

DIGGERS DIRT

The Dirt being dished this month...

General Meetings:

Unless otherwise noted all meetings will be virtual. General meeting begins at 10:30am. An announcement will be emailed one week prior with specific timing of business and program. No refreshments will be provided.

Look ahead...

*denotes in person (optional) with protocol of social distancing and masks. 

March 3 - Conservation Program -

Speakers: Abby Meyer - Botanic Gardens Int'l; Evan Meyer - Theodore Payne Foundation; & Dr. Ari Novy - San Diego Botanic Garden

April 7 - Auction - see Dirt (page 3 for information on supporting the Old Mill in lieu of an auction).

May 5 - Floral Design

June 2 - Annual Meeting



From the President

Dear Diggers!

We started 2021 with two inspiring programs. In January, GCA's on demand video, Stonegate Farm with Matthew Benson, delighted the eye with aesthetics of an 8 acre farm brimming with palate pleasing, eye popping, lush down-home beauty. Skillfully deploying her Zoom skills, Athena assigned each of us to breakout rooms to discuss. You remarked on the benefits of seeing one another in a more intimate group, especially after the holiday lock down.

In February, local floral designer, Pinky of Lark Farnum Design, demonstrated the art and technique of exceptional floral design. With keen knowledge of plant material and great talent Pinky taught us, step by step, how to

Board Meeting

**Rescheduled - Virtually,
Friday, February 26th,
10:15am**

Old Mill Workday

Thurs Feb 18th 9-10:30am

"Meet & Greet"

Come meet our guests
and enjoy coffee and
bagels while digging and
weeding at the Mill!

**Mark Your
Calendar**

Upcoming GCA Dates

www.gcamerica.org

**Special GCA Virtual
Conferences**

February 23-24, 2021

National Affairs and
Legislation Conference

April 8, 2021

Floral
Design Conference

May 11-12, 2021

GCA Annual Meeting



Liz



create one of her stunning signature arrangements. Several of us purchased her assembled floral "kits" and followed along in the comfort of our own home. Flower arranging with such exquisite stems, perfectly conditioned calmed my heart.

Between these two meetings we lost our own Jane Hermann, beloved Digger since 1995. We also met two prospective members in Zoom coffee chats. Letters of proposal were read at our February meeting. Now is the time for all of us to respond confidentially to Tracy with your opinion.

During the past couple of weeks, I've reflected on my own membership in the Diggers. We had moved to Bradford Street into a house previously owned by Posey Tilt, whose daughter, Rosie Jones was a friend of Mom. I contacted Rosie to learn more about the history of the garden. I didn't know about the Diggers. (One of us is giggling as she reads this). I didn't know then how much the friendships would mean to me now.

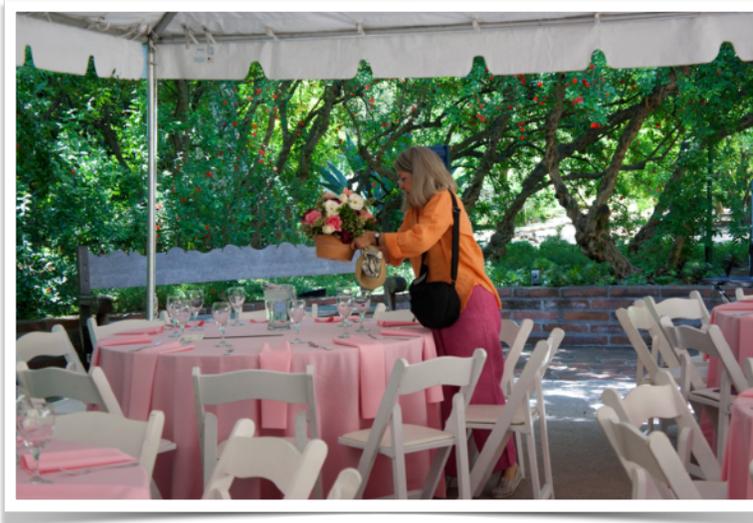
Mom, a member of the Pasadena Garden Club and beloved friend of several Diggers, was my first and most trusted tutor for the "perfect Diggers pot." With an eye for aesthetics and adherence to the rules of good planting she acquired many Diggers Auction pots over the years. With her encouragement (which I heard as insistence) I entered several Pasadena Garden Club flower shows, as well. Indeed, while creating my arrangement from Pinky's "kit" during her virtual demo last week, I felt Mom at my side.

I know I belong to something much more than a garden club. Thank you for all your support in word and action these past couple of weeks following my loss of Mom. I've many for whom I am grateful, among them each one of you.

Best,

Old Mill Auction - Covid Style

Remember When...

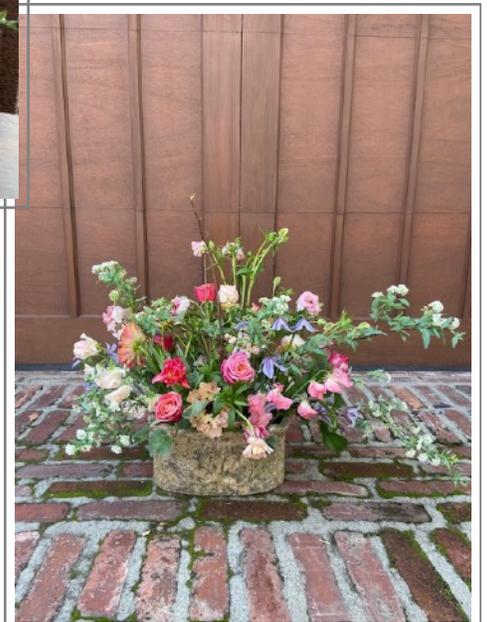


Oh I miss our time together in the garden, working side by side to bring our beautiful auctions together! But during this time, hopefully we can maintain our coffers to fulfill our goals. In lieu of an auction this year, we are asking for donations in order to maintain the Old Mill and our philanthropic gifts. Please keep an eye out for an appeal letter with more information.



Diggers Workshop - Floral Demonstration

Pinky Lark Farnum's Zoom Demo



Pinky, shown above.
Some beautiful
Diggers' versions
pictured.

GCA Photography Conference

The GCA's 2021 Photography Conference Goes Virtual

If you missed the GCA Photography Conference held on the 21st, you can access it on the GCA's website. I highly recommend two of the speakers: Michael Forsberg is a Conservation Photographer focusing on the Great Plains area. And Eddie Solloway spoke on the Joy of Nature Photography. Both would appeal to anyone who loves nature and beautiful photographs. The other talks were more technical in nature.

Go to the GCA Website and login.
 Click on "Conferences & Workshop - Virtual events"
 Click on "Photography Conference"
 Michael spoke first thing in the Morning Session.
 Eddie was first in the Afternoon Session.



If anyone is newly inspired and interested in photography, let me know!

I will forward you info from GCA from time to time. We might even have some small group tutorials and challenges!

- Sally Miller
 Photography Chair

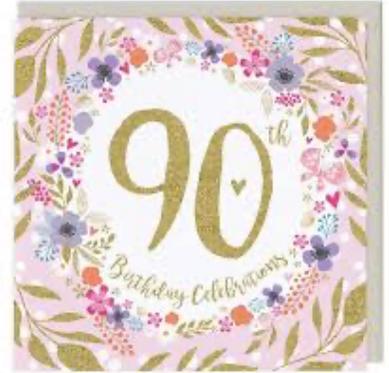
The Freeman Medal Plant of the Year is.....



The 2021 Montine McDaniel Freeman Medal Plant of The Year is **Cephalanthus occidentalis**, buttonbush. Attributes of *Cephalanthus occidentalis* include its adaptability to soils, its ability to slow erosion when planted in groups along stream beds, the unique beauty of the flowers, its fruit that provides food throughout the winter for 24 species of birds, and its ability to be planted in full sun or part shade. The common name, honey bells, was used by beekeepers who found the shrub to be irresistible to honey bees and introduced it into production in the colonies in 1735. -Photo Credit: Caroline Orr

Singing To Our Very Own Sally

Happy 90th Birthday Sally - You Inspire Each of Us!



In Loving Memory of Our Beloved Jane Herman



“Life is amazing. And then it’s awful. And then it’s amazing again. And in between the amazing and the awful it’s ordinary and mundane and routine. Breath in the amazing, hold on through the awful, and relax and exhale during the ordinary. That’s just living a heartbreaking, soul-healing, amazing, awful, ordinary life. And it’s breathtakingly beautiful”

-Herupliftingquotes

Public Gardens & Nurseries Open During Covid



275 Arlington Drive, Pasadena, CA 91105
 (626) 578-5434; info@arlingtongardenpasadena.org

Open 365 days a year from 8 AM to 6 PM. Free, no reservations required. The garden is closed on Tuesdays for maintenance during the COVID-19 quarantine. 301 North Baldwin Avenue, Arcadia, CA, 91007; 626.821.3222; arboretum.org



Open daily from 9 AM to 5 PM (8 AM for members). Last entry at 4:30 p.m.

Members present their cards for free unreserved entry. Visitors under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. General public must purchase tickets online. No payment transactions onsite. On the third Tuesday of the month, admission is free but advance tickets are required.



California Botanic Garden (Formerly Ranch Santa Ana Botanic Garden)
 1500 N College Avenue, Claremont CA 91711
 (909) 625 8767 | info@calbg.org

Open Tuesdays through Sundays, from 8 AM to 5 PM. Last entry at 4 PM. Members may enter the Garden without a reservation. Visitors using admit one passes to enter the Garden do not need to make a reservation; please fill out the requested information on the back of the guest pass prior to your arrival.

The general public must pre-purchase tickets online. The Garden could be at capacity if you arrive without a ticket.

Descanso Gardens

1418 Descanso Drive, La Canada Flintridge, CA 91011
descansogardens.org | (818) 949-4200

Open daily from 9 AM to 5 PM. Last entry time for members is 4:30 PM. Members can enter without an advance ticket; the general public and guests not covered under a membership need advance tickets with timed entry. No tickets will be sold at the gardens.



1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, CA 91108
[626-405-2100](tel:626-405-2100); huntington.org

The Huntington is open 10 AM to 5 PM every day except Tuesdays. The gardens are open (galleries remain closed). Non-Members must purchase tickets online in advance. Members must **reserve** tickets online in advance.



3555 CHANEY TRAIL • ALTADENA, CA 91001 (626) 794-3383; nucciosnurseries.com

Currently open Mondays, Tuesdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 8AM to 4:30 PM. Normally close early on rainy days, so please call first.



El Molino Viejo -The Old Mill
 1120 Old Mill Road; San Marino, CA 91108
old-mill.org; 626.449.5458

The Old Mill's building will be closed until further notice, but the garden is open regular hours, Tuesday through Sunday from 11 AM to 2 PM (note new hours). Free admission and no reservations necessary.

Storrier Stearns Japanese Garden

270 Arlington Drive; Pasadena, California 91105; (626) 399-1721
 E-mail: info@japanesegardenpasadena.com; japanesegardenpasadena.com;

Currently open Saturdays from 3 PM to 6:30 PM and Sundays from 10 AM to 4 PM. Visitors must register for two-hour visits, no walk-ins. Groups are limited to four and must be members of the same household. Households with more than four, contact the garden.



Theodore Payne Foundation for Wild Flowers & Native Plants

10459 Tuxford Street; Sun Valley, California 91352

818-768-1802; theodorepayne.org

Tuesday – Saturday; 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM, Reservations required

In-Store Shopping at Theodore Payne Foundation : You must reserve a shopping slot before you come to shop.

Winter Plant Sale, February 9-13 Members receive a 15% discount and nonmembers receive a 10% discount on all plants, seeds, bulbs, and TPF gear. Shopping slot reservations required.

The online store features the entire inventory for in-store pickup or shipping (Plants available for in-store pickup only).



26300 Crenshaw Boulevard Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA
90274 southcoastbotanicgarden.org (424) 452-0920

GARDEN HOURS 8 AM to 5 PM (Last entrance allowed at 4:30 PM) Open to the public 364 days a year; closed Christmas Day. Both Members and the general public require **advance reservations** through the online system.

Dog walking hours: Visitors can bring their pups from 5-8 p.m. the second and fourth Wednesday of the month. **Reservations will be required.** Some areas may be restricted to those with dogs for horticultural reasons.