



crossroads farm

Down On The Farm

The Quarterly Newsletter of Crossroads Farm

CRF's Own St. Nick

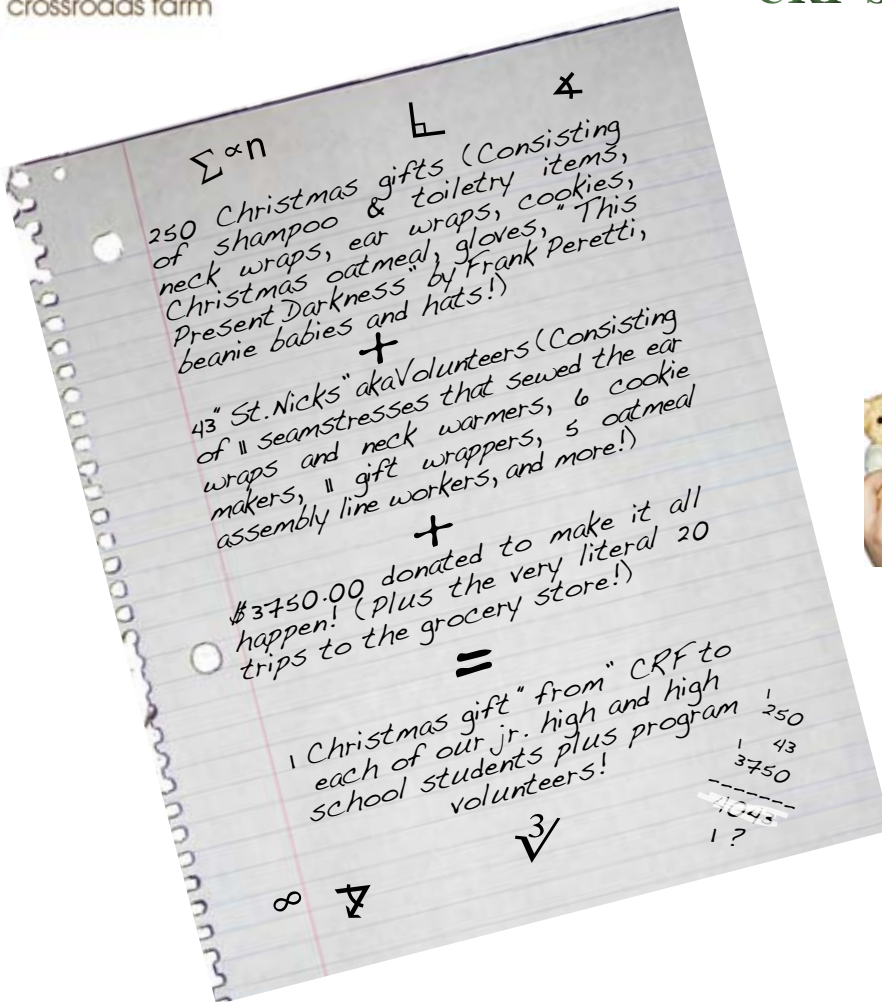
by Megan, Program Intern

For the past 3 years, CRF has been blessed by a "small" group of individuals that have adopted our ministry during the Christmas season by providing our students and volunteer staff with some pretty amazing gifts! This year was

no exception. This year we welcomed an upcoming hip hop artist, Michael Fugitt to our stage as part of our Christmas



celebration. Michael was able to share his passion for Jesus and musical talents with our students and while he did a phenomenal job, the icing to the cake was what every person wants at Christmas time...gifts!!! One gift for each student may not seem like that huge of a task, but as you can see on the left, it takes a gigantic amount of work, money, time, and energy just to make one small portion of what we do here at CRF happen.



Let me tell you a little about the people who made this happen. One of the seamstresses is 70 years old and currently going through chemo treatments. She had to work around how she was feeling each day, but when asked, how you are even doing this, her reply was, "Oh it is such a blessing, because it gives me something to look forward too!" Another one of the seamstresses only has sight in one eye and many other health issues as well. Yet she said she would pull an all-nighter to get this project done if she had to!



If you think you are busy, check this out! An operating room nurse and Ford Diesel engineer joined together to work on making cookies. One retired high school biology teacher, one amateur tennis player, one doctor, one full-time missionary, and one CPA, all teamed together to be a part of this team of St. Nick's. Every one of the volunteers on this project was busy, yet each considered it a privilege to be a part of something so simple yet so profound. The group even has new recruits for next year already! Praise the Lord for the "little things".

Mike Skupin, father of 7 and husband of one, is an author, Survivor celebrity from the Outback, and a true friend of Crossroads Farm. Mike joined the board of directors in January of



2011, after being a part of a Crossroads Farm outreach in the spring of 2010, and was made aware of the need for rural youth. Mike joins of team of incredible people, committed to expanding the voice of rural communities and offering leadership and service to that voice. Mike has devoted the last 10 yrs. of his life to a speaking ministry, largely impacting kids all over the world. Please pray with us for these men and women God has chosen to direct this ministry at this time. Welcome Mark, Ann, and Mike!! 🏡

For the ongoing work in the lives of rural youth, special gifts were given in memory of:

*Dorie Hovey and
Ronald and
Muriel Rice*

My name is Troy. I started going to Crossroads Farm my sophomore year in high school. I was introduced to CRF by my youth leader, Andrew, RCI volunteer. He is a very close friend and I have known Andy since my freshman year. Plus all of my cousins are in his youth group, so you could say it's a family thing. CRF is a great, caring place. Everyone there is always happy and there for you in your darkest hour. I have experienced this. I loved CRF but when my girlfriend graduated last year and I had a vehicle to

Joining the Farm Story

and have recently joined the Board of Directors at Crossroads Farm. They both have been involved in mentoring children to live a life according to biblical principles. They both believe the youth of today are in need of direction, reasoning, and guidance... and getting youth involved in Christian activities and surrounding them with compassionate mentors is fundamental to keeping them on track. Mark says "For the youth in the lower-mid-Michigan community, the Crossroads Farm project is a superior option to attract and engage these youth." Mark has three children ages 22, 14 and 12. Guiding these three children has been and is an important part of his life. Anne was never able to have children of her own, which has caused her to love all children as her own. Anne says "We both look forward to working with the leadership team at Crossroads Farm to grow and improve the relationships that are established through CRF...and continue to attract those who are searching for truth." 🏡



Student Spotlight



Troy, Senior at Hillsdale

go wherever and do whatever, I started putting God behind and ditching my closest friends and family. After a while I felt like Satan was controlling my life and I needed God back. I was going through some rough



YAHOO!

Prayer Closet

TAKE IT TO JESUS



- Student salvation on winter retreats!!
- All student retreats paid in full!
- Material donation for HUGE upgrades in the gameroom/snack shack!

- More full time missionary staff
- Spring Outreach March 26, 2011
- Shaun Haynes and Jerry Bernard in the suport raising process

(Student Spotlight con't...) times and wondering if my life was worth anything. To tell you the truth I was scared to come back to CRF. I talked with Andrew a couple days before I went back and he said, "I've been praying for you Troy, every day." That's what really touched me and put me into motion to come back and I did. I was scared but everyone greeted me with open arms and started talking to me like I never left. So to me CRF is like a home away from home because everyone there treats me like family. 📷

Red Carpet on the Slopes

The word "priceless" is as overused as ketchup these days. Sometimes it fits the opportunity however and you find yourself being unable to place a value on an event. The annual CRF winter retreat offered 85 students and staff a memory that may be referred to by many as "once in a lifetime." We were challenged, stilled and moved by our speaker Brian Kono from SAU, and worship with "Sing Love Sing."



A special gift was given by an anonymous friend of the farm in order to take all of the students for a special day of skiing, complete with lessons. Crossroads students (in some cases) spread their wings and flew into, what was for most of them, a brand new challenge.

There were no injuries to report, however, there were a few spectacular crashes and a few more harrowing screams as our kids came barreling down one of Caberfae's outstanding hills.

In the end, the day was more about building relationships than it was about skiing. It was an excellent draw and enabled several new students to hear and to say "yes" or "no" to the gospel message.

On behalf of the many, special thanks to the few who made this "priceless" event, possible. Look out below! 📷





55 middle schoolers turned From Redneck to Hillbilly!

The Hillbilly Snowdown was the theme for the weekend at Camp Barakel. The Chicken Catchers ruled the roost and collected the coveted Barakel

Blockie Award for our first time in three tries. While the weekend was full of

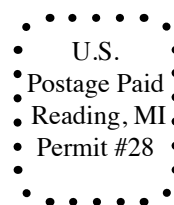


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Change Service Requested



Loving The Rural Teenager



many crazy hillbilly games, my number one priority was to spend time with a few of my brand new sixth graders that were brave enough to go to this camp up north for an entire weekend. They consumed my every waking hour with broomball games, ice-skating, tubing, cross-country skiing, ice fishing, and more. Spending time with seven very important boys was more precious and valuable than any amount of money. Every year I look back upon the weekend and am amazed by the “awesome-

ness”
God

can do in one little weekend. Quality time is a myth with these kids, but quantity time...as the commercial goes - well that is priceless. 📺

