

If These Walls Could Talk

Many of us have been setting up for an auction when a family member starts telling a story about a memory after seeing a particular item. It is always interesting to hear the memories, such as jumping off the roof of the shed onto the livestock trailer, marking the wall with a ruler and smelly black marker as the kids grew up, building a fort in the grove, or how a maple tree was planted in memory of a grandparent. Sometimes the stories end up in a bit of a sparring match between the family until it gets settled by Mom, Dad, or possibly even Grandpa or Grandma.

We all know that setting up for an auction is a lot of work! Whether it is an on-site auction or moving the assets to a different facility; as auctioneers, we typically have staff and timelines to meet. It can be difficult to slow the process down for a story or two from a family member who is having a moment reminiscing. When we prepare for an auction, our roles move from setup to data entry, to lunch coordinator, to counselor, and so on. One thing we are constantly dealing with are the memories and emotions from the seller and their families. No matter how large or small the asset is, there may be a memory or story that needs to be heard. As we are preparing for the seller's auction, we need to be mindful that they may be preparing for a new chapter in their lives. Listening to their memory or story could be just what they need to make the transition easier.

It was nice to see everybody that attended the summer picnic in Little Falls.

Remember to let Jim Connelly or a board member know if you would like to purchase and or sell some tickets for the Ranger Raffle.