

Third International Oak Society Silent Auction

In *International Oaks* No. 27, one can read (p. 392), “IOS Board Member, current Co-Editor of *Oak News & Notes* and ICRA Registrar, Ryan Russell, had an inspirational idea to hold a silent auction at the 8th International Oak Society Conference in an attempt to raise funds to create scholarships intended to facilitate attendance at the next IOS Conference, which will be hosted by UC Davis in California in 2018.”

The proceeds of the first IOS Silent Auction (\$2,500) effectively funded five student scholarships. The proceeds of the second IOS Silent Auction (\$2,734), plus a generous donation of \$1,000 from Judson M. Parsons, yet again helped seven graduate students and young oak enthusiasts make their way to New Mexico in 2022. In turn, the proceeds of this Silent Auction (\$3,138, plus another \$1,000 donation from Mr. Parsons) will again allow us to provide scholarships for student attendance at the 11th IOS Conference that will be held in Mexico in 2025.

Our thanks to Ryan Russell for this inspirational idea – may it grow and prosper at all our future Conferences – and to Jeff Anderson of New Mexico State University for recruiting Doña Ana County Master Gardeners to help monitor the auction, conduct the identification of winners and collection of proceeds, as well as staff Conference registration and the T-shirt/hat sales tables.

