

“The bad, the good and the great”.

Last Saturday we had an estate auction that all in all was great. It did not start that way however. Maybe it was the rain that started making an appearance to dampen the bidding. Or maybe it was when I stopped to put up a caution sign just East of the property and blocked the neighbor's driveway that things went wrong. We were on a hilly two lane road with curves and the owner came home as I put the sign up. She had to get into the driveway right away. So moved the sign so she could drive in. Then her husband drove out this half mile driveway to tell me to move my truck or he was calling the Sherriff. I told him to call him (that was who told me to put up the signs in the first place) He was not a happy camper and his hollering could be heard at the auction site. When I pulled in to set up the clerking trailer, the owner's brother said he could hear him hollering and said don't worry about it, things will get better. And they did!

We pulled out two trailers of tools and put traps over the tools. I was in the clerking trailer visiting with bidders when a bidder and his son came in for a number. I talked to the little guy and told him there was a big bag of Lego's in the shop that he should check out as he was the only small bidder at the auction. It turned out there was a row of toys next to the Legos too. The Dad bought the bag for him, about sixty dollars and then they sold choice of the toys and the Dad got it for \$20 each and he took all seven. Talk about a happy buyer. Later on we had two wagons and several dump trucks and loaders. Again Dad was there and was the high bidder at \$10 on choice and he took 12 times the money. That made my day to see this Father Son memory from the auction.

Lastly, the owner was so great to work for and was very happy when I gave her a check for the proceeds. That was the greatness and fun of the family auction day.

Now the rest of the story. Our plan was to have past Champion, Larry Kroshus help with the auction. That did not work out so we ran it with our family team (including two sons, two grandsons, a girlfriend and a wife that made a great team.)

We should all be blessed with a team that is like family to make life truly great!

Col Frank, MSAA & MSAF EVP