

DIGGERS DIRT

The Dirt being dished this month...

General Meeting:

**10:30am Program (Unless
otherwise noted)**
12:00 noon Meeting

Oct 2 Old Mill Clean Up



Hostess: Adrienne Kriendler,
Clare Tayback, Yvonne Zaro

Look ahead...

Nov 6 - Cindy Wenzlau's
Dec 4 - Gwen Babcock's
Jan 8 - Page Haralambos'
Feb 5 - Sally Miller's
Feb 25 - Joint Meeting at
Natural History Museum
Mar 4 - Huntington Gardens
Apr 1 - Old Mill
Apr 27,28 - Auction Set-up
Apr 29 - Auction
May - (TBD)
Jun 3 - Debbe Booth's

Board Meetings

Mondays preceding the General Meeting at 10:30am. Please let Liz know if you would like to attend.



From the President

The shortening of daylight as summer gives way to fall evokes the passage of time. How quickly it flies! Through the summer much has been happening behind the scenes.

Athena has planned a wonderful calendar of meetings for the year. The Endowment fund has made a grant to Hillside for the Entry Garden and, as I write, Bette is finalizing the roster. In anticipation of the Shirley Meneice Horticulture Conference, several of us gathered at Cathy's for a seed harvesting workshop. Read further for highlights from Carlin and Connie who attended the conference in Denver.

Debbie and Nena have a field trip planned to San Diego Botanical Garden on November 13th with Dr. Ari Novy, Executive Director who will provide the tour. If you are not attending the October meeting and need details, please contact Debbie



Mark Your Calendar

Upcoming GCA Dates

www.gcamerica.org

Shirley Meneice Horticulture Conference

Denver Botanic Gardens
Sept 10-13, 2019

NAL Conference

Washington, DC
Feb 23-26, 2020

2020 Zone XII Meeting

Tacoma, WA
Mar 25-27, 2020

GCA 2020 Annual Meeting

Asheville, NC
May 3-6, 2020

Old Mill Workdays

Mon., Oct 7 9-10:30am
Tues., Oct 15 3-5pm
Mon., Oct 21 9-10:30am



Hollingsworth (626) 289-9666.

Check out gcamerica.org to find a wealth of interesting articles, resources and updates. Read up on GCA's newest position paper "Oceans" and take the Healthy Yard Pledge. If you're able, sign up for "The Future of the Redwood Forests" on Tuesday, October 29th, one of GCA's On The Road tours. Or purchase the new book, "Who Saved the Redwoods?" by Laura and James Wasserman. The book contains abundant material on the significant accomplishments of The Garden Club of America in saving the state's northernmost redwoods. Anne Myers, GCA Archives Chairman writes, "I now fully understand and appreciate the passion you have expressed for this chapter in California and conservation history..." I'm ready to read the book and I hope you'll have a chance, too!

Ruth and Angela need our help at the Old Mill. The upcoming dates are October 7th and 21st from 9-10:30. And once again, Wenzlau wines will be poured at "Wine and Weed" on October 15th from 3- 5pm. (Thank you, Cindy!)

I'm looking forward to seeing you all at our first meeting on Wednesday, October 2nd at the Old Mill. I encourage you to bring guests to all the fall meetings. And bring your gloves and tools.



Warmly,

Liz

Floral Design - Eugenie

Conditioning tip:

Be sure your bucket is very clean before putting water in to condition flowers. The bacteria in the bucket can kill the flowers quickly.

Some flowers can still wilt even after conditioning.

Roses are a good example.

Should this happen: recut the stems and place in near boiling water, this will destroy the air lock.

Wrap the flower heads in newspaper to protect them from the steam. Leave in water for approx. half an hour. When flowers are revived, recut the stems as the boiling water will have damaged them. Continue to condition in water over night.

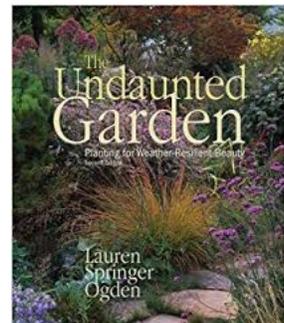


Horticulture - Carlin and Connie

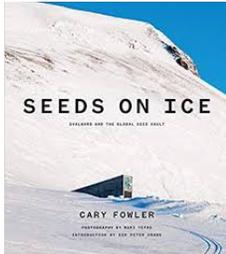
2019 Shirley Meneice Horticultural Conference "From Coffee to Cocktails!"

We had a jam-packed, beautiful and stimulating 3 days at the SMHC put on by the Garden Club of Denver. While all the tours and workshops were great, the highlights of the meeting were sharing ideas with other Zone XII members and the main speakers.

Lauren Springer, the keynote speaker, is a Native Plant specialist and landscaping expert who has written many books over the years. She designs public and private gardens - many in the Denver area. Her book, the "Undaunted Garden, is the best all-time selling garden book in the mountain region.



The closing dinner speaker was fantastic. Dr. Cary Fowler, a global advocate for crop diversity and education, talked about the devastation that can occur in a region when catastrophic conditions, either natural disasters or war, can



potentially wipe out a food species and food supply. "Seeds on Ice" was the name of his speech because it focused on his instrumental role in the development of a global seed bank in Norway which was completely funded by the Norwegian government. This project will help protect the food supply for future generations by protecting the gene pool of our plants.

Coincidentally, the workshop Carlin found most thought provoking was on "Coffee and Its Threatened Future". Because coffee seeds are not suitable for storage in seed banks, the only way the species is protected is through coffee gene bank "farms" around the world. Mostly maintained by national institutes in developing countries, their contents are not widely shared, and they face numerous challenges including funding, climate change, pests/disease, natural disasters, war and a narrow genetic base. For more information, go to croptrust.org/savingcoffee.

Connie also attended some interesting workshops including a course on Botanical Illustration, a class about why old roses belong in your garden and her favorite of the day, "The Herbalists Happy Hour" where she learned some new recipes and techniques for incorporating fresh herbs into your favorite beverages.

All in all, between learning about coffee and cocktails, we had a fabulous time, met so many interesting ladies from all over the country and learned a great deal. Thank you for sending us!



Photo op: Carlin and Connie with Shirley Meneice at the conference

2019 Shirley Meneice Horticultural Conference "From Coffee to Cocktails!"



Carlin and Connie - Denver Botanic Gardens



Connie turning over seed packets at Shirley Meneice Horticulture Conference



Our Honorees!



Honorees of Los Angeles Arboretum "Treasures of the Gardens" fundraising event on Sept 8th.

Betsey Tyler (PGC), Arnie Mulder (husband of our own Gretl) and Jane Herrmann with Executive Director, Richard Shulhof (left)

SAVE THE DATE - Joint Meeting

SAVE THE DATE of Tuesday, February 25th, 2020 for the joint meeting of GCA garden clubs of Los Angeles County. "Symbiotic Cities and the LA River" by urban ecologist, Kat Superfisky will be hosted by Hancock Park Garden Club at the Natural History Museum with lunch and optional tour of Nature Gardens by Carol Bornstein, Director, NHM Director. Invitation to follow.

