



October 2016

NEWSLETTER

Celebrating 60 Years!



Silver Threads Members at the Saanich Centre 1969

October 15th, 1956 – Silver Threads Service first opened our doors. This month we celebrate 60 years of service to the community. We have operated a variety of activity centres, Meals on Wheels and Outreach Programs in different parts of Greater Victoria, continually evolving to meet the needs of seniors. Over the past six decades some things have certainly changed but some have not – what hasn't changed for seniors is the need to feel connected, supported, and staying active and healthy. That has always been what Silver Threads Service is all about! Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this great organization! Here is to the next 60!

Guess Who's Coming to Dinner in October

Wednesday October 5th, 2016

Thanksgiving Dinner: Turkey, Stuffing, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Cranberry Sauce, Vegetables with Pumpkin Pie and Whipped Cream

Entertainment: Victoria Ballroom Dance Society

Wednesday, October 19th, 2016

Oktoberfest Dinner: Bratwurst, Braised Cabbage, Hot German Potato Salad with Black Forest Cake

Entertainment: Victoria Accordion Club

These themed dinners cost \$15 for members, \$18 for non-members. Please call in early to reserve and avoid disappointment.

Call our Saanich Centre, 250-382-3151 to book your spot.

www.silverthreads.ca



1979 Cartoon by artist
Nelson Dewy



Sidney Serenaders featured on CBC 1977 television special

The Sidney branch of Silver Threads moved to 10030 Resthaven Drive in 1971. Annual attendance in 1986 was 43,988 with a membership of 647 individuals. In 2003 the Silver Threads Service Sidney Centre opened a new location in the Shoal Centre where it provided services for residents of Sidney until 2007.



Nelson Dewy with fiancée
Rolly Beauregard in 2014 is
now a volunteer with
Silver Threads Service

Thank you Debbie for 25 Years of Service



Left: 2011 Debbie Erb with Director Susan Brice;
Top Right: 1997 Debbie with "the Queen"; Bottom Right: 2016
Debbie at our Annual Ice cream Social



Debbie Erb, our Victoria Centre Director, has provided over 25 years of service to Silver Threads Service and is the longest serving staff member on our current team. Starting in 1991 with the Meals on Wheels program, Debbie enjoyed delivering affordable meals to seniors in Victoria and the surrounding areas. Debbie remained with the program for three years. After a short break, Debbie returned in 1997, and she has been with us ever since working in the Sidney Centre, the downtown Victoria Centre and, most recently, as the Victoria Centre Director in our newest location on Richmond Road. Debbie says that, "when you love what you do, it never feels like work." Thank you Debbie for all your hard work and years of service!

This December, our Saanich Centre will be hosting **two** Christmas activities

Greater Victoria Police Chorus Concert

December 7th 1:00pm -3:00pm

Open Ticket Sales start Monday October 3rd! Cost: \$5 members/ \$7 non-members

Guess Who's Coming to Christmas Dinner

December 21st 5:00pm– 7:00pm

Members only ticket sales for **October**

Events Proudly Sponsored by We Care Home Health

General ticket sales for Christmas Guess Who dinner open November 1st

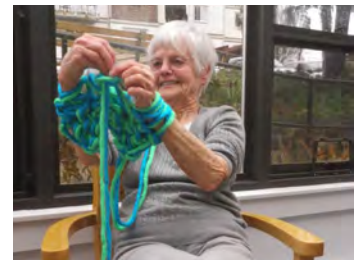
Payment due when booking.

Call Saanich Centre 250-382-3151

Talent Show 1986



Carpet Bowling 1973



Learning to Arm
Knit 2015

Staff Team Pirate Retreat



1980 Visit to the Rocky Point
Donkey Farm in 1980

Scooter Racing 2010



Celebrating in Sidney 1981

Table Rentals for Silver Christmas Craft Fair

In planning for the upcoming holidays you may want to consider renting a table at Silver Christmas: a craft fair presented by Silver Threads Service on November 26th from 10:00am to 3:00pm. Our Craft classes have lovingly and artfully hand-made all the items needed to create the Magic of Christmas – including Silver Threads' signature Mosaic Bird Houses that were featured this year at the Moss Street Paint-in. Tables will also be rented by other members of the community. To inquire about renting a table for \$25.00, please call 250-388-4268.

The Chinese Seniors Association has been an integral part of Silver Threads Service since 2007 and provide weekly programs at the Victoria Centre that includes table tennis, Mah Jong and a Friendship Group. Each year Chinese New Year is a festive occasion thanks to their spectacular performances.



Chinese New Year 2015



Chinese New Year 2016



Mah Jong 2016



Dance Practice 2007

Silver Threads Service Staff Team April 2016



Silver Threads Services Staff

Tracy Ryan - Executive Director
Debbie Erb - Victoria Centre Director
Dustin Lockhart - Victoria Centre Assistant
Anne Nelson - Saanich Centre Director
Ro Fife - Saanich Centre Assistant
Toby Schnoor - Program Coordinator
Maureen Brouwer - Programmer
Brian Penner - Saanich Centre Chef
Brian Peterson - Saanich Centre Cook
Debi Stoness - Bookkeeper
Jo-Anne Silverman - Outreach Worker

Silver Threads Services Locations

Saanich Centre
 286 Hampton Road
 Victoria, BC V8Z 1H1
 Phone: 250 382-3151

Victoria Centre
 2340 Richmond Road
 Victoria, BC V8R 4R9
 Phone: 250 388-4268

Our Mission

Silver Threads Service is a charitable, not-for-profit society that enhances social connections and well-being for seniors. We do this by providing programs and services that are accessible to all.



stay active • stay healthy • stay connected

60 years of Silver Threads

Glen Hamilton was appointed as the first part-time Director of Silver Threads Service, and he had a tiny office in Spencer house on Cook Street. He opened the door on October 15th, 1956. Articles in the Colonist, as the local newspaper was then called, encouraged concerned citizens to volunteer, they highlighted that Silver Threads was a resource to find answers to questions and was the catalyst for creating a community where there was no shame if one was living on a very limited income, had no car or

could not afford new clothes. By 1964 there were 1,400 members and the price for an annual membership was \$1.00.

September 3rd 1965 was the Grand Opening of Silver Threads new Victoria Centre in Centennial Square, and in 1967 Silver Threads opened branches in Esquimalt, Sidney, and Saanich. The Saanich Center got its own home on Hampton Road in 1968 (which as you know remains the home of the Saanich centre today) and by 1986 the Saanich Centre saw more than 41,600 people pass through their doors and membership grew from 52 members to 857 members.



1968 Christmas Dinner



1986 Silver Threads' Can Can Girls



Intergenerational Art Show 2016



Sitting with Santa—past and present



1989 Fashion Show



Memory PLUS
June Party in 2016



1980's Trip to Sea World



1983 - Silver Threads Bell Ringers

"(Silver Threads) can be justifiably proud of the reputation for excellence which you have earned by your diligence and hard work on behalf of others." ~ William N. Vander Zalm, (Past) Premier of British Columbia