



## **Texas Master Naturalist Annual Meeting Silent Auction San Marcos - October 24-27, 2024**

We are excited about the quickly approaching Texas Master Naturalist (TMN) Annual Meeting at the Embassy Suites Convention Center in San Marcos, Texas. It is time to prepare for getting donated items for the silent auction. Display and bidding will be open on Thursday through Saturday October 24-26th. Money raised by the silent auction is used for TMN project grants, scholarships to the annual meeting for each chapter, and to bring in speakers and trainers for future annual meetings.

We are asking each TMN chapter to donate a minimum of \$100 in cash or items to the auction. There are many types of items that are appropriate for the silent auction. Cash will be used to purchase attractive and relative items to be placed on the auction tables. Below are some ideas from previous years:

- Travel packages, vouchers and gift certificates for trips, tours, experiences, hotels and sights. Local experiences are a great way to share chapter-area treasures.
- Items and gift certificates solicited from your local businesses.
- Purchased items such as outdoor gear, tools, nature guides, books about nature and generally anything related to nature.
- Hand-crafted items such as art (paintings, sculptures, framed photographs, carvings), jewelry, notecards and natural arrangements.
- Theme baskets and grouped items. These may represent your region and members may join together to complete these. Some theme ideas include coastal, birding, outdoorsy, décor items, kitchen, cooking, gardening, regional cuisine, etc.

We encourage you to use your imagination and keep naturalist themes in mind. If it's something you would like to have, other members probably would too. Items in new condition with a value of at least \$25 may be donated. Vintage or collectible items in like-new condition with a value of at least \$25 may also be donated. We occasionally group like items together to add to the appeal!

Please complete a Silent Auction Bid Sheet for each item (see attached). Each bid sheet you submit by the deadline – **Sunday, October 20 at 5pm** – is eligible for entry into the silent auction door prize. The winner of the door prize will receive a \$100 shopping voucher for the 2024 silent auction. The winner will be posted Thursday, October 24th at 1pm.

Silent Auction Bid Sheets will also be available at the Conference. Bid sheets submitted after the deadline will not be eligible for the \$100 voucher.

Items should be brought to the Annual Meeting on **Thursday, October 24th**, between **1pm and 5pm**.

Please send completed bid sheets and any questions to the Silent Auction Chairs – Deborah Estes and Katie Peltier – at [2024-TMN-silent-auction@googlegroups.com](mailto:2024-TMN-silent-auction@googlegroups.com)