

Garden Tour 2008

The weather was perfect for a day spent touring gardens, sunny and warm but not too hot. The visitors were enthusiastic in their discovery of the special qualities of each garden and owners basked in the praise from the many favorable comments.

Raffle tickets were sold at the Lavender/Walter garden and winner of the planter was Susan Cox. Number of tickets sold will be announced at the September meeting but the average attendance overall was 240 visitors per garden.

Thank You

Garden Tour Volunteers

Coordinator: Faye Kilpatrick

Publicity: Jackie Walker

Photographer: David Forsyth

Assistant: Anne Forsyth

Sitters

Lily Auyeung	Susan Brandl
Lois Brown	Gillian Crowther
Cheryl Fiddis	Arlene Hrastnik
Rimka Laman	Heather MacKay
Marla Magarrell	Joy Makepeace-Smith
Wendy Thompson	Helen Vaughan
Judy Wellington	

Master Gardeners

Diane Allison	Andrea Chan
Anna Camporese	Terri Clark-Kveton
Linda Eaves	Vera Gabrielson
Sheila Jones	Lynda Taylor

We will have the owner's of the gardens on the tour for special recognition and appreciation at the September 3 meeting. PLEASE REMEMBER to return Garden Tour signs at September's meeting.

Faye Kilpatrick

From my garden...

I want to say how much I enjoyed having my garden on the tour this year. Initially, I had misgivings but realized how great it was to share all of my accomplishments with others. The number of people that came out was great and I was fascinated by the various situations people are gardening in: some have balconies, some have townhouses like myself, while others have large yards.

I want to remind the members that really our club is about just that, the varied situations people are in and that we all garden in our own way. If you think that your garden is not of interest to others, then think again; there is someone else out there in the same situation just looking for some fresh ideas.

I can only hope that more members not only enter their gardens in the years to come, but also attend this event and view the gardens. After all, what better way is there to have a successful club than through the support of its members.

Peter Barnsdale

Fall Gardening Checklist

- Prune spring and summer shrubs.
- Divide and replant irises.
- Sow perennial flower seeds.
- Collect and save seeds from annuals.
- Lift geraniums, dahlias, and glads in early fall, bring indoors and keep dry.
- Bring in begonias to keep as houseplants through winter.
- Rake and compost leaves.
- Mulch tender perennials, and new plantings of shrubs and trees before cold weather.
- Take hardwood cuttings from trees and shrubs in early fall, place in sandy soil in a protected area.
- Plant mums, asters, pansies, ornamental cabbages and kales to give your garden a burst of color this fall.
- Check your garden soil to make sure there is enough good topsoil. Flower beds need 8 to 12 inches of good quality soil.
- Plant spring bulbs.
- Dig and store tender bulbs.
- Clean, sharpen and oil lawn and garden tools.
- Divide and transplant perennials and ground covers.
- Plant and mulch hardy annuals for winter.
- Plant bare-root trees, shrubs, ground covers and vines.

Wonders and Woes by Lois Brown

I love my garden. The most awesome things happen, filling me with excitement and elation. However, it is not, as my Father-in-law used to say, a matter of pure and unadulterated joy. It seems to me that, as the season rolls by, I alternate between wonder and woe.

Wonder: The trilliums returned! After the brutal pruning they received last year in the wake of the oil spill on our street, I was afraid I would never see them again – but they came back.

Woe: So did the dandelions.

Wonder: In spite of neglect and rather a cool, cloudy spring, the roses flourished this year – lovely blossoms and, in one or two cases, heavenly perfume.

Woe: Black spot is alive and well.

Wonder: The little plants that I rescued last summer, drooping and dry in their tiny pots, wintered through and presented me with lovely spherical buds followed by sculptured blossoms of delicate mauve. Thanks to two awesome Master Gardeners in BRAGS, I learned that they are dwarf balloon flowers (platycodon). (Thank you, Diane and Peter). They have bloomed all summer, ample reward for the rescue operation.

Woe: Aphids and snails are also flourishing.

Wonder: Pots of fuchsia and hanging baskets have made a thrilling show.

Woe: The blighters are insatiably thirsty and keep me trotting around with the watering can.

Wonder: the Beautyberry (*Callicarpa bodinieri*) is thriving and promises its usual profusion of tiny glowing berries for the fall.

Woe: The laurel hedge is outstripping everything else in the garden and I must prune it drastically before we find ourselves totally hedged in. I HATE pruning the laurel hedge.

Wonder: Things grow and bloom and bear fruit and nourish my soul in spite of my ignorance and lazy habits.

Do any of these ups and downs resonate with you or am I the only one that suffers from serious mood swings?

FYI

Pesticide Bylaw was adopted on June 16, 2008. The use of pesticide will be prohibited in Burnaby from April 1, 2009. Details are provided in the City of Burnaby website: www.city.burnaby.bc.ca/cityhall.html choose “Bylaws” and choose “P” for Pesticide. The last section of the bylaw gives us some ideas to fight the garden pests without hazardous chemicals. If you want a copy of the bylaw at the next meeting, please contact Lanny Hui at 604-415-4564.

Among 288 non-fiction titles, the Burnaby Public Libraries just purchased these gardening books in August 2008:

Get fit through gardening: advice, tips, and tools for better health featuring the unique exercise plan to save your back and knees by Jeffrey P. Restuccio. Available at Metrotown, McGill and Cameron Libraries.

The complete compost gardening guide: banner batches, grow heaps, comforter compost, and other amazing techniques for saving time and money, and producing the most flavorful, nutritious vegetables ever by Barbara Pleasant & Deborah L. Martin. Available at Metrotown Library.

Encyclopedia of exotic plants for temperate climates by Will Giles. Available at Metrotown Library.

The medieval flower book by Celia Fisher. Available at Metrotown Library.

The English roses: classic favourites & new selections by David Austin. Available at Metrotown, McGill, and Cameron Libraries.

The garden in winter: plant for beauty and interest in the quiet season by Suzy Bales. Available at Metrotown Library.

Plants in pots by Andi Clevely. Available at Metrotown Library.

Landscape planning : practical techniques for the home gardener by Judith Adam. Available at McGill, Cameron, and Metrotown Libraries.

Venetian gardens by Mariagrazia Dammicco. Available at Metrotown

Green-up your cleanup by Jill Potvin Schoff. Available at Kingsway Library

Enjoy reading!

BRAGS 2008 EXECUTIVE

President
Susan Brandl
433-4250
Vice-President
Faye Kilpatrick
434-5921
Treasurer
Heather MacKay
438-1342
Secretary
Lanny Hui
415-4564
Past President
Cheryl Fiddis
435-2801

STANDING COMMITTEES

Fund Raising
Peter Barnsdale
421-8987
Cheryl Fiddis
435-2801
Membership
David Forsyth
298-6350
Nominations
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435-2801
Lois Brown
298-6681
Publicity
Jackie Walker
420-0275
**Rhododendron
Festival**
Judy Wellington
434-8287

OTHER COMMITTEES

Garden Contest
Vacant
Garden Tour
Faye Kilpatrick
434-5921
Plant Sale
Vacant
Newsletter
Lanny Hui
415-4564
Anne & David Forsyth
298-6350
Raffle & Greeting
Sheila Chowdhury
298-1196
Judy Wellington
434-8287
Refreshments
Helen Vaughan
299-2014
Speakers
Debbie Vallee
436-2311
Website
David Forsyth
298-6350

September Meeting

Wednesday, September 3.
Burnaby Garden Tour 2008 Slide
show.

Thank You

To Peter Barnsdale, Lois Brown,
Cheryl Fiddis and Faye Kilpatrick
for contributing articles to this
edition of the BRAGS Newsletter.
Contributions from Members are
always welcome.

Out and About

**Farmers Market, Saturdays until
Oct. 25** from 10am to 2pm, North
Parking Lot at Burnaby City Hall,
4949 Canada Way at Deer Lake
Parkway.

**Sep 13-14 (Sat 12 to 4pm, Sun
10am to 4pm) Pt. Grey
Chrysanthemum Assn Sale or
Early Varieties.** VanDusen. Free.
Info: 604-261-9219 or
ogryzlo@chem.ubc.ca

**Sep 14 (Sun) 11 am to 4pm
North Shore Natural Gardens
Tour.** Celebrate the 10th
Anniversary of this Tour with visits
to five inspiring naturally maintained
gardens! Learn sustainable
gardening techniques, discover the
options for urban food growing and
have your questions answered by
experts. Enjoy music, local food,
natural gardening demos and food-
related kids' crafts. Free Tour
guidebooks available at North Shore
garden centres, municipal halls and
libraries or online after the
September long weekend. For more
information:
www.naturalgardentour.com or
604-984-9730.

**Sep 20 (Sat) 10am to 2pm
Fair Haven United Church Homes
Fall Plant Sale.** Plant donations are
also needed as are volunteers to help
with the Sale. 2720 East 48th Ave,
Vancouver. Info: at
r.curran@shaw.ca or 604-439-0741.

**Sep 21 (Sun) 1 to 4pm
Alpine Garden Club of BC Fall
Plant Sale.** Alpines, woodland &
native plants, rare shrubs, trees.
VanDusen Floral Hall. Info: 604-
596-8489 or
doug.smith@decnet.com

Nominations! Nominations! Nominations!

by Cheryl Fiddis & Lois Brown,
Nominations Committee

*In this article, we detail the final 3 of our positions up
for nomination at the end of the year.*

Publicity

This position is ideal for someone who prefers to be
'behind the scenes', as the majority of the duties can
be performed by internet, phone or by mail. The
primary function is to publicize BRAGS monthly
meetings and special events such as the plant sale,
garden tour, garden contest and RhodoFest (mostly
handled by the City) in local newspapers, garden
magazines, community newsletters and by networking
with other garden clubs and garden columnists.
Solicit feature articles for print as necessary. Maintain
and update a list of possible resources. Attend
directors meetings. Provide reports at the monthly
meetings as necessary. This is a 2 year term.

Fundraising

This position is responsible for brain-storming and
working with the various committees and executive to
find ways to incorporate fundraising into our events.
This role also works closely with the volunteer
responsible for monthly draws.
Experience in soliciting funds from corporate sponsors
for major events such as the RhodoFest, could be an
asset, but is not necessary.
This position may also explore various options for
future "Gifts to the Community", and make
recommendations to the executive team, ensuring
potential recipients meet the guidelines of the By-
Laws. This position is easily shared between two
members and is a 2 year term.

RhodoFest Chair

Calls and chairs all meetings of the RhodoFest
Committee and combines efforts with the City of
Burnaby staff responsible for the festival.
Works with the City staff on development of
advertising strategy and materials such as designing
the poster and other advertising materials. Works
with the Volunteer Co-Ordinator for: set up/take
down, silent auction, parking attendants, truss display,
and for volunteer t-shirts and other Festival details that
may arise. This is a 2 year term.

Welcome to our newest member: June
Jeffries!