

**Important Dates**

**General Meetings**

January 9th

February 6th

March 6th

April 3rd

Auction Prep:

April 15th & 16th

Auction!!!

April 17th

April 23rd

Joint Mtg. at

Huntington with

PGC & HPGC

No May Meeting

June 5th

**Board Meeting**

April 2nd

10:30a.m.

at Tracy's

**GCA Dates**

2013 Centennial

Annual Meeting

Philadelphia

April 30 - May 2

Centennial

Celebration

Dedication Week

New York City

June 1 - 7, 2013

# DIGGER

# DIRT



## **\*\*ALERT\*\* VENUE CHANGE**

### **General Meeting**

**April 3rd - The Old Mill\***

**10:30 a.m.**

**Last Chance Spruce-Up before the Auction!**

**It's a working meeting.**

**Wear your garden-grubbies.**

**Bring gloves, clippers, a rake, etc.**

**The General Meeting will begin at Noon**

**Bring a sack lunch & a check for scrip.**

**Refer to last month's Digger Dirt  
for your handy-dandy  
Auction check list!**

**See attached pages for  
Garden Tours and other  
interesting info!**

### **Partnerships for Plants**

**Next Date! Mark your calendars!**

**Thursday, May 16**

**(Humboldt Lily identification and mapping)**

**Millard Canyon 9:30a.m. Lunch will be provided.**

**Interested? Call or email Hannah.**



The dictionary defines a rill as a narrow, shallow incision into the topsoil (from the Dutch *ril* meaning running stream). These rills usually form naturally as erosion occurs by a stream or a place with high water runoff such as a cliff or hill. When rills are placed in a context of a garden, however, they are almost always put there intentionally.

## **Rills: Thrills, Spills, and Chills**

Historically, rills developed in Persian and in Spanish gardens with a heavy Moorish influence such as Al-andalus and the Court of the Lions at the Alhambra. These rills initially served a functional purpose, that of bringing water from an outside source closer to a home. These artificial streams—lined with stones or tiles to reduce water loss--were a common way to control the water source, making it flow in whatever direction or magnitude that was needed. Rills also derive from the Islamic tradition of the paradise garden—a rectangular space often divided into quadrants by two intersecting water channels.

Like so many other garden features, rills—variously known as runnels--eventually took on more of a decorative function than a utilitarian one by incorporating water into the garden with or without the addition of a fountain. morelondon, a recent urban development adjacent to the River Thames, features a shallow rill that runs through a pedestrian esplanade, thereby tying the space together.



The Studio, Old Westbury, New York.  
July 2002. Julie C. Wellington, photographer.



Hyland/Wente Garden, Millerton, New York.  
June 2006. John Hyland, photographer.

Think of all the many other ways that water may appear in a garden: in pools, ponds, fountains, and birdbaths. Don't forget to tell their story when documenting a garden for the Garden Club of America Collection at the Archives of American Gardens!

## Spring Garden Tours 2013

- April 6&7  
10am – 5pm Theodore Payne Native Plants \$15  
[www.nativeplantgardentour.org](http://www.nativeplantgardentour.org)
- April 14  
1-4 pm South Pasadena Garden Tour & Plant Swap free  
[www.southpasbeautiful.org](http://www.southpasbeautiful.org)
- April 21  
10:30am-4:30pm Creative Arts Group of the Garden \$25-30  
[www.creativeartsgroup.org](http://www.creativeartsgroup.org)
- April 28  
10am-4pm Spiritual Care Guild of Children's Hospital of LA \$100  
<http://spiritualcareguild.org>
- April 28  
Garden Conservancy Open Days  
[www.gardenconservancy.org](http://www.gardenconservancy.org)