

April 2016



DIGGERS DIRT

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www.diggersgardenclub.com

Wednesday, May 4, 2016

Gwen Babcock's ~1500 Park Place

Native by Design: Barbara Eisenstein

10:30 AM ~ Gather & Coffee

11 to 12 ~ Program

12 to 1 ~ Sack Lunch Meeting

Regrets Only to Carlin

**Bring \$ for scrip and
terracotta auction centerpiece
if you took one home**

General Meetings

October 7

November 4

December 2

January 6

February 3

March 2

April 6

Auction Prep-

April 18th & 19th

Auction - **April 20th**

- at Lisa Evans'

May 4

June 1

Board Meetings

The next Board Meeting is at 10:30 AM on Monday, May 2nd at Cathy Tosetti's home. Please let Carlin know if you would like to attend.

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

Mud Baron of Muir Ranch will be receiving The Garden Club of America's Elizabeth Abernathy Hull at the beginning of our May Meeting.

Member Years of Service Citations

Four Diggers received milestone Club Member Years of Service Certificates from the GCA this month: 50 Years for Louisa Miller and Sally Wenzlau, 55 years for Joan Banning and 60 years for Judy Banning.



Louisa and Sally Miller



Cindy and Sally Wenzlau

Louisa Miller &
Sally Wenzlau

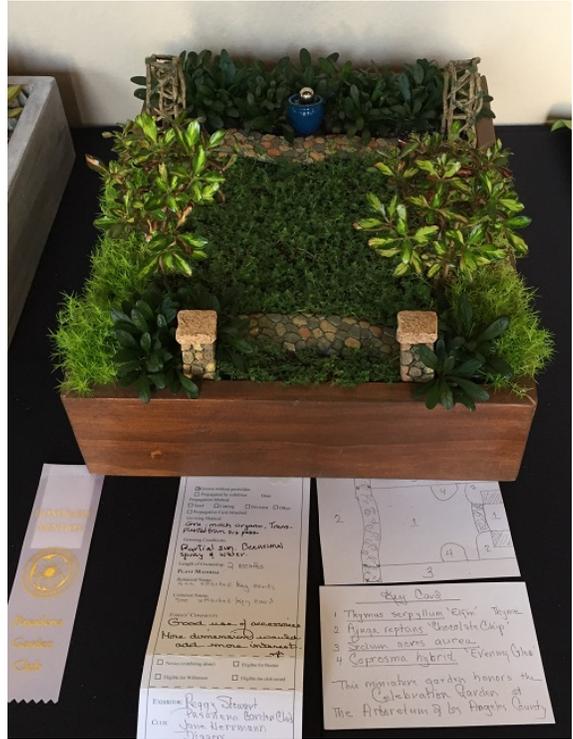


FLOWER SHOW

The Pasadena Garden Club's very successful Flower Show at the Pasadena Public Library had good representation from our small but "mighty" Club. In the miniature division, three Diggers won the top prizes, Cathy Tosetti, Carlin McCarthy and Sally Miller. Cathy also won in Horticulture and received some special honors. Jane Herrmann and Peggy Stewart, a PGC member, had a very impressive miniature garden. Many thanks to all the "advisors", especially Eugenie!



CATHY'S BLUE RIBBON HEUCHERA



JANE'S MINIATURE GARDEN



DIGGERS TAKE FIRST, SECOND & THIRD- CATHY, CARLIN & SALLY

WINERY FIELD TRIP

Cindy Wenzlau graciously invited all Diggers and their husbands to her beautiful vineyard in the Santa Rita Hills near Lompoc for a tour, a tasting and lunch on May 14th. Many Diggers are going up Friday night, some Saturday morning. A **sign-up sheet** was circulated at the April Meeting. Please let Cindy know if you have changed your plans.



IN MEMORIUM

We are sorry to say goodbye to Judy Banning who passed away in April. Judy had been a Digger for 62 years and was President from 1971-72. She was a much beloved friend, wonderful gardener and consummate auctioneer.



GCA DATES- Updated!

www.gcamerica.org

Shirley Meneice Horticultural Conference, Brooklyn, NY
September 19-21, 2016

NAL Conservation Conference, Washington, DC
Feb 27- Mar 2, 2017

GCA Annual Meeting
Minneapolis
May 19-23, 2016

Pasadena Garden Club Flower Show
Pasadena Public Library
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
10th of every month except June

HORTICULTURE NEWS

April ~ As Good As It Gets! By Sally Harris, Horticulture Chair

Life is good - The roses are early, citrus blossoms perfume the garden; iris stalks are shooting up; trees are flowering and the wisteria is hanging off the eaves. It's magic. Sit back, pat yourself on the back and enjoy the wonder of nature. Well, maybe pull a few weeds. Forget taxes and take pictures and notes about how great everything looks. Visit as many gardens as you can. You can never plagiarize enough. Maybe tweak a bit with fillers like forget-me-nots, erigeron, campanulas, or hardy geraniums. These always add a finishing touch and make things look lush.

Switch to summer veggie planting. Be sure to install whatever support system you've chosen so you're not throwing squash vines over your shoulder while attempting to install a tripod later.

Take a floral arranging class so you can have the inside look just as great.

Buy/Plant

- Summer annuals, perennials, natives, drought tolerants, succulents. Don't forget GRASSES,
- Summer veggies
- Summer bulbs - Casa Blanca lilies are great with roses. And Dahlias

Maintenance

- Hand wash aphids off roses
- Mildew - try 1 tsp. baking soda, 1 Tbsp. canola oil to 1 gal. water.
- Thin fruit on peaches, nectarines, apples, plums
- Braid or knot foliage of spent bulbs
- Important - mark colors on iris so you'll know what you are dividing later

Fertilize/Amend

- Roses after 1st bloom
- Worm castings to "hopefully" prevent WHITEFLY
- Everything could use a little iron after initial burst of energy...citrus, camellias.
- Jobs spikes on tomatoes, clematis

Great God of Little Things
Look upon my labors
And make my little garden
A little better than my neighbors



AUCTION UPDATE

We had a very successful and FUN auction fundraiser at Lisa's beautiful home. Thank you to all Diggers and especially our Auction Chairs, Athena Woods and Lisa Evans!



OLD MILL

LET'S GET THE OLD MILL READY FOR SUMMER!

Eugenie or Yvonne will be working at the Old Mill most **Tuesdays**. The last scheduled work day for this year is **Friday, May 13th**. Please confirm with Yvonne if you are coming.

DIGGERS GO ON AMAZON SMILE!

For all you Amazon shoppers out there, the Diggers Garden Club is officially part of Amazon Smile. This will send 0.5% of our Amazon purchases toward our little garden club.

The below link will take you to Amazon Smile, and automatically have your purchases send credit to the Diggers. This WILL NOT change your Amazon Prime settings, or any other feature on Amazon.

Please start shopping! Thank you Susan Babcock for setting us up!

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/95-3492429>

VISITING GARDENS- NEW TRIPS ANNOUNCED

If you have an idea of a local garden to visit, contact *Kathy Miller*, our Visiting Gardens Chair.

Current Visiting Gardens trips on the GCA Website are listed below. To sign up for a Trip Interest List, send an email to gcainterestlists@gmail.com and include your name, email address, GCA club and zone, and the name of the trip. General questions concerning Visiting Gardens or trip suggestions may be sent to: visitinggardens@gcamerica.org. (Please do not use this address for Interest Lists requests.)

VISITING GARDENS 2017 TRIPS:

- **Portugal:** Quintas, Gardens and Azulejos, March 27 - April 7, 2017. Gifted guide, Susie Orso, will lead a special trip to Portugal, beginning in Porto in the North and visiting the Douro region, and then traveling southward to Coimbra, Batalha and Obidos, and finally Lisbon and Sintra.
- **Nashville,** April 23 - 28, 2017: Nashville, an exciting and vibrant city, is the home of country music and fabulous gardens, including many listed in the Smithsonian Institute's Archives of American Gardens. Members of the Garden Club of Nashville will welcome us into their homes and gardens.
- **Hawaii,** May 18 - 25, 2017: Experience the magic of this tropical island paradise: visit the only royal palace in the country; tour and dine in private, kama'aina homes and gardens; learn haku and lei making with GCA award winning floral designers; enjoy docent led tours of Honolulu Museum of Art, long time home of the Garden Club of Honolulu's Major Flower Shows, and Shangri La, Doris Duke's exotic oceanfront estate; and then travel on to Kaua'i, the Garden Isle, where three National Botanical Gardens await you.
- **Sweden:** Midsummer Gardens & Castles, July 9 - 20, 2017: This trip, under the guidance of Antonia Lloyd Owen, a colleague of Susie Orso, will begin in Copenhagen and travel to Lund, Gothenburg, Sodertuna, Stockholm, with visits to both private and public gardens, castles and private homes.

VISITING GARDENS 2018 TRIPS THAT HAVE BEEN ANNOUNCED SO FAR:

Scotland, July 21 - 28, 2018: Julia Fortescue and Anne Chambers, who organized the Visiting Gardens trips to the Cotswolds in 2012 and Ireland in 2015, will lead this trip, beginning in Edinburgh, the historic capital of Scotland, and then traveling to the Borders Region, Fife, and the Highlands north of Perth. Julia and Anne have extensive connections in Scotland, providing them with unparalleled access to private gardens and homes.



The Garden Conservancy's 2016 Open Days

Sunday, May 1
10:00 AM- 4:00 PM

Start your tour at the [La Casita del Arroyo Garden](#), 177 South Arroyo Blvd., on Sunday, May 1 between 9:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m., where discounted tickets and maps to all 6 of the Pasadena area gardens will be available. Admission to La Casita del Arroyo Garden is free.

Admission to each private garden is \$7. You can buy discounted admission tickets in advance. They never expire and can be used at most Open Days to make garden visiting easier.

- [Nonmembers get one ticket free.](#)
- [Members enjoy 50% off.](#)

The Pasadena Open Day visits two, almost side-by-side, very large estate gardens, both recently re-designed for entertaining family and friends. One features a formal collection of 1000 roses, and a stunning wisteria arbor, the other has a vineyard, cutting gardens and vegetable gardens to supply culinary treats from the large outdoor kitchen for the dining terrace. Nearby are two stunning modern homes: an imposing large 1950's modernist house with a long connecting bridge and extensive gardens with a waterfall and decorative fountains, and a small but striking tropical pool garden with a Palm Springs palette of palms, desert trees, glazed decorative tiles and granite boulders. A short distance away is a woodland garden with a gated tropical pool/spa surprise, and for the outdoor chef, a state-of-the-art barbeque area. Look for the drought-tolerant parkway plantings as an alternative to green lawns. Further afield, in Arcadia, re-visit the lush garden featured in the 2015 Garden Conservancy book on *Outstanding American Gardens: A Celebration – 25 years of the Garden Conservancy*.

www.opendaysprogram.org

Diggers, please note: Lisa Evan's home will be on the tour and there are still volunteer opportunities!