



Winter
2019-20

Tyler Topics



NEWS, PROGRAMS, AND EVENTS OF TYLER ARBORETUM



2 Executive
Director's
Message

3 Winter – A
Season of
Surprises!

4 Membership
Matters

5 Making
Change

6 Lend-A-Hand

7 Winter
Events &
Programs

8 Members'
Choice Project
Update

Executive Director's Message

Tyler Arboretum Board of Trustees

Heather Saunders, President
John Ewing, Vice President
Sandra Lutz, CPA, Treasurer
Laura Guertin, Ph.D., Secretary

Rena Barnett
Benjamin Carr
Eric Chapman
David M. Charlton
Linda H. Ciavarelli, DPM
Tracy Clark
Gene Ferraro
James R. Flandreau
Andrew W. Harobin
Don Helwig
Angela Horstmann
Thayer Schroeder
Jessica Strine
Jeffrey Welsh
Dennis Westley

Printed on recycled paper. 

Cover Photo: Evergreen branch with start of pine cones. Photo courtesy of Dave Charlton.



Greetings! With the holiday season just around the corner, this is a fitting time for me to reflect back on my first six months here at Tyler. I have experienced what I

refer to as countless 2Ms: Magical Moments. These are just a few of the Magical Moments I am incredibly grateful for:

- Having the opportunity to meet so many of Tyler's wonderful neighbors, volunteers, members, and loyal supporters – you are the heart and soul of Tyler, and we could not accomplish our work without your support.
- Experiencing the wonders of summer camp, the Gateways to Nature and Butterfly House exhibits, Tyler at Twilight and Pumpkin Days – your generous support as members, visitors and event sponsors is critical to helping us maintain our beautiful landscapes and offer educational programming year-round.

■ Our long-term partnership with Penn State University – Brandywine Campus – for the stellar educational series during the Tyler on Tap events, hosting the Nature Narratives writing contest, sharing their parking facilities for Pumpkin Days, and so much more.

■ Expanding our network of friends by participating in Delco Arts Week, the Nickels for Nonprofits program sponsored by Whole Foods Market, and partnering with local media outlets such as CBS 3 (Vittoria Woodill and I are posing from one of our favorite spots at Tyler!), Middletown Neighbors, PECO, and The Swarthmorean to showcase Tyler's new Edible Garden.

Thank you for making Tyler such a phenomenal place to experience nature – especially during the winter months. Sending warm wishes to you and your family for a safe, relaxing and joyful holiday season!



Special Event

Wild Bird Seed Truckload Sale

Saturday, January 25, 9:30am – 12:30pm

This winter, give the birds something to chirp about! You can help feed your feathered friends through the tough winter months while also supporting Tyler Arboretum. We have partnered with **Moyer & Son** located in Montgomery County, PA. This family-owned business manufactures Scarlett Wild Bird Blends and ingredients at their mill in Souderton, PA. Each bag is guaranteed fresh – and thoroughly cleaned.

Pre-sale runs from December 16 – January 16. Prices vary on type and size of product. Simply pre-order from a wide variety of bird seed options and we'll have it ready for you to pick up at Tyler on January 25. Additional seed will be for sale day-of. Member discount(s) not valid for this fundraiser.

Save the Date for Tyler at Twilight!

Thursday, June 11, 2020, 6 – 9:30pm

Mark your calendar now for the garden party fundraiser of the year in 2020. Come for fabulous friends, fine food, wonderful wine and an awesome auction. Celebrate our community as you help raise funds to protect and share our precious 650 acres of natural lands and gardens. To reserve your invitation, please call the Development office at **610-566-9134, ext. 209**. We look forward to seeing you!

Summer Camps 2020 – Fostering a Love of Nature in Your Kids!



Winter – A Season of Surprises!

By Bess Trout, Tyler Gardener

Imagine walking outside on a clear, cold winter morning. The sun is bright, dazzling off a dusting of snow that rests on the seed heads of the switch grass and little bluestem. You come around the corner and suddenly you smell...lemon? A clean, bright scent that seems surprisingly floral for such a stark season. But, sure enough, up ahead the bright, orange yellow flowers of vernal witch hazel

(*Hamamelis vernalis*) peek through their little snow caps. One of several witch hazel varieties that we have here at the Arboretum, vernal witch hazel begins to bloom around New Year's Day. This native shrub puts on a stunning display of fragrant blossoms that are definitely worth scheduling a visit to see and smell! Our many species of witch hazel bloom throughout the winter, with peak season being January and February when the hybrid and Chinese witch hazels (*Hamamelis x intermedia* and *Hamamelis mollis*) take center stage. These incredible flowers are not to be missed.



But witch hazels are not alone in their winter display. If you look closely there are herbaceous flowers to be found as well. The historic core of the Arboretum is filled with them, with a profusion of lenten rose (*Helleborus sp.*) that blossom from February until April, in an array of colors from clear white to deep blue. These lovely soft flowers can withstand even heavy snow, and are undaunted by the cold winter wind. Alongside the lenten rose you will also see the sunshine yellow flowers of winter aconite (*Eranthis hyemalis*) carpeting the ground and brightening even the darkest of days.

Winter is a season for quiet reflection. The snow on the pines and bare deciduous branches lead to early evenings by the fire and cups of hot chocolate, sipped slowly as the shadows lengthen. But the clear, cold winter days are made for peaceful walks, and we hope you'll stop by to visit Tyler. From the beautiful evergreens of the Pinetum, to the witch hazels, lenten rose and winter aconite, our grounds have something

to see every day of the year! Come by for a walk, and enjoy the surprising and subtle beauty of the winter season.



One More Reason to Shop at Whole Foods Market!



Now through December 31, 2019

When you shop with your reusable bags at Whole Foods Market, you can donate your bag refund of a nickel to Tyler Arboretum! Tyler is all about connecting children to nature. With 650 acres to explore, your nickels help families play and learn outside. Thank you!

Shop at these participating Whole Foods Market locations through December 31, 2019 to help Tyler.

Devon | Newtown Square | Wynnewood | Exton | Glen Mills



Membership Matters

You've Found the Perfect Holiday Gift!

A membership to Tyler is the perfect gift for so many of the people on your list: the family with young kids, the active adult, the artist, the recent grad, the bird watcher, the history lover, and more. From fantastic children's programs to secluded trails, there is something for everyone at Tyler. And best of all, you'll have the pleasure of knowing your gift supports something important to you: our natural world!

When you give a gift membership, you can write a customized gift message for us to include in your recipient's welcome letter. You can even choose to have the gift membership mailed to you, or directly to them. This flexibility allows you to present your gift in person, if you'd like.

And with six great membership levels to choose from, you're sure to find the right fit for everyone on your list. The \$150 Steward level membership is a wonderful option for holiday trips to Tyler. It covers two adult members,

any 6 children, **and** two additional guests for each visit. It even includes free admission to 300+ gardens **and** 1,000+ arts & culture museums around the country!

For more information about our membership levels and to order, visit tylerarboretum.org/membership or call **610-566-9134, ext. 209**. Be sure to order by December 8 for delivery by Chanukah or Christmas.

Membership Levels

Individual	\$60
Dual	\$75
Family	\$89
Family Plus	\$125
Steward	\$150
Circle of Friends	\$300

Thank you for supporting Tyler this holiday season!



Making Change

How do you want to be remembered?

Do you want to be remembered for teaching children the wonders of nature? Or maybe, for protecting historic trees and local history? Or for inspiring others to save our natural spaces, at Tyler and beyond? Or perhaps for leaving a pathway through which our children can follow?

If this is the difference you want to make, please consider placing Tyler Arboretum in your will. By doing so, you ensure that this special place you care about is provided for in years to come. And you show your generosity of heart and spirit, thank you!

When you include Tyler in your estate plans, you become a member of our Sequoia Estate Giving Society and receive special updates and invitations to annual donor events.

To place Tyler Arboretum in your will or for other estate giving options, please call Mary Beth Jackson, Director of Development, at **610-566-9134, ext. 206**, or email her at MJackson@TylerArboretum.org.

Thank you for considering Tyler Arboretum as part of your living legacy!



Magical Moments in Nature: Your Annual Fund Gifts Make Them Happen!

This summer, visitors saw nature and art in new ways. They watched the Edible Garden come to life in its first season! Your gifts offered visitors the chance to connect with the wonders of our natural world in magical ways.

Our *Gateways to Nature* exhibit asked visitors to suspend their belief about art and where to find it. They saw and felt Tyler's landscapes in unusual ways.

Each summer caterpillars, butterflies, and moths descend upon the Tyler Butterfly House. Children can't wait to get inside. There, they watch caterpillars eat leaves and butterflies spread their wings. Their delight is palpable!

The Edible Garden grew by leaps and bounds all summer to produce many, many, tomatoes, peppers, squash, beans, and herbs. Led by the talented horticulturists Shipley and Mary Allinson, the first season was a delight.

We donated produce to the Media Food Bank each week – over 1,000 pounds in all!

Children in the "Edible Garden Sprouts" programs planted, watered, and picked from the garden. Those in the "Little Chefs" children's programs prepared fresh produce in healthy ways.

Now, we are planning classes and events for next year, including a series featuring local chefs. Stay tuned.

Your donations also help staff support over 250 volunteers and their work every year. In 2018, our volunteers gave 11,000 hours of work valued at \$280,315.

Volunteers helped care for our trails, our chestnut orchard, and the Edible Garden. They taught about butterflies, wildflowers, birds, and bees. They helped visitors explore Tyler and enjoy special events. Their efforts make the Tyler experience more meaningful.



Your generosity of heart and spirit have made so much possible at Tyler this year, thank you! These are just a few examples of the exploration and discovery made possible with your help.

If you feel good about the difference your Annual Fund gifts are making at Tyler, please consider another gift to Tyler's Annual Fund. Your donations protect this special place and give so many a chance to learn from nature.

Go online to tylerarboretum.org/support or call **(610) 566-9134, ext. 209** to make your gift. Thank you!

MEET LEARN ENJOY HELP

Lend-A-Hand

We are looking for new volunteers to join us this winter. Tyler Volunteers play an active role in all Arboretum operations. Are you wondering how you can join in the fun this winter? Contact Julia Lo Ehrhardt at 610-566-9134, ext. 305 or via email at jlo@tylerarboretum.org

The Stars Above

This year our nation celebrated the 50th anniversary of the historic Apollo 11 Moon Landing. The landing and return was the culmination of years of hard work by many people representing diverse fields. There were many steps: careful research, the mobilization of manufacturing, the formation of new processes to test and the recruitment of the best people for the effort. In the process, we discovered ourselves, our capabilities, our tenacity and with that, success – creating the gold standard of teamwork standing even 50 years later.

This year, we will celebrate the great works of Tyler's dedicated volunteers during our fifth annual recognition event in November. Here at Tyler, our volunteers are the NASA team. They research, create, share, teach and fix. From leading volunteers in the inaugural year of the Edible Garden to mentoring novices in the art and science of keeping bees, Tyler's volunteers are shining stars in the galaxy of community giving. We are truly fortunate to have so many people with such fascinating talents come together for a common purpose. Everyone finds a spot to shine.

As we close 2019, let us gaze up into the Tyler skies and highlight some of the constellations.

If you walk around on Tuesdays or Wednesdays during most of the year, you will notice a battalion of volunteers working in every possible location at Tyler – assisting gardeners, planting and weeding, removing fallen trees, as well as setting up and breaking down tents for special events or netting for the Butterfly House exhibit. Pumpkin Days would be bare without the pumpkins, corn stalks and hay bales that they artfully place on the grounds. Did you know that one of the crew members built the retractable stairs for the hayride wagons? Many of our volunteers have retired from diverse fields – we have former professors, pilots and



engineers and yes, we have even had a surgeon on the roster.

Practically every morning, hikers outfitted with walking poles, hiking boots, water and big smiles are coming through the Visitor Center ready to help visitors explore the trails. Led by the Natural Areas Committee, Tyler's natural areas are supported by two groups: the Natural Areas team helps to remove invasive plants (and educate visitors on how to sustain a healthy ecosystem) and the Trail Monitors keep our trails in pristine condition and help Tyler bounce back from severe storm damage by clearing water bars and reporting down trees.

One would easily miss the magic of the giant bluegreen cecropia moth caterpillars crawling on the cherry tree. Most people may not even know

that the pawpaw is North America's biggest native fruit and it tastes like a ripe banana. Information is great but when the information has meaning to the visitor, it becomes powerful.

After visiting the Butterfly House, a teacher may be more prepared to hatch monarchs in the classroom and thus engage another 20 minds on the monarch's cycle of life. After a tour of our historic trees, a group suddenly realizes that when the ginkgo was planted, the Civil War was raging including the devastation of the Battle of Gettysburg when the North held their ground. Perhaps they would realize that if they plant trees now, the trees would be witness to their lives and their children's lives and many more.

If you would like to become a volunteer or know someone who would make a great addition to our team, please visit our website and sign up for our monthly e-newsletter by clicking on the Volunteer tab. In March, we will host a series of Meet & Greet sessions for prospective volunteers, so we can help answer any questions you may have, and help you find the perfect volunteer opportunity to match your schedule, your interests and your talents.

Check our website in February for dates or contact Julia Lo Ehrhardt, Community Outreach Manager, for more information at jlo@tylerarboretum.org.

Tyler Calendar

Winter
2019-20

These walks are
ALWAYS FREE
FOR MEMBERS!

Weekday Bird Walks* Every Wednesday, 8:15 – 10:15am
Saturday Bird Walks* Dec. 14, Jan. 11 and Feb. 8, 9 – 11am
Weekday Botany Walks* Every Wednesday, 11:15am – 1:15pm
Saturday Botany Walks* Dec. 21, Jan. 18 and Feb. 15, 1:30 – 3:30pm

Full program
descriptions can be found
at tylerarboretum.org

Programs marked with asterisk* are FREE for Tyler Members

Adult Programs

- Sun. Dec. 8 Holiday Wreath Workshop
- Sat. Dec. 14 Christmas Bird Count*
- Sat. Dec. 14 Saturday Bird Walk*
- Sat. Dec. 21 Saturday Botany Walk*
- Sat. Jan. 11 Saturday Bird Walk*
- Sat. Jan. 11 Chef's Tasting
- Sat. Jan. 11 Night Hike
- Sun. Jan. 12 Managing the Winter Blues Workshop
- Sat. Jan. 18 Caregiver Retreat
- Sat. Jan. 18 Succulent Planter Workshop
- Sat. Jan. 18 Saturday Botany Walk*
- Sat. Jan. 25 Wild Bird Seed Truckload Sale
- Sat. Jan. 25 Sharpen Your Skills: Pruning & Tool Care
- Sat. Jan. 25 Chef's Tasting
- Sat. Feb. 1 Beekeeping at Tyler Arboretum*
- Sat. Feb. 1 Demystifying Plant ID Keys
- Fri. Feb. 7 The Science of Watercolor
- Sat. Feb. 8 Tropical Escape Floral Workshop
- Sat. Feb. 8 Saturday Bird Walk*
- Sat. Feb. 8 Night Hike
- Sun. Feb. 9 Managing the Winter Blues Workshop
- Sat. Feb. 15 Saturday Botany Walk*
- Sun. Feb. 16 Chef's Tasting
- Sat. Feb. 29 Pancake Breakfast & Maple Sugaring Celebration
- Sun. Mar. 8 Managing the Winter Blues Workshop

Youth & Family Programs

- Tues. Dec. 3 Storytime: *Walking in a Winter Wonderland*
- Wed. Dec. 4 Little Chefs: Sweet
- Sun. Dec. 8 Family: Deck The Halls
- Tues. Dec. 10 Storytime: *The Twelve Days of Christmas*
- Sat. Dec. 14 Family: Natural Ornaments
- Tues. Dec. 17 Storytime: *The Nutcracker*
- Wed. Dec. 18 Little Chefs: Savory
- Thurs. Dec. 19 Tiny Trackers: Nature Ornaments
- Fri. Dec. 27 School Day-Off Camp: Building Creations!
- Mon. Dec. 30 School Day-Off Camp:
Scavenger Hunt Bonanza
- Mon. Jan. 6 Summer Camp Registration
Opens to Members
- Wed. Jan. 8 Toddlers in Nature: Sense of Touch
- Thurs. Jan. 9 Tiny Trackers: Winter Science Experiments
- Sat. Jan. 11 Family: Night Hike & Campfire
- Tues. Jan. 14 Storytime: *Owl Moon*
- Wed. Jan. 15 Little Chefs: Salty
- Mon. Jan. 20 Summer Camp Registration
Opens to Non-members
- Wed. Jan. 22 Toddlers in Nature: Sense of Sound
- Thurs. Jan. 23 Tiny Trackers: Snow Forts
- Sat. Jan. 25 Wild Bird Seed Truckload Sale
- Sat. Jan. 25 Family: Maple Sugaring
- Tues. Jan. 28 Storytime: *The Mitten*
- Wed. Jan. 29 Little Chefs: Sour
- Sat. Feb. 1 Family: Night Hike & Campfire
- Wed. Feb. 5 Toddlers in Nature: Sense of Sight
- Thurs. Feb. 6 Tiny Trackers: Maple Sugaring
- Tues. Feb. 11 Storytime: *Do Frogs Drink Hot Chocolate?*
- Wed. Feb. 12 Little Chefs: Spicy
- Fri. Feb. 14 School Day-Off Camp: Valentine's Potions
- Sat. Feb. 15 Family: Winter Nature Hike*
- Mon. Feb. 17 School Day-Off Camp: Maple Sugaring
- Wed. Feb. 19 Toddlers in Nature:
Sense of Taste and Smell
- Thurs. Feb. 20 Tiny Trackers: Winter Scavenger Hunt
- Sat. Feb. 22 Family: Multilingual Storytime with PSU*
- Tues. Feb. 25 Storytime: *Sugarbush Spring*
- Wed. Feb. 26 Little Chefs: Bitter
- Sat. Feb. 29 Pancake Breakfast &
Maple Sugaring Celebration

SAVE THE DATE

Pancake Breakfast & Maple Sugaring Celebration

Saturday, February 29, 8am – 1pm

Join us for maple sugaring stations
and an all-you-can-eat pancake
and sausage breakfast.

Adults \$16, Children (ages 3-12) \$10, 2 and
under FREE. Buy your Pancake Breakfast
tickets online: sales open February 1. Tickets
available at the Visitor Center at the event.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Summer Camp 2020

Registration opens online:

January 6 for members

January 20 for non-members

www.TylerArboretum.org/camp



Visit our website to download the full Winter Programs & Events Catalog PDF
 Register online via our Calendar page: tylerarboretum.org/calendar
 or call Joanne Landau at 610-566-9134, ext. 303 or e-mail: jlandau@tylerarboretum.org.

Members' Choice Project Update

Thank you for making a difference!

This past summer, we used a portion of our members' dues to directly fund one of three potential projects at Tyler. And YOU – our members – voted to choose the winning Members' Choice Project!

After a week of voting, the winner – with 39% of the votes – was **Sponsor a Tyler field trip for 100 under-served children.** One hundred children experienced Tyler this fall thanks to your membership support. That is truly amazing, thank you!

We hosted two fully-funded field trips in October. One with students from Prospect Park and one with students from Stonehurst Hills. Because of you, they connected with nature in a profound way. At right are just some of the things they said during their trip.



Thank you for being a member, and for making a difference with your membership dues and Annual Fund donations!

TYLER ARBORETUM MISSION: To preserve, enhance, and share our heritage, collections, and landscapes, to create and inspire stewards of the natural world.

Hours

March – October
Mon – Fri 9am – 5pm
Sat & Sun 9am – 6pm

November – February
Mon – Fri 9am – 4pm
Sat & Sun 9am – 5pm
Closed on Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Eve, and Christmas Day

Pumpkin Days at Tyler

We extend our sincere thanks and appreciation to our generous sponsors:

PRESENTING SPONSOR



Elwyn
PHARMACY
A BioMATRIX Company



NOLAN
Painting Inc

REPUBLIC
BANK

Information

610-566-9134
TylerArboretum.org
info@tylerarboretum.org