

The St. Jude Country Cares Star



Summer 2003

Academy of Country Music Awards show ties in to online auction for St. Jude



Wynonna chats with her radio friends at the ACM Awards.

Country music artists weren't the only winners at the 38th annual Academy of Country Music (ACM) Awards, which aired May 21 on CBS. The patients at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital® also racked up when artists who participated in the awards show donated personal items for an online auction to benefit the hospital.

The auction, which ran from May 22 through May 29 on *CMTauctions.com*, raised more than \$26,000 to help St. Jude fight cancer and other catastrophic diseases of childhood. Dozens of country music artists took part in the auction by donating items they wore or used at rehearsals for the ACM Awards show or at the show itself.

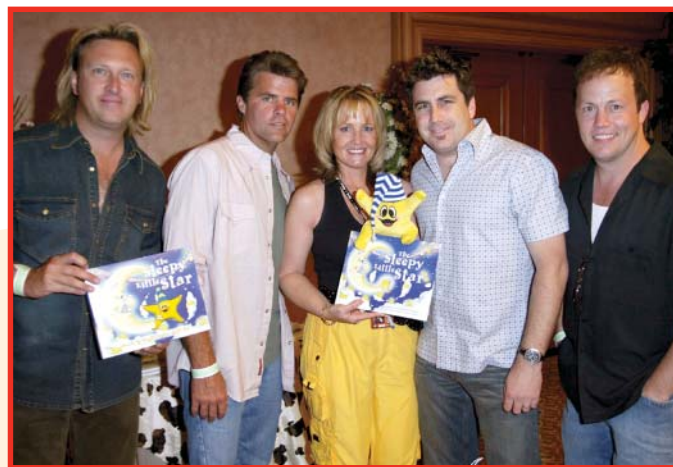
The highest bid went to ALABAMA's autographed Epiphone electric guitar, which sold for \$3,130. The item receiving the second highest bid was the 10-night Caribbean cruise on Celebrity's Summit cruise liner donated by Toby Keith. Bidding \$3,050, the winner and a guest will enjoy visits to ports such as St. Maarten, St. Lucia and St. Thomas in the Virgin Islands. Another hot item was the shiny, black electric guitar autographed by several country music artists during the rehearsals for the ACM Awards show, which sold for \$2,775.

In all, more than 45 items were donated for the auction. In addition to autographed

guitars, other donated items included sheet music, TV scripts, books, a microphone and clothing items from such artists as Diamond Rio, the Dixie Chicks, Lee Ann Womack, Martina McBride, Rascal Flatts and Pam Tillis.

Other celebrities who donated items to the fund-raising auction were The Bellamy Brothers, Brooks & Dunn, Sheryl Crow, Faith Hill, Reba McEntire, Tim McGraw, Brad Paisley, Louise Mandrell, Keith Urban and NASCAR® driver Tony Stewart.

In its third year of existence, the ACM Awards auction is another example of the country music industry's strong support for St. Jude. For the past 14 years, more than 100 country artists have given their names and time to the Country Cares for St. Jude Kids® radiothon fund-raising program.



Kymberli Brady (center) meets Lonestar members (lt. to rt.) Keech Rainwater, Richie McDonald, Michael Britt and Dean Sams when they sign her book for the auction.

Fan Club Challenge raises more than \$61,000

After a year of friendly fund-raising rivalry among country music fans, the Fan Club Challenge for St. Jude Kids concluded by raising more than \$61,000 for the hospital. Country music superstar Keith Urban not only led the way in initiating the challenge, but his fan club led the way in raising funds for St. Jude.

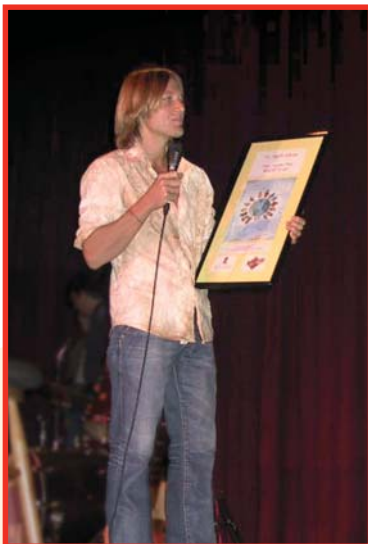
Raising more than \$30,000, the Keith Urban Fan Club gained the first-place winner title and, along with other Fan Club Challenge participants, was recognized at the annual International Fan Club Organization Fun Fest on June 3.

During the challenge, fan club members created various ways to contribute to the cause, including the organization of bake sales, car washes and auctions. Keith Urban, Billy Ray Cyrus and Andy Griggs fans also created one-of-kind limited edition calendars to raise money for the hospital.

The Fan Club Challenge is a way for country music fans to raise money to help children fighting life-threatening diseases at St. Jude. Other fan clubs that participated in this year's challenge included Toby Keith, Tracy Lawrence, Wynonna Judd, Tommy

Shane Steiner, Gary Allan, Chad Brock, Grady Nations, Tracy Byrd, Bryan White, Mark Wills, Trick Pony, Joe Nichols and Wild Horses.

Keith Urban accepts a plaque of recognition for his fan club's outstanding support of St. Jude.



Country music artist Tanya Tucker finds a new friend, St. Jude patient Jacob, at this year's 95KSJ Kruiise for St. Jude.



Second annual 95KSJ Kruiise for St. Jude

If you've ever wondered about the motorcycle adage *loud pipes save lives*, just ask the kids at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Approximately 800 bikers in Mobile, Ala., recently hit the road and raised more than \$28,000 during the second annual 95KSJ Kruiise for St. Jude.

Led by Rick Miller, a Harley rider and afternoon DJ for Country Cares radio station WKSJ FM 95 in Mobile, the bikers began their highway haul at Battleship Park and finished at Big Daddy's Bar where they were entertained by country music artists Tanya Tucker and Craig Morgan. "It's great to have a chance to ride with 800 Harley riders and make a difference for St. Jude patients," Miller said.

The ride, which was open to anyone who wanted to participate, was a side event for the radio station's Country Cares radiothon. Event organizers raised money through the registration fee, general donations, concessions and T-shirt sales. Funds raised from the event brought the station's toteboard total to more than \$154,000.

This year's 95KSJ Kruiise for St. Jude was sponsored by Mobile Bay Harley-Davidson and the Mobile Harley Riders club. The Mobile Harley Riders club will visit St. Jude this summer to present their donation to the hospital and tour the facility.



Parade of Stars



For more about Country Cares for St. Jude Kids, please contact:
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Star Profiles



Hayley

Age: 11
Diagnosis: osteosarcoma
Interests: playing the piano, shopping for clothes and chatting on the computer



Danielle

Age: 7
Diagnosis: Wilms tumor
Interests: eating pizza, playing pool and drawing

Emerging infectious diseases will continue to threaten world health

Robert Webster, PhD, world-renowned virologist at St. Jude, was one of three international experts invited by Chinese Health officials to a summit on emerging infectious diseases in April.

Upon his return, Webster announced in a press conference that the isolation of the SARS virus was a major achievement made possible by the infra-structure put in place by the National Institutes of Health through St. Jude in Hong Kong. Webster also warned that the SARS pandemic is only one of an ongoing series of such threats to public health that the world can expect to face in the coming years.

Webster is an author of a recently released report on emerging infectious diseases published in the United States by the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences.

Hospital News

Going, going ... SOLD!

