

Name: Anne O'Keefe

Tell us about yourself: I am very happily retired, almost 5 years now and I can't believe it's as good or better than I thought it would be! I've lived in Kelowna 30 years now and I love it here, especially the lake – I love the water, sailing, kayaking, canoeing... it's all good!

What year did you dance? 2010

What was your style of dance and why did you choose that one? We started with country and moved onto rock/jivey kind of thing. We were going to only do the rock/jive style, but my dance partner Tom Selzler heard another couple were doing jive, so we changed it up a little.

How did you first learn about Swinging with the Stars? Through my work at Hospice House, working closely with the volunteer coordinators.

What is your favourite memory from your performance? I think the actual dancing! I remember I made a mistake in our routine, very early on – but as the wonderful Tom said – no one knew, because no one knew what the routine was meant to be!

Are you still dancing today? Funnily enough, before I danced, I was positive I would enjoy taking dance lessons with my husband. He was equally sure he would not! What I discovered in this experience, is that I don't actually like having prescribed dance moves! I much prefer being on the dance floor doing my own thing!

What backstage moments stand out to you today? I think how supportive all the teams were. We all watched each team dance and gave lots of cheers and applause when they came back to the "green" room!

Has this experience inspired you to do other life changing things? Just to live your life as best you can, take adventure when you find it.