Coming this Summer!
Adirondack Chairs, Re-Interpreted

Nothing says summer like the classic Adirondack chair. So, if you can’t get to the Adirondacks this summer, or even if you can, you won’t want to miss seeing the collection of 30+ artist-created Adirondack chairs on view throughout the garden at Morris Arboretum, and at Woodmere Art Museum. This collaborative project invites artists to paint, decorate, redesign, reassemble and re-interprete the classic Adirondack chair in their own distinctive style. The chairs will be on display from May 31 through Labor Day. Visit www.morrisarboretum.org for more information.

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

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Periodicals postage paid at Philadelphia, PA.
Collecting in Western China Enhances the Arboretum’s Living Collection

A s visitors enjoy the beauty of the Arboretum’s plants, it is easy to miss the fact that these plants are accessioned museum objects. Though some date back to the days of John and Lydia Morris, more than two thirds of our collection has been added over the past 30 years.

When the Arboretum accesses a plant, it is not typically from a local nursery. When possible, we collect seeds from a documented wild source, recording data such as latitude, longitude, elevation, and habitat information, and documenting the field plant with a pressed herbarium specimen. In some cases, we try to collect a species from several locations throughout its distribution range to examine variations within that species. We are also working to expand the genetic variation in species that may have been in cultivation for many generations. Today, the Arboretum has more than 12,600 accessioned plants and seed lots, and of these, more than 3,985 are of documented wild origin.

This past autumn I had the opportunity to participate in a plant collection expedition to the Qin Ling Mountains in Shaanxi and Gansu, China, with the North American China Plant Exploration Consortium (NACPEC). We have been part of this organization since 1991, and I personally participated in four expeditions in the 1990s, but this year’s trip was my first return to China since 1999 (for more information on the work of NACPEC, see http://arctinologia.arboretum.harvard.edu/pdf/articles/1952.pdf Arnoldia). I traveled from the U.S. with Kunso Kim from the Morton Arboretum near Chicago, and we were hosted by Kang Wang of the Beijing Botanic Garden and other Chinese colleagues.

Building on the earlier work of Tony Aiello (the Arboretum’s Gayle E. Maloney Director of Horticulture and Curator), ash (Fraxinus) species were priority targets for documenting with herbarium specimens and seed collections. This is especially timely, as the devastating emerald ash borer moves across Pennsylvania. It is currently reported in the vicinity of Harrisburg, and is likely even closer. Some Asian species of ash are demonstrating degrees of resistance to this insect, which kills trees when timely, as the devastating emerald ash borer moves across Pennsylvania. It is currently reported in the vicinity of Harrisburg, and is likely even closer. Some Asian species of ash are demonstrating degrees of resistance to this insect, which kills trees when

We were successful in collecting ten accessions of Fraxinus representing four species. Of special interest is Fraxinus Baroniana (Baron’s ash), a little known species not well represented in botanic garden collections. Currently, there are no plants of this species in the National Plant Germplasm System. This small tree or large shrub has beautiful, fine-textured leaves with burgundy autumn tints. We even saw one plant being trained as a handsome potted specimen at a forestry station.

Extensive flooding had occurred late in the summer and some of the fruiting specimens of the Baron’s ash trees had been already some are germinating in the Arboretum greenhouses, while others are being shared with other botanical institutions. In addition, we came back with many tales of the contrasts of new China and old, arboreal friends, both rare and well known, and examples of exemplary Chinese cuisine, hospitality and friendship. And, of course, I returned with enriched knowledge of many plant species and 3,600 photos. I look forward to sharing a selection of these with you at future lectures.

I | MORRIS ARBORETUM | 2

Arboretum Rentals
Hold your special event in one of Philadelphia’s most beautiful settings. The Widener Center and surrounding grounds are available for weddings, parties, and private and corporate meetings up to 150 guests. For details contact Addie Wong, Visitor Services Coordinator, at (215) 247-5777, ext. 158.

e-newsletter
Would you like to receive our monthly e-newsletter and other Arboretum updates via email? It’s a great way for you to stay up-to-date on upcoming events, register online and help us save trees! Email members@morrisarboretum.org to be added. To address the problems of SPAM, many Internet Service Providers (ISPs) and email systems now block or filter email that is not from a “safe sender.” Please ask all info@morrisarboretum.org and members@morrisarboretum.org to your list of accepted senders or friends list if you wish to receive this information.

Cover Photo – Paul W. Meyer
The Morris Arboretum is proud of nearly 40 years of high quality youth education programs that have responded to the changing needs of school age children over time. Today’s robust programs have their roots in the environmental summer camp and the brand new Guide program of the 1970s. The first curriculum-based tour, Trees Where We Live, was developed with teacher collaboration in the 1990s. Its message, “we need trees and we need to help urban trees,” is still powerful and is the basis for most of the informal education at the Arboretum today. Today’s robust programs have their roots in the environmental summer camp and the brand new Guide program of the 1970s. The first curriculum-based tour, Trees Where We Live, was developed with teacher collaboration in the 1990s. Its message, “we need trees and we need to help urban trees,” is still powerful and is the basis for most of the informal education at the Arboretum today.

We now offer nine curriculum-based tours, including lessons on the importance of our wetlands to migrating birds, calculating profits from a vegetable garden, and the effect of soil compaction on water movement. With the opening of Out on a Limb—a Tree Adventure exhibit and its companion tours, we are welcoming more school students than we have had in more than a decade.

Of primary concern now is improving the educational impact of student visits. We believe the best use of our resources for budding scholars and their teachers is facilitating a deeper engagement with our collections, landscape, research and mission. Teachers are rediscovering the value in real world environmental experiences. Knowing that most people learn better when they can relate to facts, we are encouraging teachers to bring their students to the Arboretum many times throughout their school careers, by integrating curricula into their daily lives and developing relationships with schools in our Partners in Education program. We are encouraging teachers to think of the Arboretum as a place for field studies instead of field trips; where they can test theories and develop ideas encountered in the classroom. In order to foster the enthusiasm needed by teachers to make science standards in unique ways, engage in a natural laboratory or classroom experience, teachers will be able to come to our site to their curriculum.

By adding the Arboretum as a real-world extension to each classroom experience, teachers will be able to adapt science standards in unique ways, engage in a natural world experience in arts and humanities, and raise the performance of their students. By visiting frequently and throughout their school careers, by integrating curricula involving the relationships between people, plants and place, and by engaging more fully with the resources unique to the Morris Arboretum, students will have access to our knowledge and the resources to develop their own stories with relevance in their lives as students and as citizens. People who relate personally to the environment become better stewards of the environment.

With the assistance of the Maguire Foundation and other funders interested in making a difference in the classroom, we are developing relationships with schools in our Partners in Education program. We are encouraging teachers to think of the Arboretum as a place for field studies instead of field trips; where they can test theories and develop ideas encountered in the classroom. In order to foster the enthusiasm needed by teachers to make science standards in unique ways, engage in a natural laboratory or classroom experience, teachers will be able to come to our site to their curriculum.

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The Morris Arboretum is truly honored to have this opportunity to celebrate Susan and her many contributions to the entire Arboretum community during the 2012 Moonlight & Roses gala!
The First Harbingers of Spring – Cornelian Dogwoods

ANTHONY AIELLO, The Coyle E. Maloney Director of Horticulture and Curator

One of my favorite aspects of early spring is watching as the first trees and shrubs begin to flower. Among these harbingers of spring are two small trees, *Cornus mas* (Cornelian-cherry dogwood) and *Cornus officinalis* (Japanese cornel dogwood). As always, common names can be misleading, and these are neither true cherries (*Prunus*) nor are they the typical flowering dogwoods such as *Cornus florida* and *Cornus kousa*.

Instead, these two closely related species of flowering trees brighten the March and early April garden with their small but profuse yellow flowers. *C. mas* is native from central and southern Europe to the Caucasus Mountains while *C. officinalis* is found in Japan, Korea, and China. Both of these are small spreading trees, similar to a medium-sized crabapple, growing to about 20-25 feet with about an equal spread.

The main seasonal interest of both trees is their small flowers, which individually are insignificant but are held in small clusters, covering the entire tree and often the whole branch, making for an overall significant bright yellow display. Japanese cornel dogwood flowers slightly earlier than its European cousin, and its flowers are often brighter and larger, making it the slightly showier of the two species.

Both of these trees are useful in a variety of situations, growing in a variety of soil conditions and needing at least a half day of sun. Japanese cornel dogwood is slightly larger and more tree-like, and it also has attractive exfoliating bark. Because of these characteristics, I prefer it in the landscape. Both trees are useful as a specimen or patio tree, hedge (especially Cornelian-cherry) or incorporated into a mixed border. They are especially effective if planted against a dark background to show off the flowers.

In late summer or early autumn, these trees develop small bright red berries that resemble elongated cherries. Although quite tart, these fruits are edible and are valued throughout the natural range of both species, where they are used for preserves, juice, and soft drinks. In good years, the leaves on these trees will turn shades of orange and red.

Both plants are readily available, and there are a few varieties to look for. These include *C. mas* ‘Golden Glory’ with an upright habit that makes it ideal for smaller spaces or as a hedge, *C. mas* ‘Spring Glow’ with outstanding bright yellow flowers display and attractive bark; and *C. officinalis* ‘Kintoki’, another excellent flowering form with good exfoliating bark.

Both species are planted throughout the Arboretum. Look for them to the far left of the kiosk when you enter, around the parking lots, near the Oak Allée, or near Seven Arches. They are perfect in combination with other early flowering shrubs (Korean rhododendron – *Rhododendron mucronulatum*), perennials such as hellebores, and bulbs (*Scilla*), perennials such as hellebores, and bulbs (*Scilla*), perennials such as hellebores, and bulbs (*Scilla*), perennials such as hellebores, and bulbs (*Scilla*).

These try these small trees in your garden and you will be well rewarded with their early spring display.

### PLANT SALE 2012

Join us on Mother’s Day weekend for our Annual Plant Sale at the Horticulture Center at Bloomfield Farm. The sale will take place from Thursday, May 10 – Saturday, May 12. Invitations will be mailed to members at the noted levels. Register online or call (215) 247-5777 ext. 170.

**Save the Date for Members-Only Plant Sale Events**

Morris Arboretum membership offers a variety of special benefits during the Plant Sale. All members receive 10% off their entire purchase and can shop before the public during Members-Only Day on Friday, May 11. Special events during the Plant Sale are offered to premier members. Not a premier member and interested in the events? Call the membership office at (215) 247-5777 ext. 151 or ext. 155 or send an email message to members@morrisarboretum.org to upgrade your membership today.

**Plant Sale Luncheon**

Thursday, May 10, 12-2:30pm

Oak level members ($500) and above are invited to lunch with Paul Meyer, *The F. Otto Haas Director*. Following lunch, they will have the first opportunity to make purchases from a wide variety of plants at this year’s sale. Invitations will be mailed and registration is required.

**Plant Sale Preview Night**

Thursday, May 10, 5:30-7:30pm

Chesnut level members ($165) and above will enjoy a casual evening of shopping and fun. Morris Arboretum experts will be on hand to help you choose the perfect plants for your garden. Hosts d’oeuvres, beer and wine will be served. Invitations will be mailed and registration is required.

**Plant Sale Members Only Day**

Friday, May 11, 10am-8pm

Bring your membership card, wallet and wagons. Shop early for the best selection. All members save 10% on their entire Plant Sale purchase and choose a free dividend plant. Holly members ($250) and above receive two dividend plants and Katsura members ($2,500) receive a special plant from a wild-collected source.

**Public Plant Sale**

Saturday, May 12, 10am-4pm

The public is invited to shop at the Plant Sale.

The Greater Philadelphia Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society will hold its annual Plant Sale at Morris Arboretum this year. Outstanding varieties of large-leaf (elpidotes) and small-leaf (lepidoths) rhododendrons will be offered, as well azaleas, both evergreen and deciduous, and kalmias (mountain laurels). The plants were selected for their colorful floral display and interesting plant forms and foliage. All are hardy in the Delaware Valley. The rhododendron sale will follow the schedule and hours of the Arboretum’s Plant Sale. For information, contact Karel Bernady, (610) 827-0813.

Would you like to take home a free rhododendron? Join the Greater Philadelphia Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society during the Plant Sale and you will receive a choice plant. The society features an outstanding quarterly journal, annual and regional conferences, and an exciting seed exchange. The chapter meets at Morris Arboretum with informative speakers, exhibits plants in formal displays at the Philadelphia Flower Show, and maintains a plants for members program to make rarely offered rhododendrons available to members. Visit the chapter’s website at gpchapter.org.

**PLANT SALE at Bloomfield Farm**

The plants were selected for their colorful floral display and interesting plant forms and foliage. All are hardy in the Delaware Valley. The rhododendron sale will follow the schedule and hours of the Arboretum’s Plant Sale. For information, contact Karel Bernady, (610) 827-0813.

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Rejuvenative Pruning of Mature Shrubs

ANTHONY AIELLO, The Gayle E. Maloney Director of Horticulture and Curator

I f you are like me, you never have enough time to accomplish all of your gardening tasks throughout the year, and eventually those well-behaved shrubs in your garden grow beyond their desired size and start to crowd other plants in the garden. The beauty of growing and pruning deciduous shrubs is that they can be maintained at a desired size through rejuvenative pruning.

The first thing to keep in mind when pruning shrubs is to have the proper (and properly sharpened) tools. These will include a good pair of hand pruners, a pair of loppers, and a hand saw. When it comes to hand pruners, I prefer a good pair of bypass, or scissor pruners, that make smoother and cleaner cuts than anvil type pruners. There are a range of pruning saws available, and again the most important aspect is to have a saw that is specifically designed for pruning and is fitted with a good, sharp blade.

The second most important aspect of pruning is appropriate timing, and this is based on when the plant flowers. Spring flowering shrubs are those that flower before June 15th. These plants set their flower buds on new growth in the previous growing season, and so they should be pruned soon after they flower. Examples of spring flowering shrubs include lilacs, azaleas, and forsythia. Summer flowering shrubs are those that flower after June 15th and set their flowers on new growth formed during the same season. This group includes chastetree (Vitex), bluebeard (Caryopteris), and crape myrtle and these can be pruned in spring, before flowering.

There are many different methods and techniques of shrub pruning, but most overgrown shrubs can be completely rejuvenated in two to three years. The first step is to remove any dead or crossing shoots; after this, prune out approximately one-third of the oldest shoots at the ground. Remove overhanging branches that shade out the lower portions of the plant and tip-back any leggy young shoots. If you repeat this process for three consecutive years, you will have completely rejuvenated your shrub, with the end result being a more robust, healthier, and floriferous plant.

So start thinking now about which of your shrubs could use some pruning this spring, and don’t worry when it comes time to get started. The beauty of shrubs is that they a lot like dogs — they are very forgiving and they always come back with enthusiasm.

To learn more about pruning, the Arboretum is also offering two classes this spring: Pruning for the Homeowner on March 28 at 7pm and Pruning Shrubs: Broad-leaved and Needle-Leaved on March 29 at 9am.

First Year
1. Large old bush
2. Remove 1/3 of old branches at ground level
3. Growth at the end of the first season

Second Year
1. Use thinning technique to remove 1/3 of old branches and to cut back new growth
2. Growth at the end of second season

Third Year
1. Use thinning technique to remove remaining old branches and to cut back new growth
2. Growth at end of third season (rejuvenated shrub)

The Morris Arboretum would like to thank all who have made our Always Growing Campaign such a wonderful success.

By December 31, 2012, our goal is to finalize commitments for the remaining $5.5 million of our $60 million goal.

OUR MOST CRITICAL CAMPAIGN PRIORITIES INCLUDE:

Unrestricted funds in support of the Annual Fund & Membership
Completion of the Horticulture Center Project
Arboretum Endowments

We hope we can count on your continued support of the Morris Arboretum. Please contact Melissa Calvert, Director of Development, at (215)247-577 ext. 102 to learn about how you can participate today.

Photo: Ann Reed
In Memoriam

Remembering Elizabeth F. and Lewis S. Somers III

Elizabeth F. “Betty” and Lewis S. “Lew” Somers III of Lafayette Hill, PA were extraordinary friends of the Morris Arboretum. Lew would say the Arboretum was “her” thing, but he supported Betty in her commitment to the Morris Arboretum that spanned almost 40 years. Betty was tireless in her efforts to see the organization thrive and she was one of it’s best ambassadors.

Betty began her service at the Morris Arboretum as a volunteer guide in the 1970s. The Moonlight & Roses committee quickly recognized her talents, and she was recruited to serve on the gala committee, a role she fulfilled for almost 20 years. In June 2005, she was honored for her incredible volunteerism and generous support as the Honorary Chair of Moonlight & Roses. Her leadership extended to the Advisory Board of Managers and as Chair of the Annual Fund Committee from 2001–2011. During Betty’s tenure as the Annual Fund Chair, the fund grew by 53 percent.

Both Betty and Lew held long term philanthropic leadership positions in Philadelphia. They gave countless hours to Lew’s alma mater, the William Penn Charter School, and to the International House. For more than three decades, Lew served in positions in Philadelphia. They gave countless hours to Lew’s alma mater, the William Penn Charter School, and to the International House. For more than three decades, Lew served in positions in Philadelphia.

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Bill was a newspaperman and a publisher. With that background, he was straightforward in his approach to supporting non-profit organizations. He wanted the facts, wanted to know what was working and what was not. Betty was also a dedicated outdoorsman, hiker and conservationist. He traveled the world, fishing and bird-watching wherever he went. Those interests led to the long-standing support of Arboretum initiatives: the creation of the wetlands, the publication of important botanical reference books, most recently The Aquatic Plants of Pennsylvania, the underwriting of plant exploration trips, and an interest in the resulting research.

Bill valued good and educated staff, and understood the need to provide for both education and fair compensation. The McLean Contributionship created the Education Internship, and years later initiated a challenge grant for the Morris Arboretum Staff Compensation Endowment. With recent McLean Contributionship support of a three-year post-doctoral position in the Botany Department, Bill and his family joined with other Arboretum friends to strengthen this important scientific aspect of the Morris Arboretum mission.

Bill’s interest in the Arboretum encouraged and inspired seasoned staff and new interns alike. He wanted to know what we were doing and what were our biggest challenges. He and his wife Elizabeth frequently attended lectures at the Arboretum and he used those opportunities to learn about current projects.

With Elizabeth and their family at the McLean Contributionship, Bill McLean was a true friend and partner in the evolution of the Morris Arboretum. We will miss Bill very much, but we will always feel his influence as we continue to do the work we are called to do.

A thoughtful and dedicated friend, William L. McLean III

“Bill McLean was a good businessman and a thoughtful philanthropist. He wanted to assist the cultural organizations in Philadelphia. For more than 30 years, Bill’s interest in the Morris Arboretum and his wise counsel have helped to shape this institution,” observed Director Paul Meyer.

Bill was a newspaperman and a publisher. With that background, he was straightforward in his approach to supporting non-profit organizations. He wanted the facts, wanted to know what was working and what was not. Betty was also a dedicated outdoorsman, hiker and conservationist. He traveled the world, fishing and bird-watching wherever he went. Those interests led to the long-standing support of Arboretum initiatives: the creation of the wetlands, the publication of important botanical reference books, most recently The Aquatic Plants of Pennsylvania, the underwriting of plant exploration trips, and an interest in the resulting research.

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19 Storytime, enjoy a walk in the garden with your little one. Free for members or with admission.

26 “Witchhazel” is your Favorite? Sunday, February 19, 1-3pm

Did you know that the Arboretum has fabulous color and fragrance even in the middle of winter? Grab your family and head over to the Arboretum for a day of fun and exploration. Follow the scavenger hunt to discover the many varieties of witchhazels growing at the Arboretum. Ranging in color from yellow and orange to pink and red, witchhazels are some of the first harbingers of spring. Compare their beautiful flowers and take in their heady scent. After your hunt, stop back at the Visitor Center and make a fun craft. This event is free with regular admission and registration is not required.

29 Amazing Stories: The First Flowering Plants” – The Klein Endowed Lecture Sunday, March 17, 1:30-3:30pm

For more information see p. 19.

30 “Darwin’s “Abominable Mystery” and The Search for the First Flowering Plants” – The Barnes Endowed Lecture Sunday, March 18, 2pm

For more information see p. 20.

Spring has Sprung! Saturday, March 24, 1pm

A mosaic, created from drawings submitted by visitors depicting signs of spring in the Arboretum gardens, will be unveiled in the Widener Visitors Center Lower Gallery. Light refreshments will be served to celebrate this exhibit opening. This event is free with admission.
# Calendar

## February

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- **4th**: Winter Wellness Walks 10 am
- **11th**: Tu B’Shevat Family Program 7 pm
- **18th**: “Witchhazel is your Favorite?” 1-3 pm
- **25th**: “Beautiful Landscapes: The Key To Healthy Communities” – The Klein Endowed Lecture 7 pm

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- **1st**: Winter Wellness Walks 10 am
- **8th**: Storytime at the Morris Arboretum 10:30-11 am
- **15th**: Visitor Education Volunteer Training 7-9 pm
- **22nd**: Visitor Education Volunteer Training 7-9 pm

## April

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- **1st**: Native Trees at the Morris Arboretum 10 am
- **8th**: Storytime at the Morris Arboretum 10:30-11 am
- **15th**: Visitor Education Volunteer Training 7-9 pm
- **22nd**: Visitor Education Volunteer Training 7-9 pm

## May

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# Events

- **Winter Wellness Walks**: 10 am
- **Storytime at the Morris Arboretum**: 10:30-11 am
- **Visitor Education Volunteer Training**: 7-9 pm
- **Arbor Day Celebration**: 10 am-4 pm
- **Plant Sale Public Sale Day**: 10 am-4 pm
- **Adirondack Chairs, Re-interpreted**: 10 am

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### Seasonal Themes

- **February**: Tu B’Shevat Family Program
- **March**: Visitor Education Volunteer Training
- **April**: Visitor Education Volunteer Training
- **May**: Visitor Education Volunteer Training

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**Seasons Winter/Spring 2012** | 12

**Morris Arboretum**
April
Native Trees at Morris Arboretum
Sundays in April (5, 12, 19, 26, 29) at 1pm
Meet in front of the Widener Visitor Center and take a guided tour of some of the Great Trees at the Morris Arboretum. Knowledgeable guides will point out each tree landscape merits, as well as its vital role in our environment. Free for members or with admission.

3rd Annual Storytime at the Arboretum
Tuesday, April 3, 10:30-11:00am
Join us as we partner with the William Jeanes Library on this new event. Geared to preschoolers, enjoy a morning of fabulous stories as told by a William Jeanes librarian. After Storytime, enjoy a walk in the garden with your little one. Free for members or with admission.

Garden Discovery Series: “Poetries”
Saturday, April 7, 11am-3pm
Calling all blossoming poets and nature nuts! Let the beauty of spring at the Arboretum inspire visitors of all ages to create poetic masterpieces in celebration of National Poetry Month. Join us at the Discovery Table and show us how creative you can be!

April
Japanese Cherry Blossom Festival
Two Saturdays, April 14 and 21
Celebrate this unique aspect of the Arboretum’s Japanese culture and heritage. See p. 18 for more information.

Visit from the Japanese Cherry Blossom Queen
Monday, April 16, 10am
See p. 18 for more information.

Arbor Day Celebration
Saturday, April 28, 11am-3pm
Be a designer, an architect or a botanist for a day. Five stations set up throughout the Arboretum will give visitors the opportunity to expand their knowledge of trees while participating in challenging and fun activities. Stations will include designing a tree house, learning to identify trees, writing the history of a tree’s life, planning an urban treescape, and observing arborists at work. This program, open to all visitors, also gives 6th, 7th and 8th grade Girl Scouts the opportunity to earn their “Trees” badge. Free with admission.

May
Storytime at the Arboretum
Tuesday, May 1, 10:30-11:00am
Join us as we partner with the William Jeanes Library on this new event. Geared to preschoolers, enjoy a morning of fabulous stories as told by a William Jeanes librarian. After Storytime, enjoy a walk in the garden with your little one. Free for members or with admission.

Garden Discovery Series: “Be a Bird Architect”
Saturday, May 5, 11am-3pm
Ever wonder how birds build their nests? Fly over to the Discovery Table and become a bird for the day. Using only a feathery hand puppet, try building your own nest in the garden using some of the same materials that birds use!

Plant Sale Members’ Events
Thursday & Friday, May 10-11
See p. 6 for more information.

Plant Sale Public Sale Day
Saturday, May 12, 10am-4pm
See p. 6 for more information.

Garden Railway Display
Grand Opening
Saturday, May 26, 10am-4pm
The Garden Railway returns for the 2012 season. See p. 17 for more details.

Adirondack Chairs, Re-Interpreted
Saturday, May 31, 10am
On display through Labor Day. See back page for more information.

SEASONs WINTER/SPRING 2012 | 14

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I have known Paul Meyer for more than 25 years. During this time, I have watched as he helped transform the Morris Arboretum from a quiet, local treasure to the world class botanic garden it is today. All the while, he has chronicled this transformation with tens of thousands of photographs. Rarely will you find Paul roaming the Arboretum grounds without a camera around his neck. While admiring his photos recently, I realized that too few people had access to Paul’s striking images and that they needed to be shared, so I suggested we create a book. The result is a wonderful publication that speaks to Paul’s love of nature and his deep connection to the Morris Arboretum. Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania: Through the Lens of Paul W. Meyer, is now available for sale at The Shop at the Morris Arboretum. I encourage you to pick up a copy for yourself and for anyone else who also appreciates the beauty of the Arboretum. I am certain you will enjoy Paul’s unique eye as much as I do.

An exhibit of the same name, Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania: Through the Lens of Paul W. Meyer, highlighting images from the book, will open in the Upper Gallery of the Widener Visitor Center on Saturday, February 11.

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

The trip of a lifetime.
Under balmy skies you will visit a place of wonder and marvel; one 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. Imagine a tour designed with the same care and passion as a great piece of music or a celebrated garden. The concepts of sequence, contrast, surprise, rhythm, repetitions, theme and variations apply equally to music, gardens and to travel.

For 17 years, Garden Adventures, Ltd. has been designing and leading tours to New Zealand. In January 2013, we are proud to join forces for the sixth time to offer this opportunity to experience the mystery, beauty and hospitality of New Zealand. With Richard Lyon, R.L.A., and Arboretum senior staff members, you are invited to 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. You may also call or e-mail Richard Lyon at (610) 444-1964 or rlyon@wlai.net.

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Garden Railway – 2012
Storytime Rail

Come to Morris Arboretum’s Garden Railway where there will be storytime magic around every bend! Explore the whimsical, botanical, miniature buildings from the golden age of storybooks. Inside a curve of one of the fifteen rail lines will be the sea-shell encrusted castle of Hans Christian Andersen’s “The Little Mermaid.” Around the bend from another era, the humble houses of The Three Little Pigs can be found, a tale first told by Joseph Jacobs in 1890. And nestled in the woods, you just might find Charles Perrault’s “Sleeping Beauty’s Castle,” covered with forbidding brambles and thorns. You also can visit lesser known stories, such as the shoe shop from The Brothers Grimm, “The Elves and the Shoemaker,” and the beautiful oriental palace where Hans Christian Andersen set his tale “The Nightingale’s Song.” And is that really a house on chicken feet? Maybe this is the first time you’ve heard of “Baba Yaga,” a classic Russian folk tale. She is a witch whose house is known for having those chicken feet. Did you know this year is the 200th birthday of Charles Dickens? On the other side of the tracks, there will be a Dickens village to see. The Morris Arboretum will delight you with houses, palaces and castles from these and other beloved tales and unforgettable classic storybooks. Come and enjoy the enchantment this summer beginning with a Grand Opening Celebration on Saturday, May 26. The Garden Railway will be open through Labor Day.

Become a Visitor Education Volunteer – Help New Members Get the Most From their Visit!

There’s so much to see and learn at the Arboretum. Join like-minded members who want to get more out of their visit and give more back: become a Visitor Education Volunteer. This year’s training will run two weeks on Saturday, Tuesday and Thursday starting March 17. The Saturday afternoon sessions will include tours and training in orientation and way-finding. The Tuesday and Thursday evening sessions will highlight Arboretum history, the basics of botany, and where to find answers to visitor questions.

With more young family members than ever, the Arboretum needs to keep our future ecologists and environmentalists engaged. Visitor Education Volunteer training will cultivate your inner teacher and prepare you to lead a wide variety of Arboretum programs. You’ll be given the tools to help guests plan their visit and plot their course. Monday, April 16, 10am
Donors to the Annual Fund – Swan Pond Patrons ($2,500-4,999) Susan and Burn Oberwager
Donate this new group of nine interns will begin a year of work at the Morris Arboretum. Many of them come from out of town and will be in need of housing that is close to the Arboretum with reasonable rent. If you are interested in helping create future conservationists and happy Arboretum visitors, please contact Liza Hawley, Visitor Education Coordinator, at ehawley@upenn.edu or call (215)247-5777, ext. 128.

INTERN HOUSING

This June, a new group of nine interns will begin a year of work at the Morris Arboretum. Many of them come from out of town and will be in need of housing that is close to the Arboretum with reasonable rent. If you are interested in providing housing beginning a year of work at the Morris Arboretum. Many of them come from out of town and will be in need of housing that is close to the Arboretum with reasonable rent. If you are interested in helping create future conservationists and happy Arboretum visitors, please contact Liza Hawley, Visitor Education Coordinator, at ehawley@upenn.edu or call (215)247-5777, ext. 128.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Membership Survey Participants – Thank You!
Last spring, a Membership Survey was conducted and more than 1,100 responses were received – thank you to all who participated. Your input is already helping the Morris Arboretum make updates to our programming, such as adding a regular Storytime for young children, and offering extended hours for the Holiday Garden Railway. Barbara Borsch was the lucky winner of the drawing for the $100 Shop gift card.

Annual Report Corrections

We regret that the following errors/omissions were made in the July 2010-June 2011 Annual Report:
Advisory Board of Managers – Frances M. Glomb
Donors to the Annual Fund – Swan Pond Patrons ($2,500-4,999) Susan and Burn Oberwager
Two Saturdays: March 10, 24, call (215) 247-5777, ext. 125. www.morrisarboretum.org/classes or Register online for classes at

The beauty of nature that are often difficult to capture in a photograph. Learn the most useful tricks of the trade to unveil the wonders and

Sunday, May 20, 1-3pm

Stunning Nature Photography

We will look to nature, grand and small trees of the rose family, Amelanchier, a genus of native shrubs for its delectable fruit, Prized by horticulturists for its

Four Sundays: April 1, 15, 22, 29, an art Series for Kids How Does Nature inspire you? – –

What did Darwin think was so abominably mysterious? Join Ned Friedman, Director of the Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University & Arnold Professor of Organismic and Evolutionary Biology as he explores this mystery. Through Darwin’s correspondence with some of the most eminent botanists of his time, we’ll discover what led him to worry about the evolutionary history of flowering plants right up to the last year of his life. Fossils, insect pollination, and rates of evolutionary change were all part of the complexity of trying to understand where flowering plants came from, and how they eventually came to dominate most of Earth’s plant communities. Finally, recent botanical discoveries will be examined to determine whether the abominable mystery has been solved.

This lecture is part of an endowed lecture series that is presented annually with support from the Laura L. Barnes Horticultural Lecture Fund.

Photo: Michael Burgess

**Morris Arboretum Winter Lecture Series**

The lectures listed below are free, but space is limited. Please call (215) 247-5777, ext. 125 for reservations.


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 role of genome duplication and hybridization play in driving species diversification. Dr. Michael B. Burgess, Research Botanist at the Morris Arboretum, will summarize our current understanding of plant evolution, and will explore research investigating speciation in Amelanchier.

This lecture is part of an endowed lecture series that is presented annually in memory of W. Byron Lukens.
Connections Beyond our Garden – From Wilderness Frontiers to City Streets

The Arboretum’s popular Wednesday afternoon lecture series, “Connections Beyond Our Garden: Talks on People, Plants, and Place,” took us on trips from the polar icecaps of the Arctic, to the western frontier of 19th century America, to the streets of Philadelphia. Kicking off the series on Oct. 12, Peter Dunne, the Director of the Cape May Bird Observatory and Vice President of the New Jersey Audubon Society, gave an engaging anecdotal account of his travels to the stark, remote and pristine wilderness of Northern Canada and Alaska. Reading passages from his latest book, Arctic Autumn: A Journey to Season’s Edge, Dunne captured what it was like to engage with polar bears, spot the elusive white wolf, and witness up-close the melting of the polar icecap as he paddled through a changing Arctic environment. Linda Dunne’s striking photographs concluded the talk, giving testament to the magnificence of this last remaining North American wilderness.

Another expedition – this one by John James Audubon in 1843 to the western frontier of the United States – was the topic of the second lecture on Nov. 9. Robert M. Peck, Senior Fellow at the Academy of Natural Sciences, told an engrossing story of what motivated the artist in his later years to set out on his last major adventure to study and record animals for his book on the mammals of North America. Peck put Audubon in the context of his era, and described how he acquired his quadruped specimens and then brought them to life in the pages of his portfolios.

The third lecture on Dec. 7 showcased the murals that have helped transform Philadelphia neighborhoods and change the social dynamics of city life. Jane Golden, the founder and leader of the Philadelphia Mural Arts Program, presented a behind-the-scenes “tour” through Philadelphia’s streets, showing how the community-based mural arts program has succeeded in replacing city squalor with stunning images and beautified urban spaces while creating a visual record, or autobiography, of the city and its residents. Golden traced the evolution of the program from its anti-graffiti roots in the mid-1980s to the now internationally acclaimed grassroots model for public artwork that has produced more than 3,000 murals and involved artists of all ages and backgrounds in addition to government agencies, civic organizations, schools, prisons and other groups. Golden talked about the techniques used to create the murals and concluded by previewing some exciting new future directions.

Morris Arboretum Horticulture Center Receives Montco Award

On November 16, the Montgomery County Planning Commission presented the Montgomery Awards, acknowledging outstanding land development and revitalization achievements within the county. The awards are dedicated to raising awareness about planning and design within the community; they honor developers, consultants, organizations, and municipalities for their commitment and contributions to the enhancement of Montgomery County.

The prestigious program has two major award categories, one of which is the Land Development Award, focusing on excellence in land development and planning concepts. The Horticulture Center of the Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania, Phase 1 was one of two winning recipients in recognition of its innovative site planning, energy-efficient building design and sustainable design features. The Horticulture Center contains the maintenance and administrative functions for the Arboretum’s horticulture, education, maintenance, and facilities staffs, providing important infrastructure for staff and equipment.

The project achieved Platinum Level Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Certification in 2011, the highest rating of the U.S. Green Building Council. This exceptional project exemplifies the Arboretum’s continued commitment to sustainability, provides a wonderful opportunity to learn about sustainable practices, and is an outstanding addition to the Morris Arboretum and to the community.

Spring forward with lots of new and interesting items at The Shop at Morris Arboretum. It’s a great way to satisfy your shopping urge while supporting the Arboretum at the same time. Stop in today!