

Lynda Hammond **THE GARAGE SALE GAL**



Priceless find **Lynda Hammond**

When I stopped at Carole and Garry Greenwood's sale in Chandler I bought a treasure and got a good story, too. But unlike at most garage sales it didn't take much effort to sniff this one out. "Do you write about people who buy unusual things at garage sales?" Carole asked me as I was getting ready to leave with my \$5 red ceramic pitcher. I was all ears-- like a dog that's just heard a high-pitched whistle. It sounded like she had a good yarn so of course I wanted to hear more.

Carole's unusual find turned out to be cute and cuddly Zoro, a Shih-Tsu puppy. The South Dakota native was bargain hunting in Tempe with friends when they pulled up to a sale that also had a new litter of pups. When Carole, 66, asked to see them, the soon-to-be-named Zoro made a beeline from the pack and into her arms. "Zoro came directly to me and gave me all kinds of kisses. I just fell in love. The minute he ran up and kissed me I knew I had to have him. There was no way I was going to walk out of the house without him."

The trick was getting him into her friend's car. "She'd just bought a brand new Lincoln and I had to ask her if I could still get in it. He was a mess. He was dirty and had a bunch of cockle-burrs attached to him. Thankfully she let me and we took him straight to the groomers." It took six baths before Zoro got squeaky clean and sticker free. Today, ten years later, Zoro is still her favorite garage sale find ever and the joy of her life and Garry likes him, too. He's totally enriched our lives. People think I'm crazy because he's our baby. Wherever we go if he's not welcome we're not welcome. He's a wonderful dog," Carole says.

Carole has been garage saling since she was in her 20s and living in the Mount Rushmore State. She says back then garage sales would be held in basements, garages or even on the front porch. "It's really strange because I would hunt for anything I needed at the time and I'd find it whether it was an iron, a toaster or linens, table cloths...numerous different things..I'd find it."

Now, that she lives in Arizona Carole can garage sale year 'round which has some of her relatives, including sister, Darla a tad envious. "Now, I can change my décor anytime I like. I buy something, use it for awhile and then put it out at my garage sale."

One thing that won't ever be going into her garage sale, though is little Zoro. "Oh god there isn't anything about this dog I don't love. I dress him up in clothes and he just loves to play with all his toys. He's just the best."

Black Friday Book Signing

If you're looking for a stocking stuffer, have I got an idea for you—no, not another Zoro (but that would be good, too) instead how 'bout a book signed by this "Gal".

On November 25 from 1-4 I'll sign my book: *The Garage Sale Gal's Guide to Making Money off your Stuff* at Changing Hands Book Store in Tempe.

6428 S McClintock Dr

Tempe 85283

Here's more information on line:

www.changinghands.com/event/hammond (Click on the Calendar on the 25th for details.)

Hope you can stop by!



(pic provided by Lynda Hammond) Carole Greenwood shows off her pride and joy, Zoro whom she found—for \$200—at a garage sale in Tempe.

Talk to the Garage Sale Gal!

Do you have a question or comment about garage or estate bargain sales? Email the Garage Sale Gal: Lynda@GarageSaleGal.com.

Lynda Hammond is the author of the new book, [The Garage Sale Gal's Guide to Making Money Off Your Stuff](#), available everywhere books are sold. Contact her at Lynda@GarageSaleGal.com.

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