



TWINLEAF NEWSLETTER



Propagation volunteers potting seedlings in the Native Plant Nursery greenhouse include (from left) Terry Layton, Rob Barrett, Carol Graham-Toland, Sandra Escala, Marty Kalbach and Chris Brookes.

A Big Thanks to Our Remarkable BHWP Volunteers

Our annual Volunteer Recognition Brunch, held Nov. 16 at Thompson Memorial Church, celebrated and thanked our nearly 200 dedicated volunteers who donated more than 11,000 total hours—or more than 275 work weeks—to the Preserve last year.

"We are so grateful for all that our volunteers do, and all that they help us accomplish..."

During 2019, some of our volunteers' accomplishments included: working on Aquetong Meadow; creating a digital map that will be useful for staff, volunteers and the public; raising over \$120,000 at our 2019 Gala to help diversify the Preserve's living collection; helping to minimize deer browsing impacts; installing new signs throughout the Preserve; leading more than 200 tours and programs; providing service to our many visitors; maintaining our display gardens; and stocking the nursery sales floor and caring for our plants.

"We are so grateful for all that our volunteers do, and all that they help us accomplish," says Regina Moriarty, BHWP volunteer coordinator. "They touch every aspect of the Preserve, and we simply could not do what we do without them."

RECOGNIZING OUR 2019 TOP VOLUNTEERS BY HOURS

Volunteers who donated over 150 hours (listed alphabetically):

Jean Barrell, Bruce Beans, Dot Gaboda, Leah Hight, Carl Homnick, Dave Horne, Joan Jenks, Dolores Labrum, Terri Layton and Rob Wood.

Volunteers with 100-150 hours:

Chris Brookes, Jeff Buckwalter, Barbara Gross, Lynn Holzner, Marty Kalbach, Margie Rutbell, Mary Ellen Sibley, Mary Anne Zupcek and Joanne Zuckerman.

Volunteers with 50-100 Hours:

Blanche Anderson, Rick Anderson, Jim Bray, Ed Carpenito, Arlo Eby, Sandra Escala, Bill Gaboda, Andrea Glang, Margie Golen,

Reed Goossen, Judy Hallberg, Juanita Hummel, Sue Hurst, Joyce Koch, Erika Kolecki, Carolyn Krickus, Rose Meyers, Sally Mirick, Jim Newbold, Phyllis Rosenbaum, Barbara Sheinmel, Valerie Szkodny, Art Venezia, Nancy Wasch and Barbara Zarret.

The Volunteer Recognition Brunch was made possible with the support of many friends and sponsors within the community. Special thanks to Brandywine Conservancy & Museum of Art, BucksMont Party Rentals, Colonial Farms Gourmet Foods, Clean Roots Vegetarian Cuisine, Crossing Vineyards & Winery, Longwood Gardens, McCaffrey's Markets, Mt. Cuba, Newtown Theater, Owowcow Creamery, Riverside Symphonia, Rojo's Roastery, Triumph Brewing Company, Tyler Arboretum, Trader Joe's and Turning Point Restaurant.

By sharing their time and talents with us, our volunteers contributed to a successful 2019 and we look forward to another productive and exciting year in 2020.



**Bowman's Hill
Wildflower
Preserve**

Twinleaf Newsletter

Bowman's Hill Wildflower Preserve
PO Box 685
1635 River Road
New Hope, PA 18938-0685

Phone: 215.862.2924
Fax: 215.862.1846
Website: bhwp.org
Email: bhwp@bhwp.org

The Preserve is located 2 ½ miles south of New Hope, Pennsylvania, at 1635 River Road (Route 32). Open year-round.

Visitor Center and Twinleaf Book & Gift Shop

Open Monday, April through June, 9 am – 5 pm
Open Tuesday through Sunday, 9 am – 5 pm
Open Memorial Day and Labor Day
Closed Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Eve through New Year's Day.

Admission

Preserve Members: FREE
Non-Members: Nominal fees

Staff

Marilyn Can, Visitor Service Associate
Susannah Coleman, Interim Executive Director
Donna Dahringer, Native Plant Nursery Manager
Rick Fonda, Grounds Manager
Rich Gallagher, Facilities & Maintenance Coordinator
Lisa Garvey, Twinleaf Shop Assistant
Susan Harrington, Business Manager
Jason Ksepka, Curator
Laurie Lanning, Visitor Services Coordinator
Santino Lauricella, Adult and Professional Program Coordinator
Regina Moriarty, Volunteer Coordinator
Sue Owens, Bookkeeper
Maggie Strucker, Interpretive Coordinator
Kellie A. Westervelt, Development Director

Mission

Bowman's Hill Wildflower Preserve inspires the appreciation and use of native plants by serving as a sanctuary and an educational resource for conservation and stewardship.

Bowman's Hill Wildflower Preserve is managed by the nonprofit Bowman's Hill Wildflower Preserve Association, Inc., in cooperation with the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling 1.800.732.0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.



Virginia bluebells (*Mertensia virginica*)

Interim Director's Message

As the only accredited botanical museum in the country dedicated to native plants, Bowman's Hill Wildflower Preserve is a sanctuary for many and an educational resource for all. Arriving at the Preserve in January, I have been privileged to get to know this natural treasure and quiet gem of Bucks County one day at a time.



At first, the cold winter days were both stinging and exhilarating as the beauty and stillness of the Preserve awakened feelings of the sublime. Walking the trails, the bare trees revealed the north-facing diabase ridge of Bowman's Hill and the only sounds were the wind in the top branches, the occasional trickle of a half-frozen swale and, rounding a corner, the rush of Pidcock Creek.

As the sun rose earlier and set later, on warmer February days the sap began rising in the maple trees and skunk cabbage began pushing upwards. This month, they are joined by the first signs of our earliest spring ephemerals—bloodroot, Virginia bluebells and Dutchman's breeches—heralding the arrival of the Preserve's stunning spring display.

With spring's arrival, we also are eagerly looking forward to two wonderful events:

- **Opening weekend of our Native Plant Nursery, April 18-19:** This year's stock of native plants will satisfy even the most seasoned botanist, with plenty of help from staff and volunteers available for those just starting out with native gardening.
- **Our 17th annual Spring Wildflower Gala on Saturday, April 25:** This yearly black-tie-and-muck-boots event is a different kind of celebration of spring. Proceeds will support programming for children and families, who are our next generation of advocates and supporters for the Preserve. If you haven't already done so, please buy your tickets soon; space is limited and this signature event sells out quickly!

The Preserve is a vibrant resource for all, and I am grateful to serve as your interim executive director. If I can be of assistance, please don't hesitate to contact me at the Preserve at 215.862.2924 or at susannah.coleman@bhwp.org.

Susannah Coleman
Interim Executive Director



**Bowman's Hill
Wildflower
Preserve**



Curator's Notebook

The Preserve's Role in Restoring the Rare Indian Paintbrush Wildflower

Indian paintbrush (*Castilleja coccinea*) is a very rare plant that was once widespread in the northeastern U.S. Featuring beautiful red cup-like bracts, this interesting plant is a hemi-parasite that gets some of its nutrients by parasitizing neighboring plants, particularly perennial grasses, in order to bloom and produce seed.

Last year, I was able to act on information about an undisclosed Bucks County site that had achieved mythical status among local plant enthusiasts because it was rumored to have Indian paintbrush still growing there. Initially, however, I could not find anyone who would admit to knowing the actual location. But then, thanks to information provided by a close friend, I learned of the specific location and visited the homeowner.

She was ecstatic that I was interested in her Indian paintbrush wildflowers. Steve Covacci, the friend who told me about the location, then reached out to researchers Claude dePamphilis, Uma Venkatesh and Sarah Chamberlain of the Penn State (PAC) Herbarium. They quickly organized some researchers and interested folks, including me, to form a working group.

Last summer, we began studying this site to understand the ecology, population genetics and other parameters in order to actively manage and improve the population of the plant. More importantly, the site will be managed to produce more seeds that can be reintroduced at other sites with historical Indian paintbrush records—once the proper conditions have been restored at those sites.

As BHWP's curator, I am lending my expertise to help with surveys and management of the plants. Also, if conditions in our new Aquetong Meadow are determined to be ideal, the Preserve will eventually become both a reintroduction showcase site and another seed production source.

Even if we find that conditions here are not adequate, I will continue to help with the management and restoration of off-site populations in eastern Pennsylvania and northern New Jersey.

—Jason Ksepka, Curator



Indian paintbrush (*Castilleja coccinea*)

Recommended from the Twinleaf Book & Gift Shop

NEW BIRD'S EYE VIEW UV LIGHT-REFRACTING WINDOW STICKERS



It is estimated that nearly a billion birds die annually in the U.S. from colliding with windows. The solution: a new product embedded in stickers that emits light in the light spectrum where bird vision is sensitive but human vision is not. This allows birds to differentiate reflections in windows from actual habitat—while remaining aesthetically pleasing to people. Unlike many such products, these stickers work well on the inside of windows. Bird's Eye View stickers are available at the shop in 4-inch clear, 4-inch color and 6-inch clear versions.

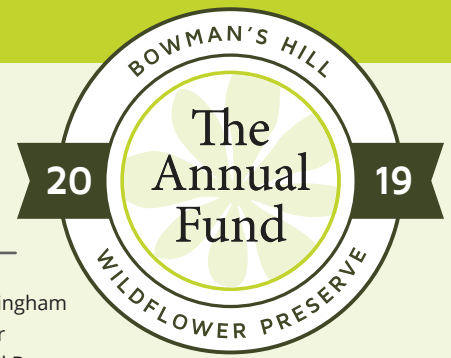
"THE MAGICAL WORLD OF MOSS GARDENING" BY ANNIE MARTIN

This highly visual book reveals the secrets behind gardening with bryophytes. It includes basic information on gardening with moss, tips on using moss in garden design and profiles of enchanting moss gardens across the country.

Stop by the shop to see an array of nature-themed gifts, clothing, novelties and books. Members always enjoy a 10% discount on regular purchases. Every purchase from the Twinleaf Book & Gift Shop supports the mission and efforts of the Preserve.



Bowman's Hill Wildflower Preserve Gratefully Thanks Our 2019 Annual Fund Donors



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 level and above are listed
 on the donor board in our
 Visitor Center Auditorium.
 Thank you for your support!*

Program Highlights: April – August 2020

The Preserve offers learning opportunities for all ages to enjoy. See the complete program list and register online at bhwp.org/calendar.



PAINTING IN THE LIGHT OF SPRING SERIES

Every Sunday from May 17 – June 21, 1:30 – 4:30 pm

Members: \$120, Non-members: \$140 (Series of 6 classes)

In this class, participants work in nature in the medium of their choice, with the goal of achieving clear, legible paintings. When painting outdoors, en plein air, there is such a bewildering welter of “stuff” to paint that we often don’t know where to begin. Yet somehow, we have to start with a solid vision for our painting. The first day begins with a demonstration outlining the fundamental concepts all artists must use in order to achieve a successful landscape.

Using oil paint, instructor Michael Gogal will display how to use value to generate luminosity, composition to achieve unity, and color and edges to create a sense of space. All levels are welcome, and students are encouraged to proceed at their own pace throughout this six-week course. Please bring pencils and paper (or your own paints) the first day, and be ready to paint or draw and ask questions.

Since we anticipate students of different levels, the instructor will discuss materials on an individual basis.

Spring Ephemerals:
Trout-lily (*Erythronium americanum*)
Photo by Mary Anne Borge



KNOWING NATIVE PLANTS

Members: \$15, Non-members: \$20 (per program)

Join us for programs whose topics are the heart of our mission: native plants. Each program will consist of an indoor presentation followed by an outdoor exploration session to highlight the beauty and importance of Pennsylvania’s natives. CEUs are also available.

SPRING EPHEMERALS

Saturday, April 18, 9:30 am – 12:30 pm

Spring wildflowers such as Dutchman’s breeches, bloodroot, bluebell, spring beauty, trout-lily, twinleaf and several species of trillium color the forest floor for a fleeting moment this time of year. Join Naturalist Mary Anne Borge to learn why these wildflowers are called spring ephemerals, how their life cycles work and how their seeds are dispersed.

LATE SPRING LOVELIES

Saturday, May 2, 9:30 am – 12:30 pm

A lot happens at the Preserve between the burst of spring ephemerals and the peak of flowering shrubs. Join Naturalist Mary Anne Borge to learn about the wildlife and landscape value of the later-blooming spring wildflowers, including woodland phlox, eastern columbine, Solomon’s seal, shooting star, wood geranium and the beautiful yellow lady’s-slipper orchid.

FOCUS ON FERNS

Saturday, May 16, 1 – 4 pm

There are some native plants, such as ferns, that don’t flower at all. In this popular program, Ed Lignowski, Ph.D., will teach you to identify many native ferns. He will highlight their evolutionary history and unusual reproductive habits, as well as their natural habitats and usefulness in native plant gardens.

FLOWERING SHRUBS

Saturday, May 30, 9:30 am – 12:30 pm

The Mid-Atlantic region has a stunning display of spring flowering native shrubs that fill the Preserve and surrounding natural areas with color and fragrance every spring. Join Naturalist Mary Anne Borge to learn about our native shrubs, their wildlife value and landscape beauty.

BEHIND-THE-SCENES NURSERY TOURS

Saturday, April 4, 10 – 11 am

Saturday, May 2, 10 – 11 am

Saturday, June 6, 10 – 11 am

Members: \$6, Non-members: \$8

Join Donna Dahringer, our Native Plant Nursery manager, for a walk-through of the Preserve’s growing area. Normally closed off to all visitors, this is your chance to see how we grow our precious native plants. Learn how we propagate our seeds and care for our native perennials all year long. You will also pot a native perennial to take home!



Saturday, April 18, 3 – 4:30 pm

Members: \$4/child and \$6/adult, Non-members: \$6/child and \$8/adult

Eggs are an interesting method of reproduction. Some are soft while some are hard. Some are clear and some are opaque. No matter what the egg looks like, its job is to bring new life into the world. Join us as we celebrate the creatures who come into this world in a little package.



Eastern bluebird
(*Sialia sialis*) eggs



Unless noted, advance registration is required for all programs.

REGISTER ONLINE AT BHWP.ORG/CALENDAR



SPRING BIRD WALKS

**Saturdays, April 18 through
May 30, 7 – 9 am**

Members: FREE, Non-members: \$3

Pre-registration is highly recommended.

The Preserve's plant and habitat diversity provide nesting sites and food sources for many species of birds, including warblers, thrushes, chickadees, woodpeckers, towhees, nuthatches and goldfinches. Bird walks depart from the Visitor Center and are led by experienced local guides. Suitable for ages 10 and up. Be sure to bring your binoculars if you have them.



NATURE AT NIGHT: A FOCUS ON FROGS

Friday, May 1, 7:30 – 9 pm

**Members: \$4/child and \$6/adult,
Non-members: \$6/child and \$8/adult**

The setting sun and rising moon add magic to a stroll through the woods. Join us as we explore the natural world during the evening hours. We will listen to and look for spring peepers and wood frogs, and also see what other warm weather treasures await us. Please bring a small flashlight.



Grey tree frog
(*Hyla versicolor*)

BIRDING BY KAYAK

Saturday, May 9, 9 – 11 am

Members: \$20, Non-members: \$25

We're teaming up with Delaware Canal State Park for a gentle morning paddle on the canal. We'll learn about the canal's history and look and listen for birds and other local wildlife during this relaxing paddle. We'll put into the canal near the Preserve. DCSP provides life vests, paddles and kayaks. Details on the meeting place will be emailed one week before the start of the program.

Space is limited; please call 215.862.2924 for availability. Advance registration and payment are required by May 1.



MEDICINAL PLANTS OF THE NORTHEAST

Saturday, May 9, 10:30 am – 12 pm

Members: \$8, Non-members: \$10

Plants have historically played a critical role in our health and wellness. Join Naturalist Pat Coleman as we venture out to the Medicinal Trail—a very special woodland retreat tucked in a quiet corner of the Preserve. We will look for some of the most cherished medicinal herbs, talk about their history and their uses, and will likely encounter a few “uncherished” plants along the way that have impressive medicinal reputations.



CAMPFIRE MAGIC

Saturday, June 6, 6:30 – 7:30 pm

**Members: FREE, Non-members and
children over 2: \$5**

Pre-registration is required by May 31.

Join us by our spectacular pond for a lovely summer evening of stories and songs around a blazing campfire! Led by music specialist Susan Sacks, we'll sing together about animals, birds, plants, insects and the many seasonal happenings in nature. A chorus of frogs may sing right along with us. Our evening will end with a festive marshmallow roast. Audience participation is a must!

Please bring your enthusiasm, a flashlight, blankets/chairs and insect repellent with you. This campfire sing-along is weather-permitting and may be canceled if it is actively raining.



CHILDREN'S SUMMER READING PROGRAM

**Every Thursday: June 18 through
August 13, 10 – 11:15 am**

**Members: Free, Non-members: \$7
one child with adult + \$3 for each
additional child**

***Pre-registration is required by the
Tuesday prior to each program.***

Join us and explore the wonders of nature! We will read exciting books about the outdoors, take hikes through the Preserve in search of the plants and critters in our stories, and create an art project to bring home. This program is appropriate for ages 3 through 8. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Each session is unique, so join us for as many as you like.



NATURE AT NIGHT: A FOCUS ON FIREFLIES

Saturday, June 27, 7:30 – 9:00 pm

**Members: \$4/child and \$6/adult,
Non-members: \$6/child and \$8/adult**

Join us during the evening hours as we explore the meadow in search of Pennsylvania's state insect. We'll learn a little more about these fascinating beetles as we watch them dance through the air to brighten our night. Please bring a small flashlight.



Bowman's Hill
**Wildflower
Preserve**
PO BOX 685
NEW HOPE, PA 18938



Check your mailing label for your membership expiration date.
It may be time to renew!



TWINLEAF NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2020 | VOLUME 27, ISSUE 1

Native Plant Nursery Opening Weekend *Saturday, Apr. 18 – Sunday, Apr. 19*

NURSERY SHOPPING OPENING WEEKEND

Saturday, Apr. 18, 11 am – 5 pm

Sunday, Apr. 19, 9 am – 5 pm

Members and Non-Members Welcome

NURSERY OPEN FOR THE SEASON

Monday through Sunday, Apr. 21 - June 30, 9 am - 5 pm

Tuesday through Sunday, July 1 - Oct. 31, 9 am - 5 pm



OPENING DAY LECTURE

Saturday, Apr. 18, 10 – 11 am

Members Only Free Lecture

Join us for the Preserve's annual
Native Plant Nursery opening!

Tales From The Crypt: What Dead Plants Can Teach Us About The Living World

*Jordan Teisher, Ph.D., interim curator,
Philadelphia Herbarium, Academy of
Natural Sciences of Drexel University*

Herbaria—libraries of dried and pressed plant specimens—are invaluable resources for research on plant taxonomy, evolution, biogeography and ecology. The only verifiable record of the world's historic flora, these specimens answer questions like “Which species are native versus introduced?” and “How have invasive plants spread throughout North America?”

Teisher will cover herbarium research basics, update the progress being made in digitizing the historic Philadelphia Herbarium, and explore the kinds of questions that can be answered using the data this large undertaking will make publicly available.



**Dried arrowleaf
balsamroot (*Balsamorhiza
sagittata*) from the
Philadelphia Herbarium's
Lewis & Clark Expedition
collection**

EXPERIENCE WHAT'S NATURAL | LEARN WHAT'S NATIVE

Bowman's Hill Wildflower Preserve inspires the appreciation and use of native plants by serving as a sanctuary and an educational resource for conservation and stewardship.

Bowman's Hill Wildflower Preserve

PO Box 685
1635 River Road
New Hope, PA 18938-0685

Phone: 215.862.2924
Website: bhwp.org
Email: bhwp@bhwp.org