

Character Building through Younger 4-H Camp

For over 85 years, 4-H Camping has planted the seeds of knowledge and character in youth, and last week Younger 4-H Camp continued that tradition by helping them take their first steps to individuality. Younger 4-H Camp provided campers opportunities to develop leadership skills through the give-and-take of group living, it gave them the chance to learn fair play and sportsmanship, and helped them broaden their viewpoints and evaluation skills.

Younger 4-H Camp helped to build character through cooperative, intelligent discipline realized through camp life. New voices taught many lessons that had been stressed at home (cleanliness, table manners, courtesy, speech, helpfulness, dependability, trustworthiness, respect, fairness, and citizenship.) Younger 4-H Camp helped young people develop in the four folds of the 4-H program -- Head, Heart, Hand and Health.

With 228 campers and staff, Younger 4-H Camp celebrated the 85th Anniversary of 4-H camping at Camp Frame, 3-miles west of Hedgesville, West Virginia, with the theme of "Holidays Around the World." The week began on Monday celebrating Valentine's Day; Tuesday was St. Patrick's Day which began with flag raising ceremony at the new flag pole that Bob Frankenberry had worked hard to obtain for Camp Frame. Also joining us for flag raising were special guest Bobby Butler and Jim Whitacre who helped erect the flag pole and Henry Kayes, CEO of Centra Bank that donated the flag pole.

Wednesday we celebrated the 4th of July with Alvin Chrisman, Mike Miller and their crew from Mountaineer at the Moose preparing a wonderful cook-out for all campers and staff, Following council circle Bob Frankenberry and JR McDonald provided a wonderful fireworks display. Before going to bed the campers were encouraged to set out one shoe to celebrate the Christmas custom of Holland and during the night gifts were place in the campers' shoe. Thursday we celebrated Hanukah and Christmas starting out with a delicious breakfast and for lunch Linda Kisner and her crew prepared a traditional Christmas dinner of baked ham, turkey, dressing, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans and homemade rolls.

Friday was closing council circle with over 400 people in attendance. 2010 Younger 4-H Camp Chiefs & Sags were Cherokee Chief Brandon O'Neill, Sags were Jacqueline Ware, Cheyenne Steuer and Frank Burner. Delaware Chief Carlie Ryman, Sags were Brady Hamilton, John Antolini and Trip Patterson. Mingo Chief McKayla Dodson, Sags were Taylor Silkworth, Tanner Clark and Logan Maravelis. Seneca Chief Sarah Grega, Sags were Chris Daniel, Emily Everhart and Caroline Kayes.

Younger 4-H Camp Awards presented at closing council circle were Head H Jason Barnhart, Heart H Clarence Blankley, Hand H Jackie Ware, Health H Addison Lackey and Spirit of Camp Logan Maravelis.