

WILDERNESS WORKBOOKS



Living the Wilderness Experience!

Leading the Way

In the prior two steps Frontiersmen and Buckskin, you have prepared yourself for God's service. It is now time for you to lead the way. On this walk, you have been mentored by those who have gone before you. They have helped to prepare you to develop a warrior's heart and dedication to walk in the full power of God. You have also begun to develop into a mentor and leader. The mantle and responsibility of leadership is being passed to you. One way to accept this challenge is to advance to Wilderness.

Obtaining Wilderness will be a culmination of experiences, skills and knowledge that you have previously encountered. You will become one of the best-trained and best-equipped Royal Rangers. Your service and dedication is one in which those who follow you will see. Do not take this challenge and charge lightly. God expects our best, and those around us should see a Christian warrior ready to lead the way!

"To Give and To Serve", Ad Dare Servire.

**Paul "Grey Owl" Walters
National FCF President**



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FRONTIERSMEN

CAMPING FELLOWSHIP



Welcome to Wilderness!

You have reached the final destination on the Trail of the Grizzly- Wilderness.

The journey has not been easy. You have found support from commanders, pastors, mentors, and others along the trail who have encouraged you to reach this goal.

Within the ranks of the Royal Rangers there are a number of highly trained, extremely skilled men and young men who call themselves Wilderness FCF members.

Those who are a part of this elite group have reached the apex of Royal Rangers training, wilderness skills, and have become men of the Word, ready to go to battle on their knees to wage war against the forces of darkness.

You are about to embark on one of the greatest experiences that you will have as a member of Royal Rangers. That experience is called the Wilderness Vigil.

The purpose of the Wilderness Vigil is to provide a challenge to FCF members that will help them to develop advanced FCF skills and build a stronger spiritual relationship with Christ.

Wilderness members become mentors to other FCF members and Royal Rangers who wish to further develop their skills and become a greater disciple of Christ.

The Wilderness Vigil includes a series of events and activities that are used to determine if a candidate is qualified to advance to the level of Wilderness. A candidate will have an opportunity to engage in a number of required skills – flint & steel /fire starting, primitive navigation, muzzleloading or primitive archery, memorization, assembling a frontier outfit, and creation of a frontier trade item.

The candidate will also gain knowledge about frontier cooking and shelters, common American frontiersmen

outfits, personal mentorship, and the Trappers Brigade program.

As a candidate for Wilderness completes the necessary Royal Rangers requirements for Wilderness Vigil eligibility, an advancement application must be completed and forwarded to the local FCF chapter leadership.

It is a call to greater servant-hood. Your participation should influence the culture of the chapter, not announce it.

A Wilderness man lives the experience of the secret dwelling place of the Most High, and abides under the shadow of the Almighty (Psalm 91).

The pre-Vigil and all-night Vigil are part of a vital experience that has the potential to change the heart of those who strive to become Wilderness. The all night Vigil provides a mirror into which a man sees himself as he really is.

It is the design of the Wilderness Vigil for a man to discover his strengths and weaknesses.

The Wilderness man is a man who seeks to live the experience of the secret dwelling place of the Most High, and abides in the shadow of the Almighty, his Lord, his refuge and his strength.

Are you ready to continue on this journey?

Be warned though, becoming a Wilderness man will change the very nature of who you are and how you approach everything in life.

Your life will be forever changed as you set off to become a Wilderness man. Those who go into the Wilderness never come back the same.

Are you Ready to take up the challenge?

Then lets get to it, and may the Lord richly bless your endeavors to become a Wilderness man!



THE TRAIL OF THE GRIZZLY

Completing the Journey

You have arrived at the final step of the Trail of the Grizzly!

This workbook is designed to help prepare you mentally and physically for your Wilderness Vigil, but most importantly to prepare you spiritually.

This vigil can be a significant moment in your life as you seek the Lord and his voice during your vigil. This time should be a time of reflection on where the Lord has brought you from and a time of vision as you seek where He will lead you from here.

Many have given testimonies of being called into full time ministry, being given clear direction for needs that candidates had taken into the vigil, and new or renewed purpose for life, family and ministry. The Wilderness Vigil is truly a

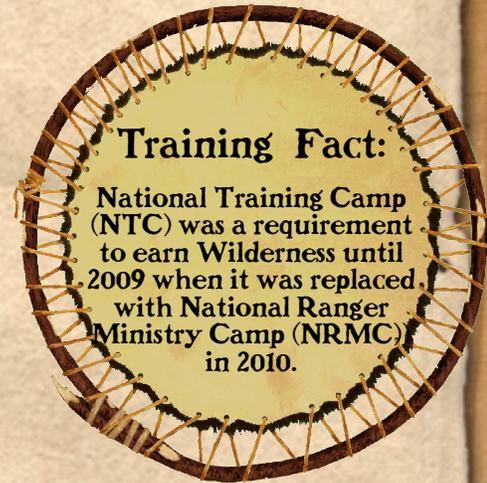
special time during which the Lord can speak to your heart.

You will benefit greatly from the information found not only in this workbook, but also the information found in the Frontiersmen and Buckskin Workbooks as well. These are designed to all work together for this final stage of advancement.

Take time and work through the pages of this workbook. Prayerfully consider each page as you prepare for your Wilderness experience.

Are you Ready to follow the path of the Wilderness man?

May the Lord richly bless your efforts as you seek to become Wilderness!



Wilderness Requirements

Boys

- Be an active FCF member in your chapter for at least two years.
- Complete a Wilderness Vigil.
- Be an active members of a chartered Royal Rangers outpost and be recommended for Wilderness status by the Outpost Coordinator and Pastor.
- Assist in conducting an additional Frontier Adventure.
- Achieve Bourgeois Trapper status in the Trappers Brigade.
- Assist a boy in completing the membership requirements for FCF.
- Be a recipient of the Adventure Gold or the Expedition Rangers E3 Award.

Leaders

- Be an active FCF member in your chapter for at least two years.
- Complete a Wilderness Vigil.
- Be an active members of a chartered Royal Rangers outpost and be recommended for Wilderness status by your Outpost Coordinator and Pastor.
- Assist in conducting an additional Frontier Adventure.
- Achieve Bourgeois Trapper status in the Trappers Brigade.
- Assist at a least one additional boy in completing the membership requirements for FCF.
- Be in good standing in your church, regularly practicing a Christ-like lifestyle.
- Achieve the Advanced Leader level of the Outpost Leader Advancement Levels (OLAL).





W B E C O M I N G A W A R R I O R

Transforming Into A Soldier for Christ

Following the Path

The path of a Torch Bearer and the Armor Bearer leads an FCF member to become a Warrior. Scripture tells us in Ephesians 6 that our struggle is not with flesh and blood, but with spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. The Apostle Paul instructs us to arm ourselves as a warrior for combat against the enemy, so that when the fight comes, we are equipped and outfitted to do battle.

Forging a Man into a Warrior

Have you ever stood and watched a master blacksmith work at his forge? To study this master of his craft as he skillfully heats and hammers the iron into something useful, you would observe the ease of how he shapes the metal into a tool.

He begins by selecting the appropriate raw material for the project that he is working on. Not all types of iron are used for the same purpose, yet they are all forged in similar ways. Each has their own distinctive characteristics for the tools that they will create, for each one is unique.

To forge a useful tool, the iron must go into the fire, heated to the exact temperature known only to the blacksmith. Without the heat, it would be impossible to shape the cold hard iron. The heat makes it soft and malleable, much easier to shape. After a time in the

fire, the blacksmith takes the heated metal out of the fire and lays it on the anvil to begin the shaping process.

As the blacksmith strikes the iron, sparks will fly. With each blow of the hammer, the tool takes shape and begins to take the

form that the craftsman wants it to be. As the metal cools, it is placed back in the heat to re-soften it so that he can continue to work with the material to become what he has conceived in his heart that it should become.

This process is repeated over and over again until the blacksmith has reached the point of completion and finishes the tool. In the case of an edged tool such as a knife, the blacksmith must then temper the blade for strength and flexibility. When the blade has been tempered, it is ready for the blade to be sharpened for use.

After polishing and a handle, the new knife is now ready for a long life of service. The work of the master craftsman has yielded a thing of great beauty and usefulness.



Becoming a man of God is much like a blacksmith forging a blade from a piece of iron. What raw material does God have to forge into a Godly man? All God needs is the willing heart of a man or boy.

Every boy has the potential to become a great man of God and to reach the potential that God has planned for his life. This journey to become a man of God, much like forging a blade, is not a quick or easy process.

As a boy grows, there will be those moments of heating and forging, through the trials of life becoming that useful tool

The warrior in every culture had to endure a time of training and testing to have the title bestowed upon them. Usually it was by the elders of the society they lived in.



the Lord has envisioned him to become. Many times throughout the course of his life this process will be repeated, and each time he becomes a little more like the man that God wants him to become.

This is a difficult process, often dirty and sometimes painful, but remember, you are being shaped by the Master!

From the beginning of his life, it is God's desire that every boy become a man of God. This is accomplished by surrounding him with men that are on the same journey at different points in their lives. Godly fathers, brothers and extended family, Godly men of the church, on the job, or in your neighborhoods can all be an influence on your journey to become a man of God.

You may be starting this journey later in your life and not as a boy. Good! God has great things planned for you too! Even though it may have been many years since you were a boy, the process is going to be the same. As either a man or boy, what must be understood is that it is not an immediate change.

Becoming a man of God is a process that takes time.

You have been on a journey known to the ranks of the Frontiersmen Camping Fellowship as the Trail of the Grizzly to become a Wilderness member of the FCF. Along the way, you have become a Torch bearer, proclaiming the Jesus as the Light of the World everywhere you go. You have become an Armor bearer, one who supports and undergirds the leadership in your Pastor, your Royal Rangers leadership and FCF leadership. Now you are ready to become a Warrior.

Battle Tested

Throughout the journey to becoming a warrior, you will experience battles along the way. As you seek to become a warrior, the enemy will fight against you. It is in those moments that you will use the training that you have received from your mentors, pastors and commanders. Every warrior will seek peace, but will fight to defend the weak or helpless.

David, the future king of Israel was just such a man. When he arrived in the Israelite camp he found that the Philistine champion Goliath of Gath, a man over nine feet tall, had struck fear into the armies of Israel. Coming out each day and challenging the men of Israel to come out and fight. When David arrived and saw and heard what was happening, he knew immediately what he would do. He would kill the giant who would defy the armies of the living God.

Long before all of these things happened, David had been training for this battle. He had killed the lion and the bear while tending his father's sheep. Goliath would be no

different. David stood firm in the face of the enemy of the army of Israel, because the Lord was with him. With a sling and a stone, David triumphed over Goliath, defeating him and winning a great battle for the Lord. David had become a warrior.



You will face battles in your life. This is a fact. How you stand in the face of those battles will reveal the character that is developing in you. As you rely not on your own strength, but on the strength of the Lord you will see victories. On our own we cannot be successful in battle. As men of God we must remember that the battle is the Lord's.

A Servants Heart

A warrior leads with the heart to honor God in every way, recognizing the high responsibility of leading others as a servant. While the image of a warrior is often one of a fighter, it is much more than just to have a willingness to fight. A true warrior has been trained and tried by experience and is willing to lead others to victory. A Wilderness FCF member has been trained. He has been mentored by other Christians and has become a mentor to those who will follow him.

¹² "But the LORD is with me like a mighty warrior; so my persecutors will stumble and not prevail. They will fail and be thoroughly disgraced; their dishonor will never be forgotten."



BECOMING THE WILDERNESS MAN

Preparing Yourself Spiritually

Empowered by the Holy Spirit

What defines a Wilderness man? How do you become a Wilderness man? There is no one single act that anyone who has become a Wilderness man can point to and say "it was in that moment I changed."

Becoming a Wilderness man is a process of development that will never end until we are with the Lord. Time and experiences help with this process, but more importantly prayer and spiritual development.

The Bible is full of examples of those that we would consider Wilderness men.

The Apostle Paul was a Wilderness Man.

The Apostle Paul

Paul, the apostle lived a most interesting life. Although he was born a Roman citizen, he was raised in a Jewish family. He then proceeded from persecuting Christians, to being martyred for his belief in Christ.

He had two names, Saul of Tarsus and later known as Paul. Paul most likely was responsible for more people committing their lives to Christ than anyone else in the Bible but Jesus. Paul was full of the power of God. He was empowered by the Holy Spirit. Paul was also an excellent example of being a mentor. Of being very aware of raising up the next generation of evangelists. One of the most well known was Timothy. Timothy was a teenager when he met Paul. He received an invitation from Paul to travel with him. Timothy assisted Paul in the formation of multiple new churches. He, like Paul lived the life of a warrior after being mentored.

God had designed special plans for the man named Saul. He had a personal encounter with God while on a trip to put Christians into jail. Knocked off a donkey and blinded by the power of God, Paul had his life turned from bad to being a great missionary for God. His life's story is powerful. He followed after and was empowered by God. His dedication to God can be a great example as you seek to advance to Wilderness.

A Christian Warrior is someone who is not afraid to pick up their cross and follow Christ. They know that to live is Christ, and to die is gain, and they are willing to give up what they cannot keep to gain what they cannot lose.

They live by The Vision. They wake up every morning prepared for battle, waging the war against sin and death so that all might come to life in Christ. They are fearless. Unafraid, they boldly face persecution, ridicule, and even torture with unwavering faith and a steadfast heart.

Their battles are often silent.

Their victories go unnoticed by the world.

They fight not against people, but against sin.

They do not strive for earthly treasure, but for heavenly rewards.

They wield the weapons of truth, prayer, and love.

The Way of the Wild Heart

by John Eldredge

A Map For The Masculine Journey

In *The Way of the Wild Heart*, John Eldredge asks an urgent question. How does one become a man? Using imagery from the lives of David and Jesus, ancient ritual, and popular media, Eldredge explores the six stages of a man's life.

While these stages are often not pinned to an exact age as they often overlap, they provide both a description and map of the different stages that we men travel through. It is important to develop with God's help, in each stage. It is also important to see men in our lives at different stages to be aware of the mentoring and advice that we each receive through our entire manhood journey?

Do you know where you are in your walk as a man? Consider the six stages of a man's life listed here:

- **Beloved Son**

A time of wonder and exploration. A time of tree forts. Above all else, it is the time of being the Beloved Son. A time of affirmation.

- **Cowboy**

A period of adolescence, and it runs into the late teens to early twenties. It is the time of learning the lessons of the field, a time of great adventures and testing, and also a time for hard work.

- **Warrior**

In his late teens there emerges the young Warrior, and this phase lasts well into his thirties. The young warrior learns the rigors of discipline-especially that inner

Psalm 91

¹ Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High
will rest in the shadow of the Almighty.

² I will say of the LORD, "He is my refuge and my fortress,
my God, in whom I trust."

³ Surely he will save you
from the fowler's snare
and from the deadly pestilence.

⁴ He will cover you with his feathers,
and under his wings you will find refuge;
his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart.

⁵ You will not fear the terror of night,
nor the arrow that flies by day,

⁶ nor the pestilence that stalks in the darkness,
nor the plague that destroys at midday.

⁷ A thousand may fall at your side,
ten thousand at your right hand,
but it will not come near you.

⁸ You will only observe with your eyes
and see the punishment of the wicked.

⁹ If you say, "The LORD is my refuge,"
and you make the Most High your dwelling,

¹⁰ no harm will overtake you,
no disaster will come near your tent.

¹¹ For he will command his angels concerning you
to guard you in all your ways;

¹² they will lift you up in their hands,
so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.

¹³ You will tread on the lion and the cobra;
you will trample the great lion and the serpent.

¹⁴ "Because he loves me," says the LORD, "I will rescue him;
I will protect him, for he acknowledges my name.

¹⁵ He will call on me, and I will answer him;
I will be with him in trouble,
I will deliver him and honor him.

¹⁶ With long life I will satisfy him
and show him my salvation."

Trappers Brigade

The Trappers Brigade has come to define greater service to our Royal Rangers outposts, churches, communities and our world at large. FCF members should continually seek out opportunities for service, and leads the way for others to do the same. Use the information here to develop a plan for Trappers Brigade service projects.

Qualifying Activities

Qualifying service hours are those where a member volunteers his time (excluding travel time) with no consideration or wages, in the categories of outpost, church, community, or missions. Service hours must be reported to your chapter each year to qualify. Young Bucks must complete the service under the supervision of an adult leader.

- **Outpost:** Service hours beyond weekly meetings, regular outings, and training. The outpost coordinator pre-approves the efforts of the member to insure the service helps the outpost accomplish its “evangelize-equip-empower” mission. Projects may include but is not limited to: Camp gear preparation, cleaning and packing for trips. Meeting room cleaning, and upkeep. Outpost evangelism such as passing out Royal Rangers promotional material in the surrounding community and outpost promotion such as website and social media development, as per the outpost coordinators approval and signature on the Trappers Brigade application.
- **Church:** Service hours beyond the outpost. The pastor responsible for overseeing Royal Rangers in the local church pre-approves the efforts of the member to insure the service helps the church accomplish the pastoral vision. They will also sign the Trappers Brigade application. Service hours related to leadership merits of any color may be counted.
- **Community:** Service hours beyond the outpost and the church. These efforts will represent the church in the community. The service rendered must be pre-approved by the pastoral leadership to best represent the church in the community. The Pastor overseeing Royal Rangers in the local outpost will sign the Trappers Brigade application. Involving as many Royal Rangers as possible is encouraged, especially

when done in conjunction with earning leadership merits of any color, as long as they have not been applied to Church Service.

- **Missions:** Service hours that benefit Royal Rangers’ priority missions initiatives are suggested—Royal Rangers International, Pathfinder Missions, BGMC Master’s Toolbox, and Speed the Light. Hours may include both actual hours served in ministry and hours involved in the promotion of the missions initiatives such as fund raising. Visit the national Royal Rangers ministry Web site for links to these ministry Web sites for ways to get involved. Hours devoted to other Assemblies of God mission’s ministries are also worthwhile, and may be counted as mission’s hours for Trappers Brigade. The service rendered must be coordinated with the pastoral leadership in advance to best represent the churches mission’s efforts. The pastor will also sign the Trappers Brigade application.

FCF Missions Fact:
In 2013, FCF members across the nation collectively gave a total of \$493,213.00 to missions.

(Note: In a non-AG outpost, members should support the middle and high school-age missions program of their denomination.)

- **Additional Service Opportunities:** In addition to four primary areas of service (Outpost, Church, Community, and Missions), Christian service performed in areas other than the four areas mentioned will qualify for additional Trappers Brigade hours. Service may include: National Camporama/Rendezvous work week, District work days, volunteer service with organizations such as the American Red Cross, Habitat for Humanity, Humane Society, etc. Service is verified and approved by either the Outpost Coordinator or the Pastor responsible for oversight of Royal Rangers.



Trappers Brigade Planning Worksheet

Use this worksheet to plan your service hour requirements. Don't limit yourself to what is suggested here as projects. Talk to your mentor, your pastor and your commander to develop a plan to complete your Trappers Brigade service hours.

40 hours of service are required for each level of Trappers Brigade service. Hours above the 40 may be counted towards the next level.

Service Hours Planner

Outpost Service (5 hours)

Church Service (5 hours)

Community Service (5 hours)

Missions Service (5 hours)

Additional Service Hours (20 hours)

With your mentor, you should be able to develop a plan for completing the service hours necessary for earning your next Trappers Brigade Award.

Trappers Brigade applications can be found on the National FCF website at www.nationalfcf.com.



WILDERNESS

VIGIL PREPARATION

Mastering Wilderness Skills

As a Wilderness candidate you are demonstrating your commitment to developing American frontier skills as well as seeking out God's will for your life. During your Wilderness Vigil you will be evaluated in the areas outlined here. Please review each of these items and prepare to make your Wilderness Vigil experience a success.

Frontier Trade Item

You will need to provide a personally hand-made frontier trade item. Your trade item will be evaluated on authenticity, craftsmanship and appropriateness to the period. The trade item will become a donation to the territorial missions auction.

Frontier Outfit

You will need to wear a complete American frontier type outfit during the Wilderness Vigil. The American frontier period will be defined as the time between 1700 and 1840. Each item in your outfit will be evaluated on era appropriateness, craftsmanship and authenticity. More points will be awarded for personally made outfit items. Your frontier outfit must include a shirt, pants, hat, foot gear, coat, belt, possible pouch, and accessories (i.e. sheathed knives, sheathed hawks, rifle case, necklaces and adornment, etc).

Muzzleloader or Primitive Bow

You will be evaluated on your ability to safely and effectively shoot a primitive type muzzleloader or bow. You will be asked to provide 5 general safety rules for the primitive weapon you have chosen to use – a primitive muzzleloader or a primitive bow. You will be required to safely and correctly load your primitive weapon and accurately shoot the weapon three (3) times. Please have all equipment and accessories necessary to shoot your primitive muzzleloader or bow at the time of the Wilderness Vigil. Please refer to the attached "Common Safety Rules and Equipment List" document. All candidates must complete either the NRA or NMLRA Basic Black powder safety course and present their certification card to be eligible to shoot during the Wilderness Vigil.

Primitive Shelter

You will be required to construct a primitive shelter using natural materials found in or around the Wilderness Vigil site. Your shelter will be evaluated based on location, size, quality, weatherproof qualities and safety. An 8' x 8' waterproof canvas fly or tarp may be used in locations where vegetation is sparse or the harvesting of greenery is prohibited.

Primitive Navigation

You will be required to demonstrate one primitive land navigation method, either the shadow stick or improvised compass method must be demonstrated. Additional primitive land navigation methods are helpful in having knowledge of prevailing winds, use of the sun and stars, knowledge of vegetation growth patterns, etc. These will assist you in your evaluation.

You will also be evaluated on your ability to use your primitive compass to navigate to the vigil site location.

Vigil Fire / Flint & Steel

Using flint and steel, you will be required to start a fire in your personal vigil site. Your fire must be maintained throughout the night- time and early morning hours.

Primitive Meal

You will be asked to prepare a primitive meal using items provided to you by the Wilderness Vigil Staff. Your meal will be evaluated on cooking methods used, quality, timeliness, and whether or not the meal is edible. You will be allowed to carry small personal and primitive cooking equipment and utensils.

Horn Blowing

You will be required to blow your primitive horn at specified times during your Wilderness Vigil experience.

Memorization

During your Wilderness Vigil, you will be asked to recite the following scripture verses:

Isaiah 40:31 - "but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint."

Acts 1:8 - "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

Hebrews 12:1 - "Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us."

Other Wilderness Vigil Considerations

Your Wilderness Vigil experience will end early and unsuccessfully should one of the following things occur:

- You fail to earn enough beads during the Pre-Vigil testing.
- Your vigil fire goes out or there is no discernible flame.
- You fall asleep during the Wilderness Vigil.

Into the Wilderness-

Preparing yourself Physically

Muzzleloading Description

A frontiersman would have to be skilled in the use of every single tool he had in his possession. A frontiersman would have to be especially skilled in the use of his rifle in order to protect himself and provide for many of his daily needs. In order to complete the Wilderness Vigil, you will be required to demonstrate exceptional skill in the loading and shooting of a muzzleloading rifle.

During the American frontier period, it was essential to have a good rifle and be proficient in its use. It is required that you complete an NRA or NMLRA Basic Black Powder Rifle Certification Course as you prepare to complete the Wilderness Vigil. Even though the black powder rifles and accessories that will be used to complete the Wilderness Vigil are considered primitive, all black powder rifles, black powder and accessories should be considered dangerous and should be handled with care.

Ensure all black powder shooting activities are conducted in conjunction with established shooting range rules and regulations. All black powder equipment should be inspected to make sure it is safe for use by the shooter and any individual close to the shooter. Black powder equipment needs to be appropriate for the size and strength of the shooter.

Be sure to use, handle and transport all black powder and black powder substitutes with extreme care. Be aware of all local rules and regulations regarding the use and possession of black powder. Also, take precautions when using, handling, and melting pure lead alloy.

Archery Description

The American frontiersman would learn how to build and use primitive bows and arrows from Native American tribes they encountered while on the frontier. Primitive archery skills served the frontiersman as a weapon for protection as well as a means to hunt game in the wilderness. The tradition and function of primitive archery can be used to satisfy the marksmanship requirement on the Wilderness Vigil. It is recommended that you enlist the aid of a certified archery instructor and an experienced bow maker before attempting to complete the Wilderness Vigil.

Even though the archery equipment to be used for the Wilderness Vigil merit is considered primitive, all bows and arrows should be considered dangerous and should be handled with care. Ensure all archery activities are conducted in conjunction with established archery range rules and regulations. All archery equipment should be inspected to make sure it is safe for use by the shooter and any individual close to the shooter. Archery equipment needs to be appropriate for the size and strength of the shooter. Fractured or cracked arrows should be discarded and bows should not be used that are found to have any defect.

To satisfy the practical shooting requirements for the Wilderness Vigil, wooden or laminate composite recurve and longbow styled bows with wooden or composite arrows can be used.

Steps to Effectively Load a Muzzleloading Rifle

- Wipe the bore with a moist cleaning patch.
- Wipe the bore with a dry cleaning patch.
- Place the hammer on half cock for a percussion rifle. Open the frizzen and put the hammer down on a flintlock rifle.
- Cap and snap to check for a clear nipple and flash channel for a percussion rifle. Using a needle, clear the vent hole on a flintlock rifle.
- Pour powder from a powder horn to a powder measure.
- Pour powder from a preset powder measure into the bore.
- Tap the base of the barrel.
- Place a lubricated patch over the muzzle.
- Place the ball in the middle of the patch.

- Seat the ball with short shaft of the short starter.
- Seat the ball as far as possible with the long shaft of the short starter.
- Using the ramrod, seat the ball firmly against the powder charge.
- Place the ramrod in the thimbles under the barrel.
- Place a cap on the nipple of a percussion rifle. Flash the pan or place 4fg powder in the pan of a flintlock rifle and close the frizzen.
- Bring the hammer to full cock.
- Take aim and fire.
- Wipe the bore with a damp patch followed by a dry patch.

Steps to Effectively Nock and Fire a Primitive Bow

- The archer should straddle the shooting line with one foot on either side.
- Holding the bow in your bow hand, use your string hand to withdraw an arrow.
- Nock the arrow on the bowstring, making sure that the odd colored cock fletch is pointed out away from the bow.
- Grasp the string with the 1st-3rd fingers and smoothly draw the string back to your face.
- Anchor by touching your index finger to the corner of your mouth.
- Aim your shot.
- Release the arrow by relaxing your fingers and the back of your hand in a single instant.
- Follow Through: Hold the shooting stance until the arrow hits the target.

Muzzleloader / Primitive Bow Common Safety Rules

Muzzleloader

- Develop a positive attitude.
- Always point muzzle in a safe direction.
- Keep your finger off the trigger until you are ready to shoot.
- Know where the projectile will go. Know what is behind your target.
- Cap or prime the firearm only when ready to shoot.
- All powder horns must be capped or closed before firing your rifle.
- Use 4FG powder only as a priming powder in a flintlock rifle, not as a loading charge.
- Fully understand how your firearm operates.
- Wear ear and eye protection.
- Never blow down the barrel.

- Never pour powder directly from a powder horn or flask into the barrel.
- Keep the barrel free of obstructions – mud, dirt, and snow.
- Keep all parts of your body, especially hands, face and head away from the muzzle.
- Make sure all firearms are unloaded at home, in camp and while transporting.

Primitive Bow

- Always use equipment that is most closely match to the archer – i.e. bow size, draw weight, draw length, arrow length, etc.
- Always match the spine of the arrows to the cast of the bow, not the draw weight. Never shoot with underspined arrows.
- Always string and unstring your bow clear of others.
- Always inspect all archery equipment before use. Never use damaged or broken equipment.
- Never draw a bow and release the string without an arrow.
- Never point a drawn bow at anything you do not intend to shoot.
- Never shoot an arrow straight up in the air.
- Know where your arrow will go. Know what is behind your target.
- Never nock an arrow until you are ready to shoot.

Muzzleloader / Primitive Bow Accessories / Equipment

Common Muzzleloader Equipment and Accessories

NRA or NMLRA certification Card (required)
 Percussion cap or flintlock rifle
 Shooting bag
 Powder measure
 Ball starter
 Powder horn or flask
 Black powder or synthetic black powder
 Patching – loading and cleaning
 Patch knife
 Percussion caps and capper
 Extra nipples, nipple wrench, vent pick
 Extra flint
 Priming horn
 Cleaning jag
 Ball puller and worm
 Water, lubricant, or solvent
 Ear and eye protection

Common Primitive Archery Equipment and Accessories

- Wooden or laminate composite recurve bow or primitively styled longbow (No sights allowed)
- Wooden or composite arrows (No Aluminum)
- Quiver
- Extra string
- Armguard
- Shooting glove

Primitive Fire Starting (Flint & Steel)

Survival in the wilderness was dependent on whether or not a frontiersman was able to make a keep a fire. A good fire was a necessity for warmth, food preparation and a variety of other daily activities. A frontiersman would have to acquire the skill of making a fire in wet as well as desolate locations while using native materials to start and maintain the fire.

A fire could be made using a number of primitive methods from flint and steel to bow and drill and from a burning glass to a fire piston. The most common method used by the American frontiersman was the flint and steel. A shower of sparks will fall from a steel striker as a piece of flint glances off the face of the striker. A good steel striker was a prized possession by individuals living on the frontier.

Regardless of the method for starting a fire in the wilderness, plenty of good charred tinder was necessary to turn a shower of sparks into a flame. Commonly called "char cloth," this charred material would be placed in the dry tinder to catch the sparks that would then be blown into a flame. Cotton cloth, unbraided natural rope, punk wood, and tow (coarse flax) are all good materials to use to make charred tinder.

It was a common practice for frontiersmen to keep fire building tinder tucked away in his gear in the event he encountered wet conditions. Knowing he had this dry tinder gave him confidence that he could build a fire at any time if needed.

Common types of tinder are pine needles, wood shavings, cedar bark, dry grass and bird's nests.

Being able to build a fire in any condition is a valuable skill that every frontiersmen should be able to master while he is on the Trail of the Grizzly.

Starting a Fire Using Flint & Steel

In order to start a fire using a steel striker and pieces of flint, take a handful of dry tinder and roughly construct a bird's nest. Place a piece or two of "char cloth" or charred tinder in the middle of the bird's nest. While holding the steel striker in one hand, strike the sharp edge of a piece of flint downward along the face of the steel striker. A series of glancing blows will produce a shower of sparks that will land in the charred tinder. Once the charred tinder is glowing red from a spark, fold the bird's nest or tinder around the glowing charred tinder. Steadily blow through the tinder as the charred tinder creates a flame in the dry tinder or bird's nest. As the bird's nest start to flame, apply more dry tinder and kindling.

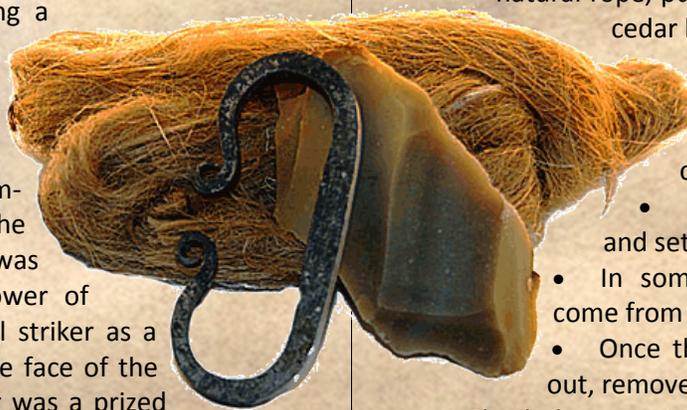
Making Charred Tinder (char cloth)

- Assemble material – cotton cloth, unbraided natural rope, punk wood, straw, a bird's nest, cedar bark, etc.
- Punch a small hole in a tin can.
- Start a campfire and create a good pile of coals.
- Place materials in the tin can and set on the glowing coals.
- In some cases, a small flame will come from the hole in the tin can.
- Once the flame on the tin can goes out, remove the tin can from the coals.
- Check the material in the tin can to make sure it has been fully "charred."
- Store the charred tinder in a dry pouch or can.

Primitive Cooking

Being able to acquire and prepare food was a very important skill for a frontiersman while living in the wilderness. It was essential for survival to be able to hunt, trap or gather food items in unfamiliar territory. Many times, the frontiersman had to rely on native foods that were in season. While he could obtain food staples at posts along the way, once he was in the wilderness, he relied on acquired skills to prepare his meals.

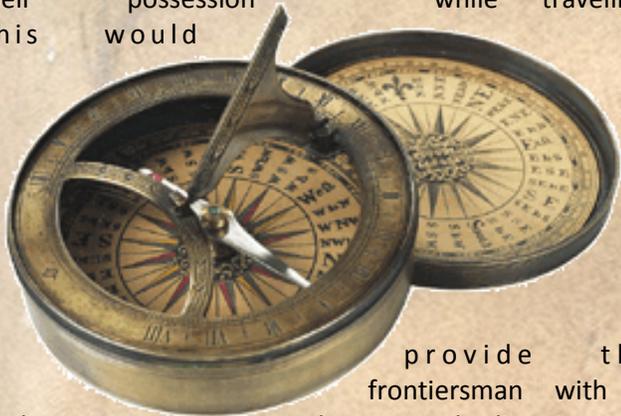
When available, a frontiersman would stock his pack with as much food staples as possible. He would commonly pack flour, sugar, salt pork, beans, cornmeal, salt, tea and coffee as he was making plans to head into the wilderness. Once in the wilderness, he relied on what he could acquire through hunting and gathering. On the trail, a frontiersman would use simple and primitive methods to prepare meals. He would be able



to build different types of fires to make best use of cooking utensils and food items. A hunter's fire or trench fire would be used to nicely heat pots and pans. A pit fire could be used to slowly cook game meat. A spit was commonly used to roast game meat of any size. Should a frontiersman take a large animal, he would smoke parts of the animal to preserve the meat for later meals. Jerky, pemmican and hardtack might be the only food items that would keep a frontiersman from starving in the wilderness.

Primitive Navigation

Being able find the direction in unfamiliar territory was a very important skill to have for the American frontiersmen. Knowing which way to travel is the most important aspect of navigation. Trailblazers would need to be able to journal the location of paths and trails so that others would be able to better navigate the wilderness. Explorers would make notes about landmarks and special features of new terrain. Trappers had to have a good sense of direction and knowledge of wilderness signs in order to best lay traps and snares. In some cases, a frontiersman would have a small primitive compass in their possession while traveling. This would



provide the frontiersman with a guide to the general directions of North, South, East and West. If a compass was not available, a frontiersman would rely on navigation methods that were natural to terrain. For example, a frontiersman would be able to find North at night by locating the North Star. On sunny days, a simple sundial could be created to determine East and West by following the shadow throughout the day, also called the shadow stick method. Another common way to find North was to find moss growing on trees. Typically, moss would grow on the North side of rocks and trees in forest terrain. In the Northern Hemisphere the foliage on the south side of a tree is thicker than the north side. Knowledge of prevailing winds also aided the frontiersmen in finding general directions. In a pinch, a sewing needle can be magnetized by stroking it in the same direction over and over across a piece of silk or wool. This is set on a leaf or other

floatable item and place in a cup of water or a puddle. The magnetic pull of the earth will point the magnetized end to point north. This is called an improvised compass.

Primitive Shelters

Knowing how to build a shelter that can shield you from the elements can mean the difference between sleeping warm and dry or cold and wet. There are a number of different styles of primitive shelters that can be built from natural material. The lean-to shelter is the easiest to build. This style can be built by using a fallen tree, upturned roots, or a large fallen trunk. Using a reflector, these styles of shelters can be easily warmed by a fire. The downside of building these shelters is the amount of greenery that needs to be cut to make these shelters waterproof.

The most useful tool in building a shelter is a small trekking style hand axe. This style of axe are designed for cutting and chopping wood. Tomahawks can work for this, but are usually not heavy enough for the work that they are used for.

A debris hut is another type of shelter that can be built using the debris from the forest floor rather than using cut greenery. The shelters are built in the same way as an A-frame or lean-to, but instead use sticks and branches to cover the framework. Then the entire structure is covered with forest debris. Starting at the bottom and building it up until the entire structure is covered. This is the best insulated shelter that you can build.

Additional information and instruction on this skill can be found in the Green Primitive Shelters merit found at www.TracClub.com, green merits can be found in the Adventure Rangers Track.

An 8'x8' canvas diamond shelter can be utilized as a shelter in areas where there is little or no natural material available to use to be to build a shelter. A diamond shelter can be set up in various configurations. These shelters can be waterproofed using a mixture of iron oxide and boiled linseed oil painted on the fabric.

You will encounter areas that will not allow the cutting of green boughs. In those areas a debris hut or diamond shelter are the best options for a shelter.

Frontier Trades

Development of frontier skills and trades was the lifeblood of the individuals traveling and residing in the American frontier. It was imperative that the frontiersman had a trade that would set him apart from

all others in his region. It was his ability to trade what he was able to make for items that others made to trade. Developing trade skills would allow a frontiersman to acquire needed items while in the wilderness. A frontiersman would also develop a variety of skills to aid in daily activities as he had to be as self sufficient as possible.

Common trades on the American frontier:

- Blacksmith
- Carpenter
- Cooper
- Tinsmith
- Coppersmith
- Basket Maker
- Glass Blower
- Potter
- Beadwork
- Quillwork
- Weaving
- Chandelier
- Leatherwork
- Tailor
- Hatter
- Tanner
- Artist
- Hornsmith

For more information on Frontier Trades, refer back to the information found in the Buckskin Workbook.

You will need to prepare a sample of your trade to present to the Wilderness evaluators. The item that you present should demonstrate your best effort and skill. This will be donated to your Territory to be placed in the missions auction at the next Territorial Rendezvous.

Frontier Outfits

When you tested for the Buckskin level, you were asked to present yourself for testing in a basic frontier outfit. During your time as a Buckskin member, you should have further developed your outfit to enhance your frontier look to become more authentic.

The Wilderness advancement process will evaluate your outfit based on three separate criteria: Workmanship, Genre Appropriate (are the items associated with your outfit match a specific time, or military unit, etc.) and Period Authentic. As you begin your journey toward Wilderness, begin to do some research and develop your outfit items to be as authentic as possible.

For a list of books and other reference materials, refer back to information on outfits found in the Frontiersmen and Buckskin Workbooks.

Wilderness Pouch

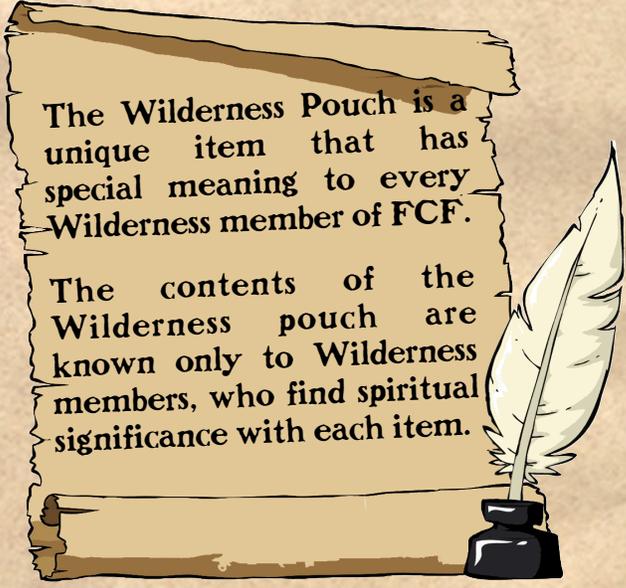
A long held tradition of the Wilderness Vigil is the carrying of a small pouch by the Vigil candidate.

When you submit your application for Wilderness, your Chapter Wilderness Representative will contact you by mail, sending you an informational letter and your Wilderness pouch. By carrying the pouch in the months ahead of the Vigil, it keeps the true essence of the Wilderness Vigil in the mind of the candidate. The pouch contains a number of items that are designed to provide a frontier item with a symbolic spiritual connection. Pray and seek out the spiritual significance of each of the items in your Wilderness Pouch.

The meaning of the items might take on a different emphasis for each candidate as they undertake the journey of becoming a Wilderness member.

As you carry your pouch, seek out other Wilderness members who you would like to pray for you as you walk this trail and ask them to mark their totem on your Wilderness pouch as a promise to pray for you as you prepare for your vigil.

Wear your Wilderness Pouch as often as you can during your preparation for your vigil as a reminder of those who are praying for your success.

A scroll with text and a quill pen. The scroll is unrolled and has a quill pen resting on it. The text on the scroll is:

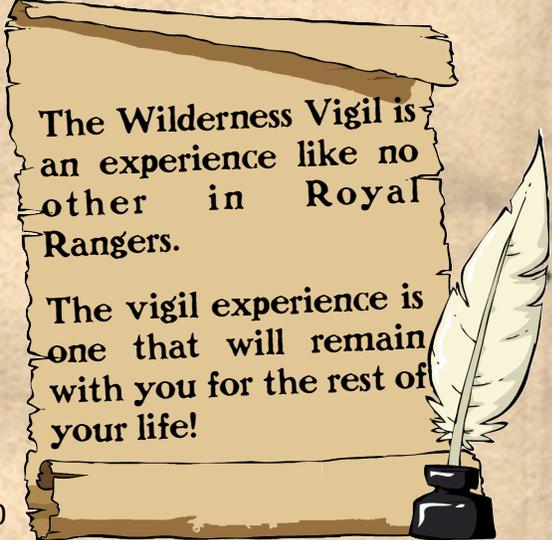
The Wilderness Pouch is a unique item that has special meaning to every Wilderness member of FCF.

The contents of the Wilderness pouch are known only to Wilderness members, who find spiritual significance with each item.

Wilderness Vigil Equipment Checklist

Your Wilderness Vigil will be a truly unique and exciting experience. In order for your Wilderness Vigil experience to be successful, you will need to have the following items in your possession at the time your Wilderness Vigil begins:

- Personally crafted American frontier trade item (will be evaluated)
- American frontier outfit with accessories (will be evaluated)
- Basket pack, haversack, knapsack or early rucksack
- Fire starting kit – flint and steel, char cloth, and natural tinder
- Muzzleloader with all accessories or a primitive bow with all accessories (NMLRA /NRA shooter's card if using a muzzleloader)
- Primitive blowing horn – no metal mouth pieces
- Analog pocket watch
- Sheathed knives – throwing, patch, utility
- Sheathed tomahawk or belt axe
- Primitive Compass
- Natural material twine or rope
- Tin cup, Billy cup, corn boiler or primitive trail skillet
- Canteen made of materials that would be present prior to 1840
- Primitive utensils (fork, spoon, knife)
- Primitively styled canvas bedroll with wool blanket
- New Testament Bible with Psalm
- Letters from role models/mentors
- Candle with holder
- Salt horn with salt or other seasonings
- Block tea or coffee



The Wilderness Vigil is an experience like no other in Royal Rangers.

The vigil experience is one that will remain with you for the rest of your life!

Any other items (not listed here) found in your pack will be removed prior to your Wilderness Vigil.

The FCF Pledge

I share with you the warmth and glow of this campfire.

These crimson flames are a symbol of our fellowship and adventures in camping.

I promise to share with you the warmth of Christian friendship and with others the light of my Christian testimony. I promise to keep alive the spirit of FCF in my personal life and to observe at all times the principles of Royal Rangers.



WILDERNESS
WORKBOOKS