



The Council on Botanical and Horticultural Libraries, Inc.

Newsletter

Number 89

May 2003

Thank you for your support

LISA DECESARE, CBHL MEMBERSHIP MANAGER
HEAD OF PUBLIC SERVICES AND ARCHIVES
BOTANY LIBRARIES, HARVARD UNIVERSITY HERBARIA
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

CBHL would like to thank and recognize the generosity of its members who recently contributed to the Charles Robert Long Award Fund, Annual Literature Award Fund, the Founders' Fund, and the General Fund.

Charles Robert Long Award Fund

Kenneth Hayward

Founders' Fund

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Annual Literature Award Fund

Kenneth Hayward



If you would like to make your charitable contribution in memory or in honor of someone special, that too is possible. Your generosity (and your honoree) will be acknowledged in the *Newsletter* unless you request anonymity.

Please send contributions to Mary Ellen Armentrout, CBHL Treasurer, 111 Reserve Circle, Wellington, Ohio 44090.

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CBHL Welcomes New Members

Stephen Brueggerhoff
Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center
Austin, Texas
<wildflower@wildflower.org>

Olga Souza Marder
New York Botanical Garden
Bronx, New York
<omarder@nybg.org>

Elizabeth Salt
Courtright Memorial Library
Westerville, Ohio
<ESalt@Otterbien.edu>

EdwardLeBlanc
Titusville, New Jersey
<leb1192@aol.com>

For membership information
or to report a change of
address contact: Lisa
DeCesare, Membership
Manager at
<cbhl@oeb.harvard.edu>.

CBHL Distribution List

Members are encouraged to use the distribution list to keep in touch and discuss aspects of library service as well as other topics of interest to all concerned with the literature of botany and horticulture. For more information contact Bernadette Callery in Pittsburgh at: <bcallery@flounder.com>.

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From the President

BARBARA PITSCHEL, CBHL PRESIDENT
HEAD LIBRARIAN
HELEN CROCKER RUSSELL LIBRARY
STRYBING ARBORETUM & BOTANICAL GARDENS
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

New York Annual Meeting

Many of you are preparing to attend the outstanding program our New York hosts are preparing for us in June. If you are fortunate enough to be there, we strongly encourage you to participate in all aspects of the meeting. Naturally the talks, tours, and events are always educational and exciting, but the business meeting sessions are equally important and valuable. It is here that some of our most important discussions take place, and this is the one time in the year that an incredible cross-section of botanical and horticultural information practitioners, as well as others who share similar interests, come together to exchange ideas and information.

Election Suggestion From Judy Reed

The following selection pertains to a matter of interest that will be an item of old business on the business meeting agenda. Those of you who have attended past annual meetings will recall that there has been some discussion about how many candidates should be offered on each year's slate to elect the new 2nd Vice-President. Opinions have been divergent. Long-time active CBHL member and current Publications Chair Judy Reed has sent the Board a very thoughtful suggestion that seems to have great merit. Since we are often short on time at business meetings, the idea is being presented to you all now so that you have time to consider it in advance.

"I am writing to present to you my thoughts on the subject of whether or not the CBHL Nominating Committee should be charged by the Board to present 1 or 2 candidates for each elective office. My observations are that two points of view surfaced on the subject at the 2002 meeting: (1) those who are aware that, in a small organization, it is difficult to find enough members who are willing to run for office, and that identifying one candidate is more realistic; (2) those who feel that CBHL members should be able to make a choice between two candidates when voting for officers. I understand the practical issues of finding more than one candidate willing to run for office while respecting the viewpoint of those who prefer a choice of candidates. I also feel that we can accomplish both objectives in a simple, straight-forward manner.

I am a member of the Guild of Book Workers, another small organization which grappled with this issue about 20 years ago and solved the problem in the following manner, to the satisfaction of its membership. The Nominating Committee presents,

to the GBW Executive Committee, a slate with one candidate per office. That slate is presented (mailed) to the membership early enough for a member(s) in good standing to identify a second candidate to add to the slate. The procedure for doing this is described at the end of the slate first presented by the Nominating Committee. The member suggesting a 2nd candidate must (1) secure, from the person suggested, a letter of agreement to run for office; (2) the signatures of 5 members in good standing, supporting this choice. When the Executive Board receives this information, the name of the 2nd person selected is added to the final ballot sent to the membership. Incidentally, to the best of my knowledge, only once in the ensuing years has a member added another candidate to the slate."

Committee Involvement

As we so often mention, participation in CBHL committees is a wonderful way to get involved in an aspect of the work that interests you. CBHL is an all-volunteer organization, so whatever gets done gets done by members. If you're in New York on Tuesday afternoon, you are encouraged to drop in on committee meetings. Most CBHL committees have open membership; only a few have structures restricted by bylaws. Otherwise, all that's requested is a willingness to share in the work. If you find a committee in whose work you would like to participate, let the committee chair know.

EBHL Representative

Gordon McDaniel, Head of Technical Services at the New York Botanical Garden's LuEsther T. Mertz Library, will represent CBHL at the annual meeting of EBHL (European Botanical and Horticultural Libraries), which will be held in Zagreb, Croatia, May 15 & 16. Gordon is especially well-suited to fill this role because he is fluent in Croatian, having taught the language there in the past. We are pleased with the strengthening of ties between our two organizations that has been further fostered by our affiliate membership agreement.

Thank You

Thanks to those many members who generously responded to our request for contributions to help endow special CBHL awards and programs and to strengthen our basic operating budget. Your love for CBHL is apparent and is one of the ingredients that make membership in this organization such a pleasure.

In June, at the end of the annual meeting, my year as CBHL President will draw to a close. It has been a great joy to serve our organization in that capacity, and I thank you for giving me the opportunity. I hope to see many of you in New York! Those who can't come this year will be missed, but you'll be there in spirit, and we hope to see you in Pittsburgh next year.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

RITA HASSERT, TECHNICAL SERVICES LIBRARIAN
STERLING MORTON LIBRARY, THE MORTON ARBORETUM
LISLE, ILLINOIS

May 18-22, 2003. Portland, Oregon. American Association of Museums Annual Meeting. "Bridges to the World."
<http://www.aam-us.org/am03>

June 7-12, 2003. New York, New York. Special Libraries Association Annual Conference. "Putting Knowledge to Work." <http://www.sla.org/>

June 9-14, 2003. New York, New York. Council on Botanical and Horticultural Libraries Annual Meeting. http://www2.ville.montreal.qc.ca/jardin/cbhl/meetings/prel_2003.htm

June 19-25, 2003. Toronto, Canada. Joint annual meeting of the American Library Association and Canadian Library Association. "Looking North to New Horizons."
<http://www.ala.org/events/annual2003/>
<http://www.cla.ca/conference/cla-ala2003/>

June 28-July 1, 2003. Boston, Massachusetts. American Association of Botanical Gardens and Arboreta Annual Conference. "Seeds of Revolution." <http://www.aabga.org/>

July 26-31, 2003. Mobile, Alabama. Joint meeting of American Bryological and Lichenological Society, American Fern Society, American Society of Plant Taxonomists and Botanical Society of America. "Aquatic and Wetland Plants: Wet & Wild." <http://www.botany2003.org/>

July 27-August 3, 2003. Denver, Colorado. Guild of Natural Science Illustrators Annual Conference.
<http://www.gnsi.org/>

August 2-6, 2003. Montreal, Quebec. International Society of Arboriculture 79th Conference and Trade Show. "Tree Stories = Histoires d'arbres."
<http://www.isa-arbor.com>

August 13-14, 2003. Canton, Ohio. Second Biannual Conference of Nature in Legend and Story, Kent State University-Stark. "Plants, Animals, and the Human Imagination." In conjunction with the International Society for Anthrozoology. www2.h-net.msu.edu/~nilas/

August 18 - 24, 2003. Los Angeles, California. Society of American Archivists Annual Meeting. <http://www.archivists.org/>



Save the Dates!

CHARLOTTE "CHUCK" TANCIN, CBHL SECRETARY
LIBRARIAN, THE HUNT INSTITUTE FOR BOTANICAL
DOCUMENTATION, PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

CBHL's 2004 Annual Meeting will be held at the Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, June 15-18, 2004. The last time we hosted an annual meeting was in 1988, and we are eager to welcome CBHL to Pittsburgh again, so please save these dates and stay tuned for more information. We will be offering dormitory as well as hotel accommodations and we hope that many of you will be able to join us. — Chuck Tancin, for the CBHL 2004 Planning Committee.

Reminder: Upcoming Board Meeting

CHARLOTTE "CHUCK" TANCIN, CBHL SECRETARY
LIBRARIAN, THE HUNT INSTITUTE FOR BOTANICAL
DOCUMENTATION, PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

The CBHL Board will meet via teleconference on May 13, 2003 at 2:00 p. m. EST. All committee chairs are being asked to meet with their committees and report back to their Board liaisons prior to the upcoming meeting. Any CBHL members who have questions, concerns or suggestions that they would like to have discussed at the meeting are encouraged to contact any Board member.

Contact information for the Board appears on p. 12 of this issue of the Newsletter. A report on the May 13th meeting will be published in the next issue of the *Newsletter*; and the minutes will be posted on the CBHL website.

Newsletter gets ISSN!

The *CBHL Newsletter* is now official! Thanks to Judy Warnement's hard work and perseverance the *Newsletter* is proud to announce its ISSN: 1543-2653.



Literature Review

KATHERINE ALLEN
REFERENCE LIBRARIAN-BIBLIOGRAPHER
MAGRATH LIBRARY UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA

Weeds in My Garden: Observations on Some Misunderstood Plants / Charles B. Heiser. Portland, OR: Timber Press, 2003. 247 p. ISBN 0-88192-562-4. \$22.95

I don't have any weeds in Minnesota, at least not until summertime. Any plant brave enough to appear before then has my admiration. After a long winter I welcome any green shoot, no matter its pedigree. Simply being green becomes a virtue.

Noted botanist Charles Heiser opens *Weeds in My Garden* with a quote from Ralph Waldo Emerson, "What is a weed? A plant whose virtues have not yet been discovered." In entertaining conversational style, Heiser discusses nearly 140 weeds, including some shrubs and trees. All can be found in "his" Indiana University garden, though at least half also occur throughout most of North America. They are arranged by family because the author, a retired botany professor, would love to make botanists of his readers. Not to worry, there's a complete index of both scientific and common names.

Each family starts with a very brief description, including mention of famous non-weed family members. Each weed entry includes "The Names," an explanation of both scientific and common names of the plant, "The Time and Place," or, the time of flowering and place of origin, "The Description," a brief non-technical description of the plant, and "The Virtues," all the reasons to love these oft-maligned plants, including folklore and uses. Queen Anne's lace (*Daucus carota*) has several pages devoted to its virtues. The author did have a tough time with some of them however. For False Nutsedge (*Cyperus strigosus*), "Its chief virtue is that it is not a serious weed in my garden, appearing only in small numbers." For Bur Cucumber (*Sicyos angulatus*), "Probably none [virtues] except that it belongs to the gourd family, which is important to me." I disagree that it is without virtue. I was once stopped in my tracks by a stunning pine tree completely covered in starry white bur cucumber flowers—my first thought was that it was snow (always a possibility in Minnesota!).

Aside from 29 color plates, there are several line drawings and many quotes taken from Gerard's *Herball*. While it is not intended for weed identification, more photographs would have been welcome. The modest price should ensure that this natural history of weeds finds a spot on numerous library and home bookshelves.

CBHL Members' News West

BRIAN R. THOMPSON
LIBRARIAN, SYSTEMS & TECHNICAL SERVICES
ELISABETH C. MILLER LIBRARY
CENTER FOR URBAN HORTICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON, SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

From Jane Cole, Paradise Valley, Arizona

Beth Brand welcomes me as a volunteer one day a week in the **Desert Botanical Garden**. The former Richter Library collection is now located in the Nina Mason Pulliam Desert Research Center. Beth has really had to scramble to get everything on the shelves -- even ordering the shelves which someone forgot to do -- for the grand opening. But she has done it and created a great spot for library study and research.



An article "An Important Collection of Botanical Illustrations" by Jane Cole appears in *The Sonoran Quarterly* [formerly *The Saguaro* and *Bulletin*] March 2003, v. 57(1):4-9.

Diane Moore and I were invited and attended a meeting at the Desert Botanical Garden on Saturday, February 8 where 100 Arizona botanists and botany associates gathered to hear about current botanical activities throughout in the state. We were fortunate to have our project -- creating a bibliography and mapping all the local Arizona floras -- introduced and cited at the meeting by ASU professor Leslie Landrum. The Arizona botanists were then eager to talk to us and examine our draft bibliography. Dr. Landrum and Dr. Donald Pinkava encouraged us to also cite locations in herbaria for all the specimens in our bibliography. So we enjoyed the meeting -- but now we have even more work to do!

Bruce and I are celebrating our 50th wedding anniversary in June - in New York. We expect you ALL to celebrate with us.

From Larry Currie, California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco, California

This year the California Academy of Sciences is celebrating its 150th anniversary with a series of workshops, lectures and performances dotting the calendar as well as a new exhibit titled, *150 Years of Science: Celebrating Nature's Wonders*, which opened on March 1, 2003. The exhibit gives visitors the opportunity to walk through 150 years of history as they learn how world events and major discoveries have shaped the pursuit of science and the Academy. The timeline leads visitors to further exhibits that culminate in a look to the future as the Academy prepares to construct a new building in Golden Gate Park beginning in early 2004. A link to the exhibit can be found at <http://www.calacademy.org/events/150/>.

From Joan DeFato, Los Angeles County Arboretum and Botanic Garden, Arcadia, California

The biggest news around here is our name change. In January the Arboretum of Los Angeles County became the Los Angeles County Arboretum and Botanic Garden. The name change also affects us electronically: my e-mail address is now <joan.defato@lacountybotanicgarden.org> and the website address is www.lacountybotanicgarden.org.

From Janice Dodd, Berry Botanic Garden, Portland, Oregon

Well here's the scoop from Portland: I resigned as Librarian and Director of The Berry Botanic Garden. Budget woes made it necessary to eliminate a couple of staff positions with some shifting of responsibility to program managers and long time volunteer board members. This is a short-term solution until a new Executive Director is hired later this spring. I've been at Berry for 13 years serving in a variety of positions but always with responsibility for the library.



During this final year, I was very involved in the nominating process for the Garden to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places. That honor was awarded to The Berry Botanic Garden on December 31, 2002, squeaking it into the Garden's 25th year.

After some time off to enjoy spring and Spain, I'll be looking for a new job. Unfortunately I don't anticipate another opportunity in the Portland area to combine my love of gardening and libraries. I'll miss all the great people I've met through my association with CBHL and wish them all the very best.

From Eileen Herring, University of Hawaii at Manoa Library, Honolulu, Hawaii

Well, I finally actually have some news! I have two new publications. . . one is a book that may be of interest to some of our members:

Herring, Eileen and Richard Criley. (in press) The Hawaiian Native Plant Propagation Web Site: Developing a Web-based Information Resource. *HortTechnology* 13(3).

Hollyer, James, Luisa Castro, Dale Evans, Richard Criley, Edwin Mersino, Margaret Parks, Eileen Herring, et al. *Growing Plants for Hawaiian Lei: 85 Plants for Gardens, Conservation and Business*. Honolulu: College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources, University of Hawaii at Manoa. 2002 (263 p.)

Information on purchasing the lei book (\$20.00) is available at: <http://www2.ctahr.hawaii.edu/oc/forsale/leiflier.pdf>

From Brian Thompson, Elisabeth C. Miller Library, Center for Urban Horticulture, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington

Final construction documents are being drawn and reviewed for the rebuilding of the Miller Library and the other facilities at the Center for Urban Horticulture that were destroyed in the May 2001 fire. The new library will be approximately 20% bigger than the old and will include a small multi-purpose room for library classes, tours and group study, rare book storage and reading rooms, a variety of different workspaces for the public, and a staff area that we expect to be more efficient.

Groundbreaking is scheduled for late summer with an interesting year of maintaining operations on the edge of a construction zone to follow. A grand reopening is being planned for the fall of 2004 – we can hardly wait!

New Books of Note

RITA HASSERT, TECHNICAL SERVICES LIBRARIAN
STERLING MORTON LIBRARY, THE MORTON ARBORETUM
LISLE, ILLINOIS

Bennett, Jennifer. *Lilacs for the garden*. Buffalo, NY: Firefly Books, 2002. (127 p.) ISBN: 1552975800. \$29.95

Ginsburg, Ruth. *Lloyd Herbert Shinnery by himself*. Fort Worth: Botanical Research Institute of Texas, 2002. (183 p.) (Sida, Botanical Miscellany, 22) ISBN: 18889878103. \$28

Olson, Garry. *Onetree*. London: Merrell, 2001. (184 p.) ISBN: 1858941334. \$29.95

A Passion for natural history: the life and legacy of the 13th Earl of Derby. [Liverpool]: National Museums and Galleries on Merseyside, [2002]. (239 p.) ISBN: 1902700147. GBP 25

Schmid, W. George. *An encyclopedia of shade perennials*. Portland, Oregon: Timber Press, 2002. (374 p.) ISBN: 0881925497. \$49.95

Stearn, William T. *The genus Epimedium and other herbaceous Berberidaceae*. Portland, Oregon: Timber Press, 2002. (342 p.) ISBN: 0881925428. \$49.95

Walden, Beryl M. *Wild flowers of Yunnan and Central China: water colour paintings of 516 flowering plants from living specimens*. Hong Kong: B.M. Walden, 2000. (288 p.) ISBN: 9628609211. [Available from Balogh International for \$400, <http://www.balogh.com>, NHBS, <http://www.nhbs.com> for GBP 195 and On the Wild Side, <http://www.onthewildside.co.uk> for GBP 175]

Weidensaul, Scott. *The ghost with trembling wings: science, wishful thinking, and the search for lost species*. New York: North Point Press, 2002. (341 p.) ISBN: 0374246645. \$26

CBHL Member Profile

CHRISTINE LIEBSON, LIBRARIAN/WEBMASTER
THE HERB SOCIETY OF AMERICA LIBRARY
KIRTLAND, OHIO

The Herb Society of America (HSA)

The Herb Society of America, a non-profit membership organization, was founded in 1933 for the purpose of promoting the knowledge, use, and delight of herbs through educational programs, research, and sharing the knowledge of its members with the community.

The Society is concerned with the cultivation of herbs and with the study of their history and their uses, both past and present, is committed to protecting our global environment for the health and well-being of humankind and all growing things, and encourages gardeners to practice environmentally sound horticulture. Membership is open to anyone interested in herbs. The Society has over 3,000 members and there are 43 units in the U.S. and Canada.

The founders of the Society were Adeline Philibrick Cole, Anne Shirk Burrage, Harriet Adams Brown, Corinna Searle Mitchell, Florence Bratenahl, Ellen Greenslet, and Frances L. Norton. All except Florence Bratenahl hailed from New England and until the mid eighties the Society was headquartered in Massachusetts. Prior to its official incorporation in 1935, the founders sought and obtained an educational relationship with Dr. Edgar Anderson, then on the staff of the Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University. Dr. Anderson played an important role in the Society, and was named the first President-At-Large, an honorary position. He was highly regarded by the membership as both a mentor and member of the Society and in 1941 he founded the St. Louis Unit after moving from Massachusetts to Missouri to accept a position at the Missouri Botanical Garden.

Projects of the Society include the establishment of herb gardens throughout North America for education and demonstration, including the National Herb Garden at the National Arboretum in Washington, D.C. The Society annually supports an intern to assist the Curator of the National Herb Garden. The Society also awards annual research grants and supports publications. Perhaps the best known publication is *The New Encyclopedia of Herbs*, by Deni Bown (DK, 2001). The Society holds an annual Educational Conference open to both members and the public at rotating locations throughout the country. The theme of the conference this year is "Expanding Our Herbal Horizons" and will be held June 11-14th in Portland, Oregon.

The HSA Library

The library supports the Society's mission through reference service and a growing collection of herb related materials. The roots of The Herb Society of America Library date back to 1942 when Elizabeth Wade White contributed two book collections in honor of two of the Society's seven founders,

Mrs. Francis Norton and Florence Bratenahl. The first book purchased was *The Badianus Manuscript* translation done by Dr. Emily Emmart Trueblood. Continuing donations included bookcases and rare herbals. Many new acquisitions were made possible after 1984 when The New England Unit established the Founder's Library Fund, which continues to support the library today. When The Society moved to its present headquarters in Kirtland, Ohio in 1988, a memorial donation made in honor of Benjamin S. Hubbell Jr., former owner of the house, provided a specially equipped space for the library.

Users

The users of the library include HSA members and staff, students, teachers, free-lance writers, gardeners, horticulturists, scholars – anyone interested in herbs. Over 500 inquiries are made each year by members and the public in person, by phone, fax, email, or letter.

Frequently asked questions include sources for purchasing herbs or herbal products; how to grow, cultivate, and use herbs; herbs and plants for specific types of gardens (such as historic or period gardens, theme gardens, or gardens for special populations such as children, elderly or handicapped); reference sources for herbal medicine and botanical therapeutics; reference sources for herbal education; and locations of herb gardens open to the public.

Our collection of slide lectures and videos is heavily used and has attracted new members to the organization. Slide lectures include a script and are a unique resource for members to use in the delivery of educational programs.

Collections

The library offers nearly 3,000 volumes of writings about herbs and related topics. Subject coverage includes aromatherapy, Biblical herbs, botanists, culinary and fragrant herbs, ethnobotany, herb gardening (historical, contemporary, children's, ethnic and thematic), herbal crafts, herbal folklore and literature, herbals, herbalists, and medicinal plants. The collection is cataloged using the Library of Congress Classification Scheme.

Areas of growth in the library collection include reference, children's materials, theme gardening, health and beauty, and educational materials for adult learners-- all as they pertain to herbs and their use. The collection also features videos, slide lectures, and selected periodicals about herbs and gardening topics. Specialty collections include reference, the library of member Helen H. Darrah (author of *Cultivated Basils* 1980), a children's collection, an HSA author's collection ("Author's Corner"), and a rare books collection.

The rare books collection is over 200 volumes dating back to the 17th century including herbals, early botanical texts, and "language of flowers" titles. A portion of the rare book collection is housed nearby at The Holden Arboretum's Warren H. Corning Library in a climate-controlled rare book room. One

of the most interesting items from the collection housed at The Holden Arboretum is a three volume set of Jacob Bigelow's *American Medical Botany* (1817). The first volume includes both the rare early plates which are brilliantly hand-colored and later color-printed plates. Those interested in viewing materials held in the Rare Book Room of The Holden Arboretum should contact the Rare Book Curator, Stanley Johnston at 440-946-4400.

The library also seeks to develop a comprehensive collection of works by Society authors. These works are highlighted on the library website as "Author's Corner." Recent sample titles from Author's Corner include the herbalist mystery novels of Susan Albert Wittig, *Heirloom Flower Gardening* (Gardner 2001), *American Indian Healing Arts* (Kavasch and Baar 1999), *Fairy Crafts, Gardens & Teas* (Nelson 1999), *Under the Leaf* (Janssen 1999), and *Mary's Flowers: Gardens, Legends & Meditations* (Krymow 2002).

The library participates in the exchange of The Society's periodicals (annual journal, *The Herbarist* and the *HSA Newsletter*) and welcomes opportunities to further this program with CBHL members. *The Herbarist* is a blend of scholarly and popular approaches to the dissemination of herbs and has been continuously in print since 1935.

Services

The library is open to the public five days a week (9:00-5:00) for research. A staff librarian is available to assist people in the search for information. Reference inquiries by phone, fax, email, letter, or in person are welcome. Although the library catalog is not yet available on the web, materials lists and a helpful links directory specific to herbal topics are available from the library website at <http://www.herbsociety.org/library>.

Circulation of materials is limited to members, who may borrow up to three items at a time, including one slide lecture and up to two videos, for a period of thirty days. Current mailing charges are \$3.00 per item, and the borrower pays return postage.

Archives

The HSA Archives are primarily institutional records from 1935 –1988 that document the growth of the Society as a horticultural organization of national importance. It occupies about 90 linear feet and includes records on the national organization, members at large (members who are not affiliated with a specific unit), photographs, publications, artifacts and collectibles, and personal papers.

Also of significance are records documenting the development and dedication of the National Herb Garden at the National Arboretum in Washington, D.C. The National Herb Garden was presented as a Bicentennial gift to the nation by the Society in 1980 and is the largest designed herb garden in the nation with over 800 taxa represented including annual, perennial, and woody herbal plants, as well as a collection of

antique roses.

The archives are also a rich source of information about the character and accomplishments of the Society's members. Newspaper clipping files document member exhibits and symposia as well as their authorship, awards received, and more. Unit histories and scrapbooks also provide a unique record of the achievements of members.

Happenings and horizons

Trends in services at the HSA library include an increasing amount of electronic inquiries from the public when they discover our organization through the Internet and Society members becoming more interested in opportunities for Internet delivery and packaging of information.

With a user population that is geographically diverse and widespread, the web is recognized as an important way for the organization to both reach new members and deliver more services to existing members. Preparation for placing our catalog holdings on the web is currently a top priority.

The organization is also increasing its staff. A new position of Director of Education was recently created and filled and the library will be an important resource for this position.

This summer two practicum students from Kent State University will be assisting me on projects related to our rare books collection and the HSA Archives. Volunteers are an important part of the library's successful operation and are welcome at any time.

As a solo librarian, I have greatly appreciated the openness of the CBHL community. Distribution list discussions, duplicate lists, exchange programs, and the general atmosphere of support have been very helpful to my professional development, current awareness of our field, and growth of the library collection.

I hope many CBHL members will have the chance to visit the HSA Library. I look forward to the chance to meet more CBHL members in the future and learn more about the people who make the organization such a wonderful resource.

Editor's Note: This column is a new feature of the *CBHL Newsletter*. It will appear twice a year and be approximately 2 pages in length. Members are encouraged to write an article about what your library adds to the community of botanical and horticultural libraries, and to share that information with the readers of the *CBHL Newsletter*.

If you are interested in submitting an article or would like to suggest a library to be featured, please contact the column editor, **Marca Woodhams** at <woodmarca@aol.com>.

CBHL Members' News East

SHELLY KILROY, LIBRARIAN
PETER M. WEGE LIBRARY
FREDERIK MEIJER GARDENS
GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN

From John Flanagan, Chief Librarian, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew

Fiona Ainsworth (currently Librarian & Information Officer at the Millennium Wakehurst Place Collections Manager

This is a re-working of a post to give emphasis not only to the importance of collection development but also to designate someone with specific responsibility for serials. A replacement will be recruited for Fiona's current post.



Seed Bank Project at Kew's site) will become Collections Manager beginning summer 2003.

Visit the CBHL Website
www.ville.montreal.qc.ca/jardin/cbhl

There are also two new posts. James Kay will start as Assistant Illustrations Curator at the end of April 2003 and Michèle Losse will start as Assistant Archivist in June 2003. James is currently working at the Tate Gallery in London and Michèle at the House of Lords Record Office. Apart from the need to have greater staff input into illustrations and archives to deal with enquiries, curation, cataloguing etc, these areas have great potential in the important areas of access and exploitation of collections.

Art Libraries Journal (2003) v.28(2): 22-28, has a paper "Portraying plants: illustrations collections at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew" by Marilyn Ward & John Flanagan

From Mark Jackson, Applications Development Manager, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew

Kew Gardens has released an update to their information resource discovery service called ePIC, the electronic Plant Information Centre. From the ePIC interface at www.kew.org/epic/ you can now search for plant information across six databases held at Kew, as well as the Gardens' website, in one action. This release includes:

- The International Plant Names Index
- Bibliographic data in the Kew Record of Taxonomic Literature
- Bibliographic references about plant micromorphology
- Information about the economic uses of plants in the Survey of Economic Plants of Arid and Semi-Arid Lands
- Information about seed storage characteristics
- Our Living Collection of c30,000 plant taxa
- An index of the scientific data on our web site

For further information about these resources, look at www.kew.org/epic/datasources.htm

Over the next two years we will be extending the features, and adding more databases to this system, with the intention of ultimately including all of our major collections, bibliographies, taxonomic and species-based datasets. Please send your feedback to [<epicfeedback@kew.org>](mailto:epicfeedback@kew.org)

From Sandy Rode at the Cleveland Botanical Garden, Cleveland, Ohio

Cleveland Botanical Garden moved its Eleanor Squire Library and all staff back into its renovated building from April 11 to 14. The Library and Garden will reopen in renovated and expanded facilities July 15, 2003.

From Judy Warnement, Director, Harvard University Botany Libraries, Cambridge, Massachusetts

Judy is very pleased to announce two recent promotions on the Harvard Botany Libraries staff. First, Gretchen Wade is now the Reference & Collection Development Librarian. Gretchen joined the staff nine years ago and has become a valued member of the team. At the same time she earned a bachelors degree from the Harvard Extension School in 1999 and a Masters in Library Science at Simmons in June of 2002. Gretchen's new duties will include supervising the reading rooms and overseeing interlibrary loan activities. In addition, she will work closely with Harvard University Herbaria faculty and staff to select library materials and in collection analysis.

Chris Robson is now the Cataloging Librarian. Chris joined the staff four years ago to manage the serials check-in and binding operations on a half time basis. She spent the other half of her work day cataloging materials at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government Library. Chris moved to the Botany Libraries full time in April of 2002 as an assistant cataloger and completed her MLS from Simmons in December. She will continue to hone her cataloging skills at Harvard by working closely with the CONSER Office (serials cataloging) and through tutorials with Harvard's Library of Congress Subject Heading specialist.

Stephanie King joined the Botany Libraries staff in October of 2002. Stephanie is responsible for serials check-in and all materials processing and binding operations. Stephanie has held other library positions in Harvard's health sciences, design, and fine arts libraries.

Judy Warnement hosted a meeting of the New England Unit of the Herb Society of America (HSA) on March 25. The pro-

gram included an exhibit of herbals that spanned five hundred years assembled by Judy and an exhibit on Harvard's Botanical Garden, including the blueprints for the HSA herb garden planted in Cambridge in 1933, prepared by **Lisa DeCesare**. The group, which included CBHL member **Lucille Dressler**, enjoyed a lecture on the techniques used to create Harvard's glass flowers, followed by a tour of the glass flower gallery.

Judy Warnement was elected as librarian of the New England Botanical Club at the March meeting.

From Sheila Connor, Horticultural Research Archivist, Arnold Arboretum Horticultural Library of Harvard University, Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts



The Arnold Arboretum Horticultural Library has launched a new website entitled "Western China and Tibet: Hotspot of Diversity." The new site, at <http://www.arboretum.harvard.edu/library/tibet/expeditions.html>, was developed and launched as part of Harvard's internal challenge grant program of the Library Digital Initiative. The site, part of the Arboretum's web page, unites materials collected during four Arboretum expeditions to South Central China and Tibet between 1924 and 2000. Original source materials from the expeditions are housed throughout the University, primarily in the Museum of Comparative Zoology, the Harvard University Herbaria, the Harvard-Yenching Library, the Harvard Map Collection, and the Arnold Arboretum Horticultural Library in Jamaica Plain.

The website also links to several other Harvard University databases, providing access to other related Harvard collections. Much of the material was previously uncataloged. Now all of the materials are cataloged, stored, and delivered to users in digital format. The project links the various repositories and facilitates study by allowing students and scholars to move through time and within collections, accessing material that depicts the area's natural and ecological resources and documents the social and cultural history of China and Tibet.



From Maureen Horn, Librarian, Massachusetts Horticultural Society, Boston, Massachusetts

The Massachusetts Horticultural Society Library now has an online catalog. This was achieved through our membership in MassCat, a union catalog of several diverse libraries. The Contemporary Collection is currently well represented in the database while the Historical Collection will comprise a larger part as more items are reclassified. The online catalog can be found on the Society's website, www.Massshort.org, under Education/Research and then MHS Library.

From Linda DeVito, The LuEsther T. Mertz Library, The New York Botanical Garden, Bronx, New York

John F. Reed, Director of the LuEsther T. Mertz Library, has announced his retirement as of June 30, 2003. John served two terms as the head of the Garden's library, first from 1965 to 1972, and then from 1992 to the present. In the intervening twenty years he served as the head of the Garden's Education Division, of which the Library was a part. During his tenure, the Library more than doubled in size. He initiated and oversaw completion of the recataloging and reclassification of the Library's entire book and journal collection. He also oversaw the implementation of the online catalog (CATALPA), planned and occupied new quarters for public services and collection storage, established the Garden Archives, and initiated a library exhibition program. John was a founding member of CBHL and served on the Board as treasurer for thirty years.

The LuEsther T. Mertz Library of the New York Botanical Garden has just been notified that it is the recipient of the Award for Outstanding Commitment to the Preservation and Care of Collections given jointly by the American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works (AIC) and Heritage Preservation. This national award recognizes the library for its dedication to high standards of conservation policy and practice. Other recipients recognized for their commitment to the conservation of their collections are the Canadian Museum of Nature and the Winterthur Museum Garden and Library.

Heather Rolen, Library Digitization Specialist for the A. W. Mellon Foundation sponsored Rare Book Digitization Project, was promoted on April 1 to the position of Bioinformatics Manager—Digitization. In this position she will be responsible for the Garden's digitization laboratory. Her future work will include imaging of both specimens and text for the Garden's Virtual Herbarium and future library projects.

Amy Junker, Kress Paper Conservation Intern, completed her six-month internship in March. Her work was devoted to inventory, conservation, and re-housing of materials from the Garden's Art and Illustration Collection. Ms. Junker, a native of the U.K., returned to London for a short internship at the Royal Academy of Arts and will return to New York in May for an internship at the Brooklyn Museum.

A new exhibition in the William D. Rondina and Giovanni Foroni LoFaro Gallery, *European Pleasure Gardens: Rare Books and Prints of Historic Landscape Design From the Collection of Elizabeth Kals Reilly*, will open on May 2, 2003. The exhibition, featuring 54 books and prints, tracing the history of European garden design from the 16th to the 19th century, is drawn from the collection donated to the Garden by long-time CBHL member **Elizabeth K. Reilly** in June 2002. Mrs. Reilly retired as librarian at Planting Fields Arboretum in January 2002. A fully illustrated catalog, prepared by guest curator Elizabeth S. Eustis, will be available.

Conservation / Preservation Corner

LAURIE HANNAH, LIBRARIAN
SANTA BARBARA BOTANIC GARDEN
SANTA BARBARA, CALIFORNIA

Cleaning Library Books and Shelves

There was a query a while back on the distribution list about available information on library cleaning programs and guidelines. I thought it might be time to review several sources that I am aware of. The following resources are concerned with library books and shelves but are not meant to overlook the fact that all areas of library storage, including floors, window sills, and furniture should be kept as clean as possible to control debris, insect activity, and promote a tidy appearance in general.

Cleaning Library Stacks. University of California, San Diego, Preservation Dept. 2002. Video recording. Total running time: 8:30 mins. Available from Joan Bahrini, <jbahrini@ucsd.edu>, (858)534-9838. \$25 including shipping and handling.

This simple, short video provides an excellent introduction to anyone undertaking a stack cleaning project. It is intended for use by supervisors of library assistants or volunteers who most likely would be doing the job, but is also recommended for all library staff who are involved in preservation. Although I have read several articles describing this process (see below), I found that the video explained it more succinctly and increased my comprehension. Clearly narrated instructions accompany a team of workers through the steps of book handling, shelf cleaning and vacuuming, book vacuuming, safety, and vacuum care. Instructions for both general and special collections are included, and all necessary supplies are described and shown. For additional information on stack cleaning procedures, vacuum choices, and much more, go to the Preservation department's website at www.ucsd.edu/preservation. There you will also find an online version of the following articles.

Zachary, Shannon. "Managing a Stacks Cleaning Project." *Archival Products News*. v.5(1), Winter 1997.

This article is similar in concept and work plan to the video above. Zachary describes their team cleaning procedures and gives a detailed supply list. "Well-washed cotton flannel, knits, or diaper cloth make excellent rags . . . Our estimates for laundry are about six to ten rags per four-hour day." She is also candid with those she hires: "Stacks cleaning is physically strenuous, dirty, and often boring."

Ogden, Shereilyn. "Cleaning Books and Shelves." Northeast Document Conservation Center. *Technical Leaflet* 4-3, 1999. <http://www.nedcc.org/plam3/tleaf43.htm>

Ogden recommends cleaning books with magnetic wiping cloths and describes that process, and provides an updated list of suppliers.

How often one cleans library collections will ultimately depend

on available resources. Many recommend ongoing cleaning projects as a way to monitor possible problems and to pull damaged books in need of repair. John DePew recommends vacuuming books and wiping shelves twice a year, as well as wiping each book during collection shifting.¹ Ogden advocates regular cleaning based on how quickly dirt accumulates. UCSD libraries clean their collections every two years, while University of Michigan focuses on specific collections as time and funding allow.

¹DePew, John N. *A Library, Media, and Archival Preservation Handbook*. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 1991.

Preservation Education

Drewes, Jeanne M. and Julie A. Page, eds. *Promoting Preservation Awareness in Libraries: A Sourcebook for Academic, Public, School, and Special Collections*. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 1997.

I have been pondering whether I should buy this book, thinking it might not be a high enough priority for a small library. However, after reading it recently, I feel it definitely warrants a review here in this column. This book is intended for use by non-preservation library staff to help educate them and, in turn, help them educate their patrons in preventive preservation behavior. Broad subjects covered include staff and volunteer training programs in preservation education; program evaluation; patron education in book handling and general preservation issues; public relations, including examples of graphics for displays and handouts; and incorporating preservation education into library instruction classes. General chapters on creating and evaluating programs are followed by 35 case studies from multi-type libraries (including one by CBHL Secretary **Chuck Tancin** on educating library patrons at the Hunt Institute!) Four appendices with lengthy bibliographies round out the book.

We can learn so much from visiting other libraries, and reading this book provides a similar experience. There are loads of practical ideas from each kind of library, showing that concerns are similar across the board. Some good ideas include: joint staff and volunteer book repair training by a local book binder; getting a local art class to design posters and bookmarks with preservation messages; and teaching the public how to care for their treasures and selling preservation materials to them (purchased in bulk). Sample illustrations from individual libraries, though, somewhat sparse, are nonetheless very instructional in showing how to use book supports or in telling students that food and books don't mix.

I would recommend this book to all libraries. Those with a large staff or a preservation department will already do many of the things suggested here, but those in one-person libraries will also find numerous ideas to incorporate into their daily interactions with staff and patrons. The more we learn about preventive preservation, the less we will have to know about repairing damaged materials, and the longer our collections will last.

On the Web:

A Web Miscellany

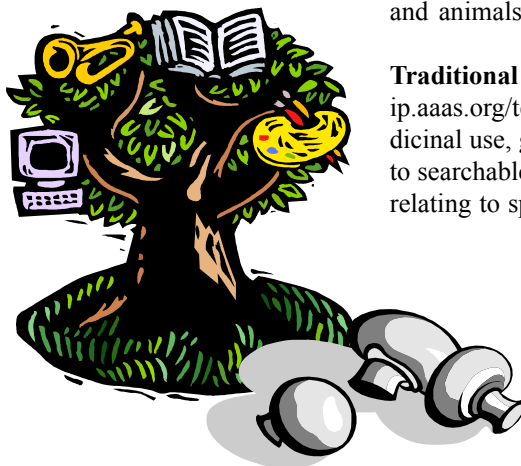
STANLEY JOHNSTON, CURATOR OF RARE BOOKS
THE HOLDEN ARBORETUM
KIRTLAND, OHIO

Ibiblios Collection Index: Natural Science and Medicine: Botany ibiblio.org/collection/collection.php?second=86 features a collection of botanical, horticultural, and ecological databases hosted on its server. It includes the current American mirror for the ever useful **Plants for a Future** database, which has been around almost as long as this column. It is also the current home to **BOTNET**, a University of North Carolina site featuring a database of Southeastern gymnosperms; **EcoLandTech**, covering a wide variety of subjects including ecology, agriculture, botany, and horticulture; the **Plant Information Center**, another Carolina based page emphasizing resources for education; and **Henriette's Herbal Homepage**, a massive site compiled by a German herbalist who lives in a Swedish speaking section of Finland, which features a wide range of materials including herbal articles, over 4,300 plant images, databases, and links to a number of online "classic" English language herbal texts of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

WWW Herbarium Selection www.ibiblio.org/botnet/flora/herbstart.html is a somewhat dated BOTNET remnant that attempted to list all the links it could find to herbaria on the web. The sites listed range from mere mentions of the collection to sites with searchable databases and images. Although there are 264 sites listed, the site seems to have been completed in October, 1998 raising some questions about current completeness and the validity of some links.

Edugreen edugreen.teri.res.in/index.htm is an environmental education site providing resources for teachers and online activities such as crosswords, wordsearches, and jokes for the children.

Singing Science www.acme.com/jef/science_songs/ features downloadable mp3 files of science songs of the fifties and sixties written by Lou Singer and Hy Zaret. Selections include items such as "What does the Glass of a Greenhouse do?" and "What are the Parts of a Flower?" One should be cautious in the use of this resource since the songs have been uploaded from old recordings by the site owner without any mention of copyright clearance.



GEsource Geography and Environment Gateway www.gesource.ac.uk/home.html is a preview of a searchable gateway to higher level information resources for geography and the environment. Currently linked to 2,536 resources, the official launch of the site is scheduled for September 2003.

Ecological Risk Analysis: Guidance, Tools, and Applications www.esd.ornl.gov/programs/ecorisk/ecorisk.html is a wide-ranging site prepared by the Oak Ridge National Laboratory for the U. S. Department of Energy which includes information on the biological uptake of chemicals by plants and animals.

Traditional Ecological Knowledge Prior Art Database ip.aaas.org/tekindex.nsf is searchable by plant name, medicinal use, geographic area, and cultural groups and leads to searchable databases of United States and world patents relating to specific plants.

Convert-me-Com: Interactive Measurement Calculator www.convert-me.com/en is a free on-line tool covering all sorts of measurements - a handy way to convert hectares into acres.

ISB: Atlas of Florida Vascular Plants www.plantatlas.usf.edu/ is yet another state flora site, this one searchable by plant name with linked lists of plants by county. Subsidiary pages include plant images and distribution maps.

Turning to the lower orders of botany, **Fungal Biodiversity Center - Utrecht, The Netherlands** www.cbs.knaw.nl includes databases dealing with filamentous fungi, actinmyocetes, aphylophorales, and fusarium, as well as the anamorph-teleomorph taxonomic database.

GourmetSleuth - Aphrodisiac Food & Recipes www.gourmetsleuth.com/aphrodis_foods.htm provides a list of supposedly stimulating foods (mainly vegetable) with explanations of why they are believed to have this effect.

History of Tea www.geocities.com/lgo127/HistoryTea.htm provides a brief history, a discussion of the different types of tea, along with numerous links and reference citations.

Finally, looking forward to the next CBHL Annual Meeting in New York, the Brooklyn Botanic Garden has set up a site to whet our appetite for our visit there with an online version of the exhibition of contemporary botanical art based on specimens from their garden, which will remain on exhibit there for our visit. The site is **Steinhardt Conservatory Gallery - Brooklyn Botanic Garden Florilegium Society** www.bbg.org/vis2/gallery/florilegium/.

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<bpitschel@strybing.org>

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Librarian
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22 Divinity Avenue
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National Agricultural Library
Room 300, U.S. Department of Agriculture
1301 Baltimore Avenue
Beltsville, Maryland 20705-2351
<sfugate@nal.usda.gov>

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101 Willard Memorial Square
Wellington, Ohio 44090
<maryellenarm@msn.com>



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Publications Committee Chair, Judith Reed <jreed@bestweb.net>

Newsletter Editor, Christine Liebson <c_liebson@hotmail.com>

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Massachusetts 02138

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Council on Botanical and Horticultural Libraries, Inc.
Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation
Carnegie Mellon University, 5000 Forbes Avenue
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15213-3890