



Words of thanks from across Boyd Gaming

by Elisabeth Daniels

In the spirit of Thanksgiving, team members from across Boyd Gaming shared their thoughts on what they are grateful for this year. Read on for a heartwarming list of the many things we appreciate – from simple joys to extreme challenges that have changed their lives for the better.

What about your job or coworkers are you the most thankful for?

“Besides the Lord and my family, I’m most thankful for my job. I love my job! The people I work with are the bomb. I feel as though we are more like a family than co-workers. I am blessed to be working with such a great team. I am most thankful for my boss Debra Hutton! She is the best. I’ve learned a lot of things working for her. Having a rough day is a very rare occasion around here, and for that, I am thankful.” - **Chris Manu, Mailroom Coordinator, IP Casino**

“I’m thankful that I have fun doing my job. It isn’t often that a person can say that they look forward to coming to work most days. The atmosphere in our workplace is very upbeat and that makes for a good day in my book.” - **Michal Howard, Casino Host, Diamond Jo Worth**

“I feel we have one of the best departments and co-workers. We also have great supervisors, they are always there for us.” - **Patty Karn, Slot Club Representative, Sam’s Town Las Vegas**

What electronic device are you most grateful for? How does it benefit your life?

“I’m grateful for my gaming console. The games have amazing stories. They’ve actually helped me read and speak the English language.” - **Jose Mena Garcia, Kitchen Worker, Eldorado Casino**

“My smartphone is the device I am most grateful for. It benefits my life because it helps me maintain the connection between my friends and family.” - **Solanch Arocha-Arozarena, Slot Revenue Audit Clerk, Sam’s Town Las Vegas**

What form of exercise or physical activity do appreciate the most?

“I appreciate walking. It’s my favorite exercise because it is something you can do all year, at any location, indoors or out. And my dogs love to go with me.” - **Sandi Martin, Players Club Lead Supervisor, Kansas Star Casino**

What challenging experience has ended up changing your life for the better?



“Climbing 1,400 feet to the top of a broadcast tower made me get over my fear of heights. It taught me no matter how large of a goal I set for myself, it can be achieved when I focus on detailed steps – physical and mental strength, attitude and accepting failed attempts trying to reach the top.”

- **Chris Wade, Advertising Manager, Sam’s Town Tunica**

“Watching a friend recover from a serious brain injury. It made me realize how fragile we truly are in this world.” - **Ben Claiborne, Safety Manager, Suncoast Hotel and Casino**

What musician or type of music are you most thankful for?

“I love to dance, so I appreciate happy music like Salsa and Merengue. And every day, I thank God that He has given me another day to see the sunlight and has blessed me with my job.” - **Angela Hernandez, Bus Person, Eldorado Casino**

What act of kindness made the greatest difference in your life?

“I gave a homeless woman money so she could eat. She was so happy someone wanted to help her that she wanted to give me her stuffed animal in return. I was happy I could help her out.” - **Heather Andrik – Slot Club Representative, Sam’s Town Las Vegas**

What are you most thankful for this year?

“The passing of my mother makes me value my time with my boys and other family to the max. Because it is true that life is way too short. Live it to the fullest. No regrets.” – **Star Fjelstad, Jo Stop Clerk, Diamond Jo Worth**

“I’m thankful for my kids, puppy and new boyfriend.” - **Adelfa Kurtz, Dealer, Kansas Star Casino**