

60 Fundraising Ideas

This is a booklet full of very successful, previously used fundraising ideas. Please use this booklet to generate possible ideas for your fundraising events. Any of these events can be modified to fit your community needs. Each idea below has a number, a title, a brief description, and an amount raised. The amounts shown are the amounts made after expenses are paid. If you see ideas that may be useful to your chapter, please let the Resource Center know, and they will send you a more detailed example for the events that you specify. We hope that these fundraising ideas will greatly help to benefit your chapter, your community, and the AMBUCS mission.

Low Complexity Events

- 1. No-Show Christmas Gala** - This involves sending out Christmas greeting cards with enclosed donation cards. It is written as an invitation to an event, but there is no event. **Raises \$9,000**
- 2. No-Show Fundraiser** - This is a solicitation letter that encourages donors to make a contribution rather than attend a special event. **Raises \$9,000**
- 4. Limited Edition Harley Davidson Raffle** - This is a raffle in which tickets are sold for \$25 to pay for the cost of the motorcycle, and then the additional ticket sales produce revenue. **Raises \$4,500**
- 5. Little Red Truck Raffle** - This is a raffle in which tickets are sold to cover the cost of a pick-up, which is obtained from a dealer for factory price. Additional ticket sales produce revenue. **Raises \$2,130**
- 6. Lobster Landing** - This involves selling lobsters, fresh fruit and vegetables, and fresh baked bread to the community. **Raises \$15,500**
- 7. Bartending Board Members** - The owner of a bar allows the club to set up their own bar in which the profits go to the club. **Raises \$2,000**
- 9. Mother's/Father's Day Appeal** - This includes both a solicitation letter and a newspaper add asking people to honor their mothers and/or fathers with a donation. **Raises \$2,500**

Medium Complexity Events

- 10. Comedy Show** - This is a show that is held at a local comedy club which includes a comedy show, and a variety show by the club. **Raises \$5,000**
- 11. Showcase of Desserts** - This includes getting local restaurants to give the proceeds of the sales of their desserts to the club. **Raises \$10,000**
- 12. Board Breakfast with Donors** - This is a breakfast hosted by the chapter in which the club explains how their donations help AMBUCS and the attendees are encouraged to make donations. **Raises \$20,000**
- 13. I Remember Mama** - This is a special Mother's Day brunch held for elderly women who might otherwise be alone on Mother's Day. It includes donations for the brunch, and a booklet full of messages from donors to honor their mothers. **Raises \$19,000**
- 14. Ice Cream Social/Zoofari** - This is a special ice cream social held at the zoo after hours. It is purposely held on one of the hottest days of the year, and is a great event that includes the whole family. **Raises \$28,500**
- 15. Green Nose Day** - The club buys and resells green clown noses around St. Patrick's Day. This event is perfect for towns with St. Patrick's Day parades, and also helps build awareness of the club and it's purpose. **Raises \$2,300**
- 16. Celebrity Waiter/Waitress Event** - The club would have celebrities (local or otherwise) serve as the waiters and waitresses at a specific restaurant. Revenue is raised through the waiters and waitresses tips. **Raises \$16,650**
- 17. Rose Riot** - Funds are raised through the sale of roses around the community. Great event around Valentine's Day and Mother's Day. **Raises \$5,000**
- 20. Elegant Home Tour** - This event sells tickets to tour a home that has never been shown to the public. It also includes a picnic on the lawn of the home. **Raises \$8,000**
- 21. Stick It Campaign** - This involves teaming up with a local grocery store and handing out smiley face stickers to put on patrons' coupons. Instead of the companies reimbursing the store, they reimburse your club. **Raises \$8,000**
- 22. Bowl-a-Thon** - This event asks for both donations and pledges for every pin their sponsored bowler knocks down. **Raises \$7,300**

24. An Evening in Manhattan - This is a black tie affair in an airport hangar in the middle of nowhere. A good event for mainly corporate sponsors. **Raises \$29,000**

25. Western Jamboree - A good 'ol western hoedown that includes a dinner and dance. A perfect AMBUC event. **Raises \$9,000**

26. Penny Shower - This event can involve the entire community. It involves having a large container for pennies in a public place (ideally a mall). People are encouraged to put all their pennies in the container. Public schools do wonders with this event. **Raises \$24,000**

28. Miniature Golf Event - An event where participants pay one low fee which includes a round of miniature golf, a small lunch, and a souvenir photo. **Raises \$4,450**

29. Breakfast in the Park - This can be a series of breakfasts during the summer in a public park. One is a special champagne breakfast. **Raises \$300**

30. Mile of Dollars - This event challenges the community to make a mile of dollars by purchasing a piece of ribbon. The ribbon is displayed at the mall. Another great event to involve school children. **Raises \$3,800**

31. Steak 'n Burger for Kids - This event is also directed more toward corporate sponsors. It involves the sale of tickets for a dinner event with a disadvantaged child. The kick is that the child gets to eat steak while the adults eat hamburgers. **Raises \$33,300**

32. Huge Garage Sale of Children's Items - Club members obtain donated children's items, and then have a large garage sale in which the proceeds go to the club. **Raises \$3,000**

33. Garden Tour Event - This event is a tour of privately owned gardens in the community. Ticket prices range from prices for a self-guided tour to prices for a special garden tour for those ticket holders only. **Raises \$21,300**

34. Tree of Love - This event is a special Christmas project. A big Christmas tree is placed near a well-traveled area, and lights are sold in honor of someone. Once all the lights are sold, a special lighting ceremony is held. **Raises \$7,500**

High Complexity Events

35. Mud Volleyball Tournament - This is a great event for raising awareness for your club. Teams are recruited from the community, businesses, schools, and even families. **Raises \$11,000**

36. High Heels, High Hats, and High Times - A ticketed Halloween Party with special decorations, and a costume party (with a \$500 prize). The great thing about Halloween party is you can let your imagination run wild. **Raises \$15,000**

37. Secret Gala - This can become an annual event so that you can hold it in a different place each year. It includes a \$50 dinner and silent and live auctions. **Raises \$46,000**

38. Fourth of July Fireworks Cruise - This event will work for only certain areas. The club hires a charter boar and sells tickets for a dinner cruise, ending with a great view of the city's fireworks display. **Raises \$3,130**

39. Relay for Life - Teams of 10-12 pay a \$100 registration fee to compete in an 8-hour run/walk. The teams also gather pledges, which also go to the club. **Raises \$13,500**

40. Under the Big Top - When the circus comes to town, tickets are purchased and then resold in packages (also geared toward corporate sponsors). The event also includes a pre-circus party. **Raises \$80,000**

41. Antique Show for All Ages - Antiques from various time periods all the way up through the 1960s are displayed in this show. There is also a preview party the night before. **Raises \$140,000**

42. A Truly Novel Affair - Authors from the area are invited to an exclusive signing of their book, tickets are sold to the event. The local library is an ideal location to hold this event. **Raises \$11,000**

43. '70s Night Fever - A dinner/dance event with a '70s theme. Fussball and pool are added to enhance the theme. **Raises \$15,000**

44. Dancing in the Streets - Similar to a block party. It's an all day dance in the street. Activities and vendors help to keep the event going. **Raises \$45,000**

45. Sam's Birthday Hoedown - This event is held in honor of someone who has been a significant contributor to the club. It's a big birthday party. **Raises \$24,600**

46. Summer Social - A luncheon held on the grounds of a Victorian mansion. **Raises \$2,650**

47. Night Flight - A sit-down ticketed dinner in an unusual setting. **Raises \$56,250**

48. Evening as a Child - Adults go back in time pay an admission fee to participate in tricycle riding, human bowling, the Velcro wall, finger painting, and other activities that are normally "kids stuff". **Raises \$53,000**

49. Comedy Auction - A local comedian is provided as the auctioneer. Unique items are auctioned off. **Raises \$70,000**

50. Summer Olympics - Teams of 10 compete in team Olympic games. Events include water balloon tosses, a giant sack race, volleyball, and various other team events. **Raises \$7,500**

51. Office Olympics - This is a team Olympic event that involves office equipment. The games include computer disk throw, a swivel chair relay, and various other events. **Raises \$23,000**

53. Field of Dreamers - This event is held at a baseball stadium. It is flexible in that you can use retired players, off-season players, and local celebrities. The community pays for positions (players, benchwarmers, batboys, umpires etc.) **Raises \$60,000**

54. Fashion Show - The club organizes a fashion show in the mall or with a popular store. Tickets are sold to the event. **Raises \$23,900**

55. Festival of Trees - A weeklong event that involves a decorated Christmas tree sale. **Raises \$79,000**

56. Leap for Love - This works best for 20 teams of 20. The teams play leapfrog for a mile each, and money is raised through each teams registration. There is a post-relay awards ceremony. **Raises \$25,000**

57. Chocolate Ball - This is a two-part event. Part 1 consists of a dessert contest, and Part 2 is a desert auction, and a dance. **Raises \$32,445**

58. Wine-Tasting Event - This is put on by a touring wine tasting company, and it also includes live and silent auctions. **Raises \$13,000**

59. Golf, Tennis, and Bridge - This event has several activities to participate in. There is a bridge, golf, and tennis tournament, as well as a dinner. **Raises 162,000**

60. Medieval Fair - This event encourages merchants to dress up and the event is open to those who pay the admission charge. Entertainers such as jugglers, dancers, and fire-eaters make the event fun. **Raises 12,000**

Source Material "Aspen's Guide to 60 Successful Special Events"

Fundraising Idea Request Form

Please send me detailed examples for the following fundraising ideas:

Idea #

Idea Name

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Please mail/fax these to:

Name _____

Fax # _____

Mailing Address _____

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