



# 2016 Year in Review



# Education Center and Botany Lab a Vibrant New Addition

Grateful, ecstatic, overjoyed! We felt a surge of affirmative emotions upon the opening of our Education Center and Botany Lab. On August 19, we opened the new building and changed the trajectory of the Arboretum. To mark this milestone, members, donors, contractors, and friends joined us for a grand celebration. The day was a vivid reminder of all the people who have made the Arboretum possible.

At the opening we recognized Polly Hill for the remarkable public garden she created. It was gratifying that several founding board members attended. Joan Smith, past board chairman and wife of Arboretum co-founder Dr. David H. Smith, helped cut the ceremonial ribbon. I was also pleased that Director Emeritus Stephen Spongberg and his wife, Happy, could attend. It was a day to recognize our origins, but also to celebrate our promising future.

After years of planning and dreaming, our new indoor classroom, is now complete and has the capacity to comfortably accommodate 40 people, as well as host smaller groups in an intimate, light-filled setting.

The herbarium and botany lab support our floristic research endeavors, both on-Island and off, and provide climate-controlled storage for our herbarium specimens collected on plant expeditions.

What lies ahead for the new building? We are excited about its potential! We will expand our adult classes and lectures. Our herbarium specimens will be properly stored and utilized. We envision outreach into the secondary grades and high school, focused on creating a greater awareness of botany, horticulture, tree conservation, and the unique place in which we live.



Education Center Classroom



Executive Director Tim Boland is joined by former PHA board chair Joan Smith and builder Tucker Hubbell for the ribbon cutting.



Education Center and Botany Lab



Herbarium volunteers enjoy working in the new Botany Lab

## Living Collection Statistics

The living collection (as of December 31, 2016) comprises 2,156 accessions representing 1,666 taxa, 115 families, and 356 genera. This count reflects the addition of 189 new accessions in 2016 as well as an update to a newer classification system of many of the families. Of the 2016 accessions, 70% are of documented wild origin. This year 35 plants representing 25 taxa were deaccessioned from the living collection. These plants were surplus or were removed due to overcrowding, senescence, redesign, or invasiveness.

## Curation and Plant Records

Curator Tom Clark and Curatorial Intern Kady Wilson continued curation of several locations in Holly Park, a high priority and densely populated area of the Arboretum. The project involves reconciling data in PHA's plant records database with what actually exists on the grounds through extensive field checks. A curatorial project is the cornerstone of the curatorial internship, exposing interns to a wide array of techniques and best management practices. The results inform better management of the living collection, decisions to deaccession plants or transplant them for design modifications, and future developments in these areas.



Japanese Silver Fir, *Abies veitchii*



*Enkianthus perulatus* in fall splendor

A review of the *Abies* collection focused on wild-collected, red-listed, and PHA-introduced firs. When possible, these priority taxa were verified and assessed for health. The verification of the living collection, an important aspect of curation, is an on-going project that results in a more valuable collection (both living and pressed). Rhododendron, Enkianthus, and Stewartia collections were also a focus. Forty official verifications were completed.

Another project involved updating the database's genera and family tables to reflect current systematics, mostly using the Angiosperm Phylogeny Group III and IV systems. This move reflects advances in molecular taxonomy that provide new insights into the hereditary relationships of plants. These changes are often slow to take effect in arboreta and botanic gardens. Once accepted, name changes are made in our plant database and our outside display labels.



## Farewell to Curator Tom Clark: Educator, Plantsman, Mentor

Tom Clark has left PHA to take the new position of botanic garden director at Mount Holyoke College in South Hadley, Massachusetts. Tom ends a ten year term at the Arboretum where he led tremendous advancements in the collections and grounds. Tom and his wife, Sandy, were an integral part of our Arboretum community, forging close friendships with many people, from staff to board members to students to a close-knit community of volunteers. His new position allows Tom and Sandy to return full-time to Hadley, Massachusetts, where they have family and continued to maintain a home.

Tom joined PHA in 2006 and participated in many institutional advancements such as the establishment of the Littlefield Maintenance Building, and the renovation and improvement of Polly's Play Pen. Tom was also the on-site liaison helping to stage and complete the new Education and Botany Lab. Along the way Tom mentored many interns, several now holding important positions in botanical gardens and arboreta throughout North America. His weekly walk and talks with the interns exposed them to the plant collections, but also to the professional curatorial practices a scientific collection of plants requires.



Tom Clark engages PHA volunteers in a tour this past summer

Tom has been an ambassador for PHA and is widely respected in the public garden community for his collection advocacy and his dedication to best management practices. His passion for plants led him on seed-collecting forays both in the U.S. and Asia. Today the nursery has hundreds of plants from his expeditions.

We checked in with Tom recently, and he shared the following: "With each passing day since my departure from PHA, I realize how remarkable a place it truly is, and in so many ways. For ten years the Arboretum was an enormous part of my life, and I feel incredibly fortunate to have been part of

PHA. Professionally, it afforded me a rich array of opportunities to grow, learn, and contribute for which I'll always be thankful."

At the end of his tenure, Tom was extended an offer to remain involved with the PHA as a research associate. We look forward to a continued connection and expect to see him back at the Arboretum to teach classes and catch up with friends.

## Internships Grow People



Kate Montgomery (left) and Sarah Houtsma

We love watching plants grow, of course, but one of the pleasures of our internship program is watching people grow. Each season we offer our Feldman summer internship to college students pursuing careers in horticulture or related fields. PHA summer interns participate in all aspects of maintaining the Arboretum. While students arrive with a sense of the work expected, most are surprised by the variety of activities that go into operating a public garden. This year's interns, Kate Montgomery and Sarah Houtsma, were no exception.

Both Kate and Sarah gained a new perspective on the role public gardens play in community education. Sarah enjoyed sharing plant information with visitors. She packed a lot of learning into one summer and felt she'd have a flying start in her woody plant identification class the following semester! Kate also gained an appreciation for connecting people with plants. She was inspired by her work at PHA and her visits to other public gardens during this summer's intern trip. Sarah has returned to her studies in horticulture at the University of Georgia in Athens. Kate embarked on an overseas semester in Berlin, Germany, before returning to SUNY College of Environmental Science & Forestry in Syracuse, New York, to complete her degree in landscape architecture.

Our 2016 curatorial intern Kady Wilson experienced a rewarding year of discovery at PHA. Her natural curiosity combined with the internship's varied responsibilities led Kady to a wide range of learning experiences on Martha's Vineyard both at the Arboretum and elsewhere. "Kady has passion for plants," says Executive Director Tim Boland. "She brought an inquiring mind that allowed her to dig deep into the PHA's collections. She loves the challenges and rewards intrinsic to curatorial work." We immerse our curatorial interns into the important work we do. Kady says she had such a wide variety of projects, she felt more like a staff member than an intern.

Beyond her interest in plants, Kady is also devoted to plant records, an exacting, sometimes tedious, but very important part of work at a public garden. Kady knows that meticulous plant records are essential to public gardens and remains dedicated to this aspect of curation. She previously worked with plant records at Smith College, the Arnold Arboretum, and the Como Conservatory in Minneapolis, Minnesota.



The major part of Kady's curatorial internship was spent on plant verification. Her work with the fir collection was one of the highlights of her internship. It included plant records detective work—climbing trees, collecting cones, gathering seed for our plant propagator to sow, and confirming species through the use of identification keys. In addition, with the departure of Curator Tom Clark in September, Kady took on the important work of accessioning plants, including the seed from our fall collecting expeditions. Kady also enjoyed filling in as a school group guide at PHA. And while out exploring natural areas, she made an informal survey of native milkweeds that led to an engaging article in our newsletter *Meristems*.

Kady's next move is a year abroad at the Jerusalem Botanic Garden as a visiting scholar. After that she is considering graduate school with the ultimate goal of working in plant conservation, which will require continued dedication to scientific research and plant records.



# Educational Programming

## Adult Education

Every summer PHA offers educational programs featuring engaging speakers on a wide range of horticultural, natural science, and related topics. Featured speakers in 2016 were Richard Hawke from the Chicago Botanic Garden's Plant Evaluation Program; Dave Barnett, director of Mt. Auburn Cemetery; Mal Condon from the Hydrangea Farm on Cape Cod; Teri Chase, author of *Seeing Seeds*; Murphy Westwood, tree conservation specialist from the Morton Arboretum, and horticulturist Chris Woods.

PHA is proud to offer botany classes unavailable elsewhere on the Cape and Islands. Over the past six years, we have brought in local ecologists and botanical experts from off-Island to share their knowledge of plant identification and field botany. Subjects for these courses range from the identification of specific plant groups to the study of the plants common to a specific natural habitat.

We often partner with local land conservation managers to offer classes on Vineyard plant communities such as bogs, shorelines, forests, sandplains, and heathlands. These intensive classes combine lectures and lab work with outdoor field study. Many of our classes cover plant groups difficult to identify because of their complex floral structures—sedges, rushes, and grasses, as well as asters, goldenrods, and other members of the sunflower family. In the classroom, students attend lectures and use microscopes to learn identification skills. In the field, work focuses on the recognition of plants in the wild.

We were pleased to have Dr. Anton (Tony) Reznicek (pictured right) lead a class on sedges and rushes this past summer. Tony is an international expert on the sedge family, a group well represented on the Island but difficult to identify without learning the specialized structures critical to their identification. The majority of students were professionals from Vineyard conservation groups who participated to improve their botanical and field identification skills. As a result, local land stewards are better trained to perform their own assessments and plant inventories.

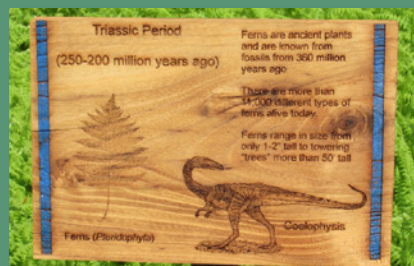


MV Landbank Ecologist Julie Russell guides the coastal ecology class at Edgartown Great Pond



Dr. Reznicek leads a class on sedges

## Youth Education



Our youth education program serves over 600 Island students each spring and fall term. Youth programs at PHA are assisted by thirteen school guide volunteers, and include the following programs: Looking at Seeds, Fall Changes/Plant Structures, Flowers Change, Seeds Travel, Plant Adaptation, and Collecting Seeds and Seed Propagation.

This year we added an interactive Dinosaur Plant exhibit to complement the school program. This family-friendly, self-guided tour highlighted Arboretum plants that have survived from the Age of Dinosaurs. A map with specially constructed signs guided visitors through the grounds to discover plants originating in the Triassic, Jurassic, or Cretaceous periods within the Mesozoic era. In addition, fossils, a geologic time-line, and other facts of interest were displayed at our Visitor Center.

# Membership

This year PHA membership has shown steady growth with current membership at 765. Much of this growth can be attributed to people joining at the Visitor Center to take advantage of discounts plant sale educational programming. This year we also instituted admission for non-members, replacing our "suggested donation" request. Future educational programming and events will now include more off-season offerings that will bring more interest and members to the Arboretum.

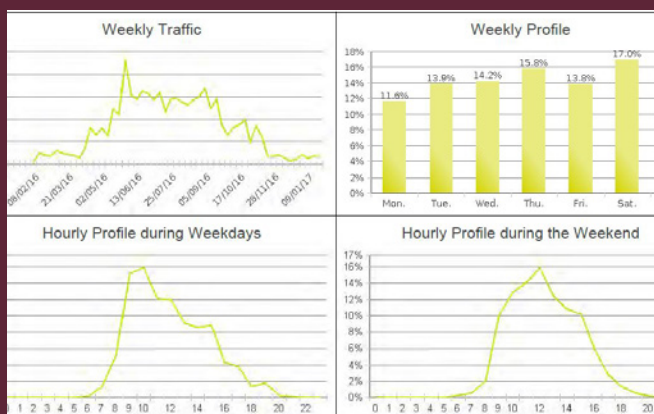
# Visitation

In 2016 the PHA purchased an infrared pedestrian traffic counter to more accurately record visitation numbers, timing, and trends. Previously, visitors were counted by volunteers working in the Visitor Center during our open season. The device, installed in a hollow tree near the entry, constantly records traffic 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. The new counter will benefit the Arboretum by supplying us with data to inform the planning of future events.

The summary below shows total entries into the Arboretum, busiest days, and peak times. PHA's busiest day in 2016 was the annual opening of the Visitor Center and plant sale on Memorial Day weekend.

## Key Figures

- Total Traffic for the Period Analyzed: 16,291
- Daily Average: 46
  - Weekdays: 45 / Weekend days: 50
  - Max. Average Value (June): 88
  - Min. Average Value (December): 8
- Busiest Day of the Week: Saturday
- Busiest Days of the Period Analyzed:
  1. Saturday, May 28, 2016 (369)
  2. Saturday, September 10, 2016 (209)
  3. Thursday, August 11, 2016 (193)



# Volunteer Program

In 2016, over 3,400 volunteer service hours were contributed to the Arboretum with volunteers on site nearly every week of the year. The active volunteer roster increased from 75 to 86 individuals this year. New volunteers joined the greenhouse, grounds, Visitor Center, tours, technological support, and herbarium areas. Volunteers signed in a total of 840 times during 2016!



Volunteers were active on the grounds contributing to new projects but also involved in nearly every aspect of the care of the collections, which includes planting, pruning, mulching, tree removals, and deer fence construction. An increase in greenhouse volunteers has enabled the Arboretum to expand production of PHA introductions made available in our plant sale.





## PHA Nursery and Plant Sale Areas Remodeled and Expanded



In addition to producing unique and hard-to-find plants, the nursery has expanded to accommodate our yearly collection expeditions and increased plant production. This past year an additional shade house was added to improve the care and maintenance of new plants. Overall the quality, diversity, and maintenance of our nursery has benefited from our greenhouse volunteers and the oversight of Plant Propagator, Brian McGowan.

### Newly Expanded Plant Sale Area



The plant sale area is open every day during our season and the inventory changes on a weekly basis. The PHA hosts two plant sale events each year where staff provides members with plant information and cultural tips on how to successfully grow plants in home landscapes. This year the staff created a more comfortable and customer friendly space by doubling the size of the area. A beautiful stone wall with attractive gates was constructed at the entry, providing a deer enclosure that protects the plants. New display benches allow room for an information sheet corresponding to each plant. Our ability to maintain the plants has vastly improved. The new space allows us to offer more choice trees, shrubs, and perennials and our revenue has increased as a result. Funds from our plant sale are used to support our college and graduate internships.



# Community Ecology



Participants in the Habitat Kids Program

For the board and staff of the Polly Hill Arboretum, our contributions to our community provide the richest rewards. At PHA we strive not only to share our expertise, but also to positively influence the local ecology. This includes educating the public on the important role plants play in our lives. Through our Community Ecology program, created in 2015, we participate in Island collaborative projects that benefit the Island, its community, and our local environment. We look at our community much like we look at ecosystems. Through growing and studying plants, and sharing our knowledge and resources, we support the ecological health of our beautiful and fragile island.

2016 was a busy year with a continued collaborative with the Habitat Kids program, helping students collect, grow, and plant milkweed. The goal of the project is to create monarch waystations in schoolyards. The plants produced in our nursery as part of our MV Wildtype native plants program made it into school yards and conservation areas such as Martha's Vineyard Land Bank.

This past year, Executive Director Tim Boland worked with the towns of Vineyard Haven and Oak Bluffs and the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) on the landscape design for the Island's newly constructed drawbridge. The town and landscape designers consulted PHA's web-based Plant Selection Guide to choose salt and wind-tolerant plants. This exposed environment features a selection of resilient plants, many native to the Island such as the beach plum and bayberry. The PHA takes pride in sharing best management practices for tree care. This year, PHA Horticulturist/Arborist Ian Jochems consulted with the staff and volunteers of the Trustees of Reservations at Mytoi Garden on Chappaquiddick to assist them in the removal of a hazardous tree. Ian also assisted the Nature Conservancy at the Hoft Farm in a large tree removal project.

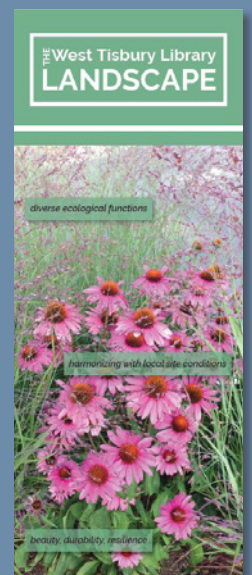
In addition, PHA Horticulturist Ben Madeiras and Executive Director Tim Boland contributed to the Edgartown School's innovative Farm & Garden Program by leading Orchard Day, a fruit tree pruning program. Fourth grade students learned the how and why we prune fruit trees for optimal production. As part of the instruction, students had a chance to prune trees. They also found out about composting and the benefits of mulching.

## West Tisbury Library Landscape—An Outdoor Learning Landscape



Executive Director Tim Boland worked with the West Tisbury Library to help produce an informative brochure that outlines the design tenets and features of the garden surrounding the newly expanded library. Interpretive panels placed out in the gardens allow visitors to gain information about the special features of the landscape.

The parking lot features Bioswales designed to capture runoff and remove harmful pollutants before they reach our local watershed. The brochure and outdoor signage were designed by Ann Quigley, our new Education and Outreach Coordinator. The landscape has been well received by the Town and the many patrons who visit the local library.





## Successful Seed Expeditions

Executive Director Tim Boland and former PHA Curator Tom Clark both participated in seed-collecting expeditions this past September in collaboration with the Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University. Tim's trip to southeastern Kentucky concentrated on the northernmost populations of the mountain camellia (*Stewartia ovata*), while Tom's trip focused on a range of species from sites in Tennessee, North Carolina, and Georgia.

The Kentucky trip was hosted by Phillip Douglas, director of horticulture at Gainesway (a horse farm and arboretum in Lexington, Kentucky). Tim was joined by former PHA intern Catherine Meholic, now plant recorder for the Mt. Cuba Center in Hockessin, Delaware, and Jenna Zukswert, living collections fellow at the Arnold. Despite moderate to severe drought conditions in Kentucky, the group was successful in finding seed from most of their target plants. They made 18 *stewartia* collections from sites in the Cumberland Plateau region of the Daniel Boone National Forest.

Jenna departed from the Kentucky trip and immediately joined Tom Clark and Robert Dowell (also an Arnold Arboretum living collections fellow) for a weeklong seed-collecting trip through four



Cumberland Plateau region, Daniel Boone National Forest



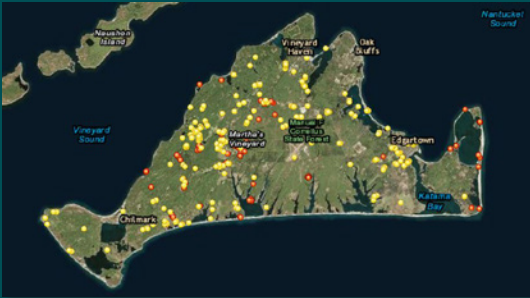
The Sorrel Tree, *Oxydendrum arboreum*

national forests in Tennessee, North Carolina, and Georgia. Relying heavily on location data Robert had assembled from herbarium specimens, the team collected seed from nearly all the plants on their target list, including the rare pirate-bush (*Buckleya distichophylla*) and big-leaf magnolia (*Magnolia macrophylla*).

Seed expeditions require an extensive amount of planning and permitting, travel to remote locations, and hiking through rugged terrain. This challenging work furthers our mission-related objectives of plant conservation, collection development, and horticultural experimentation. In addition, we establish cooperative relationships with regional botanists who have an awareness of the distribution and health of wild plant populations. Seed from these trips has been cleaned and put into cold storage. Next spring we expect new seedlings to sprout, beginning the transition from mountaintop to PHA collections.



# Flora of Martha's Vineyard Yields New Discoveries



In recent years Polly Hill Arboretum and its conservation partners have been collaborating on a fresh initiative to study, document, and map the flora of Martha's Vineyard and the smaller islands of Dukes County. This PHA-led initiative, called the ConServation Project, endeavors to research and compile information on the wild plants of Dukes County to better understand the local flora and assess and prioritize its

conservation and management needs. We now have in place a dynamic web-based Flora supported by an underlying database and a linked companion GIS map showing plant population locations.

2016 marks our most successful year of new records for plants found on Martha's Vineyard. The majority of the credit goes to PHA Research Associate, Gregory Palermo, and volunteer Margaret Curtin. Nearly 200 collections were made of 170 different taxa. These included 32 county records, including a new U.S. record. The Arboretum is excited about the future of this project as we now have the capacity to properly process and store specimens in our new herbarium.



New PHA herbarium

## Historic Insights into the Vineyard's Future: Henry Whiting and the Map of 1850

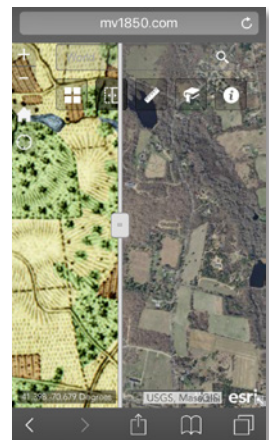


To interpret the Vineyard today and anticipate future changes, we must understand its history. Among the best tools available is an 1850 map created by Henry Whiting, topographer with the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey and co-founder of the MV Agricultural Society.

Dr. David R. Foster, director of the Harvard Forest and a PHA research associate, presented the story behind the map in a compelling illustrated lecture this past July at the Martha's Vineyard Agricultural Society, who co-sponsored the event.

The lecture was attended by over 200 guests and through the generosity of Dr. Foster, an archival quality replica of the map was printed and made available at local book stores, on-line, and at the Polly Hill Arboretum. All proceeds from this map project benefit the new research fund at the Polly Hill Arboretum to support the development of a modern flora for Martha's Vineyard, and research in plant conservation and forest ecology.

In addition to the printed map, an interactive smart phone map has been created which allows users to travel anywhere on the Vineyard and call up their location. With the swipe of a finger the 1850 map appears at the same spot, illustrating the nature of our changing landscapes over time.



Screen shot from the interactive map, showing the Arboretum property in 1850 compared to today



## Board News

In October of this past year, Arboretum board chairman Joan Margot Smith retired from the PHA board after many years of service. Joan's impact on the Arboretum cannot be understated. Joining the board after the passing of her husband, PHA co-founder Dr. David H. Smith, Joan has led with both pragmatic and philanthropic support. Understanding PHA's origins and mission, her ability to connect with people, from members to staff to board members, helped guide our organization from its very foundation to its firm establishment. She saw the Arboretum through the revision of by-laws, strategic planning, and the creation of a solid board and a substantial network of supporters.

A woman of diverse interests and talents, Joan takes great joy in both the people and programs of the Arboretum. Her infectious enthusiasm and delightful sense of humor are balanced by her determination to see PHA not only become established, but prosper. Joan designed the Arboretum's distinctive logo found everywhere from our stationary to our T-shirts.

Beyond her involvement with PHA, Joan is active in the stewardship of the family foundation David Smith established in 1990: the Cedar Tree Foundation (CTF) located in Boston. The Arboretum has benefited from the support of CTF through project-based grants that helped to both spur donations and to leverage matching support for our first endowment campaign (2007) and our new Education Center and Botany Lab. Additionally CTF has been generous with further grants for marketing, renewable energy developments, and renovations to our historic buildings.

Joan's last PHA board meeting was in October and at that time the PHA board of directors elected Hunter Moorman of West Tisbury, Massachusetts, to the board chairmanship. Also at that time, Joan was recognized for her past leadership by being elected as a PHA honorary board member.

The board also welcomed its newest member, Dennis Bushe. Dennis's appointment strengthens the board in its capacity for sound financial management. Dennis has a distinguished career in investment management and extensive experience in non-profit and corporate board leadership. Seasonal residents of West Tisbury based in New York City, Dennis and his wife Ann are enthusiastic supporters of PHA. Ann already serves as a volunteer at the Visitor Center. We extend a hearty welcome to our new colleague, Dennis Bushe!

At the same time, we extend gratitude to Lydia Hill Slaby who rotated off the PHA Board at the conclusion of her third term in June. Her personal connection to the Arboretum—she is Polly Hill's granddaughter—and her extensive experience in finance and budgeting were a tremendous asset. During her nine years, Lydia brought passion and expertise that she applied to the development of systematic budget policies, sound wealth management capacity, and the rigorous monitoring of expenditures. We have greatly valued her sure guidance.



Joan Smith



David H. Smith



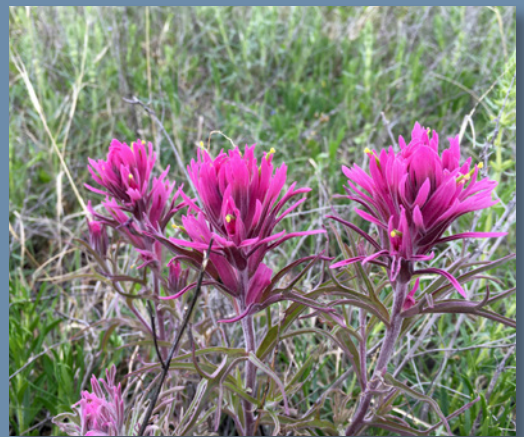
Dennis Bushe and Ann Dille

## Staff News

In January, Curator Tom Clark presented "Great Shrubs for Valley Gardens" at Hadley Garden Center. And in February Executive Director Tim Boland presented a talk on small flowering trees to the Martha's Vineyard Garden Club. Also in February, Plant Propagator/Horticulturist Brian McGowan attended a class at Broken Arrow Nursery in Hamden, Connecticut, to learn more about the practice of grafting; a skill he plans to use for propagating several of Polly Hill's selections.

During a trip to the Pacific Northwest in March, Tom visited the Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden in Federal Way, Washington, and met with director Steve Hootman and other staff regarding future collaborations. Also in March, Horticulturist/Arborist Ian Jochems and Horticulturist Ben Madeiras traveled to UMass Amherst to attend UMass Extension's 2016 Community Tree Conference: Work Safe, Stay Safe. In addition, this March found Ian leading a two-part course, "Pruning 101 for Landscapers and Gardeners," in cooperation with ACE MV.

In April, Tim traveled to the Botanical Research Institute of Texas in Fort Worth to present their visiting researcher seminar titled "The Botanical and Natural History of Martha's Vineyard." While there he met with staff to review their herbarium collections management policy. Tim also had a chance to visit local wildflower sanctuaries, many in peak bloom! Also in April, Tom spoke to the Massachusetts chapter of the American Rhododendron Society focusing on rhododendron conservation and the work that PHA continues to pursue with endangered native azaleas. In May, Tom spoke on hydrangeas for Island gardens at the Martha's Vineyard Garden Club's monthly meeting.



Prairie Paintbrush (*Castilleja purpurea*)

In July, Horticulturist Ben Madeiras attended a conference hosted by the Sentinel Plant Network held at the Phipps Conservatory in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The conference included the identification of significant pests and diseases that threaten our gardens on a national and international scale. Also in July, Plant Propagator/Horticulturist Brian McGowan and his wife, Alice, escorted our summer interns, Kate Montgomery and Sarah Houtsma, and curatorial intern, Kady Wilson, on a whirlwind tour of the Hudson Valley of New York State, including visits to Olana Historic Site, Montgomery Place, and Stonecrop Gardens.



Executive Director Tim Boland took part in the West Tisbury Library's garden dedication on July 24. The festivities, organized by the West Tisbury Library Foundation, recognized the PHA's professional contributions. Tim gave a short talk acknowledging everyone who assisted, including PHA staff: Tom Clark; Erin Hepfner; Ian Jochems; Brian McGowan; Tim's wife and Head of Circulation at the library, Laura Coit; and our dedicated group of greenhouse volunteers!

Tim Boland speaking at the Library garden dedication



## Staff Tours for Visiting Organizations

- Fairfield Garden Club – June 1
- Association to Preserve Cape Cod – June 9
- The Heart of Love Retreats – June 11
- Brewster Garden Club – June 15
- Arnold Arboretum Internship participants – August 5
- Nauset Garden Club – September 22
- The Trustees of Reservations, Day of Wonder – September 23
- Falmouth Garden Club – September 28

## Temperature and Precipitation Recorded at PHA in 2016

<i>Month</i>	<i>Monthly mean temp</i>	<i>Monthly precip.</i>
Jan.	1.39°C	65.5mm
Feb.	2.0°C	102.1mm
Mar.	5.8°C	72.3mm
Apr.	7.7°C	98.8mm
May	13.5°C	78.1mm
Jun.	18.2°C	14.9mm
Jul.	22.5°C	83.8mm
Aug.	21.4°C	12.9mm
Sep.	18.9°C	83.8mm
Oct.	13.2°C	145.3mm
Nov.	8.5°C	69.0mm
Dec.	4.2°C	32.0mm
<b>2016 Total</b>	<b>52.3°C</b>	<b>842.5mm</b>



The Arboretum experienced a very moderate winter with a minimum temperature of -5.1 oF (-20.6 oC ) recorded on January 15. Total rainfall was below average for the year with a very dry June and August. Total yearly precipitation was 33in. (838mm). Average annual rainfall for West Tisbury is 45in. (1143mm).

# Polly Hill Arboretum, Inc. Statement of Financial Position

## December 31, 2015

### ASSETS

#### Current assets:

Cash and cash equivalents	\$325,308
Pledges receivable	14,805
Inventory	3,980
Prepaid expenses	<u>20,000</u>
	<u>364,093</u>

#### Property and Equipment:

Land	2,377,232
Building and improvements	4,075,912
Furniture and fixtures	134,970
Machinery and equipment	<u>299,381</u>
	6,887,495

Accumulated Depreciation	(1,681,964)
	<u>5,205,531</u>

#### Other assets:

Pledges Receivable	20,000
Restricted investments	1,101,994
Restricted pledges receivable	215,000
Restricted cash	<u>268,440</u>
	<u>1,605,434</u>

#### Endowment Assets:

Endowment investments	18,743,362
Endowment mortgage note receivable	<u>593,432</u>
	<u>19,336,974</u>

<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$26,511,852</b>
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### LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

#### Current Liabilities:

Accounts payable and accrued expenses	<u>\$43,568</u>
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#### Net Assets:

Unrestricted	5,546,056
Temporarily restricted	7,500,846
Permanently restricted	<u>13,421,382</u>
	<u>\$26,468,284</u>

<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$26,511,582</b>
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# *The Polly Hill Arboretum*

## THE CORPORATION AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Timothy M. Boland, *Ex Officio*  
Dennis M. Bushe  
Sarah Griffin  
Pamela Kohlberg  
Gary Montrowl, *Treasurer*  
Hunter Moorman, *President & Chairman*  
Richard M. Reische  
Claire Sawyers  
E. Douglas Sederholm  
Susan H. Wasserman, *Secretary*

## HONORARY BOARD MEMBERS

Robert W. Doran  
Lisina M. Hoch  
Joan Smith  
Philippe de Spoelberch  
Stephen A. Sponberg

## RESEARCH ASSOCIATES

Melissa Cullina  
Jessica Dyson  
David R. Foster  
Matthew Lobdell  
Gregory Palermo

## STAFF

Timothy M. Boland  
*Executive Director*  
Jill Bouck  
*Youth Education Coordinator*  
Tom Clark  
*Curator (2016)*  
Barbara Conroy  
*Administrative & Financial Officer*  
Betsy Dripps  
*Youth Education Coordinator*  
Erin Hepfner  
*Visitor Services/Resource Specialist*  
Ian Jochems  
*Horticulturist/Arborist*  
Ben Madeiras  
*Horticulturist*  
Brian McGowan  
*Plant Propagator/Horticulturist*  
Karin Stanley  
*Education, Membership & Outreach Coordinator (2016)*

Graphic Artist for this Report:  
Ann Quigley  
*Education, Membership & Outreach Coordinator (2017)*

Clematis (Guernsey Cream)

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.