

The Anna Maria Island

SUN



Lee Greenwood makes Affaire magical

By Pat Copeland | sun staff writer | 4/4/11

ANNA MARIA – It was another magical evening at the Affaire to Remember as country music star Lee Greenwood brought down the house with his performance at the Community Center's 27th annual fundraiser.

After singing a couple of his most well known hits, Greenwood brought out two of his band members for a selection of songs and then returned to the stage after the live auction and sang his most famous song, "God Bless the U.S.A." among others.

The event, which hosted a record crowd of 360 brought in \$224,000 for the Center's programs and services. A part of that total was the cash call, which brought in \$50,000 for scholarships for children so no child gets turned away for inability to pay.

One table having a great time was the "Men's Night Out" table (pictured below) with Manatee County Administrator Ed Hunzeker, County Commissioner John Chappie; Elliott Falcione, manager of the Bradenton Area Convention and Visitors' Bureau; Bradenton Beach Mayor Bob Bartelt; Joe Pickett; of the Florida Gulf Coast Sports Commission; developer and tourist development council vice-chairman David Teitelbaum; Jack Rynerson, of the Sarasota Manatee Airport Authority and Tom Aposporos, president of the Longboat Key/Lido Key/ St. Armands Key Chamber of Commerce.

At the BB&T table, Johathan Schneider, said, "I thought the Affaire was awesome. I can't imagine how much time people into it. Our entire table was impressed."

Tickets were "flying off the shelf" for chances to win a television, a diamond necklace and earrings and the pick of the live auction. Winners were John van Zandt for the television, Sherry Knowles for the jewelry and Cindy Thompson for pick of the liveauction. Thompson picked a one-week stay in Costa Rica in the Galati family's condo.



SUN PHOTO/PAT COPELAND
Lee Greenwood and his band members perform.

