A. Why Is Fundraising Important?

Once a year we gather together for 3 days of activities dedicated to learning, sharing and fellowship. But we also do something pretty remarkable for an organization our size - we raise money to advance the studies of well-regarded professionals focusing their energies in the fields of camelid health.

For those of you interested in reading more detail about two recent studies, here’s a link to Hilary Ware’s report, Active Camelid Research Studies Through Morris Animal Foundation. Both were published in vet journals and produced excellent info we all use and benefit from.

B. So, How Can You Help?

That’s easy – PARTICIPATE! Throughout the weekend we run three auctions (because we are apparently an organization of over-achievers):

1. A Live auction - and we know how to put the Lively in Live! This year, returning for his third year is the auctioneer affectionately referred to as Handsome Zach
2. A Silent auction - and this year, no stealing pens from the tables so your competition can’t enter their bid – you know who you are 😊
3. Our Bag Raffle – because we’re still trying to get rid of, I mean use for philanthropic purposes, the thousands of raffle tickets I bought 10 years ago!
4. And if that’s not enough, pop over to the fiber room and weave a row on our frame loom or needle felt a few fibers into a painting and help with the group projects for the fundraising auction in the Fiber Room. You too men! No experience necessary. Every little bit helps.
5. And don’t forget the 50/50 because really, who doesn’t like cash?

C. Okay, Stop Whining, Cynthia and Just Tell Me What To Do

That’s also easy - Purchase, solicit, or otherwise acquire (I did not say steal!) items to donate for the auctions.

D. What Kind of Items?

Any item you would enjoy receiving or giving as a gift, is probably an item that would help the auction. But for those of you who would like a couple of ideas, here you go:

| Art work | Handmade fiber items | Fiber and fiber supplies | First aid kit (llama/human) |
| Jewelry | Yoga mat/supplies | Children’s books | Adult & cria coats |
| Craft beer package | ‘For the Birds’ package | Barn must-have’s | Show supplies |
| Wine lover’s package | Golf balls & other golf items | Grooming supplies | Unique/One of a Kind item |
| Homemade goodies basket | New owners kit | Gardening basket | Wall hangings & rugs |
| Apparel made from llama or alpaca fiber | Halter & leads (show & every day) | Gift certificate to on-line lama supply company | Camellid books (care, handling, pack, show) |

Or, buddy up with a few friends to donate a larger item, such as a digital scale, new pack, blower, automatic waterer, shears and shearing supplies, microscope and centrifuge, loom, portable chute, computer software.

E. Okay, I Have Awesome Items To Donate – Now What Do I Do?

Bring your items to the Conference or mail by October 10 to Cynthia Barkman, 159A E. Valley Brook Rd., Long Valley, NJ 07853. Drop me an email at pinewoodsfarm@comcast.net before you mail me an item.