

Seniors on a Mission receives national award

By Kelly J. Stigliano,
Correspondent

ORANGE PARK - President George H. W. Bush spoke of a "thousand points of light" in his inaugural speech in 1989. Today the Daily Point of Light Award is administered by the Points of Light Institute to individuals and volunteer groups that make a difference.

Seniors on a Mission received this coveted award in July. Founder and Executive Director, Joanne Hickox enthusiastically shares the honor with numerous volunteers who make a difference on a weekly basis. With teams throughout Duval and Clay Counties, there are plenty who help make Seniors on a Mission a success.

Hickox started Seniors on a Mission six years ago as she was already entrenched in working with senior citizens through her church. "Anybody who is independent can come with us," she said. "Try it once. Lunch is provided in collaboration with Waste Not Want Not.

"Volunteers don't have to stick to the Orange Park team either," she said. "Nothing is locked in. If you can't make it, you can't make it. We have a blast!"

Seniors on a Mission has teams all over the city, with convenient pick up locations. With senior volunteers up to age 107, mission members work together to help non-profit ministries and organizations complete a project. They enjoy socializing in the process and developing friendships.

Non profits have to provide specific conditions for approval to have a Seniors on a Mission team come help, including air conditioning and team-work projects. Mingling is half the fun and many hands

SEE SENIORS, 19



SPECIAL TO CLAY TODAY
Seniors on a Mission Founder and Executive Director Joanne Hickox displays the National Daily Point of Light Award the group received for exceptional service to the community.

Seniors

FROM PAGE 6

make light work. From stuffing envelopes and information packets to repairing, ironing and sorting clothes for the homeless, the tasks are always interesting.

Clay County teams have helped the Seamark Ranch, local schools, Dignity U Wear, Salvation Army, Leukemia Society, and other organizations, often working right at the Seniors on a Mission office in Jacksonville.

"Seniors are proud of the work they accomplish," Hickox said. "Our goal is for the end product to be excellent. They are thanked and appreciated by the non-profits."