

Successful 10th Anniversary Celebration of Thrift Shop and Furniture Garages!

Congratulations to the workers at the Thrift Shop and Furniture Garages on a very successful 10th Anniversary celebration this weekend! Funds raised, like those raised by the Bargain Barn, Gift Shop, and Fall Festival, are very important activities in support of our Fellowship of John program, which provides financial assistance to those who have outlived their resources but want to continue to live at Foxwood Springs.

Yvonne Paysinger and her volunteer workers planned an excellent celebration of this anniversary. Yvonne hosted a program on FSTV on Wednesday, May 4, the real anniversary date, with workers Hugh Palmer, Jean Keller, Lew Longhenry, Priscilla Darling, Mary Lou McClure, Pat McLaughlin, and Geri Greer to reminisce about experiences during the past 10 years. Hugh and Jean have volunteered since the Thrift Shop opened ten years ago.

On May 6, 7, and 8, 2016, for the three days of the anniversary weekend, the Thrift Shop and Furniture Garages earned \$3,711.25. They usually average about \$1,500.00 for a weekend. All items were sold for half the regular prices, and they had many good customers. This venue does not often have sales; the prices are always good for the quality of merchandise they sell. However, an event like this can generate special interest when it occurs.

Cake, punch, and coffee were available for customers and workers all three days. There were pictures of the opening ceremony on May 4, 2006. There were also pictures of some of the workers, both past and present. Norma Lilja, who was Co-manager of the Thrift Shop until her death last fall, was both pictured and praised for her many contributions to this work. Andy Anderson and Dale Miller, who helped to build shelves and storage areas and renovate some of the needed space, were also seen in the pictures.

All of us missed Al Morse, Furniture Garages Manager, who has been in the hospital for two surgeries in the past 10 days. There was a card signed by many of the workers and visitors, which was then given to Al. Some of his co-workers, such as Lew Longhenry, Ed Yeater, and Jim Green, worked extra hours or shifts for Al. We all missed Al and look forward to having him back soon.

Many regular customers returned to take advantage of the special sales and to congratulate our workers; some come every week. Some of our residents also visited the shop to support and congratulate the workers, although some of them did not need to buy anything this weekend. Some of the workers in the Thrift Shop worked extra hours because help was really needed at times when the cashiers got very busy.

This celebration is a major event for Foxwood Spring's residents. Everyone who works to support the Fellowship of John is a volunteer. We work together and support each other. What residents here really do best is care for their friends and neighbors and share in these responsibilities as they can. In addition to all of the work, however, the spirit and enthusiasm of these volunteers are important. At times, they really have a good time together. They work very hard at times, but they enjoy working together. We are very proud of all of our workers in all of our venues. It would be difficult to find better and more caring residents than those who live at Foxwood Springs.

Reported by Marjorie Slavens – Sunday, May 8, 2016