Volunteer
Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania

Volunteer is a newsletter published monthly for Arboretum volunteers.

The Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania is an historic public garden and educational institution. It promotes an understanding of the relationship between plants, people, and place through programs that integrate science, art, and the humanities. The Arboretum conducts four major activities: education, research, outreach, and horticultural display. As the official Arboretum of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, the Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania provides research and outreach services to state agencies, community institutions and to citizens of Pennsylvania and beyond.

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Volunteer
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Photos: Claire Sundquist, unless otherwise stated

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Letter from the Editor

Working at the Arboretum this past year has been an amazing experience. It is hard to believe my time as an intern is nearly at its end. I have treasured watching the trees bud and leaf out, the flowers bloom and fold, and snow drape the landscape only to melt. Most of all I have treasured working with so many passionate, motivated, and supportive people. Thank you for a wonderful year!

Happy Trails,

Claire Sundquist
McLean Contributionship Endowed Education Intern
Notes from the Guides Chair

Last January we were given a wonderful talk by Holly Jobe (a Morris Guide) and her friend, Diana Muir. They had undertaken a 500 mile pilgrimage in 34 days. The pilgrimage is Camino de Santiago in northern Spain. It was a great talk with fabulous slides. Now I know, I will never take a 500 mile pilgrimage but I would like to think I take my own daily mini-pilgrimage. I enjoy walking in our area. I would like to share some of the walks I enjoy in southeastern PA.

Jenkins Arboretum in April or May is a visual feast as well as a good walking area.

Temple University, Ambler Campus, close to our house, is my most frequented place.

Longwood Gardens is always beautiful anytime of the year. They have also opened up meadow walking paths.

Peace Valley in Bucks County is a great way to walk around Lake Galena.

Delaware River Canal Towpath, a great excuse to go to New Hope.

John Heinz National Wildlife Refuge – close to the airport, a natural setting close to the city.

Valley Green – right down the street from Morris.

Bald Eagle State Park – close to I-80, an absolutely beautiful locale in the fall. If camping is not your interest, they have an eco-friendly lodge with stunning views of the hillside. There are miles of walking trails.

Clare Brown a long-time guide at Morris is also a veteran walker. Following are some of her favorite walks:

Walking on the west side of Chestnut Hill. Starting on Germantown Avenue walk west, passing through the beautiful neighborhoods which feature several Chestnut Hill landmarks.


Lower Gwynedd Trails – Twelve miles of scenic hiking trails.

Ralph Stover State Park/Tohickon Valley Park, Upper Eddy, PA.

The Delaware Water Gap National Park.

Hopefully, Clare and I have encouraged you to get out and discover your own mini-pilgrimage.

Happy Walking and Happy Gardening,

Jody Sprague
Chair of the Guides
Continuing Education

Houston Meadows:
A Unique Bird Habitat
Saturday, June 6 | 8-11am
Keith Russell,
Audubon Urban Important Bird Area Coordinator
Spend a morning exploring and discovering the Meadow’s breeding bird species. Houston Meadows is a unique open meadow filled with native plants, a type of habitat that is rapidly disappearing in urban areas.
Volunteer Price: $12.50

Mini Radiant Yoga Retreat:
Inspiring Mindfulness
Saturday, June 13 | 10am-2pm
Jennifer Schelter, Founder Mindful Strategies for Living and The Radiant Retreat®
This mini-retreat provides the space, safety, and the instructor’s over 17 years of professional expertise to explore, create and focus on your body, mind and spirit. People with all levels of experience will enjoy this experience.
Volunteer Price: $50

Hydrangea Heaven:
Class and Garden Tour
Saturday, June 27 | 10am-1pm
Nina Schneider, Garden Designer
For the amateur or experienced gardener no single genus provides as much variety in form and bloom color as hydrangea. Learn more about the genus, followed by a tour of the Arboretum’s collection as well as a tour of the instructor’s garden in nearby Chestnut Hill.
Volunteer Price: $20
Volunteer Workshops

Tour Nina Schneider’s Garden
Join us for a tour of Nina Schneider’s garden in Chestnut Hill which includes beautiful mixed borders, sun and shade, and has a particular emphasis on hydrangeas. The tour will include information on the garden’s history as well as a discussion on the challenges of rejuvenating an old garden. Sign up for a spot in the vans on the TeamUp Calendar, and/or write on the calendar what you are bringing for the potluck lunch, which we will enjoy in Ms Schneider’s garden after the tour. Coolers with ice will be available to keep food chilled during our tour. If van spots fill up you may drive and park on the street outside Nina Schneider’s house. Contact Jim Kohler for the address.

Thursday, June 25  |  10:45am-1pm
tour begins at 11am
Please park in the meadow. Vans will depart the Arboretum at 10:45am. Contact Jim Kohler with any questions or driving directions at jkohphil@verizon.net.

Sign-up is available through the TeamUp Calendar.

Meet our new Education Intern!
Join our new Education Intern, Pilar Rivera, as she explores the beauty and art of flowers. Learn how flowers can enhance your mood and brighten your surroundings. Then, exercise your creativity in a group floral arranging session!

Thursday, July 9th  |  10:30am
Volunteer Workshops

On Sunday, June 21 Morris Arboretum is hosting a STEAMpunk Expo. We're bringing together the alternative future sci-fi genre of steampunk with Science Technology Engineering Art and Math in a day-long extravaganza. We have a lot of activities planned and need your help making the day extra special. We need 10 volunteers to help with the Power It Up activities that explore different types of power. The activities are engaging for all ages and will run from 11am-3pm.

If you are interested in learning a fun activity, helping visitors learn that fun activity, and seeing the Arboretum in a whole new light, please contact Liza Hawley at efhawley@upenn.edu or 215-247-5777 x 128.

First Wednesday Workshops

Join us the first Wednesday of every month for exciting workshops, talks, and tours. Meet at 12:30pm at the Widener Terrace, unless otherwise noted.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>June 3rd</td>
<td>Garden Tour with Paul Meyer</td>
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<td>July 1st</td>
<td>Behind the Scenes Greenhouse Tour with Tony Aiello and Shelley Dillard <em>meet at the Greenhouse</em></td>
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<td>August 5th</td>
<td>Tour of Compton Section and New Plans with Paul Orpello</td>
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<td>September 2nd</td>
<td>Garden Writer’s Presentation with Louise Clark <em>meet in the Upper Gallery</em></td>
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<td>Oct 7th</td>
<td>Tour of the Grist Mill with Ted Bell <em>park at Bloomfield Farm</em></td>
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<td>November 4th</td>
<td>Ornamental Grasses with Lucy Dinsmore</td>
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From the Archives

Have you noticed the glass case at the back of the Upper Gallery in Widener? It is always filled with interesting artifacts and information from the Arboretum Archives. The exhibit was recently refreshed to highlight a number of hand colored photographs from the Arboretum’s collection.

Morris Arboretum is fortunate to have a collection of hand colored photographs made by acclaimed botanist Dr. Edward T. Wherry. The Archives even has the retouching stand on which Dr. Wherry hand colored the hundreds of botanical images that he photographed. Professor Wherry used these slides in botany lectures while teaching at the University of Pennsylvania and the Arboretum School of the Barnes Foundation from 1930 to 1957.

The next time you are in Widener, take some time to check out the Archives exhibit and learn more about hand colored photographs and slides.

Images courtesy the Morris Arboretum Archives
from top to bottom:
Image of a cherry tree at the home of Mrs. A. Hoyt Scott, 1942 (from the collection of Dr. Wherry)
Photo of Dr. Wherry, summer 1969
Image of Prunus x yedoensis trees at Swarthmore College, 1940s (from the collection of Dr. Wherry)
Because so little is known about Lydia Morris, every glimpse into her personality is a treasure. Here are some insights from the travel diary kept by Louise Kellner, Lydia’s traveling companion, when she and John took their trip around the world in 1889. The original diary is in the Historical Society of Pennsylvania.

January 1, 1890

Jeypore, India

The elephant was ordered again to take us the way the carriage could not pass, and this day the huge thing waited for us in the middle of the main street of Jeypore, right at one of the thoroughfares, where we had to climb on his back. First we were taken aback at the idea of making a public show of ourselves in this way, but there was nothing else to be done but to brave it, and courageously Miss Morris did lead the way. She mounted Jumbo as if she had done it every day of her life, Mr. Morris and I followed suit, and away we went…

January 16, 1890

Lucknow, India

And one thing I forgot yesterday, and I wonder that I did, because it made me furious, and that was that Miss Price had to inspect – carefully inspect – Miss Morris’s handsome black lace dress, on which she passed the sentence “doubtful” as to whether it would be the proper cut for that ball or not and other remarks in that line, which made me boiling. But Lo and Behold! When Miss Price came upstairs – she was dressed in some flimsy grey material – to inspect Miss Morris’s toilet, she was stunned, and soon became aware of the fact that Miss M. in her attire would outshine her, and she had to confess – which she did freely – that the doubtful black lace dress, and the cut and fit of it, was lovely, - the most beautiful gown she had seen for some time.
As a new guide, experiencing many new things at the Arboretum, I was asked to write a brief description of the Arboretum’s May 19 trip to Hickory Run State Park in the western foothills of the Pocono Mountains. The trip was fantastic, like a mini vacation. With Jan McFarlan as van pilot and Liza Hawley as co-pilot, nine of us drove up to the Poconos where we met Tim Block at the small park office in Hickory Run.

The first thing we noticed as we stepped out of the van was the rich smell of the forest. We hiked an easy pine needle covered trail that follows Hawk Run, a narrow stream that widens into a cascading waterfall just before it reaches Mud Run. Having a knowledgeable guide like Tim Block (actually a renowned botanist!) point out the plants, explain forest composition, and talk about the glacial and logging history was a wonderful opportunity. It was interesting to compare the forest at Hickory Run with our urban forest here in the Wissahickon and see what the forest stratification of canopy, understory, shrub and herb layer looks like in a more undisturbed forest. So here are just a few of the things we saw and learned:

It was wonderful to see so many small trees and shrubs in the understory and shrub layer. One of these was the lowbush blueberry (*Vaccinium angustifolium*), the same one grown in Maine that produces the tiny blueberries that make Maine’s berry pies so famous. Others were mountain maple (*Acer spicatum*), *Amelanchier arborea*, and alternate-leaved dogwood (*Cornus alternifolia*). Rhododendrons formed thick, impenetrable stands, but unfortunately weren’t in bloom yet.

At the Boulder Field, which was an immense area of boulders and nothing else, we learned that the Wisconsin glacier stopped just to the north about 18,000 years ago. As the water melted from the glacier and poured out, so did the boulders that formed the field. The big question on our minds was ‘Why hadn’t it become covered with soil and vegetation in all these years?’ Tim explained that water is still running under the field. As sediment falls between the rocks, the water washes it away.
Garden Highlights

- **Cornus kousa**
  - *kousa dogwood*
  - Location: Rose Garden

- **Rosa ‘Louise Odier’**
  - *Louise Odier rose*
  - Location: Rose Garden

- **Illicium floridanum**
  - *Florida anise tree*
  - Location: Log Cabin

- **Viburnum plicatum**
  - *Japanese snowball viburnum*
  - Location: Pennock Garden

- **x sinocalycanthus raulstonii ‘Hartlage wine’**
  - *Hartlage wine Raulston allspice*

- **Phlox subulata**
  - *creeping phlox*
## Upcoming Events

### June

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<td>2 Guides Council Meeting 1:30pm Twilight and Peonies 6pm</td>
<td>Hort Volunteers with Paul</td>
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<td>Discovery Series 11am-3pm</td>
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<td>Hort Volunteers with Louise</td>
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<td>Mill Volunteer Work Day 10am-3pm</td>
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<td>Hort Volunteers with Kate</td>
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<td>New Interns Arrive</td>
<td>Retention Committee 1:30pm</td>
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<td>Mill Demo Day 1-4pm</td>
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<td>STEAMpunk Expo 10am-8:30pm</td>
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<td>Hort Volunteers with Tracy</td>
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<td>Schneider Garden Tour (see pg. 4) 11am-1pm</td>
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### Weekly Volunteer Events

**Wednesdays:** Horticulture Volunteers 8:30am-12pm  
**Saturdays and Sundays:** Regular Tour 2:00pm-3:00pm  
**Saturdays and Sundays:** Welcome Cart 11am-3pm
# Upcoming Events

## July

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<td>Guides Council Meeting 1:30pm</td>
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<td>Hort Volunteers with Paul</td>
<td>Volunteer Workshop (see pg. 4) 10:30am</td>
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