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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Volunteer
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Photos: Lynn Weaver, unless otherwise stated
Letter from the Editor

Hi everyone,

My name is Lynn Weaver and I am this year’s McLean Contributionship Endowed Education Intern. Though my cohort’s start has been unusual, the community here has been no less welcoming, and I am looking forward to the day when we can all meet and enjoy the Arboretum in person. I feel lucky to be among flowers with such warm people.

Many thanks to my predecessor, Alessandra, for welcoming me to Philly and getting me started. I would not have been half so prepared or excited without her help! We will miss her, but she’s on to great things at the Aspen Grove School.

I can’t wait to meet you all, whenever that may be. In the meantime, the summer flora is waiting. Let’s get outside.

Lynn Weaver
The McLean Contributionship Endowed Education Intern
More Than 20 Ways to Maintain Your Sanity During the 2020 Stay-at-Home COVID Craze Part 2

I asked Education Guides what they are doing to keep active, involved, and sane during the COVID 19 crisis. In the June issue of Volunteer we featured 12 out of 22 responses. Below are the rest!

Lorraine Bucci tries to walk every day and has found some new trails in her neighborhood. She is also taking care of two grandchildren and their 12-week-old puppy during the week so that their parents can work. When Lorraine is not busy watching grandkids, she is on the internet playing bridge, exercising, and watching documentaries. She is also loving the Morris Guides Facebook page!

Karen Holmes has been dancing online 3-4 times a week and taking a cancer coaching course on Zoom! She has also been cleaning up her little patio garden and walking on sunny days.

Joan Asprakis has been watching and reading lots of news reports, taking walks through Lorimer Park and other areas in her development, and doing meditations. She meets by Zoom with a group called Compassionate Listening four times a week and is reading books that have been waiting to be read. Joan is also enjoying family Zoom time and staying in shape through exercise classes twice a week.

Phyllis Girard is still recovering from a broken wrist, so doctor’s orders are, “No gardening allowed”. She is keeping busy by reading books that are not too serious and taking her two mini dachshunds for walks almost daily. Phyllis is looking forward to being back at the Arboretum and reflecting on the wonders of nature.

Jenny Godwin is grateful that her best friend and neighbor is working from home, because they walk together every other day. Jenny walks with her husband on the other days. She has also enjoyed learning on Zoom, watching the Arboretum’s online classes, calling friends and family more often, and watching her hair turn white!

Ginny Williams has a routine where she does something outside, then something inside; Exercises her body and then her mind! Ginny’s daughter, Bonnie, and grandson, Elijah, live with them so that adds a nice dimension. Ginny and Elijah play games, do science projects, cook, and make masks. Ginny has the most fun in her backyard weeding. It is good exercise and leads to hours of contentment!

Joel Tumberello has returned to work as a nurse practitioner as part of the Temple Health System (thanks so much, Joel, for your dedication). When Joel has some downtime, he gets out in the sun (without his PPE) in his yard and garden, sits in a lounge chair, and listens to the birds from the park across the street. At times like this he often says to his wife, Jenny, “Damn we are lucky!”

Jeff Clark and his wife, Margot, are enjoying their garden, which has never looked better! They are also both enjoying exercise classes from the Y, walks in the neighborhood, and hikes in various places they travel to by car. Facetime with family has been wonderful and Jeff enjoys his virtual Monday science lessons with his three-year-old granddaughter.

Eileen O’Rourke is working fulltime remotely as an Infection Prevention Consultant with ECRI. She is assisting the PA DOH and nursing homes with Covid related issues (this is amazing, Eileen!). She is looking forward to finding some time to get back to drawing and water coloring, reading, and working in her yard.

Donna Hecker was supposed to be traveling to Spain, but instead she is gardening, dividing plants, mulching, and pruning. She has also been watching too much MSNBC, reading, listening to music, walking, and Zoom visiting with friends and family. In addition, Donna has enjoyed taking a Zoom class from the Arboretum and spending time with her son and 6-month-old granddaughter.

Conne Broderick has been busy helping her husband move his office permanently to their home. She is now a secretary who types wills, letters, and other official documents. She enjoys walking to the post office along a route lined with dogwoods, wisteria, tulips, and amazing shrubs. Other projects include washing and oiling her kitchen cabinets, making quilts out of scrap material, helping granddaughters with sewing projects, and lots of cooking and baking.

Thank you again for your wonderful responses – I was so inspired by your comments. I am proud to be part of such a resourceful group of individuals. We are truly lucky! Unfortunately, so many other Americans are in dire situations – no jobs and no prospects of going back to work any time soon. Please give generously to food banks and other worthwhile charities – our support is sorely needed right now. Hope to see you back at the Arboretum soon!

Joan Kober
Chair of the Guides
Meet the New Interns

Shannon Kingsley
The Eli Kirk Price Endowed Flora of Pennsylvania Intern

Shannon grew up in southeastern Massachusetts and recently graduated from Brown University where she majored in Ethnobotany and English. There she merged biological, cultural, and historical lines of inquiry with a thesis on the ecological and social impacts of immigrant-run farms in Providence, Rhode Island. At Brown, she led the Ethnobotany Society, worked as the finance director for a farm distribution program, played as a midfielder on Brown’s Club Soccer team, and sang with the Harmonizing Grace gospel choir. In her free time, she enjoys gardening, cyanotyping, writing, and tending to her small flock of hens.

Julia Hart
The John J. Willaman & Martha Haas Valentine Endowed Plant Protection Intern

Julia Hart grew up in Saratoga County, New York. In 2016 she graduated with a degree in Forest Health from SUNY Environmental Science and Forestry. Since graduating she managed the kitchen of a non-profit folk music venue, dedicated her free time to working on her family’s organic farm, and volunteered as a master gardener. Integrated pest management and ethical land stewardship is her passion. When not working, Julia is quite reliably either in the woods, in the kitchen, or on the couch playing guitar.

Liam McTigue
The Walter W. Root Endowed Arborist Intern

Liam is from Langhorne, PA and went to Millersville University where he studied biology with a concentration in botany. At Millersville, he completed a thesis for departmental honors based on a floristic inventory of vascular plants on a 2 acre parcel on campus. Liam worked in the James Parks Herbarium at Millersville during this time, and last summer, he was a Hunnewell Horticulture Intern at the Arnold Arboretum in Boston. Liam enjoys gardening, making plant presses and watching films in his free time.
Meet the New Interns

Sarah Evantash
The Charles S. Holman Endowed Rose & Flower Garden Intern

Sarah Evantash is from Cambridge, Massachusetts. This past May, she graduated from Smith College with a degree in Environmental Science and Policy and a minor in Landscape Studies. While at Smith, she rowed for the Smith crew team, walked dogs, and volunteered at a local farm. Sarah loves the creative side of horticulture, and wants to learn about garden design throughout history and across the world. After work, you can find her running, drawing, or fawning all over her dog, Echo!

Julia Callahan
The Alice & J. Liddon Pennock, Jr. Endowed Horticulture Intern

Julia Callahan is from Portsmouth, Rhode Island, and a recent University of Vermont graduate. There she earned a B.S. in Sustainable Landscape Horticulture, and spent time hiking in the Green Mountains and working with the UVM Horticulture Club. She especially loves the way plant science, art, and sustainability interact with each other in public gardens. In her free time, she enjoys biking, baking, nature photography, and traveling. Be sure to ask her about her 2019 European Backpacking adventure!

Delainey Williams
The Hay Honey Farm Endowed Natural Lands Intern

Delainey is a recent graduate of Michigan State University from Shelby Township, Michigan. She majored in Horticulture Science, with a minor in Environmental and Sustainability Studies, and worked with the MSU Student Horticulture Association on the National Collegiate Landscape Competition team. She was also a founding member of the MSU Leader Dog Club, focused on supporting and recruiting student puppy raisers. Last summer, she interned at the Betty Ford Alpine Garden in Vail, Co. Delainey loves the way that public horticulture brings her love of plants and people together, creating beautiful spaces for everyone to enjoy and appreciate the natural world.
Meet the New Interns

Adi Shiloh
The Martha S. Miller Endowed Urban Forestry Intern

Adi was raised by the forests and rivers of the traditional land of the Erie & Haudenosaunee, also known as Northeast Ohio. Adi graduated from Cleveland State University with a dual degree in Psychology and Organizational Leadership. Shortly after, she found community forestry through a Tree Steward Training, and immediately knew that trees were at the core of her life’s path. She worked for nearly two years in community forestry at the Holden Arboretum. Adi is passionate about social and environmental justice, particularly in regards to reckoning with the impacts that colonialism and capitalism have on nature and the indigenous peoples stewarding it. Adi loves spreading excitement for growing one’s own food, and composting. She also loves long-boarding, roller skating, biking, backpacking, and most of all kayaking.

Lynn Weaver
The McLean Contributionship Endowed Education Intern

Lynn is a North Carolina native, and a recent graduate of Duke University where she majored in Plant Biology, and minored in Spanish. She is passionate about the intersection between botany and education, and firmly believes that being able to identify plants keeps you from being a tourist in your own environment. At Duke, Lynn played club soccer, conducted research on highbush blueberries, and worked on an oyster farm. She loves talking about professional soccer, embroidery, the ocean, and recipes for fresh pasta.

Autumn Edge
The Martha J. Wallace Endowed Plant Propagation Intern

Autumn is from Boulder, Colorado, and graduated from Colorado State University in 2017. She majored in Biology with a Botany Concentration, and has been working in food production since graduation- most recently in Hawaii! She is passionate about integrating farming and gardening with ecosystems to improve the environment and food supply chain for a more sustainable future. During her free time, you can find her making art, gardening, camping, and cooking - or hanging out with her 8-year old Boxer, Dart!
Volunteer Workshops and Opportunities

Volunteer Garden Stroll
Tuesday, July 7 | 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

We would like to invite Horticulture and Education Volunteers to independently visit 4 properties within easy driving distance of each other on Tuesday July 7th, from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Rain date: Thursday July 9th

Due to current guidelines, we ask that masks are worn and use of social distancing for everyone’s safety. We regret we are unable to offer food or drink this time, and cannot share our bathrooms. Please bring your own water to stay hydrated. Please park on the street or across the road from Lynne’s in the Restaurant parking lot. Always be respectful of neighbors driveways and our expected coming and going for this event. Please no carpooling. There is no particular sequence to viewing the gardens on show, as this will help with staggering attendance. RSVP’s are not needed – but hoping you are able to stop by!

The Garden Locations -

Laura Axel
8206 Douglas Road
Wyndmoor. Pa 19038
(m) 215 901 5851

Donna Hecker
1704 Hillcrest Road
Laverock. Pa 19038
(m) 215 901 6260

Elise Smith
309 Woods Road
Glenside. Pa 19038
(m) 215 806 8977

Lynne Dunn
1515 Jarrettown Road
Dresher. Pa 19025
(m) 215 896 3046

Meet Our New Education Intern
Thursday, July 23 | 1:00 - 2:30 p.m. | Zoom

Unbe-leaf-able! Join Lynn online on July 23 to hear about her favorite trees. Lynn will be sharing the woody plants that have shaped her life, her undergraduate research, and her favorite pie fillings. Pictures of pecans and blueberries ahead, beware!

Book Club

The Book Club will not meet in July or August. See you in September!

The Book Club is open to all Arboretum volunteers and staff and meets on the first Friday of every month. All are welcome to attend any session and you do not have to attend every month.
Learn from Home

Saying farewell to spring is hard, but a preview of upcoming fall classes makes it easier! Below are some freshly scheduled classes to look forward to.

We will continue to offer online classes through the fall, with sign-up for classes online as usual. Be sure to regularly check morrisarb.org/onlineclasses for updates on classes to be offered.

Shade Gardening
Jenny Rose Carey, Author of Glorious Shade
Wednesday, September 16 | 10:00-11:00 a.m.
Shade is one of the most common garden situations homeowner’s have, but with the right plant knowledge, you can triumph over challenging areas and learn to embrace shade as an opportunity instead of an obstacle. Join Jenny Rose Carey, renowned gardener, educator, historian, and author in a one-hour session to appreciate your shady garden areas. Jenny Rose will share her top shade garden plants, teach you how to look at the amount of shade that you have, and give you some techniques that will increase your chances of success.

members: $10 | non-members: $15

How to Design and Plan Your Home Landscape
Marc Radell, Master Gardener Emeritus, Penn State Extension
Wednesday, September 30 | 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.
Landscaping successfully is an art and a science, requiring a well-thought-out balance of aesthetics and functionality. This course combines the theoretical with the practical to help you understand some of the fundamental elements of artistic design and how to apply them to a realistic plan for your home landscape. The class covers the principles of color, line, form, unity, and focalization, as well as basic maintenance and pest management tips to help you achieve the look you want in your yard.

members: $10 | non-members: $15

Shrubs and Hedges: Important Additions to Your Landscape
Eva Monaheim, Author and Educator
Tuesday, October 20 | 1:00-2:00 p.m.
Whether they’re flowering shrubs or evergreen, these long-lived plants occupy a great deal of space in our landscapes; yet they don’t capture as much attention as perennials, annuals, or even trees. Color, shape and form, and the dramatic line they bring to the garden help soften harsh areas, mask unsightly views and provide habitat to bring nature to our environments. These are just a few of the topics Eva will share!

members: $10 | non-members: $15
Great Trees at Morris Arboretum

Start by taking a virtual tour of Great Trees [here](#) Then, find and circle common names of 12 of the trees in the puzzle grid below. Names may go across, down, or diagonally.

Extra credit: On the back of this page, draw the Cilician Fir and Weeping Canadian Hemlock side by side, using photographs online as your guide. Choose nicknames for the two trees and write them on your picture.

Visit [morrarb.org/connect](http://morrarb.org/connect) to find word searches, coloring pages, and more!
In 1914, John T. Morris bought a 72-acre farm called Bloomfield, situated across the road from his summer home in Chestnut Hill. He intended to turn the farm into a school for gardeners, complete with classrooms, laboratories, greenhouses and dormitories. His faculty would teach botanical subjects, students would live on campus and work in the greenhouses. And in four years, they would be prepared for positions as gardeners or farmers.

We may think opening a school—particularly one with a limited curriculum for a specific student population—would be a simple matter in the 1910s. But in those days, schools were heavily criticized for failing the public and regulations were tightening. Yet it was also a time of optimism as teacher pay was increasing, taxpayers were voting for more school spending and the curriculum was broadening. John Morris had a lot riding on the notion of a school whose science-based curriculum would be permeated with practical training.

To get things rolling, Morris hired a consultant who traveled far and wide to learn about state-of-the-art horticultural education. Then, periodically, Morris met with the consultant to discuss his findings and tweak the plans.

After a year’s worth of research and planning, the consultant was ready to present Morris with a series of sketches for submission to an architect. Sadly, John Morris died before seeing the sketches. But Lydia Morris, John’s sister, saw them and although those sketches weren’t turned into bricks and mortar during her lifetime, in due time, a state-of-the-art facility was built at Bloomfield Farm.

But as visionary as the Morris siblings were, they could never have imagined the LEED Platinum certified horticultural complex that sits on the sweet spot of the farm, the very spot John Morris chose!

See photos of Bloomfield Farm here
Learn more: “To Start a School,” Philadelphia Stories, here
Keeping you connected from home

Garden Highlights

Hypericum ‘Hidcote’
Hidcote St.-John’s-Wort
Pennock Flower Walk

Rosa ‘DELgramau’
LE PETITE PRINCE rose
Rose Garden

Hydrangea quercifolia ‘Snow Queen’
Snow Queen oakleaf hydrangea
Oak Allee

Monarda bradburiana
Eastern beebalm
Ha Ha Wall

Rose and beebalm photos in the bottom left by Bill Cullina