

Virginia Elks Association News

March 26, 2012

VIRGINIA ELKS YOUTH CAMP

April Newsletter



**Virginia Elks Association Youth Camp
Millboro, Virginia**

By Jay Bonnell, President

Camping season is just around the corner. Do you have your campers lined up? If not, don't forget the scouts and church youth groups. Do you have the funds to send them? It's not too late to hold raffles and solicit businesses for sponsorship. Let's try and make this a banner year. For those Lodges that haven't sent campers in awhile, please reconsider and at least try and send one or two. I've heard the excuse that the kids that grow up in the mountains don't like to go to camp in the mountains. Well, I grew up in the mountains of PA., and any time we could get away from mom and dad for a week was great. No matter where it was we went. And just a reminder to those Lodges sending campers, please send in at least half of the camper's fees prior to the first week of camp. (Ex: 10 campers X \$150 = \$1500 divided by 2 = \$750) Thanks in advance.

While at Protocol in Bedford, it was great to see Mike Journell at the meeting. Mike may be down, but he's not out. While Mike is in rehab, we are going to need extra help around the camp to get it ready for opening at the end of June. Buster Shaner has informed me that all the cabins are in pretty good shape, but all of them need to be cleaned with some of them needing minor touch ups. Please schedule your clean up weekend with Mike, so that he knows who is coming and when. Saturday morning at Protocol, Secretary John Cannon, Past VEYC President Michael Haynes and I went to the VEA Trustees meeting and got the VEYC budget approved. While there, we were informed that there was \$40,000 set aside for handicap improvements to the dining hall. We will be moving forward on this project as soon as we receive the final plans to be submitted to the Trustees for their approval. Buster Shaner, camp maintenance director and William Hussey from the Charlottesville Lodge are doing a great job on finalizing the plans for approval.

Received an email from camp Past President Dave Benoit about another camp Past President Tom Underwood. It reads:

"The Elks national website (www.elks.org) has members across the country that share ideas, problems, solutions, opinions, etc. in the membership forum. Each year, whoever wishes to vote, elect an honorary designation of Onliners Elk of the Year.

I am proud to report that it was announced this morning that the votes have been counted and the Onliners Elk of the Year for 2012 is Charlottesville 389's very own J. Thomas Underwood, PDDGER!"

CONGRATULATIONS TOM!!!

Please join with me in congratulating Tom on this prestigious honor.

On closing, please send your quota (plus) kids to camp. You'll get as much enjoyment as they will when you see their smiling faces when they come home.

"Remember, YOU can make a difference."