CBHL: Let's Start at the Beginning
Presented at the 2018 Annual Meeting of CBHL, EBHL, and Linnaeus Link
by John F. Reed
The New York Botanical Garden—Retired
Iron River, MI

It is both an honor and privilege to participate in this gathering celebrating the 50th Anniversary of CBHL and the 25th Anniversary EBHL and at the same time welcoming our Linnaeus Link colleagues. Little did I realize when I accepted an invitation to speak at a meeting concerning horticultural and botanical libraries held in November 1969 at the Massachusetts Horticultural Society that I would have an opportunity to reflect on the outcomes of that meeting 50 years later. I should say right now that, with very few exceptions, I have avoided mentioning individuals or naming names -- there have been so many wonderfully dedicated people over the years who have been active and played important roles in CBHL and its work, that to name even a few would slight so many!

Now, let's see - 50 years divided by 13 minutes - that is just a little over 2-1/2 minutes per year. No way...! It does occur to me that what I might be able to add to the discussions of our past, present, and the future, and provide some perspective on, would be a brief glimpse of some aspects of my early experience at the NY Garden, my impressions of the botanical /horticultural library community I joined when I accepted the position of "Curator of the Library" at the NYBG in the Fall of 1965, and a bit about the very early CBHL meetings.

In 1965 our Library staff consisted of a full-time administrative secretary, who had originally been hired as secretary to the wife of the first Director of the Garden; a part-time cataloguer who was attending library school; a part-time reference/circulation librarian; two part-time book menders; a part-time book-shelver; and myself. The Garden had just initiated the construction of a new Library building and much of my time in that first year was spent getting to know the Garden staff and Library users, learning about our remarkable collection which had been assembled in the first 70 years of the Garden's history and plotting the "big move" to the new quarters. Our primary Library users were then, and to a large extent remain today, the NYBG research staff, their colleagues and their graduate students (all with taxonomic or floristics leanings); the Garden's gardening and horticultural staff; the students in our School of Professional Horticulture; and NYBG members. We were open for public users, but had few public visitors. By present day standards our technology was very limited. In 1965 our Library had 2 manual typewriters, 2 IBM Selectric typewriters, and a Xerox 914 photocopier (a piece of equipment about the size of a small desk that was in no way designed for copying from bound volumes). This photocopier was very temperamental, having a proclivity for paper jams, especially when we began running library card-catalog stock through it to produce catalog card sets. When paper jams occurred, the copier overheated, causing the card stock to smolder and then to burst into flames, creating enough smoke to set off the fire alarm system in the entire building. Computers were not on our horizon. The card catalog, dating from the last decade of the 19th Century, had been divided by card size in the early 1960s. The older catalog cards (1.5" x 5") were mostly hand-written or occasionally typed. They contained minimal bibliographic information and incomplete holdings data. Other than taxonomic and geographical names, subject headings were scarce and inconsistent. In the early 1960s the Library had adopted the 3 x 5 inch
Let us collectively celebrate the new membership database online! Congratulations to Celine for pushing this initiative forward. Also, since our meeting in June we must acknowledge the loss of two librarian positions—Seed Savers Exchange and Atlanta Botanical Garden. The board is very concerned about the possible fallout of both decisions for our organization and the profession. To better understand CBHL’s current trajectory, as I stated in an email to the membership a few weeks ago, in June the board requested information from a few of our committees to understand the broader trends regarding membership and finances of CBHL over the last decade. The committees helpfully supplied the data.

At the fall board meeting in Phoenix in mid-October the trends were indisputably clear and already have generated a considerable discussion. The board is uncomfortable with these trends. We feel that CBHL membership needs to be made aware of the challenges. Further, we want to begin a broader conversation about the future of CBHL. Specifically, what actions can the board, the membership and each committee may contribute. The first step is that the board wishes to share two charts with you that reveal the trends of membership and finances. To the board members’ eyes, these charts reveal:
• Slow, steady decline in CBHL membership (and therefore income)
• Prolonged period where total expenses have exceeded total income resulting in decline in total cash balances

The current board feels that given the declining membership trend and the current Total Cash Balance we must more actively manage the finances. First and foremost, we must begin to align income and expense. Toward this goal, the current board, while in Phoenix, discussed actions for the near future and longer-term. Board affirms that it is responsible for making financial decisions about the organization, but that membership will be part of the discussion about income and expenses. Everyone should be informed about the health of the organization so that our collective voice can help set priorities moving forward. This column is a step. For the board we are beginning to work on:

• Developing an annual budget. Having a budget would help to guide current and future boards and allow for them to make informed financial decisions. The board would like to develop a trial budget to use in the next fiscal year starting in January 2019.

• Adding guidance to the Procedures Manual. For example, a section about the appropriate cash balance would help guide future boards so that they can plan in a consistent, informed manner.

• Working toward aligning expenses and income. Our ideal goal is to have the income and expenses balance as soon as possible. This goal may not be achievable in FY2019 given time constraints and other factors, but lessons learned can then be applied to future cycles. Also this will give us time to consult the membership on priorities.

• Developing ideas for income. One path is to raise dues. Dues have not changed since 2001! That is a remarkable length of time. The buying power of our dues has been eroded by inflation over seventeen years. There are other factors to consider. The board recognizes the delicate balance between the cost of dues and the ability of some members to pay. Dues should not be a major barrier to membership. Also, there might be other options for income. For example, we should consider planned giving and/or donations.

CBHL is not alone in facing some of these issues. Our world is rapidly evolving and those processes are affecting many organizations. Many of us can relate similar stories of colleagues and other professional organizations. However, we must not feel defeated. That shared experience does not absolve us from confronting those challenges to the best of our ability. A proactive and engaged CBHL is vitally important. Tapping into the energy and enthusiasm of CBHL—qualities in abundance in our community—is key. Together we are stronger to face challenges.

The meeting next year will give us plenty to discuss as we learn about Desert Botanical Garden (and the beautiful Sonoran Desert). The board is excited about the upcoming meeting in Phoenix. Desert Botanical Garden is indeed remarkable, and Beth Brand is working hard to give us the best experience possible. For most of us in CBHL, DBG will reveal an entirely different plant palette. The garden looked wonderful and vibrant. And, the hotel is in the heart of Tempe, home of Arizona State University. Although a quiet place to lay your head, the restaurants and excitement of a college town are steps from the hotel.

If anyone has comments or further questions, please feel free to email me! DSleasman@longwoodgardens.org

IN THIS ISSUE

CBHL: Let’s Start at the Beginning by John F. Reed .................................................................1
From the President by David J. Sleasman ...............................................................2
CBHL 51st Annual Meeting Preview by Beth Brand ........................................................6
Members’ News West compiled by Beth Brand ..........................................................7
CBHL Conference Collaboration Grant Program ......................................................8
Members’ News East compiled by Shelly Kilroy .......................................................9
CBHL Board of Directors 2018-2019 .................................................................11
Biodiversity Heritage Library News and Collection Highlights by Grace Costantino ..................................................12
Calendar of Upcoming Events by Rita Hassert .....................................................15
Book Reviews by Pat Jonas & Esther Jackson .......................................................16
On the Web by Stanley Johnston ..............................................................................19
Join Us! .......................................................................................................................20
(Continued from page 1)
catalog card format and began following ALA descriptive cataloging standards. However, subject headings were still rather hit-or-miss and there was no attempt made to improve the earlier catalog information.

Our library’s extensive collection of reprints and the seed and nursery catalog collection had both, in the past, been alphabetized. Subsequently, large unsorted backlogs had accumulated and at some point the shelving on which these collections had been stored had collapsed so that I found them piled up helter-skelter several feet deep in their shared storage room. Picking them up carefully to maintain whatever order we could discern, was a project that Judy and I carried on Saturday afternoons for the better part of our first winter in NY. We did find some unexpected treasures under this massive pile of paper — several boxes of botanical art and two copper plates — used in printing John Jay Audubon’s *Birds of America*.

In 1965, OCLC, then standing for the Ohio College Library Catalog, was still in its embryonic stage, to be born in 1967, and gradually accepted nationally by the larger academic and research library community. Copy cataloging source material depended upon a library’s access to the many-volume Library of Congress Catalog of Printed Cards, its supplements, or the relatively new National Union Catalog. We had none of these at NYBG although we did subscribe to the Library of Congress’ distribution of proof copies of their currently produced catalog cards in two subject areas - Plant Sciences and Agriculture.

The Garden’s director, Dr. William Campbell Steere, a noted bryologist specializing in arctic mosses, was an avid collector of the bryological literature, an active research botanist, and a regular user and supporter of the library. From the beginning of my employment he encouraged me to visit other botanical and horticultural libraries and meet my cohorts. Other than the librarian at the Gray Herbarium, Lazella Schwarten, whom I had met as an undergraduate student through a family friend who worked at the Gray Herbarium, and Mabel Cronquist, the librarian at the Horticultural Society of New York, and wife of Garden taxonomist Dr. Arthur Cronquist, I did not know any other botanical/horticultural librarians and knew little of our specialized library universe.

Over the next several years I visited other libraries, especially those with collections of a similar nature to our own, and to meet and become acquainted with the librarians and many of their staff. These included the Hunt Botanical Institute, the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, the Missouri Botanical Garden, the Bailey Hortorium at Cornell University, the National Agricultural Library, and the Botany Libraries of the Smithsonian Institution. In my visits I found that many of the librarians at these institutions had never met. They knew each other only through correspondence, telephone conversations, or interlibrary loan exchanges. Although their institutional directors, active in such organizations as the American Association of Museums or the Association of Systematic Collections, knew their colleagues, few of the librarians had funding for travel or professional development. During my get-acquainted visits it seemed we always ended up discussing common issues - space limitations, managing non-book collections, the conservation of rare books, acquisitions costs, and cataloging backlogs and how we might share resources and expertise.

Early on I also encountered two very memorable individuals, both active in the New York Antiquarian Book world -- Elizabeth Woodburn, a dealer specializing in horticultural and gardening books, and Harry Lubrecht, the founder of the firm Lubrecht and Crammer, publisher and distributor, possibly best known today as the publisher, in 1969, of *A Short History of Botany in the United States*, edited by Dr. Joseph Ewan. Both Betty and Harry spent a good deal of time visiting plant related libraries and they knew the librarians and staff of these organizations better that we knew each other. It was Betty Woodburn, who in the late 1960s began inviting her librarian acquaintances for luncheons at her home where discussions always focused on the desirability and logistics of holding a meeting of plant-related librarians to discuss common problems and how they might be addressed. It was her persistence and her influence with the Library committee and staff at the Massachusetts Horticultural Society that led to the November 13, 1969 meeting in Boston that sparked the formation of CBHL. Both Betty and Harry were active and influential members of CBHL in the years to come.

Of the 21 organizations in attendance at that first meeting many were represented by their institutional directors or administrators, but librarians, bibliographers, book collectors, publishers and book sellers were also present. There was a very positive consensus of all those in attendance that a forum for sharing botanical/horticultural library interests and concerns was needed, and at the end of that meeting a “Study Committee” was formed and tasked with making recommendations for an organizational structure to be discussed five months hence at a second meeting scheduled to be held at the Hunt Institute in Pittsburgh. At that meeting, upon the committee’s recommendations, approved by the attendees, the decision was made to form CBHL, standing for Conference on Botanical and Horticultural Libraries. A governing Secretariat (later redefined as the Board) was elected. Of overriding importance at this meeting, one that continues to this day, was the awareness of and attention to issues relating to fairness and balance in representation. This was assured by providing equal status and voice within the organization for all member organizations no matter their size, budget, or staff. All institutional members have the same number of votes in all matters of business; two per institution. The second equalizer - Board structure: Five members are all selected from and elected by the membership, two permanent, or long-
term members -- the Secretary and Treasurer, and three Board members, one elected each year, each serving four-year terms moving through the ranks starting as Second VP and progressing in subsequent years to the positions of First VP, President, and Past-President before leaving the Board.

The third Annual Meeting (1971), thereafter an annual affair, was hosted in New York by the NYBG, the Horticultural Society of NY, and the Garden Club of America. There were 50 registrations representing 32 institutions in attendance. The attendees were predominantly librarians, library staff or administrative persons responsible for their institution's libraries. The meeting dealt with a number of administrative issues, including the selection of an editor for the Newsletter (the first issue of which appeared early in 1972); the establishment of a mechanism for the election of officers; the planning of the 1973 Annual Meeting (Washington, DC); and changing the first word of the name of the organization from "Conference" to "Council." However the discussions for the most part explored a wide variety of shared concerns and possible collaborative projects including the creation of a directory of botanical and horticultural libraries and their holdings; cooperative acquisitions; creating a directory of collections of seed and nursery catalogs; and creating a union list of serials of member libraries. A complete list, much too long to enumerate here, can be found by those interested in the minutes of this meeting in Newsletter #1 and #2 at the CBHL website. Over the course of the next few years formal committees were formed to pursue some of these ideas. One of the first of these focused on the CBHL member libraries' holdings of seed and nursery catalogs and, in addition, sought information about other collections within the immediate geographical region of the member organization. This turned out to be a time-consuming undertaking as many of the collections were not inventoried and the libraries holding these collections did not have the resources to do so. The committee persevered and in 1980 a Report of Nursery and Seed Catalogs in the Upper Midwest (1980), prepared by June Rogier and Evelyn Sand and published by the Andersen Horticultural Library in Chaska, Minnesota, appeared. This was followed in 1985 by the first edition of the Nursery and Seed Catalogs, a Directory of Collections, also edited by June Rogier, and published by CBHL.

The basic structure of the 1971 meeting served as a template for future annual meetings, hosted each year at and by a different member library, providing ample opportunity for attendees to get to know each other, to become familiar with new gardens and research libraries, to share their concerns, challenges, and innovations and to talk about developing collaborative and collective projects.

During the decade following the third Annual Meeting, CBHL membership increased to 109 individual and 50 institutional members. Meetings were held across the eastern half of the United States, and in Toronto, Ontario, Canada, and finally, in 1981, reached across the continental divide to the West Coast. Topics explored at some of these early meetings included: collection development; managing non-book and audio-visual collections; environmental literature; archives management; emergency procedures and disaster planning; and book conservation and repair.

In 1978, Phyllis Edwards, botany librarian at the British Museum (Natural History) hosted a delegation of CBHL members on a tour of English botanical and horticultural libraries and the renowned Chelsea Flower Show. The following year Ms. Edwards participated in the annual CBHL meeting and soon after, CBHL began to send out complementary copies of its Newsletter to a number of European libraries, a number of which became members.

Time does not allow me to dwell on the details of the wide diversity of collaborations and cooperative endeavors that have been advanced in some way through CBHL and encouraged networking over the past 50 years: many will be reflected in the discussions and presentations at this week's conference and evidenced daily in the scope and content of both the Newsletter and our shared listserv. We've come a long way, both technologically and professionally.

With 50 years of hind-sight, it is clear to me that the greatest value of CBHL and the partnerships that have developed with and through it, continues to be, and will be in the years to come, the deep commitment of its members to personal, professional, and institutional networking, fostering and encouraging the open sharing of knowledge, expertise, experience and creativity, which in-turn strengthens our libraries and institutions, and advances the work of our constituencies and the ever-evolving disciplines in which they are involved.

The deadline for the CBHL Newsletter March 2019 issue is January 15, 2019. Contact editor, Susan.Eubank@Arboretum.org, with articles and ideas.
CBHL 51st Annual Meeting Preview
Adapt & Flourish in a Changing Climate,
May 14-17, 2019

By Beth Brand
Librarian, Schilling Library
Desert Botanical Garden
Phoenix, Arizona

Save the dates and plan to attend CBHL’s 51st Annual Meeting, May 14-17, in Phoenix, Arizona! Desert Botanical Garden is pleased to be hosting and excited to share the beauty of its National Collections of cacti and agaves, and a plethora of other prickly plants. In addition to touring Garden trails, attendees will be treated to up-close tours of the library, herbarium, greenhouses, and the newly-constructed Desert Conservation Laboratory.

Exceptional accommodations will be provided nearby at Tempe Mission Palms Hotel, located in the heart of downtown Tempe and within walking distance of a variety of restaurants, bars, shops, and the Tempe Town Lake. Committee meetings will take place at Tempe Mission Palms on Tuesday, May 14, followed by an opening reception in the hotel’s courtyard.

Wednesday through Friday we look forward to informative member presentations and business meetings at the Garden, as well as field trips to Boyce Thompson Southwestern Arboretum and Frank Lloyd Wright’s Taliesin West. An opportunity to enjoy an outdoor, evening performance by Ballet Arizona is also on the agenda.

David Yetman, host of PBS documentary television series *The Desert Speaks* and currently, *In the Americas* with David Yetman, and author of *The Great Cacti: Ethnobotany and Biogeography of Columnar Cacti*, among many other books, will be one of our special guest speakers.

In 2019, Desert Botanical Garden will celebrate 80 years of Adapting and Flourishing and we look forward to sharing the unique beauty of our desert Garden with CBHL. Be looking out for early registration notices sometime in February. We hope you’ll join us in Phoenix next May!
Art aficionado and former Executive Director of Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden, Dr. Lee W. Lenz, kindly donated a new display case to the library, providing additional space to highlight some of our interesting and rare materials. We thought it appropriate to honor Dr. Lenz with the initial exhibit, so we are featuring the five-volume set of *Native Ecuadorian Orchids* by Calaway (Cal) Dodson. Cal was a former student of Dr. Lenz and received his Ph.D. from Claremont Graduate University in 1959. Cal presented his work to Dr. Lenz with a personal note inscribed to him in each volume. Dr. Lenz has since donated the set to the library for our special collections. We also featured Dodson’s dissertation, *Natural hybridization in some tropical orchids in the Andes*, in the new display case.

Over the summer, the Art Gallery at Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden presented an exhibit of illustrations by retired art teacher and long-time library volunteer, Terry Givens. The exhibit, entitled *Terry Givens: 100 Garden Views*, highlighted Terry’s drawings, which he captured as he sat on memorial benches throughout the Garden. This project took Terry more than a year to complete as he faithfully came to the garden once a week as a visitor, and in the afternoons following his scheduled time as library volunteer. Terry would visit various sections of the garden and spend about an hour sitting, visualizing, and creating vibrant and stunning illustrations of each location as seen through his perspective. Each month the drawings rotated in order to display all 100 pieces. Terry generously donated the proceeds from his sales to our Volunteer Organization and Education Department. The show was extremely popular and was held over for an additional two weeks.

The next exhibit in the Art Gallery, *Origami in the Garden*, will correspond with an outdoor sculpture exhibition of larger-than-life origami creations by Jennifer and Kevin Box. The Gallery will feature smaller pieces of origami works, complementing the bigger works, which are created in museum quality metals, and tell the story of a single piece of paper as it transforms into a soaring bird, emerging butterfly, galloping pony, and many other remarkable forms. *Origami in the Garden* features the Box’s own compositions as well as collaborations with world renowned origami artists Tim Armijo, Te Jui Fu, Beth Johnson, Michael G. LaFosse, and Robert J. Lang. The exhibit runs through April 2019.
CBHL Conference Collaboration Grant Program

During the 2010 mid-winter CBHL Board Meeting, the Board established a grant program to encourage CBHL members’ participation in other like-minded organizations’ conferences. Currently there is already a wonderful reciprocal relationship with the European Botanical and Horticultural Libraries Group (EBHL). To expand collaboration, this “CBHL Conference Collaboration Grant” will pay up to $500 towards conference fees (not including accommodations, travel expenses, or meals) for a CBHL member to go to the conferences of Garden Writers Association, American Public Gardens Association, Special Libraries Association, Internet Librarian, or similar organizations.

The grantee would receive the funds before the meeting (up to $500) with the agreement the participant would present a report to CBHL (either through the CBHL Newsletter or as a presentation at the Annual Meeting). The report should include useful aspects of the conference that will help other CBHL members. The report is intended as continuing education for the CBHL members. The grantee is also intended to serve as a CBHL ambassador to the conference and is required to register as the CBHL representative.

To receive the grant, the prospective grantee needs to submit a letter addressed to the CBHL Secretary and include:

- Name of conference
- Date of conference
- Amount of grant request
- URL to the conference website
- Reason for choosing the conference, including the benefit to CBHL
- The date when you will submit your report about the conference to either the CBHL Newsletter or as a talk at the CBHL Annual Meeting

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

Submission address and/or email: CBHL Secretary, Esther Jackson, ejackson@nybg.org, LuEsther T. Mertz Library, The New York Botanical Garden, 2900 Southern Boulevard, Bronx, NY 10458-5126

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

BRIT Press publishes *Flowering Plants of Trans-Pecos Texas and Adjacent Areas* by A. Michael Powell and Richard D. Worthington

This is the first complete floristic treatment of all of the native and naturalized flowering plant species known to occur in Trans-Pecos Texas. The Trans-Pecos is mostly a mountain and desert region west of the Pecos River, an area the size of South Carolina. Approximately 44.5% of all the plant species in Texas are represented in the Trans-Pecos, a total of roughly 2,447 vascular plant species. This book features taxonomic treatments of 2,343 flowering plant species, along with 120 subspecific taxa, and presents botanical information that will be useful to students, teachers, wildlife biologists, wildflower enthusiasts, ranchers, private and public land managers, naturalists, conservationists, environmental consultants, researchers, gardeners, interpreters at state and national parks, and the general public. The extensive Literature Cited section includes 2,207 references.

Lenhardt Library is Honored to be the Recipient of Two Grants to Support Our Collections

By Leora Siegel
Senior Director
Lenhardt Library
Chicago Botanic Garden
Glencoe, IL

The Chicago Botanic Garden’s Lenhardt Library has a wonderful rare book collection and is committed to sharing its botanical and cultural treasures. With two new grants awarded by the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and Illinois State Library (ISL), materials will be digitized and shared freely across Illinois, the United States, and globally.

The NEH grant lasts three years and began on May 1, 2018. The Northeast Document Conservation Center (NEDCC) is commissioned to digitize and conserve 62 pre-selected books. These volumes are not yet digitized by a library. For some, the Lenhardt Library holds the only known copy. By doing this work, we’ll add to the body of knowledge on the subject of the language of flowers, which is at the intersection of nineteenth-century horticulture, botany, art, poetry, and women’s studies.

Conserving the small-sized books will ensure they are stabilized for use in public exhibitions, interpretive programing, and scholarly research. Once the processes are complete, the books will be uploaded to the Biodiversity Heritage Library (BHL). BHL is an international consortium of botanical and natural history libraries with a fully open access policy. Its 54 million pages of biodiversity literature is utilized by scientists, writers, and artists around the world for primary source research.
The Illinois State Library grant lasts 18 months and started on July 1, 2018. This grant, for uniquely held items in Illinois, allows us to digitize one-of-a-kind handwritten, nineteenth-century manuscripts for which no other copy exists. The scientific notebooks of German orchidologist Friedrich Wilhelm Ludwig Kränzlin and French lily specialist Pierre Étienne Simon Duchartre will also be transcribed. If you can decipher German or French cursive, we’ll need your help in about six months to transcribe these pages!

Also being digitized is *Garden Talk*, the Chicago Horticultural Society’s membership magazine that was published from 1945 to 2007. Reflected in this publication are Chicago’s gardening trends and fads, gardening techniques, edible gardens, sustainable gardens, and ecological strategies. These resources will be uploaded to the Illinois Digital Archives (IDA), an open and freely accessible repository for digital collections of Illinois libraries and cultural institutions containing historical documents.

Although a visit to the Chicago Botanic Garden is always worthwhile, for those living in other cities, countries, or continents, it isn’t always feasible. With digitized and openly accessible online resources, the Garden will share its gems across the world.

Any views, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed in this article, do not necessarily represent those of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

---

**Hamilton’s Seedy History**

by Erin Aults (with Kat Lucas)

Librarian and Archives Specialist

Royal Botanical Gardens

Burlington, Ontario, Canada

Within the Royal Botanical Garden’s non-living collection is the largest collection of seed and nursery catalogues in Canada. October saw Erin Aults, Librarian and Archives Specialist, along with Christie Brodie and Kat Lucas, two members of the Education department, using this archival material to tell the rich history of the seed industry in Hamilton, Ontario, through a mini-exhibit playfully called *Hamilton’s Seedy History*.

Hamilton is home of one of the oldest of Canada’s seedhouses, John A. Bruce & Co. After Bruce moved to Hamilton from Scotland in 1850, he purchased a seed store and in a few years, John A. Bruce & Co. became the first prominent seed merchant in Hamilton and arguably, Canada. From this store front, Bruce launched downtown Hamilton as a seed industry hotspot.

Hamilton’s seed merchants were connected to each other and the community. Seed companies sold seeds, tools, and other products in downtown Hamilton amongst hotels, cigar shops, furniture stores, and other prominent businesses. While everyone knows that location is vital in marketing and business, one of the surprise discoveries was how centrally located many seedhouses
were within a four block radius in downtown Hamilton. Starting from the 1870s to the 1940s, seedhouses were opening up within blocks of one another, creating both competition and a destination.

Our historical seed catalogues tell us a lot about the past. They illustrate the stability and perseverance of the agriculture and horticulture industries. They tell us about changes in society and the growth of Canada and Canadian identity. Most obviously though, old seed catalogues are a window to the past that allow us to track trends in plant breeding and introductions. Our collection is used in many ways, including historic site research for heirloom plants of a particular era; for tracking the development of some of today's varieties in the search for particular traits; and to better understand the introduction of garden plants that have become invasive species.

*Hamilton’s Seedy History* is on display through November 5th followed by an open house of the catalogue collection on Nov. 6th. RBG hopes to work with interested partners to make this a traveling exhibit. This exhibit is part of a two year program at RBG to preserve and interpret its remarkable heritage and has been supported by the Ontario Trillium Foundation.

Lynn Jacobson Retires from Olbrich Botanical Gardens

By Lynn Jacobson  
Horticulture Librarian  
Schumacher Library  
Olbrich Botanical Gardens  
Madison, WI

My news is that I’m retiring after nearly eighteen years at Olbrich Botanical Gardens.

I have treasured being a tiny part of CBHL and have truly appreciated the skilled mentorship this group has provided me and Schumacher Library. I will miss hearing from you and lurking in on your great advice and creative thinking. I wish the group all the best and I hope I’ll be visiting many of your gardens in the near future.
Biodiversity Heritage Library Updates and Collection Highlights

by Grace Costantino
Outreach and Communication Manager
Biodiversity Heritage Library
Smithsonian Libraries
Washington, DC

Program Highlights

To stay up to date with all the latest news from BHL, join our mailing list http://library.si.edu/bhl-newsletter-signup and follow @BioDivLibrary on social media.

Introducing the New “About BHL” Website

What is BHL’s history? Who’s involved in the Library? What tools and services does BHL offer? You can find the answers to these questions and much more information about the Biodiversity Heritage Library on our new “About BHL” site at about.biodiversitylibrary.org! Learn more: https://blog.biodiversitylibrary.org/2018/09/announcing-the-new-about-bhl-site.html

Thousands of Field Notes Now Available in BHL, Many from CBHL Member Institutions!

In February 2016, BHL set out to digitize over 450,000 pages of field notes. A collaborative project with eleven partners and funded by the Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR) Digitizing Hidden Special Collections initiative, the Field Notes Project is BHL’s largest undertaking of digitizing field notes to date.

Project work wrapped up earlier this year. The results? Over 517,000 pages of field notes have been digitized, including collections from CBHL member institutions such as the LuEsther T. Mertz Library of The New York Botanical Garden, Harvard University Botany Libraries, the Peter H. Raven Library of the Missouri Botanical Garden, and Smithsonian Libraries. Learn more: https://blog.biodiversitylibrary.org/2018/06/field-note-worthy.html

My Experience at the CBHL, EBHL, and Linnaeus Link Annual Meeting

By Bianca Crowley
Digital Collections Manager
Biodiversity Heritage Library
Washington, D.C.

This past summer, I had the privilege of attending a very special meeting hosted by The New York Botanical Garden and the Brooklyn Botanic Garden: a joint event representing the 50th Annual Meeting of The Council on Botanical and Horticultural Libraries (CBHL), the 25th anniversary meeting of the European Botanical and Horticultural Libraries Group (EBHL), and the 22nd annual meeting of Linnaeus Link partners.

With a meeting theme of “Botanical and Horticultural Libraries in the Modern Era: Training and Vision for the Future,” presentations centered around new or revamped digitization projects, implementing electronic access to materials, and initiatives to better integrate library and archival materials into research discovery systems. Additionally, this year CBHL honored the work of Susan Fraser, Director of The LuEsther T. Mertz Library of The New York Botanical Garden, with the Charles Robert Long Award of Extraordinary Merit. Knowing Susan for my nearly ten years with BHL, it was no surprise to see her receive this award for her exemplary leadership and dedication to improving the global, digital, and scholarly impact of the profession. Congratulations, Susan!

Besides providing an opportunity to learn about a variety of fascinating digital collections and projects, a critical purpose of attending this year’s meeting was to network with BHL colleagues from 11 (yes, 11!) of our partner organizations. I had the opportunity to get some face time with colleagues from Botany Libraries/Harvard University, Chicago Botanic Garden, Los Angeles County Arboretum and Botanic Garden, Missouri Botanical Garden, Museum national d’Histoire naturelle, National Agricultural Library, The New York Botanical Garden, and Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, as well as some of our newest Affiliate partners from
the Lloyd Library and Museum, Oak Spring Garden Foundation, and University Library Johann Christian Senckenberg. Indeed CBHL, EBHL, and BHL share much more in common than just our acronyms.

CBHL, EBHL, and Linnaeus Link partners shared information about many digitization projects, many of which contain digital books living separately in their own web spaces. I can’t help but wonder if it would be useful to aggregate these materials under a common access point so that researchers and librarians outside the CBHL/EBHL community could more easily discover them. Could BHL help integrate some of these disparate book collections together? If our shared acronyms are any indicator, this may be an idea worth exploring in the form of deeper collaboration for the future.

Collection Highlight

Labillardiére and the Botany of the Levant

At the end of the 18th century, French naturalist Jacques-Julien Houtton de Labillardiére spent two years exploring and collecting plants in the Levant. The expedition ultimately resulted in the publication of a beautifully-illustrated work on the botany of the region, *Icones plantarum Syriæ rariorum* (“Rare Syrian Plant Images”).

Born in Alençon, a commune in Normandy, France, in 1755, Labillardiére studied medicine in Montpellier, receiving his doctorate in Paris, before turning his interests to natural history (Allorge 2006, 306). Embarking at Marseilles in 1787, Labillardiére was originally destined for southern Turkey until,
upon arriving in Cyprus, he learned that the plague was desolating Antioch (now Antakya) and regions north of Aleppo, so he elected to visit the Holy Land, Lebanon, and Damascus instead. His travels ultimately took him as far north as Mons Cassius near the Turkish-Syrian border (Rix 2012, 67). After nearly two years he returned to France, stopping at Cyprus, Corsica, and Sardinia along the way.

Labillardière arrived back in France in 1789 with a collection of nearly 1,000 dried plants and many living specimens. The living plants were given to André Thouin, head gardener of the King’s Garden, while the dried collections were purchased by Le Monnier, the King’s doctor. Labillardière then set out to publish the results of his expedition (Allorge 2006, 306).

Icones Plantarum Syriæ Rariorum was published in five parts between 1791-1812. Thanks to the Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, Library, Art & Archives, you can explore the entire work for free in the Biodiversity Heritage Library: https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/251345

“Decas Primas” of Icones Plantarum Syriæ Rariorum, issued in 1791, included 22 pages and 10 engraved plates after artwork by the Redouté brothers, Pierre-Joseph and Henri-Joseph. Nicknamed “the Raphael of flowers,” Pierre-Joseph is possibly the most celebrated flower painter in the entire history of botanical art. He published over 2,100 plates depicting over 1,800 species – many of which had never before been illustrated for publication – throughout his career (Tyrrell 2018). Born to a family of Belgian painters, both of Pierre-Joseph’s brothers, Henri-Joseph and Antoine-Ferdinand, also, unsurprisingly, became painters.

After the “Decas Second” was issued in 1791, featuring 18 pages of text and another 10 plates again by the Redouté brothers, Icones Plantarum Syriæ Rariorum experienced a hiatus in publication of nearly two decades as Labillardière embarked on an expedition under Rear Admiral Bruni d’Entrecasteaux in search of the ships La Boussole and L’Astrolabe, which had disappeared several years earlier after leaving Botany Bay, Australia. The voyage provided Labillardière with the opportunity to collect additional botanical specimens in Australia and Tasmania (Allorge 2006, 306).

Having returned to France in 1796, and after being elected to the French Academy in 1800, Labillardière continued classifying the plants from his Levant expedition. “Decas Tertia” of Icones Plantarum Syriæ Rariorum, containing 16 pages and 10 plates, appeared in 1809, followed by “Decas Quatra” and “Decas Quinta et Ultima,” both in 1812 and also consisting of 16 pages and 10 plates each. The plates in the final three parts were engraved after drawings by Pierre-Antoine Poiteau and Pierre Jean François Turpin (ibid., 307).

Published over a 21-year period in five parts and 50 plates, complete copies of Labillardière’s Icones Plantarum Syriæ


*Rariorum* are rare. We are grateful to Kew Gardens for digitizing their copy and ensuring that everyone, everywhere can enjoy this rare treasure through the Biodiversity Heritage Library.

**References**


**Calendar of upcoming events**

Compiled by Rita Hassert, Library Collections Manager, The Morton Arboretum, Lisle, IL


April 7-13, 2019 – National Library Week. [http://www.ala.org/nlw](http://www.ala.org/nlw)


April 29-May 5, 2019 – 100th Anniversary of Children’s Book Week. [http://everychildareader.net/cbw](http://everychildareader.net/cbw)


Check out the CBHL Conference Collaboration Grant Program on page 8!

We (I) have mostly neglected reviewing new titles in the distinguished series “Memoirs of the New York Botanical Garden,” which has been published since 1900, and is well represented in the research collections of CBHL and university libraries. The series’ narrow academic content (in floristics, taxonomy, and systematics) is primarily of interest to equally narrow circles of specialists, and reviews that have appeared are mostly to be found in botanical journals like *Rhodora, Taxon, Systematic Botany,* and *Kew Bulletin.* Historically, NYBG Press published little of interest to the general reader and the familiar dull paper covers of “Memoirs” seemed to shout that message. Recently, however, cover illustrations might be color photographs, even for technical volumes like this year’s *Venezuelan Ruellia (Acanthaceae): A Monograph* (Memoirs, v. 119). And it is not just marketing: The editorial scope seems also to have expanded to include volumes like the nifty *Common Lichens of Northeastern North America: A Field Guide* (Memoirs, v. 112) by Troy McMullin and Frances Anderson. A true field guide, it is aimed at both specialists and non-specialists and fills a demonstrable need in the crowded world of field guides (after all, no one can take more than a few steps carrying Irwin Brodo’s *Lichens of North America*).

RBG Kew has developed its general interest publishing (not always with unqualified success) while maintaining its paramount commitment to scientific publishing. It has won eight CBHL Annual Literature Awards—more than any other publisher—and has been nominated for many more; in contrast, NYBG Press to date has had no award winner, although titles have been nominated occasionally—*The Macrolichens of New England* (Memoirs v. 96) and *Britton’s Botanical Empire: The New York Botanical Garden and American Botany, 1888-1929* (Memoirs, v. 94), for example. It happens that the latter volume was also the first in a new series in botanical history that NYBG has named the Heritage Series. Number two in the series, *Thomas Walter and His Plants: The Life and Works of a Pioneer American Botanist,* was reviewed in CBHL *Newsletter,* no. 147. Number three in the series is *C. G. Pringle* and so we are correcting past neglect.

I have to confess that I was intimidated both by the subject—flora of the Western United States—and what seemed an extraordinary 737 pages devoted to just four years of Pringle’s plant collecting, especially since he is better known for his later Mexican collections. It came as something of a relief to see that just a little over forty percent constitutes the body of the book. The rest includes five appendices of plant specimens collected and distributed by Pringle; notes; repositories, resources, and literature cited; and two indexes (one of people and place names and the other of specimen label and scientific names).

Pringle was a third generation Vermont farmer and a horticulturist who was recognized for his hybrids of wheat, oats, potatoes, and fruit (B. K. Bliss & Sons catalogs featured his award winning ‘Snowflake’ potato). Botanizing in Vermont’s fields, woods, and mountains led him to his life’s passion and he became one of the most gifted, tenacious, and productive field botanists of his time and any other. He distributed an astonishing 500,000 specimens of about 20,000 species, more than 1,200 of which were new to science. And had he collected, as so many did, only what he thought might be new species and genera, he might have had even more credited to him, but the “movement to synthesize broader understandings of biology, geography and the relatedness of things” inspired him to collect widely. As a result his specimens provide invaluable portraits of plant populations as they existed in specific times and places.

Consolidation. Dispersal. Orphaning. We are all too familiar with existential threats to herbaria and libraries. This book would not have been possible without them. Mauz examined Pringle specimens in twenty-four herbaria—most of which are at institutions that are home to CBHL archives and libraries. The specimens Pringle distributed as “Flora of the Pacific Slope” were the starting point for Mauz.
as she traced his travels. He corresponded with and collected for the most prominent botanists of his time—Asa Gray, George Engelmann, Charles Sprague Sargent, Charles Parry, George Davenport among others. Pringle was a modest, reticent, even laconic man who seems to have been deeply averse to self promotion. His letters were descriptively spare (to convey sublime scenery, Mauz uses observations written by other travelers); and he did not keep a diary during the years covered by this volume. Mauz uses hotel receipts, invoices for supplies, deeds, surveys, rail and boat schedules, passenger lists and hotel arrivals published in local newspapers, and more to recreate the day-to-day detail of Pringle’s activities.

Pringle was hired by Sargent, an impatient, “overbearing,” and “exacting master,” to collect logs of western species for the Jesup Collection of North American Woods at the American Museum of Natural History. It involved monumental labor and his contributions account for nearly one-quarter of the total. He seemed to take more pleasure in his labors for Gray and Davenport with whom he maintained long and fruitful relationships. Mauz effectively uses excerpts of correspondence among the botanists to convey the excitement of finding and verifying a new species or genus—not a swashbuckling adventure, but there were rivalries among collectors and Indian troubles to think of.

The words “rare,” “endemic,” “possibly now extinct species,” “type specimen,” “new species,” appear throughout the book as Mauz names the plants Pringle collected. It’s exciting. So why with thousands of new species still described every year, has field botany lost its luster?

There are parallels between this book and one about another great nineteenth century field botanist, Augustine Henry, who was Pringle’s near contemporary. C. G. Pringle is denser and more challenging reading than In the Footsteps of Augustine Henry and his Chinese Plant Collectors by Seamus O’Brien (2012 Annual Literature Award Winner). This is not a travelogue about the historical West for a casual reader, but it should be of great interest to historians, ecologists, environmentalists, and botanists of Western flora.
Woods’s garden tour takes readers over six continents, which is no mean feat in terms of scope. In North America, nine gardens are profiled, including, in California, Sunnylands Center and Gardens, the former winter home of the Annenbergs in Rancho Mirage, and Liu Fang Yuan (The Garden of Flowering Fragrance), Huntington Botanical Garden in San Marino. Also featured are Vallarta Botanical Garden, Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, and the Naples Botanical Garden, Naples, Florida. For Central America and the Caribbean, the two gardens profiled are Los Elementos, Dominical, Costa Rica, and Golden Rock Inn, Nevis, designed by Raymond Jungles. In South America, gardens included are Jardin de Salvias, Mar del Plata, Argentina—where the popular Salvia ‘Amistad’ was developed—and three gardens designed by prolific Chilean architect Juan Grimm—his thrilling private Bahia Azul Garden on the coast of Chile; Los Lagos Park, Montevideo, Uruguay; and San Martin de los Andes, Argentina.

Fourteen gardens are featured in Europe—the best-represented region in the work. These include Quinta da Granja, Miranda do Corvo, Portugal, and Jardins de la Rambla de Sants, a High Line-like elevated garden in Barcelona. In Africa and the Arabian Peninsula, five gardens are featured including A Garden of Shape and Light, Marrakech, Morocco, and The Aloe Farm, Hartbeespoort, near Pretoria, South Africa. In India and Southeast Asia, The Garden of Five Senses, Said-ul-Azaib, Delhi, India and 137 Pillars House, Chiang Mai, Thailand, are two of the five featured gardens. Asia is represented by four gardens including Xi’an Expo Park, Xi’an, China, and Tokachi Millennium Forest, Hokkaido, Japan—the longtime collaboration of Fumiaki Takano and Dan Pearson. And, finally, in Australia and New Zealand there are eight gardens featured, including Geelong Botanic Gardens, Geelong, Australia, and The Australian Garden, Royal Botanic Gardens, Cranbourne, Australia.

My personal favorite, possibly because it is so striking, is landscape architect Kim Wilkie’s earthwork, The Orpheus Project, at Boughton House, the Duke and Duchess of Buccleuch’s seat in Northamptonshire, England. Certainly, different readers will have affinity for different gardens. Regardless of which gardens inspire the most awe in any individual reader, most if not all will feel the tug of wanderlust and the gardenlust to explore many of these new and beautiful landscapes.

Indeed, for those for whom garden visitation is a hobby, Gardenlust is essential reading, and may inspire new trips to different, unexpected corners of the world.
On the Web:
Wine and Viticulture Sites, ORCID, and Tree-Eating Machines
By Stanley Johnston
Mentor, Ohio

As it has in the past, College & Research Library News has again provided us with an article of interest in Michael Denotto’s Wine, Viticulture, and Enology: Resources for Study, https://crln.acrl.org/index.php/crlnews/article/view/17061/18808. Among the sites discussed are: UCDavis’s Foundation Plant Services Grape Registry, http://fps.ucdavis.edu/fgrabout.cfm, with its catalog of its 594 varieties and 2,349 individual selections; Vitis International Variety Catalogue, http://www.vive.de/index.php, a German site providing an encyclopedic database covering around 23,000 cultivars, breeding lines and “Vitis species” existing in grapevine repositories or cited in bibliographies; Cellar Tracker, https://www.cellartracker.com/, a stand-alone website and app which can be used to catalog one’s wine collection; Vivino.com, https://www.vivino.com/, another app which allows the user to scan a wine label or wine list which it will use to provide ratings and offer reviews and average pricing; and finally, Matt Hayes’ article, “New Library Shelves 3,400 Bottles of Wine,” http://news.cornell.edu/stories/2016/05/new-library-shelves-3400-bottles-wine, dealing with the John Wilkinson Family Wine Library at Cornell University in support of its viticulture and enology program.

As usual, the CBHL e-list provided several items of interest. The first item is somewhat bittersweet, coming around the same time as our notice that Bill Musser, who had increased our interest in library seed collections, had lost his job. This is the page of the Community Seed Network, https://www.communityseednetwork.org/, which Ruth Stoner made us aware of.

The subject of ORCID, https://orcid.org/, an organization which provides digital identifiers for researchers so their work may be more easily tracked and verified, had much discussion. It seems like a good idea if you are part of an institution which can afford its membership fees, but it is not altogether clear from its site how to read its records or if the ID can be used with publications not subscribing to it, etc., or if it could not be easily forged. The internet needs identity controls and aids, but I am not sure that this will work that well based on the fictitious sample on the website.

Turning to popular news appearing on the web, there are several fearsome videos of 7 Machines That Eat Trees and Ask For More, https://www.popularmechanics.com/technology/g2289/tree-eating-machines/. This is an older article, but similar to recent ones with a wider variety of machines. It is troubling, to see machines that utterly destroy them in a matter of minutes, since we normally spend so much time trying to conserve trees. Somewhat more redeeming are 8 Amazing Tree Machines, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eTlB7J_wure. These include a palm tree trunk trimmer, tree spades, a tree tier for Christmas trees and nursery stock, and tree cutters and bark strippers. We also have The World’s Largest Natural Flower Garden Opens in Dubai, http://www.flowerweb.com/en/article/169024/Worlds-Largest-Natural-Flower-Garden-Opens-in-Dubai, although the plantings are anything but natural with giant floral topiaries and even a floral town. The 72,000 square meter garden with over 45 million plants is open October through May. Other images of some of its displays may be found on Dubai Miracle Garden New Look in 2018, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LUB26xTTSQg.

Finally, those of you who made it to the Cleveland Annual Meeting might find this article of interest on Remembering Moses Cleaveland Trees, https://www.cmnh.org/mosescleavelandtrees.
Join Us!

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

Name___________________________________________
Title____________________________________________
Institution_______________________________________
Address_________________________________________
City ________________________State________________
ZIP/Postal Code___________________________________
Country_________________________________________
Telephone/Fax___________________________________
E-mail__________________________________________

Student .........................................................$35
Regular .........................................................$55
Retired .........................................................$35
Institutional ......................................................$105
Commercial ....................................................$150

Amount enclosed $__________________

Return to:
Betsy Kruthoffer, CBHL Treasurer
Lloyd Library and Museum
917 Plum St.
Cincinnati, OH 45202

Questions?
Contact CBHL Membership Manager Suzi Teghtmeyer,
suzirt@gmail.com

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

The quarterly Newsletter is sent by mail to all current members of CBHL. Submissions are welcome according to the following schedule: March issue (copy due 1/15), June issue (copy due 4/15), September issue (copy due 7/15), and December issue (copy due 10/15). Publications Committee Chair, Amy Kasameyer, Newsletter Editor/Designer, Susan Eubank, susan.eubank@Arboretum.org, Proofreaders: Staci Catron, SCatron@atlantahistorycenter.com, Jennie Oldfield, JOldfield@atlantahistorycenter.com, and Kathy Allen, kallen@umn.edu.