

BobbieTOPS Fundraising Ideas

From: MaryWetmore@worldnet.att.net

We usually have an auction sometime the end of October or 1st of November. The auction consists of Seasonal items, handmade or purchased or nearly new items. We have had hand painted sweatshirts, ornaments, mugs, etc.. One member even made her own dog bones, for pets of course, and sold them.

From: TOPSY825

We had an auction which was a lot of fun and we made over \$100.00 We asked everyone to bring in things that they don't use but someone else may have use for them. They brought in jewelry, candy dishes, scarves, flower arrangements, books, pens (2 Cross pens) tupperware, baskets with shampoo, conditioner, hand cream etc., glassware etc. We had a funny auctioneer so it was a good time. Presently, we are selling chances on a surprise gift. It was donated by one of the members. She said the value is \$30.00. We will continue to sell the chances until everyone has as many as they want. \$1.00 per chance. I'm planning on having a "Silent Auction" in the future. The donated articles are displayed on the table. A sheet of paper with the name of the article and minimum bid written on and a pencil are placed in front of the article. The members go from one article to another and write their name and their offer. It's like the original auction but instead of shouting your bid, you write it down. So you really don't know what you end up with until it's over. (Unless, of course, there is something special that you want and you just stand by it and out bid each one) Of course, you have to have several tables end to end, so it won't be too crowded.

From: RAK634 (FL# 285, Eglin AFB Florida

About four times a year we have a white elephant auction. Every member brings an item nicely wrapped and we bid on it. It can be anything--gag gifts included. As Leader I am the auctioneer. We accept checks, cash, or easy payment plan. (We have discovered since our meeting is late in the evening, the items wrapped in fast food bags go for more money.) We make about \$100.00-125.00 at each auction. We do better when we ask for donations only.

Hi, my name is Donna and I belong to a chapter in Ontario. One thing that we did was have a brown bag auction. We placed articles into brown bags and drew pictures etc. on the front to give clues as to what was inside. People bid on the bags and sometimes the competition was quite brisk. Of course the more attractive the bag the more attention it got. It turned out to be a lot of fun as well as profitable with little effort as all bags were donated and everyone had to bring at least one bag preferably more.

Give it a try, hope if you do that it is successful for you.

Donna

One of the best fund raisers we have had is a white elephant auction. Have members bring wrapped things and have someone be the auctioneer and have fun. We have done this a number of times and it helps a lot to raise a decent amt of money.

Hope this helps.

Our chapter has an annual craft auction within our own chapter. Everyone brings different items that they have made or bought over the previous year and we take one meeting time to have our

auction. I think the most anyone paid for any one item was about 15 dollars, and most were only 2 or 3, but we were able to raise about 200 dollars this way! We also put in 25 dollars monthly from our dues, etc, for SRD, and we save upc's from certain brands to turn in to our local grocery store and they pay us for them. I don't know the details of the deal with the grocery store, but it might be something you could do in your area too. Good luck!

How about a chinese auction?

Basket Auction- Each member buys a basket and fills it with stuff (like sample bath items, etc) or can purchase one that is already filled. Bring it to the meeting and members bid on baskets.

Auctions - We decide a theme, such as St Patricks Day. Everyone brings in a item that is green, wrapped in green as pretty or creative as it can be. A dollar amt is discreetly written on the bottom so the auctioneer does not o over the dollar amount. The prettier they are the more money they bring in. (no food items please)

From:rthomson@coredcs.com

We all brought in a wrapped gift (chapter decides what the value should be). Each week we picked a gift and auctioned it off. Members bid on it by stating # of pounds or portion of pounds they would lose for the next week. Ex: bid could be for 3/4 pound and if someone else bid 1# and someone else bid 2 # and that was the highest bid, then that member got to take the gift home for the week. If that member returned the next week and lost the 2#, he or she got to unwrap and keep the gift. If member didn't lose what they bid, they had to pay \$1.00 into chapter treasury. If they didn't weigh in the next week, they had to give it up and pay \$1. We started out auctioning just one gift each week but it was so popular that we went to 2 gifts per week. As the gifts were depleted, members took turns bringing in more. Our chapter did this for about 4 months and our treasury swelled by \$30 but a lot of people lost weight too. You could have a separate auction for KOPS if you have enough in your chapter. We had only 1 KOPS so she bid along with everyone else. It was a lot of fun.

brown bag auction: Each member brings in a brown bag with something in it. Can be something worth something or a gag . Each member has a chance to bid on each bag with the highest bidder buying that bag.

Rest Stop

From: Bobbie Rae

1: Once a year we give coffee and cookies to the freeway rest stop. Contact Dept of transportation in your area. Each state is different. For us we have to submit application in august to work for following year. it is first come basis. Our average Earnings after expenses is \$1000 for 4 days work.

From: RAK634 (FL# 285, Eglin AFB Florida

once a year we have our annual car wash as well as our gift wrapping booth at Christmas time. These events usually bring us about \$200.00. These fundraisers are for donations only. Now should we not be able to do the car wash because of weather or military scheduling...then we have a bake sale. At this bake sale we bake low-fat, low calorie goodies as well diabetic treats and sell them along with the recipe for the product. This is donation only also, but each time we have done this we pick up new members. We make sure we have a supply of literature available.

From:KSHilly

We do a craft carry-in for the very large craft show held in our area each year. They pay us approx. 450.00 for 3 time shifts. All that is involved is helping the crafters load and unload their crafts from their cars and trucks and carry them into the buildings for them (they do all the setting up) We have done this for many years and now they contact us each year to see if we are still interested in doing it. Contact the organization in your area that holds the larger craft shows to see if they hire help for this event.

We have a fashion show and luncheon every spring. We had a yard sale last fall at my house, made big bucks- just by selling a lot of little items.

we had yard sales but it is so hard if only a few can keep the stuff and price it and carry it to a place to sell and set it up and if it dont sell carry it back home or give it to the needy. or we live near Road Atlanta Race track and you can have a group (non profit) to man a booth. take up tickets you get about 200 300 dollars. if you sell cokes and cook hamburgers (they furnish everything all you do is cook and serve) you can make up to 2000 to 3000 dollars in one weekend or if you have a university near you you can sell cokes or programs for cash.

Have members collect aluminum cans and save them up to be recycled (have senior citizen (if you have one) take them on senior citizen day so you'll get more money for them.

We've done a fundraiser from Breck's selling flower bulbs.

From: BabsHart@aol.com

We are having each member make at least one dish that is low fat, low cal and the recipe must have the exchanges on it. We are going to auction off each dish for the members to take home for the next day. I am making two low fat spinach pies out of one of my diabetic cookbooks for it. Last time we did one of these auctions, a chocolate flavored angel food cake went for 13\$!!!! Crazy huh!

We also have a "bakeless bake sale" in which members donate the cost they would incur to make an item for a bake sale

We have a fundraiser that we do once in a while called fundraiser potluck dinner. Each member brings a dish (try not to be too high in fat content). For each serving members pays a .25. So if you had 4 servings that would be \$1.00 etc. (my thought on this is since most of us don't eat before we weigh in (we weigh in the evening) we're going to go out most likely anyway and maybe eat worse than we would at the potluck)

We have a no-bake bake sale where you donate money that it would have cost you to bake a certain food.

We've also done tupperware fundraisers (that one usually does pretty well.)

From: Bobbie Rae

We have a monthly raffle. I have a sign up sheet and members sign up to donate a raffle item. One item per month. We sell raffle tickets all month on item. \$1 a ticket. The last meeting of every month we draw the winner. We bring in about \$200 a year on raffle items.

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One year, one of our "fair weather" members crocheted an afghan and we raffled it off.  
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We run 50/50 raffles every week or so. Tickets are 3 for \$1 the winner gets half the money the chapter gets the other half. You could sell tickets for a couple of weeks if the chapter is too small.

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we have a sale that everyone donates a item and we raffle it off  
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From: CyberGrizz

We take a Current, Inc. catalog (they sell cards, stationery, etc...) and we all order what we want from it... As you may know, the more items you order from Current, the less the cost... there are three price ranges and we pay the middle price to whomever is gathering orders and money, but because we have enough items to qualify for the lowest price from Current, we pay them their money and keep the difference for the chapter... We try to do this one around Christmas time because they have really neat cards and some interesting gift items...

Current, Inc. (Catalog)
Colorado Springs, CO 80941
1-800-525-7170
1-719-531-2329(fax)

~~~~~  
From Leaderlin-Ct.

15 strings will be tagged as : numbers 1 - 10

Each time you want to try, it costs \$1.00....if you pick a string with a number, there will be a correlating gift marked as a prize.....we won a pin for the centerpiece contest at FRD so that will be one.....another prize for something else...a sailboat sun catcher...that's another.....

There can be more strings prepared if you have a larger group or you have lots of little prizes to give away.....

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Our chapter plays Bingo once a month. Everyone pays \$3.00 and we play ten games....the winner getting \$3.00. Of course, I guess the success of this as a fund raiser depends on how big your group is!
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Our chapter did a brown bag sale we each brought something from home and put a brown bag next to it we bought envelopes for 1 dollar that had 10 slips of paper in it (all the same number) you

put a slip or slips in the bag next to the item you want if your number is drawn out you get that item.  
Hope this helps.

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. We pass a "bank" around at every meeting for members' voluntary donations.  
Members sometime take a personal challenge and give money to SRD fund if they don't make it.  
For example, when I went on vacation and was gone for four meetings, I said that if I didn't lose 2  
pounds while I was gone, I would pay \$10. Since then, other members have developed similar  
personal challenges.

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We always have lots of fun with this usually raise about \$100. Each member brings in a few items  
from home that they wish to donate to the club (we make sure we say no real junk). Items are set  
out on tables with cups in front of them. Members get paper to write their bids name on. You bid on  
how much you would be willing to pay to get that item. Then after everyone has finished bidding  
the cups are gone through the highest bid gets that item. If it's a tie have someone act as an  
auctioneer to settle the bid btwn the two people.

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Our Chapter is having a craft bazaar as a fund raiser on May 19th. We had one in the fall last year  
and raised almost 300.00 from our little 26 member chapter. The members who make any craft  
items bring those and the ones who don't bring in "good" white elephant items for sale. I bought  
some great homemade Barbie furniture at ours. An overstuffed couch, two chairs and a dining  
table for \$20.00 - gave it to my 6 year old granddaughter for Christmas and she loves it. Others  
made wreath-type wall hangings, quilted pillows, baby clothes, Barbie clothes, homemade pepper  
jelly with cute cloth tops tied on with ribbons to give as gifts. It was great fun and it sure showed  
what a variety of talent our members have.

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We have 31 members in our chapter. We have found REALLY simple "fund raiser" that works well  
for us. We have a large jar that we put on the table each week, and anyone can toss in their  
pennies or whatever. Who misses a few pennies, nickles or dimes out of their purse? (except  
the purse gets lighter) The first time the money was emptied  
to take to the bank, we had a contest to guess how much  
was in it. SURPRISE-----almost \$50!

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In our group we have yardsales, avon sales we had a avon dealor , also I have also donated my  
provides from my craft sales in my craft booth I have , also .So far this is all I know that we do.

Hope this helps  
BettyG

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Dealing for Dollars COntest - We make up a board with 100 squares and then divide the squares in  
two .After weighing in, any TOPS with a loss may buy a 1/2 of square. KOPS at or below goal may  
also buy one

Each square is \$1.00. When all squarea aRE FILLED, we use a deck of cards to number the board  
( like a football square). Then the 2 winners split half the money with the other half going into the  
SRD fund. Our chapter took in \$200. \$50. to each winner  
\$ 100.00 to the fund

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Date Added: 3/22/00 From: [LEADERLIN@aol.com](mailto:LEADERLIN@aol.com)

Our chapter will be doing a basket fundraiser in December at our annual holiday party. We usually do a holiday ornament auction but decided to auction off baskets filled with various theme items in them this year. I am making a basket of different spice blends I am making from a book on spices I recently got and including in some recipes and some of the ingredients so they can make more in one of my baskets.

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Date Added: 3/22/00 From: [MDaul10549@aol.com](mailto:MDaul10549@aol.com)

Each of our members has a small "Penny Pot" that when filled with pennies they take to our chapter meetings and help to fill a bigger Penny Pot. On each of the pots is printed the following: With pennies fill this "Penny Pot" please as quick as quick can be! Then turn around and turn them in to help with SRD!

(The money can of course be used where needed.)

You can buy inexpensive little piggy banks, or like our chapter did, we covered the plastic empty yogurt containers with designed shelf paper, etc.

It is amazing how much money can be collected in this way without a big drain on our members.

*The idea came from Lynn Daulton and the "pots" were covered by Dorothy Saenz of*

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FROM: ELLINGHA@flash.net

\*We sell 2 campaigns of Avon (their fundraisers make 40% of sales) Christmas and Easter: makes us over \$1000.00 combined.

\*Bunko Parties where we use 2 meeting nights a year and invite anyone to play. \$5.00 per person includes local refreshments, prizes and raffle. A great opportunity to give literature about TOPS to people who have never heard of us. Over 10 new members joined my chapter last year after participating in the Bunko Party. A great mixer, too, everyone plays with different people all night long. We begin rolling dice at 7:00pm with a refreshment break at 8:00pm. Raffles, prizes given away during break. Play until 9:00pm with scores tallied. TOP score gets a Gift Certificate from the local mall for \$20.00 with a "Booby" prize for lowest score for a gift certificate for \$10.00. I think we've awarded \$5.00 gc for second place too.