



April 2017



General Meetings

October 5
 November 2
Joint Meeting - November 15th
 December 7
 January 4
 February 8
 March 1
 April 5
Auction Prep - April 24th & 25th
Auction - April 26th
 – at The Old Mill
 May 3
 June 7

Field Trips

October 19
 January 18
 March 15
 May 17

Board Meetings

The next one will be the Old/New Board meeting at 10:30 AM on Monday, June 5th at Carlin's home. Let Carlin know if you want to attend.

DIGGERS DIRT

Volume 12 Issue 8 2016-2017
www.diggersgardenclub.com

Wednesday, May 3, 2017

Field Trip to TreePeople

Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area

Coldwater Canyon Park

12601 Mulholland Dr

Beverly Hills, CA 90210

10:15 AM ~ Carpooling Gathering Spot TBD

11 to 12 ~ Tour

12 to 1 ~ Sack lunch -No Formal Meeting

RSVP to MARCIA~ she needs to know headcount!

Guests Welcome!



We will tour TreePeople's hilltop garden with Linda Eremita, forestry and education coordinator and senior arborist, who will speak to us about California Natives and newer water conservation innovations. TreePeople inspires and supports the people of LA to come together to plant and care for trees, harvest the rain, and renew depleted landscapes. Born from the efforts of a teenager over 40 years ago, they have involved more than 2 million people in planting and caring for more than 2 million trees.

MAY FIELD TRIP

WEDNESDAY ~ MAY 17TH ~ 9:30 TO 1:30

Mark your calendar for a field trip to visit three Community Gardens then have a box lunch in the park. Details coming soon.



MARCH FIELD TRIP

The March 15th field trip was to a fabulous private garden in Encino where we were treated to a wonderful lunch. Afterwards, we stopped and shopped at California Nursery Specialties



GCA DATES

www.gcamerica.org

Shirley Meneice Horticultural Conference; Brooklyn, NY
September 19-21, 2016
Attended by Mary Blodgett and Clare Tayback

NAL Conservation Conference; Washington, DC
February 27 – Mar 2, 2017
Attended by Marcia Albrecht and Yvonne Zaro

2017 GCA Annual Meeting
Baltimore; May 4-6, 2017
Will be attended by Carlin McCarthy and Sara Pelton

2018 GCA Annual Meeting
San Francisco, CA
April 26-29, 2018

Shirley Meneice Horticultural Conference; Omaha, NB
September 24-26, 2017

GCA Bulletin Submissions

Nov 15 for Winter Issue
Feb 15 for Spring Issue
May 15 for Summer Issue
Aug 15 for Fall Issue

GCA eNews Submissions

10th of every month except June

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Please review the Civic Donations List sent out with the minutes. We will be voting at the May meeting.

Laney Hackman has donated a number of sprinkler upgrades to the Old Mill. Be sure to thank him if you see him!

HORTICULTURE

MY FAVORITE PLANT

by Sally Harris, Horticulture Chair

Heliotropium arborescens



This has been my favorite for a long time. It seems to fill all the senses with its old cottage beauty of blossoms, leaf shape, color and its wonderful SCENT of VANILLA. Easy care, long blooming, good companion. It comes in a white, dark purple and a light lavender.

It's strongest bloom period is during the summer just when you want a sparkling white to cool and offset other colorful plants. Heliotropes are drought tolerant, heat tolerant, and ignored by animals.

CARE: They need about 6 hours of sun and prefer morning sun. They prefer rich soil. Feed in Spring and once a month in containers. I am lazy and just throw some Gropower down once a year, yet I am still rewarded.

Dead head old blooms and pinch back to maintain size of about 3x3.

PROPAGATION: Best from cuttings. Best time in late summer when they start to get leggy and you want to pinch back anyway.

Word of caution... if you have children or dogs that like to eat leaves, they can be toxic.

OLD MILL WORKDAYS

www.old-mill.org

Eugenie & Yvonne are generally at the Old Mill TUESDAYS from 9-11 AM. New members and their sponsors are asked to come help 1x/month, other members at least twice during the year.

A few Fridays will be added during the year for those who can't come on Tuesdays.

OLD MILL UPDATES

The Diggers received a donation of 7 Mexican stone carvings from Martha Toppin, Harriet Doerr's daughter. Here is an excerpt of a letter Martha wrote to Eugenie about them:

"I am so very happy that the statues have found such a warm welcome at the Old Mill. I'm sure it will be the right home for them. The St. Francis is a gift from me; it never belonged to Mother. It came from the Hotel Villa Montaña in Morelia in the early 1970s and was a prominent feature in the gardens of the three houses I owned in Oakland over a period of forty-plus years. All the others came from Mother's garden in Pasadena by way of the garden in Asientos, and in all probability, the Villa Montaña.

The Villa Montaña was an amazing place — a hotel owned and run by Ray Coté, a visionary eccentric. Once it was recommended to them, Mother and Dad stayed there as a getaway from the more spartan life in Asientos. Ray was constantly adding new rooms and cottages and furnishing them with antiques, some genuine, some reproductions, almost all of it for sale. A lot of the furniture and art that ended up at the mine, then in Pasadena, and now in my new digs at Rossmoor, came from there. Ray would lead Mother and Dad (and me, when I was visiting) on a tour of new rooms and of "the Presidential Suite" which was a vast room stuffed with chests,



paintings, carved figures, etc., and a week or so later the pieces they chose for the house in Asientos would arrive. I am 99% certain that all the stone pieces came from the Villa Montaña. When it came time for Mother to return to Pasadena after Dad died, she tried to bring as much of their life there as she could and the pieces came to Pasadena.

Of all the houses she ever lived in, the Old Mill and the house in Asientos were Mother's favorites. I think she would be very happy that these stones have found a place at the Old Mill."

**DIGGERS' ENDOWMENT FUND DOLLARS AT WORK ~
REBUILDING THE ARBORS! JUST IN TIME FOR THE AUCTION!**

