

- A. Miracles Did Happen!
- B. All Stars among us...continues
- C. Needs
- D. Thanks
- E. Fall Schedule
- F. Favorite photo of the Festival

A. It is difficult to assess a weekend like the Miracle Festival after only a week or so because the GREAT MEMORIES are still overwhelming. JB (James Ball) from Tee it Up for the Troops reminded us during the military salute that miracles are □Events that are inexplicable by the laws of nature and so are held to be supernatural, an act of God.□ Often miracles are not seen visibly as they happen in the heart, but we did observe some through emails, conversation, smiles, handshakes, and of course expect to see more in the future.

**Email quotes:** So far I have received a total of 48 emails. Thanks.

“I get goose bumps when I think about the people’s lives that were touched last weekend” Dianne

“You planted the seeds and God will give the increase” Kim

“God is good. He really touched my heart this weekend. I can’t put it into words. Next year I am going to help get more people” Daryl

“Last Saturday was fantastic. Thanks for opening my eyes and heart. I was grateful to be there.

God will give you an extra bale of hay when you get to heaven” Darlene (Jessica Hansen’s grandma)

“It was really special having Lee Greenwood at Ironwood. He was a real sport spinning the basketball with me. A great place for a Christ centered event” Bruce -

[www.championsforever.com](http://www.championsforever.com)

“As Vietnam War veterans, it was encouraging to see patriotism is ALIVE and swelling. Let’s continue the unconditional support for our soldiers.” Harold & Paul [www.drivenduo.com](http://www.drivenduo.com)

**Highlights:**

1. Turnout between 1300-1500 people. Weather was GRAND, committee, staff & volunteers were awesome

2. YOUTH & FAMILY NIGHT. Thanks to the bands (Silverline, Everyday Sunday & Saved on Sunday), Next Step Ministries, YFC (Gary K) and Valley Christian Center for the use of their semi trailer converted into a beautiful stage.

3. 5k RUN & BIKE RIDE: about 50 participated in our □Over the River & Thru the Woods.□

4. Antique tractor parade was fun; thanks to those who participated.

5 CHAMPIONSFOREVER.COM Bruce & Diane Crevier and their twelve children put on an extraordinary show with basketballs that left us all amazed at the talents of those who work hard. It left us all looking at each other wondering: how?? Bruce ended their program by sharing a great message of Salvation & Christ□ love with several people responding to his message.

6. KINGERY BLUEGRASS BAND- If you enjoy great bluegrass with a message, you□d enjoy Mike and his family. Mike is a former major league baseball player now has baseball camps and sings with his family.

6. □TOE JAM MUSIC□ Tony Melendez and his wonderful band from Branson filled the night with music, stories and personal testimony. When you finish listening to Tony, you have been entertained, but more importantly your disappointments and challenges all but disappear when you watch Tony play guitar with his toes.

7. CAR SHOW: Thanks to McNeilus Steel for sponsoring a great classic car and truck show on Sunday. Tony Melendez also led us in worship on Sunday followed by the Kingery Band and ending the day with Crosswinds Band.

8. **A MAGICAL TIME WITH LEE GREENWOOD and the MILITARY SALUTE:** This of course was the primary celebration of the weekend. Lee Greenwood was escorted from the airport by local fire trucks, 25 motorcycles, a large military Humvee (MN Army National Guard) and a vehicle. Prior to Lee’s performance a Medal of Honor was given to Sgt Patrick Zeigler (survivor at the Ft Hood killings in Texas last November). Special honor was given to the family of Lance Corporal Curtis Swenson killed in Afghanistan. Several local military organizations gave us a wonderful report of their services provided to military families (Tee It Up For The Troops, Honor Flights, Beyond the Yellow Ribbon, Disabled American Veterans (DAV), and Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR).

9. **STATISTICS:**

Donations:

- \$ 22,850 total cash income. \$12,482 at the BIG TREE and \$10,368 □ other cash donations
- \$ 9,150 donations of products, advertising, food & music

**Expenses:**

- \$24,881.00

So, we had a shortfall of \$2,031.00. It wasn't a financial gain, but the benefits and mission accomplished seemed priceless. We had hoped to gain funds for OPERATION WELCOME HOME, but God will provide. If any of you want to help us balance the books for the festival, which would be a huge blessing.

10. PHOTOS: If you'd like to view the "Best of the Best" pictures from the Miracles Happen Festival II events (many of Lee Greenwood with weekend guests), copy and paste the following Snapfish link into your browser, or go to our website [www.ironwoodsprings.com](http://www.ironwoodsprings.com) and click into this site.

[http://www5.snapfish.com/snapfish/thumbnaillshare/AlbumID=1843533028/a=3491112028\\_3491112028/otsc=SHR/otsi=SALBlink/COBRAND\\_NAME=snapfish/](http://www5.snapfish.com/snapfish/thumbnaillshare/AlbumID=1843533028/a=3491112028_3491112028/otsc=SHR/otsi=SALBlink/COBRAND_NAME=snapfish/)

**MIRACLES HAPPEN FESTIVAL III JULY 29-31, 2011 Mark it on your calendar NOW!**

- We will have a western theme
- We are looking for ideas to: bring in more funds, more ideas for Friday youth night, creative programs & activities
- More committee members needed - first meeting will be in December
- Another big military salute
- Let's double the crowd- everyone bring a friend or two!

**B. ALL STARS AMONG US continues**

- I continue to encounter people who stop and tell me they voted for me. Of course I thank them. I also am connecting with the 29 other all-stars and learning more about them and their worthy missions.
- That handshake and words of encouragement I gave to JOE MAUER has boosted his batting average to over 500 since the ALL Star Game!
- Steve, representing the Toronto Blue Jays just ordered a copy of my book 'The Marathons of Life.'
- I have had two emails from Harmon Killebrew and a signed hat from Joe Girardi.
- Calls for my speaking are increasing.
- It's interesting that Major League Baseball keeps contacting to see if we are REAPING lots of growth, volunteers, and funds from the honors.

**C. NEEDS:**

- Prayer: Summer staff going back to college.
- For rent: We have a nice woodsy rental cabin with two car garage. Call the office 533 4315 -Jode
- Volunteers: To work on the RED BARN and spray the wood ceiling a whitewash.
- An  M  Farmall tractor to pull our two touring wagons.
- CAR needed: Sam Sutter, our Youth Program Director, has finally said goodbye to his Neon. Does anyone have a good buy on a set of wheels for Sam?
- Roof repair: We have 2 valleys that need repair. One on the chapel & one on the dining hall.

**D. THANKS:**

- To Peoples Cooperative Services for \$1500 (round tables) to complete the Jacob's Room on the lower room of the Miracle lodge.
- To Rockwood Retaining Walls for patio brick.
- To Dan & Pat Kenow for their wonderful volunteer service this summer.
- To Rochester Ready Mix for the six loads of sand to make our sand volleyball court.
- To Rockpoint Church in Lake Elmo, MN for the six picnic tables.
- To Eaglebrook Church for their continued work on the Red Barn.
- To the Rochester County Jail for all their volunteer work getting ready for the Festival.
- To Rochester Women's Magazine for a nice article.

**E. FALL SCHEDULE:**

- Sept. 17-19 OPERATION WELCOME HOME Help is needed serving the Saturday evening CANDLELIGHT DINNER.
- Oct. 15-16 Lumberjack Weekend
- Nov. 5-7 'A Time to Sew' Quilting Retreat. Contact Jode at 533-4315.

Spreading JOY-changing live...Bob

