

# 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 25 - Jt. Meeting w/ PGC & HPGC @ California Club**
- Mar 5 - Nursery & Propagation Tour by Frank Obregon @ Descansco Gardens**
- Apr 2 - Prep for Auction @ Foker's**
- Apr 6 - Plant Drop off @ Foker's**
- Apr 7-8 -Auction Set-Up**
- Apr 9 - Auction and Plant Sale**
- May 7-8 -DGC Trip to Pacific Northwest**
- June 4 -Annual Meeting & Lunch @ Debbe Booth's**

## From the President



Dear Diggers,

It may have been a gray, drizzly day but color was in abundance when Diggers gathered at Nena's for a flower arranging workshop and mini flower show. After having to cancel our January 7<sup>th</sup> meeting it was evident that Diggers were happy to be together again. Prizes were distributed and clever awards were bestowed. It was an absolute hoot! Thank you, Nena, for bringing our spirits up after the lows of January.



We are marching toward spring! The rain has washed away much of the dirt and soot. Things are beginning to come alive, and my ever-dependable flowering magnolia is exploding with pink. I wake up with the urge to get my hands in the dirt. Our plant sale and auction is only eight weeks away



**Board Meeting**

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

**Old Mill Workday**

**Bring your gloves, shovel and clippers...**

**Thurs. Feb 27  
Weds. March 19  
Thurs. March 27**

**9:00 - 10:30**

**Mark Your Calendar**

**Upcoming GCA Dates**

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

**Mar 23-26, 2025**

NAL - Washington D.C.

**Apr 10, 2025**

Garden History & Design Conference - Virtual

**Apr 27-29, 2025**

GCA Annual Mtg - Ponte Vedra Beach, FL

and Diggers calendars are full. There are upcoming workdays at the Old Mill, pot shopping excursions, a potting demo at Ruth's, and a joint meeting with Hancock Park and Pasadena Garden Clubs, February 25<sup>th</sup> at the California Club. Read more about this dynamic speaker later in the Dirt.

The plan for the New Old Mill project is complete and we are in the process of getting bids. Dryden has created a wonderful plan using much of what we already have and adding interesting drought tolerant and native plants. Her goal is to make the garden a more soothing and cohesive landscape. I am excited to see this project commence and predict the Old Mill garden and arboretum will become a destination garden for visitors far and near!

Looking forward to seeing all of you at Descanso Gardens in March. Alfrida has organized a tour of their propagation house with Nursery Horticulturist, Frank Obregon. You won't want to miss this exciting opportunity.

Cheers to 100 years!

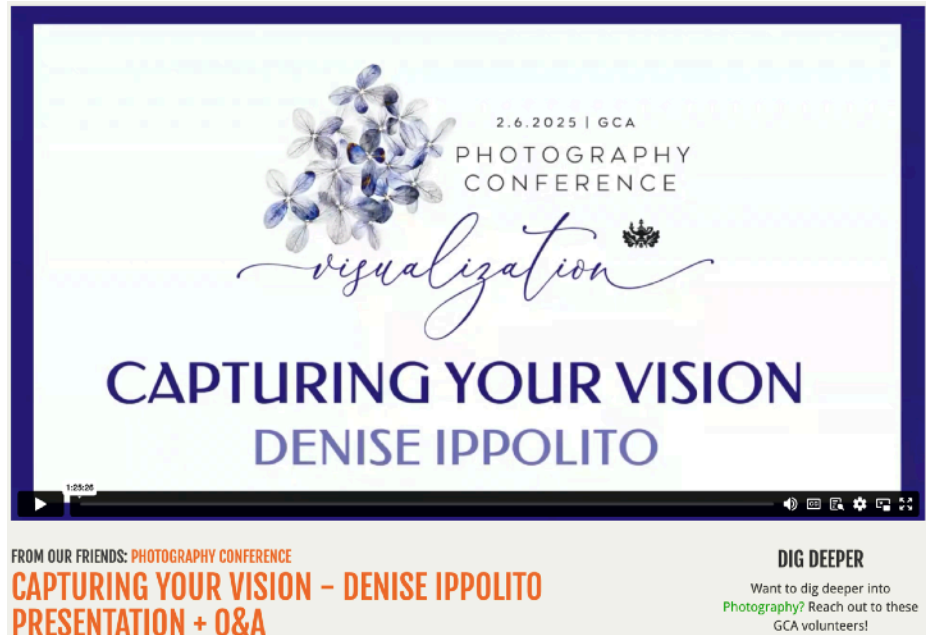
*Athena*

## Garden Club Of America

### Photography conference

If you missed seeing the GCA Photography conference on February 6th, you can still view it online. Go to the GCA Website and login to your member page. Click on "Videos", click on "Photography Conference" and click on the following conference:

Denise Ippolito gives a lovely slide show of her nature and landscape photography. It's worth watching for its beauty, as well as inspiring your own photography. The rest of the conference is all about Photo Shop. So click on the Demonstrations by Denise if you are entered in that. — Sally Miller, Photography Chair



### Garden History and Design

In case you missed Judy McDonald's December 2024 Featured Garden on the GCA Garden History and Design landing page, you can see the article by clicking the link below. What a wonderful article written by Liz!

§ <https://www.gcamerica.org/members:news/get/id/4808>



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## GCA Founders Fund

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The Founders Fund grant was established in 1934 to honor Elizabeth Price Martin, GCA's first president (1913– 20). Grants are awarded annually to exceptional community projects

proposed by GCA clubs. The award has grown from \$700 for one project to the current \$40,000 for the winning project and \$10,000 for each of the two runners-up.



We will vote in March so please click this link so you will be ready to vote for one of the three finalists:

[https://www.gcamerica.org/\\_uploads/filemanager/contentpageresource/FF%20Bulletin%20Ft.pdf](https://www.gcamerica.org/_uploads/filemanager/contentpageresource/FF%20Bulletin%20Ft.pdf)

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## Joint Meeting February 25th

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Joint meeting with Hancock Park GC and Pasadena GC- February 25<sup>th</sup> at the California Club with Keynote Speaker Robert Rock, president and CEO of Rock Design Associates LLC. He is the lead landscape architect for the Wallis Annenberg Wildlife Crossing in the Agoura Hills.

10:30 arrival, 11 am speaker, lunch to follow.

Plan to carpool to this event. Parking available for club members only.





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## February - Flower Arranging Workshop

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What talent there lies in this Diggers group. With either flowers from their yards, or fresh flowers from Trader Joe's look at the incredible floral arrangements each attendee created!



Thank you Nena!



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## Upcoming March Meeting

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We will have our meeting at 10:30 and then tour Descanso Gardens Propagation House with Frank Obregon.



## Zone XII

Liz and Athena recently attended the Zone XII Leadership Council meeting in Carmel earlier this month. Athena came away with an appreciation for our zone and the variety of landscapes our garden clubs cover, from Hawaii to Colorado, and Seattle to New Mexico. No other GCA zone is as far-reaching.

## NexTrex Update - Carlin

### WE FINISHED OUR YEAR LONG TREX CHALLENGE

We finished the year out with **202** pounds!  
So far for 2025 we have collected **15** pounds!

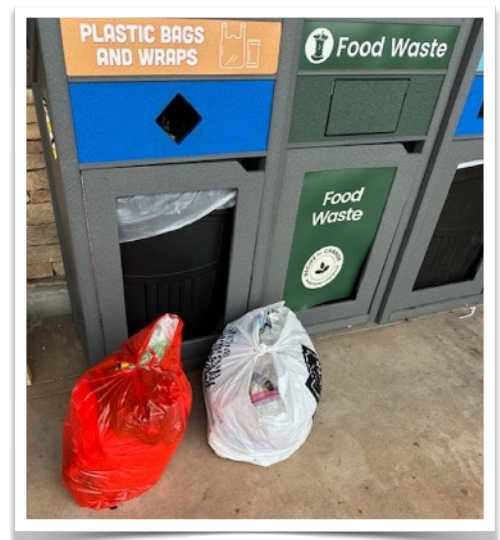
#### THE NEW PROCESS IS:

- Collect and weigh your plastic
- Deliver to a collection site – see list and photo of a Vons site below.
- **NO PHOTO** but send weight to Carlin.
- We will still bring the collection bin to meetings
- Please no “shiny” plastic. You must be able to poke and stretch it with your finger.

#### CALIFORNIA COLLECTION SITES:

Albertsons  
 \*Firestone Walker Brewing  
 Food 4 Less  
 Foods Co.  
 Kohl's  
 \*Plastic Beach

Ralphs  
 Safeway  
 Savemart  
 Sprouts Farmers Market  
 Vons  
 Winco



Click on the link to see what you CAN recycle: [https://nextrex.com/jsfapp/cdocs/w493\\_q2\\_sp21\\_0\\_trex-recycling-posterpdf.pdf](https://nextrex.com/jsfapp/cdocs/w493_q2_sp21_0_trex-recycling-posterpdf.pdf)

This link to see what you CAN NOT Recycle under the Trex program:  
[https://nextrex.com/jsfapp/cdocs/20220811141301\\_9\\_jsfwd\\_493\\_q2\\_1.pdf](https://nextrex.com/jsfapp/cdocs/20220811141301_9_jsfwd_493_q2_1.pdf)

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## Auction - Angela & Kristin

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### AUCTION 2025

Home of Megan Foker  
610 Woodland Road, Pasadena  
Wednesday, APRIL 9 - 11:30-2:00

It's hard to believe the annual Diggers Auction is 7 weeks away. You should have received your packets as they were handed out at the February meeting.

This year we will again honor native plants, as April is native plant month. We will have a larger "Digger me in" type section with native plants like last year at the Mill. We highly encourage those who feel comfortable to plant 1 native plant pot. It will help highlight the native plant nursery pots being offered.

Here are some dates to be aware of:

April 2nd - Prep for auction @ Megan Foker's

April 6th - Plant drop off @ Megan's

April 7th & 8th - Workdays @ Megan's

April 9th - Auction and plant sale

For anyone interested in succulents, Cathy Tosetti mentioned the succulent show at the Arcadia Masonic Center, February 21st & 22nd. Succulent grower will be selling their plants and great rock toppers! <https://sgvcss.com/>

Happy Planting!  
Angela and Kristin

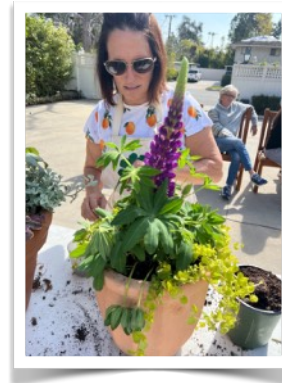


## Perfect Pot Demo

Lisa, Angela and Sally each demonstrated how to plant the perfect pot! Here are some of their secrets:

Lisa -

1/2 - 2/3 of the pot filled with regular potting soil (good for drainage), sprinkle with Osmocote use good soil with no perlite for the rest of the pot, like Success Premium Topdress.



Angela -



She always uses Cactus potting soil. She reminded us to always put a mesh screen in the bottom of the pot so that dirt doesn't escape (see link 100 screens for \$5.99). Don't be afraid of tearing the plant apart, they are very hearty and will reroot. Use tweezers to get small plants into small places!



Sally -

Plant a native plant pot! Think about the color of the plants melding with the color of the pot. Use a rock or pebble topper to cover bare places. Have height, filler and something spilling over.

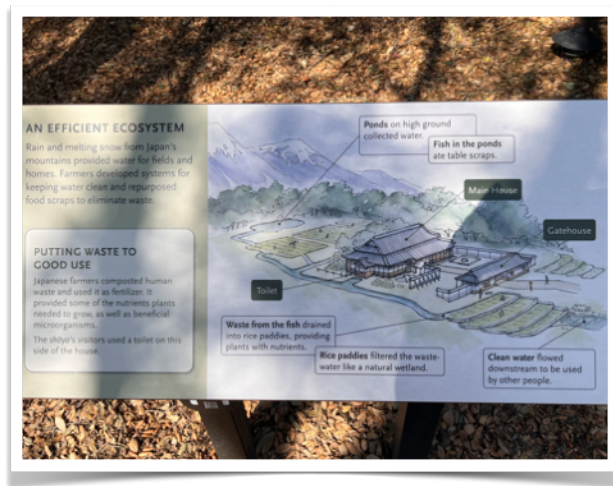


Remember:

“Thriller, filler and spiller”



## Shoya House Field Trip Photos



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## Pacific Northwest Field Trip - Yvonne & Mary

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Mary and Yvonne are looking forward to showing their fellow Diggers the beauty of Puget Sound. Diggers are invited to fly up Wednesday May 7, arriving in time for a 5 p.m. welcome dinner at Mary's in West Seattle. Thursday will be spent on Vashon Island with lunch at Yvonne's house followed by a 5 p.m. dinner back at Mary's. Friday we hope to visit the gardens of Seattle Garden Club members' homes before sending Diggers south.

Members who have signed up include Liz, Ruth, Megan F., Sara, Carlin, Angela, Athena, Sally M., Tracy, Kathy, Lisa, Adrienne, Bette, Mary Anne, Nancy and Clare. Cindy will join in with Bill while extending their own trip visiting relatives. We will house some members on the island at Yvonne's places and some at Mary's in West Seattle. Some will "get" to share with their besties; some will suffer in rooms on their own! Dress in any case is casual with shoes that can sustain offroading!

A few non-stop flights are available from Burbank on Alaska Airlines, and several airlines throughout the day from LAX. Early birds are welcome on Wednesday! Return times as you like - we'll probably conclude after lunch Friday though that day's plans haven't been figured out yet. At this point, we don't think anyone needs to rent a car. We think we can accommodate everyone with vehicles up there but will let you know if that changes. Please call/text/email either of us with any questions and please let us know your flight plans once you have arranged them.

Thank you for indulging us as we show off our slice of heaven!!!