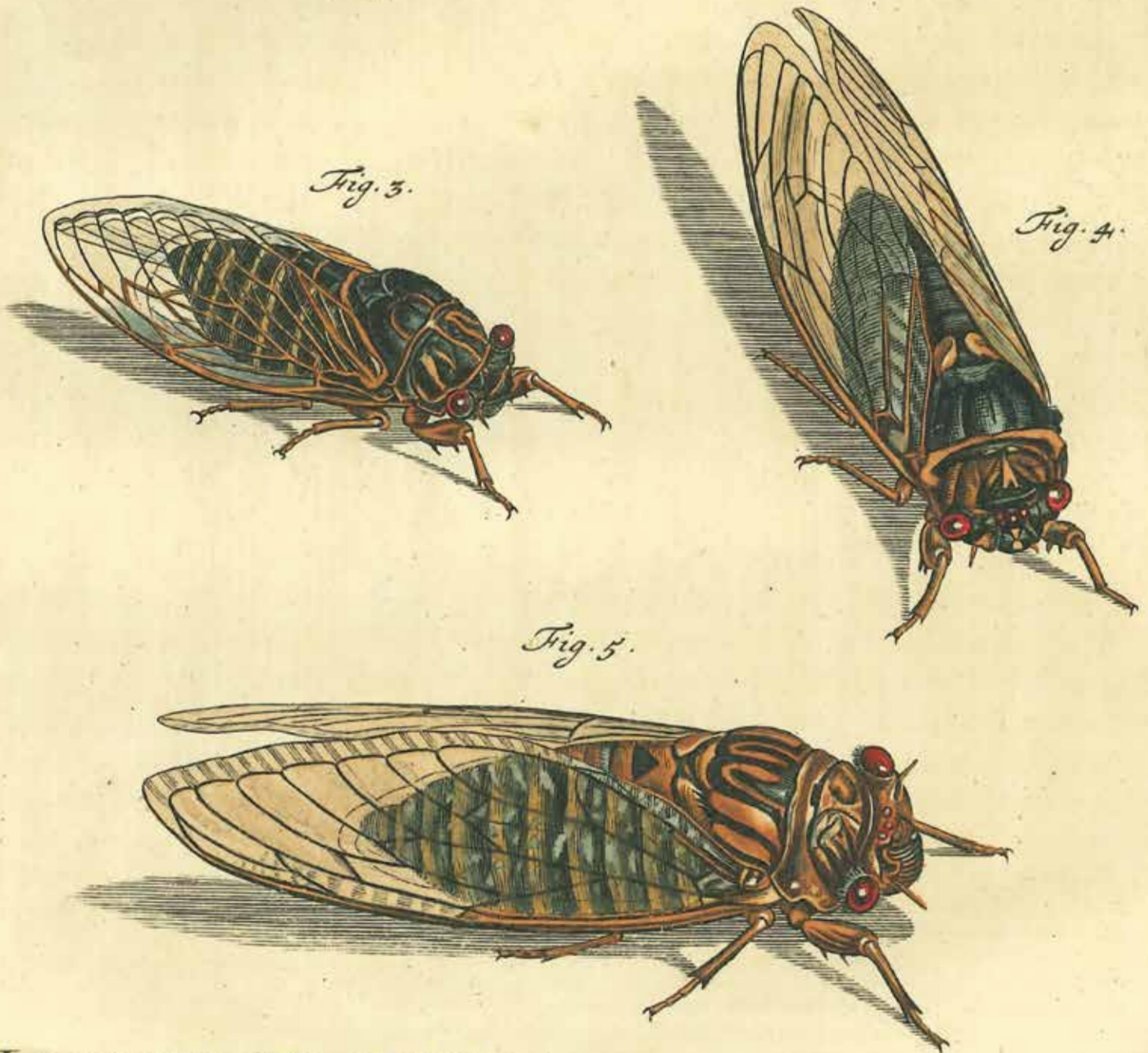


Volume 23 Issue 1 • 2021

# Lloydiana

A Publication of the Lloyd Library & Museum



*Fig. 3.*

*Fig. 4.*

*Fig. 5.*

*LOCUSTA GERMANICA.*

*A. J. Rösel fecit et exc.*

## Message from the Executive Director

The often-repeated quote, “The only constant in life is change,” is relevant today more than ever. This past year has been one of change, worldwide and at the Lloyd Library. Major events have impact for today and the future. We have seen a global pandemic, the likes of which we have not experienced in more than a century.



Events from the past provide direction for the future, with new twists. Our 50-year-old building still provides remarkable protection for our collections, yet major renovations are needed to update our equipment and offer the best of 21st century library service. Cicadas return to Midwest this spring after 17 years, but to a different world in all respects, including the environment.

We have viewed events of the past year as opportunities to position us for the future, demonstrating flexibility and innovation. Despite restrictions on visits to the Library, we have used technology to expand services. Most importantly, the values of our founders, the Lloyd Brothers, have remained strong with an emphasis on health, science, access to resources, environmental conservation, world class botanical art, and serving as a connector to multiple communities, near and far. Join us on the journey as we continue to expand and meet your needs, while never losing sight of the core values that have created and sustained the Lloyd Library for more than 140 years.

Patricia Van Skaik  
Executive Director, Lloyd Library & Museum

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### By the Numbers

<b>6</b>	Digital exhibits
<b>7</b>	Webinars
<b>101</b>	Language views of website
<b>140</b>	Countries viewing website
<b>265</b>	Podcast downloads
<b>507</b>	Nursery companies in Lloyd collection
<b>15,667</b>	Instagram followers
<b>30,804</b>	Square feet in Lloyd Library Building
<b>84,030</b>	#stumpthelloyd likes
<b>717,400</b>	Cost in dollars of 1971 Lloyd Library building

## Lloydiana

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### Our Mission

The Lloyd Library and Museum advocates for education in plant-based science, medicine, conservation, art and history. We provide resources to engage visitors and researchers from the community and around the globe.

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*Lloydiana* (ISSN 1094-818X) is published by the Lloyd Library and Museum and distributed to Members of the Lloyd Library. For membership information and an electronic copy of *Lloydiana* visit our website at [www.lloydlibrary.org](http://www.lloydlibrary.org).

### Front Cover:

*De Natuurlyke Historie der Insecten* (1764-1768) by August Johann Rosel von Rosenhof; Plate 25

### Back Cover:

*The Genera of British Moths* (circa 1860) by Henry Noel Humphries; Plate 47

# The Marriage of Reference Service and Digital Engagement

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When in-person library services ceased due to the coronavirus, libraries around the world faced obstacles delivering resources to its researchers. Initially, Lloyd librarians provided remote services from home. However, with more than 250,000 items in the paper collection, electronic delivery was limited, forcing us to shift into high gear with digital content.

One of the Lloyd's signature research endeavors is the Fellows program. With our doors closed and travel prohibited, Fellow Elizabeth Yancey looked to us to simulate their in-person experience. She had planned to visit the Lloyd to listen to interviews with naturalist Elizabeth Brockschlager (see story on page 8) recorded on cassette tape for her research project. The Lloyd transferred the tapes to mp3 format, creating an audio oral history collection that is now digitally preserved and easily accessible. We also added a live interview with naturalist Cathy Chapman, who has spent decades identifying and preserving wildlife, especially birds.

The Lloyd expanded its digital photography collection while assisting with research on ancient Mesoamerican Agriculture (see story on page 10). Glass negatives from Curtis Gates Lloyd's Mexican travel collection were scanned and enhanced to provide digital access, rescuing the images from deterioration.

Expanding digital access also extended to digital engagement. We mounted six digital exhibits, and have more in the works. With support from a FotoFocus Emergency Arts Grant, we launched a popular ongoing podcast series, *Between the Leaves*. The use of video conferencing, recording, and posting on YouTube enabled us to continue to offer programs and webinars to groups, schools, and new audiences.

When Ohio's stay at home order was lifted for libraries, the Lloyd opened its doors first to employees, working one



Self-portrait by T.J. Vissing, featured in Episode 5 of Lloyd podcast, at the Edge of Appalachian in Adams County

at a time. Given that many academic and research facilities were still closed, requests flooded in the doors. Within a few weeks, we provided scanned materials to 22 research organizations, including Budapest University of Technology and Economics, California Institute of Integral Studies, Fudan University (Shanghai), University of Washington, and Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences. By the end of 2020, requests arrived from the United Kingdom, Australia, Canada, South Africa, and Mexico; from some of the

top universities in the United States; and from the National Institutes of Health, U.S. Forest Service, and Marine Biological Laboratory in Woods Hole, Massachusetts.

It came as no surprise that we received reference questions via social media. Requests arrived through Facebook Messenger the first week we were closed. However, we were surprised at the abundance of Instagram research requests. Our popular #stumpthelloyd campaign, where "grammers" request information and visual images from our nature-inspired collections, has resulted in more than 80,000 likes in less than a year's time, and shows no signs of slowing down. Of note, six of the Lloyd Library's top nine Instagram posts in 2020 resulted from #stumpthelloyd requests. Interactions between Instagram followers and the Lloyd is win/win. Viewers get their questions answered, and the replies have driven a 200% annual increase in followers, now exceeding 15,000, a perfect marriage of reference service and digital engagement.

Lloyd Digital Exhibits  
[lloydlibrary.org/digital-exhibits](http://lloydlibrary.org/digital-exhibits)

Lloyd Podcast Series  
[lloydlibrary.org/between-the-leaves](http://lloydlibrary.org/between-the-leaves)

# Celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the Lloyd Library Building

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the opening of the Lloyd Library building at 917 Plum Street, and more than 140 years in downtown Cincinnati. The Lloyd Library had resided in two previous locations nearby, 224 West Court Street and 309 West Court Street, where the library had operated since 1908. This block was a special part of the Lloyd's history. It was home to the Eclectic Medical Institute, where Lloyd founder John Uri Lloyd taught, and to the Lloyd Brothers Pharmacists manufacturing plant. It housed John Uri Lloyd's collection of books relating to pharmacy, botany, and Eclectic medicine, and his brother Curtis Gates Lloyd's ethnobotany and mycology materials.

Moving the Lloyd and its collections from its 1908 building had been flirted with over the years. The University of Cincinnati expressed an interest in acquiring and moving the collections to its campus in Clifton. The Cincinnati Public Library approached the Lloyd about moving to a building south of the Main Library. There was even a rumor that John Uri's son, John Thomas, would move the books to a facility in New York City. By 1965, the West End was undergoing dramatic change with the Queensgate urban renewal project. Many buildings were razed to create new housing and proposed shopping centers, along with the construction of Interstate 75, which ran through the neighborhood. The Lloyd, however, remained in its spot.

By the 1960s, the building faced several challenges. Its construction, layout and design no longer fit the needs of a contemporary library. Meanwhile, like many libraries with collections that had grown at a fast pace, it was running out of space for books. The floorboards bowed from the sheer weight of overcrowded bookshelves. The time had come to consider a new and modern Lloyd Library.



“The cantilever design also creates the playful feeling of two stacked blocks – further enhancing the understated elegance of the building.”

The process took five years, from the establishment of the Building Committee, to the completion of construction. In March 1967, after a year of researching and interviewing a dozen firms, the Lloyd Building Committee, comprised of longtime Lloyd librarian/director Corinne Miller Simons; Lloyd Library Board Officers Joseph D. Landen and Harry Smith; and Cincinnati Public Library director Ernest I. Miller, selected A.M. Kinney Associates as the Architect-Engineer Service Provider. According to meeting notes, the nationally-recognized architecture firm had “expressed genuine interest” in the project. The Committee felt confident the firm would provide integrity and carefulness to produce the best facility possible. On May 2, 1969, the address 917 Plum Street was granted by the City, and in late autumn, the foundation of the new Lloyd was poured.

The building was purposefully designed, and stood in stark contrast to its earlier ornate structure. The modern architectural style often referred to as “Brutalism” was a popular and affordable choice in the 1960s and 1970s for schools and libraries. The building was made of concrete block with little ornamentation. Limited strips of glass were used as windows because, as Mr. Miller had observed with the bright open Public Library building, “sun is an enemy of paper and bindings.” At the Lloyd, glass strips were used horizontally and close to the ceiling of the first floor, and lengthwise for the stairwells to the stacks above. Not only was this to prevent harm to the collection, it was also stylish and modern for the time, and is still appreciated today.

“I’ve always found the current Lloyd Library building to be rather beautiful,” says Noah O’Brien, Secretary of the Lloyd Library and Museum’s Board of Directors. “It has a commanding presence, with thoughtful stylistic



Lloyd librarian/director Corrine Miller Simons



Old and new building stand side by side (1970)

enhancements, like the protruding vertical lines that create uniform, contrasting window columns around the building. The cantilever design also creates the playful feeling of two stacked blocks- further enhancing the understated elegance of the building.”

Careful consideration was taken for the new library’s specifications. According to the building’s manual, “the structure is planned as a fireproof, easily maintained structure, with minimum columns and clear spans to permit flexibility in use and function.” As such, the library was made largely of concrete, plaster, and brick. Exposed concrete surrounded the first floor, and the three floors above were layered with brick. Wood was used in the conference room and the librarian’s office only as

decorative paneling. The entire building was fitted with air conditioning and charcoal filters to aid in the removal of any dust, particles, or contaminants that could harm the books. An intercom system was installed for the Lloyd workers to utilize as well. In all, the building was a considerable upgrade. A completion date of July 1970 was set, but as with many projects, hiccups pushed the deadline. Bookshelves arrived damaged and with missing parts, delaying their installation for months. Small aesthetic issues like changes to the flooring color, to larger economic issues like the iron strike by a local union, also affected construction.

The outside was completed in February 1971. Finishing touches for the inside continued well into May. The hefty task of moving materials out of the old Lloyd building began on June 14, 1971, and was completed after the Fourth of July holiday. Demolition of 309 West Court Street took place on July 12. It’s former footprint was paved soon after for the Lloyd’s new parking lot. Following the Lloyd’s completion, Corinne Miller Simons stayed with the library for another year before retiring after 34 years of service.

The 30,084 square foot building with 37,000 linear feet of book storage was constructed with best-in-class equipment and materials. Unlike similar buildings from that era that have deteriorated or outlived their useful life, the Lloyd Library remains sturdy and mold-free, almost unheard of in libraries. Fire notification, elevator parts, and HVAC equipment have only recently required replacement or upgrades. As we venture into the next 50 years, we will continue to look for ways to adapt our library facility to meet the needs of an ever-changing world.

## Our Facility Today

With less in-person activity over the past year, we took the opportunity to make a variety of facility improvements and upgrades that better serve the Lloyd’s visitors and rare materials.



Major improvements were made to the Lloyd’s mechanical equipment. The air filtration system was upgraded to improve air quality. We replaced the elevator’s hydraulic cylinder unit to ensure the safe transport of books and other collections between researchers and storage areas within the five-story building.

To better protect the Lloyd’s collections, we upgraded fluorescent lighting in the stacks to LED lighting. LEDs last

longer, use less energy, and are not harmful to paper, canvas, and ink.

To enhance the visitor experience we repainted the first floor, which better showcases our exhibitions and collections. We replaced library furniture with new tables and chairs that are

more comfortable and suitable for research. As a bonus, the new furniture is moveable and flexible, allowing us to easily reconfigure it to create research space, classroom or auditorium style seating, or an open floor plan.

Today, the Lloyd is better than ever, and we look forward to sharing this improved and updated space again.

# The Year of Brood X

## Preparing for Cicadas with the Lloyd

It's that time again! 2021 is the year of the cicada, specifically, the North American periodical genus Brood X. In February, noted cicada expert, Dr. Gene Kritsky, sat down for a Q&A with us to share what we need to know about their anticipated reemergence this spring.

**Patricia Van Skaik:** *Are we still thinking that the cicadas will arrive in May?*

**Gene Kritsky:** That's what we're still thinking, even with all the snow. The emergence occurs typically in the first half of May, usually between the 12th and 15th when the soil temperature reaches 64 degrees - especially after a good drenching rain. Then that night they just pop!

At first, more males emerge than females, which is good because the predation is so intense early on. Each cicada that isn't eaten will live about a month. The males start singing about five days after they emerge to attract a mate. After mating, the female lays her eggs a day or two later, and then they both die. The whole process from emergence to death occurs over a four-week period more or less.

**PVS:** *I've heard the singing is similar to a lawn mower pitch?*

**GK:** Yes. Those are *Magicicada cassini*. The male cicadas, as you know, have a loud and incessant mating call. Like a constant vibration. In 2004 there were many complaints from landscapers getting dive-bombed by male cicadas. The males hear the mowers and assume that's where they will find females. Female cicadas are attracted to the noise as if it was a mobile chorusing center. It's like a giant, periodical cicada single's bar!

**PVS:** *I remember the sound being very loud. How loud can they get?*

**GK:** Groups of cicadas near the College of Mt. St. Joseph in Cincinnati have been recorded at 96 decibels, while jets flying overhead were recorded at only 80 decibels.

**PVS:** *What happens after the female lays the eggs?*

**GK:** Eggs will hatch about 8 weeks after around late July into the first half of August, depending on when they were laid. By then they are about 2-2.5 millimeters in size.



Photo credit: Dr. Kritsky, Mount St. Joseph University

The nymphs fall to the ground and immediately look for cracks in the soil to get below, because above ground they are vulnerable to predation by ants, beetles, and spiders. They'll feed on grass roots through early fall. By winter they are 10 to 12 inches below the surface of the ground, and that's where they'll be for the next 17 years.

**PVS:** *Why 17 years?*

**GK:** Typically periodical cicadas have 17 year and 13 year life-cycles. In the last few years, another periodical cicada was found in Fiji with an 8 year life cycle. Cicadas are really attuned to climate. The thought is that the 13-year cicadas evolved first in the southern states south of the ice sheets from the Ice Age. The periodical cicada ancestor split into a large and small species about 3.9 million years ago. Then, 2.5 million years ago, smaller species split into two different species. Within the last 300,000 years, the 13-year or 17-year cicada species evolved.

**PVS:** *What is the density of the cicadas when they are in full force?*

**GK:** The largest population I measured [in Cincinnati] was in 2004 at the Sisters of Charity Mother House Cemetery. They had 356 emerge per square yard. By comparison, Hyde Park had around 200-250, which is still a large number of bugs!



Dr. Gene Kritsky is a professor of Biology and Dean of the School of Behavioral and Natural Sciences at Mount St. Joseph University. He received his BA in Biology from Indiana University, his MS and PhD in Entomology from the University of Illinois. He was a Fulbright Scholar to Egypt, and is behind the smartphone mapping app, Cicada Safari. His

new book, *Periodical Cicadas: the Brood X Edition*, will be published in early 2021 by the Ohio Biological Survey.

## Cicada Safari

Throughout history, the study of periodical cicadas has involved various forms of crowdsourcing to track when and where they appear.

In 1843, entomologist Gideon B. Smith wrote to newspapers asking readers to send him reports of cicada sightings, enabling him to document the emergence of the 17-year broods. In 1902, the USDA circulated postcards to railroad conductors, post masters and schoolteachers asking them to report occurrences of Brood X.

During the 1987 emergence, Dr. Gene Kritsky asked the public to report sightings by leaving messages on his answering machine. In 2004 he asked for emails, receiving one nearly every minute with reports of Brood X. More than a decade later, Mount St. Joseph University (where Kritsky is Dean) developed the free smartphone mapping app, Cicada Safari, which allows users to submit gps tagged photographs of cicadas, providing information on what they look like, how they act, and more.



Join the effort to map the 2021 emergence by downloading Cicada Safari from the Apple app store or Google Play.

More information on Brood X, including activities for kids and adults alike, can be found at [CicadaSafari.org](http://CicadaSafari.org).



Photo credit: Dr. Kritsky, Mount St. Joseph University

## Emerging Cicadas at the Lloyd

On **April 28, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.**, Dr. Kritsky discusses the return of Brood X, first recorded in 1715 and reappearing every 17 years since. His presentation will explore what to expect this year, and how research on Brood X's emergences have contributed to the understanding of cicada biology. See back page for registration information.

## In the News

The Lloyd has recently been featured in several local media publications. In January, *Cincinnati Magazine's* "Top Doctors" issue highlighted the Lloyd's

pharmaceutical, botanical and fungi-related collections, and described the Lloyd as both library and "secret garden."

Arts and entertainment weekly *CityBeat* named the Lloyd "Best Historical Dive into Medical Cannabis" for our exhibit, *Through the Rx Bottle*, with its combination of historical publications and cannabis-related pharmacy antiques.

Photographic arts organization FotoFocus recognized the Lloyd's award of an emergency

grant, as one of two local institutions profiled for expanding their audio-video programming. The grant supports the Lloyd's monthly podcast series, *Between the Leaves*, which unearths and illuminates the stories of nature, science, culture and history.



Photo credit: Marlene Rounds for *Cincinnati Magazine*



## Board Spotlight: Heather Estridge

Heather Estridge is President of the Lloyd Library and Museum's Board of Directors, and serves on the Lloyd's Finance and Facilities Committees. She is a Registered Architect, LEED Accredited Professional, and owner of Greener Stock, an architectural design and resource center specializing in eco-friendly building products for residential and commercial use.

An expert on green building materials and concepts, Ms. Estridge is passionate about creating beautiful spaces with sustainable, nontoxic materials, and locally-sourced products that are resource efficient. Her company, Greener Stock, a 2013 Business Courier Green Business Award Finalist, has helped create one of the area's largest urban LEED for Homes developments in the Pendleton Neighborhood.

With the help of Ms. Estridge's leadership and expertise, the Lloyd Library has continued to undergo updates and renovations to better serve the collections, and the public, all in an environmentally responsible way.

# Lessons in Conservation

## Elizabeth Brockschlager's Leadership Role Revealed

by Elissa Yancey

As part of my Lloyd Library & Museum Fellowship to research using the Elizabeth Brockschlager collection, I've learned that the soft-spoken Cincinnati schoolteacher was not only a skilled scientist and popular educator, she was also a powerful force in local conservation efforts. It illuminates a side to Brockschlager's activism that, like the expert botanist herself, rarely made headlines.

**O**n Dec. 31, 1959, the Ohio Chapter of the Nature Conservancy's update on "The Lynx Prairie Project" in Adams County, Ohio, noted an important milestone: the first 44 acres of what would grow into the 20,000-acre Edge of Appalachia Nature Preserve had been purchased with two key donations: \$1,000 from a Cincinnati garden club; and \$100 from a schoolteacher named Mary Elizabeth Brockschlager.



Drs. E. Lucy and Annette Braun with Elizabeth Brockschlager

The purchase of the oddly shaped slice of land was a major victory for a group of fierce advocates who had been working for years to protect the ecologically distinctive terrain, which sits at the edge of ancient hardwood forests in the East and native Prairie grassland to the West, and sustains a rare and rich biodiversity of plant species. One of those advocates was that key donor, Elizabeth Brockschlager, as is evident in a letter from an Adams County cabin owner and naturalist with connections to The Ohio State University, Arthur R. Harper.

In a letter dated Dec. 16, 1955, Harper typed a colorful treatise to "Miss Brockschlager" that hints at her efforts to sway landowners and fellow nature-lovers as an ongoing effort. Toward the end of a colorfully written page to the Cincinnati Public School teacher, he noted:

*"I agree with you that some of the prairie spots in Adams County should be preserved but I am afraid to suggest it. There would be such an outbreak of selfish interests and picayune politics that we'd suffer rather than profit. Too, state agencies seem to view such projects solely from the*

*standpoint of recreation, with hunting, fishing and family picnics as the only objectives. What you and I have in mind is a cultural and educational center and we'll have to have many more nature clubs to offset the now dominant viewpoint of the sportsmen's clubs. I've tried hard to organize a nature club in Adams County but there is no interest, even among the teachers. As a John the Baptist, I am a total failure. I merely howl in the wilderness."*

Nevertheless, Brockschlager and fellow scientists, including her mentors, Drs. E. Lucy and Annette Braun, persisted. Lucy Braun, an internationally revered plant ecologist who grew up in Walnut Hills and spent her teaching career at the University of Cincinnati, helped convince The Nature Conservancy to create a chapter in Ohio. At the same time that the Board of Governors of the Nature Conservancy authorized the formation of the Ohio Chapter in 1958, they also authorized the Lynx Prairie Project.

Lucy Braun had mapped the prairie area that was of highest priority to preserve, but property lines led to a bit of conservation serendipity. As Ruth McCannon, an Ohio Nature Conservancy Trustee, wrote of that first purchase:

*"Property lines in this vicinity are very irregular and although we sought only to purchase the Prairie area at this time, we were obliged to also take a wedge-shaped section which extended into the Allegheny Plateau (up the side of Burr Hill). This proved to be a blessing in disguise as we own a portion of the junction of the Interior Low*

Plateau and the Allegheny Plateau and a small segment and the latter. So, here we are able to preserve and have for future study the remarkable changes in vegetation brought about where the alkaline soil and the acid soil make contact.”

Just as Elizabeth Brockschlager’s conservation efforts didn’t begin with her donation, they didn’t end there either.

In September 1961, she and Dr. Annette Braun joined the committee to oversee stewardship of the Nature Conservancy’s Adams County property, which by then included both Lynx Prairie and Buzzardroost Rock. That work entailed making regular visits to the property and reporting any signs of damage or lack of upkeep.

In a warmly written thank-you letter from 1967, Richard H. Durrell—the namesake of the Richard and Lucile Durrell Edge of Appalachia Preserve System—wrote of Brockschlager’s continued work and service at the Edge:

*“Dear Elizabeth,*

*Just a short note to say, on behalf of the Museum and myself, how very much we appreciate your ever ready willingness to lend a hand.*

*I really don’t know how to thank you especially for the multitude of signs that you prepared. I know that Lucile was most happy merely to know that there would be signs, but was overwhelmed with the great number and completeness with which you handled this task.*

*Two ladies who accompanied us to Buzzardroost Rock mentioned how helpful it was to have the labels so that they could identify and examine the plants more carefully as it was sometimes difficult to hear the leaders.”*

More than a half a century after that initial investment notice, in which the only individual donor recognized was Elizabeth Brockschlager, the Edge has grown into Ohio’s largest privately owned nature preserve. Four of the 11 unique sites within the Edge have been recognized as national natural landmarks.



Buzzardroost Rock, Courtesy of Elissa Yancey



Hand drawn map of Lynx Prairie (above) and Elizabeth Brockschlager in the field (left)

As she did in Adams County with the Nature Conservancy, Brockschlager worked with the Greater Cincinnati Tree Council in the early 1970s to protect important parcels of nature. She worked as part of the Council to buy 22 acres of virgin woodland in the neighborhood of Northside, which was on the verge of becoming a housing development. An Associated Press story about the nonprofit Tree Council’s unexpected coup, which included \$1,000 raised by area school children to save the city forest, is pasted into a scrapbook in Brockschlager’s collection at the Lloyd. Its headline, “City Tree Council Quietly Gets Action” sums up her distinctively selfless approach, where despite staying far from the spotlight, she continued to be leading force in conservation.

Elissa Yancey, 2020 Curtis Gates Lloyd Fellow, MEd, is an award-winning journalist, educator and nonprofit leader. Her fellowship project, Dear Elizabeth, a four-part podcast serial, gives voice to scientists Annette and E. Lucy Braun through their letters to Brockschlager: [lloydlibrary.org/between-the-leaves](http://lloydlibrary.org/between-the-leaves).

# Mesoamerican Agriculture with Insights from the Curtis Lloyd Collection

by David Lentz

It was not long after I started working on a book project involving the agricultural practices of ancient Mesoamericans when I realized that a visit to the Lloyd library would be a necessary stop along the way to the completion of the volume. With their extensive holdings on Central American plants and ethnographic accounts of the area, the Lloyd Library is a treasure trove of information that would turn out to render invaluable insights to the study. The curators, Alex Herrlein and Christine Jankowski were incredibly helpful, and Patricia Van Skaik, Executive Director of the Lloyd Library, was welcoming and took a keen interest in the research topic.

For several decades I have been involved in the study of plant use practices of the ancient Maya, Olmec and other groups of Mesoamericans. It is well known that numerous important crops such as maize, beans, cotton, avocado and squash were domesticated in this region. It has long been presumed that the ancient occupants of Mesoamerica exclusively practiced an extensive type of long fallow farming called *swidden*, *milpa* or “slash-and-burn” agriculture that relied upon the regrowth of forests to replenish lost soil nutrients. This belief was initiated by early Spanish chroniclers who observed this agricultural system among the peoples of Mesoamerica they encountered in the 16th century. It provided a simple explanation for how the ancient Mesoamericans provided sustenance for their inhabitants.

As swidden agriculture is practiced in traditional farming areas, farmers cut down a mature stretch of forest, let it dry, and then burn it, usually near the end of the dry season. Before the onset of the rainy season, farmers go into the freshly burned area and plant an array of crops, often maize, beans and squash together in the same field. They plant this same field for anywhere from two to five years until crop productivity diminishes. Then they move on to another parcel of forest, clear it, burn it



and plant once again. This cycle continues for 15 to 20 years until the first field has regrown its forest and can be re-cut if it has enough nutrients in the canopy to yield good harvests.

Recent studies by myself and others have shown that, while long fallow swidden approaches may have been adequate to meet the demands of sparsely

populated communities in southern Mexico and Central America, it was not a system that could sustain cities and empires. When areas became more densely populated, as in the central Maya Lowlands during the Classic period, there was insufficient arable land to support the growth of emerging cities using long fallow swidden agriculture alone. In the face of this demographic reality, agricultural strategies became much more diversified as populations expanded, and the adoption of a variety of intensive crop production techniques, such as terracing, irrigated fields, short fallow systems, drained fields, raised fields, ridge and furrow techniques and the cultivation of extensive orchards became more commonplace. All of these intensive forms of agriculture were employed to enhance a food supply that allowed the dramatic population growth of numerous large urban centers in the region during Pre-Columbian times. These ideas, and a host of others like it, provided the impetus to synthesize the concepts into book form so they will be available in one place.

While going through the relevant texts in the main reading room of the Lloyd Library, my attention kept focusing on the fascinating large wooden box camera (I am easily distracted) in one of the glass display cases. Apparently it was the property of Curtis Gate Lloyd, youngest of the three Lloyd brothers who founded Lloyd Brothers Pharmaceuticals in 1886. I had heard that Curtis traveled across the globe searching for medicinal plants and unusual mushrooms. Oftentimes these dried plants and mushrooms served as reference collections for the over-the-counter medicinal compounds sold by their company. Many of his dried plant and fungal specimens are still

housed in the herbarium at the University of Cincinnati, in what has become a prized portion of the collection. Also, Curtis was quite a photographer at a time when taking a camera into the field, processing negatives and bringing them back undamaged was no small feat.



In light of this background information, it dawned on me that Curtis may have traveled to Mexico or Central America at some time during his decades of exploration. After all, Mexico has one of the most diverse floras in the Western Hemisphere and it is home to countless medicinal plants and fungi. Moreover, it is a land with numerous groups of indigenous people who regularly use natural product medicines even to this day. Finally, out of curiosity, I asked the Lloyd Library staff if Curtis had ever traveled to Mexico or Central America and sure enough, he had. In 1901, Curtis Lloyd made an extensive trip to Mexico and, to my great delight, he had taken his camera with him. A quick search through the archives by the efficient Lloyd Library staff turned up an entire box filled with large glass negatives of scenes from Mexico! I felt like I had just won the lottery!!

In going through the negatives from Curtis Lloyd's trip to Mexico, there were many pictures of village life from the turn-of-the-century rural countryside. One set of his slides focused on the famous "floating gardens" of Xochimilco. Although they appear to be floating, they are actually a set of hundreds of small islands, called "chinampas," that are surrounded by canals. This area was once a huge

wetland on the fringe of a series of lakes in the Valley of Mexico, just south of what is now Mexico City. These small islands were built by humans over the course of hundreds, even thousands of years. They were constructed by dredging out canals and piling the muck onto adjacent raised areas. These mud islands, or raised fields, make excellent agricultural lands that are highly productive and

sustainable. Because of this, Xochimilco, (an Aztec name meaning "flower field") was once a breadbasket for the Aztec Empire, whose capital city, Tenochtitlan, was only 12 miles to the north. Curtis Lloyd's images of Xochimilco from over a century ago are quite valuable, because they help to explain and document a kind of agriculture from the past in an area that, although a UNESCO World Heritage site, is rapidly being swallowed up by the urban expansion of Mexico City. Needless to say, these images will be a great benefit to my studies and undoubtedly to anyone else interested in ancient Mesoamerican agriculture.

Special thanks to the Cincinnati and Hamilton County Public Library for scanning and digital restoration of photographs.

David L. Lentz is a Professor of Biological Sciences at the University of Cincinnati. Formerly he served as Vice President of Scientific Affairs at the Chicago Botanic Garden and as President of the Society for Economic Botany. Recently he was offered a Fellowship at the Dumbarton Oaks Research Library in Washington, DC, where he will continue his research for a book project on ancient Mesoamerican agriculture.



### Staff Spotlight: Christine Jankowski, Archivist and Records Coordinator

Christine Jankowski is the Archivist and Records Coordinator at the Lloyd Library and Museum. She grew up in Cedarburg, Wisconsin, where her father, a distinguished compound pharmacist, owns and operates the town's only independent pharmacy.

"Growing up, I was always drawn to the drugstore antiques that were displayed throughout our pharmacy, fascinated by the history and stories behind them," says Christine.

Christine received her Bachelor of Arts in History from Cardinal Stirtch University, and Master of Arts in Public History from Northern Kentucky University. For her Capstone Project, she chose processing the Norman R. Farnsworth Collection at the Lloyd Library. Today, she continues to process the collection, which entails scanning and rehousing the glass negatives of photos taken by Curtis Gates Lloyd during his botanical collecting trips.

# Nursery and Seed Catalogs Provide Glimpse into the Past

The Lloyd Library's collection of nursery and seed catalogs is now fully cataloged and available for researchers. Dating back to the late 19th century, the catalogs provide a glimpse into the past, encompassing all aspects of gardening, with information on methods, trends, and pricing, as well as some wonderful imagery. The catalogs represent more than 500 different companies from all over the United States, and a handful from England and the Netherlands.



Anecdotal evidence suggests that the collection began with Lloyd Library founder Curtis Gates Lloyd. Among his personal correspondence files are letters to and from companies such as A. Henderson & Co. in Chicago and Barr & Son in London.

He was buying plants for his property in Crittenden, Kentucky, and seemed to prefer flowering plants, purchasing large quantities of peonies from Brand Peony Farms in Faribault, Minnesota; gladiolus from A.E. Kunderd in Goshen, Indiana; and roses, lilies, and irises from Bobbink & Atkins of Rutherford, New Jersey. He corresponded with and purchased plants from John Lewis Childs in Long Island, New York from 1913 to 1925. Lloyd ordered so many plants that Brand Peony Farms thought he was a commercial dealer in the peony business.

Librarian Corinne Miller Simons began adding her personal nursery catalogs to the collection beginning in the 1940s, and at some point acquired many catalogs from A.E. Curtis, a Cincinnati poppy and iris enthusiast.

The catalogs are organized by company name and are searchable in the Lloyd's online catalog, and in the Nursery and Seed Catalog Collection inventory available on the Lloyd's website.

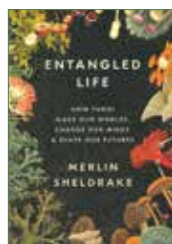
## Book Notes

### ***Just the Tonic: A Natural History of Tonic Water***

by Kim Walker and Mark Nesbitt

Is it a mixer or a medicine?  
How about both? Starting as a

digestive aid, tonic water, with its key ingredient quinine, became known as an antimalarial treatment before settling comfortably into its role as gin's co-star in the famous cocktail. Authors Walker and Nesbitt draw on research at the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew as they take readers from the Andes, to Europe, and beyond to quench their thirst for the story behind this fizzy drink.

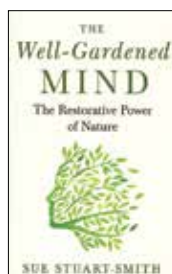


### ***Entangled Life: How Fungi Make our Worlds, Change our Minds & Shape our Futures***

by Merlin Sheldrake

Fungi aren't merely the mushrooms that appear after a rain, or show up as a pizza topping. Biologist and author Sheldrake explores the hidden world of the relationships between fungi, plants,

and life as we know it, pointing out along the way the many "jobs" fungi have, such as yeasts or in environmental remediation. With fungal networks forming the largest organisms on the planet, maybe it's worth giving fungi a closer look with this read.



### ***The Well-Gardened Mind: The Restorative Power of Nature***

by Sue Stuart-Smith

What if gardening didn't just get your hands dirty, but helped your mind as well? Author and psychotherapist Stuart-Smith asks readers to step back from technology for a moment and consider getting close to the earth, using examples

from prisoners, to her own grandfather's experiences after World War I. The science is compelling as well: drawing connections between human biology and neuroscience, to time spent outdoors, measuring benefits in years and the quality of those years.



### ***Farming for the Long Haul: Resilience and the Lost Art of Agricultural Inventiveness***

by Michael Foley

From environmental to nutritional reasons, small-scale farming might be due for a comeback. That's the case made by organic farmer and author Foley, who offers insights from traditional societies embracing a holistic relationship between

people and the land. With "the long haul" of the title in mind, Foley posits that small farms can offer economic resilience and an optimistic look towards the future.

# In Memoriam



**Sara Caswell Pearce** (1952-2020) showed a lifelong dedication to print and paper. With an undergraduate double major in English and art history, and a master's degree in Library Science, it should come as no surprise that she gravitated to libraries. She had a long and esteemed career in journalism, working as food writer, features editor, and visual arts columnist. During her last year at the *Cincinnati Enquirer* in 2008, she reviewed the Lloyd exhibit, *In Search of Birds* at the Lloyd. Upon leaving the *Enquirer* she worked as a collage artist, printer and graphic designer. She returned to the Lloyd to conduct research, and we admired her creations at the nearby Mercantile Library. Pearce's fine writing and original approach to the world of books, art and paper will be missed but not forgotten.



**John Ruthven** (1924-2020) was a world-renowned wildlife artist, naturalist and conservationist. Often referred to as, "The 20th Century Audubon," the Cincinnati native and local leader spent his life promoting and fighting for wildlife. The Lloyd knew Ruthven as a researcher and collaborator. In 2008, his work was featured in the exhibit, *In Search of Birds* at the Lloyd. In 2013, the Lloyd participated in the Cincinnati-wide "Year of John A. Ruthven" in conjunction with the unveiling of the popular mural, *Martha, the Last Passenger Pigeon*. His early mushroom painting, *Destroying Angel*, is now part of the Lloyd collection. Ruthven's talent and zeal for capturing nature lives on through his art, and his many contributions have lasting impact.



**Mary Lee Schmidt** (1930-2020) was a library assistant at the Lloyd from 1988 to 2001. During her 13-year tenure, she was responsible for managing the periodical subscriptions and maintaining the library stacks. She knew the collection better than anyone and helped countless researchers locate the most esoteric publications. Her legacy is the organization of the library's two full floors of periodicals, where she planned a massive shift and then physically moved them into call number order. She was assisted by her daughter Annie, who cleaned books at the Lloyd for 12 years. The outstanding condition of the Lloyd stacks and the appearance of Lloyd resources in publications worldwide is a result of the work of Mary Lee Schmidt.



**Mansukh C. Wani** (1925-2020) was the co-discoverer of the cancer drugs, Taxol and camptothecin, today considered standard in the treatment of ovarian, breast, lung, and colon cancers. A principal scientist at the Research Triangle Institute (RTI) in Durham, NC since 1962, Dr. Wani, working with Dr. Monroe Wall, identified and synthesized the cancer fighting compound used in Taxol from the Pacific yew. The recipient of numerous prestigious awards, Dr. Wani changed the landscape of cancer treatment. He was a friend of the Lloyd in many ways, serving on the Lloyd's Advisory Board and donating books from his personal collection. He presented at the Lloyd's first teleconference in 2018 to an international group of scientists from the American Society of Pharmacognosy, taking them on a journey from Taxol's discovery, through its medicinal availability by the mid-1990s—a process spanning more than 30 years. Dr. Wani's achievements are celebrated in the Lloyd's George Rieveschl, Jr. History of Pharmaceutical Chemistry exhibit.



**Art Whistler** (1944-2020) was one of Hawaii's first COVID-19 fatalities. The undisputed authority on the tropical flora and ethnobotany of the South Pacific, Whistler was affiliated with the University of Hawaii and its Lyon Arboretum. His *Herbal Medicine in Samoa*, considered the authoritative work in its field, furthered the research that Lloyd Library co-founder Curtis Gates Lloyd had begun more than 100 years prior. In 2010, he identified 416 plant specimens at the University of Cincinnati's Margaret Fulford Herbarium collected in Samoa by Lloyd in 1904-1905, resulting in the one of the earliest fully-identified large collections of Samoan flora. His passion for understanding the ways in which native peoples integrated plants in their daily life led him to write over a dozen books on the subject. In 2019, while attending the Society for Economic Botany Conference in Cincinnati, he presented a free public program at the Lloyd Library to a standing-room-only crowd on Polynesian herbal medicine. In addition to his research, Whistler worked to save the Samoan forests. The islanders held him in such high esteem that he was widely known in Samoa as "Tupu o le Vao Matua" or the "King of the Forest!"

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Terry Collis  
Deborah Couch



**Sandra Joffe**, Board member of the Vesalius Trust for Visual Communication in the Health Sciences, donated an original title page from the second edition of *De Humani Corporis Fabrica* by Andreas Vesalius (1555). Vesalius is considered the founder of modern human anatomical illustrations.

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Lloyd Library & Museum memberships directly support public programs, exhibitions, research services and unique collections. For more information, visit [lloydlibrary.org](http://lloydlibrary.org) membership.

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## In appreciation and gratitude for financial and in-kind support:

Sandy Ader  
Anonymous Fund of the Greater Cincinnati Foundation  
Anonymous, in Memory of Sara Caswell Pearce  
The BonBonerie  
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FotoFocus Biennial 2020  
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Lucile and Richard Durrell Special Fund III of the Greater  
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Betsa Marsh and David D. Medkeff, in memory of Sara Pearce  
Sittenfeld Family Fund  
Ronald Stuckey



## FotoFocus Emergency Arts Grant

The Lloyd Library received a 2020 Emergency Art Grant from FotoFocus Biennial, which provided immediate and unrestricted funds to help survive the COVID-19 crisis. We remain deeply grateful for FotoFocus's support, which enabled us to expand cultural and scientific awareness of local natural history through the launch of a new podcast, *Through the Leaves*. The grant not only funded the production of the photograph-inspired episode, but it supported the podcast's structure and design.

## Special thanks to our partners for their collaboration in our exhibitions, services and programs:

AARP  
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Taking Root  
Tenth Acre Farm  
The Vesalius Trust for Visual Communication in  
the Health Sciences  
Tree Yo Permaculture  
University of Cincinnati, Biological Sciences Department  
WKRC (Local 12)  
Wild Ones of Greater Cincinnati

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## Lloyd Library collections were bolstered through materials donations, notably:

- The Chemistry of Medicines (1881) by John Uri Lloyd from Dr. Gregory Schrand
- The Fabrica of Andreas Vesalius by Daniel Margocsy, Mark Somos, and Stephen N. Joffe from Stephen and Sandra Joffe
- Framed frontispiece from the 1555 edition of Vesalius' Fabrica from Stephen and Sandra Joffe
- Historic gardening catalogs, monographs, and periodicals from Mary Newman
- Medical illustrations from Betsy Palay of Stanford, California, via the Vesalius Trust
- Surrounded by Art by Thomas Schiff from 2020 FotoFocus Biennial
- Susun Weed papers (13.5 linear feet) from Susun Weed

Lloyd Library and Museum  
917 Plum Street  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202



March

Launch of four-part serial podcast, **Dear Elizabeth**, the journey of sister scientists and naturalists, E. Lucy and Annette Braun, [lloydlibrary.org/between-the-leaves/](https://lloydlibrary.org/between-the-leaves/)

**Women and Nature in the Arts, Sciences and Letters exhibition** reopens, advance registration recommended

April 24

**Ephemeral Blooms in Burnet Woods**, Spring Hike with Rama Kasturi. Saturday, April 24, 10-11 a.m. at Burnet Woods. Reservations required, [lloydlibrary.org/events](https://lloydlibrary.org/events)

April 28

**Emerging Cicadas at the Lloyd**, a virtual program with Gene Kritsky. Reservations required, [lloydlibrary.org/events](https://lloydlibrary.org/events)

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#### UPCOMING EXHIBITIONS

April 26

**Cicadas: A Virtual Exhibition**, [lloydlibrary.org/digital-exhibits](https://lloydlibrary.org/digital-exhibits)

Summer

**Bugging Out: 300 Years of Entomology**

Fall

**Flourish: An Artistic Investigation of Cash Crops**