

VOLUNTEER

January 2015



Morris Arboretum
UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA

Official arboretum of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

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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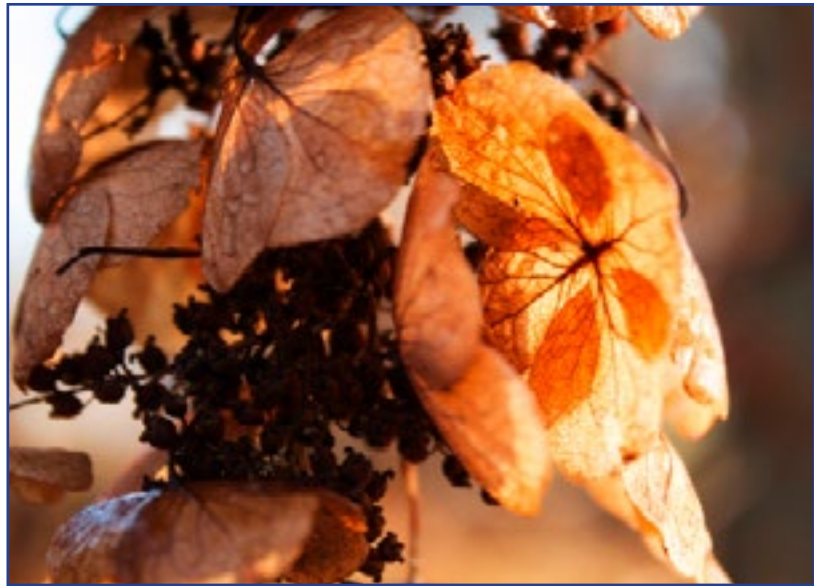
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Volunteer

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Letter from the Editor

In honor of the departing 2014 and welcoming the year to come, here is one of my favorite poems.

Happy New Year!

Claire Sundquist

McLean Contributionship Endowed Education Intern

To the New Year

By W. S. Merwin

With what stillness at last
you appear in the valley
your first sunlight reaching down
to touch the tips of a few
high leaves that do not stir
as though they had not noticed
and did not know you at all
then the voice of a dove calls
from far away in itself
to the hush of the morning

so this is the sound of you
here and now whether or not
anyone hears it this is
where we have come with our age
our knowledge such as it is
and our hopes such as they are
invisible before us
untouched and still possible



Notes from the Guides Chair

Hello Everyone,

What do zippers, telephones, Ferris wheels, and X-ray machines have in common? All were introduced at a United States World's Fair. In their heyday, between 1850 and 1940, fairs offered thousands of innovations and works of art. They were an opportunity for the average person to see cutting edge technology.

Landscaping and horticulture demanded innovative design, never seen by the wide populace before. Each fair site had to offer delicate ornamentation for the public, but it also had to handle a crush of pedestrian traffic. U.S. World's Fairs not only created public parks from former wasteland, but also showcased city planning. All of this was certainly true at the 1876 Centennial Exhibition. Philadelphia was selected for two very strong reasons. Our nation was 100 years old and Philadelphia already had a reputation for horticultural renown. It had been referred to as "the first city in point of horticulture in the United States."

Taking cues from preceding fairs in Paris and Vienna, the Philadelphia Centennial Exhibition offered a freestanding Horticultural Palace. A portion of Fairmont Park was the chosen site of the Centennial. Fairmont Park comprised 2,700 acres, making it the fourth-largest park in the world, and the largest in the United States. The selected area for the fair comprised 450 acres and was bordered by the Schuylkill River on the east. The site was officially designated a fair location on July 4, 1873, leaving the city less than 3 years to prepare for opening day.

Horticultural Palace was almost 75,000 square feet, nearly 70 feet tall, and attracted professional and amateur gardeners alike. Nurserymen, florists and novice landscape designers exhibited a variety of tropical plants, garden equipment, and garden plans. This was the first time the public was introduced to landscape design. Prior to this time only large estate homes were able to have landscapers. Examples of tasteful garden ornamentation inspired more than 10 million visitors. Even though Philadelphia experienced a terrible drought that summer visitors were very impressed with exhibits of not only tropical plants but a new concept called carpet bedding plants.



View of Miss Foley's Fountain in the Horticultural Hall. Photo from 'World's Fair Gardens: Shaping American Landscapes'

The contemporary author J.S. Ingram observed, "Perhaps the gem of the whole of the big buildings as far as decoration is concerned, was the Horticultural Hall. The appearance of the exterior is very attractive, but the interior is a marvelously beautiful triumph of decorative art. The color charms without dazzling the eye, and when the building was filled with shrubs and flowers, a perfectly enchanting coup d'oeil greeted the visitor..."

The centerpiece of Horticultural Hall was Miss Foley's Fountain; in fact if you wish to see it today you can. The fountain graces a secluded nook in Fairmont Park's Horticulture Center. If you desire to read more about the U.S. World's Fairs, I will leave the book, *World's Fair Gardens* by Cathy Jean Maloney with in the education office in Widener.

Happy Reading and Happy Gardening,

Jody Sprague

Chair of the Guides

Continuing Education News



The spring course brochure is on its way!

From botanical outings, courses for the tots in your life, culinary adventures, and chances to increase your gardening skills there is something for everyone! There are a lot of exciting opportunities coming to the Arboretum that you won't want to miss. Keep an eye on your mailbox and our website for our latest course brochure!

Can't wait to get learning this spring at Morris Arboretum?

Join us for our first course of the season:

'Behind the Scenes Research: Sex Evolution in Plants'
with *Cindy Skema, Botanical Scientist, Morris Arboretum*

Thursday, February 12 | 7-8pm

Dioecy, the condition in plants where male individuals are separate from female individuals, is rare in the Plant Kingdom, but has evolved repeatedly in independent lineages. This lecture will discuss both the similarities and differences in these evolutionary shifts, and possible selective pressures related to them. Dr. Skema will share with us her current research on a case study of the evolution of dioecy in ribbonwood (*Plagianthus*), a mallow endemic to New Zealand. Anatomical and genetic data of floral development in ribbonwood will be presented, and explained for a lay audience, as a means to show how and when males stop being females and vice versa in this interesting plant system. Botany novices and geeks alike are welcome!

To register for this course with a credit card, please call
(215)247-5777 ext. 125

Help out at Tu B'Shevat

Thank you to everyone who has already signed up to help at Tu B'Shevat this year. There are still quite a few slots left and we need your help! We need volunteers to help with a number of activities throughout the week at the following times. Feel free to sign up for more than one slot!

I'm looking at you, newest guide! Activity training provided upon request



Sunday, February 1st	10-11:15am & 11:30am-12:45pm
Monday, February 2nd	10-11:15am
Tuesday, February 3rd	10-11:15am
Wednesday, February 4th	10-11:15am
Thursday, February 5th	10-11:15am
Sunday, February 8th	10-11:15am & 11:30am-12:45pm

Sign up on the Google Calendar or with Lisa Bailey at (215)247-5777 ext.157 or baileyL@upenn.edu.

Horticulture Volunteer Workshops **Wednesdays, February 11 and 25 | 8:30am** **Upper Gallery**

Start the season off right with these informational talks and workshops. The full schedule will be featured in the February issue of *Volunteer*. Stay tuned and save the dates!

*Save the Date!**Volunteer Workshops***Roots Refresher & Walking the Camino de Santiago****Wednesday, January 7th*****9:15-10am***

Interested in volunteering at Tu B'Shevat and Arbor Week, but nervous you don't remember the activities? Join us before the workshop for a refresher of the roots exhibit!

10am-11am

Come see and hear the experiences of two local women, Holly Jobe and Diana Muir, who walked this 500 mile pilgrimage in northwestern Spain. Known also as "The Way of St. James," spiritual pilgrims have been making this journey for over 1,000 years.

*Photo courtesy Holly Jobe***Volunteer Workshop:****The History of Horticulture in Philadelphia***Presented by Nicole Juday**Horticulture Education Coordinator, The Arboretum of the Barnes Foundation*

The Philadelphia region has one of the richest horticultural legacies in the country going back for more than 300 years. Learn about the birthplace of American horticulture and the key developments in our area throughout the 18th and 19th centuries that resulted in Philadelphia being named America's Garden Capital.

Tuesday, February 17 | 10am**Widener Classroom**



Iana Turner's Retirement Party

Wednesday, January 14 | 2pm
Upper Gallery

Help us celebrate Iana Turner's long and fruitful career! Iana has been a treasured part of the Morris Arboretum community for twenty-five years. She began her years at the Arboretum as mower and today works as the Azalea Meadow Horticulturist, but those titles do not come close to describing her dedication and passion. Paul Meyer may have said it best: 'She has been an exceptional teacher, volunteer leader, and impresario of the garden railroad'. Iana will surely be missed!

Photo courtesy Paul Meyer

Snapshots from the volunteer potlucks



Intern Project Presentations

In March and April the 2014-2015 class of interns will be presenting their projects.

These presentations are open to the public. Save the dates to hear all about what they have been working on throughout the year.

All presentations begin at 12:30 in the Upper Gallery.

Comparing IPM Programs Among Regional Rose Gardens

Tuesday, March 3

Jennifer Lauer, *The Charles S. Holman Rose and Flower Garden Intern*

Making Improvements in Morris Arboretum's Compost

Thursday, March 5

Lauren Weeks, *The Alice & J. Liddon Pennock, Jr Endowed Horticulture Intern*

Rain Garden Revitalization at Bloomfield Farm

Thursday, March 12

Anna Bower, *The Hay Honey Farm Endowed Natural Lands Intern*

Tree Management and Circulation in an Underused Section of the Natural Lands

Tuesday, March 17

Aaron Greenberg, *The Walter W. Root Endowed Arborist Intern*

Tree Risk Management in Mt. Cuba Center's Natural Areas

Tuesday, March 24

Corey Bassett, *The Martha S. Miller Endowed Urban Forestry Intern*

Identification and Biological Control of Top Pests and Diseases in the Morris Arboretum Greenhouse Complex

Thursday, March 26

Danielle Swanner, *The Martha J. Wallace Endowed Plant Propagation Intern*

An Expanded Approach to Garden Etiquette

Tuesday, March 31

Claire Sundquist, *The McLean Contributionship Endowed Education Intern*

Ecological Niche Modeling (ENM) Across the Tree of Life: The Effects of Climate Change on Eight Pennsylvania Natives

Thursday, April 2

Natasha Phillips, *The Eli Kirk Price Endowed Flora of Pennsylvania Intern*

The Diversity and Community Structure of Soil Fungi of the Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania

Tuesday, April 7

Jacob Golan, *The John J. Willaman & Martha Haas Valentine Endowed Plant Protection Intern*

Witchhazel Tour



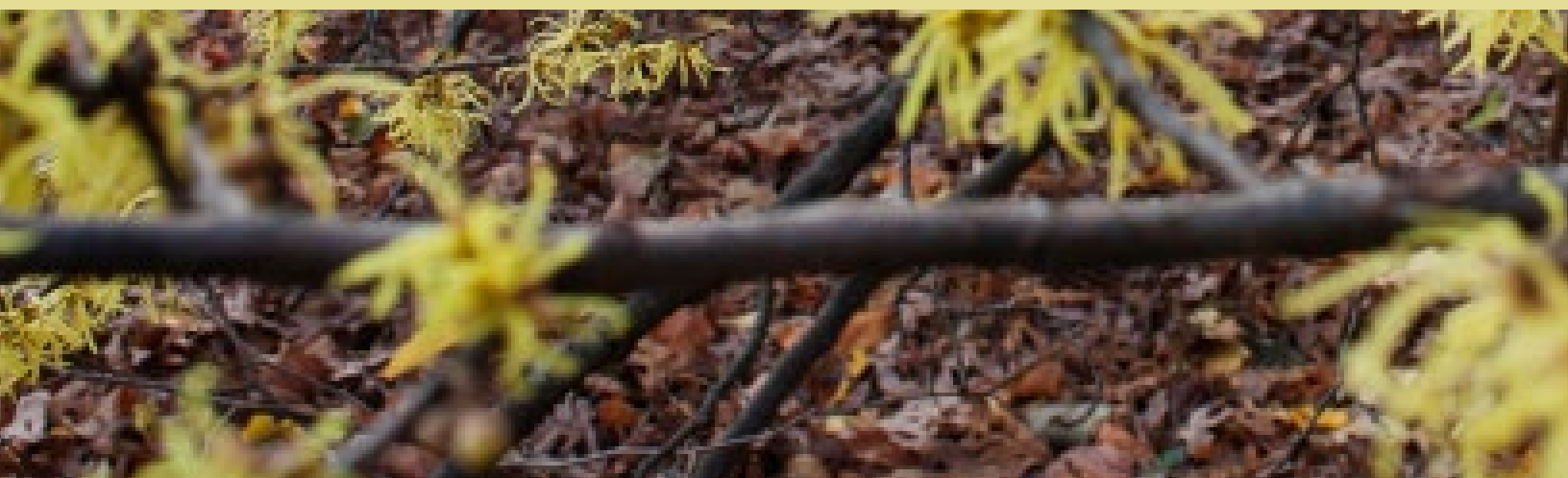
Tour the Witchhazel Collection!

Saturdays at 1pm

January 10, February 14, and March 14

Do you want to know more about our witchhazel collection? The Great Plants Committee of volunteer guides has developed a specialized tour of witchhazels for the winter months of 2015. On three Saturdays at 1 pm --January 10, February 14, and March 14, there will be a public tour lasting up to one hour.

The Morris Arboretum witchhazel collection is one of the largest in the country in a public garden. Join the tour to learn more about these fascinating winter-blooming shrubs. Learn about their history and how the plant was used as an astringent and for medicinal purposes. The Saturday tours will show 14 different species and cultivars of varying blooming times, color and fragrance.



Garden Highlights:



Chimonanthus praecox
wintersweet
Oak Allee



Daphniphyllum macropodum
daphniphyllum



Mahonia japonica
leatherleaf mahonia
Sculpture Garden



Polypodium 'Green Wave'
green wave polypody
fernery



Selaginella victoriae
spike moss
fernery



Hydrangea quercifolia
oak leaf hydrangea
near Widener

Upcoming Events

January

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 New Year's Day <i>Arboretum closed</i>	2 <i>Arboretum open, offices closed</i>	3
4	5	6	7 Refresher 9:15-10am Volunteer Workshop 10am	8	9	10 Mill Volunteer Work Day 9 am-3pm
11	12	13	14 Iana Turner Retirement Party 2pm	15	16	17
18	19 MLK holiday <i>offices closed</i>	20 Guide Training Committee 12:30- 1:30pm Retention Committee 1:30-2:30pm	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Weekly Volunteer Events

Wednesdays: Horticulture Volunteers 8:00am-12pm

Saturdays and Sundays: Regular Tour 2:00pm-3:00pm

Saturdays: Winter Wellness Walks 10:30am

Upcoming Events

February

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 Guides Council Meeting 1:30pm	4	5	6	7
	Tu B'Shevat (see page 4)					
8	9	10	11 Volunteer Workshop 8:30am (see pg. 4)	12	13	14 Mill Volunteer Work Day 9 am-3pm
Tu B'Shevat (see page 4)						
15	16	17 Volunteer Workshop 10am	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 Volunteer Workshop 8:30am (see pg. 4)	26	27	28

Weekly Volunteer Events

Wednesdays: Horticulture Volunteers 8:00am-12pm
Saturdays and Sundays: Regular Tour 2:00pm-3:00pm
Saturdays: Winter Wellness Walks 10:30am