**Calendar of Events:**

**Friends Events**

**October 22, 2018, 1:00pm, Snyder Auditorium**
Friends regular meeting. **Speakers: John & Jenny Thull, HRC Vineyard Manager & Vineyard Assistant**
“Growing Heirloom Pumpkins, Squashes, and Gourds.”

**January 28, 2019, 1:00pm, Snyder Auditorium**
Friends regular meeting. **Speaker: Peter Moe, Director, Minnesota Landscape Arboretum**
“The Past, Present and Future of the Arboretum.”

**April 22, 2019, 1:00pm, Snyder Auditorium**
Friends annual meeting. **Speaker: Prof. George Weiblen**

**July 22, 2019, 1:00pm, Snyder Auditorium**
Friends annual meeting. **Speaker: TBD**

**October 3, 2019, 3:30pm - 6:00pm, MacMillan Auditorium**
Friends of the AHL Annual Book Sale - Friends’ preview.

**October 4-6, 2019, 10am - 4pm each day, MacMillan Auditorium**
Friends of the AHL Annual Book Sale.

**Library Exhibits (more details on p. 5)**

**Through December 2018**

**Andersen Horticultural Library**

*This is for the Birds! Celebrating the World of Birds and Birding Through Art and Literature*

We celebrate The Year of the Bird, which marks the 100th anniversary of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, by highlighting the many excellent bird books in our collection.

**Through January 3, 2019**

**Skyway Gallery, Minnesota Landscape Arboretum**

Twenty original artworks, including several “Minnesota Hardy” plants.

**January 8, 2019 - April 20, 2019**

**Skyway Gallery and Library, Minnesota Landscape Arboretum**

*Roots to Healing: A Brief Survey of the Past, Present, and Future of Plant-based Remedies in Minnesota*
Joint exhibit with Dr. Lisa Philander, Curator, U of M College of Biological Sciences Conservatory.

**Cover:** These mouthwatering Superior Plums are part of the FFI exhibit in the Skyway Gallery. Mary Anne O’Malley, watercolor, *Prunus ‘Superior’*
Wow, where does the time go? I don’t just mean that it’s October already and time again for some intense pondering, but also that I noticed this is my 20th Ponderings column. Which means I’ve been president for 10 years! And secretary 10 years prior to that. Where does the time go?!

I bring this up for a somewhat serious reason. Every volunteer-led organization relies on its members not only to contribute in a variety of ways, which our members do, but also to provide ongoing leadership. FAHL currently has a strong group of board members but all of our officers have served for multiple terms and our book sale chairperson has been running that effort since 2012. At some point, each person on the board will want or need to step aside. For the Friends to survive as an organization, there will need to be people to take their place. We’ve all found it enjoyable and satisfying to serve in such a worthwhile organization but sooner than later we need new faces in our leadership roles. And why should we have all the fun, anyway?

In July we re-elected our Vice President and Treasurer for two-year terms. Next year we elect the offices of President and Secretary. The Book Sale and Membership chairs are appointed each year. If you can help with any of these functions, please let me know.

That’s enough official stuff. I hope you all had a great spring and summer! It was a little weird weather-wise, with the April reappearance of winter followed by lots of hot and now lots of rain. But I’ll take that weather variety any day over the hurricanes, floods and wildfires that so many have endured. Judy and I made our near-annual trip to the North Dakota badlands for the Medora Musical (music & dancing under the stars) and Pitchfork Fondue (steaks cooked on real pitchforks) and enjoyed the vistas and animals (wild horses, buffalo, prairie dogs, …) in Theodore Roosevelt National Park. Highly recommended. I hope you found fun and interesting places to visit too.

I think I’m all pondered out for now. You will be reading this after the final page has been written about the 2018 Friends’ Book Sale. I hope you were able to attend and found some treasures to enjoy as you snuggle by the fire this winter. Cocooning season will soon be here!

Keep in touch,

Paul

Wild horses at Theodore Roosevelt National Park. Photo courtesy of Paul Schlick.
Staffing Changes

We again have a full complement of staff at the library and what a great team it is! Julie Friedman joined us in June as a 50% time Library Assistant. Her main responsibilities are working at the reference desk, managing our serials collection, and maintaining the AHL website.

Here’s a little about Julie in her own words: “Science and education have always been a passion of mine. I received by BS in Horticulture at the University of Illinois in Champaign-Urbana. After graduation, I was a community and school gardening intern with the Chicago Botanic Garden. I continued learning about horticultural education as a 1-year interpretive learning intern at Longwood Gardens in Kennett Square, PA. Later, I went back to school for my Masters in Education and recently worked as a seventh-grade Earth Science teacher in New Jersey for over ten years.

My husband, two daughters (ages 7 and almost 4), and I just moved to Minnesota in April 2018. My husband and I are excited to be back in the Midwest where we both grew up. Though we are a bit wary of our first Minnesota winter, we have really enjoyed exploring Minnesota so far.”

We asked Julie a few follow-up questions.

What has surprised you most about Minnesota?

JF: Even though there are short summers, I am happily surprised by the amount of effort and funding that goes into the care and maintenance of park systems.

What’s the most surprising or intriguing thing you’ve found about the Arboretum?

JF: I had no idea how large it is! The tram tours are so fantastic; the Arboretum offers different things for different people. I love everything, but I really enjoy the Spiegel Garden and how it changes every few weeks.

What’s the most surprising thing about the Library?

That it’s more than just plant books; the cookbook and history areas are my two favorites.

What’s your favorite AHL serial? (as in, magazine!)

JF: Mother Earth Living!

What’s the strangest thing you’ve come across here?

JF: Visitors always looking under the tables!

Julie recently attended a new employee orientation program offered by the University of Minnesota Libraries. She was particularly excited to learn about a service available to the public and wants to share this information with you.

Read local! That’s the slogan for Ebooks Minnesota, a joint project of Minitex and the Minnesota Department of Education, State Library Services. The books in this online collection are all written by Minnesota authors and published by Minnesota publishers. The ebooks are part of a permanent collection so you can read them whenever you wish and as many times as you’d like - they won’t disappear after a “loan period.”

The collection covers a wide variety of subjects for readers of all ages.

Read more about the project here: https://mndigital.org/PROJECTS/EBOOKS-MINNESOTA

Find a book to read here: http://ebooksmn.org

Have a great autumn & winter, everyone! We hope to see you at the October 22 & January 28 Friends meetings!
Exhibits

This is for the Birds!: Celebrating the World of Birds and Birding through Art and Literature
September - December 2018

Come experience the Andersen Horticultural Library’s beautiful collection of bird books, while being inspired to enjoy birding on your travels or right here at the University of Minnesota Landscape Arboretum.

This exhibit highlights richly illustrated books of bird art, new non-fiction, helpful field guides, storytime selections, and rare books such as the special edition of Thomas Sadler Roberts’ comprehensive Birds of Minnesota. Roberts was known for his work in ornithology and was one of the founders of the Bell Museum. Arboretum naturalist Matt Schuth’s unique collection of bird specimens, nests, and eggs enliven the display cases. Pick up Matt’s updated list of Arboretum birds at the Library or the Visitor Center and see how many you can find!

Second Annual Flora & Fauna Illustrata (FFI) Exhibition
September 15, 2018 - January 3, 2019

The joint Minnesota Landscape Arboretum—Andersen Horticultural Library FFI collection of artworks is growing, with nearly fifty pieces in the collection! This second annual exhibition showcases twenty works created by over a dozen artists who have generously donated their time and talents to the FFI. It features recently accepted selections as well as depictions of numerous “Minnesota Hardy” apples, chrysanthemums, roses, and other varieties developed by the nearby U of M Horticultural Research Center, currently celebrating its 110th anniversary.

Flora and Fauna Illustrata
NEW CALL FOR ART:
Prairie Plants & Animals

We have a new call for scientifically accurate depictions of prairie plants and animals (birds, bees, turtles, etc.) that occur at the Arboretum. Successful works will be juried into the permanent FFI collection. Visit AHL’s website for more information:
http://www.lib.umn.edu/ahl

Roots to Healing: a Brief Survey of the Past, Present, and Future of Plant-based Remedies in Minnesota.
January 8 - April 30, 2019

We depend on plants for our food, fiber, and medicine. Our story is inextricably tied to theirs and that story evolves as cultures converge. In Roots to Healing, you are invited to consider the role of plants and nature in healing traditions across cultures rooted right here in Minnesota. From the commonplace plantain to the rare Lady’s Slipper orchid to the controversial Cannabis, the exhibition examines the past, present, and future of plant-based healing.

Exhibition Highlights

- Plant connections with cultural groups within Minnesota including Hmong, Indian, Chinese, Russian, Mexican, Native American, and Hawaiian.
- Two triptychs (six prints) by internationally acclaimed artist Andrea Carlson, which draw on her own connection to Minnesota and her Ojibwe heritage.
- A Medicine Wheel created by the Native American Medicine Garden coordinator Cante Suta-Francis Bettelyoun.
- Historical artist renderings of plants from the Andersen Horticultural Library’s rare book collection.

This book is truly gorgeous in every way! It is perfect for those who want to escape through photographs to Prince Edward Island and also learn about a beloved childhood book – Anne of Green Gables – and its author, L. M. Montgomery. Reid does a flawless job of incorporating Montgomery’s personal journals, archives, and scrapbooks into each chapter’s interesting theme. She weaves together beautiful hand-colored photographs, illustrations originally used in Anne of Green Gables (published in 1908), and historical photography. It is a satisfying combination of biography, textual commentary, meaningful quotes, and photographs celebrating the love of nature that L. M. Montgomery (who went by Maud) and her creation, the title character Anne Shirley, have in common.

That’s not all they had in common. Chapter 1, one of my personal favorites, reveals many more similarities between Maud and Anne. In fact, there are so many that it would appear that the novel is autobiographical. She was truly the inspiration for this spirited girl many have grown to love. The two were orphans with fierce imaginations and both expressed so much love for the landscape of Prince Edward Island. They even shared the same unique names for their favorite stomping grounds, such as Lake of Shining Waters and Lover’s Lane.

In Chapter 3 we get glimpses of these favorite spots through detailed imagery and inviting photographs. We also are treated to a thorough history of the island in the past and present. There is valuable advice on making the most of a visit to the island. Reid suggests exploring places of the past first, such as the site of Maud’s childhood home that she shared with her grandparents. The foundation of this home that served concurrently as the local post office is still there. Those interesting facts are sprinkled throughout this book, giving us a rich perspective of Maud’s life and the unique aspects of the island.

In the chapter titled Something More Poetical, we are reminded of passages from Anne of Green Gables that reveal lively examples of Anne’s imaginings. For example, we can all relate to the way she sees a babbling brook. She says, “I can hear the brook laughing all the way up here. Have you ever noticed what cheerful things brooks are? Even in the winter-time I’ve heard them under the ice.”

Both Maud and Anne’s imaginations were most alive in their favorite gardens. In the chapter Emerald Screens, Reid captures their three favorite themed gardens, the old-fashioned, the wild, and the woodland. Selections from Maud’s personal journal entries in this section leave such a lovely recollection of all of her blooms, which is a joy to read for anyone who feels more alive in a garden.

For example, Maud wrote that in an old-fashioned garden, “There should be poppies, like fine ladies in full-skirted silken gowns, ‘Sweet-William’ in striped attire [and] holly hocks like flaunting overbold maidens.” She ends one entry by exclaiming, “Dear old gardens! The very breath of them is a benediction!”

We can breathe in the beauty of the seasons in the chapter A World of Octobers. As you turn the pages, it’s almost as if you experience the scent of warm earth, flowering crab and apple blossoms. The reader can feel the crisp air of autumn and bitter cold of
winter in the passages and meaningful images, especially the photograph of the real Lover’s Lane covered in snow around 1890.

We learn that winter was a challenging time for Maud. She writes, “It is autumn and beautiful as everything is it is the beauty of decay – the sorrowful beauty of the end.” After a fierce spring storm, her journal states, “I’ll be all right when the sunshine comes back and I’m able to work.” This is one of the few differences between Maud and Anne. To Anne, the winter was simply another season to experience fully and joyously.

Reid ends with a chapter dedicated to Maud’s later years and the joys and challenges she faced personally and as a writer. Some of the best captured photographs of Maud appear in these final pages, which to me ties the whole inspiring package together in a beautifully satisfying way. For anyone dreaming of travel or for all of you Anne of Green Gables fans, this book is not to be missed! --Lee Anne Laskey, Library Assistant

**NEW BOOKS OF NOTE**


We recently purchased several volumes of this remarkable 17-volume series to complete our holdings. The catalog record for this title reads, “All manner of information about birds is presented. Following each lengthy description are full-color plates of typical members of each species with range-pattern maps for each family’s genus and species.” Have a favorite bird? Look it up here and enjoy!


Excellent book! For an in-depth review, read the CBHL Newsletter #150 in the library or online <cbhl.net/cbhl-newsletter>.

**BOTANICAL WALLCHARTS**

AHL has seventy-five botanical wallcharts (very large educational posters), most of which were produced in Europe in the late nineteenth century.

The charts were “discovered” by Friends members John and Judy Reed, when they were visiting the U of M Herbarium and adjoining library in 2003. A stack of rolled-up, flaking scrolls was piled on a corner table and had obviously been there for many years. Judy, retired New York Botanical Garden Conservation Librarian, knew immediately what they were and exclaimed over the poor state they were in. A few more wallcharts were later discovered still hanging in classrooms!

The Bell Museum humidified the charts in order to safely unroll and flatten them. A handful were briefly displayed at the museum. In 2016 the entire set was transferred to Andersen Horticultural Library.

This year, with the help of the University Libraries preservation team, each wallchart was placed in an acid-free folder, labeled, and stored flat in a map case. This allows for ease of use and provides a degree of protection. Fortuitously, the next day we needed to retrieve a wallchart for a visiting artist doing a “deep dive” into vintage dandelion images and were able to find it quickly without damaging nearby charts.
Botanical Wallchart: *Taraxacum officinale* - Dandelion (cropped from larger image)

from the AHL collection

See page 7 for more information.