



# Spirit of the West at TOSH

**T**hose from the prairies or the Interior of B.C. will look forward to *Spirit of the West*, an exhibition opening today and running to Oct. 21.

Two Ladysmith district artists have collaborated on a theme inspired by multi-media artist Wendy Robson, A.F.C.A. Robson has embarked on a series of paintings which explore the heritage and simple life of the pioneers who first settled in the Interior of B.C.

A painting called *Easy Rider* is a feature piece and beautifully portrays a cowboy on a pinto horse. Her work brings to life the story of the cowboys and wranglers who work the ranches of the Interior. Robson's own love of horses made it easy for her to work with the theme. Influenced by the Impressionists, Robson has a personal style which, while realistic, is spontaneous and fresh. Other work departing from the theme has also been included.

The leather artistry of Armando dos Santos complements the *Spirit of the West*. He has worked with leather for almost 25 years and is showing an impressive display of bowls, various boxes, handbags and an

## Tosh Talk

by Marlys Diamond



a new little artist on the horizon. Glassblower Ted Jolda and his wife, Allison Shaw are the proud parents of Victoria Helen. Victoria comes to visit occasionally. While others are most impressed with her dad's masterpiece creation of a chandelier for the Vancouver Arts Umbrella fund-raiser, so far, Victoria has found it a

oval chest. Each piece is uniquely designed, cut and stitched by hand. Decorations are then drawn with pencil, burned over with an electric pen and dye applied with a variety of brushes. Some decorations depict themes of a spiritual or environmental nature.

The public is invited to a reception to meet the artists Saturday, Oct. 7 at 2 p.m.

Drop by with your brush and add a few strokes to TOSH's new paint job. Foreman Art Skipsey expects this project to be finished by the end of the week. The brightening of the faded trim has been a reward of its own and will be enjoyed by everyone who visits, thanks to the efforts of Leo Cyr, Doug Hamilton, Fran Jones, Graham Beard and TOSH president Brad Wylie and son, Andrew.

Along with a new coat of paint, there is

doze.

This column is being written as the last one in my position as TOSH administrator. It has been a challenging and rewarding experience for more than six and a half years.

The selection committee has had the onerous and exciting task of reviewing 72 applications for the position. An overwhelming response! The directors have appointed staff member Patricia Cloran as acting administrator until the position has been filled.

I look forward to my new life and to continuing the wonderful friendships made over the years. For my replacement, my wish is the continued support of all of those who have helped make the centre such a success.





## ARTS

# The Diamond at TOSH

*Marlys Diamond ends her 'temporary' tenure at TOSH — six years years later*

By **JUDY REIMCHE**  
News Reporter

Marlys Diamond is stepping down from her position as administrator at The Old School House.

Diamond began her position with TOSH on Jan. 23, 1989 after

applying for the advertised part-time position. In response to the needs of the new art centre, which had been without a manager for the preceding two months, she was immediately asked to work full-time and has continued on that basis.

The board of directors at TOSH accepted her resignation, effective Sept. 30.

In her letter of resignation Diamond said "the challenge of taking a fledgling organization, which was in a state of crisis, to the successful multi-faceted art centre that it is today has been a stimulating and rewarding experience, with many challenges along the way. It has been a pleasure to build this success with the many hard-working and dedicated people who were part of the team."

Her resignation comes on the completion of a successful summer of activities which included Art in Action, the second year of the centre's Summer School of Art, and most recently the annual fund-raising art auction. The time of her resignation was chosen so her successor may benefit from participating in the planning of next year's events.

"I am leaving TOSH when procedures are now successfully in place for the day-to-day activities and special events, including

the new Summer School of Art. Administratively, it is on a strong foundation," Diamond said Thursday.

She is "looking forward to upgrading my home computer and doing some contract work from home. I don't know where that will lead, but I think it will be fun.

"I have a hard time not getting engrossed in whatever I do, so I will have to keep that in mind for my next projects," she admitted.

Diamond intends on lending support to her successor as needed, and said she will continue with TOSH in some capacity.

"I'm going to miss the day-to-day contact. I've met a lot of wonderful people," she said. Diamond expects to have more time for some of the hobbies, such as gardening, that she has put on the back burner for the past few years.

steps down



MARLYS DIAMOND SAYS TOSH is on a 'strong foundation' now.

A committee of five, with former president Shirley Elliott as chairman, has embarked on a search to fill the position.



## THE DIAMOND STORY

Marlys Diamond's remarkable contribution to the success of The Old School House is well known within the community. But her life prior to coming to Qualicum Beach is not. The following brief history tells why she made TOSH such a success.

Marlys' business career started when she joined the steno pool at Imperial Life Insurance, in Edmonton, Alberta. After just four weeks, the branch manager requested her to be his secretary. There was another member of this office who noticed her - Jack Diamond - and we all know what happened next.

Jack was to operate his own agency, and for the next 29 years Marlys helped him with the books and other duties, as well as raising two children, keeping house, and operating her own florist business. The Squire Shoppe Florist became so successful, after just over a year she sold it to spend more time with her family. This store had such a good start it is still in operation.

In 1978, The Commonwealth Games came to Edmonton and Marlys worked on the accreditation of the athletes. Her experience, gained working with volunteers for the service clubs that she had been involved with over the years, was invaluable during this major event.

On a snowy January day, enrollment for volunteers for the 1983 University Games was held - Marlys was first in line. Her reputation was such that she was offered a paid position as coordinator of the Attache' program and she became very involved with the Licensing & Marketing of the Games. Later, when the Games were over and the children successfully on their way, she was ready for a new challenge.

Marlys became manager of the Alberta Forestry Association, which handles the public relations for the industry, where, once again, her management and marketing skills were to prove invaluable to her employer. She was responsible for finding knowledgeable speakers who would visit schools, businesses and service clubs, to educate people about the forest industry.

Jack retired from business and Marlys resigned from her position, and they moved to Qualicum Beach, to start another chapter.....

Now that TOSH is in such good shape, Marlys is ready for a new challenge. Please take time today to wish her future success.



Thank You

Marlys



### ***Public invited to TOSH administrator's farewell***

The public is invited to a thank-you tea for Marlys Diamond at The Old School House in Qualicum Beach on Sunday, Oct. 1 between 2 and

4 p.m.

TOSH directors, resident artists, staff and volunteers will host the tea to honour Diamond, who has been administrator of the gallery and art centre since 1989.

She is leaving this position Sept. 30 to pursue other interests. For the people Diamond has worked with over the years to establish and

embellish TOSH's reputation as a gallery and learning centre, this will be an opportunity to meet and visit with her on familiar ground and to wish her the best in her new endeavors.

The tea will be in the main Brown Gallery. Visitors can also view and enjoy the show in this gallery and the classroom.



WELCOME!!

*The Directors, Staff, Resident Artists and Volunteers  
of The Old School House  
welcome you to tea in honour of*

*Marlys Diamond, October 1st. 1995*







## RECEPTION





3



TIME FOR TEA

4







## THE CUTTING OF THE CAKE

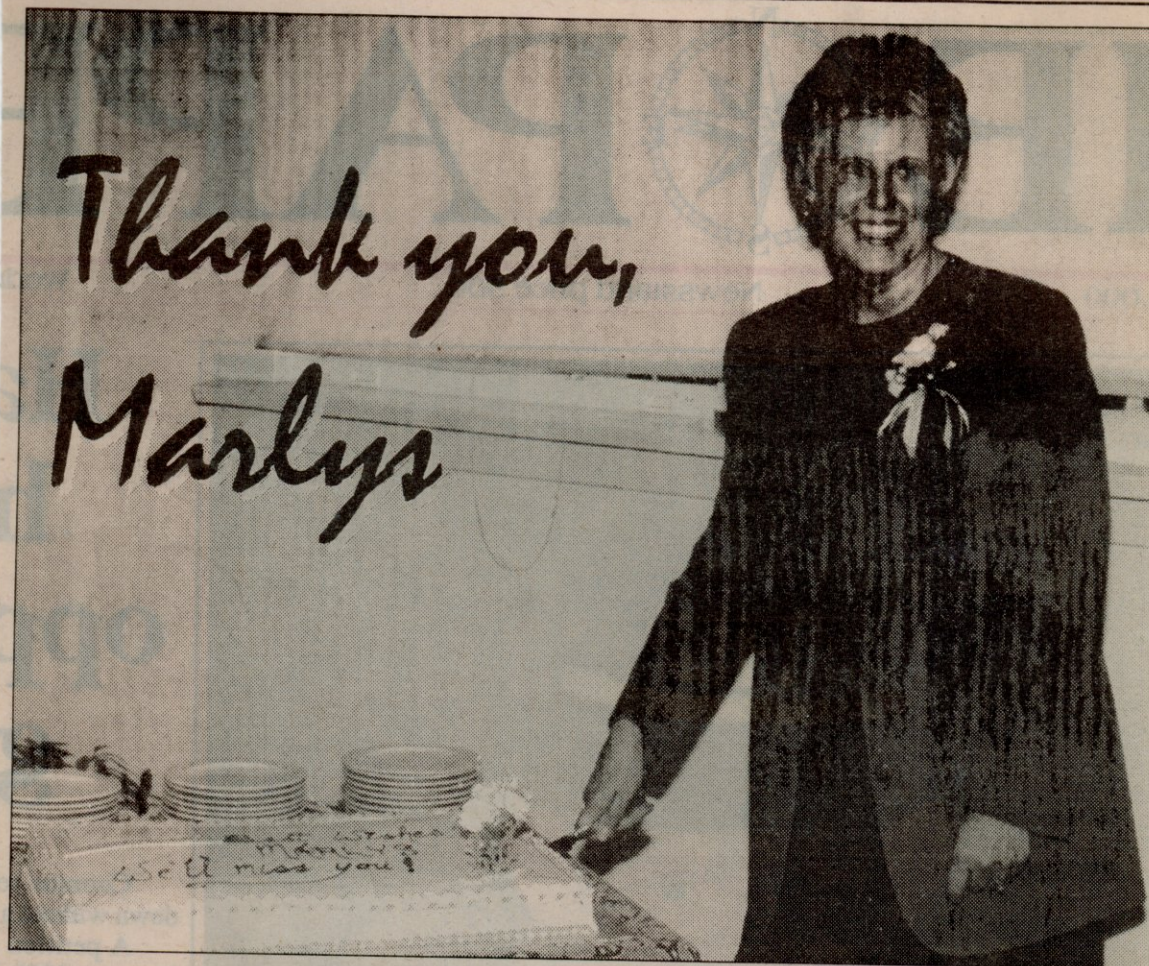


GLADYS KILLIP



WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4, 1995

## NEWS



Old School House staff and friends of Marlys Diamond gathered last Sunday to thank the former administrator for seven years of hard work and success. Local dignitaries, including Parksville mayor Paul Reitsma and Qualicum Beach councillor Orlan Rye joined TOSH staff in appreciation for Diamond's work in making the gallery the local success story it has become. Charlie Hodge photo



5



**TENT ADJOINING TOSH  
SET UP FOR  
PROGRAMME**





PROGRAM FOR THIS AFTERNOON - GROUND LEVEL

- |      |   |
|------|---|
| 3:00 | THE TOSH TRIO                                   |
| 3:10 | JACK DIAMOND                                    |
| 3:15 | SHIRLEY ELLIOTT                                 |
| 3:20 | Q.B. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE - SCOTT RODWAY         |
| 3:25 | MAYOR OF PARKSVILLE - PAUL REITSMA              |
| 3:30 | COUNCILLOR ORLAN RYE OF QUALICUM BEACH          |
| 3:35 | VOLUNTEER REPRESENTATIVE - MARGARET METTAM      |
| 3:40 | RESIDENT ARTIST REPRESENTATIVE - PAULINE PIKE   |
| 3:45 | BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPRESENTATIVE - ART SKIPSEY |

THANK YOU ALL FOR JOINING US FOR THIS SPECIAL DAY





**TOSH TRIO**  
PAT CLORAN JOYCE BARR  
ANN BARBER







**JACK DIAMOND**



**SHIRLEY ELLIOTT**  
PAST PRES. BOARD OF DIRECTORS





**MAYOR PAUL REITSMAN**  
PARKSVILLE

**COUNCILLOR**  
**ORLAN RYE**  
QUALICUM BEACH







PAULINE PIKE







ART SKIPSEY







**GUEST of HONOUR**





ANN BARBER  
PATRICIA CLORAN

MARGARET METTAM







ADMIRING  
THE  
GIFTS







**MARLYS  
RESPONDS**





## COMMUNITY

# Light shines on Diamond

By JOEY GOODINGS  
News Reporter

**W**hen Marlys Diamond applied to be the administrator of The Old School House in 1989, she wasn't sure she would get the job.

She likely never imagined that seven years later, about 150 people would attend a ceremony to thank her for a job well done and to give her much of the credit for TOSH's well-known success.

"Probably we have more friends than almost anybody in the world and it's a very nice feeling," said Diamond after a series of speeches given in a crowded tent outside TOSH on a rainy Sunday afternoon.

Marlys' husband Jack told the crowd he had to encourage Marlys to apply for the job after noticing an advertisement in a local newspaper.

"Her response was 'I don't think I'm qualified for the position,'" he said. "I felt that she was, and so she sent in her resume and as they say the rest is history."

"There is an old saying 'behind every successful wife is a sur-



**Marlys Diamond**  
... she's staying in community

prised husband.' However I have not been surprised at all at Marlys' success here at TOSH. The accomplishments here are the same as what she has been doing all her life."

Shirley Elliott, a former president of the board of directors for TOSH, praised Diamond's commitment to the job. "No task was too difficult or too menial for this

lady. If something had to be done, it was done and done well," she said.

"Thank you Marlys, for giving us six years, eight months in support of a venture which some thought would never succeed," said Elliott.

Parksville Mayor Paul Reitsma praised Diamond for making TOSH so "vibrant and so successful."

Qualicum Beach councillor Orlan Rye commented that TOSH has "been one fantastic success."

Board of directors representative Art Skipsey said Diamond brought order out of confusion and kept a calm air when disaster was threatening.

A song written by the TOSH trio to the tune of *Thanks for the Memories* ended with this verse: *Oh me, Oh my GOSH/What a wonderful place is TOSH/The Diamond in the centre who made it all so POSH.* The trio consisted of Patricia Cloran, Joyce Barr, and Ann Barber.

Diamond pointed out she is stepping back from TOSH but not the community.

"I'm not running out of the community," she said. "I'm still here."





ANN - JOYCE - MARLYS  
JACK - SHIRLEY - PAT



ETHEL SMYTH - JUNE WATSON  
ROSE BAIRD - BETTY TORBET  
CONVENOR'S HELPERS





## ARTS

### Tosh Talk

by Vicky Paradise



A song written and performed by the TOSH trio, a.k.a. staff member Patricia Cloran, volunteer Joyce Diamond retired from TOSH after close to seven years as administrator. In response to the many speeches she said "Probably we have more friends than just about anybody in the world and it's a very nice feeling." She later said that it was going to take her months to thank everyone who had made her job as administrator easier through their tears, resident artists, staff members and the general public were invited.

Barr and former TOSH employee Marlys Diamond opened the round of speeches and tributes in honor of the *Memories* during a farewell tea held at The Old School House on Sunday, Oct. 1. District 69 VIPs, TOSH volun-

dedication and commitment to The Old School House.



## OUR GRATEFUL THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING:

COMMITTEE:	TINA BEARD	DIRECTOR
	PAT CLORAN	STAFF
	MYRTLE OSTROM	VOLUNTEER
	PAULINE PIKE	RESIDENT ARTIST

TEA CONVIENER: GLADYS KILLIP

FLOWERS: JILL GOODEN

INVITATIONS: MERLIN GRAPHICS

MUSIC: WYN PENROWLEY

TENT: G..WILLIES BLACK & WHITE RENTALS

PHOTO ALBUM: COMPILED BY BARBARA PERRY, HELGA BYERS AND CANDY  
FOR MARLYS DEADMAN ON BEHALF OF ALL OUR VOLUNTEERS

### SPECIAL THANKS TO:

ANN BARBER, JOYCE BARR, JENNIFER CREE, Q.B. ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, AND  
QUALICUM BEACH FLORISTS LTD.



16th October, 1995

Dear Gladys,

Enclosed are the photographs of Marlys' retirement party. I hope they cover the occasion. Each proof is indexed on the back with a reference number should you, or the Old School House, require any enlargements. Just let me know if you decide anything.

I have also included a bill which will cover my costs.

Thanks again,

Don



BOOK COMPILED BY:

GLADYS KILLIP

PRINTING BY: CHAS. KILLIP

PHOTOS BY: DON EMERSON  
EXCEPT NUMBERS 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7  
TAKEN BY GLADYS KILLIP.