

## **NEWSLETTER**

Number 145

May 2017



Screenshot of the upper part of the welcome page for the eBook consortia customers. < http://rpa.ebrary.com/login?url=http://

### eBooks in our Libraries – the First 5 Years

rpa.ebrary.com/ebrary/wilshorticultural/unauthorized >

Janet Evans Associate Director McLean Library Pennsylvania Horticultural Society Philadephia, PA

Five years ago David Sleasman, Liz Fite, and Janet Evans formed a consortium to offer eBooks to our respective constituents at Longwood Gardens, Mt. Cuba Center, and Pennsylvania Horticultural Society. Under David's stellar leadership, we partnered with WiLS (Wisconsin Library Services), a member-driven non-profit that provides services to library organizations and their partners. The very capable WiLS staff worked with us to find a suitable eBook vendor. This was not easy; most vendors deal with large public or university libraries and offer access to eBooks as large collections consisting of a range of topics. We, however, represented a relatively small user base with specialized interests: horticulture and botany, with tangential needs in other areas covered in our collections.

We had our first conference call in October 2012. We spent a year and a half setting up the consortium, finding a vendor and implementing the new platform. By the summer of 2014 we were in business – we had the ability to search, find, read, and download horticultural and botanical eBooks on the eBrary platform. Over the years, more libraries joined the consortium: the Los Angeles County Arboretum and Botanic Garden (Susan Eubank); the Morton Arboretum in Lisle, Illinois (Rita Hassert); and the Denver Botanic Gardens (Allaina Wallace).

So how has offering eBooks to our users affected our library services? For Allaina Wallace, Denver Botanic Garden, eBooks

(Continued on page 4)



Wildflower display at the University and Jepson Herbaria for Cal Day, the campus annual open house. Photographs by the author.

# From the President Amy Kasameyer University and Jepson Herbaria University of California, Berkeley

Thank you all for renewing your CBHL membership this year! I hope many of you will be able to attend the CBHL annual meeting hosted by Kathy Allen at the Andersen Horticultural Library of the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum this June. Kathy has put together a wonderful schedule for us; you can read all the details on the Annual Meeting Libguide: http://cbhl.libguides.com/2017Minnesota.

At the Annual Meeting we will be voting on our new Strategic Plan, the product of many years of dedicated work by the Ad Hoc Strategic Planning Committee. You should have received a copy of the proposed Strategic Plan with your election ballot, please take the time to read it before the meeting. I'm excited that we

will have a new plan to guide our work as we approach our 50th anniversary in 2018.

If you've never attended a CBHL committee meeting, consider checking one out this year! Most of our committees are open to all members; some are restricted as per our by-laws. CBHL Committees will meet on the afternoon of Tuesday, June 6, and the schedule will be posted on the CBHL Annual Meeting Libguide.

Thanks to the Nominating Committee of Kathy Crosby, Nadine Phillips, and Mark Stewart for choosing a fine candidate for our next Second Vice-President. If you would like to serve on the Nominating Committee for next year, please let Donna Herendeen (dherendeen@chicagobotanic.org) know.

This is my final column as President, and I would just like to say that is has been an honor to serve in this role. I've really appreciated working with my board colleagues, CBHL Committee chairs and members, CBHL managers, and CBHL members in general and I'm thankful for all of the work you do on behalf of our organization. Thank you all, and I look forward to seeing you in Chanhassen, MN!

CBHL 49th Annual Meeting
The ABCs of CBHL:
June 6-10, 2017
Featuring the Art,
Books & Collections of AHI

By Kathy Allen, Librarian Andersen Horticultural Library University of Minnesota Landscape Arboretum Chaska, Minnesota

After four weeks of voting, on March 31 the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum was named the winner of the *USA Today* 10 Best Readers' Choice Award as the Best Botanical Garden in the country! Attend CBHL's 49th Annual Meeting to see this spectacular arboretum for yourself.

Visitors to the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, part of the University of Minnesota, enjoy more than 1,200 acres of woods, prairies, and manicured gardens, accessible via 12.5 miles of walkable trails and garden paths. The vast space, divided into 28 named gardens and 45 plant collections, showcases more than 5,000 plant species and varieties. Highlights include a Japanese Garden, the Harrison Sculpture Garden, Wildflower Garden, Home Demonstration Garden, and the new Bee & Pollinator Discovery Center. And, of course, the Andersen



Tashjian Bee & Pollinator Discovery Center + Red Barn. Photograph by Mark Paulson.

Horticultural Library.

Conference speakers include the Arboretum's new director, Peter Moe; David Bedford (AKA Mr. Honeycrisp, Captain Crunch, and the Apple King of Minnesota); David Zlesak, professor and plant breeder extraordinaire; and Mira Nakashima-Yarnall, furniture designer and daughter of master craftsman George Nakashima.

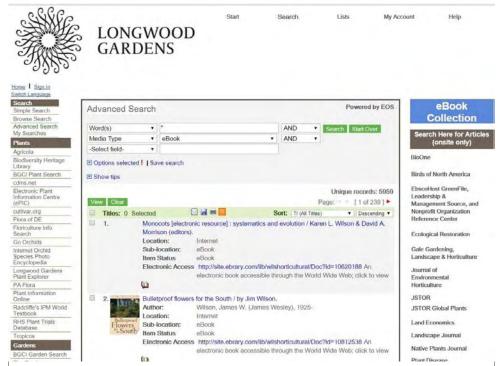
Registration ends May 8! Visit < <a href="http://cbhl.libguides.com/2017Minnesota">http://cbhl.libguides.com/2017Minnesota</a> > now to register and find out more about the conference and the area's attractions. Links on that page will take you to more information about both Andersen Horticultural Library and the University of Minnesota Landscape Arboretum. We look forward to seeing you in Minnesota!

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bring benefits to all, but it is a service with special appeal for seasonal employees: "Seasonal staff can check out 'regular' books and materials but their supervisor has to approve and accept responsibility for lost or not returned items. Ebooks are a great way for [seasonal staff] to have greater access." Allaina's next group to cultivate will be staff working at Denver's remote locations, who don't often get a chance to visit the library. Susan Eubank, Los Angeles County Arboretum & Botanic Garden, promotes eBooks to members as a valuable membership perk. Offering eBooks is "a great additional service for our members and exclusive for them, since they are the only ones with access." She adds, "many customers are impressed when I explain the consortium and how this special subject grouping of eBooks is very unusual in the library world. We are looking forward to better reports in the new version of the eBook platform, so we can see whether being impressed translates into local users." For the Mt.



Longwood Gardens Library & Archives eBook Collection search page. < http://l92006.eos-intl.net/L92006/ opac/search/AdvancedSearch.aspx?

selectField1=KW&txtSearch1=\*&selectBoolean1=AND&selectField2=ME&txtSearch2=eBook

Cuba Center, eBooks constitute the bulk of its book offerings, so offering eBooks to the staff increased their access to reliable information.



Denver Botanic Garden Helen Fowler Library eBook start screen and search page. < http://d90008.eos-intl.net/D90008/OPAC/Search/AdvancedSearch.aspx? TaskCode=362169&TitleListPageSize=20&CatLevel0Value=&CatLevel1Value=&CatL evel2Value=&CatLevel3Value=&CatLevel4Value=>

Early on, we noticed that eBook users do not necessarily download the entire book to their devices (as a reader would with fiction, for example). Users seem to be content in looking at pages online and downloading or printing pages or chapters. This makes sense, as few people read gardening books cover to cover. Gardeners and researchers tend to use the books to look up specific information.

#### eBook Pros:

- Unlike print books, eBooks don't need reshelving; they don't get lost or damaged, and having access to an eBook can mean that we don't replace its lost or damaged print version.
- In reference work, we can easily search the eBooks database and send users appropriate information to meet their needs.
- In collection development, we offer expanded access beyond what we would normally purchase in print – without needing additional shelf space.
- While most people who walk into the PHS library prefer to read print books, they often express interest in the idea of having access to the eBook collection from their desktop or mobile devices, should they need to do research at home or at work.

#### eBook Cons:

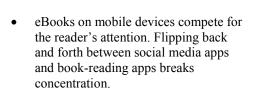
While we do save time in not having to replace lost or damaged print books, we do need to devote time to

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promoting a service that is often invisible to our users. That's an ongoing challenge.

- Many of our users are challenged by logistics including using a password and setting up their devices for eBook downloads. On eBrary, downloading an eBook is a much clunkier experience than downloading an eBook on Amazon, for example.
- Our vendor is not giving us the analytics we want, in order for us to determine where the highest use is coming from. (Who is that user who reads the book about ginseng farming, anyway?) We are looking for better analytics with the upgrades we are told will come soon.
- While eBooks can be more convenient, let's face it it's hard to love an eBook. Many readers prefer holding print books in their hands; there can be an aesthetic or emotional connection to reading print books. In terms of "findability" readers find what they need by using the index, table of contents, or just by flipping through the pages.



Uncover an interesting quote in A Dictionary of Environmental Quotations

Sterling Morton Library at the Morton Arboretum

www.mortonarb.org/visit-explore/sterling-morton-

eBook collection description. < <a href="http://">http://</a>

<u>library/library-collections</u> >

Plants, Ferns and Fern Allies

A recent survey conducted by *Library Journal* "Ebook usage in Academic Libraries 2016" reports that academic libraries continue to add eBooks and





LibGuides pages for eBooks at the McLean Library at the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society (above) < <a href="http://pennhort.libguides.com/eBooks?hs=a">http://pennhort.libguides.com/eBooks?hs=a</a> > and the Arboretum Library at the Los Angeles County Arboretum & Botanic Garden (left) < <a href="http://cbhl.libguides.com/EBooksandHowtoUseThem">http://cbhl.libguides.com/EBooksandHowtoUseThem</a> >

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eBooks are the preferred format for reference materials. However, many students (47%) prefer reading in print format, with 19% preferring eBooks.

Several years ago surveys suggested that people were abandoning print books completely and embracing eBooks. This is not the case. Readers often read both formats and libraries will, at least for the next five years, need to purchase both print books and eBooks.



View of the Botanical Maverick in the West, Marcus E. Jones exhibit at Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden

#### **CBHL Members' West News**

Compiled by Beth Brand Librarian, Schilling Library Desert Botanical Garden Phoenix, Arizona

#### Exhibits & Grant Awards at Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden

Irene Holiman Library Specialist Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden Claremont, California

In 2011, Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden received funding from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to begin The Marcus E. Jones Archival Project, which enabled Garden staff and volunteers to curate and digitize herbarium specimens, photographs, and other archival material from the Jones collection. With the project nearing its final stages, staff wanted to highlight and celebrate the work completed by acknowledging the botanical contributions of Marcus E. Jones. The exhibit, Botanical Maverick in the West, Marcus E. Jones (1852-1934), is divided into four western regions: 1) Utah, 2) Mexico and the Southwest, 3) Montana and the Northwest, 4) California and Nevada, and features photographs, lantern slides, documents, books, and herbarium specimens representing those regions from Jones' collection. The focal point, an oversized map of the western United States, shows the areas from which Jones collected and the approximate number of plants he collected.

The exhibit team consisted of Herbarium Collections Manager Mare Nazaire, Herbarium Workroom Manager Rachel Poutasse, Intern Brandy Watts, Library Volunteer John Bradley, Manager of Communications & Graphic Design David Bryant, and Library Specialist Irene Holiman. To celebrate the exhibit opening, Garden members were invited to a special reception with guided tours of the gallery and library. Each member received a copy of the 1986 biography, *Marcus E. Jones*, written



An Astragalus zionis collected by Marcus Jones in Zion canyon, Utah.



Illustration from Almira Lincoln's Familiar lectures on botany, practical, elementary, and physiological: with an appendix, containing descriptions of the plants of the United States and exotics, &c., for the use of seminaries and private students, 13th ed., rev., and enl., New York: F.J. Huntington & Co., 1841. c1831. Although not his actual copy, Jones credited Lincoln's book, which his mother, Lavinia, owned, with playing a key role in his early interest in botany. A nationally prominent educator, Lincoln emphasized the morally beneficial aspects of nature study, writing "[by] accommodating the vegetable world to our capacities of observation [God] has especially designed it for our investigation and amusement, as well as our sustenance and comfort."

by Dr. Lee W. Lenz, former Executive Director of the garden. *Botanical Maverick* runs through June 30. < <a href="http://www.rsabg.org/garden-events/1132-marcusejones">http://www.rsabg.org/garden-events/1132-marcusejones</a> >

As a non-profit, private institution, funding is always an issue and concern. Archival supplies are expensive, and the library's annual budget never seems to stretch far enough for materials necessary to properly house and preserve our most treasured collections. When we were awarded the National Endowment for the Humanities, Preservation Assistance Grants for Smaller Institutions (PAGs) in 2016, we were thrilled that we could purchase materials needed to house important institutional documents and rare materials in our care. The funding also enabled us to purchase Preservation Environment Monitors recommended in a recent risk assessment report of our archive and special collections. The assessment was funded through the California Preservation Assessment Project (CPAP) in 2014. Recently, we were invited to participate in the NEH web series, 50 States of Preservation. The series highlights small and midsized museums, libraries, historical societies, and other repositories across the country and shows how they are helping to preserve the nation's cultural heritage. < https://www.neh.gov/ divisions/preservation/featured-project/50-states-preservationrancho-santa-ana-botanic-garden-in-claremont-california >



Sam Mitchel's 100th Birthday Year and the 50th Anniversary of the Sam Mitchel Herbarium of Fungi

Kai H. Eldredge, Research Coordinator and Vera Stucky Evenson, Curator Sam Mitchel Herbarium of Fungi Denver Botanic Gardens Denver, Colorado

Dr. D. H. "Sam" Mitchel (1917-1993) founded the Denver Botanic Gardens Herbarium of Fungi. Sam Mitchel was a local physician who started studying fungi as a hobby and ended up collecting over 2,000 specimens and publishing several books and dozens of scientific articles during his lifetime. Dr. Mitchel founded the Colorado Mycological Society, taught mushroom identification classes for years, and as a mushroom poisoning expert established a valuable liaison with the Rocky Mountain Poison Center. Today, the fungal collection at Denver Botanic Gardens is the most diverse, extensive, and well-documented collection of fleshy fungi in the Rocky Mountain region.

In 2009, the Sam Mitchel Endowment was established to support the Sam Mitchel Herbarium of Fungi. On October 15 of that same year, the Denver Botanic Gardens Herbarium of Fungi was officially renamed the Sam Mitchel Herbarium of Fungi. 2017 marks the 100th anniversary of Sam's birthday and the 50th year of the herbarium. Throughout this year we will be celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Sam Mitchel Herbarium of Fungi and Sam's legacy—look for our blog posts and exhibits at the Gardens throughout the year to learn more about this diverse collection. < <a href="https://www.botanicgardens.org/york-street/blog">https://www.botanicgardens.org/york-street/blog</a>>

The deadline for the CBHL Newsletter
August issue is June 30, 2017.
Contact editor, Susan.Eubank@Arboretum.org,
with articles and ideas.

#### Coloring comes to Auraria Library

Gayle Bradbeer Librarian, Auraria Library UC Denver, MSU Denver & CCD Denver, Colorado

Auraria Library is hopping onto the coloring book bandwagon using plates from Retzsch's Outlines to Schiller's Fight with the Dragon by Moritz Retzsch and Friedrich Schiller, London: Prowett, 1825 < <a href="http://digital.auraria.edu/AA00003574/00001">http://digital.auraria.edu/AA00003574/00001</a> >. You can download the coloring book at: < <a href="http://digital.auraria.edu/content/AA/00/00/35/74/00001/">http://digital.auraria.edu/content/AA/00/00/35/74/00001/</a> AA00003574\_00001\_cb.pdf</a> >. We hope to produce more coloring books as we encounter and digitize new and interesting materials.

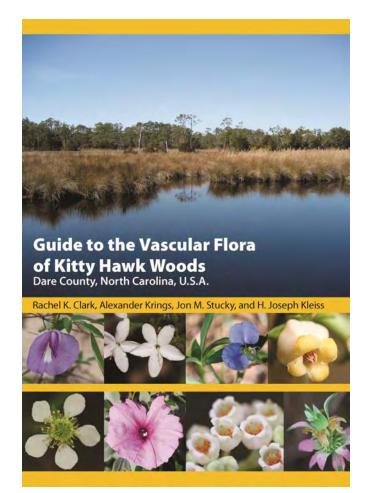


Barney Lipscomb Leonhardt Chair of Texas Botany Botanical Research Institute of Texas Fort Worth, Texas

Guide to the Vascular Flora of Kitty Hawk Woods, Dare County, North Carolina, U.S.A. by Rachel K. Clark, Alexander Krings, Jon M. Stucky, and H. Joseph Kleiss. Published by the Botanical Research Institute of Texas.

Kitty Hawk Woods is a nationally significant natural area and one of 10 reserves composing the North Carolina Coastal Reserves system. Situated on a series of parallel, north-south trending relict beach dunes on Bodie Island, the reserve spans 760 ha (1,878ac) of forested wetlands, sandy wooded ridges, and brackish marshes. Kitty Hawk Woods hosts several globally rare plant communities, including Maritime Deciduous Forest, Maritime Swamp Forest, and Interdunal Ponds. In order to effectively manage and preserve the biodiversity of Kitty Hawk Woods, comprehensive resource inventory and monitoring were identified as top priority management goals in the Kitty Hawk Woods Management Plan. The resulting Guide to the Vascular Flora of Kitty Hawk Woods provides a comprehensive checklist of the flora compiled from the first author's collections, historic collections, and reports of species from the site. The illustrated guide treats 429 species in 110 families. Keys are provided to all vouchered or reported taxa. Habitat, exotic status, flowering and fruiting phenology, abundance, and synonymy are also incorporated. This is the second in a series from the Illustrated Floras of North Carolina Project at the North Carolina State University Vascular Plant Herbarium (NCSC), designed to be useful to both botanical specialists and a more general audience.

To purchase *Guide to the Vascular Flora of Kitty Hawk Woods Dare County, North Carolina, U.S.A.*, visit < <u>brit.org</u> > or call 817-332-4441 ext. 264. The price is \$30.00, plus \$2.50 shipping. ISBN-13: 978-1-889-878-50-8. Publication Date: 31 Dec 2016. Specifications: 7"×10" (soft cover), 208 pp, 409 line drawings and color photographs.



#### **CBHL Members' East News**

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

Betsy Kruthoffer Cataloger Lloyd Library Cincinnati, OH

#### Lloyd Library Hires New Director



The Lloyd Library and Museum announces the appointment of Patricia Van Skaik to the position of Executive Director. With an extensive background in history, special collections, and library management, Ms. Van Skaik comes to the Lloyd Library from the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County, where she served as Manager of the Genealogy and Local History Department. Board President John Brenzel described Van Skaik as "the perfect fit to bridge the

Lloyd's centuries' old collections with a 21st-century audience." By using technology, partnerships, and storytelling, Van Skaik

is known for bringing historical treasures and themes to life. Examples have included: preserving and digitizing the oldest photograph of an American city, The Cincinnati Panorama of 1848; the development of content for the mobile app *The Abolitionist Map of America* for PBS's *American Experience*; and, Digital Brew, a community based collection celebrating Cincinnati's brewing history. She is the recipient of the Hamilton County Recorder's Griffin Yeatman Award for historical preservation, and the Distinguished Presenter Award from RootsTech, a conference devoted to family history and technology.

Considered one of Cincinnati's hidden treasures, The Lloyd Library and Museum was established by three brothers, John Uri, Nelson Ashley, and Curtis Gates Lloyd, who operated a pharmacy and manufactured botanical drugs in Cincinnati beginning in the late 19th century. The library features books, manuscripts, and original art dating back to the 1400s and covers the topics of pharmacy and alternative medicine, botany, scientific history, exploration and travel, and the visual arts. Its collection of botanical works is world-renowned and together with nearly 250,000 volumes provides research materials and inspiration to scientists, historians, artists, gardeners, and members of the natural health movement.

Van Skaik looks forward to expanding outreach and community engagement while continuing to serve the library's dedicated researchers. Her goal is to "put the Lloyd Library on people's radar, so that scholars, artists, and the general public can take full advantage of the tremendous resources available in Cincinnati's own backyard." As an avid gardener herself, she is also excited about getting to know the CBHL community.



Plate 28 Harlequin beetle on a citron of Maria Sybilla Merian's *Metamorphosis insectorum Surinamensium* (Tot Amsterdam: Voor den auteur, woonende in de Kerk-straat, tussen de Leydse en Spiegel-straat, over de Vergulde Arent, alwaar de zelve ook gedrukt en afgezet te bekoomen zyn, als ook by Gerard Valck, op den Dam in de wankende Hond, [1705]), along with artist Jeremy Johnson's recreation of the image using preserved specimens.

# Off the Page Opens March 24, 2017 at the Lloyd Library and Museum

The Lloyd Library and Museum and Meddling with Nature are proud to present *Off the Page*, an exhibition that brings to life the 300-year-old work of Maria Sibylla Merian. Taxidermist Jeremy Johnson combines preserved plants, animals, and insect specimens inspired by Merian's illustrations with engaging behind-the-scenes history about her work. Johnson's three-dimensional replicas accompany original illustrations and books by Merian from the Lloyd's collection.

Considered one of the greatest botanical illustrators, a pioneering woman of science, and the world's first ecologist, Maria Sibylla Merian traveled from the Netherlands to South America in the late 1600s with her daughter to study, collect, and illustrate the native insects and plants as well as their relationship to each other. Noted for her discovery of metamorphosis 150 years before Charles Darwin's theory of evolution, Merian's paintings and engravings also predate John James Audubon's *Birds of America* by 125 years. Once back in the Netherlands, Merian produced a large, illustrated elephant folio of her findings, geared to the common person rather than exclusively for the scientific community.

Coinciding with the 300th anniversary of Maria Sibylla Merian's death, *Off the Page* provides a rare opportunity to view Merian's prints through a new lens that captures her life, challenges, and the state of science in the early 1700s. The exhibit showcases the Lloyd Library's rare collection of her work in conjunction with Meddling with Nature's experience in taxidermy and plant and insect preservation. *Off the Page* is free and open to the public through the summer of 2017.

(Continued on page 10)

(Continued from page 9)



Cypripedium insigne Wall. var. sanderae Hort. Sander [and] Cypripedium x Maudiae Hort

Orchidpalooza: Illustrated Orchid Varieties February 10 -March 26, 2017

Stacy Stoldt
Manager, Library Public
Services
Rare Book Specialist
Lenhardt Library
Chicago Botanic
Garden
Glencoe, IL

Each year's Orchid Show at the Chicago Botanic Garden features something new and dynamic, and each year the Library's Orchid Show exhibition showcases something rare and dynamic.

This year the Lenhardt Library's exhibition *Orchidpalooza*: Illustrated Orchid Varieties featured five unsigned, untitled, unnumbered artist proofs, attributed to English landscape artist, Henry Moon (1857-1905). The proofs were most likely intended for a third series of a collection called Reichenbachia: Orchids Illustrated and Described commissioned by Frederick Sander (1847-1920). Sander's son-in-law Henry Moon was responsible for the 192 chromolithographs published in the monumental twovolume work. This work is notably considered Sander's homage to Heinrich Gustave Reichenbach (1824-90) the "Orchid King," who succeeded John Lindley (1799-1865) the "Father of Orchidology" as the leading orchid authority of the late 1800s. Never before exhibited in the Lenhardt Library, the five botanically accurate orchid chromolithographs include color bars from eight to twelve colors, registration marks and scientific names penciled in the margins or on the verso.

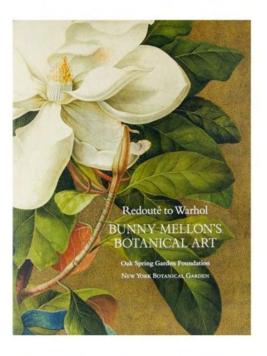
With grant funding from the National Endowment for the



Angraecum eburneum var. superbum

Humanities, these prints have been conserved and digitized, and are freely accessible at the Biodiversity Heritage Library: (BHL) < <a href="http://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/bibliography/123710#/summary">http://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/bibliography/123710#/summary</a> >. Any views, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed by BHL do not necessarily reflect those of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Free talks were held on Tuesday, February 21st, and Sunday, February 26th, in the Lenhardt Library.



Susan M. Fraser Director, LuEsther T. Mertz Library Secretary, Biodiversity Heritage Library New York Botanical Garden Bronx, NY

From October 8, 2016, until February 12, 2017, the New York Botanical Garden was pleased to host the exhibition *Redouté to Warhol: Bunny Mellon's Botanical Art*, which featured masterworks of the botanical art collection belonging to the late Rachel Lambert ("Bunny") Mellon. Curated by Dr. Lucia Tongiorgi Tomasi, Susan Fraser, and Tony Willis, the exhibition comprised nearly 80 important works dating from the 14<sup>th</sup> to the 20<sup>th</sup> century and included art ranging from rare watercolors by renowned botanical artists, such as Jacques Le Moyne de Morgues and Pierre-Joseph Redouté, to 20th-century paintings by Pablo Picasso and Andy Warhol.

Bunny Mellon's long-standing appreciation of botanical art led to the acquisition of some of the most significant works in the history of botany, botanical illustration, and garden and landscape design – not only the most beautiful but also those of the greatest historical and cultural importance. Her library, known as the Oak Spring Garden Library, is located in rural Upperville, Virginia, and is now an important research center operating under the auspices of the Oak Spring Foundation. Its mission is to support and inspire fresh thinking and bold action on the history and future of plants, including the art and culture

of plants, gardens, and landscapes.

A fully illustrated catalog is available for \$20 through the LuEsther T. Mertz Library. Contact Susan Fraser at < <a href="mailto:sfraser@nybg.org">sfraser@nybg.org</a>>.

#### Lenge Hong Project Cataloger/E-Resource Librarian LuEsther T. Mertz Library The New York Botanical Garden Bronx, NY

Lenge Hong joined the staff of the LuEsther T. Mertz Library at New York Botanical Garden as Project Cataloger and E-Resources Librarian in late November 2016. In addition to processing the everyday additions to the Mertz's general and member collections, Lenge is participating in a number of special cataloging projects, particularly the library's NEH-funded initiative to make the papers of influential American botanist

John Torrey (1796-1873) available online through Internet Archive and the Biodiversity Heritage Library.

Lenge comes to NYBG from the New York Historical Society, where she took part in a number of grant-funded projects involving rare book cataloging, archival arrangement and description, and metadata for digitization. In past lives, she has been a commercial film archivist and assistant film editor and worked



on location in the U.K. and the United States. Born and raised in Miami, Florida, with the exception of two years in Los Angeles she has lived in New York City her entire adult life, and she is delighted to be a part of the NYBG.

Lenge holds an MLS from Pratt Institute, an MFA in Creative Writing from The New School for Social Research, and a BFA in Film and Video Production from New York University. She is an avid traveler, birder, photographer, and gardener. A lifelong animal lover with a passion for natural history, she follows developments in primatology, paleontology, marine biology, plant science, and ornithology with particular interest.



#### **CBHL Board of Directors 2016-2017**

Amy Kasameyer, President Librarian/Archivist University and Jepson Herbaria University of California, Berkeley akasameyer@berkeley.edu 510-642-2465

Donna Herendeen, First Vice-President Science Librarian Lenhardt Library Chicago Botanic Garden dherendeen@chicagobotanic.org 847-835-8273

David Sleasman, Second Vice-President Library and Information Services Coordinator Longwood Gardens Library dsleasman@longwoodgardens.org 610-388-5241

Kathy Crosby, Past-President Head Librarian Brooklyn Botanic Garden kcrosby@bbg.org 718-623-7271

Esther Jackson, Secretary Public Services Librarian LuEsther T. Mertz Library New York Botanical Garden ejackson@nybg.org 718-817-8560

Bill Musser, Treasurer Librarian Seed Savers Exchange billm@seedsavers.org 563-387-5622



# Biodiversity Heritage Library News and Collection Highlights

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

I am again excited for this quarterly opportunity to share BHL news and collection highlights with the CBHL community. To stay up to date with all the latest news from BHL, I encourage you to join our mailing list < http://library.si.edu/bhl-newslettersignup> and follow @BioDivLibrary on social media.

Many CBHL members' libraries are active contributors to BHL. You can explore BHL's Members and Affiliates here: < <a href="http://biodivlib.wikispaces.com/BHL+Consortium">http://biodivlib.wikispaces.com/BHL+Consortium</a>>.

#### Report on the 2017 BHL Annual Meeting in Singapore!

On 14-17 March 2017, 24 BHL partner representatives from nine countries gathered in Singapore for the 2017 Biodiversity Heritage Library Annual Meeting, hosted by the National Library Board. NLB organized three exciting venues to host the four meeting days, including the National Library, the Singapore Botanic Gardens, and the Lee Kong Chian Natural History Museum.

Following an opening business session and global meeting on 14 March at the National Library, representatives gathered at the Singapore Botanic Gardens on 15 March for BHL Open Day 2017. The event invited local guests to learn more about BHL and its impact on global science. The program featured speakers from the BHL community and biodiversity-related disciplines, including Dr. Nigel Taylor (Group Director, Singapore Botanic Gardens, National Parks Board) and Professor Peter K.L. Ng (Head, Lee Kong Chian Natural History Museum).

On 16 March, representatives gathered at the Lee Kong Chian Natural History Museum for the BHL Partners Meeting, during

BHL partner representatives at the BHL Annual Meeting in Singapore.

which partners provided project updates and institutional reports for 2016 activities. The meeting concluded with a ceremony honoring BHL volunteers from around the world. The event was live-streamed on Facebook and can still be viewed on YouTube < <a href="https://youtu.be/81K3XOk8LvQ">https://youtu.be/81K3XOk8LvQ</a>>.

BHL Member representatives returned to the National Library on 17 March for the last day of the meeting, including the final business portion and Membership Committee sessions. Highlights included reports from the BHL Program Director (Martin R. Kalfatovic) and Program Manager (Carolyn Sheffield) and a strategic planning session.

During the business portion of the meeting on 17 March, the BHL Members' Council also elected a new Executive Committee: Constance Rinaldo (Ernst Mayr Library, Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University), Chair; Jane Smith (Natural History Museum Library, London), Vice-Chair; Doug Holland (Missouri Botanical Garden, Peter H. Raven Library), Secretary; and Nancy E. Gwinn (Smithsonian Libraries), Immediate Past-Chair.

Officers are elected for two-year terms, and the current committee replaces the previous appointments elected in 2015: Nancy E. Gwinn, Chair; Constance Rinaldo, Vice-Chair; Jane Smith, Secretary.

Additionally, members also voted on the location for the 2018 BHL Annual Meeting, which will be held in Los Angeles, California, and jointly hosted by the Natural History Museum / Los Angeles County and the Los Angeles County Arboretum & Botanic Garden. We look forward to visiting sunny California for our meetings next year!

Visit our blog to learn more about the new BHL Executive Committee < <a href="http://blog.biodiversitylibrary.org/2017/03/bhl-members-council-elects-new.html">http://blog.biodiversitylibrary.org/2017/03/bhl-members-council-elects-new.html</a> >, the BHL Open Day at the Singapore Botanic Gardens < <a href="http://">http://</a>

<u>blog.biodiversitylibrary.org/2017/03/2017-bhl-open-day-at-singapore-botanic.html</u>>, and the 2017 BHL Annual Meeting < <u>http://blog.biodiversitylibrary.org/2017/03/2017-bhl-annual-meetings-hosted-by.html</u>>.



Portrait of Joseph Dalton Hooker. *The Popular Science Monthly*. v. 4 (1873-74). < <a href="http://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/page/19226857">http://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/page/19226857</a> Digitized by University of Toronto – Gerstein Science Information Centre.

# Celebrating Joseph Dalton Hooker with Royal Botanic Gardens. Kew

Sir Joseph Dalton Hooker (1817-1911) was one of the most important botanists of the 19th century and Kew Gardens' most illustrious Director (1865-1885). Over the 94 years of his life, Hooker collected thousands of plant specimens during expeditions to the Antarctic, the Himalayas, Morocco, the Atlas Mountains, Palestine, Syria, and the United States, and identified more than 12,000 new plant species. He not only succeeded his father, William Hooker, as the director of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, serving in this role for two decades, but he was also appointed president of both the British Association for the Advancement of Science and the Royal Society, was made Knight and then Grand Commander of the Star of India, and was awarded the Copley Medal and the Darwin Medal by the Royal Society and the Order of Merit (Griggs 2011, Preface).

The Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew is celebrating the bicentenary of J. D. Hooker's birth this year with a new exhibition and conference. The exhibition, entitled *Joseph Hooker: Putting Plants in their Place*, is on display at the Shirley Sherwood Gallery of Botanical Art from 25 March-17 September and features a selection of Hooker's photographs, journals, and paintings. On 30 June, the anniversary of Hooker's birth, Kew Gardens will also host "The Making of Modern Botany" conference, presenting a program of talks highlighting Hooker's place in the history of science and his continued influence on modern botanical and other scientific research.

The Biodiversity Heritage Library is joining Kew's celebration of J. D. Hooker by participating in the Gardens' #JDHooker2017 social media campaign, which highlights Hooker's life, contributions, and publications. BHL holds a large selection of publications by Joseph Dalton Hooker, many of which are filled with stunning botanical art. During the week following the exhibition's opening on 25 March, BHL shared our

collection of Hooker's books < <a href="http://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/browse/collection/">http://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/browse/collection/</a>
<a href="JosephDaltonHooker">JosephDaltonHooker</a> and our Flickr albums of artworks from the publications < <a href="https://www.flickr.com/photos/biodivlibrary/collections/72157677295099823/">https://www.flickr.com/photos/biodivlibrary/collections/72157677295099823/</a> as part of the Hooker social media campaign. Additionally, the week of 26-30 June, BHL will host a larger campaign in conjunction with the Hooker conference at Kew Gardens. This latter campaign will feature blog articles and social media posts highlighting Hooker's correspondence, unpublished journals, and publications.</a>

We invite you to visit the BHL website to learn more about the Joseph Dalton Hooker celebrations and explore the #JDHooker2017 social media content < <a href="http://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/collection/JosephDaltonHooker">http://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/collection/JosephDaltonHooker</a>>. From the website, you can also browse Hooker's publications, including some of our favorites which are highlighted in the remainder of this article.

#### Select Publications by Joseph Dalton Hooker

In September 1839, the HMS Erebus left Britain on a fouryear scientific voyage to the Antarctic. Joseph Dalton Hooker was appointed by the Admiralty as assistant surgeon on the voyage, and he also requested to be appointed as the expedition's botanist. Amidst his extensive official duties as a naval officer, Hooker also collected botanical specimens from over 1,500 plant species from the Antarctic, New Zealand, and Tasmania (Griggs 2011, 21).



Hooker, Joseph Dalton. *The Botany of the Antarctic Voyage*. v. 2, pt. 2 (1855). Lithograph by William Henry Harvey. < <a href="http://biodiversitylibrary.org/page/15951335">http://biodiversitylibrary.org/page/15951335</a> >. Digitized by Harvard University Botany Libraries.

(Continued on page 14)

(Continued from page 13)

Over the next 20 years, Hooker studied these specimens, ultimately producing six illustrated volumes as *The Botany of the Antarctic Voyage* < <a href="http://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/bibliography/16029">http://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/bibliography/16029</a> >. In all, the volumes, published between 1844-1859, describe about 3,000 species, over 1,000 of which are figured in over 500 plates (Kew 1905, 11). Hooker was himself a talented artist, and his sketches were used by other botanical artists, especially Walter Hood Fitch, to produce the illustrations for his publications. Hooker's time during the Erebus voyage, and subsequent studies of the collected specimens, also aroused a curiosity about plant distribution - a subject that Hooker would devote considerable energy to over the rest of his career (Griggs 2011, 10).

Just four years after returning from his Antarctic voyage, Hooker set out on his second major expedition, this time to India and the Himalayas of Nepal and Tibet. Lasting four years, Hooker collected about 7,000 plant species during the expedition, including 25 new-to-science species of rhododendrons. Hooker regularly sent seeds, dried plants, descriptions, and drawings back to his father, William, at Kew Gardens. Using this material, William revised his son's descriptions and, between 1849-1851, supervised the publication of *The Rhododendrons of Sikkim-Himalaya* < <a href="http://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/bibliography/11178">http://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/bibliography/11178</a> , which included 30 plates portraying 31



Hooker, Joseph Dalton. *The Rhododendrons of Sikkim-Himalaya*. (1849-1851). Drawing by Joseph Dalton Hooker. Lithograph by Walter Hood Fitch. < <a href="http://biodiversitylibrary.org/page/11630685">http://biodiversitylibrary.org/page/11630685</a> >. Digitized by Missouri Botanical Garden.



Hooker, Joseph Dalton. *Illustrations of Himalayan Plants*. (1855). Drawing by Joseph Dalton Hooker. Lithograph by Walter Hood Fitch. < <a href="http://biodiversitylibrary.org/page/620686">http://biodiversitylibrary.org/page/620686</a> >. Digitized by Missouri Botanical Garden.

species (Desmond 1999, 178). Walter Hood Fitch was again hired to produce lithographs for the work based on Joseph's drawings.

The expedition proved to be not only fruitful but also quite eventful, with Hooker finding himself imprisoned for crossing the border into Tibet against the Rajah of Sikkim's orders. At the threat of "severe retribution" from the British Army, Hooker was released, and he spent a further two years exploring the region before returning to England in 1851 (Griggs 2011, 14).

Hooker produced another stunningly illustrated report of Himalayan flora in *Illustrations of Himalayan Plants < http://* www.biodiversitylibrary.org/bibliography/355 >, published in 1855. While in Darjeeling during his Himalayan expedition, Hooker met John Ferguson Cathcart, formerly a judge in the Bengal Civil Service. Cathcart was employing locals to collect plants and Indian artists to draw the specimens. Cathcart asked Hooker to train his artists on scientifically-accurate illustration methods in return for access to the drawings. Following Cathcart's death in 1851, his sister presented approximately 1,000 drawings to Kew, and Hooker used a selection of these as the basis for many illustrations in Illustrations of Himalayan *Plants.* Fitch was once again hired to lithograph the plates for the work, to which Hooker added a selection of his own drawings for inclusion. In total, the work includes 24 plates accompanied by Hooker's own floral descriptions and analyses (Desmond 1999,

182).

If you've enjoyed this brief review of selected J. D. Hooker publications, we encourage you to explore the larger collection in BHL and follow #JDHooker2017 on social media the week of 26 -30 June to learn more about the remarkable Joseph Dalton Hooker. Finally, if you're in the London area, be sure to check out the Hooker exhibition and conference at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Learn more < <a href="http://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/collection/JosephDaltonHooker">http://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/collection/JosephDaltonHooker</a>>.

References

Desmond, Ray. 1999. Sir Joseph Dalton Hooker: Traveller and Plant Collector. Woodbridge: Antique Collectors' Club. Griggs, Pat. 2011. Joseph Hooker: Botanical Trailblazer.

London: Kew Publishing.

Kew Gardens. 1905. *Kew Bulletin*. London: H.M. Stationery Office.

#### Calendar of upcoming events:

May 7-10, 2017. St. Louis. American Alliance of Museums 2017 Annual Meeting & MuseumExpo. < <a href="http://www.aam-us.org/events/annual-meeting">http://www.aam-us.org/events/annual-meeting</a> >

June 6-10, 2017. Chaska, MN. CBHL 49th Annual Meeting. < http://www.cbhl.net >

June 16-20, 2017. Phoenix. SLA 2017 Annual Conference. < http://www.sla.org >

June 19-23, 2017. Hamilton, ON. APGA 2017 Conference. < <a href="http://www.publicgardens.org">http://www.publicgardens.org</a> >

June 22-27, 2017. Chicago. ALA Annual Meeting. < <a href="http://www.ala.org">http://www.ala.org</a> >

June 24-28, 2017. Fort Worth. Botany 2017. < <a href="http://www.botanyconference.org">http://www.botanyconference.org</a> >

June 25-July1, 2017. Asheville. Guild of Natural Science Illustrators Conference & Annual Meeting. < http://www.gnsi.org >

June 26-30, 2017. Geneva, Switzerland. Botanic Gardens Conservation International. 6<sup>th</sup> Global Botanic Garden Congress. "Botanic Gardens in Society: Visions for the Future" < <a href="http://www.6gbgc.org/">http://www.6gbgc.org/</a>>

June 28-30, 2017. Geneva, Switzerland. EBHL Annual Meeting. < <a href="http://www.ville-ge.ch/cjb/EBHL2017.php">http://www.ville-ge.ch/cjb/EBHL2017.php</a>>

July 1, 2017. Geneva, Switzerland. Linnaeus Link Partners Meeting.

July 23-29, 2017. Portland, OR. SAA Annual Meeting. < <a href="http://www.archivists.org">http://www.archivists.org</a> >

August 4-7, 2017. Buffalo. GWA: the Association of Garden Communicators Annual Conference & Expo. < <a href="https://gardenwriters.org/Annual-Conference-Expo-2017">https://gardenwriters.org/Annual-Conference-Expo-2017</a> >

-Rita Hassert, Library Collections Manager, The Morton Arboretum, Lisle, Illinois

## **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.

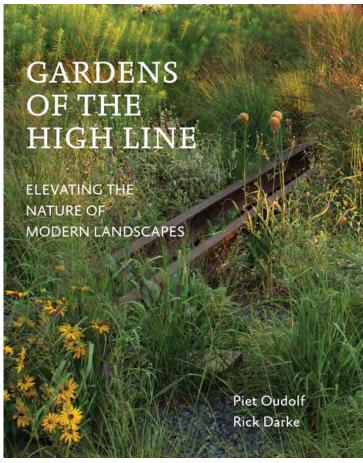
Please give the Board one month prior to the registration deadline for the conference to make a decision about the grant. Funding will be awarded based on the amount of funds made available by the Board during that particular fiscal year.

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

## **Book Reviews**

Patricia Jonas, Book Review Editor New York. New York

Gardens of the High Line: Elevating the Nature of Modern Landscapes by Piet Oudolf and Rick Darke. Portland: Timber Press, 2017. 320 pages, 400 color photos. Paperback, \$40.00. ISBN: 9781604696998



The High Line has generated a lot of publishing. In the past six years we have had the founders' story (High Line: The Inside Story of New York City's Park in the Sky by Joshua David and Robert Hammond, Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2011); the definitive guidebook (On the High Line: Exploring America's Most Original Urban Park, by Annik La Farge, Thames and Hudson, rev. ed. 2014); and the design team's comprehensive chronicle (The High Line: Foreseen, Unforeseen by James Corner Field Operations and Diller Scofidio + Renfro, Phaidon Press, 2015). These volumes should be in all libraries with urban parks, city planning, and landscape architecture collections. Although less pertinent to libraries beyond the New York area, there are pamphlets and Friends of the High Line publications,

like Designing the High Line: Gansevoort Street to 30th Street, 2008. There is also Walking the High Line by Joel Sternfeld with essays by Adam Gopnik and John Stilgoe (Göttingen: Steidl; [New York]: Pace/MacGill Gallery, 2001). It is the book whose images helped build public support for the creative reuse of the rail line as an elevated park that now attracts eight million visitors annually. Could there possibly be any more vital books about the High Line yet to be published?

Well, yes. Gardens of the High Line is the icing on all of this publishing and the only book to focus exclusively on the famous park's planting design and the plants. The authors, Piet Oudolf (pronounced Owdolf, by the way) and Rick Darke, are very familiar to CBHL, and their numerous books, principally published by Timber Press, are certainly well represented in our collections. On the evidence of their previous work, one would expect sublime photographs from Oudolf and Darke: both can be spotted on the High Line with their cameras in all seasons and at all times of day, so it will not be a surprise that there is hardly a quintessential moment in the gardens that is not captured by one or the other of them. Considering how photogenic the High Line is, there are some puzzling inclusions. For example, several of the nighttime images are not as "beautifully provocative" or as readable if you haven't been there. And when there are many similar images, why use one of *Ilex* verticillata so covered last year by powdery mildew that the leaves appeared to have a bloom? (I should say here that my review is not based on the final book, but on a PDF supplied by Timber Press before publication.)

There is another collaborator to be credited: the book designer and graphic artist Lorraine Ferguson, who was responsible for the jazzy, saturated-color look of La Farge's On the High Line. As art director, Ferguson clearly had a star role in achieving this book's fluidity and visual integrity. She is also most likely responsible for sequencing the book's 400 photographs to echo the narrative flow experienced by the observant and engaged walker on the High Line. Photographs were taken from every possible vantage point: views looking up to the High Line from gritty urban streets, walker's-eye views of the park, bee'seye ground-level views of plants (I can testify that there are ground nesting bees, having accidentally disturbed them on the Northern Spur), and dramatic bird's-eye views from above the High Line. Few of us will ever experience bird's-eye views from private

spaces, but the extensive terraces of the new Renzo Piano-designed home of the Whitney Museum of American Art at the south end offer the public stunning views of the Gansevoort Woodland and the quiet transitional space to the Washington Grasslands. The book is organized (like On the High Line) as an immersive walk from south to north through diverse plant communities—from woodland to grassland and thicket to wildflower meadow—with the iconic New York City landscape beyond. There are thirteen chapters, each corresponding to a garden zone that is an evocative representation of a landscape type. Primarily a visual portrait (text is perhaps no more than twenty percent of the whole), each section begins with a page or two of text that eloquently lays out associated design principles, ecological forces, and horticultural realities at play. These thirteen sections are "augmented by chapters devoted to the gardens' care, habitat value, and seasonality, titled 'Cutback,' 'Gardening,' 'Life Line,' and 'Seasons'." Considering the importance of seasonal change to Oudolf's designs, it seems appropriate that "Seasons" be the closing chapter and that he have the last word with this quote: "For me, garden design is not just about plants, it is about emotion, atmosphere, a sense of contemplation. You try to move people with what you do. That is the big part. A garden isn't a landscape painting that you look at, but a dynamic process that's always changing. You must keep in touch with it all of the time." And he does keep in touch with the High Line's gardens: visiting often, analyzing successes and failures, adjusting his vision, and assessing evolving realities with the gardeners, who are there "all of the time "

The section "Gardening" puts the spotlight on "a different breed of gardeners" and counters the persistent trope of the low-maintenance naturalistic garden: it takes diligence, skill and creativity to garden a landscape that remains "perpetually unfinished, sustaining emergent growth and change over time." The authors make a case for using the word "gardening" rather than "maintenance," which they believe implies the authority of a static design. They write about the Interim Walkway in the Rail Yards section that, "Ostensibly this area is not gardened: it isn't planted, weeded or watered but is instead left to evolve without deliberate intervention." Not quite. Before this area opened to the public, a team (which included me) removed masses of oriental bittersweet from this semi-preserved section of ruderal vegetation. So, there was "deliberate intervention," and there will

probably be again to control the newly vigorous Callery pear as well as the bittersweet.

All of Oudolf's books have been written with likeminded collaborators—with the prolific and influential Noel Kingsbury for five titles between 1999 and 2015: with the late Henk Gerritsen, bad boy philosopher of the Dutch Wave, for two titles in 2000 and 2003; with Michael King for one title (on grasses) in 1998; and now with Rick Darke for the current title. Kingsbury has been Oudolf's primary interpreter and promoter. but Darke is also an ideal collaborator. He shares Oudolf's love of grasses (The Color Encyclopedia of Ornamental Grasses, Timber Press, 1999, vastly expanded and updated as The Encyclopedia of Grasses for Livable Landscapes in 2007) and has previously articulated his vision of a new garden type—dynamic, welcoming to spontaneous vegetation and shaped by ecological forces (The American Woodland Garden, Timber Press, 2003; The Living Landscape with Doug Tallamy, Timber Press, 2014).

Oudolf creates the art and mostly leaves the interpretation to others. I have tried to see through the "we" of the title page and separate his voice from his coauthor's, but I think I mostly hear Darke's voice, as in: "Oudolf decided to adapt matrix design to the High Line on a grand scale. The result is a series of gardens that appear spontaneous and dynamic because, to a great extent, they are. The design ethic is to combine locally adapted, mutually compatible long-lived plants in layered associations that draw from wild communities but don't attempt to replicate them literally. This approach anticipates and encourages some amount of naturalization. It ensures the gardens and their plantings will evolve, incrementally, as the relative strengths of different species shift in response to changing conditions." Perfect. And I love Darke's voice, but—having felt that Oudolf's voice had been increasingly lost in Kingsbury's—I had hoped to hear it foregrounded this time out.

There is no more enthusiastic booster or better spokesperson for the High Line than co-founder Robert Hammond, who has written the Introduction, but he gets a few things wrong: The High Line is not "wilderness" or "wilderness in the city" and it is not strictly a "botanical garden suspended over city streets" or a "botanic garden" (a copy editor could have imposed consistency here and also suggested to Hammond that he use public garden or park). Considering how many of our botanical gardens are landscape innovators, many of you will cringe, as I

(Continued on page 18)



Big Leaf Magnolia taken from *Gardens of the High Line*© Copyright 2017 by Piet Oudolf & Rick Darke. Published by Timber Press, Portland, OR. Used by permission of the publisher. All rights reserved.

did, at his unfortunate phrase, "sterile botanical garden." Stubbornly perhaps, I still believe that it is the scientific mission that classically distinguishes a botanical garden from a public garden or park. Granting that I might be too sensitive to Hammond's broad use of "botanical," his use of "wilderness" four times in four pages —and the word is used nowhere else in the book—contradicts the efforts of most writers and practitioners, including Rick Darke, to clarify "wild" vs. "wilderness" in the popular imagination. In fact, Darke devoted a chapter to it in his expanded edition of William Robinson's *The Wild* Garden (Timber Press, 2009). In that book he twice quotes Robinson, writing in 1881, "There has been some misunderstanding as to the term 'Wild Garden.' It has nothing to do with the old idea of the 'Wilderness'."

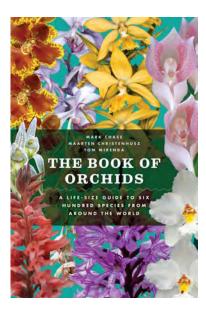
But, as Darke points out, "More than a century later, we still often confuse wildness and wilderness, and this confusion clouds our vision of what is truly ecological and what is genuinely sustainable." There remains some argument about whether wilderness, beyond its legal definition, exists anywhere; if it does, it is certainly not on top of an industrial artifact in the middle of one of the most densely populated cities in the world. Wildness can still be found in Manhattan, but not wilderness.

Finally, a word about nomenclature. Again. So long after even nurseries and growers, who are so notoriously resistant to reclassification, have stopped dragging their feet and have listed—as the High Line itself does—our favorite native asters as Symphyotrichum, Eurybia, Doellingeria, etc., it is not acceptable for a book like this from a publisher like Timber to persist in using old names—and not just for asters, I should add. It is most confusing for those least versed in plant

names: how are they to know when they shop for plants that the *Aster cordifolius* they admire (identified as such in a caption on the first page of the preface) is *Symphyotrichum cordifolium*? Given how prevalent a part of the High Line flora asters are, the error is repeated dozens of times and in only one instance is the correct name given: "*Aster oblongifolius*, or *Symphyotrichum oblongifolium* according to recent reclassification." Recent?

Despite my concerns, I recommend this book for all CBHL collections and believe the authors have accomplished what they hoped for the book: that it "will serve as a beautiful memory of a great place, as guide to the infinite opportunities it presents to practice the art of observation and as an inspiration to all who, publicly or privately, seek to elevate the nature of modern landscapes."

Have you renewed your CBHL membership?
Renew online at < <a href="https://cbhl.wufoo.com/forms/cbhl-membership-form-2017/">https://cbhl.wufoo.com/forms/cbhl-membership-form-2017/</a> > or use the form printed on the back cover of this newsletter. Current memberships can be seen at < <a href="http://cbhl.libguides.com/2016">http://cbhl.libguides.com/2016</a> > Questions? Contact Suzi Teghtmeyer, CBHL Membership Manager < suzirt@gmail.com >



The Book of Orchids: A Life-Size Guide to Six Hundred Species from Around the World by Mark Chase, Maarten Christenhusz, and Tom Mirenda. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2017. 656 pages, 2,400 color plates. Cloth, \$55.00. ISBN: 9780226224527

Six hundred species would be a significant number in most families, but not in the orchid and daisy families. Considering the orchid family's enormous size—26,000 species according to the introduction to The Book of Orchids or over 28,000 according to the jacket's front flap or 27,801 according to The Plant List (hard to keep up)—it seems sensible for most books on orchids to narrow the subject by subfamily, genus, or geographic range. So, for example, The Slipper Orchids of Vietnam by Leonid Averyanov, Phillip Cribb, Phan Ke Loc, and Nguyen Tien Hiep, illustrated by Carol Woodin, and Ireland's Wild Orchids: A Field Guide by Brendan Sayers and Susan Sex—both CBHL Annual Literature Award winners. This ambitious book (that is how co-author Tom Mirenda describes it) takes a different approach. In its 656 pages, all five orchid subfamilies are represented: Apostasioideae with just two species, Vanilloideae and Cypripedioideae with eleven species each, Orchidoideae with 132 species, and Epidendroideae with 444 species. There are no hybrids. There is no advice on home cultivation. The authors are the formidable Mark Chase, co-editor with Alec Pridgeon and Phillip Cribb of Genera Orchidacearum and a Kew scientist internationally recognized for his research in the phylogenetics and evolution of Orchidaceae; Maarten Christenhusz, deputy editor of the Botanical Journal of the Linnean Society and a botanist who—oddly for this project—specializes in pteridophytes; and Tom Mirenda, who is the May 2017 19

Smithsonian Gardens' orchid collection specialist and a columnist for the American Orchid Society's Orchids.

The book is designed in the uncluttered Phillips and Rix style: each orchid is given a single full-page treatment featuring an actual-size photograph of the flower or inflorescence, with enlargements of small flowers as necessary to highlight key features. The photographs are excellent, but looking at hundreds of face-front orchid photographs with dropped-outbackgrounds can feel a bit like looking at passport photos. Each entry has two paragraphs of text in easyto-understand common language that concisely cover subjects like pollinators and pollination strategy, morphology, ecology, and history and etymology of the common name. Seeing so many orchids on facing pages underscores the family's astonishing diversity. A Partridge in the Grass Orchid (*Dryadella edwallii*) faces a Burdock Orchid (Echinosepala stonei) and, although they share a tribe and sub tribe, their appearance is so different; it is hard to believe it.

In the upper third of each page there is a two-inch wide, dark gray world map, a two-column, seven-line table, a title banner with botanical and common names, author name and year of publication, flower size, plant size, and an illustration of the whole plant—the latter being printed so faintly and reduced so radically that they are almost entirely inadequate. The distribution of each orchid is indicated in yellow on the map, which is mostly clear, but a very narrow native range can be the size of a pin-prick on the map and thus difficult to see. The small table next to the map lists the subfamily, tribe and subtribe, native range, habitat, type and placement, conservation status, and flowering time. Despite some of the legibility issues, the book is clear overall and handsomely designed and produced by Ivy Press in England.

Front-of-the-book material is introductory level and includes "Orchid evolution," "Pollination," "Symbiotic relationships," "Threats to wild orchids," and "Orchidelirium." Back-of-the-book materials include a glossary, "Classification of the Orchidaceae," resources, index of common names, and index of scientific names.

Although it may be convenient for the specialist to have so many orchids—especially the rare and recently named ones—illustrated in one handy volume, the greater appeal of this addition to the vast literature will be to the orchid enthusiast who will delight in such an impressive celebration of the orchid family.

#### On the Web:

# Some Biographical Resources on Women Who Have Contributed to American Gardening, the United States Drought Monitor, and the Holotypic Occlupanid Research Group

By Stanley Johnston Mentor, Ohio

As is often the case, this column begins with a discussion begun on the e-list, in this case Robin Everly's query about American women gardeners and landscape architects on behalf of Stefan White. As Robin notes, a major book on the subject is Thaisa Way's *Unbounded Practice: Women and Landscape Architecture in the Early Twentieth Century* (Charlottesville: University of Virginia Press, 2009). Thaisa Way < <a href="www.thaisaway.com/">www.thaisaway.com/</a> > is a professor at the University of Washington and director of its Urban@UW program. Her introductory web page includes a handy list of websites of American organizations of landscape historians and landscape architectural historians as well as a list of sites for regionally based groups that focus on education, outreach, and preservation practice in the area. Another example of her work can be found in the PBS series, 10 Parks that Changed America <

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Agave chisosensis C.H. Mull. type specimen from the Smithsonian Museum's United States National Herbarium. According to the label it was collected by O.E. Sperry, Barton Warnock and W.B. McDougall in the Basin of the Chisos Mountains on July 13, 1937, before the land became Big Bend National Park in Texas. This species is now considered a hybrid. © Smithsonian Institution. Courtesy of the Smithson Institution Department of Botany.

www.pbs.org/program/ten-that-changed-america/10-parks-changed-america/>, which is viewable online.

Another group not noted by Professor Way is the Cultural Landscape Foundation < <u>tclf.org/</u>> which has search engines for both people and places. A Google search for some of the names cited in the e-list discussion led to a handsome blog article on Jane Colden, Botanist, New York <

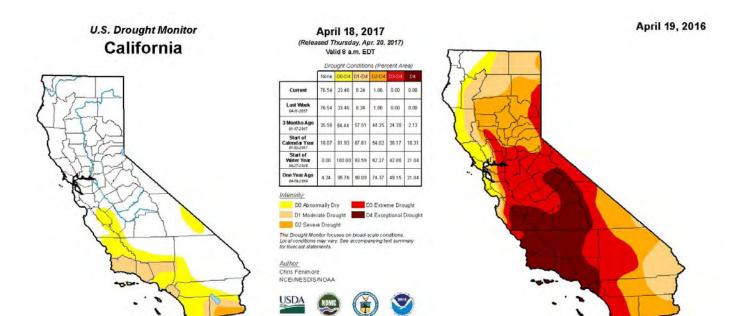
<u>womenandthegarden.blogspot.com/2011/03/jane-colden-botanist-new-york.html</u> >. It is part of a series handsomely illustrated and well written pieces in a blog on Women and the Garden <

<u>womenandthegarden.blogspot.com/</u> > written by a Canadian gardener who chooses to identify herself as just Patty.

One of the Canadian women mentioned in the discussion that ensued is Isabella Preston < <a href="https://www.uoguelph.ca/oac/140faces/isabella-preston">www.uoguelph.ca/oac/140faces/isabella-preston</a> >, an English-born breeder of lilies who taught at the University of Guelph, which Ontario Agricultural College provided this page along with those on others who worked there. Another article appears in The Canadian Encyclopedia <

www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/isabella-preston/>, a source which might not come to mind to those of us in the United States. Although this is just a sampling of the information available on some of the women under discussion, it should be noted that most have Wikipedia articles and some have the full text of some of their books available online via the freely available Project Gutenberg or the more restrictive JSTOR.

Robin Everly also called our attention to "This is How You Photograph a Million Dead Plants without Losing Your Mind" < <a href="https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/speaking-of-science/wp/2017/02/08/this-is-how-you-photograph-a-million-dead-plants-without-losing-your-mind/?utm\_term=.a9a7e212b29a">https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/speaking-of-science/wp/2017/02/08/this-is-how-you-photograph-a-million-dead-plants-without-losing-your-mind/?utm\_term=.a9a7e212b29a</a> , a Washington Post article by Sarah Kaplan discussing the digitization of the Smithsonian's Museum of Natural History herbarium by three young scientists.



The U.S. Drought Monitor record of California's journey away from Exceptional Drought in a one year time period.

Turning from dried plants to parched earth, Susan Eubank mentioned The United States Drought Monitor < <u>droughtmonitor.unl.edu/Home.aspx</u> > provided by the National Drought Mitigation Center in Lincoln, NE, where you can check on drought conditions around the United States.

While this winter's rains may have alleviated much of the drought in the country, nothing has so far solved the loss of the nation's chestnut trees lamented in Heather Gilligan's "There Used to 4 Billion American Chestnut Trees, but They All Disappeared" < <a href="mailto:timeline.com/american-chestnut-trees-disappeared-39217da38c59#.oz04djgsw">timeline.com/american-chestnut-trees-disappeared-39217da38c59#.oz04djgsw</a> >, although efforts continue to counter the blight. On the other hand, Angie's List has published "5 Types of Tree to Avoid" < <a href="mailto:www.angieslist.com/articles/5-types-trees-avoid.htm?">www.angieslist.com/articles/5-types-trees-avoid.htm?</a> cid=eml E007 M001 paid C 20170302 >, discouraging people from growing

black walnut, the Bradford pear tree, and the ash, ginkgo, and sweetgum trees. Len Philips's Specifications for Quality Nursery Trees < <a href="https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/specifications-quality-nursery-trees-len-phillips?trk=hp-feed-article-title-like">www.linkedin.com/pulse/specifications-quality-nursery-trees-len-phillips?trk=hp-feed-article-title-like</a>, on the other hand, details what potential buyers should look for in picking trees for planting.

Continuing with trees, Arbnet < <u>arbnet.org/about-register</u> > is based at The Morton Arboretum and is an interactive, collaborative international community of arboreta working to facilitate the sharing of knowledge, experience, and other resources to help arboreta meet their institutional goals and working to raise professional standards through the Arbnet accreditation program. Besides providing news in the field it provides access to the database showing the members of the various accreditation levels as well as to the more comprehensive Morton Register, which aims to list all arboreta and public gardens that have a substantial focus on woody plants.

One final news story that may be of interest is Eilís O'Neill's "Don't Call It Wheat: An Environmentally Friendly Grain Takes Root" < <a href="https://www.npr.org/sections/thesalt/2017/02/08/513239465/dont-call-it-wheat-an-environmentally-friendly-grain-takes-root">https://www.npr.org/sections/thesalt/2017/02/08/513239465/dont-call-it-wheat-an-environmentally-friendly-grain-takes-root</a> >, detailing the creation of salish blue, a cross between wheat and wheat grass which will hopefully eventually lead to a grain crop that can be grown year round. We conclude this issue with two very different humorous offerings. First, is the overly punny Garden Joke of the Month < <a href="https://www.communitygroundworks.org/content/garden-joke-month">www.communitygroundworks.org/content/garden-joke-month</a> > .

Finally, there is the more cerebral HORG < <a href="https://www.horg.com/horg/">www.horg.com/horg/</a> or Holotypic Occlupaninid Research Group, which was sent to the list by Marty Schlabach, a wonderful send up of scientific classification in its attempt help us fully understand the mystery of the small plastic object found as fasteners on bags containing, bread, buns, or even hardware.



Castenea dentata from The North American Sylva illustration drawn by Pancrace Bessa, engraved by J.N. Joly, text by François André Michaux, translated by Augustus Lucas Hillhouse. Paris: Printed by C. D'Hautel, 1819. [Public domain], via Wikimedia Commons

May 2017



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