



TREE FUND Report



Sept. 2013

Ireland, iPads & intriguing Mystery Boxes entice auction attendees

Hundreds of attendees enjoyed a lively evening of fun and fundraising on August 5, 2013 in the architectural splendor of the Fairmont Royal York Hotel in Toronto, Canada. [Auctioneer Graham Crow](#) brought down the house and brought in lots of support for the TREE Fund. Bidders competed for trips to Italy, Africa, the Rose Bowl Parade, Boston, and everywhere in between. One of the highlights of the evening was the bidding war between two Canadians for the Hawaiian Fantasy package, which intensified as the auctioneer asked them to think about two words—"Canadian winters."

Adding to the fun, the live auction was peppered with games of chance; Justin Paulson of Ottawa, ON, bought a "Golden Ticket" for \$100 and took home a weeklong trip for two to Ireland! Greg Daniels of CT won a \$400 "Date Night" package in the wildly popular Centerpiece Auction. Kathleen Mahoney of CA's \$20 investment in a TREE Fund bandana paid off handsomely when she won "His and Hers" iPad Minis playing "Heads or Tails."



On the trade show floor, Tara Fontenot of VA, Brian McKenzie of MI, and David Steele of Richmond, BC shared \$5,040 in the Split the Pot Raffle. And Julie Stachecki of MI, Corey Ogden of Newmarket, ON, and the Krieg family of PA (pictured) were all exuberant when they chose a lucky key that opened a Mystery Box! Julie won a Google tablet; the Kriegs walked away with a grilling package from Omaha Steaks; and Corey picked up a 2014 TREE Fund Auction package including a "Golden Ticket" (see Justin Paulson's experience above). 2013's Raise Your Hand for Research auctions took in nearly \$100,000, and participants are looking forward to fun and exciting fundraising for trees next year in Milwaukee!