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: Alex Correia-Sareyka, unless otherwise stated

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Cover photo: Matteuccia struthiopteris at the Log Cabin.
Below: Young fern fronds unfurling in the Fernery.
Currently, some of my favorite plants in the garden are our native woodland wildflowers. They’re only around in the early spring, emerging from the forest floor before deciduous trees have leafed out. I enjoy seeing them as part of the display near Out On A Limb, but it’s a treat to see them in the wild, as well. In April, I spent several days camping in Shenandoah National Park to see some of these spring ephemerals and other plants blooming in the wild. Shenandoah is known for its displays of trilliums and other wildflowers, many of which grow along the hiking trails. Pictured below are some of my favorite observations.

Alex Correia-Sareyka
The McLean Contributionship
Endowed Education Intern

*Erythronium* sp., trout lily

*Clematis occidentalis* var. *occidentalis*, purple clematis

*Trillium grandiflorum*, large-flowered trillium
Hello Everyone,

Okay, I am going to let the cat out of the bag. I am a murder mystery junkie and, fortunately, so is my husband. Names such as Sherlock, Poirot, Miss Fisher, or Inspectors Morse, Lewis, and Murdock, are commonplace at home. One of my favorite series to watch is *Rosemary and Thyme*, a show about two middle-aged women making their living as gardeners, but they always manage to find a body in the garden. I have gardened for decades and I am very happy to say I have never discovered a body in my garden. Another favorite show was about the restoration of a Victorian garden that was designed with secret messages sent to the lover of the garden designer. In the Victorian Era, plants were used to convey messages. Of the following plants, which would you want to use to send a secret message of mystique and romance in the “Language of Flowers”?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plant</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
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<tr>
<td>Apple Blossom</td>
<td>Preference</td>
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<td>Rhododendron</td>
<td>Danger</td>
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<td>Myrtle</td>
<td>Good luck and love in marriage</td>
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<td>Rose</td>
<td>Love</td>
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<td>Bluebells</td>
<td>Kindness</td>
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<td>Peonies</td>
<td>Bashfulness</td>
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<td>Rosemary</td>
<td>Remembrance</td>
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<td>Tulips</td>
<td>Passion</td>
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<td>Wallflowers</td>
<td>Faithfulness in Adversity</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aloe</td>
<td>Bitterness</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pomegranate</td>
<td>Conceit</td>
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<tr>
<td>Purple Violet</td>
<td>Thoughts Occupied With Love</td>
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</table>

The 200-year-old tradition of “The Language of Flowers” continues. If you are still curious, click here for more information about the meanings of flowers. When I watch my next British murder mystery, I will be looking for secrets in the bouquets given to the victims. Perhaps you would want to grow a secret message in your garden!

Happy Gardening,

*Jody Sprague*

*Chair of the Guides*
Continuing Education

Volunteers who have worked over 30 hours during the past year may take classes at a discounted price. Please refer to the Volunteer Price Spreadsheet in the Education Office for a complete list of volunteer class pricing. To sign up for a class please call 215-247-5777 ext. 125.

**Hypertufa Trough Planting Workshop**  
Louise Clarke, *Horticulturist, Morris Arboretum*  
*May 20 at 10:00 a.m.*  
Join Rock Garden Society member and staff horticulturist Louise Clarke for a hands-on planting session. Using small perennials suited to container culture, participants will design and plant their troughs. Volunteer price: $35

**Impressionist Painting**  
Allison Zito, *Founder, Artist and Teacher*  
*May 21 at 10:30 a.m.*  
In this class, we will discuss the impressionist artists and paint in the open air, in the context of the breathtaking gardens of the Morris Arboretum.  
Volunteer price: $20

**Yoga in the Garden: Ten Enchanted Evenings**  
Jennifer Schelter, *Founder, Mindful Strategies for Living and The Radiant Retreat*  
*Ten sessions, beginning May 16 at 7:00 p.m.*  
The incredible beauty of summer nights at the Morris Arboretum provides the backdrop for this unique opportunity to study inspirational Vinyasa yoga.  
Volunteer price: $50 for five sessions, $100 for ten sessions

**Illustrated Nature Journaling**  
Heather Reinhart, *Artist*  
*May 22 at 4:30 p.m.*  
Whether it is crafted as a record of one’s experiences, a workbook of nature study, or for sheer creative joy, journaling can be a powerful tool as well as a rewarding hobby. Working within the beautiful setting of Morris Arboretum, discover the art of illustrated journaling.  
Volunteer price: $15
Volunteer Opportunities

Hidden Gems at Morris Arboretum

Celebrate spring by joining visitors for our new specialty walking tour highlighting some ‘Hidden Gems at the Morris Arboretum’. The tour is a combination of structures, sculptures, walkways, trees, and vistas. See these garden gems that are off the beaten path or hidden to most visitors, plus a few that are “hidden” in plain view.

Saturdays, May 13, May 27, June 10, June 24
11:00 am | Widener Terrace

Volunteer at the Plant Sale

Please join us to help make the 2017 Morris Arboretum Plant Sale at Bloomfield Farm another successful year of connecting people with plants. Volunteers will receive a 20% coupon good for one-time use on May 12th or 13th. Please click here to see dates, times, and available slots.

Questions? Contact Michelle Conners at mconners@upenn.edu or x109.

Tuesday, May 9th - Sunday, May 13th
(Plant sale runs Thursday-Saturday)
Volunteer Opportunities

Super Bones Class

Joanne Fagerstrom, Physical Therapist since 1978 and owner of Mindful Physical Therapy, LLC, has invited all Morris volunteers to her studio for a one-hour introduction to exercise that can help improve strength, flexibility and balance. Joanne’s Super Bones class will teach you how to get (and stay) stronger in a safe way, while improving your posture and balance. Wear comfortable, loose-fitting clothing.

Sign up on the TeamUp calendar.

Friday, May 19th | 1:30-2:30 pm
Mindful Physical Therapy and Bone Health Center at 800 Flourtown Ave,
Suite 14, Wyndmoor, PA

Horticulture Volunteer First Wednesday Schedule

Join us the first Wednesday of every month for exciting workshops, talks, and tours. Meet at 12:30pm at the Widener Terrace, unless otherwise noted.

May 3rd- Louise Clark, Bloomfield Farm Horticulturist

June 7th- Tony Aiello, The Gayle E. Maloney Director of Horticulture and Curator
**Volunteer Trips**

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**Tour an Historic Chestnut Hill Private Garden**

**Tuesday, June 13th | 10:30 am**

Rain date: June 15th

You are invited to stroll the garden and have lunch outside at Ballygarth. This residence, nestled on a hillside near the juncture of Crefeld Street and West Hampton Road in Chestnut Hill, was built in 1919 for Mrs. Benjamin Franklin Pepper and is now on the National Register of Historic Places. Ernesta Ballard, executive director of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society from 1963 to 1981, lived here for 30 years and had constructed a magnificent botanical haven, which, over the years, had fallen into disrepair. Our host, Ann Hozack, has lovingly restored the property. We will see great vistas, garden rooms, noted architectural structures and dramatic plantings with a very rich history.

For lunch, we will be treated to chicken salad sandwiches, other finger foods, desserts, and drinks. Please register on TeamUp before June 8. Be sure let our host know if you will be bringing your own lunch. The Arboretum’s vans and carpools will depart from the kiosk area at 10:15 am.

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**Lancaster County Trip**

**Friday, June 23rd**

Depart Arboretum at 8:30 am and return at 5:00 pm

Cost: $60 (includes transport, lunch, and tour fees)

Travel by deluxe motorcoach to Lancaster County to visit two historic homes and their gardens. The first stop will be Conestoga House and Gardens. After a tour of the house, we will enjoy a bag lunch in the garden before proceeding just down the road to Wheatland, the home of President James Buchanan, for a guided tour of the interior.

Please select a lunch choice below and contact Michelle Conners at mconners@upenn.edu or 215-247-5777 x109 to reserve your space. Checks can be sent to Michelle’s attention. If you would like to pay by credit card, please contact Lisa Bailey at x157.

1. Salad with mixed greens, tomatoes, red onions, carrots, cucumbers, shredded cheese, croutons. Served with a mini pretzel roll.

2. Veggie and cheese wrap served with potato chips, a pickle, condiments, and a cookie.

3. Turkey and Muenster cheese on a pretzel roll, topped with lettuce and tomato. Served with chips, a pickle, condiments, and a cookie.
How often have you wished for just one conversation with John and Lydia Morris? We piece together aspects of their attributes and personalities through the snippets Louise Kellner provides in the journals she kept while traveling the world with the Morrices. It's surprising that Mr. Morris, to whom Louise read every entry, did not tell her to strike a few!

January 2, 1890
We reached Agra at 4 P.M., found rooms in readiness for us, had dinner at seven, after which we drove to the “Taj” to see it first by moonlight, and we were not disappointed, but quite overcome by its sublime beauty, so quiet, so dignified, so wondrous fine! What a genius the architect of it must have been! It is almost too beautiful! Even Mr. Morris says that he has nothing to suggest for improvement. -

January 10, 1890 - Delhi
…we drove through the Bazaars of Delhi … but we did not buy anything, as the salesmen are a perfect pest. …Miss Morris talked to them like a “Dutch Uncle”. And these preposterous fellows really got tamed, became quite respectful, and to-day behaved themselves real well. –

January 11, 1890 – Delhi
The atrocious salesmen had another lesson to-day. Miss Morris told them not to dare come near her again…

May 1, 1895 – Leaving Damascus …I must not forget to mention that Mr. & Miss Morris were very much disturbed by barking dogs all last night so that they could not sleep at all, and the dogs must have been bad for Mr. Morris got up and threw water at them, and he said that, if we were to stay another night at the Hotel, he would certainly supply himself with stones to throw at them – and this coming from Mr. Morris showed plainly how annoying these poor miserable creatures must have been.

May 6, 1895 - Syria After breakfast our tents were put up, we all went to them, and had a photographer taking pictures of the encampment, after which Mr. Morris went out with Mustapha to engage passage from here for Smyrna in a Russian steamer leaving Beyruit [sic] at 11 P.M. on the 8th inst., and they stopped at the Custom House to release our trunks, which, and to our greatest delight, arrived about Luncheon time, all and everything quite safe, and we greeted them as if they were our best friends, and so they are! But poor Miss Morris after a closer examination found that a bottle containing shoe-blacking had broken, had made a dreadful mess all over, and spoiled a good many things – it gave her hard work all the afternoon.
Volunteer Photos

Top and right: Education volunteers teaching children about trees during our annual Arbor Week program through a presentation, potting seedlings, and having a tour.

Bottom left: Horticulture volunteers doing a large planting of a rain garden outside the Horticulture Center. (Photo courtesy of Herb Kestenbaum).
Garden Highlights

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*Syringa vulgaris* 'Nadezhda'
Nadezhda common lilac
Rose Garden

*Enkianthus perulatus* ‘J. L. Pennock’
J. L. Pennock white enkianthus
Japanese Hill & Water Garden

*Cornus florida* f. *rubra*
pink flowering dogwood
Wisteria Walk

*Aquilegia canadensis*
American columbine
Rose Garden

*Viburnum × pragense*
Prague viburnum
Rose Garden

*Paeonia rockii*
Joseph Rock peony
Rose Garden
## Upcoming Events

### May 2017

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<td>Twilight &amp; Peonies 6-8pm</td>
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<td>Hidden Gems Tour 11am</td>
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## Weekly Volunteer Events

**Wednesdays**: Horticulture Volunteers 8:30am-12pm  
**Saturdays and Sundays**: Regular Tour 2:00pm-3:00pm
### Upcoming Events

#### June 2017

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<td>Hidden Gems Tour 11am</td>
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<td>Tour of Ballygarth 10:30am</td>
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<td>Lancaster County Trip 8:30am-5pm</td>
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