

WEEKLY UPDATE #8 – MAY 21 – MAY 28, 2017

NEWS

- Brian C has obtained a new umbrella for the trolley. It is lime green to match the new uniform shirts, which could arrive around the end of May.
- An upright piano is lurking near the glasshouse waiting to surprise visitors.
- The fusion beds in front of the Minotaur are ready for replanting.
- Miguel M has started planting in the Vegetable Garden.

NOTED ON FRIDAY 19TH MAY, 2017

The Peony Bed on the Great Lawn

- Some of the Moutan peonies, *Paeonia suffruticosa* 'Cultivar name' are out.
- The Redvein Enkianthus, *Enkianthus campanulatus*¹ looks good on a bright day.
- The Douglas fir in the bed shows a lightning scar from the 'Cherry Walk' side.
- The Rhododendron/Azalea beds across the Great Lawn are blooming well.

The Azalea Trail

- Rhododendrons and azaleas on both sides of the bark path are flowering.

Plants to See and Smell

- Chilean Firebush, *Embothrium coccineum*, is 'alight' beside the Chilean Garden steps.
- Under leaves of mayapples, *Podophyllum peltatum*, open white flowers await ants.
- Manchurian pipe vine, *Aristolochia manshuriensis*, has 'pipes' by Maze/Fern Dell gate.
- The delicate orange and red shades of the Florida azaleas, *Rhododendron austrinum*, grace the Cypress Pond beds.
- In the Heather Garden gazebo, nearby white blooming tree heaths subtly scent the air.

Laburnums

- Some laburnums are fully open in sunny parts of the Garden. The full majesty of the 'Laburnum Walk' should be visible soon.
- The two Adam's laburnum + *Laburnocytis 'Adamii'*,² graft chimeras at the bottom of the Great Lawn and in the nearby Perennial Garden bed, show the yellow and the purple flowers, but, as of yet, not the pink ones.

¹ The name 'campanulatus' says that the flower shape is in the 'camp' of 'bell' flowers

² <https://www.rhs.org.uk/Plants/99177/i-Laburnocytisus-i-Adamii/Details>

Events This Week

- There are no scheduled general Guide meetings this week.

Courses This Week³

- Wed 24th May, 2017, 6.30 – 9.00 pm
New! Introduction to Vertical Gardening
VanDusen Guides Classroom, Instructor: Dr. Yael Stav.
- The two other courses this week are both fully booked.

Register online or call 604-718-5898 (Tue - Fri, 10 am - 4 pm)
Members receive 10% off the non-member price.

During Patti 's absence over the next few weeks, please send any comments, suggestions for future 'Weekly Update' topics, questions etc., to Malcolm: malcolmjhunter@hotmail.co.uk

³ For full details see: <http://vandusengarden.org/explore/events/#courses>