

Report of the 54th Annual Meeting

of the Council on Botanical and Horticultural Libraries May 24-28, 2022
hosted by Denver Botanic Gardens



Denver Botanic Gardens welcomed The Council on Botanical and Horticultural Libraries to Denver, Colorado, the Mile-High City! Our 2022 meeting's theme, "Elevate Change," highlighted both Denver Botanic Gardens' location in a high-desert environment at 5,280 feet and the many changes that COVID-19 has brought to our profession of librarianship. Conference speakers shared their expertise in remote work, collections care and management, trends in technology and user engagement, and fresh strategies for adapting and flourishing in an ever-changing digital landscape. Members enjoyed tours of Denver Botanic Gardens, grounds and herbaria as well as a spooky ghost tour of the Gardens and an excursion to Betty Ford Alpine Gardens in Vail.

Annual Meeting Keynote Speaker Dr. Bonnie Clark: "Finding Solace in the Soil: An Archaeology of Gardens and Gardeners at Amache"

by Rita M. Hassert

Library Collections Manager

Sterling Morton Library, The Morton Arboretum

On Wednesday morning, the CBHL Annual Meeting's opening keynote was presented by Dr. Bonnie Clark, Professor in the University of Denver's Anthropology Department and author of *Finding Solace in the Soil: An Archaeology of Gardens and Gardeners at Amache*.

Amache, also known as the Granada Relocation Center, near Granada, Colorado, was one of ten incarceration sites established during World War II to unjustly incarcerate Japanese Americans. During the time (1942-1945) that Amache was open, over 10,000 people, mostly American citizens, were incarcerated there. In March 2022, President Biden signed the Amache National Historic Site Act designating the Amache site as part of the National Park System.

As an introduction, Dr. Clark's fascinating presentation began with the words – beauty, community, and persistence. Words not typically associated with an incarceration site. Only able to bring what they could carry, Japanese Americans who were moved to this site often brought seeds and plants within their belongings. Though presumably unfamiliar with growing plants in such a remote and seemingly inhospitable site, incarcerated were able to successfully grow a wide variety of plants for beauty and sustenance. The gardens not only supported the community, they also provided opportunities for individual creativity. Dr. Clark and her team have surveyed the site over the course of a number of summers as they look for evidence of landscaping and gardening. Using ground-penetrating radar, excavations, pollen studies, and other techniques, researchers are developing a clearer understanding of what types of gardens and plants would have been found at this site. Archival materials, including photographs and oral history accounts, provided a greater depth of understanding of this site's landscapes.

To preserve this site and its stories, contributions have been made by a diverse community. After the war ended and due to the camp's deep wells, the site was purchased by the town of Granada. The barracks that housed the incarcerated are no longer visible, but their foundations are largely untouched. Former incarcerated and their descendants have been able to provide critical details on camp life and activities. An area high school teacher and his students began to interview local residents who had either been incarcerated at the camp or had worked there. The efforts of the teacher and students eventually led to the creation of the Amache Preservation Society. All these groups and a host of others are critical to our understanding of Amache's past, present, and future.

As this site develops into a National Park, there will be more opportunities to learn about Amache and its gardens. For more information, you may wish to explore *Finding Solace in the Soil* by Dr. Clark and consider her three words for Amache -- beauty, community, and persistence. How does persistence figure into such a hardscrabble site? Through the plants! Or more precisely, I should say, through the Amache rose. Efforts to propagate this rose found on the site have been ongoing. Believed to have been planted by an incarcerated, this unknown rose hasn't bloomed for 80 years – until just a few days before Dr. Clark's keynote address to CBHL, when a bud was discovered on it!

Annual Meeting Speaker Dr. Jennifer Ackerfield: History of the Herbaria at Denver Botanic Gardens

by Brandy Watts
Alaska Resources Library & Information Services

Dr. Jennifer Ackerfield, Head Curator of Natural History Collections and Associate Director of Biodiversity Research at Denver Botanic Gardens (DBG), gave a presentation entitled *History of the Herbaria at Denver Botanic Gardens*. She explained how the two herbaria, the Kathryn Kalmbach Herbarium of Vascular Plants and the Sam Mitchel Herbarium of Fungi originated at the garden. Both herbaria contain valuable and historic, as well as recent, collections of plants and fungi from the southern Rocky Mountains and the wild and cultivated flora of Colorado.

Both Kathryn Kalmbach and Duane “Sam” Mitchell were volunteers at the herbarium in its early days. Kathryn Kalmbach originally came from the Colorado Forestry and Horticulture Association and started collecting pressings of both native and cultivated plants for the herbarium in 1943. The collection was moved to the Gardens and formally dedicated as the Kathryn Kalmbach Herbarium in November 1960. The Sam Mitchell Herbarium of Fungi is named for Dr. Duane “Sam” Mitchell, a medical internist in Denver who had a collection of mushrooms from Colorado. His fungal herbarium came to the Gardens in the 1960s.



Later in the afternoon, a fascinating tour of the herbaria was provided. As mentioned in the presentation, the DBG herbaria consists of primarily two collections, which are vascular and fungal in nature. The Kathryn Kalmbach Herbarium of Vascular Plants totals 72,000 plant specimens and the Sam Mitchell Herbarium of Fungi totals 21,000 fungal specimens. The tour provided insights into the field collection process and the materials generated through that practice. Herbaria grant-funded projects were discussed, the specimen digitization room was shown, and DBG publications were on view, as was a fungal specimen with the scent of maple sugar!

Annual Meeting Session by Kristen Mastel: A Nature Boost: Using Forest Bathing in the Classroom

by Kristen Mastel

Outreach and Instruction Librarian
University of Minnesota

Forest therapy, also known as shinrin-yoku, improves physical and mental health through sensory mindfulness activities in nature. This makes it the perfect application to combat student burnout and chronic stress. An overview of mindfulness techniques, ecotherapy, and contemplative pedagogical techniques in the library classroom was presented. Kristen became a guide to expand the University of Minnesota's nature-based therapy outreach activities and also put these skills into practice in the classroom. Forest therapy has been integrated into the architecture, family social science, public health, and environmental science coursework, along with the mental health services and Extension at this large research university. You can view her slides at: z.umn.edu/CBHLforest.

Susan Eubank Receives Charles Robert Long Award of Extraordinary Merit

by Rita M. Hassert

Library Collections Manager

Sterling Morton Library, The Morton Arboretum

Susan Eubank, Arboretum Librarian Emeritus at the Los Angeles County Arboretum and Botanic Garden, was presented with the Charles Robert Long Award of Extraordinary Merit on May 27, 2022, by the Council on Botanical and Horticultural Libraries (CBHL). This presentation was made during CBHL's 54th Annual Meeting hosted by the Denver Botanic Gardens. *(continues on page 11)*

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Annual Meeting Session by Suzi Teghtmeyer: Chronicle of the Exhibition *Botanical Art & Illustration Through the Ages* at MSU Libraries

by Suzi Teghtmeyer

Agriculture and Plant Sciences Librarian

Michigan State University Libraries

Michigan State University and the Library were established in 1862 and have collected items and documents since, including many predating the university, some items by 300+ years. Through the efforts of archivists, librarians, and donors, the MSU Special Collections has acquired many botanical and agricultural-themed items to support the research and learning opportunities of MSU and community patrons. Our newest library exhibit space, Edwards Gallery, is located between the two Library entrances. It contains ten cases of three different sizes, eight information panels that can be repositioned for single or double-sided displays, and a sound dome with a motion-activated, looped recording.

Planning for this botanical exhibit began three years ago, but two years of the pandemic, a consequential lack of access to the collection due to quarantines, and staff retirements/new hires affected the timeline and planning. Finally, by working with many others and cognizant of their needs and item requirements, it all came together in May 2022. The thing is, I may have selected the 31 exhibited items, but I didn't do this show alone! Along the way I learned many lessons which, in hindsight, seem obvious, but it took the experience to make them hit home. To prepare others who may also go through this, I offer up the following lessons to erecting botanical exhibits.

Develop a theme

Much like working with a new project, consider creating a vision statement and goals and objectives of the exhibit. I had to do this early on as I had to submit a proposal to the Library Exhibits Committee for approval. Content questions should answer: 1) to whom will the exhibit appeal and is there a target audience? 2) what is the intention(s) – educational, instructional, emotional, highlighting an occurrence or person/people, etc.? 3) will this appeal to instructors or classes? 4) can the exhibit be connected to other organization or community events?

In this case, the intention (theme) was to showcase the many botanical art and illustration works held in the Special Collections Library. They were selected for beauty, uniqueness and rarity, and to identify historic trends and persons in botanical history. We invited artists, botanists, local gardening groups, campus and community gardeners, and instructors in the natural sciences and arts departments.

Build a team and communicate with them often

I am exceedingly fortunate that I have many experts in my library that I can call on to work on projects. Special Collections librarians (Dayna & Devon), those who take care of the rare and unique materials, may know your subject area items better than you. Fill them in with what you want and need and they can help select items. Conservation librarians (Linsey, Garrett & Eric A.), who repair and protect materials, will show you how you may safely exhibit the selected items. They may recommend some items be opened to certain sections because of the robustness of the binding, or may suggest an item be removed due to its fragility. Graphics librarians (Theresa & Shelby) can help you design the information panels and in-case cards. If you don't have such staff available, perhaps a colleague with graphics software experience will be willing to help. Outreach & Public Relations librarians (Holly, Austin & Cindy) can help you advertise your exhibit and plan events around it. In this case, in a summer with fewer people still on campus, events have been few, aside from personal tours and supplemental pop-up exhibits. I've done exhibits in

the past where I was the sole person filling all the roles. However, I did find others with needed skills that I could call on most of the time, otherwise I just did the best I could.

Learn your space

My best suggestion is to create a floorplan of the exhibit space. Ours was already in a pdf, but for other events I've used large paper (once wrapping paper) to draw the gallery cases and information panel arrangements to scale. The plan can reveal natural and intended footpaths and traffic flows; the theme can be based along these routes. The plan will reveal which cases can be best viewed from which directions, thus you can orient items to take full advantage of viewing angles. Edwards Gallery is open to hallways on two sides, so I choose to use the perimeter cases for showy items to draw passersby into the gallery. Once you have a plan of theme, flow, and items assigned to cases, share it with your team so they can grasp your vision and they, too, know case and orientation assignments.

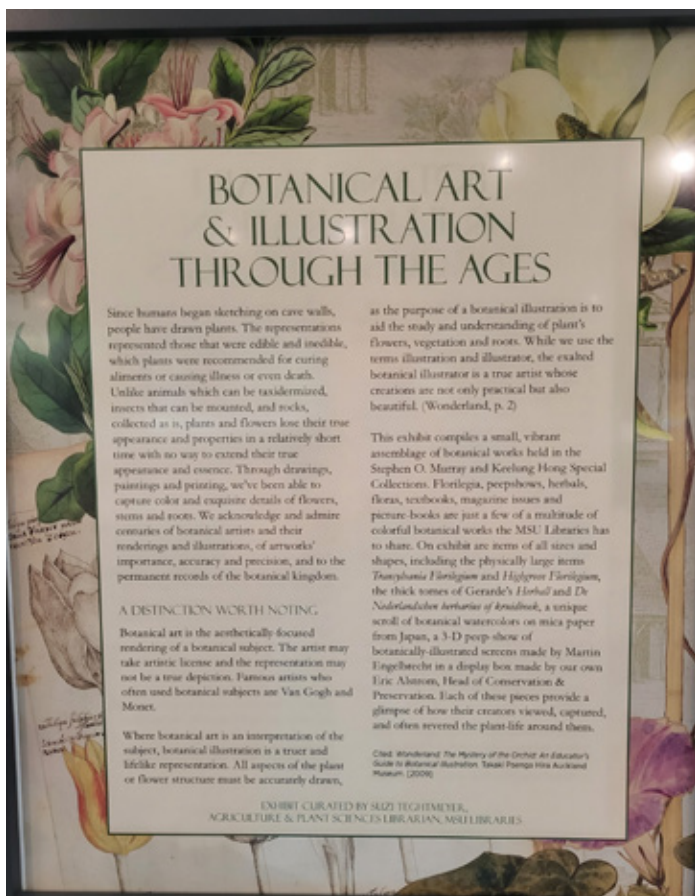
Start selecting items early

I knew from previous experience of many items I wanted to exhibit, but I needed more, as this space was much bigger. To identify potential pieces, I utilized purchase records, descriptive catalog records, bookseller catalog descriptions, and digital repositories (Botanicus and Biodiversity Heritage Library). I recorded the items in a spreadsheet with the title, call number, volume/copy number, publication date, if an endowment purchase, and other special notes that would potentially go onto the information panels or in-case information cards. Next, I secured an appointment with our Special Collections department to select the actual items. I examined candidate pieces for display pages and durability, and how well they'd fit into the themes of the overall exhibit and designated case, and added this information to my spreadsheet.

Once selected, I arranged them on grid paper the dimensions of the case. We have 10 cases of three different sizes, so I spent hours arranging multiple items per case, their orientations, and the page-openings of each. I photographed the case compositions with a no-flash image capture to help remember the details, and to share with my team. Remembering all of the items can be challenging so the images helped us arrange them in the cases.



Case composition photographed with cell phone to help remember page openings and orientations.



The final exhibit panels looked amazing.

Be flexible and willing to change to follow others' recommendations

After selecting and arranging, I met with Conservation Librarians to evaluate each piece so they could make the supports out of bent acrylic. We had to adjust one to a different page and switch one out to a different item as they were not cooperating. I readily made substitutions and we were happy with the selections, arrangements, and safety of the botanical works.

Writing the text for the information panels and information cards inside the cases followed. I shared the content with the Graphic Designer, and it was a lesson in humility! She had me rewrite most of the panels to reduce redundancy and improve readability. Afterward, she intertwined my text with portraits and detailed photographs of some of the items, and generated the panel borders using frontispiece designs and other imagery. The final panels were amazing.

Early on in the process I met with our Outreach & Public Relations librarians to plan a media push and an article describing the exhibit for our newsletter. I knew they were successful when I began getting emails regarding when the exhibit would open and if I could be there for a tour!

Edwards Gallery features a sound dome with a short, motion-activated recording. Dr. Frank Telewskyi former Curator of Beal Garden, agreed to make the recording, a reading of a letter received by our Dr. William J. Beal from Charles Darwin. We recorded the message in our Digital Multimedia Center with the help of our Media librarians (Mike & Rick). We strategically placed a facsimile of Darwin's letter and rare books by Darwin, Beal, and others in the case below the sound dome.

The installation was a group effort, too. Multiple Conservation Librarians and I removed the former exhibit, tidied the interior of the cases, and sorted the materials by case assignment. It took over three hours to properly arrange the items on their custom supports and place the information cards. Two cases were problematic as the height of the books interfered with the closing of the case, but we were able to safely finagle



Books arranged so case contents can be viewed from multiple directions.



Information cards placed strategically to position viewer in best location to view each piece.

them in. We staged an item in a higher case so it could be seen more easily from the side, not the top. In another case, we placed a book vertically on a riser, so the exquisite spine could be seen from one direction, and the open pages from another. Not all exhibit items worked out by being displayed open, but by using the information card I conveyed the item's importance in relation to the other items in the case. Lastly, information cards were strategically placed to position the viewer in the preferred location to accurately view the piece. While the cases were filled, our Graphic Artist, Shelby, installed the information panels. Later, our Media Librarian installed the recording in the sound dome.

By the end of the day, and through August 2022, the exhibit *Botanical Art and Illustration Through the Ages* was up and running. It's gratifying to see people slow down to take time to look at the items and read the panels. As I said, I couldn't have done this alone. The lessons I learned from this experience have made me a better team player and increased my respect for others' time and efforts and their roles in the MSU Libraries.



Installing books in exhibit cases.

Annual Meeting Table Talk: Horticulture eBook Consortium

by Leora Siegel

Senior Director

Lenhardt Library, Chicago Botanic Garden

This Table Talk was presented with the aim of sharing information about the Horticulture eBook Consortium with CBHL libraries. Leora Siegel shared features of the consortium overall and she and Martha Boyd discussed their libraries' experiences and details. Several CBHL members participated in the discussion and are considering joining.

The Horticulture eBook Consortium is comprised of nine CBHL libraries. Our members are Atlanta Botanical Garden, Chicago Botanic Garden, Denver Botanic Gardens, Longwood Gardens, LA County Arboretum and Botanic Garden, Morton Arboretum, Mt. Cuba Center, Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, and San Francisco Botanical Garden. All CBHL libraries in the United States are welcome to join. (So sorry Canadian libraries; the vendor sets this limit, not the consortium.)

Horticulture is the main subject area, with an academic focus. About 8,000 eBooks are in the library. New content is added each month by pre-determined LC call numbers. Gillian Hayward at Longwood prepares MARC records for new titles each month for easy uploading into each library's ILS. Some libraries have the eBooks in their online catalog, and others maintain a separate access point only for eBooks. Each library makes this decision for themselves.

Staff and members of gardens are welcome to use the eBook consortium; it's not limited to staff. ProQuest is the vendor. Their eBook software offers readers the option to search, read, download chapter or full book, save titles in a bookshelf, and more. Loans are for seven days and patrons can renew if they need more time.

Longwood Gardens facilitates and manages the program with WiLS (Wisconsin Library System). The cost was recently reduced to a flat fee of \$1,200 per year, per Garden, payable to WiLS. At the outset, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is signed with David Sleasman at Longwood Gardens.

Every two weeks, each garden submits an updated list of their unique patrons to an eBook Google Drive so that new members and new staff can log in. Several gardens use Patron Edge software with the same numbers. For these libraries, we add "CBG" or "DBG" before each member number to get a unique number. Other libraries use email addresses for eBook access.

At the Lenhardt Library, Amanda Lettner put together a LibGuide (<https://cbhl.libguides.com/CBGe-books>) as our user guide for patrons and it's shared here as an example.

For questions, feel free to contact David Sleasman, Gillian Hayward, or Leora Siegel.

Annual Meeting Table Talk: Library Programming

by Nitzan Watman

Public Services Librarian

Denver Botanic Gardens

The programming Table Talk began and ended with an overarching question – how does a plant library's relationship to its host institution and its position among other departments impact its programs? Some

of us live under the umbrella of research, some education, and the group spent some time discussing what that meant in terms of opportunities or limitations to the resources for, and the types, timings, and locations of, possible program offerings.

We had a lively chat about storytimes, during which I shared the homegrown song that I use to anchor my weekly storytimes here at Helen Fowler, a song that was influenced directly by the stump cushions that we scatter in our children's section to invite attendees to "sit on a stump for a story." We then discussed a strategy for building storytime programming that involves the creation of a set of several themes (mushrooms, forests, water, pollinators, vegetables, etc.) for which a handful of books, movement activities (inviting the children to "grow" like a seedling), and coloring sheets (an outline of a vegetable garden that children can fill with their favorite vegetables – if they have any!) or other crafts can be attached and that public services librarians can use on a rotation.

Here, we once again examined our places within the institution. I described the way I had initially been asked to explain the need for a storytime program to colleagues in the education department. We assessed our dual purposes within our libraries and in putting together programming – promoting access to materials, promoting membership to the Garden. Overall, despite the way these goals may compete, we concluded that a broader mission to connect people with plants helped to reconcile some of those tensions.

We talked about book clubs, and compared notes on the frequency of our sessions, if and how we purchase books for upcoming sessions, and who runs the discussion. Especially interesting were the questions about navigating the different levels of engagement – do we tend to cater to the attendees that want a more rigorous discussion or to the ones that enjoy the more social aspects of the sessions? It seemed that whether the club had an associated cost made a difference there – with a cost, it is somewhat more urgent that we give our readers the thorough conversation they paid for.

We also talked about COVID. For many of us, book clubs have been online now for some time, but it wasn't quite clear whether we'd all venture back on site in the future. The increased convenience of the Zoom book club has not gone unnoticed, and none of us were certain that a return to in-person was a foregone conclusion.

It turned out, too, that more than one of our libraries had been considering a cookbook club prior to the pandemic. What will we all go on to do with these plans now that we can tentatively begin to operate as we did before?

We talked briefly about seed libraries and the idea of enhancing engagement by inviting patrons to bring back images of what they've grown with the seeds they've "checked out." We agreed that card catalogs are a great platform for seed libraries, when possible! We talked about how those plans have involved conversations with horticulture departments, which brought us back to our earlier focus on the professional relationships that we navigate as we plan our programs. I briefly described a poetry reading and Q&A that we're collaborating on with our exhibitions department.

Ultimately, we decided that maybe our goal evolves: Rather than making sure that we don't overlap with our peers in programming, we have opportunities to use the relationships to co-create and co-host. And maybe that actually furthers our missions even more effectively.

Future Zoom brainstorming sessions were proposed as we concluded our conversation. It was a privilege to learn so much from everyone who attended.

Susan Eubank receives Long Award

(continued from page 4)

The Charles Robert Long Award of Extraordinary Merit is the highest honor presented by CBHL. This honor was established to recognize outstanding service to CBHL and/or to the field of botanical and horticultural literature, information services and research.

Susan Eubank earned an M.L.I.S. from the University of California, Berkeley, and has shared her knowledge and expertise within library communities at Strybing Arboretum (now San Francisco Botanical Garden at Strybing Arboretum), Denver Botanic Gardens, American Alpine Club, Grand Canyon National Park, and the Los Angeles County Arboretum and Botanic Garden. An active CBHL member since 1988, her contributions to CBHL have included service as a board member including President, membership and leadership of numerous committees, editor of the CBHL Newsletter, manager of the CBHL listserv, and host of annual meetings in Denver and Los Angeles. A collaborative colleague and partner, she is an advocate and inspiration for the importance of plant libraries and their value for lifelong learning. This award recognizes Susan Eubank's exceptional commitment to professional development, her interest in the collaborative efforts of libraries, her continued search for professionalism, and her extraordinary service to CBHL.

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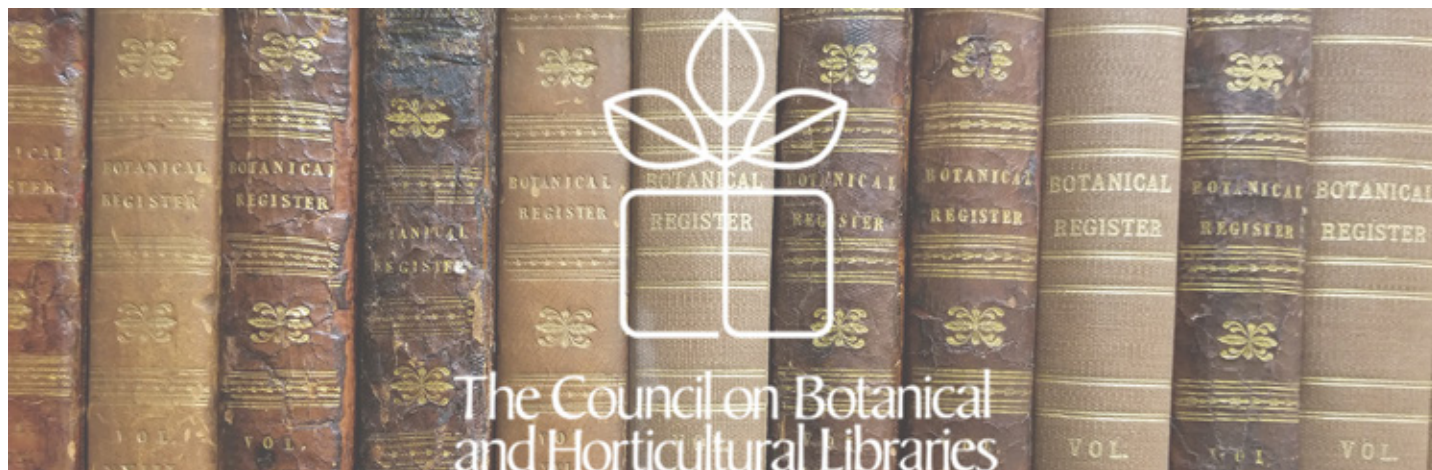
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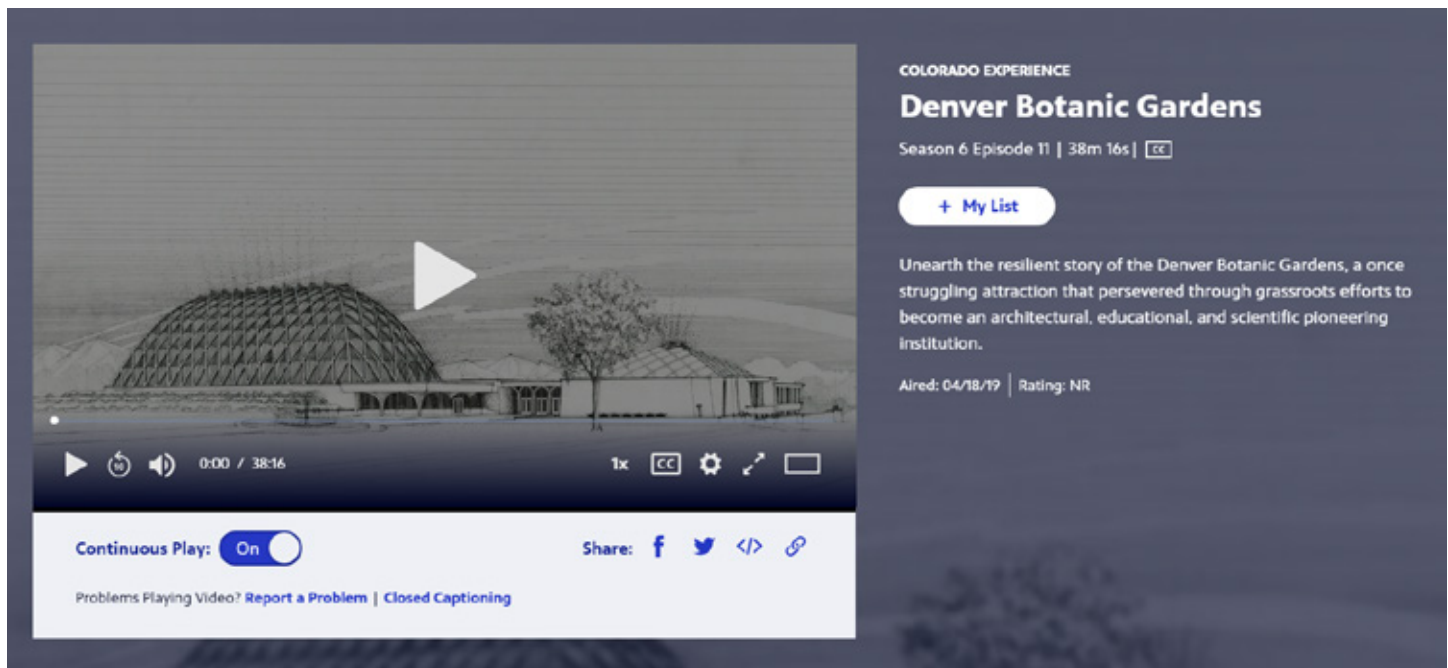
Public television film of the history of Denver Botanic Gardens

by Robin Everly

Botany and Horticulture Librarian
Smithsonian Libraries and Archives

Thursday morning began with the showing of an episode of the Colorado Experience series, Denver Botanic Gardens [Season 6/Episode 11 first aired on April 18, 2019] in the Sturm Family Auditorium. The 38-minute film seamlessly tells the history of a botanic garden in Denver and features a great overview of the different plant collections, mostly at the York Street location, which, interestingly, was once a public cemetery. It features the CEO Brian Vogt, who provided CBHL with an uplifting and positive welcome on the first day of the conference. It is hard to garden in Colorado because of the lack of water, but the soils are fertile. The film describes the water system throughout the park, the Gardens' recent efforts to have a global reach, and why the garden is beloved by the citizens of Denver. It was a perfect way to start the second day of the conference and reviewing it later brought back great memories of being there.

You can view freely, without a PBS Passport membership, at: <https://www.pbs.org/video/denver-botanic-gardens-nbwlcz/>



Helen Fowler Library Tour

by Robin Everly

Botany and Horticulture Librarian
Smithsonian Libraries and Archives

The day before the conference began, Allaina Wallace provided tours of the new library space. The space overall is inviting, modern and, best of all, reflects the beauty of the gardens. The library is within the Freyer-Newman Center for Science, Art and Education building and next door to the herbarium, which must be convenient for the science staff at the gardens. The library holds a significant collection of botanical and horticultural materials about the Rocky Mountain region and similar regions around the world.

But the library serves more than Denver Botanic Gardens (DBG) staff. The library also serves communi-



Allaina begins the tour in the library's main reading room.

ty interests and functions as a community space at the gardens. There is a children's section, designed with fabric log-shaped pillows, that contains children's books, fiction, and DVDs. Visitors, young and adult, are encouraged to peruse the shelves and do gardening research within the library. A Colorado Master Gardener volunteer is on-site to answer gardening questions.

In addition to the focus on staff, visitors, and children's needs, there are Archives, Special Collections, and Rare Books. The archival focus is materials related to the history, founding, and development of DBG. Special Collections include publications by or about the Gardens or staff. Rare books include such delights as herbals, books on exploration, early botanical studies of the New World, and gardening in the trans-Mississippi West.

The Garden's original newsletter, *The Green Thumb*, has been digitized and deposited into the Biodiversity Heritage Library through an Expanding Access to Biodiversity Literature grant. It can be found on the DBG's website.

The tour itself was about an hour, featuring the main reading room, children's section, Edward P. Connors Rare Books Reading Room, and the special collections and archives' secure cold storage. It was great to see the space in person after seeing the slides of the move over Zoom at our previous Annual Meeting. There is much more on the website, including who Helen Fowler was and why the library is named after her: <https://www.botanicgardens.org/helen-fowler-library>



Taxidermied library mascot and workspace behind the main desk.

Betty Ford Alpine Gardens Tour

by Susan C. Eubank
Arboretum Librarian, Emeritus
Los Angeles County Arboretum
and Botanic Garden

While most participants took public transportation to the Gardens, Gayle Bradbeer, newly retired, Kathy Crosby, Brooklyn Botanic Garden Head Librarian, and I, recently retired, drove to Vail in the electric Volkswagen. Gayle shared her knowledge of the current road project on the freeway we were traveling and how they were eating away a nearby mountain for the fill dirt needed. She also told us about the [Peaks to Plains Trail](#) project which will allow biking, hiking, and walking from the Continental Divide to the confluence of the South Platte and Platte Rivers, a 65-mile trail. She filled Kathy in on the local mountain sights like the buffalo viewing area and with her hydrology background helped me through our thinking on our well. Kathy regaled us with her frequent trips to western mountain areas. I was in awe of her exploits in Yellowstone and other iconic western parks. I watched how much battery charge the car had used and was filled with nostalgia for all things Colorado wilderness, especially the Shrine Pass Road and my long-ago wildflower adventures there, bringing *Frasera speciosa*, monument plant, to mind. It is as close as you can get to an agave at that elevation. The CBHL Annual Meeting offers these wonderful opportunities to learn in an intimate setting. The post-conference tours are especially good for that. There was much library chat as well. The participants can work out their triumphs and faux pas with the only people who understand. Attending as a retiree was both my triumph and my faux pas.



Betty Ford Alpine Gardens' former peony garden with the view across to the adjacent park. Photos by Susan Eubank

When Vail appeared, we started to think seriously about finding the rest of the group. After arranging logistics, we settled into a fabulous lunch on an outdoor patio in the fantasy “alpine” downtown designed in the 1960s. The town was crowded with the Vail Comedy Festival attendees.

While waiting for the bus riders we toured the Gardens on our own and watched an energetic Australian Shepherd and an even more energetic Border Collie play in the neatly mowed field in the park next to the Garden. We met up with the tour led by the Education Director, Nanette Kuich, and the formal learning began.

The Betty Ford Alpine Gardens occupy a 5 acres in the public park, Ford Park, Vail, Colorado, at 8,200-foot elevation. It began in 1985, through the efforts of garden designer Marty Jones and Vail gardener Helen Fritch. It is the highest elevation botanical garden in the United States. There is no admission, although there is a suggested donation and a membership program. There are no fences separating it from the park. Dogs are allowed. There are four distinct gardens described on the website, however the bulk of

the continuous five acres consist of geographically arranged displays of high-elevation plants from five other mountainous areas in the world. There is also an extensive area with plants from the Rocky Mountains. The website has a thorough [virtual tour](#) done for the North American Rock Garden Society virtual meeting in 2020. Troughs and crevice gardens create microclimates for plants with specific soil and moisture needs. There is also a mix of garden ornamentals, such as a large collection of peonies, as well as plants grown from wild-collected seed. As Nanette Kuich, the Gardens' Director of Education, stated, the geographic areas are distinct although the plants do not follow those boundary lines, particularly the very successful seeders.



Historic cold storage building in the natural area along the river.

The program areas include a children's garden developed for children's programming, but open to the public during garden hours. There is also an education exhibit area explaining the various habitats, which has not been used during the pandemic, but which has just started to have exhibits again. The [Rocky Mountain Society of Botanical Artists](#) will be exhibiting starting in October 2022. The Garden is bordered on one side by Gore Creek and there has been much monitoring of the river as a collaborative project with



A trough with plants from the Caucasus Mountain area.

several agencies and student interns. Through concerted efforts, the water quality has improved and during our tour the river was running high much earlier than usual but was not flooding. The area near the river is a natural habitat where you can see the riparian blue spruce (*Picea pungens*) very close to the water and the drier ponderosa pine (*Pinus ponderosa*) upslope.

As the tour wound down, we wandered through the Garden again to reach the car and looked at it with new eyes. The trip home included charging the electric Volkswagen which allowed for us to see a little of Frisco, Colorado (well, the Walmart anyway).



(Top left): *Iris ruthenica* native from Eastern Europe to Korea.

(Top right): A crevice garden.

(Bottom): There is no alpine garden without gentians.



In the Spirit of CBHL: Ghost Tour of Denver Botanic Gardens

by Stacy M. Stoldt

Director, Volunteer Administration & Engagement

Chicago Botanic Garden

It was a dark and stormy night...Oh wait, that's how Snoopy starts all his stories...

It was a hot and steamy, bright afternoon and the CBHL Annual Meeting attendees gathered together for a private ghost tour of the Denver Botanic Gardens given by our tour guide Suzanna Wellens. Suzanna was not what you'd expect a ghostly tour guide to be. No bag of talismans, or mojo voodoo powders, or crucifix and garlic pâté, just a laid-back beige and brown outfit to offset the blondish mount auburn tones of her hair, and a kick-ass Día de Muertos, or Day of the Dead, bag.

Suzanna started out by telling us that these tours are usually only offered in October, but our group was scary enough to warrant an abridged version for the CBHL Annual conference. "It won't be as spooky at 5:30 p.m. in May!" But Suzanna regaled us with stories of ghostly encounters from staff and security. The Denver Botanic Gardens and its neighbor Cheesman Park sit directly on top of an old cemetery known as Prospect Hill. In 1893, the majority of the bodies were removed, but Suzanna made sure we knew that the corrupt contractor who was exhuming these bodies, was lying down on the job. Removing the interred continued well into the 1950s, but graves were uncovered during renovations to the sprinkler and irrigation system as recently as 2010.

Besides being a place of respite and beauty, The Denver Botanic Gardens hosts evening concerts. "One night in particular when Keb Mo had played," Suzanna told us, "One of the roadies was having a heck of a time rolling some huge amplifiers up a hill and tried getting around a man who was standing in his way weeping. The roadie said excuse me to the gentleman who was standing there in rather old-fashioned garb, and the man just continued to sob. The roadie asked the gentleman if he needed some help and the man turned to him, let out a blood-curdling yell, and ran towards a doorway where there used to be an elevator. The roadie radioed for help, and even though other people around the Garden heard the blood-curdling yell, no one could find the man the roadie described."

Suzanna also described how a house on the perimeter that became Garden property and served as administrative offices was once owned by an evil man who had a son out of marriage named Jack. Jack mysteriously died at the age of eight. Apparently, staff could occasionally feel cold spots in the offices, and hear a child's laughter, usually after the office lights would begin to flicker.

One of my favorite stories was about Suzanna's own daughter who had been out till midnight with her friends drinking Slurpees near this particular house-turned-Garden admin office. All at once they witnessed a white orb floating out of an upstairs window, that had apparently been Jack's room. Which of course led us to inquire, what exactly was in those Slurpees?

Further reading on the graves at Denver Botanic Gardens:

Howard Pankratz (2008-11-07). ["Old grave halts work at Denver Botanic Gardens."](#) *The Denver Post*. Retrieved 2008-11-07.

The Denver Post (2010-11-01). ["Four preserved skeletons unearthed at Denver's Cheesman Park"](#) *The Denver Post*. Retrieved 2010-11-03.

Denver Botanic Gardens Tour

by Donna Herendeen

Manager, Library Public Services, Lenhardt Library
Chicago Botanic Garden

The CBHL membership was divided into two tour groups; the docent for our tour group was Nevin Bebee.

We toured the Sensory Garden, where visitors were encouraged to interact with the plants; there were even signs that said "Touch." The garden is structured to minimize barriers for people of all abilities and ages.

Our guide told us that the Denver Botanic Gardens has 44 "Garden Galleries" with 18 gardens devoted to dry-land plantings. One water-savvy garden was the Roads Water-Smart Garden. It emphasizes plant choices that will provide color and beauty with a minimum of water.

On our tour we saw what seemed to be endless, lovely examples of ice plant (*Delosperma* spp.) in full bloom



Docent Nevin Bebee led our group tour.



"Touch" signs encourage visitors to interact with plants in the Sensory Garden.

- bright mats of purple and yellow daisy-like flowers. Ice plant, and other South African montane plants, have been promoted for Rocky Mountain gardens by the Denver Botanic Gardens. Panayoti Kelaidis, Senior Curator and Director of Outreach at the Denver Botanic Gardens, has been a major force in this effort. (A nice bio here: <https://www.highcountrygardens.com/heroes-of-horticulture-panayoti-kelaidis>).

We walked through the Darlene Radichel Plant Select Garden plant trials where plants were tested for sustainability and attractiveness (there is a website: <https://plantselect.org/>). Featured were big, pink daisy-like flowers; (*Osteospermum barberiae* var. *compactum* 'P005S') and an unusual lamb's ear (*Stachys lavandulifolia*) called Pink Cotton Lamb's Ear.

We continued through the Monet Pool area where waterlilies were appearing and yellow iris was in bloom, past the Laura Smith Porter Plains Garden with short-grass prairie plants, and onward to the very dry and prickly Dryland Mesa plantings. The Dryland Mesa garden is a true xeriscape garden; it has not been watered since 1997. Other gardens visited were June's PlantAsia "plants from Asia," the Ann Montague Iris and Daylily Garden, the Ornamental Grass Garden with foxtail lilies, and the Waring House Ellipse planting with a commis-



The Steppe Garden promotes South African plants for use in Rocky Mountain gardens.

sioned Chihuly sculpture named “Colorado.”

We ran out of time, but I went back later to take pictures of the Japanese Garden designed by Koichi Kawana, the Steppe Garden full of ice plants, a mature tricolor beech outside the Children’s Garden, and the Gloria Falkenberg Herb Garden.

A lovely Botanic Garden with 44 rooms, and we had barely enough time to see it all. As they say, it is always best to leave something for next time you visit.

If you want to see plant lists and descriptions of their gardens, here is a great tool they offer: <http://navigate.botanicgardens.org/FindFeature.html>.



A mature tricolor beech outside the Children’s Garden.

Mordecai Children's Garden Tour

by Kathy Crosby
Head Librarian
Brooklyn Botanic Garden

If you have traveled to Mt. Washington in New Hampshire, you may have had the experience of exploring the low-growing and crevice plants that inhabit that locale. Or even those of Cadillac Mountain in Maine at sunset, or earlier in the day if hawk watching, too. Mostly I have wandered these areas in the early fall, and so I think of the wind protection, shadows, water retention, and drainage, and a lot of things I don't know enough about, such as the geology of hummocks. That's the Easterner's take.

And yet, delicate plants that don't easily tolerate foot traffic grow mats of coverage across the hardscape of the rocks. These are cushion plants whose secrets are held between the narrow, chiseled spaces across the surface of the rocks and in between them. Their plant stems are very egalitarian, sharing what are often nutrient-deficient soils and creating their level, slightly-rounded cushions. At the Denver Botanic Gardens, Mordecai Children's Garden, these cushions grow down into and across handmade rocks. The soil is composite and there is a geofoam underlay; how do you decide on the composite ingredients for what is normally a poor nutrient environment?

I have an artist friend who designed and made rocks and hardscapes for several zoos in New York, so I am always curious about the "how." For instance, some handmade rock is called shotcrete and some is fiberglass-reinforced concrete panels; working my way through some of the Denver architecture company literature—Tryba and Mundus Bishop to name just two, I found a few images of the process.

Shotcrete rock systems are even used to support underground mines and involve a pumping process I would like to understand better. And incidentally, the Mordecai has an abandoned mine building referencing connections to local history. Shotcrete mixtures vary relative to needs and are composed of concrete, water, and other dry ingredients or aggregates.

Whether you come from the gardens across the street or from the parking lot through the entrance to the Mordecai Children's Garden, you immediately enter a serious garden as opposed to a fanciful one. Fantasy, though, is an important element too; those gardens often prompt a smile, and I sometimes sit in them. But what you see at first here is a rough, unrelenting, but beautiful, environment, very hot and exposed under the sun and I expect quite cool at night. That you can see a higher spot to climb to is part of the draw across this space.

But the lure of fiction, magic, and fantasy is not necessarily the way we as children walk out into nature. I remember the way to beloved spots, Buttermilk Falls for one—by the bayberry with which I made candles at the time, down into and through the meadow and its flowers, the path through the woods along the outlet from the lake, perhaps some early Smooth Green Snakes on the rocks, resting for a while on the shady glacial boulders, and then the walk around the lake and cattail swamp back.

One of the ways we find and map internal places for reference and memory is by what we take in from the experience, what we want to learn about what we see, what we feel and sense about each step of the way getting there, and what we do when we get there, and our emotions about the return trip. The path to the destination does not have to be a rural one. In fact, I could have walked the Cherry Creek Trail to the Denver Botanic Gardens; I had some lovely walks along the creek's water and good birding along the trail. We want to protect some of these memories, and that is part of how we become stewards of nature.

At the Mordecai Children's Garden, I took the journey more and more slowly down from the alpine "Roof-top Alpine Garden," the subalpine "Marmot Mountain and Pika Peak," the montane "Mystery Forest," the plains and grasslands "Glorious Grasslands," the riparian "Pipsqueak Pond," and montane shrubland "Sagebrush"—in the end, I'm behind my group. From this path, people of all ages venture off to assemble and disassemble cairns, splash in water, dig in the soil, sit beneath the aspens, and watch dragonflies. We have great dragonflies at this time of year in Brooklyn and seemingly a lot of fireflies congregating in our green areas, too. And there's the Chipotle Home Harvest Garden which demonstrates growing vegetables and composting, and promotes growing plants at home. So many habitats, so many stewards, I hope.

All along the way, though, you have an opportunity for plant and habitat connections. But that's not the only serious aspect of the Mordecai Children's Garden. An interesting read is the Denver Botanic Gardens Living Collections Management Plan, a 2008 plan, updated and approved November 28, 2017. Alpine plants tried in other dedicated alpine display areas that did not do well, or had to be relocated, have been successfully grown in the Mordecai Children's Garden. "Mordecai Children's Garden showcases the ecosystems of Colorado from alpine to plains and desert. This garden has become a great site for the cultivation of difficult alpine. The actual alpine area is a green roof; the green-roof media has proven to grow plants very well." [The 2017 Collections Plan.] It's perhaps the most diverse green roof in the United States.

Truthfully, I can't read some of the plant names I wrote down, but here are some that were listed: moss phlox, scarlet bugler, golden columbine, orange sunset Agastache, the Colorado state flower blue columbine, cattails, peach-leaved willow, mountain alder, water birch, Colorado blue spruce, ponderosa pine, and bristlecone pine. Might I have seen a sphinx moth? I seem to be able to read that part of my notes. And I know the Penstemon collection is admired.

I think I would like to look through a list of the taxa by location in the garden.

This garden was established thanks to the generosity of Janet Mordecai and the energy and leadership of Brian Vogt. See them both speak about the Mordecai Children's Garden on the Denver Botanic Gardens website: <https://www.botanicgardens.org/york-street/mordecai-childrens-garden>.

One more thing I would point out and recommend: read up on Denver's 2017 green roof mandate.

Hm, how heavy are the shotcrete rocks; maybe I too can have an alpine garden.

Annual Literature Awards

by Rita M. Hassert

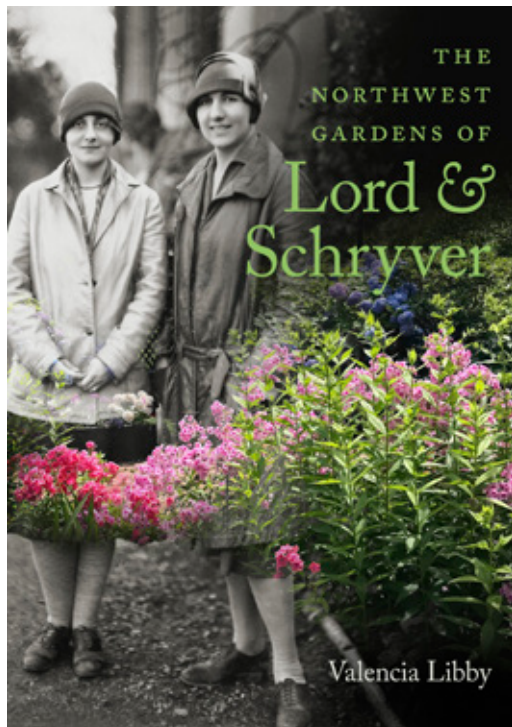
Library Collections Manager

Sterling Morton Library, The Morton Arboretum

The Council on Botanical and Horticultural Libraries, Inc. (CBHL) presented its twenty-third Annual Literature Awards on May 27, 2022. This presentation was made during CBHL's 54th Annual Meeting hosted by the Denver Botanic Gardens. The CBHL Annual Literature Awards, created to recognize significant contributions to the literature of botany and horticulture, this year honored seven remarkable works.

Honored with the 2022 CBHL Annual Literature Award was *Yungcautnguuq Nunam Qainga Tamarmi = All the Land's Surface is Medicine: Edible and Medicinal Plants of Southwest Alaska* by Ann Fienup-Riordan, Alice Rearden, Marie Meade, and Kevin Jernigan and published by the University of Alaska Press. This en-

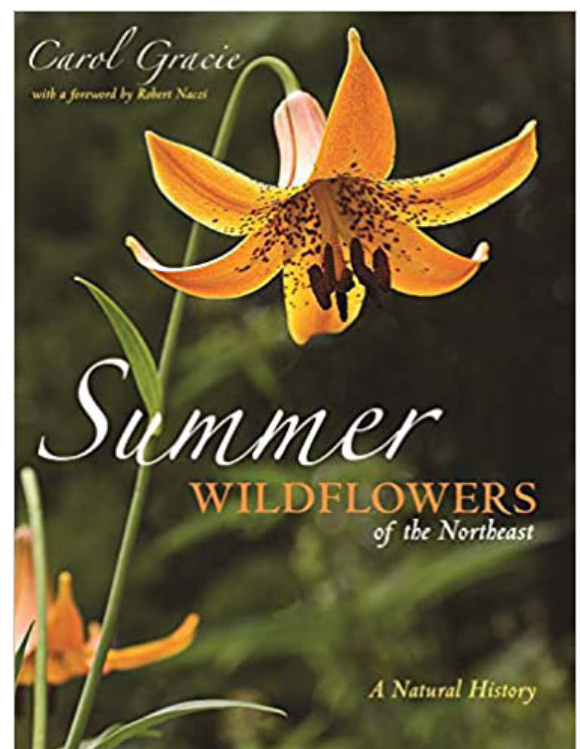
gaging book is based on a twenty-year oral history project led by the Calista Elders Council (of the Yup'ik and associated indigenous groups) that interviewed elders about their traditional ways of life. From this project comes a remarkable and enlightening book, produced by a consortium of authors and illustrators, about the long-established uses of edible and medicinal plants in southwestern Alaska. Essentially a field guide to these native plants, the book is organized by the time of harvest and starting with the plants that define the spring after long, cold winters. Each entry includes extensive notes on the treatment of the plants, often with quotes from the elders.



The Northwest Gardens of Lord & Schryver by Valencia Libby and published by Oregon State University Press was presented with the Award of Excellence in Landscape Design and Architecture. Elizabeth Lord and Edith Schryver founded and operated the first landscape architecture firm by women in the Pacific Northwest. Designing more than two hundred gardens in Oregon and Washington, their work was noted for their interest in finding new plants and introducing them to gardeners and the local nursery industry. In this book, Libby not only features these two exceptional landscape designers but also explores the history and evolution of landscape design in the Northwest.

Gracie and published by Princeton University Press was recognized with this year's Award of Excellence for Natural History and Field Guides. Gracie, in this exceptionally well-illustrated work, delves into the natural history of more than thirty-five summer flowering wildflowers and their relatives and details the plants' habitat, range, pollinators, etymology, and medicinal uses. A welcome addition to the literature on wildflowers.

Honored with the Award of Excellence for Botany was *Trees of New Guinea* edited by Timothy M.A. Utteridge and Laura V.S. Jennings and published by Kew Publishing. New Guinea is the most floristically diverse island in the world with an extremely rich tree flora of up to 5,000 species. *Trees of New Guinea* details each of the 693 plant genera with arborescent members found in New Guinea. The book follows contemporary classifications and is richly illustrated with line drawings and photographs. This new book is an essential companion to anyone studying or working in the region, including botanists,



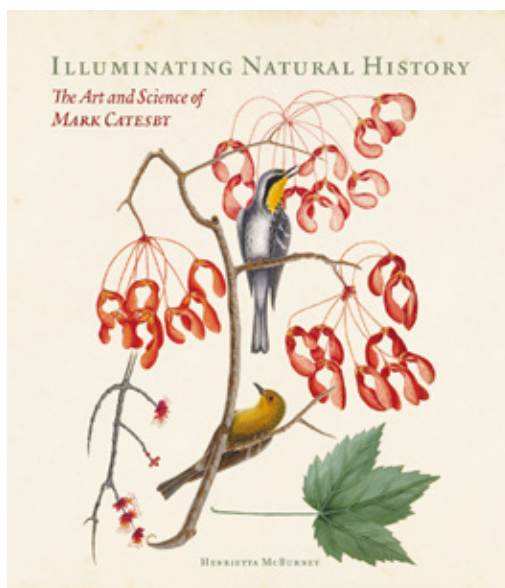
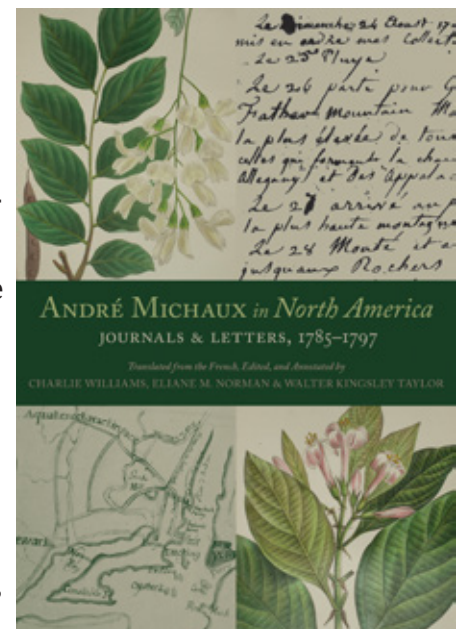
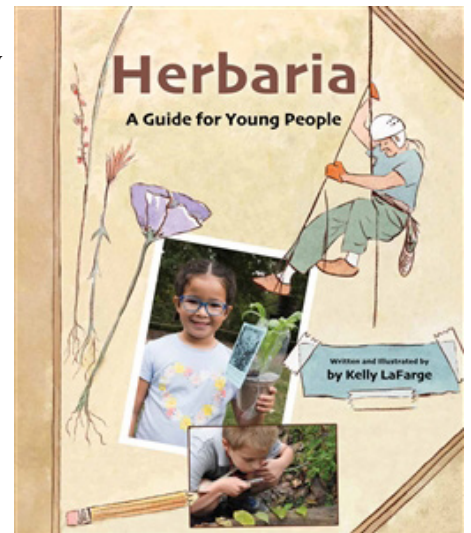


conservation workers, ecologists and zoologists and is critical to the ongoing identification of plant conservation priorities and the protection of biodiversity in South East Asia.

Herbaria: A Guide for Young People written and illustrated by Kelly LaFarge and published by Missouri Botanical Garden Press received this year's Award of Excellence for Children & Young Adults. LaFarge takes children on a literal tour of a herbarium, explaining the who, what, where, why, and how of plant specimens and the buildings that store these plants. Coupled with a blend of beautiful watercolor illustrations and photos,

Herbaria features an interactive format that encourages kids to connect with nature and explore the world around them.

This year's Award of Excellence for History was presented to *André Michaux in North America: Journals & Letters, 1785-1797* translated from the French, edited, and annotated by Charlie Williams, Eliane M. Norman, and Walter Kingsley Taylor and published by the University of Alabama Press. This book presents much of Michaux's journaling from his 11-year exploration of eastern North America. During his travels, he collected thousands of plants and seeds and some birds and animals, kept two large holding gardens, made a herbarium, sent many shipments to France, and upon return published two important illustrated botanical reference works. This book is an important contribution to the history of botany, gardens, forestry, and 18th-century exploration of North America.



Illuminating Natural History: The Art and Science of Mark Catesby by Henrietta McBurney and published by the Paul Mellon Centre for Studies in British Art was honored with the Award of Excellence for Biography. Exploring the life and work of the 18th-century English naturalist, explorer, artist, and author, Mark Catesby, McBurney is lauded for presenting a new, scholarly examination of Catesby's life, science, and art. Based on three principal primary sources, Catesby's watercolor drawings, his plant specimens, and his letters, this book charts Catesby's achievement from his beginnings as a self-trained artist and naturalist, through his explorations in the New World, to the publication which crowned his life's work.

CBHL Members' West News

Edited by Beth Brand
Head Librarian
Schilling Library, Desert Botanical Garden

Miller Library Virtual Story Time and Coloring Sheets Too!

by Laura Blumhagen
Youth Collections and Outreach Librarian
Elisabeth C. Miller Library, University of Washington Botanic Gardens

The Miller Library is still producing virtual story time videos. For July 2022's "Flutter By, Butterflies Story Time," I'm reading *Summer Birds: The Butterflies of Maria Merian* by Margarita Engle and Julie Paschkis, *Nibbles' Garden* by Charlotte Middleton, and *How to Hide a Butterfly* by Ruth Heller.

Since families can now visit the library a few at a time, rather than dropping in all at once for in-person programs, library staff offers coloring sheets based on Maria Sibylla Merian engravings for folks to take home or color in the library. Readers can view the whole Story Time season on our website: <https://depts.washington.edu/hortlib/events/story-time/>



Take-home coloring pages based on the artwork of Maria Merian.



Screenshot during reading of *Summer Birds*.

CBHL Members' East News

Edited by Shelly Kilroy
Librarian, Peter M. Wege Library
Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park

Pennsylvania Horticultural Society Update

by Janet Evans
Associate Director, McLean Library
Pennsylvania Horticultural Society

Community Memory Project

Our community memory project activities continue with monthly workshop participation and the creation of a collection of oral histories and digitized material documenting the activities of Philadelphia community gardeners. We've created a LibGuide, [Cultivating Community Gardens Histories Project](#), which brings together our project activities to date. Here you will find a link to oral histories of Philadelphia community gardeners, a growing collection of interviews in which participants reflect on what gardening has meant to them over the years and how they've connected with their neighbors to create their urban oases. Included also are links



to PHS's COVID-19 collection of archived websites of community garden activities from 2020 and forward, documenting how Philadelphia community gardens fared during the pandemic. These websites and social media sites were archived with two web archiving tools, Archive-It and CONIFER. The remaining tabs on this guide contain links to oral history, web archiving and digitization tutorials, providing tools and guidance to groups who want to document their histories. Joe Makuc, project coordinator, and Penny Baker, archivist, are doing outstanding work on the interviews and web archiving.

This project is funded by an IMLS grant.



Digitization Activities

We've reached an important milestone in this project: 2,295 glass lantern slides have been digitized by the Conservation Center for Historic Artifacts (CCAHA) in Philadelphia. We are in the process of reviewing these images and creating metadata for them. Images and metadata will be uploaded to a statewide online digital repository, PA Photos and Docs. The bulk of the lantern slides being digitized consists of the 1,952 images in the Jay V. Hare Lantern Slide Collection, depicting gardens and landscapes from America and around the world, 1920-1940. Jay Veeder Hare (1878-1953) was secretary and treasurer of the Reading Company Railway and a member of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society's executive council in the 1930s. Hare was an avid gardener and gave many lectures on plants and gardens based on his extensive world travels. The images come from commercial photography houses, artist studios, and Hare's own photography. This is a major step in our project, "The Genius of Place:

Lantern slides from the collection of PHS McLean Library & Archives. (Top): "The Chrysanthemums in Japan" photographed by Futaba, circa 1925. (Bottom): "Flowers arranged in Japanese style (Ikebana)" photographed by T. Takagi, circa 1925.

Images of Gardens and Landscapes from America and Around the World 1920-1984," funded under an NEH Sustaining the Humanities Through the American Rescue Plan (SHARP) award.

PHS Book Group

After a two-month break, the PHS "Stories from the Garden" Book Group started its 2022-23 reading year on August 4. We are pleased to write that September 2022 marks the book group's 21st year of existence! See what we are reading at: <https://pennhort.libguides.com/McLeanLibraryBookGroup>

Floral Fashion Flair at the LuEsther T. Mertz Library

by Stephen Sinon

William B. O'Connor Curator of Special Collections, Research and Archives
The New York Botanical Garden

All of you fashionistas out there will be interested to hear of a recent visit we had to the LuEsther T. Mertz Library by a team from Oscar de la Renta. You may recall that the Mertz library supplied images to Oscar de la Renta several years ago which were featured on a line of tableware that was launched with a party held at their Madison Avenue boutique. I was requested to display three of the volumes containing the plates which were selected at the launch party and I had to guard them carefully that evening as guests circulated with various cocktails in a colorful array of Oscar de la Renta's fashions.

This time was a bit different. The team that showed up from marketing was interested in viewing images of spring florals from the Mertz Library's rare book and folio collection. They were particularly excited to see and photograph nearly every page in Trew's *Hortus Nitidissimus*. I made sure to display a fine copy of van de Passe's *Hortus Floridus* and Blackwell's *Herbal* as well, but they seemed only interested in dandelions, tulips, primulas, and hydrangeas. They did not care at all that the hydrangea is a summer flower. They were with me in the Rare Book Room for an hour and a half, and I thought it went well. I expected them to contact us to arrange high-resolution photography in a matter of weeks, but it never happened.

I overheard another staff member mentioning Oscar de la Renta and found out that they did return to the Garden and they held a fashion shoot for the spring 2023 line throughout the Garden at various locations on the grounds and in the conservatory during peak springtime bloom. You can enjoy the result of their creative endeavors by viewing the collection's promotional video found on the website of Oscar de la Renta. Select Runway from the toolbar and Pre Spring 2023: <https://www.oscardelarenta.com/pages/prespring-2023?navid=1241>.



Book Reviews

Edited by Gillian Hayward
Library Manager
Library and Information Services
Longwood Gardens

[Black Flora: Profiles of Inspiring Black Flower Farmers + Florists](#) by Teresa J. Speight. Gig Harbor, WA: BLOOM Imprint, 2022. 143 pages, illustrations. \$24.95 (paperback). ISBN: 9781736848135.

Reviewed by Gillian Hayward
Library Manager
Library and Information Services
Longwood Gardens

Teresa Speight has gathered positive stories of more than twenty Black flower farmers and florists in *Black Flora*. Each fascinating profile includes three sections: information about their work, their journey to flowers, and their favorite flower (hint: like many passionate horticulturists, most can't choose just one). Colorful photos highlighting the creative and beautiful work of these professionals accompany each profile.

Abra Lee's foreword paints a moving picture of formerly enslaved persons returning to the ruined plantations of the south after the Civil War to take "cuttings and roots" from the gardens they had nurtured during their enslavement. Like stories and traditions, some of these plants have been passed down, giving inspiration to future generations. Speight explains in her introduction why she wanted to collect and present stories of current Black floriculturists: "I want to plant seeds of possibilities through the telling of these stories to inspire and empower future Black flower farmers and floral designers."

Speight's positive intention shines through in *Black Flora*, allowing the many interesting and often moving details of each person's path to floriculture to be fully told. One floral designer notes that "many African Americans in floriculture have hesitated to attach their persona or likeness to their businesses" over fear of racism. She has made a conscious decision to be seen. The Afro-indigenous sisters who own The Wild Mother Creative Studio in Oklahoma City identify as floral activists, wanting to acknowledge and profess that the Black story in America is "fraught with pain and beauty."

Many of the profiles speak of the importance of community - the sharing of ideas, knowledge, and support. St. Louis flower farmer Mimo Davis has an urban flower farm that she knows contributes to the community: "people in the neighborhood walk by and tell us how beautiful things are here and we know our flowers encourage them to be aware and have a part in nature." Natasha Graham, a successful flower farmer in California wants to share her story so "more African Americans can connect with nature, own land, and establish farms."

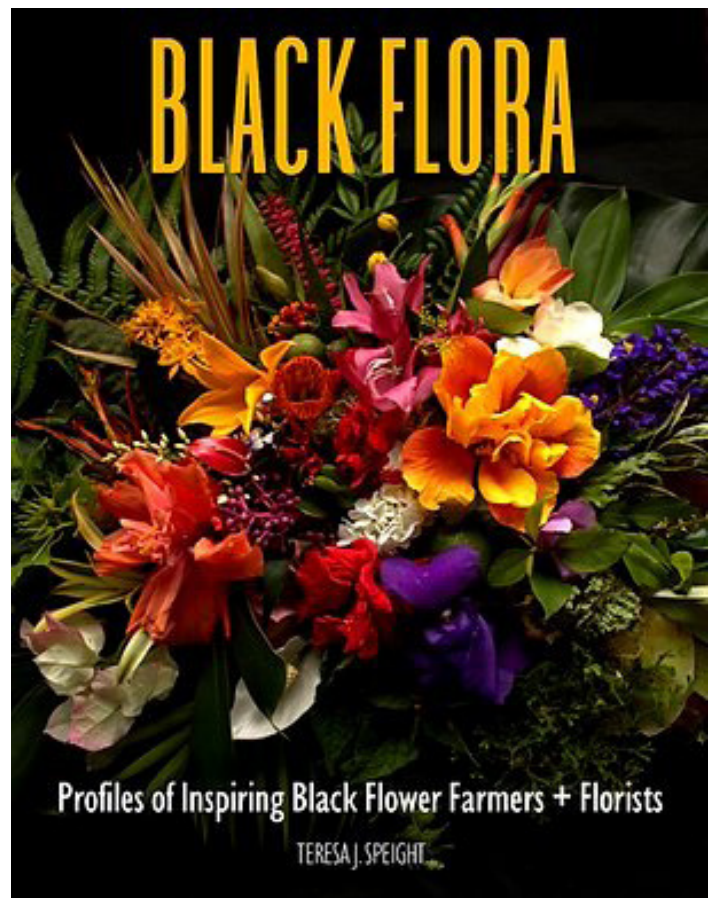
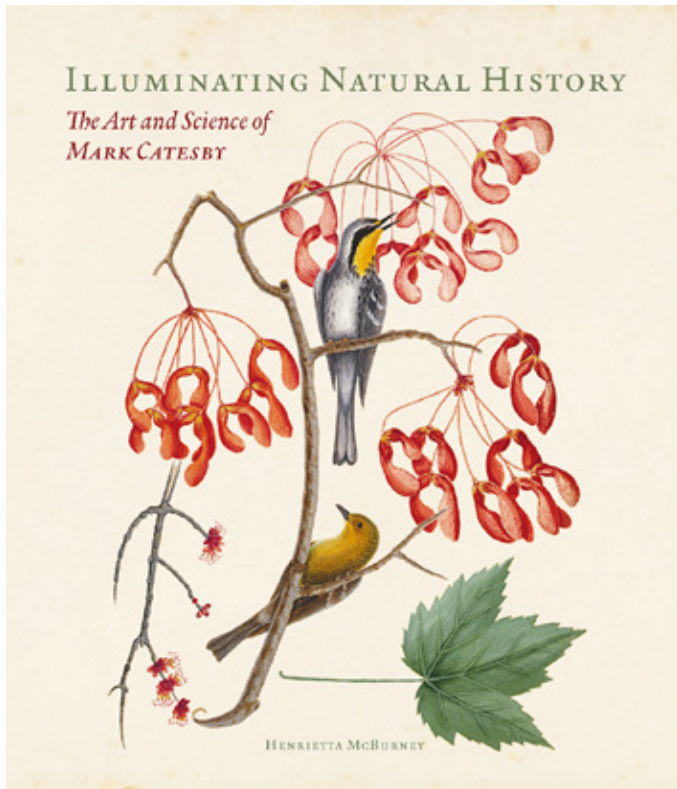


Image courtesy BLOOM Imprint.

The profiles presented here demonstrate that there is not one path to finding a calling in floriculture – many took winding paths before finding their joy in the industry, and some had to fight harder to be seen. The format of the book is open enough to allow the stories to unfold, and the images are plentiful enough to showcase the wide variety of creative and wonderful work. Speight's book is sure to inspire some future floriculturists with its positive message and stories of success.



[*Illuminating Natural History: The Art and Science of Mark Catesby*](#) by Henrietta McBurney. New Haven and London: Paul Mellon Centre for Studies in British Art, distributed by Yale University Press, 2021. xii, 353 pages, 264 chiefly color illustrations, portraits, maps. \$50.00 (hardcover). ISBN 9781913107192

Reviewed by Charlotte A. Tancin
Librarian
Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation
Carnegie Mellon University

We live in such a visual age, but this is nothing new – images have always been important for human engagement and understanding. Many of the great natural history books of the past included striking illustrations. We are so fortunate to still be able to enjoy the books of these naturalists, to see what they saw, and to read what they wrote. In that way, their books are

a bit like time machines. One of these great natural history works is Mark Catesby's *The Natural History of Carolina, Florida and the Bahama Islands* (London, 1731-1743). He wrote in his preface: "The Illuminating Natural History is so particularly Essential to the perfect understanding of it, that I may aver a clearer idea may be conceived from the Figures of Animals and Plants in their proper Colours, than from the most exact Description without them ..." His pictures of plants and of birds and other animals brought the exotic American flora and fauna to readers in living color, also carefully showing the animals' postures in an attempt to share his strong emotional connection with his subjects. In *Illuminating Natural History* Henrietta McBurney has written a study of his art and science, focusing on this masterwork.

Mark Catesby (1683-1749) made two trips from England to the southern colonies in North America and to the Bahamas in the early 18th century. The resulting specimens, plants, and books expanded knowledge of the natural history of the Americas – building on previous work by Charles Plumier and Maria Sibylla Merian, among others – and contributed to gardens, museum collections, and libraries. McBurney has a longtime interest in his work, with expertise built up over years as curator at the Royal Library, Windsor Castle, and as keeper of fine and decorative art at Eton College. She contributed a chapter on Catesby's preparatory drawings to *The Curious Mister Catesby* (Athens, Ga., 2015), winner of the 2016 CBHL Annual Literature Award (and which also included a chapter by longtime CBHL member Leslie Overstreet).

Now in *Illuminating Natural History* we see the results of her extensive study of Catesby's life and work. In his travels he collected specimens and living plants for specific scientific and horticultural collectors.

Then he took a huge step to translate what he saw and learned into print for a larger audience. How large, he could not know – he financed the creation of his books on his own, publishing enough copies for his subscribers, and printing more as new subscribers were added. He had no way of knowing how well his book would live on beyond him and his limited circle of readers and collectors. Today we owe much to his contributions to science and art. Libraries hold and protect surviving copies of his books, and digital copies can be viewed and read online at no charge via the Biodiversity Heritage Library: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/126524#page/7/mode/1up>. Through the efforts of various scholars and scientists, the Catesby Commemorative Trust, and now the Mark Catesby Centre at the University of South Carolina, Catesby's work is more widely known and appreciated than ever before. McBurney's book is a major contribution to his legacy.

In six chapters she describes Catesby's world, his life and character, his publications, and his work as an artist, horticulturist, and naturalist, with particular focus on his art – his drawings, paintings, and printed illustrations – and on how he produced his books. Her full research is absorbing and well presented, but a reader can also enjoyably dip into any of the chapters, pore over Catesby's artworks, or even read his surviving letters in transcription. The many color illustrations in her book, most by him and some by others, will delight the eye and spark curiosity. It is very easy to "lose yourself in a good book" here.

To briefly summarize his story, Catesby grew up in Sudbury, Suffolk, curious about nature, learning about plants from plant collector and horticulturist Samuel Dale, visiting John Ray with Dale, poring over books in Dale's library, and experimenting with garden plants. He seems to have learned to draw mostly by copying illustrations from books in Dale's and Ray's libraries. In 1712 he traveled to Virginia and stayed there with his sister and her family for seven years, making friends and traveling through the region and to the West Indies and Bermuda, studying plants and animals, taking notes and making drawings, keeping in touch with Dale, and sending him some specimens, seeds and living plants. He returned to England in 1719 with his notes and a collection of his drawings and paintings of plants and animals. In London, Dale introduced him to nurseryman Thomas Fairchild and to botanist William Sherard, bringing Catesby into new orbits, including London gardens and the Royal Society of London, of which Catesby eventually became a member.

He sought patrons for a second American trip to find plant and animal specimens for scientists and collectors, and seeds and living plants for gardeners. He also hoped to create and publish a record of what he found. He received support for the trip and went back in 1722 for four years, this time basing his work in Carolina. On returning to London he spent two years processing notes and working on drawings and paintings. Lacking support for publication and unable to afford an engraver, he studied etching with Joseph Groupy and learned to make his own plates. Around 1728 he advertised the proposed publication by subscription of the results of his work. Over the years 1728-1747, he published his *Natural History* in 11 parts, each with 20 hand-colored plates and accompanying text pages with descriptions in dual columns of English and French. The first book edition (London, 1731-1743) was in two folio volumes with 220 plates, each faced with descriptive text. Two later editions and several translations and adaptations followed. His broadside *Catalogue of American Trees and Shrubs* (London, c.1742) and the posthumous *Hortus Britanno-Americanus* (London, 1763, and later 1767) inspired garden owners and spurred plant introductions.

Illuminating Natural History is extensively illustrated with 264 figures and contains three appendices. The first two appendices contain information on Catesby's surviving plant, animal, and fossil specimens, as well as on the paper he used for his books and drawings, with notes on the dating of the drawings, and contributions on watermarks by Peter Bower. The third appendix gives full transcriptions of all 46 surviving Catesby letters, along with three more letters that mention him. To McBurney's bibliography are appended one listing Catesby's published works and their derivatives by Roger Gaskell, and one listing

Catesby's authorities by Leslie Overstreet. Thirty-six pages of notes and an index complete the volume.

In putting this work together in the way that she has, McBurney has not only created a comprehensive scholarly resource and a fascinating history, but also a source of inspiration for artists and budding artists. Please enjoy her book and also share it in a way that catches the eye not only of those already interested in the historical topics she covers but also of gardeners and possibly of a new artistic audience that might not otherwise ever know of Catesby's beautiful work.

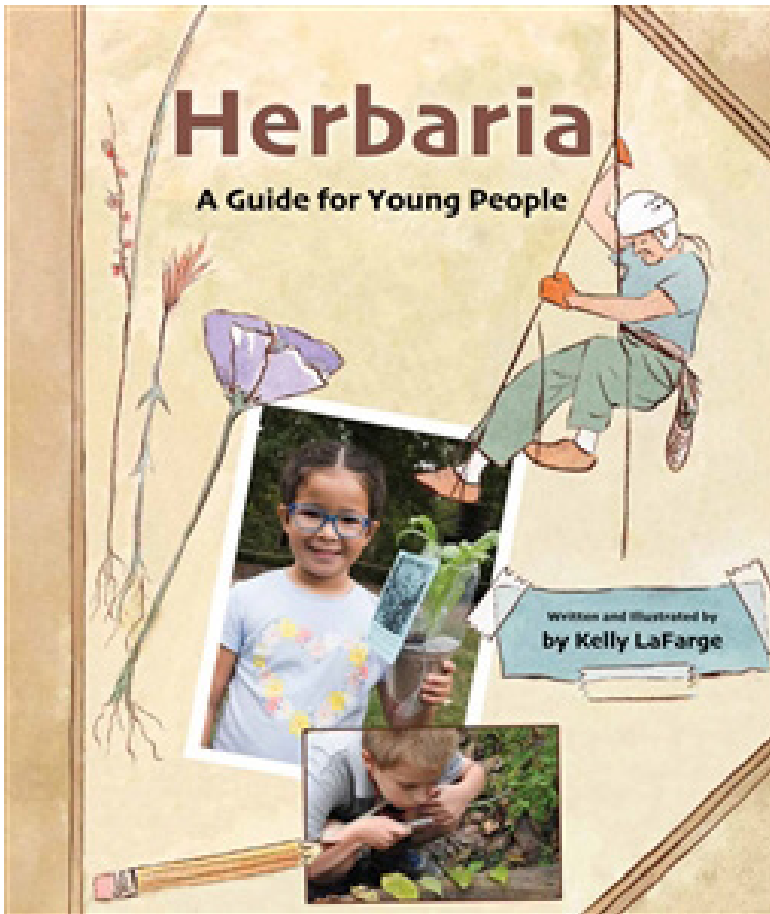


Image courtesy Missouri Botanical Garden Press.

Herbaria: A Guide for Young People by Kelly LaFarge. St. Louis, MO: Missouri Botanical Garden Press, 2020. 33 pages, illustrations. \$19.95 hardcover. ISBN: 9781935641216

Reviewed by Janet Evans
Associate Library Director
McLean Library
Pennsylvania Horticultural Society

Kelly LaFarge's *Herbaria: A Guide for Young People* is a delight, garnering CBHL's 2022 Award of Excellence for children and young adult books. Written for K-12 students, it's published by Missouri Botanical Garden Press but is a far cry from MoBot's usual print runs of scientific publications. This book demystifies the role of herbaria, which LaFarge describes as museums of dried plant specimens. She outlines what are they used for, who uses them, as well as how and where plants are collected and stored in one of the 3,990 herbaria in the world housing more than 350,000,000 plant specimens. Herbaria are storehouses of essential, irreplaceable information about the plant world over time.

The first herbarium and botanical garden was established in 1543 in Pisa, Italy, codifying the practice of drying and storing plant specimens for year-round study. Missouri's herbarium has specimens from Darwin's 1831 Voyage of the Beagle and Philadelphia's Academy of Natural Sciences herbarium houses plants collected on the 1804-06 Lewis & Clark Expedition.

The author writes in a clear, accessible style with engaging illustrations (also by LaFarge) and photography throughout. Even better, she uses flap prints, an interactive print technique going back to the Renaissance, in which the reader is invited to lift a flap to see what lies beneath – to “see” what is inside a field notebook or a plant press or a storage unit. While this 33-page book is geared toward youngsters, adults, especially those who've never heard of herbaria (which might be anyone who has never worked in a natural history museum or botanical garden) will be intrigued as well. Atlas Obscura fans, take note.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Edited by Rita M. Hassert
Library Collections Manager
Sterling Morton Library
The Morton Arboretum

September 6-9, 2022
2022 Natural Areas Conference
Duluth, MN
<http://www.naturalareas.org>

September 9-10, 2022
Annual Conference
American Horticultural Therapy Association
Kansas City, MO
<http://www.ahta.org>

October 12-15, 2022
Conference
GardenComm (Garden Communicators
International)
Virtual
<https://gardencomm.org/>

October 19-22, 2022
28th Annual Meeting & Conference
American Society of Botanical Artists (ASBA)
Tarrytown, NY
<https://www.asba-art.org/>

November 2022
Charleston Conference
Charleston, SC and Virtual
<https://www.charleston-hub.com/the-charleston-conference>

November 11-14, 2022
Conference on Landscape Architecture
American Society of Landscape Architects
San Francisco, CA
<https://www.asla.org/annualmeetingandexpo.aspx>

November 14-15, 2022
“Our Planet, Our Collections”
Conservation Center for Art & Historic Artifacts
Virtual
<https://ccaha.org/events/our-planet-our-collections-virtual-conference>

Minutes of the 54th Annual Meeting of the Council on Botanical and Horticultural Libraries, May 24-28, 2022, Denver Botanic Gardens Onsite and Virtual

Thursday, May 26, 2022

Call to order: 12:00pm Pacific / 1:00pm Mountain / 2:00pm Central / 3:00pm Eastern

President, Allaina Wallace, welcomes attendees and calls the meeting to order. Board Members President Allaina Wallace, Past President Brandy Kuhl, Vice President Stephen Sinon, Treasurer Betsy Kruthoffer, and Secretary Brandy Watts introduce themselves. Quorum is noted, Quorum (at least 15 members per bylaws). Vice President Stephen Sinon served as Parliamentarian for this business meeting.

The minutes of the 53rd annual business meeting, hosted virtually by Smithsonian Libraries on May 5 through May 7, 2021 were published in CBHL Newsletter, number 162, September 2021, motion to approve, second, motion passes.

Officer Reports

Secretary's Report

Brandy Watts noted the dates of the past year's CBHL Board Meetings. August 23, 2021 - Special Board Meeting: to discuss filling the position of President to the CBHL Board of Directors. October 21, 2021 - Fall Board Meeting. May 19, 2022 - Pre-Conference Board Meeting.

Replacement for Office for President/Interim Vice President - On Tuesday, August 10, 2021, the President of the CBHL Board Mark Stewart resigned from the Board for personal reasons. We greatly appreciate his service to CBHL!

The CBHL Board met on Monday, August 23, 2021 at 11am CT via Zoom to discuss filling the position of President to the CBHL Board of Directors. The process by which the position of President to the Board of Directors is replaced is as follows: When the position of President of the CBHL Board is vacated, then the Vice President will become the President. The position of Vice President will be filled by a majority vote of the Board of Directors. The newly designated Vice President will complete the term of office for the remainder of the year in which the vacancy occurs. The position will then be filled through the regular electoral process (Article V, Section B).

On September 15, 2021 the Board selected Stephen Sinon to serve as the interim Vice President of the Board of Directors.

Nomination and Election of the Office of Vice President. On February 1, 2022 the CBHL Nomination Committee nominated Larissa Glasser for the office of Vice President of the CBHL Board. Larissa is a library assistant at the Arnold Arboretum Horticultural Library and serves as faculty for Arts and Sciences at Harvard. On March 15, 2022 Larissa was elected by the CBHL membership to the Office of Vice President. Voting was open from March 1, 2022 - March 15, 2022. Start date is May 28, 2022.

Dissolving PAC - Discussion - 2/15/22-2/28/22. During the business meeting portion of the 53rd CBHL Annual Meeting, hosted by the Smithsonian Libraries and Archives and held over Zoom, discussion was given to the idea of dissolving the Preservation & Access Committee (PAC). The request to dissolve PAC was reviewed and comments provided through online discussion, which was open from February 15 - February 28, 2022. The suggested language for the bylaws change was provided by Kathy Crosby and Charlotte (Chuck) Tancin and approved by the Board. Kathy Crosby additionally shared the following, "I would like to suggest how we think about and discuss continuing special interest discussions—digital permanence, the extensive topic of images, rare books, conservation topics, exhibits, and stewardship. The list is much longer than can be accommodated by one committee and recent technology has changed them all in so many ways. Maybe we could plan for some special interest discussion on committee and other days."

Bylaws Amendment - Vote. On May 15, 2022 the CBHL membership voted to change the CBHL Bylaws to dissolve the Preservation and Access Committee with the following language: The Preservation and Access Committee was formally dissolved by the CBHL membership on April 15, 2022 because it had outlived its usefulness to CBHL in its current form.

CBHL Documents

LibGuides: <https://cbhl.libguides.com/for-members-only/org-resources>

Past President's Report

Brandy Kuhl reported on the Nominating Committee. This year's Nominating Committee members were Kathy Crosby, Susan Eubank, and Brandy Kuhl. The Committee was thrilled to nominate Larissa Glasser for the position of Vice President. Larissa's work at The Arnold Arboretum Horticultural Library and Archives includes reference and technical services, cataloging monographs and serials, digitization projects, metadata curation, social media management, archival processing, and web design. Her full bio was shared on the listserv and can be found on the Harvard library website. Big thanks to Larissa for accepting the nomination to serve on the board!

Treasurer's Report

Betsy Kruthoffer presented a document comparing 2020 and 2021 fund balances. Net assets for 2021 were almost \$8,000 more than in 2020. CBHL still owes EBHL dues paid during 2021, a total of approximately \$700, that will be paid via wire transfer in 2022. Another document showed revenue and expenditures for 2021. Betsy commented that memberships were down from 2020 but that the total of \$11,950 was very close to the budget prediction of \$12,000. She also promoted the idea of making donations during membership renewal. There were no surprise expenses and we stayed close to the budget.

Standing Committee Award Reports

Charles Robert Long Award

Celine Arsenault has retired and rotated off the Committee. Stacy Stoldt has stepped down as Chair. Kathy Crosby is now Chair. These changes occurred just this spring. Allaina Wallace, as President, and Brandy Watts, as Secretary, are members of the Committee as per the bylaws. Meetings were held by email exchange. The Charles Robert Long Award ceremony was held Friday at 4:30-5:00 at the conclusion of the Business Meeting.

Annual Literature Award

The CBHL Annual Literature Award Committee consists of Céline Arseneault, Sheila Conner, Susan Eubank, Janet Evans, Rita Hassert, and Brian Thompson (chair). The committee met by Zoom on May 3, 2022 to consider the nominations, deciding to award one Annual Literature Award and six Awards of Excellence for 2022. The awards were announced at the Denver Annual Meeting, May 27, 2022. For 2022, there were 37 nominations of books published in 2020 or 2021. Ten different members of CBHL contributed nominations, a bit down from previous years. The selected books were from 29 different publishers, about average. For the second year, the committee was pleased that nominators considered how their choices honored diversity, equity and inclusion and how these books reflect the current science of climate change. Sheila Conner announced this is her last year on the committee. After the meeting, the chair consulted with the President for a potential new member.

Brian Thompson announced he would like to step down as chair after seven years in that position. He recommended that the position be divided into at least two jobs:

- One person handles the outreach to publishers and authors; this is a task that takes more and more time. It would include requesting and shepherding the shipment of review copies, following up with the winners for responses, and then advising publishers of the results while encouraging future participation.
- The other co-chair would schedule, organize, and run the committee meetings, prepare the rating sheets and spreadsheet of nominator comments, tally the results, respond to any questions from CBHL membership, make reports to the Steering Committee and at the Annual Meeting.
- We agreed to divide up the chair duties. Céline offered to take over creation of the list of nominees. We discussed dividing up the outreach to publishers and authors amongst the membership for contacting the publishers and/or authors to ask for review copies. Brian will help with sample letters and will recommend contacts if known. Further discussion on the details of implementation will be needed at future committee meetings.
- Committee members will be sending review copies, some from the last three years to Denver. Susan and Brian will conduct the awards ceremony and the raffle, the latter will be set up to be open to all the membership as the committee recognizes that many member libraries lost funding for book purchases since the pandemic started.
- Céline will continue to update the Literature Award announcements on the website. Rita will prepare the press release and make sure winners and nominees are noted in OCLC WorldCat.

Committee Reports

Committees provided the membership with a written copy of their report and posted on the listserv, with time for feedback and discussion during new business. Feedback from newer members and first-time conference attendees was provided about how they would like to know more about committees. Much of CBHL's work is done through committees and all CBHL members are encouraged to participate and join committees. Committee chairs said a few words about the purpose of their committee.

Steering Committee

Meeting, May 24, 2022, 4:30pm. Representatives from all the committees met and provided reports reflecting 2022.

Listserv (Susan Eubank): 214 members of the listserv, working well. Many thanks to Robin and Betsy being attentive to who is joining and resigning. Susan is enjoying the listserv.

Membership (Robin Everly): Committee membership meeting went well. Working on clean-up. 60 members haven't renewed or are gone. Benefits for commercial members. Creating a membership manager, advisory group. Issues: upgrading. Membership recruitment: not part of membership, maybe move to communications. Seven people attended. Pivotal meeting with so much flux and change nationally/institutionally. Rolling memberships, institutional memberships - something to discuss, what does it mean to be an institutional member. Website, new software (wild apricot) - look into it, bring membership on board. 1. Clean up membership, 2. benefits to commercial members, 3. membership manager, 4. rolling memberships, 5. database. Software - make a strong argument that is based on figures so that the reason is fiscally based as a smart business decision.

Literature Award (Brian Thompson): Many awards. Nominations: 37. Sheila's last year on the committee. Brian does not want to be chair anymore. Two parts: outreach to publishers and internal to CBHL. Book raffle: 275.

Financial Advisory (Brian Thompson): Betsy Kruthoffer presented the Treasury report. Review of accounts. Giving Betsy more control. Techsoup, non profit, IRS. EBHL - CBHL cross memberships - CBHL owes two years of dues. Long Fund - \$8500 cap not necessary, lifetime memberships paid out of fund.

Charles Long Award (Kathy Crosby), Stacy and Beth, met by email. Award presented at the end of the business meeting. More limited process this year as opposed to soliciting membership input. PAC dissolved - find a way to talk about broader conversation, possible alternative - collections section of the business meeting.

Stacy Stoldt thanks Kathy for taking over as chair for the Long Award committee and Donna for taking over as chair for the Steering committee.

Membership Committee

Meeting held May 24, 2022 with Robin Everly (Chair), Rita Hassert, Donna Herendeen, Betsy Kruthoffer (Treasurer/Board Liaison), Kristin Mastel, Leora Siegel.

Statistics 2022

New Members	18
Active Memberships (Total)*	215
CBHL with EBHL memberships*	43
EBHL with CBHL memberships*	14
True Active Members *	155

Long Award-	10
Commercial Members	8
Student	1

*Starred categories mean it is an estimate right now.

Old Business

Robin Everly became Membership Committee Chair after the 2021 Annual meeting. She has learned how to use the CBHL membership directory dashboard, updated the Membership Committee's LibGuide pages, created email letters for new members, renewing members and Long Award/Life Members. After this meeting, she will create email letters for commercial and members that haven't renewed in 2022.

Discussion

The membership discussed some recommended changes from the Membership Committee Chair and Treasurer.

- Changing Membership responsibilities from a Committee to an one person Membership Manager position within CBHL and an appointed ad hoc advisory membership when needed. This will require a bylaw change.
- Making the renewal of memberships rolling and occurring throughout the year, rather than a concentrated time from October of the previous year to February of the current year (ex. Oct-2021 to Feb-2022) in the most recent case.

There was also discussion of streamlining some procedures with regard to membership, such as reviewing membership categories, including institutional, individual, etc., how to go about recruiting new members, and benefits for joining as a Commercial member. These will be further flushed out during the current year and discussed more in 2022-2023.

New Business

The Membership Committee Chair would like to begin investigating the bylaw changes needed for changing from a Membership Chair to a Membership Manager.

The Membership Committee would like to begin to implement a plan for rolling new and renewal memberships and have recommendations in place to implement during the 2023 membership year. The committee believes right now there are no bylaw changes associated with this change.

Financial Advisory Committee

Meeting held May 11, 2022 with Betsy Kruthoffer, Treasurer, Brian Thompson, Chair; and Amy Kasameyer.

Betsy presented her draft of the treasurer's report for the committee's review. After discussion, the committee determined the report was accurate and complete, including the CBHL 2020 account, which has been carried forward for accounting of the 2022 Annual Meeting.

Betsy discussed the successful review of the accounts and migration to QuickBooks by a local Cincinnati accountant with expertise in non-profit organizations. The next step is to transfer control of those accounts to Betsy so she has access when needed. Betsy is reviewing options of setting up an account with TechSoup.com, an organization that provides technology support to nonprofits and libraries. She needs proof of non-profit status with the IRS to proceed and is waiting for a response. Brian will research archival records that may confirm this status.

There is a current liability of \$1,920.00 payable to EBHL for affiliate membership fees paid by CBHL mem-

bers in 2020 and 2021. Fees for affiliate memberships in CBHL by EBHL members have been removed from this total. Betsy will work with the EBHL treasurer to wire those funds in the near future.

The committee continues a previous discussion of the Long Fund.

- We agreed that the \$8,500 cap, as indicated by the Procedures' Manual, is unnecessary and we recommend the Board remove it.
- The balance of the fund as of 12/31/2021 was \$8,115.49. With the transfer of \$800 to the General Checking Account to cover membership fees for Long Award recipients, the current balance is under \$7,400.
- The committee recommends continuing this practice that will gradually decrease the high balance of this fund.
- Donations to this fund are minimal (\$25 in 2021) and will not be encouraged in the near future.

Communications Committee

Meeting held May, 25, 2022, Meg Eastwood (Chair)

The Communications Committee met via Zoom at the beginning of May, and again via Zoom in June – Comm Comm has been working on a survey about how members use our electronic properties (LibGuides, the website, etc), and we'll be sending that survey out to members in June.

Newsletter Report

Judy Stevenson, Newsletter Editor. In 2021-2022, we produced four quarterly newsletters – June, September, December, March. In 2022-2023, we anticipate the newsletter schedule will be the same – June, September, December, March. Deadlines for content submission will be July 15 (Sept. issue), October 15 (Dec. issue), January 15 (March issue), April 15 (June issue). The newsletter will continue to feature the following sections:

- From the President
- Member News East (Shelly Kilroy, editor)
- Member News West (Beth Brand, editor)
- Book Reviews (Gillian Hayward, editor)
- Calendar of Events (Rita Hassert, editor)
- Preservation (Kathy Crosby and Chuck Tancin, authors)

We're also looking forward to a new section highlighting new CBHL members by Robin Everly. Thank you to our amazing newsletter proofreaders Staci Catron, Jennie Oldfield, Kathy Allen, and Jodi Shippee! And thank you to everyone who has contributed to the newsletter!!

LibGuides Report

Meg Eastwood and Manager Danielle Nowak (Welcome!)

CBHL LibGuides Statistics from May 1, 2021 to April 30, 2022

- 99 total guides, 16782 total views
- 74 CBHL members have LibGuides accounts

Top 5 Guides:

- Longwood Gardens Library eBook Access and Information, 2830 views
- Los Angeles County Arboretum Library, 1752 views
- 53rd Annual CBHL 2021 Meeting, 1746 views
- 54th Annual CBHL 2022 Meeting, 1616 views
- Horticulture Library Consortium E-books (Lenhardt), 1441 views

LibGuides Use Analysis

CBHL user groups who maintain their own guide through CBHL's LibGuides subscription: Los Angeles, BRIT, Mt Cuba, Tower Hill, Toronto, Chicago, Longwood, Olbrich, and the Sterling Morton Library.

- 46% of Guides (45 total) have zero views, but many of these are unpublished (42 total unpublished guides) or not linked from anywhere.
- 22% of Guides (22 total) are "members only" and used as intranet in support of committee work, archives of documents and resources for members.
- 23% of Guides (23 total) have been updated in 2022.
- 21% of Guides (21 total) have not been updated since the November 2017 migration.

Anyone interested in using the CBHL LibGuides description should also see our LibGuides Policy and Ownership Statement, drafted by ECC and approved by the Board in 2018. You can find it on the CBHL Documents page of the CBHL Member Information Center of the CBHL LibGuides.

Public Relations Report

Rita Hassert, Public Relations Manager

The CBHL social media campaign continues via Facebook (Susan Eubank and Rita Hassert, moderators). If you aren't a follower of CBHL on Facebook, we'd welcome you to the community!

Press releases were created and distributed for:

- CBHL Annual Literature Awards
- Charles Robert Long Award of Extraordinary Merit
- CBHL Annual Meeting – sent to various affiliative organizations as well as library programs

Gillian Hayward has continued the project to update OCLC master records to identify Annual Literature Award nominees and winners. Like Caldecott and Newbery Award winners, CBHL Annual Literature Award nominees and honorees are now visible to a greater audience and are part of the OCLC bibliographic record. These are examples of text added to the master records: "Council on Botanical and Horticultural Libraries (CBHL) Annual Literature Award - Nominee, 2021" or "Council on Botanical and Horticultural Libraries (CBHL) Award of Excellence in Biography, 2021." To view these enhanced records, search for "Council on Botanical and Horticultural Libraries" or "CBHL" AND "award" in WorldCat.

CBHL Membership Brochure

Plans are underway for the revision of our current CBHL brochure. As part of the review process, members of the Membership Committee, Communications Committee, and the Board were surveyed to identify content to be included or excluded in our future brochure. Based on the suggestions received, a brochure working group will develop a revised brochure draft for review.

Listserv Report

Susan Eubank, Listserv Manager

The CBHL listserv currently has 214 members and is working fairly well (There is no easy way to document the number of posts during the year). There are 13 subscriptions awaiting confirmation from the subscriber. If you are not receiving the listserv, please let me know and I will add you or try to work out the issues such as special characters that don't work well with the program.

Many thanks to Betsy Kruthoffer, Treasurer, and Robin Everly, CBHL Membership manager, for getting the subscription information to me immediately.

Céline Arseneault is working with the listserv company on issues we can't solve as I don't have the coding

skill set for that.

Webmaster Report Céline Arseneault

Statistics, From May 5, 2021- May 26, 2022:

- Visitors: 9.2K sessions by 6.7K visitors (more than 25% of increase compared to 2020-2021)
- Consultation: 75% computer, 24% mobile, 1% tablet
- Pages accessed: 16K
- Most accessed in order: Plant Libraries, Annual Literature Award Winners, Annual Meeting, Newsletter and Annual Literature Nomination Form. [Note: Newsletters' links are given directly so this does not reflect the consultation of the Newsletter's issues which are in PDF.]

Current

- Newsletter's TOC: With Jodie Shippee, adding Table of Contents to the listing page of the Newsletter's issues.
- Annual Literature Award: 2021 Winners & Press Release, Nomination Form, Compiled list of 2022 Nominees. 2022 Winners & Press Release should be online this week. The Nomination Form for 2023 Award is already online.
- Regular updates as requested by the board or members.
- Updates and support to the Treasurer, Membership Committee Chair and requesting members for the Online Membership Directory.

Special Projects for 2022-2023

- Complete updating/revision of Plant Libraries' section with correct membership status and URLs to web pages and online catalogs.
- Complete revision of Commercial Members' section.
- Completing Newsletters' TOCs.
- Improving access and use of Online Directory.
- Adding Google Analytics to Online Directory.
- Implementing results of the survey.

Founders' Fund Travel Fellowship Award Committee

The 2022 recipient of the CBHL Founders' Fund Travel Award is Susan Fraser.

Ad Hoc Committee on Future Conferences Report

Meeting held May, 12, 2022, with Stephen Sinon, Chair; Allaina Wallace, current host; Donna Herendeen, Steering Committee Chair; Beth Brand, past host; Ana Nino, future host.

Following introductions, a report was heard from Allaina concerning the upcoming conference in Denver. She stated there are many first timers attending, 30 in person and 13 virtual.

Catering, sponsorship, transportation and budgeting issues were discussed. There will be one day away from DBG on the campus of Denver University and an after-conference trip to the Betty Ford Alpine Gardens in Vail.

Ana Nino gave a report on BRIT hosting in 2023 at Fort Worth. The conference dates are May 2 to 6, 2023. She commented that the planning done by her predecessor Brandy Watts was very helpful. A site visit by the board was not held this year for Denver however it was discussed for October 2022 in Fort Worth. A video presentation on BRIT and Fort Worth will be shown in Denver.

Lodging contract negotiations were discussed. Beth mentioned the difficulties in booking rooms in Phoenix which is a popular meeting location. Denver has a pre-established relationship with a local hotel for discounted rooms which BRIT does not. Ana looked at dorm rooms on the nearby campus of Texas Christian University but they wanted the meeting to be held on site in part. Donna mentioned it is nice to have a hotel shuttle service, breakfast and a booking code when making reservations.

Fort Worth has lots nearby BRIT to visit, restaurants, and BRIT has a shuttle bus seating 25 which can be used. Average hotel costs should be kept under \$200 per night. Beth mentioned having local botanical artist make a display of their artwork at Desert Botanic Garden. Ana mentioned the possibility of visiting the local Bureau of Printing and Engraving.

The use of seed money from the Board was discussed in establishing bank accounts to pay expenses. This was not the case in Denver or Phoenix or DC where internal accounts were used. The seed money is to be paid back to the Board. Denver used Wufoo for registration whereas Phoenix had to use software from their admissions department. Ana will use Wufoo for Fort Worth.

Ways of handling dietary restrictions were noted. The suggested hotel in Denver has breakfast included and there are three coffee shops at the garden. Allaina noted she will update the Conference Host Manual section of virtual attendees to reflect what was done at Denver.

The meeting ended with a discussion of several potential future hosts who will need to be approached during the Denver conference.

Unfinished Business

Renew Ad Hoc Committee on Future Meetings. The Ad Hoc Committee on Future Conferences was formed in 2012 for the purpose of identifying possible future meeting hosts, and to provide general planning and programming support to future hosts. Motion to renew, second, motion passes.

Preservation and Access Committee Dissolved. A bylaws change was proposed and voted on to dissolve the Preservation and Access Committee. The bylaws change was as follows: The Preservation and Access Committee was formally dissolved by the CBHL membership on April 15, 2022 because it had outlived its usefulness to CBHL in its current form. I want to thank all former members of the Preservation and Access Committee, especially Chuck Tancin and Kathy Crosby, for their service.

Long Award Restricted Fund Balance.

During the 2021 Annual Meeting, the Financial Advisory Committee recommended that the Board review the Long Award restricted fund. The Board reviewed the fund. Betsy and Brian provided a summary. The Board recommends that no changes be made and we continue to monitor the fund.

CBHL State of the Industry Survey.

During the 2021 Annual Meeting, it was recommended that the CBHL State of the Industry Survey be sent out again in 2022. If the membership still thinks it would be useful, Brandy Kuhl has offered to do a 2022 survey and share the results with the membership later this year.

New Business

CBHL 2023 Annual Meeting, Ana Ninõ

Fort Worth Botanic Garden|Botanical Research Institute of Texas is excited to host the 2023 CBHL Annual Meeting next year during the first week of May. Exact dates are TBD but will fall between Monday, May 1 & Saturday, May 6. The oldest major botanic garden in Texas, FWBG|BRIT's 120-acre campus has 25 garden spaces, including our well-known rose and Japanese gardens. Next door is the Botanical Research

Institute of Texas, which houses our Philecology Herbarium, our Sumner Molecular & Structural Lab, BRIT Library, and art exhibition spaces, as well as our living roof and native Texas prairie. Some things to expect at next year's Annual Meeting will be tours of our begonia greenhouse and Japanese garden, a site visit to nearby cultural district museums, and Barney Lipscomb—Director of the Library—delivering a talk titled "A Botanical Waltz Across Texas."

Committee Report Discussion

Question to Communications Committee: Has consideration been given to other social media options?

Rita Hassert: Consideration has been given to this, we have Facebook and Twitter accounts. If someone is interested in taking the lead on starting an Instagram account, we welcome it as well as other social media platforms.

Question: Has CBHL reached out to students, groups, libraries, and schools for memberships?

Robin Everly: Not yet because it's been a rebuilding year for the membership committee. It's being considered for the future along with a recruitment effort.

Update: Robin Everly: The Membership Committee Chair would like to begin investigating the bylaw changes needed for changing from a Membership Committee to a Membership Manager.

The Membership Committee would like to begin to implement a plan for rolling new and renewal memberships and have recommendations in place to implement during the 2023 membership year. The committee believes right now there are no bylaw changes associated with this change.

Request/Question: Leora Siegel: Request that committees that are open committees, that meeting announcements be shared on the listserv.

Has the Board considered an Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) committee and if not can we?

Allaina Wallace: We have not had that conversation but will. Larissa Glasser: Very interested in an EDI committee and pro-women in academia/stem.

Question: Beth Brand: Have we ever followed up with people who we have left?

Suzi Teghtmeyer: Yes, we did for many years and a lot of people retired or changed jobs. A lot of people fluctuated. Memberships decreased because many members retired. That's why our membership has decreased. Institutions have changed, positions changed or were not continued resulting in decreased institutional memberships or change in membership to individual. CBHL is not necessarily at fault, rather institutions are changing. We could do better at reaching out to schools, members, organizations - please reach out to them. I'll be stepping away after 10 years, now that we have a good team of people. We need a marketing person for promotion and recruitment purposes.

Robin Everly: Thank you Suzi! Recruitment efforts have been made through letters and calling, etc. over the years. More of an effort needs to be made. This will be my priority, focus, and big effort over the next two years.

Question: Stephen Sinon: What will our strategy be moving forward for our born digital archival needs (LibGuides, eNewsletters, etc.)?

Allaina Wallace: We don't have an answer for that, but that is something the Board is going to discuss.

Allaina Wallace: Another topic for the discussion by the Board is continuing to work with the Communications Committee on reviewing our options for improving our membership database and website hosting options, which we will continue to communicate with the membership about.

General Announcements from the Membership

Brandy Watts: NSF grant to digitize the Sherwin Carlquist collection, which is held at both California Botanic Garden and Botanical Research Institute of Texas, submitted last year at this time has been fully funded. This has significant implications for natural history collection libraries across the country in terms of indicating a shift in funding from the NSF and a new source of funding for botanical and horticultural libraries. The NSF funding program is Infrastructure Capacity for Biological Research (NSF Program Solicitation 21-501).

Samantha D'Acunto: Welcomes several new LuEsther T. Mertz Library staff.

Brad Lyon: Request for a list of attendee affiliations and areas of interest to facilitate networking at conferences for onsite and virtual attendees, is this possible? To allow for welcoming all the new members. It's wonderful to see so many new members. Robin will send out a list of new members.

Suzi Teghtmeyer: 1. Next year Michigan State University will be celebrating the 150 anniversary of William James Beal Garden. An open access WJB digital repository will be established. 2. Journal of Agriculture and Food Information (JAFI) is looking for reviewers and writers.

Brandy Watts: Will be attending the EBHL conference this year in Belgium as a representative of the CBHL Board, October 19-22, 2022.

Allaina Wallace: This year is the 75th anniversary of the Helen Fowler Library.

Closing of Annual Meeting

Thank you to the host, Allaina Wallace and her team, for a wonderful conference! The host gift was presented to Allaina by Betsy Kruthoffer and Brandy Watts.

Allaina Wallace: At this time I would like to say thank you to the CBHL Board, the planning committee (Meg, Gayle, Nicole, Nitzan and Angela), and anyone who has offered encouragement!

Recognition of Outgoing/Incoming Officers

As many of you know, in August 2021 the CBHL President resigned for personal reasons. As outlined in the bylaws, If the position vacated is President, the Vice President will become President and will continue in this role for the remainder of the year and continue for their regularly scheduled term of office. I look forward to serving as your President for the upcoming year.

Brandy Kuhl will also be serving a second year as Past President.

In September 2021, the board appointed Stephen Sinon to serve as interim Vice President. We want to sincerely thank Stephen for his service; it has been a pleasure to work with you!

And now we want to extend a very warm welcome to our new Vice President, Larissa Glasser! Welcome to the board!

Larissa Glasser: Apologies for not being there in person. Honored to be part of the CBHL Board. Thank you!

Question: Where is the gavel? Allaina: I'm not sure, we will find it though!

Adjourn

Allaina: Motion to adjourn, second, motion passes. The meeting is adjourned.

Adjourn 1:40pm Pacific / 2:40pm Mountain / 3:40pm Central / 4:40pm Eastern

CBHL Newsletter, Issue 166, September 2022

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Submissions Welcome!

Articles may be submitted to Judy Stevenson, Editor, judy Stevenson98@gmail.com.

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Join us!

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

Join online at:

<https://www.cbhl.net/become-cbhl-member>

Questions?

Contact CBHL Membership Manager

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Please use the subject line "CBHL Membership"

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