

Report from the Council on Botanical and Horticultural Libraries Annual Meeting
June 6-10th, 2017 – The Anderson Horticultural Library, Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, Chaska, MN

Meg Eastwood, ACRL-STS Liaison to CBHL, 2016-2018

Background Information

CBHL's vision, according to our recently completed strategic plan, is to "empower its members to lead in botanical and horticultural services." CBHL is a small organization with an incredibly dedicated, friendly, and supportive membership that provides numerous opportunities for collaboration and service. In 2017, CBHL had 203 total members. Our listserv is a place where members actively exchange assistance and advice on reference questions, species identification, collection development, and more. Members frequently send duplicate lists, giving member libraries a chance to fill gaps in their print collections. CBHL welcomes members at the individual, institutional, and commercial levels. Institutional memberships include benefits such as consortial access to LibGuides.

2017 Annual Meeting Theme: "The ABCs of CBHL"

The CBHL annual meeting is an engaging mix of presentations, tours, and discussions – any librarian, archivist, or collections manager who works with botanical, horticultural, or agriculture-related materials will probably find this meeting immensely valuable. Topics range from reference to special collections to public outreach and fundraising, and more. This year, our invited speakers included David Bedford, who has bred 27 varieties of apple, including the Honeycrisp apple and the newly introduced Rave apple; and Dr. David Zlesak, who spoke about plant breeding, specifically in relation to the Knock Out roses. Members presentations included talks about the history of [Plant Information Online](#); measuring diversity in children's storybooks related to gardens; adding book reviews to the [Gardening Answers Knowledgebase](#); and hosting Wikipedia editathons to provide more reliable information about native plants and historical botanists. In addition to touring the Anderson Horticultural Library and the beautiful grounds of the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, we also toured collections and libraries at the Minnesota Library Access Center and University Archives Caverns, the Minneapolis Institute of Art, and the Weisman Art Museum.

Our [September 2017 newsletter](#) contains a more thorough synopsis of the annual meeting, and our [November 2017 newsletter](#) contains a summary of our annual business meeting conducted during the annual meeting.

2017 Literature Award Winners

Members nominate books for one overall Annual Literature award (the best of the best), and the awards committee can also choose to hand out awards of excellence in various subject areas.

CBHL 2017 Annual Literature Award for significant contribution to the literature of botany or horticulture:

- [The Bauers – Joseph, Franz & Ferdinand: Masters of Botanical Illustration, An Illustrated Biography](#)

Award of Excellence in Botanical Art and Illustration:

- [Plants from the Woods and Forests of Chile](#)

Award of Excellence in Gardening:

- [Planting Design for Dry Gardens](#)

Award of Excellence in Landscape Design and Architecture

- [Phyto: Principles and Resources for Site Remediation and Landscape Design](#)

Upcoming Activities

CBHL's 50th Annual Meeting will be held June 19-22, 2018 in New York City, co-hosted by the New York Botanical Garden and the Brooklyn Botanic Garden. This will be a joint meeting of CBHL, the [European Botanical and Horticultural Libraries Group \(EBHL\)](#), and the [Linnaeus Link Partners Consortium](#). CHBL is celebrating its 50th anniversary, and EBHL is celebrating its 25th anniversary. Discounted accommodation will be offered at the Fordham University Residence Halls.