

VOLUNTEER

March 2014



Morris Arboretum
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 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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Letter from the Editor

As the start of spring quickly approaches, it's hard for me to believe that my internship here at the Arboretum will be coming to a close in just a few months! For the interns, March is the month we show off what we've been up to since our arrival at the Arboretum. We've been hard at work researching, studying, and writing our projects. I encourage you to join us on Tuesdays and Thursdays in March as we present our projects on everything from weed identification to strategic plans!

Support the interns and learn something new- - Hope to see you there!

Sincerely,

Stephanie Kuniholm
McLean Contributionship Endowed Education Intern

2014 New Guide Graduation!

Thursday, March 27, 3-4 pm in the Horticulture Center

All guides are invited to attend the graduation of our newest Guides! Don't miss this ceremony and reception to congratulate and welcome this group of delightful hard working Guides. Please RSVP to Liza Hawley at efhawley@upenn.edu or 215-247-5777 ext. 128.



Photo courtesy of Liza Hawley

Notes from the Guides Chair

A Conversation with Bob Gutowski

Hello Everyone,

When I was working in Human Resources we always felt there was the perfect job for each person. Looking around the Arboretum I see so many people who are perfectly suited for their job. One of those individuals would be Bob Gutowski. I have known Bob since 1999, but I really don't know much about him personally. I recently asked him if I could interview him for Volunteer. He graciously agreed, even inviting me into his home. Following are the questions I asked him:

Where were you born? Pittsburgh, PA, nearly in a taxi during a blizzard.

Were you an outside kid? What were your favorite activities? I grew up in a multi-family household with family, uncles, aunts and cousins. We lived close to the trolley barn, a great attraction. Eventually, my family moved further out the line onto what had been farm property. The fields, woods and orchard were where I played, explored and did chores.

Where did you go to school? In 1967, I started at LaSalle College but joined the work force before completing a degree. I managed a food service operation offering "good food, cheap." This was the 70's. I worked in food co-ops, hoagie shops, landscaping and in plumbing as well as back stage in the rock and roll industry – quitting when the music was so bad I decided I had to move on. I always kept my hands busy gardening.

Where did you receive your degrees? While looking for work in 1979 I enrolled in the CETA program (Comprehensive Education & Training Act) and entered the Morris Arboretum's Gardener Training Program. My brave wife, Madelyn, married me two weeks after I started with CETA. Each Thursday was devoted to class time. At that time the classes were held in the Garage - what we now know as the Upper Gallery. One of the benefits of the Arboretum's CETA program was part-time Penn tuition. I enrolled in the Wharton evening school. After the one-year CETA program, I was hired temporarily to work in the green house and the rose garden. I was inspired by the Arboretum's Interns to go to University of Wisconsin-Madison earning a BS in Agricultural Production & Technology. I earned my MS from the Longwood Program at the University of Delaware.

What brought you to Morris again? Dr. Bill Klein hired me out of the Longwood Program in 1985.

How long have you lived on the grounds? We lived in the Carriage House next to Gates Hall from 1986 until 1996 when we moved to the Miller's Cottage. My son Nick was born soon after coming here.



What was the shape of the Miller's Cottage when you moved into it? The Miller's Cottage was renovated after John and Lydia bought Bloomfield Farm in 1913 and again in the 1980s.

What have you done to the property since your family has occupied it? Mainly I have worked outside, planting trees and putting in flower gardens along with habitat-enriching meadows and shrubberies. Madelyn grows vegetables and dye plants.

What do you consider the greatest accomplishments at Morris in your time? No accomplishment was mine alone. One lesson from observing nature is that life is a shared experience. The communities of the soil, the sea and humankind are interdependent. We evolve together. We cannot exist apart. I would simply borrow from John Morris and hope that my thirty years at the Arboretum were years of good stewardship.

There are projects of which I have grown very fond. Our Partners in Education program is in its fourth year and currently engages six schools. This is a very important initiative with underserved schools and is well regarded by the partner schools and the students. This program continues to evolve.

The Wetlands and Paper Mill Run restorations are working very well. We set out to increase biological diversity, using bird diversity and fish reproduction as indicators. This year we witnessed Blue-gills nesting in the creek and the Bald Eagle, an endangered species, rearing young with fish from the wetland. I think this passes the stewardship test for land management, visitor experience and learning opportunities.

I was charged in 1985 with developing a history program for the Arboretum for the 100th anniversary of the purchase of Compton. Last year we hired a part-time Archivist, funded by endowment. The Archive and History Volunteer group is very effective. Conservation, accessibility and use are at a level far beyond what I anticipated in 185.

Looking at the Mill, as I do daily, it is difficult to express how amazed I am by the work the Mill Volunteers have done and how grateful for the support that has made its restoration possible. It was falling down. This year we begin regularly scheduled Mill Demonstration Days, April-November. Corn will be ground and cornbread baked. Look for the Mill to become more important in programs.

What gives you the most joy in your job? Daily, I step out my front door acknowledging the connection with the wind, trees, sunrise, life's diversity and the beauty of the outdoors. Being able to share that connection with my colleagues and the community energizes me every day. I love working at the Arboretum.

Thank you Bob, for giving of yourself so freely to all of us at the Arboretum! One last tidbit from our conversation- did I mention Bob plays the guitar?

*Jody Sprague
Chair of the Guides*



Join us for Intern Project Presentations!

All presentations begin at 12:30 pm in the Upper Gallery

Thursday, March 13-- Emma Erler, Horticulture

Weed Identification and Management at the Morris Arboretum

Tuesday, March 18 -- Stephanie Kuniholm, Education

Membership Retention through Continuing Education

Thursday, March 20 -- Laura Sweeney, Propagation

Review and Propagation of the Holly Slope

Tuesday, March 25 -- Ryan Plante, Natural Lands

Trialing of New Green Roof Plants

Thursday, March 27 -- Chelsea Smith, Flora of PA

Resource Recovery Plan: Bidens bidentoides, a Rare Pennsylvania Plant

Tuesday, April 1 -- Alex Seglias, Plant Protection

Resource Recovery Plan for Parker's Pipewort (Eriocaulon parkeri) in Pennsylvania

Won't You Bee My Honey? -- April 11, 10 am

Join us for perhaps the most controversial volunteer workshop ever presented at Morris Arboretum! Jim Bobb will reveal the dating habits of the Italian honey bee. Find out firsthand where the male bees go to “cruise” for innocent female bees and what happens once a young lass chooses the lucky (or unlucky) male.

Other controversial topics include the party affiliation of honeybees. How do they choose a new leader? Are there any recounts? What kind of political organization can keep 60,000 workers laboring successfully in a two cubic foot area? Are females truly liberated in this society? Where do the males go for winter? Can the mother honey bee choose the sex of her offspring? Do all honey bees sting? What do pickles and almonds have in common?



A very politically correct insect, the bee harms no plant or animal in the production of honey. Many garden plants rely on these amazing creatures for the pollination and development of quality seeds and fruits. Why is the honey bee often the insect of choice for amateur and commercial gardeners? Can you spot the wild honey bee colony at Morris Arboretum?

New Volunteer Opportunities:

Volunteers Needed for Arbor Week

April 21- April 25, 10-11:15am and 11:30am-12:45pm

Share your love for trees with children during our annual Arbor Week Program. Volunteers are needed for tours, seedling plantings, a roots exhibit, and Tree Trivia game show. Feel free to sign up for more than one slot!

Sign up on the Google calendar or by contacting Lisa Bailey at bailyL@upenn.edu or 215-247-5777 ext. 157.

The Welcome Cart is Back!

Spring is almost here which means it's time to sign up to help with the Welcome Cart! The Welcome Cart returns the first weekend in April. Please see our Google calendar and sign up to greet visitors with directions, maps and friendly faces. Shifts are 11am to 1pm, and 1pm to 3pm – multiple sign ups welcome and encouraged!

Don't Forget-- Mill Interpretation Training

Join us for two upcoming Mill Interpretation Trainings on Wednesday, March 12th and Friday April 11th. These events differ from our guided school group tours. Typical Mill Demonstration Volunteer Positions include Outside Interpreter, First Floor Group Manager/Interpreter, First Floor Mill Interpreter, Second Floor Interpreter/Baker.

For more information, contact Bob Gutowski at 215-247-5777 ext. 132 or gutowski@upenn.edu

A Museum of Plants: Caring for a Living Collection

Sunday, March 23, 2 pm

Volunteer Fee: Free with registration

Earn volunteer hours by learning about Morris Arboretum! The Arboretum is a museum comprised of the trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants that make up our living collection. This collection is curated like any other museum, with the added challenge that our "objects" are alive, they grow old, and can be damaged by insects, diseases, storms, and drought.

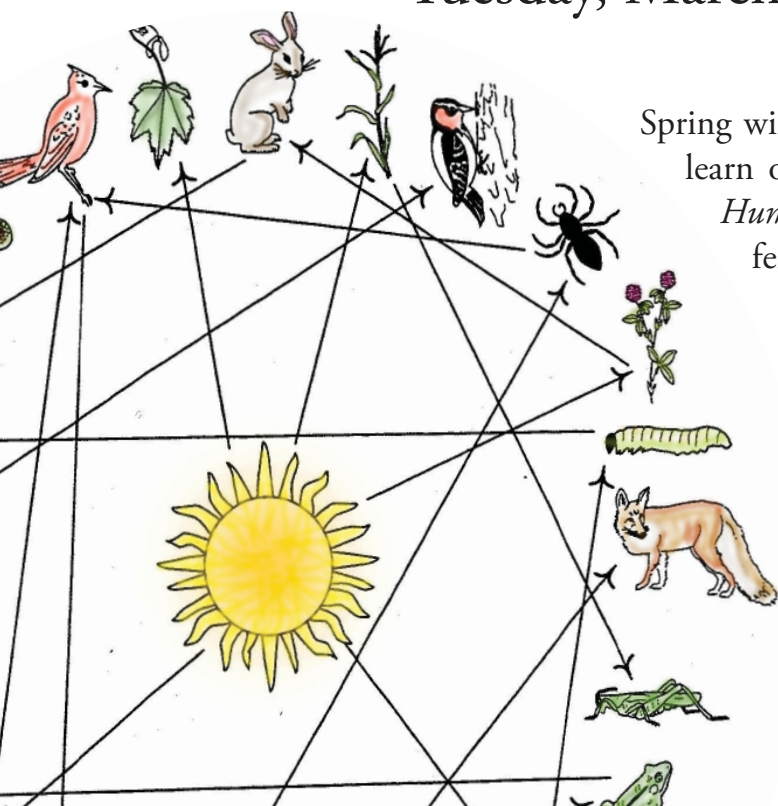
In this presentation, Director of Horticulture and Curator, Tony Aiello, will discuss the process through which plants are added to the Morris Arboretum's living collections, including the curatorial aspects of acquisition, accessioning, record keeping, and care that make up the life of a plant from seedling to mature tree. You will learn about the whys and wherefores of what plants we grow, the process of selecting the sites where they will be planted, and how the concepts of curating the collection have evolved during the Arboretum's history.

Supported by the Barnes Endowment. The Barnes Endowed Lecture is presented annually in memory of Laura L. Barnes, founder of The Barnes Foundation Arboretum.

For more information or to register, call 215-247-577 ext. 125

New! Interdependence Tour Training

Tuesday, March 25, 1:30-3 pm



Spring will be in the air, and you will have the opportunity to learn our newest tour, *Interdependence: Plants, Animals and Humans Living Together*. In an effort to streamline our offerings, the Education Committee combined *Trees Where We Live* and *Tree Adventure* (4th-6th). This new tour uses familiar activities and adds a grab bag, a game showing how things in nature are all interconnected, and much more.

Hope to see you at the training!

Bette Perlman,
Education Committee Chair

Upcoming Classes

The Well-Mannered Perennial Garden

Harriet Cramer, Garden Designer

Thursday, March 20, 7 – 8:30 p.m.

Volunteer Fee: \$12.50

Help your perennial garden to reach its full potential by learning what you can do to ensure that your garden is a source of pleasure and not one of frustration and disappointment.



Greenhouse and Propagation Tour

Shelley Dillard, Propagator, Morris Arboretum

Saturday, March 22, 1 – 2:30 p.m.

Volunteer Fee: \$12.50

Go behind the scenes with Arboretum Propagator, Shelley Dillard for an early spring tour of the greenhouse and propagation areas at the Morris Arboretum.

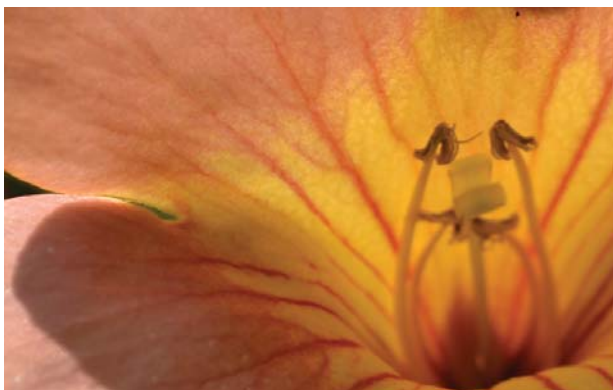
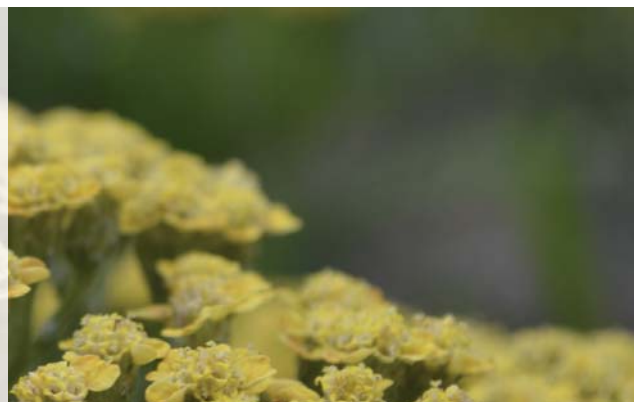
Dried Flowers: Preserving and Arranging Floral Beauty

Pam Mathis, Florist

Friday, March 28, 10:30 a.m. – 12 noon

Volunteer Fee: \$18.75

During this class, the complete drying process will be demonstrated with written instructions followed by a hands-on workshop where you will practice using dried flowers in an arrangement. All supplies will be provided for your design.



Well-full Gardening

Marsha Stamm Gayl, Registered Horticultural Therapist

Saturday, March 29, 10 – 11:30 a.m.

Volunteer Fee: \$12.50

Are you an active gardener looking to find techniques that will keep you moving in the garden? This class will discuss adaptive gardening techniques so you can continue to do the hobby you love, without strain or discomfort.

*For more information, or to register please call 215-247-5777 ext. 125
or visit us at www.morrisarboretum.org*

Garden highlights:



Hamamelis x intermedia 'Luna'
Luna witchhazel
English Park



Galanthus nivalis
common snowdrop
near Out on a Limb



Magnolia sprengeri var. *elongate*
Sprenger magnolia
near Garden Railway



Betula davurica
Dahurian birch
near swan pond



Pieris japonica
Japanese pieris
Japanese garden



Eranthis hyemalis
winter aconite
near Fernery

Upcoming Events

March

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3 Mill Interpreters Workshop 1 pm	4	5	6	7	8 Mill Work Day 10 am - 3 pm
9	10	11	12 Mill Interpreters Workshop 1 pm	13	14	15
16 Mill Demonstration Day 12-3pm	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25 New Tour Training 1:30- 3pm	26	27 New Guides Graduation! 3 - 4 pm	28	29

Weekly Volunteer Events

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

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

Saturdays: Winter Wellness Walks 10:30am

Upcoming Events

April

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Guides Council Meeting 1:30 pm	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11 Volunteer Workshop 10 am	12 Mill Volunteer Work Day 10 am - 3 pm
13 Mill Demonstration Day 12-3pm	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23 Arbor Week Program April 21- 25 10- 11:15 am 11:30 am- 12:45 pm	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

Weekly Volunteer Events

Wednesdays: Horticulture Volunteers 8am-12 pm

Saturdays and Sundays: Regular Tour 2-3 pm

Saturdays and Sundays: Welcome Cart 11 am- 3 pm