



Seniors find friendship in 'mixed singles' club

[Tiffany Kwong](#) / Special To The Surrey Now

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Yvonne Good, Reta Herman and Lenora Alexander (from left to right) are members of Mixed Singles Over Sixty, a social group based in White Rock/South Surrey. Photograph by: Tiffany Kwong

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Yvonne Good, Lenora Alexander and Reta Herman joined a seniors' singles club 14 years ago looking for companionship and found something even better in each other - friendship.

"We've become really good friends," said Alexander, 75 and divorced. "It's great because all of the people I've met and friendships (I've made) over the years, I wouldn't have them otherwise."

"When I moved here, I didn't know a soul.

And I've never looked back because I made so many friends and it's good, good for me, good for all of us."

Good, who is 80 and widowed, feels the same way.

"It's the social part, that's what we need at this age," Good said. "And we're the same age, we have the same interests, we all have a story to tell in our own way."

Mixed Singles Over Sixty (MSOS) is the name of the White Rock/South Surrey-based group that was founded in 1999 with eight women and one man attending their first meeting.

Now, MSOS boasts a membership of more than 80 members, mostly from the area but some from as far as Tsawwassen and Richmond, and they have monthly meetings with potlucks and pub nights in addition to weekly group activities.

"We have golf and dancing and luncheons and dinners," said Good. "The activities have changed just like we have. We now go on wine tours (and) do more sort of group things."

"New people come in, maybe they just turned 60, and they bring new ideas to the club," said Herman who is 92 and widowed. "So we try to change with whatever new comes along."

The club is open to anyone who is 60 and over, single and looking to socialize. In the past, people have paired up and even gotten married.

"There's been some marriages and coupling up but there's no heavy leaning towards that. If it happens, it happens. You can't go against nature, you can't stop love," said Herman.

Still, like other singles' groups, MSOS has a larger ratio of women to men - about four to one - but the group tries to balance activities so that both men and women will come out.

"I think (the men are) shy," Good joked.

"There's always a waiting list for women," Good said. "We try to keep membership open so that there are men, we don't want it to become a woman's club."

"Our only criteria are the age and the category of being single," Herman said. "We don't ask for proof of divorce papers or anything like that. If you're single, you're welcome."

MSOS meets on the third Thursday of the month at Sunnyside Hall in Surrey. For more information, contact Colin Haskins at 604-538-7799 or visit seniorsoversixtyclub.weebly.com.

Photo: Tiffany Kwong / Yvonne Good, Reta Herman and Lenora Alexander (from left to right) are members of Mixed Singles Over Sixty (MSOS), a social group based in White Rock-South Surrey.;

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