



The Cross Estate Gardens

New Jersey Historical Garden Foundation

NEWSLETTER

Spring 2014

The New Jersey Historical Garden Foundation was established under the auspices of Mr. James Spiniello. Its board is composed of volunteers interested in the preservation, maintenance, and development of public, historical gardens. The Foundation is working with, but not funded by, the National Park Service, U. S. Department of Interior, to preserve the Cross Estate Gardens.

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Cross Estate Gardens Plant Sale



Saturday, May 3, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

“Come one — come all” to our spring Plant Sale, held in the Cross Estate Gardens. This is a great opportunity to find new plants or replace your plants that didn’t survive this past terrible winter. Our Plant Sale will be filled with divisions from our shady native plant garden and from our sunny walled garden, plus donated plants from our volunteers’ and members’ gardens. In addition to perennials, we will have a selection of small trees and shrubs. All funds raised at this sale will help the volunteers of the NJHGF care for the Cross Estate Gardens. Your support of our Plant Sale is greatly appreciated!



What's Happening in the Gardens



The Walled Garden in winter.



The Walled Garden in early May.



The fence at the bottom of the Walled Garden, probably kicked in by deer that munched on stately old rhododendrons and other foliage this past winter.



Volunteers at the entrance to Grace's Garden.

Grace Steneck (1914-2014) and her legacy: Grace's Garden

Grace Steneck, who died on February 13, 2014, one month before her 100th birthday, was one of our very loyal and energetic volunteers for two decades. Grace started volunteering in the Cross Estate Gardens around 1979 and very early devoted her energies to a garden next to the barn that later became known to us as Grace's Garden. Grace was a tiny person of great strength, who loved gardening. Her garden is filled

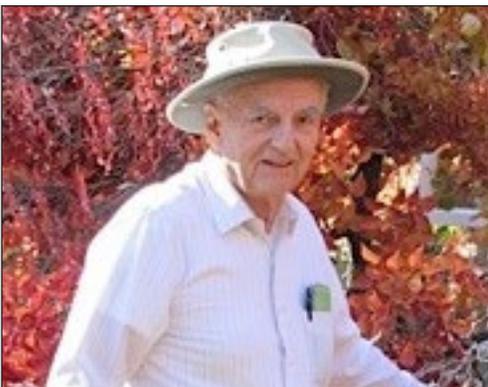


with unusual plants such as a Seven Sons tree, both white and purple Beautyberry bushes, Siberian carpet cypress, Winter Hazel, Japanese Plum Yews and Fragrant Snowbell trees. Six of our volunteers regularly tend to Grace's Garden, a much easier task now that it is surrounded by deer fencing. Their mission is to preserve and enhance Grace's worthwhile work.

Welcome to New Board Members Fred Aufschlager and Steve Fogle



Fred Aufschlager was elected to the NJHGF board at our November 2013 meeting. Fred has been a volunteer in the Cross Estate Gardens for the past 15 years. He has a B.S. in Forestry majoring in Landscape Architecture and a Master's Degree in City Planning. Fred, seen at left pruning the 85-year old wisteria on the historic pergola at the Cross Estate, is an extremely accomplished pruner. Fred is also our bonsai expert and often brings in his bonsai for other volunteers to enjoy. Fred lives in Bernardsville with his wife Doris, who is a very creative artist specializing in unusual pottery.



Steve Fogle was also elected to the NJHGF board at our November 2013 meeting. For the past 15 years, since Steve retired as professor at County College of Morris, he and his wife Lillian have been faithful volunteers in our gardens. Steve acts as our “facility manager”, a man of many talents with good electrical, plumbing, masonry and carpentry skills. Recently he designed and built the wooden gate for Grace’s Garden, designed and built the extremely attractive display case at the entrance to the gardens, built two compost bins, and with the help of our very capable volunteers, replaced all of the deer fencing posts that had been damaged in past storms.

And a Fond Farewell to Former Board Member Ann Meehan



Ann Meehan, a long time volunteer and NJHGF board member, left the board at the end of 2013. Ann and her husband Ray sold their Bernardsville home in 2013 and retired to their summer home in Bay Head. While on the board Ann ran our monthly garden trips, where our volunteers and board members visited local noteworthy gardens. We will miss her energetic help and her hilariously funny stories.

Join our Volunteers

From early April through the middle of November, our hearty group of men and women volunteers meets every Wednesday morning from 9 a.m. to noon to work in the various gardens at the Cross Estate. Refreshments are provided during our 10:30 a.m. coffee break under the pergola. Please join us every Wednesday morning or



whenever your schedule allows. All levels of expertise are welcome. For more information, please call Janet DiMauro at (908) 223-1622 or Joan Ryder at (973) 376-0348, or email info@crossestategardens.org.

Tours of the Cross Estate Gardens

Tours of the gardens are available every Wednesday at 10 a.m., from mid-April through October. Tours take approximately one-half hour. If your group would like to schedule a tour of the gardens on another day or time, please contact Joan Ryder at 973-376-0348. There is a suggested donation of \$5 per person for group tours.

Visit Us Online

Be sure to check out the Cross Estate Gardens website at www.CrossEstateGardens.org.

You can also visit us on **Facebook**—search for Cross Estate Gardens or go to www.facebook.com/pages/Cross-Estate-Gardens/146692902063110.



Become a Member

The NJHGF is always looking for new members to support its all-volunteer work in the Cross Estate Gardens. Every dollar donated goes into the gardens. Please become a member today, if you're not already a supporter. Membership rates are as follows:

Individual	\$25	Family	\$40
Friend	\$100	Sponsor	\$250
Patron	\$500		

Please mail your check, payable to NJHGF, to NJ Historical Garden Foundation, PO Box 712, Bernardsville, NJ 07924-0712. Thank you.

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