



THE WEEDEDER

April 2019

Volume 31 Issue 4

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

April 22

May 20*

a week early due to holiday

June 24 Members Potluck

2019 Board Meetings

May 7

June 4

July 2

2019 Plant Sale

May 11 Wolfe Ranch



President's Message

Propagation is continuing every Thursday and Saturday at the Wolfe Ranch from 10:00 until Noon. We sincerely appreciate all those DIGgers who have faithfully come to help on these past Thursdays and Saturdays, in spite of the continued cold, wind and rain. This year we have had 36 different individuals work on at least one of our propagation days and of course there are those core 15 to 20 DIGgers who work most, if not all work days. These 36 people represents about 33% of our membership and that is great participation! A BIG THANK YOU to everyone who has helped, it's great to see all the new and long term members working together, making new friends and having a good time.

By the time you read this Weeder all our plants should be in their final containers and being groomed for the sale, but we will still be very busy preparing the area for the sale. We will be fertilizing, watering and grooming the plants, setting up the sale site with signage, final placement of plants, installing the shade canopies, striping the parking, holding area and check out lines, etc. and we'll need lots of help on sale day. There are sign up sheets for people to water the plants during the week and numerous jobs on sale day. Volunteer sign up sheets are available on propagation days and at the next General Meeting or you can call Robin Choate (925-759-0700) to sign up for watering or me (925-642-0080) for the sale day jobs. We need everyone's help, there are only 3 weeks left before the Plant Sale on May 11!!



President's Message continued on page 2

Board Minutes

April 2, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Bob S. Elinor, the V.P. for Programs, emailed that DIG's April 22nd, General Meeting subject will be Firescaping – Landscaping to avert wildfires. Our speaker will be Patrice Hanlon. May's meeting subject will be Butterflies and gardens for butterflies. Ginger gave the Treasurer's report and Chris reported that 102 Members have paid their dues for 2019. Chris added that the Special Ed Class at Deer Valley High School, which had received a DIG donation in 2018 had sent a thank you note. With our donation, the Class was able to

purchase fertilizer, 25 bags of soil and build 8 raised bed wooden planters. DIG's Board Meeting March minutes were approved as printed in the Weeder. Juli



reported about the upcoming field trip to Luther Burbank Gardens in Santa Rosa. Plant Sale: hours 8:30-1:30, job sign ups, and watering schedules. April 13th is the deadline for final plants accepted, all plants should be "sized up," and the DIG's Sale banner signs are to go up. Pat is ordering tee shirts, aprons, etc. with the DIG logo. All orders must be placed by Saturday, April 13th. Bob reported that we are going to advertise in the Brentwood Press, the Oakley Press, the Discovery Bay Press and the Antioch Harold. Juli volunteered to utilize her NextDoor for advertising the Sale and suggested that everyone do the same with their neighborhood NextDoor. Robin said that there will be a flyer emailed for members to print and pass out and some available at meetings. She reminded us that the Weeder deadline is this Thursday. Under new business: due to the poor condition of our wagons we will purchase 3 new wagons and new tires and/or foam for old tires on some of the existing wagons. New fertilizing equipment will also be purchased. Bob S. thanked Martin Gates of Odyssey Landscaping in Lodi for donating 1500 - 1 gallon plastic plant cans. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sue Castle, Secretary



We want to thank one of our members who can't get out to most of our work days, but wanted to help those who have been working. Sherry Starks CMT, one of our members, has donated 4 gift certificates, each for a one hour massage. The first was given to Dan Artz who's name was drawn from those workers who have been working this year until mid March. The next Certificate will be drawn from all the workers between 3/28 and 4/25 and the last two will be drawn in a similar manner after the sale. Be sure to sign the volunteers sheet each day you are working, because your name will be in the drawing for each day you work!

Thinking ahead to our 2020 Plant Sale, we need to start collecting gallon cans and square 4" containers. If you have or can obtain any plant containers this size over the next year, please bring them out to the ranch, there is a can Container to place all cans in. If you know potential sources of containers, or need someone to pick up cans, let me know. These cans are expensive to buy and as we use about 8,000 one gallon containers each sale we need all we can get.

Bob Selders, President

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Our April 22nd speaker will be Patrice Hanlon, Horticultural Consultant & Educator and writer for Contra Costa Times. She will be discussing Firescaping – Landscaping to avert wildfires. Homes that are built in wildfire-prone areas with the appropriate landscapes can make a significant contribution toward wildfire survival. Patrice has been in the horticultural field since 1978; beginning her horticulture career after studying bio-intensive gardening. She attended Diablo Valley College and received her degree in horticulture. After working for East Bay Regional Park District's Botanical Garden she developed and facilitated garden education and watershed programs for educators with Aquatic Outreach Institute. As Garden Director for The Gardens at Heather Farms she oversaw all operations of the site pertaining to plant design, maintenance, propagation of materials for the sales and gardens. She is on the Board of Markham Regional Arboretum Society and owner of Thyme in the Garden, a program designed to help people facing life-threatening or chronic cancer through connecting with the natural world. Her goal is to Inspire, Transform, and Heal people and landscapes.

Elinor Bell, Vice President

Field Trips

Our next field trip will be to the California Nursery Historical Park in Fremont. There we can see a lovely park and the 1830's Rancho era Vallejo Adobe. We'll find a place for lunch nearby then visit the Regan Nursery in Fremont. They specialize in roses, Japanese maples, camellias, Bonsai, but also have statuary and perennials. Their own Marsha Hildebrand spoke at our January meeting. Then on the way home, we will stop in Sunol at the Plant and Pottery Outlet where you can find great prices on pottery plants, luminaries, and more. Take a look at their website for pricing and amazing photos: www.plantandpotteryoutlet.com. Tentative date is Wednesday June 5th.

We will meet 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 Juli Redford 925-778-5854.

Juli Redford 

Luther Burbank Garden



Membership

We have lots of special members to thank! * Sherry Starks, NCTMB, for generously donating 4 (!!!) gift cards for one hour massages worth \$75 each as prizes. * "The Bob's," (Selders & Castle), for finding, picking up and delivering 1500 one gallon containers from Lodi to the Wolfe Ranch. * Odyssey Landscape for donating the 1500 cans * A host of new "regulars" at propagation on Thursdays and Saturdays: Roxanne Solak, Dave Redman, Roger and Sandy Marman, Peggy Menzie, Joy Neal, Debbie St. Hilaire, Oppy Holmes, and Vivian Faye. * John Case for volunteering to remove a large, lovely agave from a donor's yard and bringing it to the Wolfe Ranch for our plant sale. * Bob Castle for being DIG's "Master of Soil Mixing" (blending the old soil with the new stuff) for the last three months. * Cathy Voortman for mentoring to many members eager to learn to plant seeds.



Thanks to each one of you for giving back to our community through your contributions and your endless hours of work out at the Wolfe Ranch.

Chris Artz 

Hospitality

I want to thank Connie Miller, Debbie St. Hilaire, Juli Redford and John Case for bringing some great goodies to our March Meeting. I also want to thank Linda Soliven, Sandy Marman and Beverly Tucker for volunteering to bring goodies to our April 22nd Meeting.

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:

Chris Artz is looking for old mini blind vanes to use as garden markers. Please call and leave a message at 925-234-0395.

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

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