
Pennsylvania author Bill Arnold captures national Benjamin Franklin Awards Silver Medal

Miracle at Quecreek Mine
Audiobook honored by
Independent Book Publishers Association

17 years later, farmer's story still inspires

Author and inspirational speaker Bill Arnold was honored April 5, 2019 at the annual Independent Book Publishers Association Ben Franklin Awards ceremony in Chicago, Illinois with a Silver award in the category of **non-fiction audiobook**.

The **Independent Book Publishers Association** is the largest not-for-profit trade association of independent publishers. **IBPA CEO Angela Bole** explains, "Unlike many other award programs, the **IBPA Benjamin Franklin Awards™** demand both editorial and design excellence and entrants are judged independently on both. This year, over 160 librarians, booksellers, and design and editorial experts—most of whom have decades of book industry experience—judged the books submitted to the program. The judging process took seven months, continuing into March 2019.

This level of detail has helped this award become one of the highest national honors for independent publishers in 30 years."

Bill Arnold is Executive Director of the Quecreek Mine Rescue Foundation and owner of Dormel Farms, Somerset, Pennsylvania. On July 23, 2002, with nine miners trapped by flood waters in the Quecreek mine 240 feet below his dairy farm, Bill found himself on the front lines of a rescue operation which would span 78 grueling hours, involve hundreds of rescuers, volunteers, officials, media and suppliers, several tons of equipment, vehicles and technology, and dozens of anxious loved ones.

"This award is a well-deserved and significant honor that also showcases the amazing fortitude of the hard-working people of Pennsylvania," noted **publisher Leslie Turner**. "The music and special effects as well as contributing vocal talents of well-known media personality Wendy Bell and others really help the listener feel as if they were



**MIRACLE
AT
QUECREEK
MINE**

978-0-9985592-4-7

Paperback: \$22.95

Kindle eBook \$9.99

978-0-9985592-9-2

Audiobook: \$22.95

Digital download: \$9.95

Available on [Audible](#),

iTunes, or [Amazon](#)

2 hours 12 minutes, Unabridged

Read by Joe Cullen Brown

Both formats available at The Quecreek Mine Rescue Museum, online, your favorite bookstore, or through the [publisher](#).

Digital media copies and photos available from the publisher upon request.

Published by



ENCOURAGE
PUBLISHING

there during every jaw-dropping minute. ***Miracle at Quecreek Mine*** is a perfect spiritual and patriotic antidote during a time when we could all use a reminder of the strength of the American Spirit and the power of prayer.”

The audiobook, which runs 2 hours 12 minutes, is narrated and engineered by Joe Cullen Brown (www.joebrownvo.com) with guest narration by Wendy Bell, and was produced and distributed in New Albany, Indiana by Encourage Publishing (www.encouragebooks.com). The 2-CD package includes an insert with photos. The audiobook is available also as a digital download via Amazon or iTunes. All versions of the story are available through The Quecreek Mine Rescue Foundation in Somerset, Pennsylvania (www.quecreekrescue.org).

More About the Author

For interviews or to schedule a speaking event or book-signing: bill@9for9.org



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Bill Arnold's contribution to the rescue itself was significant, but in many ways has been eclipsed by his ongoing work as witness to the miracles that occurred on his property during those four days. As host to thousands of visitors a year that want to honor and remember the event, Bill serves as caretaker of the memorial site that sits on his property, as international media consultant on the subject of mine rescue, and as a gifted motivational speaker who shares the story of the ***Miracle at Quecreek Mine*** with thousands of people each year. All of this falls after his daily duties managing a significant herd of cattle on his certified organic dairy farm. Bill would say he is just a common farmer who, like so many

others that night, stepped up to the challenge when God called him to it. What he witnessed, what God brought about through the rescue, changed him, changed countless other participants, changed Somerset County, and for those shining hours focused the hopes of a nation and the eyes of the world on the power of God, the resilience of the American miner, and the relentless determination of the American Spirit. Now, the legacy is carried forward through his book and new audiobook, ***Miracle at Quecreek Mine***.

Arnold has also been interviewed on multiple national and international television news broadcasts, as well as for newspapers and radio. In 2017, a 15-year anniversary celebration marked the event, renewing interest once again to the positive outcome of the inspiring story. [Arnold was interviewed](#) on that occasion, and most recently has published a series of articles in a Pennsylvania motivational magazine.

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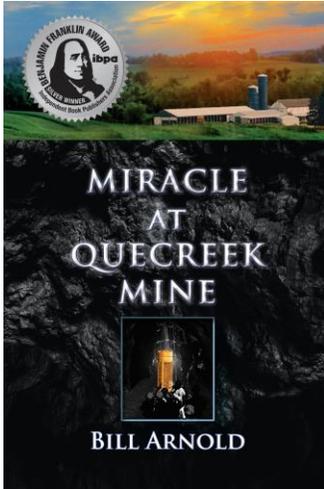
Encourage Publishing (for advance copies, hi-res photos, permissions)

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More About the Book



Synopsis: When Bill Arnold grabbed his Colt 45 and ran out to the tool shed at Dormel Farms near midnight on July 24, 2002, he thought he would be chasing off a would-be thief. Instead, he encountered two surveyors, friends of his. “Billy, there’s been an accident in the mine, and there’s nine men missing. We think they’re trapped under your farm.”

This is a true American story, a factual account of a string of miraculous events that saved lives and uplifted a nation, as told through the eyes of the dairy farmer who had a front-row seat to the *Miracle at Quecreek Mine*, now in **audiobook**.

“This book had me hooked from the forward. A great first hand story of an everyman hero thrust into a chain of remarkable circumstances that frankly boggle the mind. If you like real life adventure stories...you will love this read.”
Amazon Reader

The book contains dozens of full color photographs depicting this inspirational historical event, now brilliantly narrated for audiobook with music and sound effects. The listener will become immersed in Bill’s gripping true story: the fear, the courage, the desperate measures, and the miraculous intervention that happened over those four long days. An insert contains additional information from the book.

After unwittingly breaking through a 3-foot thick coal seam separating them from millions of gallons of water that had built up in an unmapped section of a long-abandoned mine, nine miners struggled in the dark to stay alive, 240 feet below Dormel Farms. A never-ending torrent of muddy, debris-filled water strong enough to carry heavy equipment quickly flooded their only escape, soaking their clothes and trapping them in the cold belly of the mine with no way to communicate, one lunch pail of half-eaten food and almost no drinkable water.

Above ground, Bill and a growing number of rescuers struggled to find a way to locate and reach them. What happened next ignited the nation and the world, hungry for some good news after the loss of so many lives in 9/11. In a cruel twist of irony, media from around the world found themselves descending on the same little town that just ten months earlier had endured the aftermath of a national tragedy, the crash of United Flight 93, just a few minutes away and in the same rolling farmland of Somerset County, Pennsylvania.

In the end, it wasn’t the power of technology, of a massive amount of manpower and equipment, of the Governor of Pennsylvania, the U.S. Military, nor even the President of the United States that saved those nine men. Instead, all would later admit, in fact, none could deny that it was the power of God that saved them, along with the strong determination of the American Miner and the unending ingenuity of the American Farmer.

...The story is gripping, in itself. To call what happened at Quecreek a miracle is an understatement. This book chronicles everything good about people, the fighting spirit of mankind, and quiet faith supporting it all.

Amazon Reader

Christian Media Clearinghouse has reviewed this book and rated it “K” for “Kid- and family-friendly, free of profanity, violence, suggestive and occult or anti-Christian worldview language.

“Events depicted in the story are factual. They are suspenseful but not overly-frightening, and provide opportunities for adults to talk to their children about such important subjects as courage, the American Spirit, faith, and rising up to personal challenge.”
CMC review