

# 56th Library Auction

## Painting

(continued from page 1)

affair with Kropp's husband, Jack calling the shots over a cell phone and her three daughters surrounding her at the auction.

"My middle daughter was on the phone with him while I was bidding, so every time the bid went up, she'd ask Daddy what should we do," said Sylvia Kropp. "So it was really Jack's. He just couldn't wait to get home and see it."

Local artist Sue Hand has been donating her paintings to the auction for over 20 years and has been creating a painting of the auction on location at the library grounds for 12. Hand's creation this year, titled, "America, God Shed His Grace On Thee," was inspired by September 11 and the Fourth of July holiday and was dedicated to her daughter and son-in-law, Heather and Tim Madeira.

"My daughter and her family sent out Fourth of July invitations with a flag on the front," Hand wrote on a card she included with the painting. "I pinned it to my studio bulletin board. One day when I looked at it, I suddenly saw the entire composition in my mind's eye. An 'aha!' moment. It seemed very appropriate both for September 11 and because this year's auction began on the Fourth of July."

Kropp said she placed the card next to the painting over the fireplace for anyone

at her home to read as they gaze at her newest prize.

This is the first time Hand has done an acrylic painting. She started on it the first day of the auction and probably slept very little the next four days. "Every single person depicted in the painting represents someone who attended the auction on Thursday, Friday or Saturday evening," Hand said. She thanked all the members of the audience Sunday night for being such gracious models.

There are other treats in the painting too. Ice hockey mascots for example. "We are avid Penguin fans and to have Tux in the painting was just a bonus," said Kropp. "It was such a little treat."

Words failed them when Kropp's family stepped back to see their prized possession as it hung above their fireplace.

"We just stood there," said Kropp. "It was really a daunting moment. There was something about it just then. We went 'Wow!' It was like 'Wow.'"

"I said to my husband that night after the kids had gone to bed, You know they are going to remember sitting there and bidding on that for the rest of their lives. That was a really neat thing that happened to them. They will always remember it."



POST PHOTO/JIM PHILLIPS

They slaved over hot stoves for four days. Some members of the Dallas Rotary Club who organized and staffed the food booth, from left: Randy Loyd, John Pomrinke, Eric Martin, Karen Martin, Jason Moran, Julie Pershing, Arch Mohr.



Above, Lauri Smith, Jen Wozniak and Melonie Sappe served up delicious Hillside Farms ice cream.

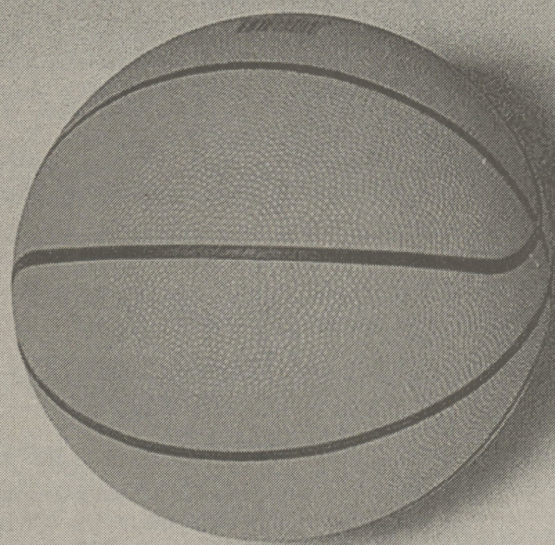
Left, it was the first July 4th, and the first auction, for Chrissy Butler, who attended with her mom, Catelyn.

Right, Jennifer Ochman looked over items in the Nearly Old tent.



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