

Northwoods Humane Society – Deanna Persson, President

Thank you, thank you, thank you to all of the people that made Art For Animals a success. This was the first really big gathering we have had in 4 years. There was so much good energy in the room. The event went from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. and it went by so fast. Great volunteers, a beautiful array of appetizers and cold champagne was served and a super play list by our DJ Wayne Balsevich and lots of caring and happy people. Art of all kinds plus gift certificates, unique items filled the room – there were 350 items to bid on.

Lori Butala was our auctioneer and was greeted by two surprises – Dick Nutt had a high bid on the Winter Spirit by Larry Johnson, he immediately gave us the money for it and asked Lori to auction it off again and the previous high bid said Yes! Supporter Doug Marken put up \$500 and Lori asked the attendees to match it – they did more than that – they donated another \$1,100.

Thank you to our sponsors Susan and David Cudden, Beehive Botanical, Hawksford/Larson Dental Care, Out of The Woods Winery, Frandsen Bank and Superior Choice Credit Union for getting the event off the ground.

The day before the event all the items that had been donated and stored, numbered and bid cards made at the Schwartzhoff home and our home are picked up and taken to Flat Creek. The husband squad – Allan Hoeft, Mike Persson and Randy Schwartzhoff picked up larger items and the champagne, the setup easels, lugged boxes, hung the banner and a million other little things. We always fill Connie Finch's car too. Sara and Jack Sande bring in the boards for display.

After the event on Thursday, we had a super crew that had the room cleared by 10:30 p.m. Again, boxes filled, cars loaded, balloons popped.

Friday started early. Boards were returned, crates returned, cloths put in containers, supplies taken out of cars, items that were paid for but not taken home were organized and the bidders called, monies were counted, charges handled and bid cards and information sheets put in order.

Thank you to all of you who shared kind words with us thru out the evening and the following days.

I have worked this event with my dear friend BJ from the start – 25 years ago. We have done it every other year. Many of the volunteers that helped with the setup, cards, cashiering and cleanup have also been a part of Art For Animals in previous years. I love these people.

Again, Thank you, Thank you, Thank you for making Art For Animals a success. All monies go to the care of animals at the Northwoods Humane Society. That's what it is all about!