



# Youth Camp Chronicle

October, 2022 Breezy Point, MN

## The Camp Board

### Executive Director

John Miller Hopkins 2221

### North District

Krazy Thompson Int'l Falls 1599

Charlie Radika PSP Hibbing 1022

### Central District

Herman Wisneski PSP Brainerd 615

Dick Lyscio Brainerd 615

### Metro District

Pat Wright PSP Hopkins 2221

Tom Hoelscher Minneapolis 44

### South District

Ron Sik Mankato 225

Allen Rahn Winona 327

### Camp Treasurer

Bill Schindele PSP Willmar 952



## From the Camp Board

It's a Beautiful Day!!

This summer's camp sessions found us eighty-one children short of filling the quotas. Each District had an issue finding children to fill their numbers. With a few small incidents all went well this summer.

At camp closing we had about twenty-five people show up. There were only two ERs that came out of twenty-four. Also present were three District Presidents, seven Past State Presidents and our State President. A lot of work got accomplished. We had to deal with some rain but worked around it. On Friday night at dinner, Brian St. Martin, son of the late Past State President, Elk of the Year Jack St. Martin made a donation of forty- thousand dollars to the Camp Board, GREATLY APPRECIATED.



The Camp Board held a meeting on Saturday morning. We went over some projects that need to get done next spring along with a wish list. We took some of the money that we got from Jack and combined it with the Floyd Spence Scholarship Fund and renamed it the Floyd Spence/Jack St. Martin Scholarship Fund. We also renamed the HRS Building to the HRSS Building. The Hopkins-Winona House is coming along very well. A big thank you to Bob Arthur and all that helped work on this project. Make sure you tour it when at Camp on Friday, you will be impressed. That's all I have for now, be safe out there and always remember that it is a Beautiful Day.

Charlie Radika  
Chairman, Youth Camp Board of Directors

Check presentation from family of Jack St. Martin



L to R: Pat Wright, Charlie Radika, Barry St. Martin, Brian St. Martin, John Miller, Tom Hoelscher

**Check out our web site**

[www.mnelksyouthcamp.org](http://www.mnelksyouthcamp.org)

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**Contact Us:**

[youthcamp@mnelks.org](mailto:youthcamp@mnelks.org)

**Visit Us:**

10860 County Rd 118

Nisswa, MN 56468

## From Our Youth Camp Directors

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Dear Minnesota Elks Members:

We would again like to thank all the Elks Members who have contributed to the wonderful Minnesota Elks State Project! It continues to be a life changing experience by having the opportunity to live and work at the "EC" for 22 summers and see such incredible improvements and exciting new ideas each year. It is know as the **Best Place On Earth** and truly shines when you can see the youth of Minnesota enjoying your efforts!



Having staff and campers on site again has been truly refreshing. After canceling camp two summers ago and developing a partial summer camp plan last summer, we are grateful to have returned to a normal plan for the season of 2022. Throughout six weeks of camp this summer we hosted nearly 500 campers.

We would like to thank our staff of 2022 for choosing a meaningful job mentoring these youth and making a real difference in the lives of these children. This is a very challenging job, which requires tremendous skills that many young people either do not have or choose not to share. Our staff goes above and beyond to create connections and a caring environment where all campers feel comfortable and welcome. Because of this unique growth experience, staff members gain life changing skills which will be useful in future occupations. Elks members can be assured that the camp program being provided is high quality and money well spent.

As Camp Directors for the Minnesota Elks Youth Camp and Fellow Elks Members, we would like to humbly express our gratitude to everyone connected with this fine state project. We especially wish to thank John Miller, Charlie Radika and the rest of the Camp Board for the endless hours spent behind the scenes to help us make this a successful season.

The Minnesota Elks Youth Camp is another example of the great deeds that can be accomplished by Elks members. We are very proud of Elks Camp as the **Best Place On Earth** for helping youth and we are happy to report the summer of 2022 was a success at EC!

Sincerely,

Joel & Kim Baumgarten, MN Elks Youth Camp Directors

## Major Updates

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**Hopkins Winona Cabin:** The newly rebuilt Hopkins Winona cabin is nearing completion: 5 beds, 2 bath, new from the ground up. Special thanks to Hopkins member Bob Arthur and his helpers. Thousands of dollars, hours, time and talent have been put into this new staff house to make it ready for 2023. A great addition. Thanks Bob.

**Flag Area at Camp:** Be sure to check out the new flags at Camp. Memorial Wall will be coming, all branches of service are represented. Great work by Tom Kramin and Colton Baumgarten. It will be a real tribute to our departed members and veterans.

## Penny A Day Camper Club – Become part of the team!

Minnesota Elks and Guests:



The Penny A Day Camper Club is now live and an additional way to support The Minnesota Elks Youth Camp! You can commit to any contribution monthly, annually, or a one time payment. The dollars come off of your credit/debit card or a PayPal account. These contributions are 100% tax deductible and will be counted as a Penny A Day donation for you and your Lodge. Should you have questions or would prefer that someone else sign you up, a team will be available at The Mid Year Convention at Breezy Point in October to help. A person does not need to be a Member to be a part of The Camper Club. So please find it in your heart to invest in the kids whose lives we change by joining the Penny A Day Camper Club!

John Jennings, Past State President  
Minnesota Elks Association

## Elks Pulling Together

We often joke about Elks working together, but in this case Elks “pulled” together to raise a newly cleaned and polished dinner bell at camp. It’s believed the bell came off of an 1883 locomotive. The ring of the bell means “It’s time to eat!” at camp.



## From the Executive Director

The 2022 camping season was challenging but overall successful. We served 480 kids, about 80 short of what we are prepared for. Please attend the recruiting seminar on Friday as we will all share ideas, a new manual and ways to find deserving kids. We all need to be involved in the process, there are many deserving kids and it is everyone’s job to help find them. The facility, the budget, the staff are all good and will be ready for 560 kids or more in 2023.



Special thanks again to the St. Martin family for their generous donation of \$40,000 in PSP Jack’s name. The board will keep you advised of the project it will be used for. He was truly a “camp guy”. Remember, the Camp is yours, you own it, you operate it and pay for it and you should be proud of one of the premier youth camp camps in the order.

John M. Miller, PER  
Executive Director



## 2023 Local Lodge Sessions

### Session 1: June 18-23

	Boys	Girls	Total
Dakota	2	2	4
Faribault	6	6	12
Hopkins	10	8	18
Minneapolis	8	8	16
Red Wing	8	8	16
St. Cloud	2	2	4
Stillwater	8	6	14
Wadena	4	4	8
	<u>48</u>	<u>44</u>	<u>92</u>

### Session 2: June 25-30

	Boys	Girls	Total
Alexandria	10	12	22
Bemidji	8	8	16
Mankato	10	6	16
Willmar	8	6	14
Worthington	5	7	12
Hutchinson	6	5	11
	<u>47</u>	<u>44</u>	<u>91</u>

### Session 3: July 9-14

	Boys	Girls	Total
Brainerd	12	12	24
Owatonna	14	16	30
Rochester	10	10	20
Winona	10	6	16
	<u>45</u>	<u>45</u>	<u>90</u>

### Session 4: July 16-21

	Boys	Girls	Total
Hibbing	10	8	18
Duluth	12	12	24
Eveleth	10	10	20
Fergus Falls	2	2	4
Int'l Falls	7	7	14
Virginia	6	6	12
	<u>47</u>	<u>45</u>	<u>92</u>

All lodges kids will be in the first four weeks. Troops kids will be worked in the 4 Local Lodge sessions offered and we are asking lodges to make them part of their quotas if they apply. Weeks 5 and 6 will be Elks kids and grand-kids. This year all lodge and troops camper fees will remain at \$75.00. Elks kids and grandkids camper fees will be \$200 for members and \$250 for guests. **Camper Club members will receive a \$25 discount on their Kids Week fees.** More info can be found at: <http://www.mnelksyouthcamp.org>. Online registration will be required again this year. Registration opens April 1, 2023.

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.

### 2023 Schedule

Men's Opening:	May 18-21
Ladies Opening:	June 1-4
Senior Staff:	June 6-9
Training Week:	June 12-16
Session 1 – Local Lodges:	June 18-23
Session 2 – Local Lodges:	June 25-30
4th of July Break	
Session 3 – Local Lodges:	July 9-14
Session 4 – Local Lodges:	July 16-21
Session 5 – Elks Kids:	July 23-28
Session 6 – Elks Kids:	July 30-Aug 4
Camp Closing:	September 21-23

No family camp scheduled.

### Wish List

- \$ for scholarships, Troops Kids fees & sunscreen
- \$ for archery equipment
- Push brooms
- Laundry soap / dryer sheets
- Snacks servings of 100
- 2 new hydration stations
- 48 new life jackets (\$40 each) - Camp will order
- Plastic water bottles
- Paper towels, plates, cups
- 12 new bikes