Seasons newsletter is printed on FSC (Forest Stewardship Council) certified paper, which supports the growth of responsible forest management worldwide through its international standards.

Holidays at The Shop
Don’t forget The Shop at Morris Arboretum for wonderful holiday gifts this season. The Shop specializes in goods made from natural materials, environmentally-friendly reuse of materials, and items inspired by nature. Gifts for children to engage and inspire young minds await you. Happy holidays and happy shopping!

The Holiday Garden Railway Returns with Extended Viewing Hours!

Open daily Friday, November 23 – Monday, December 31 (closed Christmas Eve and Day)

Come see the Holiday Garden Railway decked out for the holidays! Join us on Saturday, November 24 from 1-3pm for a Grand Opening celebration that will include a fun craft activity for kids. For the last two weeks of December (Dec. 15-Dec. 31), visitors can enjoy extended hours until 5pm to see the magically-lit railway display at dusk. Extended hours will kick off on Dec. 15th at 4pm with a Holiday Hat Parade where you’re invited to don your favorite hat, or create a new one, and march down to the Garden Railway and embrace the holiday spirit.
Moving Forward

This past summer, we bid farewell to Ann Reed as Chair of the Advisory Board of Managers, and welcomed our new Board Chair, Jane Alavi, to the helm to lead us in our next phase of development.

The Morris Arboretum staff and board take pride in consistently developing thoughtful plans and instituting in a fiscally responsible manner. During the past year, staff and board have been working on the current planning update. In June, the Arboretum’s Advisory Board of Managers approved Strategic Plan 2012 – 2016, a Vision for the Future. This update follows a period of unparalleled progress in implementing the plan of three years ago. Major achievements in the last plan include the completion of One on a Limb – a Tree Adventure exhibit, constructing phase I of the Horticulture Center, dramatically building the Arboretum’s professional education programs, and the publication of Aquatic Plants of Pennsylvania.

As a first step in the planning process, we reaffirmed these seven overarching strategic goals:

1. Build fiscal stability.
2. Develop compelling visitor experiences.
3. Nurture, grow and develop the Arboretum’s people.
4. Enhance, restore and preserve the Arboretum’s historic features, facilities and equipment.
5. Disseminate knowledge about plants and their importance to people, and conduct research.
6. Preserve the gardens and enhance the collections.
7. Increase visibility, raise attendance and expand the educational impact of the Arboretum.

These broad goals have guided the institution for the past six years and are more pertinent than ever today. Under each of these are numerous specific goals, both large and small, that help to guide each department within the Arboretum. The entire document is available online, but I do want to highlight a few key goals that will require our focused attention during the next year or so.

Building fiscal stability was intentionally moved to the number one position. Though the Arboretum has navigated these difficult times relatively well, our budget is perilously tight and important maintenance projects and equipment replacement issues have been deferred. A high priority is building the historic preservation and equipment replacement endowments to insure more timely repairs of facilities, and to help renew our fleet of equipment, which carries a replacement value of $800,000. Support facilities for the Arboretum’s mechanical and facilities staff are also sorely needed. Spaces created in the new Horticulture Center still need to be furnished and equipped.

With a 30% growth in attendance and membership throughout the past three years, the Widener Visitor Center is strained beyond its capacity. Increasing handicapped accessibility, expanding restrooms, renovating the kitchen, and replacing aging HVAC facilities are all high priorities.

Youth education is paramount, for both formal and informal learning programs. During the next year, Arboretum staff and volunteers will be working an education planning consultant to determine how we can best use our resources to expand our youth education efforts for young visitors.

These are just a few of the key goals moving forward. Collectively, these needs seem daunting. Through careful planning and step-by-step implementation, I am confident that in time these needs will be met. I welcome you to review the full executive summary of the Strategic Plan by looking under “Support” at www.morrisarboretum.org.
Ann Reed Retires as Chair of Morris Arboretum’s Advisory Board of Managers

LESLE WIESSER, Associate Director of Corporate, Foundation and Donor Relations

It is unusual to drive into the Morris Arboretum parking lot and not find Ann Reed’s car parked here. Seeing her car means that you can look forward to seeing Ann, either in a meeting, at a special Arboretum event, or simply walking through the garden. And you can be certain that Ann will make sure to greet you personally, whether you are a staff person, a volunteer, a Board member, or simply a visitor to the garden.

Almost 30 years ago, Ann Reed and her husband, Frank, moved to Philadelphia and quickly became involved in their Mt. Airy neighborhood. When friends learned of Ann’s passion for plants and gardening, they recommended that she visit the Morris Arboretum. Since that time, Ann has become one of the Morris Arboretum’s most gracious ambassadors, passionate supporters, and strongest recruiters, inviting almost three decades of individuals and families to become active members of the Arboretum community. She joined the Morris Arboretum’s Advisory Board of Managers in 1986, and has served on every Arboretum committee, including Horticulture, Plant Sciences, Executive, Finance, Public Programs, Marketing, Development, and Moonlight & Roses.

Ann became Chair of the Advisory Board of Managers in 2003, and during her tenure, led the Arboretum through the most transformational chapter in the life of this institution.

The strength of her commitment also provided the foundation needed to guide the Arboretum through the most challenging economic climate in recent history. As a result of Ann’s leadership, the entire Arboretum community has benefited from the remarkable projects made possible through the launching of the Morris Arboretum’s Always Growing Capital Campaign in 2005. Her tireless commitment to broadening the Arboretum’s audience led to the creation of the extraordinary Out on a Limb – A Tree Adventure exhibit and the design and construction of the new Horticulture Center at Bloomfield Farm.

Other projects that came to fruition during her term as the Chair of the Arboretum’s Advisory Board of Managers include the restoration of the Springhouse, the Key Fountain, the Long Foundation, the Orange Balustrade, the design and addition of the Alice and J. Liddon Pennock Flower Walk, the Gayle E. Maloney Memorial Garden, the Richard and Nancy Ryan Entrance Gate on Northwestern Avenue, the continuing reclamation of Springfield Mills, and the publication of Trees of Pennsylvania, Plants of Pennsylvania, Aquatic Plants of Pennsylvania, Always Growing: The Story of the Morris Arboretum, and Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania: Through the Lens of Paul W. Meyer.

The Morris Arboretum is grateful to Ann for her inspirational leadership as Chair of the Morris Arboretum’s Advisory Board of Managers. It has been a privilege to work with her and watch the Arboretum grow from a quiet neighborhood garden into the world-class botanical garden and center for education and research that it is today. Although Ann is retiring, her continued presence and participation as an Emeritus member of the Board is assured.

“Ann has always been willing to take on challenges. She is a delight as a colleague, and her leadership on behalf of the Arboretum has been exemplary.”

– CAROLE CRAVACNO

“Ann has been an excellent Chair, well informed, responsive, and has worked very hard for the Arboretum. She is a great cheerleader as well.”

– MOE FELDMAN

“After my husband and I moved across the street from the Reeds, Ann saw me gardening and recruited me then and there to become involved with the Morris Arboretum. I enrolled in the Guide Training Course and have been giving tours since 1996!”

– LEE LADEN

“Ann’s steady discipline and support elicited the best in the other Board members – making them happy and flattered to be asked to help. Ann has been a great cheerleader for the institution as well, both publicly and privately, through her commitment of countless hours of time and her philanthropic support.”

– JOHN SHOBER

“One of the things that stands out about Ann is her sheer passion for the Morris Arboretum. To her, the Arboretum’s welfare is more than a passing interest. She puts her heart and soul into everything she does there…. It is not only the hours that she puts into the Morris Arboretum, it is also what she puts into those hours.”

– MARC RAYFIELD

“I always think of Ann’s steady guidance, her unflappable leadership, her determination, her total commitment to the Arboretum. While continuing to preserve the traditions of the Board, she also introduced new diplomatic practices and consistently refined the mission statement. No problem was too great for her to tackle and she did it with such ease and great success.”

– JANE KORMAN

“As both a leader and a friend, Ann is smart, thoughtful, kind, considerate, diligent, strategic, and very well organized.”

– JANET HAAS

“I have long been my ideal Board Chair. She is strong yet quiet, getting things done in the background…. Ann inspires deep respect, and I know that whatever she requests has been preceded with much reflection and purpose. She has been kind and generous in her willingness to share her time and experience, and we have been so very lucky to have her as a part of the Arboretum family.”

– SUSAN OBERWÄGER

“I have been involved with the Arboretum as a volunteer since 1990 and cannot think of one person who has been more effective than Ann Reed at lifting the Arboretum staff and moving the institution forward, all while bringing compassion and heart to the job. It is indeed a full-time job that she embraced and, by her example, inspired all of us to do our best.”

– NINA SCHNEIDER

“I have been fortunate to serve under Ann’s chairmanship… and have had the pleasure of working closely with Ann. First, I admire her as a person. She has a sense of humor which has become an underrated necessity of character. Secondly, Ann has a deep sense of responsibility, both personally and broadly, to the community. Lastly, she is a good gardener – an important virtue, don’t you think?”

– ELIZABETH P. MCLEAN
**Anthony S. Aiello, The Gayle E. Maloney Director of Horticulture and Curator**

One of the most photogenic areas of the Arboretum in the autumn is the slope above the Rose Garden, made up of a group of our native black tupelo, *Nyssa sylvatica*. Nyssa goes by a variety of names, including blackgum, black tupelo, sour gum, or pepperidge, but regardless of what you call this tree, it is one of the most outstanding native trees for its reliably brilliant, scarlet-red fall color.

In our area, black gum is consistently ablaze with color during the last third of October, and the display on the Nyssa slope provides a kaleidoscope of colors, reminiscent of a cathedral stained glass window, especially when backlit in the afternoon. Blackgum is one of the longest-lived trees in the northeast, reaching 30 feet in about 25 years, and will grow to more than 80 feet with time. There are several varieties that have become root-bound in their pot. Young blackgums have a very distinctive horizontal branching habit, and develop rounded tops as they mature. They are slow growing, reaching only in early spring, but for most homeowners, container-grown plants are probably the best route to take (only if plants are not root-bound in their pot). Young blackgums have hardy from zones five through nine, making it completely without acidity the foliage becomes chlorotic. Black gum is Nyssa performs best in moist, well-drained acidic soil – Nyssa is particular about how and when it is transplanted. Its taproot necessitates that it be moved, balled-and-burlapped for most homeowners, container-grown plants are probably the best route to take (only if plants are not root-bound in their pot). Young blackgums have a very distinctive horizontal branching habit, and develop rounded tops as they mature. They are slow growing, reaching 30 feet in about 25 years, and will grow to more than 80 feet with time. There are several varieties that have become available in recent years, all of them selected for outstanding fall color. These include, RED RAGE (‘Hayman Red’), ‘Wildfire’, and FORUM (‘NXXSF’). The blackgum display at the Arboretum is one of our perennial highlights. Make sure to visit and enjoy these autumnal fireworks!

**New Board Chair Elected**

At its June Annual Meeting, the Morris Arboretum Advisory Board of Managers elected Jane Bradley Alavi as Chair, effective July 1, 2012. Jane comes to this leadership position with great enthusiasm for and knowledge of the Morris Arboretum. While recognizing its importance to the many visitors who come for the beauty of the gardens and the quality of the time they spend together, she is a strong voice for those who grow as they learn through the experience of being in nature.

Jane grew up in New York City and came to Philadelphia to attend college at Bryn Mawr. Jane received her medical degree from Harvard University and returned to Philadelphia for a fellowship at the University of Pennsylvania where she went on to join the faculty in the fields of hematology and oncology.

When Jane retired from teaching at Penn, she continued teaching as a part-time educator at the Schuylkill Center and as a tutor for 4th and 5th grades in the Philadelphia School District, for which she received an “Outstanding Volunteer” award. She is an academic advisor and board member at A Better Chance in Lower Merion, a program that provides intensive college preparation for economically-disadvantaged high school students.

Jane and her husband Abass have been members of the Arboretum since the 1970s. In her own words, Jane has done “every volunteer job in the place.” She has been a horticulture volunteer and served for many years at the Morris Arboretum Plant Sale, but her deepest commitment is to the Guides program. She has served as vice-chair of the Guides’ Council and is presently chair of the Public Programs Committee. Under her leadership, the Public Programs Committee has enthusiastically supported exciting new education initiatives. With the restoration of the Springfield Mills and the construction of the Platinum LEED® Horticulture Center, Morris Arboretum guides have developed a series of new tours that focus on these structures and the lessons they have to teach.

Jane and Abass have also supported the Children’s Education Endowment with several generous gifts and a bequest, knowing that a strong financial underpinning will enable the Arboretum to be able to do more in years to come.

Jane is a devoted advocate for the role the Morris Arboretum plays in the education of Philadelphia’s children and speaks passionately about the many possibilities within the rich mission of the Arboretum. She has said that she hopes to always be “a voice for the Arboretum” as it seeks to connect people, plants and place through education. She will be an excellent partner for staff and volunteers alike. The Morris Arboretum community welcomes Jane in her new role as Chair of the Advisory Board of Managers.

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**Advisory Board of Managers – July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013**

Jane Bradley Alavi, Chair  
Peter C. Cilio, Vice Chair  
Carole Haus Granatino, Vice Chair  
William J. Agare, Jr.  
John H. Ball, Emeritus  
William S. Boothby, Jr., Emeritus  
George W. Connell, Emeritus  
Moses Feldman  
Christina Mesites Fourmaris  
C. Meade Geisel, Jr., Emeritus  
Janet Haas  
Doranne H. Hamilton  
William Harral, III  
Ellen Nalle Hass  
Pamela M. Hill  
Charles J. Ingersoll  
Christine James  
William F. McLaughlin, Jr.  
Elizabeth P. Mclean, Emeritus  
Sandra L. McLean  
Alan Miller  
Marc Rayfield  
Ann Reed, Emeritus  
Nina Schneider  
John A. H. Shoeb, Emeritus  
Martha J. Wallace  
Clarence Z. Wurts

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**Standing Committees**

- Public Programs
- Finance Committee
- Development Committee
- Endowment Committee

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**Nonprofit Board Leadership**

- Nonprofit Board Leadership Committee
- Nonprofit Board Leadership Program FY2013 Appointee

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**Associate Director of Development, Individual and Planned Giving**

Victoria Sicks
Always Growing Minds at the Morris Arboretum!

Leslie Weiss, Associate Director of Development, Corporate, Foundation and Donor Relations

When Lydia and John Morris first purchased and began building their beloved Compton estate in 1887, they had a passion for collecting unusual and diverse plants, a keen interest in nature and international exploration, and a deep commitment to sharing their love of plants and nature through education, particularly the education of young people.

Today, 125 years later and in keeping with the Morrises’ vision, education remains at the heart of the Morris Arboretum’s mission. Currently, the Arboretum’s Youth Education Program reaches more than 5,000 school children through its structured K-12 school tour program, and an additional 25,000 children of all ages and their families benefit from the many informal learning activities and programs offered throughout the year.

The extraordinary generosity of the Maguire Foundation and several individual donors led to the launch of our new Partners in Education initiative in the 2011-12 academic year. During the first phase of this program, the Arboretum is developing deeper relationships with specific area schools, including the Pennsylvania School for the Deaf, Mercy Vocational High School, St. Martin de Porres Elementary School, Carson Valley Children’s Aid, Wissahickon Charter School, and W. B. Saul High School. Through these partnerships, the Arboretum is able to offer targeted learning experiences that address students’ interests as well as meeting the requirements of their class curriculum.

Last spring, an English class from Mercy Vocational High School visited the Arboretum and used their exploration of the gardens as a springboard for creative writing exercises. We were delighted to receive the following Haiku poems from two of the students after their visit:

the lacebark pine tree it was camouflaged in colors what a catching sight — student Ben Kelso

always growing minds at the morris arboretum!

Leslie Weiss, Associate Director of Development, Corporate, Foundation and Donor Relations

high up in the trees held by the hands of a net here, I’m supported — student Leandra Hunter

These remarkable poems by two gifted young people are wonderful examples of the diversity of learning experiences that students enjoy while engaging with nature at the Morris Arboretum. Lydia and John Morris would no doubt be proud of these achievements!

Visit our website at www.morrisarboretum.org to Support – Ways to Give
To say that Bob Anderson has seen it all would truly be an understatement. Since 1987 when he was hired as a contractor, Bob has had a hand in nearly every major infrastructure project at the Morris Arboretum. At the time of his arrival, the Arboretum was in a vast state of disrepair, and many of the garden features we take for granted today were either non-existent or in desperate need of restoration.

Soon after his arrival, Bob was brought on as Director of Physical Facilities after his predecessor fell ill. His first project was the renovation of the historic Pumphouse, located along the Paper Mill Run, near the entrance drive. From there, his improvement efforts never ceased, as he led the way in rejuvenating the historic landscape of the Arboretum and helped transform it into a premier public garden.

Throughout the years, Bob has been a tireless advocate for the Arboretum. Wearing many hats, he has served as a project manager, fundraiser, and even a volunteer. His involvement in the restoration of Springfield Mills (located at the Arboretum’s Bloomfield Farm) has become his passion, and led him to establish and lead a group of engaged volunteers known as the Run of the Millers. This group has worked hard over the past several years to help bring this historic feature back to working order.

According to Executive Director Paul Meyer, Bob’s contributions have been immeasurable. “In addition to overseeing every major restoration project, Bob recognized early on the need to better fund the Arboretum’s maintenance priorities, and has been instrumental in working with the staff, board and Arboretum donors to help build the Historic Preservation Endowment and other endowments for fountains and features.”

In spite of all he has accomplished, Bob would be the first to tell you that there is still much more to be done. Looking forward, he hopes that funding for infrastructure maintenance remains a key priority for the Arboretum. Although Bob is retiring and moving on to a new chapter in his life, he will remain a familiar face at the Arboretum, continuing as a Run of the Mill volunteer, and serving as a member of the Public Programs committee. All of Bob’s coworkers and friends with him well and thank him for the extraordinary role he has played in helping make the Arboretum the treasure it is today.
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**Photo credits:** Paul Meyer, Bob Gutowski, Judy Miller, Arnold Winkler, Ed Hofneckt and Keith Snyder
DECEMBER
Winter Wellness Walks
Saturdays, November thru March, 10:30-11:30am
Led by an experienced Volunteer Guide, these brisk walks through the paved paths will energize and invigorate you! Meet in front of the Widener Visitor Center.

Connections Beyond Our Garden Lecture
Wednesday, December 5, 2pm
Please see page 20 for more information.

January

Storytime at the Morris Arboretum
Tuesday, December 11, 10:30-11am
Join us in the Upper Gallery of the Visitor’s Center to listen to fabulous stories as told by a Springfield Twp. librarian. Afterward, enjoy a winter stroll through the Arboretum.

Holiday Hat Parade
Saturday, December 15, 4pm
Dig out your favorite hat, or create one just for the occasion. Join in the fun as we parade from the Widener Visitor Center down to the Garden Railway to celebrate the start of extended viewing hours daily until 5pm, through Monday, December 31.

Storytime at the Morris Arboretum
Tuesday, January 15, 10:30-11:15am
See December 11 for details.

Tu B’Shevat Family Program
Sunday, January 20, 1-3pm
Join us for a special family event celebrating the Jewish New Year of trees.

Storytime at the Morris Arboretum
Tuesday, January 29, 10:30-11am
See December 11 for details.

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Tu B’Shevat Family Program
Sunday, January 20, 1-3 pm
Join us for a special family event celebrating the Jewish New Year of trees.

The Byron W. Lukens Endowed Lecture – Tales of Compton: Exploring Morris Arboretum History
Sunday, January 27, 1pm
Bob Gutowski, Director of Public Programs, Morris Arboretum
What today is the Morris Arboretum began as Compton, the summer home and garden of John and Lydia Morris. Who were the founders whose vision and legacy has spanned 125 years? How does the Compton they created nurture our experience? Bob Gutowski, the Arboretum’s Director of Public Programs and garden historian, will share images, stories and insights about the people, places and times that shaped the Arboretum of today. This lecture series is presented annually in memory of Byron W. Lukens.

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Birding at the Morris Arboretum

**When you enter the Morris Arboretum wetlands you soon discover how special it is. In this area, rich in wildlife, there is something happening all year long, and every visit has a surprise waiting for you. It could be a woodpecker exploring the cavity of a dead tree, a kingfisher perched on a branch, or a pair of wood ducks swimming by. There are classes at the Arboretum and trips to other great birding spots offered throughout the year (including this fall) with birding expert Ruth Pfeffer. For more information, visit online.morrisarboretum.org/classes.**
News You Can Use – Dividing Perennials

SHELLEY DILLARD, Propagator

Division is a great way to get more out of the plants in your garden. You can add more plants to your own garden, or you can share them with friends. It is also a great way to rejuvenate perennials and stimulate new growth. With time, some perennials begin to have diminished blooms, develop a ‘bald spot’ at the center of their crown, or require staking to prevent their stems from falling over; that is their way of telling you that they need to be divided.

As a general rule, it is best to divide spring-blooming plants in the fall, and fall-blooming perennials in early spring. By dividing the plant when it is not flowering, the plant’s energy can go to new root and leaf growth. Pick a cloudy day or one where rain is forecast to do this work. Water the plants you wish to divide thoroughly a day or two before you plan to divide them. Prepare the area where you will put your new plant by amending the soil with good organic matter. Prune the stems and foliage of the clump to be divided to six inches from the ground in order to ease division and to cut down on moisture loss. Then re-plant them as soon as possible to minimize stress.

Depending on the type of plant, there are quite a few ways to approach division.

To divide hefty clumps such as hostas, daylilies, or iris (other than the bearded types) try one of the following:

FORK – One method of dividing perennials is to use two pitch forks to split the plant apart. To divide the plant, insert the forks into the center of the plant. The backs of the forks should touch one another and the tines should be intertwined. Push down on the forks to loosen and break the root mass into two sections. This method requires a bit of strength, but works well for plants with fleshy roots such as daylilies. If you don’t have two forks, or are not tall enough or strong enough to use the fork method, there are other ways to divide perennials:

SHARP SPADE – After digging out the clump for division, you can take a sharp spade and cut the clump into pieces. You may have to jump on the spade. Don’t be shy!

If a sharp spade is still too hard, try either of the methods below:

SAW – Take a hand saw (which may get ruined in the process) and saw the clump into pieces.

KNIFE – This is a good way to divide fleshy rooted plants. For smaller clumps, just tease the roots apart. This is, of course, the most stressful on the plants as they will almost be bare-rooted, so don’t let these sit around for long. At the least, cover the exposed roots with wet newspaper.

If the clump is just too big or you can’t dig it out, it can be attacked from the outside in. Take your spade and cut pieces that you can handle from the edge. Sometimes the center of a big clump is not healthy anymore and can be composted, just use the edges. The younger roots and offshoots growing at the edges of the clump have more vigor; they’ll recover faster after division and are more likely to produce strong new plants.

Each new division needs to have two or three new shoots and a good segment of healthy roots. Plant the new divisions prior to lifting out the parent plant. Amended the soil with good organic matter. Prune the stems and foliage of the clump to be divided to six inches from the ground in order to ease division and to cut down on moisture loss. Then re-plant them as soon as possible to minimize stress.

Finally, stand back, admire your hard work, and don’t forget to share your creation with your friends in the garden, or you can share them with friends. It is also a great way to rejuvenate perennials and stimulate new growth.

When your special day of commitment and celebration comes, you want everything to be perfect – including the setting. For an evening outdoor ceremony and the reception of your dreams, imagine your event amid beautiful natural surroundings and stunning vistas. Here you’ll find enchanting ambiance, with original Victorian architecture and fountains, colorfully-landscaped gardens, and more than one hundred different tree specimens. With a historic building and rented area to host your reception, caring and attentive staff, and a stellar selection of caterers to choose from, you can enjoy your day, while leaving the details to us. The Morris Arboretum is available for weddings on Friday, Saturday and Sunday evenings only, from 6pm to midnight, May through October. For more information on weddings and rentals visit http://bit.ly/MAWeddings or contact Rentals and Information at (215) 247-5777, ext. 158.

The 33rd Morris Arboretum Intern Class

The Arboretum’s new class of interns started their year-long program this June. Their time here is spent working in the various departments of the Arboretum, while learning through lectures, participating in hands-on sessions, and visiting other gardens, arboreta, and natural areas. Each intern also completes a project during their year here. Many of these projects have an important and lasting impact on the Arboretum. Some past projects have included the development of a tracking system for the Arboretum green roofs, the redesign of the Orange Balustrade area, and updating the Education pages of the Arboretum website. This year the Arboretum welcomed interns from all over the U.S.

REBEKAH ARMSTRONG, Martha S. Miller Endowed Urban Forestry Intern
JAMIE BERLIN, Alice & J. Liddon Pennock, Jr. Endowed Horticulture Intern
SARAH BOLIVAR, McLean Contributionship Endowed Education Intern
JESSAMINE FINCH, Hay Honey Farm Endowed Natural Lands Intern
STEVE PYNE, Martha J. Wallace Endowed Plant Propagation Intern
FABRICE ROCHELEMAIGNE, Walter W. Root Endowed Arborist Intern
HEATHER SCHMIDT, Charles S. Holman Endowed Rose and Flower Garden Intern
EMMA WILLIAMS, Eli Kirk Price Endowed Flora of Pennsylvania Intern
STEPHANIE WILSON, John J. Willaman & Martha Haas Valentine Endowed Plant Protection Intern

Finally, stand back, admire your hard work, and don’t forget to share!
Growing Minds
A New Program for Kids and Families

MIRIAM P. VON ESSEN, Education and Penn Outreach Coordinator

What do leaf collecting, photography, and downward facing dog have in common? They are all activities that are part of Morris Arboretum’s new Growing Minds program! Growing Minds, launched this summer with a successful ten-week interactive children’s theatre program, Mini-Morris Players – a class series with a variety of fun and enriching experiences for children ages 2-14. This fall, the Arboretum is excited to offer new weekday programs, including morning toddler walks, as well as after-school programs, and classes on school holidays:

• Seeds to Sprouts, Autumn Adventures – for the littlest Arboretum students, ages 2-4 – is a six-week series of morning outdoor adventures designed to introduce toddlers and their caregivers to the wonders of the natural world. Each session will include guided exploration through the Arboretum and a craft to take home. (Six Thursdays, September 27-November 8, 1-2:45pm).

• After-School Photography Workshop – for ages 9-12 – offers children a time to get out in nature and experience and capture the magic of fall through the camera lens. This four-week workshop concentrates on close-ups, texture and color and on the last workshop day, kids will have the opportunity to critique and celebrate their classmate’s work. (Four Thursdays, October 4-25, 4-5:30pm).

• Columbus Day at the Morris Arboretum: A Day of Discovery and Art – for ages 6-12 – is a great program for children on their day off from school! Kids will discover the lesser-known “territories” of the Arboretum as they use maps to chart their own course through the gardens and document their findings with drawings and paintings. (Monday, October 8, 1-2:45pm).

• Veteran’s Day Print-Making Workshop – for ages 6-12 – offer kids an opportunity to learn the art of print-making, while giving thanks to those who served our country. In addition to producing nature-inspired prints to take home and share with loved ones, children will also produce a print to send to the Philadelphia Veterans Hospital. (Monday, November 12, 1-2:45pm).

To learn more and register for these classes, visit online.morrisarboretum.org/GrowingMinds, or call (215) 247-5777 x125. Some classes may have already begun, but not to worry…this fall marks the first of many seasons for these great new offerings!

The Lydia Morris Legacy Society

VICTORIA SICKS, Associate Director of Development, Individual and Planned Giving

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Frank Rasmus is a weekly visitor to the Morris Arboretum. Over the past twenty years, he has come to know the garden well in all seasons. He has watched many construction projects, and seen the Arboretum grow and improve in every way – as a place of peace and relaxation, but also as a public garden with strong programming for visitors of all ages.

Frank was born and raised in Philadelphia, graduating from Father Judge High School and then attending LaSalle University. After a career in the insurance industry, Frank found himself with considerable financial resources, a result of his own wise investing and an inheritance from his father. It was Frank’s attorney who asked, “When are you going to start giving some of this away?” That simple question set Frank on a philanthropic path. His generosity has benefited the Morris Arboretum on multiple occasions, and he has supported other programs within the University of Pennsylvania, as well as throughout our region and the entire country.

Frank’s preferred means of giving is through a charitable gift annuity. He has made close to 100 payments until a later date when there is a need for them. Frank’s preferred means of giving is through a charitable gift annuity. He has made close to 100 payments until a later date when there is a need for them. The eventual benefits retained by the Morris Arboretum can be designated by the donor for a particular use at the time the gift is made. As Frank says, “The goal is to combine philanthropic intent with an interest in mission.” The entire Arboretum community thanks Frank for this additional gift to support botanical research.

If you are interested in joining with Frank Rasmus and the many others who have supported the work of the Morris Arboretum through a charitable gift annuity, please contact Victoria Sicks, Associate Director of Individual and Planned Giving at (215) 247-5777, ext 152 or via email at vicks@upenn.edu.

Security to the donor. A donor can also choose to defer payments until a later date when there is a need for them. The event of the donor and the many others who have supported the work of the Morris Arboretum through a charitable gift annuity, please contact Victoria Sicks, Associate Director of Individual and Planned Giving at (215) 247-5777, ext 152 or via email at vicks@upenn.edu.
Learn and Discover Something New at the Morris Arboretum!

After a hot summer, get back into your garden and start planning and planting for this fall, winter and next spring. Take adventure and join us on a trip. Here is a sampling of different classes and trips offered this fall. To see all of our classes or to register, visit online.morrisarboretum.org/classes or check your Fall 2012 Course Brochure.

Great Plants for Fall Color: A Tour with the Arboretum’s Curator
Saturday, October 20, 1-3pm
Members: $25, Non-members: $30
Anthony Avello, The Gayle E. Maloney Director of Horticulture and Curator, Morris Arboretum
The Arboretum comes alive in autumn with a rich palette of brilliant colors. Join Tony for a tour focusing on colorful fall foliage, fruit, and interesting bark texture.

Constructing the Landscape
Five Tuesdays: October 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, 7-9pm and Saturday, October 27, 10am-12 noon
Members: $150, Non-members: $180
Session 1: Planting Plants in the Landscape
Session 2: Selecting Quality Nursery Plants
Session 3 & 4: Architectural Elements
Session 5 & 6: Tree and Shrub Installation and Maintenance
This course offers an overview of landscape basics including choosing and buying healthy plants appropriate for your setting, guidelines for planning and installing hardcape elements in your garden, and planting and maintaining trees, shrubs, and groundcovers. Arboretum staff and local instructors with years of experience teach this six-session course.

Planting for Winter Pleasure
Thursday, October 11, 7-9pm
Members: $25, Non-members: $30
Denis Lucey, Landscape Designer
Learn how you can extend the blooms of fall into winter by selecting plants judiciously and by maximizing the use of foliage, fruit, and interesting bark texture.

Connections Beyond Our Gardens Lecture Series
Our mid-week afternoon series continues this fall with three talks designed to stimulate and enrich, whether you are a gardener or not. Our speakers will transport you to the worlds of the arts, humanities, sciences, sustainability, ornithology, and travel. A reception with refreshments follows each presentation and tours of the Arboretum are available afterward. Reservations and payment are required in advance as space is limited. Lectures are $18 for members and $20 for non-members. Register online at online.morrisarboretum.org/classes or call (215) 247-5777, ext. 125.

The Chesapeake Bay – A National Natural Treasure
Wednesday, October 10, 2pm
Harry Campbell, Senior Scientist, The Chesapeake Bay Foundation
The Chesapeake Bay is the largest estuary in the U.S., and one of the most productive in the world. For nearly 40 years, the Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF) has been a leader in the fight to protect and restore the Bay. CBF’s Pennsylvania Senior Scientist, Harry Campbell, will share the story of the Bay and the species that depend on it, as well as the work that is being done to save this national treasure.

Saving America’s Exceptional Gardens
Wednesday, November 7, 2 pm
Antonia Adario, President, The Garden Conservancy
Exceptional gardens often begin as private affairs – the life work of passionate, dedicated, and remarkably talented gardeners. The Garden Conservency was established to safeguard the country’s rich garden and landscape heritage. Conservancy President Antonia Adario will tell the inspiring stories of these living works of art, and describe the steps Garden Conservency takes to preserve them for the education and enjoyment of future generations.

Calling All Scarecrows!
This year, the Morris Arboretum will welcome the scarecrows back to the Oak Allée for a fifth year! The walk will feature 50+ scarecrows, some storybook-themed to coincide with the Arboretum’s popular storyline program, as well as our popular “designer” scarecrows. The Scarecrow Walk will be on display from Saturday, October 6th through Sunday, October 21st.
Give a year of discovery and learning with a Gift Membership

Treat family and friends with a gift that “gives” for an entire year by giving them a Morris Arboretum membership. As members, your gift recipients can participate in more than 25 free special events and programs offered annually. They will also receive discounts on educational courses taught by Arboretum experts, and they receive reciprocal admission privileges to more than 200 gardens nationwide.

For more information about membership benefits or to purchase a gift membership online, visit us on the web at www.morrisarboretum.org.

To receive signature Morris Arboretum gift wrapping, make your purchase in the Shop at the Morris Arboretum. And, while you are at the Shop don’t forget to use your member discount on other purchases. Sorry, member discounts are not applicable towards membership purchases. To ensure your gift of membership materials are in hand by December 24, all mail, online and phone orders must be received by December 10.

Adirondack Chairs Rule the Garden

The Morris Arboretum’s summer exhibit, Take a Seat! Adirondack Chairs re-interpreted, captured the essence of summer the way it used to be—carefree and unplugged. More than 35 artists reinvented a summer classic, the Adirondack chair, to create 70 unique works of art, in chair form. The Adirondack chair itself is the embodiment of summer, its image forever bound to those of sunlight, freshly-cut grass, lemonade and long naps. The chairs were paired in twos or threes throughout the Morris Arboretum’s garden, and at Woodmere Art Museum, the Arboretum’s collaborator for this exhibit.

Moonlight & Roses 2012

Karen McGinley, Associate Director, Development Programs

On Friday, June 8th, more than 550 people gathered in the Arboretum’s spectacular Rose Garden to celebrate Moonlight & Roses. Following cocktails and hors d’oeuvres in the garden, 320 guests dined under the moonlit tent, where they danced the night away to the lively sounds of the Janis Nowlan Band. The weather was perfect and a wonderful time was had by all.

It was another very successful fundraising year, with gross revenue totaling $225,000. Proceeds from this year’s Moonlight & Roses will support annual operations, including the interior renovations to the historic George D. Widener Education & Visitor Center, and funding to address handicap accessibility, café facilities and restrooms. These improvements will allow the Arboretum to enhance the experience of the more than 120,000 visitors who visit the Arboretum annually.

Susan Mathes Oberwager, Ph.D. was this year’s Moonlight & Roses honoree. As Co-Chair of the Always Growing Campaign, she led the effort that has enabled the Arboretum to raise more than $54 million toward the $60 million campaign goal. Susan’s energy and focus have been pivotal to the realization of the campaign’s two major capital projects, specifically Out on a Limb and Phase 1 of the Horticulture Center at Bloomingdale Farm. These achievements have transformed the Morris Arboretum into the world-renowned public garden, center for education, and model of sustainability that it is today.

Peter Cilio and Denise DeLaurentis Cilio, this year’s Moonlight & Roses co-chairs, worked closely with the committee to ensure that Moonlight & Roses was not only a spectacular celebration, but also a fundraising success that will help guarantee the Morris Arboretum will remain a beautiful and thriving cultural institution for generations to come.

Gardens, Wine and Wilderness: A Tour of New Zealand, January 5-27, 2013

Imagine the trip of a lifetime. Under balmy skies you will visit some of nature’s most spectacular scenery, interspersed with wonderful examples of human creativity — gardens, architecture, artistic creations, fine cuisine and wine. Learn the history and culture of a land from those who love and care for it.

In January 2013, we are proud to offer this opportunity to experience the mystery, beauty and hospitality of New Zealand. Join Richard Lyon, R.L.A., and Paul Meyer of Morris Arboretum, and escape winter while you explore, learn and relax in the gardens and natural wonders of this extraordinary destination. This trip is offered exclusively to Morris Arboretum members and Penn alumni.

For further information, please see our website: www.morrisarboretum.org or call or e-mail Victoria Sicks of the Morris Arboretum at (215) 247-5777, ext. 152, or vsicks@upenn.edu.