



The Cross Estate Gardens

New Jersey Historical Garden Foundation
www.crossestategardens.org

NEWSLETTER

Fall 2019

Talk & Tea

Thursday, September 26, 2019, 1-3 p.m.

Library at the Cross Estate

61 Jockey Hollow Road, Bernardsville, NJ

Tickets: \$30 members; \$35 non-members

To pre-register, mail a check payable to NJHGF to:

NJHGF, PO Box 712, Bernardsville, NJ 07924

Marta McDowell discusses:

Emily Dickinson's Gardening Life

Come discover the gardener who became a poet. Join us for our annual talk, featuring Marta McDowell discussing Emily Dickinson's life and love of plants and words. This event will be the launch of McDowell's latest book from Timber Press. If the topic has a familiar ring, it is because *Emily Dickinson's Gardening Life* is an expanded, updated, and full-color reworking of her first book, published in 2005 and long out of print.

Spend an entertaining hour learning about the gardening interests of America's most enduring poetic voice. Marta's talk is full of anecdotes and illustrated with gorgeous images of the people, plants and places that Dickinson loved. Emily Dickinson was also a baker, and our afternoon tea will feature treats baked by Cross Estate volunteers.



*My Garden - like the Beach -
Denotes there be - a Sea -
That's Summer -
Such as These - the Pearls
She fetches - such as Me*



Marta is a long-time volunteer at the Cross Estate from Chatham, New Jersey. She teaches at The New York Botanical Garden, lectures around the country, and is the author of many books and articles. In May 2019, Marta was awarded the Garden Club of America's prestigious Sarah Chapman Francis Medal for Outstanding Literary Achievement.

Her favorite topics are authors who garden, including Beatrix Potter and Laura Ingalls Wilder. Marta calls this pursuit "the pen and the trowel," though one of her friends suggested it might also be called "stubborn women who garden."



Photo by Marco Ricca

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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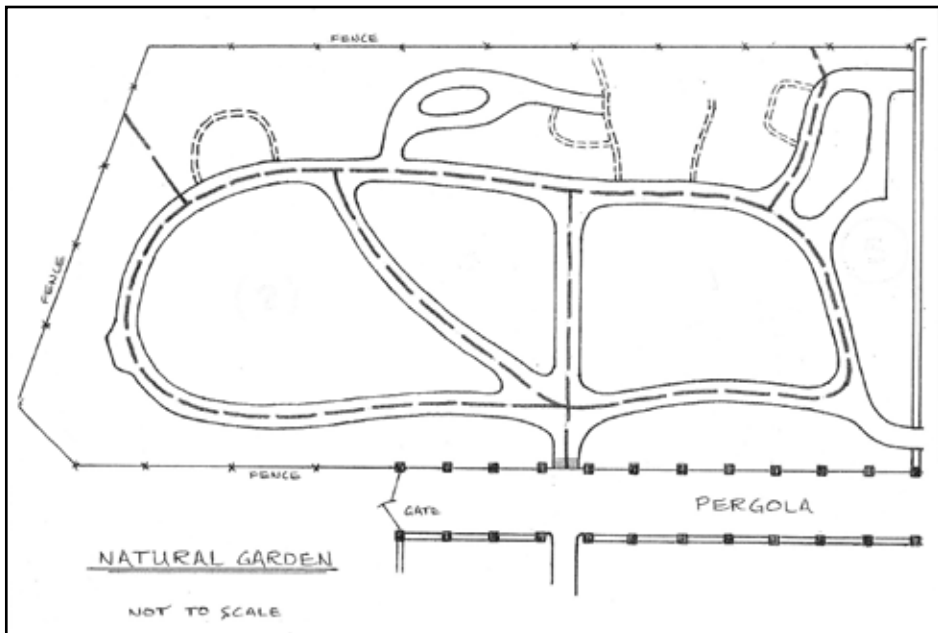
Website: Ann Campbell

Facebook: Kay Compton

A walk through the Natural Garden on a hot July morning:

July 17th promised to be a pretty hot day, so I decided to arrive at the Cross Estate Gardens a bit early for volunteering. For my get-up-and-go, I expected the reward of beating at least a bit of the heat. I had not expected to also be rewarded with so much color at every turn in the path through the Natural Garden!

Linda O'Gorman, NJHGF Newsletter



Notes of Appreciation:

Best Plant Sale Ever!



Plant sale revenues were \$6,838!

It was indeed our best plant sale ever, surpassing \$6,000 for the first time.

Thanks to our supporters and plant donors (especially Pam Wilson) as well as our volunteers for making the event so successful!

*Caroline Ford,
NJHGF Treasurer*

Garden Club of Somerset Hills

Many thanks to the Garden Club of Somerset Hills (GCSH). Their generous donation of \$500 enabled us to plant a *Styrax japonicus* 'Evening Light' on the back lawn to honor the memory of longtime GCSH member and New Jersey Historical Garden Foundation Board member Nancy Strong. In addition to a label identifying the tree, a memorial sign reads,



“In Loving Memory of Nancy ‘Nicely’ Strong. (1927-2018). Devoted Member of the Garden Club of Somerset Hills and the NJHGF Board of Trustees.”

*Joan Ryder,
NJHGF President*

Members and Volunteers

As always, “Thank you, NJHGF members and volunteers.”

Your membership dollars, along with plant sale revenue and grants, make it possible for our fabulous volunteers to buy the plants and supplies needed to keep the Cross Estate Gardens looking beautiful.

*Beverly Saadeh,
NJHGF Membership
and
Janet DiMauro,
NJHGF Volunteers*



Talk & Tea: Emily Dickinson's Gardening Life

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Here's another Talk & Tea favorite recipe. I'm sure Emily Dickinson would have loved these!

Find out more about her at this year's Talk & Tea on September 26th.

Meringue Cookie Recipe from Doris Crater

Ingredients

- 4 egg whites
- 1 cup white sugar
- 1/4 teaspoon cream of tartar
- 1 cup semi-sweet, mini chocolate chips

Directions

- Beat egg whites until almost thick.
- Add cream of tartar.
- Add sugar very gradually until egg whites are thick and form peaks.
- Stir in mini chocolate chips.
- Line 2 cookie sheets with parchment paper.
- Place very close together, by teaspoon full, onto cookie sheets. You'll want to get entire batch on 2 cookie sheets.
- Bake at 225°F for 1 hour.
- Turn the oven off and leave cookie sheets in the oven until completely dry. I make them in the evening and take them out in the morning.
- Store in an air tight container or they will absorb moisture and get sticky.



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Post Office Box 712, Bernardsville, NJ 07924

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. 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) 455-2907 or Joan Ryder at (201) 240-5898, 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, please contact Joan Ryder at (201) 240-5898. 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	\$50
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.