

Spread the Word! It's Time to Start Gathering Donations for the Silent Auction!!

Melissa Rupp (OH), NEAFCS Awards and Recognition Committee

The silent auction at the Annual Session is so much more than excellent retail therapy! It is a chance to pay it forward, share your state culture and enjoy fun new items from around the nation. The silent auction is a key fund raiser for the Awards and Recognition Committee that distributes awards and benefits to those that achieve our organizations highest honors. If you've won an award, you have received the blessings of the silent auction!



This year we are back to an in person gathering... But wait! There's more! We will continue an online bidding process so ALL can participate. We welcome each person, affiliate, region, and leader to consider donating an item to the auction. There are four basic steps to accomplishing this goal:

1. Think of a creative fun item to donate that you yourself would be excited to bid on.
2. Download the [donation form](#) complete it and return to WFerguson@executiveoffice.org.
3. Take pictures of your item(s), consider clear pictures from multiple angles. Send 3-5 pictures if possible.
4. Mark the best option for delivery (items will be marked on the online auction so buyers are aware of their purchase commitment):
 - a. Item will be mailed
 - i. You may wish to only send a picture for the in-person shopping or bring the item
 - ii. If this option is chosen, the donor must commit to sending to the buyer and that will be factored into the "value" of the item.
 - iii. If you are donating an item to be shipped direct from the source, this is the best option.
 - b. Item is for in person pick up only
 - i. With this option, the item must be brought to the meeting, and the buyer is responsible for getting it home.

Need donation ideas? Consider those items that make your area special; food, heritage arts, unique attractions, or geographic treasures. If you have a talent to share, consider creating something special for donation; a quilt, painting, jewelry, stationary, etc. Work together as a state to create a state basket, or perhaps highlight a favorite store by buying a gift card.

Whatever you do, know that your donation makes a difference and keeps our organization thriving. If you have any questions or suggestions, please send them my way! You can email me at Rupp.26@osu.edu.