



Friends of Dominion Brook Park Society

## *The Rhodo Ravine Project Update*

The restoration and rehabilitation of the Rhododendron Ravine continues to be the principal focus of the Friends of Dominion Brook Park Society. We are well into Phase 2, the planning phase of the project, and we will now move forward with completing the topographic and geotechnical requirements. In the coming year, as funding permits, we hope to begin the detailed planning portion of Phase 2. Once complete, we will be in a position to establish a budget for Phase 3 and to solicit assistance from local contractors.

There are further requirements in Phase 2, including the obligation for additional Environmental Study for the CFIA, and the necessary permits. These conditions will be met just prior to commencing Phase 3 so that we will be in compliance with the most current regulations.

Although there appears to be little evidence of restoration or rehabilitation we are continuing to move ahead with our plan to return the Ravine to its former glory at the heart of Dominion Brook Park.

## 2014 Annual General Meeting Coming Up !

The Annual General Meeting of the Friends of Dominion Brook Park Society is April 16, 7pm, in the Pavilion of the Centre for Plant Health, 8801 East Saanich Road.

**Featured Speaker: Joe Daly, Landscape Architect**

### **Board Member Positions, 2014-15**

**Chairperson: David Lye**

**Vice-Chairperson:**

**Treasurer:**

**Secretary:**

**Media:**

**Grants & Fundraising:**

**Directors-at-Large:**

If you would like to be part of an exciting on-going project, plan to attend this meeting!

*Farewell and Thanks to CPH Director  
Dan Thompson*



After more than 34 years at the Centre for Plant Health, Director Dan Thompson has retired. Dan first came to the "Experimental Farm" in the 70's for a summer job while studying at UVic. He returned after graduation and has been here ever since; completing his career as CPH Director.

Dan represented the CFIA on the Board of the Friends for the last two years; his participation was always appreciated.

Hope your retirement is as long and fulfilling as your career.

Thanks Dan.

The Friends of Dominion Brook Park are seeking volunteers for the Wednesday morning work parties. For further information contact Joan Gibb, 250- 656- 4185 or [gibbjb@shaw.ca](mailto:gibbjb@shaw.ca)



*Volunteers don't get paid not because they're worthless, but because they're priceless.~ Sherry Anderson*

*Brian, seen in this photo sitting on the far right, writes "restoring this park to its former grandeur is a lot of hard work. If it is not done by volunteers it will not be done. The perks: the once-a-month goodies, coffee and tea, a shared joke or story, and the best part of it, an opportunity to hang out with a great bunch of people. What more could one ask for?"*



*The true meaning of life is to plant trees, under whose shade you do not expect to sit. ~ Nelson Henderson*

*Every single time I am in the Park, whether it is with the team or by myself. A Park visitor(s) has approached with positive comments on the work of the volunteers and sincere thank yous for our efforts in maintaining this glorious site. ~ Joan Gibb*



*Research has shown that people who volunteer often live longer ~ Allen Klein*

**Photo Contest !**

*The Friends invite you to show your stuff!  
Between now and July 15th we are accepting photographic entries depicting some aspect of Dominion Brook Park. Prizes and notoriety await the winner(s)!*

details can be found at:  
<http://dominionbrookpark.ca/photographs.html>



**As a Society we also need volunteers to join our Board of Directors. If this is of interest to you please contact us at [contactus@dominionbrookpark.ca](mailto:contactus@dominionbrookpark.ca)**

# Newsletters and Memberships

Your membership dues of \$20.00 each year enroll you as a “friend” of Dominion Brook Park. Those dues are used for the general maintenance of the Park including the acquisition of new, interesting plants to amplify the Park’s natural beauty.

The printing and mailing of the newsletter to each member incurs a considerable cost from the overall budget that the Board feels could be better directed for the enhancement of the Park.

Consequently, we have decided to e-mail

colour copies of all future newsletters to those members who have provided their e-mail addresses. We will continue to mail printed copies to those who do not have access to a computer and to those who prefer and request a hard copy version of the newsletter.

Thank you for your renewed memberships which you will carry through to April 30, 2015 when our fiscal year ends.

## Featured Plant

### *Rhododendron basilicum*



**A handsome large leaved small tree with creamy white flowers with a distinctive crimson blotch in a truss of 10-25 flowers. Flowering between March to May with attractive young foliage and shiny dark green leaves up to 36cm long with a fawn woolly indumentum on the underside. It grows 3-12 meters and best in a sheltered woodland.**

**A native to Western Yunnan and Northeast Burma and was introduced to the west in 1913. Our specimen was donated by park goer and rhodo propagator par excellence, Don Whittle.**



For more information on Dominion Brook Park, please visit <http://www.dominionbrookpark.ca/>  
To contact the Friends of Dominion Brook Park Society please write to Box 20007, Sidney, B.C. V8L 5C9  
General and Membership enquiries : 250-656 0318  
email : [contactus@dominionbrookpark.ca](mailto:contactus@dominionbrookpark.ca)