



Friends of Dominion Brook Park Society

Flavour Trail Tours of the Park - August 24!

Once again, Dominion Brook Park will take part in the North Saanich Flavour Trail on Sunday, August 24, 2014.

Tours will be conducted at 10, 11 and 12 noon beginning at the entrance kiosk on East Saanich Road. The Park has a wonderful 102 year old history with rare specimens from all over the world and stories to match.

Join us for a coffee and goodies at the Picnic Shelter, a former BC Electric Railway station, at the bottom of the Park. Chat with volunteers and Board members about the plans and progress of the Society.

Photo Contest Winners Inside !

Our recent contest for photographs in the Park was a resounding success!

Among the many entries, the judges were unanimous. See inside pages for more information!

Meet Our New Board Members for 2014-5

left to right seated:

**Chad Davey, Treasurer,
Nancy Johnson, Secretary**

left to right standing:

**David Lye, Chair,
Jody Aylard,
Joan Gibb, Vice Chair,
Deb Jack,
Gerry Warren,
Munroe Archibald,
Ed Johnson**



Photo Contest Winners !

The results are in and we are pleased to announce the winners of our inaugural “In The Park” photo contest that ended July 15th. First Prize goes to 18 year old Nina LaFlamme for her ‘Red Rhodo Vista’ and Peter Koelbleitner captures second and third place for his “Sentinels’ and ‘Sunken Garden Waterfall’ entries. Thanks to all who entered, we hope that you have gained a new perspective of our beautiful park. A special thank you to our three impartial judges who were unanimous in their decisions.



First Place
‘Red Rhodo Vista’
Nina LaFlamme



Second Place
‘Sentinels’
Peter Koelbleitner

RHODO RAVINE UPDATE

Work has now begun on Detailed Plans for the streambed, paths and stream crossing in the ravine. Kerr, Wood and Leidal hope to have the work completed early this fall. The plans will be used to develop a detailed budget for the completion of the work. Our thanks to the Municipal crew for the trail clearing required before the work could begin.

SEEKING INFORMATION

William Goddard and his Floravista (or Flora Vista) Gardens was the major contributor of Rhododendrons to the Dominion Experimental Farm in the late 50s, 60s and 70s. He was also a recognized conifer specialist and listed in many North American texts. Of the many sources of plant material for Dominion Brook Park, some of which are old records, Goddard is the most elusive.

If you have information about Floravista or W. Goddard, please contact gibbjb@shaw.ca



**Third Place
'Sunken Garden Waterfall'
Peter Koelbleitner**



FULL HOUSE

Mount Arrowsmith Rhodo Society Tour and Lunch

Forty-seven members of the Society and friends from Qualicum and surrounds came for a tour and lunch at the Park in May while the rhodos were in full bloom. They were generous in praise of the volunteer work in the Park and with a donation towards the Ravine Restoration Project. Thank you.

In Memoriam

JOHN DAWSON - 1930-2014



We have lost our first and most ardent supporter of the Friends of Dominion Brook Park. It was he, with his late wife, Katie, and a small group of Peninsula citizens, who began the journey to save and restore this historic botanical Park.

Over the years, John has participated in all aspect of restoration and maintenance with hours spent on mission statements, five year plans, seeking grants and guidance for those who came later to this on-

going project. This included frequent lessons on how to roll a hose properly!

We have selected a *Pinus nigra* (Austrian or Black Pine) to commemorate John and his dedication to Dominion Brook Park. The Pine was selected because walking by a nursery specimen my first thought was John Dawson - it is stately, upright, with handsome highlights and just a wee bit prickly. A few days before his death, I was able to tell him of the choice. A description of the tree reads: 'a tree of strong character' which is so entirely appropriate for John.

It is a sad farewell to a good friend but with many wonderful memories. Not the least being his potent pear wine generously shared at the annual volunteer pizza party.

Pinus Nigra

A fast growing, coniferous, evergreen pyramidal tree when young, becoming flat topped when mature. It occurs across southern Mediterranean Europe from Spain to the eastern Mediterranean, on Anatolian peninsula of Turkey and on Corsica/Cyprus, including Crimea and in the high mountains of the Maghreb in North Africa.

It was first introduced to the Americas in 1759. It is well suited to landscape planting as it appears resistant to urban pollution. It is moderately fast growing, likes full sun, moist well drained soil but will tolerate dry conditions and can live up to 500 years. Possible height up to 40 feet with dark green needles of dense habit (it has wonderful pale highlights which look like lit candles as new growth) and dark furrowed bark especially attractive in older trees which makes for a very special ornamental or specimen tree.



Staff this issue:

*Munroe Archibald
Joan Gibb
Ed Johnson
David Lye*

For more information on Dominion Brook Park, please visit <http://www.dominionbrookpark.ca/>
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