

Bedford 2844 Assists with SW District Veterans Cookout

Bedford 2844 joined with six other lodges in the Southwest District to help cook and serve the Veterans Hot Dogs and Hamburgers on "Mother's Day Sunday," May 8, 2016. The turnout was exceptional counting volunteers and veterans and employees. The Virginia Veterans Care Center is a beautiful place and the vets actually kept most of us laughing and enjoying the day. In this photo is a father



and son team, Harry Guilliams and son Steve Guilliams. Both had served in different conflicts of course and the son was only visiting.



My pick of the day was Leroy Brown who served our Country with the US Army during the Vietnam War. My helper Deanna Slaughter and I started singing the old song, "Bad, Bad Leroy Brown," which brought a big smile to his face. He was accused light heartedly that this was not his real name, but the Desk Clerk for the day yelled: "Oh yes that's his name." He wheeled himself down to the cafeteria for the delicious morsels.

I don't know the number of hot dogs and hamburgers that were cooked that day but it was plentiful.

Most of the men and women there served in the Korean Conflict or Vietnam. One person spoke to one World War II Navy man.



Hard working guys!!!



Pictured with a flag on his vehicle is Veteran Don Ketron



Veteran Melissa Lawrence enjoying the hot grilled delicacies



VEA First Vice President Bobby Fender



Some of the Elks Volunteer Servers with Veteran Mason Amos sitting at the table



Bedford Lodge's own Caroline Duus (90 Years Young) finds a way to serve by emptying trays



Veteran Mike Thomas sitting to the left of Bedford Lodge 2844 ER Nancy Owens as she spends time and visits with Veterans and their families



Veteran Rodney James, seated, receives a Prayer Blanket from Joe Handerhan, left, and Montie Largin. Ann Largin made the blanket