

WHAT IS A SILENT AUCTION?

An auction is like a sale--you will have a chance to buy items that have been donated by members of OMS. You have a chance of buying the item by making a bid, that is, you offer an amount of money that you would be willing to pay. Another person may come by and want the same item so he/she may offer more money, making a higher bid. At the end of the auction, the person with the highest bid goes home with the item.

WHO GETS ALL THE MONEY?

The OMS Treasurer collects all of the money and then deposits the money in the Society bank account. This money supports the Semi-Annual meeting by offsetting purchases for supplies. In summary, the mission of the Society benefits directly from the money we collect by reducing the drain on the general fund.

HOW DOES THE AUCTION WORK?

On the day of the Semi-Annual meeting after the BBQ is finished the Auction opens. You need to come to the meeting to participate. Auction items will be displayed on an empty picnic table. There will be a bid sheet next to each item. When you see a rock you want, write your name down on the bid sheet and how much money you are bidding. Each silent auction bid must be written on the blank line available on the bid sheet. If someone else has already made a bid, you may add your name to the list and make a HIGHER bid. You will need to check the bid sheets frequently and increase your bid for the items that you want. Each item has a minimum starting bid and bids must be made in amounts specified on the bid sheet.

Bidding is open for a specified amount of time. The silent auction will close at the time stated and no further bids can be made. Five minutes prior to the closing, an announcement will be made. **IT IS CONSIDERED BAD FORM TO "HOVER" OVER THE BID SHEET TO PROTECT IT FROM OTHER BIDDERS!** At the close of each auction the bid sheets will be collected and taken to the cash-out area as we prepare to wrap up the meeting. At regular intervals you need to return to the table to see if you were the highest bidder. The highest bidder will pay at the cashier (checks, cash) and collect their item. **YOU MUST PAY FOR AND COLLECT YOUR ROCK BY 3 P.M. DO NOT GO**

HOME BEFORE YOU HAVE PAID FOR AND COLLECTED YOUR ROCK!

A Silent Auction is intended to be a fun event and it should be realized that you cannot win every item you bid on. You should not be discouraged or upset that you lost the competition and just keep trying at the next one. Try to remember the event is for a good cause and not worth destroying a good friendship. Human nature being what it is that's a tall order.