Volunteer
Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania

Volunteer is a newsletter published monthly for Arboretum volunteers.

The Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania is an historic public garden and educational institution. It promotes an understanding of the relationship between plants, people, and place through programs that integrate science, art, and the humanities. The Arboretum conducts four major activities: education, research, outreach, and horticultural display. As the official Arboretum of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, the Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania provides research and outreach services to state agencies, community institutions and to citizens of Pennsylvania and beyond.

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Philadelphia, PA 19118

Volunteer
Pilar Rivera, Editor

Contributors: Jody Sprague, Clare Brown, Deitra Arena, Elizabeth Gavula, Terry Cinque, Michelle Connors, Pam Olshefski, Robert Gutowski
Questions, comments, and submissions can be directed to the editor at edintern@morrisarboretum.org or mailed to the Arboretum Attn: Education Intern.

Photos: Pilar Rivera, unless otherwise stated

Cover photo: Did you know? The extra wing on the Log Cabin was built as a water closet for Lydia and her friends.

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Letter from the Editor

How did you fare with Jonas last weekend? As my first snowstorm experience, I thought he was very impressive. On Saturday the snow fell nonstop, and little dark-eyed juncos were at my birdfeeder outside the window (which my cats loved to witness)! I stayed inside to quilt, cook soup, and bake bread. It was a magical, beautiful day.

Then, Sunday and Monday rolled around. Our cars were snowed in with no city plow in sight. The neighborhood worked hard to shovel our sidewalks and porches, but the street remained a beautiful snowy trap. I commuted to the Arboretum via the train on Monday, and my husband Eric was stuck at home.

That night we tried, with no avail, to dig a track for my car in order to drive it to a plowed street. Just as we were about to give up, our neighbor came out of his house and offered to help push my car out. We worked as a team to get my car to safety- I was at the wheel gunning the accelerator, and the two men were pushing my car from behind- and after an hour, we did it!

Winter Storm Jonas was beautiful and awful at the same time. Until now, I have never felt a simultaneous love and hate for a weather phenomenon! Looking back, the silver lining of the snowstorm was being able to meet my neighbors, share a common goal, and accomplish something together.

Come out to the Arboretum this month! It is a great time to meet up with friends and appreciate the beauty of the season. I recommend paying special attention to seed pods, buds, and bark. I also hope you stop by the Education office to say hello- I would love to meet you!

Pilar Rivera
The McLean Contributionship
Endowed Education Intern
Note from the Guides Chair

Hello Everyone,

Personally, I feel after the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution and the Bill of Rights, the greatest gift our forefathers gave to us was the National Park System. This year we celebrate the 100th anniversary of the National Park Service. At that point 100 years ago we already had 14 national parks, with Yellowstone being the oldest. It was set aside in 1872 as the first national park in the world. For the first time a beautiful, scenic landscape belonged to the people, not to kings or other royalty for their own amusement. It was a park to be shared, even with visitors from around the world.

In 1916 we had a diverse sampling of national parks such as: Yosemite in California (originally a state park, nationalized in 1890), Wind Cave in South Dakota, Glacier in Montana and Rocky Mountain in Colorado. We also had 21 national monuments – areas protected by the Antiquities Act (passed in 1906) such as: Devils Tower, Chaco Canyon, Muir Woods, and the Grand Canyon. All of these majestic parks and monuments were west of the Mississippi. What the country did not have was a coherent plan for what a national park should be. In August of 1916 Congress passed an act and President Woodrow Wilson signed it, creating a National Park Service within the Interior Department. The first director was Stephen Mather, a Californian who had become wealthy selling Borax soap, but he cared deeply about conservation.

Prior to this time, the national parks were managed by the individual states with less than satisfactory results. The original parks were considered the “cathedrals” of America. They were set aside to protect scenic wonders with soaring rocks and tumbling water. Of course, the railroad tycoons envisioned bringing tourists to see these splendid cathedrals. Creating these parks was not difficult at the time. The negative example of Niagara Falls had a huge bearing on Congress’ decision to establish the National Park Service. At Niagara the best overlooks had been bought up and fenced by private operators, turning a national icon into a cheesy, for-profit peep show. The protection of our national treasures was the first purpose of the National Park Service, but then in 1947 it expanded to include the protection of wildlife in the Everglades National Park, a vast wetland lacking mountains or canyons, but full of birds and alligators.

As time went by the park system has expanded. It now includes battlefields, forts, seashores, scenic rivers, cemeteries and other sites. What a fine idea it was in 1872 to set aside Yellowstone for all to enjoy. Could you imagine it having been turned into condos and fast-food restaurants? This year the Philadelphia Flower Show will celebrate the 100th anniversary of the National Park Service. I am sure you will find many inspirational displays. Even if you don’t visit the Flower Show, I would like to challenge you to visit at least one of our great treasures. Go there as a citizen remembering you are also an owner.

Happy Gardening,
Jody Sprague
Chair of the Guides

Malus ‘Indian Magic’, ‘Indian Magic’ crabapple
Volunteer Workshops

The History and Rebirth of the Morris Arboretum

In this talk Paul W. Meyer, The F. Otto Haas Executive Director of the Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania, will discuss the origins, development and recent restoration and adaptive reuse of the historic gardens at the Morris Arboretum.

This illustrated talk will focus on the planning and implementation efforts that have led to the revitalization of the Arboretum in recent years.

February 11th | 10:00 am | Upper Gallery

Witchhazel Tours

Just when you may have finally accepted the grayness of winter, there may be some surprising bursts of color down the garden paths. Come join fellow guides for the wonderful witchhazel watch tours starting at Widener on each of the following Saturdays. If blooming witchhazels come your way, can spring be far behind?

3 Saturdays: February 27th, March 12th & 26th | 2:00 pm | Visitor Center
Volunteer Workshops

Spring Refresher- Sustainable Practices Tour

Join your fellow guides for the Education Committee presentation of the ‘Sustainable Practices’ tour. The new tour is geared toward middle school students to raise awareness of how sustainable practices benefit current and future generations. The goal is to get students to think about what they can do to help protect the earth’s resources. Don’t miss out on this special opportunity to add another tour to your guiding repertoire.

Thursday, March 31st | 1:00 pm | Lower Classroom

New Guide ‘Kick-off” Celebration

The Training Committee will host a “kick-off” celebration to congratulate the Education Guide Class of 2016 as they complete the first phase of training and begin their apprenticeship at Morris Arboretum. All current guides are welcome to meet the trainees and join in the celebration.

Thursday, March 31st | 3:00 pm
Upper Gallery
Volunteer Workshops

**Volunteer Workshops are back this February! All volunteers welcome.**

Save the dates to reconnect with volunteers and enjoy a full day of presenters! Brown Bag Lunch on the 17th. Lunch will be provided on the 24th. Workshops begin at 8:50am in the Upper Gallery with presentations from 9am - 3pm. For questions, email Pam Olshefski at pamela@upenn.edu.

### February 17th Volunteer Workshop

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<td>8:30-8:50</td>
<td>Arrival</td>
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<td>8:50-9:00</td>
<td>Welcome &amp; Volunteer Update- Pam Olshefski, Curatorial Assistant</td>
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<td>9:00-10:00</td>
<td><em>Acer griseum</em>: China Edition- Tony Aiello, Director of Horticulture</td>
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<td>10:00-10:30</td>
<td>BREAK</td>
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<td>11:15-12:00</td>
<td>Alaska Watercolor Journals &amp; Photographs- Cathy Hozack, Artist</td>
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<td>12:00-1:00</td>
<td>LUNCH BREAK - BROWN BAG LUNCH</td>
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<td>1:00-1:45</td>
<td>Florida &amp; the Tropical Plant Expo- Louise Clarke, Horticulturist</td>
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<td>1:45-2:30</td>
<td>Floral Design- Pilar Rivera, Education Intern</td>
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<td>2:30-3:00</td>
<td>Natural Areas: Current and Future Projects- Tracy Beerley, Horticulturist</td>
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### February 24th Volunteer Workshop

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<td>8:50-9:00</td>
<td>Welcome- Pam Olshefski, Curatorial Assistant</td>
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<td>9:00-9:30</td>
<td>Garden Projects- Paul Orpello, Horticulturist</td>
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<td>9:30-10:00</td>
<td>Urban Forestry Department Update- Jason Lubar, Assoc. Director of Urban Forestry</td>
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<td>10:00-10:30</td>
<td>BREAK</td>
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<td>10:30-11:00</td>
<td>Tropical Travels on the Other Side of the Globe- Bryan Thompson-Nowak, Asst. Director of Continuing Education &amp; UPenn Outreach</td>
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<td>11:00-11:30</td>
<td>Awakening the Senses Update- Stacey Kutish, Digital Interpretation Strategist</td>
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<td>11:30-12:00</td>
<td>Geology of Iceland- Willa Rowan, Natural Areas Intern</td>
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<td>12:00-1:00</td>
<td>LUNCH BREAK – LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED</td>
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<td>1:00-2:00</td>
<td>New Zealand- Paul Meyer, The F Otto Haas Executive Director</td>
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<td>2:00-3:00</td>
<td>History of Pruning- Vince Marrocco, Chief Horticulturist</td>
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Volunteer Opportunities

Woodmere Winter Members Mixer

As a Morris Arboretum member, you are invited to mingle at Woodmere Art Museum on Thursday, February 25. Come in and warm up, view current exhibitions, and enjoy some refreshments. Woodmere is also offering 10% off to shoppers in the Museum Store from 4:30-5pm, a guided tour of the current exhibitions at 5pm, and a casual wine and cheese reception from 5-6:30pm. Come join our neighbors at Woodmere for a fun evening!

Thursday, February 25th | 4:30-6:30 pm | Woodmere Art Museum

Wrapped Up: Yarnbombing at the Morris Arboretum

Do you crochet or knit? If so, consider contributing your handiwork as a part of this year’s exhibit, Wrapped Up: Yarnbombing at the Morris Arboretum. Please join us and fiber artist Melissa Haims, the creator of Wrapped Up as we create knitted or crocheted squares. These squares will become a community piece assembled by Melissa to cover the bridge near the Log Cabin. Bring your favorite needles and leftover yarn. Questions? Contact Michelle Conners at mconners@upenn.edu or at x109.

Saturday, March 5th | 1:00 - 5:00 pm | Upper Gallery
Volunteer Opportunities

- The Discovery Series -

The Discovery Series is an interactive, informational table staffed by four fun and crafty education volunteers!

We would love your help on the first Saturday of every month from April to October. We have two shifts available between 11am and 3pm. Sign up on the Volunteer Calendar for dates and details!

- This Year’s Themes -

April 2, 2015- What’s in the Box?
Kids will identify a variety of objects found in nature in this fun and mysterious exploration.
   No peeking!

May 7, 2015- What Do You See?
Kids learn about the importance of careful observation in science, while creating some scientific illustrations of their very own.

June 4, 2015- Field Journal Fun
Kids create their own field journal to document their discoveries, observations, and notes about the day.

July 2, 2015- Dirty Slimy Fun!
Visit the Arboretum’s pet red wiggler worms!
Little hands are perfect tools to help to dig and discover our wiggling nematode friends.

August 6, 2015- “Bee Aware” of the Sweetness of Summer
Visit the Arboretum’s pet red wiggler worms!
Little hands are perfect tools to help to dig and discover our wiggling nematode friends.

September 3, 2015- Discover Sound in Nature
Discover how sounds are made, and how they travel while experimenting with tuning forks and tin can telephones.

October 1, 2015- Does your Nose Know?
Kids learn about the amazing olfactory system, while also identifying various mysterious smells that will both haunt and delight them!
Continuing Education

- Education Volunteer Workshop Hours -

We offer a variety of classes that are eligible for volunteer workshop hours. Below is a list of upcoming approved courses. To register online, visit https://online.morrisarboretum.org/classes, or call (215) 247-5777 ext. 125.

100 Years of Collecting: Conifers at the Morris Arboretum
Thursday, March 10, 10:00 a.m.

Understanding Trees from the Inside, Out
Friday, March 18, 9:00 a.m.

Lose the Lilacs: Native Woodies with Four-Season Interest
Tuesday, March 22, 7:00 p.m.

Magnolias: Tour with an Expert
Tuesday, April 12, 1:00 p.m.

Restoration Ecology
Thursday, April 14, 9:00 a.m.

Sustainability in the Garden
Tuesday, April 26, 7:00 p.m.

Morris Moth Night:
Celebrating National Moth Week
Tuesday, July 26, 8:00 p.m.

Volunteers who have given a minimum of 30 hours over the past year may take these and any other courses at a discounted price. Please refer to the Volunteer Price Spreadsheet in the Education Office for a list of the discounted course prices available to Arboretum volunteers.
Intern Project Presentations

This March, the 2015-16 Intern class will present their projects to the public. Come listen to what they have been working on this year! Thursday, March 17 & 31 from 10am-3pm in the Upper Gallery.

Thursday, March 17th

Fostering Family Engagement at the Arboretum
Pilar Rivera, 2015-16 McLean Contributionship Endowed Education Intern
Pilar wants to encourage families to connect with their natural surroundings and one another through sensory engagement. She has been designing content for a digital app that will lead families around the Arboretum with guided questions and activities that promote open discussion.

Garden Redesign of Mezzanine/Terrace Lawn
Maya Czulewicz, 2015-16 Charles S. Holman Endowed Rose and Flower Garden Intern
This highly trafficked, underplanted passageway garden has great potential. Maya plans on using plants to increase the elegance of the space, clarify pathway options, and invite visitors to linger and enjoy the westward vista of the Sculpture Garden.

To Speak for the Trees: A Self-Guided Tour Exploring Arboriculture Practices at the Morris Arboretum
Josh Best, 2015-16 Walter W. Root Endowed Arborist Intern
Josh’s goal is to create an online resource allowing Arboretum visitors to explore and discover some Arboretum trees and the management efforts that have been made to protect and preserve them. Topics will also include tree biology and function to help foster an understanding of why certain techniques and practices are crucial to the establishment and preservation of healthy trees.

Groff Memorial Park Meadow Design and Management Plan
Trish Kemper, 2015-16 Martha S. Miller Endowed Urban Forestry Intern
Trish is creating an environmentally sensitive design for a 2-acre meadow addition to a 4-acre public woodland park in New Holland, Pennsylvania. The meadow will consist of warm season grasses and perennials native to Lancaster. The project also includes the creation of an organic management plan, since a municipal well is in the middle of the park.
**Intern Project Presentations**

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**Thursday, March 31st**

**Assessment of the Floristic Diversity of Crossways Preserve, Blue Bell, Pennsylvania**  
*Emily Milbauer, 2015-16 John J. Willaman & Martha Haas Valentine Endowed Plant Protection Intern*  
Over the course of six months, Emily collected plant specimens at the preserve to create a flora inventory of the 57-acre property. She identified 262 plant species, 67% of which are native and 33% are introduced. Her project is a discussion of the findings and the diversity of the preserve.

**A Proactive Pest Control Calendar and Rearing Beneficial Insects**  
*Victoria Bolden, 2015-16 Martha J. Wallace Endowed Plant Propagation Intern*  
Victoria and the greenhouse staff are working to proactively control some greenhouse pests with biological control methods. Releasing beneficial insects is not enough to control pests—timing and methods of release matter! Victoria is also exploring how beneficial insects can be used on a small scale to control some common greenhouse pests.

**Matrix Planting Redesign**  
*Paige Ida, 2015-16 Alice & J. Liddon Pennock, Jr. Endowed Horticulture Intern*  
Paige is redesigning the herbaceous level of vegetation in the Arboretum parking lot based on matrix plantings. Phase I design has been planted, and the implementation of other designs will follow.

**Groundcover Restoration in the Michaux Quercetum**  
*Willa Rowan, 2015-16 Hay Honey Farm Endowed Natural Lands Intern*  
Willa is testing different methods of removal for poison ivy and other invasive species. The removal will make space available to reseed the area with a diverse mix of native groundcover and herbaceous plants.
**Story From the Archives**

The Morris’s travel diaries reveal much about the personal habits and idiosyncrasies of John. Which of the following is true?

1. John faithfully attended church services on Sundays throughout their travels.
2. He was prone to misplacing personal items.
3. Like the rest of us, John could be impatient and fussy.

Here are the facts:

While Lydia and their traveling companion and diarist Louisa Kellner often slept in on a Sunday morning, John attended religious services whenever possible. Sometimes it was aboard ship with the Captain conducting a short service, usually in the Episcopal tradition. Other times, at some personal inconvenience, John sought a Christian church in a foreign land. He carefully described, for Louisa to document, his experience at a Catholic service in the Coptic rite. The three of them at John’s insistence kept the Sabbath as a quiet reflective day, usually in their separate rooms until dinner, often writing letters or reading.

It was poor Louisa who would have to go retrieve whatever John the hasty packer left behind – eyeglasses, luggage, and on two occasions his prized camera, an item with which Louisa was so unfamiliar that she referred to it several times as John’s “photographing machine”. On January 11, 1895 she recorded that Mr. Morris “packed his things together in a great hurry so that his pajama had to be carried over just as it was.”

Lest we put John Morris on a pedestal for his lavish generosity and refined manners, the daily records kept by Miss Kellner reveal his bad days as well as his good.

**January 10, 1890 – Delhi**

“...we drove through the Bazaars of Delhi, which are very extensive and pretty, something like those in Cairo, but we did not buy anything, as the salesmen are a perfect pest. In leaving the Hotel they begin to torment the travellers a half a dozen of them, and more run alongside of the carriage and prize their ware and throw their business-cards all over a body, and when they get out of breath with running & yelling they jump into a couple of small wagons and follow the travellers all over town, which disgusted Mr. Morris so that he tore up some of their business cards and threw them right at their feet into the street, which they did not like at all.”

**January 12, 1895 – On the Nile**

“Mr. Morris, who has a pretty bad cold remained down stairs [sic] good part of the day, amusing himself by reading and writing, and I did the same, not from the same cause, but I wanted to catch up in this diary, which has been sadly neglected during the last few days...In the evening we had a few games of Halma after dinner, and just before going to bed Mr. Morris was very naughty in making a big fuss and objection to taking 18 drops of innocent medicine, which he suspected of being whiskey or poison itself, I don’t know which.”
Garden Highlights

*Hydrangea quercifolia*  
oak leaf hydrangea  
near Out on a Limb

*Cornus sanguinea 'Midwinter Fire'*  
Midwinter Fire bloodtwig dogwood  
near Springhouse

*Pinus rigida*  
pitch pine  
near Garden Railway

*Acer griseum*  
paperbark maple  
Ravine Garden

*Hamamelis vernalis 'Carnea'*  
redpetal vernal witchhazel  
near Mercury Loggia
# Upcoming Events

## February 2016

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<td>History &amp; Rebirth of the Morris Arboretum 10:00 am</td>
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<td>Mill Volunteer Workday 9:00 am</td>
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<td>Education Committee 1:30 pm</td>
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<td>Volunteer Workshop 9 am - 3 pm</td>
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<td>Volunteer Workshop 9 am - 3 pm</td>
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## Weekly Volunteer Events

Saturdays, 10:30am: Wellness Walks  
Saturdays and Sundays, 2-3pm: Regular Tour  
Wednesday morning Horticulture Volunteer schedule will resume in March 2016
## Upcoming Events

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<td>Guides Council 1:30 pm</td>
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<td>Wrapped Up Yarn bombing 1:00 pm</td>
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