

Siesta Retirement Village Outstanding Volunteer Recognition

All the residents of Siesta Retirement Village benefit greatly by the efforts of volunteers and some volunteers simply stand out from the rest by going above and beyond.



JAN ALWAYS THERE TO LEND A HELPING HAND!

When my husband Bill and I came to Siesta Retirement Village in 2009, neither of us were familiar with this park or any of the residents. We had wintered here for a few years at Llano Grande and Park Place Estate. It was kind of scary for me to all of the sudden attempt to meet so many new people at one time and especially remember names (This is still a problem!).

That first summer was a learning experience. Pat Mathews was supposed to be the summer coordinator and Lois Wright. Well Pat had to leave and Lois was ill so I was chosen to be their replacement. I didn't know anything about planning summer activities. But, with a lot of input from the ladies we had a successful season. I hosted Diego (I had never even met him before hosting him). Then all summer dinners and activities. Marty Jensen was my second coordinator and a real worker. In those days we put on the welcome back party in the fall and I met so many more willing volunteers. Connie Anton, Melody White, Betsy Mendenhall, Linda Beebe~too many to mention. The summer season is 7 months.

Probably the Halloween activities are still some of my favorites. I love to see the children that come to see us and get their candy. Gerry Cram has been a great help with this event for a number of years. All the summer sisters come together to pitch in for Fourth of July, Labor Day, Birthday parties, Memorials, whatever they are always there too to lend a helping hand.

In the summer the burden of lockup falls squarely on the year round residents so people can still enjoy playing cards, shooting pool, playing ping pong, working out in the fitness room, reading in the library. If we don't step up and volunteer the hall and all the facilities would lock up at 5pm. So please step up and take a week or two or three to lockup.

We really like that Siesta is a pet friendly park and our little Paco is going to be 11 years old. He loves riding in our golf cart when I go and get the mail.

I retired in 1995 as an office manager for a dental office. I loved my job and all the patients but my husband needed to retire. Bill was an over-the-road truck driver and it was taking a toll on his health. 30 years was enough. We owned property in southern Illinois so we built a small home and retired there for 13 years. It became too much for us to maintain so we downsized again to Siesta Retirement Village in the spring of 2009.

We have one daughter, Tammy Williams. One grandson, Dylan and a great grand daughter, Adi. They are our greatest accomplishments!

I do not volunteer that much in the winter months as we have so many others who step up and make the season so enjoyable for all the residents. I told Jeri Hodson I did not want this recognition and there are so many more that are more deserving. But, have you ever tried to tell Jerri~ No? Fat chance of that working out.

So thank you so much for this honor and I am humbled by the recognition.

Please continue to support our village. Every ticket we buy, every event we attend, helps keep Siesta Village one of the best places to live and enjoy our retirement years. So step up and volunteerô Say thank you to those that do volunteerô PAY IT FORWARD! *Jan*

JAN HOPES YOU PAY IT FORWARD!

