

Jaycees and Lions patrol the grounds

The Dallas Lions and the Jaycees are the auction's unsung heroes, the men who work behind the scenes doing the "grunt work" necessary to set up all of the booths and tents and take care of the grounds.

It is no small task to erect heavy canvas tents, install lights and carry out what seems like tons of books and both items from storage in the library's basement.

During the auction the men also take care of the 55-gallon drums used as garbage cans and keep the library grounds clean.

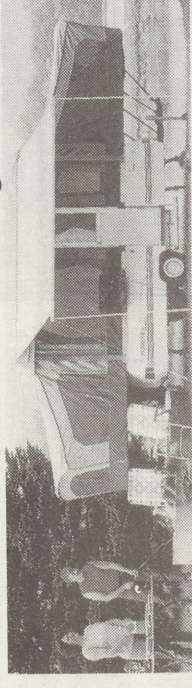
And after the auction closes Sunday night, the tents and booths must come down and the grounds are cleaned up once more.

"Much more goes on behind the scenes than the public sees at the auction," said Joe Dwinchick of the Dallas Lions. "Our work requires lots of time and effort. We're very glad to have the Jaycees working with us."

Any Back Mountain service organization willing to donate manpower is more than welcome, Dwinchick said. "The library is for the community. We should all support it."

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600 antiques will go over the auction block

By ERIC FOSTER
Post Staff

Everybody likes to find a bargain. But when Ernest Ashbridge looks for antiques, he doesn't have a choice — he has to find a bargain.

For many years, Ashbridge has spent his weekends scouring through flea markets and antique shops looking for bargains to be put on the block for the library.

To find items that can be sold at a profit to raise money for the Back Mountain Memorial Library, while still providing good values for those who bid on the items, Ashbridge relies on his experience as a licensed appraiser and auctioneer to spot value, even when its hidden through wear and just plain dirt.

"He brings the dirtiest things you can find and he puts them in my kitchen sink to wash them," says Betty Ashbridge, who also works on the auction antique committee. The Ashbridges have lived in the Back Mountain for 35 years. For 34 years they've helped with the library auction.

A banker, Ashbridge begins the search for antiques in September for the July auction. This year he made more than 100 trips to purchase many of the 600 or so antiques to be sold. Other antiques are donated by area dealers and individuals.

Sometimes Ashbridge will come across a quality item that needs some work to bring out its true value.

That's where people like Maryan Daily come in, volunteering their time to restore, fix-up, and refinish some of the antiques until they're in top-notch condition.



REFURBISHERS — Shown from left are members of the Antiques Committee for the Back Mountain Memorial Library Auction with some of the items they restored for the auction block: Ernest Ashbridge, Maryan Daily, Bill Gable, Bette Walters, Leslie Horoshko, Betty Ashbridge.

Library numbers

Did you know that the Back Mountain Memorial Library -

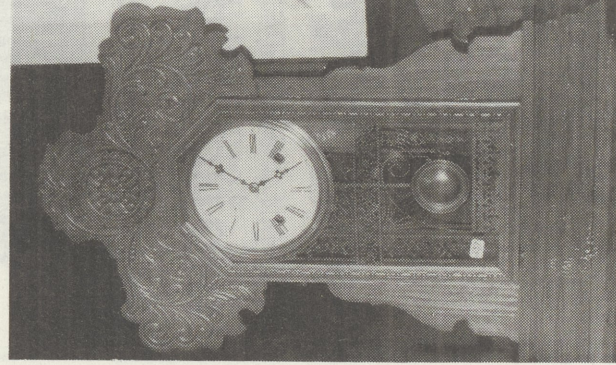
- Carries a total inventory of 57,775 items, including books, records and tapes.
- Circulates more than 87,000 items every year.
- Has more than 12,000 active borrowers.
- Serves nine municipalities with a population of more than 34,000 people.
- Is assisted in its programs by an army of 35 active volunteers.
- Will receive state funding of only \$18,000 or 10% of its total operating budget of approximately \$180,000 this year.
- Lost 6% of its total operating budget, or \$10,800 this year, due to cuts in the state budget.
- Received 25% of its budget last year from the auction. The balance is made up from fundraising activities, rent from the day care center upstairs and private donations.
- The Back Mountain Memorial Library offers a wide range of services to all age groups, including:
- Children's programs: story hour, special observances for Children's Book Week in November, nature videos, children's stories on video and books on cassette that can be read and listened to. The summer reading games has enrolled 200 children this year.
- Adult programs: books on tape and videos of Public Broadcasting Service programs.

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Some items shown
Scattered through this special section are photographs of some of the antiques that will be on sale at the auction.
Photos by Charlotte Bartizek