

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...

- Nov 2 - Monarch Butterflies @ Villa Esperanza**
- Nov 7 - Field Trip @ Dodger Stadium**
- Nov 16- Workshop @ Sally M's new property - Succulent Pumpkins**
- Dec 7 - Holiday Workshop @ Gwen's**
- Jan 4 - Botanical Illustration @ The Huntington Library-Ahmanson**
- Feb 1 - Friends of the LA River @ Liz's**
- Feb 21 - Joint Meeting - Dr. Paul Cox @ The Huntington**
- 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,

It's hard to imagine that holiday months are just around the corner! Well, before you worry about that, October is a great month to work in your garden. Here are a few maintenance items you can do before our gardens take a rest this winter:

- o Fertilize plants one last time
- o Begin a compost heap, now is the ideal time to start one
- o Deadheading summer blooms
- o Clean up your garden
- o Divide more perennials
- o Decrease watering (not that you haven't already done that!)
- o Plant cool-season flowers from seed now

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... Mon 10/24, 11/9, 9-10:30am & 11/6 3:30-5:00 Weeding & Wine

Mark Your Calendar

Upcoming GCA Dates

www.gcamerica.org

Nov 9, 2022

Conservation Study Conference- Virtual

Jan 20, 2023

Zone XII Presidents Council - Arizona

Jan 26, 2023

Photog Conf -Virtual

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

It was great to come together to help clean up the Old Mill in the beginning of October. How wonderful was it to see our Arboretum status signage and plant signage around the Mill?! Cheers to Athena and Angela for all their hard work. Also, a big thank you to Yvonne for providing us with our Chamomile challenge plant this year. See the Hort section of the Dirt for more information on this interesting plant.

I look forward to seeing you all at Villa Esperanza this November where we will learn about the Monarch Butterfly. This is a great meeting to bring guests as I really hope to add a few new members to our club this year!

I will be bringing a signup sheet in November to help with our Joint Meeting in February as well as an ad hoc committee for our Centennial celebration in 2024! These are fun opportunities to stay involved and spend quality time with other Diggers.

I don't know about you, but I am looking forward to a little chill in the air, sweater weather and chili time!

Off to pick weeds and plant dreams,

Lisa

Please bring money/checks for scrip to our next meeting. Bristol Farm Scrip cards will be available for purchase at the meeting to help alleviate any delays in receiving scrip and checks.

Horticulture



From Yvonne: Here are some Fun Facts About Diggers' Challenge Plant 2022-2023: *Matricaria recutita* aka German Chamomile:

More common in Europe, Western Asia and India, German Chamomile is an evergreen plant with soft foliage and tender growth that prefers well drained soil and full sun to look its best; very possible to get blooms by June.

Flowers should be harvested in the summer months. The essential oil extracted contains anti-inflammatory and analgesic properties particularly effective in healing burns and preventing infection. It can relax the digestive system, minimizing travel sickness issues and spasms, relieve pain, reduce inflammation, and stimulate the immune system.

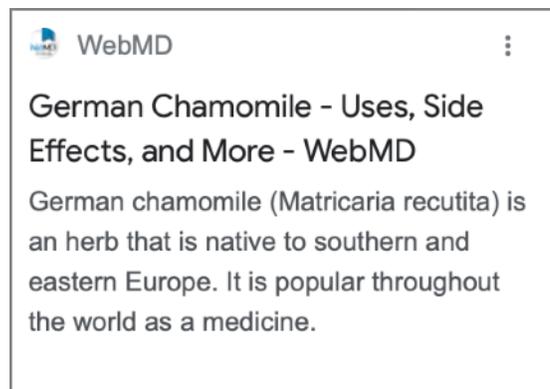
Dried flowers can be steeped for tea or stored for a potpourri. It can also be added to cosmetic products for conditioning and lightening hair. It has been called the plant's physician as ailing garden plants are supposedly cured by having chamomile planted beside them. Cut flowers revive and can last longer with the addition of chamomile tea to the water.

Finally, the tea was made famous at the conclusion of which classic children's book? Hint: "Peter was not very well during the evening. His mother put him to bed and made some chamomile tea. "One table-spoon to be taken at bedtime." Beatrix Potter, [The Tale of Peter Rabbit](#).

Additionally, attached please find tips to grow and care for chamomile which was provided by Alan Uchida of Bellefontaine Nursery who went to great lengths to source these plants for us and sold them to us at his cost. Please visit his nursery if you feel inclined (closed Wednesdays) and thank Alan if you do! He loves the Diggers!

Why Is Chamomile Suddenly Everywhere?

<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/10/14/t-magazine/chamomile-food-fashion.html?smid=nytcore-ios-share&referringSource=articleShare>



Floral Design

Please make sure to check the GCA Website regarding Flower Shows and Floral Design.

<https://www.gcamerica.org/what-we-do-flower-shows>



Calendar of Events



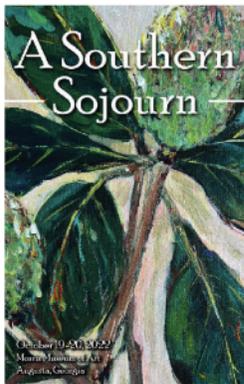
GCA Flower Show For the Love of Flowers

Wed, Oct 19, 2022 at 09:00 AM

The Home of Andrea Hillier

Visitors will experience entries in Floral Design

[More details for GCA Club Members](#)



GCA Flower Show A Southern Sojourn

Open to the public on October 20 - 10 am - 5 pm

Location: Morris Museum of Art, One Tenth Street, Augusta, GA

Wed, Oct 19, 2022

Morris Museum Augusta GA

Visitors will experience entries in Floral Design, Horticulture, Photography, Botanical Arts

[More details for GCA Club Members](#)



GCA Flower Show Decades of Fun and Flowers

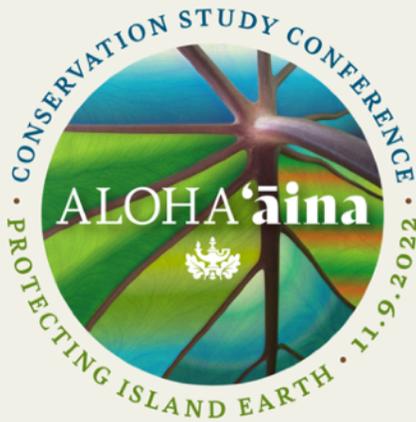
Thu, Oct 20, 2022

[More details for GCA Club Members](#)

Conservation

2022 CONSERVATION STUDY CONFERENCE (CSC)

✓ Register Now



Who's Invited

This year, all club members are invited to come together from across The Garden Club of America for the 2022 Conservation Study Conference.

What to Expect

The Garden Club of America invites you to a Conservation Study Conference that will unveil the remarkable bio-cultural management practices used to sustainably support over a million pre-contact native Hawaiians for a thousand years.

Join us to learn about conservation practices that are enjoying a renaissance that is being shared globally to improve ecosystem health and increase nature's abundance not just in Hawaii, but around the world -- our Island Earth.

📅 Wed, Nov 9, 2022 - Wed, Nov 9, 2022

📅 Last day to register: Sun, Nov 6, 2022

📍 Virtual

See link below to join this virtual conservation study conference, Wednesday Nov. 9th.

<https://www.gcamerica.org/members:calendar/ereventdetails?id=417>

Information On The California Botanic Garden



<https://mailchi.mp/calbg.org/mid-april-2022-buzz-events-12892543?e=f2be2d7a9e>

Historian

In hopes of capturing memories from our wisest Diggers, Judy, our club Historian, had lunch with Barbara and Mimi and they had a lovely conversation about the Diggers, friendship, and a few remembrances. Below are Judy's comments and a photo. It makes me so happy to see their smiling faces and the joy that the Digger's have brought to their lives.

"Mimi, a member since 1968, recalled that she proposed Barbara as a Digger in 1974. Barbara didn't think of herself as a gardener, but becoming a Digger "forced her into the garden". Barbara championed the Old Mill, fondly remembering the pear trees, and hard work, and friendships. "Rosie Jones. Everyone adored Rosie". We talked about starting the endowment, which Barbara urged us to do, and that Gwen always reminded us to support *Save the Redwoods*.

When Mimi thought about the Diggers, she immediately said, "ten perfect pots, or else!" She recalled that she often produced more than ten, and that "never once did she fail. They were all OK". Mimi listed many Digger children who came to help load auction pots into cars, and how excited they all were to get out of school early and "sometimes they got tips". Some of those helpers were: Ruth, Griff, Helen and all the Babcocks."



Garden History & Design

Liz proposed the idea of initiating and leading the project to document the Old Mill for the Smithsonian. More info to follow!

Other Business & Reminders

- Please bring guests to our next meeting
- Please let Liz know where your interests lie as we look to create the 2023/2024 board
- Pasadean Garden Club is hosting a plant sale at La Casita on Sunday, November 13th
- Please contact Tracy if you did not receive a new roster

Have a wonderful Halloween!

