

2012

AWBURY ARBORETUM ASSOCIATION Annual Report

Awbury Arboretum Association
One Awbury Road
Philadelphia, PA 19138

BECOME AN AWBURY STEWARD
Renew your membership, donate,
attend a workshop, or volunteer.
Visit us online for details.

215-849-2855
contact@awbury.org
www.awbury.org

“The Awbury Arboretum is before you.
The beauty of its landscape, the result of one
landscape gardener’s dreams and foresight of
some sixty years ago, now appeals to us all...”
- Arthur Cowell, 1919

Stewards of Community

To our Members:

Stewardship requires an active relationship with the resources and environments under our care. It is more than preservation and sustainable practices, though those are important parts of the steward’s work.

Awbury offers resources beyond specimen trees and uplifting vistas. There is no one-size-fits-all approach to managing its multifaceted landscape. As stewards, we must understand it as a diverse and interconnected ecosystem, and acknowledge its resilience.

All who participate in our maintenance, restoration, management, and programs are joint stewards of Awbury. Our neighbors, visitors,

volunteers, and partners are an integral part of our ecosystem.

The more diverse and engaged our many parts, the better our ability to weather disturbances and setbacks, prune weaknesses, and nurture lasting growth.

The 2012 Awbury Landscape Stewardship Plan highlighted in this report reflects our vision for a more responsible, resilient, and integrated landscape and community.

We are grateful for your continued stewardship of this unique urban resource.

Sincerely,
Mark Sellers
Board President

IN 2012 WE...

Welcomed thousands of on-site and online **VISITORS**.

Hosted numerous **WORKSHOPS AND EVENTS** for partners, including the Streets Department, Philadelphia Science Fair, arts and STEM educators, and neighborhood associations.

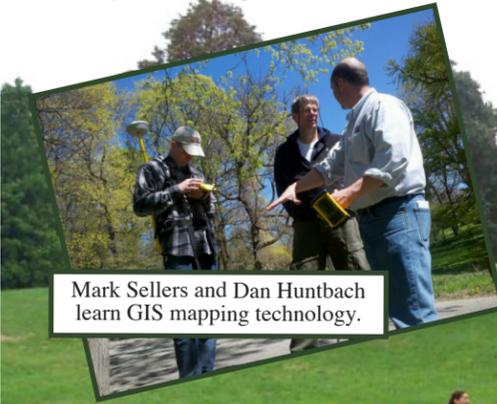
Expanded our **EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS** tenfold with lessons in horticulture, beekeeping, outdoor recreation, nutrition, photography, music, and more.

Mapped over 2,000 trees (so far) using **GIS TECHNOLOGY**.

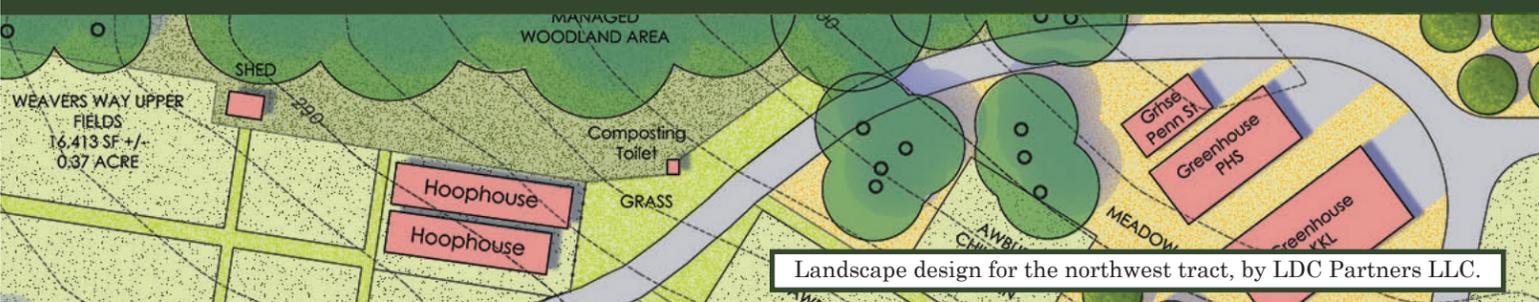
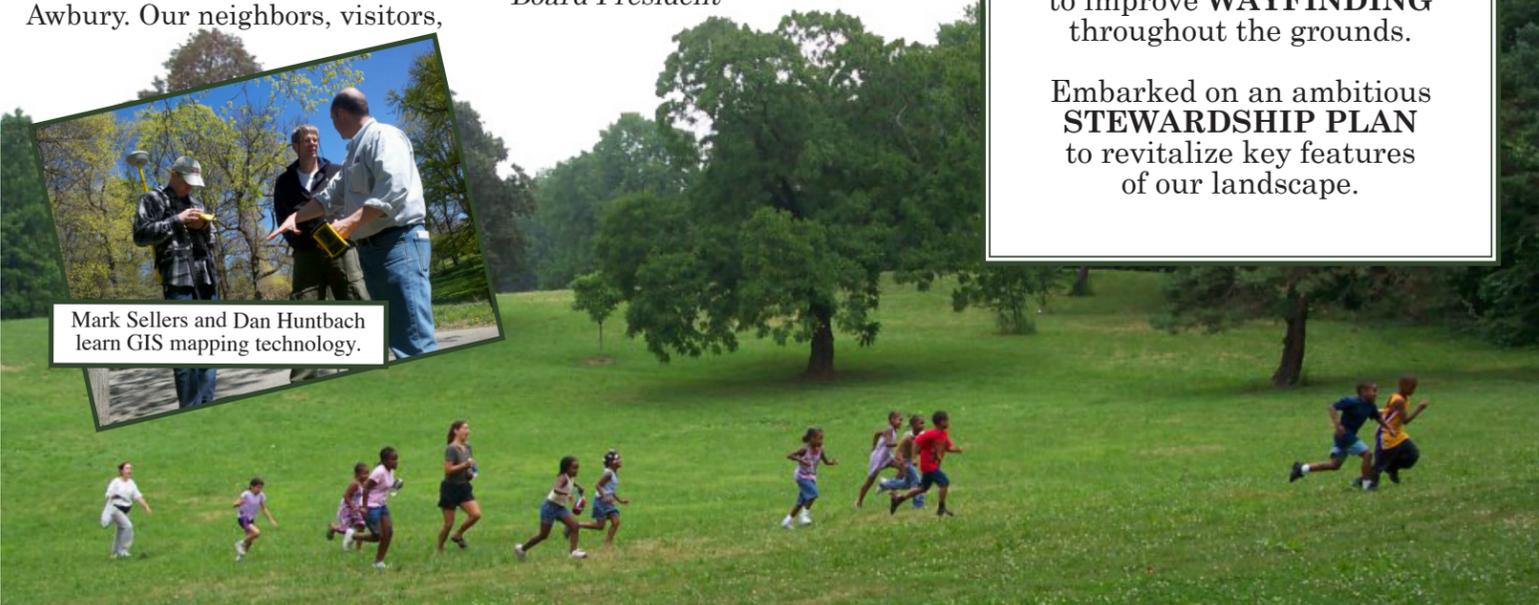
Restored the historic Francis Cope House porch deck and began an interior paint analysis to guide **ARCHITECTURAL CONSERVATION**.

Began a study with Longwood Public Horticulture students to improve **WAYFINDING** throughout the grounds.

Embarked on an ambitious **STEWARDSHIP PLAN** to revitalize key features of our landscape.



Mark Sellers and Dan Huntbach learn GIS mapping technology.



Landscape design for the northwest tract, by LDC Partners LLC.

Blueprint for Growth

This summer, Awbury staff and Board unveiled the Awbury Landscape Stewardship Plan. It contains a series of projects that take into account historical information about the grounds and facilities, and demonstrated current needs: The "Top 10 for 2012 and Beyond."

Every one of the "Top 10" projects will either enhance the Arboretum's ability to earn revenue, save money by

improving security, or make urgently needed improvements to the landscape.

We've already made great strides toward our goals, allowing us to envision next steps that reflect our expanding community, increased capacity, and creative use and interpretation.



City year volunteers bring tree stumps to the Community Apiary

"TOP 10 FOR 2012" Highlights:



CENTER FOR AGRICULTURE & MAINTENANCE

The northwest tract and Agricultural Village are becoming a hub for sustainable urban agriculture.

Weaver's Way organic farm will gain 50% more growing space by clearing invasives and making grading and drainage improvements. We are building dedicated facilities for Awbury Landscape Services, as well as shared office space, storage, and classrooms for staff, visitors, and partners.

WATERCOURSE RESTORATION

We are restoring our corner of the Wingohocking creek under the guidance of a hydrological analysis. Cleanup and repair of the area is underway so we can keep this learning laboratory safe and accessible.



THE FRANCIS COPE HOUSE

As the first in a series of targeted repairs, we restored the historic porch deck. We will also enhance entryways and improve storm water management at the porch perimeter.



Awbury Welcomes New Education Director

In Spring of 2012, Heather Zimmerman joined Awbury as Education Director. We have been steadily benefiting from her creativity, energy, and vision. A graduate of the Barnes Foundation's Horticulture program, Heather also holds a BA in Theater Arts, and teaching credentials for preschool through high school aged students.

Her experience ranges from formal classroom teaching, special education, working with at-risk youth, environmental education, fundraising, event coordination and non-profit program administration. She has worked for Penn State Extension and served as horticulture educator at Grumblethorpe. Heather is also a well-rooted active member of the Germantown/Mt Airy community.

Heather's first task at Awbury was to revitalize the Summer Field Studies program which had been on hiatus for a year. At close of summer, the new program boasted over 1,000 visits by 32 different organizations.

Field Studies will continue through all seasons, with new, creative lesson offerings each season. Plans for next summer are even more ambitious. Awbury is expecting to host a dynamic educational summer camp offering scholarship support for neighborhood children.

She has also created Hearth and Horticulture, Awbury's new series of programs, classes and lectures. Hearth and Horticulture will bring new teachers and audiences to the Arboretum, and serve to broaden our reach and services for our immediate neighborhood through rich adult and family programming. Another exciting initiative is an "Edible Forest Garden." This permaculture demonstration and teaching garden will be installed in Awbury's Agricultural Village in partnership with the Philadelphia Orchard Project in the Spring of 2013

Heather is working to revitalize relationships with Awbury's local schools. She is pursuing



opportunities to re-establish programs at Emlen Elementary School that can benefit from our landscape and educational resources. Other education initiatives for 2013 include a pilot after-school science program for high school students to be taught by Biologist and historical botanist Dr. David Hewitt, and a free grant-funded partner music program for toddlers and families.

We encourage you to stay in touch with us as these new partnerships and programs evolve. We heartily welcome Heather to our team!

Board

- Mark Sellers - *President*
- Louise S. Thompson - *Vice President; Secretary*
- Jalila Brown - *Treasurer*
- Claudia Levy - *Chair, Landscape Committee*
- Joanne Dahme - *Chair, Edu/Outreach Committee*
- Denise Cowie Sarah Price
- Jane Evans Samuel Rhoads
- Kate Flynn Gina Thomas
- Bryan Hanes Curtis Wright
- Robert Kaufman Robert Petito, Jr.
- William Madeira Graham Finney - *Emeritus*
- Ian Pappajohn Robert Butera - *Emeritus*

Staff

- Awbury Arboretum Association*
- Chris van de Velde, *General Manager*
- Beth Miner, *Director of Outreach*
- Denis Lucey, *Landscape Manager*
- Heather Zimmerman, *Director of Education*
- Ortandia Shepherd, *Administrative Assistant*

- Awbury Landscape Services*
- Steve Pascavitch, *Manager and Arborist*
- Ernie Martin, *Foreman*
- Fane Duren, *Crew Leader*
- Gene Redmon, *Crew Member*
- Tim Fischer, *Crew Member*
- John Little, *Crew Member*
- Carlos Morales, *Crew Member*

Mission Statement

The Mission of the Awbury Arboretum Association is to preserve and interpret Awbury's historic house and landscape, thereby connecting an urban community with nature and history.

FINANCIAL DATA

7/01/12 - 6/30/13

INCOME

| | |
|---------------------------------|------------------|
| Cope Trust Balance | \$500,000 |
| Cash Reserves | \$496,250 |
| Cope Trust Income | \$25,000 |
| Rents - Office, Land and Events | \$34,000 |
| Education and Program Fees | \$1,500 |
| Grants | \$300,000 |
| Gifts | \$50,000 |
| Membership | \$15,000 |
| ALS Earnings | \$10,000 |
| TOTAL INCOME | \$435,500 |

EXPENSE

| | |
|---------------------------|------------------|
| Staff Salaries | \$179,850 |
| Consultants | \$126,000 |
| Landscape Maint & Tools | \$36,500 |
| Building Maint/Repair | \$7,500 |
| Custodial & Security | \$6,200 |
| Equip Lease/Purchase | \$7,000 |
| Insurance | \$25,000 |
| Utilities & Phone | \$22,000 |
| Dues, & Subscriptions | \$3,500 |
| Office Supplies & Postage | \$7,500 |
| Printing & Marketing | \$3,000 |
| Taxes & Finance Fees | \$2,700 |
| Transportation & Fuel | \$2,000 |
| Miscellaneous | \$5,500 |
| TOTAL EXPENSE | \$434,250 |

