The Longwood Gardens Library
Venice Bayrd, Information Services Coordinator
Longwood Gardens
Kennett Square, Pennsylvania

Longwood Gardens is an internationally renowned public horticultural display garden welcoming nearly 900,000 visitors annually. The inherent beauty and fecundity of the 1,050 acres upon which Longwood is situated are evidenced by the many who have harvested from and settled the property over time. From the native Lenni Lenape tribe, to the Quakers in the 1700s, to Pierre S. du Pont in 1906, the land has transformed from a habitat for the native flora and fauna to a private farm, arboretum, public park, and on to its current status. With the Gardens’ Centennial in 2006, the now private non-profit institution has found much to celebrate and remember. Indeed, much of what is remembered may be found in the documentation of the Longwood Gardens Library and Archives.

The Library at Longwood Gardens was established in 1961 from the horticultural and botanical collections of Longwood Gardens’ founder Pierre S. du Pont. Pierre founded the Longwood Library Association with his personal secretary Frank Battan in 1953. Though Pierre died in 1954, the five year period that followed saw the Longwood Library develop as a repository of business and industrial history housing both books and manuscripts. The library soon outgrew its facility and, rather than building an entirely new facility onsite, the Trustees decided instead to join operations and combine collections with a sister institution, becoming in 1961 the Eleutherian Mills-Hagley Foundation Library, located in Delaware. As the business and industrial collections were moved to Delaware, Pierre’s gardening books were selected out to remain at Longwood, becoming the first garden library.

In 1984, Longwood’s second librarian Enola Jane Teeter established an institutional archives, expanding the Special Collections of the Library to include the papers, photographs, publications and other internal records of the Gardens. Today, the Library, Archives, and recently established Digital Library form the Library and Information Services Unit of Longwood’s Education Department.

(Continued on page 3)
From the President

Sheila Connor
Horticultural Research Archivist
Arnold Arboretum Horticultural Library

I am writing this missive from my room at the Hotel Monaco in Seattle, Washington which has been selected as our conference hotel for our annual meeting by our next year’s host, Brian Thompson. The hotel, environmentally sensitive and pet friendly (they will even offer you a companion goldfish for your stay), is in downtown Seattle, right across the street from Dutch architect Rem Koolhaas’ wonderful Central Library with its amazing avant-gard form and its diamond shaped exterior skin of glass and steel. The library is just as awesome inside, and it will be the site of one day of the conference which will include tours of this innovative structure.

The members of your board, Brian Thompson (wearing two hats, treasurer and annual conference host), Leora Siegel, Stan Johnston, Gayle Bradbeer, Robin Everly, and I, are here to conduct our mid-year board meeting which includes planning for the annual conference with the host and regular business such as officer and committee reports and agenda items such as the possible form, structure, and awarding of annual grants to CBHL members, the creation of a task force to respond to member’s comments on Nominating Committee decisions, and logistics and responsibilities for revising procedures manual.

I hope that by the time you read this newsletter the board will have successfully moved these and other items forward. Hopefully, we will be able to report to you either before or during the annual meeting not only progress but solutions to many of our mid-year agenda items that are drawn from member’s interests and reflect your ideas and concerns.

Although it may seem far in the distance, I hope you all will consider attending the 2010 annual meeting which will take place from May 18—22 hosted by the Elisabeth C. Miller Library. Not only is Seattle an awesome city, but the benefits you gain by having the opportunity to learn from one another, the chance to network and make new connections, and simply the joy of being surrounded by others who share similar interests and challenges can be a real high and a boost in morale especially in these restrictive and difficult financial times. If you are required by your institution, as we are at the Arnold Arboretum, to present a paper in order to attend a meeting, now is the best time to begin selecting and outlining a presentation.
Patron Demographics

Library and Information Services patrons may be Longwood staff, students, interns, volunteers, or less frequently, outside researchers or visitors. Longwood Staff—the capitalization of “staff” being an internal shorthand referring to all employees, students, interns, and volunteers—maintain a base of professional knowledge and craftsmanship ranging through botany, carpentry, education, engine repair, engineering, floriculture, history, horticulture, landscape design and architecture, marketing, metalwork, performing arts, and many other allied arts and sciences.

Scope of the Collections

Library

Because the Longwood Library serves a diverse audience, the collections must reflect that diversity in varied subject matter. Materials across varied knowledge levels are also necessary, with materials suitable for children who attend K-12 school and youth programs, amateurs, and professionals. With more than 50 satellite libraries in employees’ offices, the Library is able to accommodate both special needs and core collections in its limited facilities.

The Library’s core collections are in horticulture, botany, and the allied arts and sciences. The aim of the Library is to be a place of inspiration, a bridge, and an anchor for the organization’s Staff; more pragmatically speaking, the Library provides Staff with access to information resources and services in support of both professional advancement and communication with a larger network of horticultural and related communities.

The Library’s holdings consist of the Main and Special Collections, both of which are arranged according to the Library of Congress call number system. The Main Collection consists of reference, monograph, and serials collections, with over 17,000 unique titles representing more than 37,000 items. The Library also houses 73 linear feet of Mid-Atlantic region nursery catalogs. Gardens Staff keep up with current horticultural events through nearly 380 memberships and serials subscriptions.

In addition to the print resources, the Library also offers electronic resource access to databases including WildCatt, an orchid reference, and EBSCO’s Garden, Landscape, and... (Continued on page 4)

Calendar of Upcoming Events:


Horticulture Index, as well as a handful of e-journals. Computing and multimedia equipment are also available to Gardens Staff through the Library, including laptops, digital cameras, and LCD projectors.

The core Special Collections items are from P. S. du Pont’s horticultural library, and the 1,250 items are represented by 325 unique titles. For preservation concerns, the rarest of the Special Collections are temporarily housed in the institution’s environmentally controlled Archives vault. Future plans for the collection include a new facility complete with temperature, light, and humidity control as well as exhibition space.

Archives

Longwood’s Archives primarily collects unpublished documentation created since the inception of the Gardens as a public institution in 1954. Some earlier documents are housed in the Archives as well, the oldest from the Quakers of the 18th century. From the du Pont era, blueprints, photographs, reel-to-reel films, organ rolls, and documents trace Longwood’s transition from a private estate to the professionally managed garden Longwood has become today.

In 2006, the unique collection of over 1,000 linear feet of archival documentation, memorabilia, ephemera, objects, and more than 200,000 images was moved to a new climate-controlled storage facility located just below the Library in the basement of the Horticulture Building. Longwood recently built the state-of-the-art archival facility to ensure the preservation of its archival materials. The care and preservation of Longwood’s primary source materials ensures availability for current and future researchers, who in turn will be able to share those resources with Longwood’s visitors and the larger horticultural, architectural, and historical communities.

Digital Library

Longwood’s digital library, (a.k.a., the Digital Gallery) was developed over an 18-month period beginning in January 2008. In its first phase, the project is intended to meet Longwood’s internal image management needs because Staff across the organization are heavily reliant on images for presentations, publications, and other purposes. Released in pilot phase in June 2009, the Digital Gallery is running on Asset Bank, a Digital Asset Management (DAM) system developed by the UK’s Bright Interactive. The Gallery currently offers over 6,000 images including a recently digitized historic collection of 3,700+ images from Pierre du Pont’s time, and a collection of Longwood’s “Best of” photographs taken by the house photographer from 2003 – 2008. Future plans include public access to select collections, as well as an initiative to preserve primary source material by encouraging planned creation and use of digital surrogates.

Access and Services

The library collections may be searched from anywhere over a network connection via the following URL: http://207.67.203.78/L92006Staff/OPAC/index.asp. The ILS (Integrated Library System) is developed and hosted by EOS International as an ASP (Application Service Provider) setup. Also known as SaaS (Software as a Service), the model of vendor-hosted library management systems can work well for libraries seeking a cost-effective solution that reduces the library’s pull on institutional IT staff. In addition to the OPAC, Longwood has licensed modules on the fully browser-based staff side of the application including Circulation, Acquisitions, Cataloging, and Serials Management. Future plans for the catalog include incorporating MARC-based archival records into the system, making both the library and archival collections searchable through one system.

Access to the Library’s open stacks is provided during library hours, Monday through Friday, 8 am – 5 pm. Full services are also available during those hours, and include reference, interlibrary loan, circulation (Staff only), technical assistance (PCs, etc.), and training sessions (library orientation and use; book review; software, etc.). From January through August of 2009 the library has had 4,291 visitors, with heaviest use by students and interns (2,019), followed closely by employees (1,815). Computer use is the most common activity (38% of patrons use the PCs), with collections/resource use being second (26%), followed by facilities use (studying, etc.) (16%). With an average of 536 patron visits per month, and an average circulation of 326 items per month, the Library is very active!

Staffing

The Library and Information Services Unit is fortunate to be staffed by six talented employees and 16 dedicated volunteers. Longwood’s Volunteer Coordinator works with over 600 volunteers, and has a wonderful ability to place volunteers across the organization. In the whole unit, 16 volunteers work in a variety of positions, some swinging between Library, Archives, and Digital Library tasks as needed. The flexibility of the unit volunteers echoes that of the staff: as the boundaries between Library, Archives, and Digital Library records management blur, staff are increasingly needed and interested in cross-training in different areas. The Unit currently has one full-time Information Services Coordinator, a full-time intern, and part-time staff includes an Archives Assistant, two Library Technicians, and a recently added Visual Resource Specialist. Cross-training enables volunteers and staff to collaborate and troubleshoot more effectively, improving and expanding services as a result.

Future goals

With the recent completion of an institution-wide strategic planning process, the Gardens’ Staff have set out the goals and objectives for the coming years. The Library and Information Services Unit has made significant changes to operational systems and services over the past five years, and is now poised to make great strides in outreach and services. Plans for the next five years include a new facility designed to be more visible and easily accessible by garden visitors, with exhibition space included. Outreach and increased public access are top priorities for Longwood’s Library, Archives, and Digital Library in the near future. With the strong foundation of networked information systems, expanded facilities, and dedicated staff and patrons, we look forward to sharing the joys and wonders of Longwood’s rich collections with an even wider audience.

The next deadline for the CBHL Newsletter
February issue is December 15, 2009.
On the Web: GE Trees, an Anti-Social Social Site, an Encyclopedia of Life, and a Discussion of the Use of Long S.

Stanley Johnston, Mentor, Ohio

While perusing headlines linked to my vanishing stock portfolio I found a headline on GE trees which made me immediately wonder when General Electric had diversified into plant breeding, as it turned out it hadn’t and the article had been picked up by mistake. GE in this instance stands for Genetically Engineered trees. As with genetically altered crops, there is considerable controversy among those hoping to solve problems and increase productivity through genetics, and those who fear the altered trees will spread their genes and alter wild specimens and otherwise harm the environment. Unfortunately there is not a convenient site giving the pros and cons of the practice so here are a sampling of sites dealing with both sides of the subject.

Genetically Engineered Trees Sprouting Quietly … for Now <www.usatoday.com/tech/news/techinnovations/2003-07-31-gen-mod-trees_x.htm> is a general article on the subject from USA Today. Genetically Engineered Trees Could Help Restore Devastated American Chestnut <insciences.org/article.php?article_id=6066> is an article from Insciences Organization describing how the University of Georgia Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources working with Arborgen LLC <www.arborgen.com>, a leader in the genetic improvement of trees, to insert anti-fungal DNA into the species and restore their viability. GENET’s Genetically Engineered Trees <www.genet-info.org/information-services/genetically-engineered-trees.html> is a European site offering the most current information on the subject including the trees being bred to remove mercury contamination from the soil. On the negative side one can view the arguments of the Sierra Club <www.sierraclub.org/biotech/trees.asp> and the Alternet article, Frankenforests: GE Trees Threaten Ecosystem Collapse <www.alternet.org/environment/58477/).

A few months ago I received an email from the widow of one of my cousins inviting me to look at some of her photos. When I clicked on the link it indicated I had to verify my identity, etc. I never did get to see her photos because apparently they never existed. What I encountered was a phishing experiment from Tagged.com <www.tagged.com> , a legitimate social network which uses illegitimate means to prey on its members to get access to their address books and try to recruit new members by sending spurious messages, such as the one I received to everyone listed.

On a more positive note, Google has taken up the challenge of Bing!, with a new experimental version of its own search engine, which can be found at <www2.sandbox.google.com>.

The Encyclopedia of Life <http://www.eol.org/> is a major effort to compile an online encyclopedia covering every species of plant and animal. It numbers several CBHL members among the institutions contributing to the project, including Harvard University, the Missouri Botanical Garden, and the Smithsonian Institute. It invites qualified individuals, who apply to be volunteer curators, to contribute articles and illustrations.

In the same vein, TropHort: Life and Earth Sciences <www.trophort.com/> is major index to online articles and websites in the biological, horticultural, conservation, and earth sciences that was initially created in 2004. Apart from horticulture, it also includes substantial sections on agriculture and forestry. Most importantly, articles and sites appear to be added on a regular basis.

With an appearance suspiciously similar to TropHort, Pomology – Fruit Cultivation & Production <www.pomology.org/> provides and index to articles and sites in this area.

Picturesque Garden <www.picturesquegarden.com/index.html> is a free site requiring registration for gardeners to share information through blogs, forums, and message boards. It also has a shopping element. Even before joining, one can search for members by age and location, further promoting the social element involved. As a test, I determined there were no members within 50 miles of where I live.

Black, Green, White, Oolong and Herbal Teas <www.the-tea-site.com/> is yet another web site detailing the history and culture of tea and tea drinking. It also includes a link to The Health Benefits of Tea <www.goodteahealth.com/> discussing the benefits ascribed to each different kind of tea.

For those concerned with rare books MareLibri <www.marelibri.com/> may be of interest since it covers the stock of early material offered by many European dealers whose stock is not covered in the more commonly used book search engines. Unfortunately, author and title searching is not available and one has to rely on a somewhat quirky subject search instead. They will also be fascintated with BabelStone: The Rules for Long S <http://babelstone.blogspot.com/2006/06/rules-for-long-s.html> detailing an analytical study of the history and use of the character often mistaken by modern readers as an “f”.

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Beyond the Social of the Social Web, or: Just a Bit More About Web 2.0

Carol Traveny
Technical Services Librarian
Swedenborg Library
Bryn Athyn College
Telford, Pennsylvania

I’ve been spending a lot of time with Web 2.0 lately: reading, experimenting, talking, thinking, and it’s no great surprise to realize that the growth of Web 2.0 represents a fundamental shift in not only how we connect with others, but also how technology is becoming integrated into every part of our lives. With references to it everywhere you turn—from politics to pop culture—Web 2.0 is practically unavoidable. Even if they haven’t used it themselves, most people have heard of Twitter and Facebook: these wildly popular interactives seem to have brought more people into the virtual world, and in more different ways than ever before.

The social life of the “Social Web” is great for those who have the time and inclination, but Web 2.0 is more than just “friending.” Many of the applications that have become household words are being used in business and academia for information sharing and collaborative projects. I have viewed technical demonstrations on YouTube and scrolled through conference slide presentations via SlideShare. I keep track of posts to my favorite blogs and online journals using Bloglines, keep notes and collect citations and links for research with Mozilla’s Zotero. I have become a believer in the possibilities of Web 2.0 (a.k.a. Library 2.0) by hearing enthusiastic reports from some of my colleagues and experimenting with the tools that piqued my curiosity.

At this point, it is difficult to say anything truly new about Web/Library 2.0—so much has already been said. However, it is easy to become overwhelmed by the plethora of social media, along with the abundance of resources such as user-groups and tutorials that support them. Simply search the phrase “Web 2.0 tools” to get an idea of some of the choices offered. It’s amazing. There’s an app or an add-on for every need—each with its own advocates and critics—so if you’re not already familiar with the territory, it may be easiest to start with the offerings of known entities like Google, Yahoo, or Mozilla. Luckily, you’re in charge: you don’t have to try them all, but do a bit of research, take a deeper look at applications that interest you, and play. You don’t have to stick with something that doesn’t work for you—it’s just a tool, it doesn’t have to be your life!

For those already on the bandwagon, have fun! Existing tools are constantly improving, and new ones are always on the horizon. However, for those who still want convincing, here are a few reasons you should give Web 2.0 a try:

- The Social Web has made people more comfortable with technology. The DIY spirit of many of these applications lets even novice users have the chance to connect and to be creative and makes the idea of “computers” just a bit less intimidating.
- Beyond a computer with reliable Internet access, little or no additional equipment is usually required. Better yet, the prevalence of mobile devices in every segment of the population has been the real driving force behind the explosive popularity of Web 2.0 and many of these tools are perfect for use at a smaller scale.
- The applications are easily customizable—one of the touchstones of Web 2.0 philosophy.
- Although some companies offer “deluxe” or “expanded” capabilities for a fee, the vast majority of Web 2.0 applications are free and/or open-source and “basic” packages are more than adequate for any number of projects.
- While some require at least limited allegiance to a particular entity—for example, using Google Apps requires a Google account—registration is minimal, easy to set up and doesn’t require a commitment.

Community-based, Web 2.0 is all about PR and marketing. It gives librarians greater opportunity to reach a wider audience and gives patrons a chance to participate or share thoughts and ideas. It’s easier to garner goodwill and support for a library whose users feel “listened to” and whose involvement gives them a greater stake in its success.

So the question is, will Web 2.0, will Library 2.0 help me be a better librarian? Will it help my library?

How can the Social Web benefit CBHL? It doesn’t take much imagination to envision a host of possibilities. Would it be useful to have patrons share photos of garden pests or plants for identification? How about an online book group, a virtual workspace for research projects, or RSS feeds from other organizations or agencies posted on your website? Save travel time and money by attending webinars. Archive and share your presentations online. In any case, the question may be moot. We have to embrace Web 2.0. For all the gadgets and gizmos, communities and connections, underneath it all is one interesting truth: Library 2.0 is about attitude, not technology. It is about reaching users wherever they are, and recognizing that their expectations may be conditioned by related services such as Google, or Amazon, which will be preferred if these expectations are not met.

The very heart of Web 2.0 is innovation, interaction, and accessibility, which according to Tim Berners-Lee who is credited with the development of the World Wide Web, was the point all along. Come to think of it, that’s the point of libraries, too.

NOTES:
1. Over the past two summers, my local library consortium TCLC (Tri-state College Library Cooperative) has sponsored a series of workshops on Web 2.0 technologies that were fun and inspiring. Notes and images from the presentations are available through the TCLC 2008 and 2008 Summer Camp Archives accessed 9-11-2009 at http://www.tclclibs.org/
2. A mother lode of information about Web 2.0 technology is available online. ALA TechSource is a favorite. http://www.alatechsource.org/ Many of the articles published in their Library Technology Reports are also available through academic databases such as AcademicOneFile/Infotrac hosted by the Gale Group.
3. From “Developing a Web 2.0 service model” by Margaret Adolphus in the online journal Emerald Insight (Information Management Viewpoints) accessed 9/10/09 at http://info.emeraldinsight.com/librarians/info/viewpoints/service_model.htm Available only to members of Emerald. Individuals can register by creating a free account.
4. Come to think of it, that’s the point of libraries, too.

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Dr. Alfred E. Schuyler, curator emeritus of botany at the Academy of Natural Sciences, and Janet Evans conducted this short course on art in botany and horticulture, using rare books, prints, and seed and nursery catalogs from the historical collections of the McLean Library of PHS. In week one, Dr. Schuyler discussed the legacy of Dioscorides’s ancient Materia Medica and its impact on naturalistic botanical art in sixteenth-century herbals. In week two we looked at a selection of seventeenth-century florilegia with early engravings of garden plants. In week three was an exploration of eighteenth and nineteenth century works with particular focus on the art of Georg Ehret and Pierre Redouté. In the last class, Janet Evans discussed horticultural art with a special emphasis on seed and nursery catalogs from the late nineteenth century, the “golden age” of trade catalogs. This class was limited to twenty students, who had a chance to look carefully and closely at these very special works in our collection.

While the works we showed are not unique to our collection – many CBHL libraries own these rare books – we were able to weave into the class the very special “Philadelphia Story” connections to the origins of American horticulture.

Printing Processes in Botanical Illustration
Through November 30, 2009
This exhibit accompanies the Treasures of the McLean Library short course. It depicts three printing processes used in botanical printmaking and features herbal woodcuts, eighteenth-century engravings and nineteenth-century lithographs from the library’s collections.

McLean Library’s 2009-2010 Reading List for its “Stories From the Garden” Book Discussion Group
• Michael Pollan, The Omnivore’s Dilemma.
• Charles Darwin, The Descent of Man (selections).
• Sarah Orne Jewett “A White Heron” (short story); Jenee Walker, et. al. Chicken Soup for the African American Soul (selections).
• Jane Stevenson, Garden Guerillas (novella from Stevenson’s Good Women).
• Dan Koeppel,. Banana: the Fate of the Fruit That Changed the World.
• Patricia Klindienst, The Earth Knows My Name: Food, Culture, and Sustainability in the Gardens of Ethnic Americans.
• Henry Beston, The Outermost House: A Year of Life on the Great Beach of Cape Cod.

(Continued on page 8)
McLean Library’s Film Discussion Series for 2009-2010

This year’s film discussion series will focus on films from countries featured in the 2010 Philadelphia International Flower Show’s Passport to the World theme and will include films from the Netherlands, South Africa, Brazil, India and New Zealand. Discussions are:

- **Home.** 2009. Yann Arthus-Bertrand.

Staci Catron
Director
Cherokee Garden Library
Kenan Research Center at the Atlanta History Center
Atlanta, Georgia

The Texas Rose Rustler Comes to Georgia

“*The love of plants and gardens is an almost instant bond among people all over the world... In that bond, I see hope and joy for all of us.*” – Dr. William C. Welch

On October 21, 2009 “The Texas Rose Rustler” Dr. William C. Welch was the inaugural speaker for the Ashley Wright McIntyre Series at the Cherokee Garden Library. In 2008, Franklin Raymond McIntyre III and his children, Constance Ashford McLeary and F. Raymond McIntyre IV, created an endowment at the Cherokee Garden Library to support occasional lectures and programs in memory of Ashley Wright McIntyre (1957-2008). An avid gardener and floral designer, native Atlantan Ashley McIntyre was an active member of the Cherokee Garden Club of Atlanta, the Junior League of Atlanta, and the Cathedral of St. Philip in Atlanta.

Dr. Welch’s passion, knowledge, and unselfish contributions make him a treasure for the world of horticulture. A native of Houston, Texas, Dr. Welch has published numerous award-winning books, including *Perennial Garden Color*, *Antique Roses for the South*, *The Bountiful Cutflower Garden*, and *The Southern Heirloom Garden*. He also writes a monthly column for *Southern Living* magazine.

As Professor and AgriLife Extension Service Landscape Horticulturist at Texas A&M University, Dr. Welch provides educational information and programs for county extension agents, nursery professionals, civic groups, and the general public. Dr. Welch was instrumental in developing the Texas Certified Nursery Professional program. He has served on the Board of Texas Garden Clubs, Inc. as Landscape Design Chairman for the past 24 years and is a past president of the Southern Garden History Society. In May 1993, he was made a Member-at-large of the Garden Club of America in recognition of his programs and writ-
ings on exploring and interpreting our gardening heritage. In 2008, he was presented the Distinguished Service Medal from the Garden Club of America. In June 2009, the American Horticultural Society presented the Great American Gardeners Award to Dr. Welch for his accomplishments in gardening communications.

Stephen Sinon
Head of Information Services and Archives
New York Botanical Garden
LuEsther T. Mertz Library
New York, New York

Ex Libris: Treasures from the LuEsther T. Mertz Library, October 17, 2009-January 10, 2010

Considered to be one of the world’s greatest repositories of botanical and horticultural literature, The LuEsther T. Mertz Library houses a treasury of published and archival documents that trace the development of botany and horticulture from the twelfth century to the present day. The collections reflect the evolution of plant study from its origins in ancient medicine and agriculture to modern scientific pursuits, including plant genomics, systematics, economic and ethnobotany, and the conservation of biodiversity.

Drawing from this wealth of materials, the Mertz Library’s fall 2009 exhibition will highlight some rarely seen items that demonstrate the extraordinary beauty and depth of the library’s collections. Included in the exhibit will be images from some of the greatest flower books ever published, highlighting the Library’s outstanding collection of illustrated folios; sumptuously illustrated mycological works that highlight the strength of the Library as a unique resource for the study of fungi; and a gallery of images drawn from the Library’s holdings of 30,000 pieces of original botanical artwork.

The exhibit will also pay tribute to the art of the book and will include a glimpse of some intricate frontispiece portraits and elaborate title pages found in many early printed works. Also on view will be a number of remarkable and highly decorative gilded bindings from the Library’s collection of beautiful 19th century gold-stamped publisher’s bindings.

Exceptional manuscript materials offering invaluable original source documentation for interdisciplinary research, such as a ledger book of an unidentified Federal-era New York nurseryman, the manuscript notes and illustrations for J.J. Thomas’s The American Fruit Culturist, and an illustrated diary written by the

(Continued on page 10)
The exhibition Botanicals: Environmental Expressions in Art, the Alisa and Isaac M. Sutton Collection represents one of the finest private collections of contemporary botanical art in America. These 54 artworks are expressions of the purely aesthetic forms found in nature and a reminder that we are stewards of our natural resources for future generations.

Isaac Sutton’s love of nature and concern for the environment led him to a crossroads in his collection. Since the 1980s he had been acquiring landscape paintings that were reminiscent of his childhood summers spent in the mountains of Lebanon and his early adult years in Israel. In 1997 he was introduced to botanical art through The Shirley Sherwood Collection of Contemporary Botanical Art exhibition at the National Arts Club in New York. He was struck by the artistic virtuosity of the paintings and felt an immediate connection to the plant subjects portrayed. Soon after, he began to develop his own collection in this genre while discovering the work of artists in the triennial International Exhibition of Botanical Art & Illustration at the Hunt Institute, in the annual exhibits of the American Society of Botanical Artists (ASBA) at the Horticultural Society of New York, and in galleries and botanical gardens in the United States and abroad.

Isaac Sutton collects botanical art for its aesthetic impact. He appreciates an artist’s ability to capture not only the beauty of a plant specimen, but also its distinct form and function with scientific accuracy, while filtering it through his or her own sensibility. Over time he has become interested in how the subjects of the paintings represent an important part of our ecosystem. The title of the exhibit, Botanicals: Environmental Expressions in Art, echoes the role that the botanical artist plays in documenting rare and endangered plants and common plants that play an important role in our planet’s biodiversity. Also of importance is the role that the collector and the museum play in supporting and validating the vision of these botanical artists by sharing it with the public through exhibitions. Sutton feels that botanical art should be recognized as a melding of art and science that both inspires and educates.

The exhibition includes 54 artworks by 40 artists from Australia, Belgium, Cuba, England, France, Germany, India, Japan, Russia, Scotland, South Africa and the United States. The artists are Beverly Allen, Timothy Angell, Anita Barley, Leslie Berge, Susannah Blaxill, Svetlana Boucher, Beverly Duncan, Jean Ermons, Damodar Lal Gurjar, Regine Hagedorn, Celia Hegedüs, Kyoto Katayama, Martha Kemp, Karen Kluglein, Katie Lee, Angela Lober, David Mackay, Fiona McGlynn, Elaine Musgrave, Kate Nessler, Patricia Newman, Susan Ogilvy, Hillary Landemare Parker, John Pastoriza-Piñol, Rachel Pedder-Smith, Rodella Purves, Kelly Leahy Radding, Celia Rosser, Adele Rossetti Morosoni, James Sain, Lizzie Sanders, Muriel Sandler, Hiroe Sasaki, Alan Singer, Peta Stockton, Jessica Tcherepnine, Vicki Thomas, Bronwyn Van de Graaff, Catherine Watters and Carol Woodin.

In conjunction with Botanicals: Environmental Expressions in Art, the Alisa and Isaac M. Sutton Collection, the Hunt Institute will hold its annual Open House in June 2010. We will present two curators’ talks and displays. Archivist Angela Todd will talk about the legacy and legend of Sir Joseph Banks (1744–1820), the famed British naturalist, botanist and world traveler for whom Banksia is named. Librarian Charlotte Tancin will discuss examples of botanical artworks that were created by artists who were part of an expedition, were employed afterward to draw specimens for publication, or explored on their own seeking new plants to draw. We will also have a guided gallery tour of the exhibition by our assistant curator of art, overviews and displays from our departments, a tour of the reading room and opportunities to meet one-on-one with our staff to ask questions and see items in the collections. We encourage everyone to consider visiting us during this Open House. It will be a good time to see the exhibition before it closes and an opportunity to have an inside
look at our collections and our work. A schedule of events will be available in January 2010 on our Web site. We are looking forward to your visit.

The exhibition will be on display on the 5th floor of the Hunt Library building at Carnegie Mellon University. Hours: Monday–Friday, 9 a.m.–noon and 1–5 p.m.; Sunday, 1–4 p.m. (except 26–29 November, 18–31 December 2009, 1–3 January, 7 March, 2–4 April, 2 May and 30–31 May 2010). We will also open on Saturday, 31 October 2009, 1–5 p.m., during Carnegie Mellon’s homecoming, and on Sunday, 16 May 2010, 1–4 p.m., during commencement. The exhibition is open to the public free of charge. A fully illustrated color catalog will accompany the exhibition. For further information, contact the Hunt Institute at 412-268-2434. A travel exhibition of this collection will be available in summer 2010. For booking information, please contact: susan.freinathan@verizon.net.

Members News West
Compiled by Laurie Hannah, Librarian
Cheadle Center
University of California, Santa Barbara, CA

Barbara M. Pitschel, Head Librarian
San Francisco Botanical Garden
at Strybing Arboretum
Helen Crocker Russell Library of Horticulture
San Francisco, California

Personal Update

2009 has very likely been the worst year of my life, and I find it hard to believe (although I shouldn’t test fate!) that any future years can surpass it. I have been in personal touch with many of you, my dear friends and colleagues, and I thank you for your wonderful support and encouragement, but I have not written anything to the list. I think it is now time to crawl out from my burrow and catch up with all of you.

Many of you know that my dear husband Roland (whom some of you got to know and enjoy when we hosted the CBHL annual meeting in 2002), was diagnosed last December (two days before our 45th anniversary) with an aggressive, metastatic, neuro-endocrine lung cancer. We had the pleasure of spending an additional seven months together, sometimes coping with finding foods that are tolerable during chemo, but other times enjoying pleasant outings and special times. He went to work quite often during that period, to a job like many of ours, work that he loved. We quickly learned to live in the moment, and our guide was carpe diem, a lesson I hope to continue to follow. On the last Sunday in July our whole family, including daughter, two granddaughters, and great-grandson, enjoyed a lovely restaurant meal, and returned home to watch one of Roland’s favorite movies, Little Big Man, which contains his absolute favorite line (his epitaph): “Sometimes the magic works; sometimes it doesn’t.” At dawn the following Saturday, after a five-day wild ride, he died very peacefully at a warm and enveloping Kaiser hospice. The whole family, including our three-year-old great-grandson, stayed with him all through the night. It felt like a tribal ceremony, with the women and children nurturing the dying person (while perhaps the men were outside, dancing and negotiating with raven and coyote for safe uneventful passage). It made me realize that birth and death are both part of life, that in a more logical society both would be recognized and celebrated. Roland lived well and he died well. And I was very relieved to return home and realize that his presence is still very much in our house, since he had artistically built nearly every piece of furniture, wall paneling, cabinet, and decoration for the 43 years we lived here. His place of employment, California College of the Arts, held a barbeque luncheon, where they planted a native plant garden in his memory and forged and installed a plaque engraved “Roland Pitschel, August 15, 1942 – August 1, 2009; Sometimes the magic works; Sometimes it doesn’t.”

Now, lest my life become dull, I’m preparing to have my wretched left hip replaced on October 27. It should have been done much earlier, but I was too busy. Associate Librarian Brandy Kuhl will be working full time and taking charge during my absence. She is a bright and wonderful person and an excellent librarian, so if you haven’t already done so, make it a point to connect with her. And Jane Glasby is still with us one day a week to complement her position at the SF Public Library.

I’m looking forward to 2010, which has to be a better year. I want to swim and walk again, and I’m hoping to see many of you at what promises to be a great CBHL annual meeting in Seattle in May!!!

Barbara and Roland Pitschel on Bernal Hill, their native plant restoration project in San Francisco, CA

Photograph by Margo Bors.

(Continued on page 12)
Stacks in the new Schilling Library at Desert Botanical Garden

Schilling Library, Desert Botanical Garden

I was recently invited to attend the dedication ceremony for the new Schilling Library at the Desert Botanical Garden. So Bruce and I went.

As you may remember, the old Max Richter Library was closed a few years ago when it ran out of space. It still functions as a conference room, but the special library collection has all been moved to the new library, Schilling Library, dedicated September 29. It is named for Carol and Randy Schilling and will be (and is) the center of research for the new Pulliam Research Center. It is a beautiful airy place, near the new herbarium, research offices, and agave collection.

The dedication presented an occasion to show off the rooms, study tables, computers, and open stacks. Lots of the long-time volunteers who are still active and the current librarian, Beth Brand, did a wonderful job welcoming everyone and watching over the collection. Research Director Dr. Joseph McAuliffe gave a short talk about the botanical series, Intermountain Flora, started many years ago at The New York Botanical Garden, which will include a volume on desert plants, specifically cactuses. This volume will be written by Desert Botanical Garden staff and Arizona State University Professor Emeritus Dr. Donald Pinkava. I got a kick out of that because Dr. Pinkava used to bring his Arizona State University classes over to the Garden every Thursday to study desert plants and literature.

The current director, Ken Schutz, presided at the Dedication, former director Dr. Robert Breunig and wife Karen were there, and of course Carol and Randy also had a few remarks. Wasn’t Dr. Breunig director when CBHL had an annual meeting at the Garden in the 1990s? I think so.
The book is an exquisite rendering of a very beautiful yet complicated relationship written simply and elegantly, bringing their well-researched ideologies to the table. Not before David Quammen’s *The Reluctant Mr. Darwin*, nor after, have we seen so human a side to Charles Darwin; no evolutionary pun intended. His innermost doubts on faith and marriage are delineated here, yet as devoted as Darwin is to his work, his theories, his perpetual quest for truth, he is perhaps most devoted to his family and especially to Emma. He continually strives to uncover the connections of speciation and concurrently strives to make it as palatable to Emma and to anyone with religious beliefs, since religion in 19th Century England, or anywhere for that matter, had gone mostly unchallenged.

No biography or life story is complete without a major ironic juxtaposition, and for the Darwin’s it is always religious viewpoints at opposing timeframes. Charles, as a young man, believes in a higher spiritual entity, even though he is brought up in a family of free thinkers. His father, a doctor, his grandfather, a philosopher-poet, and his brother are all devoid of religious dogma. Yet there is a time Darwin considers becoming a Parson, whether or not he is sure he believes in the whole concept. It is only after his monumental voyage on the Beagle and through his work and discoveries of species variation, he begins to believe otherwise.

Emma Wedgwood also grows up in a house of free thinkers. A house where anything and everything is discussed without opposition and the general family demeanor is open-mindedness. Emma, who is mad for the theatre and less interested in religion, is completely and utterly devoted to her sister Fanny. Fanny Wedgwood is quite devout and she and Emma are inseparable. The family no longer calls them by their names but refer to the two of them as the “Dovelies”. When Fanny dies tragically at the age of 26 from an unknown illness, Emma is completely devastated and decides to devote her life to being more like Fanny; a better person, and more devout; it was her only way of justifying seeing her sister again in an afterlife.

Throughout Charles’s life, he grapples with terrible bouts of anxiety, headaches, and nervous stomachaches. Much of his anxiety was caused by worry over the secret he carried around with him; that life was not created by divine intervention, and that species varied and changed over a course of hundreds or thousands of years. He also began to realize the world was much older than most people believed. All these things he had reeling around in his head and secretly written in his journals brought him both satisfaction and dread. Struggling to come to terms with his findings, he continued his observations throughout his life. He observed the specimens he brought back from the Beagle voyage. He observed barnacles, worms, and beetles. He observed his children, their actions, their emotions. He was obsessed with learning everything he could about life. And little by little he shared snippets of his ideas with Emma, Joseph Dalton Hooker, Charles Lyell, and Asa Gray. They urged him again and again to publish his ideas, but he was too afraid of the backlash, and it deeply upset him to think he might offend people. For many years he was content to imagine his ideas being published posthumously.

Unfortunately there’s little mention of Alfred Russell Wallace, the English naturalist who sends Darwin a paper on his own findings on natural selection; findings which quite similarly mirror Darwin’s theories. This becomes a tremendous source of anxiety to Darwin, and it is here that he really gets to a turning point on whether to publish or just forget the whole idea in an effort to be an upstanding Victorian gentleman. He’d rather give up the ghost than have his reputation sullied, if anyone was to even suspect that he stole or borrowed Wallace’s idea. There was no chance of that happening after Darwin’s loyal friends and confidants decide to take matters into their own hands and on July 1, 1858, the same day Charles and Emma lay their baby Charles to rest, Charles Lyell and Joseph Dalton Hooker present both papers to the Linnean Society entitled, “On the Tendency of Species to form Varieties; and on the Perpetuation of Varieties and Species by Natural Means of Selection By Charles Darwin, Esq., F.R.S., F.L.S., and Alfred Wallace, Esq.” The presentation is given unbeknownst to Wallace, who has fallen ill in Indonesia.

The presentations at the Linnean Society were accepted by the usual suspects with the usual applause, yawns, and murmurs. It wasn’t until the publication of *The Origin of Species*, November 24, 1859, the public started devouring it (the book sold out in one day) and the ideas began to sink in. Creationism was never even mentioned in *The Origin of Species*, and the public got the message. The uproar, the hoopla, and the debates began. Neither science, nor the world, would ever be the same again. This was exactly what Darwin wished to avoid. And yet, for as many naysayers and religious zealots that crawled out of nowhere and somewhere to dispute natural selection, there were just as many or more rallying to Darwin’s defense. There was an entire movement that embraced Darwin’s theory, but they kept their creationist viewpoint at the base of their belief.

Darwin never stopped working, and he never stopped car-

(Continued on page 14)
Charles and Emma (Continued from page 13)

ing immensely about Emma and her fear of never seeing him throughout eternity. They had ten children, of which three died, and although they were both heartbroken with each tragedy, there was none so terrible as when they lost their daughter Annie; for although the other two children were mere infants, Annie died when she was ten. And because she had been such a great source of comfort to both Charles and Emma, this was a religious turning point for Charles. The Christian service conveyed that she suffered for the sins she had committed. What sins had poor little Annie committed, Charles thought. This was the point of no return; he turned his back on religion completely.

As Charles aged and The Origin of Species was revised and reprinted, he did sell out a bit and included the word “Creator” at the end, trying to make it more palatable for those who just couldn’t get past Creationism. He also went to Sunday services with Emma to appease her. In his letters and autobiography he still referred to himself as an agnostic and not an atheist. And then again Emma changed a bit, for after Charles Darwin passed away, she loosened her thoughts of religion somewhat. In a letter to her daughter Etty she wrote, “I am reading the Psalms and I cannot conceive how they satisfied the devotional feelings of the world for such centuries.” Maybe Charles and Emma met halfway after all.

Members News West (Continued from page 12)

about going to library school and wanted to see what working in a library was like before he started with his degree. He has been entering our nursery catalog collection into the online catalog, shifting, and helping me clear various other morasses. I’m preparing to try to get the periodicals finally into one continuous group instead of having shelves of other things in between.

In January the Arboretum Library is starting our book group with a western landscape slant, although I’m tempted to include northwestern Arkansas as the “West,” because I’m enjoying reading Donald Harington’s descriptions of that area in his fiction. I will select our first reading and then the group will work on the subsequent choices. Following Janet Evans’ model we will use the Great Books Foundation Shared-Inquiry Method.

Our current Mushroom Model exhibit will be displayed in the Library until December. Our next exhibit, “Artifacts from the Arboretum: Time and the Land,” starts in January and will be a selection of artifacts that tell the story of the Los Angeles County Arboretum & Botanic Garden and its predecessor, Rancho Santa Anita. The hopes, dreams, and aspirations of the people who came from all over the world to work here can be read from these objects and their story told. The dream of Southern California, a climate, a new beginning in the sun, and the reality of what they found will be explored. What people brought with them is reflected in the landscapes and architecture, and how they came to terms with what they found is reflected as well. Objects in the exhibition will include works of art, decorative arts, tools, archaeological artifacts, documents and photographs. It will be curated by Mitchell Bishop, the Arboretum’s Associate Curator for History.

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Book Review

Robin A. Everly
Branch Librarian, Botany-Horticulture Library
Smithsonian Institution Libraries
National Museum of Natural History
Washington D.C.

Waking up in Eden: in pursuit of an impassioned life on an imperiled island
By Lucinda Fleeson
Algonquin Books of Chapel Hill, ©2009
310 p., ISBN 9781565124868 : 1565124863 $13.95

Waking Up in Eden doesn’t fit well into any one book genre. That’s why I found it so interesting and refreshing. First and foremost, it’s a memoir. The author describes her personal and professional experiences while living in Kauai, Hawaii, and working at the National Tropical Botanical Garden (NTBG) as its development director in the mid 1990s, and how these experiences allowed her to transform and refocus her life at midlife. But it is more than a memoir. With an investigative journalist background, Ms. Fleeson blends in history of earlier adventurers to the islands. I particularly liked her profiles of Victorian era Isabella Bird, who traveled alone to Hawaii in her forties, and Robert and John Alerton, Chicago millionaires, who built the Kauai estate which becomes the centerpiece of the botanical garden. She also writes about one aspect of today’s biodiversity crisis – what happens when showy non-native plants are given perfect growing conditions to thrive and how they out-compete the lesser known native endemic plants. And there are tales of nasty office politics between then-NTBG Director, Bill Klein, and Board member Doug Kinney. Another reason I like this book so much is that the author captures what it is like to work with a botanical garden staff; staff in my experience that are hardworking and dedicated. At NTBG, many on staff were trying to protect and propagate native Hawaiian plants. The fact that the author weaves all these other stories into her telling of a significant time in her life proves her skills as a writer. Despite the subtitle portion, “on an imperiled island,” and the bleak situation the author faces when her mentor, Bill Klein, dies unexpectedly, the book is positive. It’s about a very unique and fragile botanical world and it’s also about taking chances and living your life to its fullest. It makes you want to visit NTBG.
CBHL Lite: The Other CBHLs
David M. Lane
Biological Sciences Librarian
University of New Hampshire
Durham, New Hampshire

We have all searched for CBHL using Google and found our own website listed in the first few entries. But we also find other CBHLs. Quite a few of them in fact.

For some the “H” stands for hockey. There’s the Capital Beltway Hockey League and the Cape Breton Hockey League for instance. There’s even a Chilliwack Ball Hockey League. I was hoping they would sell stuff for fans. How about a giant “We’re Number One” foam hand for CBHL, etc.? There is also a CBHL-FM radio station in Liverpool, Nova Scotia. That’s something we don’t have yet. There’s even a CBHL gene in fungi that apparently, affects the production of an enzyme that breaks down cellulose. CBHL may have a big future in biotechnology.

What about EBHL? There’s an Early Bird Hockey League, an East Bay Hockey League, and an Eastside Ball Hockey League. There’s also a ceramic tile manufacturing company in China held by Eagle Brand Holdings Ltd. But, generally speaking, there are far fewer EBHLS.

Suppose in the future we have another sister organization in Australasia called ABHL. There’s the Abbotsford Ball Hockey League and a bunch of insurance companies. But again there are fewer results than for CBHL.

What have we proved with this little exercise? Absolutely nothing!

Please feel free to send feedback in any format to me at: david.lane@unh.edu. Image: Ó Maria Bell | Dreamstime.com.

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Beyond the Social (Continued from page 6)

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*The Council on Botanical and Horticultural Libraries, Inc., Newsletter* is an official publication of CBHL, an international organization of botany and horticulture libraries and others supportive of CBHL’s goals. ISSN 1543-2653 (print version); ISSN 1545-5734 (electronic version); published on the Council’s Web site: www.cbhl.net

The quarterly *Newsletter* is sent by mail to all current members of CBHL. Submissions are welcome according to the following schedule: February issue (copy due 12/15), May issue (copy due 3/15), August issue (copy due 6/15), and November issue (copy due 9/15). Publications Committee Chair, Robin Everly (everlyr@si.edu); *Newsletter* Editor, Susan Eubank (susan.eubank@Arboretum.org); *Newsletter* Designer, Elsa Kramer (efk@earthlink.net)