



## **Mission Statement**

### Definition

“Summit” is a conference or meeting of high-level leaders, usually called to shape a program of action.

The “Silver Summit” is a meeting of the “elders,” those with the wisdom and life experiences to lead the way, and the Boomers, those who are preparing to lead the way into their own aging and the aging of America.

### Rationale

The Third Age concept (originally “Troisieme Age”) of lifelong learning, self-development and fulfillment, which is the period following young adulthood—the Second Adulthood—that precedes “seniorhood” and retirement from engagement with life. This new stage of aging, created by our increased longevity, exists for the first time in human history. It is characterized by the opportunity for vital living, freedom, personal growth and enrichment.

This Trinitarian view of life leads to Elderhood, the Elders of the tribe (society), those “high-level leaders” who can shape and guide the young and the culture into the future.

This can be the best part of life, Peak-Aging, a creative age in which to make the *best* of the rest of your life.

Since this is a new stage of aging, most of us are still stuck in the “old” story of traditional aging as a time of retirement from engagement with life and decline. We struggle to change past perceptions into a new reality of aging as an unprecedented Third Age of life.

### The Silver Summit Mission is to:

- Change the traditional mindset of aging—it’s no longer the way it was for your parents and grandparents
- Demonstrate that we have an added 20-to-30 extra years of life that *can* be lived in good health, full of fun, productivity, and meaning!
- Show how we can maximize this new stage of aging—our Second Adulthood—by planning for Peak Aging, the highest level of successful aging you can achieve personally.
- Help more people reach the peak of life as they age.