

Volunteers Needed For Crane House Annual Holiday Decorating

The Crane House and Museum was built in 1796 by Israel Crane, a successful merchant who lived in Montclair (formerly called "Cranetown") on 86 acres of farmland. It is one of the few remaining Federal mansions left in northern New Jersey. Decorating the Israel Crane House for the Montclair Historical Society has been an honor that the Garden Club of Montclair has been committed to for many years. This yearly event is not only an opportunity to support the community of Montclair and the Historical Society but it is also an opportunity for our members to showcase our talents and have fun while doing it.

We are asking **members** to participate in the annual Crane House event which involves **decorating 8 rooms**: downstairs dining room, YWCA dining room, front parlor, 4 upstairs bedrooms and the hearth kitchen in the connecting building. We thought it would be a great idea if the Provisionals might consider decorating the Crane parlor. They would earn a workshop credit for their participation.

All materials will be provided by committee. These include wreaths, garland, magnolia leaves, swags, ribbons, boxwood and cedar bunches. We welcome additional decorations that anyone may have that are appropriate to the era that the rooms reflect. The Montclair Historical Society requests that we use Period decorations and avoid using greens with berries that could stain valuable furniture and fabrics. When you arrive at the Crane House, please meet in the basement area where greens will be assembled and decorated before taking them upstairs for placement and display. *Please remember to bring your gardening toolbox!*

At the Program Meeting on **November 12**, we will circulate a Sign Up Sheet where you and your friends may select a room to decorate. You can choose to prepare the greens downstairs at the Crane House, volunteer to decorate in the rooms above, or to help with both.

As an added perk, the Historical Society usually invites our volunteers to one of their popular candlelight tours of the house after our job is completed. Please consider volunteering for this important event and share in the communal joy of the garden club and upcoming holiday season.

Date: Tuesday, December 3, 2019

Place: The Crane House and Museum, 110 Orange Road

Time: 9:00 AM-11:00AM - assembling greens/11:00 AM - 1:00 PM - room decorating

Please confirm participation by emailing Barbara Baletti at bbaletti@me.com