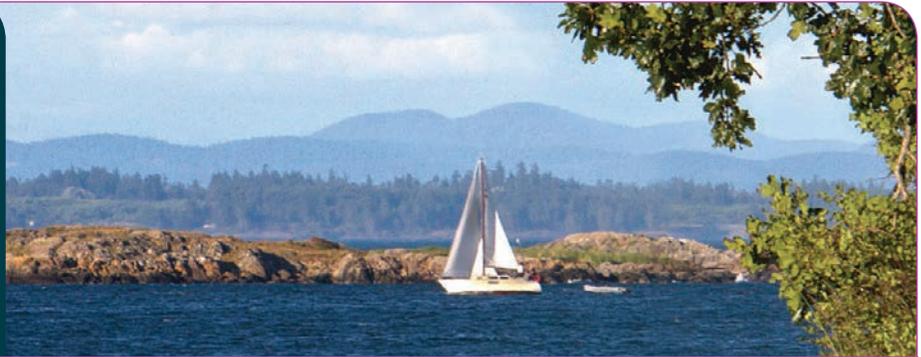




OAK BAY VOLUNTEER SERVICES



NEWSLETTER • VOL. 36 NO.1 • OCTOBER 2016 • 39 YEARS OF SERVICE • 250-595-1034

Volunteer Awards

Thirteen volunteers were recognized at the Annual General Meeting for long service with Oak Bay Volunteer Services! We are thankful to all of our fantastic volunteers! See page three for more photos and news about the AGM and Volunteer Recognition Party.



Pin Recipients in attendance: Ron Nicholson, Patricia Walter, Sue Leather, Sharon Apsey and Grace Yuen with Mayor Nils Jensen

LONG SERVICE VOLUNTEERS

5 years:

Doreen Crawley
Sue Leather
Patricia Walter
Karen Wilson

10 years:

Alan Clarke
Diane Kallal
Ron Nicholson
Claude Rousseau

15 years:

Sharon Apsey
John Tough

20 years:

Grace Yuen

30 years:

Louise MacMinn

35 years:

Judy Parkhurst



*Louise MacMinn, 30
Years of service*



*Judy Parkhurst, 35
Years of service*

SPECIAL APPEAL OUTCOME AND ANNUAL DONATION CAMPAIGN

We are grateful to all who supported us earlier in the year when we made a special appeal due to our serious financial situation. We hope you will be able to also support our regular annual campaign which we have just launched and will be continuing through the fall.

When we went to the community earlier this year with a special donation appeal some of our major grants had been reduced and/or delayed. This appeal was a great success! We raised \$71,966.40. Our thanks go to all the many individuals and the businesses that supported us. We are grateful for all the donations which came in varying amounts. We were fortunate to have received two gifts of securities, one in the amount of \$8,815.58 and the other for \$41,119.12. The donor who made the \$41,119.12 gift indicated that this was a onetime donation and hopes others will do something similar.

Now we are back to our regular annual donation campaign and need support for our basic funding. It is important that citizens of Oak Bay have access to volunteer services.

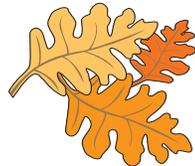
We are a registered charitable organization. Official receipts for income tax purposes are issued. Cheques can be mailed in or dropped off to our office in the lower level of the Oak Bay Municipal Hall. We are open 9 am – 12 noon and 1 – 4 pm weekdays. Thanks to all our supporters!



Attending our AGM: Deputy Police Chief Kent Thom, Oak Bay Police Chief Constable Andrew Brinton, Constable and Volunteer Eric Payne, Deputy Fire Chief Darren Hughes and Sgt. Rob Smith

Oak Bay Profiles

Janet Flanagan



By Bronwyn Taylor

Janet is a long-time volunteer. After writing a number of profiles for Oak Bay Volunteer Services, this was my first time interviewing a volunteer in a hospital. Janet had the misfortune to fall and break a leg. She spent several weeks in the Royal Jubilee, then she was transferred to Aberdeen Hospital for rehabilitation and exercise, "A wonderful programme, really!" This setback did nothing to dampen her spirits and she was looking forward to going home, which she happily did shortly after this interview.

Janet had thoughtfully arranged for a private, quiet space for her to tell her story. Her roots in Victoria go back as far as 1859 when her paternal grandfather arrived and began the successful Coal and Insurance business, which was carried on by her father and uncle. She was an only child, with many relatives here and in Seattle, from whence her mother came. The family lived with her grandmother, and when she passed in 1942 Janet's father bought the house and property for \$5700. Although it is no longer in the family, Janet remarked, "And now it's worth over \$2 million! It doesn't seem possible, as the only difference is the addition of a two-car garage."

During her growing up years the family spent summers at Shawnigan Lake where Janet developed a love for water sports, especially swimming. In fact, while at university she was on the swim team the year her sorority won the cup. While at the University of Washington Janet studied Interior Design, leading to her job at Standard Furniture where she worked until the birth of their first child. From that time on, "I was fortunate to be able to stay home to raise my family. All seven of us sat down to dinner in the dining room every night and talked about our days." The children now live in Victoria, Vancouver, Peachland and Alberta. Janet spoke fondly of them, and as well of her nine grandchildren and two great-granddaughters. Her great-granddaughters live in Victoria, as do her daughter and one son.

Husband Ed grew up in Oak Bay, attending Monterey Elementary School, as did their children. Because of his lifelong connection to the municipality Mr. Flanagan wanted to give back to his community, serving as an Alderman (Councillor) from 1982-



Janet Flanagan

90. To support her husband, Janet often went to the public meetings. She remembers one evening in particular where the hot topic was sewage. "By 11:00 I had had enough so I went home. I woke at 2:00 a.m. and he still wasn't home. I was pacing the room when he drove in shortly after. They didn't solve it then, and they haven't solved it yet!" she laughed.

Janet is a spunky, articulate woman with many diverse interests including: cooking, painting, walking, reading, bonsai plants and the University Women's Group, serving as a member of its Executive on and off over the years. She was a member of the Windsor Park Arts Club for many years experimenting in a range of media from oils to watercolours, mostly painting scenery. When the focus became acrylics, Janet decided to "do my own thing at home with watercolours."

Janet's foray into volunteering began when her children were at Monterey School. She helped students who were struggling with reading. She later joined the Parent-Teacher Association at St. Michael's University School when her two middle sons attended. One son was a rugby player who went on team trips to England, so when it was time for SMU to host English players, the Flanagans 'stepped up to the plate' (or rather, 'onto the field'). She has also been a docent at Craigdarroch guiding tour groups through the castle, and a volunteer at Oak Bay Lodge.

Janet's affiliation with Oak Bay Volunteer Services began in 2002. She did walks, outings and visits with clients. She visited with one person for 7 years! Latterly she has been helping with publicity displays and also stuffing water bills.

Thank you, Janet, for all you do to make our community a wonderful place for people of all ages!



Board of Directors: Director Richard Adams, Secretary Coline Neilson, Chair Bronwyn Taylor, Director Claire Eraut, Treasurer Heather Lund, Vice-Chair Dave Henry and Director Derick Woods.

Annual General Meeting and Volunteer Recognition Party

Our Annual General Meeting took place at the Oak Bay Recreation Centre and was well attended by 59 people. The meeting included the presentation of administrative and financial reports along with highlighting the continued focus of service in the community. It was also an opportunity to celebrate the work of a large group of very dedicated volunteers.

The AGM brings together those with similar purpose and re-generates their interest to continue supporting a worthwhile cause. People left excited with the understanding that time is a valuable donation that makes a difference in someone's life and impacts the community as a whole.



Jenni Hopkyns and David Round



Evelyn Jancowski



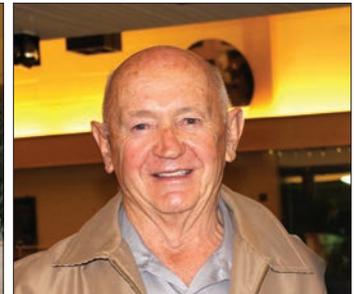
Jayna Brulotte



Susie Merchant



Nigel Mountifield



Islwyn Davies



Office Coordinator Ruth Platts and Executive Director Joan Halvorsen



Alan Bolitho



David and Jacque Collins



Debra and David Henry

OAK BAY VOLUNTEER SERVICES Newsletter

GRANTS RECEIVED

Thanks to all of the funders who provided grants in our past year! These include Municipality of Oak Bay, Province of British Columbia, Vancouver Island Health Authority, United Way Greater Victoria, Provincial Employees Community Services Fund, Tony and Mignon Fenton Trust through Scotia Private Client Group, Kiwanis Club of Oak Bay, Knights of Columbus St. Patrick's Council, Oak Bay Fire Fighters Charitable Foundation and St. Patrick's Oak Bay Catholic Women's League.



Fire Fighter/Oak Bay Fire Fighters Charitable Foundation Executive Director Jason Hodge, OBVS Office Coordinator Ruth Platts, OBVS Executive Director Joan Halvorsen, Fire Fighter Duane Adsett

We are grateful to the individuals who set up grants including the Stuart & Elizabeth Simpson Fund and the James & Inez Hibbard Fund through the Victoria Foundation, the Patrick Paterson Foundation through the Private Giving Foundation, the Airo Fund through the Charitable Gift Funds Canada Foundation and anonymous grants from the Benefaction Foundation and the Private Giving Foundation.

Staff News

Welcome back to Services Coordinator Kelsey LeClair who has returned from maternity leave. Thanks to Elvira Lopez for all of her help to our agency while she filled in as Services Coordinator.



Kelsey LeClair



Elvira Lopez

BUSINESS SUPPORT APPRECIATED

We very much appreciate the business support from:

- Artsee Eyeware
- Estevan Pharmacy
- Good Relations Inc.
- Hapin Construction
- Oak Bay Optometry Clinic
- Oak Bay Pharmasave
- Rod Sim Inc.
- Side Street Studio
- Telus
- Thrifty Foods.

GARAGELLENIUM

Our thanks go to volunteer Jenni Hopkyns and to Michael Platts for hosting a garage sale at Oak Bay's annual Garage Sale Day event and donating the proceeds to OBVS. They raised \$944.00! As you can see they had fun with the sale. Thanks to Office Coordinator Ruth Platts for all her help and to the volunteers who contributed items.



Jenni Hopkyns and Michael Platts

OAK BAY TEA PARTY PARADE

Volunteer Alan Bolitho drove for our entry in the parade. He was accompanied by volunteer Bob Carter.

Thanks to Alan for his decorating and driving and to Bob for all his waving.



Bob Carter, Alan Bolitho

BOWKER CREEK BRUSH-UP

Recruiting drivers to join OBVS was our theme at the Brush-Up. Art done by children portrayed their interesting ideas of what it is like to do volunteer driving. Thanks to Harvey Ratson, Arielle Valencia and Mel and Mark Edwards for letting the public know about our work in the community.



Mel Edwards, Harvey Ratson and Mark Edwards

Newsletter:

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Like us on Facebook and let your friends know about Oak Bay Volunteer Services.



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Thank you.