

Virginia Elks Youth Camp Newsletter
July, 2011
By Michael Haynes, President

The Youth Camp meeting at the Virginia Elks Convention went really well. Although we had some Executive Committee Members and Staff Personnel absent we did a good job of making our reports, giving those present an update on the happenings at the camp and other items I will mention below. Those present at the meeting were: President, Michael Haynes; 1st Vice President, Jay Bonnell; 3rd Vice President, Georgianna Knotts; Treasurer, John Cannon; Director of Maintenance, Buster Shaner and Ways and Means Chair, Tim Frank. Missing were 2nd Vice President, Yvonne Hall; Secretary, Bob Ward; Director of Camping, Susie Kelly and Camp Ranger, Mike Journell.

Our Secretary's wife, Rose Ward recently had a hip replacement and then fell breaking her leg on the same side; needless to say Bob being Roses care giver could not attend. Susie was still in school, she is a teacher, and of course Mike our Camp Ranger was at camp attending to the last minute details prior to opening the camp.

At the meeting, we, the Executive Committee honored one of ours, Dave Benoit. Dave, a Past President of the Camp, has done so much to help the camp during our construction these past months. We presented Dave with a plaque engraved with **"To Past Camp President David Benoit – In appreciation for his outstanding service and dedication to the Virginia Elks Youth Camp – Executive Committee June 10, 2011."** Dave has been in charge of or helped in the following endeavors: The construction of our new Riverfront Storage Building, the remodeling of our newly completed Kitchen floor – this included, removing and reinstalling the half serving line wall so equipment could be removed and returned to the kitchen after the floor was installed; was responsible for all the work the Charlottesville Lodge did at the camp the weekend they were there, the work on the main electrical breaker box, the painting of a new Elks Emblem over the fireplace in the Dining Hall, the repair of the basketball goals, the work on the lodges cabin, falling trees, cutting up trees that had fallen and the Retirement of Flags Ceremony. There were others that I do not know of or have forgotten but it goes unsaid that Dave has gone beyond all expectations of work that any one man can get done in one off season at the Camp. Thank you again Dave.

Also at the meeting in my comments to the rather large gathering I stressed what we need most at the camp from all lodges from around the state and that is CAMPERS. Our Virginia Elks Youth Camp is ready for campers; we now need for each and every Elks Lodge to send campers. Let us, Virginia Elks, help the Youth Camp in what we need most at this time of the year and that is CAMPERS. Elks from around the state have put the cabins in order, we have a newly remodeled kitchen, new sinks and counter tops in both bath houses, the camp is in ship shape condition and we are ready for youth campers. It is now time for all Elks Lodges to do their jobs and send campers.

All we do is for the kids.