

1. **March in Review**
2. **Benefit Auction**
3. **Operation Welcome Home**
4. **Double your F.F.F.**
5. **Calendar**

1).March in Review: Most Minnesotans will remember March 2010 as the nicest in years. No snow, warm temperatures, daffodils blooming early and a great month for Ironwood. Thanks for the volunteers who have come this month to help out. You are needed and appreciated. Groups: Emmanuel Covenant, Shoreview - New Creation youth, Mankato - Pine Needles quilters - Time to Sew quilters □SE MN Soil and water, Grace Presbyterian, Creative Memories Scrap bookers - UMC, Byron - Hope Reformed Church, Spencer, IA □ World Wide Marriage Encounter, and Girl Scouts.

Speaking: I recently spoke to the students of two schools and a church in Bemidji, MN. What a great opportunity. Remember: □It□s not what happens to you, it□s what you do about it.□ My inspirational book, □The Marathons life□ has been reprinted for the fifth time now and is available.

WHEELCHAIRS FOR HAITI □ This mission is alive and well. Wheelchairs arrived at our door almost every day. Let□s keep the drive alive and see how many we have by mid-June.

General Donations: Lutheran Community foundation, Larson Products, Moliter Brothers Farm, Dale & Lee Wicks, Word Of Life Christian Center - Rochester, United Way, Olmsted County Deputy□s Association, John & Jodene Avant, Constance Larson, Ann Bardwell, Tamie Schollmeier, Joel & Anna Forsberg, Scott Forsberg, Jennifer & Michael Vonarx, Mark & Julie Place, Grace E Free Church □ Stewartville, Cornerstone Baptist □ Mesquite, TX, IBM employees, Lighthouse Community Church □ Rosemount, MN, Chattanooga Christian Community Foundation, American Express, Jeanne Bardwell, Field Seed Farms, Kathy Freeberg, George & Wilma Menshik,

Donations for wheelchair camp: Berean Baptist Church □ Burnsville, Ziegler CAT, Tubby Smith (Un. of M Basketball), United Commercial Travelers of America #661, Rochester Medical, Dave & Barb Nash, Olmsted County Deputy□s Association, Burt Peterson family memorial fund, Association Barbers, Kevin McCarthy, Eastwood Bank, Canadian Honker.

2).BENEFIT AUCTION □ Thursday MAY 13th. The auction flyer has been mailed out and donations are now coming in for our 26th Annual Benefit auction. If you have items to donate, let us know. Also, please mark this date on your calendar; Thursday, May 13th at 4:30-9:00PM. Silent auction 4:30 and live at 6:00 PM. We have food, mini farm, things for kids to do, etc.

3). Operation Welcome Home! In just a few weeks, April 30-May 2 will be our first military retreat of 2010. We are really looking forward to serving our soldiers and their families. The Miracle lodge is short of rooms (Just kidding) but they are all full. Support from the community both with funding and volunteering has been terrific. **Highlights:** Candlelight dinner Saturday evening, Quilts of Valor, and an afternoon of special events. **SPONSORS/DONATIONS TO DATE:** \$275 sponsors a couple for the weekend; Tee it up For the Troops, Soldiers Fields Veterans Memorial Funds, Canadian Honker, PCCTS Pardeeville, WI Community Car & Truck Show, VFW Post 92, Roger and Luann Schmitt, Lynn & Carla Behnke, D.A.R., Mike & Luann Olson, Rochester Elks Lodge #1091, Jack & Jane Remick, Boyd & Lois Brue, New Beginnings Church of Austin, Claude & Brenda Schuerwerck, Bonnie & Joe Austin, Alan & Sherry Whalen, Dale & Doris Urbain, □Great Deeds□, Deb Scheide, Burt Peterson family, Am. Legion Post Ivan Stringer #164. John

Mattern, Blue Star Mothers of America, Dodge Cty chapter, DAV chapter #39 Andover, MN. Requested funds for the April retreat have been reached. What a blessing.

September 17-19th is the date for the fall Operation Welcome Home retreat. If you would like to be involved, let me know.

WOUNDED WARROR weekend □ May 14-16: Three more soldiers are needed to fill this weekend. The National Wild Turkey Federation and Ironwood have planned a very special turkey hunt for these soldiers.

4). **Double your Fun, Faith and Friends.** A week at a Christian summer camp is a great investment for a child. Memories and decisions made at camp seem to stick and the impact will last a lifetime. Here□s a note from our Program Director, Sam Sutter: □If you are on Face Book, join the group □Ironwood Springs Youth□ for devotionals, updates, and registration information. The **Early Bird Special deadline is APRIL 24th**. To register online, go to www.ironwoodsprings.com, and click on the camp you□re interested in, then click the □register here□ button. Sam would be delighted to attend your church or group to promote our camps. Contact Sam Sutters@ironwoodsprings.com.

5) **Calendar:**

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| * Apr 23-25 th | 3 rd Annual Turkey Hunt for disabled individuals |
| * April 30 □ May 2 | Operation Welcome Home |
| * May 13th | 26th Annual BENEFIT AUCTION □ make your |
| donation | |
| * May 14-16 th | Wounded Warrior Weekend with turkey hunt |
| * May 28-31 st | Memorial Day weekend and cookout |
| * June 12-17 | 24th annual National Wheelchair Sports and |
| Recreation Camp | |
| * MIRACLES HAPPEN FESTIVAL II | July 30, 31-August 1. |

The WILD BLUEBELLS are waking up and are soon to arrive. DON□T MISS THEM!! Stop out between May 1st through May 10th and we□ll give you a tour.
Spreading JOY- changing lives
Bob Bardwell