

THE POST SERIAL

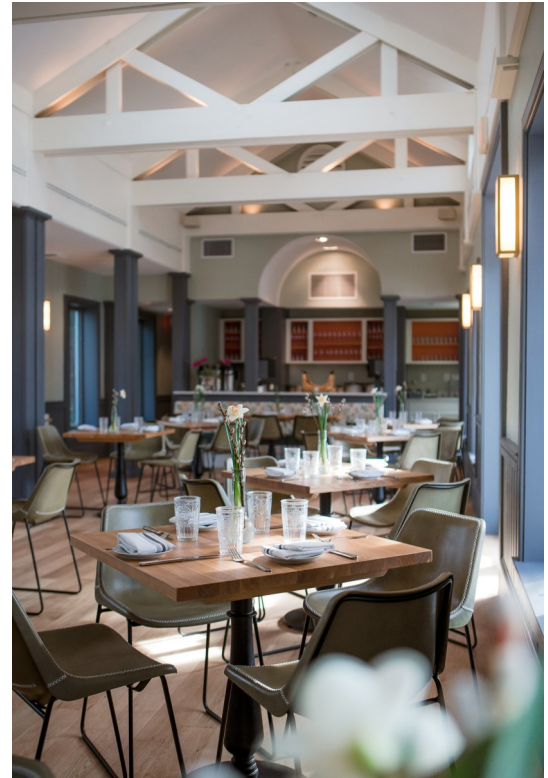
Introducing Merriweather Café

Lizzie Axelson, Marketing, Communications, and Membership Manager

Merriweather Café has opened! Enjoy a delightful new dining experience with a refreshing menu in a redesigned space, the perfect complement to a Hillwood visit.

After five weeks of construction, Merriweather Café opened on Friday, March 15 and has been well received by the members, volunteers, and guests who have had an opportunity to dine with us. We are so happy to bring you this updated dining experience, a contemporary interpretation of Marjorie Post's gracious hospitality. Both the café and C.W. Post received face lifts, bringing them up to date with the standards set by our founder and expected by our visitors.

As some of you may know, in November 2017, Hillwood welcomed Starr Catering Group as its new dining partner. In 2018, Starr became Constellation Culinary, changing in name but not in spirit. Constellation will continue to operate the café, under the wonderful guidance of Amy Hill. We have very much enjoyed working with them and look forward to this exciting new chapter.



The café's new look



A sampling of the menu's offerings

The [menu](#) includes a delicious selection of sandwiches, salads, soups, and more, adding fresh bites and bringing back old favorites (quiche, anyone?). Additionally, the much-awaited [afternoon tea service](#) returned on Sunday, April 14.

As a reminder, Hillwood volunteers receive a 20% discount in the café, so we hope you will join us! Merriweather Café is open Tuesday through Sunday, 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Merriweather To Go is open Tuesday through Sunday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Hillwood Happenings for Volunteers

All Hillwood volunteers are invited to take advantage of the educational offerings listed below. While advance registration is not necessary for all continuing education events, **please register in advance when stated**, as space is limited for some opportunities. Advanced registration can be completed on the clipboard at the horticulture sign-in station or by contacting Drew Asbury at 202.243.3907 or DAsbury@hillwoodmuseum.org.

Hanging Basket Workshop | Tuesday, May 14, 11:30 a.m.

Join Drew Asbury, horticulturist, in the greenhouse workroom to create your very own summer-flowering hanging basket from a selection of flowering and trailing plants. A \$25 fee covers the cost of materials. Space is limited to 12 volunteers. Please sign up on the clipboard in the horticulture office area. Meet in the greenhouse workroom.

Container Workshop | Wednesday, May 15, 11:30 a.m.

Jessica Bonilla, head gardener, will provide inspiration to help you create your very own container of summer-flowering plants. A \$25 fee covers the cost of materials. Please sign up on the clipboard in the horticulture office area. Space is limited to 12 volunteers. Meet in the horticulture break room.

Garden Tour: Trees at Hillwood | Tuesday, May 21 through Thursday, May 23, and Saturday, May 25, 11:30 a.m.

Join Marshall Paquin, senior gardener, as he discusses and highlights the diverse collection of trees in the gardens. Please sign up on the clipboard in the horticulture office area. Space is limited to 15 volunteers per tour. Meet in the horticulture break room.

Plant ID Walk: Early Summer Blooms | Tuesday, June 4 through Friday, June 7, 11:30 a.m.

Join Drew Asbury, horticulturist, for a walk in the gardens. We will focus our discussion on plants in bloom. Please sign up on the clipboard in the horticulture office area. Space is limited to 15 volunteers per walk. Meet in the horticulture break room.

Mid-Century Master: The Photography of Alfred Eisenstaedt Volunteer Education Lecture | Monday, June 10, 10:30 a.m.

Join us as Megan Martinelli, assistant curator of apparel, jewelry, and accessories, speaks about Hillwood's new exhibition *Mid-Century Master: The Photography of Alfred Eisenstaedt*, opening to the public on June 8 in the Adirondack building. Volunteers are invited to attend a presentation in the visitor center theater. Following the lecture, Megan will be available on-station in the exhibition to answer questions. No RSVP is required, and the presentation in the visitor center theater will be recorded and shared on the volunteer website.

Plant ID Walk: Hillwood's Gardens and Astronomy | Tuesday, June 25 through Friday, June 28, 11:30 a.m.

Join Kevin Beamer, gardener, on a tour exploring the connections between astronomy and the plants and artifacts in Hillwood's gardens. Please sign up on the clipboard in the horticulture office area. Space is limited to 15 volunteers walk. Meet in the horticulture break room.

Save the Date!

Mark your calendars for Hillwood's annual volunteer appreciation reception! This year's festivities will be Monday, May 20 from 5 to 7 p.m. and will include a cocktail reception and exciting programming opportunities for our volunteers and their guests. An invitation was sent via email on April 18. Please join us as we thank you for all that you give to Hillwood!

Museum Shop Update

Lauren Salazar, Head of Merchandising

After attending four gift shows in early 2019, the results are making their debuts in the museum shop. We are stocked with new gifts, apparel, and books, and more spring merchandise is arriving daily. Some of my favorites include:

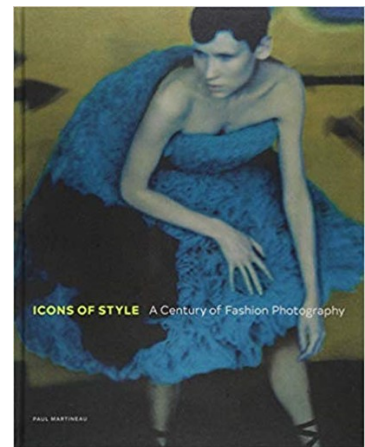
Cherry Blossom Accessories – RFID technology protects your credit card information, and these lovely brocade card holders and wallets are perfect for Easter or Mothers' Day.



Mugs, Totes, Plates, and Pet Bowls –

Germany's Paper Products Design is known for their whimsical designs and vibrant colors.

And, looking ahead to *Mid-Century Master: The Photography of Alfred Eisenstaedt*, an engaging mix of merchandise and books is already arriving including photography inspired finds, like the ones shown here.



2019 Special Exhibition Dates to Note

As a friendly reminder, *Perfume & Seduction* will be open to the public in the dacha through Sunday, June 9. *Mid-Century Master: The Photography of Alfred Eisenstaedt* will be open to the public from Saturday, June 8 through Sunday, January 12, 2020 in the Adirondack building.

New Hillwood Hashtag

Lizzie Axelson, Marketing, Communications, and Membership Manager

Engage with Hillwood on social media! More and more visitors are following along with us online, viewing our content and sharing their own photos of Hillwood. As we continue to grow, we are excited to introduce new initiatives and connect more deeply with our visitors.

As a reminder, Hillwood can be found on the following social media platforms:

Instagram: @HillwoodMuseum

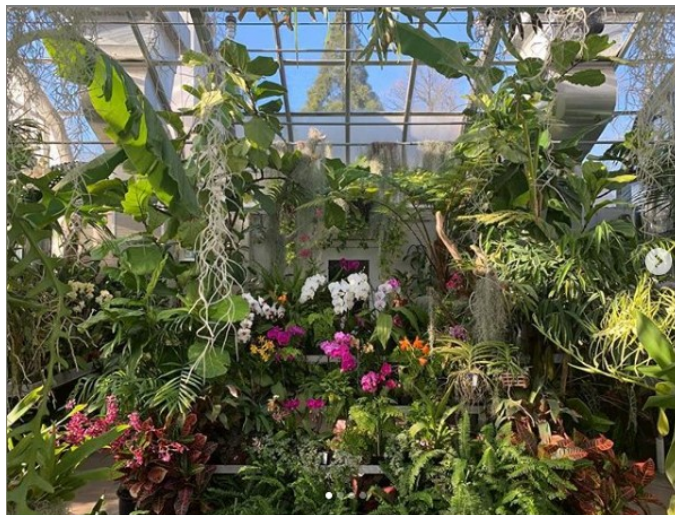
Facebook: www.facebook.com/HillwoodMuseum

Twitter: @HillwoodMuseum

Introducing...#HiFromHillwood! Connect with us on social media using our new hashtag. We love seeing Hillwood through the eyes of our visitors (and volunteers!) and hope to share more visitor content to encourage this online community.

For those who might be unfamiliar, a hashtag allows others to easily find specific messages. Adding the hashtag #HiFromHillwood to your photos will allow us to find Hillwood-related posts on Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter and re-share them from our own platforms.

*Hillwood volunteer
Vee Smith shares
#HiFromHillwood*



If you have any questions or ideas, please let me know at EAxelson@HillwoodMuseum.org. We look forward to seeing "your Hillwood." Share away for your chance to be featured!

Upcoming Events and Programs

Be sure to visit the [Events and Programs](#) page of Hillwood's website to see what fabulous programming is coming up. Future offerings, like lectures and workshops, are regularly added months in advance. Bookmark or favorite the page so you can visit it with ease!

Recent Circles Trips and Events Recap

Martha Ball, Development Assistant

2019 Palm Beach Friends of Hillwood

Our annual program was another wonderful celebration of Marjorie Merriweather Post's legacy in Palm Beach. Three days of events were held February 18-20, 2019. Many renewing members invited their friends to join us, which made for new and familiar connections throughout the program.

Members enjoyed a guided tour of the Palm Beach Jewelry, Art and Antique Show, private tours of the newly renovated Norton Museum of Art and the exhibition *Maker & Muse: Women and Early Twentieth Century Art Jewelry* at the Henry Morrison Flagler Museum, and a fantastic tour and lunch at the Palm Beach International Equestrian Center in Wellington. The event was capped off with cocktails and a fabulous dinner at the Everglades Club.

Everyone is welcome to become a Palm Beach Friends of Hillwood member and attend our 2020 activities, which will take place February 17-19. If you are interested, please contact Martha Ball, development assistant, at 202.243.3909 or MBall@HillwoodMuseum.org. We hope you will join us!

Circles Trip to the Philadelphia Flower Show

On March 5, Circles members joined Kate Markert, executive director, and Jessica Bonilla, head gardener, on a day trip to the Philadelphia Flower Show. The group enjoyed seeing the dramatic floral displays, which centered on the theme of Flower Power. A highlight of the trip was a seated garden tea, where Circles members sipped tea surrounded by fresh floral arrangements. Jessica shared her expertise, offering Circles members a more informed perspective on the botanicals in the show.

Circles Tea and Perfume Experience

Circles members enjoyed a fabulous afternoon tea and perfume experience at Hillwood on March 27. The tea was held in the newly refreshed C.W. Post, where members were joined by Kate Markert, executive director, Jan Jensen, head of development, and Rebecca Tilles, associate curator of eighteenth century French and western European fine arts. Local perfumery mavens Arielle Shoshana and Katri Haas of Arielle Shoshana led an immersive perfume experience, which allowed Circles members to experience the scents that once filled the perfume bottles within the special exhibition [Perfume & Seduction](#). The experience focused on the rich history of fragrance, with a particular emphasis on perfume as identity. Following their presentation, Arielle and Katri answered questions from the attendees and offered science-backed tips for wearing perfume.



Circles members enjoy a tea and perfume experience in the newly refreshed C.W. Post.

Save the Date: *The Black & White Gala*

Allison Kingery, Special Events Manager



See what develops...

Hillwood's [annual gala](#) will be held on Tuesday, June 4. This year's gala celebrates the opening of the exhibition [Mid-Century Master: The Photography of Alfred Eisenstaedt](#) with an elegant black-and-white themed evening. *The Black & White Gala* starts at 6:30 p.m. with cocktails and passed hors d'oeuvres under the courtyard tent and a first preview of the exhibition in the Adirondack building. Guests will then proceed to a seated dinner on the Lunar Lawn.

Co-chairs Josh Hildreth, Mark Lowham, and Shannon Stichman anticipate the gala to be a memorable evening in the tradition of Hillwood's glorious past events. The 430 seats available are going fast and are expected to sell out.

Sponsorships begin at \$1,000 and tables of ten are available starting at \$15,000. Individual tickets for the evening are \$500. Please contact Allison Kingery, special events manager, at AKingery@HillwoodMuseum.org or 202.243.3974 for more information.

Upcoming Membership Events for *Mid-Century Master: The Photography of Alfred Eisenstaedt*

Lizzie Axelson, Marketing, Communications, and Membership Manager

Mark your calendars! The member preview days for [Mid-Century Master: The Photography of Alfred Eisenstaedt](#) are June 5, 6, and 7 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Members have the exclusive opportunity to see the exhibition before it opens to the public and hear directly from the curator, Megan Martinelli, during behind-the-scenes presentations.

Members are encouraged to upgrade to the contributor level (\$150) or above to attend the Curator's Reception on Thursday, June 6 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Enjoy libations and hors d'oeuvres while meeting members of the exhibition team. Kate Markert, executive director, and Megan Martinelli, assistant curator of apparel, jewelry, and accessories, will be on hand to chat and answer questions about *Mid-Century Master: The Photography of Alfred Eisenstaedt*.

We cannot wait to launch this dazzling exhibition in fabulous style, and I hope that each of you takes advantage of the wonderful membership benefits to enhance this special opening week.

Website Online Collection Integrates with HAM

Lisa Horvath, Volunteer Services Supervisor

Those who have recently accessed the online collection may have noticed the experience was faster. As announced at the volunteer business meeting in January, Hillwood's digital assets management system (HAM) was recently integrated with the [online collection](#). Search time on the website is now quicker and an advanced search function by object category, artist or maker, material, and more allows for refined results. We look forward to expanding volunteer access to HAM in the coming months.

Hillwood Begins Providing Volunteers with Access to Digitized Materials

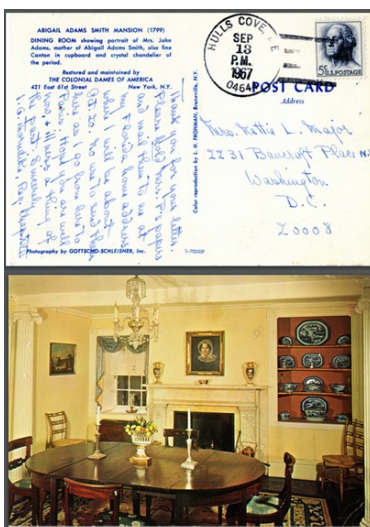
Beth Blackwood, Digital Assets Librarian

Volunteer access to HAM, Hillwood's digital assets management system, is on the horizon! Information technology and library staff are in the final stages of preparing selected collections for volunteer use. Once the project is complete, volunteers can expect on-site access to the object collection, digitized materials from the Bentley Project, and a selection of images and videos from the Hillwood archives.

The object collection offers detailed information about all of the accessioned items in the collection, including descriptions, measurements, locations, and detailed images, like the ones shown here. The Bentley Project includes materials relating to Marjorie Post's papers, housed in their original state at the University of Michigan's Bentley Historical Library. Many of these items are full-text searchable. The selection of digitized images and films include snapshots and home movies of Marjorie Post's homes, gardens, and travel. All of these items can be used as research materials and for general interest.



*Two views of egg-shaped etui
(acc. no. 11.163)*



Hillwood needs your help to implement this project. Information technology staff need several volunteers to test the system and edit training materials. It is important to have input from volunteers with varying levels of skill and comfort in using computers and digital systems—from novice to expert. If you are interested in contributing your time to help with this project, please contact Lisa Horvath at LHorvath@HillwoodMuseum.org and describe your level of comfort in using a computer and other digital systems.

*Postcard from Box 17, Folder 31 of Post Family Papers,
Bentley Historical Library*

New Family Mansion Treasure Hunts

Rebecca Singer, Youth Audience Manager

We are excited to introduce a set of three printed mansion treasure hunts for families with children ages three and up to use while exploring the mansion. Volunteers will distribute the new treasure hunts from the visitor center tour desk, so families can head out from the visitor center with new ways to discover Hillwood. Additional copies will also be available in the mansion coat room, as needed.

Over the years, the number of families with young children visiting Hillwood has increased, and we estimate that about 2,000 family groups (made up of adults with children) come for a general visit each year. The interpretation department has been exploring additional ways to serve these groups, and we were delighted to have heard from volunteers that you too were interested in having materials to give to families to guide their exploration of Hillwood.

We encourage you to talk with families to help them choose which treasure hunt(s) they would like to use:

- Families can use one, two, or all three treasure hunts during their visit. For families with young children or who are short on time, just one hunt per visit is best.
- Find out if families are interested in learning more about a particular subject (Russia, France, Marjorie Merriweather Post) and give them the appropriate treasure hunt.
- Families who are repeat visitors can try out different treasure hunts on different visits.

Some highlights of the treasure hunts include:

- Three treasures hunts, each on a different theme: Russian art, French art, and Marjorie Merriweather Post.
- Each treasure hunt is a single page (front and back) featuring nine objects.
- Wayfinding features include:
 - ◇ Mansion floorplan on the front
 - ◇ Object locations noted on floorplan by shaded rooms and letters
 - ◇ Room names listed under close-up images of objects
- Lots of large, engaging images, attracting attention and encouraging looking closely at details on the art.
- Searching for art, using close-up details, turns exploring the mansion into a game to keep kids actively involved.
- Provides brief, kid-friendly information about each featured object.

MANSION TREASURE HUNT HILLWOOD ESTATE MUSEUM & GARDENS

Russian Art

- 1 GO to the rooms shaded in gold on the map.
- 2 USE the close-ups to find the art in each room.
- 3 READ to learn more.

A ENTRY HALL
Catherine the Great, a ruler of Russia, holds a gold wand called a scepter. Below the scepter is a large crown and a golden orb, shaped like a globe with a cross on top.

B RUSSIAN PORCELAIN ROOM
This squirrel sits on a covered cup. Russians used cups like this at feasts honoring knights who were awarded for their bravery. The squirrel works hard to crack the nut, just as people had to work hard to get the award.

C RUSSIAN PORCELAIN ROOM
This eagle has two heads! It is the official symbol of the Romanov family, who ruled Russia for more than 300 years.

Q Where else do you see double-headed eagles?

Portrait of Empress Catherine II (emp. 1762-96), attributed to Alexander Orlovskiy, artist, after Alexander Rodts, St. Petersburg, about 1780, oil on canvas (11.58) Q 604

Cup from the Chair of St. George Service, Gostinyi Factory, Novosil, Russia, 1700s, porcelain (15.4 x 2.3) Q 613

Plaque (William J. Edes Company, Philip Brinkman, New York, 1923, enamel on paper, metal of glass) (14.8 x 8)

Learn more with Hillwood's free audio guide, available in the visitor center or as a mobile app. hillwoodmuseum.org

The newly designed Russian Art family mansion treasure hunt

We invite you to try out these treasure hunts to familiarize yourself with the objects and their locations. We hope you have fun exploring and engaging visitors with this new tool. Please share your feedback with us as you begin using the new treasure hunts with families.

2019 Garden Tour Seasons

The 2019 spring garden tour season has begun! Visitors can join a Hillwood garden docent for a one-hour tour of Hillwood's formal gardens. Tours are offered Tuesday through Sunday, through Sunday, June 30, at 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

The fall garden tour season will begin Sunday, September 1 and end on Sunday, November 10.

What's Coming Up in the Gardens

Jessica Bonilla, Head Gardener

As we know, spring is an important time here at Hillwood. Staff and horticulture volunteers work hard to have the grounds looking good. Our first big job was adding the spring annuals (over 8,000) to the gardens. The designs have moved way past just violas and pansies and include nemesia, osteospermum, and stock to name a few. These, and the bulbs planted last year (over 27,000), have really taken the gardens to new heights. Thank you to everyone who lent a hand!

Before we know it, the hard summer sun will come and beat down the delicate cool season plants, and it will be time for the summer display. Summer annuals will start to arrive on April 29 with the change-out typically spanning two weeks. This year we will have a very hot color palate on the Lunar Lawn side of the property and cool pinks and purples towards the greenhouse. There will also be a lot of fun new cultivars to see. Check the [volunteer website](#) under "Educational Documents" for more information on the display.

In the weeks before and after the summer display installation, there will be a few planting projects taking precedence. The cutting garden will be getting a new look around the edges, especially at the stairs from the administration building. Staff removed all the nasty invasive barberry and replanted with fothergilla and an assortment of perennials and groundcovers. This is meant to blend effortlessly with the Butler's house bed that will develop into a beautiful mixed border.

Two other planting locations include the woodland trail and under the deodar cedar outside the motor court. There were so many resources put into the development of the woodland path garden at the top of the trail that we realized the other



Woodland trail designated for a planting upgrade

side could use some improvements, too. Here, staff will be carrying over a few plants from the path design and adding in some interesting native shrubs and perennials. The positioning and size of the deodar cedar and motor court wall have made it very difficult to grow grass. This area will now become a bed of evergreen perennials. We will start with small plants to reduce any impact on our beloved cedar.

As you think about the logistics of these projects, you may wonder what happens to the plant material we remove. Anything good may find a home in a different part of the garden or get rehabilitated in our small nursery by the stewards house. Everything else becomes green waste. Hillwood manages its green waste in two ways. Non-woody material is composted onsite and returned to the gardens. Woody material is hauled away in a large dumpster and turned into mulch or other sustainable products.



Walkway restoration to continue this summer at the top of the Japanese-style garden

One last important happening in the gardens is the continued investment into the restoration of our hardscape. Last year, John Pond, our stone mason, was able to fix not only the cutting garden wall but also the patios around the armillary spheres. This year, he will focus on the patio at the Four Seasons Overlook and the path going from the top of the Japanese-style garden to the western armillary sphere. More information will be communicated as plans develop. We anticipate the project starting during the last week of June.

Thank you for your support of the gardens and keep growing!

Plant Profile: Japanese Cedar (*cryptomeria*)

Jane Berger, Newsletter Volunteer

One of the great glories of Japanese gardens all over the world is the Japanese cedar (*cryptomeria*), planted mainly for its fairly narrow, graceful, upright conical or pyramidal shape. Its horizontal branches are arranged in tiers, and depending on the cultivar, its foliage is dark green or has a bluish green cast. The delicate, curved needles are arranged in spirals and have a somewhat flat appearance. In cold winters, the needles turn bronze, almost matching the reddish-brown bark that peels away attractively in strips.

Native to Japan and China, *cryptomeria* is the national tree of Japan and is often planted at temples and shrines. Its name is derived from the Greek *krypto*, meaning "to hide," and *meris*, referring to hidden flower parts. While the tree grows to 150 feet in its native mountainous habitat, here in the United States, it reaches fifty to sixty feet high and twenty to thirty feet wide. It is most often used for screening or as a stand-alone specimen in the garden.

One of the most popular cultivars is 'Yoshino,' with bluish-green needles that turn bronze in winter. Two large specimens can be found at the bottom of the Japanese-style garden here at Hillwood. There is also a dwarf cultivar, 'Osaka Tama,' just below the millstone pond, a Marjorie Merriweather Post original.

Other interesting cultivars you may want to consider include 'Black Dragon,' a compact form that gets ten feet tall and four to six feet wide with very dark green, almost black needles. 'Globosa Nana' grows just two feet high and approximately three and a half feet wide. And for something really different, consider 'Sekkan-Sugi,' which slowly reaches fifteen feet high and has cream-tipped yellow needles that turn almost white in winter.



Hillwood's Japanese cedars in the Japanese-style garden

In Memoriam

Lisa Horvath, Volunteer Services Supervisor

It is with a heavy heart that I write to inform you that we have lost beloved Hillwood volunteers in recent months.



Betty Cochran

Betty Cochran passed away on January 29. Betty joined Hillwood's volunteer program in 2001, and for sixteen years she assisted in the gardens, with *The Post Serial*, and with administrative projects. She was a master gardener and an active member of the Bethesda Community Garden Club. Betty is survived by her husband, stepdaughter and son-in-law, and her granddaughter.

Betty Stolz

Betty Stolz died peacefully on March 16. After spending much of her life traveling abroad for her husband's work, Betty became a docent at Hillwood, which served as a perfect outlet for her knowledge and love of the decorative arts. Betty was an engaging hostess, arranged creative floral displays, and maintained a refined sense of design. Betty is survived by her three children, seven grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.



Michael Weaver

Michael Weaver died peacefully on April 3. Michael joined Hillwood's volunteer program in 2003, sharing his time and talents in the Japanese-style garden. His artistic eye, along with his skills in planting and pruning, helped shape the garden as we know it today. Michael is survived by his wife, two stepchildren, and four grandchildren. A future memorial celebration will be private.

Volunteer Spotlight

Hillwood's volunteer corps continues to grow with more than 380 active volunteers, making it the largest yet. While some volunteers see each other on a regular basis, the Volunteer Spotlight is an opportunity to get to know some of your fellow volunteers a little better.

Michelle Minnich

Michelle Minnich first learned about Hillwood in 2017, after hearing a commercial for *Spectacular Gems and Jewelry from the Merriweather Post Collection*. A life-long lover of French and Russian history and decorative arts, she and her soon-to-be husband planned a visit. Michelle "was thrown right back to being my young and wide-eyed self, pointing at various works of art and trying not to let my jaw hang." She left Hillwood that day determined to become a volunteer and joined the visitor services volunteer ("VSV") corps in June 2018, where she fuels her learning and commitment to service in the spirit of Marjorie Post.



As a child, Michelle regularly visited museums with her family, and she credits those visits and her family's encouragement with shaping her impression of museums and her interest in learning. Michelle strives to give Hillwood guests an equally valuable and impressionable experience when she interacts with them, specifically enjoying the "younger [guests' excitement] when I give them the scavenger hunts." She values the opportunities to talk about French and Russian history with her fellow volunteers and says, "it is a blessing and a pure joy to work with such outstanding volunteers at a true gem of a museum."



Emma Refuerzo

Emma Refuerzo joined Hillwood's horticulture volunteer program in 2011, excited by the opportunity to work outdoors after a career indoors. Over the years, her volunteer roles have grown to include working in the cutting garden, where weeding and deadheading are among her regular duties, helping in the propagation greenhouse, and assisting Ami Wilber with the floral design workshops and arrangements. She has also been assisting with scanning horticulture documents for the archives. In these various positions, Emma has learned about the decorative arts, horticulture, and other topics. Her

appreciation for nature and history have grown, and she has dived deeper into horticulture beyond learning the names of uncommon plants. Emma has carried her knowledge to her garden at home and is amazed at the surprises she finds, like a forgotten flower trying to bloom.

Through her years at Hillwood, Emma has enjoyed meeting fellow "fabulous volunteers and learning about [them] along with getting to know the horticulture staff and how readily they share their knowledge." Her time in the cutting garden is "always a positive experience," and she has been impressed with staff's courtesy, commitment, and friendliness, believing this in turn promotes the same qualities in volunteers.

Hillwood is thrilled to have Michelle and Emma as members of our dynamic volunteer corps, and we look forward to continuing to highlight volunteers in future editions of *The Post Serial*.

Welcome New Volunteers

We are delighted to add three new visitor services volunteers and six new horticulture volunteers to Hillwood's volunteer program this spring. Please join us in welcoming:

Horticulture

Ben Fisherow

Joanne Fleming

Kerry Koritsas

Susan Rolley

Jerry Sealy

Kathy Sykes

Interpretation

Donald Burch

Morgan Dodd

Betty van Iersel

Thank You Volunteers!

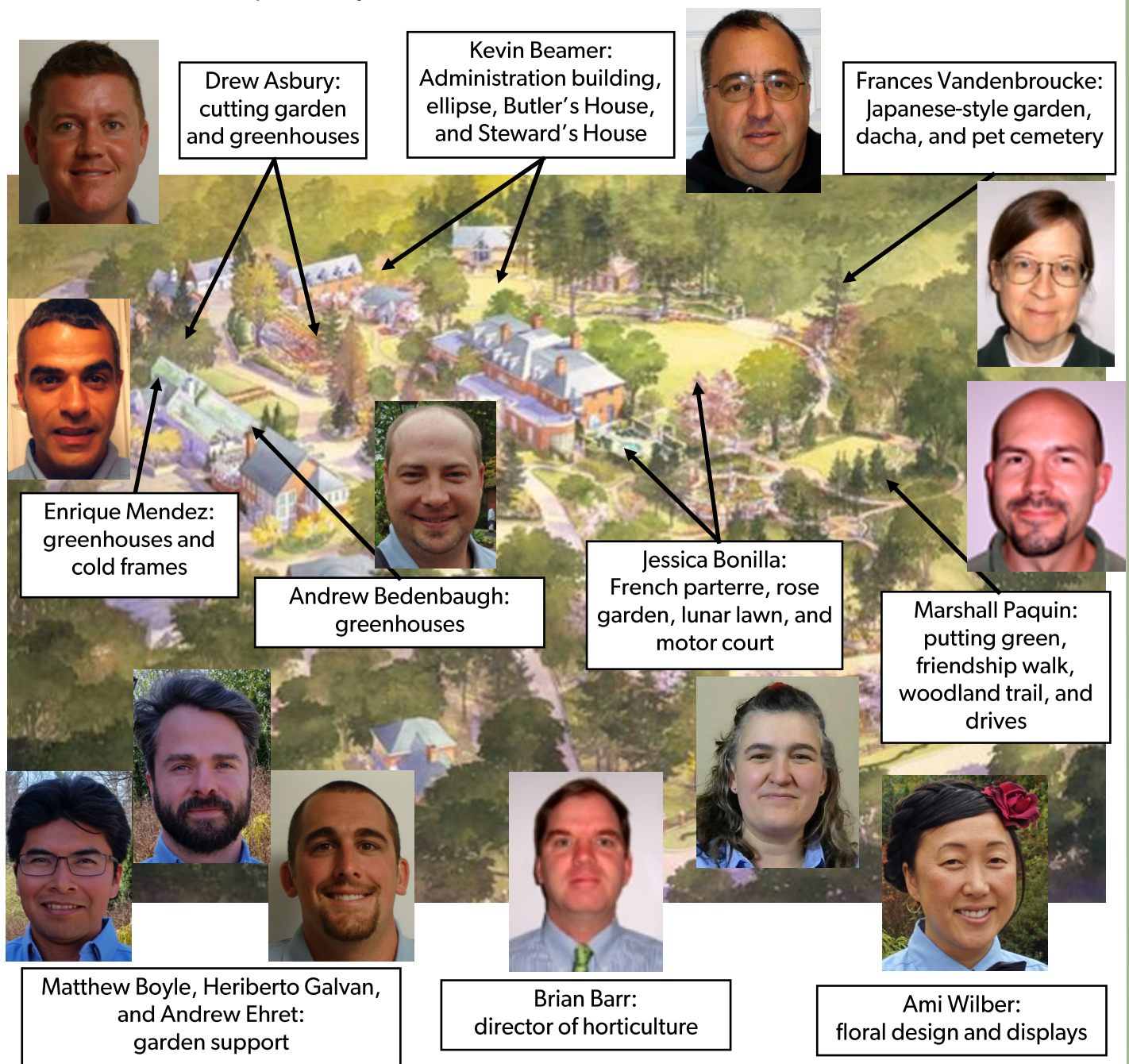
Thank you to all the volunteers who helped recently with the spring seasonal planting and the Fabergé Egg Festival! These are our large spring events and require many hands to go smoothly. We deeply appreciate the time, dedication, and talents shared by our volunteers.



Staff Spotlight: Horticulture

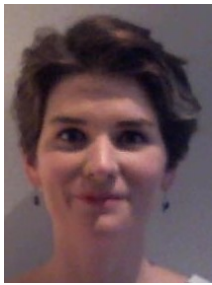
Hillwood employs nearly one hundred staff members, both full and part-time. While there are some staff that work directly with volunteers and you may know well, others you may recognize only in passing. In this new feature, we want to highlight a specific department, and what better department to kick off spring with than horticulture?

The horticulture department is made up of twelve staff members and is assisted by over one hundred volunteers in maintaining the gardens, greenhouses, and grounds to the standards set by Marjorie Post. While many horticulture staff members have specific responsibilities across campus, you may see the horticulture department planting the seasonal displays around campus, leading a workshop or tour, and more. The map below gives an overview of each horticulture staff member's area of responsibility.



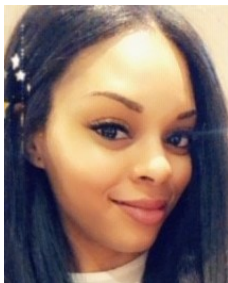
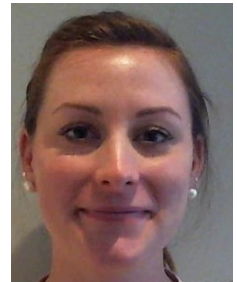
Welcome to Hillwood's Newest Staff Members

We are pleased to welcome the following new staff members to Hillwood.



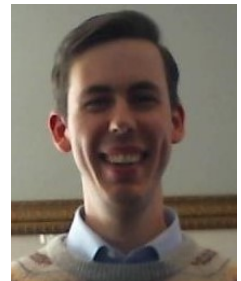
Virginia Ayres joined Hillwood as the development coordinator on November 26. Previously, Virginia worked at Georgetown University in the department of art history for the graduate program in art and museum studies. She graduated from the University of Mary Washington in 2015 with a bachelor of arts in art history and museum studies. In college, Virginia interned at the Ridderhof Martin Art Gallery and Gari Melchers Belmont Home and Studio. She briefly moved to Burlington, Vermont, after graduation to intern with Burlington City Arts before moving back to the D.C. area.

Kayla Baker is the assistant librarian at Hillwood. She graduated from Northern Illinois University in 2015 with a bachelors of arts in history and a minor in dance performance. She received her masters degree in library and information sciences from Drexel University in 2017. Previously, Kayla interned at the Federal Judicial Center.



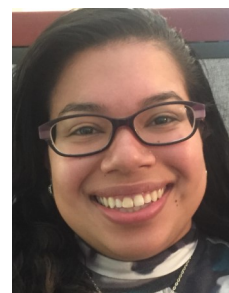
Chrystal Banks is the help desk technician at Hillwood. She has worked in the information technology field for nearly six years, and her skills span from coding to networking. She is a Washington, D.C. native, and in her free time, Chrystal can be found reading or on adventures with her son.

Dalton Baughn joined Hillwood as a visitor services associate on March 4. Previously, Dalton served as the membership and facility rental coordinator for the Fredericksburg Area Museum in Fredericksburg, Virginia. His past museum experience includes internships with the Fredericksburg Area Museum, the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, and the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Services. Dalton holds a bachelors of arts in classical archaeology with a minor in museum studies from the University of Mary Washington.



Nari Choe joined Hillwood as a museum shop associate in November 2018. She is responsible for maintaining the shop displays and upholding Hillwood's standards for customer service. Previously, Nari was an intern for the exhibitions department at the Workhouse Arts Center in Lorton, Virginia and was a production runner for Appeal Productions in Harrisonburg, Virginia.

Michelle Fuentes joined Hillwood as a visitor services associate on March 27. Michelle is a 2015 graduate of The Catholic University of America with a bachelors degree in anthropology. Previously, Michelle served as an administrative assistant at Manos Insurance LLC and as an intern and interim membership manager at the American Research Center in Egypt. Her past museum experience includes volunteering with the Walters Art Museum and the Smithsonian Museum Support Center and interning with George Washington's Ferry Farm.



Samantha Hernandez joined Hillwood on November 26 as the director of human resources. Her human resources experience includes: managing global workforces and virtual teams, working with matrix organizations, non-profit and volunteer management, conflict resolution, change management, recruitment, and retention. Samantha's focus is on positively impacting an organization through excellence in employee relations, management and leadership development. With the past ten years spent in the capacity of several key human resources leadership positions, Samantha is thrilled to bring her experience to Hillwood.

Kimberly Smith is one of Hillwood's newest museum shop associates. She brings four years of museum experience including interning at Macculloch Hall Historical Museum and as the curator of exhibitions and research for the Morris County Historical Society, both in Morristown, New Jersey. She holds a bachelor of arts degree in American studies from Ramapo College of New Jersey.



Stephanie Thayer joined Hillwood on March 5 as the accounting associate. For the past fourteen years, Stephanie worked as a bookkeeper at the National Electrical Benefit Fund, a non-profit organization that manages pension, retirement, health, and welfare funds.

