chapter continually attempts to maintain a membership of not less than eight or more than 12 active members. It uses a specific plan to visit absentees and enlist new members.
12. The regular meetings of the chapter include all the elements of a chapter meeting, that is: Before the Meeting activity, Opening, Business, Meeting Feature, Counselor's Time, Closing, After the Meeting (clean up and evaluation).
13. Periodic chapter planning meetings are held in the homes of members at least three times a year.
14. The chapter members plan and participate in at least one service project each month.
15. Graded mission study is conducted during the months of November and February.
16. A plan has been developed for properly recognizing members who advance to older chapters.
17. A plan has been developed for inviting boy members of younger mission organizations when they become old enough to attend the chapter.
18. The counselor uses the evaluation form in the counselor's book to check the effectiveness of his chapter.
19. The counselor meets at least once a month with the Royal Ambassador Leader and committee to discuss the progress of his chapter.
20. The chapter members plan and participate in at least six outdoor events annually such as hiking, camping, games and sports, and mission visits.

Leaders were encouraged to evaluate their programs based on the standard established and set goals to meet and exceed these goals. Chapters that achieved the 20 goals established over a twelve month period of time received a large gold seal to attach to the left hand corner of their Registration Certificate.

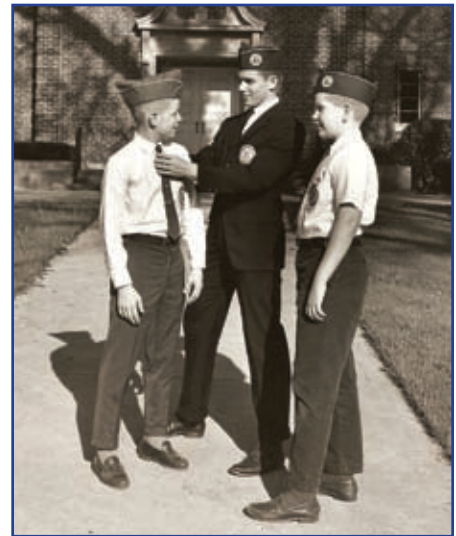


*Missionary Education for Baptist Boys through Royal Ambassadors*, written by Edward Hurt and published in 1967 served as a guide for Royal Ambassador leaders. This book states that: “The objective of Royal Ambassadors is to support the church in its task of bringing boys to God through Christ by leading them to a deeper commitment to missions, a more meaningful prayer life for missions, a larger stewardship on behalf of missions, and a personal involvement in missions. Royal Ambassadors seeks to reach this objective by providing boys opportunities for missionary education and missions involvement through experiences based upon their spiritual, social, intellectual, and physical needs.”

## Royal Ambassador Uniforms

In October 1962, a Royal Ambassador uniform was introduced. The uniform consisted of a white dress shirt, dark blue trouser, an “overseas” type cap, the appropriate blue neck tie, and RA belt. Ambassadors could also wear a dark blue sports coat. The RA emblem, shields, and other identifying items were worn as illustrated.

The Crusader neck tie was imprinted with a crown emblem, the Pioneer tie with a wheel emblem, and the Ambassador tie with a torch emblem. Other uniform accessories included a tie clip, cuff links, bolo tie and slide.



*RA Uniforms 1962 - 1970*



RA Bolo Ties were available to be worn by Royal Ambassadors leaders from 1960 until 1975. Illustrated below are the RA Bolo tie slides that were available during these years.

## RA BOLO TIE SLIDES



1960 - 1961



1962 - 1967



1967 - 1974



1975



Royal Ambassador clothing with the new RA emblem, introduced in 1962, was worn during casual and recreational activities.

*Royal Ambassador Clothing*



*Royal Ambassador Clothing*



*Royal Ambassador  
Recognition  
Service*

Royal Ambassador Recognition Services were held during a worship services as a formal way for the church to recognize the accomplishments of each Royal Ambassador member. Recognition services were conducted annually (or semi-annually) by churches.





## Campcraft

The *Royal Ambassador Campcraft* manual, written by Frank Black in 1960 was updated with the 1961 RA insignia. The Campcraft program for RAs had four progressive campcraft levels: Hiker, Camper, Woodsman and Adventurer. The original campcraft patches were modified in 1961 with colored patches. The campcraft manual and patches were available from the Baptist Book Store (LifeWay).



*Campcraft Patches 1961 - 1972*

The Royal Ambassador Campcraft program was designed to provide an interest activity for boys to learn basic outdoor living skills in the following areas: Trip Planning; Firecraft; Toolcraft; Cooking; First-Aid, Safety, and Sanitation; Ropecraft; Equipment and Shelter; Nature and Conservation; Compass and Map. The campcraft program also allowed opportunities for leaders to share God's Word with the boys in the splendor of God's creation.

Over the years many missionaries have expressed thanks to their former RA leaders for teaching them basic and advanced campcraft skills that they used in primitive mission assignments. These missionaries were able to utilize the knowledge and skills that they had acquired through campcraft training to survive comfortably in remote outdoor living conditions.







In the early 1960s, the American Camping Association campcraft program was used to train Royal Ambassador leaders in campcraft skills. The skill levels that could be earned were: Campcrafter, Advanced Campcrafter, Tripcrafter, Trip Leader, Tripcraft Instructor, Campcraft Instructor, and Director of Instructors.



In Texas, more than 30 men were certified as ACA Campcraft Instructors. Most of these men served in key RA leadership positions around the state. Their influence upon the Royal Ambassadors organization is still being reflected today. Texas Baptist Men used this campcraft program for adults until 1977.

*Herb Weaver and Milton Schmidt  
Instructing a Campcrafter course - 1966*

*ACA Campcraft Instructors*





## Texas Royal Ambassadors

In 1965, Robert Chapman selected 12 Ambassadors that had completed at least one Service Aide Award to serve as Pages at the SBC meeting in Dallas, Texas.

In 1967, Texas Baptist Men was organized as an affiliate to the Baptist General Convention of Texas and the responsibility of Royal Ambassadors in Texas passed to this new organization.



*Robert Chapman with Ambassador Pages*



*Bob Dixon teaching Nature Study at camp.*

Bob Dixon became the State RA Director for Texas in 1966. Having served as a youth minister at First Baptist Church in Nashville and First Baptist Church in Memphis, Bob recognized that what he desired to see accomplished in the lives of male youth could be accomplished through RAs. Royal Ambassadors provided the opportunity for a young man to grow spiritually, mentally, physically, morally, and socially. Bob became the Executive Director of Texas Baptist Men in 1968 and served in this position until 1998.

Bob has continued promoting Royal Ambassadors to educate boys about God's mission. He believes that "God's business is men's business". The best way for a boy to learn about God's mission is to spend time with men who are seeking to do "God's work, done God's way, for God's glory".

As a Royal Ambassador Campcraft Instructor, Bob was the first person called by the State Missions Commission Director of the Baptist General Convention of Texas to help organize a response to Hurricane Beulah in 1967. Bob was returning from a weekend campcraft training session with a load of campcraft gear. To help feed the hurricane victims, he cooked meals on the back of his station wagon using "buddy burners" and tin can stoves. As responses to disasters continued, Bob called upon other Campcraft Instructors to help. These men possessed the knowledge and experience to use their outdoor living skills to help people who were affected by natural disasters. The Southern Baptist Disaster Relief began from the Royal Ambassador Campcraft program.







*Bill Arnold, Doug Day and Rusty Griffin, the first three State Staffers, served in ten RA Camps.*

In the summer of 1967, Texas Baptist Men began the Royal Ambassador State Staffer program.

The State Staffer program expanded in 1968 to twelve young men that served that summer in RA Camps within Texas.

State Staffers were a select group of high school age young men that received leadership training and volunteered their time and talents in service. The State Staffers served for twelve consecutive months and provided leadership at summer RA Camps, regional mission rallies and state RA events. They also provided assistance with other regional events and mission projects in the state, RA camps in other states, and youth camps and mission projects in other countries. The state staffer program provided an opportunity for those selected to grow in their relationship with Christ, fellow staffers and other leaders while they gained leadership experience.



*Texas RA State Staffers 1970*



*RA Racers*

The state track meet was added as part of the RA Congress in 1968. Additional events such as the campcraft contest, RA Racers, and many field events were added in subsequent years. Congress evolved into a fast paced day packed with fellowship, excitement, fun, mission education, mission action, worship and opportunities for spiritual growth.



*SBC Pages - Houston 1968*

In June 1968, 15 Royal Ambassadors (12 State Staffers and 3 other RAs) from Texas served as Pages at the Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting in Houston, Texas under the leadership of Bob Dixon and Jay Chance. Jay Chance served as the National Royal Ambassador Director from 1968 until 1975.





## Royal Ambassadors 1970-1987

In October 1970, the responsibility of missions education for boys ages 6-8 was transferred from the Woman's Missionary Union to the Brotherhood Commission. The Royal Ambassadors organization was refined that year with new guidance materials grouping boys to their school grade rather than age. RAs were divided into two age groups: Crusaders included boys in the 1st through 6th grades and Pioneers included boys in the 7th through 12th grades.

The *Crusader Counselor's Guide* encouraged RA leaders to allow the boys to participate in making decisions. "Boy participation in the chapter is necessary for best results. This means helping boys:

- Satisfy their desire to be of worth to some group outside the home.
- Have a measure of freedom from their parents and still maintain their sense of parental security.
- Become involved in a laboratory of Christian living where they can learn to give and take through close association with others their own age.
- Face the consequences of their own actions.
- Have fellowship with Christian boys which helps them feel their worth as they contribute to the chapter.

The chapter setting provides boys opportunities to make decisions, abide by the decisions of the majority, and to share responsibilities. It also provides opportunities for the boys to build a foundation of Christian values to guide them in life, and serves as a natural setting for boys to get to know many friendly Christian adults."

Crusader chapters were to provide opportunities for boys to serve as helpers rather than having elected officers as in previous years. Crusader leaders were to appoint different boys each week to assist in different parts of the chapter meeting such as leading the group in saying the RA Pledge, saying the Crusader Motto, checking attendance, arranging the room, and running errands.

Pioneers still elected officers at least once a year to assist the counselor in leading the chapter. Beginning in 1970, there were four leadership positions as Pioneers officers: President, Secretary, Mission Activity Leader, and Interest Activity Leader.



*RA Patch 1970-1994*



*RA Chevrons 1970 -1976*





In 1970, the meaning of the RA insignia changed slightly to reflect the two programs of the Royal Ambassadors organization.

In the center of the insignia is a shield which represents faith in Christ (Ephesians 6:16). Faith in Christ is the beginning point of missions. The shield is divided into three parts. The crown represents the Crusader program and is symbolic of the crown of life promised to those who love God (James 1:12). The wheel represents the Pioneer program, symbolizing the pioneer spirit of probing into the depths of spiritual adventure (2 Peter 1:5-8). The torch represents the mission task of these two programs. As a Royal Ambassador, the boy is made aware of God's mission for him – representing Christ in all areas of life (2 Corinthians 5:20). The boy is to let his light so shine before men that they may see his good works and glorify God (Matthew 5:16). Below the shield is a palm leaf symbolizing achievement. In the Christian's life, a boy can tire of always doing the right thing without seeing visible results. The Bible says Christians eventually will see results, if they faint not (Galatians 6:9).



In 1978, the meaning of the RA insignia was modified again reflecting the two programs of the Royal Ambassadors organization.

A shield of faith, (Ephesians 6:16), occupies the center of the Royal Ambassador emblem. The Crusader crown represents Christ the King. The five points of the crown represent the five parts of the Royal Ambassador pledge. The eight spokes of the Pioneer wheel signify faith, virtue, knowledge, self-control, steadfastness, godliness, brotherly kindness, and love as described in the Pioneer code, 2 Peter 1:1-7. The lighted torch represents the light of the world, Jesus Christ and Ambassadors holding forth the light of the world. A foundation to the word Royal Ambassadors is a laurel branch which represents victory in Christ Jesus. The entire emblem is surrounded by the scalloped circle which is symbolic of the Brotherhood program, and represents the unending guidance that one may receive from God. Royal Ambassador colors are blue, gold and white. Blue stands for the boy's loyalty to Christ, to his church and his chapter. Gold stands for the worth of each boy who accepts and serves Christ as Savior and Lord. White stands for purity, a clean body and mind, as each Royal Ambassador tries to pattern his life after Christ.



## Crusaders

Revised Crusader Motto: “Help Others in Jesus’ Name.” A boy in the 1st through 6th grades could join a Crusader chapter when he completed the following simplified membership requirements:

- Learn and explain the Crusader Motto.
- Read (or have read to him) John 6:1-15 and explain the passage to his parents.
- Be in a Welcoming Ceremony.

The Crusader membership card and the Royal Ambassador pin and/or patch was presented to the boy during the welcoming ceremony.



Crusaders were divided into two groups based upon their age level characteristics. Younger Crusaders for boys in the first through third grades used the advancement manuals that corresponded to their school grades: *Lad 1* for 1st graders, *Lad 2* for 2nd graders, *Lad 3* for 3rd graders. The advancement program for younger Crusaders focused upon the following mission fields: Your Life, Your Home, Your Chapter, Your Church, and Your Neighborhood.



New manuals for Older Crusaders corresponded to their school grades. The *Page* manual was used by 4th graders, *Squire* for 5th graders, *Knight* for 6th graders. A new Squire pin with a laurel branch on the Crusader shield instead of a crown replaced the previous Squire pin, which meant that a boy now received the crown on the Crusader shield when he completed the requirements for Knight. The advancement program for older Crusaders focused upon the following mission fields: Your Life, Your Home, Your Chapter, Your Church, Your Community (Page and Squire), Your State (Squire), Your Nation (Knight), and Your World (Knight). Athletic Patches were available for Older Crusaders.





## Crusader Awards

From 1970 until 1973, younger Crusaders that completed the *Lad 1* and *Lad 2* manuals received a certificate and boys that completed the *Lad 3* manual received the Lad pin. In 1973, the Lad 1 and Lad 2 advancement pins replaced the certificates. In 1975, elective bars and stars became available for younger Crusaders. In 1976, the Lad 3 pin replaced the Lad pin. The Lad Athletic Patch was earned only by a Lad 3.

### CRUSADER PINS 1970-1973



### CRUSADER PINS 1973-1975



### CRUSADER PINS 1975



### CRUSADER PINS 1976-1987



### ATHLETIC PATCHES 1970-1987

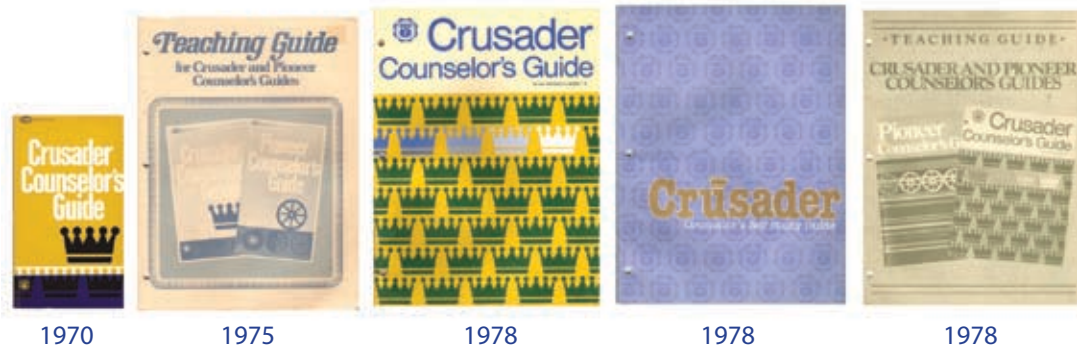






Crusader leaders used the *Crusader Counselor's Guide*, updated in 1978. This guide book provided an overview of the Royal Ambassadors organization and suggestions for working with boys, their parents and other leaders.

### *Crusader Counselor Materials 1970 -1987*



## **Pioneers**

The Pioneer Motto: “Go Forward in Christ’s Name” based upon Matthew 28:19-20. Young men in the 7th through 12th grades were encouraged to participate in this missions organization for male youth. A young man became a member of a Pioneer chapter when he completed the following simplified membership requirements:

- Learn and explain the meaning of the Royal Ambassador Pledge.
- Learn and explain the meaning of the Royal Ambassador Motto.
- Learn and explain the meaning of the Pioneer Motto.
- Participate in a Pioneer Initiation Service.



The young man received a Pioneer membership card and the Royal Ambassador membership pin and/or RA patch, if he did not receive one as a Crusader.

Pioneers were divided into two age groups. Younger Pioneers for boys in the 7th through 9th grades and Older Pioneers for young men in the 10th through 12th grades.

### *Pioneer Chapter*





Younger Pioneers for boys in the 7th through 9th grades used the *Pioneer Adventure* manual for their advancement plan. The Pioneer Adventure was built upon the five parts of the RA Pledge: informed and responsible, Christ-like concern, world missions, mission activity, and character and fitness. Pioneers from 1970 until 1984, earned the Pioneer Adventure awards in succession. From 1984 until 1987, the *Pioneer Adventure* manuals were associated with a grade level.

### *Pioneer Adventure 1970 -1984*

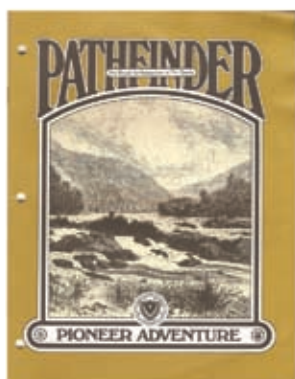


1970 - 1977



1978 - 1984

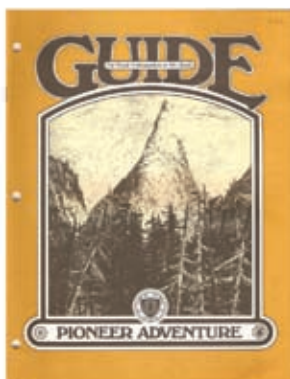
### *Pioneer Adventure 1984 -1987*



7th Grade



8th Grade



9th Grade

The Pioneer Adventure Awards: Pathfinder, Trailblazer, and Guide pins and chevron were awarded to boys that completed the 15 advancement requirements for each of these levels. The Pioneer Achievement Award patch and certificate was presented to each boy that completed 20 additional mission projects. The Pioneer

High Achievement Award patch and certificate was presented to boy that completed an additional 25 mission projects.

A *Pathfinder* is a person who *discovers a way*. He must find his mission and seek out the best possible way to arrive at his goal. A *Trailblazer* is a person who *makes a way* toward a new goal. As he blazes a trail, he will gain knowledge and develop attitudes that will help him to be an Ambassador for Christ. A *Guide* has already discovered, chosen, and made a way toward the goal. He studies to understand all he can about his responsibilities of being an Ambassador for Christ so that he may *help another find the way*.

## PIONEER ADVENTURE AWARDS 1970-1987

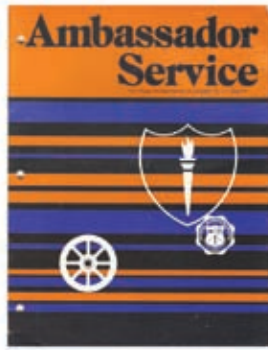




*Ambassador Service 1970 -1987*

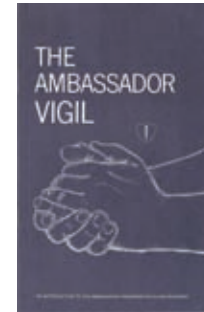


1970 - 1978



1979 - 1987

Older Pioneers (also referred to as Ambassadors) for young men in the 10th through 12th grades used the *Ambassador Service* manual as their advancement plan. Before beginning the Ambassador Service requirements, each young man participated in the *Ambassador Vigil*, a “watch with God” and spiritual inventory.



Ambassador Service Aide awards were earned by high school young men who completed 150 hours of study/service in one of the following service areas: Worship, Witness, Ministry, Education, and Application. Ambassador Stars that once indicated years of service now indicated additional Service Aide Awards.



*Ambassador Service Award*





Once a young man completed 150 hours in all five service areas for a total of 750 hours, he could apply for and receive the National Service Award from the Brotherhood Commission. The first two Ambassador Service National Awards were presented to David Butler and David Bratcher of North Dallas Baptist Church, Dallas, Texas at the Southern Baptist Convention in St. Louis, Missouri, June 1970.

## AMBASSADOR SERVICE AWARDS 1970-1987



The Ambassador Service Project patch was a national award presented to young men for special accomplishments or who participated in a project of one week in length or longer.

Pioneer leaders used the *Pioneer Counselor's Guide*, updated in 1978. This guide book provided an overview of the Royal Ambassadors organization and suggestions for working with young men, their parents and other leaders.

### *Pioneer Counselor Materials 1970 -1987*





## Royal Ambassador Resources

In October 1970, the first issues of *Crusader* magazine for grades 1st-6th and *Probe* magazine for grades 7th-12th were released replacing *Ambassador Life* that had been in publication since 1946. New leadership magazines, *Crusader Counselor* and *Probe Leadership Edition* were also introduced replacing *Ambassador Leader* that had been in publication since 1959. *Brotherhood Builder* began as a quarterly magazine providing guidance for Royal Ambassador leaders in addition to the *Crusader Counselor's Guide* and *Pioneer Counselor's Guide*. Annual *Royal Ambassador Planbooks* provided additional information and helps for leaders.

The following leadership resources were used by the Royal Ambassador Director, Committee, Counselors and Assistants in understanding boys, beginning and maintaining the Royal Ambassadors program, and involving boys in missions.



### Royal Ambassador Leadership Materials 1970 -1987



*Royal Ambassadors in Missions* was written by Jay Chance who served as the National Royal Ambassador Director from 1968 until 1975. Jay stated, "Royal Ambassadors today has the same mission purpose it had in 1908. The methods have changed to keep the interest of today's boys. Leaders of Royal Ambassadors realize today the necessity of making it possible for boys to become more involved in the study of and participation in missions at their own level of development and understanding."







In 1976, the Director chevron replaced the Leader chevron that was introduced in 1970. The Royal Ambassador Director provided overall direction to the RA program in a local church. He enlisted and trained Counselors and kept the church informed about RA activities and needs.

The Royal Ambassador committee worked with the RA Director in planning and carrying out the RA activities in the local church.

Chapter counselors led each RA chapter meeting, guiding the boys in mission study, advancement, mission projects and interest activities.

The following covers represent Royal Ambassador resources that were produced by the Brotherhood Commission for RA leaders from 1970 through 1987. The date under each resource indicates the first year of publication.



*RA Chevrons  
1976 - 1987*

*RA Resources 1970 -1987*







In 1980, the Brotherhood Commission introduced a Royal Ambassador belt buckle, pocket knife and compass. These items were presented to boys and leaders for special recognition. Often times these items were used by RA leaders as incentives to motivate boys in their RA participation and advancement.



Royal Ambassadors celebrated the 75th Anniversary in 1983. There were 5,835 who participated in the celebration of the 75th Anniversary at the State Royal Ambassadors Congress in Waco.

## Royal Ambassador Uniforms

In the fall of 1970, a new series of Royal Ambassador uniforms were introduced. Crusaders wore navy slacks and navy shirt with a 12" gold clip on tie. Pioneers and Counselors wore astro blue slacks and astro blue shirt with a gold tie. Pioneer ties were 45" in length and Counselor ties were 52" in length. Gray dress trousers with a navy blue blazer with the RA emblem and white dress shirt with gold tie were worn on special occasions.

Royal Ambassador T-shirts and sweat shirts were still available and worn during recreational activities and events.



*Royal Ambassador Uniforms - 1970*



## Mission and Interest Activities

Ambassadors (high school age RAs), selected by their state Brotherhood Department, who served as Pages at the Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting received an Official Page patch from 1970 until 1987. SBC Pages who were RAs that served prior to 1970 wore either the Ambassador Shield or the Royal Ambassador Patch. High school age young men (now called Challengers) continue to serve as Pages at the SBC annual meeting.



*Page Patch  
1970 - 1987*



The SMAY patch was awarded to RAs that participated in a week or longer Summer Mission Activity for Youth.



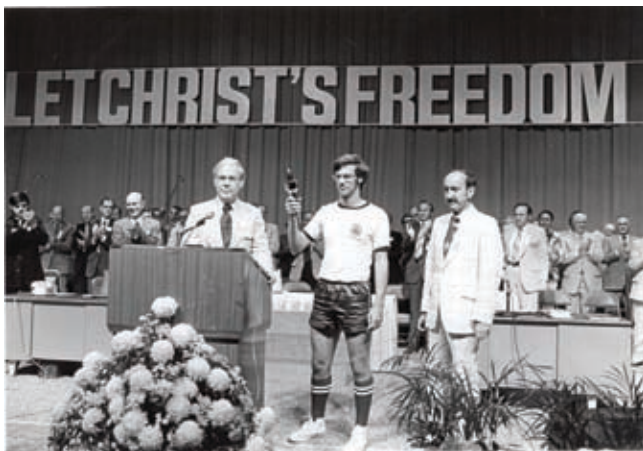
*RA Racer Patch  
1985 - 1997*

The RA Racer event was added to the Texas State RA Congress in 1972. Several associations were already hosting similar events around the state. The Royal Ambassador Racer patch and year chevrons became available for RA groups in 1985 and were awarded for participating in this interest activity.

*RA Racers*







On May 13, 1975, Royal Ambassadors gathered at Memphis Auditorium for a birthday breakfast celebration commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Southern Baptist Convention's Cooperative Program that began in Memphis, Tennessee in 1925. During the celebration a torch was ignited and passed to Lamar Thomas from Chattanooga, Tennessee who was the first torch runner. There were 2,154 Ambassadors from several states who participated in the "Carry the Torch" project. Runners carried

the torch a distance of more than 1300 miles on the journey from Tennessee, through Alabama and Georgia to arrive in Miami, Florida. The torch was officially presented to the messengers attending the Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting on June 10, 1975.

The Home Mission Hiker patch was designed by Pioneer Tom Brecht of Columbus, Ohio in 1975 as part of his Pathfinder advancement project. Tom was awarded the first Home Mission Hiker patch. The Home Mission Hiker patch and mile marker chevrons (added in 1976) were awarded to Royal Ambassadors for participating in a walk-a-thon mission project for Home Missions. RAs collected money and sent it to the SBC Home Mission Board. These patches were available from 1975 until 1984. Chevrons indicated cumulative miles walked over successive hikes for home missions.



In 1976, Texas Baptist Men responded to an invitation to provide assistance to the World Hunger Relief Research and Training Farm near Waco, Texas. Bosie Boswell, a RA leader and member of Texas Baptist Men, wrote a World Hunger Relief Manual for Royal Ambassadors that included four lesson plans for Younger Crusaders, Older Crusaders, Pioneers and Ambassadors. This manual also included several mission projects and games to play to help boys understand the importance in responding to world hunger. This manual was published by Texas Baptist Men and distributed to Royal Ambassador chapters throughout Texas. In 1978, the Brotherhood Commission produced a World Hunger Relief manual for Royal Ambassadors.



1976



1978





*Pioneer Probe* magazine for Pioneers replaced *Probe* in October, 1984, and continued in circulation until 1987 when it was replaced by *Pioneer* magazine.



The first World Walk cassette and patch were introduced in 1984 replacing the Home Mission Hiker patch. The chevrons for both Home Missions and Foreign Missions were awarded for Royal Ambassadors that participated in a walk-a-thon for each mission project.

The Home Mission and Foreign Mission Study patches were awarded to Royal Ambassadors that participated with their church in these mission studies. The RAs were encouraged to participate in the week of prayer for Home Missions each March and Annie Armstrong Mission Offering in addition to the week of prayer for Foreign Missions each

December and the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. Annual chevrons were added for additional years of participating in these studies and week of prayer for missions.

In 1984, the first national “Jerry Clower” Mission Speakout was held by the Brotherhood Commission. Each state conducted a Mission Speakout and selected the top speaker to represent their state. The young man’s speech was recorded and sent to be judged by a national panel.



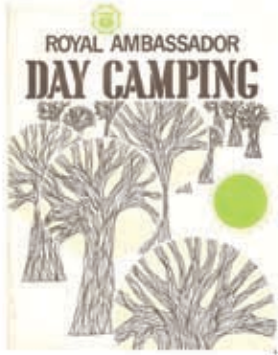
John Phillips from Texas was chosen as the top speaker and was presented the first place trophy at the Brotherhood meeting at the Southern Baptist Convention. Pictured with John Phillips is his father (L) and RA leader, Truman Brooks (R).

*John Phillips, Winner of the National “Jerry Clower” Mission Speakout - 1984*

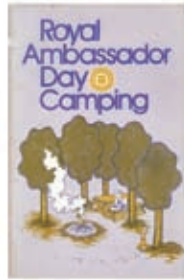


## Camcraft

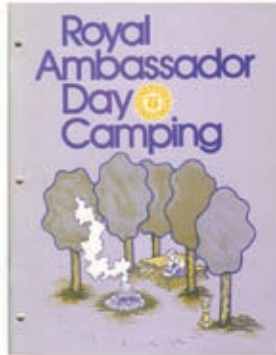
The learning of Camcraft skills has provided an effective way of reaching and teaching boys not only basic outdoor living skills but also about God's creation and how they were created to be a part of God's mission of sharing His light to others. In 1970, Robert O'Brian and Bob Dixon published *R.A. Camping* that outlined the importance of camping in the Royal Ambassadors organization and incorporating teaching camcraft skills at camp.



1971



1972



1976

The Day Camper patch introduced in 1972 was earned by Younger Crusaders that attended a day camping program. The *Royal Ambassador Camcraft* manual was revised in 1972 by Frank Black and Charles Doggett. The RA Camcraft program expanded with the following camcraft patches for older RAs: Back Packer, Trip Camper, and Primitive Camper. Royal Ambassadors earned their camcraft patches by completing the requirements listed for each level in the following camcraft areas: Trip Planning; Equipment and Shelter; Rope Craft; Tool Craft; Fire Craft; Cooking; First Aid; Safety and Sanitation; Map and Compass; Nature Study; Conservation; Fun and Worship.

Younger Crusaders



Older Crusaders



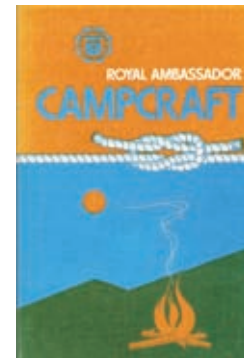
Younger Pioneers



Older Pioneers



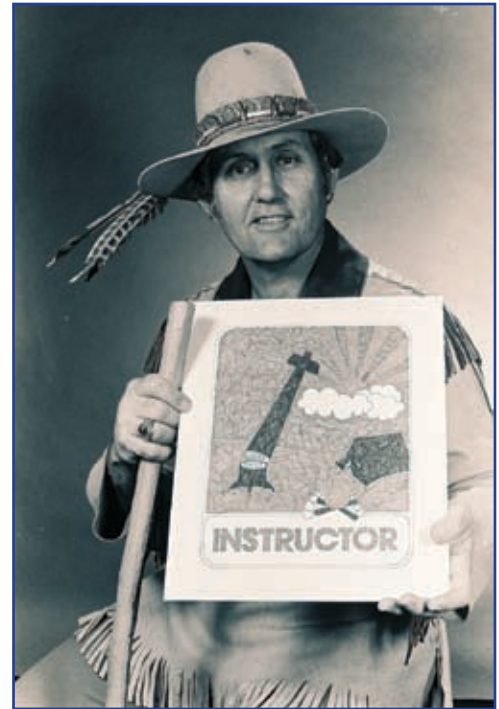
*Royal Ambassador Camcraft 1972*







In 1977, Texas Baptist Men introduced a new Adult Campcraft Training program. This training program incorporated spiritual applications and biblical emphasis. This replaced the ACA campcraft program that had become more youth oriented. The TBM campcraft training program consisted of four levels: Frontiersman, Outdoorsman, Voyager, and Instructor. These campcraft levels were earned in sequence. The Director of Instructors rating was by appointment only by the state office to coordinate campcraft trainings throughout the state. This program was shared with other state leaders and the Brotherhood Commission in 1979.



*Jerry Bob Taylor presenting the TBM Adult Campcraft Program*



*Adult Campcraft Patches*



*Adult Campcraft Training Manuals*





In 1982, a new *Royal Ambassador Campcraft* manual was released. The RA Campcraft program remained the same except for the Backpacker level was moved to Older Pioneers.



In 1982, the Brotherhood Commission introduced a convention-wide adult campcraft training program. Training levels included: Basic, Standard, Advanced, and Instructor and Advanced Instructor. After completing the Basic and Standard campcraft courses, a person could earn the Instructor rating to teach the Basic and Standard levels. In order to achieve the rating of Advanced Instructor, a person had to complete the Basic, Standard and Advanced levels. The Royal Ambassador chevron was worn by Royal Ambassador leaders that completed one or more adult campcraft courses.

*Royal Ambassador Campcraft, 1982*



*Brotherhood Adult Campcraft Patches*



*Brotherhood Adult Campcraft Manuals*



## Texas Royal Ambassadors

Cameron Byler served as Royal Ambassador Director for Texas Baptist Men from 1969 until 1973. Cameron mentored young men through sports programs and had served as the Athletic Director for Buckner Children's Home in Dallas and then Recreation Director at FBC Lubbock, Texas prior to joining TBM. His legacy in Royal Ambassador work centered around supporting associational RA leadership, the state basketball tournament and the state track meet at Congress. Cameron left TBM in 1973 to become the Camp Manager at Zephyr Baptist Encampment.



*Cameron Byler*

Royal Ambassador work. This leader, Jerry Bob Taylor, joined the staff of TBM in 1970 and served as RA Director until 1981. Jerry Bob became the Camp Manager at Circle Six Baptist Encampment in 1981.



*Jerry Bob Taylor*

Bob Dixon, Cameron Byler, and Jerry Bob Taylor worked together with regional and associational Royal Ambassador leadership to coordinate training conferences in addition to state events.



*Jerry Bob Taylor leading a RA Training Conference*

By 1971, 41 men from across Texas, including laymen, pastors, associational and state convention staff, had been trained by Texas Baptist Men to help churches set up RA work and train counselors and committee members. In 1972, the first statewide RA Leadership Training Conference sponsored by TBM was held at Lake Highlands Baptist Encampment. This statewide conference was also held in 1973 and regional training conferences in 1974.

Texas Baptist Men, in 1975, appointed and trained 25 RA leaders to be Regional Instructors. These Regional Instructors were responsible for holding annual RA and Baptist Men training conferences in the various TBM regions. In the following year, several more men were added as Regional Instructors. From 1974 to 1980, these regional leadership conferences averaged 1,250 participants.





In 1970, the State Royal Ambassador Basketball Tournament was held in Dallas, Texas. Bethany Baptist Church in Dallas won the tournament that year and became the state champions. The



State Basketball Tournament was originally one tournament comprised of high school age Ambassador teams that were the champions of their associational leagues. In 1981, the State Basketball Tournament expanded to two separate tournaments: the Division I tournament was comprised of teams representing their associations and the Division II tournament was open to high school age RA teams desiring to participate in the tournament.

*North Dallas - 1971 State Champs*

RA Rallies were hosted around the state from 1959 until 1969 at various Baptist colleges. The State Mission Rally was hosted at Baylor University from 1970 until 1999. The State Mission Rally provided an opportunity for RA groups to unite together at a missions awareness event. Those attending the State Mission Rally had the opportunity to hear from and interact with missionaries that were serving on state-side assignment. Age level breakout sessions were offered in the early 70s and in later years developed into one missions emphasis program.



*State Royal Ambassadors Mission Rally at Baylor*

The Mission Rally was conducted each Fall. RAs and their leaders stayed for the football game to cheer for the Baylor Bears. This interest activity provided an opportunity for leaders to recruit new RA members and introduce them and their families to what it means to be an Ambassador for Christ.



*Royal Ambassadors at Baylor Football Game*





At the Texas State RA Congress each year young men campaigned to be elected as State Officers for Royal Ambassadors. The young men that were elected served with the state Royal Ambassador Director and Committee in planning, promoting and conducting the Royal Ambassador work in Texas. The 1971 State Officers pictured (L-R): Glenn Shock, secretary, Bruce Anderson, vice-president, Darrell Mangum, president, Dick Lenamon, vice-president, and Dave Vickers, vice-president. The State Officers elections were held from 1962 until 1976.



*Royal Ambassadors State Officers - 1971*

In 1972, a Congress patch was developed with chevrons that indicated the date and location of the state event. This patch theme continued as Congress changed locations each year until the event became too large to be hosted in smaller cities. The location of Congress moved to Waco, TX in 1979 and remained the site where Royal Ambassador groups assembled each year on Good Friday until 1988.



*Jerry Bob Taylor presents the 1972 Chapter of the Year to Alan Huesing (State RA President) from Dallas, Texas*

The Chapter of the Year award was presented at Congress each year to a RA chapter that was selected by panel of judges. RA groups submitted a chapter scrapbook that detailed how they had met or exceeded the Standard of Achievement requirements and mission projects that they participated in that year. Over the years more activities of interest to boys were added to Congress in addition to opportunities for missions awareness and spiritual growth.



The first State Royal Ambassador Wilderness Camp was conducted at Mexia State Park in 1971. The camp provided an outdoor tent camping experience and taught campcraft skills to both high school young men and their leaders. This camp moved to Highland Lakes Baptist Encampment in 1972. In 1973, an adult campcraft training program was added to the camp. In 1977, the State RA Wilderness Camp moved to Lake Lenamon at Latham Springs Baptist Encampment with a three year progression – Base Camp, Canoe Camp, and Backpacking Camp.



*Texas Royal Ambassador Wilderness Camp 1971*

*Texas Royal  
Ambassador  
Wilderness  
Camp Patches*







*State Royal Ambassadors Committee*

In 1971, Joe Lenamon was elected as the first Royal Ambassadors Vice President for Texas Baptist Men and served as chairman of the State Royal Ambassadors Committee. The purpose of the state RA committee was to help plan, promote and conduct state RA events and leadership training opportunities.

In 1972, Texas Baptist Men conducted the first day camp at Glorieta, New Mexico during Missions Week. The following year, TBM conducted the first day camp at Ridgecrest. During the early 1970s, Texas Baptist Men also responded to invitations to conduct day camps in the Rio Grande Valley of Texas and Minnesota-Wisconsin Baptist Convention. Day camps provided an effective way to draw large numbers of children and present the message of Christ. In 1974, Texas Baptist Men hosted the 1st Day Camp at the SBC annual meeting in Dallas, Texas. State RA Staffers served as leaders in each of these day camps.

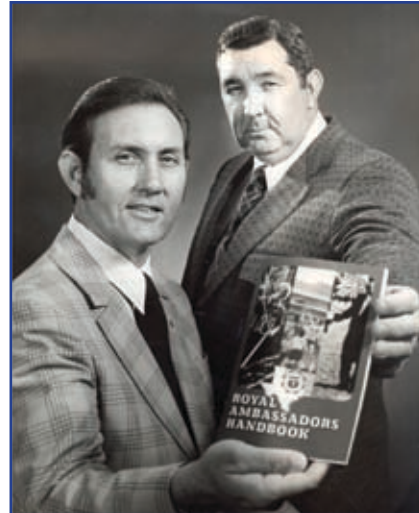


*Glorieta Day Camp*





Beginning in 1973, Texas Baptist Men published a Royal Ambassadors Handbook to assist church and associational leaders to plan, conduct and participate in associational and state RA events. The State Royal Ambassadors Committee worked with the State RA Director to help develop and edit the content of these manuals.



*JB Taylor and Cameron Byler showing a Royal Ambassadors Handbook*

Associational Royal Ambassador camps were conducted each summer in Texas where boys participated in various activities including: worship, spiritual growth, Bible studies, missions studies, visiting with missionaries, swimming, archery and riflery marksmanship skills, outdoor games and recreation, and special events. Many of these camps also included campcraft training where boys learned outdoor living skills.





The Legion of Honor Award is the highest honor that can be bestowed on an individual in the area of Royal Ambassadors and Challengers work in Texas. This award is given to leaders who have “dedicated themselves to the task of bringing boys and young men to God through Christ by fostering programs of mission education and mission action along with special emphasis upon personal involvement of the individual.”



The Legion of Honor Award began in 1973 and was presented to Jimmy Allen, Cameron Byler, Bob Chapman, Bob Dixon, and Russell Pougé. A total of 159 men have been selected to receive this award and represent a portion of the “great cloud of witnesses” of leaders that have dedicated themselves to working with boys, young men and other leaders in missions education through Royal Ambassadors and Challengers.

The Legion of Honor Award is presented annually at the Royal Ambassadors/Challengers State Congress.

A complete list of individuals who have received the Legion of Honor Award is located in the Appendix Section on page 129. Contact Texas Baptist Men for information concerning submitting a nomination for the Legion of Honor Award.







On Sunday afternoon, April 11, 1976, Dr. James Landes (Executive Director of the Baptist General Convention of Texas) commissioned the Texas Royal Ambassadors in a ceremony at the San Jacinto monument. This ceremony was the beginning of a Torch Run scheduled from the San Jacinto battle grounds to the Alamo. The Torch Run was to represent carrying the light of Christ and sharing God's Word to a nation that was celebrating its Bicentennial.



Jay Sawyer (LaMarque, Texas) was the first Ambassador to carry the torch. Royal Ambassadors worked together in passing the torch and a pouch that contained God's Word, the Bible. There were 325 runners who participated in the six day journey. Mr. John James, a Royal Ambassador leader from Casa View Baptist church in Dallas, Texas, coordinated and supervised the Torch Run.



On April 16, Bobby Allred (Abilene, Texas) was the last Ambassador to carry the torch, with the assistance of Allen Horne (Abilene, Texas), into a RA celebration conducted at the Alamo in San Antonio prior to the state RA Congress. Cotton Bridges, the state Royal Ambassadors Vice President, received the torch from Bobby.



The celebration concluded with each participant taking part in a candlelight service. Karl Schackelford (Greenville, Texas), RA State Staffer, played "Taps" from the roof of the Alamo at the end of the program.





TBM established a Camp Director's meeting that began in 1975 as an opportunity for the leadership of the many RA Camps to network together and exchange ideas. The first Royal Ambassador Camp Director's manual, written by Jerry Bob Taylor, was published in 1977. This manual served as a resource for RA Camp Directors.

In 1980, Leadership Training Camp (LTC) replaced the State Wilderness Camp at Lake Lenamon (the wilderness camping area at Latham Springs Baptist Encampment). Leadership Training Camp provides training opportunities for adult leaders, State Staffers and other young men each year.

Leadership Training Camp is a structured wilderness camp designed to increase the knowledge and skills of men and young men under the leadership of Christ. Training focuses upon outdoor living skills, outdoor recreation, leadership skills, and spiritual growth.

Trainees at Leadership Training Camp are grouped together by age and experience level, working together as a structured unit under the leadership of Campcraft Instructors.



*Men's Basic and Standard Unit 1984 LTC*

John LaNoue became the State Royal Ambassador Director for Texas Baptist Men in 1981 and served in this position until 1988 when he became the Men's Ministry Director for TBM. He inspired the men that came in contact with him as he motivated them to lead boys to grow in their relationship with Christ and become involved in God's mission. John challenged men to become "living libraries" in order to share their personal experiences and knowledge with others whom God brought into contact with their lives.

*John LaNoue leading men's devotional at Leadership Training Camp*





# Royal Ambassadors 1987-1994

In October 1987, the Brotherhood Commission introduced new Royal Ambassadors program materials. Royal Ambassadors became a missionary organization for boys in the 1st through 9th grades. RAs were divided into three age groups: Lads for boys in the 1st - 3rd grades, Crusaders for boys in the 4th - 6th grades, and Pioneers for young men in the 7th - 9th grades. Older Pioneers in the 10th - 12th grades became High School Baptist Young Men.

A modified RA insignia and RA flag symbolized the revised Royal Ambassadors organization. An outer ring replaced the scallop border of the 1961 RA insignia making the new insignia similar to the shape of the RA patch. The RA Pledge remained the same as introduced in 1961. The Brotherhood membership pin was used by all Brotherhood organizations beginning in 1987.



## BROTHERHOOD MEMBERSHIP PIN



The meaning of the RA insignia was modified to reflect the three programs within the Royal Ambassadors organization.

A shield of faith (Ephesians 6:16) occupies the center of the Royal Ambassador insignia. In the lower center of the shield is the Lad torch representing Jesus Christ, the light and foundation of the world. The Lad torch appears at the base of the Royal Ambassador insignia. It is the very foundation of and supports the entire Royal Ambassador program. The Lad torch lights the pathway for the boy as he tries to learn and do what is pleasing to God. 'Walk as children of light, trying to learn what is pleasing to the Lord' (Ephesians 5:8b, 10 NAS). In the upper left hand corner of the shield is the Crusader crown. The crown represents Christ, the King. The five points of the crown represent the five parts of the RA Pledge. In the upper right hand corner of the shield is the Pioneer wheel. The eight spokes signify faith, virtue, knowledge, self-control, steadfastness, godliness, brotherly kindness, and love as described in the Pioneer Code, 2 Peter 1:5-7. Underneath the shield and as a foundation to the name Royal Ambassadors is a laurel branch. The laurel branch represents victory through Jesus Christ as Royal Ambassadors work to achieve victory through the RA Pledge. Royal Ambassador colors are blue, gold, and white. Blue stands for the boy's loyalty to Christ, to his church, and to his chapter. Gold stands for the worth of each boy who accepts and serves Christ as Savior and Lord. White stands for purity, a clean body and mind, as each Royal Ambassador tries to pattern his life after Christ's.



*RA Chevrons 1987-1994*





## Lads

Boys in the 1st through 3rd grades became a separate program within the Royal Ambassadors organization in 1987 known as Lads. Prior to this date, Lads had been considered as Younger Crusaders. Lads received their own chevron to wear under the Royal Ambassador patch and their own Lad Motto: "Learning And Doing in Jesus' Name."

A boy in the 1st through 3rd grades could join a Lad chapter when he completed the following membership requirements:

- Learn and explain the Lad Motto. Talk with your parents about how you can learn and do in Jesus' name.
- Read or have read to you 1 Samuel 2:26, 3:1-10. Talk with your parents about these Bible verses.
- Be in a Welcoming Ceremony.



The Lad membership card, the Brotherhood membership pin and/or the Royal Ambassador patch were presented to the boy during the welcoming ceremony.

New advancement manuals for Lads became available in the fall of 1987: *Lad 1* (1st Grade), *Lad 2* (2nd Grade), *Lad 3* (3rd Grade). Once a boy became a member of Lads, he learned about and participated in missions activities in these five mission fields: Your Life, Your Home, Your Chapter,



Your Church, and Your Neighborhood to earn his advancement pin. The boy earned elective bars and stars by participating in additional mission activities. The requirements for the grade level Lad Athletic patches were listed in the back of each of the Lad manuals.

### LAD ADVANCEMENT 1987-1994

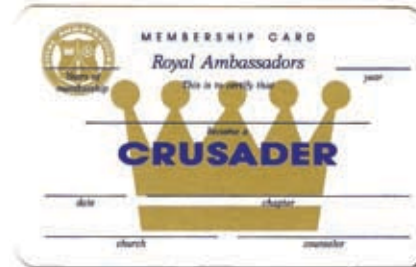




## Crusaders

The Crusader Motto remained the same: “Help Others in Jesus’ Name.” A boy in the 4th through 6th grades could join a Crusader chapter when he completed the following membership requirements:

- Learn and explain the Crusader Motto. Discuss with parents how you can help others in Jesus’ name.
- Read John 6:1-15 in your Bible. Talk with your parents about these Bible verses.
- Learn and explain the Royal Ambassador Motto: “We are Ambassadors for Christ.”
- Be in a Welcoming Ceremony.



The Crusader membership card, the Brotherhood membership pin and/or the Royal Ambassador patch were presented to the boy during the welcoming ceremony.

Crusaders received new advancement manuals in the fall of 1987. Boys participated in the Crusader Quest (Adventure): *Page* (4th Grade), *Squire* (5th Grade), *Knight* (6th Grade). The Crusader Quest included learning about and participating in mission activities in the following mission fields: Your Life, Your Home, Your Chapter, Your Church; Your Community, Your State (Squire), Your Nation and Your World (Knight) to earn the advancement pin that corresponded to their grade. The boy earned elective bars and stars by participating in additional mission activities. The requirements for the grade level Crusader Athletic patches were listed in the back of each of the Crusader manuals.



## CRUSADER ADVANCEMENT 1987-1994



Page



Squire



Knight



Elective Bars



Elective Stars



4th Grade



5th Grade



6th Grade





## Pioneers

The Pioneer Motto remained the same: “Go Forward in Christ’s Name.” A boy in the 7th through 9th grades could join a Pioneer chapter when he completed the following membership requirements:

- Learn and explain the Royal Ambassador Pledge.
- Learn and explain the Royal Ambassador Motto.
- Learn and explain the Pioneer Motto
- Participate in a Welcoming Ceremony by members.

The Pioneer membership card, the Brotherhood membership pin and/or the Royal Ambassador patch were presented to the boy during the welcoming ceremony.



The Pioneer Adventure (*Pathfinder*, *Trailblazer*, *Guide* and *Adventurer*) was built upon the Royal Ambassador Pledge with five sections in each manual: Informed and Responsible, Christ-like Concern, World Missions, Doing Missions, and Character and Fitness. Young men completed the Pioneer Adventure manuals in sequence at their own rate to earn their advancement pins. A young man had to complete 25 activities listed in the *Adventurer* manual to earn the Adventurer pin, an additional 30 activities to earn the Adventurer wreath for the Experienced Adventurer award, and an additional 35 activities to earn the Adventurer star for the High Adventurer award.

## PIONEER ADVENTURE AWARDS 1987-1994



Once a young man completed all of the requirements for the Pathfinder, Trailblazer, Guide and all three levels of the Adventurer, he could apply to receive the national award. In 1989, Matthew Dunaway, an eighth grader from Oxford, Alabama was the first recipient of the National Pioneer Adventure Award.



## High School Baptist Young Men

In 1987, Royal Ambassadors became a missions education organization for boys in the 1st through 9th grades. Older Pioneers (Ambassadors) were separated from Royal Ambassadors and became High School Baptist Young Men, a missions education program for young men in the 10th through 12th grades.



*High School Baptist Young Men Materials 1987-1994*

The purpose of High School Baptist Young Men was to involve young men in missions by challenging them to live out their faith daily with personal experiences in witness and ministry, in addition to giving and praying to support persons involved in missions.

Each young man were encouraged to make a personal commitment to the High School Baptist Young Men's Covenant.

### *High School Baptist Young Men's Covenant*

As a part of the High School Baptist Young Men's Unit in my church, I commit myself to:

- GATHER regularly with other young men for fellowship, mission study, and mission action;
- ENCOUNTER God daily through a time for personal prayer and Bible study;
- DISCOVER my own calling to and gifts for service, witness, and ministry;
- PARTICIPATE in missions projects and ongoing ministries through my church;
- GIVE willingly to support missions around the world through the Cooperative Program;
- BECOME an informed and responsible disciple of Christ;
- CELEBRATE the Christian life through a commitment to weekly worship in my church.

High School Baptist Young Men units were led by church elected officers that consisted of President, Vice President, Secretary, Missions Activity Leader and Mission Study Leader. The primary role of the High School Baptist Young Men's Advisor (adult leader) was to help guide the officers to involve teenagers in missions.

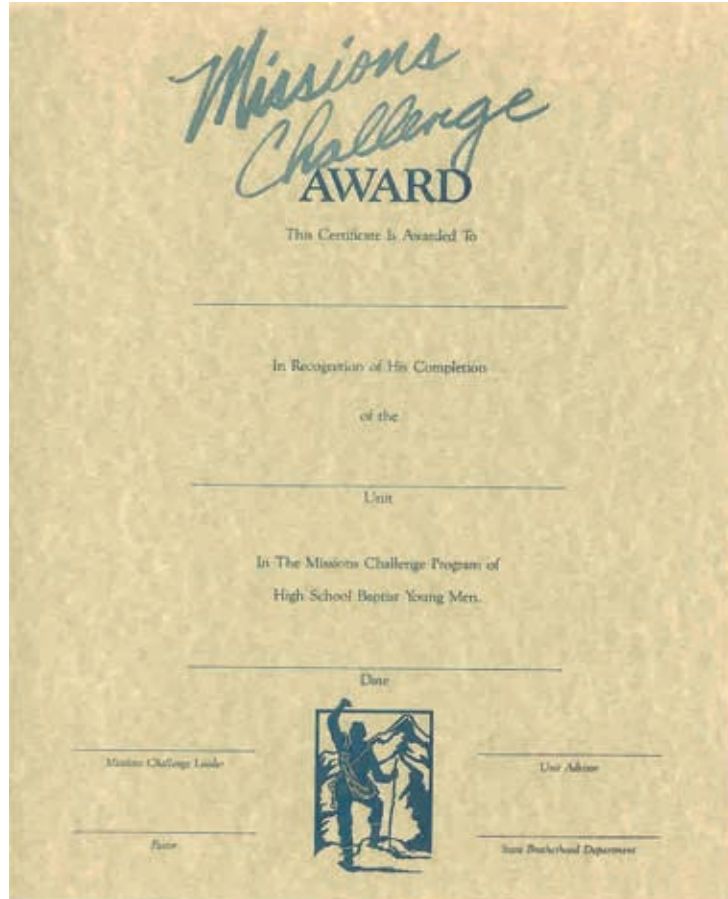
*A Young Man's Vigil with God* was a small booklet designed to be used by young men during a personal retreat "watch with God" to allow him to reflect upon his relationship with God and take a spiritual inventory of his life.





Leading High School Baptist Young Men with the *Self Study Guide* (not shown) in addition to the annual *High School Baptist Young Men Planbook* offered leadership helps and were used by leaders that work with the young men. The monthly publication *High School Baptist Young Men's edition of the World Mission Journal* published by the Brotherhood Commission provided mission stories and information.

*Missions Challenge*, a self-study approach to learn about and become involved in missions, was designed to help young men face the challenge of personal missions involvement. Young men worked to complete five missions challenge units: the Base Unit, Worship Unit, Witness Unit, Ministry Unit, and Education Unit. The Base Unit, the beginning point, consisted of two parts designed to prepare each young man on his journey. In part one of the base unit, the young man received 50 hours of credit by completing fourteen activities designed to lead the participant to personal evaluation, missions research, and a commitment to involvement in missions. In order to complete part two of the base unit, the young man participated in 25 hours of volunteer ministry service in each area: Worship, Witness, Ministry, and Education. After completing the Base Unit, the young man received credit for completing the remaining missions challenge units by participating in service projects that totaled 150 hours of service in each unit.



*Mission Challenge Award Certificate*

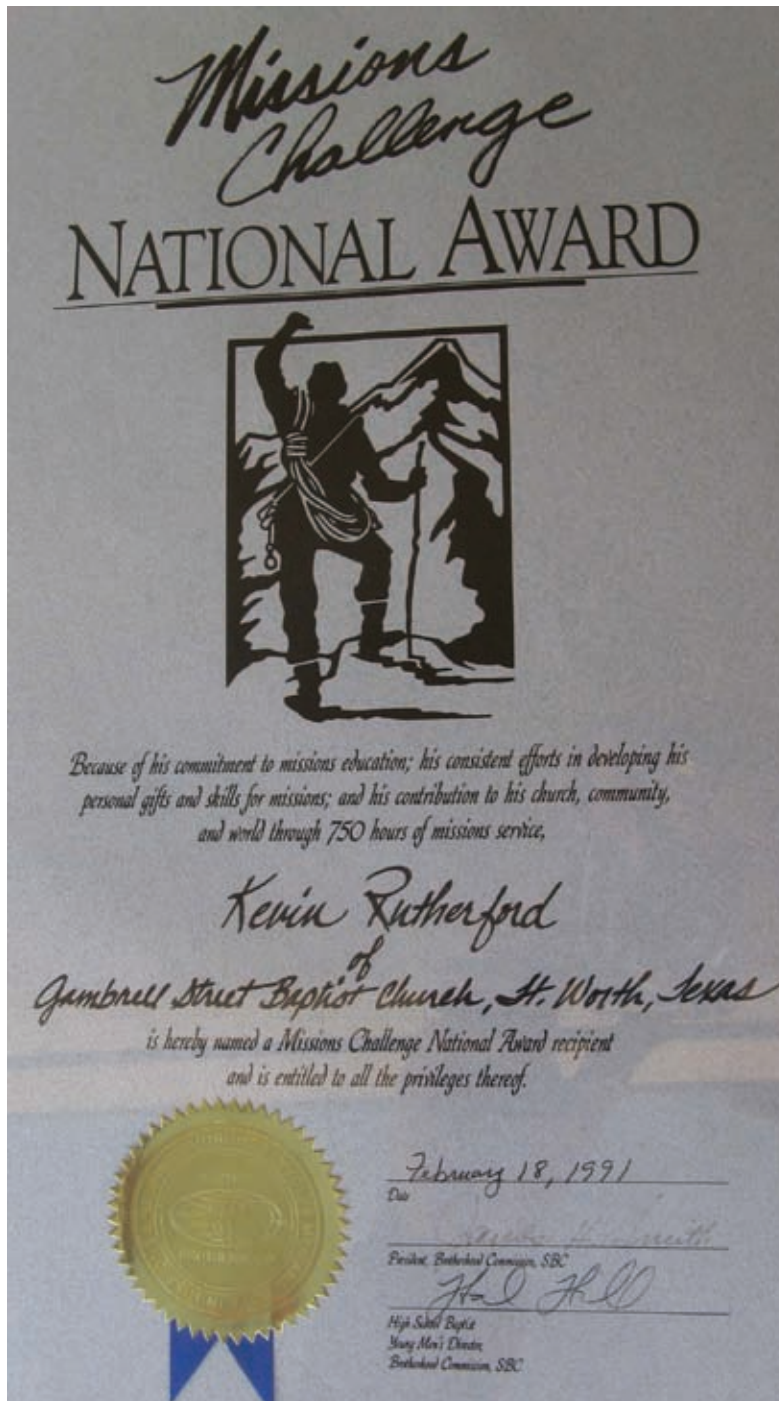


A young man received the Mission Challenge T-shirt when he completed the Base Unit by contacting the Brotherhood Commission. At the completion of each Mission Challenge Unit, the young man received a Mission Challenge Award certificate and a brass plate to put on the Mission Challenge Award Plaque.

*Mission Challenge Award Plaque*



When a young man completed all five Mission Challenge units, he was eligible to receive national recognition by contacting his state Brotherhood department.



*Mission Challenge National Award*

In Texas, a select group of High School Baptist Young Men were chosen each year to serve as State Staffers (formerly known as RA State Staffers). Their service included attending Leadership Training Camp, serving at Royal Ambassador summer camps throughout the state and state Royal Ambassador events. State High School Baptist Young Men's Rendezvous were conducted that included missions speakers and competition activities for high school guys.





## Leadership Materials

In 1987, new leadership materials were introduced. *Leading Royal Ambassadors* became the primary leadership manual that outlined the Royal Ambassadors and Brotherhood programs. Within this manual the purpose of RAs is defined as:

The purpose of Royal Ambassadors is to involve boys in missions. Involvement in missions is living one's faith daily, personal experience in witness and ministry, and giving and praying to support persons involved in missions. The Royal Ambassador program helps boys to become aware of the needs of people around the world and to respond to those needs. The organization seeks to lead boys to a personal commitment to Christ and assist them in their Christian growth experience. Through Royal Ambassadors, boys are led to an awareness of their responsibility to Christ and encouraged to become His ambassador. This purpose is outlined in the Royal Ambassador Pledge.

Age level *Self Study Guides* were used to help train the counselors, assistant counselors, RA Director, and RA committee members for each of the three age groups. These manuals were used in conjunction with the *Leading Royal Ambassadors* manual and the annual *Royal Ambassador Planbook* to emphasize the importance of understanding the Royal Ambassadors program and its purpose as a missions education organization for boys.



Beginning October 1987, the monthly magazines used by Royal Ambassadors, were changed. *Lad*, was introduced for boys in the 1st through 3rd grades. *Crusader* was revised for boys in the 4th through 6th grades. *Pioneer* replaced *Pioneer Probe* and was for young men in the 7th through 9th grades. *Royal Ambassador Leadership* was edited for RA leaders and replaced *Crusader Counselor* and *Probe Leadership Edition* magazines.



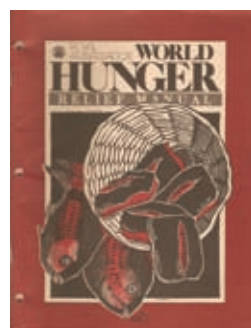




All of the additional RA leadership materials were revised in 1987 except the *World Hunger Relief Manual*. The *World Hunger Relief Manual* was updated in 1991 to include sections for Lads, Crusaders, Pioneers and an advanced studies section in addition to games and activities for awareness of world hunger issues. Illustrated below are additional Royal Ambassador Leadership materials that were in print from 1987 until 1997.



1978 - 1991



1991 - 1997

1987 - 1997

The Standard of Achievement was modified in 1987 with two levels of achievement recognition - Basic and Advanced. Each age group (Lads, Crusaders and Pioneers) had their own Standard of Achievement that was designed to help Royal Ambassador counselors and boys achieve their assigned tasks in missions. The requirements of the standard covered six areas: Administration, Chapter Meetings, Advancement, Missions Activities, Interest Activities, and Meaningful Relationships.

Each age group chapter earned the Standard of Achievement recognition when all of the basic actions were completed. The Advanced Standard of Achievement recognition was earned when all of the standard and advanced actions were completed. Chapters were encouraged to meet and exceed the standard level and maintain that level for 12 months.

Chapters could apply at any time during the year to their state office for their recognition certificate. In Texas, chapters that requested recognition for meeting the Advanced Standard of Achievement were recognized at the state RA Congress with an "Honor Chapter" plaque.



## Standard of Achievement

### *Administration:*

- 1 Counselor(s) completed reading Leading Royal Ambassadors and worked through the age level Self Study Guide.
- 2 Chapter has been named after an active Southern Baptist missionary (home, foreign, state or associational).
- 3 Chapter has registered this year with the state Brotherhood department.
- \*4 Counselor(s) earned Church Study Course credit for the study of Leading Royal Ambassadors.
- \*5 Counselor(s) planned an annual schedule of activities for the age group.
- \*6 Conduct or attend Pioneer officers training (Pioneer chapters only).

### *Chapter Meetings:*

- 1 Meet weekly. (Pioneer officers plan and conduct the Pioneer chapter meetings)
- 2 Maintain an active membership with not more than (12 Lads, 14 Crusaders, 16 Pioneers) boys enrolled in each chapter.
- 3 Have a written plan for each meeting using Royal Ambassador Leadership and age group magazines.
- 4 Have a net gain of 10 percent in enrollment this year.
- \*5 Maintain an average weekly attendance of 60 percent of enrollment.

### *Advancement:*

- 1 Each chapter meeting includes an emphasis on some phase of advancement.
- 2 Boys are recognized for advancement at least quarterly.
- 3 Fifty percent of the boys in chapter complete at least one phase of advancement each year. Earns shield (pin).
- 4 Parents are encouraged to assist boys with their advancement.
- \*5 Age group record charts are prominently displayed and kept up to date.
- \*6 Eighty percent of chapter completes at least one phase of advancement each year. Earns shield (pin).

### *Missions Activities:*

- 1 Each member of the chapter is given an opportunity to help plan each mission activity and has a part in it.
- 2 Reports are made at chapter meeting on the progress made on a missions activity.
- 3 The reason for each missions activity is explained to members in chapter meetings.
- 4 Weekly prayer support of missions by using Missionary Prayer Calendars in chapter meetings.
- 5 Promote and encourage giving related to special missions offerings.
- \*6 Plan and conduct Foreign and/or Home Mission Study and/or Royal Ambassador World Hunger Relief manual study.
- \*7 The chapter plans and conducts at least one missions activity each month.

### *Interest Activities:*

- 1 Plan and conduct at least one camping activity during the year.
- 2 Include games and/or crafts in regular chapter meetings at least once a month.
- \*3 Plan at least one outdoor activity each quarter, including at least two sports events each year.

### *Meaningful Relationship:*

- 1 Plan and conduct Royal Ambassador Week activities that involve parents and other church members.
- 2 Plan and conduct one activity that involves family of chapter members.
- \*3 Participate in at least one event with other missions organization (Girls in Actions, Acteens).
- \*4 Participate in at least one event with a chapters outside your church in the same age range (summer camp, associational events).
- \*5 Participate in a state Royal Ambassador activity.

The Standard of Achievement certificate was awarded to chapters that fulfilled each requirement not marked with an asterisk(\*). The Advanced Standard of Achievement certificate was awarded to chapters that fulfilled all requirements listed above.



The Royal Ambassador Vest made of blue denim and trimmed in gold, was introduced in 1984 as a way to display extra awards earned. Current RA awards were to be worn on a white dress shirt.

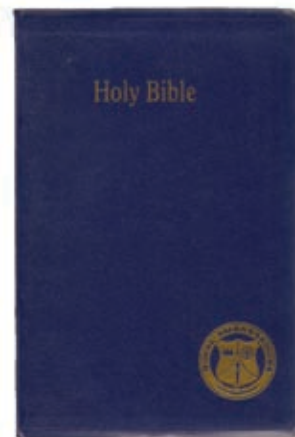
By 1987, the RA Vest became the standard uniform for Royal Ambassadors and their leaders.

May, 1989, the first Royal Ambassador University sponsored by the Brotherhood Commission was held at Rhodes College in Memphis, Tennessee. This national training conference for Royal Ambassador leaders provided an opportunity to train state and associational RA leaders. Texas Baptist Men chartered a bus that was filled to capacity with regional RA leaders that agreed to attend the Royal Ambassador University and return back to provide leadership and conduct associational RA training events.



Fall, 1989, the first quarterly RA Leadership Resource Kit became available for RA leaders. The resource kit contained visual aids and supplemental activities that leaders could chose to utilize in teaching the monthly missions stories in the Lad, Crusader and Pioneer magazines.

The first Royal Ambassador Bible (New American Standard) was published by Holman in 1992. This Bible was presented to Royal Ambassadors and their leaders for special recognition.



The Brotherhood Commission began a capital funds campaign in 1992 entitled Opportunity Now. Royal Ambassadors that participated in this project could receive the Opportunity Now patch. Dated chevrons were issued for subsequent years of participation.





## Campcraft

The *Brotherhood Campcraft* manual, published in 1987, replaced the *Royal Ambassador Campcraft* manual and served as the primary resource for learning campcraft skills. New campcraft patches for Lads were introduced. The campcraft advancement skill sheets were removed from the campcraft manual and replaced with age level campcraft workbooks. The *Lad*, *Crusader* and *Pioneer Campcraft Workbooks*, published in 1987, listed the requirements and helps in earning age level campcraft patches. The *Adult Campcraft Workbook* was published in 1988.



*Royal Ambassador Campcraft Patches 1987 - 1994*

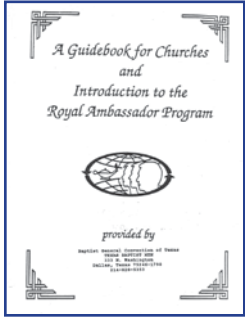


Discoverer patches were earned according to the Lad's grade. Crusader patches (Hiker, Camper, Woodsman) were earned in progression. Pioneers had to complete the Hiker, Camper and Woodsman levels before beginning the Frontiersman. Once a Pioneer completed the Frontiersman they could choose which advance campcraft level they wanted to earn next, either Backpacker or Trip Camper. The Adventurer campcraft patch was changed to Frontiersman in 1987 when the *Pioneer Adventurer* manual was added to the Pioneer advancement program.

The adult campcraft program was modified in 1987 with four levels: Basic, Advanced, Basic Instructor and Advanced Instructor. The requirements for the Basic and Advanced patches were listed in the *Adult Campcraft Workbook*. Adults who completed the Basic campcraft level could earn the Basic Instructor rating. Adults that completed the Advanced campcraft level could earn the Advanced Instructor chevron. Royal Ambassador leaders wore the Royal Ambassador chevron.



## Texas Royal Ambassadors



*A Guidebook for Churches and Introduction to the Royal Ambassador Program* was published by Texas Baptist Men in 1988. This free resource was available for Royal Ambassador leaders and RA trainers to provide a basic understanding of the Royal Ambassadors program.

Marion “Cotton” Bridges began serving as the Royal Ambassador leader at his church in 1961. Cotton became the State Royal Ambassador Director in 1989 and continued serving in this position until the summer of 1995.

Cotton focused upon offering associational trainings seminars for Royal Ambassador leaders to help strengthen the RA program in the local church. Each year, Cotton attended Leadership Training Camp in addition to many RA Camps in Texas. He also conducted state events such as the RA Congress and the RA Mission Rally. Cotton enjoyed being involved with the High School Baptist Young Men’s/Challengers State Basketball tournament.

At a meeting attended by Cotton, the speaker challenged the listeners to reflect upon programs being offered by the church that provide lasting results in building faith that spans beyond three generations, similar to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Cotton returned home to pose for this photo as proof that Royal Ambassadors is a Three Generational organization. Both of Cotton’s sons, David and Dwight, served as Royal Ambassador State Staffers and Cotton’s grandson, Jared, also served as a State Staffer for Texas Baptist Men.



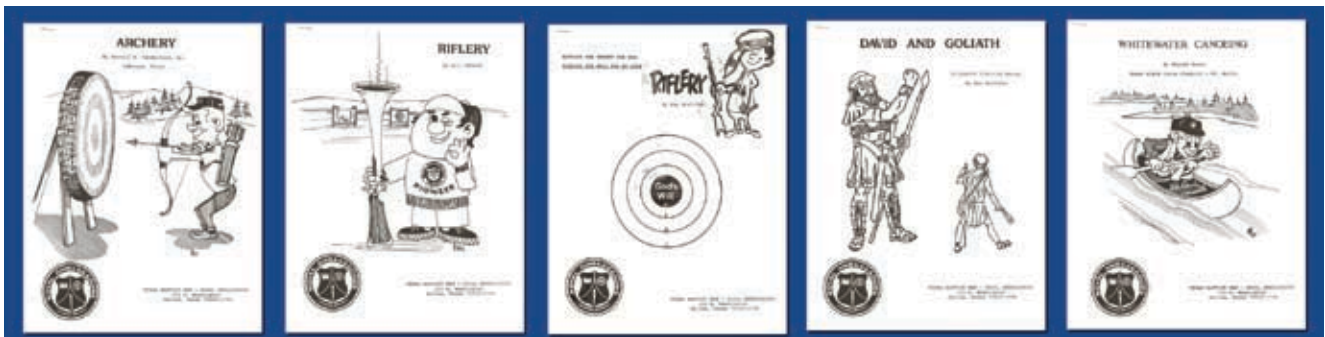
*Cotton Bridges with Dwight and Jared*



*A young man making a decision for Christ.*

Over the years, Cotton witnessed many leaders invest their lives in the RA program and boys respond to the invitation to know Christ as Savior and join Him in a lifestyle of missions and ministry.

In 1989, TBM published a set of manuals that outlined how to conduct several outdoor interest activities. These manuals were distributed to RA Camp Directors at the camp director’s meeting.







## International Legion of Royal Ambassador Leaders

The Brotherhood Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention formed an organization in 1989 named the International Legion of Royal Ambassador Leaders. The purpose of this organization was stated to:

1. Provide an opportunity for fellowship and support among Royal Ambassador leadership throughout the world and to provide a means to help directly support RA work around the world.
2. Provide an organization to recognize highly committed and dedicated leaders in the task of bringing young men and boys to God through Christ by fostering programs of missions education and mission action, with a special emphasis upon personal involvement.

To become a member, a Royal Ambassador leader submitted an application form listing all his RA leadership experience, be recommended by his state RA Director, and be approved by the Legion's Advisory Board.

The ILRAL periodically issued newsletters giving information about members and upcoming national RA and Brotherhood events. This organization ceased in 1997 when the Brotherhood Commission was merged into the North American Mission Board.







## Award of Merit

The International Legion of Royal Ambassador Leaders implemented a national Award of Merit. This was the highest honor and recognition that a Royal Ambassador leader could receive in the Southern Baptist Convention. It was presented to only 12 men each year in 2 categories: Professional Leaders and Lay Leaders. Posthumous awards were presented as felt appropriate.

The award process included: recommendation by a state Brotherhood Director; a form submitted by the nominee giving a resume of his RA leadership experience along with written answers to 2 questions: How working in RAs has contributed to my development as a Christian? What I feel I have contributed to RAs as a leader?; review and recommendation by the ILRAL Advisory Board; and approval by the Trustees of the Brotherhood Commission. The awards were presented at the annual Brotherhood Commission National Breakfast and recognized during the Commission's report to the annual SBC meeting.

The first Awards of Merit were presented at the SBC meeting in New Orleans in 1990 to: Professionals - J. Ivyloy Bishop (National WMU), Edward Hurt (Brotherhood Commission), Bill Jackson (North Carolina); Lay Leaders - Marion "Cotton" Bridges (Texas), R.A. Carlton, Jr. (Florida), Jesse Cunningham (Missouri), Roy Foy (N. Carolina), John W. Henson (Oklahoma), William R. Montague (S. Carolina), Dave Prichard (Oklahoma), Michael L. Rivers (Georgia), and Herb Weaver (Texas). Posthumous awards were given to Jim Betha (Alabama), Norman Godfrey (Brotherhood Commission), and Glendon McCullough (Brotherhood Commission).

A list of recipients of the Award of Merit from Texas is located in the Appendix Section on page 131.



*James Corliss receiving the Award of Merit.*



*Award of Merit*



## Royal Ambassadors 1994-2003

In 1994, the Brotherhood Commission published new missions education materials. Royal Ambassadors became a missionary organization for children in the 1st through 6th grades. The program was divided into two age groups: Lads for children in the 1st through 3rd grades and Crusaders for children in the 4th through 6th grades. Pioneer RAs and High School Baptist Young Men programs merged into a new mission education organization for young men called Challengers.



### RA PINS 1994-2003



Member



Leader

A new Royal Ambassadors insignia symbolized the revised RA program. A new Royal Ambassador flag, patch, member pin and leader pin were introduced. The RA Pledge remained the same as introduced in 1961.

The meaning of the Royal Ambassadors insignia was simplified. “The shield stands for faith in Christ. The bar represents work for Christ. The crown is for service to Christ and others. The laurel branch represents victory gained through Christ. Royal Ambassador colors are blue, gold and white. Blue stands for the boy’s loyalty to Christ, to his church, and to his chapter. Gold stands for the worth of each boy who accepts and serves Christ as Savior and Lord. White stands for purity, a clean body and mind, as each Royal Ambassador tries to pattern his life after Christ.”

The Royal Ambassador member pin was awarded to any individual who memorized and recited the RA Pledge after completing the age level membership requirements.

The Royal Ambassador patch and chevron were presented to each person when they completed the membership requirements. These patches were worn on front left side of the RA vest.

The designation for Royal Ambassador groups changed from Chapters to Clubs in the new RA materials. RA materials were presented as gender neutral to allow leaders the option of conducting Royal Ambassadors as a co-ed missions education program for children.



*RA Patch 1994-2003*



*RA Chevrons 1994-2003*





## Lads

Children in the first through third grades could join a Lad club when they completed the following membership requirements:

- Learn the Lad Motto: “Learn And Do in Jesus’ Name.” Be able to tell what the motto means. Talk about it with your RA leader, your parent, or an adult. Tell how you can learn and do in Jesus’ name.
- Read or have read to you 1 Samuel 2:26, 3:1-10. Talk about these verses with your RA leader, your parent, or an adult. Tell how this story helps you know the meaning of the Lad Motto.
- Be in a Welcoming Time with other Lad RA Club members.



*Lad Patch*

The Lad membership card and Lad patch were presented to the child during the welcoming time. The Lad Torch verse: *“I have come as light into the world, that everyone who believes in Me may not remain in darkness.”* (John 12:46) Leaders used the Lad torch to share with the boys that Christ is the light of the world and that as His Ambassadors we are to let His light shine through us.



New advancement manuals for Lads were published in 1994. Lads learned about and participated in missions activities in the following mission fields: Your Life, Your Home, Your Chapter, Your Church, and Your Neighborhood to earn his advancement pin or patch.

## LAD ADVANCEMENT 1994-2003

Lads earned elective bars and stars by participating in additional mission activities. The requirements for the age level Lad Athletic patches were listed in the back of each of the Lad manuals.





## Crusaders

Children in the fourth through sixth grades completed the membership requirements listed in the booklet entitled *Going Places* in order to become a Crusader and join an RA club.



- Learn and explain the Crusader Motto: “Help Others in Jesus’ Name.” Be able to tell what the motto means. Talk about it with your RA leader, your parent, or an adult. Tell how you can help others in Jesus’ name.
- Read John 6:1-15 in your Bible. Talk about these verses with your RA leader, your parent, or an adult. Tell how this story helps you know the meaning of the Crusader Motto.
- Learn and explain the Royal Ambassador Motto: “We are Ambassadors for Christ” (2 Corinthians 5:20).
- Be in a Welcoming Time with other Crusader RA Club members.



*Crusader Patch*



The Crusader membership card and Crusader patch were presented to the child during the welcoming time.

New advancement manuals for Crusaders were published in 1994. Crusaders learned about and participated in missions activities in the following mission fields: Your Life, Your Home, Your Chapter, Your Church, Your State (Page), Your Nation (Squire), Your World (Knight) to earn their advancement pin or patch.



## CRUSADER ADVANCEMENT 1994-2003



Crusaders earned elective bars and stars by participating in additional mission activities. The requirements for the age level Crusader Athletic patches were listed in the back of each of the Crusader manuals.





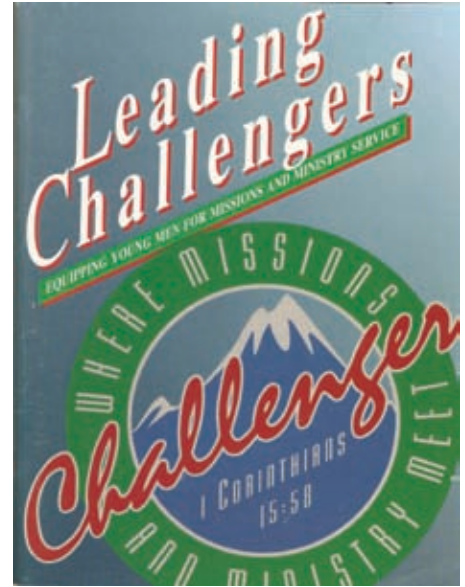
## Challengers

In 1994, Pioneer Royal Ambassadors and High School Baptist Young Men (formerly called Ambassadors) programs merged into a new mission education organization for young men in the 7th through 12th grades called Challengers.

*Leading Challengers* manual provided an overview of the Challengers program and organizational structure. The purpose of the Challengers program was to interpret missions as a biblical mandate and instruct youth and those who lead them toward mission and ministry action.

Challengers encourages young men to:

- Gather regularly with other youth for fellowship, mission study and mission action.
- Encounter God daily through a time of personal prayer and Bible study.
- Discover their own calling to and gifts for service, witness and ministry.
- Participate in ongoing missions and ministry opportunities through their church.
- Give willingly to support missions around the world through the Cooperative Program.
- Become an informed and responsible follower of Christ.
- Celebrate the Christian life through commitment to weekly worship in their church.



*Challenge* was a monthly magazine for Challengers that offered Bible-based experiential information about foreign, home and personal missions. *Challenge* also included two Bible studies each month, missions and ministry projects, and instructions for personal development. *Challenge, Leader Edition* contained all materials found in the student edition plus it provided session plans and other planning helps for the Challenger leader.

The Challengers Director and Challengers Leaders worked together with the church staff to develop a successful Challengers program. The Challengers Leader prayerfully selected student leaders for the following leadership positions: President, Reporter, Missions and Ministry Leader, and Interest Leader.



*Challengers Pin  
1994 - 2008*



*Challengers Patch with Star Pins  
1994 - 1998*

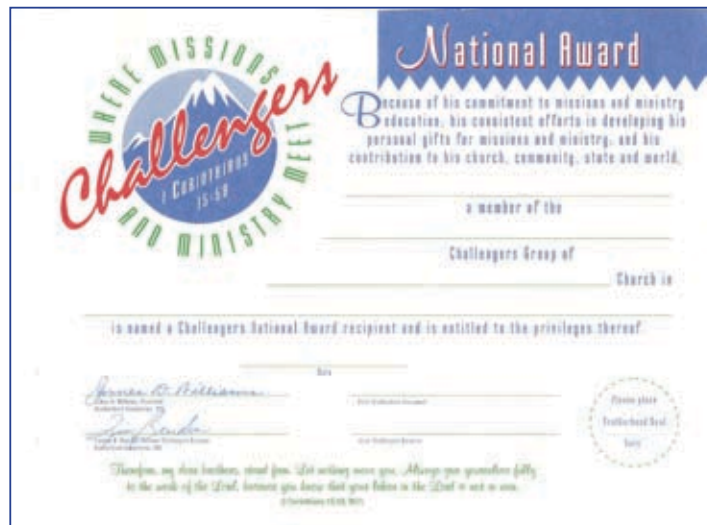
Challengers received recognition based upon the number of personal development activities they completed. Each year Challengers could earn awards in two levels: the First Mile and the Second Mile. A young man had to complete 12 Bible studies and 12 missions and ministry activities or projects for each mile. Projects could be accomplished individually or with his Challengers group. Missions project credit was





subject to the approval of the Challengers leader. Challengers had to complete the Bible study materials in the *Challenge* magazine to receive credits for each mile. Each year the First Mile Award included a certificate and one star pin to place on the Challengers patch. The Second Mile Award included a certificate seal and one star pin.

Challengers were eligible to receive the Challengers National Award when they completed a total of 192 activities over four or more years (96 Bible studies and 96 missions projects). A young man could only receive this award once. He received this national recognition by contacting his State Brotherhood Department and the National Award was issued by the Brotherhood Commission.

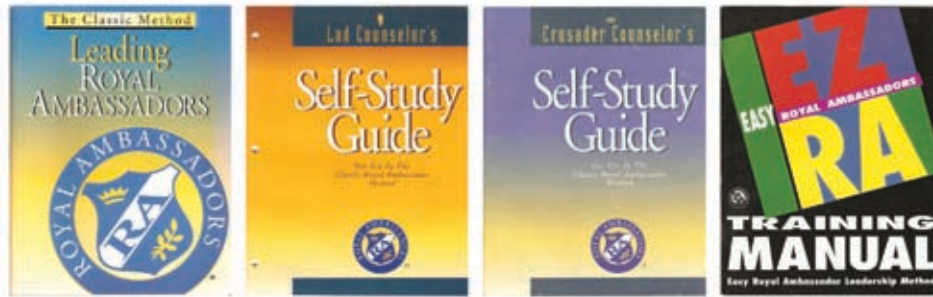


Each year young men could be selected to represent their state as a Challengers National Leadership Award winner. This award was presented to individual Challengers who had received the Challengers National Award and had been nominated by their state Brotherhood leader. Young men were chosen for outstanding leadership in Challengers and could receive this award more than once.



## Leadership Materials

New leadership materials were introduced in 1994 with two methods of leading Royal Ambassadors: Classic Royal Ambassadors and EZRA (Easy Royal Ambassadors).



*Leading Royal Ambassadors, The Classic Method* was the primary leadership manual that outlined the traditional Royal Ambassador program. Within this manual the purpose of RAs remained the same as defined in 1987.

The purpose of Royal Ambassadors is to involve boys in missions. Involvement in missions is living one's faith daily, personal experience in witness and ministry, and giving and praying to support persons involved in missions. The Royal Ambassador program helps boys to become aware of the needs of people around the world and to respond to those needs. The organization seeks to lead boys to a personal commitment to Christ and assist them in their Christian growth experience. Through Royal Ambassadors, boys are led to an awareness of their responsibility to Christ and encouraged to become His ambassador. This purpose is outlined in the Royal Ambassador Pledge.

*Self Study Guides* were used to help train the counselors, assistant counselors, RA Director, and RA committee members for each of the age groups. These manuals were used in conjunction with the *Leading Royal Ambassadors, The Classic Method* manual and the annual *Royal Ambassador Planbook* to emphasize the importance of understanding the Royal Ambassador program and its purpose as a missions education organization for boys.

*EZRA (Easy Royal Ambassador)* training manual outlined a modified approach to leading Royal Ambassadors. Royal Ambassadors was defined as “a Southern Baptist club for children in grades 1-6 that meets weekly to study, support and do missions.” “Royal Ambassador clubs have P.O.P. – Purpose, Objectives, and a Primary focus.”

- **Purpose:** The purpose of Royal Ambassadors clubs is found in the Royal Ambassador Motto: “We Are Ambassadors For Christ.” The motto was taken from 2 Corinthians 5:20 in which Paul explains that as Christians we represent Christ to the world. The first step in our purpose is to lead children to a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and then to a missions lifestyle. In our purpose, evangelism is a major concern and church outreach is one of our major works.
- **Objectives of Royal Ambassadors:** Objectives explain how we fulfill the RA Motto and our purpose. The Royal Ambassador Pledge explains the objectives of the RA program. Each person in the program is required to know the pledge.
- **Primary Focus:** Developing a missionary lifestyle in children is the primary focus of Royal Ambassadors. Royal Ambassador clubs achieve this by doing missions, learning about Southern Baptist missionaries, learning to pray for missions, and giving to Southern Baptist missions efforts.



## Royal Ambassador Meetings

Outlined below are the Classic RA and Easy RA methods for conducting weekly meetings.

### Classic Royal Ambassadors

**Before the Meeting:** (15-20 min.)

What you do here will determine the success of the meeting. Prepare yourself and the meeting room.

**While the Boys Arrive:** (10 min.)

Set the tone and establish control. Greet the boys and get them involved in an activity.

**Opening:** (2-5 min.)

A dignified – impressive ceremony.  
Opening prayer. RA Pledge.

**Business:** (5-10 min.)

Time to check attendance, make announcements, and plan upcoming events.

**Meeting Feature:** (20-30 min.)

Work on advancement, learning activities, songs, Bible verse, mission story, mission games, mission video.

**Counselor's Time:** (5 min.)

Focus Thoughts. What did we learn?

**Closing:** (2-5 min.)

Brief ceremony for an ending. Prayer time for missions. RA Motto.

**After the Meeting:** (10-15 min.)

Clean up the room, remove and store equipment, evaluate meeting, planning for next meeting.

### Easy Royal Ambassadors

**Mission Games and Activities:** (15-20 min.)

Exciting, fun-filled, mission games led by the Mission Games and Activity leader teach children about basic mission ideas. Crafts lead children to creatively identify with people in other cultures who need Jesus. Hands-on mission experiences involve children in meeting other's needs and in sharing Jesus' love.

**Bible/Advancement:** (15-20 min.)

R.A. advancement led by the Advancement advisor, offers members a way to earn recognition for the personal study of missions. Awareness of mission needs and Scripture memory are highlighted in each advancement book. Advancement books match the child's grade level in school. As children progress in advancement, they earn awards.

**Mission Focus:** (15-20 min.)

The Mission Focus leader shares the gospel of Jesus Christ and His mission command. Lively mission stories and activities located in Lad and Crusader magazines provide children with current mission information. Children will learn what Southern Baptist are doing in missions around the world. The individuals featured in the stories model for children what it means to be "on-mission" with God.

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Many RA leaders used a "Blended Approach" by combining activities and ideas or alternating the format style for conducting the weekly chapter meetings. Classic Royal Ambassadors encouraged a Royal Ambassador Director to work with a RA Committee and RA Counselors to conduct the RA program. EZRA encouraged a shared leadership approach with the EZRA Director working with a Mission Games and Activities Leader, Advancement Advisor, and Mission Focus Teacher.





Classic Royal Ambassadors and EZRA (Easy Royal Ambassadors) both used the *Lad* and *Crusader* monthly magazines for missions stories and interest articles for boys. *Royal Ambassador Leadership* was a quarterly magazine that provided RA leaders suggested lesson plans and activities. The *Royal Ambassador Planbook* provided annual calendar planning helps and record keeping forms for RA leaders.



Illustrated below are additional RA leadership materials that were published by the Brotherhood Commission from 1987 until 1997. *Mission Games and Activities for Children* was published in 1988 and promoted as a resource in the EZRA manual for EZRA clubs.



Scripture memorization has always been an important part of Royal Ambassadors. Bible Memory Medals were introduced in 1994, to recognize children for learning Scripture and motivate them to learn additional Scriptures. A bronze medal was given to individuals who memorized 25 missions Bible verses in one year. A silver medal was awarded to those who memorized 50 missions Bible verses in one year. A gold medal was presented to the person who memorized 75 missions Bible verses in one year. Silver stars were added to the medals each year the award was earned again. A list of verses to be memorized was located in the Royal Ambassador advancement books, Royal Ambassador magazines, or in the preface of the RA Bible.





Advancement Trophies were introduced in 1994, to recognize children that completed two or more advancement books. A child that completed two advancement books could receive the Ivyloy Bishop Award trophy. After he/she completed four books, they could receive the Isaac Tichenor Award trophy. Upon completion of all six books the child could receive the William L. (Bill) Wallace Award trophy. Trophies were available from the Brotherhood Commission.



The Mission Squares game pack was introduced in 1994. It included four missions squares (colored bean bags) in addition to descriptions and instructions for 28 activities that were adapted from games played by children around the world. RA leaders incorporated this game pack into their weekly meetings as a fun easy way to learn Scriptures and missions games.



The EZRA motivational award system, introduced in 1994, was designed to encourage participation, help discipline, and provide instant reward for leader approved actions. Club members were awarded EZRA ink stamp impressions from their leaders for doing the following actions: completed assignment in advancement book, attendance in RA uniform, complete magazine story/activity, bring a friend, complete assigned craft activity or missions game, mission project participation.

Lads collected their ink stamp impressions on a round Lad Shield that they created. Crusaders collected stamps in their Crusader Passport books. When a child decided to trade their stamps for awards, the leader removed or crossed out the stamps from the passport book or shield.

Each motivational award system kit contained colored ink stamps, materials to construct the Lad Shields, Crusader Passport books, and a mixed assortment of toy awards for award levels 1-3. Higher level awards such as the RA Knife, RA Compass or RA Bible could be purchased from the Brotherhood Commission. Suggested award levels are as follows: 10 stamps for a level 1 award, 25 stamps for a level 2 award, 50 stamps for a level 3 award, 75 stamps for a level 4 award, and 100 stamps for a level 5 award.



In June 1997, the Foreign Mission Board officially changed its name to the International Mission Board (IMB), an agency of the Southern Baptist Convention. The Brotherhood Commission, Home Mission Board, and Radio and Television Commission merged to form the North American Mission Board (NAMB), an agency of the Southern Baptist Convention. NAMB was assigned the responsibility of missions education for children, youth, adults by the SBC and became the sponsoring agency for the Royal Ambassadors and Challengers organizations.



Groups that participated in the North American Missions Study, week of prayer for missions and offering earned the North American Study patch. Groups that participated in the International Missions Study, week of prayer and offering earned the International Mission Study patch. RAs that participated in a walk-a-thon to raise money for a North American or International Mission project earned the World Walk patch. Those who also participated in a world hunger study and missions projects to collect money for a world hunger offering and sent it to either their state convention, North American Mission Board or International Mission Board earned the Royal Ambassador World Hunger Relief patch. Royal Ambassadors could earn these patches once. In subsequent years, a dated chevron was awarded for participation in these missions studies and activities.

New activity patches were introduced in 1997.



*Activity Patches 1997 - 2003*

The Standard of Achievement for Lads and Crusaders were found in *Leading Royal Ambassadors (The Classic Method)*. The requirements remained the same as the standard that was modified in 1987 with two levels – Basic and Advanced (page 82).

RA groups could apply at any time during the year to their state office for their recognition certificate. In Texas, RA groups that requested recognition for meeting the Advanced Standard of Achievement were recognized at the state RA Congress with a Honor Chapter plaque.





Royal Ambassadors celebrated 90 years as Ambassadors for Christ in 1998. Items that marked this celebration were a 90th anniversary patch, a 90th anniversary plaque, and a 90th anniversary commemorative knife in a rosewood display case.



The second Royal Ambassador Bible (New International Version) was published by Broadman & Holman in 1999.



Several changes were made to the Royal Ambassadors organization in September 1999.

- September now marked the beginning of the church calendar year for RAs. Prior to this date, October officially marked the beginning of the church calendar.
- The first RA Annual Resource Kit was introduced that contained visual graphics and supplemental teaching materials that corresponded to the missions stories in the *Lad* and *Crusader* magazines.
- *Lad Leader* and *Crusader Leader*, monthly magazines for RA leaders were introduced that replaced *Royal Ambassador Leadership* that was a quarterly magazine. Both magazines were identical to *Lad* and *Crusader* magazines, but contained suggested weekly lesson plans for both Classic RAs and EZRA programs.





## Campcraft

*Brotherhood Campcraft* continued as the primary source for learning campcraft skills. *Lad* and *Crusader Campcraft* workbooks were reprinted with the 1994 RA insignia on the cover. These workbooks listed the requirements that Lads and Crusaders needed to complete in order to earn their campcraft patches.



Lads could earn the Discoverer One, Discoverer Two, and Discoverer Three patches according to their grade level. Crusaders could earn the Hiker, Camper, and Woodsman patches in succession. In 1994, the higher level campcraft patches were discontinued by the Brotherhood Commission.

### *Campcraft Patches 1994 - 2003*



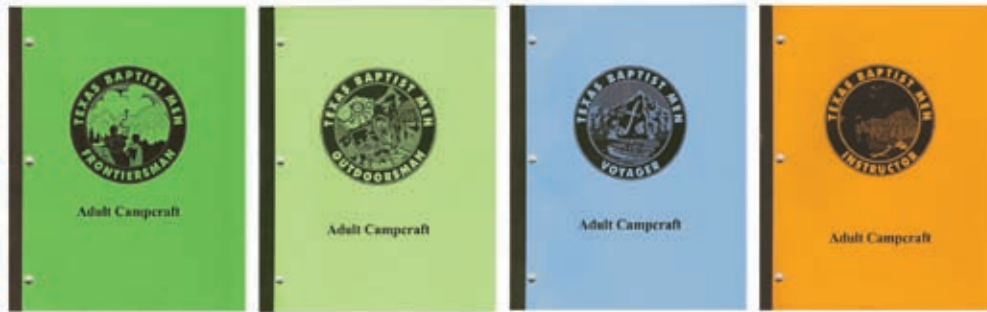
*Royal Ambassador  
Campout*







Seventy Campcraft Instructors met together at Latham Springs Baptist Encampment in January 1999 to discuss revising the campcraft materials for Texas. Twelve of these Campcraft Instructors were selected to form a campcraft committee with the task of revising the adult campcraft materials. January 2001, a revised adult campcraft training program was introduced with the following courses: Frontiersman, Outdoorsman, Voyager, Trip Leader, and Instructor Levels. The adult campcraft program utilized the *Brotherhood Campcraft* manual as the primary source for learning campcraft skills in addition to supplemental materials.



The Adult Campcraft program introduces adults to camping skills in order to increase their personal knowledge, abilities and comfort levels with experiences in outdoor living. The levels are progressive requiring satisfactory completion of one level prior to advancing to the next. This program is also designed to prepare adults to teach campcraft skills to Royal Ambassadors, Challengers and other adults.







The Frontiersman level is the introduction into the adult campcraft program. It focuses on basic campcraft skills and prepares adults to teach all Royal Ambassador Campcraft levels and the Challengers Pathfinder level.



The Outdoorsman level focuses on intermediate campcraft skills. It prepares adults to teach the Challengers Adventurer and Backpacker levels.

The Voyager level focuses on advanced campcraft skills necessary for extended campouts. It prepares adults to teach the Challengers Trip Camper and Primitive Camper levels.



The Trip Leader level introduces the skills necessary to lead others safely into extended wilderness trip camping experiences.

The Instructor levels are designed to prepare adults to teach the various levels of the Adult Campcraft program.



## Texas Royal Ambassadors

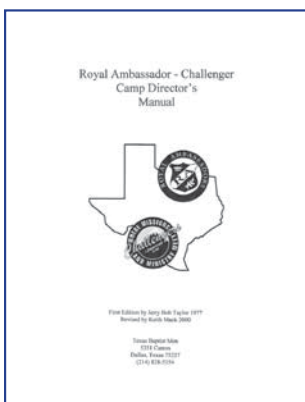
John Bullock joined RAs as a boy and learned how to serve as an Ambassador for Christ. He later became a counselor and mentored boys through the Royal Ambassadors program. John became the state RA Director for Texas Baptist Men in 1995 and served in this position until 1999 when he became the Men's Ministry Director for TBM.

John had been impressed by seeing men who served faithfully for years in their church, association, and state, because God had called them to work with boys through Royal Ambassadors. John was asked to briefly describe RAs, and he responded, "Royal Ambassadors is a life changing invitation to be on mission with God. It continues to affect my life." He participated in Rendezvous which are historical re-enactments and used his interest in wilderness camping to share with boys and men about his relationship with Christ. John challenged each man he came in contact with to become a man God could use to help shape the lives of boys.



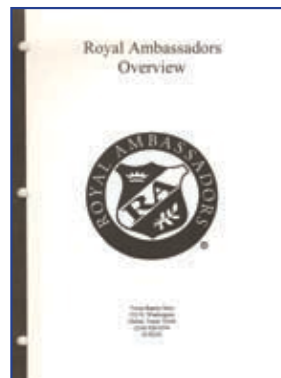
*John Bullock "Brushfire" points the way.*

John facilitated the Royal Ambassadors/Challengers Camp Director's meeting each January. He also helped to organize the Challengers State Basketball Tournament each March. He organized State RA events such as Congress and the Mission Rally. John participated in Leadership Training Camp and several of the RA/Challengers camps each summer. John responded to invitations to coordinate regional and associational training seminars and hosted a national RA/Challengers training event in 1999.



Texas Baptist Men published a revised *Royal Ambassador - Challenger Camp Director's Manual* in 2000. This manual provided program ideas and resources for RA/Challengers camps.

*Royal Ambassadors Overview* manual was published by Texas Baptist Men in 2001. This manual provided a brief overview of the Royal Ambassadors program and was used by RA trainers that conducted associational RA trainings.









# Royal Ambassadors 2003-2008



The North American Mission Board published new missions education materials in 2003 for RAs. Royal Ambassadors continued to be divided into two age groups: Lads for boys in the 1st through 3rd grades and Crusaders for boys in the 4th through 6th grades. Challengers continued as the missions education organization for young men in the 7th through 12th grades.

A new Royal Ambassadors insignia symbolized the RA program. A new Royal Ambassador flag, patch, and pin were introduced. The RA Pledge was modified.



## RA PIN 2003-2008



The meaning for the 2003 Royal Ambassadors insignia was presented only on the National Royal Ambassadors website at [www.royalambassadors.org](http://www.royalambassadors.org).

- The Words RA - Royal Ambassadors: An ambassador is a representative in a court or nation other than his own. Royal Ambassadors are representatives of Christ the King bringing good news of salvation to people everywhere. The RA Motto reads, "We are Ambassadors for Christ" (2 Cor. 5:20, HCSB).
- The Shield: The shield stands for faith in Christ (see Eph. 6:16). This symbol represents the journey of faith and a commitment to having faith in Christ.
- The Crown: The crown stands for Christ the King and what He represents (see Jas. 1:12). As a follower and ambassador of Christ, we are to stay focused on Jesus and His message to the world.
- The Branch: The branch is for achievement and victory in the work of being an Ambassador for Christ (see Matt. 25:21). Combining skills and actions help accomplish the goal of carrying the gospel to people needing to hear it.
- The Colors: Blue represents the boy's loyalty to Christ, His church, and each other. Gold represents the worth of the boy to God's mission. White represents purity of living, which makes him an effective ambassador.



*RA Patch 2003-2008*



*RA Chevrons 2003-2008*



The Royal Ambassador Pledge was revised in 2003, modifying the 1961 version. The phrase: “to learn how the message of Christ is carried around the world” was changed to a more active statement, “to learn how to carry the message of Christ around the world.”

The graphic features the words "ROYAL AMBASSADOR" in a curved, serif font, flanked by five stars. Below this is a golden crown. Underneath the crown is a wide, brown ribbon with the word "PLEDGE" written in large, bold, serif letters. A small olive branch is positioned below the ribbon.

**As a Royal Ambassador I will do my best:**

- to become a well-informed, responsible follower of Christ;
- to have a Christlike concern for all people;
- to learn how to carry the message of Christ around the world;
- to work with others in sharing Christ; and
- to keep myself clean and healthy in mind and body.

A smaller version of the Royal Ambassadors logo is located in the bottom right corner of the pledge graphic. It features the same shield design with "ROYAL AMBASSADORS" at the top, "RA" in the center, and "II Corinthians 5:20" at the bottom.



## The Royal Ambassador Pledge and Virtues



Personal Growth Plans (formally known as advancement) were introduced in 2003 and were based upon learning biblical virtues. The scope of the Royal Ambassadors organization was explained as follows:

“To build the Christian character needed to keep the promises of the RA Pledge, RAs learn biblical virtues such as Loyalty, Friendship, Courage, Responsibility, Honesty, Faith, Compassion, Perseverance, Teamwork and Self Discipline. They also learn about God’s mission, participate in on-mission activities, pray for and give to missions, develop and use mission skills, and learn about and support the mission work of their church and denomination.”

The Royal Ambassadors Pin is presented to a boy or RA leader who learns the Royal Ambassador Pledge and explains what the pledge means to them. Some RA leaders refer to the RA Pin as the pledge pin.



*RA Pin 2003-2008*





## Lads

Boys in the first through third grades could join a Royal Ambassadors chapter/group when they completed the following membership requirements:

- Learn to say the Royal Ambassador Motto that comes from 2 Corinthians 5:20: “We are Ambassadors for Christ.” Tell it to your parent or RA leader. Talk to them about what it means.
- Write your name and date on the “Becoming a Royal Ambassador” page in your Personal Growth Plan book. Have your parent or RA leader sign their name.



The Royal Ambassador patch, membership card and Lad patch are presented to the boy when he becomes a member of the Royal Ambassadors chapter/group.



*Lad Patch*

Personal Growth Plan manuals for Lad Royal Ambassadors were published in 2003. Lads participate in activities to earn points and learn about the virtues of loyalty, friendship, courage, responsibility, and honesty. He can receive his Lad pin and/or patch once he has earned five bars from the five virtue sections. RAs earn a bar for each section that he completes. Each bar requires 75 points in that virtue section. Additional points can be used to earn Service Stars. Each star requires 25 points.

Athletic patches are awarded to boys that serve as Ambassadors for Christ while participating in a team sport or agreed upon athletic activity for at least three months. Each patch corresponds to the boy's grade level.



## LAD AWARDS 2003-2008





## Crusaders

Boys in the fourth through sixth grades could join a Royal Ambassadors chapter/group when they completed the following membership requirements:



- Learn to say the Royal Ambassador Motto that comes from 2 Corinthians 5:20: “We are Ambassadors for Christ.” Tell it to your parent or RA leader. Talk to them about what it means.
- Write your name and date on the “Becoming a Royal Ambassador” page in your Personal Growth Plan book. Have your parent or RA leader sign their name.

The Royal Ambassador patch, membership card and Crusader patch are presented to the boy when he becomes a member of the Royal Ambassadors chapter/group.

Personal Growth Plan manuals for Crusader Royal Ambassadors were published in 2003. Crusaders participate in activities to earn points and learn about the virtues of faith, compassion, perseverance, teamwork, and self discipline. He can receive his Crusader pin and/or patch once he has earned five bars from the five virtue sections. RAs earn a bar for each section that he completes. Each bar requires 75 points in that virtue section. Additional points can be used to earn Service Stars. Each star requires 25 points.



*Crusader Patch*

Athletic patches are awarded to boys that serve as an Ambassador for Christ while participating in a team sport or agreed upon athletic activity for at least three months. Each patch corresponds to the boy’s grade level. The grade number was added to the Crusader athletic patches in 2003.



## CRUSADER AWARDS 2003-2008



Crusader Bars

Service Stars



4th Grade



5th Grade



6th Grade



## Challengers

The North American Mission Board began the process of re-writing the Challengers curriculum in 1998. The purpose of Challengers is described as an organization that targets young men and works to help them encounter God, then leads them to develop an “on mission” lifestyle with God. Challengers provides an opportunity for building relationships between Christian men and teenagers that will encourage the young men to grow in their Christian commitment through a mentoring process.

Alan Huesing, the National Director from 1998 until 2004 stated that “Challengers is best described as a mission accountability group for young men.” Accountability is a necessary element for any group whose members are to develop an on mission lifestyle. Accountability assumes a commitment has been made or a goal has been set. The Challengers Commitment Statement sets forth the goal in the form of a personal and group commitment that each member signs and then is encouraged, supported, and held accountable to keep.

### Challengers Commitment Statement

As a Challengers member, I will . . .

- Gather regularly with other youth for fellowship, mission study and mission action.
- Encounter God daily through a time of personal prayer and Bible study.
- Discover my own calling to and gifts for service, witness and ministry.
- Participate in ongoing missions and ministry opportunities through my church.
- Give willingly to support missions around the world through the Cooperative Program.
- Become an informed and responsible follower of Christ.
- Celebrate the Christian life through commitment to weekly worship in my church.

Membership in Challengers is generally limited to young men in 7-12 grades or whatever age is considered to be eligible to be included in the youth ministry of their church. Students in junior high or middle school (7-9 grades) are called Younger Challengers (Challengers I) and students in high school are called Older Challengers (Challengers II).

Membership requires each student to complete the following:

- Challengers will review the Challengers Commitment Statement and agree to and sign a commitment statement they will follow as members of a Challengers group.
- Challengers will become familiar with the Challengers logo.
- Challengers will memorize 1 Corinthians 15:58
- Challengers will have a personal time alone with God using the Challengers Vigil and show their leader that they have completed the vigil.



The Challengers Vigil is a personal time alone with God. It is a periodic spiritual checkup to help a Challenger examine how he is doing in keeping his on mission commitment to God as expressed in the Challengers Commitment Statement. Each Challenger completes this “watch with God” as a membership requirement and at least annually thereafter. Challengers should keep the completed copies of the checklist in their Challenger Notebook. There are two Challengers Vigils available. One Vigil is found in the appendix section of *Leading Challengers*. The other *Challengers Vigil* is available from Texas Baptist Men.

### *Challengers Vigil*





The Challengers logo contains the organization name, key verse, and motto.



**Challengers:**

Challengers are those who are commissioned to challenge non-Christians to trust and follow Jesus Christ. They also challenge fellow Christians to be on mission with God.

**Mountains:**

The mountains on the logo represent the challenges in a teenage young man’s life. These are the academic, physical, emotional, social, as well as spiritual challenges of growing up in today’s world.

**1 Corinthians 15:58:**

“Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourself fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.” (NIV)

**“Where Missions and Ministry Meet”:**

Our mission is to join God in His Mission of reconciling the world to Himself. Ministry is meeting human needs all around us in obedience to Christ’s command to love our neighbor as ourselves. The Challengers motto indicates that we will use ministry as a method of going to the world with the gospel.

**Colors:**

The colors of the Challengers logo represent four disciplines of the Christian life. They are:

- Red = *sacrifice*
- Green = *growth*
- White = *purity*
- Blue = *loyalty*



*Challengers Pin  
1994 - 2008*



*Challengers Patch 1998 - 2008*



*Challengers Flag 3' x 5'*

Texas Baptist Men produced the Challengers flag in 2000 for use at Challengers state events such as RA/Challengers Congress, Mission Rally and Leadership Training Camp.



The North American Mission Board published *Leading Challengers (Second Edition)*, *The Challengers Journey*, and *On Mission Youth Bible Studies* in the fall of 2000. *The Challengers Quest* and *The Challengers Journey Advanced Miles* were published in 2001. The *Challengers Planbooks* provided an annual collection of 12 unit session plans for use in Challengers meetings.



*Challengers Materials 2000-2008*

*Challenge* was a monthly magazine for Challengers that offered Bible-based experiential information about foreign, home and personal missions. *Challenge, Leader Edition* contained all materials found in the student edition plus it provided session plans and other planning helps for the Challengers leader. *Challenge* and *Challenge, Leader Edition* magazines were replaced in September 2000 by *Go! Challengers Edition* a special edition of the bi-monthly magazine that included sixteen pages designed for Challengers that included feature stories, missionary files, On Mission Bible studies, youth strategies, and Challengers news. *Go!* magazine was discontinued in the spring of 2004. In 2006, all Challengers materials in print were discontinued and made available only as downloads from the National Challengers website at [www.challengerscentral.com](http://www.challengerscentral.com).

Each Challenger is to keep his own personal Challengers notebook. Each Challenger notebook is divided into five sections:

- **Accountability Team:** This section includes a list of the contact information and all other materials related to the accountability team. A copy of the group's Challengers Commitment should be included in this section.
- **Prayer Journal:** Record personal and group prayer request as well as God's answers and responses.
- **Bible Reading:** This section is for collecting and tracking team Bible reading sheets and Journey Bible studies from the *On Mission Youth Bible Studies*.
- **Mission/Ministry Projects:** This section is for the current Challengers bi-monthly calendar and information about past and upcoming mission and ministry projects.
- **Journey/Quest:** This section contains the pages of the Challengers Journey or Quest workbook. The workbooks are distributed as loose-leaf, three-hole punched write-in pages.



Churches with Challengers are encouraged to have a Challengers Director, a primary team of men (Advisors/Mentors) for each group in addition to other resource people. Challengers student leaders (optional) are President, Mission Action Coordinator, Ministry Project Coordinator, and Interest Activity Coordinator. Some Challengers groups assign various responsibilities to students such as prayer leader, Bible study leader, session leader, and accountability team leader on a bimonthly basis.

Challengers advancement plans serve an important function in this mission education organization. They provide direction, accountability, and motivation to help individual and group work to accomplish educational goals. The Challengers advancement plan provides a detailed, developmental sequence of specific instruction and activities for on-the-job mission training. Accountability teams help Challengers to stay on track according to the plan. Awards, scholarships, and recognition at regular milestones provide the motivation and encouragement that many young men need.

Each mile of the Challengers advancement plans requires completion of 12 specific Bible studies and 12 mission projects called “mission challenges.” Nine of the mission challenges correspond to the nine “mission fields” of mission education: My Life, My Family, My Church, My School, My Neighborhood, My Association, My State, My Nation, and My World. The remaining three mission challenges are electives to be chosen by the Challenger member.

The *Challengers Quest* is for Challenger members who have not established a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. The Quest is a two-mile plan that is written on a junior high or middle school level. Challengers interact with Christians who will have the opportunity to share about their personal relationship with God, His Word, and His people. The Quest contains 24 Bible studies designed to help Challengers to know the way of salvation, assurance, and growth in their new life in Christ. The *Challengers Quest* is not a prerequisite for the *Challengers Journey*.

The Challengers Quest Award is presented to Challengers upon the completion of each mile of the Challengers Quest.



The *Challengers Journey* is for Challengers members who are in the process of learning mission skills in order to develop an on mission lifestyle. The Journey consists of four Basic Miles plus two additional advanced Leadership Miles. Challengers on the Challengers Journey complete a series of 72 Bible studies, each of which examines a well-known episode from the Bible. These Bible studies are located in the *On Mission Youth Bible Studies*.





The Challengers Journey Award is presented to each Challenger upon the completion of each of the first three miles of the Journey.



*Challengers Journey Award*



*Challengers National Award*

The Challengers National Award is presented to a Challenger who has completed the four Basic Miles of the Journey. The young man receives this national recognition by contacting his State Mission Education Leader and the national award is issued by the North American Mission Board.

The Challengers National Leadership Award is presented to a Challenger who has received the Challengers National Award and has completed the two Advanced Miles of the Journey for a total of six miles. The National Leadership Award is issued by The North American Mission Board. Challengers may receive the National Award and National Leadership Award only once. Young men who have earned these National Challengers Awards are eligible for scholarships from Baptist Universities.



*Challengers National Leadership Award*



## Leadership Materials

New leadership materials were published for Royal Ambassadors leaders in 2003.

*Sons of Virtue* is a guide book for fathers and sons to spend one hour a week together for ten weeks exploring the ten virtues associated with Royal Ambassadors and introduce them to the RA Pledge and program. This book is also intended for any man who feels led to help boys grow in godly character.



*Leading Royal Ambassadors* manual outlines the revised Royal Ambassadors organization and its purpose:

The Royal Ambassadors organization takes its name from the motto, “We are Ambassadors for Christ,” based on 2 Corinthians 5:20. Royal Ambassadors is a Southern Baptist mission education organization for boys in grades 1-6. It seeks to build biblical character in boys through mission involvement and virtue commitments. Since its beginning in 1908, Royal Ambassadors church-based ministries have helped boys to grow spiritually, physically, mentally, and in relationships with others. The basic purpose of Royal Ambassadors is found in the Royal Ambassador Pledge.

*Leading Royal Ambassadors* encourages the Royal Ambassador Ministry Leader to develop a “3-G” (Gather/Group/Grow) strategy to begin a Royal Ambassador ministry at their church.

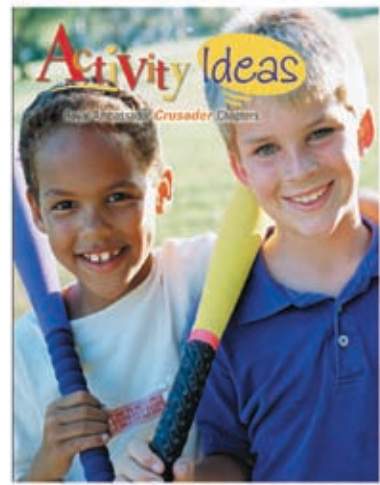
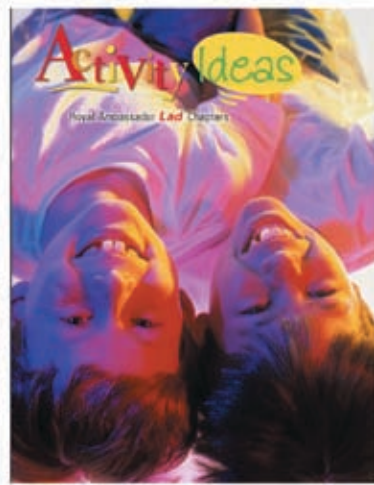
- Plan and conduct events to gather groups of boys together with their families.
- Organize men and boys into short-term groups to “get a taste” of being together as part of a group with an adult leader.
- Guide short-term groups into a growing, ongoing commitment. Establish leaders who will mentor boys by meeting regularly to help them develop godly character and join in God’s mission.

*Lad* and *Crusader* magazines provide missions stories that emphasize biblical virtues. Suggested weekly lesson plans for RA leaders are included in the *Lad Leader* and *Crusader Leader* editions of these monthly magazines. The *RA Planbook* provides leaders with information to help them plan and lead a Royal Ambassadors group/chapter. The *RA Planbook* became a free resource that could be downloaded from the national Royal Ambassadors website in 2006. The *RA Resource Kit* provides items for use in activities suggested in the weekly plans of *Lad Leader* and *Crusader Leader*. Also included are posters that promote the Royal Ambassadors organization and specific Southern Baptist offerings.





*Activity Ideas* for Lad and Crusader chapters provided RA leaders with helpful ideas for use in planning and conducting certain parts of the chapter meeting. Both of these manuals are currently out of print and not available on the website.



No Standard of Achievement was listed for Royal Ambassadors chapters in the 2003 RA materials.

## **Royal Ambassador Meetings**

Royal Ambassador chapter meetings allow boys and their leaders to build relationships as they share common learning and experiences. These meetings provide times for leaders to show personal examples of an on-missions lifestyle and encourages and helps boys keep their commitments they made through the RA Pledge and their Personal Growth Plans

The Five-Part Royal Ambassadors meeting consisted of the following sections:

Opening: (5-10 minutes.)

Short arrival activity - a game or other activity that relates to the virtue.

Check roll.

Recite the RA Pledge.

Have an opening prayer.

Virtue Exploration: (10-15 minutes.)

A missionary story and recall activity on the virtue from the magazine. – or

A Baptist Men speaker sharing from his experience on the featured virtue.

Mission Games & Activities: (10 minutes.)

Group games, craft projects, or mission projects that reinforce the virtue.

Personal Growth Time: (10 minutes.)

Personal time in the individual Personal Growth Plan workbooks to make commitments and to be reminded of current virtue commitments.

Closing: (10-15 minutes.)

Leader time to sum up the experience.

Closing prayer time.

Closing game or activity while boys are waiting to be picked up.





## Mission and Interest Activities

Groups that participate in the North American Missions Study, week of prayer for missions and offering earn the North American Study Patch. Groups that participate in the International Missions Study, week of prayer and offering earn the International Mission Study patch. Groups that participate in a walk-a-thon for a North American or International Mission project earn the World Walk patch. RAs that participate in a world hunger study and missions projects to raise money for a world hunger offering and send it to their state convention, North American Mission Board or International Mission Board earn the Royal Ambassador World Hunger Relief patch. Royal Ambassadors can earn these patches once. In subsequent years, RAs receive a dated chevron for participation in these missions projects.



*Missions Patches 2003 - 2008*



Opportunity Now became an ongoing Royal Ambassadors project that helps to provide funds for Southern Baptist disaster relief ministry. RAs are encouraged to collect their own weight in aluminum cans, turn them in for recycling, and send the funds to the North American Mission Board, designating the check for Disaster Relief. Each member who contributes \$10 or more to the Opportunity Now project may receive a patch. Subsequent years, RAs can earn a dated chevron for participation in Opportunity Now.

New activity patches were introduced in 2003. RAs can receive these patches by participating in these activities with their group. Each RA member can receive these patches one time. They earn a dated chevron for participation in subsequent years.



*Activity Patches  
2003 - 2008*



## Royal Ambassador Resources

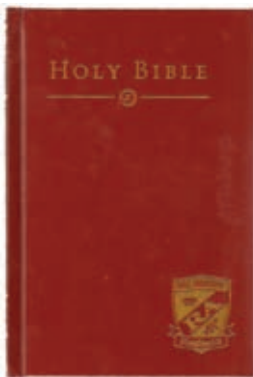
A new style of RA vest was introduced in 2003. RA groups could choose to wear either a khaki vest with pockets or the traditional blue denim vest with gold trim.



A Royal Ambassador pocket knife for boys and a smaller RA pocket knife for leaders that are imprinted with the new RA logo became available in 2003. These knives are currently available for RAs and their leaders or dads.



*Royal Ambassadors Vest*



In 2006, a new RA Bible (Holman Christian Standard Bible) was published by Holman. This award Bible is presented to RAs and their leaders for special recognition.

Royal Ambassadors celebrated 100 years as Ambassadors for Christ in 2008. A commemorative patch, plaque and engraved knife with rosewood display case were produced to mark this occasion.







## Camcraft

The requirements to earn the RA Camcraft patches were located in the *Lad* and *Crusader Camcraft* workbooks. Lads could earn the Discoverer One, Discoverer Two, and Discoverer Three patches according to their grade level. Crusaders could earn the Hiker, Camper, and Woodsman patches in succession.



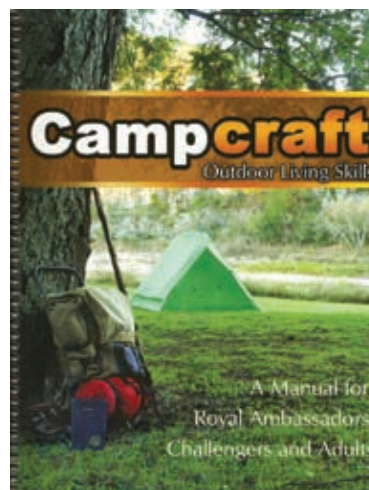
*RA Camcraft Patches 2003 - 2008*

In 2004, Texas Baptist Men introduced a new set of camcraft patches for Challengers. Challengers can earn these patches individually or as a group. The Pathfinder level introduces Challengers to the basic camcraft skills. After completing the Pathfinder level, a young man can begin working on the Adventurer level that introduces him to intermediate camcraft skills. After completing the Adventurer level, Challengers can choose which patch they would like to earn next. Backpacker, Trip Camper and Primitive Camper introduces the young man to advanced camcraft skills.



*Challenger Camcraft Patches 2004 - 2008*

In 2007, Texas Baptist Men published *Camcraft – Outdoor Living Skills*, a manual for Royal Ambassadors, Challengers and Adults. It contains camcraft skills and spiritual applications related to outdoor living and lists the requirements to earn the Royal Ambassadors and Challengers camcraft patches. This manual is a great resource for leaders that work with RAs and Challengers. Camcraft training opportunities for adults are offered each spring and fall in Texas in addition to Leadership Training Camp.







## Texas Royal Ambassadors

Keith Mack began serving as the Children and Youth Missions and Ministries Consultant (State Royal Ambassadors/Challengers Director) for Texas Baptist Men in 1999 and is currently serving in this position. Rob Carr began serving as the National RA Director at the North American Mission Board in 2000 and is currently serving as the National Director for Royal Ambassadors and Challengers at the North American Mission Board.

Texas Baptist Men published a series of planbooks (2000 – 2005) that provided Royal Ambassadors and Challengers leaders information about regional and state events, missions offerings, Royal Ambassadors week and how to begin new programs. These books were distributed as a free resource to registered RA chapters and also used by associational trainers.

The Royal Ambassadors and Challengers basketball program has proven to be an effective method in reaching and developing young men for Christ. This has been especially true for high school age Challengers. Sports has the strong ability to attract a young man's attention and excite his interest. Therefore leaders utilize the basketball program as a tool for enlisting young men who are normally outside the influence of the church as well as for the enlistment and involvement of young men in the mission activity of the local church. Texas Baptist Men sponsors the Challengers State Basketball Tournament that takes place annually on the first Saturday in March. The tournament is open to high school age (9th - 12th grade) young men who are members of or are associated with a local church.



*Keith Mack and Rob Carr at the National RA Race for World Hunger in 2008*





The Royal Ambassadors/Challengers State Congress continues to provide an opportunity for RA/Challengers and their leaders and fathers to participate in activities and time together. RA chapters and Challengers groups from all over Texas join together with other churches in events that are designed to provide a fast paced day that is packed with fellowship, excitement, fun, mission education, and opportunities for spiritual growth.



After many years of being held in Waco and Belton, in 2002 the State RA/Challengers Congress began being moved to different cities each year. A new Congress patch was introduced with dated chevrons for those who participated. From 1980 until 2001, a Congress patch that designated the theme of the event was available each year.



The National Speak Out competition for Challengers was discontinued in 2005 by the North American Mission Board. Texas continued conducting the Mission Speak Out competition at Congress each year and began offering the Raymond King Memorial Scholarships in 2006 for the top three speakers in the Challengers II division.

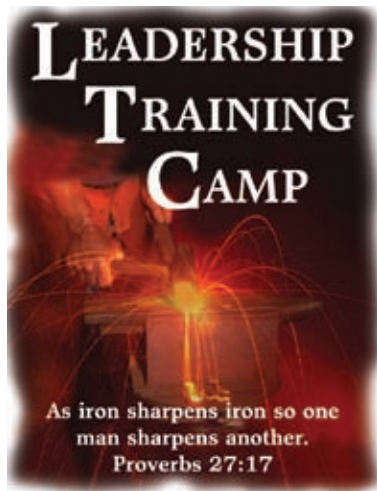


*Mission Speak Out winners - 2007*



In 2008, those attending the RA/Challengers Congress participated in a once in a life time opportunity to celebrate 100 years of being Ambassadors for Christ.





Leadership Training Camp (LTC) is a structured wilderness camp conducted at the remote area of Latham Springs Baptist Encampment each year in June. LTC is designed to increase the knowledge and skills of men and young men under the leadership of Christ.

Men continue to return each year to Leadership Training Camp to renew friendships, increase their personal knowledge and skills, provide leadership and share their knowledge and experiences with new trainees.

LTC provides training for adults in basic outdoor living skills and disaster relief response. Advanced training can be earned through river canoe or wilderness backpacking trips.

State Staffers receive training at Leadership Training Camp each summer and then serve as positive role models for boys at many RA Camps across Texas and other service opportunities. These high school young men are aware of the fact that younger boys often imitate the behavior of older boys whom they admire. Staffers seek to reflect Christ's light and direct those whom they come in contact with to Jesus. From 1967 through 2008, more than 425 young men have served as State Staffers for Texas Baptist Men. Many of these have gone on to serve as missionaries, state and national convention leaders, pastors and church ministers, and lay leaders in their churches.



*State Staffers*





*Learning about missions*

Royal Ambassadors/Challengers camps provide a unique opportunity to help shape the life of a young man. It is a rite of passage for a boy to spend time with men that will share what it means to be a man of God. Boys grow in their relationship with Christ by learning about God's mission, missionaries, and how they can be Ambassadors for Christ. Royal Ambassadors are encouraged to live out the words of the RA Pledge in all their activities.



*Learning new skills*

Camps provide a great adventure for boys, young men, and their leaders to participate in learning new skills, developing relationships with other campers, and sharing in activities.



*Reciting a Pledge*

Twenty-six Royal Ambassadors/Challengers Associational Camps were conducted in Texas in 2008. Over the past twenty-five years, close to 5,000 campers have attended camp each summer. Each year more than 10% of these campers make some type of decision for Christ.

Although records are incomplete, more than 300,000 boys and young men have attended RA camps in Texas with more than 56,000 of them having made decisions for Christ. In addition to the friends and memories gained while attending RA camps, many lives have been changed forever.



*Participating in new adventures*



The location of the State Mission Rally moved to the Texas Rangers Ballpark in Arlington, Texas in 2001.



Those attending the Mission Rally each year have the opportunity to interact with and hear testimonies from missionaries, current and former major league players, and possibly be selected to represent the entire Royal Ambassadors group by throwing out the first pitch of the game.



Several regional mission rallies are still being conducted annually in metropolitan areas of the state. These mission awareness events provide an opportunity for leaders to bring their RA groups to participate with other groups in celebrating God's activities.





# Reflections about Royal Ambassadors

Royal Ambassadors began as an organization in 1908 and celebrated 100 years of being Ambassadors for Christ in 2008. Over 2.5 million boys and their leaders have participated in RAs and learned how to help others in Jesus' name. Throughout the years countless lives have been changed as boys and their leaders have prayed for, given to, and participated in missions projects.

Three things have never changed about Royal Ambassadors:

- **The Royal Ambassadors Motto:** "We are Ambassadors for Christ" (2 Corinthians 5:20) was selected in 1908 by the Woman's Missionary Union for this organization for boys. Two reasons why the RA Motto has never changed. The first is that it is based upon God's Word which never changes. The second is that it is a simple concept for a boy to identify with and understand.
- **The needs of boys** are the same today as they were 100 years ago, even though we live in a society that has experienced many changes. Boys desire to be a part of a group, outside of their home, that accepts them for who they are. They seek the attention and affirmation from male role models to learn how to and develop the confidence that they have what it takes to become a man. Boys learn best by example and participating in hands on opportunities to be involved in missions. Boys seek adventure and Royal Ambassadors provides an opportunity for a boy to learn about the greatest adventure of all, being an Ambassador for Christ and joining God in His mission by sharing the message of reconciliation. What do the boys of your church need most? . . . Boys need a relationship with Christ and they also need the men of your church to spend time with them involved with missions.
- **The need for more men** to serve as Royal Ambassadors leaders. The WMU formed an organization for boys and earnestly sought men to serve as leaders because they recognized the importance of male leadership in the lives of boys. Over the past 100 years, every national, state, associational and church Royal Ambassadors leader has sought more men to serve as leaders in RAs. *"As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another."* (Proverbs 27:17) Royal Ambassadors provides a unique opportunity for men to help sharpen the lives of boys and help them to become Ambassadors for Christ.

During the past twenty-five years, many men have shared about their experiences as a member of a RA chapter or serving as a RA leader. Listed below are the top three things that men remember about Royal Ambassadors.

- They remember the *RA Pledge*. They remember reciting the pledge at chapter meetings and special events like RA camp and the challenge to live out the meaning of the pledge as an Ambassador for Christ.
- They remember participating in *activities*. They talk about their experiences in participating in these events. Whether it was going to a summer camp, a mission rally, on an over-night campout or participating in a mission project – they talk about what they did, experienced and learned.
- They remember their *leaders*. They remember them by name and talk about how they knew that they cared for them and how they served as examples.





This book has provided a brief overview of the resources (books, magazines, patches, pins, etc.) used in Royal Ambassadors over the past 100 years and will serve as a reference for historians and people interested in knowing about mission education for boys by Southern Baptists. History has proven that the primary curriculum (content or prescribed course of study) offered for Royal Ambassadors has been God's Word (the Bible), shared by leaders with boys who are seeking to learn how to serve as Ambassadors for Christ.

*"Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it." (Proverbs 22:6)*  
The Bible speaks about the importance of educating boys concerning God's Word and modeling for boys how to serve. Committed leaders are the heart of the Royal Ambassadors program. Mission-minded Christian men serve as a living library of knowledge and provide a role model for boys to see what it means to grow in relationship with Christ. RAs offer men the chance to spend time with their chapter members sharing His word and modeling how to serve Christ. A wise leader will take the time to learn how to work with boys and to plan activities that will challenge them mentally, physically, and spiritually. Many RA leaders have shared that they have had the opportunity to witness boys that they have worked with develop into mature young men who are serving Christ in many varied ways.

Royal Ambassadors is relevant for boys today and provides them an opportunity to become exposed to Christian principles while they participate in activities with their leaders. RAs is the only program that is offered by Southern Baptists that encourages men to mentor boys and shows them how to become a man of God. This organization exists to involve boys and their leaders in the spiritual process of developing an "on-mission" lifestyle. It utilizes activities that are designed to help boys learn about missions and how they can personally be involved in missions and ministry experiences.

It is the authors' desire that all who read this story of Royal Ambassadors will be encouraged to prayerfully seek how they can be involved in missions education and action in order to join God in His mission. Remembering: "We Are Ambassadors for Christ."

*"Remember your leaders, who spoke the word of God to you. Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever."*

Hebrews 13:7-8



# Appendix Section

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The Legion of Honor Award is the highest honor that can be bestowed on an individual in the area of Royal Ambassador and Challenger work in Texas. This award is given to leaders who have “dedicated themselves to the task of bringing boys and young men to God through Christ by fostering programs of mission education and mission action along with special emphasis upon personal involvement of the individual.”



Visit the Texas Baptist Men’s website at [www.texasbaptistmen.org](http://www.texasbaptistmen.org) and click on Royal Ambassadors for more information related to the Legion of Honor Award. You can submit an online recommendation for a person who has dedicated themselves to the task of mentoring boys or download a nomination form to complete and mail into the Texas Baptist Men’s office.





# Legion of Honor Recipients

*Award began in 1973*

Bob Adams .....1998	Norman Ellis ..... 2002	Olen Miles .....1980
Mike Adams .....1998	Robert Estrada.....1983	Charles Miller .....1997
Clarence Albertson .....1997	Bob Fitzhugh .....1981	Bill Ming ..... 1977
Dr. Jimmy Allen .....1973	Eddie Fonseca.....1997	Joe Moseley.....1992
Carl Ansley .....1999	C.H. Ford, Jr. ....1980	Roy Motley .....1975
Bill Arnold.....1976	Doug Gallion.....1999	John Norris..... 2001
George Arnold .....1976	Jim Gamble.....2003	John Overton..... 1974
Charles Ayres .....1979	Jesse Garcia.....1991	Russell Pogue.....1973
Dewey Baldwin.....1974	George Garza.....2001	Phil Portillo .....1989
W.L. Baxter .....1978	Wayne Gerhardt .....1992	Jimmy Price .....1984
Mark Becker .....2006	Robert Goynes, Jr. ....2003	Noel Ramirez.....2001
Douglas Beggs ..... 1974	John Gray .....1988	Don Reel.....1998
Alvis Bell.....1990	Bill Gresso .....1987	Eli Reyna .....1983
Bill Bice .....1996	Rusty Griffin..... 1977	Al Ringle .....1979
Ivyloy Bishop .....1974	Warren Hart .....1996	Fred Roach.....1982
Bill Black .....2003	Glenn Hedgepeth .....1980	John Roberts.....1979
Larry Blanchard..... 1977	Tony Hernandez .....2000	Larry Robinson.....2007
Pete Born .....1980	David Hindman .....1984	Ben Rogers.....1987
“Bosie” Boswell..... 1977	Robert Hinojos .....2005	Don Roman .....1995
Karl Bozeman .....1982	Ralph Hoeting.....1993	Bob Rowell .....1975
Ray Bratcher .....1982	Dan Hogan.....1984	Milton Schmidt .....1980
Jerry Brentham .....1986	Raymond Hollabaugh.....1976	Monroe Shrimpton .....1982
Bill Brewer .....1975	Damon Hollingsworth .....1974	Jerry Smith .....1994
“Cotton” Bridges.....1975	Alan Huesing.....1994	Leo Smith .....1975
Dudley Bristow ..... 1977	Marshall Hunt.....2005	Jamie D. Smith .....1978
Truman Brooks.....1986	Bill Ibos .....1976	“Rooster” Smith.....1998
Wes Brossard.....1983	W.J. Isbell .....1985	Al Smith, Jr.....1999
Bill Brown ..... 1977	E. Earl Jackson.....1987	James Sowell .....1995
Dick Brown .....1985	Dick Jenkins .....1980	Ron Steffen .....1991
Frank Brown.....2005	Mumbaji Johnson .....2000	Chuck Stevenson .....1981
George Brown.....1980	Charlie Jones.....2008	Rolan “Pop” Swank.....2006
Leslie Brown .....1980	Grover Jones .....1988	Elgin Taylor .....2002
Jim Bruner .....1984	Jerry Kersey.....1980	Jerry Bob Taylor.....1975
Carl Buckner .....2002	Ray King.....1993	Kevin Thompson .....2007
John Bullock.....2004	Kenneth King.....1995	Larry Thompson .....1984
Cameron Byler.....1973	Henry Klingemann.....1999	Pete Tracy .....1987
Joe Byrne .....1986	Don Kobe, Jr.....1982	David Trotter .....1998
Jerry Cain .....1982	John LaNoue .....1983	Darrell Vanderford.....1975
Jack Calk .....1994	Jose Leal.....1988	Noe Vella .....1979
Henry Card, Jr.....1999	Joe Lenamon.....1974	Eugene Veselka .....1979
Frank W. Carnes.....1999	James Lewis .....1987	Odell Wade.....1979
Bob Chapman.....1973	Ernie Liebig .....1974	Murrie Wainscott .....2006
W.R. Chenault.....2000	Keith Mack.....1991	Ray Walker .....1993
“Red” Colquitt.....1975	Lynn Majors .....1979	Herb Weaver.....1976
Mack Cook.....1989	D.C. Mangum .....1989	Robert W. Webb.....1980
James Corliss.....1988	Delwin Marrow .....1992	Larry White .....1990
Friday Couch .....1988	Troy Martin .....2002	Dan Wilbanks .....2007
Steve Darilek.....1996	Bob Mayfield .....2003	DeWayne Williams.....1981
Bob Dixon .....1973	Pierce McCartney .....1978	B.R. Wilson .....1981
Harold Douglas .....2001	John McClanahan .....1986	Milton Windler.....1987
Sam Dunkin .....1998	Butch McDaniel .....1985	Al Wise .....1990
Butch Durham.....2002	Bob Meaker .....1980	Jim Witten .....1976
Charles Elliott.....1974	Pot Mercer .....1992	Ron Zimmerman .....2005



The Brotherhood Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention formed an organization in 1989 named the International Legion of Royal Ambassador Leaders. This organization implemented a national “Award of Merit” in 1990. This was the highest honor and recognition that a Royal Ambassador leader could receive in the Southern Baptist Convention. It was presented to 12 men each year in 2 categories: Professional Leaders and Lay Leaders. Posthumous awards were also presented as felt appropriate.



More information about the International League of Royal Ambassador Leaders and the Award of Merit is located on pages 86-87. The International League of Royal Ambassador Leaders ceased in 1997 when the Brotherhood Commission was merged into the North American Mission Board and the Award of Merit was discontinued.



# Award of Merit Recipients from Texas

## *1990*

J. Ivyloy Bishop (Plainview)  
Cotton Bridges (Plano)  
Herb Weaver (Houston)

## *1991*

Larry Blanchard (Lindale)

## *1992*

Joe Lenamon (Fort Worth)  
Leo Smith (LaMarque)

## *1993*

Milton Schmidt (Irving)  
DeWayne Williams (Arlington)  
Alvin Hatton (Abilene)

## *1994*

David Hindman (Tyler)  
B.R. Wilson (Texas City)  
Dr. Raymond Hollabaugh (Lubbock)  
Karl Bozeman (Dallas)

## *1995*

Dan Hogan (Texas City)  
Ernie Liebig (Bullard)

## *1996*

Jim Bruner (Duncanville)

## *1997*

Bob Dixon (Dallas)  
Cameron Byler (San Antonio)  
Jerry Bob Taylor (Brownwood)  
James Corliss (San Antonio)





## State Staffers

The following list contains the names of the young men that we know served as state staffers for Texas Baptist Men and where they were from. Please contact Texas Baptist Men if you have additional information concerning young men that served as state staffers and their hometown.

### 1967 (1st Year Staff)

Bill Arnold (Memphis, TN)  
Doug Day (Memphis, TN)  
Rusty Griffin (Memphis, TN)

### 1968

Manuel Galindo (Harlingen)  
Wimpy Smith (Dallas)  
Jenks White (Lubbock)  
Jerry French (Dallas)  
Louis Mendez (Three Rivers)  
John Cassarez (Nixon)  
Valdeoi de Silva "Charley Brazil"  
(San Palo, Brazil)  
Chris Liebrum (Dallas)  
Mike Stroope (Dallas)  
Johnny Spiegel (Dallas)  
Scotter McCurdy (Denton)  
David Butler (Dallas)  
Rusty Griffin (Memphis, TN)

### 1969

Manuel Galindo (Harlingen)  
Mike Stroope (Dallas)  
Steve Stroope (Dallas)  
David Butler (Dallas)  
Valdeoi de Silva "Charlie Brazil"  
(San Palo, Brazil)  
Louis Mendez (Three Rivers)  
Chris Liebrum (Dallas)  
Ronnie Briscoe (Dallas)

### 1970

\_\_\_\_\_ (Alpine)  
Donny Solm (Lubbock)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Ronnie Briscoe (Dallas)  
Chris Liebrum (Dallas)  
Mike Stroope (Dallas)  
David Bratcher (Dallas)  
Jerry Smith (Midland)

David Butler (Dallas)  
Russ Townsend (Dallas)  
Steve Stroope (Dallas)  
Louis Mendez (Three Rivers)  
Stan Smith (Farmers Branch)  
John Kelly (Dallas)  
Bill McMillan (Dallas)

### 1971

David Bratcher (Dallas)  
Ronnie Briscoe (Dallas)  
Jerry Smith (Midland)  
Stanley Smith (Dallas)  
Bill McMillan (Dallas)  
John Kelly (Dallas)  
Ricky Sandlin  
Terry Thomas (Denton)  
Roland Harvey (Mineral Wells)  
Timothy Hall (Texas City)  
"Dick" Lintelman (Danbury)  
Glenn Shock (Danbury)  
Robert Sterling (LaMarque)  
Gregory Gomez (San Antonio)  
Jerry Wade (Dallas)

### 1972

Alan Huesing (Dallas)  
John Kelly (Dallas)  
Stanley Smith (Tempe, AZ)  
Dick Lintelman (Danbury)  
Bill McMillan (Dallas)  
Glenn Shock (Danbury)  
Steve Taylor (Duncanville)  
Gary Stroope (Dallas)  
Jesus Soto (Petersburg)  
Greg Gomez (Victoria)  
Terry Houston (Saginaw)  
Bruce Anderson (LaMarque)  
Dennis Leveron (LaMarque)  
Joseph Stevenson (Saginaw)  
Billy Moore (Midland)  
Tim Hall (Texas City)  
Jerry Smith (Midland)  
Robert Sterling (LaMarque)

### 1973

Alan Huesing (Dallas)  
Donald Cox (Mansfield)  
Steve Mattox (Tomball)  
Mike Davis (LaMarque)  
Bruce Anderson (LaMarque)  
Gene Payne (Quitaque)  
Gayle Wilkerson (Austin)  
Steve Taylor (Duncanville)  
Glenn Shock (Danbury)  
David Bridges (Abilene)  
Danny Daniels (Texarkana)  
Billy Wilson, Jr. (Texas City)

### 1974

Steve Taylor (Duncanville)  
David Nowell (Pecos)  
Ronald Vickers (Richmond)  
David Bridges (Abilene)  
Glenn Martin (Victoria)  
Jim Hart (Hockley)  
Kenny Shuman (Danbury)  
"Hardy" Fowler (El Paso)  
Jeff Nelson (Houston)  
Clayton Alexander  
(Fort Stockton)  
Danny Daniels (Texarkana)  
Brad Gray (Sandia)

### 1975

Jeff Nelson (Houston)  
Mike Shuman (Angleton)  
Steve Taylor (Duncanville)  
David Nowell (Pecos)  
Kenny Shuman (Danbury)  
Ronald Vickers (Richmond)  
Glenn Martin (Victoria)  
Dale Felder (Corpus Christi)  
Mark Denman (Lubbock)  
Jim Medley (Midland)  
Lee Sanderson (Three Way)  
Roy Williams (Bryan)  
\_\_\_\_\_ Keith (LaMarque)  
Brad Gray (Sandia)  
David Bridges (Abilene)



**1976**

Kenny Shuman (Danbury)  
Karl Shackelford (Greenville)  
Jim Pritchett (Dallas)  
Jay Sawyer (LaMarque)  
Dale Felder (Corpus Christi)  
Kenny Mattox (Tomball)  
Jim Medley (Midland)  
Ronald Vickers (Sugar Land)  
David Nowell (Pecos)  
Roy Williams (Bryan)  
Steve Taylor (Duncanville)  
Tim Parnell (San Angelo)

**1977**

David Nowell (Pecos)  
Mickey Lenamon (Fort Worth)  
Karl Shackelford (Greenville)  
Dale Felder (Corpus Christi)  
Paul Fyke (Amarillo)  
David Howard (Danbury)  
Ken Mattox (Tomball)  
John Rogers (Greenville)  
Cary Liebrum (Dallas)  
Charley Ayres (Austin)  
Jerry Edmonson (El Paso)  
Kenny Middleton (San Angelo)

**1978**

Charley Ayers (Austin)  
Paul Fyke (Amarillo)  
Tim Parnell (San Angelo)  
Randy Thornton (Dallas)  
Kevin Braatz (Milwaukee, WI)  
Brian Branum (Amarillo)  
Russell Caluette (Georgetown)  
Barry Clark (Amarillo)  
David Howard (Danbury)  
Mitchell Hughes (Houston)  
Ron Meaker (Victoria)  
Kenny Middleton (San Angelo)  
Frank West (Georgetown)  
David Nowell (Pecos)

**1979**

Russell Caluette (Danbury)  
Paul Fyke (Amarillo)  
Barry Clark (Amarillo)  
Todd Knowles (Duncanville)  
Cary Liebrum (Dallas)  
Bill Toles (Greenville)

David Nash (Odessa)  
Rusty Ayres (Austin)  
Ron Meaker (Victoria)  
David Howard (Danbury)  
James Maner (Lubbock)  
Brian Branum (Amarillo)

**1980**

Greg Clayton (Danbury)  
David Howard (Danbury)  
Dwayne Lee (Lubbock)  
Ronnie Rains (Denton)  
Jason McMurray (Garland)  
Gary Ussery (Baytown)  
Rusty Ayers (Austin)  
Charles Gnat (George West)  
Dennis Drake (Mesquite)  
Stephen Head (Angelton)  
Bill Burton (Abilene)  
Doug Dehnel (McCamey)

**1981** (1st Volunteer Staff)

Kirk Jackson (Pearland)  
Michael Stubbs (Houston)  
Buddy Rice (Crosby)  
Mark Roulette (Lake Jackson)  
Dwight Bridges (Abilene)  
Bill Burton (Abilene)  
David Pierce  
Hal Stanford (Maypearl)  
Andy Ellis (Maypearl)  
Eddie Mathers (Maypearl)  
Greg Mathers (Maypearl)  
Rick Johnson (Maypearl)  
Charles McCowan (Dallas)  
Doug Dehnel (McCamey)  
Dugan O'Brian (Ozona)  
Mark Jenkins (Odessa)

**1982**

Kirk Jackson (Pearland)  
David Scott (Pearland)  
Mark McClanahan (Houston)  
Bobby Patterson (Houston)  
Darryl Anderle (Houston)  
Carey Prosperie (Tyler)  
Dwight Bridges (Abilene)  
Bill Burton (Abilene)

Rick Johnson (Maypearl)  
Mike Beggs (Dallas)  
Phill Schmidt (Dallas)  
Charles McCowan (Dallas)  
Kevin Johnson (Dallas)  
Mark Baird (Coleman)

**1983**

Dwight Bridges (Abilene)  
Ross Stanford (Maypearl)  
Rick Johnson (Maypearl)  
Mike Beggs (Dallas)  
Todd Green (Dallas)  
Kirk Jackson (Pearland)  
David Scott (Pearland)  
Rodney Richie (Houston)  
Alex Cortes (Houston)  
Charles McCowan (Dallas)  
Kevin Johnson (Dallas)  
Mark Baird (Coleman)

**1984**

Scott Casey (The Colony)  
Wes Toller (Iowa Park)  
Wes Ward (Iowa Park)  
Mike Garner (Burkburnett)  
Randy Rodgers (Fort Worth)  
Robert Adams, Jr. (Mesquite)  
Frank Anizan (Pearsall)  
Mike Furgerson (Pettus)  
Gary Mathis (Corpus Christi)  
Roland Galvan (Corpus Christi)  
Chuck Olinger (Fort Worth)  
Eric Perkins (Dallas)  
Todd Green (Dallas)  
Steven White (Deer Park)  
Emilio Abarca (Houston)  
Mark Hoeting (Pearland)  
Skipper Tollett  
Juan Lumbreras (San Antonio)  
Jim Furgerson, Jr. (Pettus)  
Gary White (Italy)  
Ross Stanford (Maypearl)  
Richard Bellar



## 1985

Wes Ward (Iowa Park)  
Brian Allen (Wichita Falls)  
Randy Rodgers (Fort Worth)  
Todd Wilson (Fort Worth)  
Chris Haigood (Lancaster)  
Robert Adams, Jr. (Mesquite)  
Chris Easley (Lancaster)  
James Perkins (Lancaster)  
Grady Glawson (Lumberton)  
Steven White (Deer Park)  
Emilio Abraca (Houston)  
Bart Brush (Katy)  
Rodney Stubblefield (Katy)  
Mark Hoeting (Pearland)  
Chris Norman (Lake Jackson)  
Mike Sims (Houston)  
Bryan Arnold (Edna)  
Frank Anizan (Pearsall)  
Trey Turner (Monahans)  
Robert Hinojos, Jr. (Odessa)  
Lynn Nelson (Italy)  
Jeff Huse (Lancaster)  
Scott Votaw (Lancaster)  
Ashley Payne (Lancaster)  
Tony Le Count (Lancaster)

## 1986

James Goode (Burkburnett)  
Ward McMurry (Wichita Falls)  
Wes Ward (Iowa Park)  
Gene Drake (Mesquite)  
Jeff Fitzhugh (Lancaster)  
Jeff Huse (Lancaster)  
Ashley Payne (Lancaster)  
Dan Smith (Lancaster)  
Rodney Stubblefield (Irving)  
Dwayne Thomas (Lancaster)  
Emilio Abarca (Houston)  
Ruben Canizales, Jr. (Houston)  
Mark Hoeting (Pearland)  
Jason Huckabay (Houston)  
Charles Russell (Houston)  
Mike Sims (Houston)  
Don Thomson, Jr. (Houston)  
Mark Walker (Houston)  
Gary Mathis (Corpus Christi)  
Michael Leal (Corpus Christi)  
Frank Anizan (Pearsall)  
Kyle Damon (San Antonio)  
Tracy Brazeal (Italy)  
Trey Turner (Monahans)

Greg Mason (Italy)  
Jason Mitchell (Lumberton)  
Eric Tutt (Silsbee)  
Doug Steele (Lewisville)

## 1987

Randy Hughes (Wichita Falls)  
Ward McMurry (Wichita Falls)  
Mark Thames (Iowa Park)  
James Whitson (Wichita Falls)  
Shane Carter (Fort Worth)  
Dennis Corbin (Lewisville)  
Nathan Eslinger (Fort Worth)  
Jon Jones (The Colony)  
Kevin Rutherford (Fort Worth)  
Clint Calvert (Terrell)  
Jeff Fitzhugh (Lancaster)  
Chris Griffith (Mesquite)  
Jeff Huse (Lancaster)  
Dan Smith (Lancaster)  
Dwayne Thomas (Lancaster)  
Scott Votaw (Lancaster)  
Donald Dancer (Vidor)  
Clark Young (Vidor)  
Scott Johnson (Houston)  
Jason Huckabay (Houston)  
Jerry Johnson (Baytown)  
Charles Russell (Houston)  
Mike Sims (Houston)  
Paul Thomas (Baytown)  
Don Thomson, Jr. (Houston)  
Joel Tisdale (South Houston)  
Mark Walker (Houston)  
John Webb (Houston)  
Shawn Whitehurst (Houston)  
Trey Henkhaus (Skidmore)  
Michael Leal (Corpus Christi)  
Jose Quintanilla (Corpus Christi)  
Kyle Damon (San Angelo)  
Trey Turner (Monahans)  
Patrick Griffis (Italy)  
James McKey (Italy)  
Jeff Jones (Jacksonville)

## 1988

Ward McMurry (Wichita Falls)  
Shane Carter (Fort Worth)  
Dennis Corbin (Lewisville)  
Jon Jones (The Colony)  
Kevin Rutherford (Fort Worth)  
John von Tungeln (Fort Worth)  
Dan Smith (Lancaster)

Chris Griffith (Mesquite)  
Doug Black (Lancaster)  
Brian Arnold (Silsbee)  
Jason Jasper (Silsbee)  
Lee King, Jr. (Evadale)  
Steve Godin (Houston)  
Jason Huckabay (Houston)  
Jerry Johnson (Baytown)  
Don Thomson, Jr. (Houston)  
Mark Walker (Houston)  
John Webb (Houston)  
Michael Leal (Corpus Christi)  
Billy McDaniel (Corpus Christi)  
Kyle Damon (San Antonio)  
Larry Nicholson (San Antonio)  
Jeff Corliss (San Antonio)  
Trey Turner (Monahans)  
Trey Stevens (San Angelo)  
Thomas Renfro, Jr. (McGregor)  
Shad Vinson (Moody)

## 1989

Jon Jones (The Colony)  
Phillip Black (Lancaster)  
Jeffrey Peltz (Plano)  
Brian Arnold (Silsbee)  
Mark Walker (Houston)  
Kevin Rutherford (Deer Park)  
Steve Godin (Houston)  
Chip Ellis (Houston)  
Russell Masey (Lewisville)  
Justin Bunting (Glenn Heights)  
Jason Jasper (Silsbee)  
Jason Karr (Deer Park)  
Ron White (Deer Park)  
Rudy Valdes, Jr. (Houston)  
Billy McDaniel (Corpus Christi)  
Scott Schwartz (Mercedes)  
Michael Talbot (San Angelo)  
Trey Stevens (San Angelo)  
Thomas Renfro, Jr. (McGregor)  
James Watterman (Red Oak)

## 1990

Russell Masey (Lewisville)  
Jimmy Tilley (The Colony)  
Robby Van (Fort Worth)  
Phil Black (Lancaster)  
Justin Bunting (Ovilla)  
Jeff Peltz (Plano)  
Brian Arnold (Silsbee)  
Jason Jasper (Silsbee)





Stephen Currie (Lumberton)  
Kevin Rutherford (Deer Park)  
Jason Karr (Deer Park)  
Daniel Kilcoyne (Pasadena)  
Kevin Godin (Houston)  
Nathan Pylate (Pearland)  
Billy McDaniel (Corpus Christi)  
Gabe Norris (Portland)  
Rand Ransom, Jr. (Victoria)  
Josue Reyna (San Antonio)  
Jody Ford (McCamey)  
Thomas Renfro, Jr. (McGregor)  
Tim Renfro (McGregor)  
Jimmy Watterman (Red Oak)

### **1991**

Doyle McMurry (Wichita Falls)  
Jason Boor (The Colony)  
Robert Chapin (The Colony)  
Billy Goynes (Bridgeport)  
Lance Hufstetler (The Colony)  
Russell Masey (Lewisville)  
Aaron Rodonis (The Colony)  
Matt Rodonis (The Colony)  
Jimmy Tilley (The Colony)  
Robby Van (Fort Worth)  
Brandon Walters (The Colony)  
Phil Black (Lancaster)  
Justin Bunting (Ovilla)  
Richard Parker (DeSoto)  
Shawn Thrapp (Omaha)  
Brian Arnold (Silsbee)  
Stephen Currie (Lumberton)  
Shawn Messer (Chester)  
Adam Barnett (El Campo)  
Daniel Damacus (Pasadena)  
Kevin Godin (Houston)  
Jay Hoffman (Cedar Lane)  
Daniel Kilcoyne (Pasadena)  
Nathan Pylate (Pearland)  
Kyle Kern (Victoria)  
Billy McDaniel (Corpus Christi)  
Gabe Norris (Cuero)  
Rand Ransom (Victoria)  
Josh Servier (Victoria)  
Jo Reyna (San Antonio)  
Matt Jones (McCamey)  
Paul Loyless (Crane)  
Tim Renfro (McGregor)

### **1992**

Doyle McMurry (Wichita Falls)  
Mark Ashgar (Fort Worth)  
Jason Boor (The Colony)  
Robert Chapin (The Colony)  
Billy Goynes (Bridgeport)  
Shane Kammerer (The Colony)  
Aaron Rodonis (The Colony)  
Matt Rodonis (The Colony)  
Nicky Van (Fort Worth)  
Robby Van (Fort Worth)  
Brandon Waits (Fort Worth)  
Cameron White (The Colony)  
Greg Buchanan (Combine)  
Justin Bunting (Ovilla)  
Johnathan Wright (Lancaster)  
John Leyendecker (Buna)  
Darrin Ward (Omaha)  
Stephen Currie (Lumberton)  
Adam Barnett (El Campo)  
Wesley Butler (Spring)  
Daniel Damacus (Pasadena)  
Kevin Godin (Houston)  
Jay Hoffman (Cedar Lane)  
Daniel Kilcoyne (Pasadena)  
Nathan Pylate (Pearland)  
Kenny Sheffield (New Caney)  
Finch Dunkin (McDade)  
Jo Reyna (San Antonio)  
Joe Vallejo (San Antonio)  
Donovan Dearman (Monahans)  
David Ellis (Whitehouse)

### **1993**

Brent Bloyd (The Colony)  
Brian Gilson (Little Elm)  
Billy Goynes (Bridgeport)  
Robert Goynes (Bridgeport)  
Shane Kammerer (The Colony)  
Nicky Van (Fort Worth)  
Robby Van (Fort Worth)  
Greg Buchanan (Combine)  
Johnathan Wright (Lancaster)  
Scott Bryan (Marshall)  
Adam Barnett (El Campo)  
Wesley Butler (Spring)  
Kevin Godin (Houston)  
Jay Hoffman (Cedar Lane)  
Curtis Holman (Boling)  
Daniel Kilcoyne (Pasadena)  
Nathan Pylate (Pearland)  
Darren Smith (Pearland)

Matthew Wade (Spring)  
Dempsey Dunkin (McDade)  
Finch Dunkin (McDade)  
Ben Haley (McDade)  
Herman Wienen (Round Rock)  
Joe Vellejo (San Antonio)  
Donovan Dearman (Monahans)  
Randy Butts (Lubbock)

### **1994**

Jason Mayfield (Wichita Falls)  
Brent Bloyd (The Colony)  
Mark Funck (The Colony)  
Robert Goynes (Bridgeport)  
Shane Kammerer (The Colony)  
Jerry Wyatt (Arlington)  
Greg Buchanan (Combine)  
Stuart McDaniel (DeSoto)  
Louis Paugh, Jr. (Dallas)  
Thomas Sims (Dallas)  
Johnathan Wright (Lancaster)  
Daniel Raney (Avinger)  
Paul Trahan (Sour Lake)  
Adam Barnett (El Campo)  
Wesley Butler (Spring)  
David Johnson (Houston)  
Darren Smith (Pearland)  
Matthew Wade (Spring)  
Dempsey Dunkin (McDade)  
Ben Haley (McDade)  
Anthony Khosravi (San Antonio)  
Michael Peres (San Antonio)  
Jesse Reyna (San Antonio)  
Donovan Dearman (Monahans)  
Cuco Solis (Monahans)  
Randy Butts (Lubbock)  
Cody Sifford (Hillsboro)  
Matthew Buckner  
(Tennessee Colony)  
Nicky Van (Crockett)

### **1995**

Matt Bryant (Wichita Falls)  
Ryan Fortenbury (Electra)  
Jason Mayfield (Wichita Falls)  
Brent Bloyd (The Colony)  
Bobby Goynes (Bridgeport)  
Chris Happel (Arlington)  
Chris Koffel (Arlington)  
Justin Ruff (Arlington)  
Jerry Wyatt (Arlington)  
Stuart McDaniel (DeSoto)



Craig Till, Jr. (Cedar Hill)  
Bryan White (Whitewright)  
Daniel Raney (Avinger)  
Paul Trahan (Sour Lake)  
Wesley Butler (Spring)  
Beau Dollins (Houston)  
Nick McIntosh (Houston)  
Darren Smith (Pearland)  
Dempsey Dunkin (McDade)  
Ben Haley (McDade)  
William Neason (Edna)  
Albert Charles (San Antonio)  
Jesse Reyna (San Antonio)  
Nathan Killough (Dimmitt)  
Matthew Buckner  
(Tennessee Colony)  
Judson McAbee (San Augustine)  
Nicky Van (Crockett)

### **1996**

Ryan Fortenbury (Electra)  
Council Lee (Wichita Falls)  
Jason Mayfield (Wichita Falls)  
Joseph Urioste (Wichita Falls)  
Ryan Christopher (Arlington)  
Landon Darilek (Bridgeport)  
Bobby Goynes (Bridgeport)  
Chris Happel (Arlington)  
Chris Koffel (Arlington)  
Clint Kelley (Roanoke)  
Justin Ruff (Arlington)  
Jay Schultz (Arlington)  
Zach Tomlinson (Arlington)  
Joshua Wyatt (Arlington)  
Jerry Wyatt (Arlington)  
Craig Till, Jr. (Cedar Hill)  
Paul Trahan (Sour Lake)  
Beau Dollins (Houston)  
Richard Wilson (Richmond)  
Albert Charles (San Antonio)  
Jason Garcia (San Antonio)  
Trent Jones (San Marcos)  
John Martinez (Boerne)  
Christopher Vincent (Cotulla)  
Justin Heath (Monahans)  
Joshua Bullock (Godley)  
Matt York (Gholson)

### **1997**

Council Lee (Wichita Falls)  
Ryan Fortenbury (Electra)  
Jason Mayfield (Wichita Falls)

Clint Kelley (Roanoke)  
Landon Darilek (Bridgeport)  
Jay Schultz (Arlington)  
Zach Tomlinson (Arlington)  
Richard McQuitty (Fort Worth)  
Chris Koffel (Arlington)  
Chris Happel (Arlington)  
Joshua Wyatt (Arlington)  
Brandon Martin (Carrollton)  
Paul Trahan (Sour Lake)  
Steven Fleming (Houston)  
Matthew Butler (Spring)  
Beau Dollins (Houston)  
Wesley Johnson (Pearland)  
Richard Wilson (Richmond)  
Dustin Traynor (League City)  
Richard Rains, II (Deer Park)  
David D. Trotter (Brenham)  
Jacob Hetzel (Brenham)  
Alex Stehn (Aransas Pass)  
Oscar Ramirez, Jr. (Somerset)  
Justin Heath (Monahans)  
Lex Clark, II (Plainview)  
Matthew York (Waco)  
David Rickey (Waco)  
Ryan Abt (Cleburne)

### **1998**

Blake Dollins (Houston)  
Brandon Martin (Carrollton)  
Chris McDaniel (Cameron)  
Chris Happel (Arlington)  
Chris Koffel (Arlington)  
David D. Trotter (Brenham)  
David Rickey (Waco)  
Dustin Traynor (League City)  
Jacob Hetzel (Brenham)  
Jay Schultz (Arlington)  
Jeffrey Lee (Arlington)  
Jonathan Davis (College Station)  
Joseph Loftus (Lubbock)  
Josh Wyatt (Arlington)  
Josh Rodgers (Electra)  
Justin Heath (Monahans)  
Landon Darilek (Bridgeport)  
Lex Clark, II (Plainview)  
Matthew York (Waco)  
Richard McQuitty (Fort Worth)  
Russell Ramirez (Troy)  
Stephen McQuitty (Fort Worth)  
Tim Van (Crockett)  
Wesley Johnson (Pearland)

William Kolars (Bulverde)  
Zach Tomlinson (Arlington)  
Clint Kelley (Roanoke)

### **1999**

Clint Kelley (Roanoke)  
Jay Schultz (Arlington)  
Richard McQuitty (Fort Worth)  
Zach Tomlinson (Arlington)  
Josh Wyatt (Arlington)  
Jeffrey Lee (Arlington)  
Stephen McQuitty (Fort Worth)  
David Faulkner (Carrollton)  
Josh Rogers (Electra)  
Andy Thompson (Iowa Park)  
Eric Davis (Troy)  
Wesley Furnace (Troy)  
John Travis Smith (Brenham)  
Chris McDaniel (Gun Barrel City)  
Jonathan Davis (College Station)  
Russell Ramirez (Troy)  
Nathan Owens (Angleton)  
Wesley Henson (Quitaque)  
Lex Clark, II (Plainview)  
Cliff House (Houston)  
Blake Dollins (Houston)  
Tim Van (Crockett)  
William Kolars (Bulverde)  
David Rickey (Waco)  
Josh Austin (Lindale)  
James Lucas (Lindale)  
Landon Darilek (Bridgeport)

### **2000**

Alfred Smith, III (San Antonio)  
Andy Thompson (Iowa Park)  
Blake Dollins (Houston)  
Chris McDaniel (Gun Barrel City)  
Colin Stokes (China Springs)  
David Faulkner (Carrollton)  
James Lucas (Lindale)  
Jeffrey Lee (Arlington)  
John Travis Smith (Brenham)  
Jonathan Davis (College Station)  
Josh Austin (Lindale)  
Kevin Terrell (Arlington)  
Nathan Owens (Angleton)  
Nolan Pritchard (Pyote)  
Paul Messenheimer (San Angelo)  
Russell Ramirez (Troy)  
Stephen McQuitty (Fort Worth)  
Thomas Turner (Arlington)



Wesley Furnace (Troy)

### **2001**

Josh Austin (Lindale)  
Jacob Clark (Harper)  
Blake Dollins (Houston)  
Wesley Furnace (Eddy)  
Jordan Gates (Kennard)  
Stephen McQuitty (Fort Worth)  
Nate Owens (Angleton)  
Nolan Pritchard (Pyote)  
Jody Sims (Harper)  
John Travis Smith (Brenham)  
Collin Stokes (China Springs)  
Andy Thompson (Iowa Park)  
Tim Van (Crockett)  
Lenny Van (Crockett)  
Robert Wollard (Pasadena)

### **2002**

Kyle Cassidy (Mansfield)  
Jacob Clark (Harper)  
Josh Edwards (Lubbock)  
Scott Guthrie (Pampa)  
Luke Montgomery (Cotulla)  
Jody Sims (Harper)  
John Travis Smith (Brenham)  
Aaron Thompson (Iowa Park)  
Andy Thompson (Iowa Park)  
Terence Waldron (Bay City)  
Robert Wollard (Pasadena)

### **2003**

Kyle Covington (Willow Park)  
Calen Chrestman (Lubbock)  
John Gary Holman (Boling)  
Cameron Winkle (Arlington)  
Randy Anaya, II (Adkins)  
Kendall Clark (Harper)  
Andy Middleton (Plano)  
Travis Garcia (Floresville)  
Aaron Montgomery (Cotulla)  
Timothy Smith (Hempstead)  
Greg Guel (Pearland)  
Steven Medina (Houston)  
Scott King (Plano)  
Nicholas Altamira, III (Floresville)  
Joshua Edwards (Lubbock)  
Terence Waldron (Bay City)  
Aaron Thompson (Von Ormy)  
Luke Montgomery (Cotulla)

Scott Guthrie (Lubbock)  
Jacob Clark (Harper)

### **2004**

Austin Braune (Floresville)  
Aaron Bridges (Shallowater)  
Calen Chrestman (Lubbock)  
Jacob Clark (Harper)  
Kendall Clark (Harper)  
“B.J.” Hadley Foster, III (Natalia)  
Travis Garcia (Floresville)  
Greg Guel (Pearland)  
Scott Guthrie (Pampa)  
John Gary Holman (Boling)  
B.J. (Juan) Lopez (San Marcos)  
Matthew Mason (Fort Worth)  
Estevan Medina (Houston)  
Luke Montgomery (Cotulla)  
Aaron Montgomery (Cotulla)  
Daniel Norman (Waco)  
Corey Price (Lubbock)  
Timothy Smith (Hempstead)  
Aaron Thompson (Von Ormy)  
Cameron Winkle (Arlington)

### **2005**

Ben Meeks (Katy)  
Jordy Williams (Shallowater)  
Flint Wilcher (Lubbock)  
Caleb Smith (Decatur)  
Juan Aguilar (Atascosa)  
Jonathon Davis (Belton)  
Jesse Prieto (Shallowater)  
Jacob Guel (Pearland)  
Clayton Garcia (Floresville)  
Jordan Howard (Waco)  
Jonathon Lennon (Muleshoe)  
Jefferson Marshall (Wolfforth)  
“B.J.” Hadley Foster, III (Natalia)  
Austin Braune (Floresville)  
Daniel Norman (Waco)  
Corey Price (Lubbock)  
Matthew Mason (Fort Worth)  
John Gary Holman (Boling)  
Timothy Smith (Hempstead)  
Estevan Medina (Houston)  
Greg Guel (Pearland)  
Travis Garcia (Floresville)  
Cameron Winkle (Arlington)

### **2006**

Roland Beltran (Welch)  
Billy Brown (Wichita Falls)  
Jefty Campos (Belton)  
Jonathan Davis (Belton)  
“B.J.” Hadley Foster, III (Natalia)  
Clayton Garcia (Floresville)  
Jonathan Lennon (Muleshoe)  
Jefferson Marshall (Wolfforth)  
Matthew Mason (Fort Worth)  
Jay McCoy (Waco)  
Ben Meeks (Katy)  
Daniel Norman (Waco)  
Michael Reed (Arlington)  
Paul Shirley (Lubbock)  
Timothy Smith (Hempstead)  
Steven Talbert (McDade)  
Flint Wilcher (Lubbock)  
Cameron Winkle (Arlington)  
Corbin Winkle (Arlington)

### **2007**

Roland Beltran (Welch)  
Jared Bridges (McKinney)  
Jonathan Davis (Belton)  
“B.J.” Hadley Foster, III (Natalia)  
Jacob Guel (Pearland)  
Marcus Guel (Pearland)  
“C.J.” Christopher Kinsey (McDade)  
“Jon” Jonathan Lennon (Muleshoe)  
Jefferson Marshall (Lubbock)  
Chris Martinez (Pearland)  
Paul Shirley (Lubbock)  
Steven Talbert (McDade)  
Flint Wilcher (Lubbock)  
Corbin Winkle (Arlington)

### **2008**

Clayton Garcia (Floresville)  
Bradley Lennon (Muleshoe)  
“Jon” Jonathan Lennon (Muleshoe)  
Chris Martinez (Pearland)  
James Moore (Hempstead)  
Kameron Pomeroy (La Vernia)  
Michael Reed (Arlington)  
Steven Talbert (McDade)  
Michael Tillery (Tyler)



Year	Missions Leaders	Title	Chap	Enrollment	Notes
1907	Mrs. J. D. Dillin	Superintendent of Juvenile Work			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One Children's Mission Group - "Juvenile Band / Sunbeam Band"</li> <li>• Layman's Missionary Movement began nationally – later changed name to the Brotherhood Commission</li> <li>• National WMU Committee formed for boys work</li> </ul>
1908	Mrs. J. D. Dillin	Superintendent of Juvenile Work			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National WMU voted to begin RAs</li> <li>• Mrs. F. S. Davis (Mary Hill Davis) made recommendation for Royal Ambassadors in Texas</li> <li>• Motion made by Mrs. George. W. Truett</li> </ul>
1909	Mrs. J. D. Dillin	Superintendent of Juvenile Work			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children Societies included Sunbeam Bands and Royal Ambassadors.</li> </ul>
1910	Mrs. J. W. Jackson	Superintendent of Juvenile Work	5		
1911	Mrs. J. W. Jackson	Superintendent of Juvenile Work	5		
1912	Mrs. J. W. Byars	Juvenile Leader	4		
1913	Mrs. J. W. Byars	Juvenile Leader	5		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In her report, she felt that the work for boys was being neglected. She stated that, "We have the children - what we need is someone to lead and develop them."</li> <li>• She also stated that, "It is my conviction that more chapters are organized than are reporting."</li> </ul>
1914	Mrs. J. W. Byars	Juvenile Leader	8		
1915	Mrs. J. W. Byars	Juvenile Leader	35		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Miss Fannie Heck passed away.</li> </ul>
1916	Mrs. J. W. Byars	Juvenile Leader	61		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• "RA's gaining ground; slowly but surely."</li> </ul>
1917	Mrs. J. W. Byars	Juvenile Leader	71		
1918	Mrs. J. W. Byars	Juvenile Leader	56		

*TEXAS ROYAL AMBASSADORS HISTORY NOTES*

1919	Mrs. W. R. Covington	Juvenile Leader	53			
1920	Miss Bernice Green	Young People's Secretary	63			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participated in "Secret ritual for RA's "</li> </ul>
1921	Miss Bernice Green	Young People's Secretary	78			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>RA's gave \$534.50 to various mission offerings</li> </ul>
1922	Mrs. J. E. Leigh	Young People's Secretary	76			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>RA's gave \$409.90 to mission offerings.</li> </ul>
1923	Miss Kate Mayers	Young People's Secretary	84			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>RA's earned 98 Mission Study Certificates</li> </ul>
1924	Miss Kate Mayers	Young People's Secretary				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nationally - RA Ranking System began: (Page, Squire, Knight, Ambassador)</li> <li>Royal Ambassadors divided into two age groups:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Junior RAs – ages 9-11</li> <li>- Intermediate – ages 12 and up</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
1925	Miss Kate Mayers	Young People's Secretary	78			
1926	Mrs. T. C. Jester	Young People's Secretary	120			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>RA Camp held in Lampasas</li> <li>Layman's Missionary Movement changed its name to the Baptist Brotherhood of the South.</li> <li>2 - A1 Chapters reported. These are the 1<sup>st</sup> two groups that were reported in Texas</li> </ul>
1927	Mrs. T. C. Jester	Young People's Secretary	194			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6 – A1 Chapters reported</li> </ul>
1928	Mrs. T. C. Jester	Young People's Chairman	299			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>RA's earned 283 Mission Study Certificates</li> <li>2 – A1 Chapters reported</li> </ul>
1929	Mrs. T. C. Jester	Young People's Chairman	329			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>RA Ranking System expanded: (Ambassador Extraordinary &amp; Ambassador Plenipotentiary added.)</li> <li>9 – A1 Chapters reported</li> </ul>
1930	Mrs. T. C. Jester	Young People's Chairman	412			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>RA Camp held at Latham Springs. Lead by Rev. Obey Nelson and Rev. M.O. Cheek. Rev. Nelson sold advertising to raise all of the money needed for the camp except 47 cents.</li> <li>5 – A1 Chapters reported</li> </ul>

1931	Mrs. T. C. Jester	Young People's Chairman	467		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1st State RA Camp at Latham Springs Rev. Obey Nelson &amp; Rev. M.O. Cheek as leaders</li> <li>• 15 – A1 Chapters reported</li> </ul>
1932	Mrs. T. C. Jester	Young People's Chairman	551		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 22 – A1 Chapters reported</li> </ul>
1933	Mrs. T. C. Jester	Young People's Chairman	594		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Guide for Counselors of Chapters of the Order of Royal Ambassadors</i> published by WMU.</li> <li>• 22 – A1 Chapters reported</li> </ul>
1934	Mrs. J. E. Williamson	Young People's Secretary	623		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RA's earned 894 Mission Study Certificates</li> <li>• 32 – A1 Chapters reported</li> </ul>
1935	Vacant	Young People's Secretary	535		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 33 – A1 Chapters reported</li> </ul>
1936	Miss Ann H-Stallworth	Young People's Leader	546		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1<sup>st</sup> RA Focus Week – 3<sup>rd</sup> week of August. (Annual Event promoted every year since 1936)</li> <li>• 25 – A1 Chapters reported</li> </ul>
1937	Mrs. Phil Maxwell	Young People's Secretary	438		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RA Camps – 992 Attendance</li> <li>• WMU Board elected Mrs. Phil Maxwell to serve as the State RA Camp Director.</li> </ul>
1938	Mrs. R. L. Mathis	Young People's Secretary	538		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• State RA Camp – 6 Saved, 1 Special Service</li> <li>• 37 – A1 Chapters reported</li> </ul>
1939	Mrs. R. L. Mathis	Young People's Secretary	600		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• State RA Camp – 164 attend, 16 conversions</li> <li>• 31 – A1 Chapters reported</li> </ul>
1940	Mrs. R. L. Mathis	Young People's Secretary	639		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WMU voted to discontinue a State RA Camp after this year.</li> <li>• RA Focus Week moved to 1<sup>st</sup> full week in November</li> </ul>
1941	Mrs. R. L. Mathis	Young People's Secretary	627		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RA Chapter of FBC Rotan gave a demonstration of an RA Meeting during the WMU Convention</li> </ul>
1942	Mrs. R. L. Mathis	Young People's Secretary	704		



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1943	Mrs. R. L. Mathis J. Ivyloy Bishop	Young People's Secretary Southwide RA Secretary	694		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Many camps were cancelled due to infantile paralysis epidemic (Polio)</li> <li>• J. Ivyloy Bishop becomes 1st National RA Dir. for WMU (55,000 RAs enrolled)</li> <li>• 24 – A1 Chapters reported</li> </ul>
1944	Mrs. R. L. Mathis J. Ivyloy Bishop	Young People's Secretary Southwide RA Secretary	721		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Bishop visited Texas to promote RA's.</li> <li>• Devotion at WMU convention was lead by an RA Billy Gene Frazier (Abilene) a full ranking Ambassador.</li> <li>• 5 RA's attended the 1st National RA Conference at Ridgecrest.</li> </ul>
1945	Miss. Virginia Ely W. M. Haverfield J. Ivyloy Bishop	Young People's Secretary State RA Leader Southwide RA Secretary	939		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1st State RA Leader - W.M. Haverfield elected</li> <li>• District RA Camps held.</li> <li>• Mr. Bishop visited Texas to promote RA's.</li> <li>• 38 – A1 Chapters reported</li> </ul>
1946	Miss Eula Mae Henderson C.W. Farrar J. Ivyloy Bishop	Young People's Secretary State RA Leader Southwide RA Secretary	984		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Haverfield resigns at convention; C.W. Farrar elected as new State RA Leader.</li> <li>• Haverfield conducted 9 conclaves, attended 13 RA Camps, held 17 conferences.</li> <li>• State RA Camp for Intermediate RAs (12 years or older).</li> <li>• 8 Older RAs attended the National Young Men's Mission Conference at Ridgecrest.</li> <li>• 21+ Associations had RA Leaders</li> <li>• 10 out of 17 districts had RA Leaders.</li> <li>• Ambassador Life magazine began</li> <li>• 22 – A1 Chapters reported</li> </ul>
1947	Miss Eula Mae Henderson C.W. Farrar J. Ivyloy Bishop	Young People's Secretary State RA Leader Southwide RA Secretary	1025	9500	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• State RA Camp at Latham Springs – 100+ attended</li> <li>• 16 RA boys attended Young Men's Conference at Ridgecrest.</li> </ul>

1948	Miss Ruth Thornton Jimmy Allen  J. Ivyloy Bishop	Young People's Secretary State RA Leader  Southwide RA Secretary			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Miss Fannie Heck spoke at WMU Convention</li> <li>J. Ivyloy Bishop – Southwide RA Secretary conducted an impressive recognition service during the WMU session and 4 boys received the insignia of Ambassador Extraordinary.</li> <li>W.M. Haverfield – 1<sup>st</sup> State RA Leader recognized and now serving as a foreign missionary.</li> <li>Special recognition was given to Mrs. H.J. Roebuck of Texarkana, for 25 years as counselor, and Mrs. T.C. Jester of Houston, for 31 years leadership.</li> </ul>
1949	Miss Ruth Thornton Jimmy Allen  J. Ivyloy Bishop	Young People's Secretary State RA Leader  Southwide RA Secretary	1420		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jimmy Allen gave a report at WMU Convention</li> <li>Jimmy Allen produced 4 editions of <i>The Kings Herald</i> – State RA Paper.</li> <li>11 RAs attended the Young Men's Mission Conference at Ridgecrest.</li> <li>11 RA Summer Camps – 1,400 boys, 424 decisions</li> <li>Assisting at these camps was a team of three young men (1 was an Ambassador Plenipotentiary)</li> <li>81 – A1 Chapters reported</li> </ul>
1950	Miss Ruth Thornton Jimmy Allen  J. Ivyloy Bishop	Young People's Secretary State RA Leader  Southwide RA Secretary	1220	18,732	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>The Kings Herald</i> – State RA Paper published.</li> <li>1<sup>st</sup> State RA Counselors Camp at Latham Springs.</li> <li>RA boys attended the Young Men's Conference at Ridgecrest.</li> <li>9 RA Camps were conducted with the assistance of a team of young men.</li> <li>Baptist Brotherhood of the South changed name to the Brotherhood Commission.</li> <li>107 – A1 Chapters reported</li> </ul>
1951	Miss Ruth Thornton  J. Ivyloy Bishop	Young People's Secretary  Southwide RA Secretary	2079		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>State RA Counselors Camp – 126 RA Leaders</li> <li>3 RA boys from Baptist Temple in Houston gave the RA Allegiance at the state WMU Convention.</li> <li>170 – A1 Chapters reported</li> </ul>

*TEXAS ROYAL AMBASSADORS HISTORY NOTES*

1952	Mrs. Lawson Pritchett J. Ivyloy Bishop	Young People's Secretary Southwide RA Secretary	1394		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• District RA Camps held</li> <li>• 142 – A1 Chapters reported</li> </ul>
1953	Robert B. Chapman J. Ivyloy Bishop	State RA Secretary (Jointly employed by WMU and Brotherhood Dept.) Southwide RA Secretary	1761	15,788	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1<sup>st</sup> National RA Congress in Atlanta, GA</li> <li>• 19 Summer Camps – 7,622 attend, 1,235 decisions</li> <li>• <i>Guide for Counselors of Royal Ambassador Chapters</i>, J. Ivyloy Bishop, published by WMU.</li> <li>• J. Ivyloy Bishop resigns from WMU</li> </ul>
1954	Robert B. Chapman	State RA Secretary	1813	15,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 28 Ambassador Extraordinary</li> <li>• 14 Ambassador Plenipotentiary</li> <li>• SBC voted in St. Louis to transfer control of Royal Ambassadors from WMU to Brotherhood Commission over the next three years.</li> <li>• RA Summer Camps – 8,465 attend, 1,217 decisions</li> <li>• Bob Chapman moved his office from the WMU to the Brotherhood Department.</li> </ul>
1955	Robert B. Chapman Eddie Hurt Frank Black	State RA Secretary National RA Director Assistant RA Director	1893	14,845	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 16 RA Summer Camps – 4,714+ attend, 365 saved</li> <li>• 1<sup>st</sup> State RA Congress – HSU Abilene in December</li> <li>• 19 Leadership Training Courses held</li> </ul>
1956	Robert B. Chapman Eddie Hurt Frank Black	State RA Secretary National RA Director Assistant RA Director	2620	20,920	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RA Summer Camps – 7,381 attend, 602 salvations</li> <li>• Leadership Training – 390 men trained</li> </ul>



1957	Robert B. Chapman Eddie Hurt Frank Black	State RA Secretary National RA Director Assistant RA Director	2600		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RA Summer Camps – 8,878 attend, 1,069 decisions</li> <li>• Leadership Training - 1,216 men trained</li> <li>• 2<sup>nd</sup> State RA Congress held at Park Cities Baptist Church, Dallas in August.</li> <li>• The State Brotherhood President, W. A. Stephenson accepted for the Brotherhood the responsibility of Royal Ambassadors from the Texas WMU.</li> </ul>
1958	Robert B. Chapman Eddie Hurt Frank Black	State RA Secretary National RA Director Assistant RA Director	1465	23,759	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RA Summer Camps – 9,620 attend, 1,933 decisions</li> <li>• Leadership Training (95 Courses) – 788 men trained</li> <li>• State Baseball Tournament held in Brownwood.</li> <li>• No Basketball Tournament held this year.</li> <li>• 2<sup>nd</sup> National Congress, Fort Worth – 3,915 from TX.</li> </ul>
1959	Robert B. Chapman Eddie Hurt Frank Black	State RA Secretary National RA Director Assistant RA Director	1887	30,100	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RA Summer Camps – 7,631 attend, 529 salvations</li> <li>• Leadership Training (112 Courses) – 777 trained</li> <li>• State RA Leadership Conference – Latham Springs (144 attend, 34 associations, 16 districts)</li> <li>• Regional RA Rallies – 4 Baptist colleges, 7,932 attend (Howard Payne, Hardin-Simmons, Baylor, Univ. of Corpus Christi)</li> <li>• State Basketball Tournament at Hardin-Simmons (28 teams from 14 districts)</li> <li>• State Baseball Tournament held in Brownwood. (26 teams from 15 districts, 217 teams competed in play-offs in 24 associations.)</li> <li>• <i>Ambassador Leader</i> magazine began</li> </ul>

*TEXAS ROYAL AMBASSADORS HISTORY NOTES*

1960	Robert B. Chapman Eddie Hurt Frank Black	Associate for Royal Ambassador Promotion National RA Director Assistant RA Director	2069	33,939	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RA Summer Camps – 7,645 attend, 257 decisions</li> <li>• Congress, Houston – 1,163 attend (38 associations from all 17 districts)</li> <li>• Leadership Training (87 Courses) – 757 trained</li> <li>• Regional RA Rallies – 4 colleges, 4,923 attend</li> <li>• State Basketball Tournament held in Houston same date as Congress (12 teams from 9 districts.)</li> <li>• State Baseball Tournament held in Brownwood. (23 teams from 13 districts, approximately 300 teams participated in associational, districts and regional competitions.)</li> <li>• Note: No state-wide tournaments in either basketball or baseball are planned for 1961.</li> <li>• 1<sup>st</sup> RA Campcraft manual – Frank Black</li> </ul>
1961	Robert B. Chapman Eddie Hurt Frank Black	State RA Director National RA Director Assistant RA Director		34,545	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Royal Ambassadors divided into three age groups: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Crusaders – ages 9-11</li> <li>- Pioneers – ages 12-14</li> <li>- Ambassadors – ages 15-17</li> </ul> </li> <li>• New RA Materials</li> <li>• RA Summer Camps – 8,384 attend, 2,393 decisions</li> <li>• Congress, San Angelo – 657 attended</li> <li>• 4 Regional RA Rallies – 6,776 attended</li> </ul>
1962	Robert B. Chapman Eddie Hurt Frank Black	State RA Director National RA Director Assistant RA Director		36,091	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RA Summer Camps – 8,247 attend, 2,033 decisions</li> <li>• Congress, Tyler – 1,220 attended</li> <li>• 4 Regional RA Rallies – 5,761 attended</li> <li>• RA Campcraft Leadership Course at Lueders Camp (Big Country) 15 Associations – 9 Districts</li> </ul>
1963	Robert B. Chapman Eddie Hurt Frank Black	State RA Director National RA Director Assistant RA Director		36,545	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RA Summer Camps – 8,470 attend, 1,789 decisions</li> <li>• Congress, Unknown - _____ attend</li> <li>• 4 Regional RA Rallies – 6,653 attended</li> <li>• 3<sup>rd</sup> National RA Congress – Washington, DC</li> </ul>

1964	Robert B. Chapman Eddie Hurt Frank Black	State RA Director National RA Director Assistant RA Director			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RA Summer Camps - _____ attend</li> <li>• Congress, Unknown - _____ attend</li> <li>• 6 Regional RA Rallies – 7,082 attended</li> </ul>
1965	Robert B. Chapman Eddie Hurt Frank Black	State RA Director National RA Director Assistant RA Director			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RA Summer Camps - _____ attend</li> <li>• Congress, Austin – 1,134 attend</li> <li>• 6 Regional RA Rallies – 6,495 attended</li> <li>• RA Campcraft School – 22 attended</li> </ul>
1966	Robert B. Chapman Robert E. Dixon Eddie Hurt Frank Black	State RA Director State RA Director National RA Director Assistant RA Director	26,390		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RA Summer Camps - _____ attend</li> <li>• Congress, Kingsville – 906 attend</li> <li>• 6 Regional RA Rallies – 6,779 attended</li> </ul>
1967	Robert E. Dixon Eddie Hurt Frank Black	State RA Director National RA Director Assistant RA Director	26,500		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1<sup>st</sup> State Staffers – 3 staffers worked 10 RA Camps</li> <li>• RA Summer Camps - _____ attend</li> <li>• Congress, Huntsville – 2,365 attend</li> <li>• 5 Regional RA Rallies – 7,400 attended</li> <li>• Texas Baptist Men organized</li> </ul>
1968	Robert E. Dixon Jay Chance Frank Black	State RA Director National RA Director Assistant RA Director	26,886		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RA Summer Camps – 7,982 attend, 1,114 decisions</li> <li>• Congress, Abilene – 2,600 attendance</li> <li>• State RA Track Meet began</li> <li>• 4 Regional RA Rallies – 22,000 attended</li> <li>• Day Camps in Minnesota/Wisconsin &amp; Valley</li> <li>• 4<sup>th</sup> National RA Congress – Oklahoma, OK</li> <li>• State Staffer serve as Pages at SBC Convention</li> </ul>



*TEXAS ROYAL AMBASSADORS HISTORY NOTES*

1969	Cameron Byler Jay Chance Frank Lawton Frank Black Charles Doggett	State RA Director National RA Director National Crusader Director National Pioneer Director National Pioneer Director	26,882	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SBC Foreign Mission Board Appointment Service – 30 Texas RA's serve as Ushers, Pages and Color Guard. 6,500 attended.</li> <li>• RA Camps – 13,115 attend, 2,746 decisions</li> <li>• Congress, New Caney – 2,637 attend</li> <li>• 3 Regional RA Rallies – 6,900 attended</li> </ul>
1970	Cameron Byler Jerry Bob Taylor Jay Chance Frank Lawton Frank Black Charles Doggett	State RA Director State RA Director National RA Director National Crusader Director National Pioneer Director National Pioneer Director	28,899	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RA Camps – 10,500 attend, 2,639 decisions</li> <li>• Congress, Brownwood – 1,220 attend</li> <li>• LAD RAs began</li> <li>• New RA Materials</li> <li>• 8 Regional ACA Campcraft courses held</li> <li>• State Basketball Tournament held in Dallas</li> </ul>
1971	Cameron Byler Jerry Bob Taylor Joe Lenamon Jay Chance Frank Black Jimmie Gresham	State RA Director State RA Director State RA VP (1 <sup>st</sup> State RA Committee) National RA Leadership	31,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RA Summer Camps – 7,330 attend, 1,266 decisions</li> <li>• 1<sup>st</sup> State Wilderness Camp – Mexia, TX</li> <li>• Congress, Brownwood – 1,763 attend</li> <li>• Campcraft contest added to Congress</li> <li>• 17 ACA Campcraft &amp; Canoeing courses held</li> <li>• State Basketball Tournament held in Dallas</li> </ul>
1972	Cameron Byler Jerry Bob Taylor Joe Lenamon Jay Chance Frank Black Jimmie Gresham	State RA Director State RA Director State RA VP National RA Leadership	31,200	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RA Summer Camps – 8,126 attend, 2,960 decisions</li> <li>• State Wilderness Camp moved to Highland Lakes</li> <li>• Congress, Austin – 2,235 attend</li> <li>• RA Racers began</li> <li>• Mission Rally, Baylor – 7,096 attend</li> <li>• 1<sup>st</sup> Statewide RA Leadership Training Conference</li> <li>• State Basketball Tournament – 15 teams</li> <li>• 7 ACA Campcraft courses – 112 men attend</li> <li>• 3 Canoeing courses – 35 men &amp; women attend</li> </ul>

1973	Cameron Byler Jerry Bob Taylor Joe Lenamon  Jay Chance Frank Black Jimmie Gresham	State RA Director State RA Director State RA VP  National RA Leadership		33,400	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RA Summer Camps – 6,776 attend, 1,783 decisions</li> <li>• State Wilderness Camp at Highland Lakes – ACA</li> <li>• Campcraft training for leaders began</li> <li>• Congress, Fort Worth – 3,032 attend</li> <li>• Mission Rally, Baylor – 9,152 attend</li> <li>• State Basketball Tournament – 16 teams</li> <li>• Statewide RA Leadership Conference – 427 attend</li> <li>• 5<sup>th</sup> National RA Congress (Pioneers) – St. Louis, MO</li> </ul>
1974	Jerry Bob Taylor Cotton Bridges  Jay Chance Bob Banks Frank Black Jimmie Gresham	State RA Director State RA VP  National RA Leadership		34,200	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RA Summer Camps – 4,691 attend, 1,096 decisions</li> <li>• State Wilderness Camp at Highland Lakes</li> <li>• Congress, Victoria – 2,546 attend</li> <li>• Mission Rally, Baylor – 8,982 attend</li> <li>• 8 Regional RA Leadership Seminars – 1,486 attend</li> <li>• State Basketball Tournament – 16 teams</li> <li>• 1<sup>st</sup> SBC Day Camp – 326 boys &amp; girls</li> </ul>
1975	Jerry Bob Taylor Cotton Bridges  Jay Chance Bob Banks Frank Black Jimmie Gresham	State RA Director State RA VP  National RA Leadership		34,376	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RA Summer Camps – 4,210 attend, 1,143 decisions</li> <li>• State Wilderness Camp at Highland Lakes</li> <li>• Congress, Tyler – 3,613 attend</li> <li>• Mission Rally, Baylor – 9,123 attend</li> <li>• State Basketball Tournament – 14 teams</li> <li>• 8 Regional RA Leadership Seminars</li> <li>• 1<sup>st</sup> RA Camp Directors meeting</li> </ul>
1976	Jerry Bob Taylor Cotton Bridges  Bob Banks Frank Black Jimmie Gresham	State RA Director State RA VP  National RA Leadership		31,500	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RA Summer Camps – 3,853 attend, 960 decisions</li> <li>• State Wilderness Camp at Highland Lakes</li> <li>• Congress, San Antonio – 5,683 attend</li> <li>• Bicentennial Torch Run – San Jacinto Monument to the Alamo – 325 torch runners</li> <li>• Mission Rally, Baylor – 8,496 attend</li> <li>• State Basketball Tournament – 14 teams</li> <li>• RA Camp Directors meeting</li> </ul>

*TEXAS ROYAL AMBASSADORS HISTORY NOTES*

1977	Jerry Bob Taylor Bosie Boswell  Bob Banks	State RA Director State RA VP  National RA Director		32,800	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RA Summer Camp – 4,223 attend, 1,079 decisions</li> <li>• State Wilderness Camp moved to Lake Lenamon (High-school RA, State Staffers, Men) – 140 attend</li> <li>• Congress, Abilene – 3,923 attend</li> <li>• Mission Rally, Baylor – 9,896 attend</li> <li>• State Basketball Tournament – 16 teams</li> <li>• TBM Adult Campcraft program began</li> <li>• RA Camp Directors meeting</li> </ul>
1978	Jerry Bob Taylor Bosie Boswell  Bob Banks	State RA Director State RA VP  National RA Director		32,600	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RA Summer Camps - _____ attend, 876 decisions</li> <li>• State Wilderness Camp at Lake Lenamon</li> <li>• Congress, Victoria – 4,130 attend</li> <li>• Mission Rally, Baylor – 11,500 attend</li> <li>• State Basketball Tournament – 16 teams</li> <li>• 19 Regional RA Leadership Seminars – 1,185 attend</li> <li>• RA Camp Directors meeting</li> </ul>
1979	Jerry Bob Taylor Bosie Boswell  Bob Banks Frank Black Jimmie Gresham	State RA Director State RA VP  National RA Director National Crusader Director National Pioneer Director		32,700	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RA Summer Camps – 5,425 attend, 1,136 decisions</li> <li>• State Wilderness Camp at Lake Lenamon</li> <li>• Congress, Waco – 5,235 attend</li> <li>• Mission Rally, Baylor – 11,650 attend</li> <li>• State Basketball Tournament – 16 teams</li> <li>• 17 Regional RA Leadership Seminars – 1,027 attend</li> <li>• RA Camp Directors meeting</li> <li>• 6<sup>th</sup> National RA Congress (Pioneers) – Nashville, TN</li> </ul>
1980	Jerry Bob Taylor Dick Jenkins  Bob Banks Frank Black Jimmie Gresham	State RA Director State RA VP  National RA Director National Crusader Director National Pioneer Director	1,525	29,585	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RA Summer Camps – 4,614 attend, 1,005 decisions</li> <li>• Leadership Training Camp began at Lake Lenamon (Formerly called State Wilderness Camp)</li> <li>• Congress, Waco – 5,345 attend</li> <li>• Mission Rally, Baylor – 14,130 attend</li> <li>• State Basketball Tournament – 15 teams</li> <li>• 17 Regional RA Leadership Seminars – 1,055 attend</li> <li>• RA Camp Directors meeting – New RA Camp Directors manual</li> </ul>



1981	John LaNoue Dick Jenkins  Bob Banks Karl Bozeman Russell Griffin	State RA Director State RA VP  National RA Director National Crusader Director National Pioneer Director	1,622	31,066	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RA Summer Camps – 5,106 attend, 1,232 decisions</li> <li>• Leadership Training Camp at Lake Lenamon</li> <li>• Congress, Waco – 5,107 attend – 368 churches, 86 Associations</li> <li>• Mission Rally, Baylor – 14,879 attend</li> <li>• State Basketball Tournament – 14 teams</li> <li>• RA Camp Directors meeting</li> </ul>
1982	John LaNoue Dick Jenkins  Karl Bozeman Russell Griffin	State RA Director State RA VP  National RA Director National Crusader Director National Pioneer Director	1,628	25,772	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RA Summer Camps – 4,093 attend, 982 decisions</li> <li>• Leadership Training Camp at Lake Lenamon</li> <li>• Congress, Waco – 5,000 attend</li> <li>• Mission Rally, Baylor – 11,153 attend</li> <li>• State Basketball Tournament – 24 teams</li> <li>• RA Camp Directors meeting</li> <li>• Transition from TBM Adult Campcraft program to SBC Adult Campcraft program.</li> </ul>
1983	John LaNoue Leo Smith  Karl Bozeman Russell Griffin	State RA Director State RA VP  National RA Director National Crusader Director National Pioneer Director	1,686	31,409	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RA's 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary</li> <li>• RA Summer Camps – 4,528 attend, 929 decisions</li> <li>• Leadership Training Camp at Lake Lenamon</li> <li>• Congress, Waco – 5,835 attend</li> <li>• Mission Rally, Baylor – cancelled due to measles epidemic</li> <li>• State Basketball Tournament – 24 teams</li> <li>• RA Camp Directors meeting</li> </ul>
1984	John LaNoue Leo Smith  Karl Bozeman Russell Griffin	State RA Director State RA VP  National RA Director National Crusader Director National Pioneer Director	1,668	31,544	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RA Summer Camps – 4,386 attend, 1,134 decisions</li> <li>• Leadership Training Camp at Lake Lenamon</li> <li>• Congress, Waco – 4,748 attend</li> <li>• Mission Speakout began (Jerry Clower Speakout) State winner also won at National Speakout</li> <li>• Mission Rally, Baylor – 5,000 attend</li> <li>• State Basketball Tournament – 25 teams</li> <li>• RA Camp Directors meeting</li> </ul>

*TEXAS ROYAL AMBASSADORS HISTORY NOTES*

1985	John LaNoue Leo Smith  Russell Griffin Karl Bozeman Kenny Rains	State RA Director State RA VP  Nat. Children & Youth Dir. Nat. Crusader Dir. Nat. Pioneer Dir.	1,676	30,870	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RA Summer Camps – 4,899 attend, 1,110 decisions</li> <li>• Leadership Training Camp at Lake Lenamon</li> <li>• Congress, Waco – 3,775 attend</li> <li>• Texas Sesquicentennial – 2<sup>nd</sup> Torch Run</li> <li>• Mission Rally, Baylor – 11,500 attend</li> <li>• State Basketball Tournament – 24 teams</li> <li>• RA Camp Directors meeting</li> </ul>
1986	John LaNoue Mack Cook  Russell Griffin Karl Bozeman Kenny Rains	State RA Director State RA VP  Nat. Children & Youth Dir. Nat. Crusader Dir. Nat. Pioneer Dir.	1,735	31,110	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RA Summer Camps – 5,382 attend, 1,112 decisions</li> <li>• Leadership Training Camp at Lake Lenamon</li> <li>• Congress, Waco – 3,479 attend</li> <li>• Mission Rally, Baylor – 7,000 attend</li> <li>• State Basketball Tournament – 25 teams</li> <li>• RA Camp Directors meeting</li> <li>• 7<sup>th</sup> National RA Congress (Pioneers) – Memphis, TN</li> </ul>
1987	John LaNoue Mack Cook  Russell Griffin Karl Bozeman Kenny Rains	State RA & HSBYM Dir. State RA VP  Nat. Children & Youth Dir. Nat. Crusader Dir. Nat. Pioneer & HSBYM Dir.	1,778	32,179	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New RA Materials</li> <li>• High School Baptist Young Men began (10<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> grades.)</li> <li>• RA Summer Camps – 4,621 attend, 1,302 decisions</li> <li>• Leadership Training Camp at Lake Lenamon</li> <li>• Congress, Waco – 3,555 attend</li> <li>• Mission Rally, Baylor – 11,500 attend</li> <li>• State Basketball Tournament – 18 teams</li> <li>• RA Camp Directors meeting</li> </ul>
1988	John LaNoue Mack Cook Manuel Galindo  Russell Griffin Karl Bozeman Kenny Rains	State RA & HSBYM Dir. State RA VP State HSBYM VP  Nat. Children & Youth Dir. Nat. Crusader Dir. Nat. Pioneer & HSBYM Dir.	1,832	31,903	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RA Summer Camps – 5,439 attend, 735 decisions</li> <li>• Leadership Training Camp at Lake Lenamon</li> <li>• Congress, Waco – 3,475 attend</li> <li>• Mission Rally, Baylor – 11,500 attend</li> <li>• State Basketball Tournament – 17 teams</li> <li>• RA Camp Directors meeting</li> <li>• 1<sup>st</sup> State HSBYM Rendezvous – Waco (Fairgrounds)</li> </ul>

1989	Cotton Bridges Herb Weaver Chris Liebrum  Russell Griffin Karl Bozeman Kenny Rains	State RA & HSBYM Dir. State RA VP State HSBYM VP  Nat. Children & Youth Dir. Nat. Crusader Dir. Nat. Pioneer & HSBYM Dir.	1,825	33,024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RA Summer Camps – 5,545 attend, 712 decisions</li> <li>• Leadership Training Camp at Lake Lenamon</li> <li>• Congress, Belton – 4,126 attend</li> <li>• Mission Rally, Baylor – 4,700 attend</li> <li>• State Basketball Tournament – 28 teams</li> <li>• RA Camp Directors meeting</li> <li>• National HSBYM Rally – Arlington, TX</li> </ul>
1990	Cotton Bridges Herb Weaver Chris Liebrum  Russell Griffin Karl Bozeman Kenny Rains	State RA & HSBYM Dir. State RA VP State HSBYM VP  Nat. Children & Youth Dir. Nat. Crusader Director Nat. Pioneer & HSBYM Dir.	1,818	34,491	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RA Summer Camps – 4,875 attend, 897 decisions</li> <li>• Leadership Training Camp at Lake Lenamon</li> <li>• Congress, Belton – 3,000 attend</li> <li>• Mission Rally, Baylor – 8,020 attend</li> <li>• State Basketball Tournament – 23 teams</li> <li>• RA Camp Directors meeting</li> <li>• Western Reg. Nat. HSBYM Rally – Hot Springs, AR</li> </ul>
1991	Cotton Bridges Herb Weaver Chris Liebrum  Russell Griffin Karl Bozeman Kenny Rains	State RA & HSBYM Dir. State RA VP State HSBYM VP  Nat. Children & Youth Dir. National Crusader Director National Pioneer Director	1,845	34,053	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RA Summer Camps – 4,872 attend, 1,166 decisions</li> <li>• Leadership Training Camp at Lake Lenamon</li> <li>• Congress, Belton – 3,000 attend</li> <li>• Mission Rally, Baylor – 9,150 attend</li> <li>• State Basketball Tournament – 30 teams</li> <li>• RA Camp Directors meeting</li> <li>• 2<sup>nd</sup> State HSBYM Rendezvous – FBC Temple</li> </ul>
1992	Cotton Bridges David Hindman Charles Elliott  Tim Seanor Karl Bozeman Tim Bearden	State RA & HSBYM Dir. State RA VP State HSBYM VP  Nat. Children & Youth Dir. National Crusader Director National Pioneer Director	1,793	33,195	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RA Summer Camps – 5,467 attend, 970 decisions</li> <li>• Leadership Training Camp at Lake Lenamon</li> <li>• Congress, Belton – 2,300 attend</li> <li>• Mission Rally, Baylor – 10,200 attend</li> <li>• State Basketball Tournament – 29 teams</li> <li>• RA Camp Directors meeting</li> </ul>



*TEXAS ROYAL AMBASSADORS HISTORY NOTES*

1993	Cotton Bridges David Hindman Charles Elliott  Tim Seanor  Tim Bearden	State RA & HSBYM Dir. State RA VP State HSBYM VP  Nat. Children & Youth Dir. National Crusader Director National Pioneer Director	1,732	32,680	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RA Summer Camps – 5,387 attend, 1,051 decisions</li> <li>• Leadership Training Camp at Lake Lenamon</li> <li>• Congress, Belton – 4,020 attend</li> <li>• Mission Rally, Baylor – 10,115 attend</li> <li>• State Basketball Tournament – 27 teams</li> <li>• RA Camp Directors meeting</li> <li>• 3<sup>rd</sup> State HSBYM Rendezvous – Lake Lenamon</li> </ul>
1994	Cotton Bridges David Hindman Herb Weaver  Tim Seanor  Tim Bearden	State RA/Challengers Dir. State RA VP State Challengers VP  Nat. Children & Youth Dir. National Crusader Dir. National Challenger Dir.	1,723	30,648	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Challengers Began (7<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grades.)</li> <li>• RA Summer Camps – 5,618 attend, 894 decisions</li> <li>• Leadership Training Camp at Lake Lenamon</li> <li>• Congress, Belton – 3,418 attend</li> <li>• Mission Rally, Baylor – 11,206 attend</li> <li>• State Basketball Tournament – 30 teams</li> <li>• RA Camp Directors meeting</li> <li>• 1<sup>st</sup> National Challengers Rally – Gatlinburg, TN</li> </ul>
1995	John Bullock Cotton Bridges Herb Weaver  Tim Seanor  Geno Smith	State RA/Challengers Dir. State RA VP State Challengers VP  Nat. Children & Youth Dir. Nat. Crusader Dir. Nat. Challenger Dir.	1,640	28,534	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RA Summer Camps – 5,136 attend, 835 decisions</li> <li>• Leadership Training Camp at Lake Lenamon</li> <li>• Congress, Belton – 3,150 attend</li> <li>• Mission Rally, Baylor – 9,200 attend</li> <li>• State Basketball Tournament – 28 teams</li> <li>• RA Camp Directors meeting</li> <li>• Texas Challengers Weekend – ETBU, Marshall</li> <li>• Challengers “Spring Training” Work Weekend – Latham Springs</li> </ul>
1996	John Bullock Cotton Bridges Herb Weaver  Tim Seanor  Joe Conway	State RA/Challengers Dir. State RA VP State Challengers VP  Nat. Children & Youth Dir. Nat. Crusader Dir. Nat. Challenger Dir.	1,534	27,732	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RA Summer Camps – 5,217 attend, 746 decisions</li> <li>• Leadership Training Camp at Lake Lenamon</li> <li>• Congress, Belton – 2,700 attend</li> <li>• Mission Rally, Baylor – 12,000 attend</li> <li>• State Basketball Tournament – 22 teams</li> <li>• RA Camp Directors meeting</li> <li>• 1<sup>st</sup> Challengers Camp - Palacios</li> </ul>

1997	John Bullock Cotton Bridges Al Wise  Tim Seanor Mary Branson Joe Conway	State RA/Challengers Dir. State RA VP State Challengers VP  Nat. Missions Ed. Dir. Nat. Children's Strategist Nat. Youth Strategist	1,389	22,276	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brotherhood Commission absorbed by NAMIB</li> <li>• RA Summer Camps – 3,716 attend, 438 decisions</li> <li>• Leadership Training Camp at Lake Lenamon</li> <li>• Congress, Belton - _____ attend</li> <li>• Mission Rally, Baylor</li> <li>• State Basketball Tournament – 21 teams</li> <li>• RA Camp Directors meeting</li> </ul>
1998	John Bullock Keith Mack Al Wise  Tim Seanor Mary Branson Alan Huesing	State RA/Challengers Dir. State RA VP State Challengers VP  Nat. Missions Ed. Dir. Nat. Children's Strategist Nat. Youth Strategist	1,320	21,391	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RA's 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary</li> <li>• RA Summer Camps – 3,814 attend, 433 decisions</li> <li>• Leadership Training Camp at Lake Lenamon</li> <li>• Congress, Belton – 2,100 attend</li> <li>• Mission Rally, Baylor</li> <li>• State Basketball Tournament – 16 teams</li> <li>• RA Camp Directors meeting</li> </ul>
1999	John Bullock/Keith Mack Keith Mack Al Wise  Tim Seanor Mary Branson Alan Huesing	State RA/Challengers Dir. State RA VP (Resigned) State Challengers VP  Nat. Missions Ed. Dir. Nat. Children's Strategist Nat. Youth Strategist	1,240	21,377	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RA Summer Camps – 4,983 attend, 676 decisions</li> <li>• Leadership Training Camp at Lake Lenamon</li> <li>• Congress, Belton – 1,533 attend</li> <li>• Mission Rally, Baylor</li> <li>• State Basketball Tournament – 16 teams</li> <li>• National RA Trainers Conf. (Latham Springs)</li> <li>• Associational RA Training Conferences</li> </ul>
2000	Keith Mack James Corliss Larry Blanchard  Tim Seanor Rob Carr Alan Huesing	State RA/Challengers Dir. State RA VP State Challengers VP  Nat. Missions Ed. Dir. Nat. Children's Strategist Nat. Youth Strategist	1,156	19,850	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RA Summer Camps – 5,026 attend, 750 decisions</li> <li>• Leadership Training Camp at Lake Lenamon</li> <li>• Congress, Belton – 1,602 attend</li> <li>• Mission Rally, Baylor (Rained Out)</li> <li>• State Basketball Tournament – 13 teams</li> <li>• RA Camp Directors meeting – Revised Camp Directors manual</li> <li>• Updated Adult Campcraft materials (Frontiersman, Outdoorsman, Voyager, Trip Leader, Instructor)</li> <li>• Associational RA Training Conferences</li> </ul>

2001	<p>Keith Mack James Corliss Larry Blanchard</p> <p>Tim Seanor Rob Carr Alan Huesing</p>	<p>State RA/Challengers Dir. State RA VP State Challengers VP</p> <p>Nat. Missions Ed. Dir. Nat. Children's Strategist Nat. Youth Strategist</p>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RA Summer Camps – 5,181 attend, 813 decisions</li> <li>• Leadership Training Camp at Lake Lenamon</li> <li>• Congress, Belton – 1,582 attend</li> <li>• Mission Rally, Ballpark in Arlington – 825 attend</li> <li>• State Basketball Tournament – 11 teams</li> <li>• RA Camp Directors meeting</li> <li>• Royal Ambassadors Overview manual</li> <li>• Regional RA Trainers Conference (70 RA Trainers)</li> <li>• 5 Regional Training Conferences (TBMUs)</li> <li>• 9 Campcraft Orientation updates</li> <li>• Associational RA Training Conferences</li> <li>• 1<sup>st</sup> Challengers Southwest Regional Rally - ETBU</li> </ul>
2002	<p>Keith Mack James Corliss Larry Blanchard</p> <p>Tim Seanor Rob Carr Alan Huesing</p>	<p>State RA/Challengers Dir. State RA VP State Challengers VP</p> <p>Nat. Missions Ed. Dir. Nat. Children's Strategist Nat. Youth Strategist</p>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RA Summer Camps – 4,901 attend, 644 decisions</li> <li>• Leadership Training Camp at Lake Lenamon</li> <li>• Congress, Tyler – 1,201 attend</li> <li>• Mission Rally, Ballpark in Arlington – 1,584 attend</li> <li>• State Basketball Tournament – 17 teams</li> <li>• RA Camp Directors meeting</li> <li>• Associational RA Training Conferences</li> <li>• Challengers Southwest Regional Rally - OBU</li> </ul>
2003	<p>Keith Mack Butch Durham Don Roman</p> <p>Tim Seanor Rob Carr Alan Huesing</p>	<p>State RA/Challengers Dir. State RA VP State Challengers VP</p> <p>Nat. Missions Ed. Dir. Nat. Children's Strategist Nat. Youth Strategist</p>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RA Summer Camps – 4,959 attend, 726 decisions</li> <li>• Leadership Training Camp at Lake Lenamon</li> <li>• Congress, Palacios – 680 attend</li> <li>• Mission Rally, Ballpark in Arlington – 1,312 attend</li> <li>• State Basketball Tournament – 9 teams</li> <li>• RA Camp Directors meeting</li> <li>• National RA Trainers Conf. (Dallas)</li> <li>• Challengers Southwest Regional Rally – ETBU</li> </ul>



<p>2004</p>	<p>Keith Mack Butch Durham Don Roman  Tim Seanor Rob Carr Alan Huesing</p>	<p>State RA/Challengers Dir. State RA VP State Challengers VP  Nat. Missions Ed. Dir. Nat. Children's Strategist Nat. Youth Strategist</p>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RA Summer Camps – 4,905 attend, 742 decisions</li> <li>• Leadership Training Camp at Lake Lenamon</li> <li>• Congress, Abilene – 663 attend</li> <li>• Mission Rally, Ballpark in Arlington – 1,292 attend</li> <li>• State Basketball Tournament – 9 teams</li> <li>• RA Camp Directors meeting</li> <li>• Associational RA Training Conferences</li> <li>• New Challengers Campcraft materials</li> <li>• Challengers Southwest Regional Rally - ETBU</li> </ul>
<p>2005</p>	<p>Keith Mack Butch Durham Don Roman  Tim Seanor Rob Carr</p>	<p>State RA/Challengers Dir. State RA VP State Challengers VP  Nat. Missions Ed. Dir. Nat. Children &amp; Youth Strategist</p>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RA Summer Camps – 4,825 attend, 649 decisions</li> <li>• Leadership Training Camp at Lake Lenamon</li> <li>• Congress, San Marcos – 980 attend</li> <li>• Mission Rally, Ballpark in Arlington – 638 attend</li> <li>• State Basketball Tournament cancelled</li> <li>• RA Camp Directors meeting</li> <li>• Associational RA Training Conferences</li> <li>• Challengers Southwest Regional Rally - ETBU</li> </ul>
<p>2006</p>	<p>Keith Mack Henry Klingemann Rooster Smith  Mark Snowden Rob Carr</p>	<p>State RA/Challengers Dir. State RA VP State Challengers VP  Nat. Missions Ed. Dir. Nat. Children &amp; Youth Consultant</p>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RA Summer Camps – 4,711 attend, 720 decisions</li> <li>• Leadership Training Camp at Lake Lenamon</li> <li>• Congress, Latham Springs – 1,025 attend</li> <li>• Mission Rally, Ballpark in Arlington – 658 attend</li> <li>• State Basketball Tournament – 13 teams</li> <li>• RA Camp Directors meeting</li> <li>• Associational RA Training Conferences</li> </ul>
<p>2007</p>	<p>Keith Mack Henry Klingemann Rooster Smith  Jim Burton Rob Carr</p>	<p>State RA/Challengers Dir. State RA VP State Challengers VP  Nat. Missions Ed. Dir. Nat. Children &amp; Youth Consultant</p>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RA Summer Camps – 4,418 attend, 708 decisions</li> <li>• Leadership Training Camp at Lake Lenamon</li> <li>• Congress, San Marcos – 689 attend</li> <li>• Mission Rally, Ballpark in Arlington – 797 attend</li> <li>• State Basketball Tournament – 10 teams</li> <li>• RA Camp Directors meeting</li> <li>• 15 Associational RA Training Conferences</li> <li>• New Campcraft manual released</li> <li>• New Website online</li> </ul>

TEXAS ROYAL AMBASSADORS HISTORY NOTES

2008	<p>Keith Mack Henry Klingemann</p> <p>Jim Burton Rob Carr</p>	<p>State RA/Challengers Dir. State RA VP State Challengers VP</p> <p>Nat. Missions Ed. Dir. Nat. Children &amp; Youth Consultant</p>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RA's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary</li> <li>• RA Summer Camps – 4,120 attend, 595 decisions</li> <li>• Leadership Training Camp at Lake Lenamon</li> <li>• Congress, Belton – 690 attend</li> <li>• Mission Rally, Ballpark in Arlington - 673</li> <li>• State Basketball Tournament – 8 teams</li> <li>• RA Camp Directors meeting</li> <li>• Associational RA Training Conferences</li> </ul>
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*“We are Ambassadors for Christ.”*  
2 Corinthians 5:20



**2003 - 2008**



**1908 - 1957**



**1957 - 1961**

**CELEBRATING**  
**100**  
**ROYAL AMBASSADORS**  
**YEARS**  
1908 ~ 2008



**1994 - 2003**



**1987 - 1994**



**1961 - 1987**

*“Remember your leaders, who spoke the word of God to you.  
Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith.  
Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.”*

Hebrews 13:7-8





