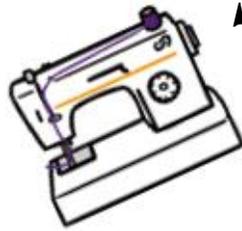


Siesta Retirement Village Outstanding Volunteer Recognition

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.



VOLUNTEERING IS SEW EASY FOR ANNA JENKINS



Anna arrived here in Siesta in the fall of 2006 but she had started helping with Jam even before she moved here. She and her husband, Earl had lived in Mercedes and got involved in the Jam because of their love of country music and her husband graduated with Gene Mc Kenzie's brother. It all started with attending the Jams and listening to great music. Then she started helping with the Jam bringing sandwiches and serving and she has continued to do that for many years.

Her husband was quite an outgoing guy and never met a stranger and he worked hard at the Jam and got them involved. They even bought guitars and took lessons but Anna said she never got any good at it and gave it up.

She was really involved in the Rio Grande Valley Music Festival for many years and was delighted to help contribute over \$35,000 a year to music school programs. She was their treasurer for over 7 years. She like the McKenzie's was saddened to see it go away.

This year the Jam moved from an evening event on Tuesday nights as they were competing with about 5 other Jams to Thursday afternoon. They decided to incorporate lunch with the Jam moving to an afternoon event. Now that has been a good thing but it sure takes a lot of work. It has turned into a 3 day event for Anna. She has to plan and get things at the store & out of the freezer, the next day she has to do the preparation, and the day of the Jam she is down there at 7:30am getting ready for the lunch crowd. I don't know if you have attended it but it is really a fantastic luncheon and you even get yummy pie followed by the Jammers. She does have about 4-5 ladies that help but they are always looking for help and a pie or two contribution if you can help out. The Jam will go quiet this season after March 23 so come out and listen.

Many do not know that all the sandwiches in the beginning of the Jam were sponsored by her and the McKenzie's so quite a financial contribution in addition to their precious time.



Her love of music and meeting people led her down a path to getting involved in helping out the Veterans in Missouri with the Gumi Camp USA. Her entire family has been involved in the military and she felt a real desire to be involved. She and her daughter who owns a quilt shop Cotton Junky Quilt Shop make a quilt every year to donate to this cause. She is selling tickets at \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. (Stop and get a brochure if you would like to help out) You can get tickets up until March 13 and if you miss it you will need to wait until next year. Her daughter in addition makes 2 quilts a month to donate to their local veterans.

Anna goes home in the summer to Wilmington, OH and works with her daughter in the Quilt Shop and spends time with her 3 beautiful great-grandbabies. She has 1 daughter and 2 sons, 4 grandkids, and 4 great grandbabies. Her son has been a Merchant Marine for over 17 years and is currently in the Philippines. She also enjoys going to Quilt Shows with her daughter and an occasional gambling junket. She enjoys going to dinners in our Village and the friendship of the Sassy Singles. She has received a lot of help from other residents and feels their help is a blessing. She really stays busy. She loves music and going to listen and square dancing and gambling trips. She is very talented and has sewn all her life. She even teaches classes at the quilt shop in the summer. She finds quilting very relaxing and therapeutic and has met so many wonderful people. We are lucky to have someone so generous and talented as part of our community.

Be sure to stop and thank Anna for all her contributions and help in making the Jam a success and this year a tremendous amount of income for the luncheons.

THANKS ANNA!

