**Biodiversity Heritage Library Quarterly Report**

**November 1, 2012 – January 31, 2013**

**Second Quarter, Sixth Project Year**

1. **Introduction/Executive Summary**

*This quarter, the Scanning and Digitizing Component reached a significant milestone: over 40 million pages, translating to over 110,000 volumes, of open access biodiversity literature available via BHL. Our scanned literature now totals 111,229 volumes consisting of 40,306,141* ***pages as of January 31, 2013.***  *Permissions for digitizing 252 publications within copyright, mostly significant serial runs, have been obtained from several publishers.*

*In membership news, the Library of Congress (as a new BHL member) and Cornell University all joined BHL at the Steering Committee level.*

*This quarter, BHL staff have been busy at work implementing the new user interface for BHL, based on the design of the BHL-Australia portal. Beta Testing on the new site commenced and ended in January, 2013, and technical staff are currently implementing corrections and changes resulting from feedback. The new UI will release to the public in late February or early March. The new UI will include an updated design; article and chapter level access to content (at the time of release, more than 81,000 articles will be indexed and available via BHL); API, OpenURL, and Data Export enhancements; book viewer updates; and an improved PDF creation process. Staff have developed an outreach plan to announce the new updates to users, including a guide to the new interface.*

*BHL technical staff have also been busy implementing a new taxon name finding algorithm capable of identifying previously undiscovered taxon names throughout the BHL corpus. Test applications of this algorithm on a portion of the BHL corpus have already resulted in an increase in nearly 50 million name instances in BHL, translating to over 20 million new unique names identified. These newly-identified names are currently available in BHL.*

*In other project news, BHL released its twelfth iTunes U Collection, celebrating “Bone Wars;” developed a 2013 BHL publicity plan structured around week-long campaigns devoted to the intersection between BHL content, pop culture topics and member institution events; and released the Fall BHL Newsletter. Plans to develop BHL iBooks and online exhibitions are underway.*

*In financial news, to date BHL has raised approximately $180,000 in dues and donations for project sustainability. These funds supplement the BHL Federal allocation (amounting to $125,000-150,000 for FY13) and SIL Seidel endowment funds (amounting to $350,936 for FY13) to support BHL’s operations. The JRS Foundation grant and the Lounsbery Foundation grant, amounting to nearly $140,000 combined, closed this quarter. The December BHL Fundraising campaign raised $616.36, and staff are working on developing additional fundraising campaigns for 2013. Finally, BHL staff submitted an IMLS National Leadership Grants proposal for data enhancement through purposeful gaming.*

1. **Technical Report**
2. ***Operations***
3. *Management or staff transitions*

*The Library of Congress has joined BHL at the Steering Committee level, thus constituting the fifteenth BHL member library. Also, Cornell University has upgraded their membership to the Steering Committee level. Steering Committee membership requires annual dues of $10,000 but entitles participating members to input on BHL’s budget and operations, as well as use of the pan-BHL Scanning money (see “Operations Coordination” for more information).*

*Based on input from staff, the BHL Secretariat has developed draft goals for the BHL project, as well as a draft vision statement. At the end of February, the Secretariat will meet to discuss these draft goals and vision statements, as well as discuss a new mission statement for the project. The recommendations of the Secretariat will then be presented to the BHL Executive and Steering Committees for approval. These strategic elements will influence the BHL Workplan, which will be drafted by the Secretariat following the approval of the goals, mission and vision, and will include a collections policy, permissions plan, communications and outreach plan, marketing and branding plan, and a financial sustainability plan. The Secretariat hopes to complete a draft of the workplan, for presentation to the Institutional Council, by the end of April, 2013.*

*In January, Smithsonian BHL Librarian JJ Ford accepted a position at the Smithsonian's Astrophysical Observatory in Cambridge. She left the BHL project in late January. She plans, however, to continue contributing to BHL as a volunteer, writing blog posts and participating in workflow at Harvard, MCZ. Work to hire a replacement for JJ at the Smithsonian Libraries is underway.*

*BHL Program Manager Grace Costantino developed a BHL publicity campaign plan, in effect through June, 2013. See “Public Outreach” for more information on the publicity campaigns.*

1. *Operations coordination*

*In compliance with the BHL governance structure, regular conference calls for the BHL Executive and Steering Committees continue, as well as the maintenance of listservs for both of these groups and the Institutional Council. Calls discuss operational activities and project coordination. Wiki pages for the management and support of activities performed within these groups are also maintained. Executive Committee calls occur on a weekly basis, while Steering Committee calls occur the fourth Thursday of every month.*

*Monthly BHL Staff Calls also continue, hosted by BHL Collections Coordinator, Bianca Crowley. These calls discuss project and workflow coordination among BHL’s partner institutions. The November Staff Call discussed a revised BHL mission statement. Staff input was submitted to the BHL Secretariat, which is currently working on drafting the mission and vision statements (See “Management or Staff Transitions” for more information).*

*BHL Program Manager, Grace Costantino, continues to manage an extensive BHL calendar system to assist in project, conference, and editorial coordination. It is available to all staff members, and staff are encouraged to contribute events to the calendar.*

*BHL Program Manager, Grace Costantino, constructed a BHL Financial Dashboard in December, which aggregates all BHL Financial information, including operating budgets, in-kind contributions, all-grants received, and spending reports, into a single dashboard on the BHL wiki.*

*The BHL Steering Committee voted to commit a portion of the SC Dues to BHL scanning at Internet Archive each year. Members of the Steering Committee may use these funds, which are managed through the Smithsonian Internet Archive FedLink account, to scan books from their libraries at their local IA centers. BHL staff initiated a process to track pan-BHL Internet archive scanning workflow and spending. Two training sessions on the workflow and spreadsheet used to track spending will occur in February, and scanning is anticipated to begin in late February. Secretariat staff developed an extensive Guide to the pan-BHL Scanning workflow as well. There is currently $10,000 allotted for pan-BHL scanning.*

1. *Staff activities (covered below under multiple other categories)*
2. ***Strategic direction***
3. *Progress toward milestones – (see attached metrics spreadsheet)*
4. *Subsequent quarter goals and metrics*

*The milestone “Leverage crowd-sourcing” with the metric of “number of articles deposited” (in Citebank) is under review at present. The publishers and Authors Guild lawsuit against Google has altered the intellectual property landscape and previous counsel about “safe harbor” protection for user uploaded content has been revisited and reviewed. BHL staff at the Missouri Botanical Garden and the Smithsonian ran a small pilot with an individual who did the due diligence for obtaining permissions for individual articles, scanning them, and sending for ingestion into Citebank. While the pilot was successful in the sense that the content was loaded into CiteBank and the permissions were given where necessary, the approach is not scalable.*

*Furthermore, we are entering a new phase in Citebank development (See “Tool Design and Requirement Analysis” for more information). We are working to merge Citebank into the BHL portal. All Citebank functionality, and the delivery of article content, will be available via the BHL portal. A rough target date for this implementation is June, 2013. Due to these transitions, we are suspending Citebank metrics reporting until the application is available in BHL, at which time we will determine the appropriate statistics to gather. For more information on Citebank development and our plans for the project, see “Citebank 1 Pager.”*

*Additionally, legal implications have influenced BHL to abandon the idea of Citebank as a “safe harbor” model. While we plan to continue to allow users to upload content to Citebank, and eventually via the BHL portal, the current plan is that these uploads will be added to a queue to be vetted for copyright appropriateness. The workload implications of this decision must be further explored, and may result in the upload functionality being a “hidden” feature known only to “power” users and not widely publicized.*

*Finally, due to difficulties obtaining the precise number of pages re-hosted by partner projects, this metric has been adjusted to the number of items re-hosted by partner projects, i.e. global partners. The YR 5 Goal for items rehosted by partner projects was calculated by taking the previous page goal and dividing by the average number of pages in a book, 300, resulting in a YR 5 Goal of 116,700 items. Due to delays in the rewrite process, the YR 5 global rehosting goal has not been achieved, thus, the YR 5 Goal remains in place as the YR 6 Goal.*

1. ***Improving internationalization***
2. *International outreach and activities*

*Development on BHL-Africa continues. In addition to approval of an official logo for BHL-Africa, our African colleagues are busy planning the official launch of the project. SANBI (the South African National Biodiversity Institute) will be sponsoring the BHL Africa launch and a two day BHL Africa workshop the week of 15–19 April 2013 in Pretoria. The BHL Africa launch is planned for late afternoon on Monday, 15 April. The workshop will be from 15–16 April. BHL-Africa is currently working on final revisions to an MOU (which was first drafted at the BHL-Africa workshop in July, 2012) for participating members in their consortium.*

*BHL-Australia continues to contribute digitized texts to the BHL project via the Macaw software developed by Smithsonian Libraries web developer Joel Richard. The software allows users to upload content digitized outside of the Internet Archive workflow for ingestion into Internet Archive, from which the content can then be incorporated into the BHL collection. To date, BHL-Australia has contributed 61,306 pages to BHL via this method. Work to merge the BHL-US/UK portal and the BHL-Australia portal designs and functionalities continue. See “Tool Implementation” for more information.*

*BHL Europe Director Henning Scholz has accepted a new position with Europeana and will be leaving BHL Europe and the Berlin Natural History Museum. A new BHL-Europe Director, and a new Global-BHL Vice-Chair, have yet to be appointed.*

*Due to these changes, development on the GRIB (or the Global Reference Index to Biodiversity, which was to serve as a workflow management tool that could be utilized by all global BHL partners) has been suspended. There are now no plans to implement this tool, and BHL partners will continue using existing de-duplication tools to manage scanning coordination.*

*BHL-Brazil continues to contribute citations to BHL’s article repository, Citebank. These citations link back to full-text PDFs available on the BHL-Brazil website. To date, 7,158 citations from BHL-Brazil have been added to Citebank.*

*To date, BHL’s global partners have contributed 361,186 pages to the BHL-US/UK portal. BHL’s global partners include BHL-Australia, BHL-Europe, and BHL-China.*

1. *Agreements/MOUs*

*BHL continues discussions with the California Digital Library, and has entered into discussions with the National Agricultural Library, regarding BHL membership. As mentioned in “Management and Staff Transitions,” Library of Congress, Cornell, and the American Museum of Natural History have all joined BHL at the Steering Committee level.*

1. ***Increasing content***

*This quarter, the Scanning and Digitizing Component reached a significant milestone: over 40 million pages, translating to over 110,000 volumes, of open access biodiversity literature available via BHL. Our scanned literature now totals 111,229 volumes consisting of 40,306,141* ***pages as of January 31, 2013.***  *Permissions for digitizing 252 publications within copyright, mostly significant serial runs, have been obtained from several publishers.*

1. *Content contributions*
2. *Content related activities*

*Contribution to the BHL Flickr account continues, with 63,818 images currently added to the collection. The Flickr account pulls out the amazing natural history illustrations from BHL books and serves them up to users in an easy, approachable manner. It continues to be one of the most popular services offered by BHL, and has instigated a great deal of discussion about providing better access to BHL illustrations.*

*In February, 2012, BHL launched the Biodiversity Heritage Library on iTunes U, consisting of collections of select BHL material centered on such themes as “Extinct Species,” “Rarest of the Rare,” “Charles Darwin’s Library,” and “Theodore Roosevelt.” New iTunes U collections are released on a quarterly basis. BHL’s twelfth iTunes U collection launched in November, dedicated to Bone Wars, the name for the infamous “battle between two renowned paleontologists for recognition as the world’s leading expert on dinosaurs.” BHL outreach staff have scheduled the iTunes U collections for 2013. They will include "Notable Women in Natural History" (March, 2013); "Field Notebooks" (May 2013); "Napoleon's Egyptian Campaign" (July 2013); and "Alfred Russel Wallace" (November 2013).*

*In December, Jill Vermillion (of Apple) met with Gilbert Borrego and Martin Kalfatovic for a discussion on additional ways to highlight BHL content in iTunesU. In the coming year, BHL staff hope to enhance iTunesU offerings with “courses” and iBooks (free) created from BHL content. Current iBook subject options include Sharks and Red Hot Species. Grace Costantino has been in communication with EOL staff regarding possible collaborations between EOL and BHL on these iBooks.*

*Beginning in 2012, BHL manually contributed tagged images from Flickr to EOL. These were images which had a species name machine tag identifying the species in the image, thus allowing it to be automatically associated with an EOL species page. EOL staff have decided to begin manually harvesting images with tags from the BHL Flickr. BHL staff will no longer have to manually add these images to the EOL Flickr pool, and BHL will become a distinct image collection in EOL. These harvested images, however, will be uploaded to EOL with a non-trusted status, allowing EOL curators to decide whether the species name tags associated with the images are correct.*

1. ***Improving the user experience***

*We continue to collect and promptly respond to user-submitted feedback for BHL. This feedback includes questions, comments, alerts about problems with BHL content, requests for items to be scanned and added to the collection, and, happily, praise from our users. All feedback (called ‘tickets’) is collected via an issue tracking system (called Gemini), and users receive answers to their feedback within 24 hours of receipt. This feedback is directly used to improve content and services on BHL. To date, we’ve received over 4,990 user-submitted tickets. For more feedback statistics, see attached “Gemini Report.”*

*In September, 2012, BHL also began officially gathering statistics on the number of pages manually paginated for the BHL project. Though minimal pagination is asserted at the time of scanning by the scanner, this metadata is usually confined to general page numbers and an indication of the title page. In order to designate issues, articles, and images and plates within BHL scanned content, staff must manually apply these augmentations. From November 2012-January, 2013, BHL staff manually paginated 148,577 pages.*

1. *Tool design and requirement analysis*

*At the Global BHL Meeting in June, 2012, technical staff discussed the critical aspect of global content synchronization and replication. At that meeting, it was decided that Internet Archive (IA) would be used as the common repository within which all program nodes would deposit their content for replication globally. However, further discussions at the 2012 BHL Staff and Technical Meeting revealed extensive complications with this course of action, largely due to the lack of proper check sums in the Internet Archive. It was proposed that the full extent of IA BHL content be copied to new servers at the Smithsonian, and that global replication and synchronization would occur via these servers and not through IA.*

*Staff at Smithsonian Libraries have begun gathering requirements and have set aside funds for the creation of a complete copy of BHL content on Smithsonian servers, which we hope to have in place by the end of CY13. After this, discussions about global replication and synchronization will continue.*

*As mentioned previously, SIL BHL staff have developed a software called Macaw that allows users to upload content scanned outside of the Internet Archive workflow into IA so that it can be ingested into BHL. Currently, users must install a unique instance of the software on their own servers to operate it. Joel Richard of Smithsonian Libraries has begun gathering requirements for developing a remote installation of the software, probably on Smithsonian servers, that will allow users to login from anywhere in the world and upload content through a web interface run through the remote installation. Currently, Smithsonian staff plan to have the remote installation up and running by Summer, 2013.*

*Currently, access to articles for BHL is limited to Citebank, a separate article repository (See “Strategic Direction” for more information). It has been decided that Citebank will be merged into BHL, which will mean that users can access article-level content through BHL and upload articles directly to BHL. Staff hope to have Citebank merged into BHL by June, 2013. The capacity to support article-level access to content has already been implemented into the BHL backend, and to date over 81,000 articles have been uploaded to BHL. These articles, and article-level access to content, however, will not be released to the public until the launch of the new interface (See “Tool Implementation” for more information). As mentioned in “Strategic Direction,” as a result of these changes, we are suspending Citebank metrics gathering until further notice. Find out more about our plans for Citebank in “Citebank 1 Pager.”*

*As supporting a “safe harbor” model for BHL is no longer practical, it has been decided that articles uploaded by users will be added to a queue to be vetted for copyright appropriateness. The workload implications of this decision must be further explored, and may result in the upload functionality being a “hidden” feature known only to “power” users and not widely publicized.*

1. *Tool implementation*

*The merge between the BHL-US/UK and BHL-Australia websites, which will result in a new user interface for BHL, is nearly complete. The merge has been implemented on the BHL beta site, and beta testing, involving both staff and selected BHL “power users,” occurred in January. 99 “observations” have been recorded from beta testing users. BHL Developer Mike Lichtenberg is currently working on fixing any noted problems and implementing appropriate new functionality as suggested. BHL hopes to release the new User Interface in late February or early March. The new interface will include:*

* ***Updated Design:*** *The website's design has been upgraded to reflect the celebrated aesthetics of the BHL-Australia portal.*
* ***Article and Chapter Access:*** *The ability to search BHL by article or chapter titles has been implemented. To date, over 81,000 articles and chapters have been indexed and are searchable within BHL. Additional articles and chapters will become available as the collections continue to be indexed.*
* ***Open Data Enhancements:*** *BHL's APIs, OpenURL interface, and Data Exports have been modified to include available article and chapter information.*
* ***Book Viewer Updates:*** *The BHL book viewer has been updated, allowing users to view up to 40 pages on screen at once and more easily navigate to a specific page within a book. Users can also view OCR text alongside page images, and, where the books have been indexed, users can navigate directly to the articles or chapters within.*
* ***PDF Creation Improvements:*** *The custom PDF creation process has been improved, allowing users to select pages for their PDF while in the book-viewer mode and more easily review the PDF before creation.*

*BHL outreach staff have developed a plan for announcing the release of the new website to the public. These will include two blog posts, one published two weeks before the launch and the other published the day of the launch, a press release on the day of the launch, and weekly tweets and Facebook posts, beginning in late February, counting down to the release. Staff have also developed User Instructional materials to guide users through the changes.*

*BHL technical staff have also been busy implementing a new taxon name finding algorithm capable of identifying previously undiscovered taxon names throughout the BHL corpus. Test applications of this algorithm on a portion of the BHL corpus have already resulted in an increase in nearly 50 million name instances in BHL, translating to over 20 million new unique names identified. These newly-identified names are currently available in BHL.*

1. ***Engaging the wider scientific community***

i. *Scientific outreach*

*In order to engage with our scientific community, and understand how they use BHL and what they need from BHL, we continue to publish a monthly blog series entitled “BHL and Our Users,” in which we feature a different user in each post and interview them about their work and how they use BHL to support that work. Though not exclusively featuring scientific users, a majority of the user base interviewed are scientists.*

1. *Partnerships and projects*

*In an agreement with the Digital Public Library of America (DPLA), BHL content is one of the first key data sets being used as a test bed for the DPLA portal.*

*Progress on the Field Notebooks project, funded by an IMLS grant, continues, with digitization of field notebooks and specimens underway at many partners, and soon to be underway at others. Field notebooks scanned by BHL consortium members are currently being ingested into BHL. BHL co-hosted a booth at the ALA Midwinter Conference in January, 2013, with the Field Notebooks Project. See “Meetings, Workshops, and Conferences” for more information.*

*BHL staff at Cornell University and New York Botanical Garden have engaged in a project to digitize seed catalogs held in botanical collections around the country. The catalogs digitized by BHL member institutions may ultimately be ingested into the BHL corpus.*

1. *Letters of support (see* ***Testimonials*** *at end)*
2. ***Engaging education and citizen science communities***
3. *Public outreach*

*Social media activities continue in full swing. BHL is active on the following platforms: Facebook, Twitter, Flickr, Pinterest, and the blog.*

*Twitter: To date, we have 2,369 followers on Twitter*

*Facebook: To date, we have 4,384 Page “Likes” on our Facebook account*

*Flickr: To date, we’ve added 63,818 images to our Flickr account*

*Pinterest: To date, we have 2,373 images and 16 collections on Pinterest*

*Blog: This quarter, we’ve had 9,096 visits to our blog, and our regular series “Book of the Week” and “BHL and Our Users” continue to be very popular*

*For more social media metrics, please see “BHL Q4 FY12 Quarterly Report”: http://biodivlib.wikispaces.com/file/view/BHL+Q4+FY12+Quarterly+Report.pdf*

*Program Manager, Grace Costantino, has continued to collaborate with colleagues at the National Museum of Natural History, submitting weekly tweets linking to BHL content for publication on the @NMNH twitter account and NMNH Facebook account. She also works with EOL staff to post a weekly BHL post to the EOL Facebook page and several tweets related to BHL on the EOL twitter feed each week. These tweets are regularly retweeted by the public, and Facebook posts on these collaborators’ pages regularly receive 100+ likes and shares. She has also coordinated with EOL staff to include highlights of BHL content in the museum’s print calendar. These collaborations will continue in the future, with plans to branch out to additional BHL partner institutions.*

*This quarter, BHL also actively collaborated with the Missouri Botanical Garden, the Smithsonian Gardens, and the American Museum of Natural History to promote various outreach content.*

*BHL also continues to contribute tagged Flickr images to the EOL image pool for ingestion into EOL species pages. To date, 7,513 images have been added to the EOL Flickr images pool.*

*BHL continues to launch its quarterly newsletter, which provides project highlights via email subscription. To date, 572 people have subscribed to the newsletter, and the Spring, Summer and Fall newsletters have been distributed. The Winter newsletter will be released in February, 2013.*

*As structuring BHL outreach activities around week-long "campaigns," in which all outreach via social media centers around a particular theme, has proven very successful at increasing traffic to our social media outlets and to BHL from these outlets, BHL Outreach staff have scheduled Outreach Campaigns through June, 2013. These campaigns include collaboration with outside partners and many guest posts and contributions. They include:*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| ***Campaign Title*** | ***Campaign Dates*** | ***Description*** |
| *Orchids of Latin America* | *January 28-February 1* | *In collaboration with the Smithsonian Gardens' Orchids of Latin America exhibit and the Missouri Botanical Garden's Orchids of Madagascar exhibit, BHL higlighted Latin American and Madagascan orchids in the campaign, featuring books and images and orchid species in tweets, facebook posts, blog posts, and a Flickr collection.* |
| *Celebrating Darwin* | *February 11-15* | *In celebration of Darwin's birthday on Feb. 12, and in collaboration with the Darwin Manuscript Project at AMNH, BHL will highlight Darwin material in BHL, including our Darwin's Library collection, iTunes U collection, and include tweets, facebook posts, and a Flickr collection featuring Darwin-related content. David Kohn, Director of the Darwin Manuscript Project, will write a blog post for BHL, and BHL staff are working with AMNH outreach staff and Darwin Day organizers to cross-promote our content.* |
| *Women's History Month* | *March 4-8* | *BHL will celebrate Women's History Month with a campaign in March, including an iTunes U collection entitled "Notable Women in Natural History." BHL will highlight women and resources related to these women in BHL, and will post about these figures and content via Twitter and Facebook. We will also prepare a Flickr collection of images from works related to notable women. Sandra Knapp, expert on Jeanne Baret, will contribute a guest blog post for the campaign, and Becky Morin of CAS will write a piece on Mary Anning for later in March.* |
| *Game of Thrones* | *March 25-29* | *BHL plans to highlight the premier of the highly-anticipated third season of the popular HBO series Game of Thrones with a campaign highlighting the species associated with many of the "houses" in the show. The full extent of this campaign has yet to be determined, and it may be restricted to a few posts on the actual day of the premier, rather than a week-long campaign.* |
| *Audubon* | *April 22-26* | *BHL will celebrate Audubon's birthday with a campaign dedicated to his life and works in BHL. It will include Tweets, Facebook posts, and a Blog Post dedicated to Audubon materials.* |
| *Field Notebooks* | *May 6-10* | *In May, BHL will celebrate field notebooks with a collaboration with CAS Connecting Content staff. Digitized field books form CAS have been ingested into BHL, and staff will create an iTunes U collections from this content, as well as highlight it, and its relationship to publications, in BHL through Tweets and Facebook posts. A Flickr collection of images from the Field Books and associated publications will accompany the campaign. Yolanda Butos of the CAS Connecting Content project will write a blog post for the campaign, and staff from the Smithsonian's Field Book project will collaborate with BHL staff to write four blog posts related to field books and associated publications to published in the months prior to the campaign.* |
| *Monsters in BHL* | *May 13-17* | *In May, BHL will celebrate the "monsters in BHL" with a campaign highlighting the weird, strange,and downright scary in BHL. Tweets, Facebook posts, a blog post, and a Flickr collection will highlight this content.* |
| *The Great Unknown: Oceans* | *June 3-7* | *In June, BHL will celebrate oceans and marine biodiversity as a countdown to World Oceans Day on June 8. The campaign will highlight ocean-related content in BHL via tweets, Facebook posts, and a blog post on an ocean title. A Flickr collection will also highlight marine biodiversity illustrations, and staff hope to engage Smithsonian Ocean Portal staff to cross-promote the campaign.* |
| *Napoleon's Campaign in Egypt* | *July 22-26* | *In 1798, Napoleon began a campaign to conquer Egypt and thus undermine England's access to trade with India. During the campaign, he brought along many scientists that studied Egyptian biodiversity. BHL will highlight these scientific findings in a campaign, promoting the related publications in BHL via tweets, Facebook posts, a Flickr collection, and a blog post. BHL staff will also construct an iTunes U collection on the theme.* |

*BHL has begun actively exploring guest blogging opportunities. BHL has featured two guest blog posts by Rick Wright, a bird enthusiast who has highlighted ornithological content in BHL via a post in January and another scheduled for February. BHL will also feature guest posts from David Kohn (Darwin Manuscript Project), Sandra Knapp (Jeanne Baret expert), Yolanda Bustos (Connecting Content Field Book Project), and Rebecca Morin (CAS librarian) over the next few months.*

*During the ALA booth in January (See “Meetings, Conferences and Workshops” for more information), Martin Kalfatovic, Grace Costantino, Bianca Crowley and Nancy Gwinn were interviewed as part of an upcoming BHL video, produced by Lockheed Martin, about BHL. This video follows the 2011 Emmy-Winning video on Smithsonian Libraries.*

1. *Learning tools*

*BHL-Europe staff have developed the Biodiversity Library Exhibition tool, an application that allows staff to build virtual exhibitions around specific themes. This tool allows staff to curate collections of BHL materials and augment these resources with related images, stories, and factoids. Built on a Drupal platform, BHL-E released this platform to the larger BHL community in conjunction with the workshop held at the 2012 TDWG conference in Beijing. This quarter, BHL-Europe released their latest exhibit, Poisonous Nature, which incorporates many BHL texts. BHL-US/UK staff intensely communicated with BHL-Europe staff regarding the utilization of this tool for BHL-US/UK, particularly as an educational outreach opportunity.*

*As mentioned in the “Content-Related Activities” section, BHL staff are working to develop supplemental iBooks for teachers incorporating BHL content around educational themes. Staff hope to develop our first iBook by late Spring, 2013, and collaboration with EOL on the development has been discussed.*

*Last quarter, BHL staff met with EOL educational staff to gather tips for how to create user instructional materials, particularly in relation to the Flickr tagging events mentioned in past reports. BHL staff are in discussions with a video editor to create a promotional video introducing the tagging activities and are exploring requirements and options for further instructional and promotional materials to supplement tagging activities.*

*As a result of the EOL meeting in Cambridge, attended by Martin Kalfatovic, Connie Rinaldo, and Grace Costantino on behalf of BHL, BHL was incorporated into the EOL Discover pages, providing yet another means of access to our website.*

*BHL has been pursuing several internship opportunities. BHL staff will host an intern as part of UMSI Alternate Spring Break program at the beginning of March. Bianca Crowley will oversee the intern's activities, which will be centered around BHL outreach. BHL staff have also submitted three additional applications for internships. The first is a Xavier University of Louisiana summer internship program. If accepted, the intern will contribute to BHL outreach activities. BHL currently has an open, part-time, unpaid internship through the Smithsonian, again for an intern to work on BHL outreach. Finally, BHL also has an open proposal for a paid summer intern to do virtual BHL reference work.*

1. *Education modules*
2. ***Improving EOL’s impact, engagement and reputation***
3. *Publications and websites (See final page of Report)*
4. *Presentations (See final page of Report)*
5. *Meetings, workshops, and conferences*

*From January 25-28, BHL staff hosted a booth in conjunction with the Field Book Project at ALA Midwinter 2013. BHL Collections Coordinator Bianca Crowley, BHL Program Manager Grace Costantino, and Field Book Project Manager Carolyn Sheffield, with support from BHL Program Director Martin Kalfatovic, Field Museum's Technical Services Librarian Diana Duncan, and Smithsonian Libraries’ Metadata Librarian Suzanne Pilsk (both of whom regularly contribute to the BHL project), spoke with over a hundred people during the four exhibit days. Providing valuable project information (to many who had never before heard of BHL or the Field Book Project), booth staffers also gave out cool swag, including pens, brochures, stickers, buttons, book marks, and business cards, and conducted two raffles for prizes including books and greeting cards and matted prints gleaned from BHL’s fantastic Flickr site.*

*Grace Costantino, Gilbert Borrego, Bianca Crowley and Trish Rose-Sandler submitted a proposal, which was accepted, to the Museums and the Web conference in April. The accepted demonstration will discuss BHL's work with images, including our Flickr project and algorithmic work to automatically identify images in the BHL corpus.*

*Grace Costantino and Gilbert Borrego submitted a proposal for a poster at ALA Annual 2013 in Chicago. The poster will discuss our collaborative crowd-sourcing activities related to image tagging in Flickr.*

*A proposal from Bianca Crowley and Grace Costantino to present on the BHL project, and SIL's contribution to it, at the Smithsonian's 2013 Congress of Scholars Annual Symposium on February 20 was accepted.*

*The Smithsonian Libraries Board Meeting occurred at the Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum on November 15-16, 2012. As part of the meeting, Grace Costantino, with assistance from Richard Naples and Erin Rushing, presented on social media at the Smithsonian Libraries and BHL. The presentation outlined the performance of SIL and BHL social media in FY2012, as well as specific social media activities performed over the past year. Following Grace’s presentation, Jessica Naeve of + Phillips presented on what other organizations have been doing to increase their audience base for social media. She articulated that the key to effective communication on social media, and eventual monetization of social media, relies on establishing first a critical mass of followers in order to ensure efficient dispersal of message and conversion of users to donations. The presentations were well received and particularly helped establish in the minds of the board members the importance of BHL as an SIL initiative. In response to their interest, Nancy Gwinn gave an overview presentation of BHL on November 16.*

*On November 29-30, Grace Costantino and Martin Kalfatovic attended the EOL Team Meeting at Harvard. The meeting gathered all of the EOL working groups, of which BHL is one, together to discuss strategies and goals for each component over the next three years, as well as a shared vision for EOL over the next three years. Topics of particular focus were the EOL Business Plan, Defining Audiences, the best utilization of staff resources, and Funding Opportunities. Martin Kalfatovic presented on BHL’s successes this year and our goals, strengths, opportunities and threats for the next few years. Grace Costantino met with EOL’s outreach and education staff to brainstorm possible collaborative opportunities and increase links to BHL in EOL webpages.*

*A number of BHL staff attended the 6th Annual Global Plant Initiative (GPI) meeting (January 7-11, 2013) in Panama City, Panama. Hosted by the Smithsonian's Tropical Research Institute, the meeting brought together close to 200 participants in the GPI from a truly global contingent of participants. BHL currently has material incorporated into JSTOR Plant Science, which will rerelease April 2013 under the moniker, Global Plants.*

1. ***Achieving financial sustainability***
2. *Fundraising efforts*

*The “Donate to BHL” feature on the BHL portal has raised $9,991.60 in donations to date, which are processed through the Smithsonian Libraries' financial system. The allocation of these funds is decided by the BHL Steering Committee.*

*This quarter, BHL submitted invoices to member libraries for the 2013 BHL Steering Committee Dues. At present, 13 of the 15 member libraries participate at the Steering Committee Level. Dues from nine of the institutions have been received thus far. To date, BHL has raised $170,000 via Steering Committee Dues for future development. These funds are annual dues contributed by those BHL member institutions that wish to be a part of the BHL Steering Committee, allowing them to vote on project decisions and fund allocations.*

*The BHL Steering Committee approved the spending budget for the BHL Dues. Spending categories include Technical Director salary support, hardware and software funds, application of DOIs, server storage support, Internet Archive scanning, travel and meeting costs, and outreach materials. Grace Costantino sends out monthly spending reports for Dues and Donations money.*

*SIL staff still await the FY13 Federal Allocation for BHL, which will amount to $125,000-$150,000, depending on federal budget limitations.*

*In December, 2012, BHL ran a fundraising campaign coordinated by Grace Costantino and the Smithsonian Libraries development staff person Tina Morrison. The campaign involved Tweets, Facebook Posts, and Blog Posts encouraging users to support BHL, as well as email appeals and a Facebook Advertising campaign. The fundraising campaign raised $616.36, as of Dec. 28, 2012. The Facebook Advertising Campaign had 452 clicks, appeared on Facebook pages 1,941,521 times, and had a click-through rate of .023%. Additional campaigns are being planned for 2013.*

*In September, 2012, spending for the JRS foundation grant ended. This grant, totaling $47,243.15, funded a meeting in Cape Town, South Africa, June 14-15, 2012, aimed at developing a BHL for Sub-Saharan Africa. Spending and narrative reports were submitted to the foundation Nov. 30, 2012.*

*Spending for the Lounsbery grant closed November 30, 2012. This grant for approximately $89,000 funded the Life and Literature Conference in Chicago in November, 2011; the BHL Staff and Technical Meeting in September, 2012; travel costs for John Mignault of NYBG and Joel Richard of SIL to MOBOT to facilitate the development of the new BHL UI; costs for promotional materials for BHL; and hardware costs for BHL Secretariat staff. Final financial and technical reports are due to the Lounsbery Foundation February 28, 2012.*

*In January, BHL began compiling information on all BHL-related grants BHL member institutions have received since 2006. This includes grant specifically for BHL (like the MacArthur grant) or grants that in some way support BHL activities (like the Connecting Content grant). A report on this information will be released in the coming months.*

*In January, BHL also began collecting information on each BHL member's in-kind contributions to the project in CY2012. This information will be collated in February, with a report released soon after.*

*In January, it was discovered that the Smithsonian’s Office of Sponsored Projects has been incorrectly charging Indirect Costs to EOL and BHL, resulting in EOL being charged for all IDC since March, 2012. Dawn Mason (EOL) and Kathy Hill (SIL) have been investigating the issue to determine how much was spent by both projects, the correct amount of IDC owed, and how to apply corrections for the spending differences.*

*At the end of January, the Missouri Botanical Garden, Harvard University, Cornell University, and the New York Botanical Garden submitted a proposal for an IMLS National Leadership Grant to support work on purposeful gaming for BHL. The grant aims to “demonstrate whether or not digital games are an excellent tool for analyzing and improving digital outputs from OCR and transcription activities. Working with a professional game software developer, the team will achieve eight objectives in a two-year timeframe: 1) digitizing horticultural catalogs; 2) transcribing field notebooks and horticultural catalogs; 3) building a technical framework for management of outputs; 4) comparing digital outputs for accuracy; 5) developing and deploying a game; 6) evaluating accuracy scores from the game against ground truth pages; 7) generating an error matrix for clean-up; and 8) producing a report and disseminating findings.”*

1. **Financial Report**
2. ***Budget explanation***

*The subawards for scanning at the New York Botanical Garden, the American Museum of Natural History, the Marine Biological Laboratory, and the California Academy of Sciences have been completed and closed out. The subaward for the Missouri Botanical Garden is current, and an extension until May 31, 2013, has been received. All invoices submitted to date have been paid.*

1. ***Financial report (attached)***
2. **Appendices**
3. ***Metrics spreadsheet (attached)***
4. ***Other***

*The number of EOL species pages with links to BHL texts: 1,241,007. Number of EOL species pages that have no other data except the BHL links: 3,899. Number of BHL text pages that link to EOL species pages: 15,466,713.*

Q4, FY12 BHL Quarterly Report: http://biodivlib.wikispaces.com/file/view/BHL+Q4+FY12+Quarterly+Report.pdf

Gemini November 2012-January 2013 – attached

BHL Website Analytics - Attached

1. **Testimonials (for “Letters of Support”)**

* **January 27, 2013**
  + Via Twitter, from @Kimberly\_Gerson
  + Why did I not know of this?! MT @[BioDivLibrary](http://hootsuite.com/dashboard): Love our 60,000[#free](http://hootsuite.com/dashboard) [#biodiversity](http://hootsuite.com/dashboard) images? [ow.ly/hxBWL](http://t.co/22eVd5fo) [#treasure](http://hootsuite.com/dashboard)
* **January 27, 2013**
  + Via Twitter, from @jgaldrich
  + Spent half the day exploring this amazing collection of historical gardening and agriculture books. [bit.ly/VqLO3T](http://t.co/YTiVbFP7)@[BioDivLibrary](http://hootsuite.com/dashboard)
* **January 24, 2013**
  + Via Twitter, from @ArtPlantae
  + Have an interest in ants? @[google](http://hootsuite.com/dashboard) Scholar and @[BioDivLibrary](http://hootsuite.com/dashboard) added to Antkey website. [antkey.org](http://t.co/QlUMgVjm)[antkey.org](http://t.co/Z8eo8Yyo)
* **January 26, 2013**
  + Via Twitter, from @ammodramus88
  + thx to @[BioDivLibrary](http://hootsuite.com/dashboard) & MCZ at Harvard from a copyeditor who needed to check a quote & was able to do it easily online
* **January 26, 2013**
  + Via Twitter, from @dingchiroptera1
  + I'm sure I've mentioned this @[BioDivLibrary](http://hootsuite.com/dashboard) flickr pool before, here it is again. full of [#fungi](http://hootsuite.com/dashboard) [flickr.com/photos/biodivl…](http://t.co/YWAR3ntv)MycoFun (@[MycoFun](http://hootsuite.com/dashboard))
* **January 25, 2013**
  + Via Twitter, from @rdmpage
  + If you think @[BioDivLibrary](http://hootsuite.com/dashboard) only has "old" literature check out this paper on the Ecuadorian horned anole from 2012[biostor.org/reference/1148…](http://t.co/RSF1AR8Q)
* **January 17, 2013** 
  + From Storrs L. Olson
  + You need to know that it really makes a difference. I am looking at a printout of a page from that book that I used to incorporate into a footnote to an article I am writing (almost done) for Archives of Natural History. I have not wanted to commute into the museum this week to get to the rare book library because of the bad weather and a dental appointment. But so much of what I need is now online. It really is amazing. I hope this does not put the "real" libraries out of business.
* **January 16, 2013**
  + Via Twitter, from @IArtLibraries
  + If you're not following @[BioDivLibrary](http://hootsuite.com/dashboard) on Pinterest, you should be! [owl.li/gQNhz](http://t.co/c45n7kiZ) So much prettiness in my image feed!
* **January 15, 2013** 
  + From: Whelden Merritt
  + Thank you a million times for this document ... it is BEAUTIFUL. I always scan old photographs in COLOR because it provides so much ATMOSPHERE, even if the photos are supposedly in black and white. There is a small group of aficionados associated with the Music Department or the Manuscript Library at the Bavarian State Library in Munich that insists upon retaining our old paper ID cards because they must be renewed by hand and are full of traces of colleagues at the information desk. The world has moved on and when we want a copy of some manuscript, a technician accompanies us, original in hand, to the photo laboratory where a copy is made in the size and hue of our desire for the cost of reproduction, as the law stipulates. One might expect to be presented with a bill for hundreds of Euros, but it usually only amounts to five or ten ... and that for truly miraculous information. Please excuse my delay in responding ... I simply had to read every word first. Now I must tell others and see to APPLYING this information.
* **January 15, 2013**
  + Example of user integrating BHL images into their article: <http://www.naturapop.com/home/the-maya-and-their-three-calendars>
* **January 15, 2013**
  + Praise from Dai Herbert in BHL and Our Users blog post 1/15/2013:
  + BHL is a tremendous and extremely valuable resource. As I mentioned previously, I frequently need to refer to the older literature, but before the advent of the internet and the BHL, this was usually a very frustrating task because much of the relevant material was not available in South Africa. This represented a considerable stumbling block and hindrance.The BHL has greatly alleviated this problem. Far more often than not, I am able to find what I need on the BHL. This resource has done an enormous amount to enhance the capacity of developing countries to undertake taxonomic research on their biota. I am extremely grateful those who set up and manage this resource. Keep up the good work!
* **January 11, 2013**
  + Via Twitter, from @robinrendle
  + These illustrations and images from the archives of @[BioDivLibrary](http://hootsuite.com/dashboard) are truly stunning — [flickr.com/photos/biodivl…](http://t.co/xTg0uY4s)
* **January 13, 2013**
  + Via Twitter, Conversation:
  + @[captain\_primate](http://hootsuite.com/dashboard) asked: anyone out there in Twitter land know of any sources for victorian era fossil illustrations
  + @birdernewjersey answered: @[captain\_primate](http://hootsuite.com/dashboard) Here are about 1700 images from the BHL flickr account. Searching the actual books at @[BioDivLibrary](http://hootsuite.com/dashboard) will turn up more.
  + @materialcult answered: @[captain\_primate](http://hootsuite.com/dashboard) I'd try the Biodiversity Heritage Library
  + @cheesivore answered: @captain\_primate, try @[BioDivLibrary](http://hootsuite.com/dashboard)
* **January 11, 2013**
  + Via Twitter, from @senseshaper
  + @[BioDivLibrary](http://hootsuite.com/dashboard) Thanks for the high quality scans! Glad To have found your site!
* January 9, 2013
  + From share of BHL Facebook Image: (<https://www.facebook.com/judith.schaechter/posts/132322360262600?comment_id=215798>¬if\_t=share\_reply). Induced following comments:
    - [Patrice Steigerwald](http://www.facebook.com/patrice.steigerwald) Tom would have loved these.
    - [Judith Schaechter](http://www.facebook.com/judith.schaechter) I bet!
    - [Gretchen Diehl](http://www.facebook.com/gretchen.diehl) LOVE THIS!
    - [Jeff Dann](http://www.facebook.com/jeff.dann.3) Oh my !
    - [Tara Garofano](http://www.facebook.com/tara.garofano) Thanks [Judith](http://www.facebook.com/judith.schaechter), for making Facebook a little less trashy.
    - [John Mignault](http://www.facebook.com/jmignault) Wow, two of my favorites in one post!
    - [Veronica Azúcar Morrison](http://www.facebook.com/SylvanSantaFe) Burgomeister Meisterburger?
    - [Hector Hoornblower](http://www.facebook.com/hector.hoornblower) I've been lost in wonderful illustrations for over an hour now... thanks much!
    - [Billy Bolo](http://www.facebook.com/billy.bolo.9) Thanks so much for pointing out this on flicr!! I've been looking for old botanical and zoological images to play with and now I know a good place to go.
* **January 11, 2013**
  + Via Facebook from [Karen Lloyd D'Onofrio](http://www.facebook.com/karen.lloyddonofrio)
  + Love this site. I have found some great reads on there!
* **January 11, 2013**
  + From Alistair Dove, mailto: [adove@georgiaaquarium.org](mailto:adove@georgiaaquarium.org)
  + Just wanted to say thanks for a great service. I was looking for an obscure reference about development of scorpion fishes and I was able to find the exact bit I needed on your site. Thanks so much!
* **January 8, 2013**
  + From Dr. Gerhard Haszprunar, <mailto:haszi@zsm.mwn.de>]
  + Dear Madam/Sir, during a taxonomic search I became aware of a misspelling of a title: The "Bulletin de la Societé neuchâtelloise des sciences naturelles" is listed as "Bulletin de la Soci neuchloise des sciences naturelles" and thus difficult to find. You may like to correct this. I think BHL is a fantastic project and a great help in science! Best wishes for Christmas and the New Year! Gerhard Haszprunar
* **January 3, 2013**
  + From: Ewan Fordyce, via email [mailto: [ewan.fordyce@otago.ac.nz](mailto:ewan.fordyce@otago.ac.nz)]
  + Dear Grace, What a surprise! - thanks so much. The plate volume from the Osteographie is probably more important, in terms of modern use, than the accompanying text. It will certainly be a credit to the SI Libraries to provide it online. I cannot emphasise enough the importance of resources such as BHL to us here in New Zealand: a remote country far from the main research centres, but technologically modern and able to make good use of materials online. My students and I constantly use BHL. Thank you for all the effort. It really does make a big difference to research.
* BHL Listed as a biodiversity resource on the web in journal Issues in Science and Technology Libraries: <http://www.istl.org/12-fall/internet.html>
* **December 30, 2012**
  + Shout-Out to BHL on the Library as Incubator Project Website: <http://www.libraryasincubatorproject.org/?p=8299>
* **December 28, 2013**
  + From Mudda Krishna
  + Sir I am feel very good about this digital library information. Its very useful to every scholar.
* **December 20, 2012**
  + From Whelden Merritt
  + Dear Gil Taylor, There are few words adequate to express our gratitude for digitizing the Jenkins report on Natural Areas of the Chesapeake Bay Region. As always, one needs a great deal of luck to get anything done. I am so glad to have asked and so lucky to have received the document in a searchable electronic form. I had to read every word the moment I opened it up and have read certain sections three times already. Because very sensitive areas are at stake, the language is often secretive and it is necessary to read between the lines. In our district, we have a ravine that is much more significant than most people realize because it is a moist ravine. There are some mistakes due to confusing Prince George County in Virginia with Prince George's County in Maryland. And there are some special maps mentioned which could prove to be of immeasurable value. Also, there is a discussion on the importance of fossils and one of our sites abounds with a whole cliff full of fossils. Then, there are some protected sites which have simply been FORGOTTEN, among them the Cheltenham Boys School site or, paradoxically because it is where the Critical Areas Commission meets, the Crownsville State Hospital site. Lastly, there are many areas or topics that are mentioned as being outside the scope of study. In other words, the report contains a wealth of information and an entire set of clues as to where to look for more information. I don’t think it is necessary for me to impress upon you the importance of finding that second document. The Jefferson-Patterson Library had to redouble its efforts on the final Oxon Hill archaeological report … it had been put aside because it was so big and then inadvertently overlooked, perhaps due to budgetary concerns, when it came to digitizing.
* **December 19, 2012**
  + FromMohammad Reza Atighi
  + Hello, I am very interested to donate some money to your library and actually I am so ashamed that I cannot do that, because of economic sanction (You may know it), I cannot send money oversea. In the past I received valuable articles from your library, and actually I am so sad and my mind is so busy how can I compensate that. Thank you very much for your help, Best regards, Mohammad
* **December 19, 2012**
  + From Colin Lineker
  + It is I that must thank you for a very useful and informative website and service. I do not subscribe to any social media so my only communication with you will be through BHL’s website.
* **December 17, 2012**
  + From Torben Larsen
  + Dear Bianca Crowley, As you will know from the correspondence with Dr Kalfatovic I would very much like to place one of my books on BHL ... a service which has what is almost a hint of magic. This has been approved by Oxford University Press. There should be copies of my book on the butterflies of Kenya at the NHM (bmnh) in London where I do much of my entomological work. I look forward to beginning on the paperwork for this since my year is usually interrupted by travel. LARSEN, T.B. 1991. The butterflies of Kenya and their natural history. Oxford University Press,Oxford, 490 pp, 64 colour plates. (I shall actually try to find one of the later editions which has a modest appendix with new species to Kenya). It has been out of print for years and will be much appreciated by a large number of scientists, naturalists, and people interested in nature generally. All the best wishes for X-mas and the New Year. Sincerely, Torben B Larsen
* December 17, 2012
  + From Chris Anderson
  + Hi Grace, All sympathy - I hope the hiccups will soon cease, and you will be spared whiny messages. BHL is such a wonderful resource, and of course we all take it for granted, like all "web magic." Best wishes for the holidays! Chris
* Mention of BHL in blog post: <http://normalbiology.blogspot.com/2012/12/old-entomological-texts-are-best.html>, via Twitter:
  + [Museocat](http://hootsuite.com/dashboard) [10:00am via Web](http://twitter.com/Museocat/status/280688810092793857)
  + Blog post by @[derekhennen](http://hootsuite.com/dashboard) on "Old Entomological Texts are the Best" features @[BioDivLibrary](http://hootsuite.com/dashboard) [normalbiology.blogspot.com/2012/12/old-en…](http://t.co/umcZiWgx)
* **December 14, 2012**
  + From Mike Tarburton
  + Dear Sir Many thanks for making these BBOC papers available. Cheers Mike Tarburton
* **December 11, 2012**
  + Feedback received from donation letter:
  + Regarding the Biodiversity Heritage Library. This is a tremendous and extremely valuable resource. I work on the taxonomy and systematics of molluscs and frequently need to refer to the older literature. Before the advent of the internet and the BHL, this was usually a very frustrating task because much of the relevant literature is not available in South Africa. This represented a considerable stumbling block and hindrance. The BHL has greatly alleviated this problem. Far more often than not, I am able to find what I need on the BHL. This resource has done an enormous amount to enhance the capacity of developing countries to undertake taxonomic research on their biota. I am extremely grateful those who set up and manage this resource. Keep up the good work. Best wishes, Dai Herbert
* **December 11, 2012**
  + From Xu
  + I am very sorry, as a student, I do not have the ability to provide financial contributions to you. You brought us a very big help.
* **December 11, 2012**
  + From Scott McConnell
  + I received your email about donating to the BHL. I use the BHL and consider it a great resource - Scott McConnell
* **December 11, 2012**
  + From Francis Mudge
  + Thank you for your message asking for donations. Since being made redundant by my Higher Education institution, I no longer have access to academic libraries, inter-library loans or subscription journals, whether physical or digital; I therefore rely on organisations like the BHL to find my sources, and for this I am profoundly grateful.
* December 11, 2012
  + From UGAI Sirisena
  + Dear Sir, I am using BHL very frequently and it is very useful resources to us.I wish to appreciate your effort on behalf of our country.
* **December 11, 2012**
  + From Timothy
  + Martin, I can contribute next year a little bit every month. Write back. I would also be willing to print some art for your team and add your link to it so other people find you. Not sure when or what format.
* **December 5, 2012**
  + Via Facebook, [Baba Gali](http://www.facebook.com/baba.gali.10)
  + I absolutely adore HBL.Keep on exploring life.
* **December 4, 2012**
  + Via Twitter, from @gardenhistory
  + @CharlotteFrost1 Thanks for the mention and isn't @BioDivLibrary such a wonderful resource!!!
* **December 3, 2012**
  + Example of BHL helping user on Taxacom find a paper:
  + Francisco responded: [http://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/36241#page/277/mode/1up](https://bhl.wikispaces.com/%2522)
  + Original Message: Dear all, Is there anyone who can help me find a copy of the following paper? Thank you very much. Luis
* **December 3, 2012**
  + Via Twitter, conversation:
  + OpenAccessNow: Who is the best #openaccess resources and news on that you follow on Twitter? We're compiling a list. #oanow
  + Iteration23: @OpenAccessNow What @Protohedgehog says. And also @BioDivLibrary because my work would be impossible without them.
* **November 30, 2012**
  + Conversation via Twitter
  + Publicdomainrev: 9 beautiful illustrative plates from The History of the Caribby-Islands (1666) - <http://t.co/4TV1FrSe>
  + invisiblecomma: sea unicornes! <http://t.co/uZkgmO6L> /via @publicdomainrev - also <http://t.co/tdl98wUv>
  + publicdomainrev: @invisiblecomma read the book's Sea Unicorn description here at the @BioDivLIbrary <http://t.co/C9tqYXoc>
  + BioDivLibrary: @publicdomainrev An amazing descrip.: 18ft long, red fins, blue-silver scales, yellow belly, & a 9.5ft long horn capable of piercing stone!
  + publicdomainrev: @BioDivLibrary a fish in primary colors, would love to see that! A great book, thanks for housing it. We are great fans of your project!
  + BioDivLibrary: @publicdomainrev Aw shucks. Thanks for saying that. Likewise, we are fans of your site: <http://t.co/V7PWkIyN>
* **December 3, 2012**
  + Comments on Twitter:
    - ammodramus88: I've been spending this gray, uninspiring weekend playing w/Pinterest & machine-tagging Flickr images from @BioDivLibrary
    - ToriHerridge: I have become delightfully lost in the @BioDivLibrary archives. I wish there was still a journal called Science Gossip [pic.twitter.com/qf6CxSa6](http://t.co/qf6CxSa6)
    - Iteration23: Present location of material unknown. Ah well at least the scan is good. Thanks for saving my ass again @BioDivLibrary
* **November 27, 2012**
  + Comment to blog post on BHL. Shows educational use of BHL: ["Spreading the Word: BHL at the Smithsonian Autumn Conservation Festival"](http://blog.biodiversitylibrary.org/2012/11/spreading-word-bhl-at-smithsonian.html)
    - Are these (or other BHL coloring pages) available anywhere on the web? (I couldn't find them). We'd like to use things like this for an elementary school class. Thanks very much for your great work and site!
* **November 19, 2012**
  + Via Gemini from [batkhuyag@wwf.mn](mailto:batkhuyag@wwf.mn)
  + Dear Sirs, I just wanted express my big big appreciation. person like me would never have had access to the Bulletin of the British Museum (Natural History). The key on Pyrgomorphidea by Dirsh is providing solid proof that we found a new genera from Mongolia. Yours truly,
* **November 18, 2012**
  + From Facebook: [Jim Croft](http://www.facebook.com/jim.croft)
  + oh no, [Biodiversity Heritage Library](http://www.facebook.com/BioDivLibrary?ref=stream)... we really appreciate the hit you are taking for the rest of us... :) Hands off the moldy docs (for your own good?)
  + networkedblogs.com: French archive employees handling moldy documents were found to be more likely to experience headaches, fatigue, eye or throat irritation, coughing, and rhinorrhea (stuffy nose) than their co-workers breathing the same air but not handling moldy documents . The culture … Continue reading >
  + [Denis Wilson](http://www.facebook.com/denis.wilson.507) That BHL is a fascinating resource [Jim Croft](http://www.facebook.com/jim.croft). Thanks!
  + [Jim Croft](http://www.facebook.com/jim.croft) The ultimate goal it to have all biodiversity literature on line. If it is free of copyright and you need it, they will have it scanned for you. The Australian node runs out of Melbourne. <http://bhl.ala.org.au/>
  + [Gail Kampmeier](http://www.facebook.com/gail.kampmeier) no mold in BHL's virtual holdings--we thank you Biodiversity Heritage Library!
* **November 16, 2012**
  + via Facebook: [E. O. Wilson Biodiversity Foundation](http://www.facebook.com/eowilsonfoundation?ref=stream)
  + We love the photos. Thank you for sharing!
* **November 14, 2012**
  + Via Twitter, from @ClubPhil\_PC:
  + Awesome site to spend some time procrastinating on: Biodiversity Heritage Library: <http://t.co/8NCg0Mne>
  + From BioDivLibrary: @clubphil\_pc We r glad u think so! Should u need help finding anything in our collection or have suggestions, let us know...
  + ClubPhil\_PC: @BioDivLibrary Will do! We love this resource and wanted to introduce it as something useful/interesting to our students at PC
  + BioDivLibrary: @clubphil\_pc Don't hesitate to ask us for help! We're in the process of \*cough\* updating our tutorials but happy to help where we can.
  + ClubPhil\_PC: @BioDivLibrary Thanks!!!
* **November 11, 2012**
  + This was posted on Taxacom:
  + Almost two years ago I asked the Biodiversity Heritage Library for putting Kükenthal’s magnum opus (1909), his incredible monograph about Cyperaceae worldwide, on the net. Just a few weeks later and it was available, great service: [\_\_http://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/98637#1\_\_](https://bhl.wikispaces.com/%2522) . The information in Kükenthal’s book was invaluable for writing my book Carex Europaea, volume 1, which was published on 21 December 2011. Jacob Koopman
* **November 8, 2012**
  + BHL received a great review in the CRL News (College and Research Library News) this month. Here are the closing highlights (emphasis mine):
  + No session is complete without visiting the stunning array of images available via the site’s Flickr photostream. A number of library API tools are available along with a variety of data export types, including catalog records, page level data, and scientific name data, and the data is provided for reuse via a Creative Commons license. BHL provides an amazing treasure of invaluable historical materials covering biological diversity from many resources formerly unavailable to most students and faculty engaged in life sciences research. As many of these items have very limited distribution, BHL will serve a central role in expanding the role of scientific exploration in the developing world, as well as in leading U.S. and European institutions. Read more at: <http://crln.acrl.org/content/73/10/626.full>
  + Print Citation: November 2012, College & Research Libraries News, vol. 73 no. 10 626-627
* **November 7, 2012**
  + From Dave Pugh, via Gemini
  + I am working on a research project to catalog all of the species & generic names in the family Pectinidae. I need access to many original publications/papers that include new pectinid taxa. Thank you for making Conrad's American Marine Conchology (1831) available online for my review.
* **November 5, 2012**
  + From Godard D.M. Tweehuysen
  + Dear Jacqueline, Thank you for your quick response and the link. I had already looked up the rights pages and it was only my intention to point out the pagination error but as always the efforts of the BHL and their user support are great and much appreciated! With kind regards, Godard D.M.Tweehuysen, Librarian

**November 2012-January 2013 BHL Presentations:**

