

gardeners' book mark

James Adams' new book, "Landscaping with Herbs" (Timber Press, \$29.95), combines bits of folklore with lots of basic information about this special and often fascinating aspect of gardening. The extensive charts and tables which give physical characteristics and the culture of herbs, such as life cycle, height, habit, foliage, blossom, soil moisture and type, pests and other information, plus the landscape and herbal uses of hundreds of herbs are invaluable.

These add an extra dimension to the book. Drawings are clear and placement of the gardens in relation to the home gives readers a chance to find something similar to their own situation. Each drawing includes a list of plants used. Many ideas for focal points, such as containers hanging

on the wall of a building or border gardens, are shown in color photographs with captions telling where and when they were taken. For instance, "A patch of Sulfur emerging from a bed of Black Mint that has already been pruned for the winter and mulched . . . or "Cucumber flavored Salad Burnet snuggles up to a Lady's Mantle in a colorful perennial bed in the garden."

I like the way Adams describes the herbs and incorporates not only culture requirements and descriptions, but losses in a bit of folklore along the way — very thorough coverage. Information on more than 600 plants and many recipes using herbs in unique recipes is a bonus. Plans for gardens from formal to wild are given. Adams, a chemist, uses herbs daily and has gardened extensively with them and it shows. Any gardener will benefit from the information contained in this book.

"THE COMPLETE FLOWER Paintings and Drawings of Graham Stuart Thomas (Sagapress, Rt. 100 Millwood, N.Y. 10546, \$45, plus \$3.50 s. & h.) is a coffee table book that will be enjoyed for many years, so leave it on that table for quite a while. Botanists as well as artists will profit from the information about the actual execution of the paintings and drawings and a description of letter-type found in this and other publications.

Thomas tells about his beginnings as an artist and horticulturist and the subsequent events that led to his achievements. He writes, "This book records my joy in the beauty of flowers and brings to light a few which have enchanted me or are of special historic interest. Though my paintings portray primarily flowers, my writings and my life in gardening attest to my awareness of the

value of all living things — trees, shrubs or plants of all kinds." That says it all.

The artist's work in many gardens in England from 1955 to the present and the number of plants introduced, reintroduced, selected, or promoted by the artist is astounding; as is the list of contributions to horticultural journals since 1927. He has also written many books on horticulture. His many awards confirm his dedication and expertise in horticultural and artistic achievements.

This gorgeous book would make an outstanding gift for anyone who truly appreciates beauty.

Wayside Gardens, Hodges, S.C., offers eight limited editions of Thomas's Botanical Prints.

THE FOREWARD of "Wildflowers Across America," Lady Bird Johnson and Carlton B. Lees (Abbeville Press \$39.95, cloth) tells when, why and how the former First Lady became interested in wildflowers and the beautification of America.

The book is written like a letter to a friend, with many anecdotes telling of her experiences, in particular experiences in regard to wildflowers. Johnson has received many awards in for her projects and continues to be an inspiration.

Lees, a prominent horticulturist who presents the technical side, was one of Johnson's earliest partners in the National Wildflower Research Center in Austin, Texas.

There are sections about native and introduced wildflowers and how they are propagated, the history of these lovely plants in America and other countries, and the many people who discovered, studied, collected, painted and wrote about them. Where and why certain plants live in different parts of the country is discussed.

Art Association hosts holiday sales show

Tall, handcarved folk art Santas and a line whimsical children's furniture are among the new items which will be for sale at the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Association's annual Holiday Sales Show, Nov. 28 to Dec. 10.

Carefully selected, hand-crafted pieces from the work of more than 100 artists will be displayed in the gallery. An old fashioned holiday setting prevails — from the tree decorated with handmade ornaments to cookies and coffee for the shoppers. No admission charge.

The items for sale include jewelry, wall hangings, exceptional glass pieces, hand painted scarves, woven

creatures, candles, chimes, unusual toys, wooden trays and accessories, hand painted baby clothes, ceramics, leather and quilted goods, nativity scenes and collectible folk art.

Hours are 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday-Friday and until 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Sunday hours are new this year. The early bird Preview Party is 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. Admission to the party is by \$6 pre-purchased ticket or \$7 at the door. Hors d'oeuvres, dessert and beverages will be served. Reservations requested. Call 644-0866.

The Birmingham Bloomfield Art Association is at 1516 S. Cranbrook, Birmingham.

Composer wins award

Wesley Fishwick, pianist and composer, won second prize in the Ithaca College International Choral Composition Contest. His composition, "Six Acrostics," was one of six to qualify for the final round of this event held annually in Ithaca, N.Y.

More than 100 compositions were submitted by composers from around the world and two prizes

were awarded at a festival concert at Ithaca College earlier this month.

Fishwick is a well known area pianist, composer and music educator. He has taught at Wayne State University and at Macomb College. He is a member of the Great Lakes Piano Trio and the musical staff at Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, Birmingham.

Volunteers honored

The Volunteer Committee of the Detroit Institute of Arts Founders Society, with 564 members, honored eight volunteers for 20 years of service — Barbara Cohoe of Birmingham (deceased); Lillian Crayle, Southfield; Dede Feldman, Huntington Woods; Tula Georgeson, Franklin; Virginia Johnston, Birmingham; Pauline Mendelsohn, Birmingham; Lois Stulberg, Bloomfield Hills; and Elizabeth Rentenbach, Grosse Pointe.

In recognition of its 25th anniversary, the Volunteer Committee presented the museum with a gift of two rare pieces of ancient Roman glass, a blue-green pyxis with cover and an amethyst-colored flask.

During the 1987-88 year, the eight service committees, four administrative committees and 13 special committees donated 58,197 hours, the equivalent of 43 paid staff members.

Committees range from docents, museum shop, membership and speakers bureau to poster distribution, art to the schools and gallery information.

Those elected to board of directors for the current year are: Marilyn Gushue, Grosse Pointe Farms, chairman; Trudi Wineman, Huntington Woods, first vice chairman; Diane Abel, Birmingham, second vice chairman; Josephine Jackson, Southfield, recording secretary; Kay Duncan, Bloomfield Hills, corresponding secretary; and Susan Sovel, West Bloomfield, treasurer.



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