



YOUTH MINISTRIES

*Having completed their investiture ceremony, the BOLD Pathfinders are now an official club, led by Alex Knights (top, center).*

## BOLD PATHFINDERS

# Finding the Path to Christian Character and Service

*"Oh, we are the Pathfinders strong,  
the servants of God are we . . ."*

**A**nd so goes the popular song, signifying the official formation of the **Breath of Life Pathfinder Club**. These young servants of God were inducted during a formal investiture ceremony last month. They recited the Pathfinder Pledge, Law, and a litany of affirmations, vowing to engage in activities that develop Christian character.

BOLD Pathfinder leader **Alex Knights** said his personal goal is to "provide the kids what was provided to me growing up in Trinidad. As a young Pathfinder, I learned a lot about God and nature, our Church, and about making things and serving others. It was always

fun. I want to pass along that knowledge and experience to *our* youth and make it enjoyable."

Similar to Scouting, Pathfinders is a 100-year-old community service-oriented youth organization of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, open to all children (even non-Adventists) from 10 to 16 years old and upwards. Activities include community service, camping, crafts, coursework, marching, Bible study, SDA church history, and leadership training.

Started last spring, the new BOLD club currently has 12 members, ranging in age from 10 to 15. They are classified by six age-based ranks: *Friend* (10), *Companion* (11), *Explorer* (12), *Ranger* (13), *Voyager* (14), *Guide* (15+) and the ultimate, *Master Guide*. *Continued on p. 3*

# Pathfinder Club Blazes New Trail in BOL History (continued from p. 1)

The club is headed by Alex, who attained *Master Guide* status before attending college. He also served as a Pathfinder counselor in his church district in Trinidad. As BOL director, he oversees club operations and the staff and is the club liaison to the local Conference on Pathfinder matters. His leadership team consists of counselors **Teymi DeShay**, **Caleb LeConte** (pictured below), and **Charles Ammons**, who are assigned to lead the various units (*Friends, Companion*, etc.). All of them share the teaching responsibilities and activity planning.



Club meetings are held at the church on the first Sabbath of the month after potluck and on third Sabbaths at one of the parents' homes. Activity night is held on one Saturday night per month. Among planned activities, Alex says the club will participate in the Conference Pathfinder Community Day in Hollywood this month. A camping trip is also planned for May, and joint activities with other church clubs are in the works.



When asked about any particular challenges, Alex expresses the same frustration that other BOL organizations experience, and that's the "lack of having our own facility, where we can have a regular meeting place." Despite this, he notes that the parents "have been really supportive and stepping in to meet this need." Alex says competing family schedules and school activities also pose challenges.

*What do they need?* Alex says the Pathfinder club needs the continued support of the church. The youth need to be encouraged to participate consistently. Volunteers are also needed. "If you think you have a skill that you would be willing to teach the Pathfinders, please stop me, or call me, or e-mail me and let me know. Several have done that already, and I have not forgotten them."



Alex notes that Pathfinding has a critical witnessing and evangelistic component. He welcomes non-Adventist children to "come learn about Jesus, learn about us, and learn how to develop Christian character." Any child age 10 and older can attend meetings and join Pathfinders. "All they need is a cheerful, willing spirit and a desire to learn and be part of a positive group," says Alex. ☞



The 3-sided *Pathfinder Emblem* represents completeness—mental, physical and spiritual development. The shield represents God's protection. The sword represents the Bible, every Pathfinder's spiritual weapon.

**COLORS** represent *Pathfinder Values*

**Red** = blood of Jesus, the power to save

**White** = purity and righteousness of Christ

**Blue** = loyalty to God, family, Church

**Gold** = excellence as a life standard

