



The Cross Estate Gardens

New Jersey Historical Garden Foundation

www.crossestategardens.org

NEWSLETTER

Spring 2021

Welcome back to the Cross Estate Gardens!

Remember: Masks...Social Distancing

Cross Estate Gardens Plant Sale



Saturday, May 1, 2021

NJHGF Members only: 9 a.m. to 10 a.m.

All guests: 10 a.m. to 12 noon

We're Delighted to announce the 2021 Cross Estate Gardens Plant Sale!

Spring. Plant sale season. Many of us plan to visit several area plant sales each spring. In 2020, that did not happen. This year, while the Watnong Chapter of the North American Rock Garden Society plant sale at Buck Gardens has been cancelled and the Frelinghuysen Arboretum sale is being held online, we're happy to say that the Cross Estate Gardens Plant Sale will take place in person. Please join us and shop safely:

- All volunteers and all guests must wear face masks while at the Plant Sale.
- To accommodate six-foot distances between tables, the sale will take place under the wisteria-covered pergola and in the Upper Garden (a.k.a. the Rhododendron Garden).
- In order to be able to maintain safe distances, a maximum of 25 guests may shop at a given time.
- The first hour will be reserved for members of the New Jersey Historical Garden Foundation (NJHGF), Cross Estate Gardens.

PLEASE NOTE: The Cross Estate Gardens is part of the Morristown National Historical Park (MNHP) of the National Park Service (NPS). Before visiting, please check the NPS website for current park status: <https://www.nps.gov/morr/index.htm>.

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.

The New Jersey Historical Garden Foundation Board of Trustees

Founder of Volunteers

Jean Pope (1931-2017)

NJHGF Founder

V. James Spiniello (1928 - 2013)

President

Joan Ryder

Recording Secretary

Ethan Hogan

Treasurer

Caroline Ford

Committee Chairs

Horticulture: Carolyn Lydon

Membership: Penny Barnes

Newsletter: Linda O'Gorman

Publicity: (vacant)

Volunteers: Janet DiMauro

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Fred Aufschlager

Steve Fogle

Ron Herold

Marta McDowell

George Nixon

Beverly Saadeh

Honorary Board

Mary Sambrook

Judy Spiniello

Nancy Strong (1927-2018)

Non-Board Chairs

Website: Letitia Clark

Facebook: Kay Compton

NJHGF News

A summary of the recent changes within the NJHGF.

Board News:

Five Board Members/Officers whose terms were scheduled to expire at the end of 2020 were overwhelmingly approved for three-year extensions:



Joan Ryder
President



Ethan Hogan
Secretary



Caroline Ford
Treasurer



Beverly Saadeh
Member-at-Large
(formerly Membership)



Ron Herold
Member-at-Large

Newly elected to the board, also by overwhelming votes, are:



Marta McDowell
Member-at-Large



Penny Barnes
Membership

Leaving the Board and continuing as a volunteer is Ron Bailey.

Non-Board Chair News:

The NJHGF wishes to thank Ann Campbell for her many years of excellent management of the Cross Estate Gardens website. At the same time, the Board is pleased that Letitia Clark is managing the website now.

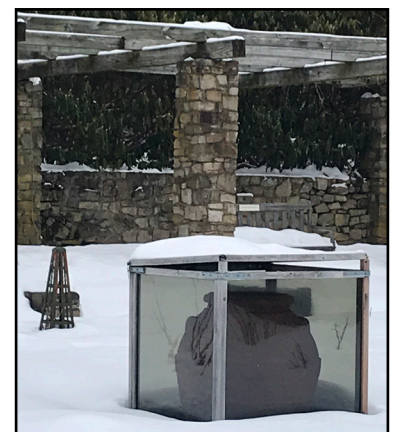
Daniel L. Pope (March 4, 1931 - January 14, 2021)

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Daniel L. Pope at age 89 on January 14, 2021. Dan's wife Jean, who passed away on November 19, 2017, was the Founder of the NJHGF Volunteers.

Dan and Jean met at Cornell and were married for nearly 65 years. Dan worked for Bell Labs in Whippany for most of his career concentrating primarily on fiber optic cable installation. After retiring and while still living in Chester both Jean and Dan were actively involved in volunteer activities, including their work in the Cross Estate Gardens. We will always be grateful to Dan for making the large plexiglass cubes that protect the two historic urns in the Walled Garden.

Thank you Dan and Jean. You both are truly missed.

~ Joan Ryder



Postponed from 2020

Cross Estate Gardens Annual Talk & Tea: Jane Hurwitz

on

Butterfly Gardening and the Cross Estate

Thursday, September 23, 2021, 1-3 p.m.

Save the date for our annual talk, featuring Jane Hurwitz, author of *Butterfly Gardening: The North American Butterfly Association Guide*. With a special focus on the butterflies of Cross Estates Gardens, Jane Hurwitz will present a flower-filled slide show that will provide ideas on how to create a haven for butterflies in your yard.

Light refreshments, lovingly prepared by the volunteers of the Cross Estate Gardens, will be served. You'll be able to enjoy tea sandwiches and cookies, coffee and tea, in addition to a lively and informative talk.



Come to the Gardens often,

*as we go
from this...*



to this...



Plant Profile: *Wisteria sinensis (chinensis)* Chinese Wisteria

In 1816, when agents of the East India Company sent wisteria cuttings from China to England, they could never have guessed that this exquisite vine would become an invasive species in NJ.

Cross Estate Gardens (CEG) Volunteer Fred Aufschlager supervises the pruning of the wisteria. “This species is different from the more common Japanese Wisteria in that it climbs in a counterclockwise fashion. Its blossoms also appear all at once, together, around Mothers’ Day, whereas the Japanese type blossoms over a period of weeks. The number of leaflets on the leaf is also different.

“I’m not sure when, but the original vines were planted as part of the original plantings.”

Fred had been taken by the outstanding wisteria at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, and around five years ago, he began the project of rehabilitating the wisteria on the CEG pergola. “Ethan [Hogan] and I were experimenting on just pruning once a year instead of twice, but it takes longer to do the one-time prune in the late Fall. July and mid-November was the original pruning cycle I set up. It’s a big job no matter what.

“In recent years, I have made air layers and cuttings which have been used to extend the vines on the pergola to its entire length, severely cutting back the Kiwi and some other vines.

“Interestingly, we have one vine which produces white flowers rather than lavender, which we are trying to extend above and across the formal garden entrance.”



The Cross Estate Gardens

New Jersey Historical Garden Foundation
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

From mid-April through October, if the MNHP is open, tours of the Gardens are available Wednesdays at 10 a.m. 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 (201) 240-5898. There is a suggested donation of \$5 per person for group tours.

Please note: tours will be limited to 6 visitors.

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.