



Rudi Schmid Marks Milestone

by **Judy Warnement and Laurie Hannah**

The careful selection of books and journals is central to our work in botany and horticulture libraries. We make our best effort to use precious acquisition funds for the purchase of titles that complement the collections and best serve users' needs. Many of us rely on trusted reviewers in core journals. When it comes to botany there is no other source that compares to **Rudolf (Rudi) Schmid** and his *Taxon* column, "Reviews and Notices of Publications." Rudi is now retired from the **Department of Integrative Biology** at the **University of California**, but he has overseen the column since 1986. Librarians have benefited from his industrious efforts to review a remarkably broad range of botanical literature ever since. His 100th "RevNot" column appeared in the **February 2011** issue of *Taxon* along with a tribute to his outstanding contribution to the field of botanical literature and the service he has provided botanical and horticultural librarians through his high bibliographic standards.

It is fitting that we recognize this milestone and express our appreciation to Rudi. His reviews demonstrate an amazing breadth of knowledge of the literature and understanding of the idiosyncrasies of the science publishing business. The reviews are accurate and scrupulously detailed, linked to other relevant items previously noted or reviewed, and placed into the larger context of botanical literature when relevant. They exhibit his elegant and often mirthful writing style.

While Dr. Schmid's tenure started in 1986, he served as the sole editor from 1988 to 2004. His prodigious efforts are exemplified in the **February 1998** issue where he reviewed seventy items and included three hundred and twenty-nine notices in 102 pages. The reviewer reflects on his experience in his article, "One hundred columns later: Confessions of the *Taxon* 'RevNot' editor," in the **February 2011** issue, noting the following milestones. The one hundred "RevNot" columns comprise 2,375 pages and contain eight hundred and seventy reviews by Schmid. He began to title the longer reviews and place them between the notices and brief untitled reviews in the **November 1986** issue and has authored one hundred seventy-seven titled reviews to date.

Schmid reviews the broadest range of materials possible including reviews of "books, monographs, textbooks, facsimile reprints, other reissues, journals (premier or special issues), maps, posters, microfiche editions, CD-ROMs, DVDs, juvenilia, computer software. Miscellaneous journal articles, especially if bibliographic, biographical, historical, or floristic, [are] were also often listed." There are also lengthy literature reviews on many subjects, as well as notices for not-yet-published books. His research interests that are particularly pertinent to librarians include botanical bibliography, biography, and the history of botany, especially of the period 1870-1945.

Examples of noteworthy and witty reviews by Schmid that he counts among his personal favorites include several columns on "Botanical Juvenilia" or some recent botany books for children and young adults, especially the artistry of **Carol Lerner** and **Anne Ophelia Todd Dowden**. As of 2002, he had completed six installments. The **August 1994** column includes these titles: (1) "Bibliographic info solely on dust jackets, being ephemera, will end up in the dust bin of history"; (2) "Schmid's crotchety sermon #2 (actually probably #227 or so)"; (3) "Lost in the ozone, lost in space, or deep in the heart of cyberspace." And in **May 1999** he focused on Beatrix Potter in "Bamboozled by botany, Beatrix bypasses bigoted biology, begins babying bountiful bunnies: OR Beatrix Potter [1866-1943] as a mycologist: The period before Peter Rabbit and friends."

In 1999 the International Botanical Congress awarded a special Engler Medal to Dr. Schmid in recognition of his accomplishments as editor of the column. Tod F. Stuessy recognized his work again in the February 2011 issue of *Z*. In his "Plant Systematics World" column Stuessy writes:

We in IAPT stand in awe of Rudi Schmid, editor of "Reviews and Notices" in Taxon for the past 25 years. Through 100 issues of the journal, he has diligently, creatively, and lovingly investigated the world's plant systematic literature and kept us all better informed. His inquisitive botanical eyes have roamed over the morphological, palynological, anatomical, phytochemical, and molecular landscape as well as dipping into applied botanical topics such as wine-making, gardening, agriculture, and ecology. . . . We salute him for his amazingly detailed, introspective, and humorous excursions into the literature of our field.

From the President

Stanley H. Johnston, Jr.
Mentor, OH

Dear Fellow Members,

The snow has not quite ended here in Ohio as I write, although it is rotating with thaws and flooding. Chicago in the Spring looks awfully enticing.

CBHL has lost another past President in **Anita Karg**, the long-time archivist at the Hunt. Meanwhile the Board has been busy. At the annual meeting you are being asked to vote

on two changes to the bylaws: one changes the language for institutional membership by eliminating the reference to it covering a specific number of members, so that additional members can be added at a set fee which will appear in the **Procedures Manual**; the other broadens the description of the **Electronic Communications Committee**, enabling it to advise CBHL on all aspects of the subject, not just the website and e-list.

It has been ten years since 15 of us completed the **CBHL Strategic Plan** under the chairmanship of **Charlotte Tancin**. For those of you unfamiliar with it, I would ask that you view it on the CBHL website at www.cbhl.net/about/stratp.htm. Although our vision, mission, and core values remain the same, and it is too soon to consider doing a new strategic plan (especially knowing how long the last one took to put together), it is time to look at our five strategic goals:

- **Encourage and facilitate resource sharing**
- **Promote long-term preservation of botanical and horticultural collections and information resources**
- **Promote open access to botanical and horticultural collections and information sources**
- **Advance the professional development of members**
- **Enhance and support the effectiveness of CBHL administration**

Also, we should review the action items under them to see what is working, what is not, why, and whether there are additional means to achieving these goals.

The Board began looking at these items at our mid-year Board meeting and decided that the Board should be more proactive in offering our support for endangered libraries and collections. As a result, I have written to the new Director at the **Santa Barbara Botanic Garden** offering support from CBHL. Discussion has also begun in the **Steering Committee** and will be carried out in each of the individual committees. We had hoped to get the membership at large involved in a discussion in Chicago, but the tightness of the program precludes it, so this area will probably begin with a survey and e-list discussion leading up to a live discussion next year in Montreal.

As I conclude my term as President, I continue to marvel at what a unique institution CBHL is with institutional members ranging from arboreta, botanic gardens, and academic institutions, to horticultural societies, the **Herb Society**, the **American Society of Botanical Artists**, and the **Seed Savers Exchange**; the booksellers and publishers who generously contribute as commercial members; and the wide range of individuals including students, retirees, scientists, horticulturists, librarians, archivists, collectors and those simply interested in botanical and horticultural literature--all of whom have chosen to work together to foster the advancement of botanical and horticultural information and information services and create a unique network for sharing and preserving our collective resources.

In conclusion, I would note that there are many other institutions and individuals who could benefit from membership and provide additional resources for our group, and I would like you to help identify them and solicit their membership. Meanwhile, I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible in Chicago.

Stan Johnston

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CBHL librarians also salute **Dr. Rudi Schmid** for helping us make informed choices for our collections, alerting us to those obscure titles that might otherwise be overlooked, pointing out new and easily missed issues of irregular publications, teaching us bibliographic nuances, entertaining us with keen insights and wit, and for making us better librarians with each and every column.

References:

Schmid, R. 2011. Reviews and notices. *Taxon* 60: 301.
 Steussy, T. 2011. 100 issues, 25 years. *Taxon* 60: 300.

Trends in Botanic Garden Libraries

Compiled by Leora Siegel and Miriam Pollack

In September 2010, CBHL member libraries were asked to participate in a survey on current status and trends. Representatives from twenty eight libraries replied.

Staffing

Participants were asked about levels of staffing compared to last year with the following responses:

Same as last year [15]	55.6%
Less than last year [11]	40.7%
More than last year [1]	3.7%

Half the respondents reported that they are solo librarians. Those with more than one staff member reported an average of 4.76 professionals and 6.76 support staff.

Materials

When asked about materials budgets in comparison to last year, botanical libraries responded as follows:

Same	48.1%
Less	37.0%
More	11.1%
Not sure	3.7%

Technology

When asked about new technologies in use beyond the automated catalog, respondents listed Wi-Fi and full-text linking of some online serials and desktop access for all staff to some electronic journals, full-text and bibliographic databases.

There is a scattering of use of **RFID** tags, email, chat and IM reference services 24/7, and use of **Twitter** and **Facebook**. One library reported a digital asset management system, ongoing digitization projects, scanning copier, link resolver, and library guides.

When asked how these technologies have changed the way patrons use the library, libraries reported more self-service by library clients at their own desks, so fewer visits to the physical library. Many patrons will conduct research from outside the library building, and some bring their laptops to the library and connect via wireless.

Most with online services report more online customers and greater ability to offer digital images/PDF fulfillment.

Library Users

When asked to identify library users, respondents provided the following list:

Internal Users	External Users
Staff	Garden Members
Researchers	General Public
Volunteers	Students of all ages
Interns	Master Gardeners
	Naturalists
	Botanists
	Educators
	University Extension
	Horticulturists
	Freelance Garden Designers / Landscape Professionals
	Consultants
	The Green Industry
	Curious Casual Gardeners / Home Gardeners
	Artists
	Architects
	Volunteer Story Readers

Conclusion

From this short survey, it can be concluded that although funding and staffing for botanical garden libraries is flat or decreasing, botanical garden libraries are increasingly providing automated catalogs, Wi-Fi and full-text linking of some online serials. They are set up for desktop access for all staff to some electronic journals, full-text and bibliographic databases. These technologies have resulted in more self-service by library clients at their own desks, so there are fewer visits to the physical library. Many patrons will conduct research from outside the library building, and some bring their laptops to the library and connect via wireless. Most with online services report more online customers and a greater ability to offer digital images/PDF fulfillment. Survey participants listed a wide range of external users, from students to landscape professionals to artists.

Members' News East

Compiled by Shelly Kilroy, Librarian
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In Memoriam: Anita L. Karg, 1923–2011

The Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation is deeply saddened to report the death on 2 February 2011 of **Anita L. Karg**. She joined the Institute staff in March 1972 as the assistant archivist and became the archivist in September 1988. After nearly 28 years at the Institute, she retired in December 1999 with the title, Archivist & Senior Research Scholar, Emerita.

During her years in the Archives, Mrs. Karg collected biographical information and portraits of plant scientists. She developed bibliographies of these materials and replied to requests for information and portraits of natural scientists. She organized, documented and preserved plant scientists' papers, letters, journals, oral histories and mementos and assisted researchers in the use of these materials. In addition to these curatorial and bibliographic duties, she contributed to catalogues of the department's holdings that included the *Guide to the Botanical Records and Papers in the Archives of the Hunt Institute*, Parts 1–3 (Pittsburgh, Hunt Institute, 1981–1988) and the *Catalogue of Portraits of Naturalists, Mostly Botanists, in the Collections of the Hunt Institute, The Linnean Society of London and the Conservatoire et Jardin Botaniques de la Ville de Genève*, Parts 1–3 (Pittsburgh, Hunt Institute, 1987–1999). She assisted with the development of a biographical register of botany, which will document the contents of the Institute's master biographical file as well as the holdings of collaborating repositories and individuals throughout the world. She wrote several articles for the Institute's *Bulletin* about manuscripts in the Archives collection that fascinated her: **Franz Carl Mertens'** letters (1999, 11(1): 6); **Chrétien Guillaume de Lamoignon de Malesherbes'** manuscript on plant classification (1989, 7(1): 3–4); and **Giovanni Targioni Tozzetti's** manuscript about **Pier' Antonio Micheli** (1983, 5(1): 3–5).

Mrs. Karg received a B.S. in general studies from Carnegie Institute of Technology (now **Carnegie Mellon University**) in 1950 and an M.L.S. from the **University of Pittsburgh** in 1971. She was a member and former president (1992) of the **Council on Botanical and Horti-**

cultural Libraries (CBHL) and a member of the **Society of American Archivists**, the **Mid-Atlantic Regional Archivists**, the **Curators Coalition of Pittsburgh** and the **Catholic Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania**.

Susan Fraser
Library Director
The LuEsther T. Mertz Library
The New York Botanical Garden
Bronx, New York

Ad Hoc Committee Monitors Electronic Publication

At the 2010 CBHL Annual Meeting, a special ad hoc committee was appointed to monitor the developments on revisions to the *International Code of Botanical Nomenclature* to allow for electronic publication of new taxonomic descriptions. The task force consists of **Fiona Ainsworth**, **Kathy Crosby**, **Susan Fraser**, **Donna Herendeen**, **Doug Holland**, and **Judy Warnement**. The committee followed the developments of the **Special Committee on Electronic Publication** that was assembled by the **Nomenclature Committee of the International Botanical Congress**. A complete report on the **Special Committee on Electronic Publication** has been published in *Taxon* 59(6) pp.1853-1862. The CBHL ad hoc committee reviewed these discussions and arguments both for and against the issues of electronic publishing. The proposals to amend the code (Article 29) are published in *Taxon* 59(6) pp. 1907-1933. The CBHL ad hoc committee will monitor the election results. The topic of data archiving was beyond the Special Committee mandate but the CBHL ad hoc committee will be keeping a close eye on the issues that may arise for libraries if the proposed revisions to the code are accepted.

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

LuEsther T. Mertz Library Welcomes New Staff Member

Mia D'Avanza joined the staff at the **Mertz Library** recently, replacing **Jane Dorfman** as **Reference Librarian / Exhibitions Coordinator**. Jane had retired from her position in September 2010. Mia will be responsible for developing, planning and organizing most facets of the Library's ongoing exhibitions program. She will also provide bibliographic instruction, prepare reference and instructional materials, and assist with research inquiries received by the Library from both the staff and public users.

Prior to joining **The New York Botanical Garden** staff, Mia was a Program Assistant at the **University of South Florida Contemporary Art Museum**. She also served as a **Kress Fellow in Art Librarianship** at

The **Yale Center for British Art**, where she provided specialized reference services and also developed and installed exhibitions highlighting the resources of the **Arts Library Special Collections**. She holds a BFA from the **University of Florida** and an MLS and a Museum Studies Graduate Certificate from the **University of South Florida**.

Spanish Paradise: Gardens of the Alhambra at The New York Botanical Garden May 21–August 21, 2011

The lush gardens and poetic vistas of the **Alhambra**—the legendary Moorish palace in Granada, Spain—will be the inspiration for the spring exhibition at **The New York Botanical Garden**: *Spanish Paradise: Gardens of the Alhambra*.

The garden-wide exhibition explores the collaboration of sublime nature and dramatic design that created the earthly paradise which is today listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Considered by most experts to be the apex of Islamic architecture, the Alhambra is a 14th-century palace fortress complex that presents landscape architecture as an art form, incorporating architecture, gardens, and gateways into one of the world's most commanding citadels.

On view from **May 21 through August 21, 2011**, *Spanish Paradise: Gardens of the Alhambra* will provide a powerful evocation of the fourteenth-century ensemble of landscape and buildings and the ways in which it has been viewed through history. The exhibition will explore the Alhambra through three components: a spectacular 15,000-square-foot interpretation of its gardens in the Botanical Garden's landmark **Enid A. Haupt Conservatory**, curated by world-renowned garden writer, designer, and historian **Penelope Hobhouse**; *Historical Views: Tourists at the Alhambra*, a display of rare folios, prints, photographs, artifacts and drawings of the Alhambra, on view in the Library's **Rondina and LoFaro Gallery** and curated by **Patrick Lenaghan**, Curator of Prints and Photographs at **The Hispanic Society of America**; and a "poetry walk" featuring selected works of **Federico García Lorca**, selected in collaboration with the **Poetry Society of America**.

Today, the Alhambra remains the principal monument of Islamic Spain and contains the most iconic

gardens from this period. Moreover, it is a living symbol of the cosmopolitan outlook and cultural exchange that characterized al-Andalus, and includes not only elements of the traditional Islamic garden but also ideas derived from Roman, Renaissance, and modern architectural and garden design.

In the **Enid A. Haupt Conservatory**, a Mediterranean palette of plants will demonstrate the diversity of those used in the Alhambra gardens. These will include rosemary, lily of the Nile, century plant, calla-lily, salvia, bougainvillea, heliotrope, and thyme, among others. Trees will include date palms, citrus, pomegranate, and Italian cypress, while rambling vines, roses, and jasmine will

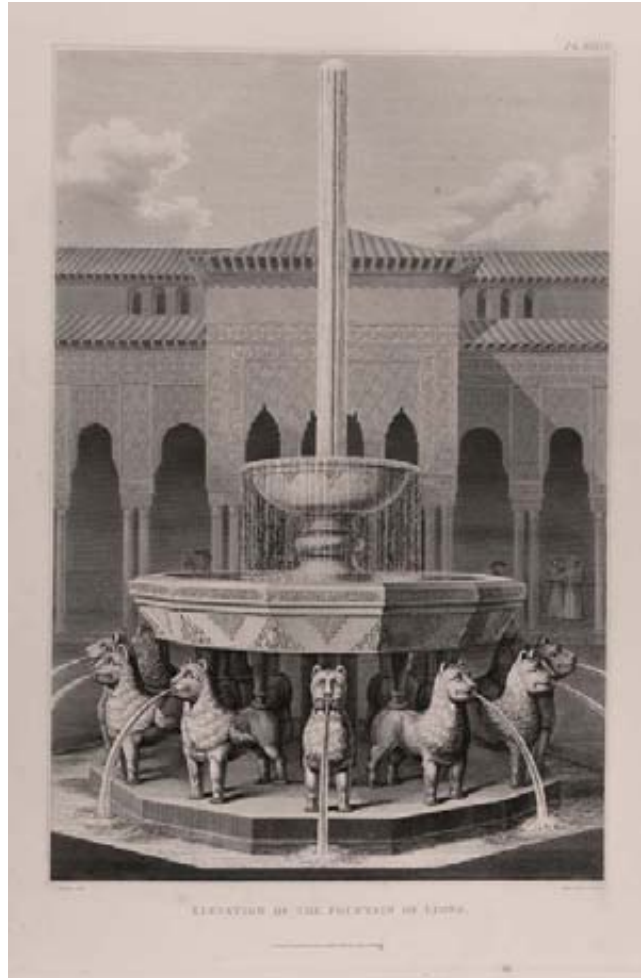
climb pillars and spill from terra cotta containers. The Conservatory galleries will contain displays that illuminate many of the salient characteristics of the Alhambra. These will range from a basin with flowing water that demonstrates the Alhambra's sophisticated hydraulic system, to an example of quadripartite courtyard gardens, a composition of triple arches and a simple parterre: illustrating the blending of architecture, horticulture, and engineering to create an environment that is at once peaceful and pleasing to all the senses and entirely characteristic of the Alhambra.

Art and Artifacts of the Alhambra in the Library Gallery

Paradoxically, the interpretation of the Alhambra in art, literature, and the popular imagination has, until recently, been shaped by the

accounts of foreign visitors rather than Spaniards. In the Library's **Rondina and LoFaro Gallery**, *Historical Views: Tourists at the Alhambra* will look at the ways in which the palace complex was viewed by some of the many international travelers and artists who visited it. The material on view, drawn from the rich collections of **The Hispanic Society of America**, ranges in date from the sixteenth to the early twentieth centuries.

The Gallery presentation includes some of the earliest published depictions of the Alhambra seen in topographical views of **Granada**, seventeenth century interior views of the palace, and elaborate illustrations of Arabic architectural details. Early nineteenth century



views feature “typical” Spaniards, including gypsies, bullfighters, bandits, fair maidens, and fat priests. It was **Washington Irving** who created the popular image of the Alhambra as an alluring, mysterious palace. Irving lived in the Alhambra during the summer of 1829 and immortalized it in a collection of essays and stories published in 1832. On view will be one of Irving’s Spanish diaries and a notebook in which he practiced the Arabic alphabet. Also featured are several artifacts from the Alhambra and a stunning series of early twentieth century watercolor views allowing visitors to become immersed in the history and design of the Alhambra.

Poems in the Setting of the Botanical Garden’s Outdoor Spring Landscape

A Poetry Walk in the gardens surrounding the **Enid A. Haupt Conservatory** will feature the works of **Federico García Lorca**. A series of poetry boards and an audio tour will present Lorca’s poems. Many of them referencing plants, flowers, and gardens, they take visitors through some of the Botanical Garden’s collections during the peak spring-flowering season. Visitors strolling along the poetry walk will read Lorca’s poems, while surrounded by plants that may well have served as his inspiration.

Janet Evans, Library Manager
McLean Library
Pennsylvania Horticultural Society
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Mass Digitization Project

The **Pennsylvania Horticultural Society’s McLean Library** is participating in a mass digitization project. We are sending books and journals in the public domain to the Internet Archive for scanning. We received some Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funding from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to pay for the scanning and to fund a project librarian to make this happen.

Resource Guide Project

In addition, I have been working with some wonderful **Drexel** library school interns who are helping me to create a series of online Resource Guides on many gardening and greening topics such as Green Roofs, Container Gardening, Native Plants, and more. To see our current list of Resource Guides (we’re using **Springshare’s Lib Guides** system) go to this link: pennhort.libguides.com/index.php. We are supplementing this **Lib Guide** system with **Springshare’s Lib Answers** system to build a knowledge base of frequently asked questions.



Leora Siegel, Director
Lenhardt Library
Chicago Botanic Garden
Glencoe, Illinois



Preservation Workshop Held in the Lenhardt Library of the Chicago Botanic Garden on February 13, 2011

Seventy-five participants enjoyed an afternoon in the **Lenhardt Library** learning to care for their family’s treasures. Professional book conservators, **James Twomey of Book Restoration Co.** and **Russ Maki of Graphic Conservation Company**, offered conservation recommendations and advice, and complimentary archival products supplied by **University Products** and **Gaylord** archival supply companies were distributed. In addition, a list of use-



ful conservation resources was available, **IMLS Connecting to Collections** bookshelf was perused, **IMLS Connecting to Collections DVD** ran on continuous loop, and the **Lenhardt Library’s Caring for Collections: Conservation of the Rare Book Collection** exhibition was viewed.

www.chicagobotanic.org/library/talks
www.chicagobotanic.org/library/exhibits

Charlotte Tancin, Librarian and Senior Research Scholar
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**Hunt Institute presents Flora’s Lexicon,
25 March–30 June 2011**

Flora’s Lexicon explores the 19th-century European and American phenomenon of **The Language of Flowers**,

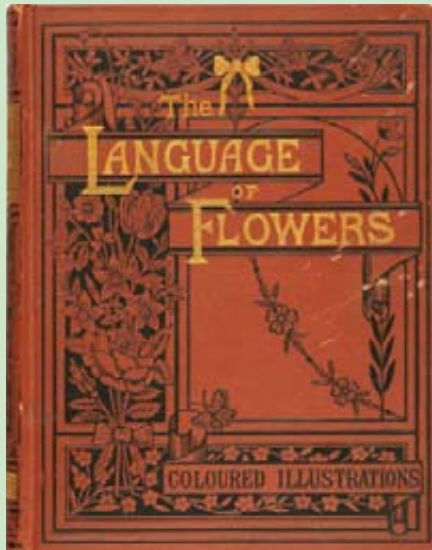
the common understanding that plants and blooms were charged with sentiment and meaning and held the potential to express emotion or to communicate privileged messages within the strict confines of social etiquette. Flower associations made their way into Victorian language from various sources, including Japanese, Middle Eastern, Turkish, Greek and Roman cultures, religions and mythology, as well as the literature of Shakespeare and the still-life painting of 17th-century Dutch artists. The result was a fashionable system of floral connotations that blossomed during a time of burgeoning public interest in botany and its scientific importance.

So pervasive and popular was The Language of Flowers trend that it launched the introduction of the floral dictionary or Language of Flowers book, a small, beautifully bound and illustrated volume devoted to the decoding of each flower's secret meaning. This sentimental craze and the books associated with it originated in France, the most notable being *Le Langage des Fleurs* of 1819 by **Charlotte de Latour**. This volume was reprinted in multiple editions, translated into English and imitated by other French, British and American authors until the trend waned in the mid-1880s, shortly after English author and illustrator **Kate Greenaway** (1846–1901) published her charmingly illustrated floral dictionary, *The Language of Flowers* (1884).

The Language of Flowers book phenomenon also attracted the skills of numerous respected botanical artists of the era, including **Pierre-Joseph Redouté** (1759–1840), **Pancrace Bessa** (1772–1846), **Pierre-Jean-François Turpin** (1775–1840) and **Pierre-Antoine Poiteau** (1766–1854). Although their illustrations for this genre differed slightly in scale and scientific detail from their major works, they were prized for their beauty and added to the appeal of these



*To beauty, friendship and love [rose, ivy and myrtle], hand-colored engraving published by Saunders and Otley, Conduit Street, from Anna Christian Burke's **The Illustrated Language of Flowers** (London, G. Routledge and Co., 1856), HI Library call no. DG21 B9591.*



*Cover of Robert Tyas' **The Language of Flowers, or, Floral Emblems or Thoughts, Feelings and Sentiments** (London, George Routledge and Sons, 1869), HI Library call no. DG21 T977L.*

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intricately bound and decorated volumes while serving to familiarize a large segment of the population with the artists' talent.

Flora's Lexicon presents books from the **Hunt Institute's** Library and botanical portraits from the Art Department in an examination of the scope of The Language of Flowers phenomenon, from the influences on its beginning to its continued presence in 21st-century publishing. Differing approaches to the floral dictionary are displayed, while intricate systems of meaning are explored through artworks of many key 18th- and 19th-century botanical artists and illustrators.

Flora's Lexicon will be on display on the 5th floor of the Hunt Library building at **Carnegie Mellon University** and will be open to the public free of charge. Hours: Monday–Friday, 9 a.m.–noon and 1–5 p.m.; Sunday, 1–4 p.m. (except April 22–24; May 15 and 29–30). Because our hours of operation are occasionally subject to change, please call or email before your visit to confirm our hours. For further information, contact the Hunt Institute at (412) 268-2434. For more information about the exhibition, contact us at <huntinst@andrew.cmu.edu>.

In conjunction with *Flora's Lexicon*, the Hunt Institute will hold its annual Open House on June 26 and 27, 2011, offering talks, tours and opportunities to meet one-on-one with our staff to ask questions and see items in the collections. A schedule of events is available on the Hunt Institute Web site at <huntbot.andrew.cmu.edu/HIBD/HI-PDF/OpenHouse-Schedule.pdf>.

Members' News West



Compiled by
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Katherine Esau Digital Archive Now Available



Esau at electron microscope.

The **Cheadle Center for Biodiversity and Ecological Restoration** at the **University of California Santa Barbara** is pleased to announce the addition of new web pages on world renowned plant anatomist **Katherine Esau**. One can now gather information about her life, career, and topics of research and have access to over 300 images of her life and work

through the **Online Archive of California**. The site was developed with two goals in mind: 1) to interest young students in grades 5-8, especially girls, in a science career and provide materials that support state and national science curricula; and 2) to provide a growing array of plant anatomical images for researchers worldwide.

We are planning to migrate our web site to a more easily updatable platform and will continue to add new images. Please visit ccber.ucsb.edu/research/esau.

Barney Lipscomb
Leonhardt Chair of Texas Botany
Botanical Research Institute of Texas
Fort Worth, Texas

New Book:

Distribution of Grasses in Texas

by **Robert B. Shaw, Barron S. Rector, and Amanda M. Dube**
Botanical Research Institute of Texas, 2011.

ISBN: 9781889878324. www.brit.org/brit-press/books/sbm-33



The Distribution of Grasses in Texas is a compilation of information about the distribution of grasses in the 12 ecoregions and 254 counties of Texas. We found 721 species reported for the state and over 19,000 county distribution records. Featured in the book are a checklist of species by ecoregion, summaries of the number of documented species per county, and the number of counties where the top 101 species

have been collected. The largest parts of the book are two major lists. The first list is a record of grass species for each county; the second, documents the counties where a particular species has been collected. Data presented clearly indicates that the Poaceae, the most economically important of all plant families, is poorly collected across the state. Distribution of cultivars, ornamentals, and noxious or invasive weedy species, as well as numerous native perennial taxa, are poorly documented. Even common species need collecting. The authors hope that this work will stimulate collection of Texas grasses, and that specimens will be properly preserved in Texas herbaria.

This book will assist in concentrating and focusing collectors, whether they are botanists, taxonomists, gardeners, naturalists, conservationists, environmental consultants, researchers, students, 4H and FFA members or other plant enthusiasts. This compilation is intended to be a baseline upon which new and additional information can build. A website essmextension.tamu.edu/plants/grasses is available to report new county records documented by voucher specimens.

Robert B. Shaw is Professor, Department of Ecosystem Science and Management, Texas A&M University. He is author of *Grasses of Colorado* (2008) and co-author with **Frank W. Gould** of the 1983 edition of *Grass Systematics*.

Barron S. Rector is Associate Professor and Range Extension Specialist, Department of Ecosystem Science and Management, Texas A&M University. He is author of *Texas Agrilife Extension Publication B-182, Know Your Grasses*; and co-author of *Texas Agrilife Extension Publication B-6208, Brush and Weeds of Texas Rangelands*.

Amanda M. Dube is a GIS technician, Institute of Renewable Natural Resources, and Graduate Student, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences, Texas A&M University. This is her first of many publications.

BRIT's New HQ: an Update

Founded in 1987, the **Botanical Research Institute of Texas** is an international, scientific research and learning center focused on conservation and knowledge sharing. Based in **Fort Worth**, BRIT documents the diversity of plant life and conducts extensive research around the world. Current major projects are in **Texas, Europe, Peru, and Papua New Guinea**. In the last ten years BRIT scientists have located and described scores of species previously unknown to science.

BRIT's herbarium, a collection of more than one million dried plant specimens representing much of Earth's plant diversity, is among the largest in the United States and is the largest U.S. herbarium not part of a university, botanical garden, or broader natural history museum. Some specimens date back to the late 1700s. BRIT's library houses more than 125,000 volumes of books, periodicals, and journals from more than 100 countries.

BRIT's collections-based research provides information for conservation purposes and is a resource to research scientists, students, teachers, artists, plant enthusiasts, homeowners, gardeners, lawyers, physicians, businesses, government agencies, museums, schools, arboreta, hospitals, vineyard owners, ranchers, veterinarians, farmers, poison control centers, and others. BRIT's plant collections and educational programs are open to the public to help fulfill our mission to achieve public understanding of the value that plants bring to life.

In early February 2011, BRIT moved into its new sustainable and energy efficient headquarters located in the **Fort Worth Cultural District**.

About the Building's Configuration

BRIT's new headquarters is scheduled to open in May 2011. It is organized into two parts, the **Think Block** and the **Archives Block**. The 44,000-square-foot Think Block contains education, research, exhibit, and administrative areas. The Archives Block houses BRIT's herbarium and library in a two-story, 25,000-square-foot, climate-controlled space.



North view of the BRIT Campus looking south.



The rainwater harvesting system.



South view of the BRIT Campus and main entrance; looking north.

Campus Landscape

BRIT's landscape has been selected to participate in a new program testing the nation's first rating system for green landscape design, construction, and maintenance by **Sustainable Sites Initiative™ (SITES™)**.

Highlights of the working landscape include the living roof, overlapping vines of the region to cover the walls of BRIT's Archives Block, and a parking lot with rain gardens filled with water-cleaning plants. An integration of landscape and parking occurs with the design of planted research fields within the parking bays. A braided landscape system made up of paths, plants, and a shady walkway lined with trees will create a cool, welcoming environment.

Water for irrigation will come from our rainwater harvesting system. The rainwater harvesting system includes roof drains, curb inlets, catch basins and a bioswale collection system. In case of an extended drought situation, water from a cistern that holds pumped subsurface water from a depth of 9' to 12' below our building foundation will be used.

Sustainable Features

The **U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC)** developed the **LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Green Building Rating System™** to encourage and accelerate global adoption of sustainable green building practices. The system offers four certification levels for new construction—Certified, Silver, Gold, and Platinum. A building's rating is based on the number of credits earned in five categories: sustainable sites, water efficiency, energy and atmosphere, materials and resources, and indoor environmental quality.

BRIT's headquarters is expected to become the first building in Fort Worth to achieve the **USGBC's LEED® Platinum rating**, and the second in North Texas and only the eighth in Texas.

To meet LEED Platinum certification, BRIT achieved the following: 97 percent of the construction waste materials from the previous building (steel beams, joists and decking, aluminum, concrete, and brick asphalt) was diverted from landfills by being sorted on site and delivered to recycling centers. The recycling greatly reduced the amount of materials disposed of in a landfill and reduced the demand for virgin materials. To further reduce site disturbance, the building was carefully placed to preserve three large oak trees.

Energy conservation includes a geothermal system consisting of 166 individual wells, each 256 feet deep, which use the constant temperature characteristics of the earth as a heat sink in summertime and heat source in wintertime. The energy model for the BRIT building shows significant savings in energy use compared to the baseline of a building with a typical commercial heating and cooling system. The environmental benefits of this include reduced loads on power plants and therefore reduced emissions.

A roof-mounted solar photovoltaic system installed on the **Archives Block** is expected to produce more than 65,000 kilowatt hours (kWh) of electricity per year. The **Think Block** features a living roof comprised of local native plants. The living roof helps insulate the building, reduces rainwater runoff, improves durability and provides habitat for native plants, butterflies and birds.

Bio-based materials including bamboo ceilings, a Sinker Cypress wall (an expansive wall of millwork panels created from cypress logs that were reclaimed from the bottom of river beds), and wool carpets will be used in various parts of the design.

A shared parking arrangement with the **Fort Worth Botanic Garden (FWBG)** will allow for flexible use of parking spaces to minimize the parking areas. The existing parking lot has been augmented and redesigned

to serve both BRIT and the FWBG; its 266 parking spaces will include the 126 existing FWBG spaces and an additional 140 BRIT spaces for visitors and staff.

The storm water management system will direct water to flow across pervious paving in sidewalks to "rain gardens" between the parking spines. The rain gardens, filled with native plants with high water tolerance but low water demands, will gather, filter, and reuse rainwater for watering. Overflow water is directed to a retention pond which will be the source of water for irrigation. Rainwater will be collected off roof areas and channeled to the pond. The pond will be topped up during dry periods using ground water from a well that taps into an underground stream.

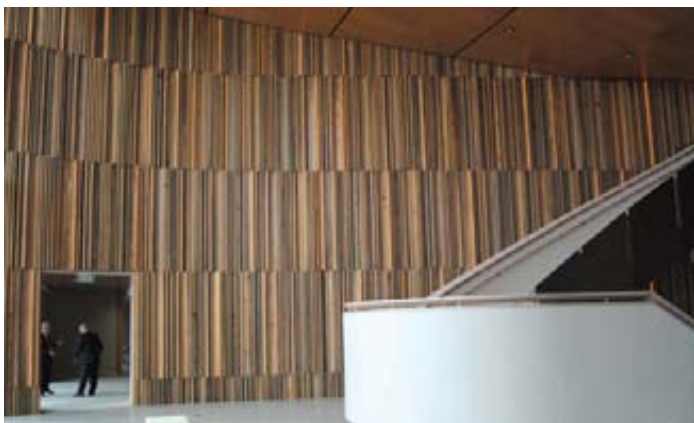
Tracy L. Mehlin, MLIS
Information Technology Librarian
Elisabeth C. Miller Library
University of Washington Botanic Gardens
Seattle, Washington

The **Elisabeth C. Miller Library** will hold the **6th Annual Garden Lovers' Book Sale** on April 1 and 2. The festive event starts off with a wine and cheese preview party and fundraiser on Friday evening. A silent auction of special books and rare plants adds a touch of competitive spirit as attendees maneuver to find the best deals on great used gardening books. The following Saturday the public is welcomed to shop all day. This annual sale not only allows the Library to translate duplicate, donated books into cash to buy new books, but also promotes the Library to the community with colorful postcards and posters.

The first of April is also the opening night of a month-long exhibit featuring the **American Society of**



Suzanne Ferris, ASBA member.



View of the Sinker Cypress wall just inside the main front entrance (millwork panels created from cypress logs reclaimed from the bottom of river beds).

Botanical Artists' Pacific Northwest Chapter members. Prints and originals of botanical illustrations and paintings will be on sale with a portion of proceeds benefiting the Library.

Interviews Underway for the University of Washington Botanic Gardens Oral History Project

Funded by a grant from the **Arboretum Foundation**, this project will collect, organize, and preserve oral histories of people involved in the history of the **University of Washington Botanic Gardens**, specifically those who have long-term associations with the **Washington Park Arboretum**, the **Arboretum Foundation**, and/or the **Center for Urban Horticulture**.

Selection criteria will favor people who fulfilled multiple roles within these organizations and who provide a variety of perspectives. The project possesses particular urgency as opportunities to talk with people who participated in this history are rapidly disappearing.

Miller Library staff member **Carrie Bowman** is overseeing the project and has hired **Shelly Leavens** to interview narrators. Shelly has experience with oral history projects associated with the **Center for Wooden Boats**, the **National Park Service**, and the **Pennsylvania State Police**. After consulting with numerous people, they have an extensive list of potential narrators; more than 20 people are considered top priorities. As of the end of February, they have interviewed 8 people.

Susan C. Eubank, Arboretum Librarian
Los Angeles County Arboretum & Botanic Garden
Arcadia, California

Strategic Planning Hits the Arboretum Library

The **Los Angeles County Arboretum & Botanic Garden** is in the midst of a strategic planning process following a **Peter Drucker** model. We've done surveys, focus groups, and individual and "intercept" interviews. Intercept interviews are done in the Arboretum with visiting customers. As a collection manager, I have quickly revised the library collection development policies I had interns start. I've written a hasty, condensed history of the Arboretum and its land. I scouted and retrieved two pithy and complementary articles on libraries and their future and contributed my library handout to the 428 page "briefing" book. As a member of the senior staff, I am on the assessment team that participates in all the meetings. Our next meetings include the board of our cooperating non-profit (**Los Angeles Arboretum Foundation**) and volunteer organization board (**Los Voluntarios**) and one including all the staff. The goals for those meetings are to create short-term (i.e., 1-3 year) achievable goals. As part of the day of meetings, all the collections managers will give 45-minute presentations on their collections to create a broader understanding of the collections among staff and board members. Onto the future!

Conference Collaboration Grant Program

Susan C. Eubank, Arboretum Librarian
Los Angeles County Arboretum & Botanic Garden, Arcadia, CA

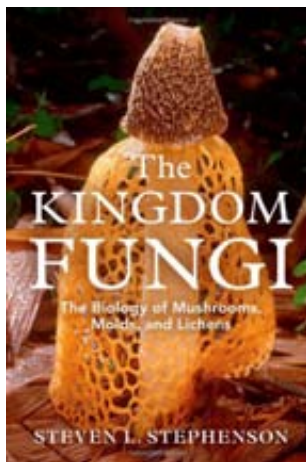
During the mid-winter CBHL Board Meeting, the Board pushed collaboration with other like-minded organizations to the forefront. We already have a wonderful reciprocal relationship with the European Botanical and Horticultural Libraries Group (EBHL). We would like to expand our collaborations and are introducing a grant program to encourage your participation in other like-minded organizations' conferences. CBHL will pay \$500 towards conference fees for an individual to go to the conferences of Garden Writers Association, American Public Garden Association, Special Libraries Association, Internet Librarian, etc., etc. The grantee would receive the \$500 after they have presented a report to CBHL (either through the CBHL Newsletter or as a presentation at the Annual Meeting). The report should include useful aspects of the conference that will help other CBHL members. The report is intended as continuing education for the CBHL librarian. The grantee is also intended to serve as a CBHL ambassador to the conference and is required to register as the CBHL representative. To receive the grant, the prospective grantee needs to submit a letter addressed to:

CBHL Secretary, Gayle Bradbeer,
<gayle.bradbeer@auraria.edu> or
1100 Lawrence St., Denver, CO 80204-2041

and include: name of conference, date of conference, reason for choosing the conference, including the benefit to CBHL, and the date when you will submit your report about the conference to either the CBHL Newsletter or as a talk at the CBHL Annual Meeting.

Please give the Board one month prior to the registration deadline for the conference to make a decision about the grant. Funding will be awarded based on the amount of funds made available by the Board during that particular fiscal year.

Book Reviews



Compiled by
Stacy Stoldt
Reference
Librarian
Lenhardt Library
Chicago Botanic
Garden
Glencoe, Illinois

Dr. Michael A. Vincent
Department of Botany
Miami University, Oxford OH 45056
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The Kingdom Fungi: the biology of mushrooms, molds, and lichens by Steven L. Stephenson. Timber Press, 2010.

Dr. Steven Stephenson, now at the **University of Arkansas** in Fayetteville, and a world-renowned expert on slime molds (*Myxomycetes*), has penned a truly interesting volume on a most intriguing group of organisms: those ranging from mushrooms to yeasts, smuts, rusts, molds and so on, that we know as fungi. As the title implies, the book presents detailed information on organisms belonging to the **Kingdom Fungi**, as well as other organisms that have traditionally been classed with fungi. The twelve chapters cover a wide range of topics about these fascinating creatures, including what they are and where they live, as well as their structures, their roles in the environment, and their interactions with humans. The book concludes with a chapter on fossil fungi. The *Kingdom Fungi* has a good glossary, a thorough index, and an eight-page bibliography that will help the reader pursue further information on topics that are of interest.

This book is written to appeal to a popular audience, rather than the professional mycologist. It contains not only the more technical aspects of the organisms, such as their growth and reproduction, classification, ecology, and diversity, but also many attention-grabbing stories, anecdotes, and historical tidbits. The author succeeds in most chapters in writing with enough technical detail to let the reader learn a great deal, but not so much as to turn him away. The scientific jargon sprinkled throughout the book is seasoned with items that pull the reader along, such as discussions of declining amphibian populations caused by chytrids, hunting truffles with pigs and dogs, or using lichens—symbiotic associations of fungi and algae—as food, perhaps even the “manna” of Biblical fame.

For the most part, I really liked this book. As a scientist, I would have preferred more information on the phylogenetic relationships among the varied and diverse groups of organisms covered in the book, and I might have arranged things in a more phylogenetic framework, because that is what I am used to and expect. However, this is not a mycology text, and looked at in that way, I can appreciate the organization that the author chose to use. I also think that much information is lost because there are no diagrams in the book. On the other hand, while I like diagrams, such as those representing life-cycles, line drawings of diagnostic traits, details of cell divisions in the various groups, and so on, perhaps the enlightened amateur to whom this book will likely appeal would be bored with such things. I do believe that some concepts will be very difficult for the reader to grasp without such drawings. On the other hand, the volume does have, in addition to the great illustrations of phallic fungi on the front and back of the dust-jacket, 124 beautiful and very informative photographs that are collected into two bundles in the body of the book. These depict nicely many of the species being discussed, though I would find them more helpful if they were more widely distributed throughout the text, and in more close association with the topics they portray.

I recommend this book for anyone interested in fungi in the broad sense, whether amateur or professional. Overall, it is well written and an enjoyable read.

Lisa West, Volunteer, Lenhardt Library
Chicago Botanic Garden, Illinois

Bees, Wasps, and Ants by Eric Grissell. Timber Press, 2010.

Bees, wasps, and ants are the diminutive influence that inspired several **Pulitzer Prizes**, a **Nobel Prize**, and the creation of the **Kinsey Institute for Research in Sex and Gender, and Reproduction**. Honey bees dance to communicate with one another, and one is even named the shaggy fuzzyfoot bee. The rose seed **chalcid** (*Megastigmus aculeatus*, *Torymidae*) larva can survive a “gastrointestinal roller coaster ride” through a bird and survive. Yet, Eric Grissell laments that “most gardeners are unaware of the lifestyles of even the common wasp. . . In fact, the life histories of lions, tigers, and bears might actually be more familiar, when none are to be found in the garden . . .”

Bees, Wasps, and Ants seeks to remedy this deficiency by combining well researched scientific facts with a lighthearted, anecdotal writing style, bridging the gap between sometimes dry technical material and overly generalized texts. The material is suitable to both the amateur and entomologist seeking a consolidated overview of the insect order *Hymenoptera*.

Part I covers the basics of what constitute hymenopterans and their biology. This section examines why a bee, wasp, and ant-attracting garden may be better than a butterfly garden. Hymenopterans attract birds,

balance the ecosystem, pollinate, and recycle: all for free. Grissell explains the habitat requirements needed to attract hymenopterans. However, for those who cannot be convinced of their beauty and benefits, a few pages are devoted to deterring problematic hymenopterans. In a later chapter, Grissell also reminds readers that the basic rule in nature to avoiding trouble is to not “stick your finger (or your face) into places it doesn’t belong.”

Part II examines the lives of sawflies, parasitic wasps, predatory wasps, bees, and ants. In-depth description of lifecycles, nests, and prey are examined. An *Ammophila* wasp can drag a caterpillar 65 yards (20 m), navigating a garden after only quickly flying over it. She will then bury the caterpillar, camouflaging the nest using a rock as a tool to pound the soil flat. All of this is accomplished in minutes.

Bees, Wasps, and Ants is a great reference tool. There are one hundred forty-four stunning images, many from Insect Images. Tables are provided of *Hymenoptera* families in various regions. The tables are divided by families, number of world species, region, larval feeding type, and hosts. In each chapter, written and website sources are provided. In the preface, some field guides and courses are also recommended. There are eleven pages of recommended websites and nine pages of references, both used in the text and as suggestions for further reading. This material will prove invaluable in assisting those bitten by the *Hymenoptera* bug.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

compiled by Rita M. Hassert

June 12-15, 2011. Philadelphia. SLA Annual Conference. <www.sla.org>

June 21-25, 2011. Philadelphia. APGA Revolutionary Conference. <www.aabga.org>

June 23-28, 2011. New Orleans. ALA Annual Conference. <www.ala.org>

July 9-13, 2011. Saint Louis. Botany 2011 - Healing the Planet.

Annual meeting of the Society for Economic Botany, the American Fern Society (AFS), the American Society of Plant Taxonomists (ASPT), and the Botanical Society of America (BSA).

<www.2011.botanyconference.org>

July 10-16, 2011. Olympia, Washington. Guild of Natural Science Illustrators Conference & Annual Meeting. <www.gnsi.org>

July 21-23, 2011. East Lansing & Grand Rapids, Michigan. National Children & Youth Garden Symposium. “Digging into the Art and Science of Gardening.”

<www.ahs.org/youth_gardening/national_youth_garden_symposium.htm>

August 22-27, 2011. Chicago. SAA’s 75th Annual Meeting and Anniversary Celebration

<www.archivists.org>

November 14-15, 2011. Chicago. Life and Literature Conference organized by the Biodiversity Heritage Library.

<www.lifeandliterature.org/2011/02/life-and-literature-chicago-14-15-nov.html>

On the Web:

Some More CBHL Member Sites, an Information Site in PowerPoint, and Tracking Our Pain at the Gas Pump

Stanley Johnston, Mentor, Ohio

Beginning where we left off in the last column, we continue to look at web sites of some of our less familiar CBHL members. **The Friends of Boerner Botanical Gardens** <www.boernerbotanicalgardens.org> provides information on the history, programs, and plants in bloom of these Milwaukee gardens which are part of the **Milwaukee, Wisconsin County Park System**. Although the Park System also has its own Boerner site <county.milwaukee.gov/BoernerBotanicalGard10113.htm>, it is the Friends who are CBHL members and have a librarian.

On a similar note, **Fellows Riverside Gardens** <www.millcreekmetroparks.org/ParksFacilities/nbspFellowsRiversideGardens/tabid/1409/Default.aspx> is a display garden and educational facility which is part of **Mill Creek MetroParks** in Youngstown, Ohio. The site details the activities, resources and plants in bloom.

The Clark Botanic Garden <www.clarkbotanic.org> is a 12-acre living museum and educational facility on Long Island in New York that contains a number of gardens, including an official Daylily Garden recognized by **The American Hemerocallis Society** <www.daylilies.org>. The Clark site provides information on their classes and activities as well as images from the gardens.

Tower Hill Botanic Garden <www.towerhillbg.org> in Boylston, Massachusetts, is a 132-acre complex of gardens, meadows and woodland trails. Included are a heritage apple orchard, wildlife garden, an orangerie, and the library. It is governed by the **Worcester County Horticultural Society** which is the third oldest in the country. The site includes information on the history of

the organization, activities, a downloadable map, and a library page with access to their online catalog.

Qwiki <www.qwiki.com> is a rather different information site where you enter a subject and you get a **PowerPoint** presentation with voice-over on the subject.

Everything Ponds <www.everything-ponds.com> is a site devoted to providing information on building and maintaining ponds.

US Time Zones <www.happyzebra.com/timezones/worldclock/currentlocalusa.php> provides a handy diagram of the United States time zones as well as links to time zone converters—a handy site for those of us involved with national conference calls.

Our own e-list provided the **Field Book Project Wiki** <fieldbooks.wikispaces.com> which documents the joint initiative of the **Department of Botany** at the **Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of Natural History** and the **Smithsonian Institution's Archives** and provides access to original field notes documenting biodiversity expeditions of the last 200 years.

And at the last minute, courtesy of Celine Arsenault of the **Montreal Botanical Garden**, is **Under the Cuban Sun with Marie-Victorin** <www2.ville.montreal.qc.ca/jardin/cuba/accueil_en.php> an online exhibit with texts, images, and a video detailing the seven expeditions to Cuba of the Montreal Botanic Garden's founder between 1938 and 1944.

The EBHL e-list provided **Images of Nature** <www.nhm.ac.uk/visit-us/galleries/blue-zone/images-nature-gallery/index.html> describing the new exhibit gallery at the **British Museum of Natural History**. This links to their larger site, **Art, Nature, and Imaging** <www.nhm.ac.uk/nature-online/art-nature-imaging/index.html> which discusses the role of art and images in support of science and links to examples from their collections.

Finally, we can track the lowest gas prices in Canada and the United States and view a host of gas price related data at **GasBuddy.com** <gasbuddy.com>, after which we will all probably feel the need to collapse in gas sticker shock with the automated chairs of **Take a Seat** <<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2Dgaz6NIUFk>>.





CBHL Lite Meeting Bag Bingo

The object of the game is to put the accompanying photos of annual meeting bags in the proper order from the most recent to the oldest. The answer is given below.

The photos include selected bags from the 1998 meeting to last year's meeting. Some bags were so similar that I had to skip over them. You may notice the bags look a little used. In fact the Boston meeting bag has a big red stain on it. That was the meeting where we had five inches of rain on the last day!

The rules are simple: You may look at your own bags for clues, but you can't use the **CBHL Archives collection** at the **New York Botanical Garden**. You may check with other members, but not with any of the hosts of previous meetings. You can see a list of previous meetings at: www.cbhl.net/about/history_chr.htm.

The answer is the bags are listed in chronological order, so listing from most recent to the oldest would be the reverse. Bonus points if you can list what year each bag corresponds to. You'll have to check with me on that.

Please feel free to send feedback in any format to me at: david.lane@unh.edu.

David M. Lane
Biological Sciences Librarian
University of New Hampshire
Durham, New Hampshire



CBHL Newsletter, c/o Gayle Bradbeer, Secretary
Council on Botanical and Horticultural Libraries, Inc.
Auraria Library
1100 Lawrence Street
Denver, Colorado 80204-2095

Join Us!

Receive the CBHL Newsletter, Membership Directory, e-mail discussion list, members-only web pages, and annual meeting materials.

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Return to:

Brian Thompson, CBHL Treasurer
P.O. Box 51116
Seattle, Washington 98115-1116

Questions?

Contact Suzi Teghtmeyer, CBHL Membership Manager.
<suzirt@gmail.com>

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