

VOLUNTEER

August 2015



Morris Arboretum
UNIVERSITY 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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Cover Photo: Claire Sundquist
Photos: Pilar Rivera, unless otherwise stated



Hibiscus syriacus 'Minerva', Minerva rose-of-Sharon

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Veronica spicata, spiked speedwell

Letter from the Editor

Have you heard the echoing chirps around the Arboretum these past couple of weeks? It's the song of the cicada- a familiar melody to me! Annual, or Dog Day cicadas live underground for two to five years before emerging as adults. Once aboveground, their lifespan is only about two weeks. Their loud chirping may be irritating to some, or soothing to others.

For me, the song of the cicada signifies summer, warmth, and a new season. I love hearing their chorus because it reminds me of my home in Florida, swimming in the pool during summer break, and rollerblading at dusk with my best friend. In short, it's nostalgic. How does the song of the cicada make you feel?

Happy Summer,

Pilar Rivera

The McLean Contributionship Endowed Education Intern



Cleome hassleriana, spider flower

photo courtesy Claire Sundquist

Note from the Guides Chair

Hello everyone,

Several years ago, we had a talk from a young man who studied botany at Cornell University. His enthusiasm for nomenclature was truly infectious. In fact, I still enjoy learning about Gardening Latin. Thank goodness Carl Linnaeus decided to make some sense of the confusion of plant names. Who knew that love-in-idleness, heartsease, wild pansy, and Johnny-jump-up are all names referring to one plant that is known botanically as *Viola tricolor*? His binomial system— meaning two names in Latin— brought order to the chaos.

The plant kingdom is divided by scientists into divisions: class, order, family, genus, and species. The two that are really important to the everyday gardener are the last two: genus and species. Look at *Viola tricolor*: The first word tells you the plant is from the genus *Viola*, the second word tells you that its specific identifying name is *tricolor*. There may be other plants called [*insert name here*] *tricolor*, but no matter where you live in the world, there is only one species of plant called *Viola tricolor*.

This system of naming works for all plant species. However, there are even more specific varieties that, while not botanically significant, are vital for the gardener. Varieties that denote color and flower shape are of obvious use to gardeners. These varieties can occur naturally, but they can also be bred by gardeners and professional growers. These are known as cultivated varieties— or cultivars for short. These cultivars also have names to distinguish plants within the same species. This name does not necessarily describe the plant, it is simply its cultivar name. Usually, both the genus and the species names are written before the cultivar name. The genus and species names are always written in italics. The genus always begins with a capital letter, while the species name is lower case, as in *Viola tricolor*. If you are writing about lots of species or varieties or the same genus, then the first name can be shortened to a single letter, as in *V. tricolor* or *V. odorata*. Let's look at some of the identifying prefixes:

ante – before	argo – white	altro – dark	bi/bis –two, twice, double
brevi – short	calli/caol – beautiful	grandi – large	heli – sun
hex – sun	hyper – above	leuco – white	macro – large
sept – seven	sub – below	super—above	trans – across
tri – three	uni – one	xero – dry	xylo – woody

When you add one of these prefixes to another word, the meaning changes. For instance the Latin word for purple is *purpureus* or *purpurea*. If you add the prefix *altro*, it becomes *atropurpureus*, meaning 'dark purple'. Thank you for indulging me on this subject. This was so much fun, and I believe we will visit it again.

Happy Gardening,

Jody Sprague, Chair of the Guides

Volunteer Opportunities

- Save the Date! -

Sunshine & Roses

Annual Volunteer Appreciation Evening

Thursday, September 24 | 5-7 pm

Invitation to follow later this month

Rosa sp., rose

photo courtesy Paul Meyer

- Fall Guiding Sign-Up -

Your fall guiding sign-up sheet will arrive in the mail shortly. Please select your primary and alternate guiding days for the upcoming season, and please hold this day two weeks out before setting other appointments (vacations and illness excluded, of course). Once selected, return the sheet by mail or email baileyl@upenn.edu.

Cedrus atlantica 'Glauca', Blue Atlas cedar

photo courtesy Claire Sundquist

Volunteer Workshops

- Fall Refresher Training Workshops -

Refresher workshops are great opportunities to get together with fellow guides and brush up on touring techniques. Don't miss out on either opportunity to sharpen your skills, share touring tips, and add another tour (or two) to your guiding repertoire.

Thursday, September 17 | 10:00am - noon | Widener Upper Gallery

The Education Committee will introduce a brand new tour for middle school students, 'Sustainable Practices'. The goals of this tour are to raise students' awareness of sustainable practices, show how these practices benefit current and future generations, and get students thinking about what they can do to help protect the earth's resources. Please join us for this pilot presentation. We welcome your feedback!

Monday, September 21 | 10:00am - noon | Widener Classroom

Head over to Morris for a refresher training session on the 'Secrets of Seeds' tour. We will also review the Interdependence Web of Life activity. (Practice makes perfect!)

See you at the Arboretum!

Terry Cinque, *Training Committee Chair*



Koelreuteria paniculata, paniced golden-rain-tree

photo courtesy Claire Sundquist

Volunteer Workshops

Derek Fell and His Inspiration from Monet's Garden

Claude Monet described his garden as his one and only masterpiece. Derek Fell, the author of three books about Monet's garden at Giverny, France, will explain some of the plant partnerships that help to make it a work of art. Derek lives in Bucks County at historic Cedaridge Farm where he has developed 20 themed gardens inspired by visits to gardens of the great French Impressionist painters. During his presentation Derek will not only show slides of Monet's garden through four seasons but also his Cedaridge Farm property. Join us in the Upper Gallery of Widener for a scintillating talk about art in the garden inspired by Monet. Mr. Fell will bring copies of his books for signing.

Wednesday, August 5th | 10:00am | Widener Upper Gallery



photo courtesy Rob Cardillo

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

August 5th	<i>Tour of Compton Section and New Plans</i> with Paul Orpello
September 2nd	<i>Garden Writer's Presentation</i> with Louise Clarke <i>*meet in the Upper Gallery</i>
October 7th	<i>Tour of the Grist Mill</i> with Ted Bell <i>*park at Bloomfield Farm</i>
November 4th	<i>Ornamental Grasses</i> with Lucy Dinsmore

Look for Your Fall 2015 Class Brochure in the Mail!

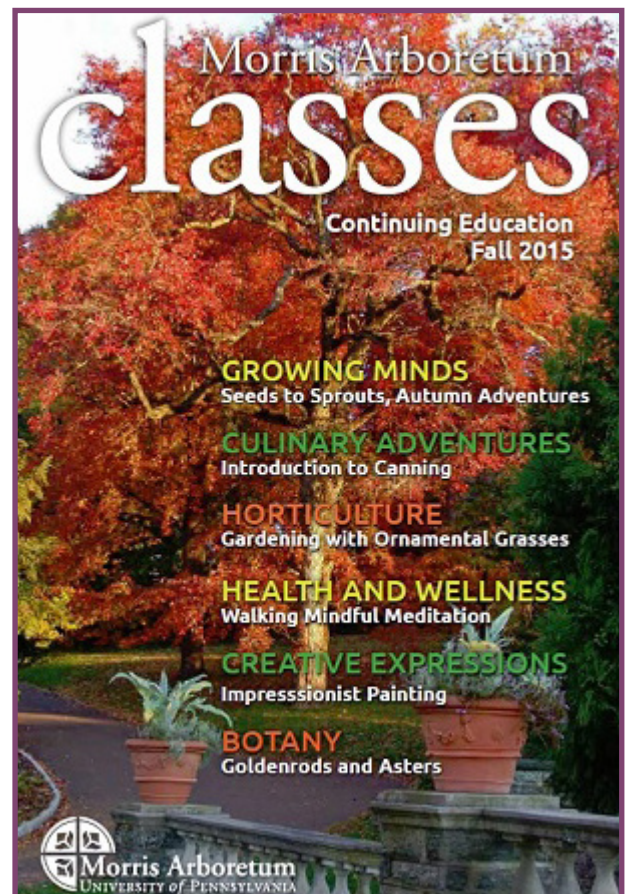
We offer a variety of classes that are eligible for volunteer workshop hours. Below is a list of upcoming approved courses. Course registration opens on the 10th of August. To register online visit <https://online.morrisarboretum.org/classes> or call 215-247-5777 x125

**Twilight Adventure Walk
on the Autumn Equinox**
September 23, 6:30 p.m.

Stories from the Archives
October 21, 7 p.m.

Winter Tree Identification
November 3, 10 a.m.

**Morris Treasures at the
Penn Museum**
November 6, 9 a.m.



Volunteers who have given a minimum of 30 hours over the past year may take these and any other courses at a discounted price. Please refer to the Volunteer Price Spreadsheet for a list of the discounted course prices available to Arboretum volunteers.

Story From the Archives

We remain indebted to Louise Kellner, traveling companion to Lydia Morris, nurse for Lydia and John Morris and diarist for their 1889-1890 trip around the world. Miss Kellner's detailed entries make the diary a rich source of insight into the person and personality of Lydia Morris, and they help us understand the hardships of travel in the late 19th century.

Hotel in Jeypore, India – Dec 27, 1889

"Towards evening Mr. Morris got a room to himself, but Miss Morris had to keep me in with her, and we are partitioned off by just a flimsy curtain, we use one bathroom, which means that we have to share one and the same tin wash-basin between us, but they let each of us have a tumbler for water to brush our teeth with. In Bombay we had to fight even for this luxury, as they expected us two to use one tumbler. We have no wardrobe, no bureau-drawers to put anything in; one has to just live in trunks, and though it is unpleasant, it can be managed. Miss Morris says that all these inconveniences are good for her in the way of discipline, and when she gets home again she has indeed the right to talk big, as no other lady would rough it and at the same time enjoy it all so thoroughly as she does. She deserves a premium for travelling, for she knows how to do it."

Delhi, India - January 9, 1890

"Miss Morris last night said to Bhana, our guide: '... when you fix my bath to-morrow morning, I wish you would look all around and make sure that there is no snake under the washtub, or in any corners of the room, because I am so afraid of them, and this bathroom looks particularly snaky!' So this morning Bhana came to see me, and said: 'Miss, I fixed Miss Morris's bath, and I did look for snakes, but indeed I could not find any' – and he looked & spoke in such a disappointed way that I could not help from laughing into his face. And 15 minutes later he again came, and said: 'Miss, I don't hear Miss Morris in the bathtub yet, I am watching on account of the snakes, won't you see what is the matter with her, the water will get cold, I am afraid!' So I did go to see what was the matter, which was nothing but a little indulgence in laziness."



Lydia (center), John (top), and Louise (right) on a trip to India



Photos: Morris travel album #4 (76.432), Hagley Museum & Library

Garden Highlights



Brugmansia sp.
angel's trumpet
Greenhouse



Verbena bonariensis
verbena
Visitor Center



Echinacea purpurea
purple coneflower
Cafe



Hibiscus syriacus 'Diana'
Diana rose-of-Sharon
Visitor Center



Sarracenia oreophila
pitcher plant
Greenhouse



Lilium orientalis
oriental lily
Rose Garden

Upcoming Events

August

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5 Hort Volunteers with Louise Workshop 10am-noon First Wednesday 12:30pm	6 Guides Council Meeting 1:30pm	7	8
9	10	11	12 Hort Volunteers with Vince	13	14	15 100th Anniversary, death of John T. Morris
16	17	18	19 Hort Volunteers with Lucy	20	21	22
23	24	25	26 Hort Volunteers with Tracy	27	28	29
30	31					

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

*Guides Council Meeting Change

The Guides Council will begin meeting every *1st Thursday of the month* beginning in August.

Upcoming Events

September

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 Hort Volunteers with Vince	3 Guides Council 1:30pm	4	5 Discovery Series 11am-3pm
6	7 Garden open, offices closed	8	9 Hort Volunteers with Lucy	10 Volunteer trip to Audubon 9am-2pm	11	12
13	14	15	16 Hort Volunteers with Paul	17 Guide Refresher 10am-noon	18	19
20	21 Guide Refresher 10am-noon	22	23 Hort Volunteers with Kate	24 Sunshine & Roses 5-7pm	25	26
27	28	29	30 Hort Volunteers with Louise	27	28	29
30	31					

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