

Walnut Creek Auction College, LLC

About Our Auctioneer

David Aeschliman is the Chief Executive Officer of Growth Work, LLC, where he develops and helps implement comprehensive growth plans for businesses. He has analyzed and written more than 400 strategic growth plans for more than 200 businesses in 35 different industries.

He is also the owner of Walnut Creek Auction Company which has conducted more than 600 private auctions and as of last year, Walnut Creek Auction College, where he teaches future auctioneers their future careers.

David grew up on a Kansas farm, where his father also ran a weekly livestock and general merchandise auction. He learned the fast-paced, competitive auction industry there. He graduated from Kansas State University with a journalism and marketing degree.

David was the Class A Illinois State Champion bid caller in 2006. He has donated his time to help raise more than \$7 million for more than two dozen fundraising groups. He has also raised \$1 million for the Iowa FFA Foundation selling donated Titan farm tires in front of thousands of people attending the annual Farm Progress Show.

He and his wife live on 27 timbered acres where they built their own log home outside of Sherrard, IL. And yes, he loves to fish. In fact, he just cleared 6 acres on his own land last summer to build a “retirement fishing pond.” He said his best trip ever was the week he caught 700 crappie at a location he refuses to share.

Today, David focuses on his partial “retirement”. That consists of continuing to coach a few businesses needing his assistance in sales training and he is highly sought after as both an auctioneer and an inspirational speaker for various groups, including many youth guidance groups. He also helps plant and harvest 2,000 acres of corn and beans and helps take care of a 200-cow/calf operation for a local farmer during planting and harvest.

Here's David.

“I gave my mother's estate to Walnut Creek. They handled everything without a worry from me, including finding buyers for her estate items and settling the estate financially with me as executor. You can't beat the job these folks do. They had an overflow crowd and while I worried about minimum bids on nice items, he had bidders there who had already committed to buying them. Highly recommended.”- Kevin Bunch, retired owner of Group Services Insurance Company

“When my friend passed away, I learned I was the executor of a huge estate. I talked to a lot of people, but the Aeschlimans struck me as competent and confident. I hired Walnut Creek and they blew me away with not only the number of people who attended our two auctions, but how they made all my worries go away. And I had much more money than I expected handed to me within 3 weeks of those sales.”-Bobbi Hansen, Moline, IL

“We just finished a sale of my entire estate. They handed me a check, after their commission, for 149% of what they anticipated we'd get. We had bidders from five states there due to their marketing expertise and all the dealers who attended didn't buy a thing, reflecting they didn't think they could buy my merchandise and make money on it so I know they did a heck of a job. Kind of stunning to be truthful and the crowd told me all day long how professional these two were.”-Mark Milleret, Linwood, KS

“We gave Walnut Creek Auction an entire lapidary sale worth six figures. David was as honest as the day when he told me he’d never sold rocks. But, he did intensive homework and we had a two-day sale with people from 17 states there. He didn’t sell anything that didn’t go way above what I thought we’d get. He made us a retirement living with that sale...and every single one of the out-of-state people...and I do mean every single one of them, stayed overnight and came back Sunday to bid again. David and his crew finished the first sale at 8:30 p.m. and had the next day set up by midnight. He came back and opened up that sale at 7 a.m. and cried the sale until 4 p.m. on Sunday. I have no idea how this guy stayed fresh, kept the crowd in place and made everyone enjoy that sale; especially me. Most notably, he discovered we had some very rare stones no longer available that were hand-manufactured by an old Chinese recipe. When he advertised those, lapidary fans from across the Midwest showed up. He sold those by the ounce and the first ounce brought \$175. He knew more about rocks than I did by the time the auction was held.” Don, past owner of Caprock

“I was so pleased, I wrote a bonus commission of \$30,000 and handed it to David after my father’s and my husband’s estates were completed. He looked at it, and handed it back and said, “I wrote the contract. I’m pleased with what I made, and I would prefer if you want to give money away because you’re happy with the results, please consider donating it to a cause you like.” That’s the integrity this guy has. When I asked if I could give it to his staff, he said “no, I don’t want you to make them think I’m underpaying them” and walked away laughing. David was a tremendous comfort to me in my losses and a tremendous asset to me when I sold everything. When he sold my husband’s nearly 200 guns, we had a standing room only crowd with more than 300 people attending and he said they came from 15 states. Tha” Donna Rissetto