

VOLUNTEER

August 2013



Morris Arboretum of the
University of Pennsylvania

Official arboretum of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

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 a 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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Cover photo and photos throughout: Stephanie Kuniholm
unless otherwise stated



Rosa 'RUBY MEIDILAND'

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Heliopsis helianthoides

Letter from the Editor

August 2013

In spite of the extreme weather of this past month- record rain and heat- I am thankful for the summer conditions that make growth possible (certainly vegetative but perhaps personal as well). Throughout this summer, I've been appreciative of our contrasting seasons with this poem on my mind:

From Sabbaths 1998: IV
by Wendell Berry

The woods and pastures are joyous
in their abundance now
in a season of warmth and much rain.
We walk amidst foliage, amidst
song. The sheep and cattle graze
like souls in bliss (except for flies)
and lie down satisfied.
Who now can believe in winter? In winter
who could have hoped for this?

Sincerely,

Stephanie Kuniholm

The McLean Contributionship
Endowed Education Intern



Notes from the Guides Chair

Hello Everyone,

Recently I told someone we were going to the Midwest for a couple of weeks. The response was, “why would you want to go to the Midwest, there is nothing to see.” Now I beg to differ. Anyone from the middle of our huge country has a great affinity for the majesty of the open sky. When you live on the plains, it seems you are exceedingly connected to the world around you. All you have to do is look up to see what the weather is like 20 miles down the road. People in that area of the country can predict with pretty fair accuracy if rain is coming in their direction.

You see, we are not constrained by a bunch of trees or hills blocking our view. In fact, the saying is, “All you have to do is look at the sky, to see what the weather was like where you were and what the weather is like where you are going.” The sky just seems to be very important to the people of the plains. During the dust bowl, my mother-in-law could look up seeing red dust, which was Oklahoma going over head. We were taught the four major cloud formations in grade school, do you remember their names? I confess that I didn’t, I had to look them up, and they are as follows:

Cirrus – high, altitude clouds composed of narrow bands,

Cumulus – dense, white, flat-based clouds with multiple rounded tops,

Nimbus – heavy rain clouds,

Stratus – low altitude clouds typically resembling a layer of fog.

Now you can either memorize the different formations or go lie on the grass look up and imagine all the different creatures one can see in the shapes. If you really want to be dazzled visit the website below to view the most amazing cloud formations.

<http://twistedstifter.com/2012/03/15-incredible-cloud-formations>

Happy Cloud Watching – Happy Gardening,

*Jody Sprague
Guides Chair*



Take the Plunge at These Fall Refresher Sessions!

Both experienced and relatively new guides are strongly encouraged to attend these upcoming refresher sessions. Each session will feature a tour demonstrated by experienced guides and a stimulating workshop led by Arboretum staff. Also, these sessions will include something NEW – afternoon practicums so you get a chance to actually practice delivering portions of the two tours featured each morning.

Wednesday, September 18

Park in the Arboretum parking lot, vans will take us back and forth

9:00 – 10:30: Presentation by **Tim Block** on **Aquatic Plant Life** followed by a visit to our Wetlands to actually see plants featured in the presentation

10:30 – 12:00: Wetlands Tour led by Rick Stover and Willie Wilson

12:00 – 12:30: Lunch: Please bring a brown bag lunch – drinks & dessert provided

12:30 – 2:00: NEW! Wetlands Practicum- practice giving a portion of the tour

Wednesday, September 25

Park at Bloomfield Farm

9:00 – 10:00: Presentation by **Bob Gutowski** on **Springfield Mills** while visiting points of interest at Bloomfield Farm

10:00 – 11:30: Mill Tour led by Jody Sprague and Bill Koons

11:30 – 12:30: Dedication of Lorie Greeley's Benches & Lunch: Please bring a brown bag lunch – drinks & dessert provided

12:30 – 2:00: NEW! Mill Practicum- practice giving a portion of the tour

Remembering Lorie Greeley at Springfield Mills

On **Wednesday, September 25th at 11:30**, volunteers are invited to help us honor the memory of long-time guide, Lorie Greeley. Dedication of two benches, purchased with funds given by volunteers and inscribed with words written by her many friends in the guide organization, will take place at Springfield Mills at Bloomfield Farm. Please park in the Hort Center parking lot. Anyone needing transportation to the mill should contact Liza Hawley at efhawley@upenn.edu or 215-247-5777 ext 128.



Your Primary Guiding Day

Fall Guiding Sign-Ups will be arriving in the mail shortly. Please select a Primary Guiding Day, and reserve it on your calendar, to devote to leading tours at the Arboretum. Please hold this day two weeks out before setting other appointments (vacations, illness or other family obligations excluded, of course).

Moving forward with this Primary Guiding strategy, we will be able to fulfill our group tour promises comfortably without undue strain on just a handful of guides. During April, May and June of this year, our busiest spring ever with over 2,900 tour guests, only nine guides led 50% of the tours!

Without a full complement of guides we could be in the unfortunate position of having to accept fewer tours during this time of fantastic growth at the Arboretum. Won't you help Arboretum's education mission? Looking forward to hearing from you and to the year ahead.

Liza Hawley,
Visitor Education Coordinator
Lisa Bailey,
*Visitor Education
Administrative Assistant*



Thoughts From a Fellow Guide

This spring and summer my phone has been ringing off the hook! Who has been calling?- the chairs of my chosen days and the chairs of any and every week-day. In spring I signed on for Tuesday as my Primary Guiding Day and Friday as an alternate day. However, I keep getting calls from chairs of the other days with fingers crossed hoping I am available. Certainly tour requests have increased but the pool of active and willing volunteers seems to be shrinking.

I was asked to write this snippet for “Volunteer” to encourage more guides to sign up for a Primary Guiding Day and commit to giving tours. Besides being fun and keeping our minds and bodies active, it will bring relief to our ever-busy chairs of the day. I am hoping to see you more often.

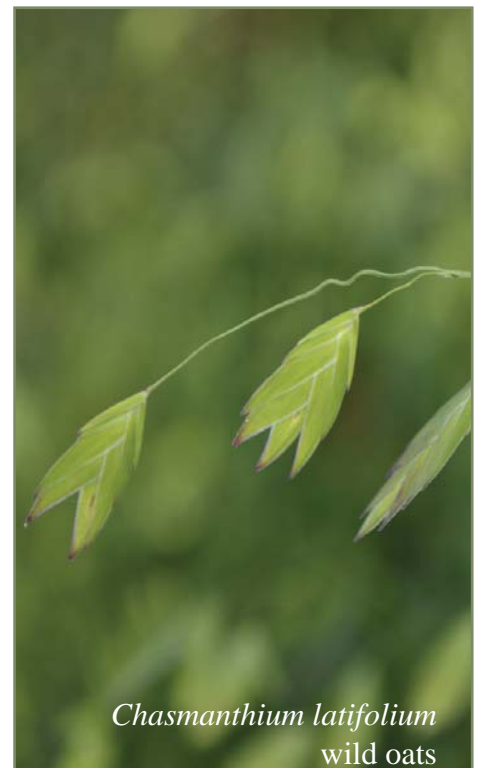
Mary Pat Boyle
Guide



Dryopteris carthusiana
spinulose wood fern



Allium senescens
ornamental onion



Chasmanthium latifolium
wild oats

Save the Dates!

Join us for a trip to the Michener Art Museum

Tuesday, September 10, 9:15 am - 3:00 pm

This September, enjoy a volunteer trip to The Michener Art Museum! Formerly the Bucks County jail, this Doylestown museum boasts over 2,500

artistic pieces, beautiful courtyards, an outdoor sculpture garden and terrace in addition to many valuable resources including the George Nakashima Reading Room. If you are a Volunteer and wish to join us on this trip, please contact Lisa Bailey at 215-247-5777 ext. 157 or baileyL@upenn.edu.



Photo courtesy of the Michener Art Museum

Sunshine & Roses

Thursday, September 19, 5-7 pm

Join your fellow Arboretum volunteers in the Rose Garden. Win exciting door prizes and enjoy cocktails and light fare served by Arboretum staff.

Invitation with more information to follow.



Education News:

The new Fall education brochure is here!

This season we are offering four classes eligible for education volunteer hours. Sign up for these four classes to expand your knowledge of the Morris Arboretum:

Early Evening Tour of Bloomfield Farm- Saturday, September 21, 5:30-7 pm

Louise Clarke, Horticulturist, Morris Arboretum

Volunteer price: \$12.50

Go behind the scenes with Arboretum staff for an early evening harvest moon tour of Arboretum's LEED platinum certified Horticulture Center, green roofs, rain gardens, a 19th century bank barn, and miller's cottage, as well as Springfield Mills.



Identifying Warm Season Grasses- Thursday, October 3, 10 am - 2 pm

Dr. Ann Rhoads, Retired Director of Botany, Morris Arboretum

Volunteer Price: \$27

Spend a morning exploring the physiology, anatomy, and evolution of warm season grasses as well as their ecological role. Using dissecting microscopes, and identification keys we will examine living specimens to identify representatives of the more common genera of warm season grasses that occur in our area. Please bring your lunch and something to drink.

Goldenrods and Asters- Tuesday, October 15, 10 am - 2 pm

Dr. Ann Rhoads, Retired Director of Botany, Morris Arboretum

Volunteer Price: \$27

Goldenrods and asters are the most conspicuous components of the fall wildflower display. We will start by examining the characteristics that define the Asteraceae, the family to which both belong. The bulk of our time will be spent using keys to identify species. Please bring your lunch and something to drink.

Great Native Plants for Your Landscape- Saturday, October 26, 1-3 pm

Pam Morris Olshefski, Curatorial Assistant, Morris Arboretum

Volunteer Price: \$12.50

From Amelanchier to Verbena, there are many great native plants you can use to enhance your garden. In this illustrated lecture and walk through the Arboretum you will learn about many good choices, the conditions they require to grow, and how to successfully work them into your landscape.

For complete descriptions and class details visit www.morrisarboretum.org

Garden highlights:



Lilium lancifolium
tiger lily
Pennock Garden



Campsis grandiflora
'Morning Calm'
Chinese trumpet
creeper
Pennock Garden



Pterostyrax hispida
fragrant epaulette-tree
Between Pennock Garden
and Orange Balustrade



Quercus dentata
daimyo oak
Parking lot



Hemerocallis
'Mountain Majesty'
Mountain Majesty
daylily
Pennock Garden



Helenium
'Coppelia'
sneezeweed
Pennock Garden

Upcoming Events

August

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3 Discovery Series <i>11 am- 4 pm</i>
4	5	6 NO GUIDES COUNCIL MEETING	7	8	9	10 Mill Volunteer Workday <i>10 am- 3 pm</i>
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20 Education Committee Meeting <i>1:30-3:00 pm</i>	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Weekly Volunteer Events

Wednesdays: Horticulture Volunteers 8:00am-12:pm

Saturdays and Sundays: Welcome Cart 11:00am-3:00pm

Saturdays and Sundays: Regular Tour 2:00pm-3:00pm

Upcoming Events

September

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Labor Day <i>Garden Open; Offices Closed</i>	3 Guides Council Meeting <i>1:30 pm</i>	4	5	6	7
8	9	10 Trip to the Michener Art Museum <i>9:15-3 pm</i>	11	12	13	14 Mill Volunteer Workday <i>10 am - 3 pm</i>
15	16	17	18 Guides Refresher Session: Wetlands <i>9 am - 2 pm</i>	19 Sunshine & Roses <i>5 - 7 pm</i>	20	21
22	23	24	25 Guide Refresher Session: Mill Tour <i>9 am - 2 pm</i>	26	27	28
29	30					

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