

## AUCTION DONATION SUGGESTIONS

**Dinner events** – These have proved very popular in the past. Donors can host a dinner in their home, perhaps teaming up with a couple of friends to share the planning, cooking and serving. Select a menu, perhaps a theme, and decide how many guests you can accommodate. It's usually best to indicate a window of dates, i.e. between May 1<sup>st</sup> and June 16<sup>th</sup> or name 3 Friday nights and 2 Saturday nights you could host your dinner. Once all the seats are 'sold', the guests indicate their 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> choice for the dates; the winning date is selected and guests are notified.

We may decide to have two tiers of dinners:

1. Some fancy 'high ticket' dinners, a bit more elegant, or fancy gourmet, or themed, or clearly more work for the hosts or ???  
We would expect these dinners might result in competitive bidding wars and bring in more revenue than typically expected.

Examples? A dinner based on a TV show or movie, special Gourmet menu, Murder Mystery dinner, something unusual  
– use your imagination here.

2. Your 8-10-12 person wonderfully delicious meal served in one of your homes by either a couple or a couple of friends . These are always fun and typically very much enjoyed by all who attend. A great meal and an excellent chance to get to know each other better. Priced around the same as a nice meal in a local restaurant, but more fun . . . and for an excellent cause!

**Kid's Birthday Party** – pick a good theme that would be popular with a particular age group and host it. Perhaps the theme is an ART PROJECT, or a GEO CAST for older kids or a TREASURE HUNT or a DOLL TEA PARTY. Include a Super Cake and refreshments and a place and invitations.

**The Over-sized Monopoly Game**, but for Adults Party: this sounds fun for adults. Could be a fun party to include dinner and drinks, and prizes (?) and some rowdiness. (The Youth Group had this party last year and it was lots of fun.)

**Help another family learn to camp**: Take another family camping overnight and supply the equipment. Show them all the tricks, secrets, and fun and the joys of camping. You supply the experience and know-how.

**Are you a musician: Can you donate a few beginning music lessons?** This might be enough to get someone started to see if they want to really learn the instrument.

**Are you an artist? Can you donate some lessons in your medium?** This might spark an interest in someone's creative side.

**Are you a crafts person? i.e. can you teach someone to knit?** Crochet? Finish a project that they're stuck on?

**Are you a financial planner? Can you donate a one-time financial plan?** Or a discounted financial assessment?

**Can you do estate planning?** Can you donate an Assessment or a discount for same?

**Are you a therapist?** Can you donate 1-3 sessions for someone to come talk about a particular issue? Like a particular family problem? Or a work challenge?

Do you have a vacation house you would donate the use of?

Do you have construction skills? Repair skills? Decorating skills?

Color expertise?

Would you take on another family's children for a weekend while their parents go out of town?

Teens! You can donate too! Babysitting, other jobs, gardening, pet sitting, tutoring, etc. Coaching a younger child in a sport, practicing with them.

Speaking of tutoring – do you have an expertise in which you could tutor someone?

**Cooking: do you have a particular cooking talent like baking?**

Do you make candy, or wonderful cakes, etc. Donate a cooking lesson. Or a cooking class for children or teens. (This could also be a birthday party.)

A vegetarian cooking class?

How about a campfire cooking class? This could take place in a local park.

**Fitness:** Volunteer to come over 2 X's a week and go on a walk with you for a month to get you in the habit? (Would have to be a geographic limit.)

**Photographers:** Donate a 2- 3 session class for all those who would like to upgrade their photography skills.

**Gardeners:** Donate your green-thumb skills in helping someone redo a section of their garden or even just redesign some of their garden. Or shop for some easy to care for but really nice and different houseplants, complete with instructions. Decide where they would thrive in their home, watering/fertilizing schedule.

**Tech people:** Donate your skills by helping someone sort out their tech problems perhaps by advising them as to the best way to revamp their system, i.e. do they really need a new computer, or fixing the problem for them, or going shopping with them.

**Teach someone how to SKYPE**

**Teach someone how to:**

**Take a photo with their phone and then email it**

**Take a photo with their phone and then print it**

**Then write out the instructions so they**

**Can do it themselves the next time**

**Organizers:** Donate your organization skills such as a home office makeover, or helping someone redo the hall closet, or the garage. Can be big or small. You decide.

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We'll help you turn your skill or expertise into a valuable auction item that someone will be eager to bid on! If you're not sure what you could donate, talk to me.

More questions? Contact – Barbara Swenson

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