

January 2016



# DIGGERS DIRT

Volume 11 Issue 5 2015-2016

[www.diggersgardenclub.com](http://www.diggersgardenclub.com)

Wednesday February 3, 2016  
Ruth Pasqualetto's ~ 1530 Charlton Road

## Flower Arranging 101

10:30 AM ~ Gather & Coffee

11 to 12 ~ Program

12 to 1 ~ Sack lunch Meeting ~ Bring \$ for scrip!

Regrets Only to Carlin



We are happy to announce that our very own Digger, Annette Serrurier, current Zone XII Chairman has just accepted the promotion to Zone XII Director starting next year!

Congratulations Annette!!



## General Meetings

October 7

November 4

December 2

January 6

February 3

March 2

April 6

**Auction Prep-**

April 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>

**Auction - April 20<sup>th</sup>**

– at Lisa Evan's

May 4

June 1

## Board Meetings

The next Board Meeting is at 10:30 AM on Tuesday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> at Mary B's home. Please let Carlin know if you would like to attend.

## WINERY FIELD TRIP



**WENZLAU**  
VINEYARD

Save Saturday May 14<sup>th</sup> for a field trip to the ACCLAIMED Wenzlau Vineyard in the Santa Rita Hills near Lompoc.

We are still formulating a plan and welcome input. It may involve staying overnight.

## OLD MILL

Eugenie or Yvonne will be working at the Old Mill **Tuesdays in January and February**. Additional upcoming work days are **Friday, February 19<sup>th</sup>; Tuesday, March 15<sup>th</sup> and Friday, May 13<sup>th</sup>**. Yvonne will be sending out reminders; if you signed up for a Friday, please confirm you are coming. Check your calendars... they would love the company of other Diggers who have an hour or two to spare between 9-11 a.m. any of those mornings! **Remember, it is a Digger responsibility to do 2 workdays in addition to the October meeting workday!**

The Diggers have purchased a 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Banner which will hang on a San Marino street from February to October. Funds from the banner sales will support the Old Mill. Mary Sikora, Old Mill Foundation Board Member, is looking for people to help with the 200<sup>th</sup> celebration events. If interested, please contact Mary at [mksikora1070@gmail.com](mailto:mksikora1070@gmail.com) or 626-240-9260. Watch for updates on the web page: [www.old-mill.org](http://www.old-mill.org)

## FOUNDERS FUND

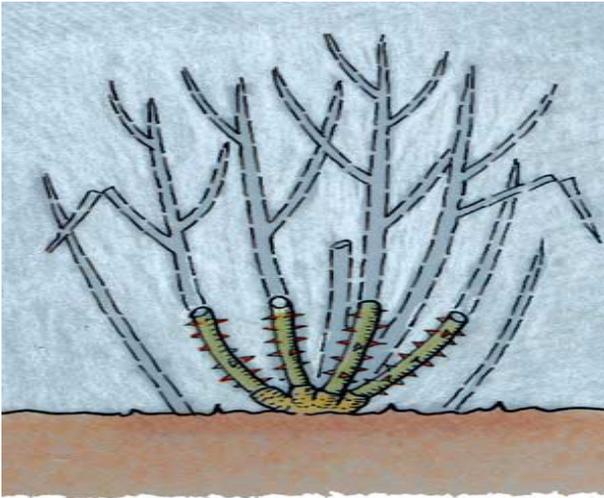
Watch for the 2016 Founders Fund Finalists descriptions in the Winter issue of the GCA Bulletin; they are also accessible by logging on to the [Founders Fund webpage](#) in the Members Area of the GCA website. The award will meaningfully affect the projects, as the winner will receive \$30,000 and each runner up, \$10,000. The award will be announced at the Annual Meeting in the Twin Cities of Minneapolis and Saint Paul, Minnesota in May 2016.

The Founders Fund was established in 1934 to support and encourage member clubs in the area of civic projects. What makes this award so special is that it is the only GCA award that can be voted on by the membership of all 200 GCA Member Clubs. At our Feb 3<sup>rd</sup> club meeting, the summaries will be ready aloud and we will vote at the March 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting. Carlin, as Club President, will be asked to cast one vote, which reflects the club's vote, by April 1, 2016.

## HORTICULTURE NEWS

### "January ~ A Nip, A Tuck, or A Major Lift"

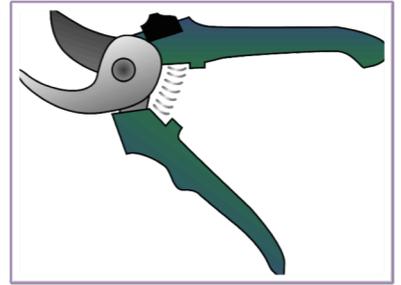
By Sally  
Harris,  
Horticulture  
Chair



January and February are basic "think it over" months. Our gardens are at their most bare bones and only a few things are blooming. If you want to make a change, this is the time. After you have raked, weeded and pruned (who knows what you'll find under there - old golf balls, toys or a tool set down while you were weeding). Take a long hard look at the basic structure of your garden.

A garden is a constantly evolving thing but often we get in a rut and need a little inspiration. Don't be afraid to move your shrubs/plants around; maybe add a water feature, statue, pathway or tripod. Consider creating a new "room" by adding a hedge or a Belgium fence. Have you always wanted a vegetable garden? If you have saved prior pictures from your garden, other gardens, magazines, etc., take a look at them for ideas and release your inner self.

Ok, now it's FINALLY time to prune the roses (mid to late January). No matter how much we eagerly wait for this, somehow every year we get a little nervous. Basically roses are VERY tough and can probably do just fine without us. I've seen some neglected (no water or pruning) living and blooming in the wild. Pruning and fertilizing are not life and death issues. Disclaimer: There are many methods and many opinions...this is what I have found most successful for Hybrid Teas.



### GCA DATES

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

**Shirley Meneice Horticultural Conference**, Seattle, WA  
September 21-23, 2015

**NAL Conservation Conference**, Washington, DC  
February 22-25, 2016

**GCA Annual Meeting**  
Minneapolis  
May 19-23, 2016

**Pasadena Garden Club**  
Flower Show  
April 22- 24, 2016

**Zone XII Meeting**  
Broadmoor GC, CO  
June 21-23, 2016

**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**  
10<sup>th</sup> of every month except  
June

## Basics

- First and foremost ...gloves, gloves, gloves or you'll look like a victim of a chain saw massacre.
- Remove all leaves. Prune to 1/3 size. Some rose fanatics alternate yearly from taller to bare bones (2-4 major canes). Cut out dead canes; those crossing each other and side branches less than  $\frac{1}{2}$ " in diameter. Your cuts should be made just above an outward facing bud. Too close and the bud will dry out. Too far and dead stub will remain. If your plant is old and no longer has many canes, mound compost above base to encourage new canes to sprout. When you see the first green leaves emerging, fertilize.

**Collect rainwater** - Many ways. Sally Miller a great help.

## Buy/Plant

- Bare root fruit trees, berries, roses (try rugosas), clematis, wisteria.
- Additions to existing bloomers such as hellebores, heliotrope and cymbidiums. Azaleas and camellias in bloom.

## Maintenance

- Clean, sharpen and oil all tools.
- Edit, weed.
- Label Dahlias and cut to 4" stem. OR yank out for compost or give to a friend

## Fertilize, compost/amend

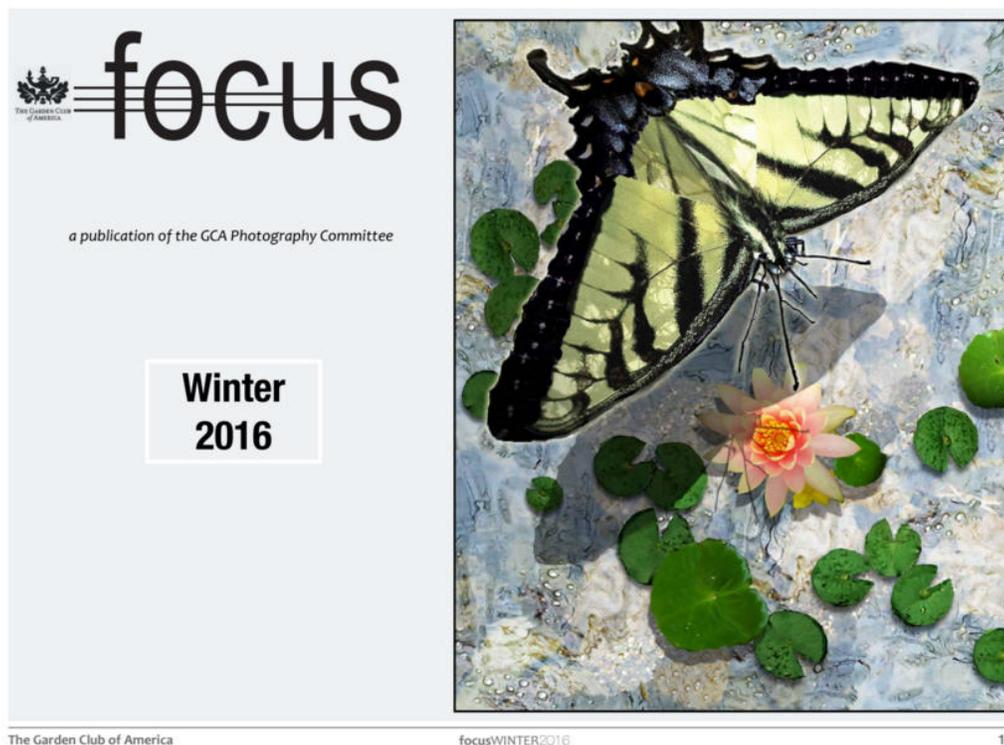
- Citrus with 16-8-4 and Chelated Iron if needed
- Fruit trees with 10-15-15
- Cymbidiums with 15-30-10
- Clematis - 5-10-10
- Most So. California soil is alkaline due to fewer deciduous trees and less rain.
- It's time to add amendments such as soil sulfur and Epsom salts.

## Prune

- Deciduous shrubs and trees (citrus right after fruiting)
- Cut back salvias that did not show new growth at base last month

## PHOTOGRAPHY

Anyone can submit a photo to the GCA website! First email a photo to Carlin at [cwastem@yahoo.com](mailto:cwastem@yahoo.com) who will then select and send on to Annette Serrurier and Eve Barrett, then Zone XII Chairman and Vice Chairman. They are looking for photos of clubs in action: hikes, work days, special events, and workshops. Email the photos as an attachment in a horizontal image in JPEG format with a brief description.



GCA publishes a beautiful on-line magazine for photography called "focus."

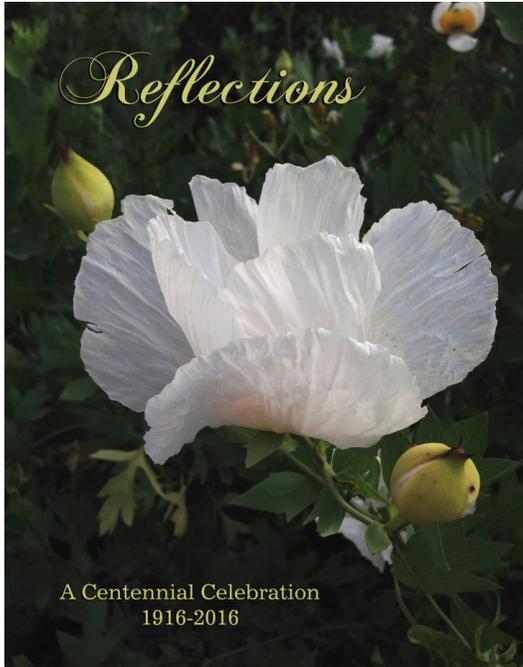
Even if you are not a photographer, you will enjoy the **gorgeous** award-winning photographs.

Look for the pages of photos taken recently in Portland - very inspiring! There are also tips for taking better pictures.

To see the current Winter 2016 issue, go to the member section of the GCA Website and click on "focus" under the list of Publications. It's worth taking a minute to enjoy this beautiful magazine.

<https://www.gcamerica.org/index.cfm/members:publications/details/id/25>

## FLOWER SHOW UPDATES



The Pasadena Garden Club Flower Show is April 22 - 24, 2016. There are many ways Diggers can enter this show. Follow these directions **to find the 2016**

### **Pasadena GCA Flower Show Schedule:**

Go to the MEMBERS area on the GCA website.

- On the right side of the screen in the green 'Resources' box, click on '**Calendar**'.
- On the Calendar page, filter by selecting the '**Flower Show**' category in the purple box. Then filter further by selecting '**Zone XII**' and '**Pasadena Garden Club**' from the 'Zone/Club' drop-down box.
- Click on 'Apply' and the appropriate calendar page will show up. You will see that the Pasadena Garden Club has listed their Flower Show - 'Reflections' - on April 22-24. Click on this listing and their Flower Show information page will appear.

- You can now click on the Schedule for

the show and either read it in Adobe format, or download and print it for reference and registration forms.

### **How to find the 'Yellow Book', The GCA's Flower Show & Judging Guide:**

- Go to the MEMBERS area on the GCA website.
- Select '**GCA Committee pages**' from the dropdown menu near the top of the screen.
- Click on '**Flower Show**', then on '**Yellow Book**'.
- Open the Yellow book screen, where you will be able to click on '**Download the Yellow Book**'. You will also have the option to download it in iBooks.