

Living Collection Statistics

The Arboretum continues to increase the scientific value and genetic diversity of its living collection through the acquisition of seeds, plants, and cuttings from a variety of sources.

The living collection (as of 11/11/2013) contains 1550 taxa representing plants from 119 families and 345 genera. These numbers reflect 188 new accessions (2013) of seeds, plants, and cuttings of which 57% are of documented wild origin.

Noteworthy among the 2013 accessions are wild-collected seeds of several North American, Japanese, and Chinese *Rhododendron*; the Taiwanese *Fagus hayatae*; *Enkianthus serrulatus*; *Mahonia eurybracteata* and *M. gracilipes*; *Corylopsis multiflora*, and the recently described *×Gordlinia grandiflora*.



Rhododendron prunifolium 'Hohman'



This year 226 plants were deaccessioned from the living collection. A powerful winter storm on February 8 & 9 blanketed PHA with 25cm of heavy, wet snow accompanied by strong winds of up to 98kph.

Good arboricultural management including pruning and the removal of weak, structurally unsound trees over the past several years greatly reduced the amount of damage to the living collection. Only four trees were damaged to the point of necessitating removal, of which the most significant loss was a large, old white mulberry (*Morus alba*) planted by Polly Hill's mother in the 1930s.

Sculpted snowdrifts – February 9, 2013

Following the full-scale curation in 2012 of the West Field by curator Tom Clark and collections management intern Jaime Morin, 82 plants were removed from this area of the Arboretum. These and other specimens in the collection were removed due to overcrowding, senescence, redundancy, poor health or were of little relevance to the mission of the PHA.

Crypt Gall Wasp

In 2012 staff at PHA and arborists across the Island became acutely aware of a significant infestation of crypt gall wasp (*Bassettia ceropteroides*) affecting black oak (*Quercus velutina*), one of six oaks native to the Martha's Vineyard. The Arboretum's living collection includes 65 accessioned specimens of this common oak. The PHA contracted the services of Bartlett Tree Experts to perform (on an experimental basis) insecticidal trunk injections to 11 of these trees to manage the pest and to determine the efficacy of such treatments.

On November 7, 2013, entomologist Dr. Joseph Elkinton and a graduate student of his, Monica Davis, visited the PHA to begin a study of this serious insect pest. PHA staff answered questions regarding the extent and severity of the infestation at the Arboretum and on the Island. The researchers and staff collected branch samples from infested trees that will help to establish details concerning the insect's life cycle, the way it interrupts the vascular system of the trees, and an idea of how long the insect has been present on the Island.

Dr. Elkinton is a professor of entomology in the Department of Environmental Conservation at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst where he conducts research on population dynamics and biological control of invasive forest insects.



Curation and Plant Records

During the spring and summer Tom Clark and collections management intern Emily Ellingson (left) completed curation of the Upper Camellia Border, Arboretum Field, and Nursery Field. The project involved reconciling PHA's plant records database with what actually exists in these areas of the collection; assessing the condition of each specimen; updating the database with observations; and creating a management plan for these areas.

This curatorial review was similar to projects carried out over the past 3 years. This assessment is a cornerstone project of each collections management internship. The results inform better management practices of the living collection, future developments in these areas, and decisions to deaccession plants.

Ms. Ellingson was also involved with verifying plants in the collection and creating voucher specimens for the PHA herbarium. The verification of the entire living collection is an on-going project that results in a more valuable collection (both living and pressed) and is an important aspect of curation.

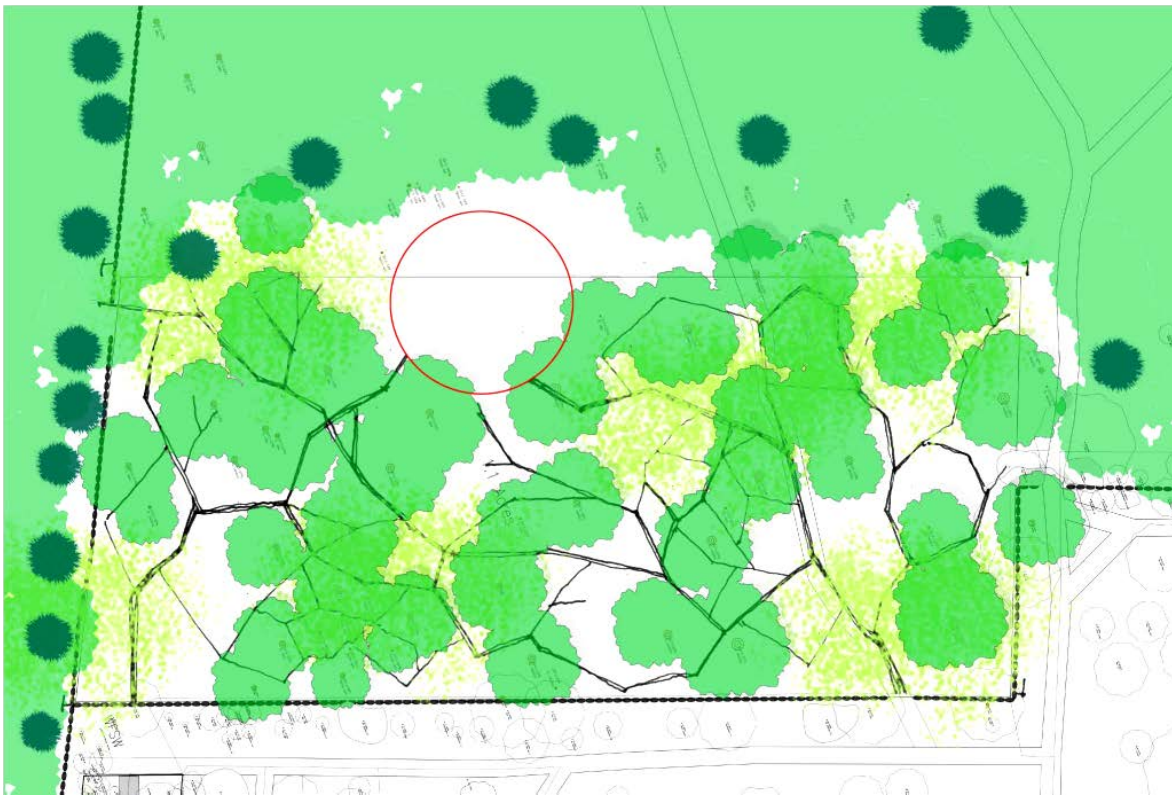
Collections Expansion Garden

During 2013 further progress was made on the development of the Collections Expansion Garden. Work continued on the clearing of undesirable understory vegetation and the removal of many dead, unhealthy, hazardous, and undesirable trees.

On March 5 Jason Siebenmorgen, Senior Associate with Michael Van Valkenburgh Associates (MVVA), came to PHA to discuss plans for the garden. Mr. Siebenmorgen met with Tim Boland and Tom Clark to discuss the project and to establish design goals. On March 31 desirable trees in the new garden area were accessioned, surveyed, mapped, and labeled; the existing canopy (primarily oaks) will initially form the structural basis of the garden.

On June 13 Tim Boland travelled to the Brooklyn office of MVVA to review the early concept drawings for the project. Mr. Siebenmorgen and Mr. Van Valkenburgh visited PHA on September 5 to discuss the preliminary design for the site and give a presentation to PHA staff.

A more formal presentation was made to the PHA Board of Directors at the October 12 board meeting followed by a tour of the site. The presentation was enthusiastically received and all present were excited about the project. Mr. Van Valkenburgh is a prominent landscape architect who developed the PHA's master site plan, and has a longstanding association with and fondness for the PHA. Tree work and site preparations will continue through the coming winter.



Conceptual design of Collections Expansion Garden (MVVA)

Collections Staff and Interns

On March 18, Emily Ellingson began a nine-month collections management internship. She is a recent graduate of St. Olaf College in Minnesota with a bachelor's degree in biology with a concentration in environmental science. Her background and interest in public horticulture made her an ideal candidate for this internship. Emily will finish her tenure at the end of November. She looks forward to pursuing further education and a career in plant science and public horticulture.



Emily, Olivia, and Jen

The PHA summer internships continue to be an important facet of achieving the Arboretum's educational mission. In May we welcomed Olivia Meyer and Jen Rioux. Olivia is studying horticulture with a specialization in landscape design at Kansas State University. Jen is a junior at Smith College. All of our interns learned a great deal during their internships and look forward to continuing their careers in horticulture.

PHA Solar Initiative

The Arboretum considers energy conservation in every area of our operations from composting to recycling to building design. In 2009 we built the Littlefield Maintenance Building with a roofline designed to accommodate solar panels when funds became available. Last spring, thanks in part to funds raised through our annual spring appeal, the South Mountain Company of West Tisbury installed efficient panels.

Already this investment has begun to pay off producing 30 percent of the Arboretum's total electricity requirements. In addition, solar energy credits granted through a state-funded program will provide a rebate of \$2,860 per year for the first 8 years after installation. This rebate credit, combined with the savings for electricity costs, allows the project to pay for itself within 9 years.



Weather Station Installed



Through the generosity of a local donor, the PHA was able to install a weather station that will accurately record air temperature, precipitation, wind speed and direction and humidity. These data will inform decisions regarding the care and management of the living collection, and will be essential in the evaluation of plants in the years ahead. The data is available through the PHA web-site and will also serve as a resource to the Island community.

Thomas Clark, Curator

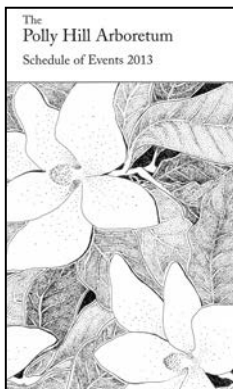
Membership

This year PHA membership has increased to 690 members. Most of our new members join at the Visitor Center during their visit. Many are first time visitors who come to purchase plants, take a tour, or attend an education program and decide they like what they see. Others join to receive free admission and member discounts on merchandise and programs. Other favorite member benefits include discounts at local nurseries and free admission and discounts at other gardens nationwide.



Our 15th anniversary celebration dinner turned out to be a fantastic event. This event was a casual picnic for our long-time members and supporters to celebrate 15 years as a public arboretum. The food, music, weather, and company could not have been better.

Adult Education



Our adult education programming, filled with tours, talks, and workshops, was very successful; most workshops sold out well in advance.

Programs for 2013 included herbal salve making, drawing from nature, botany of beer, backyard astronomy, camellia tour, and foraging and mushroom ID walks. We provided hands-on experiences in plant science through workshops on the ecology of ferns, four pruning workshops, and propagation of trees and shrubs from cuttings.

Evening lectures, sponsored by local nurseries, covered a variety of subjects, including groundcovers, trees in a changing climate, a talk on biophilia (people and nature), and the historic gardens of Thomas Jefferson's Monticello. The season ended with three programs on native plants and ecosystems: Sheila Brady shared her experiences designing the New York Botanic Gardens new Native Plant Garden, Theresa Sprague spoke on meadowscaping, and Rebecca McMackin discussed the development of the Brooklyn Bridge Park and native ecosystems represented there.



Garden Tours

Our second annual Martha's Vineyard Garden tour sold out well in advance and we made some nice connections with the garden owners who were all invited to join our group for lunch. We plan on offering another garden tour next summer and offer it twice during the season since it is also a successful fundraiser.

Youth Education

Our youth education program continues to grow. Teachers regard our programs as one of the best offered and we continue to work to make them better. New Massachusetts state curriculum guidelines are out, and our youth education staff is working to refine and develop new programs to address the required science standards for the grades we serve.



Future projects include potential collaboration with the Island Grown Schools program to offer teacher training and expanded programming to higher grade levels. We serve over 550 students each fall and spring.

Visitor Center



Our Visitor Center, staffed by volunteers, serves to welcome and orient visitors and is also our gift shop/plant sales center. It is also an ideal place to offer interpretive educational exhibits. With this in mind, last winter, Nancy Weaver applied for and received an Institute of Museum and Library Services grant for a one-week workshop on designing interactive exhibits with live plants at The Huntington Library and Museum.

As a result Nancy and staff members developed three exhibits: Identifying Poison Ivy, (*Toxicodendron radicans*) and common look-alike plants, Massachusetts Prohibited Plants featuring Oriental Bittersweet, (*Celastrus orbiculatus*), and Counting Tree Rings. All were well received. We found that our visitors were engaged and interested in these exhibits.

Many could not identify poison ivy and were pleased to learn about it without suffering the consequences! The robust bittersweet vine drew attention to this species, and tree ring counting was by far the most popular with young and old alike.



Karin Stanley, Education, Membership and Outreach Coordinator

Plant Conservation and Scientific Inquiry

Herbarium Voucher Collections Continued



As we work on the *Flora of Martha's Vineyard*, plants must be discovered, identified, and collected for the creation of herbarium specimens. Work on the project continued this past summer with the assistance of professionally trained horticulturist Erin Hepfner. Erin (pictured left) worked previously at Mytoi, Chappaquiddick's Japanese-style garden owned and managed by the Trustees of the Reservations.

A quick study, Erin was trained by Tim Boland on the finer points of plant collecting. Since then she has made significant field collections in numerous Island habitats; many will be pressed, mounted, and labeled during the winter months. Additional collections have been made by PHA staff and volunteer Gregory Palermo.

Magnolia Society International 2013 Meeting

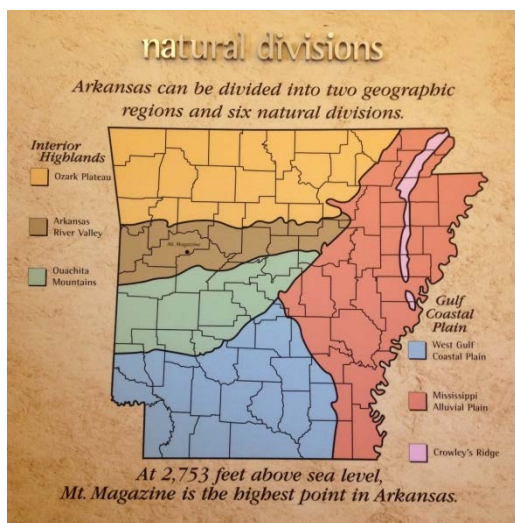
Tim Boland attended the annual meeting of the MSI this past spring in St. Louis, Missouri. The mission of the Magnolia Society International is to inform, educate, and inspire people, from backyard gardeners to botanists, to learn more about the cultivation, conservation, taxonomy, and propagation of magnolias. Tim serves on the board of the Magnolia Society as part of the nomination and plant conservation committees.



Magnolia sieboldii

Ozark Seed Expedition Planned

In late April Tim Boland travelled to Arkansas on a four-day scouting trip to observe the flora of the Ozark region. His group included Andrew Bunting, curator of the Scott Arboretum of Swarthmore College, and Greg Paige, curator, Bartlett Tree Research, Charlotte, North Carolina. The group set base camp at Magazine Mountain State Park which is surrounded by the Ozark National Forest. The unique geological history of the area has resulted in an exceptional rich flora comprised of oaks, hickories, and numerous species that would adapt well to the free-draining soils of Martha's Vineyard.



Future plans are being established for a 2014 seed-collecting trip to the area. The proposed trip is in collaboration with the Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University and the Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania.

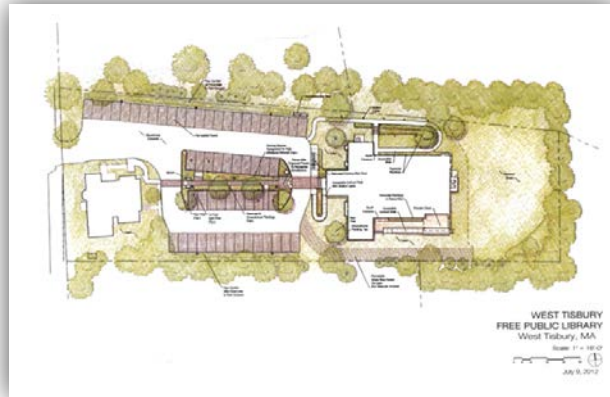
The geological diversity of Arkansas (left) results in a rich flora with many plants that would grow well in the PHA collections.

Arboretum Mission and Community Involvement

Now in our 15th year, the PHA has established itself as the resource for plant science information on Martha's Vineyard. Two projects described below exemplify our expertise in sharing with the Island community.

West Tisbury Library Expansion Landscape Project

Executive Director Tim Boland has been asked to assist with the design and landscape layout of the newly expanded West Tisbury Library. Serving on the landscape committee, Tim has been involved with plant selection for the environmentally friendly parking lot that captures rainwater and removes harmful pollutants before they reach the local watershed.



The Arboretum is also growing plants for the project for the east end of the property which is under conservation restriction and requires local native plants. Working with the Vineyard Habitat Network a meadow garden is planned which includes a trail, benches for sitting, and interpretive signage.

The Arboretum and West Tisbury Library Foundation received a \$5,500 Edey Foundation grant in support of interpretive signage throughout the landscape.

Master Plant List Under Development for the Martha's Vineyard Commission

Erin is also continuing work on a master plant list for the Martha's Vineyard Commission. The Commission approved funding to cover Erin's work.

Scientific Plant Name	Cult. Available	Landscape Use / Cultural Comments	Common Plant Name	Plant Type	Height	Spreads	Light Requirement	Moisture
<i>Abelia x grandiflora</i>	+	wildlife, fall color, flowers, fragrant	Glossy abelia	intermediate deciduous shrub	3-10'	3-12'	sun, part sun	moderate
<i>Abeliophyllum distichum</i>		early flowers, fragrant, hedge	Korean abelialeaf	low deciduous shrub	3-5'	3-4'	sun	moderate
<i>Abies balsamea</i>	+	screenbuffer, wildlife, winter interest	Balsam fir	large evergreen tree	40-70'	20-25'	sun	moderate
<i>Abies concolor</i>	+	screenbuffer, form, wildlife, winter interest	White fir	large evergreen tree	30-50'	15-20'	sun, part sun	moderate, dry
<i>Abies fraseri</i>	+	screenbuffer, winter interest	Fraser fir	intermediate evergreen tree	30-40'	20-25'	sun	moderate
<i>Abies koreana</i>	+	screenbuffer, form, windbreak, winter interest	Korean fir	small evergreen tree	25'	10'	sun	moderate
<i>Abies nordmanniana</i>	+	screenbuffer, form, winter interest	Caucasian fir	large evergreen tree	40-60'	15-20'	sun	moderate
<i>Abies pinsapo</i>	+	screenbuffer, form, windbreak, winter interest	Spanish fir	large evergreen tree	50-75'	15-30'	sun, part sun	moderate
<i>Acer buergerianum</i>	+	street, urban, bark, fall color	Tsindent maple	small deciduous tree	25-35'	15-25'	sun, part sun	moderate, dry
<i>Acer campestre</i>	+	street, urban, fall color	Hedge maple	intermediate deciduous tree	25-35'	25-35'	sun, part sun	moderate
<i>Acer capillipes</i>		bark, fall color, street, urban	Snakebark maple	intermediate deciduous tree	30'	30'	sun, part sun	moderate
<i>Acer circinnatum</i>	+	bark, fall color, form, wildlife	Vine maple	small deciduous tree	15'	20'	sun, part sun, shade	moderate

Plants selected for the list include native plants for sensitive Island habitats as well as Vineyard-appropriate plants that require minimal inputs of fertilizers or pesticides.

Ultimately this comprehensive list will be adopted as part of an Island-wide landscape policy. The policy will apply to all new projects

expected to be a Development of Regional Impact (DRI) based on their size, scope, and location. The list will also be of interest to anyone gardening or landscaping on the Island. The list will be available on our website in February this upcoming year.

PHA Appoints Matthew Lobdell New Research Associate



At the spring meeting the PHA Board appointed Matthew Lobdell to the role of research associate. Matt, a native of West Tisbury, began his association with the Arboretum in 2006 with a summer internship, and later became our first collections management intern.

Matt moved on to work as horticulturist for the Rose Fitzgerald Greenway Conservancy in Boston, before enrolling in a master's program at the University of Delaware to further his interest in plant science. He graduated with an M.S. degree this past spring. Currently he is employed as a research assistant at the Moore Farms Botanical Garden in Lake City, South Carolina.

Matt's thesis project at the University of Delaware produced a horticultural monograph of the genus *Styrax* (commonly called snowbells). Though few snowbells are in cultivation, there are an estimated 130 trees and shrubs in this ornamental genus. With Matt's guidance we hope to add more species to our plant collection.

Matt's fascination with magnolias led to a recent appointment by the Magnolia Society International as cultivar registration authority, a position Executive Director Tim Boland has held for the last 10 years.

A prolific writer, Matt's motorcycle travels take him on botanical journeys he records on his internet blog (subjectiveday.blogspot.com). From his blog bio, "I first gained an appreciation for botany and horticulture when taking an internship at the Polly Hill Arboretum in my hometown of West Tisbury, Massachusetts, in the summer of 2006. Since then, I've been working towards a career in public horticulture, specifically focusing in on botanic garden curation."

Tim welcomes Matt back, and adds, "I am pleased to have Matt continue his association with the Polly Hill Arboretum. I consider him homegrown, a serious plantsman dedicated to the study of plants and their cultivation."

Rhododendron Species Conservation Conference

In April, curator Tom Clark attended this international conference in Edinburgh, Scotland. Jointly hosted by the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh, the Rhododendron Species Conservation Group, and Botanic Gardens Conservation International, this two-day conference hosted a series of speakers from around the world and addressed the plight of many *Rhododendron* species in the wild, of which about 25 percent are threatened. The conference sought to connect conservation-minded individuals and institutions, to inform attendees of various conservation efforts around the world, to open a dialogue amongst the participants as a means of establishing priorities and developing an action plan based on the recently published *Red List of Rhododendrons*.

Timothy M. Boland, Executive Director

Arboretum Publications

"Leaves' True Colors Now on Display"

Martha's Vineyard Gazette, October 7, 2013

By Timothy M. Boland, Executive Director



Acer rubrum, Red Maple (photo- Alison L. Mead)

Staff Presentations/Classes

Amazing Oaks. Martha's Vineyard Center for Living. Supportive Day Program. Kelly House, The Anchors, Edgartown, Massachusetts. Timothy M. Boland, Executive Director. January 23, 2013.

Beach Plum: taming a wild native. Martha's Vineyard Garden Club. Timothy M. Boland, Executive Director. February 12, 2013.

Connecting Corridors: Healing Fragmented Landscapes with Native Plants. Ecological Landscape Association Conference. Springfield, Massachusetts. Timothy M. Boland, Executive Director. February 27, 2013.

Camellias and More. Tour of the PHA grounds highlighting camellias. The Polly Hill Arboretum. Nancy Weaver and Emily Ellingson. April 13, 2013.

Trees are The Answer: The History of Arbor Day in North America. First Congregational Church in West Tisbury, Massachusetts. Timothy M. Boland, Executive Director. April 14, 2013.

Basics of Pruning. The Polly Hill Arboretum. Lecture and demonstration of the tools, techniques, art and science of pruning. Ian Jochems. April 20, 2013.

The Story of the Polly Hill Arboretum. Connecticut Horticultural Society, Rocky Hill, Connecticut. Timothy M. Boland, Executive Director. May 9, 2013.

Know Your Arboretum. Timothy M. Boland, Thomas E. Clark, and Karin Stanley. Free lecture to membership outlining current programming and plans at the Arboretum. The Polly Hill Arboretum. June 5, 2013.

If Trees Could Talk. The Polly Hill Arboretum. Walking tour of PHA highlighting stories of plant exploration and discovery. Thomas E. Clark. June 11, 2013.

Staff Presentations/Classes continued:

Propagating Trees and Shrubs from Cuttings. The Polly Hill Arboretum. Hands-on workshop exploring the science and technique of propagating plants from softwood cuttings. Thomas E. Clark. June 22, 2013.

The West Tisbury Library Landscape. Donor information event. PHA Cowbarn. Timothy M. Boland, Executive Director. August 19, 2013.

After the Glaciers: Great Plants for the Terminal Moraine and Outwash Plain. Horticultural Alliance of the Hamptons, Bridgehampton, New York. Thomas E. Clark. September 7, 2013.

Connecting Corridors: Healing Fragmented Landscapes with Native Plants. Rhode Island Natural History Survey, Little Compton, Rhode Island. Timothy M. Boland, Executive Director. October 18, 2013.

Faith in a Seed. Collecting, processing, and growing native plants from seed. A workshop. The Audubon Society, Middletown, Rhode Island. Timothy M. Boland, Executive Director. October 19, 2013.

Rhododendron Species Conservation. American Rhododendron Society, Connecticut Chapter. Lecture. Thomas E. Clark. December 3, 2013.

Staff Tours

Shannon Tour Garden Visit – May 23, 2013

Westonbirt Arboretum Staff Visit – May 24, 2013

Angela Treadwell from Plants Nouveau Research Visit – May 20, 2013

Korean Peace Garden Visit – June 6, 2013

Barnstable Meeting House Farm Community Garden Visit – June 19, 2013

Jeff Sainsbury Garden Tour Visit – June 23, 2013

Arnold Arboretum Staff and Intern Picnic and Tour – August 7, 2013

Sierra Club Volunteers Tour – October 10, 2013

Board News

We are pleased to introduce five new members of the PHA Board of Directors: Prentice Bowsher, Sarah Griffin, Iya Labunka, Gary Montrowl, and Richard Reische.

Prentice Bowsher (right) and his wife, Sally, of Washington, DC, are longtime seasonal residents of Edgartown. Prentice, an accomplished writer, has experience in affordable housing and grassroots leadership training. "Even so," Prentice says, "I have had one foot in the garden most of my life." Several years ago he enrolled in the Master Gardener program through University of Maryland Extension. At the same time, the Arboretum was organizing its volunteer grounds crew. It was a rewarding match. Prentice adds, "I'm now looking forward to contributing my volunteer energy to the PHA Board."



Sarah Griffin (left) has been summering on the Vineyard for over 30 years. In 2007 she and her husband, Gerard Griffin, purchased a summer home on West Chop in Vineyard Haven. With this investment Sarah feels the imperative to engage with the Island community. She plans to do everything she can to foster PHA's research, education, and outreach programs. When not on the Vineyard, Sarah lives and works in London.

Iya Labunka (right) is a film producer who has been a Vineyard summer resident since the early 1990s. Based in Los Angeles with her husband, Wes Craven, the couple has recently completed the construction of a home at Seven Gates Farm in Chilmark (coincidentally on land once owned by Polly and Julian Hill!). Iya has an active interest in the environment and a devotion to trees. Delighted to advocate for the Arboretum, she feels PHA is a community resource that deserves wider support.



Gary Montrowl (left) and his wife, Dionis (Dinny), retired to the Island after working all over the world for the Central Intelligence Agency. Gary has a long-time connection to the Arboretum through Dinny. Her parents, Bill and Ann Fielder, were long-time friends of Polly and Julian Hill. After settling in West Tisbury in 2006, it was only natural that Gary and Dinny would come back to the Arboretum to volunteer. Since then they have been loyal members of the volunteer grounds crew. Gary has worked on many projects including rebuilding the bower with black locust from his own woodlot.

Over the years Gary became increasingly interested in our work. Now he has taken the next step and accepted a position on our Board. A wonderful advocate in the community, Gary is often talking up our plants and our programs. He calls the Arboretum a "natural treasure" and a "precious resource."

Gary adds, "It is an honor to be invited to serve as a member of PHA's Board of Directors. I hope to draw upon my professional experiences to broaden my contribution to the Arboretum's evolving vision and promote greater awareness of the Arboretum as a resource within the Island community." We look forward to working with Gary on this new level.



Richard (Dick) Reische (left) also came to the Arboretum through his wife. Diana Reische has been a friendly, reliable, and effective Visitor Center volunteer for almost 15 years. Together with Diana he has walked the grounds, attended talks, toured gardens, and enjoyed our annual volunteer party. In 2011 he got to know us better when he and Diana were participants in our tour of the gardens of the Delaware Valley, and again in 2012 when they joined our Belgium garden tour. The more he learned about PHA, the more enthusiastic he became. Dick was delighted to accept an invitation to join the PHA Board of Directors.

He brings with him a strong financial background. Employed by Smith Barney for 31 years, he is currently an independent registered investment advisor. His investment experience working with institutions and non-profit organizations will be a valuable resource. Dick notes, "Diana and I are strong supporters of Polly Hill for the programs, the volunteer opportunities, and for all the beautiful plant life throughout the year. The dedicated staff runs it all very smoothly and effectively. It is a pleasure to be included."

Philippe de Spoelberch Named Honorary Board Member

At the summer board meeting Philippe de Spoelberch was unanimously approved as an honorary member of the PHA Board. Introduced to the Board by director emeritus Stephen Spongberg, Philippe's tenure as a Board Member was influential. Through his dedicated and supportive interest, the Arboretum has made tremendous progress.

Philippe, an astute advisor, was closely involved in the Arboretum's landscape master planning and professional curatorial reviews. His pragmatic observations shaped many of our landscape developments. Philippe also brought valuable insights to collections management. He supported efforts to advance our labeling, mapping, and software programs, and has been a collaborator on our international seed expeditions.



"Philippe's friendship, counsel, and support during our formative years led to professional management practices that have made all the difference," says Executive Director Tim Boland. "He has extensive knowledge about plants in their natural habitats and tremendous experience in cultivating plants from seeds. Philippe is a plantsman to the fullest extent of the word."

Philippe became acquainted with Polly Hill over a mutual interest in *stewartia*; the PHA archives contain delightful letters between them. He has watched the Arboretum grow from Polly's private garden to a public garden with an internationally recognized scientific collection, while doing the same in his home country.



Steve Spongberg, Polly Hill and Philippe (1996)

Philippe's development of his family property in Belgium has resulted in one of the finest collections of temperate woody plants in the world. Recently opened to the public, Arboretum Wespelaar (www.arboretumwespelaar.be) contains an incredible diversity of trees, many collected by Philippe on his international travels.



He has also introduced several outstanding plants to horticulture and continues to work on new introductions. Some of these new cultivars are now arriving in the United States.

The PHA is particularly excited to grow his yellow-flowered magnolia hybrids.

Philippe with his plant introduction *Magnolia* 'Daphne' at Arboretum Wespelaar. (2010)

'Daphne' in flower (right)



Philippe has promised to remain interested and attentive to PHA's continued growth. Tim adds, "Our arboreta have grown through friendship and cooperation. We look forward to sharing ideas, seed, and research with Philippe and Arboretum Wespelaar in the years ahead."

Magnolia 'Daphne' at the Polly Hill Arboretum
2012-36A. Arboretum, Northfield West



**THE CORPORATION AND BOARD OF
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Karin Stanley
Education, Membership & Outreach Coordinator
Nancy Weaver
Volunteer Coordinator & Plant Recorder



American beech - *Fagus grandifolia*

The mission of the Polly Hill Arboretum is to perpetuate the experimental tradition in horticulture established by Polly Hill by sharing knowledge of plants and scientific procedure through educational programs, research, plant conservation, and exploration. The Arboretum seeks to preserve its meadows and woodlands, to promote an understanding of its collections, and to encourage their utilization for scholarship, observation, and the enjoyment of all.