



THE WEEEDER

March 2019

Volume 31 Issue 3

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 1st 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

March 25

April 22

May 20*

a week early due to holiday

2019 Board Meetings

April 2

May 7

June 4

2019 Plant Sale

May 11 Wolfe Ranch



President's Message

Propagation is ongoing every Saturday at the Wolfe Ranch from 10:00 until Noon. We sincerely appreciate those DIG'ers who have faithfully come to help on these past Saturdays in spite of the cold wind and rain.



Lighter soil has been delivered, so we are ready to fill cans and plant plants! We are in need of gallon cans and square 4" containers, if you have any please bring them out to the ranch. We are behind

schedule due to the weather that we have had this year to date, so we will be having work days during the week in addition to Saturdays. We will send out a notice for any special work days during the week. We need



everyone's help, there is a lot to do in only 7 weeks, the Plant Sale is May 11!!

We were asked by Shepard's Gate Women's Shelter to prune their roses for them again this year, they have approximately 100 rose bushes! I want to thank Juli Redford, Connie Miller and Celia Selders for joining me on March 5th to prune about ½ of the bushes, we need to return and finish them in the next week or so when there is dry weather. We'll send out a notice of time and date for that outing so more can join us in finishing this job.

Bob Selders, President



Board Minutes

March 5, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Bob Selders. Elinor, V.P. for programs, emailed that the March 25th, General Meeting speaker will be Andrew Pierce. He is from the Contra Costa Mosquito and Vector Control District. Ginger gave the Treasurer's report. Chris reported that 87 Members have paid their dues for 2018. Martin reported that this year it is Independence High School's turn to receive our scholarship. The Board discussed and voted to add an additional scholarship and rename them The Delta Informal Gardeners - Carol Hendrickson Memorial Scholarships. There will be one scholarship for Brentwood's Liberty Union High School District and one for Antioch Unified School District. The scholarships will rotate between the schools in each district and are currently to be \$1,000 each. The Board voted to donate \$500.00 to Hope House, the Brentwood Community United Methodist Church's food and clothing ministry that serves the Brentwood, Knightsen, Bethel Island, Discovery Bay, Oakley and Byron areas. The Board also approved a \$500.00 donation to John Sierra's school garden / environmental studies class at Freedom High School. John also organizes and directs student volunteers that help with the Plant Sale in May. These students have been a wonderful



addition and a tremendous help to our Plant Sale. Bob S. reminded us that DIG still has an opening for Publicity. Followed by discussions regarding the fine tuning of May's Plant Sale process, using biodegradable cups and plates for meetings, and the membership booklet. It was decided to have a new member's page that would be handed out so that members can staple them to their existing booklets. Bob reminded us that DIG needs 4" square pots and 1 gallon cans.

Under new business, Connie, in charge of plant labels, brought up a change in the process of "Potting Up" plants. She stressed that each and every pot needs a name label & a colored tag before being placed in the sale area. Bob Castle brought up the issue of Soil. Our new and old soils need to be blended together and this is back breaking work. The Board voted and approved the rental of a Skid-steer for the blending of the soils once the ground dries enough.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sue Castle, Secretary

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Saying an emphatic "**Mosquito control matters,**" our March 25 speaker, Andrew Pierce, is a Public Information and Technology officer for the Contra Costa Mosquito and Vector Control District. He provides public health education outreach in the form of public speaking engagements throughout the county for Rotary and Kiwanis clubs, schools, city council members, and other community entities such as D.I.G. In addition, he mans a booth at local events and fairs to provide answers to questions attendees may have about the District's mission and services.

During his presentation, Andrew will discuss the District's services that are available to all Contra Costa residents regarding mosquitoes, rats and mice, skunks, ground-nesting yellow jackets, and ticks. He will explain what the District does to protect public health as well as what each of us can do to protect ourselves and our neighbors.

Andrew also serves as the District's webmaster and as such provides continuous updates to existing content and assists with the implementation of new content. He is a graduate of Chico State with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Communications. Happily married Andrew has three boys, ages 9, 6, and 4.



<https://www.contracostamosquito.com>

Elinor Bell, Vice President



Field Trips



On Wednesday, April 3, we will be driving to the Luther Burbank Home & Gardens in Santa Rosa. It's located at 204 Santa Rosa Avenue. Along with a lovely garden, the property includes a Carriage House Museum and a gift shop. We'll

find a place for lunch nearby then you have a choice of nurseries to visit after we eat. We will meet to carpool as usual at the BART Park and Ride lot on Walnut Blvd in Brentwood and LEAVE at 9 a.m. Sign up at the next meeting or call 925-778-5842. So far, ten people are planning to go.

Juli Redford 🌻



Membership

This is the last call for sending in your membership dues for 2019 if you'd like to be included in our DIG members' directory, which will be finalized in the next few weeks. This is the time of the year when we make sure we have everyone's current home address, phone number and email address. Dues are still \$15 for an individual or \$20 for a family. Please make your check out to DIG and mail it to P.O. Box 66, Brentwood, CA 94513, ATTN: Membership. In June our dues will be going up for the first time since this club was founded in 1988! They will be \$20 for an individual or \$25 for a family. So please pay up soon and save 5 bucks!

Chris Artz 🌸



Hospitality

Thank you Elinor Bell, Marilyn Lanfri and Sue Castle and others for bringing some great goodies to our February meeting. Thanks also to Connie Miller, Juli Redford and Debbie St Hilaire for volunteering to bring goodies to our March 25th Meeting.

Are You Kidding Me Cake

(Because that's what people say when they ask for the recipe!)

1 box cake mix, any flavor

3 large eggs, beaten

1 can pie filling, any flavor

In a bowl, dump dry cake mix, eggs and pie filling. Stir together until well mixed. Bake in a greased 9" X 13" pan at 350 degrees for 35 minutes or test with toothpick for doneness.

NOTE: Pair flavors of cake mix and pie filling. Apple filling with maybe butter pecan cake mix. Cherry pie filling with a devil's food cake mix, or a pineapple cake mix with blueberry filling.

FOR AN EXTRA INCH ON THE HIPS: Chop room temp cream cheese into chunks. Poke the chunks randomly into the batter in the baking pan. Make sure cheese is in deep. Bake as directed.



Chris Artz



Do you have a recipe or photo to share? Heard of an event or garden to go see?

Email it to rchoate80@yahoo.com



Special request:

Holly is looking for old wine barrels that are in pieces. She will pick up. Please call and leave a message at 925-642-2607.

DIG Membership

P.O. Box 66

Brentwood, CA 94513

Please complete the membership form and return it with your dues to the address above or bring to the next general meeting.

Individual Membership.....\$15

Family Membership\$20

Make checks payable to DIG

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Email address(es) _____

Phone _(_____)_____

_____ New Member _____ Renewal

Dues to Increase JUNE 1, 2019

For the first time since we became a club we will be raising our dues. Join or pay soon to avoid the increase. Individual memberships will be \$20 and Family will be \$25, effective June 1, 2019.



P.O. Box 66

Brentwood, CA 94513