

This auction will resemble years past

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Remember the Back Mountain Library Auction of the '40s and '50s? There were no stands, no row after row of seats — just the big auction block put into place in front of the late Howard Risley's barn on Lehman Avenue; large planks placed across wooden horses along the edge of the property between the Risley home and the former Dallas Post building on which antiques were displayed and there were tents.

Yes, tents for the used goods, for refreshments, for plants, book booth, odds and ends and more. People brought their own chairs or, if they were lucky, bid on one over the block. They went to the refreshment tent and bought hot dogs, hamburgs, French fries, or cold drinks and sat with friends or family on the grass lawn across from the barn.

Each year the auction was the social event of the year. Former residents planned their vacations so they could return to the Back Mountain for the Library Auction, perhaps to buy an item or two, to meet old friends, to have a good time.

This year's Library Auction may well bring back memories of those years. The third move of the auction grounds since its beginning in 1945, this year's adaptation of the grounds perhaps will be the most difficult. With the purchase of the new quarters, it meant the loss of the auction grounds and buildings on Main Street. Lack of time made it practically impossible to build new stands on the grounds of the new library on Huntsville

Road.

The grounds committee and other volunteers are certain they will have an auction block constructed at the rear of the stage area. This will be the only permanent structure.

The rest of the auction will be under tents, such as the book booth, used goods, odds and ends, refreshments, nearly new, and others.

The stage area of the building will be right behind the block and much of the goods will be stored there just as they used to be stored in the old Risley barn. Two rooms in the basement of the building will be devoted to auction storage as well.

The auction will be held July 11, 12, 13 and 14 and on Thursday, July 11 and Friday, July 12, the library will be open as usual.

Kerry Freeman is assisting in the planning arrangements for parking since the parking space on the former school grounds will now be the grounds for the auction and spectators.

What may appear to be inconvenience to some may prove to be the "time of your life" to the majority as the similarity to auctions of yesteryears brings back many pleasant memories to Back Mountain residents.

Come out to this year's auction, have a good time and experience the fun times of the days long gone.



Dallas Post/Ed Campbell

Like old times

This year's library auction, complete with tents, will be very similar to some of the auctions conducted in days gone by. The idea of tents and a newly-constructed auction block will bring back memories of yesteryear.

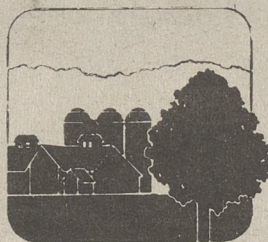
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