



LEAVES Newsletter



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online newsletters

Would you like to save a tree? View our newsletters online!

In addition to the 2 printed newsletters a year we would like to add 2 more **online only** versions. All will be available online.

The newsletters will be posted on our website in pdf format. A direct link will be sent in an email.

Approximately March, June, September & December

newsletter@rhcs.org

Please email us your **email** address so we can let you know when the latest Newsletter is available online for viewing!

Your email address will be used only to inform you of RHCS news, we will not share your address.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT JUNE 1ST 2006


My first year as president of RHCS has proved to be a very busy one for our board and supporters. We started off the Spring with another season of guided tree walks plus planning meetings for Treefest.

Some of the highlights of 2005/06 include:

- Our first Children's Tree Walk
- Participated in the gARTen Tour, hosting artists outdoors at Finnies Garden
- Hosted Burke Mountain Naturalists' (BMN) June meeting – a nature walk with Don Gillespie and refreshments after at Finnies
- The official launch of Cottonwood Lodge
- Linden walk and tea under the Linden trees
- Participated in the Como Lake Festival – a very wet tree walk with Mary Brown
- Announcement that BCBC would be folded into the Ministry of Labour and Citizens Services and would be known in future (Apr. 1/06) as Shared Services B.C. Stewardship committee meetings have continued as usual.
- Stream enhancement project at Riverview Creek funded by BCBC
- Treefest display at Coquitlam Farmers Market and Poirier Library
- Treefest 2005 including themed tree walks, heritage buildings tour, children's walk
- Began a visioning process with BCBC and BMN to produce a document that will form the framework for the care and management of the present tree collection and the development of guidelines for future tree plantings. Part of this process includes the re-tagging and updating of the tree inventory.
- At our Feb. 06 meeting we heard a presentation by Ian Birtwell and Nick Davies (BCBC) and Marilyn Marchment (big think communications) which gave an overview of the status quo at Riverview

We continue to work through the Stewardship Committee with Shared Services BC and BMN to achieve the best possible outcome for the future of the wonderful tree collection and urban green space that is the Riverview Hospital site.

*Donna Crosby
June 1, 2006*



**Thank you to everyone who attended
Our Annual General Meeting**
Thursday June 1st, 2006

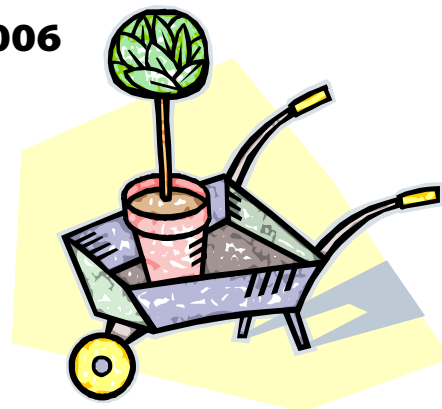
Excerpts of some Director reports are included in this eNewsletter!

Tree Sale at Treefest 2006

Just a reminder that if you have trees that are surplus to your needs, we would love you to donate them to our Tree Sale.

The sooner they are potted up the better so they will be well rooted by September.

Watering will be a problem but we will have volunteers to help with this over the summer. If you would have time to help with the trees, they will be stored in the Como Lake & Poirier neighbourhood of Coquitlam.



If you have trees to donate, time to be a tree caregiver or have any questions, please call Donna at 604-939-4064 or leave a message at 604-290-9910.

Donna our President

The Strategic Planning Committee

Since January, 2006, I have represented RHCS on the Coquitlam Strategic Planning Committee of the Whole. This rather long title describes a city committee formed to gather input from community groups and involved citizens for revising Coquitlam's Strategic Plan, last visited in 2003. The committee has met four times under the leadership of Jennifer Wilkie, with another meeting scheduled for June 8. The revised 2006 Strategic Plan will be drafted over the summer and we will have a chance to review it and give feedback prior to publication.

The meetings are held at Coquitlam city hall and consist of a presentation followed by group discussion where opinions are recorded. We have also been given a large volume of background material to peruse. Livability issues such as crime, transportation, development, parks, youth, environment, and heritage have all been debated. The approximately 50 participants are mainly individuals who have served on city advisory committees and represent a broad spectrum of interests and opinion. City staff members and some council members also take part.

The role of the Riverview Lands in the future of Coquitlam arose (or was brought up by yours truly!) many times during these discussions and the Riverview Task Force report was made available to participants. I was pleased to observe a much enhanced level of

public awareness of the Riverview site and it's potential. The hard work of our members who mount displays, organize and attend tours, write articles and letters, sit on committees and just talk about Riverview is definitely paying off.

However, there are still those who have not visited the grounds and are unaware of their unique features. I recommend that RHCS continue to search for ways to expand our support base by offering more varied activities on site that appeal to a wide range of interests and age groups.

Because of my involvement in this project, I attended a lecture in Richmond where New York urban geographer Fred Kent, president of Project for Public Spaces (www.pps.org) outlined his concept of a livable city. He emphasized that opportunity for meaningful activity is an essential factor in the success of any public space. I could envision how a unique landscape like Riverview could play an important role in such a livable city and it made me realize that we should be more open to considering a wider variety of uses for the buildings and landscapes.

I look forward to my continued involvement in this civic project and I will continue to push our vision and represent RHCS in this arena.

Sue Haberber, Director, RHCS

From the Walk Director

As usual we have had a busy year of talking the talk through our wonderful mature open-grown trees. The season seems to get earlier each year, and we end up chasing the last few flowers (magnolia, linden) as they have flowered earlier than usual. Anyway we have seldom had poor weather, but do notice that the threat of rain puts people off coming, although we have never cancelled because of weather. One bonus has been several arborists (or people training to be) on the walks, who are interested in helping us with Trefest, and other events.

Besides the walks I have been delighted to join the Natural Heritage Stewardship group at a time when the discussion has moved along from care-taking the existing collection to inviting several arborists to join us to discuss our vision for the future of the Lands. We have also been helping to identify trees for re-tagging all numbers, and designate which trees will receive informative signs (originally 100, but now we are being asked to suggest up to 500). With Latin and common names, place of origin, and tag number, not to mention the digital positioning system in progress, this is going to make the trees much easier to identify. Such things as planning for succession planting are ahead.

We are planning a new way of doing the self guided tour, with separate sheets for each zone, starting with the zones currently on the SG list, and adding more as time allows. We hope that this will give people a chance to explore more areas of the collection.

I would like to thank the Arborists who have volunteered their time to lead our walks so faithfully, and the members of Burke Mountain Naturalists who have brought people to the Lands and contributed enormously to the Trefest planning and Stewardship groups.

Mary Brown privileged to be the Walk Director

Walk through Finnies - June 1, 2006

Everything looked beautiful last Sunday when Mary and I went for a walk through our favorite natureescape garden. The Rosa nutkana that Pam gave us are in bloom on the bank along with Mahonia aquifolium, Holodiscus discolor, Lupinus, and of course Dame's rocket. This show is our reward for the many, many months of whacking back the blackberry bushes! I know now I must invest in a digital camera so that I can capture these spectacular images to share with others. We spotted an Aquilegia Formosa in full bloom near the 'woodland garden' and Mary spent some time weeding an area to give Arctostaphylos uva-ursi a better chance.

I hope that everyone will visit Finnies soon. It is really beyond description, and you must experience it for yourself.



Finnies is maturing and becoming more visitor friendly not only for us humans but because of increased diversity for other creatures as well.

One area of concern is the invasive plants throughout the garden so check your emails for up and coming work parties. Gardeners will have time to do cultivating and weed removal as well!

Thanks to all our Friends who continue to donate tools of all kinds. Special thanks to Donna who recently donated a tool needed for a specific transplanting job. Thank you Everyone.

Norma



A lawn mower has recently been purchased and Don and Niall are **hoping** that Friends of Finnies will come and try it out.



The Newsletter Work Party

In March 2006 we produced and mailed our newsletter with the 'New' design to our members.



Here is a photo of the workers folding newsletters, stuffing envelopes, addressing and stamping those envelopes. Thank you for all the hard work ladies.

We will be producing 4 newsletters a year now. There will still be only 2 printed versions. They will also be available for viewing online at our website. Plus the other 2 newsletters will be online only, to save paper and money.



Volunteers Needed

We are on the lookout for volunteers for **Treefest** in September.

We can also use more people on the **Treefest Planning committee**; which meets during the day, monthly at first, then more as required. Energy, ideas, and commitment are appreciated.

RHCS members could help by being a **host/supporter** for the Arborist leading a walk. Come on one of our walks during the year and find out more about what this involves. Speak to one of the members present.

Other volunteer opportunities:

We are always open to new members for the **Board**, as some of us have been around long enough that new ideas would be a great help. We are definitely looking for a new **bookkeeper**. If interested at all, why not come to some of our meetings and see what it is all about?

Meetings are held on the first Thursday in the month, at 7:15 pm, except July and December, best to phone Donna our President (604-290-9910).



**RHCS
Executive**

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DIRECTORS at LARGE
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Ron Javorsky, Liz Rowley

Upcoming Walks

Sunday June 18th at 1pm Doug Justice, from UBC Botanical Garden is going to take us on a 3 hour walk called "Crazy about the Trees". Doug has been showing us how much he enjoys the trees lately, by giving of his time to help with the visioning process of the Natural Heritage Stewardship Group. We will go rain or shine, and are planning to have a short refreshment break along the way. We will have members willing to guide people back to the HEY if needed.

Thursday June 29th at 7.30 pm we have our Linden walk. As the Tilia europea are already popping buds we wonder if they will still be in flower by then, however T.tomentosa (silver linden) comes into bloom later, and will probably help us out again. Mike Nihls is looking forward to leading this walk, and perhaps to the tea we have afterwards, using some of the blossoms.



Regular walks continue on **July 16 and August 20** at 1 pm.

A BMN walk around the backyard and through Finnie's Garden on **June 25th and August 27th both at 1 pm.**

Email trees@rhcs.org or 604-290-9910

LEAVES newsletter

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DISTRIBUTION

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**We're on the Web!
visit us:**

www.rhcs.org

2006 Tree Walk Schedule

June 25th	Sunday	1 pm	BMN Backyard walk
June 29th	Thursday	7:30 pm	Linden walk
July 16th	Sunday	1 pm	Public Tree Tour
August 20th	Sunday	1 pm	Public Tree Tour
August 27th	Sunday	1 pm	BMN Backyard walk
September 17th	Sunday	12-5pm	TREEFEST 2006
October 15th	Sunday	1 pm	Public Tree Tour

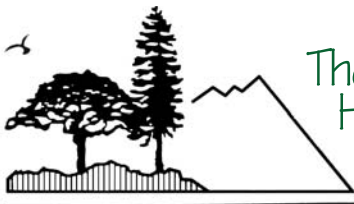


All walks start at the HEY building at 1 pm unless stated otherwise.

Treefest 2006 September 17
12 noon to 5 pm

Treefest 2006 is shaping up to be another great event. If anyone would be interested in helping out in any way at this celebration of the trees we would be most glad to hear from them.

Email trees@rhcs.org or 604-290-9910



The Riverview Horticultural Centre Society

Logo design and drawings courtesy of Brenda Gillespie and Kyoshi Takahashi

RENEW NOW!!

MEMBERSHIP FORM

The RHCS invites you to join us in supporting our efforts to keep the site of British Columbia's first botanical garden, the Riverview Hospital Lands intact.

Your Membership dues support many activities by the Society including public awareness, presentations, displays, etc. These dues are especially helpful for the production of our Newsletter "Leaves". This Newsletter is produced four times a year on-line to keep you up to date and in touch with what is happening currently with RHCS and the Riverview Lands.

NEW this year! On-line Newsletters!

Please include your email address with your Renewal so we can send you an email to let you know when 'new' newsletters are available on-line for viewing.

In this time of change on the lands we really need your continued support more than ever before. We Value your Support & Appreciate all the help you can give.

Please print this form and mail it, together with your fee & any donation, to the address below.

MEMBERSHIP - RENEWAL FORM

The RHCS invites you to join us in supporting our efforts to keep the site of British Columbia's first botanical garden, the Riverview Hospital Lands, intact.

Membership Classification: New Membership [] or Renewal []

Yearly membership is due on April 1st;

Student: \$5 [] Senior: \$5 [] Adult: \$10 [] Family: \$15 []
Corporate: \$25 [] Sponsor: \$ []

You are invited to make an additional contribution to support the Society \$ _____

Total amount enclosed \$ _____

(Please make cheques payable to; Riverview Horticultural Centre Society)

RHCS is a registered charitable organization #3771 0893 RR0001

Choose to receive your 'Newsletter' by: email [] or Canada Post []

email address for Newsletters: _____

Membership Application/Information:

First Name(s): _____ Last Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Province: _____ Postal Code: _____

Home phone: _____ Work phone: _____ email: _____

Please Mail to: The Riverview Horticultural Centre Society
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