



Tyler Topics

Winter
2011-12

News, Programs and Events of Tyler Arboretum

The Man Who Made the Arboretum

Tyler's Visionary First Director

By Liz Murphy, Tyler Volunteer

Dr. John Caspar Wister, the first director of Tyler Arboretum, was a remarkable man. He has been called the "dean of American horticulturists," influencing the field through his books, contributions to numerous horticultural societies, and extensive work in landscaping and plant breeding. Wister's lasting legacy at Tyler Arboretum and elsewhere is a source of inspiration to gardeners for generations to come.

Wister's interest in horticulture was encouraged from an early age. In 1887, he was born into the prominent Philadelphia Wister family, for whom the Wistar Institute is named (after Caspar Wistar, a distant cousin). Dr. Wister grew up on a 10-acre farm in Germantown, now the site of Wister Woods Park at La Salle University's campus. He learned about plants from the

family groundskeeper, and by the age of 14 had his first collection of 40 different chrysanthemums.

Wister graduated from Harvard University in 1909 and then went on to Harvard's School of Landscape Architecture, with additional

coursework at New Jersey Agricultural College. World War I interrupted his career plans, but the time he served in France gave him the opportunity to visit some of the great gardens of Europe where he collected specimens to send home.



A key source of Wister's impact on American

horticulture dates to 1930 when he became the first director of the Arthur Hoyt Scott Horticultural Foundation at Swarthmore College. In this role he was responsible for the 240-acre Scott Arboretum, of which he personally landscaped 40 acres. Wister's focus was on developing a practical garden, one that would thrive in the Eastern Pennsylvania climate without special care. He continued his work there for over 50 years and at his death was named an emeritus director.

Wister became director of Tyler Arboretum in 1946 and remained

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Tyler's significant collection of rhododendrons was started by Dr. Wister

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Tyler Topics is a quarterly publication distributed to the members and friends of Tyler Arboretum. For more information on Tyler Arboretum, please visit our website at www.tylerarboretum.org, or contact us by telephone at (610) 566-9134.

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Though winter will soon be upon us, it doesn't seem so long ago that the gardening season started coming to a close, with fall-blooming asters and goldenrods, and a chill in the air that signaled colder weather would be arriving soon.

Under the leadership of Emily Smith, our Vegetable Gardener, the autumn also heralded a bountiful harvest of crops from the Arboretum's one-quarter acre Vegetable Garden. Tyler is very proud to have donated all of the garden's produce to the Media Food Bank. Next year, be sure to visit this garden, located by the White Cottage. I am sure that you will find some great ideas on how to improve your own vegetable garden.



I do hope you had the opportunity to visit the Rhododendron Garden this year. As we have previously shared, new porous asphalt paths were installed in late 2010. This spring, we were able to complete this construction as well as install new plantings for a small portion



(one-third of an acre). In addition, the new Rhododendron Garden endowment enabled us to hire Jerry O'Dell as our part-time Rhododendron Gardener.

With the support of numerous volunteers, Jerry has made significant progress towards restoring the Rhododendron Garden's nearly 13 acres and 1,300+

plants. For over ten years, staff and volunteers have followed plans developed by landscape architect W. Gary Smith that outlined the new direction for this important horticultural and historic collection. As time and funds permit, we will continue to replant new gardens and install educational stations. Visit this garden next spring and you will find hundreds of rhododendrons in bloom at any given time.

As 2011 comes to a close, we reflect on our achievements and set goals for the new year. As you plan your gifts for the holiday season, we ask you to consider contributing to Tyler's Annual Fund (see page 14). It is through the support of our members and friends that we'll continue improving our gardens, preserving our historic legacy, and inspiring connections to nature with our educational offerings.

Wishing you a happy new year,

Deer Control Notice

A controlled shotgun hunt for white tailed deer will be conducted on two Thursdays, December 1 and 8. The Arboretum will be closed to visitors both days.

Giving Back to Tyler – “It’s Easy”

“I love plants, and I love gardens,” says Miriam Fisher Schaefer, a longtime Tyler member. She also has a fondness for topography, and this interest is what first brought her to Tyler Arboretum in the late 1980s. With a map of original Penn land grants in hand, she drove the area exploring old properties and buildings. It was then that she stumbled upon Tyler, without knowing how it would inspire her and her family over the next two decades.

Miriam grew up across the Delaware River in Haddonfield, NJ. After graduating from Bryn Mawr College, she moved to New York, where she spent the next 15 years. In 1987 she returned to the Philadelphia area with her family, settling in Ardmore, PA. It was shortly thereafter that she embarked on her tour of land grants in Delaware County. She also passed the road to Tyler on her daily commute.

“I’ve always loved the outdoors,” Miriam explains, and Tyler quickly became her family’s chosen destination for nature exploration. Miriam especially enjoyed visiting the Arboretum with her daughter and son in early spring. “I would often take them to see the crocus and galanthus [snowdrops] on the bank by the Spring House,” she recalls. “It makes you say, ‘Thank goodness, the winter’s over!’”

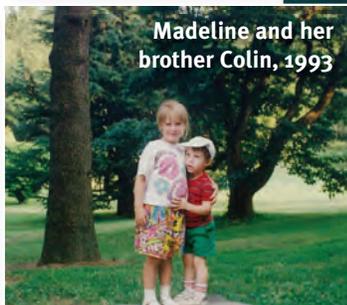
Though Miriam didn’t realize it, taking her children to Tyler made a big impression. One of Miriam’s earliest photographs at the Arboretum is of her then 18-month old daughter Madeline, smiling gleefully against a meadow backdrop.

Sixteen years later, Madeline had the opportunity to donate the application fee for Bryn Mawr College to a charity of her choice, and didn’t have a problem making a

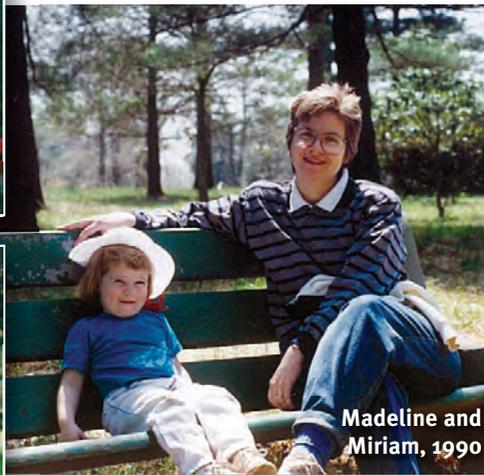
decision. “That’s easy, Mom,” she told Miriam. “I’m giving it to Tyler Arboretum.” Later, after the mother and daughter pair attended an extravagantly beautiful wedding (complete with a groomsman on horseback) Miriam mused about how her daughter’s someday-wedding could compete. Again, Madeline had a ready answer: “That’s easy, Mom—I’ll have it at Tyler.”



Madeline, 1988



Madeline and her brother Colin, 1993



Madeline and Miriam, 1990

“I had no idea what an amazing impact Tyler had

on her growing up,” Miriam says. Bringing her

children to the Arboretum was something she didn’t think much about—it was just something she always did. Her daughter’s passion for the place caught her by surprise, but it also stayed with her. And when Miriam suddenly had an opportunity to make a significant contribution to an organization of her choice, she found herself thinking “That’s easy—Tyler.” The charitable gift annuity she established offered the chance to plan for her future as well as the future of a place her family loves.

Miriam’s gift to Tyler is only one way she supports green space preservation and nature education. She is also active on the board of Fair Hill Burial Ground, a historical Quaker establishment in one of the poorest neighborhoods in Philadelphia. She’s assisted with the park’s restoration, installing a garden and instituting educational programs for children in the community. “I’m really

interested in public gardening,” she says, “and the impact of plants and gardening on people’s mental and physical health.”

For her day job, Miriam serves as Chief Operating Officer for the Chemical Heritage Foundation, a museum in Philadelphia, where she is responsible for facilities, finance, and human resources. Though both her career and volunteering keep her busy, she still finds plenty of time to enjoy the outdoors at Tyler—whether taking classes on

worm composting or embarking on a night hike with her family (a special birthday request).

“What I like about Tyler is that it is so natural,” Miriam says. “My hope is that it stays wild, and that mothers can bring their children there forever, to walk around and appreciate the beauty of its bluebirds and meadows, its crocus and galanthus. Because apparently,” she

concludes, “it has a big impact.” Indeed, Miriam’s generous legacy will help ensure that Tyler continues to inspire appreciation of nature in children for many years to come.

What is a charitable gift annuity?

A charitable gift annuity is an agreement in which you transfer cash or other assets to a charity in exchange for fixed payments for your lifetime. This type of contribution is great for both younger and older adults, as it guarantees income into retirement while benefiting an organization you care about.

For more information on establishing a charitable gift annuity or other planned gifts at Tyler Arboretum, please contact Mary Beth Jackson, Major Gifts Officer, at 610-566-9134 x206 or mjackson@tylerarboretum.org.

Tyler's Visionary First Director

(continued from page 1)

until 1968, concurrent with his appointment at Scott. His vision for Tyler was to develop an arboretum that had both cultivated and natural areas. The site was extensively overgrown—in 1946 Wister described it as being “in a deplorable state”—and much of the original Painter farm had to be cleared and roads laid. “It was possible in the early years,” Wister wrote in 1960, “to bring at least some order out of the chaos of the old Painter plantings.” This gave him the canvas he needed to establish some of his greatest



Double peony drawn by Dr. Wister

accomplishments at Tyler. His plant collections of rhododendrons, ornamental cherry trees, flowering crabapples, magnolias and lilacs are today some of the Arboretum's most treasured horticultural resources.

One of Wister's greatest challenges at Tyler Arboretum was funding. In 1960 he wrote to the Trustees about the desperate need for funds: “No

piece of land the size of the Tyler property can possibly be developed into an arboretum, or even a well kept park with the money at hand in the Tyler estate.” He went on to emphasize how special the property was, given the remarkable topography: “No other arboretum or botanical garden in the country has as fine an opportunity for development as this.”

Dr. Franklin West, former Board President of Tyler Arboretum, says of Wister “It is obvious that he didn't fall victim to the malady that affects too many of the rest of us: the exclusive preference for one plant group.” In addition to building plant collections at Tyler and Scott, Wister authored *The Iris*, *Four Seasons in Your Garden*, *Lilac Culture*, and *Bulbs for American Gardens*. He also served as editor of several horticultural journals.

Wister also influenced American horticulture through his leadership role in important horticultural societies. In 1940, he helped found the American Association of Botanical Gardens and Arboreta (now the American Public Gardens Association) and served as president from 1954–55. For 24 years, he was secretary of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society. In 1966, he was honored by not one but two prominent organizations.



Brooklyn Botanic Garden awarded him with the Garden Medal for distinguished service to horticulture and the Royal Horticultural Society of Great Britain dedicated its Daffodil and Tulip Yearbook to him, the first time such an honor had been extended to an American.

Wister was described by West as “a gentle man, with an enthusiasm for plant lore that is very contagious. He always shares his interests with great generosity.” Relatively late in life, at the age of 73, Wister married Gertrude McMasters Smith, a noted horticulturist who assisted Wister at both Tyler and the Scott Foundation.

Wister was 95 years old when he died in 1982, leaving two well-established arboreta as his enduring legacy. Thanks to this landscape architect, plant connoisseur, and true visionary, Tyler was transformed from a family farm into a modern arboretum of horticultural significance.

Historical images and illustrations courtesy of La Salle University Library, John Caspar Wister Papers

Introducing Tyler's Newest Board of Trustees Member

Tyler Arboretum is pleased to announce the appointment of Trine Vanderwall to its Board of Trustees. Trine is a museum registrar with over twenty years of experience in the field. Her work focuses on fine art exhibitions, and she has coordinated and traveled with museum exhibitions including an Alice Neel retrospective and "Walker Evans & Company: Works from the Museum of Modern Art". She is currently a volunteer at the Philadelphia Museum of Art.

“True collections management expertise is something we haven't had on the Board

before,” says Executive Director Rick Colbert. “We're grateful to have Trine's appreciation and understanding of museums and the challenges that an organization like Tyler faces.”

A direct descendant of the Oneida Community, one of America's most successful 19th century communal societies, Trine has had a lifelong devotion to historic homes and gardens. She resides with her family in Haverford, and enjoys traveling throughout the Delaware Valley with her young daughter's bird watching club.





Tyler Programs

Tyler Arboretum Winter Programs and Events 2011-12

Special Events

The Country Gardeners Annual Greens Sale

Saturday, December 3, 9:30 am – 1:30 pm

Enjoy a huge selection of beautiful holiday arrangements and trimmings: fresh greens, hand-made wreaths, swags, ornaments, and other



natural holiday decorations. The Country Gardeners Annual Greens Sale is held at Tyler's Maintenance Building and run by The Country Gardeners of Lima.

For more information, visit

www.thecountrygardeners.com

Free admission for the Greens Sale

Pancake Breakfast & Maple Sugaring Celebration

*Saturday, February 25,
8:00 am – 1:00 pm*

*Snow date: Saturday,
March 3*

Bundle up and enjoy this annual celebration of the maple tree's yummy offerings. Join one of our ongoing tours

to discover how sap is turned into syrup, and try your hand at tapping a tree. Then, satisfy your appetite in the historic Barn with our famous all-you-can eat pancake and sausage breakfast. Hot coffee and cocoa accompany this delicious wintertime feast.

*No pre-registration required. Adults: \$11,
Children (ages 3-12) \$6, Under 3 FREE*



Gardening and Horticulture

Winter Pruning Workshop

*Saturday, January 28, 1:00 – 2:30 pm
(snow date: January 29)*

Winter is the perfect season for structural pruning, as deciduous shrubs and trees have lost their leaves, revealing their branch structure. Give new life to old overgrown shrubs that are threatening to take over your house, or prune to enhance the beauty and function of your specimen plants. Director of Horticulture **Mike Karkowski** will begin this class indoors with an overview of pruning concepts and

tool tips. Then, he'll lead the group outside to demonstrate how to prune a variety of shrubs and trees.

*Pre-registration required; \$12 members,
\$15 non-members*

Tool Sharpening Workshop

Saturday, February 18, 10:00 am – 1:00 pm

Sharp pruning tools are easier to use and better for your plants. Winter is a good time to get them into condition and ready for spring. Join Tyler Gardener **Matthew Tornabe** to learn proper techniques for using files and sharpening stones. There will be plenty of time for hands-on practice; Matt will provide guidance as needed. *Bring hand pruners, loppers, hedge shears, shovels, or spades and a pair of lightweight gardening gloves.*

*Pre-registration required; \$10 members,
\$15 non-members*

Botanical Arts

Holiday Wreath Workshops

*Sunday, December 4, 1:00 – 3:30 pm;
Monday, December 5, 7:00 – 9:30 pm;
Tuesday, December 6, 7:00 – 9:30 pm*

Create a unique holiday wreath using plant materials from the Arboretum's extensive collections. Tyler staff member **Karen McDonald** will show you how to work with a wide variety of evergreen boughs, as well as cones, berries and seedheads. *Bring pruners and work gloves. Fee includes all materials.*

*Pre-registration required; \$35 members,
\$40 non-members*



Watercolor Studio

Mondays, January 9 through February 13, 12:00 – 3:00 pm (No class on February 6) (Snow date: February 20)

Looking for a way to beat the winter blues? Join other artists to paint the beauty of nature. This studio session is designed for students with some experience in watercolor to work with fellow artists. Instructor **Carol Gangemi** teaches with patience and humor, and she will provide individual instruction and constructive review of your work as you develop individual projects. Work at your own pace in a creative, supportive, and beautiful environment. The primary medium is watercolor, but other techniques are welcome. Come to the first session with all supplies necessary to begin work. (Call for supply list suggestions, if needed.)

Pre-registration required; \$175 members, \$189 non-members

Gourd Crafting Workshop

Saturday, February 11, 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

For centuries, hard-shell gourds have served as a variety of implements. More recently, they have been used as birdhouses, especially for purple martins. Now, artisans are creating beautiful works of art with these natural garden fruits. Join **Karen McDonald** for a fun winter day creating and decorating gourd birdhouses. *Wear old clothes and bring a brown bag lunch – we will supply the beverages. Fee includes all materials.*

Pre-registration required; \$35 members, \$40 non-members

Natural Studies

Winter Bird Walks

Every Wednesday, 8:15 - 10:15 am

Tyler Arboretum is a wonderful winter haven for many of our feathered friends. Experienced birders **Tom**

Reeves and **Bruce Wyman** have been leading these very popular walks for years and know all the best places to look for winter residents. Birders of all experience levels are welcome. *Bring bird guides and binoculars, if you have them.*

Free with admission; no pre-registration required

Weekday Wildflower Botany Walks

Every Wednesday, 11:00 am – 1:00 pm

Is there anything to look at in the winter? Wildflower experts **Richard Brenner** and **Dick Cloud** find botanical wonders wherever they venture. Join in the search for plants in their seasonal guises and learn how to identify your favorites from seed stalks, leaf rosettes, and flowers, if it is warm enough.

Free with admission; no pre-registration required

Critter Hunt for Grown-Ups

Saturday, December 10, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Join ecologist and naturalist **Steve Tessler** for a fun and informative nature walk for grown-ups. When you know where to look, there are lots of hidden critters to be found, as well as beautiful fungi, lichens and moss. *Dress for the weather and wear shoes suitable for uneven terrain or wet trails.*

Free with admission; no pre-registration required

Invasive Plant Removal Corps

Sundays, December 11, January 8, February 12, 9:30 am – 12:00 pm

Become a weed warrior and give Mother Nature a hand by helping to remove alien thugs from Tyler's woodlands and meadows. Meet **Dick Cloud** in the Visitor Center. *Wear appropriate work clothes, sturdy shoes or boots, and work gloves.*

No admission fee or pre-registration required

Sunday Wildflower Botany Walks

Sundays, December 11, January 8, or February 12, 1:30 - 3:30 pm

Can't attend our weekday wildflower walks? Join **Dick Cloud** for a pleasant Sunday afternoon walk in our woods and meadows, looking for late- or early-bloomers and other seasonal treasures.

Free with admission; no pre-registration required

Close-Up Encounters: Discovering Nature through the Macro Lens

*Sundays, January 8 and February 5,
10:00 am – 12:00 pm*

Join ecologist and macro-photographer **Steve Tessler** for an evocative one-hour presentation featuring the often hidden aspects of nature at Tyler. Learn something you didn't know about our local spiders, insects, fungi, moss and other creatures, and hear a lively narrative about photographing them up close. Following the classroom session, join Steve for an optional walk to see what you can encounter firsthand. *If intending to join the hike, dress appropriately for the weather. Hot beverages will be provided. Each program date will feature different photos and creatures.*

Free with admission; no pre-registration required

Birding Trip: Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge

Tuesday, January 17, 7:00 am – 5:00 pm

Located at the South Jersey shore, this important area of tidal wetlands and shallow bay habitats is part of the Atlantic Flyway. Join expert birder **Tom Reeves** for a rewarding trip to

the Refuge and Brigantine Island in search of winter waterfowl. *Fee includes transportation, beverages, and a snack; bring lunch and binoculars.*

*Pre-registration required; \$55 members,
\$65 non-members*

Cape Henlopen Area Birding Field Trip

Thursday, February 16, 7:00 am – 7:00 pm

Cape Henlopen and the Indian River Inlet offer wonderful winter birding opportunities. Join **Tom Reeves** in search of short-eared owls, long-tailed ducks, horned larks, snow buntings, purple sandpipers, and harlequin ducks. *Fee includes transportation, beverages, snacks, and dinner; bring lunch and binoculars.*

*Pre-registration required; \$85 members,
\$95 non-members*

Owl Prowl

Friday, February 17, 5:00 – 6:30 pm

Owls are fascinating creatures, but we rarely have a chance to observe them. Take this opportunity during their mating and nesting season to learn more about owls and the myths associated with them. After a diverse indoor program, educator **Sue Lucas** will lead a hike to listen for calls of eastern screech owls. *Hot drinks and*

snacks end the evening. Wear sturdy walking shoes. This program is suitable for adults and children ages 13 and older.

*Pre-registration required; \$8 members,
\$12 non-members*

Youth Programs

Age 3

Teeny Tiny Trackers

Teeny Tiny Tracker programs include an outdoor walk and an indoor activity. Children must be accompanied by an adult; fee is for the child only.

The Colors of Winter

Monday, December 12, 10:00 – 11:00 am

Kids are wonderful observers. This highly sensory program focuses on the colors and shapes unique to winter. *Pre-registration required; \$6 members,
\$8 non-members*

Who Lives Here?

Monday, January 23, 10:00 – 11:00 am

Explore the winter landscape in search of animal life, and then move indoors to learn about animal homes in winter. *Pre-registration required; \$6 members,
\$8 non-members*



Winter Clothes

Monday, February 13, 10:00 – 11:00 am

Learn all about the winter clothes that animals and plants put on to survive the long, cold months.

Pre-registration required; \$6 members, \$8 non-members

Ages 4 – 5

Tiny Trackers

Tiny Tracker programs include a lesson, an outdoor walk, and a craft to take home.

Adults are welcome to accompany children; fee is for the child only.

Tracks, Tracks, Tracks

Thursday, December 15, 10:00 – 11:30 am or 1:00 - 2:30 pm

Discover the different kinds of tracks left by animals. Enjoy a short outdoor walk followed by an indoor program.

Pre-registration required; \$6 members, \$8 non-members

Staying Warm

Thursday, January 12, 10:00 – 11:30 am or 1:00 – 2:30 pm

Many animals call Tyler home during the winter. Come and join the hunt as we seek out their hiding places and learn how they survive through the cold months.

Pre-registration required; \$6 members, \$8 non-members

Squirrely Squirrels

Thursday, February 16, 10:00 – 11:30 am or 1:00 - 2:30 pm

Squirrels abound this time of year, searching for their hidden caches of nuts. Learn about the antics of this animal and his friends—the chipmunks, foxes, and mice.

Pre-registration required; \$6 members, \$8 non-members

Garden Sprouts

Designed to introduce kids to the world of plants and gardens, these programs include stories, crafts and hands-on fun with plants. Children must be accompanied by an adult; fee is for the child only.

Fragrant Plants

Tuesday, December 6, 1:00 – 2:00 pm

Search for fragrance in the garden—you will be surprised what you find! Plant a fragrant plant and make a fragrant flower to take home.

Pre-registration required; \$6 members, \$8 non-members

Winter Tree Discoveries

Tuesday, December 20, 1:00 – 2:00 pm

Many types of evergreen trees live at the Arboretum. Join our search to collect specimens, and then use them to create take-home decorations.

Pre-registration required; \$6 members, \$8 non-members

Winter Garden Colors

Tuesday, January 10, 1:00 – 2:00 pm

Colors abound in the winter garden. Enjoy a search to see how many you can find in the Arboretum, and create a colorful mobile to take home.

Pre-registration required; \$6 members, \$8 non-members

Kitchen Gardening

Tuesday, January 24, 1:00 – 2:00 pm

Don't throw away that pit! Learn about growing house plants from carrot tops, avocado pits and even potato eyes. Then, make a plant buddy to take home.

Pre-registration required; \$6 members, \$8 non-members

Plants Helping Animals

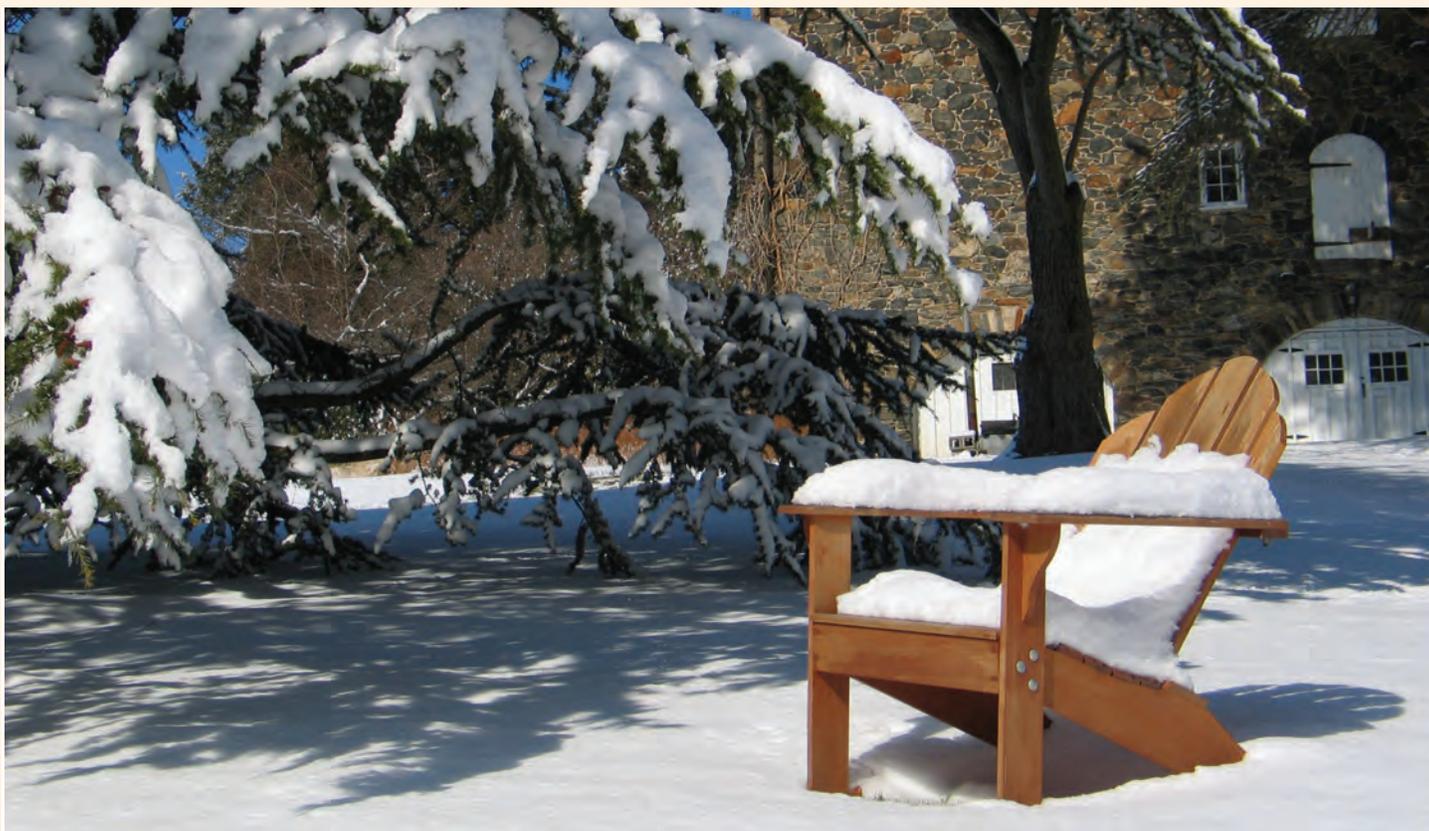
Tuesday, February 7, 1:00 – 2:00 pm

Explore the Arboretum and discover how trees and winter garden plants provide food and shelter for our furry and feathered friends. Learn to eat like a bird and make a feeder for the birds in your neighborhood.

Pre-registration required; \$6 members, \$8 non-members



Photo by Anne Marie Palita



Flowers in Winter

Tuesday, February 21, 1:00 – 2:00 pm

It's not too early for flowers at the Arboretum. Join our search for the earliest bloomers, and then create a pretty flower arrangement to remind you that spring is coming soon.

Pre-registration required; \$6 members, \$8 non-members

Family Programs

Grab the kids and come have fun together at Tyler. Interactive programs let you learn, create, or explore nature and plants. Fee is for each participant.

Natural Critter Ornaments

Saturday, December 3, 10:00 – 11:30 am

Use natural materials such as cones, pods, seedheads, and nuts to create whimsical critters for the holidays. These charming ornaments also make great gifts. We supply the materials; you supply the imagination. *This program is suitable for children ages 6 and older.*

Pre-registration required; \$6 members, \$8 non-members

Homemade Bird Feeders

Saturday, January 21, 10:00 – 11:30 am

Help our birds survive the winter by creating bird feeders made from natural materials. Take them home and watch your feathered friends fly in for a great meal. *This program is suitable for children ages 4 and older.*

Pre-registration required; \$6 members, \$8 non-members

Family Night Hikes

Saturdays, January 14 and February 11, 6:30 – 8:30 pm

Hiking under a winter moon is a magical experience. Learn about which animals and birds may be out at night and see if you can spot them. The night concludes with hot drinks, cookies and a bonfire. *Dress warmly and bring a flashlight. This program is suitable for children age 5 and older.*

Pre-registration required; \$6 members, \$8 non-members

Maple Sugaring Exploration

Saturdays, February 4 and 11, 10:30 am – 12:00 pm

Put on mittens and hats and come to see how maple syrup is made. Begin

indoors with some background about trees and how sap rises in the spring, and then head out to learn about tapping trees and collecting sap. Watch how sap is boiled down over a fire and enjoy a taste of the yummy finished product. *This program is suitable for ages 5 and up.*

Pre-registration required; \$6 members, \$8 non-members

Owl Prowl

Saturday, February 18, 5:00 – 6:30 pm

Explore the world of these fascinating night creatures and learn about the myths associated with them. Begin the evening with an indoor program by Tyler Educators. Then, take a short hike to listen for calls of the Eastern screech owls (weather permitting). *Hot drinks and snacks offer a delicious end to the evening. Wear footwear appropriate for uneven trails and bring a flashlight. This program is suitable for children age 6 and older.*

Pre-registration required; \$6 members, \$8 non-members

❧ School Holiday Mini-Camps ❧

A day of nature exploration and fun is the perfect solution when your child has a day off and you have to work. These easy-going days are filled with discovery, games, crafts, hikes and projects that are so engaging, the kids won't even know they're learning. Mini-camp hours are 9:00 am – 3:00 pm. Extended care is available for \$10 extra per day starting at 8:00 am and concluding at 5:00 pm. Camp is for children 6 – 9 years old.

Winter Fun: Tracking, Discovering, Creating

Thursday, December 29, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

Despite the cold, there's lots of life at the Arboretum. We will look for tracks and other clues to see which animals are out and about, discover how they survive the winter, and have some fun with games and projects.

Pre-registration required; \$50 members, \$55 non-members

Winter Fun: Lenape Life

Friday, December 30, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

The Lenape Indians were masters of survival in our woodlands and meadows. Learn how this peaceful tribe hunted and gathered food, fashioned their clothing, cooked, and created homes—all in harmony with nature. Games and crafts keep the day fun.

Pre-registration required; \$50 members, \$55 non-members

Winter Coats

Monday, January 16, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

Why do some trees keep their leaves or needles over the winter and others lose them? Why do some animals fly south and some stick around? Join us on Martin Luther King Day as we get to know some of the trees and animals in the Arboretum.

Pre-registration required; \$50 members, \$55 non-members

Maple Sugaring

Monday, February 20, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

Presidents Day falls in the middle of maple sugaring season. Come to the Arboretum and learn about this sweet breakfast treat by tapping a tree, collecting sap, boiling it down, and enjoying delicious maple syrup snacks. In the afternoon, we will venture out to see what other plants are doing this time of year.

Pre-registration required; \$50 members, \$55 non-members

Save The Date

Volunteer Open House

Thursday, March 1, 10:00 – 11:30 am

Get involved! Share your talents...continue learning. Volunteers play a vital role in the operation of the Arboretum. Their assistance enables us to expand and enhance all areas of the organization, and help us to grow as a community resource. Please join us for coffee and baked goods while learning about the many volunteer opportunities that are available. Staff and veteran volunteers will be available to share their experiences and answer questions.

Volunteer Field Trip Leader Training

Tuesdays, March 13, 20, 27, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

If you enjoy nature, kids and learning, consider becoming a volunteer field trip leader. Three training sessions provide all the skills you need. Trips occur weekday mornings and early afternoons.





Tyler

Winter 2011-12

Calendar of Programs & Events

Tyler Arboretum Winter Programs and Events

Weekday Wildflower Botany Walks: Every Wednesday, 11:00 am – 1:00 pm
Winter Bird Walks: Every Wednesday, 8:15 – 10:15 am

December

- Sat. Dec. 3** *Special Event: The Country Gardeners Annual Greens Sale*
- Sat. Dec. 3** *Family Program: Natural Critter Ornaments*
- Sun. Dec. 4** *Holiday Wreath Workshop*
- Mon. Dec. 5** *Holiday Wreath Workshop*
- Tue. Dec. 6** *Garden Sprouts: Fragrant Plants*
- Tue. Dec. 6** *Holiday Wreath Workshop*
- Sat. Dec. 10** *Critter Hunt for Grown-Ups*
- Sun. Dec. 11** *Invasive Plant Removal Corps*
- Sun. Dec. 11** *Sunday Wildflower Botany Walk*
- Mon. Dec. 12** *Teeny Tiny Trackers: The Colors of Winter*
- Thu. Dec. 15** *Tiny Trackers: Tracks, Tracks, Tracks*
- Tue. Dec. 20** *Garden Sprouts: Winter Tree Discoveries*
- Thu. Dec. 29** *School Holiday Mini-Camp: Winter Fun: Tracking, Discovering, Creating*
- Fri. Dec. 30** *School Holiday Mini-Camp: Winter Fun: Lenape Life*

January

- Sun. Jan. 8** *Invasive Plant Removal Corps*
- Sun. Jan. 8** *Sunday Wildflower Botany Walk*
- Sun. Jan. 8** *Close-Up Encounters: Discovering Nature through the Macro Lens*
- Mon. Jan. 9** *Watercolor Studio (first session)*
- Tue. Jan. 10** *Garden Sprouts: Winter Garden Colors*
- Thu. Jan. 12** *Tiny Trackers: Staying Warm*
- Sat. Jan. 14** *Family Program: Night Hike*
- Mon. Jan. 16** *School Holiday Mini-Camp: Winter Coats*
- Tue. Jan. 17** *Birding Trip: Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge*
- Sat. Jan. 21** *Family Program: Homemade Bird Feeders*
- Mon. Jan. 23** *Teeny Tiny Trackers: Who Lives Here?*
- Tue. Jan. 24** *Garden Sprouts: Kitchen Gardening*
- Sat. Jan. 28** *Winter Pruning Workshop*

February

- Sat. Feb. 4** *Family Program: Maple Sugaring Exploration*
- Sun. Feb. 5** *Close-Up Encounters: Discovering Nature through the Macro Lens*
- Tue. Feb. 7** *Garden Sprouts: Plants Helping Animals*
- Sat. Feb. 11** *Gourd Crafting Workshop*
- Sat. Feb. 11** *Family Program: Maple Sugaring Exploration*
- Sat. Feb. 11** *Family Program: Night Hike*
- Sun. Feb. 12** *Invasive Plant Removal Corps*
- Sun. Feb. 12** *Sunday Wildflower Botany Walk*
- Mon. Feb. 13** *Teeny Tiny Trackers: Winter Clothes*
- Thu. Feb. 16** *Cape Henlopen Area Birding Field Trip*
- Thu. Feb. 16** *Tiny Trackers: Squirrely Squirrels*
- Fri. Feb. 17** *Owl Prowl*
- Sat. Feb. 18** *Tool Sharpening Workshop*
- Sat. Feb. 18** *Family Program: Owl Prowl*
- Mon. Feb. 20** *School Holiday Mini-Camp: Maple Sugaring*
- Tue. Feb. 21** *Garden Sprouts: Flowers in Winter*
- Sat. Feb. 25** *Special Event: Pancake Breakfast and Maple Sugaring Celebration*

Join our Email List

If you haven't been receiving our monthly e-newsletter and other timely email updates, sign up by visiting www.tylerarboretum.org/member-email.htm

Go green with Tyler! You can also use the online sign-up form to choose email delivery for the Tyler Topics newsletter. This new service will likely begin with the Summer 2012 issue.

Save-the-Date

- Thu. Mar. 1** **Volunteer Open House**
- Tue. Mar. 13, 20, 27** **Volunteer Field Trip Leader Training**

Group Programs

Scout and Youth Group Programs

Tyler Arboretum has year-round programming for Girl and Boy Scouts that fulfills badge and Try-it requirements. For more information and to register, visit www.tylerarboretum.org/educational-programs or call 610-566-9134 x202.

Home School Programs

Bring your home school group to the Arboretum. Our plants, meadows, and streams offer numerous hands-on learning opportunities. In addition to programs developed for traditional schools

(see www.tylerarboretum.org/educational-programs), we can create customized programs to meet your needs. Call 610-566-9134 x202 for more information and registration.

Eco Birthday Parties

Bring your budding naturalist for a memorable celebration at the Arboretum. Surrounded by sights and sounds of nature, your child's special day will be one of exploration, discovery, and fun. Visit www.tylerarboretum.org/weddings-rentals or call 610-566-9134 x202 for reservations and more information.



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Program Registration

Pre-registration is required for all programs unless otherwise indicated. A full refund will be given if the Arboretum must cancel or reschedule a program due to inadequate enrollment, instructor illness or inclement weather. We will make every reasonable attempt to notify you by telephone if a program is cancelled.

A \$3.00 administrative fee will be charged for any cancellation you initiate. A full refund, less the administrative fee, will be given with a minimum notice of two weeks. A 50% refund will be given with a minimum notice of one week. NO REFUNDS will be given with less than one week's notice.

There are four ways to register: (1) Mail: Tyler Arboretum, 515 Painter Road, Media, PA 19063-4424 (3) Fax: (610) 891-1490, Attn: Registrar
 (2) Phone: (610)566-9134, x215 (4) Email: jlandau@tylerarboretum.org

Name (adult/caregiver for children under 18) Member: Individual Household/Steward Non-member

Name of Child (for children's programs) Child's Date of Birth

Address City State Zip + 4

Day Telephone Evening Telephone Cell Phone

Email Address

Method of payment: VISA MasterCard Check (Please make checks payable to Tyler Arboretum)

Card Number Expiration Date V-code (3 digit code on reverse of card)

Cardholder's Signature

Registrant's Name	Program Title/Time or Session	Fee
		Total

Family Fun: Nature in Winter

Don't let the cold temperatures keep you indoors. There are lots of fun things to do outside at the Arboretum or in your own backyard!

Take a break from TV, video games and the internet and get some exercise while having a great time together. Fresh air and exercise are great ways to improve everyone's mood. Here are some ideas from our Education staff members.

Winter Scavenger Hunt

Create a list of items that can be found on a Winter Nature Trek. Bring a digital camera to take photos of the items on the list, since many cannot be collected as in a traditional scavenger hunt. Possibilities include:

- Pine cones
- Holes dug by groundhogs or other animals
- Old squirrel nests in the tree tops
- Evergreen leaves or needles (rhododendron, holly, yew, hemlock, pine, spruce or fir)
- Winter birds (chickadee, cardinal, nuthatch)
- Acorns or other nut debris from squirrels
- Berries (on hollies, crabapples, junipers)

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MEET LEARN ENJOY HELP LEND-A-HAND

Meet new friends, learn new things, have fun, and help a great organization.

Contact Judy Bell, Volunteer Coordinator, at 610-566-9134, ext. 205 or jbelle@tylerarboretum.org

Keep an eye on our website www.tylerarboretum.org for the most up-to-date information.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST AND MAPLE SUGARING CELEBRATION

– If you haven't volunteered for this annual event, you don't know what you are missing. It is a fun team effort to help feed hundreds of eager visitors. Lend a hand with cooking, serving, or keeping the dining rooms clean and organized—and enjoy a delicious breakfast! *When: Saturday morning, February 25*

INVASIVE PLANT REMOVAL CORPS – Winter is a great time to remove invasive plants—without a lot of surrounding growth, they are easier

to get to. Join Dick Cloud's crew to help remove invasive plants from our meadows and woodlands so that our wildflowers and native plants can survive. *When: Sundays, December 11, January 8, and February 12, 9:30 am – noon.*

SCHOOL PROGRAM GUIDES – Nearly 7,000 children attend school field trips at the Arboretum each year. Guided by a dedicated team of staff and volunteers, they use the Arboretum as their textbook to learn about our birds, plants, animals, and insects with hands-on nature experiences. If you love kids and



learning new things, this is the perfect fit for you. Training is provided and no previous experience is necessary. *Training program: Tuesdays, March 13, 20, and 27, 10:00 am – noon*

Connecting People to Nature: Tyler Needs Your Help

Tyler Arboretum Annual Fund 2011

Tyler Arboretum offers visitors the opportunity to unplug and connect to nature. Exhibits and events give flight to the imagination and inspire stewards of our precious environment. Tyler's 650 acres of natural lands and gardens offer peaceful sanctuary from busy lives and ever-progressing land development.

The Annual Fund is a vital part of making nature accessible to all who come to Tyler—children, families, naturalists, hikers, and plant enthusiasts. Read on to learn about a few ways that your gift can make a difference in our outreach and impact.

What is Tyler's Annual Fund?

- Donations raised each year for day-to-day activities of the Arboretum, benefitting every visitor and member
- Your gifts support priorities: advancing environmental and plant education; preserving trees, green space, and historic buildings; and stimulating action on behalf of our living world

In 2010, gifts to Tyler's Annual Fund:

- Expanded participation in children's summer camps and field trips by 7% to address "nature deficit disorder" and enhance limited school resources
- Increased membership benefits and event offerings
- Maximized volunteer capacity with more supervision, training, and equipment
- Maintained and improved trails, natural lands, and historic plant collections in the North Woods and the Wister Rhododendron Garden, making them more accessible to all
- Provided more opportunities for families to connect to nature together through our *Totally Terrific Treehouses* and *Nature's Enchantment* exhibits

As a Tyler member, you already support Tyler's outreach and we thank you. To expand access and connections to nature and meet our \$100,000 goal, we ask you to support the Tyler Annual Fund by December 31, 2011.



Top left: In 2010, we expanded summer nature camps from 6 to 8 weeks, giving 41 more children the benefit of a total immersion nature experience.

Top right: Tyler's 569 volunteers contributed 10,191 hours in 2010, the equivalent of five full-time staff. Their time, valued at \$209,000, provides a significant boost to our operating capacity while enlivening the Tyler team spirit.

Bottom: New reciprocal membership programs, email communications, and member events like the Ice Cream Social are some of the ways we enhanced member benefits in 2010.

ADVANCEMENT

Many Thanks to our Generous Friends, Sponsors and Donors

Gifts Received July 1 – August 31, 2011

\$2,500-\$4,999

John E. & Patty Colburn
Drew & Paula Schmidt
Victoria K. Will & Michael Kowalski

\$1,000-\$2,499

Robert Kunz & Annette Richter
Aralisha & Rob Newbold*

\$500-\$999

Alliance Bank*
American Rhododendron Society,
Lehigh Valley Chapter
Michelle Cooke

\$250-\$499

Norman F. Ford

**Reflect donations to the 2011 Tyler at
Twilight Silent & Live Auctions*

*Please note: This list reflects donations of \$250 and up, received 7/1/11 – 8/31/11.
A complete list of donations will be published in Tyler's 2011 Annual Report. For
questions, please contact the Development Manager at 610-566-9134 x267.*

Circle of Friends

New and renewing Circle of Friends Members, July 1 – August 31, 2011

Circle of Friends are members who contribute at a higher level, providing essential support to the sustainability and conservation of Tyler's 650 acres of open space, diverse ecosystems, and historic collections.

Friends ~ \$300

George J. Kenis

Stewards

New and renewing Steward Members, July 1 – August 31, 2011

Our newest membership level, **Steward**, offers a chance for nature and art lovers to show their support for the Arboretum and contribute to the preservation of its legacy. Contributors at the Steward level (\$150) and above receive privileges through the North American Reciprocal Museum (NARM) program, gaining access to hundreds of museums around the country.

J. Earl Coffman
Aldys C. Davis
Ralph C. Eagle

David Kane
James R. Kremmel
Thomas Ludlow

William Poteau
Richard L. Scheff
John Shafer

Jamie Smith
David A. Stitely
Douglas Wallace

If you would like information about upgrading your membership and becoming a Circle of Friends or Steward Member, please contact the Development Manager at 610-566-9134 x267.

New Member Benefit

"Explore and Save" at Brandywine Valley attractions

Show your Tyler Arboretum membership card and save \$2 on general adult admission at the following local attractions:

- Brandywine River Museum
- Brandywine Zoo
- The Chester County Historical Society
- Delaware Art Museum

- Delaware Children's Museum
- Delaware Museum of Natural History
- Hagley Museum and Library
- Longwood Gardens

This new benefit was created to enhance your membership experience and promote visitation

to many of the Brandywine Valley's cultural treasures. There's something for everyone to enjoy!

Some restrictions apply. For more information, visit the Explore and Save website at <http://www.longwoodgardens.org/exploreandsave.html>

Family Fun: Nature in Winter *continued from page 13*

- Chew marks on twigs or branches
- Feathers
- Different kinds of bark, moss or lichens
- Various kind of buds (fuzzy, round, pointy)
- Ice and water features (frost, puddles, streams, icicles)

Animal Tracks Investigation

Although it may appear that nothing is moving in the winter landscape, snow-covered ground reveals that lots of critters are still out and about. After a fresh snow, be sure to get out early to look for tracks. Birds and squirrels are common in neighborhoods. Fox, field mice, or raccoons are common at the Arboretum. And of course, outside the fence, deer tracks are numerous. It is fun to play detective and investigate who has been there before you. Bring a book of tracks or take photos to look up at home.

Fun with Snow

Spend some time really appreciating the beauty of snow flakes. Put a dark plate or piece of glass outside to chill. While the snow is falling, catch a few snowflakes on the chilled plate and look at them through a magnifying

glass before they melt. See how many different patterns you can see. Many digital cameras can capture great close-ups—take photos to document your discoveries, and maybe even use them to create custom cards or other art projects.

Snowmen are classic but you don't need to be bound by tradition. Think of other figures: snow kids or pets, castles, or other sculptures. Make an entire village of mini snow people and add streets, houses, and other buildings. (Maybe even a fairy house or gnome home in memory of summer adventures at Tyler's *Magical Habitats*.) Think ahead and have some choice accessories ready to complete the look of your creations.

Be Prepared!

No matter what you choose to do, it pays to be prepared. To ensure a good time, dress in layers and make sure you have hats and mittens. Bring a backpack with a snack and thermos of hot cocoa for a yummy treat. Or, if the day is sunny and still, enjoy a winter picnic with a blanket to sit on and some hot soup and warm cookies.

Don't Miss This Winter Tyler Tradition!



Pancake Breakfast & Maple Sugaring Celebration

Saturday, February 25

8:00 am – 1:00 pm

Snow date: Saturday, March 3

Discover how sap is turned into syrup during ongoing tours and demonstrations of the maple sugaring process. Then, enjoy an all-you-can-eat pancake and sausage breakfast in Tyler's historic Barn.

**Adults: \$11, Children (ages 3-12): \$6,
Under 3 FREE**

Hours

Oct. 31 – Mar. 4, 2012
Mon – Fri 9am – 4pm
Sat & Sun 9am – 5pm

Mar. 5 – May 13
Mon – Fri 9am – 5pm
Sat & Sun 9am – 6pm

Information: 610-566-9134 • www.tylerarboretum.org

Admission

Adults \$9
Seniors (65 and up) \$8
Youths (Ages 3-15) \$5
Children under Age 3 Free