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
Jennie Ciborowski, Editor

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Questions, comments, and submissions can be directed to the editor at edintern@morrisarboretum.org or mailed to the Arboretum Attn: Education Intern.

Photos: Jennie Ciborowski, unless otherwise stated

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Volunteer
Coleus x coleus

Rosa ‘AUSwen’
Wenlock rose

Cover Photo: Tithonia rotundifolia catches some of the last rays of summer sun in the Pennock Garden.
As I stroll through the Arboretum during the last few days of summer, I can’t help but to be excited for the onset of fall. The air is already becoming crisp in the morning and a leaf has fallen in my path on more than one occasion. Though I have yet to experience it, I can’t imagine the foliage color is anything less than magnificent here in the coming months. As a child, I always associated the changing colors of leaves with the termination of summer. I knew it meant the end of long nights, trips to the beach, and seemingly unlimited time with my family and friends. Seasons changing meant changes in life (something which I rarely looked forward to).

As a young adult I am slowly learning that change isn’t always a bad thing, but instead it’s an opportunity for new beginnings. Instead of mourning the closure of summer, I should be welcoming the beginning of fall. Thinking about the changing of seasons has me contemplating perspective. I challenged myself to look at the gardens through a new lens this past month. Whether that was from the underside of a flower, or by just appreciating the changing leaves. It’s amazing how something you see every day can still be seen in a new perspective. So go ahead and give it a try this next month, and I bet you’ll be surprised what you can find.

Sincerely,

Jennie Ciborowski
The McLean Contributionship
Endowed Education Intern
Notes from the Guides Chair

We all love our Arboretum and other favorite gardens for giving us an opportunity to enjoy and learn about nature in beautiful and relaxing places. However, I don’t think many of us are aware of another startling fact discovered by Philadelphia based Econsult Solutions in a 2016 study. After surveying the 30 plus public gardens, arboreta, historical landscapes and support groups known collectively as Greater Philadelphia Gardens (GPG), Econsult verified an economic impact of $256 million a year from these entities – quite a boost to local tourism. Also, important to note is the fact that this economic activity supports 1,520 jobs with total earnings of $79 million and generates 3.6 million annually in business, sales and income tax revenue.

The Greater Philadelphia Gardens, all located in 11 Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware counties within 30 miles of Philadelphia, attract 2.5 million visitors annually – an impressive figure that is on par with visitor totals for such well known visitor magnets as the Liberty Bell (with 2.2 million annual visitors) and Valley Forge National Historical Park (with 2.1 million annual visitors). This attendance level indicates that GPG member locations represent some of the largest attractions in the Philadelphia area – thus, supporting GPG’s nickname for the region, “America’s Garden Capital”.

Visitor surveys given at member gardens indicated that 1/3 of visitors were from out of town and about ½ were discretionary visitors (or visitors who were in the region by choice). In addition, respondents to the survey tended to be of higher income and education than the general population. The ability of the gardens to attract this highly sought after travel demographic is a terrific asset to the region as discretionary visitors can easily substitute one destination for another depending on their interests.

One final and crucially important finding stated in Econsult’s report was originally documented in their 2010 report that studied the connection between green spaces and property values in the Philadelphia region. The stunning conclusion was that $16.3 billion was added to the value of southeastern Pennsylvania’s housing stock as a result of protected open space.

Thanks,
Joan Kober
Volunteer Workshops and Opportunities

**Wetlands Workshop**

**Thursday, September 14th | 10:30 am**

Wetlands are diverse and rich ecosystems that provide habitat for a variety of plants and wildlife. Please join us for a powerpoint discussion given by fellow Education Volunteer Mary Ann Smith, and learn about the many varieties of birds and insects the wetlands at Morris Arboretum support throughout the seasons.

Following this information session in the Upper Gallery, we will travel by van to the wetlands and meet with Jess Slade, the Arboretum Natural Areas Horticulturist. Jess will lead us on a walk and talk of the latest developments in the wetlands, and also highlight areas most desirable for educational tour opportunities.

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**Fall Guiding Sign-ups**

Lisa Bailey has e-mailed guides to sign up for Fall guiding. Please select your primary and alternate guiding days for the upcoming season, and please hold this day two weeks out before setting other appointments (vacations and illness excluded, of course).

Lisa can be reached at BaileyL@upenn.edu.

Thanks to every one of you for the wonderful experiences you provide to our student and adult groups!
Volunteer Workshops and Opportunities

**Fall Refresher Training**

Refresher workshops are great opportunities to sharpen your skills, brush up on touring techniques and enhance your guiding repertoire.

**Mill Tours**

Wednesday, September 20th at 1:00pm  
Meet at Bloomfield Farm

**Sustainable Practices Tour**

Friday, September 22nd at 1:00pm  
Meet at Widener Visitor Center

**Secrets of Seeds Tour**

Friday, September 22nd at 2:30pm  
Meet at Widener Visitor Center

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**Morikami Gardens Presentation**

**Wednesday, October 4th | 10:30 am | Upper Gallery**

Jerry Snyder will present a slide show and talk about Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens in Delray Beach, Florida, where he is a guide during the winter. The gardens are not an arboretum, but a series of beautifully landscaped gardens that aim to provide insight into Japanese history and culture. Emphasis is on how the natural elements influence the Japanese garden.
Volunteer Workshops and Opportunities

Fall Festival: Saturday & Sunday, October 7th & 8th

Many hands are needed to help this popular family event run smoothly! Please consider helping out if you can. To volunteer for this event please contact Michelle Conners by email at mconners@upenn.edu or by phone at 215-247-5777 x 109.

Available shifts for pumpkin painting or scarecrow supply table:

**Saturday, October 7th:** 10am-12:30pm or 12:30pm-3pm

**Sunday, October 8th:** 10am-12:30pm or 12:30pm-3pm

Scarecrow Donations

If you’re doing some cleaning out this fall, please put aside the following items for the scarecrow building activity at Fall Festival:

- Jeans and other casual pants
- Long sleeve button down shirts
- Bits and pieces of old costumes
- Accessories (belts, hats, ties and scarves)
- Craft supplies (yarn, pipe cleaners, fabric)

(Please leave your donations in the blue bins on the Widener Visitor Center porch).

Design a Scarecrow

This year, participants may create a scarecrow for the theme: Halloween Spooky Favorites, which ties perfectly with the contest end date, October 31. Anticipated scarecrow creations are witches, ghosts, and ogres, interspersed with fictional characters such as Edward Scissorhands and Wednesday Addams. Who will you create?

Details and registration are available here!

There are volunteer opportunities available including ballot counting and scarecrow maintenance. Contact Marie Ingegneri, mmercald@upenn.edu for more information.
Volunteer Workshops and Opportunities

**Insider Arts & Craft Show and Sale**

**Sunday, October 15th | 12-4 pm**

Show off your talents to your fellow members at this year’s Insider Arts & Craft Show and Sale to be held in conjunction with Bloomfield Farm Day. For a $35 registration fee you are welcome to set up your works for visual enjoyment and purchasing. This is the last open Grist Mill Day of 2017 and we’ll be celebrating with demonstrations, music, food and a few animals. For more information, or to register, contact Michelle Conners at mconners@upenn.edu or 215-247-5777 ext. 109.

**Discover One Bird, Save a Thousand**

**Friday, November 3rd | 10:30 am**

Join Debbie Carr and Doug Wechsler as they share the importance of bird conservation in Ecuador during our next volunteer presentation! Please save the date, more details to come in the October issue of Volunteer.
During this past month many exciting volunteer events took place. Showcased below are both the Horticulture Volunteer Intern Potluck and the trip to John James Audubon Center at Mill Grove. On August 3rd the Morris Arboretum interns had a wonderful time socializing and dining with volunteers during a potluck dinner. Then on August 17th volunteers had the opportunity to tour the Audubon house, meet Luna the great horned owl, and take a guided canoe tour down the Perkiomen Creek.
Continuing Education

Twilight Garden Stroll
Bob Gutowski, Director of Education and Visitor Experience
Morris Arboretum
Wednesday, September 13 at 6:30 p.m.
Take this rare opportunity to enjoy the canopy gaze at Saturn, relieve the day's stress and celebrate the signs, scents, and sensations of twilight as seasons change and the new moon sets in a beautiful place!
Volunteer price: $12.50

Birding at the Arboretum: A Local Hotspot - Session 1
Ruth Pfeffer, Expert Birder and Trip Leader
Tuesday, September 19 at 4:00 p.m.
Take an adventure through the Arboretum's natural areas including the wetlands, meadows, and woodlands along the Wissahickon Creek. We will see resident birds as well as migrating raptors, sparrows, and warblers. These sessions are for beginning and experienced bird watchers alike!
Volunteer price: $12.50

The Art of Japanese Ink Painting
Allison Zito, Artist and Teacher
Saturday, September 23 at 1:30-3:30 p.m.
Sumi-e is the art of Japanese ink painting, a noble and time-honored pursuit of the scholar. The techniques learned in this class are the basic strokes used to create all forms of Japanese ink painting. The art is in the touch of the brush stroke, the quality of the line, appreciation of the natural world, and the beauty in asymmetry. All supplies will be provided.
Volunteer price: $20.00

The Running of the Mill
Craig SanPietro and Ted Bell, Mill Machinery Engineers, Run of the Mill Volunteers
Sunday, October 1 at 1:30-3:00 p.m.
Our engineers and millers will reveal the grist mill's art and mystery with an emphasis on the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics that make the mill run.
Volunteer price: $12.50

Volunteers who have worked over 30 hours during the past year may take Morris Arboretum 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.
Nothing pleased diarist Louise Kellner more than opportunities to brag about her employers, the Morrises. In this exchange with a nosy shipmate, you can hear the glee in Louise’s voice as she startles a Miss Locke with the facts about John and an interesting tidbit about Lydia. And don’t miss how Louise defends Lydia’s equality with John.

Jan.8th 1900 - Aboard the S.S. Fürst Bismarck

At the breakfast table this morning Miss Locke…put me through a whole Catechism of questions: “Has Mr. Morris any nieces & nephews?” “No, I have plenty of them, but they have neither niece nor nephew.” “Has he no relations at all?” “Yes, plenty of cousins.” “O! Has he never adopted anybody?” “Yes, indeed! Two of the loveliest dogs you ever saw!” “Dear me!” (with a horrified gesture). And then I described dear Teufel & Caesar. She went on: “There is a beautiful piece of old & rare tapestry at the Museum in the Park in Philadelphia, did Mr. Morris give it?” “No, I think not, but if you should ever have the pleasure to visit Memorial Hall…you will find a great many interesting things there given by Mr. & Miss Morris.” “Ah indeed! My friend, Miss Farmer, a Quakeress [sic], has read up the history of Philadelphia, and she says that Mr. Morris’s ancestors belonged to the first settlers, is that so?” “Yes, that is quite right!” “I suppose he has a beautiful home in the City?” “A beautiful home they have indeed, but I think their heart is in their Country-seat!” “O, he has a Country place too?” “Yes!” “A large one?” “Nearly 70 acres!” “70 acres! (with great astonishment) – “Yes, with greenhouses, hot-beds, a beautiful fernery, a Japanese garden, a boathouse right on a very pretty stream, on which Miss Morris rows her boat, a good sized orchard, cattle, and dear knows what else!” This was answered by a look of utter astonishment, and she went on: “Has he a name for this place?” “Yes, they call it Compton, and it is at Chestnut Hill!” “Ah. Has he in his City house a picture gallery?” “They do not call it a gallery, but they have some beautiful pictures [end quotes missing] and when I told her that the City house also contained the “Lost Pleiad”, & the “Sleeping Ariadna” [Ariadne] in Marble, she was almost overcome with awe, and she burst out: “Where did he get those Statues?” “In Rome!” She was quiet for a few minutes& then went on: “Is Mr. Morris a prominent Citizen of Philadelphia?” “He is!” “But why do we not read about him in the papers now & then?” “Because he does not like that at all. Mr. Morris is a very modest gentleman, just as modest as prominent!” “Ah, and who is in charge of all his possessions?” “The people whom they leave behind, Mr. Morris’s secretary; their head & assistant gardener with their men under them, and their good servants in the City house.” Then she got up and said good morning… I hope her curiosity is satisfied now.

Click here for more information on Louise Kellner!
Garden Highlights

Lagerstroemia ‘Muskogee’
Muskogee crapemyrtle
Widener Visitor Center

Cleome spinosa
spider flower
Pennock Garden

Hibiscus ‘Lohengrin’
Lohengrin hibiscus
Garden Railway

Tithonia rotundifolia
Mexican sunflower
Pennock Garden

Geranium ‘Pink Penny’
Pink Penny geranium
Pennock Garden

Viburnum cassinoides
witherod viburnum
Near the Swan Pond
# Upcoming Events

## September 2017

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### Weekly Volunteer Events

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

October 2017

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