

# DIGGERS DIRT

The Dirt being dished this month...

## General Meetings:

General meeting begins at 10:30am (Unless otherwise noted). 12:00 noon Meeting. Bring sack lunch. Invite guests when appropriate.

## Look ahead...

**Feb 21 - Joint Meeting - Dr. Paul Cox @ The Valley Hunt Club - 9:00am**

**Mar 1 - Floral Workshop @ Sally M's**

**Apr 5 - Work day @ Megan Foker's**

**Apr 16 - Plant Drop off @ Megan Foker's**

**Apr 17 - Auction Set-Up**

**Apr 18 - Auction Set-Up**

**Apr 19 - AUCTION @ Megan Foker's**

**May 3 - Diggers Mtg TBD**

**Jun 7 - Diggers Annual Mtg @ Lisa's**



## From the President

Dear Diggers,

I had a wonderful time in chilly Paradise Valley, AZ where we were treated to garden tours, delicious local dinners, and an interesting day of meetings organized by the Arizona Columbine Garden Club. The Zone XII Presidents Council did not disappoint!

We gathered together and heard the results of the Gallup Leadership Strengths test that all the presidents completed. Each president and GCA rep also gave a 150 word report to encapsulate their take-away from their individual clubs. Here

## Board Meeting

10:30 a.m. Monday's  
preceding the General  
Meetings at Lisa's home.  
Please let Lisa know if  
you would like to attend.

## Old Mill Workday

Bring your gloves, shovel  
and clippers... check your  
email for available dates

## Mark Your Calendar

### Upcoming GCA Dates

[www.gcamerica.org](http://www.gcamerica.org)

### Feb 6-9, 2023

GCA Judging Workshop-  
Virtual

### Feb 28, 2023

Floral Design Conference  
- Virtual

### Mar 12-15, 2023

NAL - in-person and  
hybrid

### May 21-24, 2023

GCA Annual Mtg - Hybrid



was my report: "Camaraderie: The definition of camaraderie is mutual respect, trust and friendship among people who spend a lot of time together. It is with the women of the Diggers Garden Club in Pasadena that we find this special bond. We come together throughout the year to stimulate and share the knowledge and love of gardening. Our main effort and time together is spent preparing for our annual auction and plant sale. Everyone's talents and gifts are used to plan the event, instruct new members, shop for pots and plants in groups, prep the plants and presentation tables, laugh and share stories together. This effort culminates into a successful day of plant sales, a lovely lunch and an efficient sendoff of our guests; trunks loaded with potted gifts to enjoy and share for months and years to come. It is through this camaraderie that we find strength, support and friendship."

The afternoon session included a very educational talk on Generational Differences and how we entice young members while respecting the status of the older members in regards to interests, technology, mindset, and overall inclusion, equity and diversity. We will definitely be looking into creating a strategic plan for our garden club in 2024. This will allow us to clarify our mission and vision in order to maintain a healthy and viable club.

I hope to see many of your smiling faces at our annual Joint Meeting at the Valley Hunt Club on Tuesday, February 21<sup>st</sup>. Dr. Paul Cox has a wonderful presentation prepared for us. Just as a reminder, valet will be available.

I look forward to this spring in Southern California since the recent rains will most definitely be spoiling us with an abundance of spring blooms! Have a wonderful Valentines!

Off to pick weeds and plant dreams,

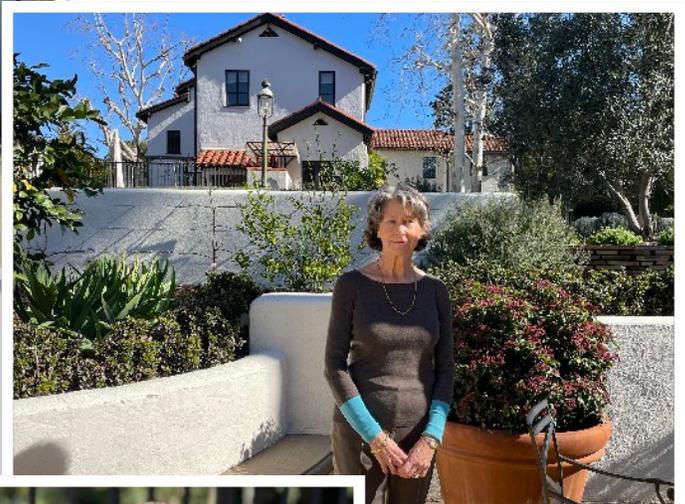
*Lisa*

## February Program



We had a wonderful meeting at Cathy Tosetti's beautiful home and learned a lot about the 51 miles of the river that the FOLAR tend to. Our speaker, Mireya Valencia explained how FOLAR fights for policies that will benefit residents and wildlife. They offer many different

opportunities to get involved. Their partnerships and initiatives bring entertainment, recreation, and innovation to the River's shores and create value for our communities. Click the link to find out more information. <https://folar.org/>



Cathy Tosetti at her beautiful home flanked by her vegetable garden.

## Floral Design - Workshop

January workshop at Sally Miller's home - arranging greens with Tillie. Her shop is called Southern Roots. She is incredibly talented and she has some fun workshops at her shop as well!

<https://www.southernrootsgifts.com/>

For those interested in knowing what greens were used at the "greenery arranging" workshop, here's the list below.....happy arranging!! :)

- Ruscus
- Pittosporum tenuifolium 'Garnetti'
- Umbrella Fern
- Huckleberry
- Succulents
- Dianthus
- Acacia

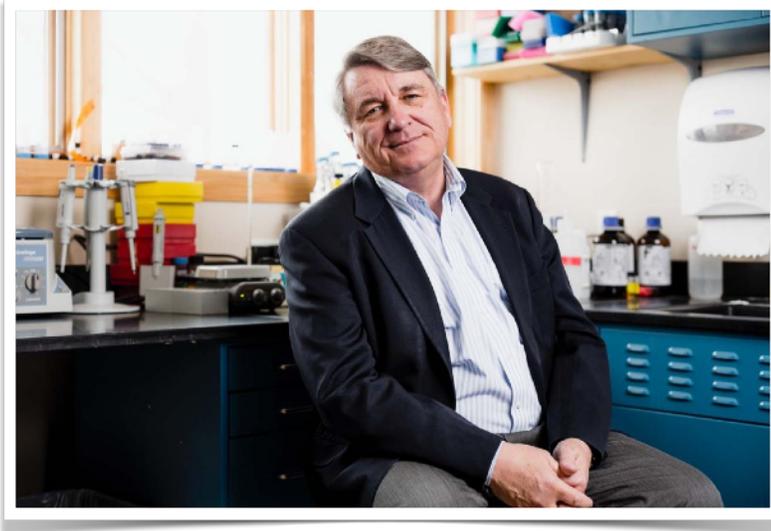


Tillie up top explaining how the magic happens. The crew in the middle & Megan and Cindy with their final arrangement.

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## Annual Joint Garden Club Meeting - 2/21/23

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We look forward to hosting one of the greatest scientists of our time - Dr. Alan Cox.

His talk, *An Ethnobotanical Approach to the Tangle Diseases*, will address some of the most challenging diseases of our time. ALS, Alzheimer's, and Parkinson's are

characterized by misfiled proteins and tangles in the brain. Ethnobotanical research among villagers in Guam has led to a stunning new approach to stopping protein misfolding which promises new therapies to treat these most serious illnesses.

Dr. Paul Alan Cox was awarded the Goldman Environmental Prize, also called "the Green Nobel" and was named one of TIME magazine's eleven "Heroes of Medicine" for his discovery of new drugs from remote island villages. Based on a nomination from the Broadmoor Garden Club, Dr. Cox was sliced this year to become an Honorary Member of the GCA His research at the Brain Chemistry Labs in Jackson on Alzheimer's disease was recently profiled in fortune magazine.

We look forward to seeing you all at the Joint Meeting at the Valley Hunt Club on Tuesday, February 21st at 9:00am. If you have not already given your check for the brunch to Connie, please do so ASAP

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## Photography

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### *GCA Photography Conference*

If you missed the recent online Photography Conference, you can still access the videos on their website.

Here's how: <https://www.gcamerica.org/members/photography-conference-2023>

Log in to the GCA Members Area Home Page

Click on Conferences & Events

Click on Photography Conference

Click on various speakers. I highly recommend:

- Sam Abell - a former National Geographic photographer. He sometimes gets technical with composition etc, but you can also just enjoy his photography.
- Mary Jo Hoffman - A photographer who has been photographing the three miles around her house for the past ten years. Very inspiring and interesting.
- Jim Richardson - Another National Geographic photographer who has taken up story telling with his iPhone! Jim has shared a guide to iPhone photography in the Take Aways section. Contact Sally M and I'll forward it to you!

– Sally Miller



## 2023 Photography Conference

**Thank You For Joining Us!**

If you missed it — or want to revisit it — the videos are here on this page for you to enjoy!

Special thanks to the 2023 Photography Conference chairs, Jean Jarvis and Susan Van Tassel, and all the volunteers and staff who supported this online meeting.

Have feedback for us? Please share by taking this [brief survey](#).

Search these resources

## Membership

**Letters were read for a potential new member at our last meeting. Please contact Page Halambos with your vote prior to the March meeting. Thank you!**

Diggers, PLEASE continue to bring guests so that we can maintain a thriving garden club. It is critical that we bring in new members to help fill the shoes of those who have contributed so much of their time and are cycling off committee work. The December meeting is a great meeting to bring guests to! Contact Page if you have any questions regarding the membership requirements.

## The California Botanic Garden



### Welcome to Bird Month at CalBG

Take flight with our feathered friends this month as we celebrate the birds who live in harmony with our native plant communities.

<https://www.calbg.org>

Check out the California Botanic Garden newsletter regarding Bird Month, classes and events and garden news!

The Diggers Garden Club ladies,  
 Are experts with their spades and trowels,  
 They tend their gardens with such grace,  
 And love to see their plants take hold.  
 They spend their days out in the sun,  
 Weeding, watering, and planting seeds,  
 Their gardens are their pride and joy,  
 A place where they can let their green thumbs be freed.  
 But there's one thing they all agree,  
 That sometimes makes them scratch their heads,  
 And that's the pesky little pests,  
 That eat their flowers and their beds.  
 So they've tried every trick and tool,  
 To keep the bugs and slugs away,  
 From garlic sprays to marigolds,  
 And even the occasional scarecrow display.  
 But still, the critters find their way,  
 And munch on all their favorite plants,  
 So the ladies of the Diggers Club,  
 Have decided to take a stand.  
 They'll rally all their garden friends,  
 And come up with a grand plan,  
 To scare those pests right out of town,  
 And protect their precious garden land.  
 So here's to the Diggers Garden Club,  
 The ladies with the greenest thumbs,  
 Who won't let a few pesky bugs,  
 Spoil their gardening fun!

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## GCA Scholarship Bites - February 2023

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### **Get to Know GCA Scholarships: The Garden Club of America Award in Coastal Wetlands Studies**

The Garden Club of America Award in Coastal Wetlands Studies provides field work and research funding to graduate students whose work focuses on wetlands conservation.

**Get to know:** The Garden Club of America Award in Coastal Wetlands Studies



Begun in 1966 by Mrs. Robert D. Sterling with Mrs. Avery Rockefeller, The Anne M. Rockefeller Fund was established to support Mrs. Rockefeller's work on the environmental education packet, *The World Around You*. In 1999, Mrs. Edward S. Elliman (Hortulus GC), daughter of Mrs. Rockefeller, sharpened the fund's focus to concentrate on coastal wetlands

research. The Rockefeller Environmental Education Fund is managed by the GCA.

GCA annually provides \$5,000 Coastal Wetlands Awards to one or more deserving students. Applicants must be enrolled in a graduate program in the US and must propose a field-based study in coastal wetlands in the US (defined as tidal or non-tidal wetlands within the coastal states, including the Great Lake states).

Applications are reviewed by a selection committee of practicing wetland scientists at Virginia Institute of Marine Science's (CCRM). GCA's Scholarship Committee selects the final award winners from the CCRM's nominees.

**Get to know:** Virginia Institute of Marine Science at William & Mary

The Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS) has a three-part mission to conduct research in coastal ocean and estuarine science, educate students and citizens, and provide advisory service to policy makers, industry, and the public. VIMS provides these services to Virginia, the nation, and the world. Chartered in 1940, VIMS is currently among the largest marine research and education centers in the United States.

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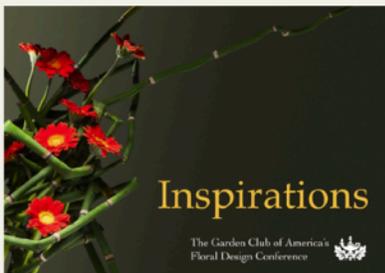
## GCA Conferences - Floral Design

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Click here for more information and to register for the the 2023 Floral Design

Conference. <https://www.gcamerica.org/members:calendar/ereventdetails/id/434>

## 2023 FLORAL DESIGN CONFERENCE



📅 Tue, Feb 28, 2023

📅 Last day to register: Thu, Feb 23, 2023

📍 Virtual

### Who's Invited

✓ Register Now

This year all club members are invited to come together from across The Garden Club of America for the 2023 Floral Design Conference at no cost.

### What to Expect

The Garden Club of America invites you to register for the 2023 Floral Design Conference. Join us virtually for an exciting day of creative inspiration. The conference instruction is planned for arrangers of all levels and will be presented by designers known around the world for their exciting designs, imaginative concepts, and inventive tools and tricks. Join us and let your creative energy chase the winter blues away!

The conference will consist of two sessions on February 28th and we hope you are able to attend both! Each session of this conference is a live Zoom Webinar featuring pre-recorded presentations followed by interactive Q and A sessions with the designers.

This conference will illustrate the many ways designers are inspired to create in their own style and help you to find your own artistic floral direction. We will explore the simplicity and elegance of Ikebana, Japanese floral design, which will help us to learn to "see" nature differently and to listen to the voice of our materials. We will also explore the use of line and its importance in the creation of dynamic designs. Botanical arts tips will wow us and hope to encourage all of you to explore this medium.

Finding inspiration comes in many forms - let's have fun as we explore together, enhancing our creativity as we learn together.

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## GCA NAL Conference

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Click here for more information on the National Affairs and Legislation Conference.

<https://www.gcamerica.org/members:calendar/ereventdetails/id/419>



### What to Expect

#### ADVOCACY WORKSHOP (virtual) - February 23, 2023

Join fellow GCA club members around the country for our virtual, one-hour Advocacy Training Workshop. Learn about GCA's environmental priorities and how to advocate effectively from the experts! The workshop will run between 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM.

#### NAL CONFERENCE - March 12-15, 2023

The Garden Club of America has been a non-partisan voice of informed volunteers helping to "restore, improve, and protect the quality of the environment" for over one hundred years.

Please join us as we return to the nation's capital for the 40th annual National Affairs & Legislation Conference. Learn about the many approaches to combating climate change found through innovation, capturing the power of our natural world to produce clean energy, heal our soil and sequester carbon, the "greening" of our transportation system, energy grid and infrastructure, and more. We will hear from nationally renowned experts including scientists, leaders from industry and non-profits, as well as members of Congress as we come together, once again, to advocate for a beautiful, healthy planet.

For the first time, all GCA club members can be "in the room" in Washington, joining our in-person conference delegates for Education Day on Monday, March 13. Hear from scientists, non-profit leaders, and members of the Administration about a host of policy issues and legislation that reflect the GCA's mission, "to restore, improve and protect the environment". Education Day will be live-streamed via Zoom for members attending virtually.

📅 Sun, Mar 12, 2023 - Wed, Mar 15, 2023

📅 Last day to register: Sun, Feb 12, 2023

📍 Washington Marriott Georgetown Hotel