

Can't find it at Odds 'n' Ends? You don't need it

By JENNIFER JUDGE

"You can find almost anything in the booth," explained Mary George, co-chairperson of the library auction's Odds and Ends tent. Sybil Pelton and Mary George have been involved with the tent for 25 years.

What exactly is the Odds and Ends booth? "It's like flea market material," Pelton said. "We have nice knickknacks, pretty jewelry, dishes, pots and pans, appliances, records, toys, ice skates, watches. You name it, we get it."

The two women first became involved with the auction through a local service organization. "Kiwans used to do the booth," Pelton said. "Then it was cookies and desserts. Each year it's gotten bigger and bigger." This growth has led to more money for the library. "Last year we earned \$4,000," Pelton said. "I can remember when if we made \$300, we felt lucky."

Odds and Ends is the place to go if you're looking for something unique. Mary George explained. "People can always get a bargain. We get a lot of unique things. We get a lot of old things and every year we get an item that we don't know what it is."

She said that one year they put the item that was in question out for sale and about three days into the sale two men came to the booth. Both men remarked on how clever the item was and they bought it. It turned out to be a clam opener. "We eventually find out what the item is used for," George said. The items that are on sale at Odds and

Ends are donated by the community, but getting those items ready for the sale is no small task. "It's an all year round thing," George said. "We don't just start two weeks before the auction. We have to sort through the things and get rid of anything that doesn't work. We have to price everything."

Pelton explained that they also clean all the items before the auction. "My dishwasher is constantly running," she said.

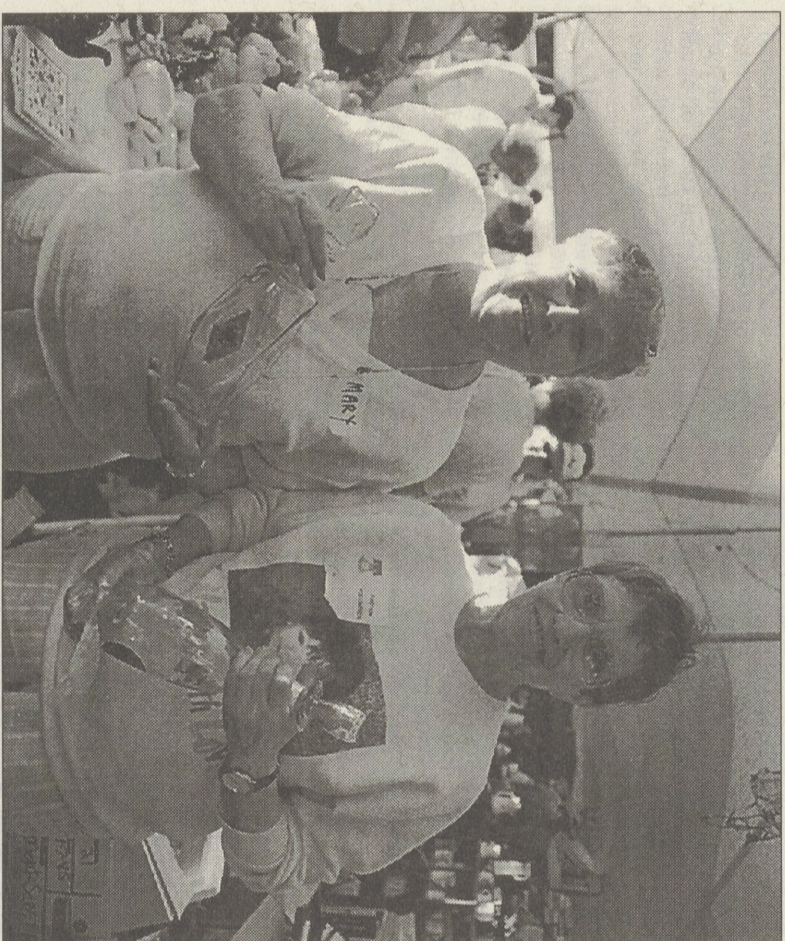
"We get a lot of telephones," George added. "We check those. Sybil gets a lot of strange phone calls from me. 'Call me back.'"

Despite all the work it takes, the two women show no signs of rethinking. "It's all for a good cause," Pelton said. "It's a lot of fun. Mary George echoed her thoughts. "I love the library. I really like to support the library because I read a lot."

Pelton and George said they get a lot of help from volunteers. "Peter (George's husband) makes sure we have lights in our booth and he comes up and works right along with us," Mary George said. "Reese Pelton helps us out (Sybil Pelton's husband) and we get a lot of help from good volunteers who come back and help us every year."

Sybil Pelton added, "It takes us a couple of days to get there, but once it's all done, it looks really nice."

George said that although auction-goers can expect to find the same diverse offerings at the Odds and Ends booth that they've found in past years, there will be at least one welcome change. "We have a



Mary George, left, and Sybil Pelton with two treasures in last year's Odds 'n' Ends tent. The work all year long to see that items are in working order.

little bigger tent this year," she said. "We'll have wider aisles and more space." She said that one thing wouldn't change. "We always have some silly thing we put in

the front that causes a stir and we usually get some exotic picture." This year's surprise? Attendees will have to wait for July 9.

The One Thing

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JESUS IS REAL

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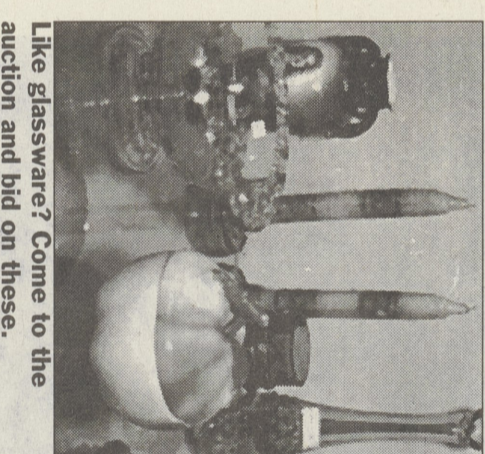
The love is real, the forgiveness is real, Jesus is Real.

If you want the real life, pray this prayer:

*"Jesus, You came from heaven to earth, to show the way -
From the earth to the cross, my debt to pay -
From the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky -
Lord, I Lift Your Name On High!
Please forgive me, come into my life,
and make me what you want me to be. Amen."*

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Volunteers help out all year long



Like glassware? Come to the auction and bid on these.

The weekly volunteers at the Back Mountain Memorial Library are proof that the best things in life can be free. The volunteers are "dedicated and simply indispensable," according to Martha Butler, the library director. Without weekly volunteers the library would not be able to function.

Volunteers work on a variety of tasks, but most spend their time shelving and shipping books, and filing cards. There are about 43 dedicated volunteers at the library and nearly all of them are women. More specialized

volunteers lead story hours, work on the computers, send newsletters, and arrange various fund raisers. In fact, the library's board of directors is made up entirely of volunteers. Many year-round volunteers, besides helping with daily operations, do a great deal of work at the auction selling books, preparing items for the auction block, and working at the booths.

Anyone can be a volunteer at the library and more helpers would be greatly appreciated. The library's primer for volunteers states that as a

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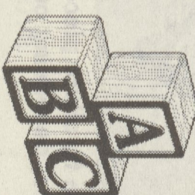
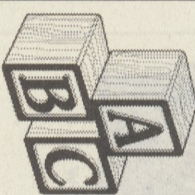
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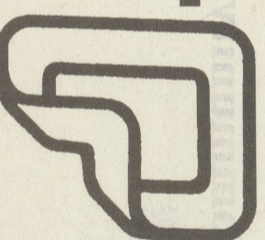
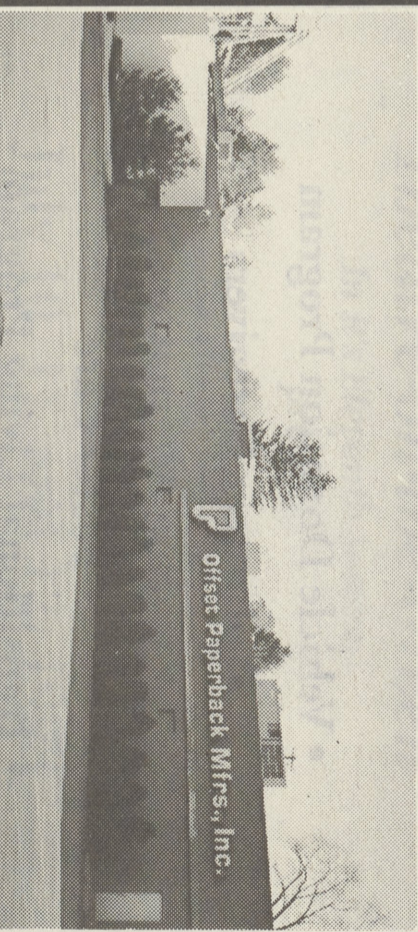
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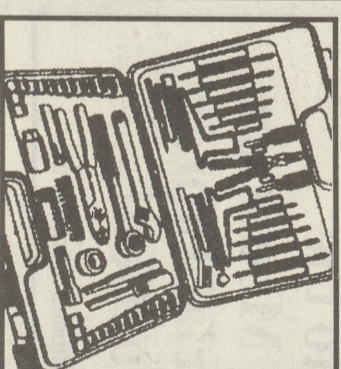
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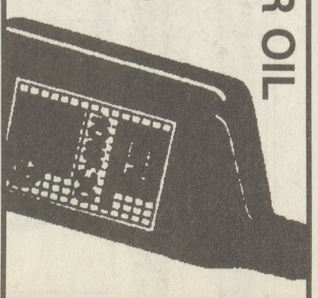


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