Enjoy a Fabulous Fall at Morris Arboretum!

- 30+ Designer scarecrows displayed along the Oak Allée (Oct 1 - Oct 16)
- Fall Festival (Oct 2) …paint a pumpkin, make a scarecrow, taste local apples, and more!
- Mill Day (Oct 23) Tour Springfield Mill and enjoy the games, music, and good times of an earlier era.
- Go Out on a Limb for fall color as you’ve never seen it before, from 50 feet up in the treetops.
- Gain a new appreciation of beer with a fall class, Beer Dinner with Yards Brewery (Sept 22)
- Learn something new at one of our many course offerings (Sept - Dec)

Enjoy a Fabulous Fall at morris arboretum!
A Note from the Director

Harvest from the Garden

We rely on plants completely for our survival. This simple, but sometimes forgotten, theme is woven throughout all the Arboretum’s programs and interpretive messages. Whether it is the oxygen we breathe, the home we live in, or the gardens we enjoy, plants are essential. But food is our most obvious and essential connection. Grains, fruits and vegetables come to us through plants. Even meat comes to us indirectly from plants.

With the proliferation of prepackaged and fast foods, we are apt to lose sight of the origins of our food. Yet nothing has the potential to connect us more closely to plants than food. How many kids today have never experienced the joy and wonder of growing and digging their own potatoes or carrots? How many have never had the thrill of harvesting a fresh tomato or watching a giant pumpkin grow?

In a world that is increasingly driven by media and technology, the opportunities for young people to encounter and learn from nature continue to diminish. Recent research by the Kaiser Family Foundation (www.kff.org) reports that children are spending approximately eight hours each day using some form of media, including television, computers, video games, music, cell phones, and other mobile devices. Young people between the ages of eight to eighteen are spending more time with technology than in any other activity, including — in some cases — sleeping.

We know that people learn best through experience. One of the hands-on experiential programs that the Morris Arboretum offers is our community garden. Approximately 100 plots are available to local families to garden as they wish. This program is run in partnership with the Chestnut Hill Community Association and has thrived for more than 30 years. It is rewarding for me to watch the plots laid out in the Hill Community and has thrived for more than 100 plots are available to local families to garden at the Chestnut Hill Community Association.

The output of these gardens is not only the produce, but the lasting bonds formed with nature and with one another. A child who harvests their own vegetables will not likely forget that plants are our ultimate source of food. And, of course, a gardening family has its own source of healthy, fresh local produce. With good planning, a garden can provide fresh produce from May through October.

Some of my own early childhood recollections involve tending the family vegetable gardens. I remember insisting that I have my own tomatoes and anxiously watching my first fruits ripen. Some things never change, and this year I happily picked my first tomato on June 29th. I also remember the failed crops and the lessons learned from each setback.

As this year’s harvest draws to a close, start planning now to grow at least a few vegetable plantings at your home next year. If you would like an Arboretum plot, contact the Chestnut Hill Community Association for more information.
When asked what brought him to the Morris Arboretum, Bill Harral will readily tell you that it was friendship that led to his first visit here. Although Bill had driven by the Arboretum on his way to work every day for almost ten years, he really didn’t know very much about the place. It was a friend, John Shober, who invited Bill to come to the Arboretum for a tour.

Mr. Harral is well recognized throughout the region for his depth of experience in many fields: the corporate world, academia, and the non-profit sector. He enjoyed thirty-six years in senior management positions in the telecommunications industry, retiring as the President and CEO of Bell Atlantic-Pennsylvania, Inc. (now Verizon Corporation) in 1997. From there, Bill went on to Drexel University’s LeBow College of Business where he served as Executive-in-Residence, then Interim Dean, while also teaching business courses in the MBA Program. In 2001, Bill accepted the position of President of the Barra Foundation, and has spent countless hours analyzing, advising, and supporting non-profit organizations in southeastern Pennsylvania. In each of these arenas, Bill’s core commitment has been to improve the quality of life for residents of the greater Philadelphia region.

Bill Harral and John Shober have known each other for many years as business colleagues and as friends who share the same wry sense of humor and enjoy a good game of golf. They have known each other for many years as business colleagues and as friends who share the same wry sense of humor and enjoy a good game of golf.

Bill Harral is delighted to have Bill Harral as a member of the Advisory Board of Managers, and looks forward to continuing to share a common vision with Bill that enhances the quality of life for our visitors and for our community!
Plant Profile – American Holly

ANTHONY AIELLO – The Gayle E. Maloney Director of Horticulture & Curator

Some of the best areas of the Arboretum are those tucked away corners where one rarely finds many visitors – where you can almost feel as if you have the garden to yourself. I almost have to give away my secrets, but one of these areas is the Holly Slope, the group of trees between Gates Hall and the large Cercidiphyllum japonicum (katsura-tree). The holly slope is a great place to visit on a brisk autumn or winter day. With its southern exposure, you will not only enjoy the sunshine of this location, but the evergreen hollies add a background of green to the fall colors, and, most likely you will share the slope with the robins that feast on the holly berries.

This area has a history distinct from that of the rest of the Arboretum. The four acres surrounding Gates Hall were not owned by John and Lydia Morris, but purchased in 1948 by the University. The majority of the Holly Slope was planted from 1949-1953. The southern exposure and well-drained soils make the slope a perfect location to grow a diversity of holly species and varieties. Since 1948, the American Holly Society has recognized the Morris Arboretum as an Official Holly Arboretum.

Today, the predominant species planted on the Holly Slope is one of our native evergreen hollies, Ilex opaca (American holly) a tree that grows throughout the south and along the coastal plain from Maryland into New England. American hollies are grown as specimen trees or as a large screen and are prized for their evergreen winter foliage and bright red fruit. As with all hollies, American holly has separate male and female plants, so for berry production you will need to have one male for up to ten female plants. If you do not have the space for multiple plants, a good rule of thumb is that if you see fruit on an American holly in your neighborhood, then there is likely a male plant in the vicinity, so you can feel confident in planting a female. Although there are hundreds of varieties of American holly, a few selections can commonly be found for sale. Those most commonly available include ‘Jersey Princess’, ‘Miss Helen’, ‘Old Hearty Berry’, ‘Sairy Hill’ and ‘Jersey Knight’ (a male selection) but there are many more to choose from.

American holly is well suited for the Delaware Valley and once they are established they need relatively little care. They prefer protection from strong winds, soil of average moisture and on the slightly acidic side, and full sun. Plants are relatively slow growing, reaching about 30 feet tall in 30 years, but maturing at over 50 feet. The ultimate size can limit their usefulness on smaller properties. The beauty of all hollies is their ability to withstand severe pruning. Although not recommended, you can cut American hollies to the ground and they will re-sprout. However, if a holly has outgrown its space, you can also perform very heavy “hurricane” pruning and the plants will recover within two or three years.

Of all of the American hollies throughout the Arboretum, my favorite stands near the entrance to the Pennock Garden. This impressive female tree dates from the Morris’s time, and although they did not live to see it reach maturity, it is a wonderful specimen in the landscape. So, if you need a little green in your life this fall, come and enjoy the American hollies throughout the Arboretum.
The Botany department will soon celebrate the arrival of a third major publication, _The Aquatic Plants of Pennsylvania: A Complete Reference Guide_. Designed as an identification guide and introduction to the ecology of aquatic plant species occurring in Pennsylvania’s lakes, ponds, and streams, this work is the culmination of seven years of research by authors Drs. Timothy Black and Ann Rhodes, during which they surveyed more than 130 lakes in the state.

_The Aquatic Plants of Pennsylvania: A Complete Reference Guide_ is the first publication of its kind in Pennsylvania. Many aquatic plants currently listed by the state are threatened or endangered because of a third major publication, _The Aquatic Plants of Pennsylvania: A Complete Reference Guide_. Designed as an identification guide and introduction to the ecology of aquatic plant species occurring in Pennsylvania’s lakes, ponds, and streams, this work is the culmination of seven years of research by authors Drs. Timothy Black and Ann Rhodes, during which they surveyed more than 130 lakes in the state.

The results of the floristic research have had a direct and significant impact on conservation of aquatic plants in Pennsylvania. Many aquatic plants currently listed by the state are threatened or endangered because of the discovery of previously unknown populations established a level of species abundance that no longer warranted listing. The authors also documented the first verified occurrence of _Elatine triandra_ (long-stem waterwort) in Pennsylvania.

Funding for the extensive field work was provided by the Wild Resource Conservation Program, and publishing costs for _The Aquatic Plants of Pennsylvania_ were supported by the generosity of Elizabeth and William L. McLean III, Sandra McLean, Elizabeth and John A.H. Shober, Mt. Cuba Center, and the University of Pennsylvania, Business Services Division.

**Campaign Update**

As Campaign Co-Chairs of the Arboretum’s _Always Growing_ Capital Campaign, we are happy to report on the continued progress being made at the Morris Arboretum. You have been eyewitnesses to the Arboretum’s recent accomplishments, including the revitalization of its world-class gardens as well as the establishment of new garden areas, the addition of a new researcher in the Botany Department, the realization of capital projects, and the expansion of unique educational opportunities and programming.

- Extensive work has taken place in the gardens, particularly the restoration of the area around the Orange Balustrade, the development of the native Woodland Garden under the Out on a Limb exhibit, and the enhancement of landscaping and the green roof gardens at the Horticulture Center.
- Research Botanist Dr. Michael B. Burgess joined the Arboretum staff in the Botany Department. His primary focus is on updating and redesigning the Arboretum’s Pennsylvania Flora Project website. He is also involved in the department’s research, field work, and teaching.
- The Horticulture Center complex was officially dedicated in October 2010. This historic occasion enabled the Arboretum to showcase the importance of this capital project in securing the Arboretum’s position as one of the preeminent environmental, educational, and cultural centers in our region.
- Robust and diverse educational opportunities have led to expansion in the Arboretum’s Children’s Education Program. More than 5,000 school-aged young people visited the Arboretum in fiscal year 2011—through public and private school tours, clubs, programs for children with special needs, youth-based community groups, and summer camps — and enjoyed rich learning experiences led by Arboretum staff and volunteer guides.

Historically, the Arboretum has been known throughout the Philadelphia region for its strong commitment to careful strategic planning and fiscal responsibility. It has also been recognized for its debt responses to financial challenges such as those faced nationwide by non-profits who are struggling for survival in the current economy. This year is another example of that commitment and leadership.

In fiscal year 2011, it was necessary for the Arboretum to review its three-year strategic plan and make adjustments in its campaign priorities. Strengthening the Arboretum’s endowments, especially the Historic Preservation Endowment, the Horticulture Center Endowment, and the Equipment Replacement Endowment, has been identified as being of paramount importance in providing essential resources for the Arboretum’s most critical needs. Additionally, there has been a renewed focus on securing unrestricted general operating support, specifically through the Annual Fund program. The response to these readjustments has been tremendous, resulting in an additional $3.8 million in campaign gifts having been received since our last campaign report in 2010. This brings the total amount of gifts and grants raised to $52.7 million designated for our _Always Growing_ Campaign goal of $60 million. This progress is truly cause for celebration!

These achievements are the product of the confidence that you — our friends, members, and donors — have placed in our renowned botanical garden and center for education. The Morris Arboretum’s work and mission would not be possible without your commitment and generosity.

On behalf of the entire Arboretum community, thank you!
CHARLIE NICHOLSON, Eli Kirk Price Endowed Flora of PA Intern
Charley is a native of New England and a graduate of Skidmore College with a degree in biology. He is looking forward to further exploring the diverse plant life in Pennsylvania.

LAUREN FINE, Alice & J. Liddon Pennock, Jr. Endowed Horticulture Intern
Lauren graduated from the University of Alabama at Birmingham with a bachelor’s degree in anthropology and earned a master’s degree in environmental studies from the University of Pennsylvania.

JOSHUA DARFLER, Martha J. Wallace Endowed Plant Propagation Intern
Joshua, originally from Ithaca, NY, graduated from Binghamton University with a degree in cellular biology. Previously, Josh worked at a native plant nursery and several small-scale organic farms in the upstate NY region.

LAUREN PONGAN, Hay Honey Farm Endowed Natural Lands Intern
Lauren has spent the last years in Maine earning a B.A. in English from Colby College. In the future, Lauren hopes to continue to work in the non-profit sector.

DANIEL WEITOISH, Walter W. Root Endowed Arborist Intern
Daniel graduated from Juniata College in 2007 with a BS in natural science and philosophy. Daniel’s interests include vertical gardening, specifically the incorporation of larger, woody organisms into a green wall context.

BRECK MILLER, John J. Willaman & Martha Haas Valentine Endowed Plant Protection Intern
Breck recently graduated from the University of Vermont, where he studied forestry. He is especially interested in forest entomology and pathology. He hopes to use his experience to address the many issues facing urban trees and forests.

NINA SAFAVI, Martha S. Miller Endowed Urban Forestry Intern
Nina has a bachelor’s in economics from Temple University, and attended the University of Pennsylvania for graduate school. Nina currently is working toward a certificate in landscape design.

ARIEL DREYFUS, McLean Endowed Education Intern
Ariel recently graduated from The Evergreen State College with a BA in environmental and sustainability studies. She developed a passion for environmental education while teaching in Seattle.

PRIMA HUTABARAT, Charles S. Holman Rose and Flower Garden Intern
Prima is from Indonesia where he received a B.S. in agriculture from Bogor Agricultural University. He previously worked at K. N. Nursery, the largest nursery and garden center in Brunei.

Under the theme of “Exploration,” 2011 Summer Adventure campers made nature journals, gathered and tested water samples from streams, drinking fountains and Arboretum water features, created terrariums, and used a giant map to lead them on a treasure hunt through the Arboretum to find a cool treat. Full camp enrollment allowed the Morris Arboretum to offer scholarships to two deserving campers this year.
“Compost What?”

JUSTIN JACKSON, Horticulture Section Leader – Rose Garden

Close your eyes and think about any plant. It could be your favorite, but it doesn’t have to be. How would you describe it?

Is there anything missing in your description? What about everything underground? The intricate root system that provides water intake, nutrient absorption, and support is an integral part of a plant’s health. People often overlook life below the surface, but by enhancing your garden’s soil you can better position your plants for a healthy future. Several products and methods are focusing on enhancing soil biology in order to increase water retention, nutrient cycling, and disease resistance. One option is using compost tea.

Compost tea is, in its simplest definition, a liquid extract of compost. Properly composted material is full of all kinds of beneficial organisms, and through the use of compost tea you can increase populations and apply the biology directly to your garden’s soil.

Although the mention of compost tea overwhelms most gardeners, the process is rather simple. To create the solution, water is aerated and a “tea bag” of compost is suspended in the water. The reason the water is aerated is because there are living organisms in the compost and in order to maintain an aerobic condition, oxygen is needed. Once the compost is suspended in the aerated water, you need to provide a food source for the biology to feed on, such as bonic acids, molasses, fish emulsion, or liquid kelp. This will allow the fungal and bacterial populations that were already in your compost to feed and multiply, thus creating a concentrated solution of compost in liquid form. Once the compost has brewed for more than 24 hours it is ready to be used in the garden.

Two methods of application exist: soil drench and foliar spray. Drenching puts the biology straight into the soil, while foliar spray provides a biological barrier that can help protect the plant from foliar problems. Both methods of application will provide your garden with the beneficial biology needed to successfully create a healthy soil food web, but a foliar spray provides some additional benefits.

But why compost tea in the rose garden? It’s all part of a bigger picture. An organic approach to rose gardening focuses on enhancing the garden’s soil, selecting disease resistant roses, and encouraging beneficial insects. By choosing roses that are disease resistant you are halfway to a chemical free rose garden. The next step is planting your garden with companion plants that naturally deter pests, such as mints and marigolds, as well as provide seasonal interest when the roses aren’t performing at their best. The last step is to let nature take its course. Ladybugs, green lace wings, and praying mantis all do a good job of controlling pest populations.

Through the use of compost tea I hope to achieve a beautifully healthy rose garden without the use of synthetic chemicals. Although I don’t expect results overnight, I do believe that any alternative to using synthetic chemicals is a good one.

Getting back to compost, it’s important to understand how the process works. Compostable materials contain carbon and nitrogen, referred to as “greens” and “browns”. The greens are more nitrogen rich: fruit and vegetable waste, coffee grounds, grass clippings and manure. Browns contain more carbon and include leaves, straw, wood chips and sawdust. Microorganisms in the composting process use carbon in leaves as an energy source, while nitrogen supplies the microbes with proteins for growth. The decomposing organisms need both carbon and nitrogen to work properly, in a carbon-nitrogen ratio (C:N Ratio). The C:N ratio for grass clippings is 15:1; for leaves, it’s 40-50:1. The best ratio for compost is 30:50:1, thereby making leaves an obvious bonus to your compost pile. And composting doesn’t have to be complicated: a simple pile in the corner of your yard is just as effective as a bin or fenced in area – it’s all a matter of space and preference! As composting is an aerobic process, it’s helpful to chop or mow composting materials to speed up the process: the more surface area, the faster your organic material will decompose. Try to add your kitchen scraps to the center of the pile where the heat is greatest. And remember that water is key to successful composting – keep your compost moist, but make sure you have adequate drainage. So mix your greens and browns: leaves, grass clippings, weeds and discarded plants along with kitchen scraps (other than meat, fish, bones or fatty foods), keep your piles moist and aerated, and in 6 to 12months, you’ll have your own “black gold.” This excellent soil conditioner is the best thing you can give your plants and your neighborhood, and best of all, it costs nothing to make!

For more information on compost tea, take Justin’s Class, Chemical Free Rose Gardening on October 22. For more information, see page 15.
John T. Morris was planning his Compton mansion with architect Theophilus P. Chandler Jr, who would found Penn’s school of architecture. The 29 acres for Compton in Chestnut Hill were purchased from John’s banker friend, John Lowber Welsh for $980.80 per acre.

The English Park, with its paths and Seven Arches newly completed, was being landscaped with plants ordered from Yokohama Nursery, Japan. Among them was a Yoshino cherry that likely survives today, Corylopsis spicata (winter hazel), and more than 200 different azaleas. Plants also came from the Veitch nursery in England.

Writing in the Morris Arboretum Bulletin, Director John M. Fogg described all nine species and two hybrids of temperate American magnolias. All were under cultivation in the garden. In planning to expand the collection he reported, “Two separate and very diverse sites have been selected for the growing of our Magnolias. One is a low, flat protected area along Hillcrest Avenue at the foot of the Azalea meadow. The other is an open, north-facing hill-slope, along Meadowbrook Avenue…”

To celebrate completion of the new entrance road, the Arboretum staff joined hands to walk from the Northwestern Avenue Gate to the Widener Visitor Center.

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Staff beekeeper Chick Culp could expect 400 pounds of honey from the Arboretum bee hives.

To celebrate completion of the new entrance road, the Arboretum staff joined hands to walk from the Northwestern Avenue Gate to the Widener Visitor Center.

American Jacob’s ladder (Polemonium van-bruntiae), thought to be vanished from the state’s flora, was discovered along the Lakawanna river by the Morris Arboretum botanical team led by Dr. Ann Rhoads.

Support the Arboretum and Do Your Holiday Shopping at the Same Time

- Beautifully packaged amaryllis bulb kits – perfect for the hostess, teacher or gardener
- Artfully designed, hand-crafted jewelry
- Unusual gifts for the home and garden
- Creative, educational, nature-inspired toys and books for kids
- Wonderfully scented holiday soaps and candles

Moonlight & Roses 2011

On Friday, June 10th, 2011, more than 650 people gathered in the Arboretum’s spectacular Rose Garden to celebrate 30 years of Moonlight & Roses. Following cocktails and hors d’oeuvres in the garden, 360 guests stayed for dinner under the moonlit tent, where they danced the night away to the lively sounds of the Janis Nowlan Band, recently chosen as one of the “Top 15 Bands” in America in an NBC poll. Despite the heat and threats of rain, a wonderful time was had by all.

This year’s event was a landmark year, not only because it marked the 30th anniversary of Moonlight & Roses, but also because it was the most successful fundraising year to date for the annual gala. Gross revenue from the event totaled $234,371 – greatly exceeding our goal of $189,000. In addition, sound management of event expenses and an increase in corporate support led to a 105% increase in net revenue from the 2010 gala.

Proceeds from this year’s Moonlight & Roses supported annual operations and the Historic Preservation Endowment, used to maintain and preserve all aspects of the Arboretum’s 167 acres of precious historic landscape. The benefiting fund received the nod of approval from this year’s honorees and longtime Arboretum friends and supporters, Elizabeth and John Shober. As members of the Advisory Board of Managers, Directors’ Guild, and Lydia Morris Legacy Society, the Shobers have been enthusiastic and outspoken ambassadors for the Arboretum’s preservation and maintenance. We were thrilled to honor the Shobers during this important anniversary year, while achieving fundraising success that will help ensure the Morris Arboretum will remain a beautiful and thriving historic and cultural institution for generations to come.

Co-chairs Alice Bullitt (left) and Paige Yager with their husbands Christian Bullitt and Jeff Yager.

Photos: Zac Brooks

Photos: Sue Scovill
Fall Classes at the Arboretum – Learn something new, get inspired!

NOW YOU CAN SIGN-UP ON-LINE! Registration for fall classes is now quick and easy. You can now go to the Morris Arboretum website, check out the course listings and sign up online. Go to online.morrisarboretum.org/classes. The Arboretum offers a wide selection of unique courses and trips. Here are some of the highlights for fall:

B_regs Gardens
Louise Clarke – Horticulturist, Morris Arboretum
Rain gardens are an excellent way to absorb rainwater runoff from roofs, driveways, sidewalks, and lawns so that it can soak into the ground. Learn how to add rain gardens to the landscape where they will be effective. See examples of rain gardens and suitable native plants.
Saturday, October 1, 10am–12noon
Members: $25, Non-members: $30

Tree Care Essentials
Bryan Thompson-Nowak – Certified Arborist
Tree Care essentials
Members: $25, Non-members: $30
Saturday, October 22, 1–3pm
Members: $25, Non-members: $30

Chemical Free Rose Gardening
Justin Jackson – Rosarian, Morris Arboretum
If you have children or pets that play in your rose garden, then it’s time you stopped spraying nasty chemicals and learn how to manage your garden in a natural way. Come join Justin Jackson, rose Garden Section Leader, in a discussion about organic gardening and ways to improve your plants’ health in a natural way. You will learn about the importance of a clean garden, composting, and organic pest and disease solutions. An indoor talk will be followed by an outdoor walk in the garden.
Saturday, October 22, 10 a.m.–12 noon
Members: $25, Non-members: $30

Trinidad and Tobago Birding Adventure
This April, join the Morris Arboretum on a journey to the birding hotspots of Trinidad and Tobago. With more than 500 species recorded in Trinidad, this trip is sure to be a remarkable ornithological experience. The adventure will begin at the world-renowned Asa Wright Nature Centre and Lodge, a 200-acre wildlife sanctuary in Trinidad’s rainforest and the charming Blue Waters Inn in Tobago. We will travel with Ruth Pfeffer, our own expert birder and trip leader, and with local guides assisting in tours to several unique natural areas throughout both islands. Stops will include Matura Beach, one of the world’s largest and most productive leatherback turtle nesting sites, and Dunston Cave, a beautiful riparian gorge and one of the most accessible oilbird caves in the world. We also expect to see the spectacular flight of the scarlet ibis returning to its mangrove roosts at dusk, truly one of the world’s most dramatic natural moments.

Ales of the Revolution Beer Tasting Dinner – Sept. 22nd
Join us on Thursday, September 22 at 7pm for our fourth annual beer tasting dinner. Travel back to the days of Washington and Jefferson as we explore Ales of Revolution from Yards Brewing Company. These flavorful beers will be paired with complementary food to create a delicious and festive evening. Bring friends and make it a social event. The cost for members is $50 and $55 for non-members. Reservations are required and space is limited. Register by calling (215) 247-5777, ext. 125 or go to online.morrisarboretum.org under Events.

Connections Beyond Our Garden – Talks on People, Plants, and Place
Our mid-week afternoon series continues this fall with three talks designed to stimulate and enrich.

A reception with refreshments will follow each presentation, and tours of the Arboretum are available afterward. Reservations and payment are required in advance as space is limited. Call (215) 247-5777, ext. 125 or go to online.morrisarboretum.org/classes/cbog.

Arctic Autumn: A Journey to Season’s Edge
Peter Dunne – Director, Cape May Bird Observatory
Wednesday, October 12, 2pm
Members: $18, Non-members: $20
Travel with noted birder and naturalist Pete Dunne and witness the stark beauty and remarkable adaptations of nature that he observed during his many months of exploration to this last frontier of our planet.

Exploring the West with John James Audubon: The Last Expedition
Robert McCracken Peck – Senior Fellow, Academy of Natural Science
Wednesday, November 9, 2pm
Members: $18, Non-members: $20
Showing images of Audubon’s western paintings and the surviving specimens and artifacts gathered during his nine month expedition, historian Robert McCracken Peck will describe Audubon’s last great adventure and put its accomplishments into the broader context of its time.

Transforming Public Spaces and Individual Lives: Philadelphia’s Mural Arts Program
Jane Golden – Executive Director, Mural Arts Program
Wednesday, December 7, 2pm
Members: $18, Non-members: $20
Jane Golden, the founder and leader of Philadelphia’s Mural Arts Program, will lead a slideshow “tour” through Philadelphia’s streets. Today, 3,000 murals later, the program that was started in 1984 as an experiment to redirect the energies of graffiti artists is now the largest mural program in the country.

Register at online.morrisarboretum.org for fall classes. Contact the education department at (215) 247-5777, ext. 125 or email education@morrisarboretum.org for more information.

Photo: Ruth Pfeffer
Fall events

the Philadelphia Zoo will present their Zoo on Wheels program

Born in the USA. Come learn how our native animals spend their fall preparing for the coming winter. Some activities have an additional fee.

Great Trees at Morris Arboretum

Every Sunday in October at 1pm

Meet in front of the Widener Visitor Center for a guided tour of the Great Trees at the Morris Arboretum. Knowledgeable guides will point out champions and discuss their history and merits.

Storytime at the Morris Arboretum

Tuesday, October 22, 10:30-11:00am

Join us in the Upper Gallery at the Visitor’s Center to listen to fabulous stories as told by a William Jeaneis librarian. Afterwards enjoy an autumn stroll through the garden.

November

11

Storytime at the Morris Arboretum

Tuesday, October 11, 10:30-11:00am

Join us on the lawn in front of the Visitor’s Center to listen to fabulous stories as told by a William Jeaneis librarian. Afterwards enjoy an autumn stroll through the garden.

Bloomfield Farm Day

Sunday, October 23, 12-3pm

Tour the Springfield Mill and enjoy the games, music and good times of an earlier era. Springfield Mill, which dates back to 1760, is located on the Bloomfield Farm side of the Morris Arboretum. The Mill is one of the oldest architectural features at the Arboretum and contains the most complete inventory of original mill works and related machinery of any mill in the area. Free with admission.

December

20

Holiday Garden Railway

Evening Event for Premier Level Members

Friday, December 2, 2011, 4-8pm

Beech level members ($115) and higher will be invited to enjoy a special evening at the Morris Arboretum. Follow the glow of sparkling lights down the garden path to the magical garden railway, sip hot cocoa and enjoy cookies for dessert. Registration will be required. Not a premier level member? Upgrade your membership by calling (215) 247-5777 ext. 151 or consider a premier level membership when renewing. Memberships can be renewed online at www.morrisarboretum.org under the “Join Us” tab.

January

20

Storytime at the Morris Arboretum

Friday, January 20, 10:30-11:00 am

Join us in the Upper Gallery at the Visitor’s Center to listen to fabulous stories as told by a William Jeaneis librarian. Afterwards enjoy the last day of autumn with a stroll through the Arboretum.

29

The Byron W. Lukens Endowed Lecture – Forces of Plant Evolution: Insights from Amelanchier (Rosaceae)

Sunday, January 29, 2 p.m.

Prized by horticulturists for its brilliant spring blossoms and by wildlife for its delectable fruit, Amelanchier, a genus of native shrubs and small trees of the rose family, exemplifies the evolutionary roles genome duplication and hybridization play in driving species diversification. Dr. Michael B. Burgess, Research Botanist at the Morris Arboretum, will summarize the current understanding of plant evolution, and will explore research investigating speciation in Amelanchier.

G R E A T E R

P h i l a d e l p h i a

G A R D E N S

The Philadelphia area is rich in public gardens. A collaboration of these gardens called Greater Philadelphia Gardens, makes it easy for visitors to learn what each of the 30 gardens, arboretum and historic houses in this area has to offer. In addition to information on each garden, there is information on garden happenings throughout the region, including plant sales, wildflower walks, garden tours, hands-on workshops, lectures, and evening galas. Check it out at http://www.greaterphiladelphiagardens.org/.