

# NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2016



## "Springtime In Paris" Gala March 12th 2016



(Pictured left to right: Darryl Racine, Liz Butterfield, Glenys Patmore, Susan Easter, Linda Lobello & Ken Armstrong)

A veritable wonderland was created by Liz Butterfield and the Gala team on Saturday evening. The planning took almost a year and the final preparations were 2 full days at the hotels prior to the event. Over 1000 flowers were made by friends and participants to create the ceiling effect of a carpet of flowers, the tables were decorated beautifully with magnificent centrepieces and apple blossom trees surrounded the ballroom.

When guests arrived they were greeted, their coats taken and then offered a glass of champagne by the co-hosts Glenys Patmore and Ken Armstrong before being offered a choice of having their photograph taken to mark the occasion, perusing the silent auction or taking their place at the table and listening to the dulcet tones of the Brent Jarvis Jazz trio.

At 6.30p.m., guests were asked to take their seats and there were a few very short speeches, which Susan Easter caught on video and they have been posted to our Facebook page. A four course European style meal followed and culminated with a magnificent dessert buffet, DJ Todd Cameron played throughout the evening, Marjie Callaghan of Aurora Photography was on hand to take the beautiful professional photographs that our guests will receive as a memento. Linda Lobello took to the podium to thank all of the hotel staff who came out with the Executive Chefs for a well deserved round of applause.

During the evening Barrie Rogers from the Rogers Foundation (Picture below) presented Clay Tree with a cheque for \$15k, this was a fantastic boost to the evening's proceeds.

The bidding towards the end of the evening was fast and furious for the items at the silent auction. We were very grateful to have some wonderful paintings from local artists, items that had been crafted by our participants in the Arbutus program, hotel stays and gift baskets to name but a few.

This evening took an army of people that worked so many volunteer hours to make this a great success, although there are too many to mention, all the Gala committee (Picture above) had their families working as well as many of the Clay Tree Staff that helped, Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

How are we going to top this one ??????



(Pictured from left to right: Lorie Rogers, Barrie Rogers, Glenys Patmore, Ruth Thorpe, Lorana LaPorte & Don Duncan)



## A word from our Executive Director

WOW!!!!!! I cannot believe that only 2 months have passed since the last newsletter, we have been busier at Clay Tree than ever before, there is so much to tell you about.

In February, not only did we have "Art from the Heart" where the wonderful auctioneer Brian Rimmer stepped in and saved the day and we raised \$5k (with some of the proceeds going to the artists), we then had "Team Seed" come along and put on a wonderful, Beer & Burger evening which raised \$3.3k and cemented our relationship with the Vancouver Island Leadership Team. During February you may have watched the participants, Team Seed and myself on Shaw TV as we explained the need for a new Seniors Centre and the renovations that were occurring here at Clay Tree.

March came in like a Lion at Clay Tree with 100 caregivers, staff and participants travelling in convoy to the Parliament Building in Victoria to protest at the recent changes to the Transit Pass, this really was inclusion at it's best with our participants being able to protest about something that directly affects themselves. Now in true Clay Tree style we also had a wonderful time, and the buzz was really great afterwards.

The Springtime in Paris Gala was held Saturday 12th March and the ballroom at the Coast Bastion Hotel was transformed, we raised around \$30k and it was just the most fabulous evening.

I hope that you are following our FACEBOOK page which is updated regularly and all the latest Clay Tree info is posted on there. Darryl and Kelly's "open door" is working very well and being used by staff, participants and caregivers alike, please check this newsletter and the notice board outside Darryl's office for details. If you would like to see the monthly calendars for all of the programs they are now available for you to see in reception. Remember you can always call reception to make a longer private appointment.

Please save the date of May 20th for our annual AGM, this year being held at Clay Tree where we will showcase each of our programs for you to tour, enjoy foods from around the world and have a drink to toast the year we are having before we get into the meeting.

Enjoy the upcoming Easter Holiday with friends and family,

Kind Regards

Glenys Patmore  
Executive Director

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Glenys".



# A BIG THANK YOU,

to everyone who gives to our Society!



Good friends such as yourselves, help us provide the services and some of the extra's which our participants enjoy so much!



Royal Canadian Legion #256  
Larry Kristiansen – Grants Committee, Achim Sen – President  
Glenys Patmore - Executive Director



Coastal Community Credit Union – Southgate Branch  
Victoria Hardy – Assistant Manager of Member Service  
Glenys Patmore – Executive Director

## Staff Appreciation Breakfast February 10th, 2016

To say a big "Thank You" for all the hard work and care that our staff give whilst working at Clay Tree everyone was invited by Glenys, Darryl and Susan to attend an appreciation breakfast at 7.30a.m. A full cooked breakfast was served including the famous "fried bread" (calorie free of course). Susan prepared gifts for all and Darryl set the tables "Downton Abbey" style. Glenys escorted the guests to their seats and the fun began. It was a buffet style breakfast cooked by the Director and the two Senior Managers. Orange juice, tea and coffee were served with the scrumptious breakfast.



Everyone who attended said it was such a lovely way to start the day.



# PROTEST IN VICTORIA



## Our Day at Parliament in Victoria – March 2, 2016

The day began at 5.00 a.m. in Victoria with Glenys being assisted by Mel Edwards and Nathan Patmore preparing 100 packed lunches for all the participants, staff and caregivers. The 56 seater coach driven by Jim Brash (father of participant Jayleen Brash) arrived at Clay Tree at 8.00 a.m. along with all the other vehicles. Susan photographed the convoy leaving Clay Tree just before 9.00a.m., with Darryl collecting any latecomers so that no-one missed out. Everyone met at Ogden Point to have lunch and discuss what they were going to say at the protest. Jan Smart and Clay Tree Participants made the banners that said "SAVE OUR SEATS". When we arrived outside Parliament, Inclusion BC had already over 20,000 signatures on a petition they were going to present. Clay Tree stood out in the wonderful bright tee shirts purchased for the occasion and worn by almost 100 people. Leonard Krog, MLA and John Horgan Leader of the Official Opposition came and spent time with all our participants. Peaceful protesting is a democratic right of every citizen and Clay Tree was certainly proud of their citizens that day.



# ART FROM THE HEART



## Showcasing the Art of our Talented Participants

A fabulous and exciting evening was had on February 11th as we auctioned the Artwork made by our Clay Tree Participants. Around 80 guests arrived and were greeted with an array of tempting treats made by Linda Lobello and assisted by Emily & Sheila, with soft drinks distributed by Heather.

The wonderful Auctioneer was Brian Rimmer from Victoria. As there were many beautiful art pieces to auction, the crowd were in a frenzy at times over the bidding. Many of the participants were invited up to showcase their own pieces and it was truly memorable when Cody assisted the auctioneer. (Please see the Clay Tree Society Facebook page to review the video)

We are hoping to have many more events such as this.



# VANCOUVER ISLAND LEADERSHIP



## GREAT JOB TEAM SEED !!!!!

Many of you already know that we are trying to renovate an area at the back of Arbutus to free up some space for a Seniors Centre that will hopefully open at the end of this year. We had the wonderful opportunity to get together with some of the young leadership team and develop a project that would bring in some funds towards these renovations. "Team Seed" was created and their first event was to be a Beer & Burger night with a silent auction and 50/50 draw at the Old City Station pub on February 26th. Shaw TV came and spent some time at Clay Tree interviewing Glenys, Kaleb and many of our participants. The segment was shown on Shaw's "Go Island" for a week prior to the big event. Over 200 tickets were sold and \$3.3k was raised on the night.



## Gardening Help!

Greetings Clay Tree Society Members, It is that time of year to start working on the gardens!! Many thanks to those who helped out last year. Clay Tree Society appreciates those who volunteer their time to make the gardens pleasurable for the participants. The gardening group would like to move forward this year but require the following:

1. We need a new gas lawn mover
2. We need a new gas weed eater
3. We need shovels, rake, gardening tools to be left on site
4. MOST importantly we need volunteers
5. We need folks to water plants following the city watering schedule
6. We need soil....for planter boxes



We will set one day per month for group gardening but if you have 10-15 minutes before picking up your participant.... there is always weeding or watering to do.

Gardening dates are: April 2nd 9am-12pm, May 7th 9am-12pm, June 4th 9am-12pm

If you have any questions or thoughts give a call to: Ken Armstrong @ 250-390-3302

Thank you for your support!

# SPRINGTIME IN PARIS



## Gala Event



# IMPORTANT DATES



## Closures:

Friday – March 25th, 2016 – Good Friday  
Monday – March 28th, 2016- Easter Monday  
Tuesday – March 29th, 2016 – Staff In-Service Day  
Monday – May 23, 2016 – Victoria Day  
Friday – July 1, 2016 – Canada Day  
Monday – August 1, 2016 – BC Day  
Tuesday/Friday – August 2-5th, 2016 - Summer Closure  
Monday – September 5, 2016 - Labour Day  
Monday – October 10, 2016 – Thanksgiving  
Friday – November 11, 2016 – Remembrance Day

## Events:

Friday – May 20th, 2016 – AGM @ Clay Tree Society  
– Doors open at 5:30pm, Meeting to start at 7:00pm.



The fundraising committee is seeking a few new Volunteers for 2016. If you would like to assist with this great cause please contact:

Darlene Trinkwon at 250-585-0516 or dartri@hotmail.com

Many hands make lighter work – we appreciate your consideration to this request.

Please don't forget to "like" our "Clay Tree Society" Facebook page. Please invite all your friends and family to "like" our page as well.

We have a goal of 1000 likes by the end of 2016 and your help getting us to the goal is greatly appreciated!! THANK YOU!!

### CONTACT US:

838 Old Victoria Rd, Nanaimo, B.C. V9R 6A1  
250-753-5322  
claytree@shaw.ca

Please send us your email address, and we make certain you get a copy of the latest Newsletter! or you can view it online at:  
<http://www.claytree.org/media>





# NOT A MEMBER? APPLY FOR A 2016 MEMBERSHIP!



**Our members are an essential part of the Society!**

Are you interested in becoming a member of Clay Tree Society?

We seek your support to help us to continue to provide quality programs and services to people with developmental disabilities in the Nanaimo and surrounding areas, as we have proudly done for the past 58 years.

Anyone can become a member of Clay Tree Society by simply completing the attached membership application form, along with a contribution of your choice (payable to Clay Tree Society) \*\$5.00 Minimum\*

Clay Tree Society membership entitles you to vote at our Annual General Meeting and other special meetings that may be scheduled throughout the year.

\*Membership must be in good standing 1 month prior to the date of the AGM in order to be eligible to vote.\*

Membership can be purchased at any time during the year, however it will expire on Dec. 31st.



## Membership Form

# 2016

Clay Tree Society for People with Developmental Disabilities  
838 Old Victoria Road, Nanaimo, British Columbia V9R 6A1  
Ph: 250-753-5322 Fax: 250-753-2749 Email: claytree@shaw.ca

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount \$\_\_\_\_\_ Please make cheques payable to Clay Tree Society Thank You!