



Barbara M. Pitschel: A Librarian's Reminiscence

by Susan C. Eubank, Arboretum Librarian
Los Angeles County Arboretum & Botanic Garden
Arcadia, CA

What does the world of botanical and horticultural libraries teach us? What lessons do the librarians learn who work in these libraries? Many of us do not know about our profession before we are given it or in some way seek it out, but for most of us, it sinks deeply into our souls. How does that happen?

Barbara was born in 1939 in upstate New York. She was an only child. She had ambitions to be an art student and eventually worked her way to Chicago. There she started work at the Second City comedy club where she met her future husband **Roland Pitschel**. Since high school, Roland had been involved with "beat" generation literary projects. **Second City** and the Chicago literary world stood defiantly against the status quo, which included court cases for obscenity.

In 1963 they moved to San Francisco, married and moved to Bernal Heights. In 1965 their daughter, Justine, was born. Just one block up the hill from their house is one of the only natural open spaces in San Francisco. As early as 1972, Barbara and Roland were organizing trash clean-ups. Through the years, they convinced the City/County of San Francisco to move the area from the jurisdiction of the **Public Works Department** to the **Recreation and Parks Department**. They then started a very early grassland restoration project. This was all while Roland was working as a free-lance craftsman and Barbara was continuing to waitress at the **Purple Onion** and **Hungry I** comedy clubs, carrying on



Barbara M. Pitschel resting during a short stop in the post-conference tour studying the natural areas around the confluence of the Missouri and Mississippi Rivers at the 2009 CBHL conference. Photograph by Brian Thompson

the tradition of their Chicago experiences. I enjoyed her customer service summation: "Cocktail waitress, information waitress, it's all the same."

I was witness to Barbara's appreciation of nature many times. Others, especially members of the **Yerba Buena Chapter** of the **California Native Plant Society** can tell this story better than I can. She was their program chairperson and newsletter editor. But I kept trying to send

From the President

Stanley H. Johnston, Jr.
Mentor, OH

Dear Fellow Members,

Since our last issue, we have seen the death of another of our long-time members, another past President and Long Award recipient, **Barb Pitschel**. In addition to her efforts in conservation and the

preservation of the native wildflowers of California, Barb contributed heavily to CBHL as a member of the committee that drew up our strategic plan, and was a mainstay of the proofreading of our CBHL publications. We have also seen a continuing loss of members' jobs due to the economic conditions. On the brighter side, we have seen another long-time member, **Barney Lipscomb**, honored by the **American Society of Plant Taxonomists** with the **Peter Raven Award** for exceptional outreach to non-scientists by a plant systematist.

As I write this, it is September and your Board is preparing for its mid-year meeting in Chicago where we will get a preview of what the staffs of the **Lenhardt Library** of the **Chicago Botanic Garden** and the **Sterling Morton Library** of the **Morton Arboretum** have planned for us all at our annual meeting in Chicago next May. We look forward to meeting with you then and encourage you to join us.

By the time this reaches you the holidays will be approaching, and we will have a proposed bylaw change regarding additional institutional members for your discussion and consideration. 2011 will mark the ten year anniversary of the CBHL strategic plan. While the vision, mission, and core values have not changed since that time, the Board feels that it would be a good time to examine our five goals: Resource Sharing, Preservation, Access, Professional Development, and Administration and the action items under each, so that we can see how well we are meeting these goals, how effective the current action plans have been, and if these need to be revisited or supplemented. We are currently taking an initial look at these items and will, I hope, have a report on our initial conclusions before the annual meeting so that we can solicit your input on the subject. In the meantime, I would urge you all to start thinking about the goals and action items by visiting the web page <http://www.cbhl.net/about/stratp2.htm>.

Remember that we continue to solicit your ideas and concerns for items to be considered by the Board; these should be sent to sheila_connor@harvard.edu. We also continue to ask for your help in finding new individuals and organizations who might benefit from membership in CBHL and help in the continual growth of the organization. Any suggestions in this area would be welcomed by me at stanley177@aol.com.

Finally, I would like to extend the best wishes of the Board and myself to all of you for the holiday season.

Stan Johnston

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her a picture of our lilac in Colorado, because she had told me about her remembrances of them in her childhood. She and I always tried to choose the native plant trips on the CBHL post-conference tours, so we could be steeped in the local plant environment. The Boston post-conference tour to Cape Cod was poignant for her as she relived the time she spent there as a teenager. She took as much joy in our southern Sierran foothill get-away property as we do.

Barbara had taken the library technician program at **San Francisco City College** and came to the **Helen Crocker Russell Library of Horticulture at Strybing Arboretum** (now **San Francisco Botanical Garden at Strybing Arboretum**) in 1981. She had been working at a downtown San Francisco law firm as a library assistant when a friend saw the advertisement for the job at Strybing and said it was Barbara's "dream job." She agreed and applied. Barbara didn't have her library degree yet, but according to **Jane Potter Gates**, the Head Librarian

at the time, Barbara was the unanimous choice of the selection committee. Barbara also wanted to know more about the plants on her hill and since it is grassland, she started to concentrate on learning to identify grasses, one of the most complicated kinds of plants. She received her M.L.I.S. from **U.C. Berkeley**.

This set the stage for an amazing career as botanical garden librarian and a champion of native plants in San Francisco. I first met Barbara when I volunteered at **Strybing Arboretum**. Later she offered me a job. I was her first employee. Every day after work I would walk across Golden Gate Park to the hospital. I was visiting my partner there who had been diagnosed with colon cancer. Finally, a couple of

weeks, before he died, I had to tell Barbara why I was going to quit early from the temporary position. It was the first time of many times she helped me get a job. It was at the **California College of Arts and Crafts** where Roland worked, but she didn't know why I was quitting early. I remember her shock and my tears. My emotions were all pent up, because of my partner's intense privacy. He had told me not to tell anyone.

After a year, I was Barbara's employee again. As Jane Potter Gates and I reminisced for this article, what we both remember about Barbara in

the Library was that she was a "force of nature." Barbara had very particular ideas about how the Library should work. Barbara and I had many challenging discussions about this. One day we were setting up for an orientation to the Library and we were putting books out for displays to have people understand the wealth of materi-



*Barbara M. Pitschel presenting her reminiscence at the 40th Anniversary Banquet at the **2008 CBHL Meeting** in Grand Rapids, Michigan.
Photograph by Barney Lipscomb*



Barbara M. Pitschel raising funds for the **Helen Crocker Russell Library** at **San Francisco Botanical Garden** at **Strybing Arboretum** in the late 1980s. **Susan Eubank** participates in the background. [Photographer unknown]

als in the Library, to draw them in, to have them want to use the materials, to love the plants and the books. We were rushing about. Barbara was suggesting which books I should help her pull from the shelves. I was trying to follow, to understand why we were picking certain books, and which books would illustrate a particular point. I tried to assert myself. I had a particular book in mind that I thought would show there was some fun in gardening, that it wasn't all serious with Latin names and pages and pages of plant descriptions with individual close-up pictures of plants. There was only room for one more book on the table. Barbara had her book in mind. I had mine. They were in two different parts of the library. We were miffed at each other, because we each thought our own book was the most important one to put in the last place on the table. We both approached the table, opening our respective books to the page we both thought would be the final illustration that would draw the people in. This open page is going to make the people understand—my page, not yours. Both open pages had the exact same picture of the same sculptures and plants in an Australian garden. We were stubbornly arguing about the exact same thought.

Some Sundays I would participate in her restoration project in Bernal Heights. We would remove weeds, sometimes do a little planting and generally take joy at looking over the beauty



Barbara M. Pitschel enjoying her committee report at the **2008 CBHL Meeting** in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Photograph by Barney Lipscomb

of the urban area through the lens of this precious native plant remnant. Afterwards there were always refreshments at their house down the hill, the house where you could see Roland's talents in woodworking and cabinetry and understand a little from their past. Botanical and other art filled the walls. Even though there were extraordinary botanical illustrations by prominent botanical artists on the walls, I was always attracted to her own drawing of her VW Bug. The group of tables in the large kitchen looked like we were always invited for whatever project the tables could hold. The last time I visited her house she showed me the newsletter she and Roland did at those tables for their cooperative nursery school that Justine went to in the late 1960s. Barbara was editor. Roland did the art. The décor in the house matched the bohemian aspects of the newsletter.

Over my career, it was Barbara's response to the reference check that sealed the deal on all my various jobs. She kept working on me,



Barbara M. Pitschel during a short stop in the post-conference tour studying the natural areas around the confluence of the Missouri and Mississippi Rivers at the 2009 CBHL conference. Photograph by Brian Thompson



*Barbara M. Pitschel selecting a book as reward for contributing to the recommendations for titles for the **CBHL Annual Literature Award** in 2009*

though. When I went to Los Alamos, New Mexico, supposedly to work at the Los Alamos National Laboratory, she told about the job at Denver Botanic Gardens. When I went to Grand Canyon National Park, she gave me a membership in CBHL. Whenever I called, she was willing to talk and to share. How many times, at how many institutions, did I ask her to send a copy of her collection development policy and orientation sheet so I could use them as templates?

I always had a roommate at CBHL. Beyond her phone calls that got me through all the various travails of my life. I always had a guide at the CBHL meetings: someone to have dinner with, someone to introduce me to the Reeds, all the Janes and all the Susans, someone to tell me to join a committee, to volunteer for something, and someone I had to wake up in the morning. She didn't just do that for me. She did all except the "waking up in the morning" for CBHL attendees year after year. We still had vigorous discussions about how CBHL should run and about botanical librarianship. Barbara usually didn't waver. Her belief system held firm. That was the force of nature standing tall. My belief system is a shifting one, always trying new things, but Barbara was always willing



*Barbara M. Pitschel receiving the **Charles Robert Long Award for Extraordinary Merit** at the CBHL meeting at the **Los Angeles County Arboretum & Botanic Garden** in 2005. Photograph by John Reed*

to listen. She even thought she might be willing to have a small circulating collection in the next few years.

It was that willingness to listen and to make friends, her considered thoughtfulness for others, the undying love for plants and books, and that very concrete vision of what a botanical garden library should be that I want to savor, envelop and carry on for Barbara. When I blasted by the room at the hospital on the day that she died, and had the instantaneous thought that the room with all the people in it must be hers (and, indeed, it was), it made me realize that I need to work harder at figuring out how to let people know that I am willing to watch their backs and am willing to help them grow. I should listen to them to help them through their challenges. Barbara was very deliberate and open about how she worked to make things like boards, committees and public meetings work better. She shared both her triumphs and her foibles. I hope I can learn to follow her example.

When Barbara was honored with the **Charles Robert Long Award for Extraordinary Merit**, we heard **Richard Isaacson** list her accomplishments—pages and pages. Even Barbara was astonished and she asked Richard if she could have the list when he finished reading. Being a **California Native Plant Society** Fellow, an honoree with the **Trust for Public Lands** and a CBHL President is just a hint of her dedication. CBHL's tangible evidence of her love for books was her dedication to recommending books for the **CBHL Literature Award**. She would stay up late at night, perusing the books and creating the language that would go off to the committee. It would then be read at the Annual Meeting where the book she chose won the award, year after year. She also took that care in selecting wonderful books for my daughter for birthdays and

Christmas, and she always told me later why she selected that particular book. When I worked with her, I watched as she took that same care in selecting presents for all her volunteers.

We can all continue Barbara's work and honor her legacy with renewed dedication to our profession and its materials. Together, we can stand tall to create that "force of nature" to help the world understand the importance of plants and the surrounding cumulative body of knowledge that needs collecting, managing and making accessible to those seeking that knowledge. We can all stand tall and help everyone understand that botanical and horticultural librarians are integral parts of helping people understand the necessity for cherishing the plant world.

GREATGARDENSPEAKERS.COM CONNECTS HORTICULTURAL SPEAKERS AND AUDIENCES

A group of garden writers has joined forces to create a website that will make it easier for garden clubs, botanical gardens, and other groups to find speakers for their programs.

GreatGardenSpeakers.com is the brainchild of **Amy Stewart, Debra Prinzing, Nan Sterman, Scott Calhoun, and Mary Ann Newcomer**. "We all spend a great deal of time every year on the road speaking to garden clubs, botanical gardens, and other horticultural venues," said Prinzing, author of *Stylish Sheds and Elegant Hideaways*. "We know that program chairs rely on word-of-mouth to find great speakers, and we came up with an idea that we hope will make life easier for them."

GreatGardenSpeakers.com lists speakers with expertise in gardening, landscape architecture and design, horticulture, floral design, and ecology and conservation. But the site is more than a listing service. "We encourage speakers to list the cities they'll be visiting," said Stewart, author of *Wicked Plants and Flower Confidential*. "We created a feature called '**Coming to a City Near You**' that allows you to search for speakers who might be coming through town so you can book them while they're there. This can be a significant cost savings when it comes to travel expenses and speaking fees."

Because word-of-mouth is so important in finding good speakers, the site allows people to post Audience Reviews of speakers they have seen. "We are encouraging our audiences to come visit the site and recommend their favorite speakers to other groups by posting a review," said **Scott Calhoun**, author of *Designer Plant Combinations*. "There's nothing better than a testimonial from another garden club."

GreatGardenSpeakers.com features more than 85 speakers; expect to see more signing up over the coming year. Recently featured speakers include **Ken Druse**, author of *Planthropology*, **Saxon Holt**, the photographer whose work graces the new book *The American Meadow*, and **Shirley Bovshow**, the dynamic landscape designer and television host. Speakers pay a small fee to be listed on the site, but Great Garden Speakers does not act as an agent or charge a commission. Groups that book speakers are invited to sign up for a free e-mail newsletter that will provide updates on new speakers that have joined the site, new topics or book releases, and other updates. The website is free for groups to use and the site's organizers encourage comments and suggestions.

For more information, contact info@greatgardenspeakers.com



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On the Web

Some Book Inventory Tools, Specialized Search Engines, a List of HTTP Status Codes and Some 404 Errors.

Stanley Johnston, Mentor, Ohio

Recently mentioned on the CBHL List, **The Virtual Museum of Cataloging and Acquisition Artifacts** <http://www.heidihoerman.com/museumca/index.html> features a brief discussion and images of early accession books, accession stamps, tools to apply call numbers, old book catalogs and catalog cards, etc.

A recent **Ex libris** listserv discussion brought up a number of alternate library automation systems for small libraries and private collectors, including **Book Organizer Deluxe** <http://www.primasoft.com/deluxeprg/bkodx.htm> and **Readerware** <http://www.readerware.com>.

One of the reasons that it has become increasingly difficult for me to readily keep up with new sites for this column is the continued decline of the **Yahoo** directory and its **What's New** section, which is ironic because it was the tool from which the whole Yahoo empire evolved. Fortunately, **Google** has stepped into the gap with its open submission **Google Directory** <http://www.google.com/dirhp?hl=en>, which does not, unfortunately, have a "What's New" feature—nor any way to contact the folks at Google to suggest that they add one. Google has also added **Google Scholar** <http://scholar.google.com>, a search engine for professional and scholarly research covering books, articles, societies, and websites.

This We Know <http://www.thisweknow.org> sets out to provide a single place where viewers can see a snapshot of any United States location based on data from the **Data.gov** catalog. Although the data currently loaded is somewhat limited, it does give quick insights into industry, pollution, and population data.



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Free Public Records Search Directory <http://publicrecords.onlinesearches.com> provides links to free public record searches through the United States searchable by state or record type.

A somewhat depressing site is **The Decline: The Geography of a Recession** <http://cohort11.americanobserver.net/latoyaegwue-kwe/multimediafinal.html> which features an automated map of the United States graphically demonstrating the rise in unemployment rates from January 2007 through May 2010.

Finally, **Wikipedia** has posted a convenient List of **HTTP Status Codes** http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_HTTP_status_codes. One of these, which can be increasingly frustrating, is code 404, indicating the information looked for "is not found", although it may be available again at some time in the future. Being aware of this, some websites publish entertaining 404 notifications to somewhat offset the viewers' frustration. Some of these have been collected as **49 Nice and Creative Error 404 Pages** <http://www.hongkiat.com/blog/49-nice-and-creative-error-404-pages> and **60 Really Cool and Creative Error 404 Pages** <http://www.hongkiat.com/blog/60-really-cool-and-creative-error-404-pages>.

Members' News East

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



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

Schumacher Library Celebrates 20th Anniversary

Olbrich Botanical Gardens' Schumacher Library celebrated its 20th anniversary on September 8 with its founders **Ken and Gina Schumacher**. The Schumachers donated the "seed money" to start the horticultural library in honor of Ken's parents, Anna and Hugo. The Schumachers have been residents of east side Madison neighborhoods since the late 1800s. Their descendants have played and grown up in the area that developed into the botanical gardens.

Guests viewed a videotape of the dedication ceremony of the library and caught up with former Gardens volunteers, the directors and staff. Schumacher Library has welcomed over 78,000 visitors through its doors; answered nearly 12,000 reference questions; and circulated close to 16,000 items. The library is staffed by one half-time librarian and thirty volunteers.



Ken and Gina Schumacher.

Leora Siegel, Director
Lenhardt Library
Chicago Botanic Garden
Glencoe, Illinois

The Lenhardt Library of the **Chicago Botanic Garden** recently received a copy of **Highgrove Florilegium** on long-term loan. The exquisite two-volume set of botanical prints depicts plants grown at **Highgrove**, the gardens of **HRH, The Prince of Wales**. Only 175 copies were printed, of which this is set number 116.

Judy Warnement, Director
Harvard Botany Libraries
Harvard University
Cambridge, Massachusetts

The **United States Postal Service** unveiled the **2011 Stamp Program** at the annual **American Philatelic Society Stamp Show** on August 10 in Richmond, VA.

Among the many themes and individuals that will be promoted is a series that honors four noted scientists: **Asa Gray**, **Melvin Calvin**, **Maria Goeppert Mayer**, and **Severo Ochoa**. Botany Libraries Archivist, **Lisa DeCesare**, worked with a USPS consultant and an artist for nearly two years on the design of the **Asa Gray** stamp,

and we all look forward to its issue in 2011. Go to <http://www.postalreporternews.net/tag/ronald-reagan/> to read the article.

The **Harvard Museum of Natural History** in collaboration with the **Harvard University Herbaria** will host a lecture series to celebrate Asa Gray's bicentennial. All lectures are free and will be open to the public and held at the **Geological Lecture Hall**, 24 Oxford Street. Details can be

found at: <http://www.hmn.harvard.edu/kids-and-families/google-calendar.html>

ASA GRAY LECTURE SERIES

October 21:

RE:Design: A Dramatization of the Correspondence of Charles Darwin and Asa Gray

RE:Design: a one-act play dramatizing the letters exchanged by **Charles Darwin** and Harvard botanist **Asa Gray**, his American “theological sparring partner,” will be performed by the original British cast. The drama includes Darwin and Gray’s private discussion of design in nature and the relationship of science and religion. It was written by **Craig Baxter**, produced by the **Darwin Correspondence Project** at **Cambridge University**, and developed by **Paul Bourne** and the **Menagerie Theatre Company**. **Janet Browne**, Aramont Professor of the History of Science at Harvard, will moderate a panel discussion following the performance.

November 4:

Darwin’s “Abominable Mystery” and the Search for the First Flowering Plants

Charles Darwin was baffled by many big questions in evolutionary biology, and none more so than the mystery of how the planet’s first flowering plants came to be. **William (Ned) Friedman**, Professor in the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at University of Colorado, will lead an exploration into the evolutionary origin of flowering plants, and how recent advances in the fossil record have shed new light on what they may have looked like, where they “lived,” and how they reproduced.

November 18:

Thoreau as Climatologist: Tracking 160 Years of Climate Change

Over 160 years ago, **Henry David Thoreau** initiated a study of flowering times at **Walden Pond**. Today, a research team including **Charles Davis**, Assistant Professor of Organismic and Evolutionary Biology and Curator in the **Harvard Herbarium**, has updated Thoreau’s records with current data and integrated them with modern evolutionary biology to reveal how climate change and earlier flowering times have affected Walden’s plants. Davis will explore how an integration of historical records combined with cutting edge science can help us potentially mitigate the impacts of climate change on biodiversity.

Judy Warnement attended the **International Symposium of Shanghai Chenshan Botanical Garden** from October 11-14 in Shanghai where she presented a paper and post on the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**. <http://www.bgci.org/resources/event/0254/>

Lauren Marshall, Harvard Staff Writer
Harvard University Gazette
Harvard University
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Ned Friedman named
Director of **Arnold Arboretum**
Evolutionary biologist to join
Faculty of Arts and Sciences

William “Ned” Friedman, an evolutionary biologist who has done extensive research on the origin and early evolution of flowering plants, has been appointed director of the **Arnold Arboretum**.

Friedman, set to start on [January 1, 2011], will be the eighth director of the Arboretum, which is administered by Harvard’s Office of the Provost. He also will be a tenured professor in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences. His priorities include strengthening ties between the Arboretum and the Cambridge campus and working closely with the Arboretum’s neighbors in Jamaica Plain and Roslindale.

"Ned's appointment underscores Harvard's commitment to integrating the incredible resources and opportunities presented by the Arboretum with the important work of our scientists here in Cambridge," said **Provost Steven E. Hyman**.

"As an FAS faculty member, Ned will be a part of the Harvard community. As director of the Arboretum, he will seek closer ties, not only with our Cambridge campus, but also with the city of Boston, the Arboretum's home."

Friedman has been a professor of ecology and evolutionary biology at the **University of Colorado** since 1995. As professor of organismic and evolutionary biology at Harvard, he will conduct research in the new **Weld Hill Research and Administration Building** at the Arboretum and teach at Harvard's Cambridge campus.

Part of Boston's **Emerald Necklace** of parks, the 265-acre Arboretum, founded in 1872 and designed by **Frederick Law Olmsted**, is free and open to the public every day of the year.

Its programs and events include lectures and community outreach initiatives in neighboring schools.

"Professor Friedman's appointment creates an exciting opportunity to connect the unique resources of the Arnold Arboretum in Boston to the plant science research and education occurring on our Cambridge campus," said **Jeremy Bloxham**, FAS dean of science. "Ned's teaching and leadership will facilitate closer linkages between the educational and research possibilities the Arboretum presents and the innovative scholarship of our faculty and students."

Friedman's research has focused on patterns of plant morphology, anatomy, and cell biology. He was recently acclaimed for his discovery of a new type of reproductive structure in an ancient flowering plant that may represent a critical link between flowering plants and their ancestors.

Friedman also has a keen interest in the history of science, particularly the intellectual history of evolutionism. He has designed and taught courses on the life and work of **Charles Darwin** and other historical figures, and lectured on the subject at natural history museums and

other venues.

On [November 4, 2010], Friedman will deliver a lecture at the **Harvard Museum of Natural History** on "**Darwin's 'Abominable Mystery' and the Search for the First Flowering Plants**." He plans to launch a **Director's Lecture Series** at the Arboretum that will make accessible to the public cutting-edge research by leading scientists from Harvard and around the world.

"I am thrilled to be able to welcome a diverse group of audiences to the Arnold Arboretum, one of the world's leading resources for the study of plants, and help integrate it more deeply into the research and teaching missions of Harvard University," said Friedman. "I am also deeply committed to building on the Arboretum's robust history and its ongoing programs to enhance a neighborhood resource that brings the world of biodiversity to Greater Boston."

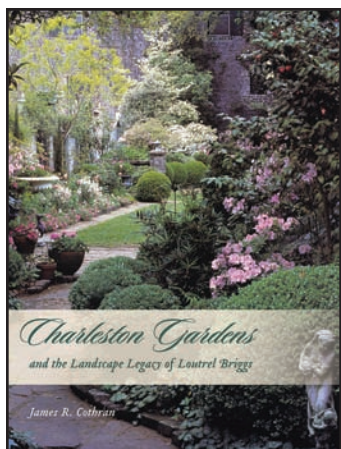
Friedman is the author or co-author of more than 50 peer-reviewed publications, and serves on editorial committees for the *American Journal of Botany*, the *International Journal of Plant Sciences*, the *Journal of Plant Research*, and *Biological Reviews*. He is a member of the **Botanical Society of America**.

Friedman received a bachelor's degree in biology from **Oberlin College** in 1981, and a doctorate in botany from the **University of California, Berkeley**, in 1986. He is a fellow of the **Linnean Society** of London, and a 2004 recipient of the **Jeanette Siron Pelton Award**, granted by the **Conservation and Research Foundation** through the **Botanical Society of America**. In 1991, he received the **Presidential Young Investigator Award** from the **National Science Foundation**. Friedman spent his early career in the Botany Department at the **University of Georgia** before joining the faculty at the **University of Colorado**.

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Staci Catron
Director
Cherokee Garden
Library
Kenan Research
Center at the
Atlanta History
Center
Atlanta, Georgia

Cherokee Garden Library Hosts Renowned Garden Historian James R. Cothran

Charleston Gardens and the Landscape Legacy of Loutrel Briggs

"The remarkable artistry of Loutrel Briggs profoundly enhanced Charleston's gardens and parks and made a beautiful city even more so. His work has been captured in innumerable paintings and photographs and is carried in the minds and hearts of all who have been inspired by the spaces he created. Jim Cothran's most interesting book does justice to Briggs and his legacy and will forever enrich this city."

—**The Honorable Joseph P. Riley, Jr.,**
Mayor of Charleston

The Cherokee Garden Library invites you to share a delightful evening with acclaimed garden historian **James R. Cothran**, on **Wednesday, October 13, 2010**, at 7:00 PM. Afterward, enjoy a book signing and reception featuring "Charleston Delights and Small Bites."

The recently published *Charleston Gardens and the Landscape Legacy of Loutrel Briggs* provides a fascinating account of the life and career of renowned landscape architect **Loutrel Briggs** (1893–1977), the individual most directly responsible for the development of Charleston's distinctive garden style. Through insightful text and nearly 140 illustrations, accomplished landscape architect and award-winning garden historian **James R. Cothran** provides the most complete portrait to date of Briggs, his continuing impact

on the iconic gardens of Charleston, and his legacy in the Carolina lowcountry.

A native of New York and a graduate of Cornell University, Briggs first visited Charleston in 1927 to experience firsthand the city's incomparable springtime beauty and picturesque charm. Briggs was enamored by the city and opened a seasonal office in Charleston in 1929. For the next three decades he divided his practice between New York and Charleston, finally becoming a permanent resident of Charleston in 1959.

Briggs completed an impressive array of private and public landscape projects, including **Mepkin, McLeod, Mulberry, and Rice Hope** plantations; Charleston's **Gateway Walk**; the **William Gibbes House Garden**; and the **South Carolina Memorial Garden**, but he is best known for his designs of many small Charleston gardens. Briggs is credited with designing more than one hundred private gardens in Charleston's historic district alone. In these plans Briggs drew on his remarkable sense of scale, harmony, and tradition to work wonders in limited urban spaces. Some of these gardens survive today while others have been lost to natural causes, redesign, or neglect.

Cothran's comprehensive work champions a renewed appreciation of the contributions Briggs made to Charleston's landscape tradition and serves as a timely call to action to preserve his gardens and legacy. In addition to documenting the life and works of his subject, Cothran also provides information on the use of garden easements as an effective means of preserving historic gardens, techniques aimed at the preservation of Charleston gardens, but equally applicable to efforts in other locations as well.

James R. Cothran is a practicing landscape architect, urban planner, and garden historian in Atlanta. He holds degrees from **Clemson University**, the **University of Georgia**, and the **Georgia Institute of Technology**. A fellow in the **American Society of Landscape Architects**, Cothran is past president of the **Southern Garden History Society** and currently serves on the boards of the **Alliance for Historic Landscape Preservation**, **Trees Atlanta**, and the **Cherokee Garden Library**. He is the author of *Gardens of*

Historic Charleston and Gardens and Historic Plants of the Antebellum South, which has been honored with awards from the **American Society of Landscape Architects**, the **National Garden Clubs**, the **Council on Botanical and Horticultural Libraries**, the **Georgia Historical Society**, and other organizations.

This special evening on October 13, 2010 is a fundraising event for the **Cherokee Garden Library** endowment in honor of **James R. Cothran**, Fellow of the **American Society of Landscape Architects** (FASLA). Admission is \$35 individual; \$50 couple; \$350 patron. Patron level supporters will receive entry for two (2), a private reception with the author before the lecture, preferred seating during the lecture, and a complimentary autographed copy of *Charleston Gardens and the Landscape Legacy of Loutrel Briggs*. Reservations are required. Make check payable to "Cherokee Garden Library," c/o Atlanta History Center, 130 West Paces Ferry Road, NW, Atlanta, GA 30305. For more information, please call 404.814.4046 or email scatron@atlantahistorycenter.com.

The Cherokee Garden Library is home to the personal library of James R. Cothran as well as the James R. Cothran Papers (MSS 989, Cherokee Garden Library, Kenan Research Center), which contains research materials collected by James R. Cothran including seed and nursery catalogs; information regarding people associated with Southern gardening and landscapes; information on various horticultural, gardening, and landscape topics; and information on historic gardens of the Southeast region. For more information, contact Staci Catron at 404.814.4046 or scatron@atlantahistorycenter.com.

Landscapes for Living: Post War Landscape Architecture in Georgia

The Cultural Landscape Foundation (TCLF), with local partner **Cherokee Garden Library of the Atlanta History Center**, will host **Landscapes for Living: Post War Landscape Architecture** in Atlanta on November 5, 2010 at the **Atlanta History Center**. This is the eighth of

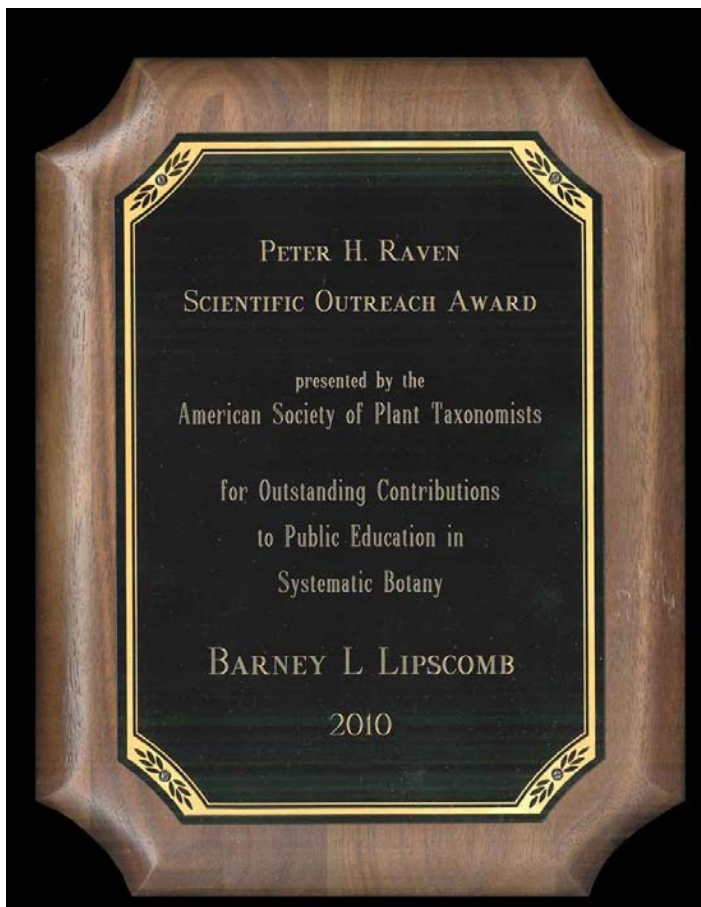
nine regional symposia held in conjunction with the publication of *Shaping the American Landscape: New Profiles from the Pioneers of American Landscape Design Project* (University of Virginia Press, 2009). The symposium will examine a vibrant period of modernist landscape architecture in Atlanta noted for great innovation and experimentation.

Landscapes for Living will feature 14 speakers (including **Douglas Allen**, **Roy O. Ashley**, **Charles A. Birnbaum**, **Edward L. Daugherty**, **Stuart O. Dawson**, and **Spencer Tunnell**), who will examine the lead-up to modern landscape architecture, a macro view of modernism in Georgia, and firsthand recollections by practitioners who directly affected the course of post-war landscape architecture in Atlanta. Additional speakers and panels will discuss some of the region's pioneers of landscape design and the legacy of modernist work in Atlanta. The full day includes a catered lunch and a post symposium reception hosted by the **Cherokee Garden Library**.

The Atlanta symposium is organized by **The Cultural Landscape Foundation** in partnership with the **Cherokee Garden Library** of the **Atlanta History Center**. *Garden Design* magazine is the Presenting Sponsor, **Landscape Forms** is the 2010 Series Sponsor, and the **American Society of Landscape Architects** (ASLA) is the Educational Partner. **The Atlanta Preservation Center**, the **Georgia Chapter of DOCOMOMO**, the **Georgia Chapter of ASLA**, and the **University of Georgia School of Environment and Design** are local supporting sponsors. For additional information, log on to www.tclf.org or call 202.483.0553. Registration is available online at <http://tclf.org/event/landscapes-living-post-war-landscape-architecture-georgia>. Space is limited.

The Cultural Landscape Foundation (www.tclf.org), established in 1998, is the only not-for-profit organization dedicated to increasing the public's awareness of the important legacy of culturally significant landscapes and landscape features to help save and preserve them for future generations.

**CEU credits will be offered for this event.*



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

Botanist Barney Lipscomb Receives 2010 Peter H. Raven Award

The American Society of Plant Taxonomists (ASPT) presented the Peter H. Raven Award to Barney Lipscomb of the Botanical Research Institute of Texas (BRIT) for advancing the public's understanding of plant systematic work and its value to society. Barney is the Dorothea L. Leonhardt Chair of Texas Botany at the Botanical Research Institute of Texas, Fort Worth, and head of BRIT's scientific press. He received the award at ASPT's annual meeting on Tuesday, August 3, 2010, at the Biltmore Hotel in Providence, R.I. ASPT presents the international award annually to an individual who has made exceptional efforts at outreach to non-scientists.

"Barney Lipscomb is a consummate communicator," said S. H. Sohmer, Ph.D., FLS,

BRIT's president and director. "In addition to being a prolific writer, editor, and lecturer for the scientific community, he has created imaginative approaches to convey the importance of taxonomy to non-scientists."

With a career spanning 35 years, Lipscomb has become known as a botanical ambassador. He is "Barney the Botanist" to area grade school and high school students, and he is well known for his multimedia presentation, "**Murderous Plants: Poisonous Herbs**" to civic organizations, arts groups, and businesses. Since the inception of BRIT in 1987, he has given 573 talks and 234 BRIT learning tours to master gardeners, garden clubs, horticultural groups, native plant societies, and special-interest plant groups, e.g., orchid, cactus, fern and begonia societies, reaching approximately 52,000 people.

Through his editorship and research, Lipscomb is one of the best-known botanists in Texas. He co-authored *Shinners' & Mahler's Illustrated Flora of North Central Texas*, a 1640-page, fully illustrated, comprehensive guide to a large portion of the diverse plant life of Texas; and volume one of a three-volume flora, the *Illustrated Flora of East Texas*. Both books serve as textbooks for students of botany and plant taxonomy. In addition, he has authored more than 30 scientific publications.

His long-standing association with poison centers led to his work in forensic botany. His co-authored article, "*The Use of Animal-Dispersed Seeds and Fruits in Forensic Botany*," chronicles his success in having provided botanical evidence and testimony that was crucial in convicting the kidnapper and molester of a two-year-old child in Fort Worth.

About the American Society of Plant Taxonomists

The American Society of Plant Taxonomists promotes research and teaching of taxonomy, systematics, and phylogeny of vascular and nonvascular plants. Organized in 1935, the Society has a membership of over 1300. The Society publishes several publications, supports funds for a variety of honorary and charitable activities, and conducts scientific meetings each summer.

About the Botanical Research Institute of Texas

The Botanical Research Institute of Texas is a nonprofit, international, plant discovery, and research center based in Fort Worth. It advances its mission to conserve our natural heritage by providing relevant knowledge to scientists and all interested in learning about plants. With a collection of more than one million dried plant specimens representing much of the Earth's plant diversity, BRIT's herbarium is among the largest in the United States and is the largest herbarium not part of a university, botanical garden, or natural history museum. BRIT's library houses more than 100,000 volumes of books, periodicals, and journals from more than 100 countries. BRIT has conducted extensive research in Texas and in tropical rainforests in the Philippines, Costa Rica, and currently in Peru and Papua New Guinea.

Mark Glicksman
Botanical Garden Mapping System/GIS
(BG-Map)
Morris Arboretum of the
University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Longwood Gardens, in Kennett Square, Pennsylvania, has launched its **Plant Explorer** website. Plant Explorer allows you to look up any plant by scientific or common name and provides unprecedented access to Longwood's plant records, plant images, garden information and interactive maps.

You can access **Plant Explorer** at
<http://plantexplorer.longwoodgardens.org/>



*Helianthus, Last Sunflower, watercolor on paper by Fiona Strickland (Scotland), 59 x 49 cm, 2008.
Hunt Institute collection, gift from the artist.*

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*Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation
Carnegie Mellon University
Pittsburgh, PA 15213-3890*

Hunt Institute Presents 13th International Exhibition of Botanical Art & Illustration

September 24 through December 17, 2010

The Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation presents its **13th International Exhibition of Botanical Art & Illustration** from 24 September to 17 December 2010. This exhibition will include 110 watercolors, drawings and prints representing the work of 72 artists from 15 countries. The Institute established the International series in 1964 with the hope of supporting and encouraging contemporary botanical artists. Every three years, the International series features the works of talented botanical artists from around the world.

The artists include **Martin J. Allen** (England), **Yara Anderson** (United States), **Sara Bedford** (England), **Karen Bell-Brugger** (United States), **Diana Carmichael** (South Africa), **Diana Carneiro** (Brazil), **Deb Chirnside** (Australia), **Karen Coleman** (United States), **Jackie Cope-man** (England), **Caroline Cottingham** (England), **Joanna Craig-McFeely** (England), **Rachael Dawson** (England), **Rosemary Donnelly** (Australia), **Wilna Eloff** (South Africa), **Akiko Enokido** (United States), **Guy Eves** (England), **Paul Fennell** (England), **Noriko Fujii** (Japan), **Yoko Furu-kawa** (Japan), **Leigh Ann Gale** (England), **Linda Gist** (United States), **Eiko Hamada** (Japan), **Wendy Hollender** (United States), **Sarah Howard** (Scotland), **Hiromi Hyogo** (Japan), **Yuko Inujima** (Japan), **Stephen T. Johnson** (United States), **Kyoko Katayama** (Japan), **Heeyoung Kim** (United States), **Kazuko Kohga** (Japan), **Hildegard Könighofer** (Austria), **Kumiko Kosuda** (Japan), **Chika Kunou** (Japan), **Asako Kuwajima** (Japan), **Eun Joo Lee** (South Korea), **Barbara Lewis** (United States), **Miriam Macgregor** (England), **Sally Markell** (United States), **Joan McGann** (United States), **Sue McLean** (Australia), **Angeline de Meester** (England), **Annie Morris** (England), **Edd Morrison** (England), **Maki Nishimura** (Japan), **Kate Nuttall** (England), **Lyudmila N. Pavlova** (United States), **Margareta Pertl** (Ireland), **Kandis Vermeer Phillips** (United States), **Sunitsorn Pimpasalee** (Thailand), **Janie Pirie** (England), **Thomas Reaume** (Canada), **Dorothee de Sampayo Garrido-Nijgh** (Netherlands), **Mary Ann Scott** (Italy), **Keiko Sekiya** (Japan), **Andrew Seward** (Australia), **Michiko Shibata** (Japan), **Billy Showell** (England), **Klei Sousa** (Brazil), **Ian Stephens** (England), **Sally Strawson** (England), **Fiona Strickland** (Scotland), **Noriko Tobita** (Japan), **Lidia Vanzetti** (Italy), **Sue Vize** (England), **Catherine M. Watters** (United States), **Kerri Weller** (Canada), **Sue Wickison** (New Zealand), **Sue J. Williams** (England), **Esmée L. C. Winkel** (Netherlands), **Yoko Yokoyama** (Japan), **Herman Zaage** (United States), and **Fátima Zagonel** (Brazil).

A full-color, illustrated catalogue with biographical data, portraits of the artists, and reproductions of the artworks will accompany the

exhibition. To order, go to <http://huntbot.andrew.cmu.edu/HIBD/Publications/HI-Pubs/Pub-IE.shtml>. Collectively, the thirteen international catalogues include 1,088 artists and are the most comprehensive record available of contemporary botanical artists and illustrators. In conjunction with the opening of the International exhibition, the **American Society of Botanical Artists (ASBA)** will hold its **16th Annual Meeting and Conference** in Pittsburgh (23–25 September). Many botanical artists from across the United States and from around the world will be in town to attend.

The exhibition will be on display on the 5th floor of the Hunt Library building at **Carnegie Mellon University**. Hours: Monday–Friday, 9 a.m.–noon and 1–5 p.m.; Sunday, 1–4 p.m. (except 25–26 November and 10 December). We will also open on Saturday, 6 November, 1–5 p.m., during Carnegie Mellon's homecoming. The exhibition is open to the public free of charge. For further information, contact the Hunt Institute at 412.268.2434.

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

In early June, just as the oppressive heat that blanketed the East Coast most of the season was revving up, I had the marvelous opportunity to travel to Sweden, where our Library Director **Carroll Odhner**, my husband, **Tom Bishop**, and I mixed business and pleasure in a decidedly botanical way.

Our trip had two purposes. Carroll attended a three-day symposium celebrating the work of **Emanuel Swedenborg** that was sponsored by the **Center for the History of Science** at the **Royal Academy of Science** in Stockholm, http://www.center.kva.se/svenska/forskning/Swedenborg_2010.htm but our main goal was to assist the volunteer staff of the library of the **New Jerusalem (Swedenborgian) Church** in Stockholm, which was established as a branch of our library in 2007. In between meetings and lectures, planning and troubleshooting, cataloging and organi-



Clockwise, from top left: Linnaeus' home in Hammarby (Photograph by Carol Traveny) / Royal Botanical Gardens, Uppsala (Photograph by Tom Bishop) / Allium walk, Dream Park, Enköping (Photograph by Carol Traveny) / Linnaeus' garden, Uppsala (Photograph by Carol Traveny)

zational housekeeping, we were able to enjoy the very best of Stockholm and environs in the long, lovely days just before midsummer.

Amidst the festive bustle of a city preparing for a royal wedding (Sweden's **Princess Stephanie** was married on June 19) we also were treated like royalty by our delightful hosts: **Eva** and **Olle Björkström** and their family. Eva, a member of the Stockholm congregation who spearheaded the branch library project, is an artist and garden designer whose work appears in numerous public and private collections. Knowing our interest in gardens, Eva made it possible for us to tour some of the region's botanical treasures. Together we visited **Hammarby**, the country estate of **Linnaeus**, as well as his residence and garden in the university town of **Uppsala**; **Sundborn**, the charming home of Swedish

painter **Carl Larsson** and his equally talented wife, **Karin**; and **Skansen**, an open-air museum of Swedish history and culture near Stockholm's city center. A somewhat lesser-known garden that surprised and delighted us is the **Dream Park** in the city of **Enköping**, created by Dutch designer, **Piet Oudolf** in 1996. <http://www.enkoping.se/swwing/app/cm/Browse.jsp?PAGE=39085>

Tom, who is a gardener at the **Morris Arboretum** in Philadelphia, also spent time touring the **Royal Botanical Gardens** on the outskirts of Uppsala.

Unofficially, June in Sweden is a time of lilacs: thick hedges ranging from darkest violet to white bloomed everywhere, and the forests are a thousand different shades of green. To offset many hours of winter darkness, Sweden's architecture is awash with color inside and out, and the pic-

turesque cottages, ancient churches, and imposing public buildings are wonderful counterpoint in a technologically advanced, decidedly modern country. It is rare that a trip is as productive and enjoyable as the one we shared, and we all came back with a greater appreciation for the land, the people and the beautiful gardens of Sweden.

Board Notes

by **Gayle Bradbeer, Board Secretary**
Auraria Library
University of Colorado
Denver, Colorado

The Board has met twice since the annual meeting in Seattle to plan, review committee activities and prepare for the two-day Board meeting in October. Each Board member as a committee liaison will be working with the committees to further plans for the year. As a Board, we will be reviewing recent progress in light of the strategic plan. The next Board meeting will be October 22-23 in Chicago.



Birches at Hammarby, Sweden. Photograph by Carol Traveny

Calendar of Upcoming Events

October 22-27, 2010. Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. American Society for Information Science and Technology 2010 Annual Meeting. "Navigating Streams in an Information Ecosystem." <http://www.asis.org/asist2010>

October 27-30, 2010. Austin, Texas. Museum Computer Network Annual Conference. "The Museum Inside-Out/Outside-In." <http://www.mcn.edu/conferences/>

November 3-6, 2010. Charleston, South Carolina. Charleston Conference. "Issues in Book and Serial Acquisition." <http://www.katina.info/conference/>

January 7-11, 2011. San Diego, California. ALA Midwinter Meeting. <http://www.ala.org>

March 30-April 2, 2011. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Association of College & Research Libraries Annual Meeting. "A Declaration of Interdependence." <http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/events/national/2011/index.cfm>

April 6-9, 2011. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Museums and the Web 2011. <http://www.archimuse.com/mw2010/index.html>

May 16-21, 2010. Chicago, Illinois. 43rd CBHL Annual Meeting. — More details to follow, but for now — save these dates!

Members' News West



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

Eileen Herring
Librarian
University of Hawaii at Manoa Library
Honolulu, Hawaii

University of Hawaii at Manoa Library **Flood-damaged Ground Floor Reopened**

As you may remember, on 30 October 2004, the **University of Hawaii at Manoa Library** was heavily damaged by a flash flood. The ground floor of the library was the most severely impacted when the Government Documents and Maps collections were almost completely destroyed. In addition, the Library's Collection Services Departments and the Library and Information Sciences Program were in ruins. I am happy to announce that on 22 August 2010 (yes, six years later) these collections and departments have moved into completely renovated spaces.

The University of Hawaii at Manoa, Hamilton Library has served as a federal government documents depository since the establishment of the university in 1907 and beginning 1977, as the regional depository for Hawaii and the Pacific. It is the largest and most comprehensive depository collection in the region. It is also an official depository library for United Nations documents and publications. Much of the Government Documents Collection has been rebuilt thanks to the generosity of other libraries.

Restoring the Map Collection was much more difficult. It took the Library's Preservation Department about two and a half years to clean over 50,000 maps that were rescued from the flood. An additional 44,000 were sent to the mainland for restoration. Even now, some of the

flood-damaged maps remain frozen, waiting to be cleaned and restored.

Additional information is available at <http://www.hawaii.edu/malamalama/2010/07/hamilton/> and at http://www.staradvertiser.com/features/20100822_after_the_flood_library_is_renewed.html.

Updated Resource Guide to Pacific Crop Information

I just finished a complete redesign of my **Traditional Pacific Island Crops** website (<http://libweb.hawaii.edu/libdept/scitech/agnic/>). The website is a collaborative effort of the **University of Hawaii at Manoa Library** and the **Agricultural Development in the American Pacific (ADAP) Project**. It is a component of the **Agriculture Network Information Center (AgNIC)** project coordinated by the **U.S. National Agricultural Library**.

The new design utilizes cascading style sheets (css) to generate the layout and navigation. In addition to the new look, the number of links to quality content has been significantly increased. The emphasis is on collecting full-text resources so that Pacific Islanders—especially librarians, extension agents, farmers, and students—can find and access the information they need to grow and market these crops.

The Traditional Pacific Island Crops website provides links to Web resources that deal with the production and research aspects of twelve important traditional Pacific Island crops. Related marketing and statistical sites, databases, and other reference sources are also included. The twelve crops covered are bananas and plantains, betel nut, breadfruit, cassava, coconut, kava, noni, pandanus, sugarcane, sweet potato, taro and other edible aroids, and tropical yam.

All of the linked resources have been reviewed for quality and relevance. The focus is on selecting resources that provide accurate, science-based information that is available without charge. The criteria that are used to determine the quality of the selected web resources include authority or authenticity; accuracy; objectivity; timeliness; ease of use; and access reliability.

Whenever possible, resources that relate specifically to the Pacific islands are selected. This site is not meant to be a complete indexing or listing of all information on these topics.

The links to the resources on these pages are generated using the "Link Roll" function on the social bookmarking site *delicious.com*. You can find these bookmarks under the user name "uhmpaccrops". The original version of the website was developed in 2003 and consisted of 16 Web pages. The new version has 123 pages and the content is generated by close to 300 *delicious* bookmarks! The URL is the same as always: <http://libweb.hawaii.edu/libdept/scitech/agnic/>.

Please feel free to link to this website and pass this information along to others who might be interested. Also, suggestions for additional content are welcomed.

Marjorie Grant Whiting Papers at the University of Hawaii

The Archives & Manuscripts Department in **Hamilton Library** at the **University of Hawaii at Manoa** has completed the processing of the **Marjorie Grant Whiting** papers. Dr. Whiting conducted considerable research on various food plants from around the world. While her research included nutrition, she was particularly interested in the toxicity of some plants to humans. We have selected some documents in Dr. Whiting's papers that specifically relate to the toxicity of cycads and have had them scanned and made available through the departmental website. Although there remain some problems with the scanned documents, we welcome inquiries concerning the scanned material or access to other portions of Dr. Whiting's papers. The entire collection as well as the scans is freely open to the public. The URL for the finding aid to the Marjorie Grant Whiting papers is available at <http://libweb.hawaii.edu/libdept/archives/mss/whiting/index.htm>. There is a link at the bottom of the inventory to the page for accessing the scans from her papers. The website for Archives & Manuscripts is <http://libweb.hawaii.edu/libdept/archives/>; it provides both email addresses and telephone numbers by which one may contact archival staff with questions.



Leaflet Ladder. Photograph by Julie Jaycox

Brandy Kuhl, Head Librarian
San Francisco Botanical Garden
Helen Crocker Russell Library of Horticulture
San Francisco, California

As many of you know, there have been many changes at HCRL recently. The death of **Barbara Pitschel** has sent shock waves throughout the organization, and personally, I miss my mentor and friend; there are so many questions that still need answering! A celebration of her life [took place on] Tuesday, September 28.

The Library's budget has also been severely cut, forcing a reduction in staff and hours from two full-time librarians to one, and from being open seven days a week to four. In addition, the Garden has recently instituted a seven-dollar entrance fee for non-San Francisco residents, which has been challenging, to say the least.



Leaflet Circed Rhododendron Blossoms. Photograph by Julie Jaycox

On the positive side, we have two wonderful cataloging interns from the MLIS program at San Jose State University: **Claressa Mazzetti** and **Alys Tryon**, who are doing great work. We also have a beautiful new art exhibit, **Nature's Geometry: Surprises of Botanical Design**, photographs by **Julie Jaycox** on display and for sale through December. Focusing on what the casual observer typically misses, Jaycox leads us to see the complex organization of plants as well as the overall geometry of floral and leaf structures. Using her observant eye, a handheld 35mm Contax camera and only natural light, Jaycox captures the elegant details of plants. As Jaycox says, "We can't do it without the plants," in recognition of the source of her art and the importance of respect for plants as the basis of life on earth. This is Jaycox's second exhibit at the Library. It is an entirely new collection of photos, many of which have been taken in the Garden.

Beth Brand
Librarian
Schilling Library
Desert Botanical Garden
Phoenix, Arizona

Research Library's Role in Global Cactus Assessment

The job of assessing the conservation status of all the world's animals and plants seems, well, daunting. The **IUCN (International Union for the Conservation of Nature)** has been working worldwide toward this goal, one taxonomic group at a time. In

May, program leaders, facilitators and botanists gathered at the **Desert Botanical Garden** to take another step toward the global goal by assessing our beloved plant group, the cactus family.

In a weeklong workshop, ten cactus experts from the United States and Mexico conducted the **Global Cactus Assessment**. Their focus was to determine the status of cacti endemic to the southwestern U.S. and northwestern Mexico. Two Garden researchers took part in the intense proceedings and on several occasions were seen retrieving books from the library's shelves. When asked about the books, the researchers explained that the group could not move forward without referring to the volumes for crucial information regarding species distributions, taxonomy and conservation threats. All agreed that the availability of the specialized collection made completing their assessment possible.

So what is the conservation status of the cactus family in this neck of the woods? Preliminary results of the workshop indicate that as many as one quarter of all species of cacti face some kind of threat. The IUCN moves next to Mexico and South America before completing the full assessment of *Cactaceae*.

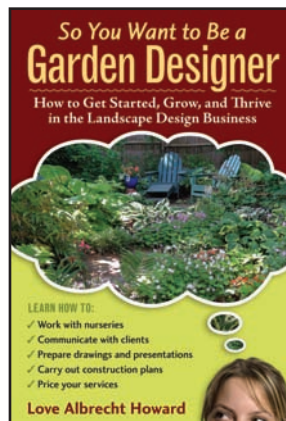
Book Reviews

Compiled by
Stacy Stoldt, Reference Librarian
Lenhardt Library
Chicago Botanic Garden
Glencoe, Illinois

Laura Blumhagen
Library Technician
Elisabeth C. Miller Library
University of Washington
Botanic Gardens
Seattle, Washington

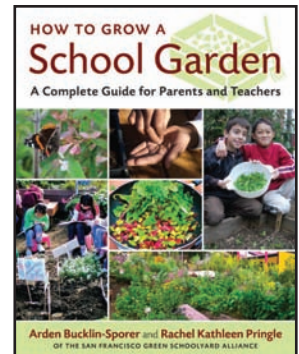
Albrecht Howard, Love.
So You Want to Be a Garden Designer: How to Get Started, Grow, and Thrive in the Landscape Design Business.
Portland, OR: Timber Press, 2010. 423 p., ill.
ISBN-10: 0881929042.
\$29.95.

Love Albrecht Howard's first book fills a gap in our collection. To my knowledge, it is the only recent book on running a garden design business that is written for plant lovers who may not have formal horticultural or business training, but who do have a fair amount of common sense and are willing to get their hands (and feet!) dirty learning. The author certainly approves of formal education, recommending that prospective designers take courses, but she knows firsthand that hands-on experience gained through internships, volunteer work, and garden shows, as well as time spent with gardening books and magazines can be even more valuable than coursework. Indeed, fifteen out of twenty chapters focus on day-to-day operations, including best gardening practices, rather than on estimating costs, hiring staff, and other money-related aspects of the business. To its credit, this book



has a comprehensive index, with topics ranging from accent plants to Rocky Mountain spotted fever to zone creep. Albrecht Howard offers a wealth of knowledge gained from real-world experience, along with basic guidelines to help ensure the fledgling business does well financially. The underlying message is one most readers will want to hear: if a new designer can perfect skills in garden design, plant care, and customer relations, the money is secondary, and it will come.

Bucklin-Sporer, Arden, and Rachel Kathleen Pringle.
How to Grow a School Garden: A Complete Guide for Parents and Teachers.
Portland, OR: Timber Press, 2010. 223 p., ill.
ISBN-10: 1604690003.
\$24.95.



Arden Bucklin-Sporer and Rachel Kathleen Pringle of the **San Francisco Green Schoolyard Alliance** recognize a fact that is becoming clear in schools across the country: if we are to have school gardens in this era of tightening budgets, increased academic testing and expanding class sizes, parents must step up and offer their time and energy to establish and maintain them. My own personal experience with this process is as a volunteer in the garden at my neighborhood elementary school. While a few parents at each school might have the necessary time and energy to devote to this, it is rare to find anyone at all with the practical knowledge, patience and understanding that are necessary to make such a garden flourish. That's why this book is so important and useful. Not only does it empower parents and teachers to get something growing, it educates them about the planning, funding, building, maintenance, use, and enjoyment of such a garden. Valuable topics include dealing with vandalism, training students in basic garden tasks, preparing for garden lessons, scheduling class activities in the garden, and planning for summer watering. This book is a must-have for any gardening library.

CBHL Lite: Book Challenge



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

For this, the tenth **CBHL Lite** column, I thought I would issue a challenge to CBHL members: What is the best humorous field guide for plants? The competition for field guides to animals is stiff.

For example, there's *Flattened Fauna: A Field Guide to Common Animals of Roads, Streets, and Highways*, revised in 2006 by **Roger M. Knutson** (Berkeley: Ten Speed Press). It features black silhouettes, to scale, of road snakes, toads, birds, and mammals with notes on field marks. The author discusses the historical studies of road fauna in North America and the founding of the **Simmons Society** to collect reports. The revised edition was expanded to include reports worldwide. It ends with a blank personal log form of species, date observed, location, and condition.

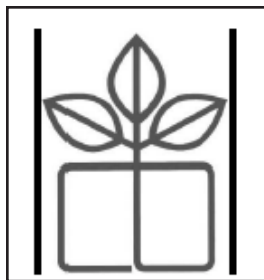
On the other hand, there's *What Bird Did That?: A Driver's Guide to Some Common Birds of North America* by **Peter Hansard** and **Burton Silver**, published in 1991 (Berkeley: Ten Speed Press). It features full color illustrations of actual splays of particular birds with notes on food type. A diagram

and glossary explain the parts of a splay and the differences between splerds, sklops, sploods, schplutz, and schplerters. Samples can be mailed to the **National Ornithological Dejecta Society of America**. There actually are other titles in this series about bears, snakes, squirrels, toads, and camels.

The only similar guide for plants that I know of is *What Kinda Cactus Izzat?* The subtitle is: "A 'Who's Who' of Strange Plants of the Southwest American Desert." This may show how little I know about the plant literature. The book, written and illustrated by **Reg Manning**, was published in 1941 (New York: J.J. Augustin). It features two-page spreads on various species and aspects of cactus biology, always accompanied by one or more illustrations. The author, best known for his editorial cartoons, won the **Pulitzer Prize** in 1951. That may explain the balloons in many of the illustrations with comments by the cacti, which often have smiling faces.

Please send your nominations for best humorous field guide for plants to me at the address below. Whatever I receive, if anything, I will list in a future column.

Correction to the last column: the image caption should read "Photography by Brad Lyon." Please feel free to send feedback in any format to me at: david.lane@unh.edu.



CBHL Newsletter, c/o Gayle Bradbeer, Secretary
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