



IMPACT REPORT



THE SCOTT ARBORETUM
OF SWARTHMORE COLLEGE



MISSION

The mission of the Scott Arboretum is to **delight**, **educate**, and **inspire** visitors to enjoy the many benefits of horticulture, whatever their resources or expertise. Our “garden of ideas” features plant varieties that thrive in this region, encouraging wise stewardship as well as the cultivation of **plants to sustain the body, enchant the eye, and soothe the spirit.**

As articulated in 2015

The endowment fund for the Arthur Hoyt Scott Horticultural Foundation has been given to Swarthmore College to hold in trust and to use for the encouragement of horticulture in its broadest sense. The founders wished to make possible a dream of Mr. Scott’s to **help horticulture by visual demonstration.** They have believed that this dream can best be realized by “the planting in a public place of such trees, shrubs, and flowers **as can be used by people of average means** living in the Philadelphia suburbs area. ... They wish this to be a **practical horticultural garden.**”

As articulated in 1932



DIRECTOR'S LETTER

Dear Friends of the Scott Arboretum,

This report aims to capture and broadly share a review of the activities, events, and accomplishments of 2023 in the 94th year of the Scott Arboretum. Reading it provides the opportunity to reflect and ask pertinent questions: Who did the Scott Arboretum reach? How did we change lives? How did the Arboretum make an impact? Answers to those questions are laid out here and worth celebrating.

I invite you to read this report and reflect on this special place and what we accomplished. The Scott Arboretum, besides being one of the most accessible public gardens in the region, is also uniquely the campus of Swarthmore College, a small liberal arts college near Philadelphia. It is the manifestation of a dream of Arthur Hoyt Scott, made possible through the persistent efforts and generosity of his widow,

Edith Wilder Scott, to have his ideas come to life starting in 1929. Since then, many others have joined in making significant contributions in support of its mission.

Today, visitors come from near and far to see our living collections of over 4,000 different kinds of plants, to be inspired by or take refuge in our gardens and landscapes, and to



Receiving the Liberty Hyde Bailey Award for lifetime achievement from the American Horticultural Society, Sept. 23.



learn through our educational programming. Students, staff, and faculty of Swarthmore College, though some may not even realize the second identity of the campus as an arboretum, are also given an environment celebrating the beauty and diversity of the plant world, significantly contributing to the aims of a liberal arts education, and the quality of the environment in which they live, study, teach and work.

To the dedicated staff members, loyal volunteers, curious participants, generous donors and supportive members of the

Arboretum: You have all contributed to the successes outlined here. Please accept my gratitude for the part you've played in helping the Scott Arboretum accomplish what it was set up to do. I hope you will take delight in reflecting on what we accomplished together in 2023 through the many joys of horticulture, and be inspired to continue your engagement here.

Claire Sawyers
Director

New faculty members being introduced to the Scott Arboretum by Director Claire Sawyers



IMPACTFUL MOMENTS OF 2023

Facts, figures, and accomplishments of the year

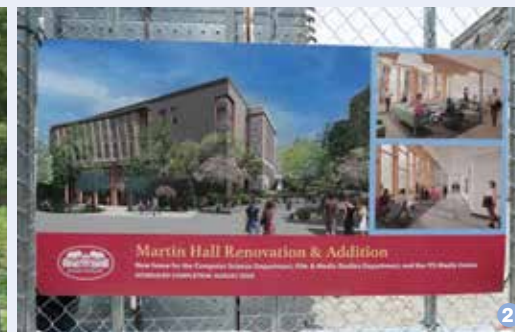


- Over 13,000 individuals attended events and programs and another 4,619 viewed virtual programs for a total of over 17,000 participating in our programming.
- At the close of 2023, the Scott Associates had 991 active memberships (compared to 1,021 at the close of 2022). Memberships contributed \$89,415 in dues during FY '22- '23 (compared to \$93,760 in the previous year).
- The 2023 Annual Appeal raised \$77,265 from 206 donors to help us implement new and updated interpretive signs and brochures.
- At the close of the year, the monthly eNews had 6,470 subscribers compared to 5,638 the previous December, representing a 15% increase.
- Scottarboretum.org, the Arboretum's website, had a total of 188,092 page views during the year, compared to 256,669 in 2022.

- The Scott Arboretum was recognized as a Level III-accredited ArbNet Arboretum through 2023. This status recognizes arboreta achieving standards to advance the planting and conservation of trees.
- New programs inaugurated: Peony Palooza and a virtual volunteer training course
- Arboretum Explorer was launched in April after a two-year development effort. This computer program highlights the arboretum's woody plant holdings, allowing users to find plants, identify dedicated benches, visitor amenities, College buildings and see photos of individual plants. It is a great resource for visitors and researchers alike to navigate the collections while onsite or from afar in a mobile-phone friendly format. This project was made possible thanks to donations made to the 2020 and 2021 annual appeals.

College capital and campus renovation projects with significant impacts on the campus landscape included:

- 1 The To Zero By Thirty-Five energy plan implementation on Parrish Lawn**
This project will continue for the next decade as the College replaces ancient steam from combustion infrastructure with carbon-free heating and cooling.
- 2 Renovation of Martin Hall**
This caused the removal of the Winter Garden and Pollinator Garden which are slated to be recreated in 2025.
- 3 Renovation of the Sharples Dining Hall into the Community Commons**
Much of the surrounding new landscape was planted and restored in 2023.
- 4 Repointing the stone tiers in the Scott Outdoor Amphitheater**





Jody Downer retired after more than 20 years of service to the Scott Arboretum.

- In 2023, we had 141 active Arboretum Assistants, our trained volunteer group, who gave a total of 6,928 hours (up from 5,986 hours recorded for 2022), a 16% increase in contributed time and talent. Using Independent Sector's calculated value of volunteer time for Pennsylvania of \$29.78/hr, this represents a value of \$206,316 in contributed time.

- On March 27, 2023 the *Travel and Leisure* editors ranked Swarthmore College 13th in the 25 Most Beautiful College Campuses in the U.S. stating: "Swarthmore's Scott Arboretum nurtures idyllic gardens of hydrangeas, lilacs and tree

peonies, along with a courtyard devoted to fragrant trees and shrubs. The highlight is its outdoor amphitheater... and its holly and rhododendron collections. The Dean Bond Rose Garden has 200-plus varieties and views of stately Parrish Hall in the background."

- Director Claire Sawyers was recognized with the Liberty Hyde Bailey Award for lifetime achievement from the American Horticultural Society. The award was presented at River Farm, Alexandria, Va. on Sept. 23.

- Staffing changes: Member and Donor Programs Manager Caitlin Anello started in November; Megan Rossman became assistant horticulturist following the departure of Rowan Payne-Meyer. Gus Erickson retired after nearly 40 years and



PHOTO: RACHEL WARREN

THE SCOTT MEDAL AND AWARD

Richard Hawke, the 69th Scott Medal and Award recipient in 2023

worked at the CBG since 1985. He was instrumental in developing the Plant Evaluation Program there and was the originator and primary author of Plant Evaluation Notes. He has lectured widely, participated in the garden's plant exploration trips to South Korea and Siberia, and has taught numerous courses for the School of the Botanic Garden. For the wide-ranging impact of these efforts that are closely allied with the intent of the Scott Medal and Award, Richard was selected for our 2023 award.

Richard's leadership has been recognized previously by the Perennial Plant Association's 2005 Academic Award for exceptional leadership in education to students, green industry members, and the gardening public. He was also recognized by the American Public Garden Association's 2008 Award for Program Excellence.

The Scott Medal and Award program is one of the best-known and longest-running efforts of the Scott Arboretum, with a rich history and nationwide goals. Designed and made possible with funding from Margaret and Owen Moon, Arthur Hoyt Scott's sister and brother-in-law, the program aims to recognize an individual (or organization) who has made

a national contribution to the science and art of gardening in a significant way. The intent of the award is to "promote a greater love of nature, make the nation more conscious of the beauty of the outdoors, develop a greater knowledge and love of plants and flowers, [and] spread the gospel of better planting and more beautiful gardens among all citizens."

In 2023, the Scott Award call for nominations was mailed to members of the American Public Gardens Association (APGA) and full-page advertisements were placed in Landscape Architecture and Public Garden magazine. Social media advertising was disseminated through APGA. The deadline for nominations was Sept. 30; the Scott Medal and Award Selection Committee met in person on Nov. 18, 2022 to review all nominations.

To see the full history of the award, former honorees, and the nomination process, please see scottarboretum.org.

Thanks to these Selection Committee members for the 2023 determination:

William (Bill) LeFerve, Executive Director of the Sarah P. Duke Gardens, Duke University

Robert (Bob) Lyons, Professor Emeritus and 2022 Scott Medal and Award recipient

Jane Pepper, Board Chair, Longwood Gardens and 2014 Scott Medal and Award recipient

Matthew Ross, Executive Director, The Botanic Garden at Historic Barns Park, Travis City, Mich.

Maitreyi Roy, Executive Director, Bartram's Garden, Philadelphia, Pa.

Casey Sclar, H.O. Smith Endowed Director, The Arboretum at Penn State, University Park, Pa.

R. William (Bill) Thomas, Executive Director, Chanticleer and 2017 Scott Medal and Award recipient

Mark Zelonis, Cultural Excursions and former Deputy Director of Environmental & Historic Preservation, Indianapolis Museum of Art (now called Newfields)

The committee was chaired by Andy Feick, Associate Vice President for Sustainable Facilities Operation and Capital Planning at Swarthmore College, with Director Claire Sawyers serving as secretary.



Scott Medal Committee members at the November meeting (l to r):
Bob Lyons, Casey Sclar, Jonathan Wright, Claire Sawyers, Jules Bruck, Bill Thomas, Matthew Ross, Nancy Bechtol



Richard Hawke, the Gaylord & Dorothy Donnelley Director of Ornamental Plant Research at the Chicago Botanic Garden (CBG), received the 2023 Scott Garden and Horticulture Award of \$20,000 on March 12 from the Scott Arboretum at the Inn at Swarthmore with 189 attending the ceremony.

Under Richard's leadership, the 30-year-old Plant Evaluation Program at the CBG has conducted 101 comparative trials with over 1,200 plant taxa. Over 150 published articles by Richard document evaluation results and have grown to become highly respected industry references.

Richard holds a B.S. in horticulture from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and has



Core to our mission: Visual demonstrations of the best plants for landscape use in the region are displayed in curated collections and designed gardens

OUR LIVING COLLECTIONS

Arboretum Explorer

A new digital interactive program, called Arboretum Explorer, was launched in April to help visitors and the College community learn about the woody plants and gardens of the Scott Arboretum. Development of the program was a two-year effort, working with Blue Raster and College mappers and programmers. Blue Raster created GIS (Geographic Information Systems) data representing surveyed plant locations, garden features, points of interest, and other reference data for visitor amenities visualized in Arboretum Explorer.



Arboretum Landscape Projects

Whittier Meadow

The first growing season of the newly installed Whittier Meadow showed dramatic color in late summer. An educational session for the College community was held during the fall semester to inform students, staff, and faculty about the design process and maintenance in establishing the meadow. The Arboretum contracted Restoration Ecological Services (RES) to design, plant, and maintain the meadow for its first five years. The project represents a \$40,000 landscape improvement initiative from the Arboretum.



Whittier Meadow in its first year

English Ivy Removal

Continuing with the major initiative started in 2022 to remove English ivy from the Crum Woods, four sections of the woods were cleared, following the four sections cleared last year. With the assistance of William D. Conwell and Associates, the ivy was removed, roots and all, and the area mulched.

In 2022, this work cost over \$46,000 and in 2023, it totaled \$83,500. Work conducted in the Crum Woods was supported by the endowment fund raised by the Scott Associates in 2017. Volunteers work in the Crum Woods during the winter months on trail maintenance and other invasive species removal efforts. In 2023, volunteers recorded 280 hours working in the Crum Woods.

Dean Bond Rose Garden

In 2023, we began an effort to modify some of the rose garden beds, given its enhanced use during the Rose Celebration and as the procession route now for Commencement.

The result should make the interior of the garden more spacious while better screening the views of cars and roads while in the garden.



English ivy removal in the Crum Woods



Dean Bond Rose Garden modifications





Collections Committee

This group met monthly throughout the year to manage the Arboretum’s accessioned plant collections; review College building plans and projects; approve perennial and bulb acquisition; approve accessioning and deaccessioning of trees, shrubs and vines; and to consider project proposals. Curator and Plant Recorder Mary Tipping served as chair of the committee with Horticulturist Josh Coceano as secretary. Other committee members included Garden Supervisor Adam Glas, Garden Supervisor Chuck Hinkle, Coordinator of Horticulture/Director of Grounds Jeff Jabco, Public Horticulture Intern Wylie Lapp, and Director Claire Sawyers.

Project Proposals

A total of 18 project proposals were submitted for spring consideration and 31 were submitted for fall consideration to the Collections Committee. Proposals may be submitted by anyone and can range from a request to add a specific cultivar to the collection to proposing renovations to existing landscape areas. Of the total of 49 considered, 27 were completed, 12 are in progress, five were put on hold due to current or anticipated campus construction, and five were denied.

Heritage Tree Program



This program, initiated in 2016, aims to identify, care for, and protect our most precious trees among about 4,000 accessioned trees in our collections. Accessioned trees over 10 years old were eligible for the evaluation process designed for this program based on their size, condition, rarity, prevalence in our collection, and cultural value. Currently, we have 157 Heritage Trees, which are now marked on Arboretum Explorer, our interactive collections map, with a distinct symbol. In 2023, an endowment fund dedicated to Heritage Trees was established thanks to those who donated to the 2022 Annual Appeal (see the finance section of this report).

Plant Collections

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Number of taxa in the collection	3,158	3,170	3,179	3,188	3,211
Number of accessions added	125	171	250	174	233
Number of deaccessions	175	473	556	558	498

Plant Records Summary

Number of accession labels made	706	578	940	772	655
Number of display labels made	386	343	482	572	309
Number of plant locations mapped	462	675	3,813	631	513

Project Proposals

Number of project proposals submitted	19	31	29	45	49
Number of project proposals completed	10	17	20	25	27

Heritage Tree care



“What a day we had in your treasure house of trees! We were all enchanted. ... We saw some breath-taking specimens that probably date back to the founding of the College and some species of trees that have everywhere else, sadly, gone extinct and are kept alive and thriving at Swarthmore only because of the Arboretum’s intervention.”

Ridge Goodwin, President,
Half Moon Nursery, Sept. 15

“Thanks for the EXCELLENT tour... yesterday about your magnificent Heritage Trees.”

Diane Mattis, April 16

EDUCATING AND INSPIRING

Core to our mission: Educating and inspiring visitors to enjoy the many benefits of horticulture, whatever their resources or expertise



“Thank you so much for your wonderful hospitality for the Franklin Park Conservatory’s Board and leadership team. Scott Arboretum is so beautiful. It was certainly a high point of our retreat.”

Sandy Nessing, Franklin Park Conservatory Board Chair, for their Aug. 2 visit in pursuit of creating a “premier botanical garden destination”

Some educational programming that wasn’t feasible during the pandemic returned in 2023, including the first excursion offered since 2019, which ran to Glenstone in Potomac, Maryland. Our international travel program returned as well, with a trip to Morocco. Other longstanding educational programs carried on in hybrid formats born during the pandemic, offering in-person and virtual registration options and expanding our reach and participation.

The attendance for all programs and events for 2023 stands at 13,217, not counting viewers of virtual programs at a later date nor visitors to the Arboretum (as we have no way to accurately count them). The attendance log had 274 events listed for the year including guided tours, classes, conferences, exhibitions, lectures, field trips, woods walks, and celebrations, the combined offerings to adults, families, and the College community. In addition to the campus-arboretum being open free of charge, many of our educational programs and special events are free and open to the public in keeping with our mission to educate and inspire all regardless of their resources; others are free to members or offered with a discount to members.

For Adults

Mackenzie Knight-Fochs, Education Programs Manager

Some of our signature programs designed for adults are outlined here:

Nature's Narratives

In 2023, this nature- and plant-oriented book discussion group, led by Liz Haegele, former Scott intern, read and discussed seven titles: *Wildwood: A Journey Through Trees* by Roger Deakin; *An Immense World: How Animal Senses Reveal the Hidden Realms Around Us* by Ed Yong; *Diary of a Young Naturalist* by Dara McAnulty; *Fen, Bog and Swamps: A Short History of Peatland Destruction and its Role in the Climate Crisis* by Annie Proulx; *The Language of Trees: A Rewilding of Literature and Landscape* by Katie Holten; In the *Shadow of Man* by Jane Goodall; and *Wonderful Life: The Burgess Shale and the Nature of History* by Stephen Jay Gould. Nature's Narratives programs, started in 2009, are free, and typically meet January through March and September through December. They have been held virtually since 2020 when the pandemic necessitated the switch from in-person sessions.

Hybrid

This newsletter, a Scott Associate membership benefit, was mailed to all members and distributed free of charge from the Arboretum office and at events. Initiated in 1972 with funding provided by the Scott Associates, this newsletter aims to provide eight colorful pages of timely educational content focused on plants, gardening practices, and the Scott Arboretum in each season. In 2023, the schedule-of-events publication was redesigned and added as a detachable insert into the quarterly *Hybrid*.

Travels @ 12

Six free virtual lectures were offered from January to the end of February through this popular, annual, wintertime program to provide vicarious travel opportunities to gardens around the world. In 2023, we reached 359 viewers, an average of 60 per lecture. A special thanks to Richard Doran, Jeff Jabco, Bob Goren, Becky Robert, Mackenzie Knight-Fochs, Charles Cresson, and Sharee Solow, who took us to gardens in São Miguel, Denmark, Tennessee, Portland, Iceland, Holland, and Belgium.

Ohara Ikebana Exhibition

In 2023, the Ohara School of Ikebana resumed its exhibition with us, after a several-year hiatus due to the pandemic. Over the three-day show, held on April 14-16, we offered a combination of the beauty of traditional Japanese floral arrangements and the spring blossoms of the cherry border. Specific activities included a Meet & Greet reception with the exhibitors, a guided Heritage Tree tour, and two arranging demonstrations in addition to the display of exquisite arrangements. Over the course of the weekend, a total of 292 people participated; all free of charge (except for the opening reception).

Peony Palooza

A new event in 2023, we hosted a show of glorious peonies partnering with the Mid-Atlantic Peony Society, with various activities



The Ohara School of Ikebana Exhibition

for a few days of beauty and fun on May 24-25 in the Wister Center. The show was open free to the public. On Thursday, a Peony Tour was offered in addition to the exhibition, drawing 25. Total attendance over the course of the event was 412. One member was inspired to compose a song commemorating the event (with some help from ChatGPT). The first verse suggests this will become an annual affair:

*In the heart of Swarthmore,
where the trees stand tall.*

*There's a garden where the
peonies bloom, enchanting
us all.*

*Every spring, a festival, a sight
to behold,
It's the Peony Palooza, where
the colors unfold.*

Woody Plant Conference

On July 14, 361 registered to attend the annual Woody Plant Conference held in the Lang Performing Arts Center. Another 43 registered to attend virtually. Attendees learned from Mike Gibson, Aaron Greenberg, Lara Roman, Kathy Salisbury, Kim Shearer, Henrik Sjöman, and Toshi Yano on a variety of aspects of growing and caring for woody plants. A fun feature this year was a live demonstration on creating artistic topiaries given by Mike Gibson in the List Gallery. This conference, initiated in 1997, was co-sponsored with Chanticleer, Longwood Gardens, Morris Arboretum & Gardens, Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, and Tyler Arboretum.



The inaugural Peony Palooza

Autumn Equinox

Sadly, Tropical Storm Ophelia forced the cancellation of the 3rd planned Autumn Equinox which was scheduled for September 23.

Perennial Plant Conference

In its 38th year, the daylong conference devoted to learning about perennial plants, held on October 20, drew about 370 people to the campus. The conference was also live streamed to 252 devices as far away as Poland, Korea, Germany, France, and Singapore. Summer Rayne Oakes talked about turning a former nursery into a botanical oasis; Emily Erickson addressed the ecology of perennial garden flowers; Owen Wormser described the process of turning lawns into meadows; Carol Long shared her work of managing a century-old garden; Rashid Poulson addressed cultivating communities; and Karl Gercens, the “perennially globetrotting gardener,” took participants on a journey around the world in search of the best plants and design. The conference was co-sponsored with Chanticleer, Longwood Gardens, Hardy Plant Society/Mid-Atlantic Group, and the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society. The planning committee for this conference, as well as the Woody Plant Conference, was chaired by Mackenzie Knight-Fochs.

“The trip opened my eyes and expanded my horizons in so many ways. And traveling with a wonderful group of like-minded, intelligent, and educated people augments the learning experience tremendously.”

Anonymous, Morocco trip evaluation, Nov. 2023

International Travel Program

The offering of the chance to travel to a foreign country with fellow Scott members to see gardens finally resumed in 2023 with a trip to Morocco from Oct. 16-29. Originally planned for the fall of 2020, it was canceled twice due to the pandemic. While the pandemic was no longer a major concern,

a 6.8 magnitude earthquake hit Morocco on September 8; however, the trip went forward due to the encouragement from Moroccans whose economy relies heavily on tourism. We saw impressive private and public gardens and monuments as well as natural landscapes of the Atlas mountains while staying in Marrakech, Taroudant, and Essaouira.

Rose Celebration

We enjoyed wonderful weather for the second annual Rose Celebration, held on June 1, which drew 508 attendees. We repeated several of the popular offerings from the first year of this event and added some fun new aspects. The new Rose Passport prompted participants to visit all the activities. To encourage the appreciation of the Dean Bond Rose Garden, we offered rose garden tours; to encourage the cultivation of roses, we gave away 300 Coral Knock Out® roses; and to have fun, we offered live music, food provided by food trucks, rose-related product samples, and a photo station. Thanks go to four vendors: Chadds Ford Winery, Baba's Brew Kombucha, Candle Studio 1422, and Nether Providence Soap Company for participating.



Mackenzie Knight-Fochs, Education Programs Manager, leading a wreath making workshop.



Some Scott Arboretum Holiday Sale offerings

time and talents to make wreaths offered for sale. This year we had 74 pre-sale orders and 206 individuals shopped in person for wreaths, swags, and bags of fresh-cut greens. The offer of a free bag of greens for first-time members prompted 30 new memberships! Besides getting in the “holiday spirit” with all these activities, the efforts raised over \$11,000 to support programming.



Programming for Professionals

Summer Internship Program

In order to provide hands-on learning experiences for individuals interested in pursuing a career in horticulture, we offered two summer (May to August) internship positions in 2023. In addition to working alongside our gardening staff and volunteers, they were introduced to other public gardens and natural areas in the region through Friday field trips. They met and toured with other professionals, accompanied by Scott staff members, going to Bartram's Garden, Woodland Cemetery, Erdenheim Farm, Subaru Green-space, North Creek Nursery, and Bowman's Hill Preserve. The final trip was to the New Jersey Pine Barrens to learn about its unique ecosystem of plant species.



Interns' trip to Bartram's Garden

Public Horticulture Internship Program

Starting in 2022, we created a yearlong internship position,

remodeling and combining the past yearlong positions of education and curatorial intern, with the intention of providing an individual the chance to be exposed to many aspects of public horticulture. Megan Rossman, our first such intern, advanced into our assistant horticulturist position when it became open, and Wylie Lapp became the second such intern starting in the spring of 2023. One of the unique opportunities of this internship is support of up to \$6,000 for international travel. Megan participated in a Denver Botanic Garden-sponsored trip to Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan in April to botanize. Wylie traveled in April 2024 with the Alpine Garden Society to look at wild orchids in the Gargano of Italy.

For Youth, Families, and Diverse Audiences

Rachel Warren, Assistant Education Programs Manager for Youth, Families, and Diverse Audiences

In 2023, we held 60 programs specifically designed for youth and underserved audiences which brought in 1,886 children and 898 adults. Programs included toddler nature classes, school field trips, a summer program, and added activities at long-standing annual events. Now, in its second year, we saw children returning week after week to programs like Nature

Nook, as well as first-time visitors at programs like School's Out.

Several signature programs and new efforts are summarized here:

Chester Children's Chorus Summer Program

Danielle Berger and Rachel Warren co-taught a group of 19 fourth-grade students through a 20-day horticulture curriculum as a part of the Chester Children's Chorus summer program. The Arboretum has been supporting the Chester Children's Chorus in this way since 2013.

As noted in the Voice, the fall newsletter of the CCC, the Arboretum classes were back for the first time since the pandemic and "One of the highlights of the class for both the children and instructors was the 'Meet the Experts' session with 10 Arboretum staff members sharing what their work involves. Activities included garden design, insect friend-or-foe game, native-versus-invasive species game, and sunflower investigation."

Nature Nook

We held five series of Nature Nook classes (one in the winter, two in both spring and fall).

Celeste Sullivan and Rachel Warren co-taught these classes with support from Arboretum Assistants, our volunteers. The program grew from one session per week to two, allowing more



School's Out Winter Wonderland program

families to participate. Friendships developed and we noticed that after classes, families frequently explored the Arboretum together each week.

School's Out

This program encourages families to visit on days when children are off from school. Winter Wonderland on February 20 drew 163 people. The Spring Break week offered five days of programming including Mindful Monday, Trek Tuesday, Wildlife Wednesday, Sustainability Thursday, and Flower Friday. These sessions drew 20-30 people each day. The Summertime School's Out drew 25 participants.

Goals in Gardens

This event, held on February 25, involved children from Chester Upland Youth Soccer and Big Brothers Big Sisters. Staff members talked about their careers and Arboretum Assistants gave a tour of the Arboretum which was followed with lunch in the dining hall. Eight participated. This program strengthened our

connections with these two community groups.

Arbor Day Assembly and Arbor Day Celebration

The Arbor Day Assembly on April 28 was moved from the Cherry Border to the Swarthmore Rutledge School due to weather. Various speakers participated and collaborated with the fifth-grade teachers to develop the program. The Arbor Day Celebration, centered in the Wister Center on the following day, drew 120 adults and 69 children. We gave away *Magnolia virginiana* (sweetbay magnolia) saplings, taught children about trees, and encouraged them to explore the Arboretum with a tree scavenger hunt.

Peony Palooza Make-and-Take

As a part of the Peony Palooza exhibition, an arranging activity for youth brought in 27 adults and 28 children. Children created their own peony arrangements and could enter them for judging if they wanted to.



Family Tea Party on May 10

Family Tea Party

During the tea party held on May 10 in the Terry Shane Teaching Garden, children made their own tea bags and played games with kiddy tea cups while enjoying the springtime garden. Adults learned how tea is made, and sampled tea along with tea sandwiches. We had 17 people attend. Thank you to Mrs. Robinson's Tea Shop for partnering with us on this event.

Plant Hero Journals

We offered free nature-based journals to families through the seasons, thanks to a program provided by the American Public Gardens Association in partnership with the Department of Agriculture, Forest Service. Titles included Garden Discovery Journal, Pollination Journal, Wellness Walk Journal, Looking at Leaves Journal, Leaf Pounding Journal, and Plant Mandala Journal. We distributed about 580 Plant Hero Journals to the general public, Chester Children's Chorus students, Cub Scouts,

Swarthmore College's Education Studies Department, and Swarthmore College students.

School Field Trips

We hosted five school field trips this year. Students came from Boothwyn Elementary (15 students), Lynnewood Elementary (102 students), Echo Christian Academy (10 students), Lansdowne Friends (37 students), and St. Laurentius Catholic School (48 students), for a total of 212 students. We designed a propagation workshop and tour for the high school students. The elementary school students focused on a variety of topics including trees, the Crum Woods, sustainability, and pollinators.

Ohara Ikebana

New materials were developed to engage children of all ages in the Ohara Ikebana flower exhibition using our Interactive Viewing Guide and the event was advertised as a family-friendly event. The guide directed them to find different color flowers, identify various kinds of vases, and to draw their favorite flower arrangements. They learned about the importance of asymmetry and the use of an odd number of flowers.

Rose Celebration

The 2023 Rose Celebration was an event for the entire family

to enjoy. Activities designed especially for children included making rose artwork using celery, paint, and pipe cleaners; offering rose coloring sheets; and rose-themed face painting. The rose arch photo station and temporary tattoos were popular with all ages.

Holiday Sale

New in 2023, one wreath-making workshop was designed in a new family-friendly format. During the sale itself, 20 children made mini-wreaths and decorated pine cones in the Nature Craft Tent.



Rachel Warren with Chester Children Chorus students visiting our beehive

“Thank you for such a rich and rewarding experience on our trip. Our students seemed to enjoy the experience... and it connected wonderfully with our unit of study in science.”

Matthew Plastino, Lansdowne Friends School, Oct. 24

MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS

Becky Robert,
Communications and
Volunteer Programs Manager

eNews

Monthly free electronic newsletters were sent to all people who provided email addresses informing them of upcoming events, news about the Arboretum, and horticultural happenings. At the close of the year, the December eNews was emailed to 6,470 subscribers, compared to 5,638 the previous December, representing a 15% increase. The open rate for all 336,235 sends for the year was 57%, a 3% increase over 2022 and 16% higher than the industry average.

Marketing Consortiums

Greater Philadelphia Gardens (GPG), America's Garden Capital

This consortium consists of over 35 public gardens within a 30-mile radius of Philadelphia who have been working together to promote all these gardens since 1990. In 2023, the Scott Arboretum was part of the Garden Passport project, one of the promotion initiatives undertaken throughout the year. Also in 2023, the GPG website was redesigned. There were 73,800 users for the year; 168,000 views

and 89,000 sessions. GPG had 9,000 Facebook followers in the year and 7,200 Instagram followers. An eNewsletter sent quarterly went to 1,200 subscribers. GPG also promoted the Scott Arboretum as a part of the Philadelphia Flower Show in March with a display running for the entire seven days of the show. The show had about 250,000 attendees in 2023.

Delaware County Arts Consortium

We continued to work together with about 25 other not-for-profit organizations promoting arts and culture within Delaware County. One of the major efforts of this group, DelCo Arts Week, was held Sept. 30-Oct. 8. The Scott Arboretum offered three events during the week, including a free virtual program, tying horticulture and the arts world together.

Pennsylvania Public Horticulture Coalition (PPHC)

This coalition started in 2021. Its mission is to amplify the collective voices and impact of Pennsylvania's public horticulture organizations who promote the connection between plants and people, by way of advocacy. This group wants to "create opportunities for every Pennsylvanian to experience and benefit from organizations providing public horticulture experiences throughout their communities."

Given the similar aims to our mission, the Scott Arboretum joined

as a member in 2022 to work with 19 other public gardens across the state to "develop and implement strategies to successfully showcase the rich benefits public horticulture organizations bring to the commonwealth and the public." In 2023, the group had a display at the Pennsylvania Farm Show in Harrisburg in January and hosted a reception and tour for lawmakers at the PHS Flower Show in March. On August 3, the group held a launch party at Hershey Gardens for *Bulb & Bloom: A Guide to Planting and Visiting Gardens in Pennsylvania, 2023-2024 Edition*. The 107-page booklet, created and published by the Pennsylvania Tourism Office in partnership with PPHC, was distributed widely free of charge.

American Public Gardens Association (APGA)

As a participant in APGA's sponsored Go Public Gardens Days held May 12-21 in 2023, the Scott Arboretum joined over 500 public gardens across the nation to raise visibility of the importance of public gardens.

Publications

We produced and mailed two special publications about the Arboretum to all members: the 2024 Calendar and 2022 Impact Report. Both publications are to showcase the beauty of the collections and gardens in each month and to document our suc-



Gardener's Almanac: Second Life for Discount Orchids - Part 1



Gardener's Almanac: Installing Deer Protection

cesses and impact. This year we also updated our Visitor Guide including an easy-to-read map of the garden.

Videos

A variety of teaching videos created by staff members were offered throughout the year.

The top viewed videos created and released in 2023 were:

[Gardener's Almanac: Second Life for Discount Orchids - Part 1 - Preparing the Orchid](#), published Oct. 31, 2023 with 3,724 views

[Gardener's Almanac: Second Life for Discount Orchids - Part 3 - Repotting & Growing for Success](#), published Oct. 31, 2023 with 1,751 views

[Lunchtime Tour: Winter Garden Wanderings](#), published Feb. 14, 2023 with 850 views

[Lunchtime Tour: Spring is Almost Here](#), published March 7, 2023 with 737 views

[Gardener's Almanac: Pruning Hydrangeas](#), published March 13, 2023 with 697 views

Many of our videos retain popularity and impact beyond their initial release. Here are the top five videos, measured by viewership, to date since their release date:

Oct. 12, 2020 - [Gardener's Almanac: Installing Deer Protection](#) with 9,866 viewers

Nov. 20, 2020 - [Gardener's Almanac: Root Pruning](#) with 5,460 viewers

Apr. 12, 2021 - [Gardener's Almanac: Planting B&B Trees](#) with 4,002 viewers

Oct. 3, 2023 - [Gardener's Almanac: Second Life with Orchids - Part 1 - Preparing the Orchid](#) with 3,724 viewers

June 4, 2021 - [Gardener's Almanac: Planting in Gravel Culture](#) with 2,124 viewers

In all, Scott Arboretum videos had 54,105 views in 2023, compared with 36,138 last year, a 50% increase.

Social Media:	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	% Increase from '22- '23
Facebook followers	4,376	4,873	5,436	5,540	5,654	2%
Instagram followers	1,720	2,294	2,589	3,037	3,371	11%
YouTube subscribers	78	278	490	772	1,156	50%

“Beyond the valuable lessons and experiences, what made my time at the Scott Arboretum truly special was the wonderful camaraderie and the sense of belonging I felt within the team. . . . I want to express my deepest gratitude for the remarkable experience and the impact you have had on my personal growth. Thank you for welcoming me into the Scott Arboretum.”

Steven Mukum, Class of '26,
Swarthmore College Student
worker, May 15



First-year students on an Orientation hike in the Arboretum

Engaging the

SWARTHMORE COLLEGE COMMUNITY

in the mission of the Scott Arboretum

Sue MacQueen, Campus Engagement Manager

The Scott Arboretum was established to serve the gardening interests of the region's homeowners by creating a collection of ornamental plants displayed on the campus of Swarthmore College as instructional and educational collections. The result has been the creation of a beautiful campus that also significantly, although somewhat passively, impacts students, staff, and faculty who live, study, teach, and work on campus. Recognizing the College community as a resident audience for the Arboretum, efforts to proactively engage members of this community in the mission of the Arboretum has been the charge of Sue MacQueen's since 2017 with the creation of her position.

In 2023, the Swarthmore College community consisted of 1,641 students, 173 full-time faculty, 948 full-time and 173 part-time staff members. Here's a summary of signature programs designed and offered specifically to members of the Swarthmore College community. Many of these programs were done in strategic partnerships with other College departments and committees, including the Office of Student Employment, Office of Sustainability, Office of Student Engagement, Alumni Office, Dean of Students Office, Crum Woods Stewardship Committee, Swarthmore Coalition for

Wellbeing, and Environmental Studies.

Academic Courses

In 2020, Janet Jones '61 established a \$1 million endowment fund to support efforts of engaging students in the Arboretum. Since then, investment earnings of the fund have been used to sponsor for-credit courses, thereby directly enhancing the academic offerings of Swarthmore College. In 2023, two courses were offered: Plants and Human Culture taught by Sue Barton, Ph.D., in the fall semester; and Nature Rx taught by Joshua Ellow, Ph.D., in the spring and fall semesters. Total enrollment was 55 students.

To support existing classes, Sue MacQueen responded to requests from seven professors to contribute to course activities including planting bulbs, discussing ergot fungus, taking a dance class outside for inspiration, looking at early spring ephemerals, planting mushroom spores, and learning about persimmons growing on campus.

Curricular Grant Program

To encourage the incorporation of horticulture and the Arboretum into Swarthmore College courses, a mini-grant program was launched in March of 2022, also funded by the Janet Jones endowment. In 2023, Professor James Padilioni, was awarded a grant for supporting activities in



Student workers (l to r): Eva Krueger '24, Alex Simon '24, and Dani Pena '24

the course called Sacred Plants, Holy Fungi, and Religious Experiences (ENVS055/RELG050).

Swarthmore College Student Work Program

Paid, part-time, and seasonal summer positions working alongside Arboretum staff members have provided significant opportunities for students to engage with the Arboretum for decades. The program offers positions ranging from hands-on gardening to program assistance and office management. See page 25 for a list of student workers in 2023.

Career Night

To engage Swarthmore College students in learning about career options involving working with plants, we offered the chance to meet and hear from three Swarthmore alumni who have had rewarding plant-related careers for a second year. Nate Mason '99, Sarah E. Parks '19, and Henry Ortmeyer '18 shared insights into their work with 34

attendees. The panel was followed by discussion over dinner in the Wister Center.

DISCOVER with the Scott Arboretum

This program continued to provide pop-up opportunities for Swarthmore College students, staff, and faculty to engage in activities related to plants and/or crafts using plant material throughout the academic year. The ten DISCOVER sessions, assisted by Arboretum Assistants, reached a total of 687 participants and included working with wildflower seed paper, learning about our nascent Whittier Meadow, building bluebird houses, discovering different types of shrub dogwood in making wreaths, and painting fall leaves and pumpkins.

DISCOVER in a Bag

This offering allowed student resident assistants and green advisors to request and then conduct plant-related activities with fellow students in their

residence halls. These were offered free of charge, with the only "payment" being ten photographs of students enjoying the event. In 2023, 21 leaders utilized the program, reaching 305 students with plant-crafting activities, modeled on the staged DISCOVER events.



DISCOVER program: making wreaths from dogwood branches

The Plant Doctor Is In

This continued to be offered on four Sunday evenings through the two semesters to assist students with houseplant questions. These clinics were offered via Zoom. Seventy-six students participated to have their questions addressed.

Summer Trips with Scott Interns

To augment our interns' experience working with us, we take them on Friday field trips to other public gardens or natural areas to see native flora. In 2023, for the first time, we also offered



The Welcome Back Plant Bash

these field trips to Swarthmore College students working on the campus during the summer. In total, seven Swarthmore College students participated in the seven Friday field trips.

First-Year Student Plant Giveaway and Welcome Back Plant Bash

On August 31, during Orientation Week, we had 267 first year students visit us to select and pot-up a cultivar of *Aglaonema* to grow as a houseplant as a welcome gift from the Scott Arboretum. On September 6, we welcomed back 381 returning



The First-Year Student Plant Giveaway

students, as well as staff, and faculty with a similar event.

Class Tree

On September 2, during orientation week, over 400 incoming students of the Class of 2027 gathered by Magill Walk to help plant and dedicate their class tree, a swamp white oak (*Quercus bicolor*). Our thanks to the Office of Student Engagement and the Dean's Office in helping make this a great success.

Garnet Weekend

The first weekend in October saw the return of many alumni and parents. The Arboretum offered multiple tours on campus with 124 attendees. We also offered an open house and plant giveaway that attracted 116 visitors.

Art in Nature

The fifth annual art contest open to all students was launched on September 5. Students had four weeks to submit entries electronically along the theme of nature and plant-inspired art which represented the Scott Arboretum. Three art judges selected six works from the 35 student entries. A popular vote by the community then deter-



First-Year Tree planting during Orientation Week for the Class of 2027

mined prize winners. Votes were cast by 249 students. First place was awarded to Sabina Karabin '26 for her rendering of the *Crum Falls* in watercolor. Her design was printed on a long-sleeved T-shirt. Second place and third place were Lisa Messier '26 for *Arches* and Leia Immanuel '26 for *Swarthmore Tree Life*. Their artwork was reproduced as ever-popular stickers. A celebration of all the artwork submitted took

place on Nov. 17, when T-shirts and stickers were shared; 156 attended the party.

Workshops

Botany in the Kitchen workshops were held in June, July, and September focusing on plant families and then more generalized local foraging. Seventy-five community members learned about edible botany from these events.



The 5th annual Art in Nature contest

“I enjoyed this course and the insights it provided on environmental impacts of human activity. I already made my mom watch Doug Tallamy’s lecture since we are remodeling our yard.”

Anonymous course evaluation comment from a Plants and Human Culture course student, 2023

Beekeeping workshops were also offered regularly by the professional beekeepers from Alvéole with their periodic visits to our beehives and, by special arrangement, to teach about honey extraction and making beeswax candles. These bee-related events drew 112 participants to see the hives and 94 for the workshops in 2023.

Other hands-on workshops included Tu B'Shevat, the new year of trees and rebirth, with 43 attendees, and celebrating

the fall festival of Sukkot with 31 students by decorating their shelter (the Sukkah) with crafts from nature.

Green Advisors Support

The Scott Arboretum continued to support the student green advisors in their work to make our campus a more ecologically sound environment. To that end, we offered five events to teach them how to run their own sessions more successfully using our engagement model. In all, 123 attended.



Botany in the Kitchen workshop on foraging



Beekeeping

Guided Walks

Regularly scheduled monthly walks offered in the Crum Woods as well as Alumni and Garnet Weekend hikes, a walk during Orientation Week, and requests from professors for class support, helped raise awareness of this natural area of the Arboretum. In total, 25 Crum Woods ventures were held throughout the year with a count of 618 participants.

Commencement

In 2023, Commencement was held on upper Parrish Lawn for the first time, due to the geothermal well drilling on Mertz Lawn where Commencement was held last year. On Sunday, May 21, following a longstanding tradition, graduates came to the Dean Bond Rose Garden to select a rose to be pinned on their Commencement robes. The Commencement procession also marched through the Rose Garden given this new



Arboretum volunteers applauding graduating seniors after pinning roses on their gowns

set-up. Following the ceremony, graduates were given a living piece of the campus as a graduation gift from the Arboretum: rooted cuttings of *Itea virginica* 'Henry's Garnet' propagated from shrubs growing on campus. There were 392 graduates in the Class of 2023. In support of the Intercultural Center, the Scott Arboretum also provided a symbolic plant of lavender and seeds to 50 LGBTQ+ seniors for their Lavender Celebration held on April 27.

Alumni Weekend

Held from May 26-28, this provided the opportunity for alumni to learn more about the Arboretum on six tours that ranged in topics from peonies to green roof exploration and container gardening. In all 185 participated. Additionally, the Wister Center was open for the weekend with various Arboretum-related giveaways and refreshments offered. An additional 101 visited.

Alumni Weekend



The Arboretum endowed funds support for College maintenance, the Grounds budget, and general operations was \$565,510.74 for FY23 (see Table 1).

Table 1. Scott Arboretum Endowment Funds as of June 30, 2023

Date Established	Fund Name	Endowment Units	Market Value	FY23 Distribution
Endowment distribution supporting the Scott Arboretum Budget				
1929	Arthur H. Scott Horticultural Fdn.	19,044.89	19,213,654.71	\$850,925.69
1929	Scott Medal and Prize	1,459.40	1,472,332.35	65,205.99
1953	Robert Pyle Rose Garden	1,437.20	1,449,935.63	64,214.10
1964	Scott Foundation Centennial	5,160.30	5,206,027.57	230,562.20
1973	James Frorer Holly Collection	138.20	139,424.65	6,174.78
1986	Theresa Lang Garden of Fragrance	37.40	37,731.42	1,671.03
1989	Terry Shane Teaching Garden	241.87	244,009.28	10,806.57
1992	Scott Associates	2,364.95	2,385,910.84	105,666.14
1998	William and Frances Plate Memorial	564.95	569,953.23	25,241.83
2001	Gertrude Wister Memorial	1,072.64	1,082,140.07	47,925.33
2006	Kemp West House Garden	245.45	247,625.03	10,966.71
2007	Wister Education Center and Greenhouse	685.76	691,837.81	30,639.80
2009	Maynard Cherry Border	24.07	24,287.33	1,075.63
2014	William H. Frederick Jr '48 Scott Directorship	1,351.55	1,363,524.63	60,387.16
2016	Scott Arboretum FFE	603.47	608,816.59	26,962.99
2017	Scott Arboretum Crum Woods	135.62	136,824.81	6,059.64
2020	Janet Jones '61 Arboretum Campus Engagement	1,234.24	1,245,174.09	55,145.71
2023	Heritage Tree Fund	101.83	102,735.38	4,549.90
Total Restricted		35,903.78	36,221,945.43	1,604,181.20
Endowment distribution allocation for the College Budget				
1929	Arthur H. Scott Horticultural Fdn.	5,009.51	5,053,901.36	223,824.91
1929	Scott Medal and Prize	280.50	282,985.63	12,532.74
1938	James McIlvain Arboreal	1,890.40	1,907,151.62	84,463.07
1953	Robert Pyle Rose Garden	1,700.00	1,715,064.41	75,956.00
1964	Scott Foundation Centennial	2,451.50	2,473,223.76	109,533.02
1973	James Frorer Holly Collection	600.00	605,316.85	26,808.00
1986	Theresa Lang Garden of Fragrance	500.00	504,430.71	22,340.00
2006	Kemp West House Garden	200.00	201,772.28	8,936.00
2009	Maynard Cherry Border	25.00	25,221.54	1,117.00
Total Budget Supporting		12,656.91	12,769,068.16	565,510.74
Total Scott Arboretum Endowments		48,560.69	48,991,013.59	169,691.94



FINANCES



Table 3. Swarthmore College Consolidated Statement of Scott Arboretum and Scott Associates Accounts for Fiscal Year July 2022 – June 30, 2023 (unaudited)

Beginning Balance	\$1,140,787.04
Revenue	
Endowment distribution	1,596,847.79
Income/membership, registrations	178,620.34
Gift income	109,325.05
Total Revenue	1,884,793.18
Expenses	
Staff salaries and wages	783,489.63
Staff benefits	230,016.74
Plants	73,443.62
Professional services	289,172.48
Postage/telephone	23,266.27
Supplies	189,645.37
Equipment	24,421.74
Food/catering	72,124.61
Transportation	27,117.23
All other expenses	68,881.69
Net transfers	193,080.00
Total Expenses	1,974,659.38
Net Change in Fund Balance	(89,866.20)
Balance June 30, 2023	\$1,050,920.84

Table 2. Scott Arboretum Endowment Funds Performance 10-Year Comparison (June 30)

	Market Value	Spending Rate	Distribution
2023	\$48,991,014	4.3%	2,216,310
2022	49,928,917	3.7%	1,983,215
2021	54,094,319	4.7%	1,887,128
2020	42,847,664	4.6%	1,818,106
2019	39,753,942	4.6%	1,802,992
2018	39,156,721	4.3%	1,532,171
2017	35,970,600	4.6%	1,504,984
2016	32,561,932	4.0%	1,364,638
2015	34,173,430	3.3%	1,146,963
2014	34,522,836	3.5%	1,039,825



PERSONNEL



Arboretum Staff

Cunningham House

Caitlin Anello - Member and Donor Programs Manager+
Josh Coceano - Horticulturist
Jody Downer - Special Projects Coordinator (part time)*
Mackenzie Knight-Fochs - Education Programs Manager
Wylie Lapp - Public Horticulture Intern+
Sue MacQueen - Campus Engagement Manager
Rowan Payne-Meyer - Assistant Horticulturist*
Jacqui Ricchezza - Administrative Coordinator
Becky Robert - Communications and Volunteer Manager
Megan Rossman - Assistant Horticulturist+
Claire Sawyers - Director
Mary Tipping - Curator and Plant Recorder
Rachel Warren - Assistant Education Program Manager for Youth, Family, and Diverse Audiences

Summer Interns

Fabienne Adler
Devin Dawson

Facilities Service Building

Ian Altamuro - Athletic Field Crew Supervisor
Beck Armstrong - Gardener+
Andrew DeGothseir - Gardener
Paul (Gus) Eriksen - Gardener*
Will Evans - Gardener
Adam Glas - Garden Supervisor
Chuck Hinkle - Garden Supervisor
Jeff Jabco - Coordinator of Horticulture/Director of Grounds
Doug Koler - Gardener*
Nick Lang - Athletic Fields Maintenance Crew Member
Kaitlyn Lawrence - Gardener
Sandra Lopez Cortez - Gardener
Susan McGinley - Gardener
Stephanie Myers - Gardener
Dale Nemece - Gardener
Lars Rasmussen - Assistant Garden Supervisor/Plant Health
Shem Ruszczyk - Assistant Garden Supervisor
Jerry Schrack - Assistant Director of Grounds and Horticulture

+Started employment in 2023

*Ended employment in 2023

Student Employees

Catherine Atalig '23
Noam AuYeung '27
Serafia Cecil '27
Adrian Cardenas '25
Vaidehee Durgude '25
Mirabel Fernald '27
Eliza Gonzalez '27
Veronica Gibbons '24
Y'onna Hale '26
Elisabeth R. Hartnett '26
Mekayla Herndon '24
Julian Kemp '26
Eva Kermorgant '26
Monica Kramer '25
Eva Krueger '24
Henry Lin '26
Shanan N. Liu '26
Josephine Low '27
Che (Annie) Lu '26
Kiran McDonald '23
Dart MacVeagh '25
Lucas Meyer-Lee '23
Madeline Mountcastle '26
Steven Mukum Tembele '26
Dani Pena '24
Nina Phillips '25
Ryan Rowe '26
Ayla Schultz '25
Alex Simon '24
Handuo (Leo) Suo '26
Lucy Tobier '26
Shutong Wu '26

Retirements

On July 2, we celebrated Gus Erikson's retirement after 40 years of service with a staff luncheon held in the Facilities Building. On September 13, we celebrated Jody Downer's retirement after 20-plus years of employment with a reception held at the Inn at Swarthmore.



Awards

Director Claire Sawyers was recognized with the Liberty Hyde Bailey Award for lifetime achievement from the American Horticultural Society. The award was presented at River Farm, Alexandria, Va. on Sept. 23.



Mary Thompson, President of the Scott Associates (c), at the Volunteer Thank You Luncheon

ASSOCIATES OF SCOTT ARBORETUM

Formed in 1971, the Scott Associates is a group of dues-paying members devoted to the furtherance of the aims of the Scott Arboretum, particularly to increase appreciation and knowledge of hardy ornamental plants.

Elected Officers

President -
Mary Thompson

Vice President -
Vivian Williams

Treasurer -
Julie Vrooman

Secretary -
Sheryl Contente

Committee and Council Appointments

Arboretum Assistants -
Anne Papa

Autumn Equinox -
Eric Rappaport

Education - Jan Goren

Ex-officio (past president) -
Margo Coffin Groff
Helen Pitts
Dorothy Philipson
Deb Soutar

Library - Marie-Louise
(M-L) Kime

Members at Large -
Lise Reno
Martin Murray

Membership -
Vivian Williams

Members Plant Exchange -
Deirdre Gibson

Nominating - Helen Pitts

Winter Celebration -
Barb Helpin
Mary Hinds

2023 Arboretum Assistants and Volunteers

Arboretum Assistants and volunteers who recorded hours in 2023 are noted here. The year of Arboretum Assistant class training is noted for those who are regular volunteers, making a sustained commitment of giving at least two half days per month or the equivalent. Many give many more hours than that.

Helena Adams '22	Gail Hale '11	Carole Maher '12	Karen Sacks '23
Sallie Anderson '00	Betsy Hamilton '01	Bruce Marshall	Carol Savery '20
Susan Barr '13	Elizabeth Harris '15	Marcia Martin '92	Rande Saxe '09
Suzanne Barton '23	Pamela Harris '23	Phyllis Martino '23	Reiner Schulz '20
Sheila Bell '12	Barb Helpin '18	Rocco Masticolo '16	Kathleen Sevensky '05
Deb Bergstrand '23	Joe Henderson	David Mattern	Keith Sharp '23
Barbara Blake '13	Mary Hinds '18	Diane Mattis '99	Naasiha Siddiqui '23
Nancy Bleakley '17	Stephen Hinds	Ursula Maul '09	Eunice Silver '00
Rebecca Boylan	Kya Holsopple '23	Erma McEwen '11	Leslie Simon
Diana Breen '04	Lisa Hoult	Bob McGovern '23	Deb Soutar '09
Klara Britt '95	Bob Hughes '07	Chuck Mills '12	Harvey Spector '19
Terry Britt '07	Rosemary Hughes	Linda Mills	Alexis Sternhell '21
Debbie Chaga '22	David Johnson '16	Harriet Monshaw '99	Karen Strachan
Gloria Cheung	Jane Johnson '01	Barbara Montabana '23	Les Swartley '05
Janean Clare	Gail Kaempf '23	Robert Munson '11	Eric Tamulonis
Sheryl Contente '22	Alan Kapczynski	Martin Murray '22	Steve Taylor '23
Fanny Donofrio '23	Sandy Kapczynski '17	Barbara O'Connell '16	Alicia Thomas
Richard Doran '23	Laura Kaufman	Lynn Palmer Gee '09	Bob Thomas '02
Donna Edwards '87	Sabrina Keeler '19	Anne Papa '02	Verdie Thomas '02
Gerri Eunson '04	M - L Kime '20	Sharon Patterson '99	Mary K. Thompson '19
James Fawcett '15	Cornelia King '23	Ted Patterson '09	Eve Thyrum '96
Rita Fields '11	Bev Kostek '07	Joanne Patti '20	Peter Trentacoste '22
Marge Firn '09	Alan Kruza '07	Patty Peck '13	Jacqueline Trolley '09
Sasha Fornari '23	Sue Lathrop '20	Helen Pitts '15	Julie Vrooman '96
Bob Frick '19	Anita Lawson '04	Patti Post '05	Lynn Walton '11
Toby Gang '15	Jessica Lawson	Allen Prindle '18	Sheila Weston '19
Elizabeth Garnett '09	Tom Lawson	Alison Randall '22	Steven Wieland '21
Karen Giacomucci '18	Shelley Leiner '13	Eric Rappaport '23	Raymond Williams '17
Deirdre Gibson '20	Elaine Lennox	Rick Ray	Vivian Williams '17
Peter Godrey '23	Michala Leventry '23	Lise Reno '22	Ben Yagoda '18
Bob Goren	Helen Lightcap '00	Ronald Ricchezza '1	Maria Yamburenko '23
Jan Goren '07	Bill Lotz '17	Louisa Ridgway '07	Michael Zupanick '18
Christine Gradel '17	Terry Lytle '12	Kay Rinko	
Margo Coffin Groff '05	Cindy MacLeod '23	Keith Robertshaw '17	

Membership Program

At the close of 2023, there were 991 memberships in the Scott Associates (compared to 1,021 at the close of 2022). Members contributed \$89,415 in dues during FY '22-'23, which provide funding for member benefits, including the Hybrid newsletter. A popular member incentive offered in 2023 was a Scott Arboretum picnic blanket for first-time members.

Membership Initiatives

New Neighbors

Through 2023 we continued our "New Neighbor Welcome" initiative by sending postcards to all new residents in Delaware County, letting them know the Arboretum is free and open to the public, and inviting them to an upcoming free event, such as the Rose Celebration. A total of 11,372 new residents received this postcard within a few months of moving to Delaware County. Inviting all new residents in this way is also an IDEA (Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Accessibility) initiative, as we reach out to all new county residents, regardless of their ZIP code.

Garnet Sages

In 2023, we continued offering free memberships to Garnet Sages, those Swarthmore College alumni who celebrated their



Arboretum Assistants celebrating Day of the Dead, Día de los Muertos

50th reunions, and those who celebrated their 25th graduation anniversary. Of the 194 Class of '73 alumni, 18 accepted (9.2%). Of the 234 members of the Class of '98, 11 accepted (4.7%).

Membership Benefits

We have learned most of our members are members because they want to give back to an organization they value. However, there are a number of tangible benefits and opportunities offered to members of the Scott Associates. Some of the key benefits are summarized here:

Plant Dividends

Living up to the Arboretum's mission of getting good plants into gardens, Scott Associates are offered two free plant dividends each year, spring and fall. In 2023, a choice of *Clematis* [Jolly Good™] 'Zojogo', *Franklinia alatamaha*, *Magnolia virginiana*, *Adiantum pedatum*, *Rhodo-*

dendron 'Hardy Gardenia' was offered in the spring. In the fall, members had a choice of *Astilbe* 'Chocolate Shogun' or *Penstemon* 'Dark Towers.' Initiated during the pandemic, members could collect their plants during a drive-by pick-up and at the Members' Plant Exchange.

Member Discount Program

One of the benefits of membership in the Scott Associates is enjoying discounts with local businesses and organizations. We thank the following who supported our members in 2023: Bartlett Tree Expert Co., Chanticleer, Main Line Gardens, Mostardi Nursery, Swarthmore Flower & Gift Shop, Inn at Swarthmore, Triple Oaks Nursery and Herb Garden, Swarthmore True Value Hardware, and Wedgewood Gardens.

Members' Plant Exchange (MPE) & Sale

A program organized by members for members, this annual spring plant exchange was held on May 13 and remained a popular way to share and acquire new plants on a very small budget. In 2023, a total of 1,777 plants were offered at the exchange thanks to the 36 volunteers who assisted by giving 316 hours to the effort. New members are given tokens to select plants at the MPE without contributing plants; 16 participated. Following the exchange portion of the event, remaining plants were sold for nominal prices. Nevertheless, \$898 was raised and in all 120 participated; a record level of participation compared to the previous decade.

Garden Day

This event is held annually as a member benefit to provide the opportunity for members to visit and be inspired by home gardens. On May 7, members were invited to visit gardens in the Lansdowne and Drexel Hill area and 149 participated. The tour was followed by a lovely reception at Twentieth Century Club of Lansdowne outside on their patio. Special thanks to garden owners Andrea Kenyon, Susan Peterlin, Carol Brandt, Sharon and Bill Fullerton, and Lansdowne Urban Farm for sharing their gardens with our members.

Special Members Event

Each year we thank our Scott Associates who support us with

donations above the basic level of membership with a special event. On August 15, special members were invited to the new Swarthmore College Dining Center. The evening included a scavenger hunt for party favors to encourage exploration of the new facility and refreshments created by the College's talented catering staff. Eighty-four special members attended.

Community Garden Program

Members of the Scott Associates have the opportunity to garden in plots on the corner of Harvard and Yale avenues for a nominal fee to grow vegetables during the growing season, as space allows. In 2023, 17 participants gardened in the 23 plots.

Ready to give out plant dividends to members (l to r): Jacqueline Trolley, Eric Rappaport, Becky Robert





Scott Associates on the trip to Morocco in October

Arboretum Assistants

These members of the Scott Associates are trained volunteers who help with garden and collections maintenance, plant labeling, event planning, managing the library and mailings, and arranging flowers. The volunteer program began in 1987 with a handful of individuals; we had 141 active Arboretum Assistants in 2023 who recorded a total of 6,928 hours for the year. The majority was spent gardening, with 1,100 hours recorded. Using the Independent Sector's calculation for the value of a volunteer hour in Pennsylvania of \$29.78, this represents a total value of \$206,316 in contributed support. In 2023, the software system used to help schedule, track, and

record hours given by volunteers was changed to Better Impact; special thanks to Anne Papa and Sue McGinley who assisted Becky Robert in this transition and to all the volunteers who learned yet another sign-in process.

Continuing to train and educate volunteers is done through "Updates." In 2023, four Updates were held: in February, the Update focused on the new Arboretum Explorer plant records program; in April, College construction projects were reviewed; in June, summer weeds was the topic; and in October, the bioswale and restoration efforts in the Crum Woods was shared. Special sessions devoted to Inclusivity, Diversity, Equity

and Accessibility (IDEA) training for volunteers were initiated in 2023 with three sessions offered which were led by Swarthmore College staff members from Student Affairs.

As a gesture of gratitude for all Arboretum Assistants and other volunteers, we held the annual Thank You Luncheon at the Inn at Swarthmore on November 9 and offered a gift: winter caps embroidered with our logo. We had 18 staff members thank 84 volunteers for a total of 102 attending the event.

On November 1, we held a special reception for volunteers on Dia de los Muertos, Day of the Dead, remembering and paying tribute to deceased volunteers, staff, and donors with an ofrenda



Garden Day volunteer garden greeters Anita Lawson (l) and Mary Hinds (r)

featuring their photographs. This year's beautiful altar was created by Gardener Sandra Lopez

and Assistant Horticulturist Megan Rossman. An array of Mexican food and beverages was served along with live mariachi songs in the Wister Center.



GIFTS AND DEDICATIONS

Dedicated Trees

In memory of **Didi (Dorthea) Beebe**

Acer rubrum 'Sunset'

Near the Facilities Service Building

Given by friends

In memory of **Niamh Shortt**

Acer saccharum 'Green Mountain'

In front of Wharton Hall

Given by Niamh Shortt's Swat family and beyond

In memory of **Barbara Burgerlantz**

Cornus florida

Near the Meeting House

Given by Women @ Thirdera

In memory of **Bill Whipple**, Class of 1966

Davidia involucrata var. *vilmoriniana*

Near the Dining & Community Commons

Given by Elizabeth Ainslie

In memory of **David Pierpont Stevens**,

Class of 1978

Magnolia 'Sunburst'

In front of Wharton Hall

Given by family

In memory of **Larry and Ann Green**

Quercus alba

Near Kohlberg Hall

Given by Bruce Lazet and Judy Farling

In memory of **Joanne Bramley**

Quercus alba

In the Pinetum

Given by family and friends

In memory of **Dorothea Moore**

Quercus bicolor 'American Dream'

Near the Dining & Community Commons

Given by INTECH Construction

In memory of **Paul R. Prinzhorn**, Class of 1968

Quercus rubra

Near Singer Hall

Given by Martha Kearns

Gertrude Wister Society

This society honors those who have designated a planned gift to the Arboretum, and is named for former Assistant Director Gertrude Wister (1905–1999), who made a significant bequest in 2001, inspiring this program.

Ann Ainsworth

Charles S. Harris '59

Deborah Soutar

Andrew Bunting

Thomas D. Henderer '60

Robert O. Stewart '53 and

Russell de Burlo '47

Roger Latham

Carol Stewart

Sandy Grogan Dresser

Dennis C. McGlade, FASLA

Nancy L. Weiss, M.D. '65

Elizabeth Garnett

Harriet Gotthel Monshaw

Maralyn Orbison

Jack Potter '73 and

Gillespie '49

David Lebe

These individuals are past Gertrude Wister Society members whose planned gifts provide ongoing support for the arboretum:

June Beal (d. 2011)

Kendall Landis '48 (d. 2019)

Donald Sanders (d. 2019)

Vera Bruestle (d.2006)

Joan Landis (d. 2017)

M. J. Smedley '43 (d. 2016)

John Carlson '38 (d. 2008)

Elsa Lichtenberg (d. 2018)

Catherine Jane Smith '47
(d. 2013)

Susan Coslett (d. 1998)

Carolien Powers Maynard

John W. Stokes (d. 2012)

Mary Jane Cratsley (d. 2014)

'48 (d. 2009)

Robert Thompson NV

Edith Thatcher de Burlo
(d. 2008)

Marjorie Morgan (d. 2018)

(d. 2011)

Ann Hargreaves '40
(d. 2000)

Georgette M. Most '38
(d. 2015)

Gertrude Wister (d. 1999)

Margo Bowie Hunt (d. 2014)

Patricia Barns Rose '46
(d. 2013)

Dedicated Benches

In memory of **Dino Andreadis**

On the Matchbox upper terrace

Given by Christina Andreadis

In honor of **Armond D. Budish**, Class of 1974

At the Dining & Community Center entrance

Given by the Scheiner Family

In honor of **Chuck James**

At the Black Cultural Center

Given by the Black Cultural Center, Black Studies Program, and English Department

In memory of **Barbara Manthei Myrick**,

Class of 1951 and **George Thomson Myrick**, Class of 1950

On the Matchbox upper terrace

Given by family

In memory of **Diane van Roden**

At the Dining & Community Commons

Given by the Goyal family

In memory of **Leah Zallman**, Class of 2001

To be installed at the Community Commons

Given by friends



“Arboretums, such as the campus of Swarthmore, are not about labels. Swarthmore is not about labels. I did not come here to receive a degree just to be able to say that I have one. I came here because I had diverse interests that I wanted to cultivate. I came here because I wanted to grow personally and intellectually. Arboretums are dedicated places of growth and labels are merely a happy consequence.”

Callie Ho '23, Class of 2023
Commencement speaker,
May 21

Other Gifts and Donations

Laura Haines Belman
Charles Cresson
Andrew DeGothseir
Betty Dowling
Lynn Etheredge '68
Richard Fairman
Linda M. Fischer
Susan Geiss '74
Chris Gradel
Amy Hurley
Jonathan Alderson Landscape Architects, Inc.
Andrea Juncos '01
Paula West Kaplan
Helen Marcarelli
Rocco Mastricolo
Marlene Miller
Andra Nus
Barbara O'Connell
Carol and Joseph O'Dea
Joanne and Joseph Patti
Helen Pitts
Juliana Potter '77
Allen Prindle
Providence Garden Club
Mary Lou Shannon
Sujatha Srinivasan '01 and Rajesh Vedanthan '95
Swarthmore Garden Club
Libby Truitt
Upper Darby Sellers Memorial Free Library
Julie Vrooman and Tom Vienneau
Vivian and Ray Williams

Gifts in Appreciation of Free Programming

Caitlin and Joe Anello
Ilene Asner and Rick Kramer
Laura Axel
Tara Bamat
Eleanor M. Barr
Beverly Bresnick
Jane Cappiello Culp
Diane Collings
Steve Crist
George W. Edwards III
Barbara Erskine
Naomi Hashimoto
Elizabeth Hazard
Brenda Kodama
Tom Kuklinski
Dorothy Maddock
Sue McDevitt
Tina Mickley
Anna Miller
David Mintzer
Kathleen Price
LaRiena Ralph Dobkin
Bonnie Ruetenik
Mary Shea
Dan Snyder
Carol Stephens
Paula Umland
Sandy Whipple and Robert Garfield
Joan Wider
Nancy Williams

Honorary and Memorial Contributions

In memory of **Kendall Archer Mudry**
Michael Mudry
In memory of **Ruth B. Boyle**
Elizabeth Truitt
In memory of **Wayne Brown**
Elisabeth Brown
In honor of **Jody Downer**
Richard Fairman
In honor of **Barb Helpin and Mary Haskins**
Beth Varcoe and Roderick Wolfson
In memory of **Maria Hingley**
Helen Norley
In memory of **Caroline Jones**
Marcia Martin

In memory of **Dorothea Moore**
Michael DeCotiis
Matt Maloney
Jean Mease
Ted Pollard
Darrin A. Reazor
USA Architects, Planners, and Interior Designers, Ltd.
Scott Wild
In memory of **Roberta Pacini**
Frank and Roseanne Dalton
Kathy L. Echternach
Elizabeth Hazard
Lauren and Sue Pacini
Frank and Shirley Smith
Paul Swartz
In memory of **Janis Page**
Joanne Dempsey



ANNUAL APPEAL *2023*

\$1,000 - \$5,000

Anonymous (1)
Catherine Anderson
James and Janet Averill
Margo Coffin Groff and
Thomas Callaghy
Chanticleer
Janean Clare
Ralph Day
Ralph C. Eagle, Jr.
Donna Edwards
Lynn Etheredge '68
Nancy Frederick
Colin Hingley
David and Alice Hunt
Julia Leisenring
Marcia Martin
Dennis C. McGlade, FASLA
Susanna and Dennis Morikawa
Susan Munch '67
David Nelson and
Elena Marty-Nelson
Alice Nicolson '58 and Dan
Nicolson
Anne and Ralph Papa
Alice Reilly
Betty Robertshaw
Deb Soutar and Bonnie Breit
Elizabeth A. Sun Tupchong '72
and Leslie Tupchong
R. William Thomas
Eve Thyrum
Julie Vrooman

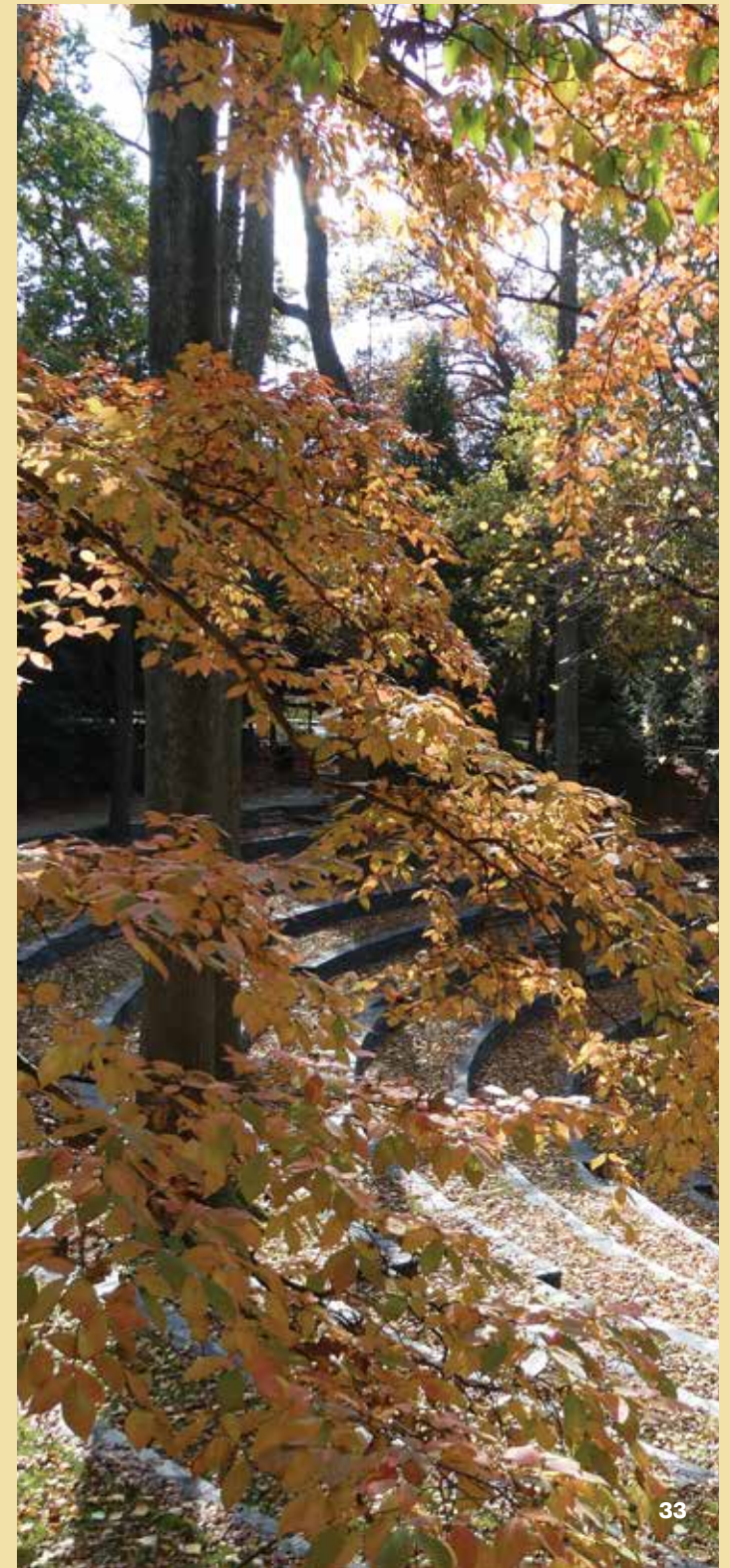
\$500 - \$999

Anonymous (1)
Vincent and Julie Auletta
Sheila M. Bell '61
Joann Bodurtha '74 and
Thomas Smith
William and Sandra Conwell
Robert Cushman '71 and
Janet Cushman
Jacqueline Delaney
Gail and Bill Hale
William Herdle '69
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen A. Hinds
JacobsWyper Architects
Sallie Jones
Knight Brothers, Inc
Charline and Jack Neigh
Anne Patterson
Sharon Patterson
Marianne Price
John Scott and
Meredith McClure-Scott
Naomi and Harvey Spector
Rob Stewart '53 and
Carol Stewart

\$200 - \$499

Anonymous (2)
James Adams
Barbara and Tony Addison
Ann Ainsworth
Sallie Anderson and Evan Ernest
Tom Andrews
Caitlin and Joe Anello

Mary Ayres
Elisabeth Brown
Jules Bruck and
Tony Middlebrooks
Andrew Bunting
Rebecca Carovillano and
Tracy Bouvette
Tristram Coffin and Rhoda
Nafziger
Ellen Daniell '69
Mark and Carol Dresden
Gerri Eunson
James and Debbie Fooskas
Garden Club of Philadelphia
Elizabeth Garnett
Deirdre Gibson and
Eric Tamulonis
Jan and Bob Goren
Gerrie and Tom Hamilton
Bruce Everett Hunt
Jeff Jabco and Joe Henderson
James B. Kimmel '70 and
Suzanne Guest
Nadine Kolowrat
Susan Lathrop
Marilyn Leonard
Mr. and Mrs. Lathrop B.
Nelson, Jr.
Jack Potter '73 and David Lebe
Mike Prentiss
Lise Reno and Will Starr
Robert Roggeveen
Claire Sawyers
Kate and Ed Sevensky



Frank and Shirley Smith
Mark S. Smith '68
Louisa Spottswood
Stoney Bank Nurseries
Mary Thompson
Nancy Weiss, M.D. '65
Sheila D. Weston
George J. and Brenda C. Wolfer

\$100 - \$199

Anonymous (3)
Kathryn Andersen
Eleanor M. Barr
Rebecca and Dan Boylan
Anne Canby
Steve Crist
Katharine Darlington '68
Greg and Sally Jo Davis
Marion DeGroof
Daniel Doak '83
Sandy Grogan Dresser
Neil and Virginia Fitzpatrick
Carol Foster
Toby Gang
Barbara S. Gard '68
Joanne M. Hanna
Joan Harvey
Carolyn Haury
Mr. and Mrs. James C. Hausman
Elizabeth Hazard
Carla Hetzel and Joel Neigh
Bob & Rosemary Hughes
Dave Johnson
Alfred Johnson and Nancy Halli
Johnson & Johnson
Gail Kaempf
Laura Kaufman '65
Catherine King

Paul and Dorothy Koehrsen
Stacey Kutish
David and Carolyn Langdon
Robert M. Lembo '73
Bill Lotz and Carol Broadbent
Robert Lyons
Helen Marcarelli
Linda Marcucci and Karl Stark
Sara Grogan Mauritz
Carol McConomy
Cindy and Doug Mead
Karen Puopolo and Steven Melly
Harriet Monshaw
Barbara Montabana '70
Candace Myers
Myra Leysorek and Leonard
Nakamura '69
Judy and Bill Nauseef
Helen Green Neuburg '48
Norristown Garden Club
Barbara and David O'Connell
Rachel Onuf
Janice Page
Patricia Peck
Jane G. Pepper
Dorothy Philipson
Helen and Peter Pitts
Amy and David Pollack
Kate Pompei
Mary L. Reindorp
Pat and Jack Reohr
Janet E. Saad '71
Naomi and Allen Schneider
Mary Ellen and Robert T. Scott
Jan and Don Semler
Virginia Thompson and
Tom Shaffer



Eunice Silver
Dr. and Mrs. James W. Snively Jr.
Bob and Verdie Thomas
Claire E. Thurman
Elizabeth Truitt
Mary Trzeciak
Beth Varcoe and Roderick
Wolfson
Frances Vilella-Velez '74
Betty and Doug Wallace
Larry and Paula Wallach
Lynn and John Walton
Vivian and Ray Williams
Michael Zupanick

Up to \$99

Anonymous (2)
Beverly Agard and Joe Revlock
Geoffrey and Alexis Anderson
Wallace Cruciger Ayres '64
Pamela and Art Bartholomew
Linda Bianchi
Nancy Bleakley
Virginia Brabender
Angie Tseng and
John Christodouleas
Wendy Cotton-Orlando
Marianne DiPaulo
Rita Fields
Jessica Friis
Birgitte Haselgrove
Barb Helpin
Steve Levin

Gwen Erwin Marrion '82
Jane H. Mullins
Martin Murray, Jr.
Brenda Perkins '79 and Mark
Taylor '80
Susan Peterlin
Allen Prindle
Jacqueline and Ron Ricchezza
Oakley and Donna Richards
Anne Richards and Chris Rodger
Kay Rinko
Lisa Schildhorn
Walter Smedley III
Elizabeth D. Smith '96
Dot Talley
Grace Wright



Thank you!



THE SCOTT ARBORETUM
OF SWARTHMORE COLLEGE

500 College Avenue • Swarthmore, PA 19081
610-328-8025 • scottarboretum.org