

CBHL 41st Annual Meeting: May 12–16 Missouri Botanical Garden, St. Louis

Welcome to St. Louis, Missouri—gateway to the West! The Missouri Botanical Garden (MOBOT) and Library staff are delighted to invite you to the 41st annual CBHL Meeting and Conference, May 12–16. The theme for the 2009 meeting is “Growing Green: The Role of Gardens as Models of Conservation and Sustainability.” We are working hard to keep our meeting environmentally friendly and will be sharing our successes and failures as well as discussing how other departments within MOBOT are utilizing green projects to raise funds and save money.

A pre-conference workshop will start our conference Tuesday morning, May 12. Led by Chris Freeland, director of bioinformatics, this workshop will give attendees a behind-the-scenes view of three major bioinformatics tools developed at MOBOT: botanicus.org, tropicos.org, and biodiversitylibrary.org.

Chris will talk briefly about the history and development of these resources and how they work. He also will walk users through the applications, highlighting features and giving advanced instruction on how to effectively mine data and get more and better information out of the tools. Space is limited, so please sign up when you receive your registration information.

The committee meetings that follow the pre-conference workshop will all take place at the Drury Plaza Hotel. The Drury is located downtown within walking distance of many restaurants, Busch Stadium (home of the St. Louis Cardinals baseball team), and the famous Gateway Arch. It also is located within walking distance of our welcome reception at the downtown branch of the St. Louis Public Library, where we’ll meet from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. Funded by a gift from Andrew Carnegie in 1901, the downtown

branch opened its doors in 1912. The building is described as modified Italian Renaissance and was designed by famed architect Cass Gilbert. (Be sure to take a look at the glass floors between the stacks!) We’ve been promised docents for the evening. Special thanks to Koeltz Scientific Books for their generous donation for the cocktails and hors d’oeuvres.

A full complimentary breakfast will be available each morning as well as cocktails and snacks in the evening in the main lobby of the Drury Plaza Hotel. We encourage you to take advantage of both! Tour buses will arrive at the hotel no later than 8:15 a.m. Wednesday to make the short trip to MOBOT. We’ll spend the morning touring the Library and Herbarium and then get down to business in the afternoon. We’ll save plenty of time to visit the gift shop before boarding the buses for a guided tour of

nearby Tower Grove Park. Given to the city by MOBOT’s founder, Henry Shaw, in 1868, Tower Grove is a beautifully preserved 276-acre Victorian park dotted with eleven distinct pavilions. We will end the day with a talk and appetizers at the Piper Palm House, located on the north end of the park. Special thanks to Missouri Botanical Garden Press and Indus International for their generous sponsorship of Wednesday evening’s reception.

Business awaits us once again Thursday morning, but there’s no need to rush; we’ve reserved a meeting room at the hotel.

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The Japanese Garden at the Missouri Botanical Garden. Conference attendees will enjoy MOBOT at the peak of springtime.

From the President

Leora Siegel
Director, Lenhardt Library
Chicago Botanic Garden
1000 Lake Cook Road
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Dear CBHL,

As we embark on CBHL's 41st anniversary year, it's a good time to reflect on the past and look toward the future and our next 40 years. This amazing all-volunteer organization is such because of our members—past and present. Working on committees that produce this newsletter, annual meetings, Web site, listserv, brochure, literature awards, collection surveys and databases, and much, much more, our members make this organization what it is. For such a small group, we do so many worthy activities that positively impact our field. If you haven't read *The Story of CBHL 1969–1976* by R. Henry Norweb, take a look at http://www.cbhl.net/about/history3_nor.htm.

In looking toward our future, the current "green" trend easily fits into our focus. With LEED® certified green buildings sprouting up at botanic gardens and universities, our library collections no doubt already include books and journals on sustainable topics such as green roofs and sustainable forest practices and everything in between.

We can easily fit libraries into the greening of our institutions by

reducing paper use and turning off computers and other equipment at night. Not as easy, however, is the greening of the book production process. We, as purchasers of print books and journals, are dependent on publishers, manufacturers, and printers to produce materials using sustainable practices. Most often we're not buying books from publishers directly, but through jobbers. I hope the American Libraries Association or the Special Libraries Association is addressing this issue. All this is another reason to embrace electronic resources, even though these products are so expensive in both user fees and server needs.

What we can do is look at CBHL's operations to see if we can use more sustainable practices. Using the 3 R's, Reduce-Reuse-Recycle, as a starting point, how can we make CBHL greener? Reduce our print publications—newsletter and membership directory—and replace them with electronic versions only? Our biggest footprint is at our annual meetings. How can we make them more sustainable? Buy carbon offsets for those flying to the meeting? Use refillable water bottles instead of purchased water? Find meeting bags made of recycled materials?

The beauty of CBHL is that we're a small enough organization for someone with an idea to be able to take action and create a working group. Is anyone up for creating an ad hoc committee to look into practical ways to green CBHL?

I truly look forward to working with you this year to see how CBHL will grow.

Best wishes,
Leora

CBHL Board of Directors 2008–2009

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Annual Meeting

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We'll begin promptly at 8:15 a.m. If you've reserved a ten-minute "Library Projects: Progress, Updates, and News" slot, be prepared! The afternoon, beginning with lunch, will be spent at Shaw Nature Reserve and will include tours of the ecologically restored prairie and glades as well as the Whitmire Wildflower Garden. Several MOBOT-ers will host dinners at restaurants of their choice. Sign-up sheets for those interested will be available at the registration booth May 11 and 12.

We'll conclude the conference Friday with a later start in the morning (9:30!) for a docent-led tour of Forest Park, St. Louis' largest public park, with 1,293 acres. It also is home to the St. Louis Art Museum, Zoo, Science Museum, History Museum, Mounted Police, Jewel Box greenhouse, Steinberg skating rink, and Munny outdoor theater, in addition to golf courses, racket ball courses, bike paths, and an annual hot air balloon race. We'll have lunch right in the middle of the park, at the Forest Park Clubhouse. Talking-table moderators will lead discussions during lunch. (Participation is



Above: One of the reflecting pools at MOBOT, featuring bronze sculptures by Carl Milles. Below left: Gateway to St. Louis, the Arch in winter.



LUCY FISHER

optional; sign-up sheets will be available at the registration booth at the hotel on May 11 and 12.) We'll return to MOBOT for the afternoon, with plenty of time available for outdoor tours and last-minute committee meetings.

Our closing banquet will begin at 7 p.m. at the Top of the Riverfront Restaurant, just one block down the street from the Drury Hotel. The Top of the Riverfront boasts some of the best views of St. Louis; the outer edge of the restaurant rotates so that diners can enjoy a full 360° view.

There are three options for Saturday day tours of the St. Louis area. The first option offers two different tours on Segway Personal Transporters. Segways are a great way to tour St. Louis as you can accomplish much more sightseeing in less time than walking tours. And, unlike bus tours, you can still get close enough to be part of the scenery at such attractions as The Gateway Arch, the St. Louis Cardinals' Busch Stadium, the Eads Bridge, the Old Court House, and Union Station. The Forest Park tour will take you to the Grand Basin, the Art Museum, the Jewel Box, the Planetarium, and more. The Historic Downtown St. Louis City Tour and the Forest Park Tour are approximately three hours each and the price for either tour is \$65 per person, plus tax. Almost anyone of any age can learn to ride these awesome self-balancing machines.

The second option for Saturday, May 16, is an all-day tour of the meeting of the

waters, including visits either to Jones Confluence Point State Park or to Columbia Bottom Conservation area to view the confluence of the Missouri and Mississippi rivers as well as a visit to the Melvin Price Lock & Dam. Lunch will be provided by My Just Desserts and includes casserole, salad, beverage, and dessert. The day will conclude with a driving tour of Alton and a trip on the Grafton Ferry. This tour requires a reservation with conference registration and costs \$60.

The third option for Saturday, May 16, is a "Maifest in Hermann" tour from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. It includes a visit to Stone Hill Winery in Hermann, Missouri, with a guided tour of the winery and a wiener schnitzel lunch at Vintage 1847 Restaurant at Stone Hill. There will be plenty of free time to visit downtown Hermann and the Swiss Meat & Sausage factory. We'll conclude the day with a lovely driving tour of Missouri Wine Country. This tour requires a reservation with conference registration and costs \$75.

We look forward to seeing you all in St. Louis in May. It has been 20 years since CBHL last met here, and you won't recognize the place! This is a special year for the Missouri Botanical Garden. It is the 150th anniversary of our opening to the public, in 1859. Come celebrate with us!

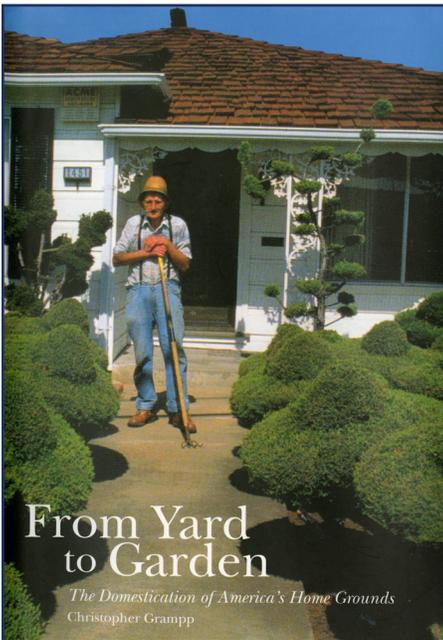
— Lucy Fisher, Library Assistant
The Missouri Botanical Garden Library
Missouri Botanical Garden
St. Louis, Missouri

Book Reviews

Grampp, Christopher. *From Yard to Garden: the Domestication of America's Home Grounds*. Chicago: Center for American Places at Columbia College, 2008. 278 p., ill. ISBN-10: 1-930066-74-0; ISBN-13: 978-1-930066-74-8. \$32.50.

In this easy-flowing, readable social history of Americans and their yards, California landscape architect Christopher Grampp traces the progression of America's home grounds from agricultural dirt yard to habitable outdoor space. This is not a book about the act of gardening, creating "a place set aside for a special purpose such as growing flowers or vegetables" but rather a look at the development of the space around the average American's home, which may not even contain ornamental plants.

The book is divided into two main parts and a third shorter, concluding section. Part One focuses on this transformation in America overall, while Part Two is concerned with coastal California in particular as it embodies the ideal in outdoor living. Beginning with rural colonial America, Grampp describes the agriculturally-centered yard, made up of a dooryard or utility space, a barnyard, and a vegetable garden and orchard. Grampp explains the move of people from rural areas to the cities during the second half of the 19th century, arguing that industrialization played a big role in defining how homes and the property around them were designed and used. The increase in transportation from carriages to streetcars created the "streetcar suburb era," allowing people to live further from the urban core and further away from the middle of the



street, due to the implementation of setbacks. The City Beautiful movement that began in the 1890s played a large role in developing the plantings that began to take place in front yards, as did the use of foundation plantings used to cover up Victorian era houses. Also, as public utility companies began to take over trash pickup and sewage disposal, and electric appliances performed new tasks indoors, the back yard was freed of garbage, privies, and clotheslines and became a space that could be used by homeowners in new ways.

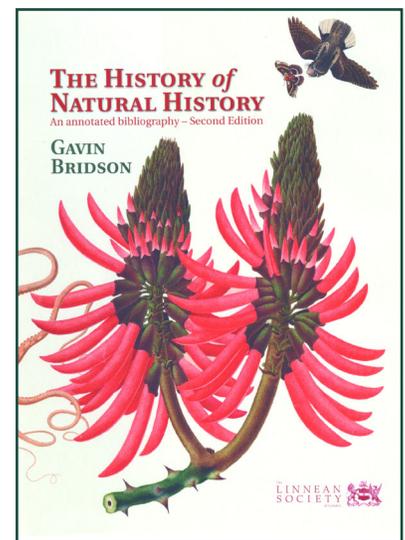
In Part Two Grampp discusses the evolution of the California garden, describing three dominant architectural styles—Mediterranean (specifically Mission revival), bungalow, and ranch—that integrated the indoors with outdoors. Readers unfamiliar with California landscape and garden history will enjoy Grampp's take on often-discussed topics: the desire to import and grow everything under the sun; drought and water conservation; and the influence of modernist landscape architects Garrett Eckbo and Thomas Church. Those who know the history will find his discussion of *Sunset* magazine and the influential role it had in shaping California homes and gardens especially noteworthy. Part Three summarizes what Grampp sees as the possible future of American home grounds, with a look at communal landscapes and communities that share outdoor spaces, further blurring the lines between properties and redefining the space around the home.

An interesting thread that winds through the book is the use (or lack) of fences to define property lines and to create privacy in front yards. After lawns became commonplace in much of America and front yards were designed to reflect beauty instead of practicality, the continuous flow of green became a shared neighborhood amenity, "the collective face of suburbia," as Michael Pollan calls it in *Second Nature*. While in many cities putting up fences was seen as selfish, uncultured, and is still even illegal, hedges and fences have often been used in California's cities to provide privacy, extra domestic outdoor space, and peace and quiet from urban noise. Depending on where one grew up, front and back enclosures can be seen as a positive or a negative feature in the home landscape.

Christopher Grampp has been researching and writing about residential gardens for more than twenty years. He has loaded this well-researched survey with ample statistics from many writers, state and federal government reports, and interviews he conducted with gardeners and homeowners, all well referenced in the copious notes section at the end of the book. Physically, the book is well made, printed on heavy stock and bound well to lay flat when open. There

is a good balance of text and black and white illustrations, and ample margins make it easy on the eyes. However, the text would have benefited from a more careful proofreading as there were quite a few misspellings of names (most notably Fredrick [sic] Law Olmsted and "Colombian" Exposition), with variants occurring often within the same paragraph. That criticism aside, the book is enjoyable to read and is a valuable addition to American garden and social history. It should be in most horticultural libraries.

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



Bridson, Gavin. *The History of Natural History: An Annotated Bibliography*. A guide to sources of information: histories, bibliographies, biographies, library resources, etc. 2nd ed. London: The Linnean Society of London, 2008. xxxii, 1032 p., 40 color plates. ISBN 978-0-9506207-8-7 (hardcover). £65 plus shipping.

Don't we love it when a truly excellent reference work comes along! The first edition of *The history of natural history* was published by Garland in 1994. In this greatly expanded and enhanced second edition, the late Gavin Bridson has produced a superior research tool for working taxonomists and researchers in all aspects of the history of natural history. Subjects covered in this comprehensive work include collected biographies of naturalists and natural history artists; important library resources and catalogues; core bibliographies for the history of natural history, exploration, voyages and travel; resources for the history

of botany and zoology; and references for natural history illustrations, cabinets, and museums.

Bridson was steeped in natural history literature throughout his professional life, having worked at Quaritch's Rare Books and Manuscripts, the British Museum (Natural History), the Linnean Society of London, and Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation. His deep knowledge and his passion for bibliography and the history of natural history shine in this work that will become an essential tool for scientists and scholars, enabling them to broaden their searches and deepen their research. The authoritativeness of the information, depth of coverage, and overall organization and utility of the work are all superb. In addition to the text there are 40 color plates, illustrating various parts of the bibliography with well-chosen highlights from the Linnean Society's collections. Three indexes are provided to subjects, places, and names. There are two

tables of contents, one given in brief outline and the other in more detail, providing the user with clear paths into the bibliography. An introduction acquaints the reader with the organization of the work so as to increase the likelihood that he or she will make the most successful searches possible. There was no better person to tackle this project, and the resulting book is a testimony to Bridson's vast experience and expertise in this field.

This bibliography will be useful to botanists, zoologists, collectors, history of science scholars, gardeners and horticulturists, and bibliographers; it should be available in all good libraries. As more and more information becomes available online, there is a danger that researchers will look only there and not delve further. However, one of the many things that librarians do is to steer researchers toward appropriate resources. *The History of Natural History* is organized for maximum usability to reduce the likelihood that researchers will miss

relevant works. Having this work in our libraries and promoting its use could make a big difference in the quality of research that is being done. Consulting Bridson's comprehensive bibliography can give researchers citations to use in searching for digital copies of published works online, and then can also take those researchers beyond the Internet and into the vast holdings of our libraries and archives. Such is the power of a comprehensive subject bibliography. Thanks to the Linnean Society for working with Gavin on this project and then continuing the work after his death to bring this fine work to publication.

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

Calendar of Upcoming Events

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

March 20-22. Memphis. 10th Information Architecture Summit. "Expanding our Horizons." <http://www.iasummit.org/>

March 30-April 1. Arlington, Virginia. 24th Annual Computers in Libraries Conference. <http://www.infotoday.com/cil2009/default.shtml>

April 12-18. National Library Week. "Worlds Connect @ Your Library." <http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/hqops/pio/natlibraryweek/nlw.cfm>

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

April 1-4. New Orleans. Society of Ethnobiology 32nd Annual Conference. "Food: Crops and Noncrops." <http://ethnobiology.org>

April 30-May 4. Philadelphia. AAM Annual Meeting & MuseumExpo. <http://www.aam-us.org/am09/>

May 11-17. Children's Book Week. <http://www.cbcbooks.org/>

May 12-16. CBHL Annual Meeting. "Growing Green: The Role of Gardens as Models of Conservation and Sustainability." <http://www.cbhl.net/meetings/meetings.htm>

May 31-June 4. Charleston, South Carolina. Society for Economic Botany 50th Annual Meeting. <http://www.econbot.org>

June 14-17. Washington, D.C. SLA Annual Conference. <http://www.sla.org/content/Events/conference/ac2009/index.cfm>

June 14-26. Charlottesville, Virginia. Historic Landscape Institute. "Preserving Jefferson's Gardens and Landscapes." <http://www.monticello.org/education/gardeninstitute.html>

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

MEMBERS' NEWS

Members' News West

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

New Head of AHL

Andersen Horticultural Library (AHL) is celebrating the selection of Kathy Allen as its new head librarian. Kathy brings enthusiasm and a distinguished career in the plant sciences to her new position. She has worked both at the University of Minnesota and libraries in Malawi. Kathy also brings her long involvement with *Plant Information Online*, one of the world's largest online reference sources in the plant sciences. AHL, located at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, is a reference, non-circulating library of the University of Minnesota Library System. Congratulations, Kathy!

Virginia L. T. Gardner
Santa Barbara, California

News from Fire-Ravaged Santa Barbara

I guess the big news from me is that my husband's house on Mountain Drive burned to the ground in the so-called "Tea Fire." Most of the properties that burned were in Santa Barbara proper instead of the more upscale Montecito, as the news would have you believe. Some of you old timers (like me) remember having lunch there when we had a meeting in Santa Barbara. In the meantime, he is living with me (rather interesting after 10 years). He will go to Idaho for six weeks, and then the insurance company has found a home for him two miles from his property, where he plans to rebuild. I am looking forward to a trip to Costa Rica for a week with my sister and daughter. By the way, my husband's house was meant to be quite fireproof (with cement walls that are still standing and the copper roof twisted and blown). He got out with almost nothing and there were "lookie-loos" in his driveway and all along Mountain Drive as he was leaving. It's amazing the fire is such an attraction, albeit dangerous.

Brandy Kuhl, Assistant Librarian
Helen Crocker Russell Library of Horticulture
San Francisco Botanical Garden
at Strybing Arboretum
San Francisco, California

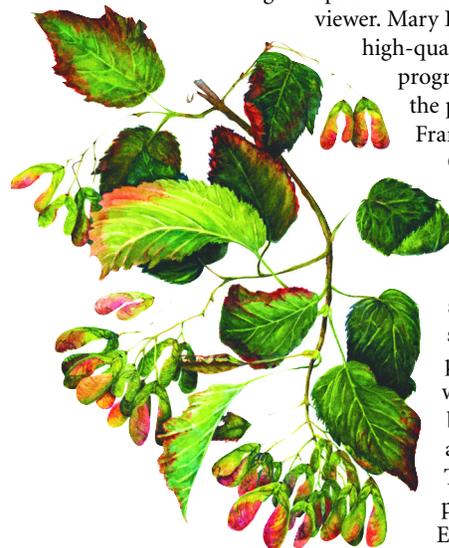
Día de los Muertos Children's Storytime

We held our first Día de los Muertos bilingual storytime November 2, which was a wonderful opportunity to highlight our growing collection of Spanish and bilingual Spanish/English books for children. Our two volunteer readers, Ave Maria reading in Spanish and Veraine in English, delighted a small but attentive group of children and adults with a number of engaging stories. Beginning with a wonderfully illustrated Día de los Muertos alphabet book, the readers introduced the group to the Mexican holiday. The remaining books were chosen from our collection of children's books on plants, natural history, general science, and nature-related myths and stories. To publicize the

event we posted the bibliography and event information on the Library and the Society Web pages.

Art Exhibition Commemorates Charles Darwin

Through March 2009 the library is hosting an art exhibition in honor of both the 150th anniversary of the publication of Charles Darwin's *On the Origin of Species* (1859), and the 200th anniversary of his birth on February 12, 1809. Organized by artist Mary Harden, the exhibition features new watercolors by Mary and her advanced students illustrating plants from our recently renovated Ancient Plant Garden. For this exhibit Mary chose plants including ferns, horsetails, magnolias, pines, araucarias, and barberries in order to illuminate various stages of plant evolution and to delight the



Acer negundo by Mary L. Harden, watercolor, 2008

viewer. Mary Harden has established a high-quality botanical illustration program at the Garden over the past four years. With San Francisco Botanical Garden's strong support, 95 students are currently enrolled in this unique program, which builds on a stepped progression of skills and techniques in pencil; pen and ink; ink wash; gouache; and beginning, intermediate, and advanced watercolor. The exhibition will be part of a city-wide event, Evolve 2009, commemorating Darwin.

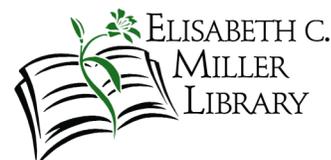
Tracy Mehlin, Information Technology Librarian
Elisabeth C. Miller Library
University of Washington Botanic Garden
Seattle, Washington

Brian Thompson Promoted to Manager

Brian Thompson was promoted to Library Manager by the Dean of the College of Forest Resources on December 1, 2008. Brian had served as interim library manager for over a year after the departure of Karen Preuss in July 2007. The library staff is thrilled to have such a competent, thoughtful, committed, and all around nice guy as leader of the Miller Library. Brian also will retain the job title Curator of Horticultural Literature. In order to maintain a balanced budget, Brian's former position will not be filled, leaving the Miller Library staffing at 4.2 FTE filled by six people. In related news, the Dean also extended the appointment of UW Botanic Gardens Interim Director Sandra Lier until July 2011.

New Logo, New Brochure

A new logo and brochure were created in late fall 2008, funded by a grant from the West Seattle Garden Tour Committee. The full-color brochure features images from the rare book collection and photographs of patrons and library staff. For the first time the brochure includes a tear-off donation form that will underscore the ongoing necessity



of private financial support. The brochure is available on our Web site, <http://www.millerlibrary.org>. The site also has been edited to match the look and feel of the brochure.

**Winter 2009
Art Exhibits**

The winter 2009 art exhibits will feature Louise Smith, with botanical illustrations in January, and Lisa Snow Lady, with a show titled *Drought Tolerance, Mixed Media Botanicals* in February and March.

Lisa Snow Lady's
Helianthemum, 2008.



**Susan C. Eubank, Arboretum Librarian
Arboretum Library
Los Angeles County Arboretum & Botanic Garden
Arcadia, California**

Through sheer determination and attention to a single task, we have successfully launched the Multicultural Weaving Exposition at the Los Angeles County Arboretum & Botanic Garden. It includes an exhibition in the Arboretum Library featuring basketry, weaving, and lace all made from plant or recycled materials. The Exposition planning was started by our summer multicultural Getty intern Meymuna Hussein. Our children's education specialist, Colleen Biles, and I executed her plan. The Kick-Off Day included the exhibition as well as demonstrations by two of our collaborators, the Los Angeles Basketry Guild and the Southern California Handweavers Guild. There also were tours of "Catawumpus," our Art In The Garden Sculpture by Patrick Dougherty. This large structure, done in a random weaving technique with willow saplings, inspired our Exposition. Our collaborators will continue a series of demonstrations and classes throughout the three-month exhibition time. Our Kick-Off Day brought 73 people to the Arboretum Library, a new record for a single day during my tenure.



Arboretum Library reading and reference area enlivened by the Multicultural Weaving Exhibition.

We will be interviewing two potential exhibition manager volunteers, hoping to continue our Arboretum Library exhibit effort. This exhibition also required a new paint job and layout of the reading room of the library. I am pleased to be out with the public instead of in the library office, which has now been designated "the workroom." Currently it looks more jumbled than that label would imply.

Our new San Jose State University School of Library and Information Science interns, Judy Low and Brian Hall, will be working on our collection development policy and serials management. We are grateful for the Richard Brandes bequest, which will continue our retrospective conversion project. It will allow us to hire interns to finish converting the books in the LASCA (the old Los Angeles State and County Arboretum) classification system. This classification scheme was originally based on the Massachusetts Horticultural Library classification. The bequest also will allow us to move on to processing some of our backlog.

—Compiled by **Laurie Hannah, Librarian
Cheadle Center for Biodiversity and Restoration
University of Santa Barbara
Santa Barbara, California**

Members' News East

**Robin Everly, Branch Librarian
Botany-Horticulture Library
Smithsonian Institution
Libraries
Washington, D.C.**



The quagga, an extinct subspecies of the plains zebra, in *African Scenery and Animals* (1904).

On December 9, 2008, the Smithsonian Institution Libraries (SIL) opened a year-long exhibition entitled "The Art of African Exploration." The exhibition is located in the National Museum of Natural History near the entrance to the SIL libraries central office. The majority of items on display are from the Russell E. Train Africana Collection (kept in the Cullman Library), a collection rich in illustrated and original materials. Included in the exhibition are collectibles and ephemera, lantern slides (like the one shown here), early guide books, scientific illustrations, travel narratives, and actual explorer's sketches and journals, spanning 18th century accounts of voyages to original field sketches from the early 1900s. Items will be changed out every few months. For more information, go to <http://smithsonianlibraries.si.edu/smithsonianlibraries/2008/11/the-art-of-african-exploration.html>.

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Members' News East

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

Elena Sisti Gives Presentation at Keep America Beautiful Conference

Information services librarian Elena Sisti gave a presentation at the 55th Annual Keep America Beautiful Conference, held in early December in Washington, D.C. Her presentation, "How to Create Your Own Brain Trust for Greening," was directed toward an audience of more than 100 KAB affiliates from all over the United States and contained tips on how to use the Web to research local greening and gardening organizations. The Pennsylvania Horticultural Society recently announced a partnership with Keep America Beautiful and will be assisting KAB affiliates with greening information. To learn more about Keep America Beautiful, visit <http://www.kab.org>.

PHS McLean Library Recipient of the Institute of Museum and Library Services *Connecting to Collections Bookshelf*

Treasured documents and historical collections held by the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society's McLean Library will be preserved for future generations with help from the *Connecting to Collections Bookshelf*, a set of conservation and preservation books, DVDs, reports, and other resources chosen by experts and donated by the IMLS and its cooperator, the American Association for State and Local History (AASLH).

The McLean Library of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society was awarded this essential set of resources based on an application describing the needs and plans for care of its collections. The IMLS *Connecting to Collections Bookshelf* focuses on collections typically found in history or art museums and in libraries' special collections, with an added selection of texts for zoos, aquaria, public gardens, and nature centers. It addresses such topics as the philosophy and ethics of collecting, collections management and planning, emergency preparedness, and culturally specific conservation issues.

Based on the enthusiastic response to the bookshelf, IMLS will offer a third round of competition to distribute an additional 1,000 Bookshelves. Applications can be submitted to AASLH by March 9, 2009. To learn more about this important program and to apply for your own Bookshelf (application is very easy!) visit: <http://www.imls.gov/collections/bookshelf/index.htm>.

McLean Library Launches Film Discussion Group

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

- 9/16 *Edward Scissorhands* (1990, Tim Burton, dir., USA)
10/21 *The Birds* (1963, Alfred Hitchcock, dir., USA)
11/18 *Jean de Florette* (1986, Claude Berri, dir., France)
12/16 *Rivers and Tides* (2001, Thomas Riedelsheimer, dir., Germany)
1/20 *Dreams* (1990, Akira Kurosawa, dir., Japan)
2/5 *Where Angels Fear to Tread* (combination book and film discussion)

3/17 *The Secret of Roan Inish* (1994, John Sayles, dir., USA)

4/21 Two films by Werner Herzog: *Aguirre, the Wrath of God* (1972, Germany); *Where the Green Ants Dream* (1984, Germany)

5/19 Two films about redemption: *The Widow of St. Pierre (La Veuve de Saint-Pierre)* (2000, Patrice Leconte, dir., France); *Greenfingers* (2000, Joel Hirshman, dir., UK / USA)

6/4 Combined discussion of *The Tempest* (play) and Prospero's Books (1991, Peter Greenaway, dir., UK)

New Exhibit in the Library

The Garden as Theater: Italian Renaissance and Baroque Gardens
January 15 – March 31

Drawing on illustrated books and images from handpainted glass lantern slides, this exhibit examines key design elements of a selection of Italian Renaissance and Baroque gardens. This exhibit is inspired by the 2009 Philadelphia Flower Show theme, *Bella Italia*. The McLean Library is open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Michael Stieber, Ph.D., Library Administrator & Special Collections Librarian

Sterling Morton Library The Morton Arboretum Lisle, Illinois

Humboldt and Darwin Explore New Worlds, 1799-1836, opened October 7, 2008, and runs through June 5, 2009. It celebrates the bicentennial of the birth of Charles Darwin, with a focus on his exploration of South America (*The Voyage of the Beagle*) and that of Alexander von Humboldt, whose writings inspired Darwin to devote himself to natural history.

A series of guest lectures, called *Trees of Life*, celebrating Darwin's life and work will run through the entire year as we can get speakers. The following are currently scheduled for 7 to 8:30 p.m. in Cudahy Auditorium at The Morton Arboretum.

2/12 Robert Martin, the A. Watson Armour III Curator of Biological Anthropology at The Field Museum, has chosen to celebrate Darwin's 200th birthday with us. He will discuss "Primate and Human Evolution – from Darwin and Huxley to the Present Day." This topic flows from two of Darwin's later works, but especially his *Descent of Man* (1870). Come celebrate Darwin's actual birthday with us.

3/10 Peter Bernhardt, professor of biology at St. Louis University, and Rhetha Meier, associate professor in education at St. Louis University, will talk about Darwin's work on orchids. They will discuss why Darwin turned to orchids, of all things, after writing the *Origin of Species*, and show some spectacular examples of orchid pollination mechanisms from their own work. There will be a book-signing event for one or more of Bernhardt's most enjoyable books (e.g., *The Rose's Kiss* or *Gods and Goddesses in the Garden*.)

6/2 Spencer Barrett, university professor holding the Canada Research Chair at the University of Toronto, will give us "A Darwinian Perspective on Floral Function and Evolution." His subject uses examples of some of the contrivances that those tricky plants have evolved to attract pollinators and thereby survive and adapt to different habitats. Darwin studied some of these plants in his own garden and wrote about them in several books and papers.

All of our speakers are engaging people who are active researchers in the areas they have chosen to discuss. Celebrate the bicentennial and expand your horizons with our lecture series.

Stephen Sinon
Senior Reference Librarian
New York Botanical Garden
LuEsther T. Mertz Library
New York, New York

Ehret: The Greatest Botanical Artist of the 1700s
Rondina and Lofaro Gallery, Spring 2009

The spring 2009 exhibit in the Rondina Gallery will explore the life and work of one of the greatest botanical illustrators of all time, Georg Dionysius Ehret (1708–1770). This exhibition will gather together for the first time for public viewing magnificent examples of Ehret's paintings from public and private collections alongside his published works from the holdings of The LuEsther T. Mertz Library.

Born into a family of gardeners and apprenticed as a journeyman gardener, Ehret's artistic interests led him to begin sketching the flowers in his care. This raw talent would be honed to create one of the greatest botanical artists of all time. Traveling from Germany to France, Ehret eventually settled in England, where his works were used to illustrate some of the 18th century's most sumptuous botanical color-plate folios. His commissions were from wealthy patrons and botanists alike. As a much sought after instructor, he was eventually appointed a fellow of the Royal Society in 1757, the only foreigner ever to be so honored.

For a botanical illustrator, there could be no better time and place to be than 18th-century London. This was a period which saw the design and construction of many notable public parks and private gardens. Gardening became a fashionable pastime; a number of nurseries sprouted up, offering an increasing array of exotic and curious new plants to collectors who were engaged in vying with each other to build ever larger glasshouses to contain them. A growing number of botanical works were published, which required illustrators skilled in creating precise plant drawings.

In London, Ehret found himself at the center of a web of interconnected botanists and gardeners, many of whom received seeds and plants from the renowned nursery of Peter Collinson. Ehret sometimes painted new species at Collinson's nursery, and met many patrons there as well as at the Chelsea Physick Garden, founded in 1673 as the Apothecaries' Garden with the purpose of training apprentices in identifying plants. A selection of Ehret's works was published by one of his greatest patrons, Dr. Christoph Jacob Trew, in two of the most sumptuous hand-colored natural history folios ever created, entitled *Plantae Selectae* and *Hortus Nitidissimis*. These works showcased Ehret's talent to a broad audience and ensured his successful rise to one of the most sought-after drawing teachers of his day. His works even served as designs for the painters at the celebrated Chelsea Porcelain Factory. The beauty of Ehret's compositions are made all the more remarkable when one considers that he never received any formal art training.

Ehret's scientific training began with his introduction to Dr. Trew in Nuremberg, Germany, and led to his meeting the famed Swedish botanist Carl Linnaeus in the Netherlands. Ehret's technique emphasized botanical dissection and precise rendering, which imbued his compositions with an astonishing beauty and accuracy rarely seen in an era before photography. Upon his arrival in London, he became a well-known figure in the worlds of horticulture and natural science, meeting many great men and women of the Enlightenment. The published works of scientists who knew and patronized Ehret, such as Carolus Linnaeus (1707–1778), Hans Sloane (1660–1753) and Mark Catesby (1679–1749) will all be on view in this exhibition.

Institutions loaning artworks to this exhibition include the Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation, the Holden Arboretum, and the Pierpont Morgan Library. The LuEsther T. Mertz Library is honored to be exhibiting materials on loan from the rarely seen private collections of Mrs. Rachel Lambert Mellon's Oak Spring Garden Library.

Among the rarities on view to the public will be a copy of the only work produced and published by Ehret himself, entitled *Plantae et Papiliones Rariores* and issued in London between 1748 and 1759. It is the only work for which he also did all of the engraving. Each hand-colored plate is a marvelous example of his unerring instinct for design, which makes his printed works so appealing to modern eyes.



Drachenblutbaum by Georg Dionysius Ehret, from Christoph Jacob Trew's *Hortus Nitidissimis*, 1768–1786. From the collection of the LuEsther T. Mertz Library, The New York Botanical Garden.

James J. White
Curator of Art
Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation
Carnegie Mellon University
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Hunt Institute presents *Wings of Paradise: Watercolors of Silkmoths* by John Cody, March 26–June 30, 2009

The Hunt Institute will exhibit 47 watercolors of silkmoths by John Cody. Cody is passionate about portraying the magnificent beauty of silkmoths and their associated plants with both artistry and accuracy. With these widely appealing watercolors, he hopes to increase awareness of their dwindling numbers and the need to conserve their natural habitats. Although the majority of silkmoths, which are members of the family Saturniidae, are found in the tropics, some species are found in North America and Europe. There are many possibilities as to why these big moths are endangered—from the loss of their tropical habitats through deforestation, to the damaging effects of artificial light, to pollution and pesticides.

Since the age of five, when John Cody saw his first live specimen in his childhood neighborhood of Brooklyn, New York, he found silkmoths appealing simply for their magnificent form, color, and texture. He was encouraged by family, friends, and teachers to pursue his interests in understanding these short-lived creatures, and was inspired by the flower and bird paintings of early 19th-century artists Pierre-Joseph Redouté (1759–1840) and John James Audubon (1751–1851). During a class in entomology in college, Cody began this series of silkmoth paintings. After college he exhibited at the American Museum of Natural History and many university libraries. He trained as a medical illustrator at Johns Hopkins University, where he honed his artistic and observational skills.

A few years later he enrolled in medical school and pursued the field of psychiatry. His life in Kansas was filled with work, family, and

continued on page 10

Cecropia Moth, *Hyalophora cecropia*,
watercolor by John Cody, 1992.

Dr. Cody regards the Cecropia moth as one of the joys of his Brooklyn childhood. Sadly, it is now virtually nonexistent where it was once so plentiful. Once, cocoons could be found on almost every maple, wild cherry and sycamore along the East Coast. In the 1940s one could even buy them for ten cents at Woolworth's!

What has so drastically reduced the numbers of the great moths? Theories abound. Some claim that the sodium and mercury vapor street lights attract them and prevent their finding mates. But moths that do not go to lights, such as the day-flying Promethea, are also disappearing, so that cannot be the entire explanation.

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writing, with occasional periods for painting. Over the years he and his family traveled to New Guinea, Peru, Madagascar, Ecuador, Borneo, and China, where he studied these moths in their native habitats and developed a concern for their conservation. It was not until he retired that he was able to devote all of his time to his avocation of painting the saturniid moths. Since then, Cody's work has appeared in periodicals and art and natural history museum exhibitions throughout the United States, including the National Museum of Natural History in Washington, D.C. He was presented the Kansas Governor's Arts Award for Lifetime Achievement in the Individual Artist Category in 1997.

In Cody's 1996 book *Wings of Paradise: The Great Saturniid Moths*, the artist addressed the often-asked question, "What are moths good for?" Just as flowers are beautiful and short-lived, the main purpose of these moths is to perpetuate the species. Once they emerge from their chambers, from which they have stored enough energy to survive no more than a week on earth, these moths do not eat or drink. The male uses all of its energy to find a mate. Once the female's eggs are fertilized, she attaches them to a suitable food plant that will provide the necessary nutrition to sustain the life-cycle from caterpillar to pupa to moth. He is "surprised that these short, passionate lives do not strike people as romantic."

Last summer at the age of 83, Cody taught a workshop introducing moths into botanical illustration to a class at Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens. Considering the interest in his paintings, Phipps will also exhibit giclée prints of Cody's paintings in its Welcome Center on Schenley Drive from March 21 to June 30, 2009.

The Hunt continues to seek funds for its Adopt-a-Moth Program. A tax-deductible contribution of \$125 will cover the shipping fee of one of Cody's 47 paintings from his home in Kansas to Pittsburgh. Donors will receive the name of the moth they are adopting and be invited to a special meeting to be arranged with the artist. Contributions may be sent to James J. White, Curator of Art, Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation, 5th Floor, Hunt Library, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA 15213. Please make checks payable to Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation. For additional information, e-mail jw3u@andrew.cmu.edu or call 412-268-2440.

In conjunction with *Wings of Paradise: Watercolors of Silkmoths by John Cody*, the Hunt Institute will hold its annual Open House on June 14 and 15, 2009. Visits will be offered two talks and displays, one on the life and work of Maria Sibylla Merian (1647–1717), whose work included beautifully illustrated folios on the insects of Surinam, and another highlighting women botanical illustrators over four centuries. Attendees also may take a gallery tour of the exhibition, guided by the assistant curator of art, and tours of our departments and reading room, and meet one-on-one with staff to ask questions and see items in the collections. This Open House will be a good time to see the new exhibition and an opportunity to have an inside look at the Hunt

Institute's collections and work. A schedule of events will be available soon on the Hunt's Web site. We are looking forward to your visit.

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

On the Web

A Green Search Engine, Plant Symbolism, and Limitless Fonts

Truevert: Green Search (<http://www.truevert.com>) is a search engine geared to environmental searches using Yahoo Boss as a database.

White Dragon — Articles

(<http://whitedragon.org.uk/articles.html>) features articles from the newsletter formerly known as *The Pagan News*, dealing with mythology and the occult as practiced in Mercia, Great Britain. Alphabetic links to full-page articles include ones dealing with the occult, and the mythological and folkloristic significance of apple, belladonna, birch, elder, hawthorn, hensbane, juniper, mandrake, oak, rowan, and yew.

In a much shorter vein, **Meaning of Flowers, Trees, and Plants** (http://www.uponreflection.co.uk/ogham/plant_lore_ah.htm) provides a short list of plants and their significance in the Celtic tradition.

Art Symbol Dictionary — Flowers and Plants Symbols

(<http://painting.about.com/cs/inspiration/a/symbolsflowers.htm>) provides a short list of the symbolic values of plants in paintings.

Plants and Feng Shui (<http://www.indobase.com/fengshui/tips-for-garden/plants.html>) provides a short list of plants with their values in feng shui.

Legacy.com (<http://www.legacy.com/NS/>) provides a search engine for finding recent death notices and obituaries.

Finally, **SearchFreeFonts.com** (<http://www.searchfreefonts.com>) provides one of the best sources of fonts that I have found. It features more than 13,000 free fonts grouped alphabetically by name in sections devoted to the different families of type (all of which are also searchable by font name). The fonts may be downloaded at no cost in compressed files. The site also features more than 45,000 commercial fonts, which may be viewed online and purchased via direct links to their proprietary owners. Many blackletter and other old fonts are included, such as Andrew Meit's GoodCityModern, which he created from a 15th-century typescript known as Gutenberg's Textura. I found it years ago and hadn't seen it since, until now. Here is a sample of GoodCityModern:

The Council on Botanical and Horticultural Libraries

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

Retirees' News

John Flanagan (Royal Botanic Garden, Kew, England) writes that one of his great pleasures is time spent with Ray Desmond (Kew Chief Librarian 1961–72), visiting museums and art galleries. He is especially enjoying having time for such activities. He continued as a member of the Linnean Society Collections Committee until the end of 2007. John says that Gina Douglas (Linnean Society of London, England), recently retired from the Linnean Society, has returned as Archivist Emerita. John reports that the new extension to the Library and Herbarium at Kew are on track for opening mid-2009, the 250th anniversary of Kew.

Barbara Fox (Van Dusen Botanical Garden, Vancouver, British Columbia) has kept busy this past year with a Church Conference in Cornerbrook, Newfoundland, and then she went on to Labrador as well as to the Viking remains in St. Anthony. She also got to the Scottish highlands, the Orkneys and other isles, and to Perth, Australia, to see her daughter and four grandchildren. Barbara's other activities include choir work, attending plays, concerts, and book club, fund raising for her Philanthropic Educational Organization sisterhood group and visiting friends. She adds, "No wasted time!"

Gerry Kaye (Harvard Botany Libraries, Cambridge, Massachusetts) attended the Friends of the Farlow (Library) annual meeting in November, having a chance to talk with Judy Warnement and Lenore Dickinson (Harvard Botany Libraries). She and her husband, David, travel as much as they can. In March they were in Bonaire, in the Dutch Antilles, which is a protected marine park "where the snorkeling is fabulous!" In June they attended daughter Lucinda's wedding in Portland, Oregon, visited daughter Sarah in Seattle, and went on to northern British Columbia for a family reunion of Gerry's mother's family. Gerry writes that she gardens in the summer and does genealogy in the winter. David sails in the summer and plans next year's sailing in the winter. Next year's Caribbean trip will be "to the British Virgin Islands, where we'll charter a sailboat and cruise around the islands." Gerry's other activities include Arlington Historical Society, exercise class, and a Shakespeare play-reading group.

Jane Cole (Desert Botanical Garden, Phoenix, Arizona) writes that she and her husband, Bruce, "spend lovely evenings talking about all the great CBHL gatherings of the past. Bruce and I even brought greetings once from CBHL to a garden in Saigon. We had tea with the director and exchanged publications." She hopes CBHL can plan another study trip overseas sometime. Jane adds that she goes to the monthly book study group at the Desert Botanical Garden, where the theme is anything to do with nature and natural history.

Following two years of medical problems and after selling their house of 36 years, Pam MacKenzie (Toronto Botanical Garden, Ontario, Canada) reports that she and Willie are now settled into the Belmont House nursing home. She says that she misses her garden but has taken up teaspoon gardening at her new home. Pam writes that she and Willie get to many concerts as well as ballet and opera in Toronto's new opera house. They are planning a celebration for their upcoming 50th wedding anniversary.

Mary Lou Wolfe (Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania) has been living in a Quaker retirement community. Because nine retired librarians also live there, she has "gone into horticulture, my own garden, and keeping healthy." Recently she has made two Elder Hostel hiking trips at Ghost Ranch in New Mexico. Mary Lou just celebrated her 84th birthday. She and her dachshund do a lot of hiking and photography.

Columnist's note: Any members who would like addresses and/or e-mail addresses of retirees who are no longer members of CBHL, please contact me: jfired1@earthlink.net. I urge any retirees to send photos for possible inclusion in our Retirees' News column. The CBHL Newsletter editor advises me that the illustration size needs to be at high resolution suitable for print.

—Compiled by Judith Reed
Iron River, Michigan
Retired, The New York Botanical Garden

CBHL Lite

The Effect of Global Warming on CBHL

I ran this idea past a computer programmer who works at a research center here that studies climate change. She laughed, so I consider the following to be completely validated scientifically. Please feel free to send feedback in any format to me at david.lane@unh.edu.

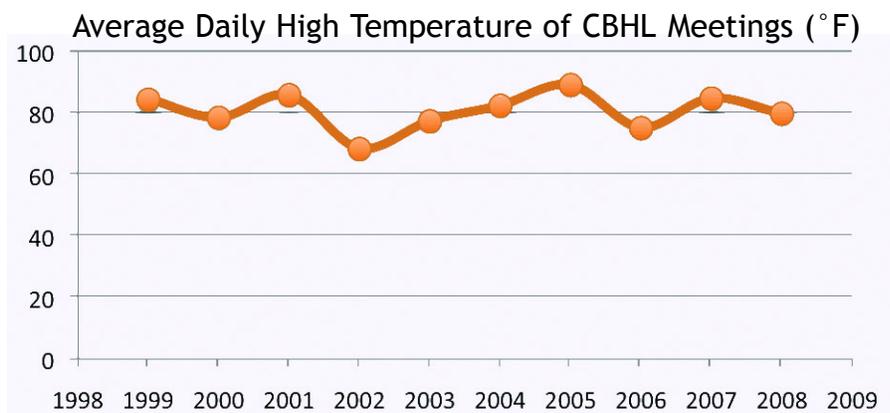
I thought all I would have to do to determine the effect of global warming on CBHL was to take the temperature of the city where we met for the annual meeting each year and graph the data over time to see the trend. From the CBHL Web site the cities for the last ten years were: Albuquerque, Washington, D.C., Denver, San Francisco, New York, Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, Los Angeles, Cincinnati, and Grand Rapids. I had to look up the dates for several meetings in the back issues of the newsletter. The Web site Weather Underground (<http://www.wunderground.com>) provides an easy-to-use service for finding climate data—in this case, the daily high temperature—for various cities on particular dates.

The result is shown in the accompanying graph. There doesn't seem to be any clear trend. CBHL meetings don't seem to be getting any warmer, although the 2005 meeting in Philadelphia was the hottest in the last ten years, averaging 89°F over several days. It is also curious that three out of the

last four meetings had one or more days that were 90°F or above. Maybe it's just too soon to tell.

Next time (unless something better comes along), I'll cover some fungal frivolity that may or may not help CBHL members in answering mycological questions.

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



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