

Thursday, March 22, 2007 As a part of the "Champions in Action" program, Fox 8 News and Charter One Bank honored the RSVP Volunteer organization. Charter One volunteers, RSVP volunteers and Fox 8 celebrities visited St. Augustine at lunch time, played bingo and visited with residents. RSVP provides volunteer opportunities for men and women throughout greater Cleveland including St. Augustine Manor. (www.rsvpcleveland.org)



A Blessing From St. Augustine Manor

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We had the distinct privilege of visiting St. Augustine Manor on Thursday, having lunch and visiting with residents. Wayne, Tracy and I along with FOX 8 news director Greg Easterly and general manager Mike Renda enjoyed the company of some wonderful people who quickly endeared our hearts.

One gentleman, Jerome, even pulled out his harmonica to give me and impromptu concert. He said that he regularly pulled out his harmonica during mass to play, "Amazing Grace" and other favorite hymns.

While the Charter One volunteers began calling out Bingo, I sat with two ladies with whom I chatted about everything from baseball to marveling about the mysteries of rain which arrived right on schedule.

All of the volunteers amazed us. I was particularly struck with Colette's energy and love for the residents. Colette is 91 years old and has more energy than I do after I've had a couple of cups of coffee.

The St. Augustine staff say that we blessed them by stopping by, but I beg to differ. Wayne, Tracy, Greg, Mike and I walked away far more blessed and far richer in spirit for having met such wonderful people. May the Lord strengthen each and every one daily.

I have posted some photos below from our visit:

<http://community.myfoxcleveland.com/blogs/andrebernier>

Pictures taken by St. Augustine follow:

