

Boyer

REMINDERS

1. When giving presentation away from Crosby give directions and location of Crosby Gardens.
2. Take Crosby News, bulletins and other printed materials.
 - a) hand out materials before presentation.
3. Be sure to mention and highlight events soon to happen at Crosby i.e., May Garden Day, Toledo Festival of the Arts, etc.

INTRODUCTION

GREETINGS - Recognition of Group or Organization you are giving presentation to.

THANK YOU - For their interest in Crosby

CROSBY GARDENS - Past, Present and Future

The land which Crosby Gardens now occupies has a very interesting past. The name "Hawkins" is very popular in this part of Toledo. There is a Hawkins Road - and Hawkins School is located on the west side of the original property. Well, it all began when H. V. Hawkins came to Lucas County in 1870 to homestead 120 acres of land along Bancroft and west of Reynolds Road. He and his sons physically cleared the property of the many fine old hardwood trees in order to gain land for farming. Of course some of the choice wood was used to build their homes and barns. The land was very fertile and, therefore, very productive for the Hawkins family. In the springtime when they were plowing, many Indian arrowheads and artifacts were unearthed. The family saved these and the collection has been given to Crosby. An archologist has dated some of the arrowheads to be 4,000 years old. There are plans for these to eventually be in a permanent display at Crosby. Another interesting fact the family relates about this area is the many blue racer and rattle snakes that inhabited this part of Lucas County. There are tales of snakes being killed as late as the 1930's. For fifty (50) years, three (3) different generations of Hawkineses have lived on and farmed this land. The property was eventually sub-divided by George Hawkins and in the early 1940's George Crosby purchased 20 acres on Elmer Drive. Mr. Crosby was a well-known realtor and broker in Toledo. He used the property as a summer home and a place to keep his horses.

The architect who designed the gardens nostalgically retained some of the past for us. The stone wall near the Peter Navarre Cabin was a jumping wall and the circular parking lot a paddock for the horses.

The original oak boards in the Stables were sent to a lumber mill to be cleaned and re-milled. They can now be seen in the small meeting room of the Conference Building. After Mr. Crosby bought this farmland he beautifully landscaped it with hundreds of evergreens, flowering trees, and shrubs. Most of the perimeter plantings are those originally planted by Mr. Crosby. The large oak trees found on the Elmer Drive side of the Gardens were only saplings when George Hawkins was a boy.

Ten years ago when George Crosby died he bequeathed his property to the City of Toledo. City Council accepted his bequest and it was decided to preserve and conserve the beautiful landscaping. After some deliberations the ingenious idea was conceived to form an urban environmental, arts, and educational center and this land was to become the perfect setting for the George P. Crosby Gardens.

The film you are about to see, "A Place Where Plants and People Grow" will illustrate the present and future of Crosby Gardens.

F I L M

CONCLUSION

As you may have surmised from the film, we are comprised of many resident groups. Some organizations have their headquarters in the Village. The Village is a phase of construction Crosby is now just completing. Other organizations design, plant and maintain specific types of gardens at Crosby. All our resident groups have open memberships if you're interested in their purpose or programs. You may call the Crosby office and we'll put you in contact with their membership chairman. A requirement of these resident groups is their objectives be environmental, the arts, or horticulture.

They also co-sponsor our many art fairs and festivals, clinics, workshops, horticulture lectures, demonstrations, and lessons given at Crosby. We invite you to come to Crosby Gardens and be a participant in or attend those many and diverse programs. Or, perhaps you would like to visit the Village, the Brass Balloon Gift Shop, and the gardens at your leisure.

We would also like to invite you to become a member of the Crosby Gardens Society. You will receive the Crosby News, the monthly bulletin informing you when programs will take place so you can plan to attend, discounts on lessons, and workshops, and free attendance at lectures---all for a nominal fee.

Crosby has a regional influence and we welcome support from service organization and clubs for financial assistance, volunteer support, and active participation.

George P. Crosby Gardens is truly an unique place where plants and the people can grow for a better future.