

## VEA Recognized for Safety Glass Program

In August, VEA President, Ronald L. Hicks, attended a luncheon hosted by the 2009 Virginia Career and Technical Education Summer Professional Development Institute at the Richmond Convention Center in Richmond, VA. At the luncheon, attended by over 2,000 Virginia Educators, the Virginia Department of Education recognized the Virginia Elks Association for its support of education in Virginia, and especially for the Virginia Elks Safety Glass Program. On behalf of the VEA, Hicks received a Certificate of Recognition for "exceptional and exemplary contributions to Career and Technical Education in the Commonwealth of Virginia."

Last year, the VEA Safety Glass Program, led by Past State President, Dr. Robert R. Hinkle, provided more than 3,000 pairs of Safety Glasses to high school students attending the various Regional Career and Technical Training Centers across the State of Virginia. In accepting the Certificate, Hicks thanked the Department of Education, and especially the Office of Career and Technical Education, for its efforts in "Developing a Bright Future" for their students, noting that youth activities, programs and projects are a major focus of the Virginia Elks Association and our 32 Virginia Lodges, and expressing the appreciation of the VEA that the Safety Glass Program had been so well-received.

It is hoped that the Safety Glass Program can be expanded beyond Virginia's regional training centers by encouraging individual Lodges to participate in the Program with the vocational and technical centers of the high schools in their communities. Any Lodge seeking more information on how they can become involved in the Safety Glass Program should contact PSP Hinkle.



Photo: VEA President, Ronald L. Hicks, accepting the Certificate of Recognition from Elizabeth M. Russell, Director of the Office of Career and Technical Education