

SEASONS

Spring 2010

Volume 39 Number 2



Morris Arboretum of the
University of Pennsylvania

Official arboretum of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

A Note from the Director

PAUL W. MEYER, *The F. Otto Haas Director*

Horticulture Center (Phase I) Nears Completion

Excitement is growing at the Arboretum as the long-awaited Phase I of the Horticulture Center nears completion. It is the crowning jewel of the Arboretum Master Plan which has been systematically implemented, step by step, since 1978. The new \$12 million facility will host the return of the Arboretum's Plant Sale May 6th-8th, giving members and customers a chance to see the new facility. For the first time, much of the sale will be under cover and more resistant to the spring showers which often grace the Plant Sale.

Up until now, we have been running the Arboretum's gardens and physical facilities with staff shoehorned into spaces that are over 100 years old and were designed for very different purposes. We had no appropriate spaces to store equipment or supplies.

And most importantly, we had no reasonable office space for the horticulture staff, facilities staff and student interns. Few visitors have ever seen the horticulture offices in the "studio" near Gates Hall because we were frankly embarrassed to show them the tattered and cramped conditions.

Soon, we will have beautiful, up-to-date offices that reflect the professionalism of our staff. As we work to retain staff and recruit students and young professionals into the field of horticulture and land management, it is critically important that we provide them with state of the art facilities, tools and equipment. Each horticulturist and intern will now have, for the first time, his or her own desk and high speed internet connectivity. There will be a locker room with shower facilities, and a multi-purpose room that will serve as a lunch room and classroom. This additional classroom will help relieve congestion at the Widener Education Center, especially at peak program times like Saturday mornings. Two smaller meeting rooms will also be available. Spacious workshops will serve as carpentry workshops and provide project work spaces for the facilities staff. Also, ample garage space will house trucks, equipment and horticultural tools and supplies. For the first time, these will be kept in a way that properly meets safety standards and reflects best practices.

This complex is much more than a staff support facility, it is an exhibit of the best in sustainable design. Among the many elements that advance sustainability, the complex includes geothermal wells for efficient heating and cooling, photovoltaic panels, cisterns for recycling storm water runoff, green roofs and energy efficient lighting. Our plan is to achieve the highest rating (Platinum) from the Green Building Council's Leadership in Environmental and Energy Design (LEED®) Program. When we achieve this goal, our building complex will only be the ninth in Pennsylvania to achieve this difficult standard. As



Photo: Nick Kelsch

an environmental institution, it is essential that we take the lead in developing and displaying these practices. We envision programs will be held here for architects and landscape architects on sustainable designs.

We all look forward to welcoming you back to the Plant Sale this year and sharing with you the Horticulture Center that we have dreamed of for so long.

Paul



SEASONS

Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania

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Christine Pape, Editor

The Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania is an educational institution that promotes an understanding of the important relationships between plants and people. The Arboretum conducts three major activities – horticultural display, public and professional education, and botanical and horticultural research.

Public Garden Hours:

Mon-Fri, 10-4

Sat/Sun, 10-5 (April - Oct.)

Sat/Sun, 10-4 (Nov. - March)

Thurs. 10-8:30 (June, July, August)

Information:

(215) 247-5777

www.morrisarboretum.org

<http://www.upenn.edu/paflora>

Guided Tours:

Every Sat/Sun, 2 p.m.

Visitor Entrance:

100 East Northwestern Avenue between
Germantown and Stenton Avenues in the
Chestnut Hill section of Philadelphia

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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
170 guests. For details contact Adele Waerig, 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 add 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

Contents

- I A Note From the Director
- 3 Celebrate National Public Garden Day at the Arboretum
- 3 Plant Sale 2010
- 4 2010 Rhododendron Society Sale
- 5 Let's Go Vertical – Vines for the Garden
- 6 Rose Rosette Disease
- 7 Lydia Morris Legacy Society
- 8 Campaign Update
- IO Moonlight & Roses 2010
- II 2009 Green Futures Achievement Award
- I2 Corporate Donors Receive Significant Tax Credits
- I3 Dalai Lama Plants Morris Arboretum Tree
- I3 Enter Our Video and Photo Contest
- I4 Garden Railway
- I4 Volunteer Opportunities
- I5 Summer Adventure Camp – Register Now!
- I5 Education – Spring Classes
- I6 Japanese Cherry Blossom Celebration
- I7 Spring Events

Photo: Arnold Winkler





Celebrate National Public Garden Day at the Morris Arboretum

The Morris Arboretum has been chosen as the official local garden for National Public Garden Day (NPGD) on May 7, 2010. National Public Garden Day is a day in which communities nationwide are invited to visit and learn about the important role their public gardens play in promoting environmental stewardship and awareness. In 2009, Longwood Gardens was selected as the local garden for NPGD's inaugural year.

Join us on May 7 from 10am-4pm as we celebrate the many ways public gardens entertain, educate, and inspire us. Be one of the first 100 families who visit that day and receive a fern-leaf bleeding heart (*Dicentra eximia*) to commemorate this special day!

Plant Sale 2010

The Plant Sale returns this May and will be better than ever at its improved location – the new Horticulture Center at Bloomfield Farm. The sale will take place from Thursday, May 6 through Saturday, May 8. Premier Memberships offer the most exclusive access to our Plant Sale inventory, as well invitations to fun and unique experiences. Upgrade your membership today by calling (215) 247-5777, ext. 151, and consider a Premier level when renewing. You may also renew your membership online at www.morrisarboretum.org under the “Join and Give” tab.

Members-Only Plant Sale Events

Plant Sale Luncheon – Thursday, May 6, 12-2:30pm
Oak level members (\$500) and above will join Paul Meyer for lunch and receive first access to the spectacular plant inventory and expert advice only the Morris Arboretum can offer. Invitations will be mailed and reservations are required.

Plant Sale Preview Party – Thursday, May 6, 5:30-7:30pm

Chestnut members (\$150) and above are invited to a casual evening of shopping and fun with Morris Arboretum experts. Hors d'oeuvres, beer, and wine are served. Invitations will be mailed and reservations are required.

Plant Sale Members-Only Day – Friday, May 7, 10am-8pm

All members save 10% on their entire Plant Sale purchase and may 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.

Plant Sale Family Night – Friday, May 7, 5:30-7:30pm

Beech members and above are welcome to pack a picnic and bring the whole family to shop at the Plant Sale. Dessert will be provided with musical entertainment by Steve Pullara and his Cool Beans Band. Reservations are required. Please register at www.morrisarboretum.org or by calling (215) 247-5777, ext. 170 by April 30.

Public Plant Sale – Saturday, May 8, 10am-4pm

Volunteers are needed! Please contact Liza Hawley at efhawley@upenn.edu or (215) 247-5777 ext. 128.





2010 Rhododendron Society Sale

Photo: Courtesy of Karel Bernady

The Greater Philadelphia Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society will hold its Annual Plant Sale at Morris Arboretum again this year. A large selection of outstanding rhododendrons, all hardy in the Delaware Valley, will be offered, many of which are not available elsewhere. Each was selected for the beauty of its flowers and foliage, and the appeal it will bring to the garden. Let our helpful sales staff assist you in choosing the right shrub for your needs, and share their expertise about successfully growing these plants in your garden. Plants offered will include large-leaf (elepidotes) and small-leaf (lepidotes) rhododendrons, evergreen and deciduous azaleas, and kalmias (mountain laurels). Native and species rhododendrons will also be available.

Would you like to take home a free rhododendron? Join the Greater Philadelphia Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society during the Plant Sale and we will give you a choice plant. When you register at the Plant Sale, you will receive an 18-month membership in a global organization, which features an outstanding Quarterly Journal, annual and regional conferences, and an exciting seed exchange. The Chapter meets at the 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.

The rhododendron sale will follow the schedule and hours of the Arboretum's Plant Sale: Thursday, May 6 – Premium Members' Preview Day, Friday, May 7 – Morris Arboretum and American Rhododendron Society Members-Only Day, and Saturday, May 8 – Public Sale. Membership discounts apply to rhododendron sales. For more information, please contact Karel Bernady at (610) 827-0113.

2010 Cut-Flower Competition

On Saturday, May 8, come see hundreds of gorgeous flowers arrayed in color-chart sequence: tables of exceptional white, pink, and red rhododendrons and azaleas, all of competitive quality. Exquisite blues and purples, oranges and yellows will also be on display. There will be perfect examples of classic varieties and eye-popping rarities. More than a few of the blue-ribbon and trophy winners are sure to make your 'must-have' list. The display will be open to the public from 12:30pm to 4pm, adjoining the Arboretum's Plant Sale. There is no admission charge.

The competition is open to anyone who grows rhododendrons and azaleas. For rules and entry forms contact show chairman Michael Martin Mills at mmm19119@earthlink.net or (215) 527-7145 by May 5.

Let's Go Vertical – Vines for the Garden

ANTHONY AIELLO – The Gayle E. Maloney Director Of Horticulture And Curator

Growing vines is one of the best ways to add dimension to your garden. Vines can be used for a multitude of purposes – as screens, to soften hardscape, conceal structures, provide lushness, and most importantly, to add vertical flowering interest on arbors or trellises. There are a variety of forms and flower colors with vines, and because their growth is mostly upward, their presence in the garden adds a spatial and seasonal element, often in locations where there is not enough room to use other plants.



Wisteria frutescens 'Amethyst Falls' – Amethyst Falls American wisteria



Yes, there are native wisterias, and this variety is an excellent alternative to its aggressive Asian cousins. Slightly fragrant, lavender-blue, 5" flowers cover this twining vine in May and June with recurring blooms through August. Tough and adaptable, it is suitable for a variety of landscapes, including small suburban or urban gardens. It grows well on a trellis or arbor, over fences, and in containers. This variety grows to about 15' and is best planted in full or part sun.

Gelsemium sempervirens 'Margarita' – Margarita Carolina Jessamine



One of my favorites, this vine is native to the southeastern U.S. and into Texas. Carolina jessamine is normally not cold hardy, but this variety is well-suited for our area, providing a profuse display of clear yellow trumpet flowers in late spring, with semi-evergreen foliage throughout the winter. This is a twining vine that can be used in any number of situations, including as a groundcover, on fences or other garden ornaments, or simply climbing up a stout shrub or tree. The result is a mass of color and wonderful texture throughout the year.

When discussing vines, it is hard not to mention at least a few clematis that make great additions to any garden. These are not native, but are generally better behaved than the familiar sweet autumn clematis (*Clematis terniflora*).

Clematis 'Roguchi' – Roguchi clematis

Arguably one of the finest bell-shaped clematis ever introduced, this plant blooms from May through September. Roguchi is a hybrid of *C. integrifolia* × *durandii* and is covered with two-inch cobalt blue flowers. You do not need to worry about pruning: it grows to 4-6', but as a perennial, it will die to the ground each season. Roguchi prefers sun and performs best when it can clamber over a small trellis or fence.

Clematis montana var. *rubra* – Pink anemone clematis

This clematis is a vigorous Chinese species that is an excellent choice for covering chain-link fences or arbors. It has small (2") lightly fragrant, rosy-red flowers in late spring and will ultimately grow to 20-30'. It is a fine garden plant that is reliably floriferous. You can find it growing well along the Pennock Garden trellis.

So this year, think vertically, and consider how to incorporate some of these vines into your garden. Look for many of these plants at this year's Plant Sale, which returns to Bloomfield Farm with the exciting prospect of showcasing our new Horticulture Center.

The idea of growing vines has often received a bad reputation because of some aggressive non-natives such as English ivy (*Hedera helix*) and wisteria (*Wisteria floribunda* and *W. sinensis*). But with the proper selection of native or well-behaved non-native vines, you can add a new level of interest to your garden. Some of my favorites are:

Campsis radicans 'Jersey Peach' – Jersey Peach trumpetcreeper

This variety of native trumpetcreeper bears the long tubular flowers characteristic of this species, but features flowers that are pale peach-yellow, instead of the familiar orange-red of the species. Set against a rich backdrop of dark green foliage, this plant in bloom is quite striking. Trumpetcreepers need sun for best flowering, and are very vigorous growers best used in large scale situations with strong supports. Their striking flowers attract hummingbirds and a variety of insects.

Bignonia capreolata 'Dragon Lady' – Dragon Lady cross vine



Native to the southeastern U.S., Dragon Lady cross vine is an exceptional evergreen vine, with dark green leaves that turn purple in winter. It grows by climbing tendrils and adhesive rootlets, making it adaptable to a variety of climbing situations. Cross vine has attractive red, trumpet-shaped flowers in June and July that also attract hummingbirds and butterflies. Dragon Lady is very hardy in our area and more floriferous than the species. It is adaptable to a variety of sites, preferring at least a half-day of sun.



Rose Rosette Disease

REBECCA MEAGER — John J. Willaman & Martha Haas Valentine Plant Protection Intern

Photos: Rebecca Meager

Rose rosette disease (RRD) is a virus-like disease indigenous to North America that is spread by mites (Lehman, 1999; Epstein et al., 1997). The disease is of great concern to the nursery industry and to many home gardeners because it is potentially lethal to most ornamental rose species and cultivars. The mites can carry the causal agent of RRD from an infected plant to a healthy plant by floating on wind currents or hitching a ride on pruners (Shaner, 2006). RRD can also be spread by grafting (Lehman, 1999). The causal agent of RRD is unknown, although there is a theory that double membrane bound particles that are viral in nature are the causal agent (IPM, 1999; Chapman et al., 2004).

After a rose is infected, it takes 13 to 90 days for symptoms to first appear. Symptoms are variable and can include: witch's broom-like symptoms; new shoots that are larger in diameter than the canes they are formed on; reddish colored new shoots; abnormally succulent shoots; leaves developing in bunch clusters that may be wrinkled and reddish green in color; and excessively thorny canes, etc. (IPM, 1999; Lehman, 1999).

Rose rosette disease is fatal. Once a plant is infected, it can take 22 months to 5 years to die (IPM, 1999; Lehman, 1999). Most, if not all roses are susceptible to RRD, but multiflora rose, *Rosa multiflora*, seems to be the most susceptible to RRD. An invasive plant, researchers are encouraged that RRD may actually serve as a biological control for multiflora rose. Presently, the best way to control RRD is to remove infected plants and regularly apply miticides to prevent the spread of disease-carrying



mites. Plants should be burned after removal or sprayed with miticide before removal, to kill any living mites or the plant. Once an infected plant has been removed, another rose should not be planted in that spot for at least two years, as any remaining roots from the removed plant can transmit the disease for up to 18 months (Shaner, 2006).

If you are a rose lover, keep an eye on your plants for signs of this destructive disease. Symptoms may be difficult to spot in the early stages of the disease, but diligence can pay off. If the disease is not caught until the symptoms are severe, it is likely that it has already spread to nearby plants.



Sources:

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The Lydia Morris Legacy Society

VICTORIA SICKS – Associate Director of Development for Major Gifts

A wise director of the Morris Arboretum once said, “You know, the garden draws people for all sorts of reasons.” I was reminded of that a few weeks ago when I visited with Joan and George Brantz. Over a delightful cup of tea, I learned that it was their love of walking that first brought them to the Morris Arboretum.

Born and raised in Philadelphia, the Brantzes were walkers when they courted as young people – in their neighborhoods of East and West Oak Lane, at Girls High and Central High School, and later on at Forbidden Drive. They have traveled widely, particularly throughout the British Isles. Drawn by their love of Jane Austen and English literature, they visited there frequently – from the tip of Cornwall to the north of Scotland. These visits included long walks and hikes, a hobby they have continued to pursue at home. They both spoke of walking not just as a way of getting exercise and fresh air, but also as a beneficial way to ponder problems and make decisions. As Joan said, “Whenever we need to think over something important, we often take the issue for a walk.”

Driving past the Arboretum one day about ten years ago, they stopped in. It was love at first sight. “Here in our own back yard,” Joan said, “was a place as lovely as any we had seen and the trees even had nametags!” On a memorable day, Joan followed the autumn scent she associated with the great Katsura to find the other, younger Katsura specimens on the grounds. Time spent in the garden is totally absorbing, “When we’re there, we are THERE,” said Joan.

Both Joan and George have attended lectures and classes and have taken walks with Director Paul Meyer and several program directors, as well. Joan has taken courses on orchids and is thrilled to now be able to get them to re-bloom. As

members of the Directors’ Guild, their insight into the workings of the Arboretum has grown, and they enjoy participating in and admiring the

careful planning that informs Arboretum decisions. George observed that “the passion of the staff and the leadership are very impressive, and their collaborative style makes every experience worthwhile and beneficial to all of us.”

Believing that the Arboretum, including its work in research and education, merits meaningful support, the Brantzes participated in the restoration of the Wisteria Walk and contributed to the construction of *Out on a Limb*. They are intrigued by the wonderful new perspective on trees that the canopy walk offers. The entire Morris Arboretum community is grateful to them for their thoughtful participation in so many aspects of the work that we do. Recently we learned that they have also included the Morris Arboretum in their estate planning. As members of the Lydia Morris Legacy Society, they recognize that the future strength of the institution will be enhanced by the thoughtful actions of current members and donors. They are doing their part to ensure that their children and other visitors in years to come will also have a wonderful place to walk!

We would be pleased to know if you have included the Morris Arboretum in your estate plans, and invite you to join the Lydia Morris Legacy Society. If you would like information about creating a bequest or an annuity, please contact Victoria Sicks, Associate Director of Development, at (215)247-5777, ext.152 or via email at vsicks@upenn.edu.



Campaign Update



Since we last updated you this past fall, we are pleased to report that an additional \$1,000,000 has been committed toward the *Always Growing* Campaign. We are delighted to continue to make

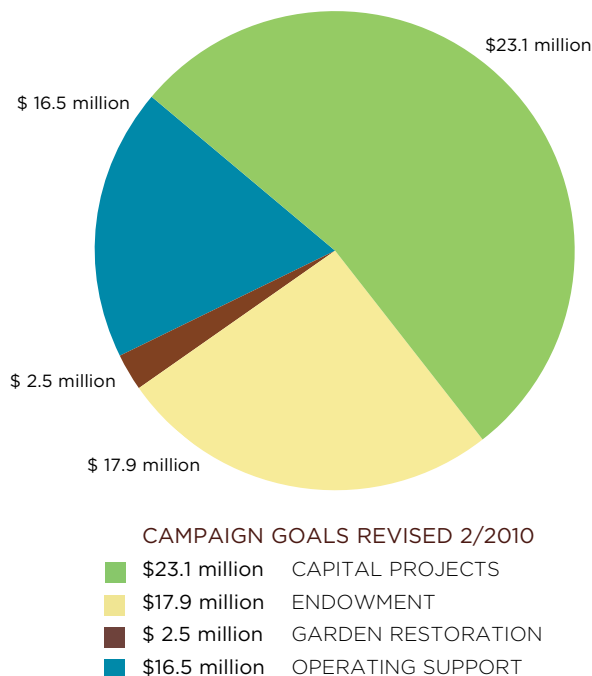
such significant progress and have now raised over \$46.5 million toward our \$60 million goal. We continue to break all visitation and membership records thanks in large measure to the attraction of the Tree Adventure exhibit and *Out on a Limb*. What fun it is to welcome over 1,600 new member households to the Arboretum who have joined for the first time since July 1st. Every day we are witnessing the ways this extraordinary exhibit is transforming our ability to convey the importance of trees.

We also expect to be two of the first volunteers to tour the newly-constructed Horticulture Center which is on the cutting edge of environmental stewardship, and to be among the first in line at the Arboretum's expanded Plant Sale in May. The excitement at the Morris Arboretum is truly *Always Growing*, and we remain grateful to our members and friends who continue to sustain and strengthen this community treasure. Thank you for your steadfast support.

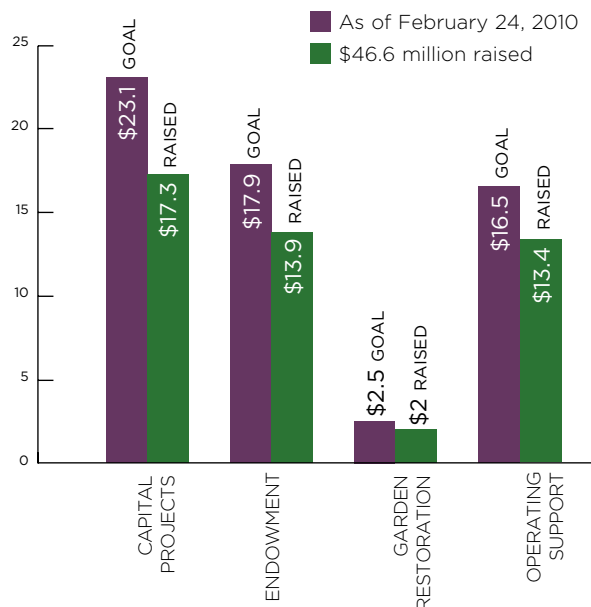
Susan M. Oberwager
Campaign Co-Chair

John A. H. Shober
Campaign Co-Chair

Total Campaign Goal: \$60 million



Progress toward Campaign Goal



Hohns' Gift Invites Penn Students to the Morris Arboretum

LESLIE WEISSER, Assistant Director of Development

The Morris Arboretum was delighted to welcome Bill and Kathie Hohns to the garden for lunch and a tour in the summer of 2008. Bill Hohns has been an active member of the University of Pennsylvania community for many years, both as an alumnus of the Class of 1974 and as the proud parent of an alumnus. He and his wife Kathie have been generous donors to many of the University's schools and centers, with a particular interest in the well-being of Penn students. The Hohns' commitment to students led them to propose a meeting at the Morris Arboretum to learn more about the Arboretum's work with the University of Pennsylvania's student body.

The Morris Arboretum is the University's foremost center for botanical research, education, and outreach, and one of the country's most-renowned public gardens. It has served as a rich resource for hundreds of thousands of regional, national, and international visitors for more than 75 years. However, as the Hohns' meeting with Arboretum Director Paul Meyer confirmed, a majority of Penn students are unaware of the Arboretum as one of the University's premier educational hubs.

Having just toured the Arboretum's 92-acres of landscapes and horticultural displays, Bill and Kathie expressed interest in developing an initiative designed to strengthen the relationship between University students and the Arboretum. This initial meeting led to follow-up conversations and to the establishment of a five-year, \$110,000 Hohns Family Fund gift to the Morris Arboretum to be utilized for this purpose.



The Hohns then met with Arboretum staff to explore specific ways in which the Arboretum might raise its visibility on campus, provide special events for students at the Arboretum, and strengthen students' awareness of the Morris Arboretum as a place of learning, exploration, and recreation.

In the words of Bill Hohns, *"... the real long-term goal of this plan with the Arboretum is to build meaningful relationships with the University of Pennsylvania student body that yield lifelong interests in the Arboretum as a part of their total Penn experience."*

In the first six months of this program, the Hohns' extraordinary generosity enabled the Morris Arboretum to welcome more than 300 first-time Penn student visitors to the garden for unique activities, classes, lectures, and tours. Aimee Dobberstein, the Arboretum's Education Coordinator, has also developed a Morris Arboretum presence on campus through her work with Penn student volunteers, her leadership in campus meetings, and her participation at campus-wide community resource fairs. Looking ahead in 2010, planning for seven student bus trips to the Arboretum and four on-campus student events is underway. Aimee is also in contact with several Penn clubs about ideas for joint activities, such as bike trips from the University campus to the Arboretum, a concert series, and a mini-marathon held in conjunction with the Penn Relays.

The Hohns' vision has led to remarkable growth in interactions between Penn students and the Morris Arboretum. It is exciting to welcome so many Penn students to the Arboretum, and to know that the Arboretum is being publicized more widely on the University campus through word-of-mouth, campus publications, and information distributed in college houses and during campus events.

The Morris Arboretum is deeply grateful to Bill and Kathie Hohns for their generosity and creative foresight. The Hohns' gift enables the Morris Arboretum to reach out to the University in new ways so that Penn students can benefit — formally and informally, in groups as well as individually — from experiencing the Arboretum. This program has enriched and will continue to enrich the lives of Penn students for years to come.

moonlight & roses 2010

This year, the Arboretum's annual fundraising gala, *Moonlight & Roses*, will take place on Friday, June 11. Make plans to join friends, neighbors, and colleagues for an evening in the Arboretum's magnificent Rose Garden, followed by dinner and dancing under the stars. Funds raised from this year's event will support the Arboretum's Summer Concert Series. The Summer Concert Series is an established event on many music and garden lovers' calendars, and returns this summer with two *Groovin' in the Garden* concerts in July and two XPN Kids Corner Concerts in August.



Photos: Mark Stehle

This year's event honorees are Peter and Bonnie McCausland. Both Peter and Bonnie have dedicated years of service to the Arboretum. Peter is a former member of the Advisory Board of Managers, and both are current members of the Directors' Guild. Most recently, we welcomed them as our newest Arboretum neighbors. We are very fortunate to have them as partners in preserving our region's open spaces through their purchase of Erdenheim Farm. Barrett Stewart and Lisa Walker are this year's *Moonlight & Roses* co-chairs, and they are working very hard to ensure that the event will be a spectacular celebration.

The gala begins at 6 pm with cocktails and an expanded hors d'oeuvre buffet for guests in the renowned Rose Garden, followed by dinner in either the Rose Tent or the Moonlight

Tent. New this year, there will be an option to enjoy a buffet style setting in the Rose Tent or a plated dinner in the Moonlight Tent. We have made this change in order to pass cost savings on to our guests, and to allow more time for dancing and mingling with friends in the Rose Tent.

Reservations are required and space is very limited. Invitations will be mailed to all Chestnut members and above, as well as to previous *Moonlight & Roses* donors. Opportunities are also available to sponsor a table(s). For more information or to request an invitation, please contact Tari Carlson at (215) 247-5777, ext. 161.

We regret that the following names were omitted or written in error in the FY'09 Morris Arboretum Annual Report:

Corporate Friends

Avery Galleries
Susan and Burn Oberwager

Young Friend

Miranda Markart

Subscriber

Valley Green Bank



Photo: Courtesy of Jason Lubar

Corporate Donors Receive Significant Tax Credits to Support Children's Education Program

The Morris Arboretum is delighted to announce its accreditation by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Educational Improvement Tax Credit Program (EITC) as an Educational Improvement Organization (EIO). This state-run program provides significant tax benefits, awarding up to 90% in corporate tax credits to eligible businesses that make charitable contributions to approved EITC non-profit organizations. The Morris Arboretum is approved to receive corporate gifts that are designated specifically for the Arboretum's enhancement of public school education opportunities.

The Arboretum's high-quality Children's Education Program – both its *Growing Minds* Series and the educational components of *Out on a Limb* – a Tree Adventure exhibit – advance the state's goal of providing “innovative educational programming that goes beyond the normal offerings of a K-12 public school program and curriculum, thus adding advanced academic value to public school education.”

Through the Commonwealth's EITC Program, Pennsylvania offers corporations an important incentive for their investment in enhanced opportunities for public school children, especially opportunities such as the Morris Arboretum's Children's Education Program. The Commonwealth makes a significant commitment to public school education and encourages the corporate sector to do so as well through the provision of tax incentives. State tax credits for corporations can equal as much as 75% of its charitable contribution up to a maximum of \$200,000 in designated gifts per taxable year – and the tax credit can be increased to 90% of the contribution if the company agrees to provide the same amount for two consecutive tax years.

Corporations MUST apply to the state on July 1st for approval of eligibility, using the one-page form found in the EITC Business Guidelines at www.newpa.com. To learn more about the Commonwealth's EITC Program, you can also contact Leslie Weisser in the Arboretum's Development Office at (215) 247-5777, ext. 147 or via email at leslieaw@upenn.edu.

Pictured from left to right: Dulcie Flaharty, Executive Director, Montgomery County Lands Trust; Michael Leff, TreeVitalize Program Manager, PHS; Jason Lubar, Associate Director of Urban Forestry, Morris Arboretum; Mila Hayes, 1st District Councilwoman, Norristown; Jean Holland, Community Planner, Montgomery County Planning Commission; William Caldwell, 2nd District Councilman, Norristown; Jayne Musonye, Director of Planning, Montgomery County Planning Commission; Paul Meyer, *The F. Otto Haas* Director, Morris Arboretum

2009 Green Futures Achievement Award

The municipality of Norristown received one of six Green Futures Achievement Awards for outstanding achievement and effort demonstrating exemplary land protection, effective partnerships in planning, and visionary open space projects. The awards are given by the Montgomery County Lands Trust, which works to preserve and connect natural areas, farmland, and neighborhood green spaces, thereby contributing to a higher quality of life, a cleaner and abundant water supply, and to the health of our region's economy.

The municipality of Norristown has long had a vision of a developing a stronger, more affluent community. The first step in achieving that dream took place in 2000 with the development a municipality-wide revitalization plan and program that featured multiple initiatives and partnerships.

Part of the revitalization effort focused on trees and greenspace. Using grant funds from the Montgomery County Revitalization Program, the Norristown Council rejuvenated the shopping district with new street trees and sidewalks. Two of the municipality's most heavily traveled roads, DeKalb Street and Main Street, are also being renovated with new street trees.

The Morris Arboretum's arboricultural consultants, Jason Lubar and Bob Wells, played a key role in assisting the Council with developing a comprehensive inventory of the municipality's street trees, and by helping organize further tree planting initiatives through the TreeVitalize program.



Conservation Corner

The Eastern redbud (*Cercis Canadensis*) is just one of many beautiful native trees.

KIM FRISBIE — Freelance Writer & Arboretum Directors' Guild Co-Chair

In the last issue of *Seasons* I talked about the importance of reintroducing native plants to our gardens in order to maintain insect populations in our local ecosystems, thereby providing food sources for the native wildlife that live here. Specific plants can profoundly change our environment. The Norway maple (*Acer platanoides*), was introduced by John Bartram from Northern Europe in 1756, and is now one of the most common shade trees in North America. When it first arrived, this species had never interacted with the plants, animals or pathogens of North America. Now, some 250 years later, it is no surprise that it has still not adapted to the needs of the plants and animals of our country. The Norway maple throws such dense shade that nothing at all can grow beneath it, producing a monoculture in many woodlots. Native insects cannot ingest its foliage, and its winged seeds are carried easily by the wind, thus dispersing it effortlessly.

Another example of a deadly invasive alien is Oriental bittersweet (*Celastrus orbiculatus*). This aggressive vine was imported as an ornamental in the 1860s because of the showy red arils that cover its yellow seeds, making it popular in flower arrangements. Today, bittersweet is found from Maine to Georgia, and west to Missouri. Once established, it destroys every plant it comes in contact with, girdling the trunks of trees it climbs upon, often bringing down much larger trees by its sheer weight. Growing faster than its native counterparts, bittersweet quickly reaches the canopy of

the tallest forest trees, but it is even more deadly to young saplings which are quickly smothered by its vines. Mile-a-minute weed (*Persicaria perfoliata*) and Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*) are two other invasive species with which many of us have come in contact. Both of these grow faster than native species, effectively smothering all other vegetation by forming dense mats and thickets through which nothing else can grow. Both are extremely difficult to kill, and by forming monocultures, they exclude the valuable native plants that are so necessary to local wildlife.

By favoring native plants over alien species, we as gardeners can help sustain the biodiversity that is essential to balanced, functioning ecosystems. Yes, our plants may not always have perfect foliage; there will be some insect damage, but that is just evidence that our gardens are not sterile, but full of life. Insect herbivores are kept in check by dozens of species of insect predators and parasites. These are eaten daily by the birds, amphibians and small mammals in the area. Insects are also decomposers, playing another vital role in recycling the nutrients in dead plants and animals for later use further up the food chain. In a balanced community, no one member dominates — thus, in a native forest, you may notice that individual leaves may show some insect damage, but not enough to harm the plant, and the result is a garden that while not perfect, presents itself as one of health, beauty and balance.



Dalai Lama Plants Morris Arboretum Tree

Last year, His Holiness the Dalai Lama, the exiled head of state and spiritual leader of Tibet, took part in a tree planting at Harvard Yard, planting a hybrid white bark birch (*Betula maximowicziana* x *papyrifera*) that was grown by the staff of the Morris Arboretum. The tree was propagated from a superior tree growing at our Bloomfield Farm that originated in Fairmount Park. The Dalai Lama planted one of two trees donated to Harvard's Arnold Arboretum by the Morris Arboretum in 2007. Evaluation and propagation of this white bark birch is part of a long-term Morris Arboretum effort to evaluate white bark birches for adaptability to our climate and resistance to bronze birch borer.

Photo: P. Del Tredici

Enter Our Video and Photo Contest

Get your cameras ready for the first Annual Video and Photo Contest at the Morris Arboretum! We want you to capture the people, plants and places at the Arboretum and share them with us. The contest is open to visitors of all ages and skill levels, so show us your talent. All entries must be taken on site at the Morris Arboretum and relate to one of the following categories:

Videos: Art, Science, Humanities, Education and Learning

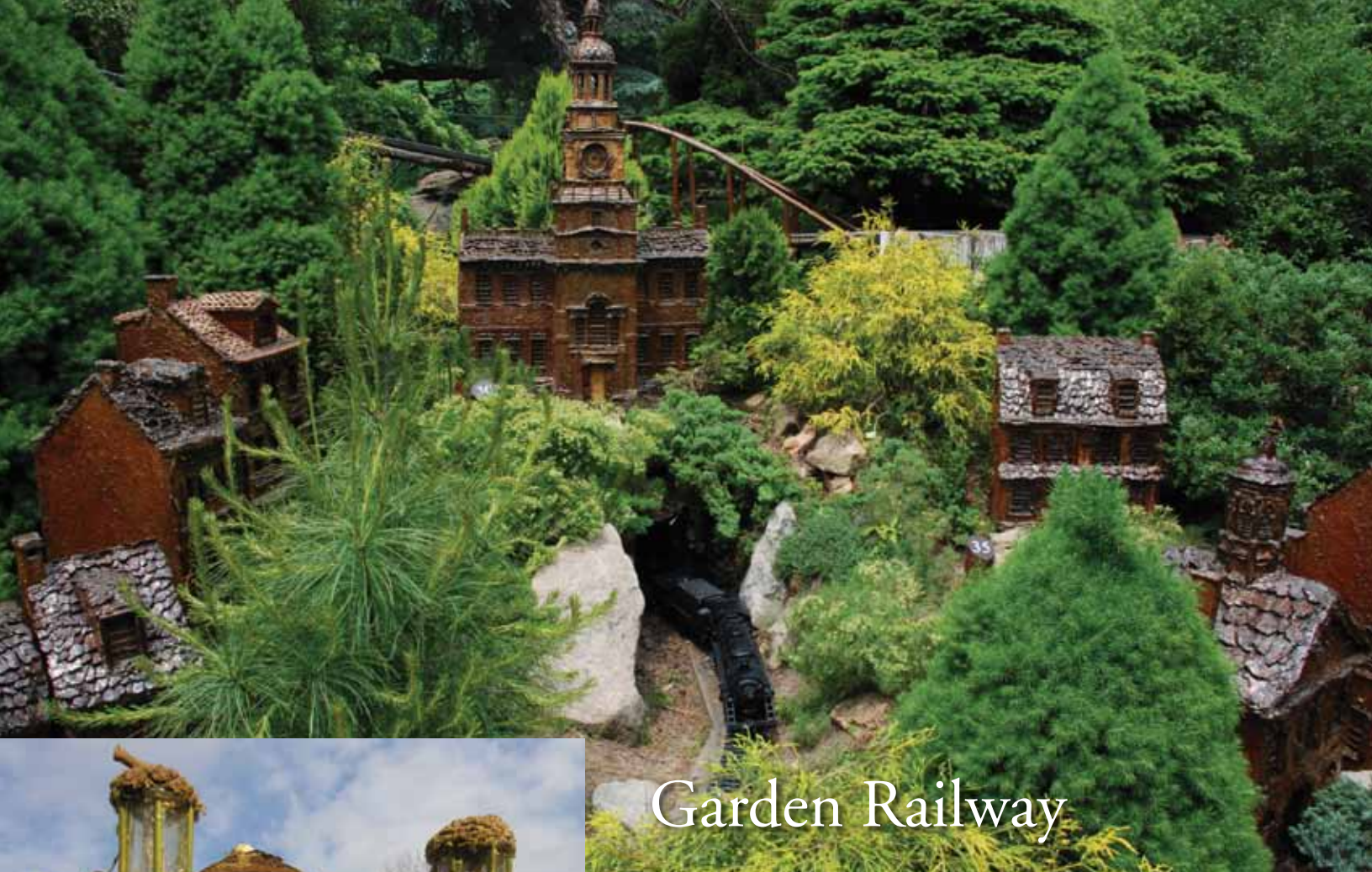
Photos: People, Plants, Place

Entries must be received by 12noon June 30, 2010. Entry forms are available online at www.morrisarboretum.org. Look for the camera icon at the bottom of the homepage.

Photo: Bob Gutowski

Prunus mume 'Okitsu-Akabana'





Garden Railway

Photo: Paul W. Meyer



Photo: Paul Busse

Travel cross country this summer at the Morris Arboretum's Garden Railway! *American Roadside Attractions* celebrates some of our country's favorite tourist attractions including Lucy the Elephant, Longaberger Baskets, WigWam Village and the Corn Palace. Take in the sights without leaving home, and enjoy the diverse and eccentric architecture of the American countryside. During the Grand Opening festivities May 29 & 30, stop by our Café as it is transformed into a great American diner for the weekend. It's the perfect mini vacation!

Volunteer Opportunities

Soaring attendance has created new volunteer opportunities at the Arboretum for Hospitality Assistants and Gift Shop Assistants. We are looking for volunteers with a passion for the Arboretum who will enjoy the energetic connection of welcoming members and guests and assisting Gift Shop customers in finding the items that best capture their visit. Working collaboratively with Arboretum staff in a fun and high impact environment, volunteers will help significantly enhance the visitor experience. Training sessions are two hours and will be held in April and May. Ongoing coaching will be provided. For more information please contact Jo Anne Miller at jomill@upenn.edu or (215) 247-5777, ext. 184, or visit morrisarboretum.org. Click 'Join and Give', then select 'Volunteer' and scroll down to Visitor Services.

Summer Adventure Camp – Register Now!

Summer Adventure Camp at the Morris Arboretum is an exciting new program full of discovery, learning and fun. From the wetlands to the Log Cabin, the Arboretum is the perfect place to discover nature. Experience trees high up in the nets of *Out on a Limb*, or escape the afternoon sun with storytime under a 250-year old tree. The adventure never ends at the Arboretum – be sure to join us!

The camp, which is designed for children age 6 to 8, will run for one week only, Monday, June 21 - Friday, June 25 from 9:00am-3:30pm. The cost is members: \$250 and non-members: \$275. Space is limited! Register today at www.morrisarboretum.org or call (215) 247-5777 ext. 185.

Daily Themes:

Monday – Wild Wonders: Discover nature in your neighborhood. Go on a bug safari, listen for birds in the woods, and uncover animal hideaways! Use your senses and imagination to detect where these creatures live and how they survive.

Tuesday – Green Machines: From roots to shoots and seeds to weeds, we will learn all about the tree-mendous plants we can't live without. Why are they green? How do they grow? Dissect a flower, make a terrarium and examine tree cookies!

Wednesday – Groovy Gardening: Spend the day learning about where our food comes from. We will visit Bloomfield Farm, harvest summer vegetables and prepare a picnic. Yum!

Thursday – Arboretum Adventurers: Gear up for an exploration! Work as a team to follow the clues, complete a scavenger hunt and solve a garden mystery.

Friday – Muddy Madness: Bring your rain boots and get ready for a wet and messy day digging in the dirt and exploring the Arboretum's streams.

Education

Spring is showing its signs! Get a jump start with one of the many engaging classes offered at the Morris Arboretum this season.

Fun Flower Arranging

Four Tuesdays: April 13, 20, 27, and May 4
Section A: 10am-12:30pm or Section B: 6:30-9pm

Flower arranging is great for creativity and self expression. Learn about the care and handling of fresh flowers with floral educator Cheryl Wilks. Discover the secrets of beautiful centerpiece, vase arranging, corsages and boutonnieres, and floral bow making. Members: \$185, Non-members: \$195.

Lawn Care for the Homeowner

Saturday, April 24, 10am-12noon

Learn how you can have a beautiful lawn without a lot of work. Certified Arborist Alison Pottage of SavATree/SavALawn will give tips on how and when to plant, what seed to use, as well as techniques for troubleshooting problems with an already established lawn. Participants will also learn common sense approaches to applying fertilizer and controlling weeds. Members: \$25, Non-members: \$30.

Introduction to Tree Biology

Tuesday, April 27, 7-9pm

The more we know about tree biology the better we can care for trees. David Tukey, Urban Forestry Intern at the Morris Arboretum, will discuss pruning, fertilizing, watering and protecting trees from damage. This class will provide valuable information for homeowners, gardeners, landscapers, tree tenders, members of shade tree commissions, arborists, and anyone curious to know more about how trees survive and thrive. Members: \$25, Non-members: \$30.

Photo: Arnold Winkler

Beer Tasting Dinner

Saturday, May 14, 7-9pm

Join us for our third annual beer tasting dinner celebrating Philadelphia's designation as "Brussels on the Schuylkill." Beer is to the Belgians what wine is to the French. To celebrate this tradition, come sample a variety of specially selected flavorful beers that will be paired with complementary food. You will also have the rare chance to try some favorite dishes that use beer as an ingredient. Members: \$50, Non-members: \$55.



Japanese Cherry Blossom Celebration

Two Saturdays, April 10th and April 17th

Celebrate the Arboretum's rich Japanese culture and heritage with a variety of wonderful activities for adults and children alike, including a visit by the Tokyo, Japan Cherry Blossom Queen on April 12th. Check the Arboretum's website, www.morrisarboretum.org, for information on specific events.

Sushi Demonstration

Saturday, April 10, 11am-12noon

In this interactive demonstration by Company's Coming, participants will sample and learn how to make sushi basics such as tuna and California rolls, as well as vegetarian hand rolls.

Traditional Japanese Tea Demonstration

Saturday, April 10, 1-2pm

This year's demonstration will feature Picnic Tea (Chabako), a unique form of the Japanese tea ceremony. It was designed to be performed outdoors with four distinct presentations, one for each of the seasons. Weather permitting this demonstration will take place outside.

Japanese Garden Elements Tours

Saturday, April 10 & 17, 2pm

This tour highlights the Japanese influences found at many areas in the Arboretum, including the Japanese Hill Garden, the Rock Garden in the Fernery, and the Overlook Garden.

Photo: Paul W. Meyer



Photo: Juan Colina

Creating an Asian Dragon

Sunday, April 11, 1-2:15pm

In Japan, the dragon is a friendly symbol of good luck, not the scary creature of medieval Europe. Artist and teacher Allison Zito, will provide a bit of Asian dragon folklore while children color, glue and assemble their own colorful animated dragon to take home. Ideal for ages 3 to 7 years. All materials are provided. Members: \$16, Non-members: \$19.

Visit by the Tokyo, Japan Cherry Blossom Queen

Monday, April 12, 10-11am

The public is invited as the newly-crowned Tokyo, Japan Cherry Blossom Queen takes a tour of the Arboretum to celebrate our rich Japanese culture and heritage.

Archery Demonstration

Saturday, April 17 – demonstrations at 10:30 and 11am

Centuries ago, archery was regarded as the highest discipline of the Samurai warrior. Today, archery has evolved into Kyudo, the ultimate goal of which is to polish the mind – the same as in sitting meditation. Come experience this ancient discipline where the qualities of heart and mind meet at the moment of the arrow's release.

Japanese Calligraphy

Saturday, April 17, 11:30am-12:30pm

University of Pennsylvania students from the Center for Asian Studies will be on hand to assist visitors in writing Japanese characters and speaking the Japanese language.

Swarthmore Taiko Drummers

Saturday, April 17, 1-2pm

This unique group will perform traditional and traditionally-based works in Japanese style drumming. Always a favorite at the Arboretum, the audience will also be invited to experience playing the drums at the end of the program.



Photo: Paul W. Meyer

spring *events*

APRIL

Great Trees at the Morris Arboretum

Every Sunday in April at 1pm

Take a guided tour of the great trees at the Morris Arboretum. Knowledgeable guides will point out champions and discuss their history and merits.

3 Garden Discovery Series: Poet-tree

Saturday, April 3, 11am-3pm

Join us at the top of the Rose Garden as we celebrate National Poetry Month! In your own words or words borrowed from great poets, write a sonnet, an epic, haiku or a limerick in praise of trees.

MAY

1 Garden Discovery Series: Make a Bark Vest

Saturday, May 1, 11am-3pm in Bark Park

Discover how bark protects trees and find out all the work that goes on just below the surface. Bring a large paper bag, we'll supply the rest.

1 Arbor Day Celebration: Adventure Treasure Hunt

Saturday, May 1, 1-3pm

Celebrate trees at our annual Arbor Day celebration. This is an interactive family event on *Out on a Limb*, where visitors will receive a treasure hunt map. From there, the trees of the Arboretum will provide the basis for a treasure hunt that includes four Tree Activity stations. Complete the adventure and take home a seedling to plant. The Little Treehouse of Chestnut Hill (www.treehouseplaycafe.com) will also be on hand to introduce their play café to visitors with discount cards and to host a tots singalong session.

6 Plant Sale Members' Events

May 6 & 7

See page 3 for more information.

7 National Public Garden Day at the Morris Arboretum

Friday, May 7, 10am-4pm

The Morris Arboretum has been selected as the official local garden for National Public Garden Day, a day when communities

nationwide are invited to visit and learn about the important role their public gardens play in promoting environmental stewardship and awareness.

8 Plant Sale Public Sale Day

Saturday, May 8, 10am-4pm

See page 3 for more information.

23 New Members' Lecture and Tour

Sunday, May 23, 10:30am-12:30pm

New members are invited to learn about the Arboretum's history and garden features in a lecture presented by Bob Anderson, Director of Physical Facilities. Following the lecture, tours will be led by volunteer guides. Registration is required and space is limited. Register online at www.morrisarboretum.org or by calling (215) 247-5777, ext. 170 by May 17.

29 Garden Railway Grand Opening American Roadside Attractions

Saturday, May 29, 10am-4pm

The Garden Railways returns for the 2010 season this weekend. See page 14 for more details.

JUNE

5 Garden Discovery Series: Leafy Crowns

Saturday, June 5, 11am-3pm in the Outdoor Classroom

At the height of summer foliage, stitch together a headband or crown using only leaves and stems.



Photo: Paul W. Meyer



6 Annual Rose Show

Sunday, June 6, 11am-4pm

If you love roses, don't miss this opportunity to see some glorious blooms at the Philadelphia Rose Society's Annual Rose Show. Stop by the Widener Visitor Center and smell the roses!

11 Moonlight & Roses Gala

Friday, June 11, 6pm-Midnight.

Enjoy cocktails in the Rose Garden and dinner and dancing under the stars. Guests will have the option to dine in one of two tents – the "Moonlight Tent" featuring soft music in an intimate setting or the "Rose Tent" featuring a lively dance floor. For more information see page 10.

12 Pennsylvania Train Weekend

Saturday and Sunday June 12 & June 13 at the Garden Railway

Celebrate Pennsylvania trains at the Arboretum! Learn the history of the Pennsylvania railroads and see trains from lines that have run through Pennsylvania, such as B&O, Lackawanna, and the Pennsylvania Railroad as well as Arboretum and guest trains.

17 Train Enthusiasts' Night

Thursday, June 17, 5-8pm

Train club members, artists, and train manufacturers will share their enthusiasm for trains with wonderful displays in the Upper Gallery.

21 Summer Adventure at the Morris Arboretum

June 21-25, 9am-3pm

Summer Camp at Morris Arboretum! See page 15 for more information.

23 Premier Members Event Beeches, Butterflies and Bugs

Wednesday, June 23, 5:30-7:30pm

Beech members and above are invited to an exclusive evening of family fun. Participants are encouraged to celebrate our Garden Railway theme by wearing t-shirts, hats and other memorabilia from their own travels to *American Roadside Attractions*. Pack a picnic dinner or dine in the Café. Invitations will not be mailed and this is a shine only event. Register online at www.morrisarboretum.org or by calling (215) 247-5777, ext. 170 by June 18.

26 Circus Week at the Garden Railway

Daily June 26 through July 5

The first circus was held in Philadelphia in 1793. Come see the Big Top and the circus trains, learn the history of the circus, and watch for a few surprises.

COMING IN JULY & AUGUST

Celebrate Out on Limb's First Birthday!

Saturday, July 3, 10am-4pm

It's a party, complete with cake, and you're invited!

SAVE THE DATES!

Groovin' in the Garden Summer Concerts

Thursday, July 15 & 22, 7pm

XPN Kids Corner Concerts

*Thursday, August 5 & 12,
6:30pm*

ADMISSION

Adults (18-64 yrs.)	\$14
Senior (65+ yrs.)	\$12
Children (3-17 yrs.)	\$7
Members	FREE

* Please note, Arboretum events are subject to change without notice. Events are free with general admission except where noted.

Unless noted, all events are held rain or shine. In the event of rain, performances will take place under the tent at the Widener Visitor Center.

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Experience spring in a whole new way...
Go Out on a Limb,
for a tree top adventure from 50 feet up



Open weekdays
10am-4pm and weekends
until 5pm. Come visit!