

Garage Sale Gal **THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC**



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Sunday

Sales

Lynda Hammond

When Mary Mangola woke up one recent Sunday morning she knew it would not be a day of rest. “It’s like I’ve had it with this stuff. I’ve got to get rid of it.”

Mary was out by 6:30 setting up her garage sale and hoping for the best.

She recently moved into a much smaller house and needed to sell things that just wouldn’t fit. She was selling furniture, including a huge entry-way, hall tree unit, shelving and bedroom items. She had a lot of household goods for sale, too—vases, lamps and small decorator items. I grabbed a terrific antique wooden hand-painted game board and stand. I paid \$7 for it and turns out that was about half of Mary’s earnings for the day. Yep, she only made a total of \$15 by selling the household goods. She did, however, snag a buyer for her husband’s old fishing rods. A collector came over from a nearby flea market and paid \$100 for the fishing equipment. Mary didn’t include that in her garage sale total since she was hoping to sell other things that took up a lot more room than fishing rods. “It was pretty slow. It seems like all I heard for most of the day were the birds singing and church bells ringing.”

Mary found out the hard way that Sundays just aren’t good days to hold a garage sale. There are several reasons for this. For one, I think a lot of us may be a bit tired from all the garage saling we did on Friday and Saturday. “Yesterday we were flooded with buyers. We sold a lot,” Mary’s daughter, Belena told me. They brought in more than \$350 on Saturday. Secondly, garage sale buyers may be low on cash. And third, people are busy doing other things—resting, going to church, or Grandma’s house for dinner.

If you’re going to give Sunday a try for sales here’s some advice:

***Signs-** make sure you write “Sunday” on your signs. Otherwise, people will simply assume it’s a sign left over from the day before and they won’t take the time to drive to the sale.

***Advertise-** make sure you advertise it well. Post ads in the papers and in online Web sites such as Craigslist.org and GarageSaleGal.com.

***Early-** Open early--by about 6:30. This way you might, at least, get some die-hard garage salers on their way to and from church services.

If you have a sale and don’t get rid of everything skip Sunday and consider opening up shop the following Friday and Saturday. It makes a lot more sense and you’ll likely make a lot more money. Take it from Mary: “Never again. I’ll never (hold a sale) again on a Sunday.”



(pic by Lynda Hammond) Mesa resident Mary Mangola and her daughter Belena share a laugh at their recent Sunday garage sale. They had plenty of time for lightheartedness. While they had a lot to get rid of it lacked one thing—customers. Sunday just isn't a good day to hold a sale in the Valley. I guess we garage salers are just too tired after hunting for treasures on Friday and Saturday!

MY FAVORITE FIND

Send us a picture of your favorite garage sale find. Include your name, email address and phone number and email it to: Lynda@GarageSaleGal.com. Watch for the story of *your* treasure in this column!

Lynda Hammond is a former television anchor who left the anchor desk for the love of garage sales. Contact her at Lynda@GarageSaleGal.com. Lynda also does garage sale segments on 3-TV's Good Morning Arizona.

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