

Come hungry — your appetite helps the library

One of the most popular parts of the annual auction is the Food Booth run in years past by the Dallas Rotary Club. "The Rotary has a long history with the library auction and this year is no exception," said Lucy Messersmith, this year's Food Booth chairperson. "They are cleaning the booth before and after the auction and they are providing the staff for Thursday night."

The Food Booth will be staffed on the other three nights by members of local service organizations. Representatives of the Dallas Lions Club will be working on Friday night and Sunday's duties will be handled by Fleetworks, a community service group from Fleet Bank. Saturday the Food Booth will be operated by representatives from several organizations including Friends of the Library, Dallas Kiwanis, and the Back Mountain Business and Professional Association.

Many of the service organizations that were so active in past years are having trouble with declining memberships. Many of those faithful volunteers are getting up in years and the workload is getting to be too much for them. "We need an influx of volunteers," said Messersmith. "It doesn't take long to see how important the library is to the community. The auction is the main fundraiser for the library and all of the proceeds benefit the library."

"I really have a soft spot in my heart for the library auction."

Lucy Messersmith
Food Booth Chairperson

Mrs. Messersmith, who grew up on Main Street in Dallas, volunteers at the library several days a week throughout the year. "I guess they thought I'd be a familiar face," she said when asked how she became chairperson for the booth. It may have more to do with her gung-ho attitude about the auction itself.

"I really have a soft spot in my heart for the library auction. It was always a highlight of the summer. All of my family still come back home to go to the auction," said Mrs. Messersmith. "I think it is really important that it flourish."

This year's menu for the Food Booth will contain some new items and others familiar to auction-goers. In addition to the usual hamburgers, hot dogs, chicken fingers, French fries and Wendy's chili, there will be veggie burgers. "We're bringing back the barbeque sandwiches and offering popcorn this year. We might even have some surprises," said Messersmith. "The prices are very reasonable, even low, and we hope people will come



M.B. GILLIGAN/THE DALLAS POST

Kevin Smith and Kerry Freeman, members of Dallas Rotary, performed some repairs to the food booth in anticipation of this year's auction. The menu will have old favorites and some new twists this year.

here for dinner while they enjoy the auction."

Another way that local businesses and organizations are helping is by becoming members of the Food Booth Honor Roll. So far, 20 groups have each donated \$100

to the budget for the food booth. "Anyone who wants to be listed on our Honor Roll can call the library to donate. We're going to hang a sign at the Food Booth with the list of Honor Roll names," said Mrs. Messersmith.



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