Garden Railway 2012 – Storytime Rail

This summer, find storytime magic around every bend! Inside the curve of one of the fifteen rail lines look for Rapunzel’s hair flowing from the ominous tower. Nestled around the corner is Sleeping Beauty’s castle, covered in brambles and thorns, but watch out for the forbidding troll under the bridge of the Three Billy Goats Gruff! And is that really a house on chicken feet? Maybe this is the first time you’ve heard of Baba Yaga, a classic Russian folktale. Morris Arboretum will delight you with castles and cottages from these and other beloved tales and unforgettable classic storybooks. Did you know this year is the 200th birthday of Charles Dickens? On the other side of the tracks, there’s also a Dickens village. The enchantment begins with a Grand Opening celebration on Saturday, May 26. The display runs through Labor Day. Check pages 10-13 inside or visit www.morrisarboretum.org for special Garden Railway events all summer long.

This charming, new addition to the Garden Railway Display is a memorial to Michael Holleman given by his family and friends.
A Note from the Executive Director
PAUL W. MEYER, The F. Otto Haas Executive Director

Compton at 125

One hundred and twenty-five years ago, in 1887, John and Lydia Morris acquired the first parcel of land to form their estate, “Compton” – now the core of the Morris Arboretum. When they moved onto the property in 1888, John wrote, “We entered Compton, the home a bountiful Providence provided us. Health and happiness have blessed it, and enjoyment with love has been our happy lot. May we have been worthy stewards of our estate.” John would go on to live at Compton for 27 years until his death in 1915, and his sister, Lydia, would continue to steward their dream for a total of 45 years, until she passed away in 1932.

Perhaps in the early years, they were motivated primarily by their personal interest in creating beautiful gardens with an extraordinary collection of plants. John and Lydia brought back design ideas from their world travels and collected plants from America’s leading botanists and horticulturists. As their estate became more beautiful and renowned, the idea that it could be more than their private pleasure grounds grew. Sometime well before John’s passing, they began laying the foundation for a botanical institution. In John’s will, drafted in 1909, he called on his Trustees at the Pennsylvania Company to “cause a corporation to be organized for the purpose of establishing and maintaining for public use at Compton” specifying uses as “a botanical garden, a school of horticulture, and a museum.”

In 1914, just one year before he died, John purchased Bloomfield Farm in Montgomery County, just across Northwestern Avenue. On June 3, 1915 just before his death, he noted that “the necessary buildings for the Morris Botanical School shall be located there…”

In 1929, Lydia amended her will. “I recently had a talk with Mr. Thomas S. Gates, President of the University of Pennsylvania, and as a result I am convinced that the Morris Foundation can best be carried on under the supervision and direction of the Botanical Department of the University. She went on to stipulate that “Compton” and “Bloomfield” shall be known as “The Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania.” She further envisioned many of the activities that define the Morris Arboretum today:

• A laboratory in charge of scientific men, for the purpose of botanical research and disseminating such knowledge to the world;
• The publication of books and pamphlets for distribution to the public;
• The distribution of species of plants among such of the public as may be interested;
• Scientific investigations in this country and abroad;
• To support “deserving boys and girls” for the “study of horticulture and kindred subjects,” and
• To “deliver lectures under the auspices of the foundation to the students and the public.”

As I recently reread the wills of our founders, I have been impressed with their vision and thoughtfulness. And though these documents were conceived and written nearly 100 years ago, their ideas are even more relevant today than when they were written. The Morris’s thoughts on youth training, historic preservation, public engagement and scientific investigation are more important now than ever.

And I am proud to say, that even with limited resources, we continue to address these concerns as John and Lydia envisioned. I must believe that if they could return to their beloved Arboretum, they would be pleased with our continuing progress in achieving their vision. It is my hope today, just like John and Lydia’s, that we too, may have been worthy stewards.

In this 125th anniversary year of Compton, we invite you reflect on the Morris’s vision and to participate in the special events that celebrate the historic heritage of the Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania.
A LOOK BACK IN Time

John Morris c. 1854

John and Lydia, c. 1854

John and Lydia Visited Ceylon in 1890

John Morris

Lydia Morris

Lydia Morris in Yokohama, 1894

View of Compton gardens, 1910

Aerial View of Compton estate, 1938

Compton Mansion, 1937

Lydia on steps of "Lydia's Seat," 1920

View to Compton across Hillcrest Avenue, 1900

Interior of Compton

View of Compton from Rose Garden, 1917
O
ne of the most outstanding features of the Morris Arboretum is the collection of large and beautiful trees. When John and Lydia first purchased the property in 1887 it was virtually devoid of trees. During their time here, they launched an intensive planting campaign and many of the trees they nurtured have grown into the beautiful specimens for which the Arboretum is now well known.

The Bender oak (Quercus x benderi), pictured top left, near the Two Lines sculpture is one of the largest and oldest trees in the collection. It not only predated the arrival of John and Lydia Morris to their Chestnut Hill estate, but in all likelihood it predated the signing of the Declaration of Independence. Although we don’t know the exact age of the tree, it is estimated to be nearly 300 years old. It would make sense that the Morrises would have built their mansion in close proximity to this magnificent specimen.

The state champion katsura-tree (Cercidiphyllum japonicum), pictured middle left, is one of the top plants in the Arboretum’s collection. Planted in the early 1900s, this native of Japan and China has now grown to immense proportions. The canopy of this tree is nearly 100 feet wide and is noteworthy for the long arching branches that support it. One of the more interesting characteristics of this tree is the sinewy surface roots that radiate out from the base of the tree. The roots of the katsura-tree need protection from the myriad of footfalls that compact the soil underneath this Arboretum treasure.

The early years of the magnificent Engler beech (Fagus engeliana), pictured lower left, which graces the English Park near the swan pond, remain somewhat shrouded in mystery. An extremely rare specimen of Chinese beech, this tree was most likely planted at the Arboretum sometime in the late 1910s or 1920s. The Engler beech was likely not growing here in 1914, as it was not recorded on the 1914 Atlas of the Arboretum created that year. It is quite plausible that this tree came to the Arboretum through the efforts of Ernest ‘Chines’ Wilson, the famous plant collector who was known to have made several trips to China from 1899 to 1918 for the Arnold Arboretum of Boston, MA. Wilson made a special journey to collect Chinese beeches in 1910, and sent several live seedlings back to the Arnold Arboretum from that trip.

Regardless of its exact age, the Engler beech is certainly one of the finest examples of this species to be found.

Morris Arboretum Welcomes New Swans

This spring, the Morris Arboretum was delighted to welcome two new family members, a pair of female mute swans. The one-year-old swans, who are sisters were a gift from Arboretum friends Nicholas and Athena Karabots. The swans will be known as Flora and Fauna after a Facebook contest was held to choose their names.

The winning entry was submitted by four people: Wendy Ambler, Barbara Baumback, Stephanie Cohen and Krista Colabelli. After a random drawing, Stephanie Cohen was chosen as the Grand Prize winner. She received a one-year Arboretum membership and a signed copy of The Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania: Through the Lens of Paul W. Meyer.

Swans have long played a role in the Arboretum’s history. The Swan Pond, a beloved Arboretum feature, was built in 1905 by damming the East Brook, which naturally flows through that area of the garden. The inspiration for the Swan Pond and the Love Temple likely came from the popular 18th century landscape design style of the English romantic landscape, which often included a classical temple reflected at water’s edge. Sculpted of white marble, the Love Temple was modeled after the plans of Vitruvius, an Augustan student of architecture. Records from that time period indicate that the Morrises owned swans as early as 1909, whom they named Elia and Lohengrin. No fence was built around the pond to contain them, however in 1920, plans were drawn up to enclose the pond with fencing, and evidence of an enclosure appears in photos from the early 1930s. The pond required sediment removal over the years, and after being dredged in 1982, the city of Ottawa presented the Arboretum with a gift of two swans named Ariel and Titania, in honor of Philadelphia’s tricentennial.

The Morris Arboretum is grateful to the Karabots for this gift, which has brought new life back to the Swan Pond. The Arboretum is also working with Weaver’s Way Co-op, who will be generously donating fresh greens – primarily lettuce, to regularly supplement the swan’s diet. The new swans are sure to provide years of enjoyment and delight to Arboretum visitors of all ages.
The Morris Arboretum – Many Years in the Planning

ROBERT COTOWSKI, Director of Public Programs
Revised from Morris Arboretum Newsletter, 1987 by the author

The 125-year history of land-use planning at the Morris Arboretum reflects changing tastes, technologies and knowledge gained in that span. The Morrises and their successors shared a foundation in culture as well as science. Commitment to education, beauty and stewardship remains constant.

The first of several land purchases to be included in Compton encompassed the highest ridge (for the mansion), part of the Wissahickon with adjacent woods, some meadowland and access from newly built Meadowbrook Avenue. Compton afforded magnificent views and natural features. The south-facing slope was devoted to the formal garden (now the Rose Garden) and orchard. The first plans were drawn by Charles H. Miller, who was responsible for the 1876 Centennial Exhibition landscape in Fairmount Park. Later designs were by John Morris.

The basic pattern was established with the first purchase in June 6, 1887. Compton was a summer residence and pleasure ground with formal and informal garden areas (the symbollic landscape); preserved woodland (the natural landscape); orchards, grazing meadows, vegetable and forage crops (the working landscape). An 1892 addition of the “Meadow at Northwestern Avenue” not only safeguarded an important pastoral view, but added an agricultural dimension to Compton. Drain tiles were installed, trees judiciously planted, a cow barn added and a herd of registered Jersey cows set to grazing. Combining agriculture with art in the landscape provided food for the Morrises, their staff and livestock. Surplus was sold in nearby Erdenheim and Flourtown. It reminds us how closely agriculture and households were linked at the turn of the century as our society changed from a rural to urban majority.

A botanic garden was planned from the beginning, “The Arboretum and the collection of plants were started with the intention of associating plants of a kind together; sufficient space being given to each for development of natural characteristics.” – John T. Morris, Recollections, 1913. Mr. Morris collected plants even before the move to Compton. Some of the Arboretum’s large trees were early collections. By 1901, Compton’s specimen trees were featured in national magazines such as Merhan’s Monthly and The Florists Exchange.

John Morris purchased a label-making machine, and identified and mapped his collections. After several land purchases, John Morris thought, “I believe we have all the land we need.” The final Compton boundaries included major roads and Wissahickon Creek. Water was important. Within the boundaries were two stream valleys: the Papermill Creek in the meadow and the brook by the Log Cabin. The Mansion House stood between, overlooking these valleys.

Although purchases for Compton were complete, John Morris formulated plans for a school of botany and horticulture while investigating schools in England and in America. In 1913 he purchased Bloomfield Farm for this expanded purpose. Springfield Mills was an important resource: “Electric power developed from water power on the premises should be sufficient for all needs including much use of storage batteries – possibly for farm field use.” – J.T. Morris quoted in “Frank Bartram’s Diaries.”

John Morris died before his school could be developed; however, certain elements of his plans remain unchanged: the central location of the Horticulture Center, the location of major research plantings at Bloomfield, and the road linking Bloomfield and Compton.

The plans and commitment to stewardship leading to the founding of the Morris Arboretum are a significant Morris legacy. These plans included guidelines for the use and management of the landscape and buildings, and also provided the mechanism to transform this Victorian estate into a public institution. An endowment was created, trustees were appointed, and in 1932 the University of Pennsylvania accepted custody of the Arboretum.

With the creation of the Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania a new era in land-use planning began. The process continues, inspired by the same commitment to stewardship.

Horticulture Center

The Platinum LEED Certified Horticulture Center at Bloomfield Farm serves to provide a healthy and environmentally friendly facility for staff. The 20,840-square foot structure provides work space for the Arboretum’s horticulture, public programs, and building staff. Support of the Horticulture Center Endowment Fund provides critical operating funds that address ongoing priorities.

Historic Preservation

As the official Arboretum of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and a historic site on the National Register of Historic Places, the Morris Arboretum is committed to preserving this Philadelphia treasure. The conservation of historic buildings and gardens is critical, and your support can help us share these features with generations to come.

Your support is integral to our success! Make a gift today, please contact Melissa Calvert, Director of Development, at (215) 247-5777, ext. 102 to learn how you can participate before December 31, 2012.

Join us in securing the future of the Morris Arboretum for generations to come!
IN MEMORIAM –
Charles S. Holman

Last December saw the passing of Charles S. Holman, longtime Morris Arboretum friend and supporter. For more than 30 years, Charlie participated in the revitalization of the Arboretum, beginning his involvement in the 1980s as a volunteer. His love of roses led him to work in the Rose Garden with then Rosarian Judy McKeon and Horticulture Section Leader Ken LeRoy. Through his years of volunteering in the Rose Garden, Charlie came to understand the need for an intern working alongside the Rosarian, who could learn best practices of rose care and participate in experiments and projects designed to enhance the beauty of the garden. From 1998 through 2011, Charlie provided an annual gift to the Rose Garden Internship. Although he eventually moved from Philadelphia back to his family home in Scranton, Charlie continued to visit the Morris Arboretum, attending the Plant Sale and Moonlight & Roses with Scranton friends who shared his love of the Arboretum. He made a point of meeting each new intern in the position he generously supported. Charlie also traveled with his Arboretum friends, visiting gardens in England and Scotland.

Charlie also had a fondness for the water features throughout the Arboretum. In 1988, he helped fund the restoration of the Step Fountain. In 1997, he supported the restoration of the Key Fountain, a historic water feature that had not been operational since the mid-1930s.

Charlie Holman loved the Morris Arboretum, its plants and garden features and also its people. In 2005, he created an irrevocable bequest to establish two critical endowments: one to permanently endow the Charles S. Holman Rose and Flower Garden Internship, and the second to support the ongoing maintenance of the Key Fountain. Because of his generous and thoughtful bequest, Charlie has insured that the Arboretum will continue to flourish in the years to come.

provided for the refurbishing of the utilities that supply the electrical and water distribution to all the fountains and water features throughout English Park. With these improvements completed, Charlie supported the restoration in 2004 of the Key Fountain, a historic water feature that had not been operational since the mid-1930s.

Charlie Holman loved the Morris Arboretum, its plants and garden features and also its people. In 2005, he created an irrevocable bequest to establish two critical endowments: one to permanently endow the Charles S. Holman Rose and Flower Garden Internship, and the second to support the ongoing maintenance of the Key Fountain. Because of his generous and thoughtful bequest, Charlie has insured that the people and gardens he so enjoyed at the Arboretum will continue to flourish in the years to come.

It’s not too late to reserve a space at the garden party of the year! Moonlight & Roses will take place on Friday, June 8th beginning with cocktails and hors d’oeuvres in the Rose Garden followed by dinner and dancing in the fabulous moonlit tent. Peter Cilio and Denise DeLaurentis Cilio are co-chairing this year’s event, and the Morris Arboretum is delighted to recognize Susan Mathes Oberwager, Ph.D., as the 2012 Moonlight & Roses honoree. Reservations are required and space is very limited. For more information, please contact Karen McGinley at (215)247-5777, ext. 418 or at mcginley@upenn.edu.

10 | M O R R I S  A R B O R E T U M  S E A S O N S  S U M M E R  2 0 1 2 | 9

SUMMER EVENTS

JUNE
2 Garden Discovery Series –
Wormy Squimmy Fun! Saturday, June 2, 11am-12pm
Wiggle on over to the Arboretum and explore the world of nature’s recyclers! Join us at the Discovery Table as we dig, touch, and uncover why some species of worms can be both helpful and harmful to gardens and local habitats.

3 Bloomfield Farm Open House Horticulture Center/ Springfield Mills Sunday, June 3, 12-1pm
Visitors will be able to tour the Horticulture Center and Springfield Mills. Don’t miss “Touch a Truck,” featuring Arboretum equipment, such as backhoes and tractors, a fun, up close experience. Free with admission.

5 Storytime at the Morris Arboretum Tuesday, June 5, 10:30-11am
Join us at the Outdoor Classroom for this great storytime series hosted by a William Jeames librarian. In the event of rain, event will be held in the Widener Visitor Center. Free with admission, however preregistration is required. Sign up online. morrisarboretum.org/storytime.

6 Seeds to Sprouts Wednesdays in June, July and Aug. 10:30-11:30pm
Pre-registration and fee required. For more information visit online. morrisarboretum.org/GrowingMinds

8 Moonlight & Roses Friday June 8, 5pm Cocktails in the Rose Garden, 8pm-1am Dinner & Dancing
Pennsylvania Train Weekend at the Garden Railway Saturday, June 9 & Sunday, June 10, 10am-4:30pm

9 Pennsylvania Train Weekend at the Garden Railway Saturday, June 9 & Sunday, June 10, 10am-4:30pm
Mini Morris Players Thursdays in June, July and Aug. 6:30-8pm
Pre-registration and fee required. For more information visit online. morrisarboretum.org/GrowingMinds

STORYTIME AT THE MORRIS ARBORETUM

THIRD THURSDAY – SUMMER SOLSTICE
Thursday, June 21, 5-7pm
The Arboretum will be highlighting third Thursday this summer in conjunction with Chestnut Hill’s Summer Solstice. Celebrate the longest day of the year, when we will be open until 7pm – its one sight you, picnics, stay late, and learn about sun dials, shadows and solstice traditions. Free with admission.

SUMMER ADVENTURE CAMP
Monday-Friday, June 25-29, 9am-3:30pm
For more information, please see page 19.

JULY
3 Storytime at the Morris Arboretum Tuesday, July 3, 10:30-11am
Pre-registration is required. See description under June events.

7 Garden Discovery Series – Paleobotany Playday Saturday, July 7, 10am-12pm Walk in the shoes of a paleobotanist and explore the world of nature’s fossil plants. We will make leaf impressions with play dough, learn about ancient plants, discover petrified wood, and examine tree rings.

8 Mini Morris Players Thursdays in June, July and Aug. 6:30-8pm
Pre-registration and fee required. For more information visit online. morrisarboretum.org/GrowingMinds

9 Storytime at the Morris Arboretum Tuesday, June 19, 10:30-11am
Pre-registration is required. See description under June events.

10 Storytime at the Morris Arboretum Tuesday, June 19, 10:30-11am
Pre-registration is required. See description under June events.

12 Member’s Only Bring a Friend for Free Thursday, July 12, 11am-7:30pm
Members of all levels are invited to introduce a friend, family or neighbor to the Morris Arboretum for free on one special day. Members are welcome to bring more than one guest, but are asked to accompany their guests to the Arboretum. Registration is NOT required.

14 Thomas & Friends Weekend at the Garden Railway Saturday, July 14 & Sunday, July 15

17 Storytime at the Morris Arboretum Tuesday, July 17, 10:30-11am
Pre-registration is required. See description under June events.

19 Third Thursday Berry Best Bake-Off Thursday, July 19, 4-6pm
As Third Thursdays continue, you are invited to bake your best recipe that includes summer berries. Entries will be accepted from 4-5pm. Guest judges from area bakeries will choose the winners from 4-6pm. Free with admission.

Commonwealth Classic Theatre Company presents Our Town Thursday, July 19, 6:30pm This July, for the first time ever, the Arboretum will be hosting theater on the Abaka Meadow stage. Join us this summer for Our Town which will “…celebrate the everyday moments of life.” Free with admission. Blankets or chairs recommended.

KAREN McGINLEY, COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR
301-670-2233 ext. 223
kmcginley@upenn.edu morrisarboretum.org/GrowingMinds

PHOTO: Zac Brooks
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* pre-registration and/or fee required.

Photo credits: Paul W. Meyer, Joan Kobert, Judy Miller, Brian Dooner, Paul Warhol, Dave Caravaglia, Bob Gutowski, Zac Brooks and Rudy Kenny.

**S E A S O N S  S U M M E R  2 0 1 2**
Friday Night Concerts in the Garden: jazz it Up presented by WRTI 90.1 FM

Friday, July 20, 7pm
Bring a picnic and sit back and relax to the sounds of jazz in the garden. Blankets or chairs are recommended.

For more information see page 17.

Annual Beeches, Butterflies and Bugs Summer Evening Thursday, July 16, 5:30-7:30pm Beech ($315) members and above are invited to an exclusive evening of family fun. Pack a picnic dinner or dine in the Compton Café. Invitations will be mailed to eligible members. Please register online by visiting www.morrisarboretum.org or by calling 215-247-5777 ext. 170.

Friday Night Concerts in the Garden: jazz it Up presented by WRTI 90.1 FM
Swing ‘n Bop with The Tony “Stickman” Wyatt Quintet Friday, July 27, 7pm
Bring a picnic and sit back and relax to the sounds of jazz in the garden. Blankets or chairs are recommended.

For more information see page 17.

Garden Discovery Series – Summer Seed Mosaic Saturday, August 4, 11am-3pm
Get your creative juices soaring as we create sensational seed mosaic at the Discovery Table. We will identify and examine the texture, shape and size of a variety of seeds, while designing a beautiful work of art to bring home.

Summer Adventure Camp Monday-Friday, August 6-10, 9am-3:30pm
We’ve added a second week of camp this year! For more information, please see page 19.

Friday Night Concerts in the Garden: jazz it Up presented by WRTI 90.1 FM
Swing ‘n Bop with The Tony “Stickman” Wyatt Quintet Friday, August 24, 7pm
Bring the family for an evening of music and fun in the garden.

Blankets or chairs are recommended.

For more information see page 17.

Grandparents Day Saturday, September 9, 10am-5pm
BYOG (bring your own grandparent) to Morris Arboretum today! Kids who bring a grandparent get $2 off admission. Enjoy the “Founding Treasures” map of the garden. Just as grandparents are the founding treasures of their family, the buildings, trees, and sculpture highlighted on the “Founding Treasures” map are the Arboretum’s iconic sites.

Storytime at the Morris Arboretum Tuesday, September 25, 10:30-11:30am
See description under June events.

The Lydia Morris Legacy Society
Creating a Charitable Gift Annuity – A Way to “Pass it On”

VICTORIA SICKS, Associate Director, Individual & Planned Gifts

I n December of 2011, the Horticulture Volunteers and Morris Arboretum staff recognized David Kronick for 25 years of service as a volunteer in the garden. It was through the Plant Clinic door that David came to the Arboretum shortly after his retirement. He was concerned about a diseased shrub and brought a branch to Ken Leroy, then a member of the Horticulture staff, who identified both the problem with the plant and a new volunteer. Soon Joan joined the volunteer team. The Kronicks have witnessed the changes of the last 25 years. Their desire to “pass it on” motivated them to create a charitable gift annuity with Joan as the annuitant that will support the Education Endowment and provide an income to her for the years to come.

Joan and David Kronick raised their three daughters on E. Sedgwick Street in Mt. Airy where they had a big garden. David, a Penn alumnus, worked in Public Health for the City of Philadelphia. Joan taught special education and also worked with young women in transition, strengthening their reading skills. Once they moved to Hill House in Chestnut Hill and gave up the big garden, the Arboretum became even more important as an outlet for their gardeners’ energy and knowledge. Now, when their teen-aged grandchildren come to visit, they especially love Out on a Limb.

Joan and David are clear that the future of the Arboretum will be importantly tied to its role in education. With support from a strong education endowment, Arboretum staff will be able to share with young people a love for beautiful trees and historic landscape. The next generation will continue the legacy of maintaining the beauty of Philadelphia through understanding the importance of the green and natural elements that are integral to the city’s sense of place and so critical to a healthy environment.

Charitable gift annuities can be a very useful tool to provide support for the Morris Arboretum and at the same time insure a steady stream of personal income. If you would like more information as you think about whether a charitable gift annuity is right for you, please contact Victoria Sicks, Associate Director, Individual and Planned Giving at (215) 247-5777, ext. 152, or via email at vicks@upenn.edu.

The Morris Arboretum welcomes Kristen Oliva as Associate Director, Individual Giving

Kristen Oliva comes to Morris Arboretum from the Philadelphia Museum of Art, where she was responsible for managing the Annual Giving Programs. At the Arboretum, Kristen is now responsible for a portfolio of 200+ major gift prospects, and is currently working with members of the Development team to design and implement a comprehensive and sustainable strategy for the major gifts program at the Arboretum. Welcome, Kristen!

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The Restoration of the Japanese Overlook Garden – A Memorial to Veronica Megna James

KATE DEREGBUS, Horticulture Section Leader, English Park & VICTORIA SICKS, Associate Director of Development, Individual and Planned Giving

John and Lydia Morris traveled several times to the Far East, but it was the architecture and landscape design of Japan that particularly caught their interest and influenced their plans for their garden at ‘Compton’, their home in Chestnut Hill. One happy result is the Overlook Garden, which features strong aspects of Japanese design. During many visits to the Morris Arboretum, the Overlook Garden became a favorite place of the late Veronica Megna James, whose personal aesthetic and taste in interior design included Japanese elements. As a memorial to her mother, Veronica’s daughter, Christine James, chose the sensitive renewal and restoration of this garden.

The goal of the project is to maintain and also enhance the special character of the site without making major changes to the original intent of its designers. Historical documentation is incomplete and several significant changes were made over the course of the past 100 years; however, the current restoration plans are based upon what is known of the original garden. Two fierce Japanese Fu (or Shoni) Dogs stood on either side of the round overlook platform. Working from one of the originals, Campania International is casting a new pair which will soon be reinstalled in the garden.

The curving walk up the hill has been much improved, with the resetting of steps that had shifted over the years. The simple water feature, a small, still pond, located directly below the platform, will also be restored to working order. Horticultural improvements to the garden are an important part of the restoration, including replacements and additions to the existing evergreen screen directly adjacent to Hillcrest Avenue. Large areas of Japanese pachysandra, that formerly hid a great deal of the stonework, have now been removed and the areas replanted with a limited palette of herbaceous plants such as Hakonechloa grass and the evergreen fern, Cyrtomium, as well as the more interesting and less aggressive groundcovers, Auran and Heuchera. Several iconic cut-leaf Japanese maples are reaching the end of their life spans. Care and thought will go into planning for their replacement in coming years.

The Morris Arboretum is honored to have received the generous gift from Christine James that made this restoration possible. The timeless and peaceful qualities of Japanese design have inspired many generations of Arboretum visitors. With these latest renovations, the Japanese Overlook Garden is a beautiful tribute to Mrs. James that will continue to inspire visitors well into the future.

The McCausland Natural Lands Horticulturist Endowment Fund Established

LESLE WEISSER, Associate Director of Development, Corporate, Foundation and Donor Relations

The Morris Arboretum welcomes Tracy Beerley!

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Summer Concert Series

The music returns to the garden this July! Pack your picnic and get ready to hear some great music, all while relaxing in the beauty of the Arboretum’s gardens. Blankets or chairs are recommended.

Friday Night Concerts in the Garden – Jazz it Up presented by WRTI 91.5FM Brazilian Jazz Party with Arpeggio

Friday, July 20, 7pm
Locally-renowned jazz band Arpeggio will be playing the lively sounds of Northern Brazil. Dance, sway or just lean back and listen to a blend of calypso, samba and bossa nova.

Swing ‘n Bop with The Tony “Stickman” Wyatt Quintet
Friday, July 27, 7pm
The 1940s & 1950s were the most memorable years in American jazz. Tony Wyatt, one of Philly’s great drummers, is bringing his band to the Arboretum to celebrate the era of swinging.

New This Year! Catered Gourmet Barbeques at the Summer Concerts

Join us on jazz nights for our special smokehouse-themed menu including smoked chicken, pulled pork, colelaw, corn on the cob, and more! Bring the kids for a night of music and fun during our children’s concerts, and while you’re here, enjoy a barbeque in the garden featuring hamburgers, hotdogs, chicken, pulled pork, coleslaw, corn on the cob, and more!

Friday Night Concerts in the Garden: XPN Kids Corner presented by WXPN 88.5 FM

The Plants
Friday, August 3, 6:30pm
The Plants Monster Under My Bed from their album “Sprouting Out” was voted by XPN listeners as the #1 Song of 2011. Come hear it performed live by this local band whose enthusiasm and fabulous music will win over children and parents alike.

The Suzi Shelton Band
Friday, August 10, 6:30pm
Suzi is bringing her band all the way from Brooklyn to perform hits from her award-winning albums, including her new release Tomboy in a Princess Dress. The Suzi Shelton Band has appeared at venues all over New York, as well as nationally in Chicago, Boston and at the White House Easter Egg Roll.

Friday, August 10, 6:30pm

Summer Yoga in the Garden

Yoga is used by many people to boost energy, improve balance and reduce stress. The opportunity to take a yoga class outdoors is a very unique experience – with the beauty of the Morris Arboretum as the backdrop. Two multi-session courses will be offered: Yoga in the Garden and Yoga Out on a Limb. Both classes are in Vinyasa, or flow style yoga, and are taught by local yoga instructors Jennifer Schelter, founder of Yoga Schelter. Pre-registration is required. For dates, pricing or to register online go to online.morrisarboretum.org/yoga or call (215) 247-5777, ext. 125.

Don’t miss these new Family Programs!

Look for two new kids and family classes beginning in June: Seed to Sprout (ages 2-4), a parent and child guided garden exploration class, and Mini-Morris Players (ages 5-10), an outdoor interactive theatre program. For more details or to sign up, visit online.morrisarboretum.org/GrowingMinds or contact Miriam Von Essen at miriamv@upenn.edu, or (215) 247-5777, ext. 281. For dates, please see calendar insert on pages 11-12.

Fall Classes return in September

Each fall, the Morris Arboretum offers a wide selection of classes for both children and adults in topics ranging from horticulture and art, to inspiring trips to nearby gardens and natural areas. Look for your Fall Course Brochure in the mail in early August. Register online for classes at online.morrisarboretum.org/classes.

Classes and Lectures

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Join us for our third year of Connections Beyond Our Garden – Talks on People, Plants and Place

This popular mid-week lecture series will return in October with another lineup of engaging speakers and fascinating topics. See how beautiful gardens across the country are transformed from private treasures into public assets by the Garden Conservancy as Antonia F. Adezo, President (pictured right), presents Saving America’s Exceptional Gardens on Wednesday, November 7th at 2pm. Other lectures will take place on October 10th and December 5th. A reception with refreshments will follow each presentation and tours of the Arboretum are available afterward. Pre-registration and payment are required. Register online at online.morrisarboretum.org/CBOG.

STOP IN THE SHOP AT MORRIS ARBORETUM for a unique gift to celebrate the Grads and Dads in your life! Fabulous jewelry, Arboretum wear, and top of line gardening items are a great way to honor the special people in your life. With summer around the corner, it’s time to dig! Get the kids outside with tools, seeds, and watering cans, or engage them with books, fun puzzles and games to learn about the plants, bugs, butterflies and birds that make our gardens their homes.
USDA Releases New Plant Hardiness Zone Map

CHRISTINE PAPE, Editor

Last winter, the USDA released a new Plant Hardiness Zone Map and the results indicate marked changes and warming trends for the Philadelphia area. The USDA Plant Hardiness Zone Map is the standard by which gardeners and growers determine which plants are most likely to thrive at a given location. The map is based on the average annual minimum winter temperature, divided into 10-degree Fahrenheit zones. The map is an important tool for the country’s estimated 80 million gardeners, as well as those who grow and breed plants for them.

The last update to the Hardiness Zone Map was in 1990 using data from a 13-year period (1974-1986). The most recent update utilized a broader data set (1975-2005). The resulting information saw approximately a one half zone change across most of the Philadelphia region. Anthony Aiello, Director of Horticulture at the Morris Arboretum served on the Technical Advisory team for the USDA team responsible for revising the map. The team was comprised of nursery professionals and experts in the scientific and public garden communities who evaluated the zones in their specific geographic areas.

The implications of the study for Delaware Valley gardeners are significant. On the positive side, the increase in zone allows for an expanded palette of plants that gardeners can reliably grow in this area. Some of these include traditional southern favorites such as crape myrtle, southern magnolia and Japanese camellia. Today, plants such as these should grow reliably in Philadelphia. However, Paul Meyer, the F. Otto Haas Executive Director of Morris Arboretum cautions, “As with financial investments, recent past performance may not necessarily predict future performance.”

Unfortunately, there is also a down side to the new information as well. The data solidifies the reality of climate change, suggesting even greater unpredictability with regard to future weather patterns and environmental conditions. Additionally, warmer temperatures in the colder months also lead to further pest and disease problems, as both are better able to survive in mild winters. Lastly, just as plants such as lilacs do not thrive in the south, plants at the southern limits of the Philadelphia zone may eventually be negatively impacted to the point where they will no longer be able to be grown in this area.

These are all very practical examples of how shifts in temperature, especially warmer winter temperatures, have a dramatic impact on how we garden, what we plant, and what will thrive in our gardens.

Asiatic Lilies

JUSTIN JACKSON, Horticulture Section Leader-Rose Garden

If there is one flowering plant that can rival the rose for queen of the garden it is the lily (Lilium). There are roughly 100 species of these large flowering bulbous perennial herbs. Although there are many garden plants that carry the name Lily (Day Lily-Hemerocallis or Trout Lily-Erythronium), only true lilies come from the genus Lilium. Much like the rose, lilies have a reputation for needing special attention, but this isn’t the case if you stick to the Asiatic hybrids. When selecting the right lily for your garden there is much to consider. Flowers can vary from upright to nodding, speckled to blushed, large to small, and fragrant to unscented; not to mention the endless color possibilities of whites, yellows, oranges, pinks, reds, and purples. The location of your lilies is also important to the success of the plantings. Some lilies will tolerate shade, while others do best in full sun; but always plant them in an area with good drainage, where the bulbs themselves are shaded from afternoon sun.

Lilies are primarily found in the temperate woodlands of the Northern Hemisphere, with the Asiatic hybrids deriving from species native to Asia. Although typically unscented, Asiatic hybrids are among some of the most diverse lily cultivars, with their vivid colors, varying sizes, and different flower types. Asiatic hybrids were originally used as cut flowers, but because of their resilience in the garden, horticulturists are using them more and more to add splashes of dramatic color in perennial borders. Most Asiatic hybrids bloom in early summer, about a month before the oriental lilies, so often it is best to extend the blooming period in your perennial garden by planting these two together, amongst roses, or along with some of the later blooming lilies. Some great lilies from Asia to consider are Lilium lancifolium (tiger lily), pictured above, as well as hybrids such as Lilium ‘Nepal’, Lilium ‘Connecticut King’, Lilium ‘Wowee’ and Lilium ‘Landini’.

Lilies have been in cultivation for thousands of years and have inspired artists and gardeners alike for centuries. Their compact growth, upright habit, intoxicating fragrance and striking colors make an excellent addition to any garden destined for inspiration and beauty. So don’t hesitate when it comes to lilies. Start with the carefree Asiatic hybrids and slowly work your way up to some of the more playful varieties.

Morris Arboretum’s Summer Adventure Camp – Second Session – August 6-10 added!

Due to popular demand, Morris Arboretum’s highly engaging summer camp will run again in August. The counselors will build on this year’s theme Healthy Environment, Healthy Me! If you know children ages 6 to 8 with an appetite for adventure, they should join us for fun and exploration of the Morris Arboretum. Campers will track the week’s weather, dig in the dirt, harvest vegetables, and eat a snack grown in their garden. Our experienced counselors have planned games and activities to keep the group moving and engaged throughout the day. Listening to stories in the shade of a great old tree and making crafts to take home will complete each fun-filled day.

Summer Adventure Camp is from 9am-3:30pm, Monday, August 6 through Friday, August 10. The cost is $265 for Morris Arboretum members and $285 for non-members.

Visit www.morrисаrboretum.org for more information.
Take a Seat! Adirondack Chairs Re-Interpreted

May 31–September 3

Take a Seat! Adirondack Chairs Re-Interpreted will be on exhibit at the Morris Arboretum and at Woodmere Art Museum from May 31 through Labor Day, September 3. This exhibition is made possible in part by Morris Arboretum’s Madeleine K. Butcher Fine Arts Endowment.

This summer, the Morris Arboretum and Woodmere Art Museum are collaborating on an outdoor exhibition entitled, Take a Seat! Adirondack Chairs Re-Interpreted.

Artists were invited to re-interpret the Adirondack chair, whether to paint it, re-decorate it, re-design it, re-carve it, re-assemble it, or just do something great with one of America’s great outdoor classics. Close to seventy works of art will be showcased throughout the garden at Morris Arboretum and at Woodmere Art Museum.

The 37 artists chosen for the Morris Arboretum/Woodmere Take a Seat! exhibition offer an impressive variety of disciplines and talents. Here is a sampling:

- Philadelphia-based artist Estelle Carraz-Bernabei is an abstract painter whose mixed-media works focus on earth and sky elements.
- Recognized by the Mural Arts Program, street artist Juan Dimida’s signature work has a graphic, cartoon-inspired look that will make you smile.
- Sean Martorana is an artist to watch who founded THE STUDIO and has his own line of paintings, designs, prints and clothing/accessories.
- David Robinson is an environmental artist with installations across the U.S. that illustrate a unique and skilled craftsmanship.

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

It’s 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.

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 Paul Meyer of Morris Arboretum, 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.

Photos: Zac Brooks