

# Virginia Elks Association News

September 18, 2014

## VEYC Honored by Visit by Camper from First Camp Year, 1949



Today (9/18/14), Mike and I were doing some work at the VEYC when we got a surprise visitor ... a gentleman that it was our honor to meet. His name is Richard L. Emerson from Powhatan, and he was with his wife Maureen ... they drove up to take pictures and look everything over, ... but what made their trip *so special* to us was that Richard had been a camper (sponsored by Richmond Lodge) **back in 1949 (the first year)!!!**

Back then camp was 2 weeks long, but Richard told us that he loved it so much that he convinced the Director to let him stay an extra two weeks ... and then he hitchhiked his way all the way back home to Richmond!!

Richard came back the following year as a Junior Counselor, and then back again as Kitchen Help/Bugler/Counselor for 3 more years!

Richard said that he is grateful to the Elks for this childhood experience and his memories of it!!

***THIS IS WHY WE DO IT ... IT'S ALL ABOUT THE KIDS ... AND, ESPECIALLY THEIR LASTING MEMORIES !!!***

Fraternally Submitted,

Dave Benoit, PER

Past President - Virginia Elks Youth Camp

Submitted by Dave Benoit

Send comments to [webmaster@virginiaelks.org](mailto:webmaster@virginiaelks.org)