

MBG Library: A Treasury of Plants

From its beginnings in 1856 as a small collection of horticultural books owned by the Garden's founder Henry Shaw, the Missouri Botanical Garden Library has now grown to more than 200,000 volumes containing a significant portion of the world's accumulated knowledge about plants.

A great deal of credit for assembling the core of the collection goes to Dr. William Trelease, the garden's first director. From his first days as director in 1889, Trelease was convinced of the importance of a great library to the development of the Garden as a whole and was closely involved in its creation. Through the friendship he cultivated with Edward Lewis Sturtevant, we acquired what would be the core of our pre-Linnaean literature collection, or those botany books published before 1750.

A native and lifelong resident of New England, Sturtevant was trained as a physician, although he never practiced. His true calling was in agriculture. Although more widely known for his writings on dairy cattle, he also had an intense fascination with useful and edible plants, culminating in the publication of *Sturtevant's Notes on Edible Plants* in 1919. In support of his interest, he assembled one of the largest collections of early printed books about plants and their uses. In 1892, arrangements were made to ship his entire collection to what he obviously felt would become a great botanical garden and where it would continue to "serve a purpose." When the last of 17 crates arrived, the Garden had received more than 500 books representing one of the greatest pre-Linnaean botany libraries ever assembled.

Trelease continued to build the collection with another significant purchase in 1902 from the European bookseller W. W. Junk. This collection of more than 600 volumes supplemented and filled in the few gaps in the Sturtevant collection. During this period Trelease also developed and published his own botanical library classification system, which was in use here until the 1990s. (Shhh . . . we still have a small part of the collection organized this way!)

A selection of Hexandrian plants, belonging to the natural orders Amaryllidaceae and Lilaceae, from drawings by Mrs. Edward Bury, Liverpool, engraved by R. Havell, published between 1831 and 1834. This image of an amaryllis and butterfly is a hand-colored aquatint from the folio collection of the Missouri Botanical Garden.

Today, the Library is part of MBG's Division of Science and Conservation. Our collection development and overall mission reflect this position within the Garden. Though we do purchase works on gardening and horticulture, our main emphasis is on plant systematics, taxonomy, and floristics. Most gardening and horticulture questions are referred to the Kemper Center for Home Gardening, part of our Horticulture Division.

Our services and noncirculating collection are freely available to everyone, although our primary patrons are Garden staff, botany students, and visiting scientists from around the world. However, we do not actively market our collection or services to Garden members or the general public, and so this group represents only a small fraction of our users.

The Library collections contain more than 200,000 volumes of monographs and journals. About 9,000 volumes are classified as rare books, the earliest dating from 1474. We add about 1,600 volumes of monographs to our collection each year. We have an exchange program trading MBG publications with more than 500 partners worldwide. This, along with our own journal subscriptions, results in about 800 active journal titles being received. We also fulfill more than 800 interlibrary loan requests each year from around the world. We accomplish all of this work with seven full-time and one part-time employees. We also enjoy the help of about 30 volunteers working on shelving, serials check-in, cataloging, and many other tasks. In addition, the grant-funded digitization program employs

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From the President

Leora Siegel
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Greetings, CBHL community,

With the current turbulent economy, it's hard to know how libraries will fare in 2009. Any botanic garden, horticultural society, or university that depends on charitable donations may see a decrease in funding, given the uncertain times faced by donors. Although libraries, information systems, and security are all non-revenue-generating departments in institutions, libraries are often on the top of the hit list in a crunch. At such times, resource sharing—such as we do in CBHL—becomes even more important than ever. Our collective knowledge of our subject and library practices and our willingness to share is truly exceptional!

While operating and materials budgets may see decreases in the upcoming year, library usage may increase. Trends in the library arena point to increased usage in tough economic times, with a ten percent increase tracked in August 2008.* When times are tough, people visit their dependable public libraries

for their information needs. Whether specialized botanical and horticultural libraries such as ours will experience increased demand for services remains to be seen, but I can report that the Lenhardt Library is experiencing increased numbers of visitors over 2007.

Perhaps this is the right time to revise marketing goals or establish new ones and capture new audiences looking for free, fun, and educational resources and services. Members who attended the annual conference in June at Frederick Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park saw techniques for marketing libraries at the top of the agenda. In the Lenhardt Library this winter, our rare book exhibition will focus on children's botanical literature, and we also will host a secondary exhibition featuring children's figurines. Children haven't been the focal point of the library in the recent past, so this will be a new "market" for us.

On another note: No matter your political alliances, we can all agree that this has been a very interesting and dynamic presidential campaign, with many citizens participating in the democratic process. Whatever else we may wish for in the new administration, we can all hope that our next president is an avid supporter of libraries.

Wishing you and your families Happy Holidays.

Best wishes,
Leora

*<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2008/august2008/RettigEconomy.cfm>

Calendar of Upcoming Events

January 23–28, 2009. **Denver.** ALA Midwinter Meeting.

<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/midwinter/home.cfm>

March 12–15, 2009. **Seattle.** Association of College and Research Libraries National Conference. "Pushing the Edge: Explore, Engage, Extend." <http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/events/seattle/seattle.cfm>

April 15–18, 2009. **Indianapolis.** Museums and the Web 2009. <http://www.archimuse.com/mw2009/>

—Rita Hassert, Technical Services Librarian, The Morton Arboretum, Lisle, Illinois

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MBG Library

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seven full-time staff who currently report to the Library. More than 2,500 volumes (more than 1 million page images) of the collection have been digitized and are freely available at <http://www.botanicus.org>.

Our library staff includes a full-time archivist and historian. He oversees about 3,500 linear feet of Garden archives and records. This includes manuscripts dating back to the early 1800s created by Henry Shaw, the founder of Missouri Botanical Garden. The archives contains an extensive collection of photographs, including early glass plate negatives, postcards, and lantern slides. These can be viewed at <http://www.mobot.org/mobot/archives/>. The archives continues to actively document the history of our garden, collecting large amounts of new material each year from every corner of the institution.

We look forward to hosting the CBHL Annual Meeting here in May 2009. Some of you have not visited since the last CBHL Annual Meeting hosted here in 1989. You might notice some changes! The Garden has doubled its staff size



Above and below: The Missouri Botanical Garden Library's main reading room.

from 250 to more than 500. We have added several new theme gardens and satellite sites, including the Litzinger Road Ecology Center, Earthways Center, and the Sachs Butterfly House. The Library and Herbarium moved to a beautiful new custom facility in 1998. One important aspect is the same: Dr. Peter Raven, the Garden's director since 1972, remains at the helm. In 2009 Missouri Botanical Garden will be celebrating its 150th anniversary. We are

particularly happy that our CBHL friends will be joining the party. More on that later.

— Doug Holland, Library Director
The Missouri Botanical Garden Library
Missouri Botanical Garden
St. Louis, Missouri



Down the Garden Path with Reading Maps

Librarians and other book lovers have known all along that nothing quite compares to the pleasures of reading. This may be especially true if listening to the news has you longing for escape. As anxieties about the economy and high gas prices keep people closer to home and more cautious about spending money on entertainment, a good book is undoubtedly the most affordable, energy-efficient getaway around. Although “light” reading is designed specifically for enjoyment, a program of more focused reading has even greater potential to satisfy and delight. And whether delving into the mysteries of the garden or sailing right out of time and place, whole collection readers’ advisory and reading maps are useful and fun tools that can enable your library patrons to find and follow their own book-generated paths of entertainment and discovery.

Everyone is familiar with standard “reads like” lists that promise, “If you like Agatha Christie novels, you’re sure to love. . . .” While these offerings are useful for those readers who are looking for more of the same, the purpose of a whole collection readers’ advisory is to guide the reader who wishes to explore different aspects of a book in greater depth—or as Neal Wyatt says in her book *The Readers’ Advisory Guide to Nonfiction*, “when a title calls for a lingering within its pages, not a different title altogether” (Chicago: American Libraries Association, 2007, page 231).

This concept works very well in botanical and horticultural libraries, particularly those whose collections include works for the general reader. It is easy to see that the enjoyment of a volume of Redouté prints might lead one to books on the garden at Malmaison and from there to an account of a courtier’s life in France. Taking another track, the same book of prints could inspire someone to learn more about antique roses and lead to a title such as Thomas Christopher’s engaging *In Search of Lost Roses*. From there, the reader may seek books about plant exploration: how did a plant from the wilds of China end up in Marie

Antoinette’s garden, anyway? The sumptuous Redouté blooms could even be the motivation to learn proper techniques of rose maintenance. The possibilities are endless.

For those electronically inclined and with some practice in Web design, reading maps are interactive, dynamic pages created to illustrate potential avenues for further exploration. By providing links to other books or topics via the online catalog, and to images, reference resources, sound clips, or other Web sites, these combinations of text and media enhance the reader’s enjoyment of a particular title by providing options for expanded research into related topics or by feeding continued interest in a particular subject. Readers’ maps can branch literally in any direction. They can be limited to works within a single collection or extend throughout the entire library and beyond. They can emphasize one genre or jump between fiction and nonfiction. They can broaden the scope of a work or focus ever closer on one facet.

As tools for collection development, reading maps can be employed to highlight little-used materials, to market important titles, or to reveal areas where resources are thin. They can give long-time employees different and enlightening perspectives on the materials in the library and provide new librarians the chance to learn the collection holistically.

Reading maps can be exciting environments for staff collaboration and community building. They make wonderful student projects or innovative supplements to academic coursework. Once readers have used a well-made map, they may be eager to create reading maps of their own. In this way, each member of the library community has the opportunity to contribute insights gained through their own unique exploration of a book while benefiting from the shared explorations of others.

To learn more about whole collection readers’ advisory, reading maps, and other RA strategies, Neal

Wyatt’s aforementioned book is the resource of choice. A regular columnist in *Library Journal*, Wyatt’s series “Redefining RA” and most notably, her November 1, 2006, article “Reading Maps Remake RA” (pp. 38–42) provides plenty of ideas and enough how-to information to get started.

With a little imagination, the pleasant paths of reading can open enough new vistas of knowledge and delight to fill a few rainy weekends, or may be the genesis of a lifelong passion. In fact, my own investigations of Philadelphia plant explorer and writer William Bartram got me started on the path to librarianship. My reading of his famous *Travels* a few summers ago and subsequent forays into the history and literature of the times sparked a desire to share the wonders of my journey and continue it on a professional level. That same year, I applied to graduate school. You never know where your reading will take you.

— Carol Traveny

Technical Services Librarian
Swedenborg Library
Bryn Athyn College
Bryn Athyn, Pennsylvania



Courtesy of The LuEsther T. Mertz Library of
The New York Botanical Garden.

Book Review

Dodson, Carolyn and William W. Dunmire. *Mountain Wildflowers of the Southern Rockies: Revealing Their Natural History*. Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 2007. 174 pp., illus. (201 color photos, 58 line drawings, and a map). ISBN: 0826342442, ISBN-13: 978-0826342447 (paperback) \$17.95.

CBHL members are proudly aware of their many talented CBHL colleagues. Those who attended the 1999 conference hosted by Carolyn Dodson were fortunate in being led by her on a short wildflower hike in the Manzano Mountains. Carolyn recently co-wrote a convenient guide to selected wildflowers found in the Southern Rockies. It is a pleasure to peruse not only because it gives an insightful glimpse of these colorful natives but also because its elegantly written text is rewarding. The text evidences intimate familiarity with these plants as well as with the ethnobotany and botanical history associated with them.

This reviewer certainly is not an expert on these natives, having only

briefly trekked around the mountains in the Denver area and spent a few days in New Mexico. However, what a joy it would have been to be able to pull this conveniently sized handbook out of my backpack. The text has careful descriptions of 75 species. The art of popular botanical description is of a high standard in this guide. As an example, here is the author's description of *Linum lewisii* (blue flax):

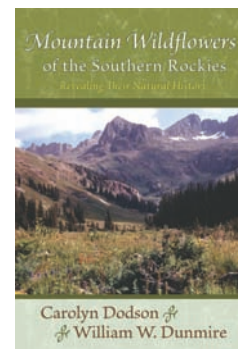
"Sky blue saucer-shaped flowers wave in the breeze on slender, tall stems. Dark veins line the five delicate petals of the inch-wide flowers. The two-foot-tall unbranched stems rising from a woody base bear narrow leaves and a loose flower cluster. Stands of blue flax are splendid morning sights, but by afternoon the delicate petals have fallen, leaving only green sepals on the stems and fallen blue petals on the ground. Blue flax blooms in early summer in dry meadows from the piñon-juniper to the Douglas-fir zone."

Also included for most plants are discussions of botanical history, close relatives, medicinal uses, and much else. One can find brief information on

diverse natural history topics such as synchronized flowering, color vision in bees, colonizing plants, various floral fragrances found in Jacob's ladder, "earth plants," how botanists name plants, and much more. One senses the enjoyment the authors have in sharing their wide expertise and knowledge.

The guide is a model of thoughtful design with clear photographs by the authors and also line drawings. Suggested references, a selected bibliography, and an index are included. *Mountain Wildflowers of the Southern Rockies* belongs in all botanical collections and would make an excellent recommended handbook for those fortunate to visit this broad area.

— Richard T. Isaacson
Former Bibliographer and Head Librarian
Andersen Horticultural Library
University of Minnesota
Chaska, Minnesota



Christie's—Paris Auctions Bessa Paintings and Prints

The Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation (Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania) is currently exhibiting "Pancrace Bessa and the Golden Age of French Botanical Illustration." This French botanical artist and illustrator (1771–1846) created works for some of the leading botanical publications of the 19th century, and regularly exhibited at the Paris Salons. While preparing our exhibit we were contacted by a private collector in France who had in his possession original paintings and prints by Pancrace Bessa, and portraits of the artist (drawings and daguerreotypes), that were found in Bessa's studio (*fond d'atelier*) and passed down through family members. This collector and Christie's—Paris were kind enough to provide additional biographical information and digital images of a portrait and some of the paintings for use in our exhibition. His collection was auctioned by Christie's—Paris on

November 16, 2008, and he asked if we would forward this information to institutions with botanical interests. Contact Christie's—Paris for the results: Capucine Milliot, cmilliot@christies.com, or Carine Decroi cdecroi@christies.com.

Here is the sale information paraphrased in English:

"November 16, 2008, in the sales category of Furniture and Art Objects, a group of oils on paper, drawings, watercolors, and crayon studies on paper found in the studio of the artist Pancrace Bessa will be offered to bidders. These works present a number of sketches and studies of fruits, flowers, and butterflies, which served the artist as collections of models for these painted compositions. In his time, Bessa was the best student of Redouté. His reputation was solidly established among the greatest amateurs of Europe, such as Josephine de Beauharnais. The discovery of his studio is a unique occasion to shed light on his

life and his work in an époque considered the apogee of botanical art and flower painting."

— Charlotte A. Tancin, Librarian
Hunt Institute
for Botanical Documentation
Carnegie Mellon University
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania



Pancrace Bessa, Liserons roses et bleus, pivoines rouges et pieds d'alouettes, oil on canvas. Courtesy of Christie's—Paris.

MEMBERS' NEWS

Members' News West

Tracy Mehlin, I.T. Librarian
Elisabeth C. Miller Library
University of Washington Botanic Garden
Seattle, Washington

Notable Gift

This past summer the Miller Library received a wonderful gift from a long-time professional nature photographer and nature lover, Joy Spurr. Spurr's beautiful images have been published over the years in the *Arboretum Bulletin*, the journal for the Washington Park Arboretum. Her gift included almost 8,000 color slides of plants and more than 1,000 slides of fungi, plus a number of books on fungi. This donation is especially valuable because many of her plant subjects grow in the Washington Park Arboretum and therefore will greatly enhance our Arboretum archive collection.

Miller Memorial Lecture

The 14th annual Elisabeth Carey Miller Memorial Lecture was delivered by landscape architect Kathryn Gustafson to an engaged crowd October 23 at the University of Washington's Meany Hall. Her topic, "Landscape in a Changing Environment," was a discussion of various elements that influence her world-renowned landscape designs. Gustafson spoke of some of her well-known completed projects as well as current projects of her two firms, Gustafson Porter in London and Gustafson Guthrie Nichol in Seattle.

Pacific Connections

At the University of Washington Botanic Garden's Washington Park Arboretum, the first major new garden in about 75 years debuted on September 20. The *Pacific Connections* garden covers twelve acres and represents five eco-geographic regions of countries that border the Pacific Ocean and have a climate similar to our own: China's Mt. Omen; New Zealand's Southern Alps; Australia's Victorian Alps; Chile's Vladimir region; and the western United States' Cascadian region, focusing on the Siskiyou Mountains. More information: http://depts.washington.edu/wpa/pacific_connections.html

Karren Elsbernd, Library Assistant
for Special Collections
California Academy of Sciences Library
San Francisco, California

California Academy of Sciences Reopened

If by chance you missed our worldwide publicity, the California Academy of Sciences has reopened in Golden Gate Park. The library completed its move in June after six months of packing and unpacking. Our 225,000 volumes of books and journals, plus special collections, are now located on compact shelving in a climate-controlled environment. From our new home on the top floor of the Research, Collections, and

Administration building, all of the library desks look out through a wall of glass to a tapestry of green trees lit with alternating fog and sunshine.

Our living roof was already in place and growing when we arrived—two and a half acres of rolling hills planted with California native plants. The 1.7 million plants were specially grown to live on the steep slopes. They are planted in 50,000 coconut husk fiber trays, each 17 inches square, and placed in a grid with gravel walkways. You may now go to the roof platform to view this landscape. Along with visitors, we are also attracting butterflies and birds, and we have bee hives in place.

One of the moving-in thrills was the chance to watch our albino American alligator arrive from Florida and be placed in our replicated Steinhart Aquarium swamp. This time the swamp includes a cypress tree—although fabricated. But we do have the real things too. One of our two domes, which form the roof hills, is filled with plants that give you the experience of the world's rainforests—Costa Rica, Borneo, and Madagascar. The dome is also alive with birds, butterflies, frogs, and bats. As you exit, you are taken below the surface to view the fish of the Amazon-flooded forest. And there is much more, so please plan a visit to our new museum and library.

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

Garden Writers Association Annual Symposium September 19-22, 2008, Portland, Oregon

In an effort to continue expanding our working relationship with garden writers, I attended and presented at the Garden Writers Association meeting in September. What an enlightening experience! I arrived in beautiful Portland on an early morning flight and didn't have to work at all to get to downtown Portland. Their light rail cost \$2.30 for a ride to within a half block of the conference hotel.

My first event was a regional meeting, and I was immediately reminded of our committee meetings at the CBHL conference. My very large region filled a room with about 40 participants, and they discussed ideas for future regional meetings. That day also included a first timers' reception, which was so crowded that each mentor had two first timers to show the ropes. Coincidence partnered me with a fellow Monday morning speaker, Harley Smith, with whom I was able to commiserate on

*Found object
mosaic in Nancy
Goldman's garden
in Portland,
Oregon. Photo by
Kim Taylor,
University of
Florida, Institute
of Food and
Agricultural
Sciences.*





Nancy Goldman's succulent high heels. Photo by Kim Taylor, University of Florida, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences.

our shared nervousness. That first evening started to give me a sense of how the meeting differs from CBHL. The first reception was in an exhibit hall very similar to the American Public Gardens Association (APGA) meeting, but I started to get a sense that there were more people, and this was confirmed after I made my first escape to Powell's Book Store (only ten free light rail stops away) and returned for the Timber Press reception. Wow! I found out later that there were more than 600 participants, more than at any APGA meeting I have attended.

The next day the sessions began after a breakfast with two speakers trying to foresee how garden writing and gardening are changing. My first session was a practical and instantaneously useful session on how to edit and revise your writing. There were twelve tips developed by Barbara Boardman. One that remains in my mind now is to count the number of words in your sentences. They should vary. Sentences of the same length become rhythmless. Another tip challenged us to change all our "to be" verbs to action verbs.

Just like at CBHL and APGA, we had sessions and field trips. What a great profession we are all privileged to be a part of! Our first tours were of wonderful private gardens. Northeast Portland is a very large neighborhood of craftsman homes. Portland is the land of woody plants. The gardens were wonderful places to show them off. I was able to spend extra time at a wonderful garden created by Nancy Goldman. Everywhere you looked there was another delight: high-heeled shoes filled with succulents, marbles atop the garden gate, and beautiful pebble and found-object mosaics. Nancy is also one of

the Hardy Plant Society's Chorus of the Goddess of Flora, and she tempted us with a preview of the most hilarious presentation I've ever seen at any garden-related meeting.

Other memorable sessions included one on blogs. The presenters, two from <http://www.gardenrant.com>, as well as Dee Nash (www.reddirtrambblings.com) and Doug Green (blog.dougsgreengarden.com), talked about how refreshing it is to work without an editor and to be able to choose the subjects they want to write about. They were convinced that some form of online technology similar to blogs will replace the book or newspaper for garden writers. This session was in juxtaposition to one by Neal Maillet, from Timber Press, about the success of small niche publishers. Even a month later I'm still pondering how the future of garden writing will proceed. I am particularly stymied as I lay out my materials for a members' presentation on the library, and wonder how online technology can ever feel as good as caressing and experiencing the spines, pages, and covers of my favorite plant and garden books.

Other tours included Portland public gardens, some estate gardens, famous Oregon nurseries, and a post-conference tour to Sean Hogan's Cistus Nursery (which I had wanted to visit for a long time just to see his agaves). Evening entertainment included an awards banquet at the Portland Zoo, as well as "Plant Nerd night," where the proprietors of six local specialty

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Members' News West

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nurseries brought their wares and teased us with twelve-minute presentations on their favorite new plants. Intermission entertainment was the aforementioned Chorus of the Goddess of Flora, singing popular tunes with the words transformed into plant-related subjects such as "I Only Have Eyes for Yew." Check out Darcy Daniels' blog entry on a previous performance to get the idea. http://bloomtown.typepad.com/bloomtown/chorus_of_the_goddess_flora/index.html.

Monday finally came and I gave my presentation on using a botanical/horticultural librarian to an audience who didn't need to get their plants inspected in order to take them home. I hope I created some new bridges between garden writers and botanical and horticultural librarians. I also hope that CBHL will send a representative to the Garden Writers meeting to continue to build that connection.

Laurie Hannah, Librarian
Cheadle Center for Biodiversity
and Ecological Restoration
University of California
Santa Barbara, California

Cheadle Center to Create Digital Archive of Esau's Plant Anatomy Collection

The Cheadle Center for Biodiversity and Ecological Restoration (CCBER) at the University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB), is pleased to announce it has been awarded a Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grant of \$33,575 from the California State Library. The grant will be used to digitize and publish 400 historical images depicting the life and achievements of world-renowned plant anatomist Katherine Esau and will form the foundation for the Katherine Esau Digital Archive of Plant Anatomy. Once digitized and cataloged, these images, taken from her manuscript collections at CCBER and UCSB's Davidson Library, will be available for research use through the California Digital Library's Web site "Calisphere," designed for K-12 teachers and students. About half the images will depict anatomical views of plant cells from many common vegetables, flowers, and trees, useful for the teaching of plant structure. The rest will illustrate Esau's fieldwork, research, experience at several UC campuses, and scenic views of California and the West from the 1920s on.

Esau (1898-1997) immigrated to the United States after the Russian Revolution and settled in California. With her superior intellect and determination, she found employment in the 1920s in agriculture with the Spreckels Sugar Company in Salinas, where she worked on the development of resistance to curly top virus in sugar beets. After completing her Ph.D. at UC Berkeley in 1932, she was hired at UC Davis and became one of the first women on the faculty. A female pioneer in plant anatomy, Esau was a prodigious researcher and author. Over her 64-year career, she received many awards, including the President's National Medal of Science for her work on plant structure and development.

A multi-year project, the Digital Archive will ultimately serve a variety of audiences, from academic faculty, researchers, and college students needing a particular image of plant tissue to upper elementary and junior high students and their teachers studying plant structure as part of the Grade 7 curriculum. A curated online exhibit on CCBER's Web site also will be part of the Esau Digital Archive. The exhibit will be designed to engage young science students and specifically inspire girls to become scientists by making available biographical materials such as photos, letters, and Esau's autobiography, telling the story of her immigration to California from Russia, and her long career at UC Davis and UCSB. Complementing the digital images will be teacher-designed lesson plans and activities that incorporate the images and are tied to the State framework for science and history. A later phase of the project will be the scanning of hundreds more of Esau's plant anatomy images for the greater academic community worldwide. The 400 images from this first phase and the online exhibit will be launched by September 2009.

The Cheadle Center for Biodiversity and Ecological Restoration, located at Harder Stadium, is a facility engaged in graduate and undergraduate education, biodiversity research, habitat restoration, and public outreach. Part of the Department of Ecology, Evolution, and Marine Science, CCBER owns and curates regionally focused biological collections linked to teaching and research. For more information about CCBER's collections, please visit <http://ccber.lifesci.ucsb.edu>.

Archives Now Online

Thanks to a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services, the manuscript collections of UCSB's Cheadle Center for Biodiversity and Ecological Restoration are now online and available through the Online Archive of California. Over the past year, part-time librarian and archivist Laurie Hannah and two interns processed twelve collections of papers of former faculty and staff in the biological sciences at University of California. Several collections contribute to our strong holdings in plant anatomy, such as those of Katherine Esau, Vernon Cheadle, and Adriance Foster. Others, such as those of C. H. Muller and Raymond Cowles, provide access to the disciplines and research concerns of plant and animal ecology in the mid-20th century. To see a list of finding aids for the collections at CCBER, please visit the Online Archive at <http://www.oac.cdlib.org/institutions/ark:/13030/kt9v19r2dx>.

Harvey R. Brenneise, Head Librarian
Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden Library
Claremont, California

Cataloging Issues

The main focus of the library for the foreseeable future is to resolve outstanding catalog issues. (Among other things, we'd like to know how many titles and volumes we really have!) The most immediate need is to clear the uncataloged/gift backlog and catalog the nearly 1,300 bound journals. Both projects are anticipated to be completed before the end of the calendar year, with the assistance of an additional library school intern from San Jose State University's library program and our wonderful

volunteers. Barcoding the journals may take a little longer! When that is done, we will finish the recon/reclass project, after which we will do a complete inventory (including upgrading to full OCLC MARC records). Next in line will be the unprocessed pamphlets and reprints (using a much more stringent policy than in the past about what to retain).

Policy Development

We are also working on revised collection development policies ("What goes into Special Collections?") as well as policies for reprints and disasters.

Interns

The history program of Claremont Graduate University (which grants the botany degrees hosted at the Garden) has expressed interest in placing interns to do archives work as well as oral history projects.

Integrated Library System

We will be taking fuller advantage of the shared Innovative Interfaces integrated library system (Blais) that we share with Claremont University. We have begun using the serials check-in module to replace the Kardex, and will also implement their circulation system to replace an in-house system.

Interlibrary Loan

Because of our relationship with the Claremont University Consortium and its library and the fact that our book collection does not circulate outside the building, we do not have an official history of interlibrary loans, at least in recent years. (We are listed in OCLC as non-lending.) Now that our serials will be fully cataloged (visible in Blais and OCLC's cataloging system, but not in WorldCat), CBHL libraries might be interested in access to journal articles from us in the future. For the present, please send those requests to my attention or that of Irene Holiman, the library's very capable assistant, and we will provide a scanned PDF copy.

"Cage" No More

The "cage" has been renamed Special Collections and will be inventoried, have more shelving added, and be generally rearranged. Materials that are not rare or archival will be housed elsewhere.

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

Vanishing Orchids: Botanical Illustrations of Rare Orchids

In 2000, our library was the closing site for a beautiful and well-received traveling exhibition of botanical prints from the collection of noted horticultural writer Jack Kramer, based on his book, *Women of Flowers*. The book and the exhibition highlighted unheralded, unrecognized women artists who exquisitely but often anonymously illustrated many Victorian flower books. We were privileged to offer the prints for sale with a portion of the proceeds benefiting the library.



Miltonia spectabilis by Mary Rosenberg (1820–1914)

As many of you know, Jack has written about 100 books on gardening and plants over the years, six of them about orchids, including the 1989 classic *World Wildlife Fund Book of Orchids*, which encouraged the conservation of rare and endangered orchids. He has also been an avid collector of rare books and 18th- and 19th-century prints. His recent book, *A Passion for Orchids: the Most Beautiful Orchid Portraits and their Artists*, is the culmination of these interests. The success of the *Women of Flowers* exhibit inspired Kramer to consider mounting an exhibition depicting orchids in art.

By the 19th-century Victorian period, orchids arriving from foreign lands on British ships bedazzled the population. During this period, great orchid books were published. They were illustrated by outstanding artists who created both botanical illustration and fine art. By the 1890s orchid fever had spread to the general populace, and by the 1950s orchids were a mainstay of the floral trade. The unfortunate result was that indigenous forests were being decimated. In 1973 the Convention of International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) law was enacted to prohibit importation of orchids from foreign lands. As a consequence of this vitally important conservation initiative, which protected orchids in the wild, many species (non-hybridized) orchids have become much less common in

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Leslie Overstreet

Curator of Natural History Rare Books

Smithsonian Institution Libraries

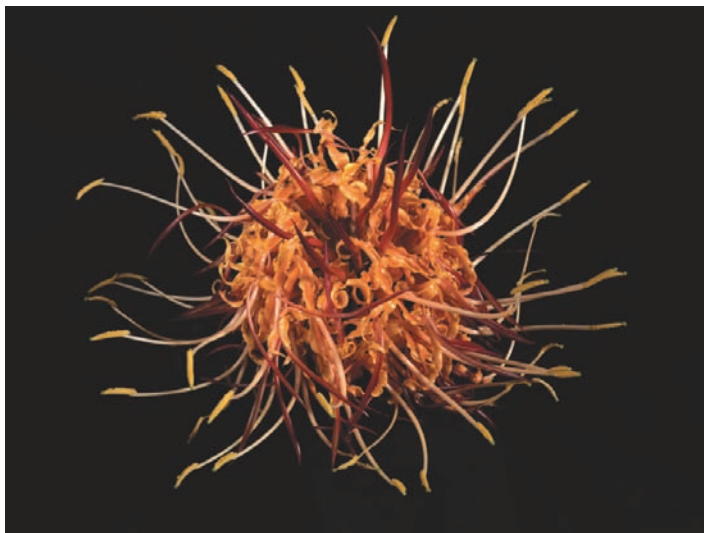
Washington, D.C.

Smithsonian Libraries receives *Botanica Magnifica*

In May of this year Dr. Jonathan Singer donated copy No. 1 of his stunning *Botanica Magnifica* jointly to the Smithsonian's Department of Botany and the Smithsonian Institution Libraries. The double-elephant folio work (29 × 42 inches) consists of 250 full-color digital photographs of plants, many of them dramatic close-ups of anatomical details. It is being produced in an edition limited to ten copies, printed on handmade paper and bound in five volumes, each in full goatskin with a unique design of inlaid decorated leathers. (Elephant and regular folio editions are also available; go to <http://www.botanicamagnifica.com> for more information. Abbeville Press plans to produce a coffee-table version in 2009.)

The photographs are grouped by subject: Orchidaceae, Proteus (plant form), Florilegium (flower form), Zingiberaceae, and Botanicus (rare and endangered plants). These focuses reflect both Dr. Singer's interests and those of the botanists whose cooperation made the project possible: Marc Hachadourian at the New York Botanical Gardens (orchids), and Dr. W. John Kress at the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History (gingers). They gave Singer access to their institutional collections to photograph a wide range of rare and extraordinary plants, and the result is a magnificent union of science and art. The work has been the subject of articles in *ArtNews* 107:5 (May 2008), *Fine Books & Collections* 34 (July/August 2008), and *Silvershotz: The International Journal of Fine Art Photography* 5:2 (2008).

The *Botanica Magnifica* is housed in the Smithsonian Libraries' natural-history rare-book room, the Joseph F. Cullman 3rd Library of Natural History. Fellow CBHLers are invited to see the book if they come to Washington; please let us know in advance by calling 202-633-1184.



Hedychium longicornutum Griff. ex Baker, from *Botanica Magnifica*



Oncidium cosymbephorum Morr

Oncidium cosymbephorum by John Nugent Fitch

cultivation. Jack assembled the *Vanishing Orchid* exhibit, using loose illustrations from his personal collection depicting beautiful orchids now endangered or extinct.

"Here is your chance to see these masterpieces of nature as they originally flourished in their own countries," Kramer says. "I hope you enjoy this exhibit as much as I have enjoyed growing and writing about orchids for forty years."

From October through December 2008, the library is privileged to feature an exhibit of prints of rare and unusual species orchids from Jack's extensive collections. These pieces were previously featured in exhibits at the Naples, Florida, Botanical Garden; the Edison-Ford Winter Estates in Fort Myers, Florida; and Longwood Gardens in Kennett Square, Pennsylvania.

Jack has generously offered the art for sale, with 25 percent of proceeds supporting our Library, at this final venue of the traveling exhibition. The framed and matted pieces of art are available at prices ranging from \$125 to \$350. Our October 7 art reception was scheduled to coincide with the San Francisco Orchid Society (SFOS) monthly meeting. SFOS is a long-time generous donor to the Library, having supported our entire collection of orchid books, periodicals, and binding for more than two decades.

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



Mark Catesby on DVD

Mark Catesby, whose *Natural History of Carolina, Florida and the Bahama Islands* (London, 1731-1743 [sic]) was the first fully illustrated work on the flora and fauna of North America, has been the subject of renewed interest in both art history and natural history circles in recent years. Scholars such as Amy Meyers, director of Yale's Center for British Art, and Henrietta McBurney Ryan, formerly the deputy curator of the Print Room at the Royal Library, Windsor, have contributed greatly to the increased attention being paid to Catesby's work. Along with professional biologists and cultural historians, both women served as consultants to a film project undertaken in 2005 to broaden public awareness of Catesby's significance in the history of the natural sciences.

The hour-long film, titled *The Curious Mister Catesby*, is now available for sale on DVD. Produced by David Elliott, founder of the nonprofit Catesby Commemorative Trust (<http://www.catesbytrust.org>), and directed by Cynthia Neal, a noted filmmaker in the world of nature conservation, the film chronicles Catesby's travels in southeastern North America in the early 18th century, with an emphasis on the natural habitats and native species of plants and animals of the region. Interviewed in the film, among others, are Judith Magee of the Natural History Museum (London) and CBHL member Leslie Overstreet of the Smithsonian Institution Libraries (Washington, D.C.), discussing their libraries' holdings of Catesby's book and related materials. The film premiered at the Royal Society in late 2007; it has been picked up for broadcast by PBS in the United States and is being considered by the BBC in the United Kingdom.

In addition to the film itself, the DVD has bonus music from the soundtrack and a foldout print of Catesby's Blue Grosbeak.

Copies may be ordered through the Catesby Commemorative Trust's secure Web site using a credit card or Paypal. The price is US\$24.95 plus \$3.50 for shipping and handling. For anyone interested in stocking these DVDs in bookstores or gift shops, the Trust also offers a wholesale quantity price on the Web site.

Please mark your calendars!
Deadline for submissions to the next issue of
the CBHL Newsletter is
December 15, 2008

Stephen Sinon, Senior Reference Librarian
& Susan Fraser, Director
The LuEsther T. Mertz Library
New York Botanical Garden
Bronx, New York

Staff Changes at the Mertz Library

Some of you may have been familiar with the Mertz Library's Catalog Librarian, Eun Hee Cho. She was our in house C-J-K specialist and serials cataloger, and has recently left the Mertz Library for a position at the Harvard-Yenching Library. We are currently in the process of interviewing for her replacement.

We are pleased to announce that we have hired a replacement for recently retired long-time Mertz Library staff member Suzanne Chang. As a Catalog Librarian, Suzanne was an integral member of our cataloging department for several decades and has retired to enjoy her grandchildren.

We are fortunate to have found her replacement in the guise of a library volunteer, Yumi Choi. She was a volunteer in the cataloging department for six months prior to her hire as a staff member. Yumi received her M.L.S. from the Pratt Institute in October 2007 and has become the Library's C-J-K resident expert. In addition to performing original cataloging, she is also working on preparing entries in the Wave Hill Catalog of Landscape Records in the United States. This database has been converted to a Web-based platform and will be mounted for searching online in the near future.

The end of October 2008 will mark the retirement of yet another long-time Mertz Library staff member, Rose Meade, our Interlibrary Loan Coordinator. For the past several decades Rose has overseen the Library's ILL operations. While we envision a gap in ILL service beginning in November, we will endeavor to fill this position as soon as possible so that the Mertz Library can continue its role as the largest supplier of ILL requests to CBHL member libraries.

Kevin Nolan has been appointed to the newly created position of Digital Projects Manager at The New York Botanical Garden. Kevin's work experience includes print journalism, Web editing and writing, and traditional and digital librarianship. This includes managing the British Information Services Library in New York. At BIS he was head librarian and supervised a staff of researchers and writers. Most recently, Kevin worked as a digital librarian at Draftfcb, an advertising agency in New York, where he managed projects related to metadata development, digital workflow, archiving, and digital asset management. Kevin has also edited Web sites for two universities. He holds a M.L.S. degree from St. John's University, New York.

Exhibitions

The Fall 2008 exhibition in the LuEsther T. Mertz Library will celebrate the use of *kiku*, the national symbol and royal emblem of Japan, as a versatile visual motif across Japanese art and artifacts through several centuries. "The Chrysanthemum in Japanese Art," an exhibition of imaginative, stylistically intricate, and beautifully rendered representations of the chrysanthemum in many different media, ranging from prints and silks to

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porcelains and lacquers, will be on view from October 18, 2008, to January 11, 2009, in the Library's Rondina and LoFaro Gallery.

Co-curators Dr. Miyeko Murase (Takeo and Itsuko Professor Emerita, Columbia University, and Research Curator at the Metropolitan Museum of Art) and Stephanie Wada (Associate Curator of the Mary and Jackson Burke Foundation) have worked closely with Susan Fraser and Jane Dorfman of the Mertz Library staff to design the exhibition. The art and objects on display will be on loan from exceptional collections of Japanese art from the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Mary and Jackson Burke Foundation, and several private collectors. Among the objects on display will be woodcut prints of Japanese beauties in kimonos decorated with *kiku* motifs; hanging scrolls with watercolor landscapes that incorporate *kiku* among autumn plants and grasses; and folding screens and a wide array of Japanese household treasures, including distinctive ceramic plates, refined lacquer ware, and textile stencils, that demonstrate the ubiquitous use of *kiku* imagery.

A beautifully illustrated catalog will accompany the exhibition. More information on the *kiku* celebration can be found on the Garden's Web site, <http://www.nybg.org/kiku08/>.

Grants

The Mertz Library has been awarded a 2008-2009 New York State Discretionary Grant for the Conservation and Preservation of Library Research Materials. The funding will support the preservation and re-housing of 136 titles (200 volumes) of illustrated botanical folios. The titles are scarcely held in research libraries in the United States. The Garden's match for this project will include the development of a database to manage the project activities; the measurement of the books for which boxes are to be constructed; preparation of bibliographic information for spine labels for the boxes; and performing minor conservation treatment as necessary. This project follows those in the past, part of our continuing, institutionally supported program to conserve and preserve our rich library and archival resources.

The Institute of Museum and Library Services awarded a grant to the Mertz Library to convert the paper-based (analog) citations from the Torrey Index of American Botanical Literature into digital format and parse them into the IABL database, which is a Web-based application accessible from the Mertz Library Web site. The completion of this project will make 110 years of botanical literature citations available in a searchable database. This two-year grant will allow the library to hire a database manager to oversee the project.

Charles Lubrecht, President
Lubrecht & Cramer Ltd.
Port Jervis, New York

52nd J. Cramer Publishing Anniversary Sale

Our partner J. Cramer started botanical reprint and botanical monograph publishing in 1956. From 1956 until 1987 he published more than 2,000 titles. Many of the titles are still in print and in our warehouse. Just like everyone else in CBHL, we are running out of space. We are offering the backlist at a 20

percent discount. Although many of the series are still being published under the imprint J. Cramer, we are offering ISBN 37682 series published from 1956 to 1987. Natural history titles are also included. We will mail a list of the available titles to all members, but if in the interim you need to fill a void, check with us for availability. We continue to supply *Bibliotheca Mycologica*, *Bibliotheca Phycologica*, and *Bibliotheca Lichenologica* with a library discount.

For those who know her: my mother Anne was 97 on Oct. 19 and is still going strong.

Maggie Heran, Director
Lloyd Library and Museum
Cincinnati, Ohio

Lloyd Library and Museum Receives Artist-in-Residence Grant from Ohio Arts Council

Alternative Field Guide
Created by community participants
under the guidance of local artist Kate Kern
Exhibition Dates: September 13 through December 30, 2008

Through a generous grant from the Ohio Arts Council, Lloyd Library and Museum was able to host an Artist-in-Residence program this past July. Guided by local visual artist Kate Kern, Lloyd's choice for Artist-in-Residence, community participants from a variety of local institutions, organizations, and walks of life created marvelous works of art inspired by the Lloyd's collections. These were brought together in a public exhibition inventively titled *Alternative Field Guide* by Kern. The diversity of Lloyd's collections offered a vast array of topics for the artists, who used resources on subjects such as botany, travel and exploration, insects, historical medical treatments, midwifery, shells, mushrooms, horticulture, and pharmacy. The artworks are displayed in Lloyd's Art Gallery and a complementary exhibition of a selection of books used as inspiration, including the name of the participant, the title of their creation, and their artist's statement, are displayed in the Exhibition Alcove.

Shaman by Diane Glos

Diane explored Lloyd's books on folk medicine, then subsequently found illustrations of plants used for various affected body organs, which made her think of shamans and their role as mediums between the visible world and the spiritual world. The shaman performs the function of doctor and healer, relying on both the real and supernatural to effect a cure.





[Not] A Librarian's Knot Garden by Betsy Kruthoffer

In the past, librarians tied card catalog cards together with string in what was known as a "librarian's knot." Betsy remembered this after she had decided to use the English knot garden diagrams in her art project. Her mobile garden incorporates the diagrams, some three-dimensional flower illustrations, and the catalog cards representing the books she used. Although the Lloyd still maintained a card catalog when Betsy went to work there in 1993, and although as a cataloger she contributed a great many cards to it until the Lloyd went online in 1996, she says she never learned how to tie the "librarian's knot."

This exhibit will be the second display of newly created original art to use the Lloyd's scientific collections to demonstrate the natural alliance between the visual arts and science, both of which are about creativity and discovery. The first exhibit was the 2003–2004 *Mining the Lloyd: Book Artists Reveal Secrets and Treasures from the Lloyd Library and Museum*, for which regional and national book artists were invited to explore Lloyd's collections and create a new bookwork inspired by one of the hundreds of thousands of books held by the Library. What makes the *Alternative Field Guide* refreshing and unique is that the creators were self-selected.

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

McLean Library Launches Film Discussion Group

Following on the long-standing success of our book discussion group, we've launched a monthly film discussion group, where we talk about movies in which nature, gardens, or the environment play starring or supporting roles. Here's our 2008-2009 list of films:

- 9/16 *Edward Scissorhands* (1990, Tim Burton, dir., USA)
- 10/21 *The Birds* (1963, Alfred Hitchcock, dir., USA)
- 11/18 *Jean de Florette* (1986, Claude Berri, dir., France)

- 12/16 *Rivers and Tides* (2001, Thomas Riedelsheimer, dir., Ger.)
- 1/20 *Dreams* (1990, Akira Kurosawa, dir., Japan)
- 2/5 *Where Angels Fear to Tread* (book and film discussion)
- 3/17 *The Secret of Roan Inish* (1994, John Sayles, dir., USA)
- 4/21 Two films by Werner Herzog: *Aguirre, the Wrath of God* (1972) and *Where the Green Ants Dream* (1984, Ger.)
- 5/19 Two films about redemption: *The Widow of St. Pierre/La Veuve de Saint-Pierre* (2000, Patrice Leconte, dir., France) and *Greenfingers* (2000, Joel Hirshman, dir., UK/USA)
- 6/4 Combined discussion of *The Tempest* (play) and *Prospero's Books* (1991, Peter Greenaway, dir., UK)

PHS McLean Library Recipient of the IMLS "Connecting to Collections Bookshelf"

This collection is a core set of conservation books, DVDs, and online resources donated by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) and its cooperator, the American Association for State and Local History (AASLH). Three thousand free sets of this bookshelf will be awarded to libraries and museums by the end of 2009.

The McLean Library of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society was awarded this essential set of resources based on an application describing the needs and plans for care of its collections. The IMLS "Connecting to Collections Bookshelf" focuses on collections typically found in history or art museums and in libraries' special collections, with an added selection of texts for zoos, aquaria, public gardens, and nature centers. It addresses such topics as the philosophy and ethics of collecting, collections management and planning, emergency preparedness, and culturally specific conservation issues. The IMLS is particularly interested in getting these bookshelves into smaller institutions; many if not most of CBHL member libraries would qualify. To learn more about this important program, and to apply for your own Bookshelf (application is very easy!) visit <http://www.imls.gov/collections/>.

Sally Williams Hiram, Maine

Sally Williams visits Santa Barbara, California

In July Sally Williams, who retired last year from EBSCO Publishing (which publishes the online Garden, Landscape, Horticulture Index), traveled to Santa Barbara with some college friends. While there she and Laurie Hannah had dinner together. Laurie suggested Sally walk down Garden Street and look at Virginia Gardner's garden. A tour bus driver obligingly made a detour so the group could take a quick peek. That evening Sally's group saw the movie *Mamma Mia*, and who should she meet in the ladies' room afterward but Virginia Gardner! Quite a serendipitous reunion! Although none in the tour group is currently a gardener, they all enjoyed meeting Sally's friend, Virginia Gardner, the gardener on Garden Street.

— Compiled by Shelly Kilroy, Librarian
Peter M. Wege Library
Frederik Meijer Gardens
Grand Rapids, Michigan

CBHL Lite

Book Concept

This is an idea that I've been kicking around for several years, for a new gardening book to be entitled *Gardening with Invasives*. Please feel free to send feedback in any format to me at: david.lane@unh.edu.

The book jacket would have a large picture of a house mostly engulfed by

kudzu (see photo of kudzu growing over trees near Atlanta), with a typical gardener standing in front holding a chain saw and smiling. For this is a book about creating gardens with invasive plants. It's not about weeds in the sense of any plant growing where it is not wanted. These plants are highly desirable in creating exuberant green landscapes.

The book as envisioned will have several chapters. First, a chapter will

introduce the most recommended invasives (Meet the Best), featuring a page or two on each species with that excellent photography using close-ups over a white background we've come to expect of fine gardening books. Then come chapters on history, self-propagation, and dispersal (Free to Everyone); diplomacy (What to Tell the Neighbors); special tools (Chain Saws, Fire, and Plagues of Locusts) to manage your invasives; invasives for cut flowers and animal forage; and educational experiments for the kids (Survival of the Fittest: Kudzu vs. Japanese Honeysuckle vs. Bittersweet or Reed Grass vs. Cattails vs. Purple Loosestrife).

If space is available, some mention could be made of the fact that kudzu has inspired videos, songs, bumper stickers, etc. It's rumored to grow six feet in a single night for instant landscaping effects. A short bibliography should include only the most essential publications, such as the handbook *Wildly Successful Plants* (a real book).

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



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On the Web

Delicious, Bugs, Pest Control, and Medieval Medical Images

Delicious (<http://www.delicious.com>) is a social networking site where individuals can save bookmarks and access and apply tags to them on any computer, and then share them with friends and groups. While it has great potential, it is somewhat unclear if you can have both public and private sets of bookmarks, and whether there is a way to make private bookmarks public or edit a set to produce only a subset that would be available to the public.

Bug Files (<http://www.davesgarden.com/guides/bf>) is a database designed to help gardeners identify the insects and spiders in their gardens. A project of the **Dave's Garden** community, it represents the input of 1,244 gardeners providing data on 5,178 creatures, with 7,591 images and 1,690 comments, as of the day this column was being written. The database is searchable by common and scientific names. The insects are all rated as positive, neutral, or negative, depending on the nature of their interaction with gardeners and their gardens. A visitor curious as to what the scientific names of the insects mean can use the site's **Insectopedia** (<http://www.davesgarden.com/guides/insectopedia>), which translates the Latin elements.

Pests of all kinds and their treatment are the subject of **PestControlRx.com** (<http://www.pestcontrolrx.com>), a somewhat quirky site that gives suggestions on how to handle everything from armadillos to zebra mussels. Just to keep the visitor alert, the site includes dodos on the list of pests. Clicking on the dodos link results in the suggestion that if you have a stuffed dodo, you can get rid of it on eBay.

Poison Ivy and Poison Oak (<http://www.knol.google.com/k/adam-goldstein-md-mph/poison-ivy-and-poison-oak/uOEsEHBD0/s6jyqg#>) provides a good article by Dr. Adam Goldstein on the irritation caused by poisonous plants and treatments for it. Illustrations of the plants would have made the page more useful to the general public.

Leaf ID (<http://www.ag.auburn.edu/hort/landscape/leafid/>) is the Auburn University horticulture department's rather different way to identify leaves through a six-step process of matching a given specimen to online diagrams of apex, margin, base, leaf orientation, shape, and leaf type.

Plant Biology Advice (<http://www.plant-biology.com>) is an uneven site offering useful advice for all who are interested in plants. A Plant Biology Guide is intended to provide articles (which, unfortunately, are more like brief descriptions) on subjects such as leaf senescence, flowering time, phytochromes, and so on. A Garden Flower section has photos of flowers, information on how to grow more than 500 varieties of flowers (although I did not find that number), and the best times to sow their seeds. Plant Molecular Biology aims to provide information on techniques typically used in biology labs, but the links are less

prominent than the ads that surround them. Finally, Plant Biology University Rankings is aimed at helping scientists and students find the colleges and universities with the greatest number of plant biologists on their staffs.

Commercial Green Buildings Made Simple (<http://www.green-buildings.com>) is another addition to the growing list of sites that provide articles on various aspects of green buildings. What differentiates this site is that it encourages people to submit their questions on any aspect of green buildings, and the site's experts will attempt to answer those questions at no cost.

The USDA Plant Hardiness Zone Map (<http://www.usna.usda.gov/Hardzone/ushzmap.html>) has been posted by the United States National Arboretum for handy Web use.

The Index of Medieval Medical Images (<http://www.digital.library.ucla.edu/immi/>) was mounted on the Web in 2004, culminating a project begun by a team working out of UCLA in 1988. It contains 509 images from 13 medieval manuscripts, which can be retrieved through a searchable database. It is of interest to CBHL because it includes early images of plants.

— Stanley Johnston, Curator of Rare Books
The Holden Arboretum
Kirtland, Ohio



Pulmonaria officinalis (Lungwort) 'Erba Rufina' and *Althaea officinalis* (marshmallow) 'Omalco velenosa', from an Italian herbal circa 1500, Vermont University Library at the University of California, Los Angeles, Digital Libraries, Index of Medieval Medical Images

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