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FRIENDS OF ANDERSEN HORTICULTURAL LIBRARY



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
LIBRARIES

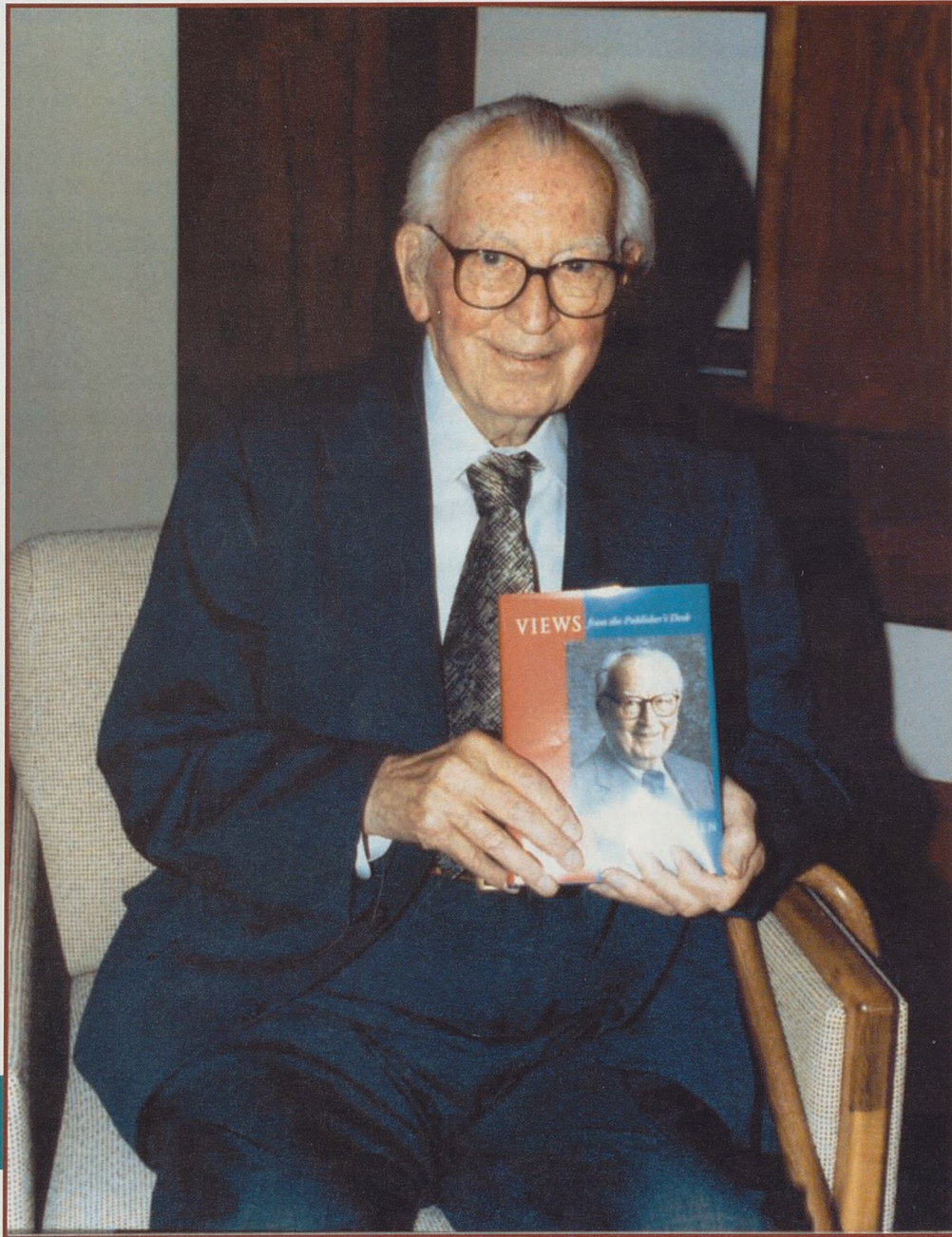
SPRING 2009

News



Minnesota Landscape
ARBORETUM

Vol. 14, no. 1



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

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**FRIENDS OF ANDERSEN
HORTICULTURAL LIBRARY NEWS**

Andersen Horticultural Library
Minnesota Landscape Arboretum
3675 Arboretum Drive
Chaska MN 55318
952-443-1405

Subscription only: \$10.00 per year.
Membership in AHL Friends
(includes Newsletter): \$10.00
individual; \$15.00 household

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The University of Minnesota is an
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employer.

CALENDAR OF FRIENDS EVENTS

Monday, April 27
1:00 p.m.

Regular Meeting.
Speaker: Ralph Weber
Book Conservator & Owner,
Celestine Rare Book Conservation
Service. More, see page 7.

Wednesday, June 17
All day

Library Celebration
Commemorating Governor
Andersen's 100th birthday
More, see page 7.

Thursday, June 18
6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Special Event: Welby Smith
Book signing and talk by Welby
Smith, *Trees and Shrubs of Minnesota*.
More details on page 7.

Monday, July 27
1:00 p.m.

Regular Meeting.
Speaker: Elaine Challacombe
Curator, Wangensteen Historical
Library of Biology and Medicine.
Plants for Food and Medicinal Use.

Thursday-Sunday, Oct. 1 - 4
Friends' Annual Book Sale

*Note: Friends' preview & sale on
Thursday evening.* We're looking for
a Book Sale Committee Chair - see
page 6.

Monday, October 26
1:00 p.m.

Regular Meeting.
Speaker: Anita Cholewa
Curator of Plants, Bell Museum.
Topic TBA.

WELCOME!

You may have noticed this is the first issue of the *News* published since volume 13, number 1 (Winter 2008). After Richard Isaacson's retirement in April 2008, the position of head librarian was vacant until filled by librarian Kathy Allen in November. We are now on a new schedule, publishing a Spring and Fall issue, beginning with this volume 14, number 1 issue. (Apologies to all library serials staff!) Members should expect to receive the *News* prior to the regular April and October Friends meetings.

The *News* is in transition and we welcome comments. Help us make this *your* newsletter - what do you like about it? Not like? What would you like to see? E-mail Paul (schlicks@msn.com) or Kathy (kallen@umn.edu) or call or write the Library (contact information at left).

COVER IMAGE

Elmer L. Andersen seated in Andersen Horticultural Library, 1997, holding *Views from the Publisher's Desk*, a collection of his editorials. June 17, 2009 marks the 100th anniversary of the late Governor's birth (he passed away November 15, 2004). Help us honor his memory on that day - details are on page 6.

PONDERINGS FROM PAUL

BY PAUL SCHLICK, PRESIDENT

"The art of progress is to preserve order amid change and preserve change amid order." -- Alfred North Whitehead, English mathematician and philosopher

A few days ago, when I started to think about my first newsletter message to you as president of the Friends, the weather was reminiscent of mid-spring. Today, as I sit down to write it, it's definitely winter out there again. Nature has a way of reminding us that change is one of the few dependably constant things in our lives. How ironic. How normal.

I bring this up because it is a time of change for the Friends of the Andersen Horticultural Library and for the Library itself. We began 2009 with a new Head Librarian for only the third time in our Library's existence, a new president of the Friends—the 7th since our group was formed in 1988—and a Friends Board with three brand-new members.

While change can sometimes be disruptive, it can also provide opportunity. It can be a good time to review who we are and what we do, to build on our strengths and improve on our weaknesses. As organizations go, the Friends is in a fortunate position. We don't have a payroll to meet and our operating expenses are low, so our ability to function in this time of economic turmoil is not at risk. Our core membership is solid. For

our good financial position and strong member support we can be thankful for the stewardship of retired Librarian Richard Isaacson and his staff as well as for the past leadership of the Friends, not the least of which have been the Book Sale chairs and their many helpers who have raised tens of thousands of dollars since the first sale in 1990. We are also fortunate because we exist to support a world-renowned library that was founded and provided for by a great man of vision. It isn't going anywhere.

But we don't exist in a vacuum. The Arboretum that we love and upon which we depend does have a payroll to meet, extensive grounds and facilities to maintain, and faces significant financial challenge. And even though the Friends' future is not in jeopardy, our financial accounts are part of the overall investments of the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum Foundation and have decreased in value with the current economic downturn. We won't be able to do as many projects in support of the Library as we might have but we can still do important things.

Soon your new Board will meet to begin planning how the Friends

will progress into the future. As we do, we will be cognizant of the challenge implied in the above quote, i.e., the need to keep doing the things that have made us successful—preserve order amid change—while also being receptive to new ideas that could make us more effective—preserve change amid order. For that we will seek the ongoing advice, guidance, and support from all of you.

As we think about the opportunities and challenges ahead for the Friends and the Library, consider another quote from a great man about change:

"My philosophy has always been to look for a good side to every development and not let any turn of events get me down." --Gov. Elmer L. Andersen, in **A Man's Reach**, page 400.

I'm honored to begin serving as president of a group dedicated to supporting the great legacy of a great man and his wife, and look forward to working with and for all of you.

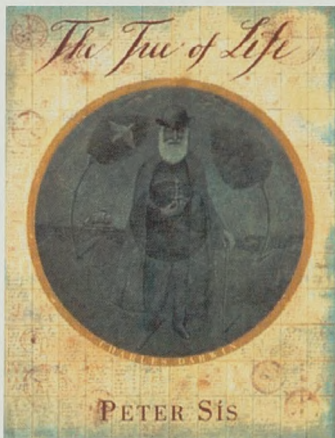
Keep in touch!

Paul



WHAT'S NEW AT THE LIBRARY ...

A selection of new books chosen by AHL staff



***The Tree of Life*, by Peter Sis. NY: Farrar Straus Giroux, 2003.**

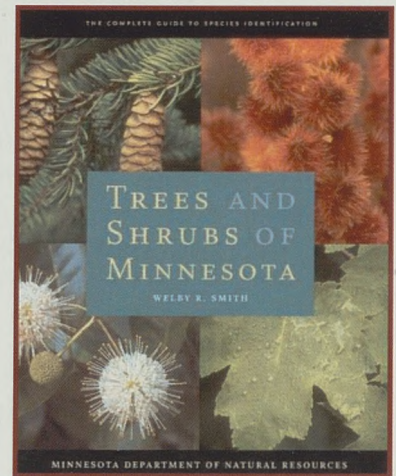
The Tree of Life: A Book Depicting the Life of Charles Darwin, Naturalist, Geologist & Thinker, by Peter Sis, is an exceptional book for children and adults. It puts a human face on a mythic figure, Charles Darwin. Young Charles did not follow the straight career path that his father had planned for him. When he decided to pursue his own interest in nature with a five year voyage on the Beagle – what did he bring with him? How did he come up with his theory of evolution? What was his daily routine? Why was he respected and vilified? The language and the drawings depicting that period make this award-winning book a fascinating read for Darwin's 200th birthday year. –Christine Aho, Library Assistant

***Trees and Shrubs of Minnesota*, by Welby Smith. University of Minnesota Press & Minnesota Dept. of Natural Resources, 2008.**

For anyone living in Minnesota who appreciates our native plants, Welby Smith's *Trees and Shrubs of Minnesota* is an essential resource. It has been more than 50 years since we have had such a significant work published on the subject. (University of Minnesota professor Carl Otto Rosendahl revised *Trees and Shrubs of the Upper Midwest* in 1955.)

After spending 25 years as a state botanist, Mr. Smith documents the growth, reproduction and distribution of native species in photographs, maps and detailed descriptions. We learn about a 407-year-old red pine growing near Sea Gull Lake, a 1988-'89 drought in which 20% of our paper birch trees perished, and the habits of the bur oak "that follows the major river valleys westward into the prairie region" with its fire resistant bark. –Christine Aho

Note: Welby Smith will be the guest speaker at the Friends' special event in June; see page 7 for details.



Visiting the Arboretum with kids? Bring them to the Library to see our newest children's books - and some classics too!

Story Time at AHL!

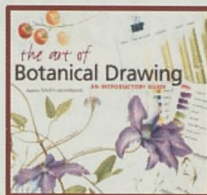
Bring a child (or more) or just yourself... Timed to allow visitors to take in the Heart of the Beast puppet performances, we'll offer three Saturday afternoon readings this summer. Call the Library closer to the time to find out which books our guest reader has chosen to share.

June 13: 1:45 p.m.

July 11: 12:30 p.m.

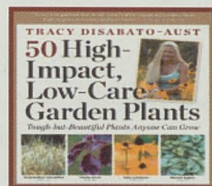
August 8: 1:45 p.m.

RECENT ACQUISITIONS: SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE



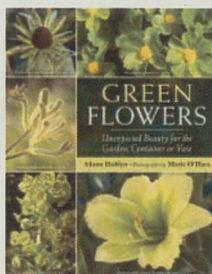
The Art of Botanical Drawing, by Agathe Ravet-Haeverymans. Portland, OR: Timber Press, 2009. (First published in France, 2007) Beautifully presented practical information makes even the art-challenged want to give this a try.

Cooking with Heirlooms: Seasonal Recipes with Heritage-Variety Vegetables and Fruits, by Karen Keb Acevedo with recipes compiled and tested by Carol Boker. Irvine, CA: Hobby Farm Press, 2007.



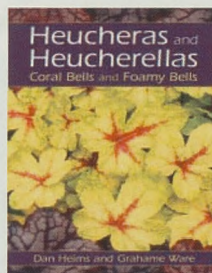
Edible Flowers: A Kitchen Companion, with Recipes, by Kitty Morse; photography by Owen Morse. TenSpeed Press, 1995. Published some time ago, but new to us. Rose Petal Sorbet, Dianthus Butter, Turkey Calendula Roll-ups...need I say more?

50 High-Impact, Low-Care Garden Plants, by Tracy DiSabato-Aust. Portland, OR: Timber Press, 2009. "Tough-but-Beautiful Plants That Anyone Can Grow" – For the gardener after my own heart: one with big dreams. but little time!



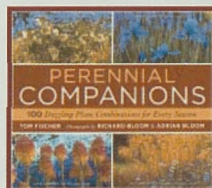
Flowers and Herbs of Early America, by Lawrence D. Griffith; photography by Barbara Temple Lombardi. Williamsburg, VA: Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, in association with Yale University Press, New Haven, CT, 2008.

Green Flowers: Unexpected Beauty for the Garden, Container or Vase, by Alison Hoblyn; photographs by Marie O'Hara. Portland, OR: Timber Press, 2009. Many of these plants normally get short shrift, but the close-up photography and useful information on care and cultivation, coupled with specific ideas for how to use the flowers, is inspirational.



Heucheras and Heucherellas: Coral Bells and Foamy Bells, by Dan Heims and Grahame Ware. Portland, OR: Timber Press, 2005. Starts out with 116 full-color photos, followed by extensive listings of hybrid descriptions.

Perennial Companions: 100 Dazzling Plant Combinations for Every Season, by Tom Fischer; photographs by Richard Bloom & Adrian Bloom. Portland, OR: Timber Press, 2009. The small-format (6" x 7") of this lavishly illustrated volume makes it easy to flip through and hard to put down. Arranged by season, *Perennial Companions* offers fresh ideas for combining colors, textures, and forms; it includes many selections for zones 3 & 4.



Planthropology: The Myths, Mysteries, and Miracles of My Garden Favorites, by Ken Druse. NY: Clarkson Potter, 2008. Brimming with fascinating stories, tidbits, and facts, it is just as satisfying to read this one cover-to-cover as it is to randomly peruse.

Why Do Violets Shrink? Answers to 280 Thorny Questions on the World of Plants, by Caroline Holmes. Sutton Publishing, 2008. How far can bats stick out their tongues? Which mulberry can you make paper from? Why does eating rhubarb make my teeth feel furry? Which medieval bean has become a latter day Christian martyr? If you can't stand not knowing, come visit or just call us and we'll let you know the answers.

...and dozens more!

ELMER L. ANDERSEN: FRIEND & BENEFACTOR BORN 100 YEARS AGO ON JUNE 17, 1909

Celebrating Elmer L. Andersen's life and legacy

*Visit the Library on
June 17 to help us honor
the memory of our first
"Friend"*




*Former Governor Andersen
May 1996, 25th Year Celebration of
Andersen Horticultural Library*


You would not be reading these words right now, were it not for Elmer and Eleanor Andersen's generous and lasting gift of the Andersen Horticultural Library to the University of Minnesota, indeed to the citizens of Minnesota and beyond.

We will mark the centennial of the late Governor Andersen's birth all that day at the Library, serving birthday treats in his honor. Please stop by the Snyder Lobby and inside the Library to see displays about Governor and Mrs. Andersen and their role in establishing the Library, and to view some of the wonderful books that Elmer Andersen so generously gave to the Library.

Library staff member Susan Cross recently shared one such book with fellow Arboretum trustees: *Sylva sylvarum, or, A naturall history in ten centuries*, written by Sir Francis Bacon, and published posthumously by his personal secretary, William Rawley. This 6th edition is dated 1651. A "century" in this instance refers to 100 paragraphs. Thus, the "ten centuries" noted in the title refers to the thousand paragraphs of information therein, all neatly laid out and numbered. This piece has the added attraction that it is quite easy to see just how the book was constructed, even to the printed scraps of paper incorporated into the binding. Recycling has been with us for quite some time!

Kudos - Thank You!

 Many thanks to all of you who have already brought in books for the annual book sale. The more the merrier!

 Heartfelt thanks to the volunteers who came in for Miserable Day, helping to clean and polish all of the Nakashima furnishings - we couldn't do it without you!

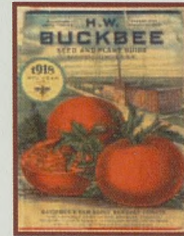
*Love books? Have some time in late summer & early fall? Please give the Library a call if you would consider chairing the Friends' Annual Book Sale Committee:
952-443-1405*

Not sure whether you renewed your Friends membership? Before the next meeting call the Library to find out!

APRIL FRIENDS MEETING

MONDAY, APRIL 27TH 1:00 P.M.

Ralph Weber, Book Conservator

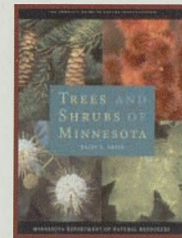


Ralph Weber, book conservator extraordinaire and owner of Celestine Rare Book Conservation Service, of Clear Lake, Wisconsin, will be joining us at our next meeting, April 27th. Mr. Weber will demonstrate conservation techniques and we'll see examples of the extraordinary, painstaking effort that has gone into some of the Library's older and more brittle nursery catalogs.

FRIENDS SPECIAL EVENT

THURSDAY, JUNE 18TH 6:00-9:00 P.M.

Welby Smith, Botanist & Author



Welby Smith, botanist at the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR), will speak on trees and shrubs of Minnesota, which also happens to be the title of his long-awaited book, jointly published in 2008 by the University of Minnesota Press and the Minnesota DNR.

The evening begins at 6 pm with a wine reception, co-sponsored by the University of Minnesota Press. A buffet dinner will start at 7 pm and Welby Smith will speak at 8 pm. Copies of *Trees and Shrubs of Minnesota* will be available for purchase and signing - or bring your own copy if you are fortunate enough to have one already!

Register early to guarantee a seat at this special event! Register online at the Library's website www.arboretum.umn.edu/library.aspx or call the Library at 952-443-1405.

RECENT ACQUISITION: 1927 NURSERY CATALOG



Larger image on back cover

Fairbury, Nebraska, established in 1869, was a stopping point on the Oregon Trail. Many settlers passed through town on their way out West. This is also where Wild Bill Hickok began his famous career. At the turn of the century, Fairbury was home to the second largest circus in the world, the Campbell Bros. Circus.

In the late 1890s, Charles Hurlburt started Fairbury Nurseries. Later his son would join him. Fairbury Nurseries sold mainly small fruit, fruit trees, flowering shrubs and trees. In 1914, Galbraith Nurseries and D. Hansen Nursery were purchased by Fairbury Nurseries, adding to their holdings. Thanks to the Friends of AHL, we have added the 1927 Fairbury Nurseries catalog to our holdings. The historic seed and nursery catalog collection includes nearly 53,000 items. —Renee Jensen

FRUIT TREES and ORNAMENTALS



FAIRBURY NURSERIES
C. M. HURLBURT & SON
PROPRIETORS

1927 FAIRBURY, NEBRASKA