



# The Cross Estate Gardens

New Jersey Historical Garden Foundation

[www.crossestategardens.org](http://www.crossestategardens.org)

## NEWSLETTER

Fall 2021

**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>.

**Postponed to Thursday, September 22, 2022**

*Cross Estate Gardens Annual Talk & Tea:*

*Jane Hurwitz*

on

*Butterfly Gardening and the Cross Estate*

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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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



We are very disappointed to announce the second postponement of the talk by Jane Hurwitz on “Butterfly Gardening and the Cross Estate”.

You’re receiving this issue about a month before the scheduled date of the annual Talk & Tea at the Cross Estate Gardens. At the time of printing, the COVID-19 delta variant cases were rising in New Jersey, and the COVID-19 protocols in place for the Morristown National Historical Park (MNHP) called for group size restrictions as well as mandated indoor mask wearing.

With these facts, the New Jersey Historical Garden Foundation Board voted to postpone the Talk & Tea again this year. Here’s hoping that next year we will be able to gather together to see this wonderful and informative talk. In the interim, here are some photos taken by Jane in the Gardens this year.



Cabbage white



Silver spotted skipper



Swallowtail

# And now, a little game we're calling, "Where in the Garden?"



Maybe you've been to the Cross Estate Gardens many, many times.  
 Maybe you're an infrequent visitor.  
 Maybe you typically wander through the walled garden, ohh and aah, and leave.  
 Maybe you bring bring your dog to the meadow for a run-around.  
 There are so many ways to enjoy the Cross Estate Gardens and so many paths through them.  
 Can you remember where you've seen this lovely haven?  
*Turn to the back page to check your answer.*

## NJHGF News

*What's New at NJHGF*

A picture is worth a thousand words...



Upper level of the Walled Garden in full bloom in July.



*Tigrinum 'Splendens'* Tiger Lily against the backdrop of the Walled Garden



*Hardy Hibiscus* Peppermint Schnapps at the head of a path in the Natural ("Wild") Garden



*Yucca filamentosa* in full bloom this year in the Natural ("Wild") Garden

### *Notes of Appreciation:*

#### **Another Fantastic Plant Sale!**

Plant sale revenues were \$6,577!



All the stars aligned for this one: lots of beautiful plants, glorious weather, and a large group of gardeners ready to be outside!

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 revitalize the two-level historic Walled Garden by incorporating five yards of compost into the soil and planting approximately 50 new perennials in the garden to fill in bare spots.



*Joan Ryder,  
NJHGF President*

#### **Members and Volunteers**

As always, "Thank you, NJHGF members and volunteers."

We received nearly \$8,000 this year in new and renewed memberships. Those dollars and the hours donated by our fabulous volunteers make it possible to keep the Cross Estate Gardens a place for all to enjoy.

*Penny Barnes,  
NJHGF Membership,  
and Janet DiMauro,  
NJHGF Volunteers*



**SAVE the DATE**

# Cross Estate Gardens Annual Plant Sale

**Saturday, May 7, 2022**

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

**All guests: 10 a.m. to 12 noon**

Yup. We had all of these plants and MANY MORE at the 2021 Plant Sale.

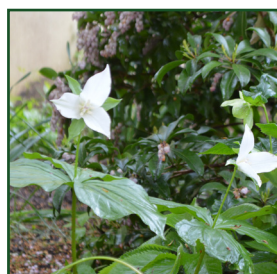
Mark your calendar: **NJHGF Plant Sale, Saturday, May 7, 2022.** Come see what gems we'll have for you!



*Sanguinaria canadensis*  
multiplex. Double  
bloodroot.



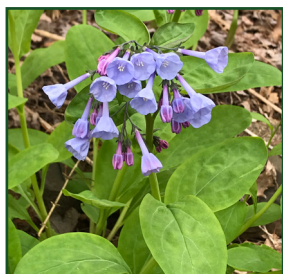
*Euphorbia polychroma.*  
Cushion spurge.



*Trillium grandiflorum.*  
White trillium.



*Paeonia japonica.* Japanese  
woodland peony.



*Mertensia virginica.*  
Virginia bluebells.



*Primula vulgaris.* Primrose.

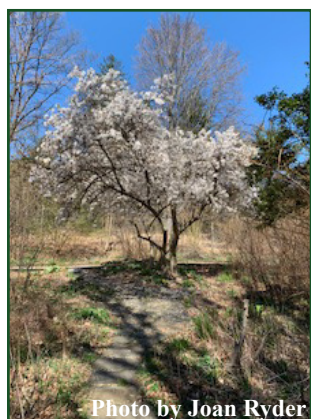


*Pulmonaria saccharata*  
'Pierre's Pure Pink'.  
Lungwort.



*Helleborus.* Hellebore.

## Plant Profile: *Magnolia stellata* Star Magnolia



You'll have to visit the Gardens in early spring to see this magnificent display.

When most of the gardens are just beginning to wake up, the Star Magnolia in the Natural ("Wild") Garden is putting on its show.

The deciduous *Magnolia stellata* is a native of Japan that was introduced in the United States in the 1860s. Among the smallest magnolias, the mature size is 15-20 feet tall with a crown that is 10-15 feet across. The pussywillow-like buds open in late winter before any foliage appears. Then, the lovely foliage will provide welcome shade on a hot day. Attractive fruit and seeds appear later in the season.

The Cross Estate Gardens star magnolia was, according to Joan Ryder NJHGF President, "probably planted by Julia Cross in the 1930s or 1940s as it is so large."

Plant information: "Star Magnolia, *Magnolia stellata*"; Wisconsin Horticulture: Division of Extension



# 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 volunteers meets Wednesday mornings from 9 a.m. to noon to work in the gardens at the Cross Estate. Refreshments are provided during our 10:30 a.m. break. Please join us Wednesday mornings when your schedule allows.



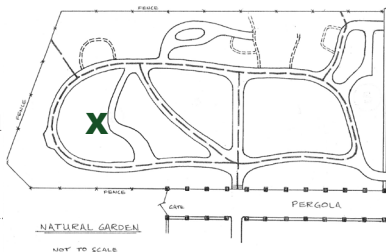
All levels of expertise are welcome. For more information, please email [info@crossestategardens.org](mailto:info@crossestategardens.org).

## Tours of the Cross Estate Gardens

Tours of the Gardens are available by appointment. Your group of 10 or fewer people will enjoy a half-hour guided tour of the Gardens. The cost is \$10/person. If you'd like to schedule a tour, please email [info@crossestategardens.org](mailto:info@crossestategardens.org).

### Where in the Garden? answer:

**X** marks the spot! You can find this shady resting place on the slate path around the magnolia in the Natural ("Wild") Garden. Bring a picnic...relax...enjoy!



## Visit Us Online

Be sure to check out the Cross Estate Gardens website at [www.crossestategardens.org](http://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](http://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.