

BRAGS President's Year End Report, December 6, 2023

This has been my tenth year as President of BRAGS. It has my honour to serve as president, however, I am more than ready to step aside for someone new to take it on.

We met in person in the Discovery Room in Feb, Apr, May, June, Oct, and Nov and had Zoom meetings in Jan, Mar and Sep.

Thanks to Beth, we had a variety of very interesting speakers. Our speakers this year were:

Chris Jennings, Shade Garden Society, Hydrangeas

Andre Erasmus, floral design

Katie McGillivray, Earthwise, Sensory Gardens

Winston Wong, BC Bee Supply, Mason bees

Therese Krause, Fraser Pacific Rose Society, Roses

Vancouver Orchid Society, Orchids 101

Tasha Murray, Invasive Species Council of Metro Vancouver, Invasive species, stink bugs and Japanese beetles

On May 14 we participated in Burnaby Blooms by having a one-day plant sale. It was a big success and we made over \$1236.62, which was over \$200 more than the previous year. For the first time, I was unable to be involved in the festival, so a very special thank you goes to Verna for single-handedly liaising with the City, organizing the event, obtaining donations and sending out thank-you notes, and to everyone else who donated plants and volunteered at the event.

We made a donation of \$100 to the Byrne Creek Secondary school for their garden club.

I'd like to extend a big thank you to the Executive and to everyone else who has been staying involved and keeping BRAGS alive. Without you, we wouldn't have a club.

Our January meeting will be via Zoom as the Discovery Room is not available to us, however, we hope to keep meeting in person in 2024.

Respectfully Submitted

Wendy Thompson

President