

# VOLUNTEER

July 2014



**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.

Education: Liza Hawley, [efhawley@upenn.edu](mailto:efhawley@upenn.edu)  
or (215) 247-5777 ext 128

Garden Railway: Iana Turner, [iana@upenn.edu](mailto:iana@upenn.edu)  
or (215) 247-5777 ext 110

Grist Mill: Bob Gutowski, [gutowski@upenn.edu](mailto:gutowski@upenn.edu)  
or 215-247-5777 ext 132

Horticulture: Pam Morris Olshefski, [pamela@upenn.edu](mailto:pamela@upenn.edu)  
or (215) 247-5777 ext 188

Archives & History: Leslie Morris-Smith,  
[leslm@upenn.edu](mailto:leslm@upenn.edu) or (215) 247-5777 ext 175

Physical Facilities: Tom Wilson, [wilsonth@upenn.edu](mailto:wilsonth@upenn.edu) or  
(215) 247-5777 ext 108

### **Information:**

(215) 247-5777

[www.morrisarboretum.org](http://www.morrisarboretum.org)  
100 E. Northwestern Avenue  
Philadelphia, PA 19118

### **Volunteer**

Claire Sundquist, Editor

Contributors: Jody Sprague, Irv Leventhal

Questions, comments, and submissions can be  
directed to the editor at [mabxeduc@upenn.edu](mailto:mabxeduc@upenn.edu) or mailed  
to the Arboretum Attn: Education Intern.

Cover Photo: Stephanie Kuniholm

Photos: Claire Sundquist, unless otherwise stated



## Contents

Letter from the Editor	2
Notes from the Guides Chair	3
Volunteer Workshop	4
Mentor New Guides	5
Welcome New Interns	6-8
Garden Highlights	9
Upcoming Events	10-11







## Letter from the Editor July 2014

I would like to thank everyone for being so welcoming and supportive to me and my fellow interns. All the smiles and friendly hellos have certainly made me feel at home. I am excited to continue meeting and getting to know each of you as the year passes. I was already honored to have been given this chance to work in such a beautiful and tranquil setting, but now I am also ecstatic to be part of such a vibrant Arboretum community.

Sincerely,

Claire Sundquist

*McLean Contributionship Endowed Education Intern*



# Notes from the Guides Chair

Hello Everyone,

As I have mentioned before, I enjoy traveling. Whenever we arrive in a new area one of the first things I do is check out local arboretums or botanical gardens. Last February we were in Gainesville, FL home to the Kanapaha Botanical Gardens (named after the nearby Kanapaha Lake). This 62 acre garden has much to offer. The natural beauty of the site is lovely. In fact, William Bartram noted the beauty of the area on one of his expeditions.

Even if you do not have any children with you don't miss the magic of the Children's Garden. It contains a maze, hidden paths, frog water fountains and a couple of artificial snakes that will make you take a second look.

The 1 ½ mile walking trail takes you through a rock garden, rose garden, azalea/camellia garden, bulb garden, desert garden, lakeside bog garden, hummingbird garden, butterfly garden an herb garden (that contains one of the largest collections of medicinal plants in the Southeast) and the largest stand of running bamboo in the country.

You may ask yourself why anyone would plant running bamboo. According to one of the gardeners they have corralled it with a sunken 3 ft. cement barrier. The mystique is the walking path within the bamboo. Once you enter it, you feel as if you are in a tropical jungle. The plants are 25 ft. tall at least, completel hiding any view to the outside area. This area alone was worth the trip.

In front of the visitor center is another stand of bamboo, easily 20 ft. tall with dark purple canes – truly enthralling. Also in the visitor center there is a great gift shop. I felt it my responsibility to help the bottom line of the garden that day. Plus we were very surprised that they allowed dogs on a leash; they have a large board with photographs of the dogs that have visited the garden. They even have water dishes throughout the garden for their four legged visitors. I strongly encourage you to check out the arboretums or botanical gardens on your next trip. You meet the nicest people in a garden plus the gift shops are not to be missed.

*Jody Sprague  
Chair of the Guides*



## Upcoming Volunteer Workshop: Come Meet Me!

July 15th 10:30am

*Please Meet in the Upper Gallery*

Join Claire Sundquist, the new *McLean Contributionship Endowed Education Intern*, in a discussion of educational tools we can use to create and nurture environmentally engaged communities. Claire will draw on her time traveling and living abroad to look at how wide ranges of people can not only engage locally, but also connect populations of all ages in global discussions.

*Save the Date!*

## Sunshine & Roses

Annual Volunteer Appreciation Evening

Thursday, September 18th

5-7pm





## *Help Welcome and Mentor New Guides*

We are fortunate to have a terrific group of new guides who are both enthusiastic and talented. Before going out on their own these guides are expected to 'shadow' experienced guides in order to:

- become familiar with our tours
- observe a variety of guiding techniques
- notice various styles of presentation
- participate in some parts of the tour



*Photo courtesy of Paul Meyer*

Although each new guide is assigned a mentor, the Retention Committee would like all of us to think of ourselves as mentors. If you are being shadowed by a new guide (or sometimes even a "seasoned" guide who would like to brush up on a particular tour), please keep these suggestions in mind:

- Make the 'shadow' feel welcome.
- Before the tour begins encourage the 'shadow's' participation. For example, they can add information, handle the prop bag, or lead a part of one of the tour activities.
- Introduce the new guide to your group and briefly explain his/her presence.
- Have a short post-tour Q and A. Encourage observations made by the shadowing guides.

Our stable of seasoned guides is rich with resources to help our new additions grow and flower into confident guides. *Thanks so much for your help in making our new guides feel welcome!*

*Irv Leventhal*

## Welcome to our 2014-2015 Interns!



*Photo courtesy of Paul Meyer*

### **Lauren Weeks,**

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



Lauren Weeks, originally from Rhode Island, graduated from the University of Rhode Island this spring, where she majored in art and minored in Italian and plant sciences. This past year, she studied abroad in Florence, Italy, and interned at Phipps Conservatory in Pittsburgh. She looks forward to learning about the management of the Arboretum throughout the seasons and being a part of the team here at Morris.

### **Danielle Swanner,**

*The Martha J. Wallace Endowed Plant Propagation Intern*

Danielle, an Arizona native, graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in 2013 with a Bachelor's degree in international business. Her senior thesis focused on the ability to mitigate supply chain risk by promoting agroforestry programs for cultivation of raw materials. After graduation, she decided to abandon her Wharton peers and work on a vegetable farm in Greenville, Delaware, thus confirming her love of plants. In her spare time, Danielle enjoys playing banjo, swing dancing, cuddling with her dogs, and cooking.



### **Jennifer Lauer,**

*The Charles S. Holman Rose and Flower Garden Intern*



Jennifer Lauer is the new Charles S. Holman Endowed Rose and Flower Garden Intern. She grew up in Schuylkill County, PA and attended Allegheny College, where she obtained a BA in environmental studies and minored in studio art. She is excited to learn everything she can about creating beautiful, restful, and energizing public spaces that bring nature and human society into communion. She feels very blessed by this opportunity and can't wait to immerse herself in garden care and design.

## New Intern Group Continued...

### **Anna Bower,**

#### *The Hay Honey Farm Endowed Natural Lands Intern*

Anna comes to the Morris Arboretum from Edmonds, WA. In 2012, she graduated from Willamette University in Salem, OR with a B.A. in environmental science. During college her activities included playing violin in the chamber orchestra, working with the farm and compost clubs, and studying the role of lupines in meadow restoration as part of her senior thesis. After graduating college, Anna traveled across the country to intern at Longwood Gardens for a year-long nursery management position. She is looking forward to learning about invasive species management in the Arboretum's natural areas, becoming more familiar with Philadelphia, and avoiding poison ivy. In her free time, she enjoys knitting socks, collecting Jr. Ranger Badges at national parks, and touring gardens.



### **Jacob Golan,**

#### *The John J. Willaman & Martha Haas Valentine Endowed Plant Protection Intern*



Jacob is from Long Island, New York, and is a recent graduate from Duke University with a Bachelor's degree in botanical and geological systems. While in North Carolina, Jacob was the Assistant Plant Systematist and Undergraduate Coordinator for the Duke Biology Department Greenhouses, for which he co-created their website: <http://liveplantcollections.biology.duke.edu/>. After living in Brazil part-time for the past two years working with environmental NGOs in Belém do Pará, and doing agribusiness consulting in São Paulo, he is now focusing more on the research side of Plant Sciences in preparation for graduate school. In addition to botany, Jacob enjoys studying Mycology and Portuguese.

### **Claire Sundquist,**

#### *The McLean Contributionship Endowed Education Intern*

Claire grew up in the rolling hills of Southern Illinois and spent much of her childhood exploring the trails and lakes of the Shawnee National Forest. After graduating Ithaca College in 2008 with a degree in cinema and photography she spent time living, photographing, and teaching in the south of Thailand. This experience unearthed a love for education, motivating her ultimate decision to pursue a career change. Claire is now working towards a Masters of Environmental Studies with a concentration in education and advocacy at the University of Pennsylvania. When she isn't at the Arboretum, Claire enjoys cooking, dancing, practicing yoga, hiking, and of course photography.





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

Corey Bassett graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in May 2014 with a B.A. in earth science, concentrating in environmental science, and is on her way to completing a Masters of Environmental Studies, concentrating in environmental biology, at Penn as well. Her academic interests so far are mostly in forest ecology, land management, and conservation biology. Previously, she was an Odum Intern in field ecology at the Huyck Preserve and Biological Research Station in Rensselaerville, NY, and completed a senior honors thesis on lead contamination in West Philadelphia gardens. In college, she trained and competed on the Penn Women's Varsity Rowing Team and now loves her new bike commute to the Arboretum along the Schuylkill and Wissahickon Trails!

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

Natasha Phillips hails from Weeki Wachee Springs, Florida and graduated from the University of Florida in spring 2014 with a B.A. in Chinese Language and a B.S. in botany. Over the past year she has worked with Pam & Doug Soltis, studying systematics and evolutionary plant biology. For her senior honors thesis, she focused on a project dealing with diversity within the Lamiaceae. In 2011 she spent a semester abroad in Chengdu, Sichuan, China studying Chinese language. Natasha also rode on the UF Equestrian Varsity Hunt Seat Team and hopes to continue riding at one of the local barns in the Chestnut Hill area. She is thrilled to be the Flora of PA Intern at Morris Arboretum over the next year and take advantage of the collaborative nature of working at the Arboretum and at the Academy of Natural Sciences in center city.

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

Aaron Greenberg is from Elkins Park in Montgomery County, and grew up visiting the Morris Arboretum and Wissahickon Park. After he graduated from Abington Friends School, he went to Wesleyan University in Middletown, CT where he double-majored in biology and the Science In Society Program. While at Wesleyan, Aaron worked in an ecology lab studying tritrophic interactions with caterpillars, co-taught a class in agroecology, and spent every summer and vacation working on sustainable farms. Since graduating in 2011, he has been a tricycle driver in New Orleans and helped start a farm in the Hudson Valley. Aaron is excited to turn his mind and body back to the study of ecology and plant biology. He is specifically looking forward to getting to know the dominant plants in his home ecosystem - the mighty trees - more intimately by climbing and caring for them as the Arborist Intern at the Arboretum. If you are walking around the Arboretum, look up! You may see him high in a tree.

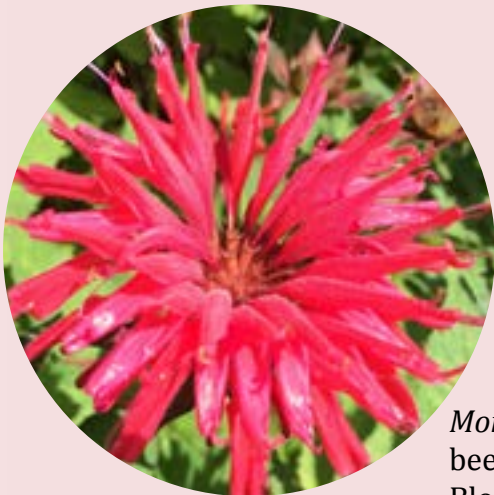
## Garden highlights:



*Hypiricum 'Sungold'*  
St. John's wort  
near Out on a Limb



*Cosmos cv. cosmos*  
Rose Garden



*Monarda cv. bee balm*  
Bloomfield Farm



*Asclepias tuberosa*  
butterfly weed



*Clematis 'Etoile Violette'*  
clematis  
Pennock Garden



*Hemerocallis altissima*  
daylily  
parking lot

# Upcoming Events

## July

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 First Wednesday Talk Paul Meyer's house 12:30pm	3	4 Independence Day <i>Garden Open; Offices Closed</i>	5 Discovery Series 11am - 3pm
6	7	8	9	10	11	12 Mill Volunteer Work Day 9 am-3 pm
13	14	15 Volunteer Workshop 10:30 am	16	17	18	19
20 Mill Demonstration Day 12- 3 pm	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29 Hort. Volunteer & Intern Picnic 4:30-7pm	30	31		

### Weekly Volunteer Events

**Wednesdays:** Horticulture Volunteers 8:00am-12:pm

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

**Saturdays and Sundays:** Welcome Cart 11 am- 3 pm



# Upcoming Events

## August

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 Discovery Series 11 am- 3 pm
3	4	5	6 First Wednesday Talk Bloomfield Farm, Magnolia Room 12:30	7	8	9 Mill Volunteer Work Day 9 am - 3 pm
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17 Mill Demonstration Day 12-3 pm	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

### Weekly Volunteer Events

**Wednesdays:** Horticulture Volunteers 8:00am-12:pm

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

**Saturdays and Sundays:** Welcome Cart 11 am- 3 pm