

WELCOME HOME



Sunday, August 30, 2009
Salem VAMC

WELCOME HOME

AMERICAN HERO



The McKinney family came out to enjoy the festivities with US Army Sergeant Seyward McKinney (service in OIF). Pictured left to right: Abraham, Cynthia, William and Seyward



James Filicky (service in OEF/OIF) with his wife Cathy.



Adam Gunter (Army, 2005-2008, service in OIF) with his daughter Kelsey.



The Happy Mountain Boys (including a WWII Veteran) entertained the crowd with their bluegrass tunes.



Event Summary

Our third annual Welcome Home American Heroes event was held on Sunday, August 30, 2009 with a family-style cookout and entertainment sponsored by the Benevolent Protective Order of the Elks. Over 70 volunteers and 30 Boy Scouts worked the event. The Happy Mountain Boys provided hours of non-stop entertainment and even "Elvis" made a special appearance! Our representatives from the OEF/OIF Outreach Team, Veterans Benefit Administration, Vet Center, Virginia Wounded Warrior program, and Joint Family Support Assistance program greeted veterans and spoke with many about benefits and services available to veterans of all eras.

Attendance: approximately 250 with estimated 15 OEF/OIF veterans and family members

Photos by: Nancy Short, OEF/OIF Case Manager

From the cover: Roy H. McGuire (retired Air Force, 25 years of service) member of the Elks 2844 and current SW District Chair and VAVA Chairman speaks with US Army Sergeant Seyward McKinney.