

The Weeder

January 2019

Volume 31 Issue 1

CALENDAR

We meet on the fourth Monday of each month, 7:30 pm at the Brentwood Community Methodist Church, 809 Second Street in Brentwood. Board Meetings are held on the first Tuesday, (after the first Monday), of each month, 7:00 pm in the Fireside Room. Delta Informal Gardeners encourages gardening through education and beautification of the community.

2019 General Meetings

Jan 28
Feb 25
Mar 25

2019 Board Meetings

Feb 5
Mar 5
Apr 2

Propagation

Page 4

Field Trips

Early April (date tbd) Luther Burbank Home and Gardens in Santa Rosa. The trip will occur when all areas of the gardens are open. I'm sure we'll find great food to eat and a nursery to shop at. More information and sign ups at the February meeting.

Programs

January 28th Marsha Hildebrand from Regan Nursery in Fremont, will talk about Bare Root Roses, planting and early spring care, and pruning/forcing dormancy.

President's Message

Welcome 2019, where did 2018 go to so quickly? It's a new year with a new DIG Board who will be working hard for the club, implementing the Propagation and Plant Sale Procedures that were just sent out to all the membership for their review and comment. Please review this information and let the board know your thoughts, suggestions, additions, etc. Once you have reviewed the Procedures, steps and timing to put on the annual Plant Sale you will understand why we are continually asking for more help. It's a big job, but very fulfilling for all who work throughout the year to propagate plants for the sale. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to join us and help each Saturday from 10:00 AM to noon. We all have a great time and can always use more help.

Welcome to the 2019 DIG Board! Many have previously served on the Board, a few are new members, and we are still in need for more people to help with Publicity, the Weeder, someone with knowledge to managing our web site and Facebook page. Please contact any Board Member if you can help us in any of these areas. This years Board consists of:

President, Bob Selders	Vice President, Elinor Bell
Treasurer, Ginger Guider	Secretary, Sue Castle
Membership, Chris Artz	Publicity, currently vacant
Plant Mgr., Steve Henderickson	Assistant Plant Mgr., Robin Choate
Weeder Editor, Robin Choate	Weeder Publisher, John Case
Hospitality, Marilyn Lanfri	Scholarships, Martian Tucker
Field Trips, Robin Choate	Facebook, John Case
Founder (Garments), Pat Moore	Past President, Connie Miller

Let's all work together to make this year a great year for DIG!

Bob Selders, President

Bob Selders,
President

PHOTOS FOR FUN



Juli Redford inspecting the goods.

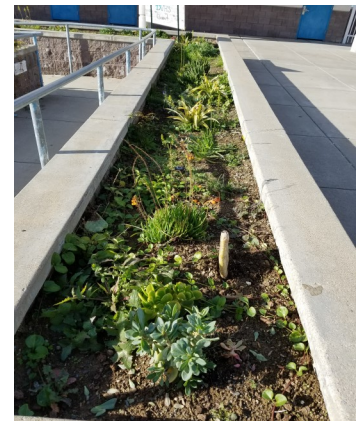


San Pedro Cactus (*Echinopsi pachanoi*) flowering in Raquel's garden. This plant is told to have 'medicinal' purposes.

STUDENT GARDEN AT DEER VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL

A few weeks ago, Chris Artz had the pleasure of presenting a check from DIG to Deer Valley High School in Antioch for their Community Based Instruction Program's student garden project that helps young special needs students 18-22 acquire the skills they need to live independently. The students and Mr. Ellison were very appreciative of our donation and took me on a tour of the campus to show me what they did with the many plants our club donated after our plant sale last year: They immediately got to work planting and filled 10 large raised flower beds throughout the campus with the plants from DIG! I was truly amazed at how lovely these beds look. Please let me know if you'd like to join us when we visit the gardens at DVHS this spring.

When they're not shoveling steer manure into raised vegetable beds, planting bulbs for spring or starting seedlings in their greenhouse, these young adults have just a few other activities to keep them busy. They collect all recyclables on campus and take them to a recycling center to earn money for their garden; volunteer at a preschool, at Loaves and Fishes, in their school cafeteria as well as at another school; wash buses inside and out at the school district's maintenance yard and clean all the administrative offices on campus; operate a Food Bank and run a coffee cart on campus which also often offers fresh flowers and veggies from their garden for donations. They also get hands-on vocational skills by working with The Network of Care foundation (thenetworkofcare.org), which provides attractive bags of snacks in hospital waiting rooms to families with children who are hospitalized. And the list goes on.



UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Our January 28, 2019 Speaker is Marsha Hildebrand Selecting Bare Root Roses, Planting, and Helping Them Thrive

Marsha Hildebrand, our January speaker, began her gardening career in a small garden center in Oakland. In 1995, she and her husband Larry Thompson purchased Regan Nursery in Fremont from Joe and Shirley Regan and began selling mail-order bare root roses. Although Larry passed away in 2006, Marsha and her loyal staff continue "growing" the nursery, and especially the rose business, not only with bare root roses online but with potted roses in the early spring, other shrubs, vegetables, Japanese maples, and succulents as well as all kinds of garden related items. She and her staff also provide information and direction on best growing practices, the use of less harmful controls for insects and diseases, and making our planet more sustainable.

Instrumental in the introduction and naming of the Doris Day Rose, Regan Nursery has been in business in Fremont for over 65 years and was recently selected as a "Small Business of 2018" by California Congressman -- and customer -- Senator Bob Weicokski. They carry over 800 varieties of bare root, tree, and container roses and sell an average of 30,000 to 40,000 rose plants each year.

Marsha will have much to share about selecting bare root roses and helping them thrive in your garden.

Hospitality

I also want to thank Sandy Marmam, Linda Soliven and Kryssie Dupuis for volunteering to bring goodies to our November Meeting.

Bob Selders— President



BOARD MINUTES—January 8, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Bob S.

Bob announced that Mel Abreu, one of DIG's original supporting farmers had passed in December. Mel was 95. He also reported for Elinor, the V.P. for programs, that DIG's January General Meeting speaker will be Marsha Hildebrand of the Regan Nursery. Ms. Hildebrand will discuss the choosing, planting, care and pruning of bare root roses. In February, Don Bergman's subject will be Camellias.

Ginger gave the Treasurer's report. After a discussion on the Reserve Fund, the Board voted and approved the motion that DIG would maintain a Reserve Amount of \$10k. Chris reported that DIG now has 128 members. However, only 69 are paid members. Martin reported that the Field Trip Committee will meet at his house. He added that the Field trip to the Luther Burbank Home and Gardens in Santa Rosa that was originally planned for March has been postponed. The trip will take place in April so that all of the gardens will be open and available.

Bob S. led discussions regarding:

Publicity - local newspapers vs. magazines and the utilization of "NextDoor"

We have an opening for Publicity Chairman.

DIG's soil composition, Board Job Descriptions, Holiday Party invoice, Propagation etc.

February is the month for DIG Donations.

Propagation is to begin on Saturday, January 26 from 10 AM – noon at Wolfe Ranch and every following Saturday until one week after the Plant Sale

Under new business, Bob S. suggested the addition of a new award "In Memory of Carole Hendrickson." It will be High School Award/Donation of \$1,000.00. The Motion was introduced by Ginger and seconded by Martin. The DIG Board voted and passed the motion unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Reminders:

Next General Meeting is January 28th at 7:30PM at the United Methodist Church in Brentwood

Speaker is Marsha Hildebrand of the Regan Nursery on bare root roses.

Next Board Meeting: February 5th at 7PM

Respectfully,

Sue Castle, Secretary

PROPAGATION REPORT

Propagation begins again on January. 26th Watch for a notice on our DIG Facebook page or contact either Bob Selders or Robin Choate for more information due to the changeable weather we have had the past few weeks.

DIG BOARD MEETING NOTES NOVEMBER 27, 2018

Meeting started at 7:05PM with only six members present. The following items were discussed:

The Holiday Potluck will set up at 6PM and Marilyn should contact Connie if she had any questions.

Robin to print and mail invitations with pertinent information.

Dishes to share should feed 8 and bring gift for exchange.

Ginger made the Treasurers Report. GoDaddy domain/website possible update. Approval of previous months minutes.

Chris reported 131 members for 2018. Collecting dues for 2019.

We need a new Publicity Chairperson.

Field trip to Orchard Nursery Dec. 5 and Luther Burbank Home & Garden in Santa Rosa to change date to early April so all areas are open. Field trip committee to meet Feb 4th. Plant Sale instruction manual input by Board to email to members in January for comment. Weeder - none in December. Discussed having copies of Weeder that are mailed printed at a shop.

Donations were made to Brentwood Community Chest for Holiday Turkey Drive, Delta Communities Services for Toy Drive, Deer Valley High School Garden (Special Ed), Hope House and Red Cross for Camp Fire Victims. 2019 Calendar was passed out. It was suggested we sell raffle/drawing tickets at our meetings to raise money.

Dues have not raised in 30 years and the board will discuss raising by \$5 at January meeting. Martin and others have plants to move to Wolfe Ranch, but will wait until January.

Adjourned at 8:50PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Robin Choate.

PLANT OF THE MONTH

Viola adunca or the California Dog Violet.

Easy to grow in shaded damp ground, it spreads to about 2 feet in diameter and only 1 inch high. This CA native should be in every garden that has purple flowers.



IN MEMORIAM

In December 2018 we lost three long time DIG members. All hold special places in our hearts and in DIG history.

On December 1st we lost one of our founding members, Carole Hendrickson. She was the original writer, editor, publisher, and mailer of The Weeder (25 years). Carole held the offices of president, secretary, hospitality chairman and other positions. She truly believed in beautifying our community by providing and planting plants. Gardening, reading, and her cats were some of her favorite things. She is survived by husband, Steve and 16 cats.

We lost Paul Miller on December 9th. Paul was the "best can filler ever." He was always available to help with getting the plant sale going. Paul is survived by his wife Connie, 3 children, 5 grandchildren, 3 great grandchildren, and Gary the cat.

Mel Abreu was 95 when he died on December 19th. Mel was one of our original propagation people and a member since 1992. He provided facilities and a greenhouse for us to start our plants in for many years. He is survived by his wife Dorothy and daughter MaryAnn.

THIS MONTH'S RECIPE

Hearty Winter Vegetable Soup

Hearty Winter Vegetable Soup, brimming with seasonal root vegetables, makes a filling vegan meal for the cooler weather. The pearl barley adds a creaminess & richness to the broth without the use of dairy.

Course Soup

Prep Time 15 minutes

Cook Time 1 hour

Total Time 1 hour 15 minutes

Servings 6

Calories 230kcal

Author Tania @ The Cook's Pyjamas

Ingredients

- 2 Tablespoons olive oil
- 1 large onion finely chopped
- 1 carrot peeled and finely diced
- 2 sticks celery finely diced
- 1 swede (rutabaga) peeled and finely diced
- 1 turnip peeled and finely diced
- 1 parsnip peeled and finely diced
- 1 Tablespoon rosemary finely chopped
- 10 sage leaves finely chopped
- 2 bay leaves
- 205 g (1 cup) pearled barley soaked overnight and drained
- 1 1/2 Litres (6 cups) vegetable stock
- Salt & pepper
- 2 Tablespoons finely chopped parsley.

Place a large pot on a medium heat.

Add the olive oil and onion.

Saute the onion for about 5 minutes, or until it has softened and started to brown.

Add the remainder of the vegetables, and saute for a further 5 minute or until the vegetables have softened slightly.

Stir in the rosemary, sage, bay leaves and barley.

Add the vegetable stock, season with salt & pepper, and bring to the boil. Simmer 40 mins.

UPDATE ON STUDENT GARDEN AT DEER VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL

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MEMBERSHIP REPORT

We currently have 71 members who have paid their dues for 2019 (Thanks, buddies!) and unfortunately about 50 who have not. You know the drill, Diggers! Dues may be going up soon but right this minute they are still \$15 for an individual or \$20 for a family. Membership slips should ALWAYS be filled out and included with your check so we have your current contact information. You never know when you might win a prize or something! Checks should be sent to **DIG, P.O. Box 66, Brentwood, CA 94513, ATTN: Chris Artz.**

Chris Artz

DELTA INFORMAL GARDENERS

P.O. Box 66

Brentwood Ca 94513

deltainformalgardeners.org

Road, Brentwood.

Winter and Spring propagation events, as well as our annual plant sale, are held at Wolfe Ranch, 700 Creek

809 Second Street in Brentwood.

DIG meets on the fourth Monday of each month at 7:30 pm at the Brentwood Community Methodist Church,

Directions



Please make checks payable to DIG.

New Member Renewal

What can you teach or want to learn from you DIG membership?

(PLEASE CIRCLE ONE)

Family Membership.....\$20

Individual Membership.....\$15

PHONE

dues to the next general meeting.

EMAIL ADDRESS

may also bring your form and

dues to the address above. You

CITY

form and mail it along with your

STATE ZIP

Please fill out the membership

ADDRESS

ATTN: Chris Artz

Brentwood, CA 94513

NAME

PO Box 66

DIG Membership