

# Camp Nelson Dodd

Ohio-West Virginia YMCA  
July 24, 2009



**Nelson Dodd alumni** are re-connecting to the Ohio-West Virginia YMCA. Recent email comments are included in this newsletter.

**Ohio-West Virginia YMCA Cave Lake Center for Community Leadership** will have at least a room named in honor of Nelson Dodd and Camp Nelson Dodd and maybe a building so named. Cave Lake will continue the legacy of Nelson Dodd with new facilities, programs for youth, families and adults. Click on our website, [www.hi-y.org](http://www.hi-y.org), to see this beautiful place and exciting plans for one of the nation's finest facilities and programs. Steve Evans and Doug White are co-chairing the Cave Lake Committee. Nelson Dodd alumni **James Kirsch**, **Ben Rose** and **David King** are involved. Other Nelson Dodd alumni are welcome to join in.

## HI-Y updates –

- **HI-Y Youth in Governments** in both Ohio and West Virginia were successful! Teenagers learned the role and process of their state's government by serving as legislators, Supreme Court justices, officers, lobbyists, press or pages.
- **HI-Y Model United Nations** gives today's teenagers a window on the world and an international perspective on issues impacting their communities and our nation. March 5 – 7, 2010, is our next UN.
- **Quilt Camp** at Horseshoe is September 23 – 26, 2009. Please pass this along to anyone you know who wants to learn or is an experienced quilter. Our age range for Quilt Camp has been 18 – 80.
- **HI-Y Camps at Horseshoe** this June brought Ohio and WV teens together for a great week of learning, new friends and all the good times we remember from our Nelson Dodd HI-Y camps. Horseshoe continues Nelson Dodd's closing ceremony tradition in our middle school HI-Y Camp.

**Stop and Visit** – Whenever you're nearby – stop at one of our locations to see today's programming and operations.

- **Ohio-West Virginia YMCA** headquarters office – 400 Main Street, Pl. Pleasant, WV (right beside the Mothman statue). We're upstairs. Pt. Pleasant is on the Ohio River, just across from Gallipolis, Ohio.
- **YMCA Camp Horseshoe** – Rt. 2 Box 138, Parsons, WV – near Leadmine in Tucker County, WV. We're 4 hours west of Washington DC, 3 hours south of Pittsburgh, near Elkins.
- **Cave Lake** – 1132 Bell Hollow Road, Latham, Ohio, in Pike County south of Columbus and west of Cincinnati. This 700+ acre property is one of Ohio and the nation's premier sites – this place is beautiful!



Pictures of Cave Lake Center for Community Leadership, Latham, Ohio

*Leadership  
Character  
Service*

## Camper's Comments

We appreciate the comments we get from previous Camp Nelson Dodd campers. Below are camper's notes that we have received since our last newsletter.

**Terry Athey, II** has some fond memories of camp. He most remembers catching four or five snakes that week and having one of them escape from his pocket in the main hall, causing quite a panic. He also remembers the candle lit boats and says his counselor Rick Coleman (RC) was "as cool as they come". Terry also recalls how emotional leaving camp was on the final day. He made some good friends there that are still his buddies today. One of Terry's goals is to ride his Harley there this summer. You may contact Terry by emailing him at [gtz\\_2112@yahoo.com](mailto:gtz_2112@yahoo.com).

**John Brewer** went to Camp Nelson Dodd in the early fifties from the Steubenville YMCA.

**Michael Davis** was a camper sometime during the 1950s. His email is [mdavis1888@aol.com](mailto:mdavis1888@aol.com).

**Ted Fritsch** writes that he has some pictures from the summer of 1949 when he attended camp. Ted is a retired pastor and says you can email him. His address is [tfrit@comcast.net](mailto:tfrit@comcast.net).

**Megan S. Magruder Lake** writes that she attended camp in 1972. Megan may be emailed at [meganslake@yahoo.com](mailto:meganslake@yahoo.com).

**Paul A. Maidel, Jr.** is now living in Tualatin, Oregon. He sold YMCA saltwater taffy in his hometown of Newark, Ohio and thinks it may have been 1959 when he attended camp. His family moved to California in 1960. Paul may be contacted through email at [maidel@comcast.net](mailto:maidel@comcast.net).

**Laurence M. Nommay** worked as maintenance at Nelson Dodd the summers of 1941, 1942 and 1943. "I was the guy who assembled the pontoon bridge, rolled the tennis court, cleaned the pool, caught the snakes and placed the cabin screens. I worked the first year with Paul Kiger (now deceased). Remember Spriggs, the cook?" Laurence now lives in California.

**Kenneth Radcliffe** remembers being on staff as a counselor and archery instructor during the summer of 1950. He may be contacted by email at [kgradcliffe@woh.rr.com](mailto:kgradcliffe@woh.rr.com).

**Stuart Raike** spent many summers at Camp Nelson Dodd in the sixties. He has lots of fond memories of camp like the swinging bridge. He says It is too bad that young boys of today will never be able to experience the great outdoors in the same as those who attended CND. "It not only taught you about nature, but it built character"

**Chuck Russakov** was a camper for three summers in the mid-fifties. He taught himself to swim the first year so he could pass the test for his first canoe trip. He also remembers an overnight trip, when they turned over going through the Mohawk Dam tunnel, resulting in a cold, wet night in a Coshocton park. He also remembers Dale Millie, who was his counselor one year who also ran the rifle range, as well as being the camp bugler. As a result of what he learned at Nelson Dodd, Chuck now spends lots of time hiking and paddling in Florida where he lives.

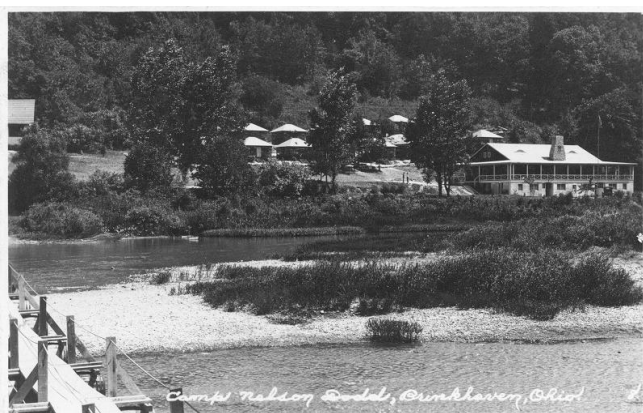
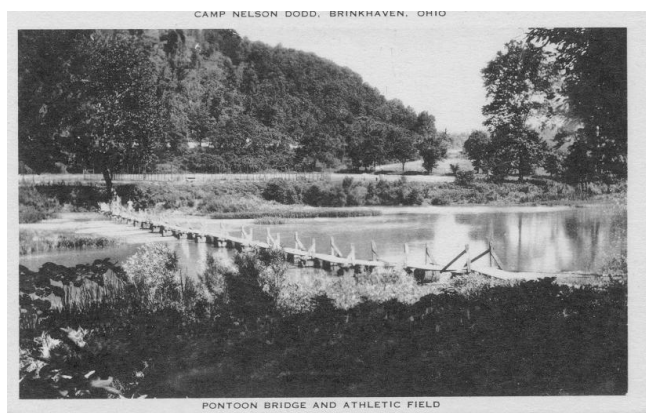
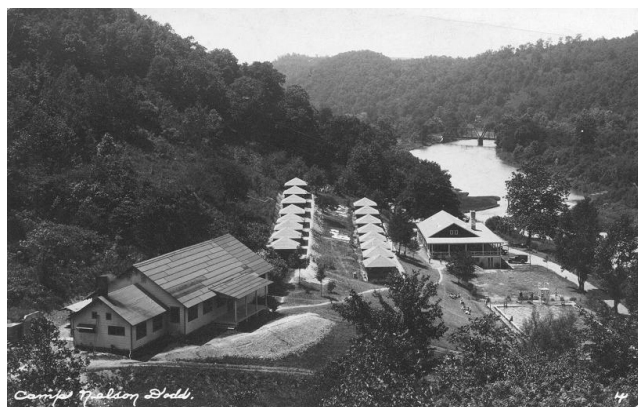
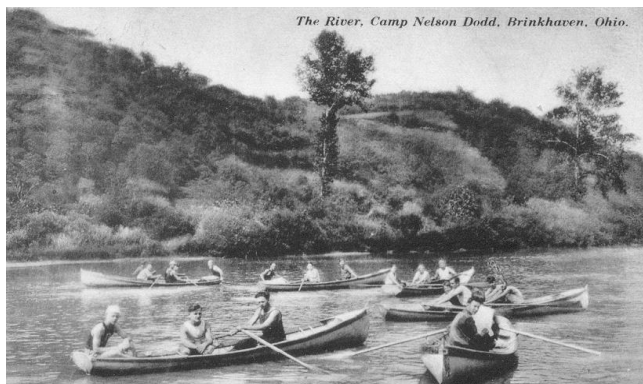
**Roger Salls** has a lot of memories from camp. He remembers his first year as 1957 when he stayed two "wonderful" weeks with his counselor being Jerry Tulley from West Virginia. He went back in 58 and 59 when he went on the Michigan canoe trip down the Muskegon River. That was the year Michigan had a drought and the river was at an all time low so they spent more time hauling the canoes over and around stuff than actually paddling. A broken arm prevented him from returning in 1960, but he was back in 1961 and canoed the AuSable river. He remembers names like Harry Miller and Olle the Norwegian. He was a CIT in 1962 and in 1963 worked in the kitchen and bunked in the main lodge with John Quance. He met John Glenn that summer and told him that he had the same kitchen job that he had when he worked at Nelson Dodd. He hopes someone saved the cabinet door that John Glenn had signed stating that he had slipped and dropped a tray of four one gallon jars of

mustard. He also remembers Joel Thinner, Noel (?) Miller and Bob Barber. His family had moved to Connecticut so 1964 was his last year but says "Nelson Dodd will be in my heart forever".

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## "A picture is worth a thousand words"

Postcards bring back memories!!!! We're collecting Nelson Dodd pictures, programs and other materials. Anyone having mementoes, please email or send them to us at the address in the last paragraph.



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**NOTICE:** We have emails for several Camp Nelson Dodd alumni. There are a few campers on our mailing list for whom we do not have email addresses. If you have not previously shared your email addresses with us, please send them to: Ohio-West Virginia YMCA, P.O. Box 239, Point Pleasant, WV 25550 or email them to [pauletta@hi-y.org](mailto:pauletta@hi-y.org). This will enable us to more efficiently keep in contact. Also, please tell us if you do or do not want the email address shared with others.