



Youth Camp Chronicle

October, 2020 Breezy Point, MN

The Camp Board

North District

Krazy Thompson Int'l Falls 1599
Charlie Radika Hibbing 1022

Central District

Herman Wisneski PSP Brainerd 615
Dick Lyscio Brainerd 615

Metro District

John Miller (Chair) Hopkins 2221
Tom Hoelscher Minneapolis 44

South District

Ron Sik Mankato 225
Allen Rahn Winona 327



From the Camp Board

Members all,

The Camp Board again regrets cancelling the 2020 Camping Sessions. A very tough decision but made with the safety of our kids and staff being the top priority – a decision shared by all of the camps in the area.

This summer did provide the opportunity to do many projects at Camp that can't be done when kids present. Lots of projects, painting and improvements were done as many small work crews contributed. Joel and Kim were there and the Camp was watched and supervised all summer.

Financially the Camp remains solid as we were able to trim the budget and even though income was down we will finish the year in good shape.

In this newsletter you will see a proposed schedule for 2021. Hopefully we will be able to do this but again we have see what happens. Hopefully we will have family camp and other activities but we will publish dates as we see what develops.

Please come and see the Camp at this convention, support the basket auction, ask any questions. We will do our best to answer your concerns.

Your state project remains one of the premier in the country. We have 7,000 members but your contributions as a MN Elks approach \$40/per member in total. Be proud of that. See you at Camp!

John Miller PER,
Executive Director

Check out our web site

www.mnelksyouthcamp.org

Like us on Facebook

[MN Elks Youth Camp](#)

Contact Us:

youthcamp@mnelks.org

Visit Us:

10860 County Rd 118

Nisswa, MN 56468

From Our Youth Camp Directors

Dear Minnesota Elks Members,

With all of the unusual changes in the world due to COVID-19, our plan to cancel the summer sessions at the Minnesota Elks Youth Camp was heartbreaking for so many of us but really necessary. We had our staff in place, our schedule ready, our training planned and our camp shirts were even ordered. It was tough telling our staff that they would not be able to work at Elks Camp this past summer and that we would love to have them back the following year. Many potential campers also lost out on their opportunity to participate in a life changing experience during the summer of 2020. It was a tough loss for all of us.



Without the campers occupying our time at Camp, Kim and I spent our days helping and guiding the improvements to the camp and its future operations. We worked with John Miller and many other Elks groups to improve the camp, redesign many pieces of our training, handbooks, curriculum and plan for next year.

Projects included painting, building, fixing, mowing, cutting wood, cleaning, sorting, organizing and throwing old stuff away throughout the camp. Many more projects will be addressed throughout the fall including the traditional camp closing jobs. With so many projects completed, the camp looks great and continues to improve! We would like to thank everyone involved with this effort to help improve the Elks Camp.

We would also like to communicate our gratitude to the Minnesota Elks for the opportunity to continue as Directors and work with John Miller, Bill Schindele and the MN Elks Youth Camp Board. We believe that our team is continuing to improve the facilities and the programming. We also are looking forward to a normal summer again.

It is not clear what the future holds for our camp season in 2021. However, we will put a plan and schedule in place similar to our schools and hope we can operate. If COVID-19 guidelines continue, we will have a scaled down plan to accommodate with less staff, less campers in our spaces following guidelines. We will continue to be optimistic that the summer of 2021 will be better. Thanks for your support of us in our 20th year at the Best Place on Earth.

Sincerely,

Joel & Kim Baumgarten

Minnesota Elks Youth Camp Directors



Donations Wish List

If you can help with any of these wish list items, please contact John Miller

- 20 new life jackets
- Charcoal/lighter fluid
- One 9 foot kayak
- White t-shirts for crafts
- Five (5) new Weber grills
- Snacks
- Paper goods
- Clothing
- Scholarship donations
- Troops week donations
- Mattress fund- we will start replacement program soon-about 140 mattresses

Possibly coming in 2021

- New dishwasher in dining hall
- New outdoor walk in freezer
- Wider pontoon lifts
- New pontoon boat
- Steel roof on lodge



Silent Auction baskets are available for bid Friday and Saturday during the business meetings. Drawing is Saturday after the meeting. Please support our fundraiser!

Marketing Materials for Lodges/Recruiters

Please remember that there are flyers available for download on the state web site at <http://www.mnelks.org> under State Committees / Youth Camp. The flyers can be posted around the community as well as in the Lodge to help promote the camp and recruit deserving youth to fill spots. There are different flyers for



Lodge Sessions, Elks Kids Week and Troops Week. They can be modified to use individual recruiter/lodge contact information.

Troops Week

This year Troops Week is July 18-23, 2021. Our Troops Week program is designed to show support and appreciation for our troops and their families. We focus on kids of actively deployed parents but all military families are welcome to sign up.

Family Camp

Family Camp is generally the second weekend in August. We will need to wait and see the status of next year. But it is an opportunity for you, the member, to come up with your family and enjoy the camp and all the activities offered at camp. Registration is on a first come first serve basis and the deadline is July 1.

Amazon Fundraising Alternative

Shop a lot (or a little) on Amazon? You can support the Youth Camp while doing so. Instead of going to www.amazon.com, you can go to smile. Amazon.com and 0.5% of eligible purchases will be donated back to the MN Elks Youth Camp.

Instructions on how to get set up on smile.amazon.com can be found on the Youth Camp web site at www.mnelksyouthcamp.org under the Donations section

Thank you for your support!

2021 Camping Schedule

Session 1: June 13—June 18

	Boys	Girls	Total
Alexandria	12	14	26
Hibbing	10	8	18
Mankato	12	6	18
Willmar	8	6	14
Worthington	5	7	12
Hutchinson	6	7	13
	53	48	101

Session 2: June 20—25

	Boys	Girls	Total
Brainerd	13	11	24
Owatonna	16	18	34
Rochester	12	12	24
Winona	13	8	21
	54	49	103

Session 3: June 27—July 2

	Boys	Girls	Total
Bemidji	10	8	18
Duluth	12	12	24
Eveleth	14	10	24
Fergus Falls	2	2	4
International Falls	7	7	14
Virginia	9	6	15
	54	45	99

Session 4: July 11—16

	Boys	Girls	Total
Dakota	2	2	4
Faribault	6	6	12
Hopkins	11	10	21
Minneapolis	8	8	16
Red Wing	10	8	18
St. Cloud	2	2	4
Stillwater	10	8	18
Wadena	6	6	12
	55	50	105

All lodges will be in the first four weeks, followed by an expanded Troops Week with a few Elks kids and grandkids in week 5. Weeks 6 and 7 will be Elks kids and grandkids as before. This year all lodge and troops camper fees will remain at \$75.00. Elks kids and grandkids camper fees will be \$175 for members and \$225 for guests. More info can be found at: <http://www.mnelksyouthcamp.org>. Online registration will be required again this year. Registration opened April 1, 2021.

Any questions or lodge quota changes should be referred to a Camp Board member listed on the front page. Remember all lodge camper fees are paid by the raffle proceeds and not by the individual lodges.

Session 5: Troops Week + Elks Kids & grandkids
July 18—July 23

Session 6: Elks Kids & Grandkids Week
July 25—July 30

Session 7: Elks Kids & Grandkids Week
Aug 1 - Aug 6

Elks Family Camp: TBD



GER Paul Ryan and his son Jordan put together a video for Paul as incoming GER. It does a wonderful job of highlighting Paul and the Camp. Check out the video and see some great aerial views of the camp on the home page of the state web site at www.mnelks.org or on the camp web site at www.mnelksyouthcamp.org.