Since 1946, Elisabeth Woodburn, Books, has offered to their customers books, ephemera, collection development assistance, and resource sharing in the field of horticultural and botanical literature. Specializing in old, new, rare, and interesting books with a focus on books for the home and farm, Elisabeth Woodburn (Robertson) first began her mail order business with inventory offered through sales catalogues (currently they are also available through the web at www.woodburnbooks.com). An interested customer could find books on gardening, cooking, wine, beverages and rural life, including agriculture and bee books. When she began her book business, Elisabeth’s colleagues in the trade cautioned her that these subjects were too narrow and that she’d never survive with such a singular focus (so much for collegial predictions). By the early 1970’s, the decision was made to sell off the cooking and beverage books and greatly reduce the focus on agriculture and rural life so she could specialize in horticulture and botany, with an emphasis on American horticulture, including seed and nursery catalogues.

In 1975, Bradford Lyon and Joanne Fuccello began an old-fashioned apprenticeship under the tutelage of Ms. Woodburn. Our training included all aspects of the antiquarian book trade – from rare book cataloguing and marketing, to working the booths at book fairs and packing up books for their new homes in libraries and private homes throughout the world. We learned our trade from someone who embraced the field with integrity and initiative. Elisabeth was one of the founders of the Antiquarian Booksellers’ Association of America (ABAA) in 1949, and to this day the Elisabeth Woodburn Memorial Fund (an endowed fund established by her bequest to ABAA) offers financial assistance for the continuing education of antiquarian booksellers.

In 1990, Elisabeth Woodburn passed away and left a legacy we are honored to continue. We try to do so with the same level of ethical behavior, intellectual curiosity and joy of the true bibliophile. As we celebrate Elisabeth Woodburn, Books’ 58th year in business, we continue to specialize in old and rare books in the fields of horticulture and gardening and have an inventory of over 12,000 titles. As a mail-order firm, we issue print catalogues several times a year in such subjects as Garden History, Herbs & Herbals, Landscape & Garden Design, Flowers, Trees & Shrubs, Fruits & Vegetables, Wildflowers, and Botanical Illustration. We also offer appraisal and collection development services, as well as a free search service for books that are not currently in stock. We are particularly fond of telling our customers that we keep search requests on file “indefinitely” and we do not use that term lightly. There are times when we’ve notified a customer that a book they’d requested some 30 years back has finally been located. Responses vary: in some cases the customer has completely forgotten about the book, while in others there is sheer jubilation when a book they’ve been searching for finally makes it into their hands. Helping customers develop their collections – whether the customer is new to the field or is a seasoned collector – is one of our greatest pleasures, as it gives us the chance to share with our customers an enthusiasm for the relatively esoteric world of horticulture books.
From the President
JUDITH WARNEMENT, CBHL PRESIDENT
DIRECTOR, HARVARD UNIVERSITY BOTANY LIBRARIES
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

Spring has finally reached New England bringing with it the hope of great progress on many fronts for CBHL. The Bylaws Committee has been hard at work drafting the revised bylaws for you to consider and comment on. The draft will be mailed in April so everyone can prepare for a lively discussion in Pittsburgh. If all goes well, we hope to have a final version ready for a vote by the full membership in the fall.

A few weeks ago Mary Ellen Armentrout, CBHL Treasurer, reported that she renewed the CBHL domain name for five more years. Members of our electronic communications team, Celine Arseneault, Bernadette Callery, and Stanley Johnston, are working with Board liaison, Douglas Holland, to identify a reliable and cost-effective internet service provider (ISP) to host the CBHL web site and discussion list. Our CBHL.NET domain may become a reality within the near future.

And speaking of electronic communications, Celine and Charlotte “Chuck” Tancin deserve special recognition for the updates and enhancements to both the CBHL public and members only web sites. Gayle Bradbeer is aiding and abetting their progress by scanning all of the back issues of the CBHL Newsletter.

The 2004 Annual Meeting in Pittsburgh promises to be memorable. The local planning group has prepared a fantastic program that features many of our own CBHL colleagues. What a welcome opportunity to learn more from and about one another! Emails have been flying back and forth among the members of the Annual Literature Award Committee, and we can expect the awards and the raffle to be highlights of the meeting once again.

The meeting in June will also mark the end of my year as president. While the collegiality of CBHL members has always impressed me, I am amazed by the dedication, good humor, and the sheer number of hours contributed to CBHL by the Board, several committee members, and the volunteer staff. I now realize that CBHL is pretty much a 24/7 operation. This experience has been more enjoyable and rewarding than I could have imagined. I thank you all for granting me this opportunity to serve, and I encourage anyone who would like to become more involved to step forward. We still have lots of work to go around!

Calendar of Upcoming Events

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

http://www.kew.org/ebhl/


CBHL Welcomes New Members!
LISA DECESARE, CBHL MEMBERSHIP MANAGER
HEAD OF PUBLIC SERVICES AND ARCHIVES
BOTANY LIBRARIES, HARVARD UNIVERSITY HERBARIUM
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

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The quarterly Newsletter is sent by mail to all current members of CBHL. Submissions to the Newsletter are welcome. The schedule for 2004 is: February (Copy due 1/15), May (Copy due 4/15), and August (Copy due 7/15) November (10/15). Publications Committee Chair, Susan Eubank <Susan_Eubank@nps.gov>

Newsletter Editor, Christine Liebson <c_liebson@hotmail.com>
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. To subscribe contact Bernadette Callery in Pittsburgh at: <bcallery@flounder.com>.

For the latest CBHL Annual Meeting information visit:

http://huntbot.andrew.cmu.edu/cbhl2004

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Conservation & Preservation
LAURIE HANNAH, LIBRARIAN
SANTA BARBARA BOTANIC GARDEN
SANTA BARBARA, CALIFORNIA

Visit to Preservation Technologies Scheduled for Annual Conference

This year’s annual conference is packed with useful sessions, talks, and tours about preservation of library and archival collections. One tour you won’t want to miss is to Preservation Technologies in Cranberry Township, Pennsylvania. You will learn about their unique Bookkeeper treatment process that safely neutralizes the acid in paper and thus extends the life of library collections. Bookkeeper is the only mass deacidification process that meets current and projected consumer and environmental standards. For more information, go to their web site:

**Literature Review**

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


Spring is playing catch-me-if-you-can and today is dismal, gray, and chilly. These three books have warmed me and caught my imagination even more than nursery catalogs, which imply some amount of future toil. These are a pure pleasure to peruse!

*The Healing Plants of Ida Hrubesky Pemberton* features dozens of exquisite watercolors of medicinal and other useful plants. A biography is provided by Carolyn Crawford, a botanical artist whose career was influenced by Ida’s work. Victoria Matthews, horticultural taxonomist and editor, contributed a study of Mrs. Pemberton’s techniques.

The Pemberton’s only child, born when Ida was 41, was killed by a car when he was four years old. The Hunt website, [http://huntbot.andrew.cmu.edu/HIBD/Exhibitions/Exhibitions.shtml](http://huntbot.andrew.cmu.edu/HIBD/Exhibitions/Exhibitions.shtml), adds “After the tragic death of her son, she found solace in the healing plants of her garden and began to paint. She completed 64 paintings and then designed a title page and endpapers. She visited publishers in Chicago and New York but was unable to find one for her book, *Drug Plants*. However, the New York Botanical Garden was so impressed with her portfolio of drawings that they organized a one-person exhibition of Ida’s work in 1950. Artist Anne Ophelia Todd Dowden visited the NYBG exhibit and was greatly inspired by Ida’s work.

To my great dismay, our annual meeting just misses the exhibition of Ida’s paintings at the Hunt Institute. (“Botanical Watercolors from the National Herbarium Nederland” will be on display when we have our Annual Meeting there in June. For a tantalizing preview see the website noted above.)

*Plant Discoveries* is one of this year’s CBHL Literature Award nominees. It is a treasure—hundreds of stunning botanical illustrations that span several centuries and represent dozens of artists, all works from the vast collections of the Natural History Museum in London. It is also a rich resource of information on a wide variety of plants, the plant hunters that tracked them down, and their (the plants’) current status in the wild. Fascinating stories about both plants and adventurers abound. Examples include the intriguing number patterns exhibited by heads of composite flowers; the fact that some *Passiflora* species have glands that mimic the eggs of cannibalistic butterflies; and the story of a Viennese gardener who was left behind on a plant collecting expedition to South Africa, in order to watch over the plants too numerous to fit into the ship returning home. He himself was finally collected ten years later!

The twenty chapters each concentrate on a particular group of plants, e.g., peonies, cacti & succulents, roses, palms, conifers. At the end of each chapter is a reduced size photograph of every illustration in that chapter, with all pertinent “iconographic” information and a few sentences about the particular plant pictured. An explanation of scientific names, biographies of the artists, a bibliography, and index all add to the book’s usefulness. The design of *Plant Discoveries* combined with Sandra Knapp’s prose make this book a very enjoyable read, whether you go cover to cover, or simply open it and start reading.

Knapp is an internationally respected botanist and an editor of the *Flora Mesoamericana* project. Another book that explores how plants were discovered and includes illustrations of hundreds of botanical art treasures is Brent Elliott’s *Flora: An Illustrated History of the Garden Flower*, a 2002 Literature Award nominee.

*The Flowering of Florence* is also one of this year’s Literature Award nominees and catalogs a 2002 National Gallery of Art exhibit. There are two essays—a short meditation on the plants in Perugino’s *Crucifixion*, by Hirschauer, and the main part of the book, by Tomasi, which explores the history of the Medici family through its gardens, the artists the Medici grand dukes patronized, and the works created by these gifted people. Illustrations of spectacular paintings, embroidered silks, and *pietre dure*, or stone mosaics, make this book a joy to leaf through. A peony flower and stem, painted by the exceptional Jacopo Ligozzi, seem surely to be alive and merely resting on
On another page the setting sun lights up an overflowing basket of cherries set against a deep blue sky—the cherries literally glow. I was astounded that each clump of fruit represents a different variety, is unobtrusively numbered, and is identified on a stone pedestal in the corner of the painting. Bartolomeo Bimbi documented these and several other fruit varieties grown in the Medici orchards through his luminous paintings. Several previously unpublished works by Giovanna Garzoni are also included. Her still life "Quince with a Lizard" is almost too lifelike, as the lizard is quite alert and ready to dart across the tabletop! Works of many other Renaissance artists are included.

Second Call! Change in duties for the CBHL Newsletter Production Proposed

More Volunteer Opportunities Abound!

SUSAN C. EUBANK, PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE CHAIR
LIBRARIAN
GRAND CANYON NATIONAL PARK
GRAND CANYON, ARIZONA

We would like to try to divide some of the duties which make up the job of creating the CBHL Newsletter. We propose that three individuals work as a team to create the Newsletter.

With this proposal the new positions include:

Editor: The person in this position would solicit articles for the Newsletter; be responsible for the intellectual content and timeliness of the Newsletter. The editor would provide initial editing of articles submitted, consulting with authors if changes are necessary and sending the material to the desktop publisher for formatting. After the desktop publisher gets the Newsletter format set, the editor would shepherd the proofreaders to attend to their duties and also proofread the final copy.

Desktop Publisher: The person in this position would be given the content of the Newsletter and would use his or her desktop publishing skills to get it ready to be printed. If tweaking needs to happen after proofreading, either the editor (if computer programs and skills are compatible) or desktop publisher could perform that function.

Printer/Mailer: The person in this position would get the desktop-published file to a printer, request mailing labels from the membership manager, and mail the Newsletter. This person, or the desktop publisher, would send the file to the webmaster for posting on the CBHL website and also would submit mailing and printing bills to the Treasurer and report the costs to the Publications Committee Chair for Board Reports.

These positions are in addition to the proofreaders and columnists/reporters that already exist.

This, of course, is just a rough idea of how the duties could be divided. If those who want to take on the actual duties of editor, desktop publisher or printer/mailer need to change some processes, those could be worked out among them and with me, the Publications Committee Chair, if they want more input.

If anyone is interested in any of these duties, please ask Christine Liebson 440-256-0514 <c_liebson@hotmail.com> or Susan Eubank 928-638-7768 <Susan_Eubank@nps.gov> if you have any questions. I look forward to working with the new volunteers.
Elisabeth Woodburn, Books, continued.

TELLING THE STORY

As many of you might have experienced, there is a rare moment that comes in the “book hunt” when one finds an item which one knows is rare and perfect. This happened to us, when an original scrapbook of J. J. Thomas which was the basis for his now-famous American Fruit Culturist (1846) found its way to us, complete with his hand-written notes and the actual impressions of apples he found while wandering through orchards in western New York state. This same feeling hit us when we first met Elisabeth Woodburn and her husband (the writer Keith Robertson) at their farm in central New Jersey appropriately situated at the end of a long drive and named Booknoll Farm. During that uncertain time after college and while thinking about graduate school, Joanne, ever the book lover, answered an advertisement offering employment for an “antiquarian book cataloguer,” whatever that was. Having no prior experience other than working in the college library and being an avid reader, Joanne made her way to the farm (with her friend Brad Lyon driving since Joanne didn’t have a car). The interview was an unusual one: sitting in an 18th century farmhouse surrounded by thousands of books, Elisabeth asked questions; Joanne tried to answer; and Major, the macaw, sat on Elisabeth’s head repeating some of what each of them was saying.

As we perused the shop’s inventory, we held 16th century Italian herbals for the first time in our lives, paged through Dodoens and Gerard, before we moved on to the 18th century Dutch view books of gardens, and, delightedly, Repton’s Observations. Here was a magnificent world where art, botany, book design, and printing converged to create works of beauty and intelligence. Joanne felt very much the way she felt upon first seeing the glass flower collection at Harvard — mesmerized, drawn into a strange and singular world filled with so much detail and beauty that was somewhat overwhelming, and definitely hallucinatory.

The interview went well. Major the macaw gave us a cracker for the road. Brad drove us back down the lane away from the farm past Gus, the Sardinian donkey and some peacocks. It was pouring rain and Joanne’s head was spinning since she was told there were many other people who were set up for interviews, and she found herself really, really wanting this job at $6.00 an hour. A week or so later the call came: “Well, I’ve interviewed retired librarians and researchers from Princeton, but you really loved the books – so I’m going to give you a try.”

It was part-time work for Joanne, so half of the week she was learning from Elisabeth Woodburn and the other half she was working at the Classical Studies Library at the Institute for Advanced Study – in short, she was in bibliophile heaven. During this time Brad was working at the Princeton University bookstore, but after a year, she became the primary apprentice with Elisabeth as Joanne moved on to other academic pursuits and research and writing positions. Elisabeth loved Brad’s precision and focus, and they struck a balance working together as Brad’s forte as a rare book cataloguer showed through. Nothing makes Brad happier than collating incunabula or trying to figure out the intricacies in a bibliographic labyrinth like Michaux’ North American Sylva. But we don’t want technophiles out there to think that all our cataloguing, appraising, and research was done by candlelight using quill pen and parchment. No Luddites are we. In fact, Elisabeth was one of the first rare booksellers to “computerize” in the early 1980’s – we even had a Bernoulli box (unheard of in those days, and now we understand only to be found in museums devoted to personal computing hardware).

For the next 15+ years we worked and grew with Elisabeth and Keith. We were given the opportunity to learn this business from the inside out – and came to love two friends who shared their knowledge, family, house and garden openly and with the greatest love of life and encouragement to us.

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF AN ANTIQUARIAN BOOKSELLER

Probably the best way to describe a usual day in our business is to summarize some of the questions (all true, no exaggerations) that come our way via mail, telephone, fax, and e-mail. For instance:

- How heavy is the reprint edition of Gerard’s Herbal – I’m elderly and can’t lift more than 8 or 9 pounds?
- I’m looking for books with illustrations of mangos and kumquats – with botanical details – can you help?
- Did Elisabeth Woodburn sell Elizabeth Lawrence her own copy of Wharton’s Italian Villas & Their Gardens?
- I’m looking for a short bibliography of L. H. Bailey’s works – those written and edited by him – can you fax me what you have?
- Who is the best garden writer of the 19th century?
- So, you do have a copy of Peonies in the Little Garden! Could you tell me what color the binding is because I need it to match the ribbon I have; it’s a gift, and a hunter green would be just perfect (this, after we were featured in Martha Stewart Living magazine)
- Did Brad really say that hanging framed botanical...
prints on a wall that have been cut out of books is analogous to displaying the pelts of dead animals? (this, after Brad was quoted in a piece in *House and Garden*).

- Your pigs are down here at the Sunoco gas station (this, when we were still located at the Farm).

How could any person not feel blessed to experience such conversations and encounters? Every day we learn something new from our customers and colleagues. We have inherited a network of researchers, writers, collectors, librarians, academics and dirt gardeners who Elisabeth helped to cultivate, and we continue to “grow” our connections individually and in our partnership. The presence of CBHL helps enormously in answering many of the questions and queries we receive, and our long-time involvement with CBHL (Elisabeth Woodburn was a founding member and received the first Charles Robert Long Award in 1988) continues to engage and educate both of us and our customers. Not only do we direct people to visit and utilize the libraries of CBHL members, but we also refer customers to membership information and encourage their participation in the organization’s activities.

Our reference collection and “hard copies” of catalogue slips are invaluable to us in answering customers’ questions. Elisabeth and Brad have been inveterate archivists and so we have complete records of the business with 60 years of correspondence (letters, both written and received), as well as complete descriptions of each item that has passed through our hands. In addition to buying and selling books, we also conduct appraisals, and we’ve had the good fortune to do so at some outstanding libraries, many are CBHL members. We travel throughout the country pursuing these activities and each experience can be counted on to have its bizarre, as well as its wondrous moments. And in our field of specialization, we have been privileged to see some incredibly beautiful private gardens as part of our visits to private libraries.

**A Changing Landscape**

During the 30 years that Joanne and Brad have been involved in the antiquarian book world, there have been many changes: the buzz in the 1970’s concerned antiquarian bookfairs; the 1980’s saw the rise of the book superstore; and the 1990’s ushered in the age of internet bookselling along with the digitization of books and collections. Brad has a theory that in another 25 years or so the antiquarian bookdealer will be considered more a type of “antiques” dealer than bookseller as earlier bound books are digitized and as the original items – “books” – become more and more fragile and foreign to generations raised on digital technology. Change is an enduring theme in life and certainly the relationships between and among booksellers, collectors, and librarians continue to change with each new technological innovation. The challenge is to find our areas of commonality and to explore new ways to learn from each other’s strengths in collection development, bibliography, acquisition, conservation, and preservation.

The landscape designer Alan Chadwick once commented, “It is, you see – though many people seem to find the idea amusing – the garden that makes the gardener.” So it is with the antiquarian bookseller – it is the relationships with the books themselves, their past lives and owners, the individuals with whom they currently live, the libraries they currently call home, and the generations of lives which they have touched that make the bookseller who she is.

**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 <marca02@starpower.net>.
Lu Anne W. Schwarz, Atlanta Botanical Garden, Atlanta, Georgia

The Atlanta Botanical Garden is gearing up for Chihuly in the Garden—a marvelous exhibit of Dale Chihuly’s glass sculpture and the Garden’s plants. The hope is that this union of art and nature will draw Garden regulars into an interest in art; while art lovers who come to see the sculptures will fall in love with the Garden. Dale Chihuly’s life-long passion for gardens and glasshouses will be staged in one of the great gardens of the world. Chihuly explained, “The more beautiful and complex a conservatory, the greater potential it has to present my work.” Late last year and again this January, the Garden rushed prime specimens of native pitcher plants (*Sarracenia*) and tropical pitcher plants (*Nepenthes*) to Chihuly’s Seattle studio, The Boathouse. These fantastic natural shapes served as a source of inspiration, resulting in the creation of the Carnivorous Chandelier, a glass sculpture to complement the Garden’s extensive collection. Chihuly’s palette of 300 different hues of glass creates a phenomenal variety, and each of his pieces is flowing and graceful, each different and unique. “The living setting makes the glass sparkle,” noted Executive Director Mary Pat Matheson, chief proponent of bringing the exhibit to Atlanta. “Our celebration of art and nature combine to reshape the space for a once-in-a-lifetime experience.”

The Sheffield Botanical Library has added four titles in support of the exhibit: Chihuly Gardens & Glass, Chihuly Projects, Chihuly Seaforms, and The Essential Dale Chihuly. The exhibit will run May 1-October 31, 2004. Come and experience Chihuly’s magnificent glass art installation, with the Atlanta Botanical Garden as his living canvas. The Atlanta Botanical Garden is located at 1345 Piedmont Avenue, Atlanta, Georgia. Sheffield Botanical Library (404) 591-1546
Orchid Reference Library (404) 591-1725
e-mail: <lschwarz@atlantabotanicalgarden.org>
www.atlantabotanicalgarden.org

From Julie Landgrebe, Longwood Gardens, Kennett Square, Pennsylvania

Longwood Gardens, Inc., the world’s premier horticultural display garden, located in Kennett Square, PA, is seeking an experienced librarian to oversee its horticultural reference library, historical archives, and image collection. Responsibilities include the acquisition, cataloging, circulation, maintenance, and preservation of library and archives resources in both print and electronic formats. The Librarian provides reference services and research assistance, and oversees the part-time Archives Assistant and Library staff and volunteers.

Requirements include an ALA-accredited MLS and minimum of 3 years experience in library and archives management. Experience working in a botanical library and/or degree in horticulture, and formal training in archives management are preferred. Must have experience with MARC formats, OCLC, Sydney Plus, and management of electronic resources. Excellent communication, computer, organizational and interpersonal skills are required. This position also requires climbing of small ladders, shelving of books, and lifting and carrying of objects up to a range of 20-50 lbs.

Please mail your resume with salary requirements to:
Longwood Gardens, Inc., <JLandgrebe@longwoodgardens.org>, Attn: Human Resources, P.O. Box 501, Kennett Square, PA 19348. Fax (610) 388-2079 or e-mail <jobs@longwoodgardens.org>.

To find out more about job opportunities at Longwood Gardens please visit our website, www.longwoodgardens.org.

EOE.

From Koeltz Scientific Books

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Contents
Preface/Acknowledgements/Part One: Genetic Variation and Speciation in Plants/Part Two: Hybridization/ Part Three: Chromosomes and Polyploidy/ Part Four: General and Plant Evolution/Part Five: Rare Species and Conservation
Douglas Holland, Missouri Botanical Garden Library, St. Louis, Missouri

The Missouri Botanical Garden has announced the appointment of Douglas Holland to the newly created position of Curator of Library Services and Technology. He replaces Connie Wolf who retired in December of 2003 after 18 years of service as Head Librarian. Douglas has been employed at the Missouri Botanical Garden since 1994 and as part of the Library staff since 1998. He will oversee all Missouri Botanical Garden Library staff and operations.

The Illustrated Garden exhibit is a collaboration between the Saint Louis Art Museum and the Missouri Botanical Garden Library. This major exhibition is on display at the Saint Louis Art Museum between April 16th and August 22nd, 2004. It features 100 illustrations from 44 publications carefully selected over the past three years from the Rare Book Collection of the Missouri Botanical Garden Library. The exhibited items range in date from 1485 to 1855. The exhibit is free and open to the public. If you are in the area (or even if you are not), we hope you will come visit!

For more information please visit: www.illustratedgarden.org or http://www.slam.org/exhibits/illustratedgarden/index.html

A full color, 65 page catalog is available for $15 though the Illustrated Garden website. Also available are an exhibit tee shirt, mug and tote bag featuring the tulips from Robert Thornton’s The Temple of Flora published 1807.

Barbara Pitschel, Strbying Arboretum & Botanical Gardens, San Francisco

The Helen Crocker Russell Library of Horticulture is the recipient of a substantial individual gift designated for the purpose of automating our library catalog. Our extremely generous and visionary donor, Diane Zuendt, has been a dedicated library volunteer for nearly twenty years, during much of which time she single-handedly managed the library’s collection of nursery catalogs. Diane completed the Library Technology program at City College of San Francisco, from whence she first came to us as an intern. She went on to become a friend and indispensable member of the library team, often substituting as volunteer librarian or assistant librarian when needed. She is also an avid gardener and reader. Many of you met Diane when we hosted the 2002 CBHL annual meeting and others of you will recall that she attended our reception at the Horticultural Society of New York last year. What a fitting story has a relatively happy ending. In March I was diagnosed with breast cancer and had a lumpectomy. It appears that the malignancy was completely removed, was slow-growing, had not metastasized, and was of a kind that responds well to hormone blocker pills, which I will take. I will need radiation, but do not need chemotherapy (hooray!!!). My ten-year cancer-free prognosis (which will be at age 75) is something like 93%, probably better odds that crossing the street in a big city!

The other good news is that radiation can begin in late June after I return from CBHL. I really look forward to seeing you all in Pittsburgh! Meanwhile, I have returned to work, am swimming, hiking, healing, and feeling very well. (It’s amazing how a little brush with reality makes you appreciate all the beauty and love that surrounds you!)

Joan DeFato, Los Angeles County Arboretum & Botanic Garden

My big news, obviously, is that I retired as of March 29. I started working at the Arboretum on October 1, 1973, and that was not my first job! So far it feels like a vacation without a destination but I do not miss getting up and going to work in the morning. When I have a home e-mail address, I will post it.

From the Southern California Horticultural Society Newsletter, April 2004 (thanks to Laurie Hannah for bringing this to our attention): “We are pleased to announce that our own forthcomin
CBHL Members’ News, continued.

Vice President, Joan DeFato has been selected as SCHS Horticulturist of the Year for 2004. We’ve announced this award early this year, as Joan is retiring from her 30 years of service as Plant Science Librarian at the Los Angeles County Arboretum & Botanic Garden at the end of March. All who visited the Arboretum will miss her informed and professional responses to all manner of questions, and the depth of her knowledge of the Arboretum’s resources. We will be celebrating Joan’s many accomplishments at our traditional September dinner meeting at the Huntington.”

Laurie Hannah, Santa Barbara Botanic Garden Library, Santa Barbara, California

Last fall, the Garden was offered, and gladly accepted, a large donation of books on plant pathology, pest control, pesticides, forest entomology, and plant breeding, part of the large research library of Bill and Helga Olkowski. The Olkwskis were the founders of the Bio-Integral Resource Center (BIRC) in Berkeley, a nonprofit organization dedicated to the development and communication of least-toxic, sustainable, and environmentally sound Integrated Pest Management (IPM) methods. The Olkwskis are the authors of Common Sense Pest Control, a standard reference for reduced-risk solutions to pest management in home, garden and pet care, as well as the periodicals Common Sense Pest Control Quarterly and IPM Practitioner.

The gift of over 350 books, reports, and periodicals will be especially valuable to our horticulture staff which practices IPM and least-toxic methods of pest control here at the Garden, and the Master Gardener training program. The books will be catalogued in 2004, searchable through the library online catalog, and available for in-library use. CBHL members have already been offered duplicates from this collection.

John and Judy Reed, reporting from the “Grandest of Canyons,” Grand Canyon, Arizona

We began our twelve-week volunteer assignment at the Grand Canyon National Park Library at the end of February working under the supervision/direction of Susan Eubank. It is a marvelous experience for us, learning a new collection, new subject matter, and being open to new kinds work from that to which we had been accustomed. Susan has lots of projects, many of them inherited from previous librarians most of them focused on sorting and cleaning up backlogs of material accumulated over the past decade. Susan is looking for others interested in volunteering, especially folks with strong cataloging skills. She is in the midst of recataloging and reclassifying the collection of over 12,000 volumes and can use all the help that she can get, as a good part of her time is spent on reference and interlibrary loan. The setting is absolutely wonderful, the people are great. You who have retired or are about to retire – consider this wonderful volunteer opportunity; you will be enriched by the experience.

Susan and her library have been receiving a considerable amount of publicity lately. In the February issue of The Bulletin of the Grand Canyon Historical Society, Inc. the GCNP Library Tour was the lead article; and in the Grand Canyon News for the week of March 10-16, there is a front page article “Keeping track of layered history; Susan Eubank oversees a grand collection that’s as deep as the Canyon itself.”

On April 10th, our intrepid librarian was featured as the Easter Bunny (all in blue) at the annual Rotary sponsored Grand Canyon Easter Egg Hunt. We are awaiting full press coverage!

Brian Thompson, Center for Urban Horticulture, Seattle, Washington

On April 9th four huge and elaborately crafted roof trusses were lifted into place over the future reading room of the Elisabeth C. Miller Library. Already a signature feature, these trusses are part of the open construction concept of the new facility as designed by the award winning architectural firm of Miller Hull (no relation to “our” Miller). The completed building, which will also house the Center’s faculty, research laboratories, administration, and outreach, is scheduled for completion in the fall with a grand opening ceremony tentatively scheduled for the last weekend in October.

The Miller Library has joined four other local libraries, including the Seattle Public system, in the Sound Libraries Information Consortium (“a SLIC way to get information”) in using OCLC’s QuestionPoint to share electronic reference services. Funded by a federal Libraries Services and Technology Act grant, the consortium has increased awareness of the Miller Library in the greater library community of the region and, judging by the increasing number of questions, amongst the general public, too.

IN MEMORIAM:

On March 11, CBHL lost long-time member Phil Nesty, who died at home at the height of his career from complications of a heart attack. Phil owned Brooks Books, a Concord, California mail-order source of out-of-print horticultural books, as well as more recent publications, with a special emphasis on California and mediterranean-climate plants, and his special loves, cacti and succulents and alpine and rock garden plants. Phil’s quick smile, easy manner, and avid and knowledgeable love of books endeared him to all who knew him. Phil Nesty and his business were great resources to many of us. He will be greatly missed and not soon forgotten.
On the Web: Linnaean Links, Dahlias, Daffodils and a Hair-Growing Cactus

STANLEY JOHNSTON
THE HOLDEN ARBORETUM
KIRTLAND, OHIO

Founded in 1788 by Sir James Edward Smith, a wealthy English physician who purchased Linnaeus’ library and collections from his widow after his death, The Linnean Society of London <www.linnean.org> continues to be a center of biological study as evidenced by its site. Although most of his specimens were purchased by Smith, the herbarium which Linnaeus distributed to his students remained in Sweden where it is now held by the Royal Swedish Academy of Science, which is gradually making images and information on the specimens available online in a searchable database Linnéherbariet (S-LINN) <linnaeus.nrm.se/botany/fbo/>. Meanwhile, The Natural History Museum (London) has begun making information on the original sources of Linnaeus’ classification available via The Linnaean Plant Name Typification Project <www.nhm.ac.uk/botany/linnaean/> which is searchable by Linnaean binomial and returns information on the place of original publication, the stated provenance of the specimen type, an image of the specimen, a reference to its initial publication, and an indication of what taxon it is found in under current classification.

An attempt to reform modern phylogeny is the subject of the PhyloCode <www.ohiou.edu/phylocode/> which provides information on the movement to reform the rules governing phylogenetic nomenclature and copies of the various drafts of the documents produced to date.

PlantExplorers.com <www.planteexplorers.com> provides a number of brief biographical accounts of primarily British plant explorers with a handful of French and American explorers thrown in, as well as a sprinkling of botanical artists. It also has links to seed sources, equipment and supply sources, botanical gardens, and gardening clubs. Unfortunately, its account of plant exploration in the pre-Linnaean period is woefully inadequate and misleading.

Oak Spring Garden Library <www.oakspring.org> provides an introduction to Rachel Lambert Mellon’s famous library of rare horticultural books, discusses and promotes the books which it has published celebrating various aspects of the collection, and, in a joint initiative with Missouri Botanical Garden, has made available online digital images of Henri-Louis Duhamel du Monceau’s Traité des Arbres Fruitiers.

Turning to plant sites, The American Dahlia Society 2003 Classification and Handbook of Dahlias <www.dahlia.org/guide/index.htm> provides information on these plants via a database linked to a chart listing the various cultivars by combinations of class, color, form, and size. The key to the abbreviations used for these headings is found by clicking on the respective heading in the table. There are also checklists of the award winners and of the fifty cultivars that have won the most awards in the past year. Doing Dahlias <www.dahlias.net> is a site set up by the Colorado Dahlia Society which includes an alphabetical buyer’s guide to the plants linked to a photo and information on each plant, a calendar of North American tuber sales, information on North American dahlia societies and dahlia shows, and information on dahlia suppliers.

The American Daffodil Society <www.daffodilusa.org/index.html> includes useful information on daffodil divisions and cultivars, classification definitions, growing information, and links. Orchid wise <www.orchidwise.com> provides links to 1218 sites and 11032 images organized under 21 headings including a “top rated” category featuring sites ranked according to the ratings of their users.

Mammillaria : all about Mammillaria cactus genus <www.mammillarias.net> is a remarkably robust site for the specialized subject of these flowering cacti. It features more than 1200 images, 200 species described, 250 distribution maps, over 9000 field collection numbers, an English forum, links, and a database.

A different cactus site is The Cactus Project <www.lauracinti.com> which features a cactus growing human hair as an example of transgenic art. The site can only be viewed with the latest browsers and includes links to other transgenic art sites.

A more traditional manipulation of plant material for aesthetic purposes is the subject of Bonsai on the Web <www.hav.com/bonsai> which includes searchable databases of bonsai terms and articles, bonsai nurseries and suppliers, and bonsai websites, as well as a chat area and a calendar of bonsai events.

Biological Diversity in Food and Agriculture <www.fao.org/biodiversity/> is a large site established by the Food and Agriculture Agency of the United Nations to examine the relationship of farming to biodiversity. It includes links to a large body of documents including the texts of numerous conventions and codes, FAO documents, and external sites.

Finally, Plants - EnchantedLearning.com <www.enchantedlearning.com/subject/plants/> is a botany site for children aimed at the K-3 range featuring an illustrated plant dictionary, plant related activities, plant printouts, and printable plant books for early readers.
Join us!
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