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Seacoast Plants of the Carolinas: A New Guide for Plant Identification and Use in the Coastal Landscape

Melinda F. Matthews

University of Louisiana at Monroe

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Sue Knoche will be retiring from the State of Tennessee after 31 years of service at East Tennessee State University Quillen College of Medicine Library. Sue worked in cataloging, acquisitions, serials, reference/circulation desk and also gave tours and provided staffing assistance at the Museum at Mountain Home a few hours a week. Her current plan is to tour most portions of the world she hasn’t been to, the first destination being Athens, Greece. Sue has been very active within SELA and will be missed.

In Memorandum

Ellen Sikes Johnson was born on November 23, 1941, in San Angelo, Texas, and peacefully passed away at home in Conway, Ark., on April 15, 2019.

Ellen earned a Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education at the University of Texas at Austin in 1964, followed by teaching second grade at Eanes Elementary School from 1964-1966 in Austin. She dedicated herself to full-time parenting and local community and church initiatives in Texas, Tennessee, and Arkansas between 1967 and 1987. In 1981, she achieved a Master of Library Science at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tenn.

She was passionate about reading and achieved her ambition of becoming a librarian when she joined the University of Central Arkansas's library staff in 1987. She served first as head of the Circulation Department, then as a reference librarian and children's librarian. In the latter role, she developed a free-standing children's library at Torreyson Library at UCA, embodying many intriguing features that displayed a love of books and children.

Ellen was a member of the Arkansas Library Association, the Southeastern Library Association and the American Library Association. She had the distinction of being one of 18 persons nationally elected in 2003 to the Council of the American Library Association, serving 2 three-year terms as National Councilor. Later she was the Arkansas Councilor on the ALA Council. Ellen was a founding member of the Intellectual Freedom Committee of the American Library Association. Representing the Arkansas Library Association, she conducted school workshops throughout the state on freedom to read. She helped many schools as well as individual teachers navigate the treacherous waters of challenges to books in school libraries. She also received the Francis P. Neal Award in 2007 from the Arkansas Library Association in recognition of her notable service to librarianship in the State of Arkansas. Ellen retired from Torreyson Library in 2007 after the birth of her first grandchild while remaining active in professional librarian circles.

**BOOK REVIEWS**


Seacoast Plants of the Carolinas is a spectacular achievement of research on the topic of foliage on the shores of South and North Carolinas. The author, Paul E. Hosier, is a University of North Carolina at Wilmington Botany Professor Emeritus and for forty-one years was a University of North Carolina at Wilmington Professor of Botany. Professor Hosier has a Duke University Ph.D. in Botany and Ecology, a University of Massachusetts M.A. in Botany and Forestry, and a New York State University B.S. in Biology. Hosier also co-authored Living with the Georgia Shore.

Coastal Carolina Plant Profiles shares two hundred fifteen plants of the Carolina waterside. Each profile provides common names, scientific names, geographic range, habitat, growth habitat, time of flowers and fruits, status of wetland, origin, description of species, value of ecology and wildlife, usage by people, and geographic region usefulness. Illustrations consist of five diagrams, four maps, and approximately one hundred sixty four excellent quality color photographs of Carolina waterfront plant life. Reference Resources comprise fifty-six books, thirty-six scientific journal articles, twenty-three other documents, and thirty-four annotated internet resources. Two hundred sixty terms and their definitions compose the glossary. The recommendation for audience is individuals and researchers interested in plants and especially plants on the seaside of North Carolina and South Carolina. This text on Carolina coastal region plant life is recommended for academic and public libraries.

Melinda F. Matthews
University of Louisiana at Monroe


David Cady’s Religion of Fear: The True Story of the Church of God of the Union Assembly shows an author’s ability as a fascinating story teller. “At times it reads like a novel, full of intrigue and suspense. Yet it is not a novel. Neither is it the work of a historian nor that of a psychologist…” (Foreword).

“Religion of Fear helps the reader to understand how a Pentecostal sect, the Church of God of the Union Assembly, evolved into one of the largest and wealthiest cults in America.” (Back Book Cover)

Through hundreds of interviews, Cady reveals that members were expected to demonstrate a sense of loyalty and belief in the people who led the church. Some examples of expectations: 1) contribute huge amounts of their personal income, 2) make a pledge not to seek medical help even in death circumstances for themselves, loved ones and children, 3) submit daughters or wives to a “training closet” if they violated church rules, 4) work long and hard hours of farm labor with no pay, 5) mortgage their homes and lands and give money they received to the church. Additionally anyone who left the church was to be shunned by those who remained in the church.

Cady established through the interviews the story of how the Union Assembly grew to fifty-four churches across nineteen states, spanned almost 100 years and 3 generations of family leadership (Back Cover).

Cady’s conversations reveal bizarre behaviors of church leaders when examined in the light of freedoms and rights church members enjoy in 2019. This book is recommended for theological libraries, public libraries, academic libraries and historical societies. There is a list of black and white illustrations, Notes, a Bibliography, an Index and a Prologue – all of which will be helpful for further research.

Carol Walker Jordan
Librarian and Consultant


U.S. Senator Mitch McConnell of Kentucky has been, to say the least, a controversial figure starting with his stated hope to make Barack Obama a “one-term President.” While that particular objective proved elusive, McConnell has been very successful serving as Senate Majority Leader in obstructing much of President Obama’s agenda, ensuring the rapid and somewhat controversial confirmation of (so far) two conservative U.S. Supreme Court justices during the administration of President Donald Trump along with a larger number of conservative justices in lower-level federal courts, and rapidly pushing through the major tax cuts of 2017. Along with a wily and somewhat ruthless approach to running the Senate, McConnell’s success can also be attributed to his truly in-depth understanding of