

Here Comes April!



And here come the Cherry Blossoms!

The annual Vancouver Cherry Blossom Festival is taking place in Vancouver from April 3 – 29th. The festival first took place in 2006 and has been a popular event each year. Besides viewing the blossoms throughout the City, there are numerous events, - both free and with a fee, that residents and visitors can attend. A major event is ‘Sakura Days Japan Fair’, which will be held this year on April 14 & 15th at Vanden Botanical Gardens. The idea of the festival is to celebrate the beauty and joy of the blossoms and to express our gratitude to Japan for gifting the City numerous ornamental cherry trees. Vancouver now has over 43,000 cherry trees, one of which is in my backyard. Others – Akebono – line the block of 3100 Graveley Street, forming a beautiful canopy to walk under. Residents from all over the City come to take in the beauty of the block, - some days the amount of traffic in the neighbourhood is overwhelming, but it is also a pleasure to see people enjoying the blossoms. Each year as part of the festival, people are invited to submit a short poem/Haiku. I entered last year, and won a Sakura award. Here is my poem:

*Thru the branches
Of the pink cherry blossoms
I see a smiling face*

Thank you to Rosemarie Daviduk for this article and for the details of this event. Well done with your Sakura award! Be sure to check out the website for more details at www.vcbf.ca. I also have a lovely cherry blossom tree in my front yard, and here are a few pictures of that tree.
~Cheryl





If you have anything to share, - stories or pictures, that you think our BRAGS members might enjoy, please send them on! We'd love to see them!

Send to Cheryl Fiddis @ ecfiddis@telus.net

***30th Annual Rhododendron Festival!
Sunday, May 6th, 2018!***

The annual Burnaby Rhododendron Festival is almost here! With many additional events, this special 30th anniversary is not to be missed! We still need volunteers to assist with the Silent Auction and Plant Sale. If you haven't yet signed up to help, and you can, please contact Verna Adamson at 604-544-4006, by email at v_adamson@shaw.ca or Bev Glover at bglover@telus.net. All hands on deck is our best case scenario! Thank You!

~ Verna Adamson



A Few Spring Quotes...

No matter how long the winter, spring is sure to follow.
~Proverb

The naked earth is warm with Spring
And with green grass and bursting trees
Leans to the sun's kiss glorying,
And quivers in the sunny breeze.
~Julian Grenfell

In the spring I have counted one hundred and thirty-six
different kinds of weather inside of four and twenty
hours. ~Mark Twain

The sun was warm but the wind was chill.
You know how it is with an April day.
~Robert Frost

A day comes in the springtime
When Earth puts forth her powers,
Casts off the bonds of winter
And lights him hence with flowers...
~Dora Read Goodale,

A wizard must have passed this way
Since was it only yesterday?
Then all was bare, and now, behold,
A hundred cups of living gold!
~Emma C. Dowd, "Daffodil and Crocus,"



BRAGS Membership

If you haven't yet done so, please see Anne at the next meeting to pay your 2018 dues. Exact change is appreciated. Still only \$12 per year, BRAGS members share various gardening interests and enjoy monthly guest speakers, plus are entitled to discounts of regularly priced items at GardenWorks and other garden centres, simply by presenting their membership cards. Monthly meetings (excepting July & August) start at 7 pm at the Burnaby Village Museum, - Main Building, up on the 2nd floor. Easy to get to with ample free parking and refreshments are served! Please join us!

BRAGS EXECUTIVE

President

Wendy Thompson
604-420-6513

Vice-President

Bev Glover
604-540-2883

Treasurer

Susan Brandl
604-433-4250

Secretary

Linda Cholette
604-298-9059

Past President

Verna Adamson
604-294-5550

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STANDING COMMITTEES

Membership

Anne Forsyth
604-298-6350

Nominations

Verna Adamson

Publicity

Evelyn Crawford
604-437-8395

Rhododendron Festival

Verna Adamson
604-294-5550

Bev Glover

604-540-2883

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OTHER COMMITTEES

Plant Sale

Vacant

Newsletter

Cheryl Fiddis
604-435-2801

Anne & David Forsyth
604-298-6350

Welcome Desk

Janet Hayes
604-420-5995

Refreshments

Faye Kilpatrick
604-434-5921

Speakers

Beth MacLaren
604-253-7036

Website

David Forsyth
604-298-6350

Upcoming Meetings Events/Club News

2018!

April 4, 2018

“Bonsai” with Peter Brolese, a long time member of the Bonsai Society.

May 2, 2018

Pam Erickson with her newest presentation:

“The Evolution of our garden, and of course, Daylilies, Lilies, and Hostas”. Pam will bring plants to sell.

May 6th, Sunday – Rhodofestival!

See You There!

June 6, 2018

TBA



Out & About Etc...

GW Customer Appreciation Day,

April 19, 2018

Be sure to mark the date for GardenWorks 15% savings all day. Don't forget to visit to see what's new and exciting for Spring. Many workshops are available as well, some free and some with a cost. Check out their website for more information at www.gardenworks.ca.

A Trip Down Memory Lane...

With all the excitement with the recent Winter Olympics, many of us looked fondly back to 2010, and the excitement of hosting our very own Olympics. At that time, I was gifted with a Hellebore, a special Vancouver 2010 Olympic variety. That year and each year since, it is always the first of my spring plants to flower and always reminds me of that wonderful time 8 years ago.

~Cheryl

