

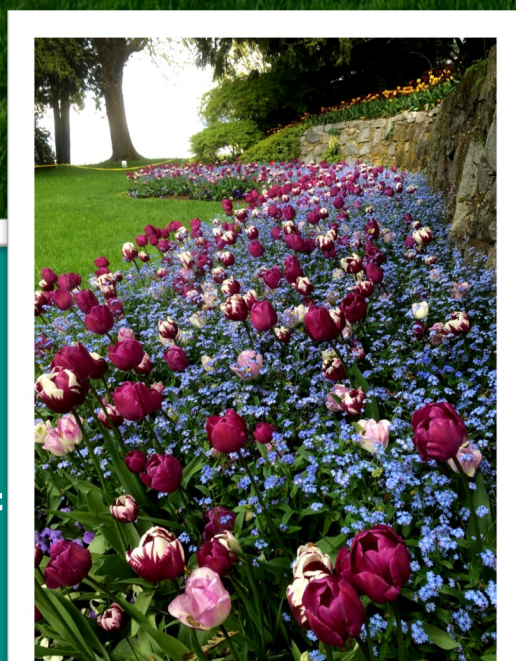
The Gallimaufry

May 2020 - A special "let's stay connected" series. Vol. 2

See contest info on p. 3



Martin Addison



Erica Pratt



Where Seniors Stay *Young*

Brock House Society - 3875 Point Grey Rd, Vancouver BC V6R 1B3 - BrockHouseSociety.com

BrockHouseGallimaufry@gmail.com



From the President's Pen

Hello again. I do hope that you are keeping healthy and safe by adhering to the COVID physical health regulations. However just to confirm, the purpose of these special issues of *The Gallimaufry* is to explore and reinforce the *mental health* aspects of this pandemic with you and to help build a virtual connection between Brock House Society and you as a member.

I hope that you found some of my suggestions in last month's issue helpful and that by adhering to those daily routines you now have: tidy clothes closets, have done a complete review of "use by dates" on your food items and have found those old Raymond Chandler detective stories that you used to enjoy. I hope that you have also been finding time to add daily exercise to your routines by taking advantage of this exceptional weather that we have been having lately. So, upon review, you can feel doubly proud as you refer to this first month's record of events in your daily journal.

As I review my monthly record of events, I must share one more item with you and that is the inclusion of music at certain times of the day, to use as a calming influence. For example, following the early morning COVID statistics, or to counteract dreadful news events in your mind. An example of the music that I would recommend is on a CD called "After the Rain: The soft piano sounds of Erik Satie". It helps transport me to a quiet, calm and reflective place in my mind and I can then return to harsh reality somewhat refreshed. So as something else to add to your To Do list *why not email us the title of a piece of music* that has helped you keep calm and relaxed during this difficult period and we will itemise and share them with you in the next issue of *The Gallimaufry*.

I will now continue with a brief update on events at BHS over the past month.

Although we are technically closed, Martin Addison, our new administrator, has been attending daily, along with Lee and Nebojsa, while Yolanda can work just as well from home. We also have Sahil Bhanote the new administrative assistant who works 2 days a week as required.

The level of activity has been very high over this past month. With regards to maintenance, we continued with the ongoing repairs to the basement billiard and activity rooms, along with the upgrade and carpet replacement in the lobby and conservatory. We are now waiting for the delivery of the new furniture.

In order to further engage with you, we have started a virtual connection and are presently reviewing other programs that can be shared with you. These will be announced soon in your Friday email UPdate from Yolanda. Also, in case you have missed it Kaz, from the cafeteria, prepares frozen meals at a very reasonable price that can be picked up every Thursday. The details are also in the Friday UPdate [see below]. And we have volunteers who are prepared to offer contact support, as required, by those who seek it. All of these are services we are trying to provide in order to assist you.

So although *we are technically down we are definitely not out!* We are all eagerly awaiting the time when we can return to normalcy at BHS once again with a Grand Reopening Party Event in order to celebrate a fresh start to our programs and events. This will be done in an environment which we all know so well, but which is putting on a new and fresh face in order to welcome us back. Can't wait!

Thank you and stay healthy and engaged.

-Peter Phillips, President

For current, reliable information about COVID-19 please visit government resources such as those on the Brock House Society website and in the weekly email UPdate,

Weekly UPdates



Judy Ashton



That's a Lot of B.H.!

by Parker O'Brian

Parker O'Brian has prepared a special Brock House themed puzzle! There's a prize for the first and second Brock House members to finish the puzzle correctly. **The first prize winner can choose between a \$20 gift card to Starbucks or 3 frozen meals from Kaz! The second prize winner will receive 2 frozen meals from Kaz.**

If you want to participate, please download and print a copy of the puzzle from Yolanda's Friday UPdate or from p. 4 of *The Gallimaufry*. **If you require a paper copy you can pick one up on May 1 from noon to 3:30 p.m.** They'll be available by the front door. Please adhere to all social distancing standards when you are on-site.

All finished crossword puzzles can be scanned and sent to Parker by email at: **laineandparker@shaw.ca**

Or to submit your completed puzzle by hard copy, place it in an envelope and return it to Brock House via the mailbox at the front entrance. **Please remember to include your name and the date.**

We hope you have fun!

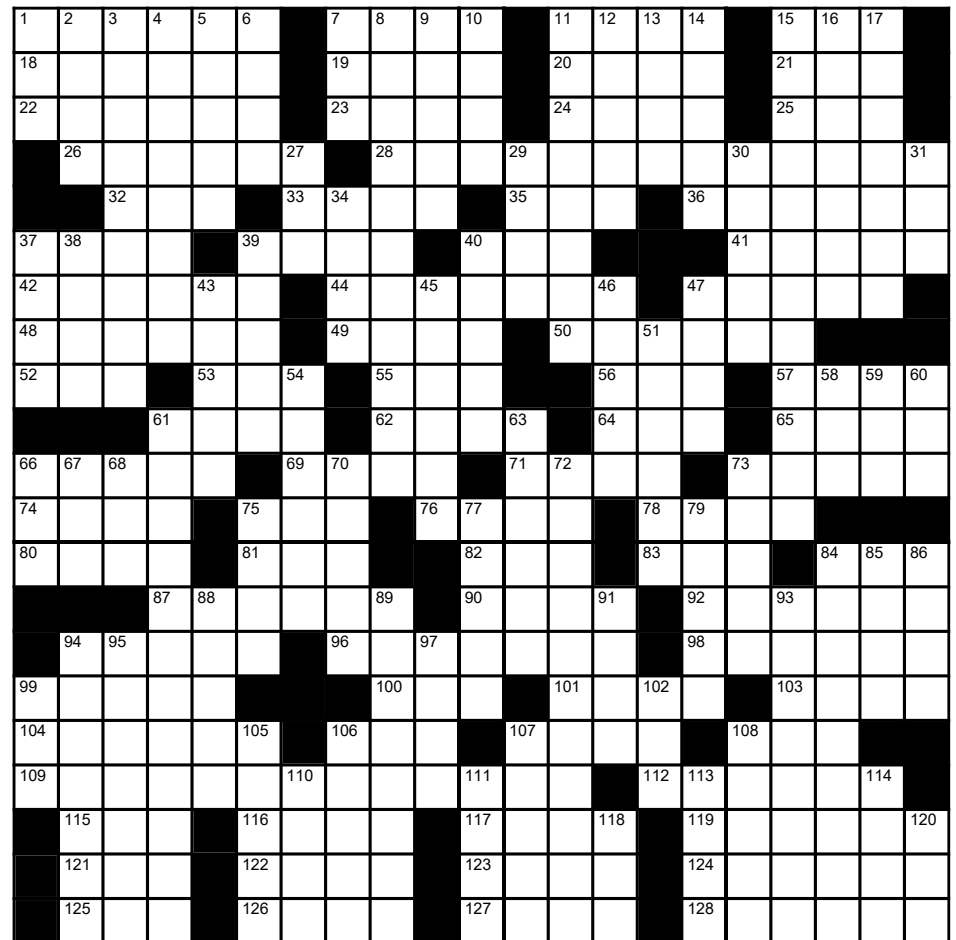
That's a lot of B.H.!

by Parker O'Brian

Across

1. Gomez and Morticia of old TV
7. Glasgow gal
11. Swimming units
15. Mahmoud Abbas's grp.
18. Source of an allergic reaction
19. B.H. residents during the 1960s
20. Breakfast chain, for short
21. Cool, once
22. Make changes to
23. Mother of the Titans
24. Theatrical Coward
25. Meteor follower
26. On the way up
28. B.H. architect
32. When the B.H. fall program usually ends, abbr.
33. Still-life subject
35. "Don't be ____"
36. 1966 Clavell novel set in Hong Kong
37. Kitchen addition
39. Salmon caught off the BC coast
40. "Little Women" woman
41. Espies
42. Bring about
44. Scared, old style
47. Eric _____, 2003 Cy Young award-winning pitcher for the Dodgers
48. Type of ruler or roll
49. Look after
50. Where leopards might be spotted
52. Concorde, abbr.
53. Annual B.H. Society. event, abbr.
55. Former telecom giant
56. Big coffee holder
57. "_____ Land", 2016 film that didn't win the Best Picture Oscar
61. Mystery writer Ambler
62. Mardi _____
64. _____ Band, B.H. swingers
65. Talking horse on 1960s TV
66. Item in the B.H. program
69. Dept. store inventory
71. Words preceding deal or date

73. What one may feel upon finishing lunch at the B.H. cafeteria
74. _____ Langley
75. Tool not often used in the B.H. woodworking shop
76. 2020 film based on a Jane Austen novel
78. Gosling who starred in 57 Across
80. Scottish lake
81. Nintendo game console
82. Diplomat's bldg.
83. _____ sauce
84. School support org.
87. Narcissist's problem
90. Move, in real estate lingo
92. Shuffle the cards, say
94. Actresses Burnett or Channing
96. Mrs. Brock who bought B.H. from 15 Down in 1922
98. Mental picture
99. Former Playboy cover girl and actress Benton
100. "I told you so!"
101. Chinese secret society
103. Not fooled by
104. Preparing for war
106. Health resort
107. Dynamic beginning
108. Commandment word
109. First president of B.H. Society (with a room named in his honour)
112. Popular activity at B.H.
115. Shark's giveaway
116. Myrna's 1934 role in "The Thin Man"
117. "_____ Misbehavin'"
119. Where work piles up
121. It needs refinement
122. Basic util.
123. Curb, with "in"
124. Third word of the Golden Rule
125. Star Wars heroine featured in the 2015, 2017 and 2019 films
126. Hook's mate in Peter Pan



127. "Hey, over here!"
128. _____ be back someday (after the pandemic is over)

Down

1. When the B.H. spring Program usually begins, abbr.
2. Bucks and does
3. He bought B.H. from the Brocks in 1938
4. Plants with a licorice-like flavour
5. Popular activity at B.H.
6. British submachine gun
7. Bigger than med.
8. Movie filmed at B.H. in 1973
9. _____ campaign
10. Unwanted e-mail
11. Genealogical pursuits
12. Smokey Robinson 1962 hit, "You've really got _____ on me"
13. Frost lines
14. Cartoon impact sound
15. First owner of B.H.
16. Take some pressure off
17. Make the cut, in the surgery room

27. Logical start
29. Manipulative one
30. Amira of the 2017 film, "Call Me by Your Name"
31. Coast Guard rank: Abbr.
34. Second baseman in an Abbot and Costello skit
37. Big 2 Down
38. Afternoon socials
39. "Best friend" of Queen Elizabeth II
40. Buddy Holly's "Love's _____ Fool Out of You"
43. Glum drops
45. It may follow soup or salad
46. Slaps on
47. "Our _____" early films featuring Spanky, Alfalfa, and Buckwheat
51. Monastery members
54. Year when B.H. was built
58. Popular activity at B.H.
59. Murray who oversees maintenance at B.H.
60. Recipe word
61. Namesake of the Literary Art Series at B.H.
63. Do a slow burn
66. Lions and Eskimos org.
67. Head of England
68. Circle segment
70. Belief in God through reason

72. Popular activity at B.H.
73. Refuse
75. Military no-show
77. French curse
79. How seniors feel at B.H.
84. Road on which B.H. sits
85. Gait between walk and canter
86. _____ time (never)
88. On the way out
89. Put in the wrong spot
91. American emanation
93. _____ the test of time
94. Look after
95. Large wardrobe
97. Vault
99. Type of lunch
102. San Francisco's _____ Hill
105. Trait carriers
106. Eastern wrap
107. First sign of spring
108. Final inning, usually
110. "Brock _____", name given to B.H. by 96 Across
111. Tombstone lawman
113. Hilariously funny thing
114. British noble
118. Big bang producer
120. High fashion monogram

The 7:00 p.m. salute



In recognition and appreciation of the many people who are working to keep our society functioning, Brock House member Barbara Ann is giving a mini accordion concert daily at 7:00 p.m. Her repertoire changes each night and includes upbeat melodies from around the world: Scottish and Irish reels, German, French, Italian, and English folk songs as well as well-known polkas and marches.

As the instigator of this event, Barbara Ann sent a hand written invitation to all the neighbours on her block who have responded by appearing promptly at the appointed hour, some remaining on their porches and balconies while others stand by the roadside keeping a suitable physical distance. They all participate with enthusiasm, banging pots, clapping their hands or ringing bells. In this way, they salute the bravery and sacrifice of the first responders, health care workers, truckers, grocery store workers, and all those who work in essential services.

The audience keeps growing each night and there are always smiles all around!

Cheers,
Alice & Barbara Ann

The Brock House Art Group has gone online, we have been isolating ourselves in our studios and we have been busy.

This is a recent watercolour painting of mine in 3 steps. I don't have a final name for it yet but it is a donkey that I painted for a friend; she had taken the photograph that inspired this painting on a recent trip to Egypt.

*-Gillian Olson,
Art Group Convenor*



Pandemic Portraits

by
Geoff Mynett

Geoff is a member of the Brock House Art Group and author of the best-selling biography Service on the Skeena: Horace Wrinch, Frontier Physician.

As someone who is passionate about history, he's been taking a close look at the individuals in the news: history in the making.



This month's portrait is British Columbia's acclaimed chief medical officer, Dr. Bonnie Henry, whose calm and patience has guided us through these troubled times.
Charcoal and white chalk on tan paper.—GM

A May Birthday by Bartholomew

Notable people were born in May.
Who was the most famous, it's hard to say.
One was Florence, who was a nurse,
so maybe we should choose her first.

As she made her rounds during the night
she carried a lamp to reveal one's plight.
At the Crimean War much disease did she find,
so sanitation was first on her mind.

The importance of nursing she tried to raise
to that of a profession that receives much praise.
She received a brooch from a Victorian queen
who also held her in high esteem.

Her Nightingale School was brought to fruition
where professional nurses received tuition.
International Nurses Day falls on the 12th of May,
honouring Florence Nightingale who was born on this day.

Florence in Italy from whence she came
had a large influence on her name.
Although quite ill she would not retire,
a heroine whom we all admire.
She sacrificed a life of wealth
for dedication to human health.

BEAR

Air hangs heavy
suffocates
as temperature soars
sidewalk shimmers.

Ah, there he is
sprawled, dreaming
on parched grass fringe.
I approach light-footed
no wish to disturb.
He hears and opens
lazy feline eyes
gentle, limpid
that widen briefly
anticipating treats.

I stroke his head
speaking low
and hear a soft meow.
I am honoured,
he responds today
but seeing no gift
eyes slowly close.

Moments later
tummy rises, tummy falls
he dreams again
his peace complete.
I smooth the fur
that spills around him
black and auburn
soft as cashmere.
Smiling, I leave.

Many visit
many admire
but on hot summer days
in his chosen spot
not seeking celebrity
he remains, simply, Bear.

*Christine Mewis
September, 2019.*

Needle Crafts

While we are all missing our usual group sessions, some of our members have been using their time in lockdown to knit and crochet at home. We are fortunate that, unlike many others, our hobby can be pursued with very little equipment and without any other team members.

-Carol Jackson



Carol Jackson has been crocheting



MaryAnne Broccolo hat



Marcena Croy is knitting scarves

Grandmother's Flower Garden Quilt



I've been doing a lot of work in my garden on the nice days and it is looking really good! I don't think I have ever done so much work so early in the season: cherry tree pruned, vegetable bed dug, raspberry canes trellised, leeks, lettuce and peas planted and lawn top dressed. Good exercise and a great way of meeting neighbours and dog walkers, etc. as they stroll by down the lane outside my fence.

On days like today I am working on a quilt I started 24 years ago when I was supervising an 'AIDS' project at St. Paul's Hospital. I had to spend a lot of time in meetings and waiting for patients and study participants, etc. so at the suggestion of a friend, also in Health Care & Epidemiology/UBC ... I started hand piecing a 'Grandmother's Flower Garden' quilt. As the study progressed, the quilt got difficult to manage so it was wrapped up and moved into a drawer. And there it stayed for 24 years.

Now COVID 19 and Voila! **The quilt is out of the drawer and on it's way to completion!**

I still have some piecing and a whole lot of quilting to do. A great project for inside on a wet, miserable day!

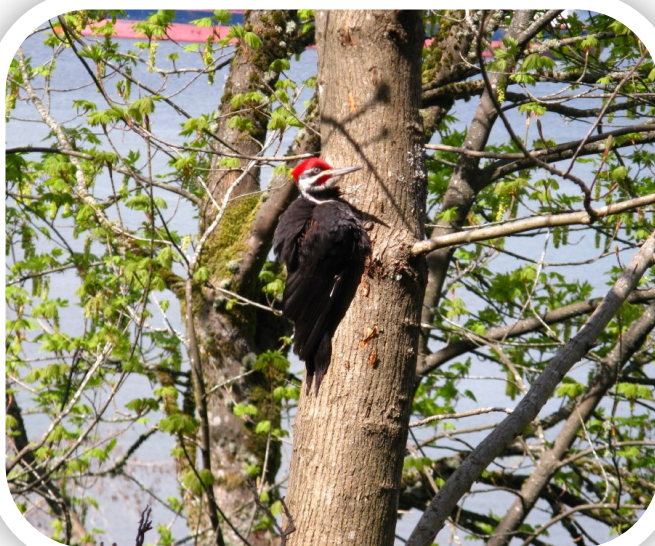
-Heather Merilees

I've almost finished working on a drawing which will form the basis of a new painting of False Creek. It's been quite a challenge getting the perspective right in the skyscrapers. I ordered a 36x24" canvas and it arrived yesterday from DeSerres, beautifully packaged in cardboard. Transferring the drawing to the canvas is just donkey work, but the fun part will be to put that first dab of paint onto the canvas.

 Dianna Boyd



Doug and Lisa Smith spotted this beautiful pileated woodpecker on Admiralty Trail in Pacific Spirit Park during one of their daily walks.



Gratitude or.....how COVID -19 has played out in my life so far!

by

Glenys Acland

March 12. As usual, as an Esther Birney Literary Arts Series committee member I helped host the lecture at Brock House. It proceeded as normal except with fewer attendees. The morning news was a little concerning. It seemed to warn that we needed to be prepared to stay apart and to have enough food in our homes to last two weeks. Went on a huge food and household goods shop on the way home.

March 13th. Brock House meeting occurred as usual but concluded it was almost definite the AGM would be postponed to the fall.....More shopping on the way home.

March 14th. Attended funeral of a dear friend in the morning. Sparse attendance and did not stay for the reception. No hugs or even handshakes...Bumped elbows.... very weird.

March 15th. Family arrives as previously planned to help me clear out my storage locker....last hugs from grandsons.

March 16th. The morning news became alarming, I asked my monthly cleaning lady to vacuum only and was now madly connecting with my Brock House committees and we reached the decision to cancel all our events until further notice.

March 16th. Bulletin from Brock House: Activities and all my weekly commitments stopped indefinitely! Yikes! Thus began my two weeks working in high gear cleaning out all outdated personal files for future shredding. Out into recycling went a cart load of out-

dated travel guides. Then, I tackled the travel photos (never put into albums). All that did not have a person on them went into recycling, too. No long goodbyes but a brief virtual world tour remembering wonderful people and places. Next my books. I filled three of the empty locker containers. Suddenly, I slowed down realizing the truth; I was in this "stay at home" mode for the long haul....

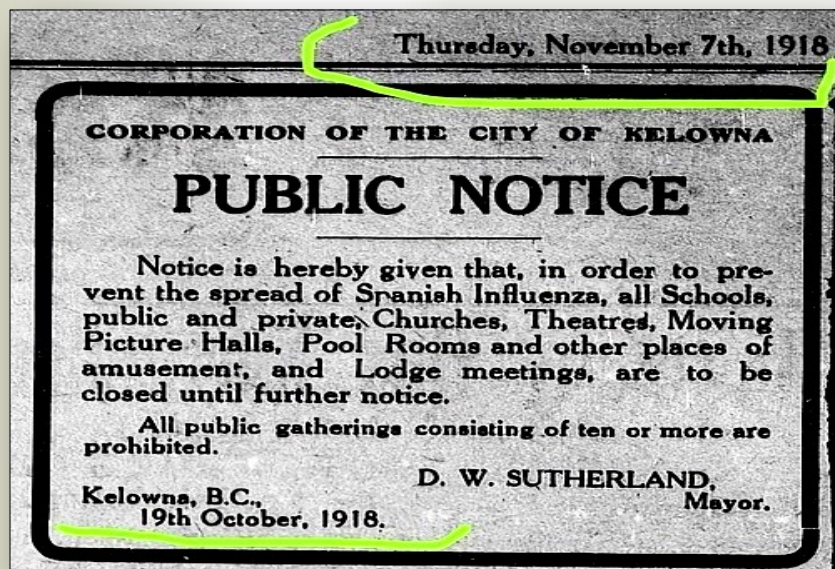
During my cleanout phase I found my long unused art supplies.... Hallelujah! This has kept me from being obsessed with online bridge and Free Cell. Also, relaxed enough to get back to reading novels and philosophy. Will do some Zoom meetings with BH Philosophy group, soon.

Now, I am making sure I communicate with at least three family members and/or friends electronically daily. I have met a couple of times with one or two at a time in our garden, staying more than the prescribed distance, walking in our spring awakening neighbourhood and using a new simple exercise gizmo. I am still trying to be creative in the kitchen, encouraging the new plant life on my balcony. Some have come through the winter and one is blooming.

I try my best never to miss the 7 o'clock pot banging and bell ringing for our frontline workers in the hospitals and in the community continuing to provide the best health care, food, medicine and other essentials. I am also very grateful for my family, friends and to be living here, in Canada! So far, I try not to dwell on all the things I miss.

Let's Go Back in Time

This is not the first time the world has gone through quarantines. For the past four weeks I have received many emails concerning our present state of affair the same as many of you. One that was most meaningful for me was a photo and word reminder of what happened to society during the Spanish flu, 1918. - GA



Cheer up and Zone out

by

Elisabeth Caton

Everywhere I look, in the emails I receive from friends and family, and in e-newsletters, blogs, texts, phone calls ... people are using the leisure they've suddenly acquired, thanks to physical distancing and the general halt to commerce and group activities, to do useful and sensible things. They tidy cupboards, clean out drawers and closets, polish windows, trim shrubs, sweep out garages, clean winter boots, organise files, pay bills, send cards to friends who might be lonely, practice musical skills. It's impressive!

And what do I do? I send emails and I sit around on my far too comfortable sofa, and I read, and read and read, downloading things on my Kindle, and hoovering them up indiscriminately. When I need a break from reading, I go for a walk and I play an infuriating game on my phone, something I've never done before. It's called Word With Friends 2, and I play it with my daughter who beats me consistently. When I get hungry, I think up something I can cook, and spend a happy hour or two in the kitchen, where even cleaning up afterwards is a recreational choice these days.

Although I am not yet at the point of watching Netflix before dinner, I can't wait to get my meal ready, take up my position in front of the screen, press the relevant buttons, and choose my evening's distraction. I've watched rom coms galore, and some of them are quite fun, some are disgracefully lacking in any redeeming qualities. I prefer the older rom coms, because I can relate more easily to the mores of earlier decades, but I'm open to most suggestions!

Another genre I've enjoyed watching recently is the heart-warming stories of people who've triumphed over adversity and there are many such, although like rom coms, they can delight or disgust you and it's hard to tell which way they'll go until you are already involved in the plot and can't stop watching. When Bethany Hamilton has her arm bitten off by a huge shark, you need to make sure she has her remarkable career as a surfer back on track in *Unstoppable*, definitely one of the delightful ones. I was sceptical to begin with, but glad I persevered!

I spent some hours transfixed by the gruelling struggle of Esty, a young wife in the ultra-orthodox Hassidic Jewish community in Williamsburg, NY, to achieve her independence by escaping to Berlin. The show is *Unorthodox*, and quite exceptional in its authentic representation of a way of life that most of us know nothing about, in which a tiny minority religious group tries to build its numbers by producing children and keeping them ignorant, throughout their lives, of how the rest of the world lives.

The variety of cooking shows is endless, and I've watched my way through *Chef's Line*, interesting and well-filmed; *Restaurants on the Edge*, with some

eye-catching restaurants on show; *The Final Table*, amazing food; others whose names I've forgotten. Among the most agreeable of them all is *The Great Canadian Baking Show*, and I'm struck by how very pleasant the contestants are, and by how charming Daniel Levy is in his role as ... what is he? Host, I suppose, although he plays the role of mischievous child so well.

I have no intention of cooking anything I have seen on these shows, but I can always dream. The food photography is superb, and all sorts of exotic ingredients are featured, and presented in creative ways, so the shows are esthetically pleasing and often filmed in glorious locations. There's always a time constraint, to provide excitement, which I find I need less of nowadays, but the contestants usually seem to hold themselves together and on the odd occasions when they don't, the viewers can revel in their misfortunes.

And what about *Tiny House Nation*, you'll ask. Those two guys who travel around and help people achieve their goal of living in an impossibly small space are simply charming. They are so sweet and helpful I'd be willing to live in a tiny house, just to have them come and build it for me. Mind you, when I had to show them all the stuff I have in my current house preparatory to sizing down, I'd feel terribly embarrassed, and I know I'd want to work hard to win their approval again.

I thought I'd take a peek at *Tiger King* because 'they' were talking about it on CBC radio, my companion in these troubled times. Of course, I ended up watching two episodes at a time, and stopping only because I knew if I watched any more in one sitting I'd never get to sleep. It was absolutely fascinating, horrifying and eye-opening, and I think I understand better now why the leadership of our neighbour to the south, the coughing elephant as I heard it called a few days ago, retains its popularity, in fact how 'he' got elected in the first place.

Then there's *Kitten Rescuers*, with bedraggled British kittens being pulled out of drain-pipes, persuaded out of chimneys, snagged out of trees, operated on to mend broken limbs. There's *100 Humans*, with bizarre and amusing experiments supposedly designed to help us learn about ourselves, but really performed just to amuse us. There's *Midnight Diner: Tokyo Stories*, whimsical, endearing, very Japanese; *Queer Eye* (even *Queer Eye in Tokyo* to continue the Japanese theme); *RuPaul's Drag Race*, the list might go on for pages!

So you can go about your worthy work, doing all those great things, and after this emergency has passed, and we're out in the world again, albeit a somewhat changed world, I'll be sorry I didn't do anything worthy at all while I was housebound. But for now, I'll enjoy my Netflix pleasures and be thankful for them.

Brock House Chess Players

This is an old story:

Once an American millionaire invited two famous chess masters, Emanuel Lasker and Géza Maróczy, as his guests. Before dinner he invited them to play an offhand game for a wager. A surprise move awaited them: all of the pieces were shaped from small glass bottles, each filled with different sorts of alcoholic spirits. The amount in each bottle was determined by the value of each piece— for example, the queen was a sizable bottle of cognac.

Smiling, the merchant said, "I have but one condition: you must drink each piece that you capture!"
Playing White, Lasker introduced an "original novelty"

1. e4 e5 2. Qh5! Nc6 3.Qxf7!!

The queen sacrifice proved to be "correct"— the increasingly tipsy Maróczy was unable to offer his usual resistance.



Black to move and wins in 2



White to move and wins in 2



-Alejandro Ramirez and Roger Wooldridge, Convenors



An "awwww" moment ...

Yolanda is working from home, but is she?

I received this photo from her beautiful roomie, Toffee Bonkowski, and it makes me wonder who is actually on the job. Hmm ...

I kid because I care. We know you're hard at work and we miss you, Yolanda!
- Ed.

Contemporary research in psychology, education and health show that people feel healthier when they interact with nature each day. Some benefit can even arise from just seeing a patch of green trees outside a window but I feel better with larger expanses of nature. This feeling is one of the reasons that I normally like to walk through Jericho Park when I go to the Brock House Workshop. Even on a damp winter day when the rain gushes from the clouds, the colours of the willow stems and the reflections from the rippling water in the ponds are relaxing.

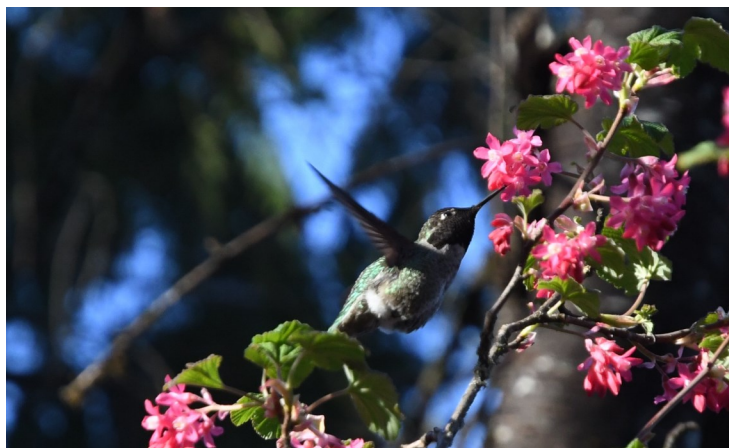
I also prefer to spend several weeks in the remote Kakwa Provincial Park in the early summer when hundreds of gossamer wing butterflies and fritillaries flit between wild flowers blooming throughout the mountain meadows and a simple hike up to the snow fields recapitulates all the successive glorious days of Spring. Compared to Kakwa, Jericho Park is not nearly as rich or colourful but it is still enjoyable, especially at this time of year when the birds are reveling in their breeding colours

The small bridge across the ponds is a very good place to watch for ducks, sparrows, kinglets, black-birds and herons. In mid-April, I was rewarded with a sighting of a fabulous pair of vibrant Wood Duck and a small flock of diminutive Hooded Merganser. I also found Mew Gulls, Northwestern Crows and American Widgeon in the fields between the ponds and the beach.

I seldom find butterflies on these walks but I am forever hopeful that a Swallowtail might come down from the Cottonwoods. Last week I decided that the odds might be better in the wild fields near the park works yard where the park workers compost woodchips and store pots of native plants. As I went past the patch of bright pink Flowering Current at this site an Anna's Hummingbird chirped and a white rimmed Mourning Cloak zipped past. This was a good sign. I was still startled a few moments later when a bright tawny orange butterfly lifted off the path and clashed with two more tawny orange butterflies and a Mourning Cloak whirling in dervish flight fifteen to twenty feet above the ground. They were too far off to see close details and even when they rested on the ground they were skittish and swirled away whenever I got close. Based on the tawny orange colour I thought that they might be Painted Ladies but fortunately I had a camera and took a few photos. These photos clearly showed the striated bark tone pattern on the bottom of the wings and a pattern of black spots on the upper wing consistent with a California tortoiseshell. All in all, it goes to show that even routine walks can lead to enjoyable revelations, just like working with different types of wood in the workshop.

If you have questions about the workshop e-mail wramey@mail.ubc.ca with "Brock House Projects" in the subject line or visit the Brock House workshop when the COVID-19 crisis is over.

-Bill Ramey, Workshop Convenor



Flowering Currant & Anna's Hummingbird



California Tortoiseshell

War Bride

by

Doris Gregory

Author of How I Won the War for the Allies: One Sassy Canadian Soldier's Story

Chapter 1

On the last night of her honeymoon she discovered she'd married a madman.

Oh, there had been warning signs, but she had been too much in shock to see them. Alone, thousands of miles from her lighthouse home on a remote island of the Northwest Irish coast, she had travelled to this isolated prairie farm. Stepping off the train she had looked in vain for her handsome fiancé among the half dozen people standing by the oxcart. She had never before seen him in civvies. Instead, she'd found herself suddenly embraced by a nondescript fellow in dusty overalls.

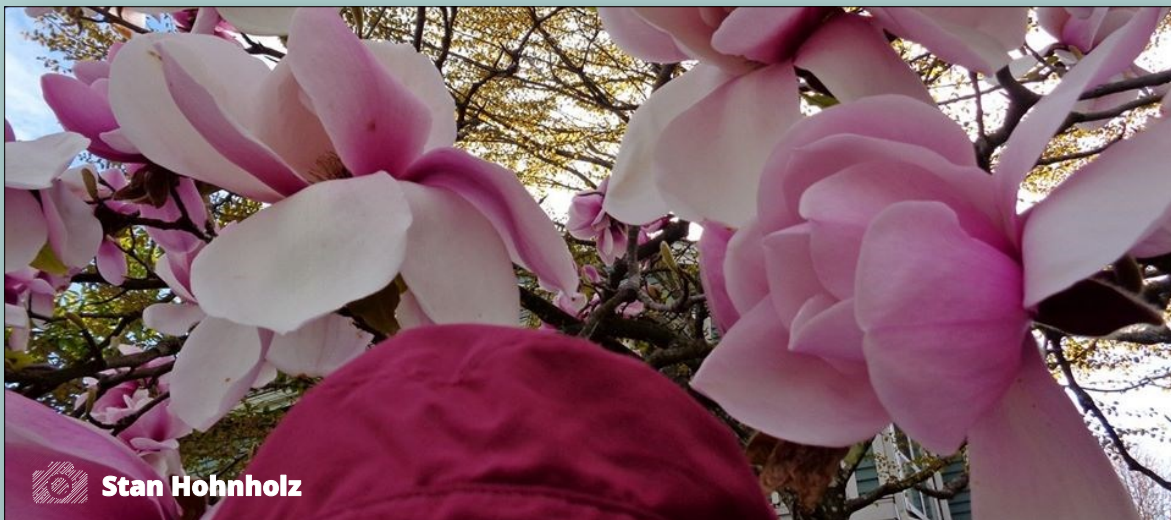
The others, all women, greeted her with a burst of incomprehensible chatter. Bewildered, she could only force a faint smile, before lapsing into shocked silence. Despite the bumping and rocking and noise of the oxcart she fell asleep, waking only when roughly carried across some kind of wooden floor and laid upon a bed.

In the morning she awoke with her whole body afire and her stomach in knots. Trying to rise, she tumbled to the unforgiving floor.

How long ago had that all been? What were those strange sounds? Birds singing? But other sounds, too. And these women ministering to her, uttering words she could not understand. Later she would become aware of having come through an entire autumn and winter, lost in delirium. It had started with measles, then double pneumonia. The women had nursed her, applying cool poultices and other home remedies.

Her fiancé had moved out into a shed attached to the barn, sharing quarters with the farmhand. Busy with the spring plowing he worked from dawn to dusk. Once he looked in on her, grunted and left. One day, two of the women helped her stagger into the kitchen, seating her in a rocking chair beside the cookstove. They too, did much of the farm work, taking turns milking cows and carrying meals to her fiancé and the farmhand. In the home she watched them scrubbing the floor, hauling in heavy pails of water to be heated on the stove for washing clothes, churning the rich Jersey cream into butter with paddles, kneading the dough for bread, taking some things called blintzes out of the huge oven.

She was small and slight, not at all like these buxom women. How could she survive the life ahead of her?



Stan Hohnholz

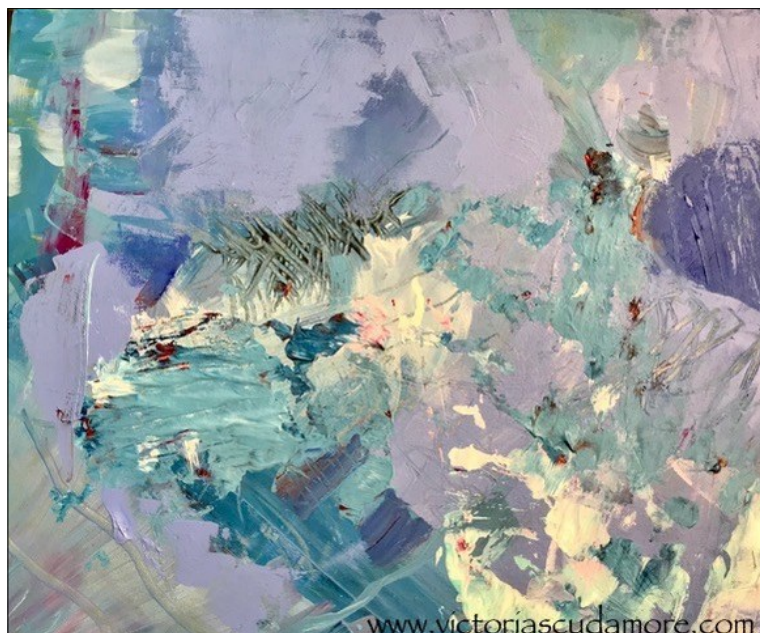
Please welcome new member Vicki Scudamore

I was taken to lunch at Brock House in early March by my friend, Joan Ellis, and decided to join on the spot.

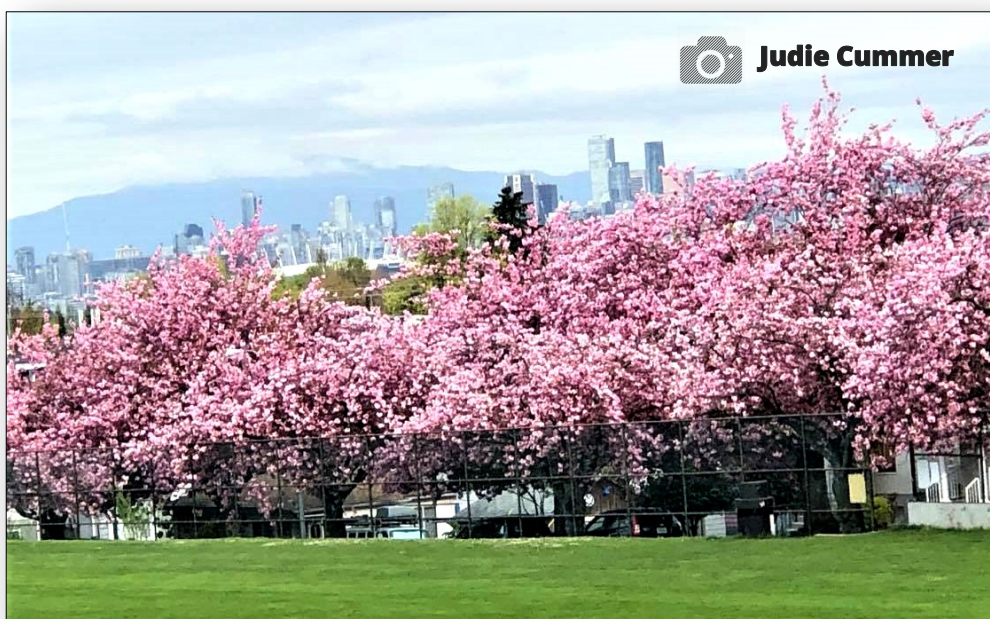
No sooner than I joined, everything was shut down! But I didn't take it personally 😊

I love to paint, and I'm fortunate to have a garden studio to create my art and refresh my spirit.

I hope everyone stays well. I'm looking forward to meeting you and joining in when things are back to normal.



This is from Windermere High School, taken on one of my early morning walks. The school ground is in the foreground, with a bank of cherry trees at the end of the street in the middle, and downtown off in the distance.



This item is making the rounds on the web. Thanks to Karen Roberts for sending it in.

This is the first time in history we can save the human race by lying in front of the TV and doing nothing. Let's not screw it up!

AND

in one week, we've seen how healthcare workers, truck drivers and grocery store employees are more important than NBA players, actors and the supposedly famous.

AND

Hey creative community! Just a reminder that Shakespeare was quarantined for the plague when he wrote King Lear. No pressure!!!

AND

Also highly contagious is kindness, patience, love, enthusiasm, and a positive attitude. Don't wait to catch it from others...be the carrier!

AND

Still haven't decided where to go for Easter - the Family Room or the Living Room.

AND

Remember when we thought we were going to have a bad week because of the time change, full moon, and Friday the 13th. We didn't have a clue!

AND

Definition of irony: gas under one dollar a liter and no place to go...

AND

Home schooling going well - two students suspended for fighting, one teacher fired for drinking on the job!

AND

Maybe now society will realize we can make it without celebrities and professional sports... but we can't make it without farmers and ranchers!

AND

Your grandparents were called to war. You're being called to sit on your couch. You can do this!!

AND

With March and April cancelled, the next holiday is Cinco De Mayo - sponsored by Corona.

AND

Since everyone has started washing their hands like we're supposed to, we'll be working on shapes and colors next week.

AND

Due to panic buying, Walmart has opened register 3.

AND

Pro tip: if you get pulled over, just start coughing.

AND

All these kids who have been learning Common Core math are about to learn how to "Carry the One" from their new home school teachers.

AND

That moment when you're worried about the elderly and realize that you are the elderly...

AND

I say we close down the media for 30 days and watch 80% of the world's problems go away!



 **Stan Hohnholz**

Things to do online Do you have favourites? Please share.

BrockHouseGallimaufry@gmail.com

[The Smithsonian](#) is running regular webcasts and online events. The variety is fantastic including art workshops, meditations and live chats with historians.

[Science World](#) has some of its films available online.

Every Tuesday and Friday, the [Vancouver Art Gallery's 'Art Connects'](#) series streams live and interactive conversations into your homes, featuring guests from local and international arts communities. Everyone is invited to join through the webinar platform, Zoom. Instructions are on the webpage.

Thank you to Dianna Boyd for suggesting that every art lover should check out [recreated art submissions](#) using found material at home. They were made in response to **The Getty Museum's** challenge. As Dianna said, "The art is brilliant, creative and so funny. It's well worth looking at."

Have you tried out [Google Arts & Culture](#) yet? Here's just a few of the things you can do: Go sight-seeing and diving; take virtual tours of hundreds of museums, galleries, and institutions; play with art and search art by colour. So much to do.

The [Cirque du Soleil Hub](#) offers "an escape from everyday life through the delight and whimsy of our shows".

[The YMCA](#) is offering over 60 free fitness classes online for various ability levels. Choose from yoga, Tai Chi, weight lifting, etc.

What better time than now to dive into BC history? [The UBC Library](#) has 92 years of free, searchable publications from the **British Columbia Historical Federation**.

In one minute you can learn a healthy living tip from the [Active Aging Canada's Minute Video](#) series on YouTube.

Kate, who teaches "Balance Posture & Strength" and "Stretch & Strength" at Brock House, plans to do free livestreaming exercise classes on her Facebook page: [LoveYourAgeFitness](#). Kate is also on YouTube: [Love Your Age Fitness for Healthy Aging](#). Thanks again to Yolanda for the heads up.

Brock House **Milestones**



Our condolences to
the family and friends of
Frances Gillespie

Reading *The Gallimaufry* is one way to stay connected and be distracted for a moment or two. Contributing to it is another.

How are you dealing with life in the shadow of this pandemic? Please share your thoughts, feelings, experiences, and observations with other members.

Share your

Gardening projects: Yard and balcony
Craft projects
2-meter-walk stories
Art work and photos
Creative writing and essays
Online adventures

Let's stay in touch and keep busy.

Please send submissions of under 400 words to

BrockHouseGallimaufry@gmail.com

The deadline for the June issue is May 24.

If you know someone who'd like to receive *The Gallimaufry*:

By email, write to:
brockhouse@telus.net

You can also view it, including back issues,
on our website:

[brockhousesociety.com](#)

by using the "[Newsletters](#)" link on the lower right of the homepage.

We've been through this before and we'll get through it again. Be safe.

-BevAnn Lister Dean, Editor