

It's The Month of May!

For the Roman goddess Maia, who oversaw the growth of plants. Also from the Latin maiores, 'elders,' who were celebrated now.



So, what do you think of when you hear the month of "May"? For me, being a loyal BRAGS member, I think first of our Rhodofestival and the fabulous Rhododendrons that are abundant throughout Burnaby, then I think of Mother's Day, and then I think of my garden being green at last and displaying the early spring colors of my Rhododendrons and Cherry Blossom tree. And I think of golf too as the courses begin to dry out! For most of us, we can now safely look forward to planting our flower and vegetable seeds, and to making up our planters and decorative pots. With having a greenhouse, May is not too early to buy and dig in tomato plants, as well as start various seeds. I mostly look forward to the first crop of lettuce!

So, whatever you look forward to, May is certainly a hopeful, joyful month. Be sure to get out there and enjoy every minute of it!



If you have something to share, stories or photos, that you think our BRAGS members might enjoy, please send them on!

Send to Cheryl Fiddis @ ecfiddis@telus.net

Creative Containers!

At this time of the year, we all like to create new and fresh containers. After all, that's what Spring is all about! You generally don't have to look further than your local garden center to find a wide variety of containers to fill with your spring plant choices. But you don't have to pay a big price for a show-stopping container, - try looking 'outside the box' as the saying goes. Make your own 'new' container using recycled materials from around your house, or from a local second hand store. Think of birdcages, bicycles, cooking dishes, chairs, and even farm equipment. In Burnaby you will find a number of decorative bicycles sprinkled throughout the City, with front and rear baskets brimming with flowers, and with the bike generally painted a bright color.



If you make a container this year, why not be creative and see what can inspire you. One year I found an old wooden chair in a second hand shop, too rickety to sit on, but ideal to paint a bright blue and display with my birdbath and other planters. Unfortunately I left it outside when the Fall arrived and it rotted away. Time to find another one this year! So why not see what you can do, and then share your creation with us? Members love to see what we've all been up to!



BRAGS EXECUTIVE

President

Wendy Thompson
604-420-6513

Vice-President

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604-540-2883

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Susan Brandl
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604-298-9059

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Verna Adamson
604-294-5550

STANDING COMMITTEES

Membership

Anne Forsyth
604-298-6350

Nominations

Verna Adamson

Publicity

Evelyn Crawford
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Rhododendron Festival

Verna Adamson
604-294-5550
June Dodson
604-939-2597

OTHER COMMITTEES

Plant Sale

Lanny Hui

Newsletter

Cheryl Fiddis
604-435-2801

Anne & David Forsyth

604-298-6350

Welcome

Faye Kilpatrick
604-434-5921

Sheila Chowdhury

604-298-1196

Raffle

Faye Kilpatrick
604-434-5921

Refreshments

June Dodson
604-939-2597

Speakers

Bev Glover
604-540-2883

Website

David Forsyth
604-298-6350

BRAGS Membership

Please visit Anne at the membership desk if you haven't yet paid your 2016 dues or to join up – still only \$12 per year. 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 if you are looking to join a local garden club.

Upcoming Meetings/Events



May 4, 2016

Paul Buikema will give a presentation on Integrated Pest Management including dealing with the chafer beetle. Paul comes from an extensive and varied horticultural background.



June 1, 2016

Stan Stanley of the Point Grey Chrysanthemum Association will do a presentation on "Growing Exhibition Chrysanthemums". Come and learn what you can achieve with yours!

BRAGS now takes a break over the summer...see you at the September 7th meeting! There will be no guest speaker for the September meeting, - please come prepared to share your summer success stories, and not so successful stories, and please take lots of photos over the summer!

Reminder: Rhodofest 2016! Sunday May 1st!

Your Rhodofest team and Burnaby are counting on all of us to help make this another successful year! If you are not able to volunteer, please be sure to come and enjoy the festival with your family and friends.

Out & About Etc...



GW Customer Appreciation Day, May 19, 2016
Be sure to mark the date for GardenWorks 15% savings all day.

*"Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap
but by the seeds you plant."*

~ Robert Louis Stevenson