

Betty Warburton

When my parents purchased their home on Falaise Crescent in the mid 1960's the presence of a park directly across the street appealed to both Tannis and Ray. The rocky terrain with minimal development reminded Tannis of the property she roamed when she first moved to Victoria. Her life long interest in nature and especially wild flowers was ignited when at the age of six she first encountered Satin Flowers on the property her family rented at the corner of Hastings and Wilkinson Road.

Her first two paintings were done at the age of 13 as an assignment for a grade 9 art correspondence course while living in Granite Bay on Quadra Island. Though she was often quite critical of her own work she was justly proud of both the water colour painting of bunch berry and the picture of a wild blue spruce twig and went to considerable effort to save them. Years later when she had acquired the knowledge and perfected the necessary skills she framed these pictures and displayed them in her home.

Being well aware of her gifts as an artist, once the their children were grown and Ray was approaching retirement, Dad began to actively encourage Tannis to resume her painting and insisted she use quality materials. She experimented with various mediums but soon found that water colours best suited her delicate and detailed work. Preferring to paint plants in their natural habitat Tannis spent many hours sitting in this park documenting the numerous species she found here. Initially the all subjects of her paintings were wild flowers found in the Victoria area. Although not keen on travelling she quite happily packed up her reference books and art supplies to accompany Ray in their motor "HOME" on numerous road trips throughout the province and across Canada which led to the inclusion of species from various parts of the country.

The proper identification of plants was as important to Tannis as ensuring her work was botanically correct and artistically pleasing. When in doubt she would seek out information from experts at the University, in government or local organizations. Her contact with these people and her participation in Nature Art Shows led to her support of various conservation endeavours. Sharing her passion for nature with the people she met through her involvement in art and conservation greatly enhanced her life. Her hope was that by preserving areas such as this park, future generations would continue to have the opportunity to experience the fun and freedom of exploring natural spaces in much the same way as she, her children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren have.

## **Tannis Warburton Memorial Plaque Unveiling**

**Date** Sunday March 1 @ 1.00pm  
or Saturday February 29 @ 1.00pm  
or Sunday March 9<sup>th</sup> -

**Location :** Falaise Park

**Invitees :** Warhurton family - (will look after invitations )  
FCA executive  
Falaise community - friends of Tannis ( email invite)  
Saanich councillors - Judy Brownoff etc  
Saanich Parks - Jenny Eastman/  
Saanich News - (or Stuart will prepare a press Release)

### **Ceremony :**

Betty Warburton will say a few words in her Mums memory  
Bob Lucy will say a few words on behalf on the community  
Open for any one else to say a few words

Unveiling the plaque by Betty and Bob Lucy

**Display table :** examples of Tannis paintings and photo albums ( Betty wil provide )

**Refreshments:** Coffee from Starbucks and cookies from Thriftys

200/100/100.

This is a proposed agenda for discussion

test,

Healy - 1/3 notes

veel / gran to the  
clock.