

Lynda Hammond **THE GARAGE SALE GAL**



The Short-Sale-Sale *Lynda Hammond*

It's less than two weeks now before Thanksgiving and Teena Morrissey is convinced it'll be her best yet. "I just feel so incredibly blessed," she says fighting back tears.

With a sentiment like that you might find it surprising to hear just how tough life is for her right now. A few years ago, her husband Dave lost his job in computer sales. Today, Teena is working two jobs--- at a Mesa school cafeteria and local fitness facility. After struggling to make the house payment they're now losing their house to a short-sale--a bank is agreeing to accept less money from the owner than what is owed. They do have an offer on the home but it comes after a long and hard process. "It's not a decision you make lightly. There've been times when fear would come. And you can either let the fear dictate your response or you can turn to the Lord and find peace in Him."

I met Teena at her recent garage sale where she was selling things she'd had for years, such as her son's bunk-beds, furniture and collectibles including copper pieces. "My mom bought all this back home at a garage sale in Whidbey Island, Washington and gave it to me."

I bought some of Teena's copper---two pans and two pitchers---as well as a glass serving bowl. Teena grew up in the Northwest garage saling with her mom. "We'd map out a plan and always stop at the officer's housing first. They had the best stuff." (The area is home to the Whidbey Island Naval Air Station.)

But a lot of those memories are gone--sold at the garage sale to make room after the move into a much smaller apartment. Teena is at peace, though with selling everything. "I think the sadness had gone by the time of the sale. The week before is when I made the decision on what to sell. By then it was exciting. We wanted to sell it, make people feel welcome and see the value of what you've got and make money without giving it away." And she definitely made money--- more than \$900.

Meanwhile, the only "things" Teena really cares about today are family pictures---those of her husband and three grown sons. "Someday I want to be able to sit down with my grandchildren and show them where we've come from. We live in such a disjointed society it's important to be connected. Pictures are something you can use to show a child who you used to be."

She says her positive attitude and Christian faith is helping her through these challenging times. "In spite of our situation neither one of us is afraid because God has been so faithful to care for us. We have not gone without food, we've had a home, we've had gas for the car. Our major needs have always been met."

Because of those basic necessities and her undying faith, Teena is convinced this will be a great holiday season.

Happy Thanksgiving.

Black Friday Book Signing

Looking for a small gift for a garage sale fanatic? Stop by Changing Hands Book Store in Tempe where on November 25 from 1-4, I'll sign my book: *The Garage Sale Gal's Guide to Making Money off your Stuff.*

6428 S McClintock Dr

Tempe 85283

Go on line for more information:

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



(pic provided by Lynda Hammond) Teena Morrisey had to get rid of her large copper collection at her recent garage sale.

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*. Check out www.GarageSaleGal.com for details on where to buy the book. Contact her at Lynda@GarageSaleGal.com.*

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