



Current periodicals and customers at the Elisabeth C. Miller Library

Are You Being Served?

The art and science of providing service in a plant library

CBHL 42nd Annual Meeting: May 18—22 in Seattle

Brian Thompson, Manager and Curator of Horticultural Literature,

Elisabeth C. Miller Library, University of Washington Botanic Gardens, Seattle, WA

In 1983 Seattle attorney Pendleton Miller made a gift to the University of Washington (UW) to establish a horticultural library that would serve the public. The gift honored his wife, Elisabeth Carey Miller, who was widely known for her years of work on behalf of Northwest horticulture and for the extensive plant collection she introduced to the region through her own extraordinary garden.

As envisioned by the Millers, today the Elisabeth C. Miller Library serves the public, students from the UW and the community, horticulture professionals – anyone with a need for

information about plants or horticulture. This breadth of service has been a core value of the Miller Library from its beginning and is reflected in our collections, programs, and the resources we provide.

We have chosen service as the theme for this year's CBHL Annual Meeting. We invite all members to come and share their stories about providing both innovative and time-tested ways to understand and meet the needs of the researchers, gardeners, students, book lovers, teachers, children or anyone

(Continued on page 3)

From the President

Sheila Connor
Horticultural Research Archivist
Arnold Arboretum Horticultural Library
Jamaica Plain, MA

I hope that 2010 will bring each of you: good cheer from your staff and colleagues, satisfied patrons and sufficient budgets, book orders filled and books returned on time, answerable reference questions and missing journal numbers found, and most of all the appreciation you deserve from all those you serve. Sheila



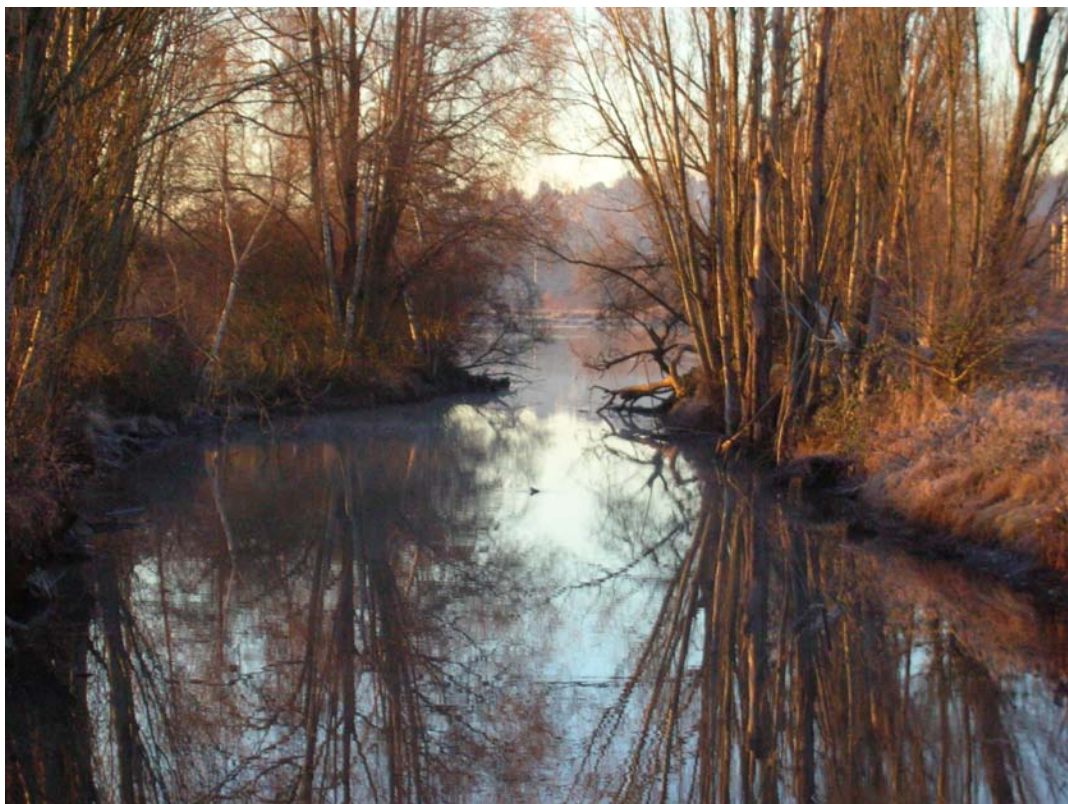
Early on a winter morning at the Arnold Arboretum, photograph by Sheila Connor

IN THIS ISSUE:	
Are You Being Served? By Brian Thompson	1, 3-5
From the President by Sheila Connor	2
The Walled Garden by Carol Traveny.	6
On the Web by Stanley Johnston	7
Members' News compiled by Barbara Pitschel and Shelly Kilroy	8-12
Calendar of Upcoming Events by Rita Hassert	12
CBHL Lite by David Lane	13
Board of Directors 2009-2010	13
Retiree News compiled by Judy Reed	14-15
Join Us!	16

else whom they serve.

Our other goal as your hosts is to share the wonderful gardens and libraries of the region. A temperate climate devoid of extremes allows for an extensive plant palette drawing from European, Asian, and American floras and traditions. Seattle is also one of America's most literate cities with 80% of our residents having library cards and—by some measures—the highest per capita number of bookstores in the country.

Why is it worthwhile for you, the CBHL member, to visit these gardens and libraries? The following explores the places we will visit in May, and how we hope each will enrich both your professional and personal lives.



Union Bay Natural Area, photograph by Doug Schmitt

University of Washington Botanic Gardens

The University of Washington Botanic Gardens (UWBG) was established in 2005 to unite the gardens and programs managed by the University at the Washington Park Arboretum and the Center for Urban Horticulture. Located around the shoreline of Union Bay on Lake Washington, the Gardens form a 320-acre greenbelt that surrounds a major state highway, the beginning of the world's longest floating bridge (1.4 miles), and the football stadium for the University of Washington Huskies.

The **Center for Urban Horticulture** (CUH) is located on the north side of Union Bay and serves as the meeting place for over 200 organizations, including 60 horticultural groups. The Center's Merrill Hall is the first sustainable building to be built on the UW Seattle campus. It houses UWBG's administrative offices and research labs, the Miller Library, and the Otis Douglas Hyde Herbarium that specializes in cultivated plants. Other CUH buildings house classrooms, a multi-purpose hall (used for lectures, plant sales, and social events), and a research greenhouse. Demonstration gardens at CUH highlight 150 woody and 500 herbaceous perennial species and cultivated varieties selected to be of special interest to the home gardener.

CUH is an outreach-oriented facility in a research-oriented University. A small group of faculty and graduate students have offices and laboratories here. The Miller Library is a focal point of this energizing mix of needs. Lessons to be learned for librarians include providing versatility in collections and services, and developing strong connections with the research-oriented libraries elsewhere on campus.

With trails, ponds, and four miles of shoreline, the 74-acre **Union Bay Natural Area** (UBNA, photograph above) is contiguous with CUH. It serves as an outdoor laboratory for UW research—especially ecological restoration—and as a

publicly accessible wildlife habitat. More than 200 bird species have been sighted in UBNA, which attracts highly motivated bird watchers and families exploring nature close to home.

UBNA provides another opportunity for library flexibility and outreach. Story Time family programs often include wetland themes, while an annual poster exhibit highlights graduate student research. This restored, natural landscape is in juxtaposition to the CUH formal gardens; both are clearly visible from our windows.

Just south of Union Bay is the other site of UWBG, the **Washington Park Arboretum** (WPA), which celebrated its 75th anniversary in 2009. The 230-acre site contains North America's largest collection of *Sorbus* and maple, the second largest collection of species hollies, and significant collections of oaks, conifers, and camellias. Overall, there are 4,300 distinct taxa.

The first phase of the new **Pacific Connections Garden** at WPA was completed in fall 2008. This garden displays plants from around the Pacific Rim and will eventually cover 12 acres. A central meadow and interpretive shelter will be surrounded by five preview gardens and eco-geographic forests representing parts of Chile, China, New Zealand, Australia, and our home region of Cascadia.

The preview gardens were completed in the first phase and they showcase plants from the five regions suitable for use in local gardens and include one iconic plant for each with special significance because of traditional uses, roles in the ecosystem, and beauty. These include the monkey puzzle tree (*Araucaria araucana*) for Chile; ginkgo (*Ginkgo biloba*) for China; New Zealand flax (*Phormium tenax*) for New Zealand; snow gum (*Eucalyptus pauciflora*) for Australia; and the Western red cedar (*Thuja plicata*) for Cascadia.

The Miller Library “planted” its own Pacific Connections,

(Continued on page 4)

Are You Being Served? (Continued from page 3)

by creating as its most prominent collection a group of books from and about these same regions. Developing this collection has required working closely with the curatorial staff of the Garden. It is also appreciated and promoted by savvy gardeners who know that the plants from these regions work well in home and public gardens here.

University of Washington Libraries

The University of Washington (UW) was founded in 1861, when the settler population of Seattle was 350. There was one member of the original faculty; he taught everything from Latin to algebra. Today the UW covers three campuses, with the central Seattle campus home to 42,000 students and an academic staff of over 13,000.

The central plaza of the campus, known as “Red Square” for its use of brick, is the setting for the Suzzallo Library. The original wing was built in a Collegiate Gothic style in 1926 and is best known for its massive and ornate Reading Room. Suzzallo is the hub of the UW Libraries, which collectively hold over seven million volumes.

Besides seeing the architecture and the campus views (designed by the Olmsted Brothers), a visit to the UW Libraries offers insight to the workings of a large academic system in the 21st century. It is in sharp contrast to the intimate Miller Library, which is independent but contracts with the larger system for some services and enjoys access to all the research databases provided by the UW Libraries.

The Seattle Public Library

Another strong contrast will be provided by our day at the Central Branch of The Seattle Public Library (SPL). Already an icon of Seattle architecture, this Rem Koolhaas-designed building (photograph at left) opened in 2004 and is a dramatic



University of Washington Suzzallo Library
Photograph by Dennis Wise.



Photograph courtesy of The Seattle Public Library

study in the creation of the library as a community space. Much has been written about the many features, which include the book spiral that allows for a continuous run of books on four floors and a mixing chamber that combines information desks with expansive views of the upper floors and the city beyond.

Many of the conference presentations will be held in the SPL, conveniently located kitty-corner from our hotel. We will also have the opportunity to tour the back room operations and learn how well it all works. Or doesn't. And, you should have time on your own for further exploration of its many nooks and sometimes dizzying crannies.

The Bloedel Reserve

Of the many outstanding gardens in the Pacific Northwest (PNW), the Bloedel Reserve on Bainbridge Island is perhaps the most representative of what makes a PNW garden distinctive. Comprising approximately 150 acres, over half of which is forested with native plants, this tour will be



The Zen garden at Bloedel Reserve. © Bloedel Reserve

our opportunity to learn about the flora of the narrow region between the Cascade Mountains and the Pacific Ocean, and which extends—with little variation—from northern California to southeastern Alaska.

The Reserve also includes specialty gardens—most in woodland settings—plus meadows, ponds, and glimpses of Puget Sound, the salt water fjord that separates Bainbridge Island from Seattle. Plant collections of note include rhododendrons, trilliums, ground orchids, *Primula*, and an amazing moss garden. A small library is found in the former residence, now visitor's center, and the staff is eager to show this off to us and get our professional recommendations!

Other activities

Visiting the Bloedel Reserve involves riding a Washington State Ferry across Puget Sound. While this has nothing to do with libraries or plants, it is pretty cool, and the view of downtown Seattle coming back to the city is top-notch.

Other enticing highlights will be our Friday evening banquet at the top of the Columbia Center, Seattle's tallest building. Here, provided the May weather is favorable (and it often is), we will have the opportunity to see a broader layout of the city—with its many lakes, hills, and valleys—and of the region, including Puget Sound and the Olympic Mountains to the west, and Lake Washington and the Cascade Mountains—with several iconic volcanoes—to the east.

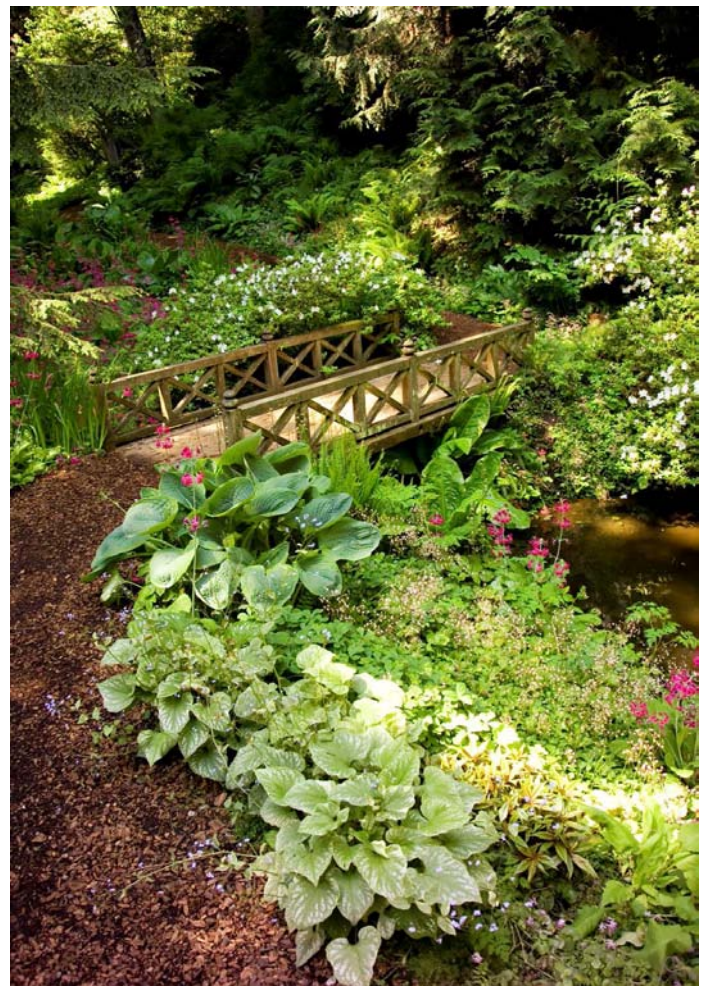
Programs and Speakers

At the time of this writing, the final line-up of local speakers is being decided, but all have been chosen because of their connections to a plant science library, either as current or former librarians, researchers, or as writers. Our goal is to emphasize that we as CBHL members do make a positive difference, even if we don't always realize it in our day-to-day work.

On Tuesday, we will offer a pre-conference workshop on Disaster Preparedness presented by Gary Menges, Preservation Administrator and Collections Security Officer for the UW Libraries. Gary was instrumental in the saving of the Miller Library collections when a fire destroyed our building in May 2001.

On Saturday, one of our post-conference tours will highlight two important influences on Seattle gardens and parks: our historically large Asian population and the design of the park system by the Olmsted Brothers in the early 20th century. The other tour will feature a nearly century-old estate garden in suburban Seattle, which is also now the site of the Chateau Ste. Michelle Winery. Important empirical research of the facilities will follow the garden tour.

All in all, we hope for a Seattle meeting which is educational, professionally enriching, and fun. There will be ample opportunities to foster more of the outstanding networking for which CBHL is famous. We look forward to seeing you all in May!



Hostas and bridge at the Bloedel Reserve. © Bloedel Reserve

The Walled Garden

Carol Traveny
Technical Services Librarian
Swedenborg Library
Bryn Athyn College
Telford, Pennsylvania

Metaphors are useful things. They can convey complex ideas in a phrase. That's why, when our editor, Susan Eubank, used the metaphor of a walled garden to describe a library and its contents, I knew exactly what she meant. Not only was it horticultural (appropriate for CBHL) but it also conveyed the idea of something desirable, yet potentially inaccessible. It made me think. It made me read and research and think some more. In fact, I believe I've been thinking and reading about it ever since I decided to become a librarian, for in essence, it illustrates one of the questions, perhaps the BIG question librarians ask—how do we make our libraries and their resources visible, and then, how do we make them accessible? As it turns out, there are enough scholarly articles, blog postings, slide-shares, and full-blown conferences on the subject to float an armada of dissertations. As it also turns out, no one seems to have come up with a definitive answer. Some are even of the opinion that we should simply accept that libraries are a thing of the past and simply move on. But move on to where?

The funny thing is that this is a relatively recent dilemma. Until the end of the 20th century, libraries were one of the few options people had for acquiring books and information. Now, not only are libraries competing with other resources, they are also competing with a multitude of entertainment choices and commercial ventures that clamor for our attention in the physical as well as the virtual world. When we thought of libraries primarily as buildings, they at least had the visibility of a physical space. Now when access to many libraries is just a click away, they can be pretty hard to find; the Internet is a very crowded place. Of course, libraries are not any more invisible on the Web than other entities. Maybe it just feels that way.

This is where the wedding of marketing and technology needs to take place. However, as previously mentioned, the amount of information available on the subject is nothing short of overwhelming. Luckily, there is a trilogy of books that, together, offer some interesting thoughts about visibility, relevancy, and organization. If they don't always provide easy or obvious solutions to the problems, they at least suggest creative paths toward innovation. And even though they were written from a business perspective, they have much to teach librarians.

In his fascinating 2005 book, *Ambient Findability*,¹ Peter Morville discusses some of the problems of what he calls 'wayfinding,' and how technology is changing and shaping the way we navigate through the enormous and complex web of information to get to what we want. One strategy Morville presents is search engine optimization (SEO): the technique of designing a website and arranging its contents to make it more visible to search engines.² Of course, SEO is only part of the solution (which also considers metadata, linked data, and social

media—each worlds within worlds) but it does give librarians some interesting ideas to contemplate.

In *The Long Tail: Why the Future of Business is Selling Less of More*,³ Chris Anderson talks about business and economics and how the Internet makes niche marketing economically viable. This should be of particular interest to special libraries, because it gives us useful clues about marketing our collections. To oversimplify, the 'long tail' means that there is room in the world for the highly specific alongside the more 'mass-market' general. The archived collection of historic botanical prints is certainly as valuable to the researcher as the very latest novel from a popular writer is to her fans. There is something for everyone online. The long tail gives us a good reason and a great opportunity to advertise what we do best—to highlight what is truly unique in CBHL institutions.

Now, consider the OPAC: is it useful? Are the records understandable and accurate? Do they clearly explain how materials may be obtained? Are there sufficient and logical subject headings? Are the search options intuitive and flexible? Are links active and up-to-date? These things are important if you want to keep patrons once they have found you. Another very interesting and relevant book from the business world is David Weinberger's *Everything is Miscellaneous*.⁴ Weinberger contends that the way digital information is stored makes it possible to organize it in infinite ways — customized to the need and to the user; that unlike physical objects, digital objects can occupy many places at once. What this ultimately says about library catalogs and catalog records: how they are constructed, what they contain, and how they are really used is provocative. As we all know well, the question of the catalog has been a major topic of debate for years; we are surrounded by endless discussions over RDA, FRBR, federated search, customization, social bookmarking, the Semantic Web and now, linked data, and even with the publication of RDA: *Resource Description & Access* scheduled for June 2010, it shows no sign of stopping. In any case, Weinberger's premise is one well worth pondering.

Of course, not everything that business does is right for libraries. But often the marketplace is full of early adopters, and we can learn from their mistakes as well as their successes. That is why it's important to pay attention. Despite the notion that somehow libraries and what they stand for is the antithesis of business, the two actually have more in common than many would like to admit. I am sure that someone in the business world has, at one time, constructed a metaphor about businesses being like gardens (if they are planted carefully and tended well, they will grow), so it's quite possible that business can also supply the key to the walled gardens of libraries.

References:

1. Morville, Peter. *Ambient Findability*. Sebastopol, CA: O'Reilly Media, 2005.
2. Wikipedia. *Search Engine Optimization*. Accessed 12-14-2009 at: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Search_engine_optimization.
3. Anderson, Chris. *The Long Tail: Why the Future of Business is Selling Less of More* New York: Hyperion, 2006. (A revised, updated edition was published in 2008.)
4. Weinberger, David. *Everything is Miscellaneous*. New York: Henry Holt and Company, 2007.



Still frame from *Going West*, created for the New Zealand Book Council by Colenso BBDO

On the Web: Some Useful Sites

Stanley Johnston, Mentor, Ohio

Plants Nouveau <www.plantsnouveau.com> is a marketing site for new plant introductions run by Angela Treadwell-Palmer, who helped popularize the Knock Out rose and Orange Meadowbrite.

Curriculum Links: Plants <www.picadome.fcps.net/lab/curl/plants/default.htm> provides a series of links to sites providing sources of information on plants and gardening. It is mainly aimed at educational programming, including interactive sites featuring jigsaw puzzles, quizzes, coloring pages, and educational games for children.

SurveyMonkey <www.surveymonkey.com> is a free site which allows you to compose and publish your own quizzes and surveys – a useful tool for both education and market research.

If one wants to find out who else is working in the same area of research or look for partners to collaborate with one may join **academia.edu** <www.academia.edu> to post their research areas and look for similar projects. The site is not terribly well documented, however, and could profit from an easier interface.

Ipitions <www.ipitions.com> allows the free creation of online petitions and collections of signatures. However, emails sent soliciting signatures imply a donation is required to register the signature – so one needs to note in sending out email solicitations that the signature will register without the requested donation (which goes to support the petition site and not the cause supported by the petition).

TALtech ; Home: Resources: Introduction to Bar Coding <www.taltech.com/TALtech_web/resources/intro_to_bc/bcpwork.htm> explains the basics of bar coding and how it works.

1-800-Recycling.com <1800recycling.com> provides a handy tool to find out where to recycle just about anything in

your specific geographical area.

As noted in an email from Judy Warnement, the first version of a catalog to the holdings of the **Hathi Trust** <catalog.hathitrust.org> is now online providing free access to thousands of scanned documents in the public domain thanks to the libraries of the contributing institutions.

For those interested in buying out-of-print books or checking their prices, **ILAB: International League of International Booksellers** <www.ilab.org> has recently revamped their site with an improved search engine.

For those plagued by unsolicited commercial calls despite having signed up for the Do Not Call List, complaints can be easily filed online at the **National Do Not Call Registry** <complaints.donotcall.gov/complaint/complaintcheck.aspx?panel=2>.

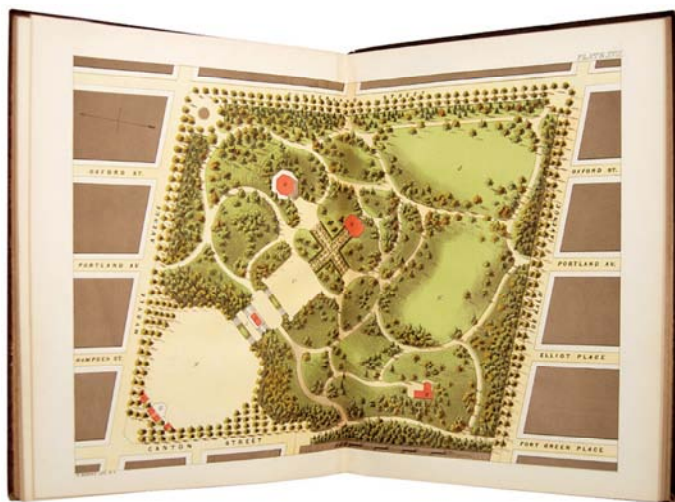
A somewhat offbeat educational site is **DifferenceBetween.Net** <www.differencebetween.net/> where one can learn the difference between fruits and vegetables, herbs and spices, and monocots and dicots, among other things.

If you want to enliven your children's programming with balloon animals as prizes, one can learn how to create them at the **Balloon Animal Blog** <www.balloon-animals.com>. However, if something more appropriate for a botanical and horticultural library is wanted there is **How to Make a Balloon Flower at 5minLife Videopedia** <www.5min.com/Video/How-to-Make-a-Balloon-Flower-10338494>.

Finally, the magic of the printed word coming to life is exhibited in *Going West* <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F_jyXJTlrH0>, launched in November on YouTube. According to the New Zealand Book Council it "literally brings the experience of reading alive in an immersive creative video animation. Taking lines of Maurice Gee's book *Going West* (Penguin, 1992) as inspiration, this stop-motion video aims to promote and inspire the love of reading and books. Created for the New Zealand Book Council, the film was the brainchild of Nick Worthington of Colenso BBDO, and the creative work of siblings Martin Andersen and Line Andersen."

Members' News East

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



Chromolithographic Plate XVII of Washington Park, Brooklyn, New York, designed and executed by Olmsted and Vaux, from Jacob Weidemann's *Beautifying Country Homes: A Handbook of Landscape Gardening* (New York: O. Judd, 1870).

Staci Catron

Director

Cherokee Garden Library

Kenan Research Center

at the Atlanta History Center

Atlanta, GA

New Gem at the Cherokee Garden Library

Thanks to the generosity of three donors, a new treasure has been added to the Cherokee Garden Library collection of the Kenan Research Center at the Atlanta History Center. In fall 2009 a sought-after, first edition copy of Jacob Weidenmann's *Beautifying Country Homes: a Handbook of Landscape Gardening* (1870) became available in England. With twenty-four superb chromolithographic plates, this volume is a significant early work on American landscape gardening. Part One deals with planning principles for various projects (residences, parks, cemeteries, institutions); Part Two presents twenty-four plans with descriptions. Born in Switzerland, Jacob Weidenmann (1829-1893) was a pioneering landscape gardener. After settling in America, he developed important projects such as the nation's first publically funded municipal park in Hartford, Connecticut (later called Bushnell Park), the 268-acre Cedar Hill Cemetery in Hartford, Connecticut, the capitol grounds in Des Moines, Iowa, and many other estates, parks, and campuses in various parts of New England. He also wrote *Modern Cemeteries* (1888), a guide featuring his open-lawn concept, which continues to influence cemetery design today. Renowned landscape historian Rudy J. Favretti's *Jacob Weidenmann: Pioneer Landscape Architect* was published in 2007.

Nancy Korber

Librarian/Archivist

Fairchild Tropical Garden Library

Miami, FL

Fairchild's Cheng Ho Expedition (1939-40)

When I started at Fairchild about 7 years ago, I discovered in our archive a diary written by Edward "Ned" Beckwith from the garden's first plant exploration trip in 1939-40 (The Cheng Ho Expedition). I read several snippets of the neat, but small handwriting and found myself 'hooked' on the story. I knew I would not have enough time or resources to do anything with the diary quickly, so I gave a copy of the diary to a volunteer who worked from home transcribing. At the same time, I recruited a number of volunteers to index the hundreds of images we have from that trip. Eventually we acquired a good scanner and computer, and more volunteers began scanning in the images.

Because some of our archive collections and descriptions are online, over the years other materials have found their way to our collection – most notably, the records of the builder and captain of the expedition ship. The amount of materials we now have about the expedition is extensive, including:

- 2,552 images (all individually indexed and scanned)
- Ned's diary (both scanned and transcribed)
- 3 scrapbooks from Ted Kilkenny, the expedition captain (2 scanned)
- 8 cu ft. of archival files regarding the expedition
- David Fairchild's pocket diaries of the trip
- David Fairchild's manuscript of his book "Garden Islands of the Far East" about the expedition
- Plant collections lists
- Dozens of plants growing in the garden that came from seeds collected on this trip!



The Cheng Ho – built for the expedition, was considered the world's most luxurious junk

This year – the 70th anniversary of that trip – we are making most of the materials available online. To take advantage of the uniqueness of the materials we decided to invite everyone to go along with Ned, through his diary, on the original trip. In that spirit, adventurers can go to chengho.exploreplants.org and follow Ned as he leaves New York and heads for the Orient.

(Continued on page 9)

(Continued from page 8)

You can even make comments about his trip – and see some of the many images taken on that trip.

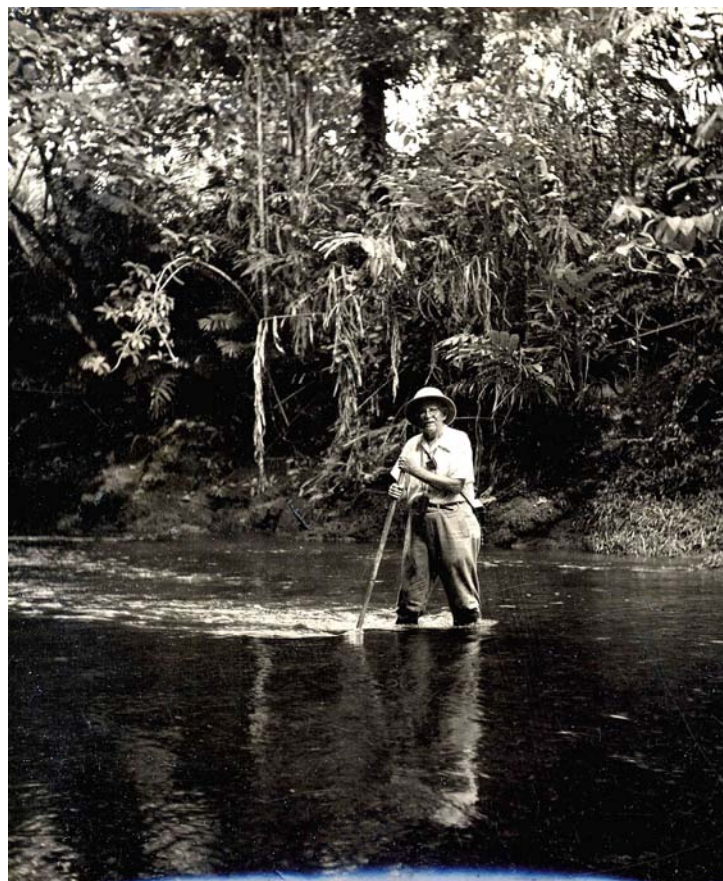
Eventually, we hope to have all the images available through our flickr website, flickr.org/exploreplants, and to include some of the other materials.

This project is unique in a couple ways. The approach of presenting the information in a daily blog, instead of a traditional archival collection presentation, takes advantage of the immediacy and intimacy of the personal diary. In addition, the whole project has been done with very limited resources. Almost all the work has been done by volunteers, using one computer, one scanner and some very creative methods. Perhaps the title of this article should have been: “What you can do with no money, no materials; but very creative and committed people!”

We invite you to join Ned on his trip. Go to chen-gho.fairchildgarden.org and start on Nov. 12 as Ned leaves New York. But be careful! You, too, might get hooked. Will the war interfere with the trip? Will Ned make it home? Who is Handsome Hugo? And can you really play ping pong in an airplane? Even I don't know how it all turns out – I haven't had time to read the end of the diary! Bon voyage!



Handsome Hugo, the Indiana Jones of the plant world.



David Fairchild trying to get a closer look at the plants, regardless of location.

Lynn Jacobson
Horticulture Librarian
Schumacher Library
Olbrich Botanical Gardens
Madison, Wisconsin

Olbrich Botanical Gardens' Schumacher Library has joined Web 2.0! I created a “fan page” on Facebook, linked it with our Delicious bookmarks and added the link to our catalog on LibraryThing. I took a class called “Creating Dynamic Pathfinders” under the assumption that these tools were still paper-based. What a fun way to be dragged into the current millennium.

You can find our fan page on Facebook under “Olbrich's Schumacher Library.” The Delicious bookmarks are primarily arranged for use by my volunteer staff, who keep the Library open when I am not in (I am half-time.) We have been slowly entering the collection on LibraryThing because our city's IT folks don't want external links on Olbrich Botanical Gardens' webpage. This is a way for our botanical society members (or anyone) to search the book catalog. I use the Facebook page to announce new books, library events and post pictures. It has been a learning experience for me, but I feel it's a good way to reach out to new gardeners or homeowners to let them know our plant information service and home gardening library is available to them.

*The next deadline for the CBHL Newsletter
May issue is March 15, 2010.*

(Continued on page 10)

(Continued from page 9)



An iconic allée of West Indian Royal Palms (*Roystonea oleracea*) in the Jardim Botânico do Rio de Janeiro. Photograph by Bernadette Callery.

Bernadette Callery
Museum Librarian
Library, Carnegie Museums of Natural History
Pittsburgh, PA

Bernadette Callery presented a paper at the International Council on Archives, Section on University and Research Institution Archives in Rio de Janeiro in early September. Her paper, based on her work with the Carnegie Museum's letterbook collection (CMNH Archives 2007-5, see carnegiemn.org/library/archives.htm) which captured the outgoing correspondence of the Director's Office from 1898-1913. The paper explored the challenges of providing access to this material, both physically and intellectually.

Sightseeing included the Carmen Miranda Museum, where she saw the original fruit hat worn by the Brazilian singer-dancer in *One Night in Rio*, but the high point was visiting the Jardim Botânico do Rio de Janeiro. There she particularly enjoyed seeing the many species of palms described in K.P. F. Martius' 1823-1850 *Historia naturalis palmarum* and his 1823-1850 *Flora Brasiliensis*. When she worked at the New York Botanical Garden Library, she frequently used items from the Library's collection of ink and pencil drawings for *Flora Brasiliensis* to illustrate the many book talks that she gave, so it was very satisfying to see the plants themselves in this setting.



Coconut palms (*Cocos nucifera*) with coconut milk stands on a Rio beach. Photograph by Bernadette Callery.

Members' News West

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

Kathy Carr
University of Washington Libraries
Seattle, Washington

University of Washington Natural Sciences Library Closes

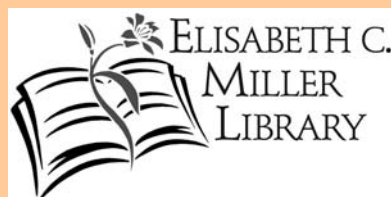
After months of committee meetings and input from the staff of the Natural Sciences Library, the University of Washington Libraries administration decided to ignore our wishes and close our unit at the end of August 2009. I would have submitted an article sooner, but it has taken this long to see it in any kind of positive light. Our books and journals were "consolidated" into the Suzzallo-Allen collection, along with the collections from the Fisheries-Oceanography and Chemistry libraries.

So the positive is that no one lost her/his job. The librarians from the three branches are all part of Suzzallo-Allen reference and are all continuing as liaisons for their subjects. The technical staff was dispersed into various parts of the system, so we did lose those close-knit connections.

Although I had already been doing some social science and humanities reference in Suzzallo, my relocated science colleagues had not, so they are learning new subject areas. The revenge is that the Suzzallo librarians now have to deal with some chemistry questions! But then, so do I..., I'll probably figure it out by the time I retire!

The CBHL 2010 Meeting
registration site is on the Web at
cbhl2010-seattle.wikispaces.com/

"Are you being served?"



(Continued on page 11)

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

Exhibition of Watercolors

From January through April, the library is hosting *Nature Observed*, an exhibition of watercolors by Thomas P. Rohlen. Original watercolors and prints are available for sale with 25% of the proceeds benefiting the library. Please note that during the years 2010 and 2011 the library will host three art exhibits per year instead of our usual four.

After retiring from teaching at Stanford in 2001, Thomas Rohlen returned to an early interest in art and discovered the satisfaction of watercolor illustration. "In submitting to the intimacy of nature's details, we gain access to a timeless relationship with pattern, color, and light. I find a particular delight in this art form because it reveals the glory of simple things. Satisfaction in honest rendering is a reward within reach for me—one that never fails to give back more than this artist can hope to contribute."

For more information and to see images from the current library art exhibition, visit:

<<http://www.sfbotanicalgarden.org/library/page6.html>>.



Polystichum munitum, western sword fern, by Thomas P. Rohlen.

Susan Eubank
Arboretum Librarian
Los Angeles County Arboretum
& Botanic Garden
Arcadia, California

The Flood Receded

Our tenants at the Arboretum Library finally moved back to the Administration Building. We loved their company while they were here, and we were very glad to see them move out of the Library building. The benefit is that we are now able to house our slide and photograph collections all together in one of the library rooms abandoned by administrators. It is wonderful to see those collections together, and it is now very obvious that there are some valuable resources waiting to be digitized. William Aplin, Southern California's travel and garden photographer for *Sunset Magazine*, gave us his slide collection. In addition, the Arboretum's photograph collection documents the history of the land, including movies filmed here.

The Library was also very fortunate to receive another grant from the Good Family Foundation. This year they gave \$15,000 for shelving for the Rare Book Collection. The wall between an adjacent office and the Rare Book Room will be removed, as well as the sink that was in the Rare Book Room. The ceiling and lights will be raised and new shelving will be installed. We are waiting for word from a structural architect as to whether the shelving can be compact or not. I'm hoping the 1950s concrete floor was built to withstand nuclear attacks and is strong enough for compact shelving. After the shelving is installed the rare books will be moved from their current location in the accountant's vault and finally re-housed on the new shelving. There they will be ready to be evaluated for preservation and access. The additional space in the Rare Book Room will also allow for archive storage — something the Arboretum has never housed in a single place before. I'm hoping an archival intern will not turn away in horror, as candidates have done in the past when I have led them through basements and storage closets pointing out potentially archival material. The back of the library near the Rare Book Room could even house a work table for archive processing; well, maybe there will be room when we consolidate all the historic collections that have been stored in other people's offices and the "Old Print Room." This gives you some idea of our space planning challenges.

The current exhibit in the Arboretum Library is titled "Time and the Land; Artifacts from the Arboretum's Collections." It is put together by Mitchell Bishop, Associate Curator (History), and will be on view through March 2010. It explores the dream of Southern California, an Arcadian climate, and a new beginning in the sun which drew many to the region to begin a new life. It draws upon the Arboretum's cultural collections with a selection of works of art, photographs, archaeological artifacts, and documents which will be used to tell the story of the Arboretum site and its inhabitants from prehistory to the founding of the Arboretum.

The next exhibit (April-June 2010) is a juried show of botanical illustration from the Southern California chapter of

(Continued on page 12)

Members' News West (Continued
from page 11)

the American Society of Botanical Artists. The Arboretum Library is now considered to be naked without an exhibit. What a transformation from when I first proposed the idea and was told that the space was too “depressing” to even consider as an exhibit space. Thanks to the exhibits and other activities this year, I am proud to say that the Library visitation increased from 2008 by 101% to 6,012 contacts. Yes, there can be small triumphs.



Silk Floss Tree
Chorisia speciosa
© by Akiko Enokido, 2009
Watercolor on paper

Calendar of Upcoming Events:

- February 18-22, 2010. San Diego. AAAS Annual Meeting. “Bridging Science and Society.” aaas.org/meetings/
- April 9-11, 2010. Phoenix. 11th Information Architecture Summit. “The Best Conversations Happen in the Hall.” iasummit.org/
- April 11-17, 2010. National Library Week. “Communities Thrive @ Your Library.”
ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/pio/natllibraryweek/nlw.cfm
- April 12-14, 2010. Arlington, Virginia. 25th Annual Computers in Libraries Conference. infoday.com/cil2010/
- April 13-17, 2010. Denver. Museums and the Web 2010. archimuse.com/mw2010/
- May 5-8, 2010. Victoria, British Columbia. Society of Ethnobiology 33rd Annual Conference. “The Meeting Place: Integrating Ethnobiological Knowledge.” ethnobiology.org
- May 10-16, 2010. Children’s Book Week. cbcbooks.org/
- May 23 - 26, 2010. Los Angeles. AAM Annual Meeting & MuseumExpo. aam-us.org/am10/
- May 18-22, 2010. Seattle. CBHL Annual Meeting. “Are You Being Served?
The art and science of providing service in a plant library.” cbhl.net/
- June 1-5, 2010. Atlanta. APGA National Conference. aabga.org
- June 6-10, 2010. Xalapa, Mexico. Society for Economic Botany. 51st Annual Meeting. “Agrobiodiversity, lessons for conservation and local development” econbot.org
- June 13-16, 2010. New Orleans. SLA Annual Conference. sla.org/content/Events/conference/ac2010/index.cfm
- June 13-25, 2010. Charlottesville, Va. Historic Landscape Institute. “Preserving Jefferson’s Gardens and Landscapes.”
monticello.org/education/gardeninstitute.html
- June 24-29, 2010. Washington, D.C. ALA Annual Conference. ala.org

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



© [Lucie Říhová](#) | [Dreamstime.com](#).

CBHL Lite: Parallel Botany

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

More than thirty years ago after a long career as art director for *Fortune* magazine and author of many children's books, Italian artist Leo Lionni, published *Parallel Botany* (New York: Knopf, 1977). I remember reading at the time, although I'm not sure where, that Leo had always been fascinated by plants. At some point he picked up a botany textbook and was very disappointed with what he read: all that microscopic and biochemical detail.

So he set out to show, as the book jacket states: "what science could achieve if it were *truly creative*." He invented an imaginary kingdom of parallel plants with all the fabulous lore and scholarship that go with them including early parallel plant hunters, ethnobotanical observations, and vexing questions posed by philosophers. Not only did he provide details of the origin, distribution, and morphology of individual species, he also included elegant drawings. I wish I could reproduce a few here.

Better known parallel plants include *Tirillus salvador* of the high Andes "whose habit is to emit shrill whistles on clear nights in January and February" and *Tirillus mimeticus* which is indistinguishable from a pile of smooth black rocks. Woodland

CBHL Board of Directors 2009-2010

Sheila Connor, President
Horticultural Research Archivist
Arnold Arboretum Horticultural Library
125 Arborway
Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts 02130-3500
sconnor@arnarb.harvard.edu
617-384-5324

Stanley Johnston, First Vice-President
7226 Grant Street
Mentor, Ohio 44060
stanley177@aol.com
440-946-0985

Robin Everly, Second Vice-President
Botany-Horticulture Librarian
Smithsonian Institution Libraries, NMNH
Room 51/MRC 154/P.O. Box 37012
Washington, D.C. 20013-7012
everlyr@si.edu
202-633-1685

Gayle Bradbeer, Secretary
Distance Support Librarian
Auraria Library
1100 Lawrence Street
Denver, Colorado 80204-2095
gayle.bradbeer@auraria.edu
303-556-2791

Brian Thompson, Treasurer
Library Manager
Elisabeth C. Miller Library
University of Washington
Botanic Gardens
P.O. Box 51116
Seattle, Washington 98115-1116
bthomp@u.washington.edu
206-543-1434

Leora Siegel, Past-President
Director, Lenhardt Library
Chicago Botanic Garden
1000 Lake Cook Road
Glencoe, Illinois 60022
lsiegel@chicagobotanic.org
847-835-8202

Tweezers, social plants, were discovered to arrange themselves in patterns reminiscent of the game of Go. Tweezers turn to dust when disturbed and so have little cellular detail or chemistry that can be studied. Leo goes on to describe many more species, both living and fossils, all of which have no specialized tissues of any kind.

In the epilogue, Leo writes that what is demanded is: "a freedom of interpretation normally suffocated by the enormous weight of accepted ideas inherited as a result of our traditional scientific education." Please feel free to send feedback in any format to me at: david.lane@unh.edu.



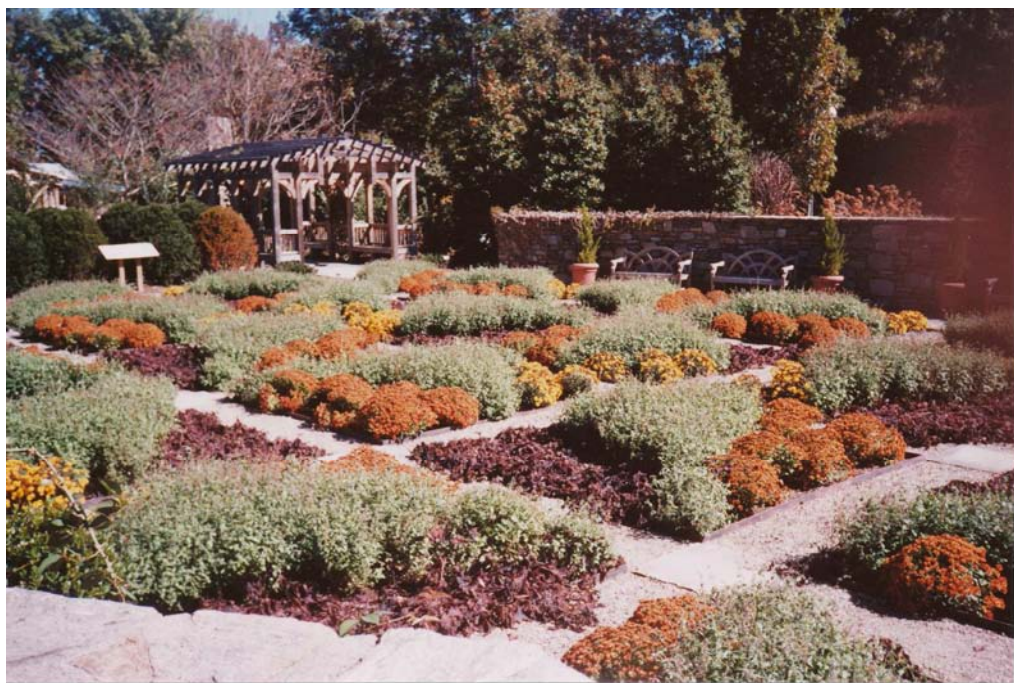
As Co-Head Librarian of the **Albion Public Library**, Jane Potter Gates, **National Agricultural Library & Strybing Arboretum**, San Francisco, recently welcomed “Lincoln” (Attorney Jerry Crisel) and “Douglas” (Judge David Frankland) who visited the Library in connection with Albion’s celebration of Heritage Days. The Library, the oldest public library in the State of Illinois, was celebrating its 190th birthday.

Retiree News

Compiled by Judy Reed
Iron River, Michigan

Barbara Fox, **VanDusen Botanical Garden**, writes that she traveled to Perth, Australia in July to visit her daughter, who has four busy children. Next June she plans to go to Oberammergau (Passion Play) and see Eastern Europe (Prague, Salzburg, Budapest, Vienna) en route. After that, she’ll return to Australia “and more Grandma action”!

Gerry Kaye reviewed her career at **Harvard**, “I operated the **Farlow Reference Library of Cryptogamic Botany** from 1978 to 1986, and the **Harvard Herbarium Library** [from] 1986 to 1988. I then diversified, to administer the new Harvard Faculty Committee on Environment, until my retirement in 1997. “Gerry has done a variety of volunteer projects, including helping resuscitate a sadly trashed conservation area, demonstrating ecological gardening, and cataloging old French genealogical books for the New



Quilt Garden at the North Carolina State Arboretum. Photograph by John Moore

England Historic Genealogical Society (They loved my library expertise”!). She gardens in her backyard—a native

(Continued on page 15)

shrub area, several fern gardens, a moss garden, and a small vegetable garden. Gerry also maintains a “Colonial Garden in the Arlington Historical Society which owns the 1740 Jason Russell House, which figured in the beginning of the American Revolution. Winters I do a little genealogy, including that of the aforesaid Jason Russell.” Gerry and her husband do quite a lot of traveling and were able to spend the 2009 holidays with their daughters who both live in the Pacific Northwest.

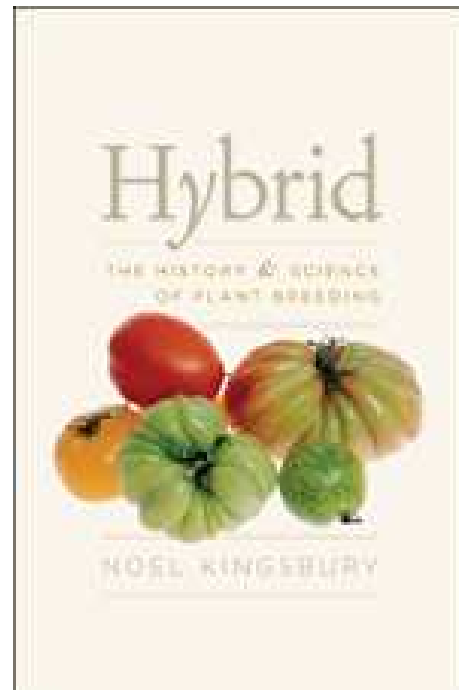
John and Judy Reed, **New York Botanical Garden**, had the pleasure of traveling to Anchorage, Alaska in November to meet their new granddaughter, Olive Connelly Reed and to spend Thanksgiving with her parents. Upon flying back to Minneapolis, they took a few days to visit with retired CBHL member, Richard Isaacson, who hosted them royally, which included Richard’s fine cooking. They were also able to visit the Andersen Library, from which Richard recently retired and which is now headed by CBHL member Kathy Allen. She showed them several of her wonderful rare books, and she and Richard gave them a botanical literature “lesson.”

Pamela MacKenzie, **Civic Garden Centre**, Toronto, writes, “1959 & 2009 are special years for Willie and me. We married in 1959, and bought a semi-detached farm labourer’s cottage (built 1723) in the village of Downe in Kent. Just up the road is Down House, the home of Charles Darwin. We used to take Sunday afternoon visitors for a walk and a look round the house. I don’t remember much publicity about *The Origin of Species*, but I do remember the great man’s huge chair in his study and the books torn down the spine for his convenience. So in 2009 we have celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary. Now we’ll have time to read *The Origin of Species*.”

John Moore, **Chicago Public Library**, writes that he attended his 65th class reunion in Tennessee in October. Following the reunion he and his son and daughter drove to North Carolina where they visited Fontana Dam and Lake, Joyce Kilmer Forest, the Carl Sandburg home “Connemara,” and grounds of the North Carolina State Arboretum near Asheville). John spoke to them “about the importance of a library and a professional to run it and contributed a 50-year run of *Castanea*, *Journal of the Southern Appalachian Botanical Society* to their beginning collection.”



Winged passion flower (*Passiflora alata*) from William Curtis’ *Botanical Magazine*, v. 2, plate 66, 1788. Illustration courtesy of www.botanicus.org from Missouri Botanical Garden



Book Review

Marilyn K. Alaimo

Book Reviewer, Volunteer

Lenhardt Library

Chicago Botanic Garden, Illinois

Noel Kingsbury

Hybrid: The History & Science of Plant Breeding

Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2009.

Hardcover, 493 pp.

ISBN 13: 978-0-226-43704-0, ISBN 10: 0-226-43704-3, \$35.00.

Addressing the gap between wild plants and cultivated crops, horticulturist and gifted storyteller Noel Kingsbury traces the long history in the evolution of natural and human-directed species. After first directing attention to traditional agriculture, the author then relates the start of deliberate breeding efforts in crops, which were based on intuitive selection. It was not until the 19th century that a monk, Gregor Mendel, introduced the theory of scientific selection in plant breeding with the resultant introduction of genetics into politics. Food and cash crops became the main focus of national initiatives in hybridization. Although much can be achieved when there is strong national support of scientific research, says the author, there are prominent examples of the harmful situation “where there is no political or academic freedom.” He speaks of the Green Revolution, an attempt by scientists to improve the quality of life around the world through new plant breeding; contrary to its purpose, it had a negative impact on many rural farmers in Third World countries. The concluding chapter contains a summary of the multiple issues; supplemental materials include technical notes, references to terminology, and bibliography. Broad in scope and heavily referenced, this admirable work presents the key issues in contemporary controversies over genetically modified crops.



CBHL Newsletter, c/o Gayle Bradbeer, Secretary
Council on Botanical and Horticultural Libraries, Inc.
Auraria Library
1100 Lawrence Street
Denver, Colorado 80204-2095

Visit the CBHL Web site Today!
www.cbhl.net

Join Us!

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

Name _____
Title _____
Institution _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____
ZIP/Postal Code _____
Country _____
Telephone/Fax _____
E-mail _____

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

Amount enclosed \$ _____

Return to:

Brian Thompson, CBHL Treasurer
P.O. Box 51116
Seattle, Washington 98115-1116

Questions ?

Contact CBHL Membership Manager Suzi Tegtmeyer,
suzirt@gmail.com

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

The quarterly *Newsletter* is sent by mail to all current members of CBHL. Submissions are welcome according to the following schedule: February issue (copy due 12/15), May issue (copy due 3/15), August issue (copy due 6/15), and November issue (copy due 9/15). Publications Committee Chair, Robin Everly (everlyr@si.edu); *Newsletter* Editor, Susan Eubank (susan.eubank@Arboretum.org)