

Editorial

West Meets East

It is four years since Davidsonia was reborn. In that time, papers have been largely invited as a result of advice received as well as my various whims, but the unsolicited submissions are increasing. The papers have been relatively short and we have a rapid peer review process in place. The enormous costs of publishing with colour in text as well as the ever-rising costs of mailing have led us to become an e-journal with paper available to subscribers. The whole production from manuscript to finished journal is done in-house.

This issue contains the first of what I hope will become a continuing series of biographical papers that document the work of plant scientists of all persuasions who have contributed to our knowledge and understanding of plants and landscapes in British Columbia and neighbouring regions. I hope that all who read this editorial will send me suggestions for future biographies... you may want to write for this series. Thanks to Nancy Turner, we start with Adam Szczawinski, botanist, mycologist, and conservationist extraordinaire.

February will see the first plantings in the Carolinian Forest Arboretum. This project brings conclusion to decades of discussion and inaction on the use of the large space at the northwest corner of the Main Garden. Past plans have included various bed arrangements and an evolutionary garden. However, several years ago, the late Dr. Gerald Straley began to advocate for a plantation of tree species that occur in the Carolinian Forest of eastern North America. Such a planting would show some phytogeographic links between eastern North America and the eastern Asian flora. While species are different, there are several genera whose distribution ranges across North America and into Asia.

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With the passage of time and the maturing of the plantings, we can expect to see a unique collection that will provide research material, teaching resources, particularly for those interested in novel opportunities for trees in the landscape, year round pleasure for the visiting public and a peaceful and beautiful refuge from the hurly-burly of metropolitan Vancouver.