

THE WEEEDER

JULY 2019

Volume 31 Issue 7

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

July 22

August 26

September 23

2019 Board Meetings

August 6

September 3

October 8

2020 Plant Sale

May 9 Wolfe Ranch



President's Message

Our annual June Potluck was another fun time. It was great seeing so many newer members present, as well as many of our longer term members. Celia and I enjoyed opening our home again this year for this annual DIG event. There were some great Curious Containers, which were posted on FaceBook, and the Judges had a great time judging and creating appropriate prize categories for the winners! Everyone appeared to enjoy the great variety of food and desserts, as well as the great camaraderie.



July and August is the time for vacations, trying to stay cool, and relaxing before we start up the propagation process in September for our Sale in May 2020! I hope to see you all at our next General Meeting on Monday, July 22.

Bob Sellers, President 🌿

UPCOMING EVENTS

On July 22nd, Debbie Viess will present "A Garden of Mushrooms." Debbie is a biologist, writer, and cofounder of the Bay Area Mycological Society (www.BayAreaMushrooms.org). You'll discover why she is also known as Amanitarita, as this Bay Area mycologist, naturalist, and writer shares with us the many roles of fungi in our gardens, woods, and even lawns. Debbie combines photos and stories with a bit of humor to make that "fungal medicine" go down easily.



Elinor Bell, Vice President 🍄

Board Minutes

The July 2, 2019 meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm by Bob Selders. ✿ Bob S. reported for Elinor Bell that the speaker for the next General Meeting on Monday, July 22nd will be Debbie Viess with the Bay Area Mycological Society. Debbie will speak about a “Garden of Mushrooms.” ✿ Ginger gave the Treasurer’s report. ✿ The Board unanimously approved the June Minutes as printed in the June Weeder. ✿ I reported that the Get Well cards that were requested by the Board had been sent out. ✿ Chris Artz, reported that we have 109 members. There was a discussion regarding Membership Chairperson Job Description, the 2019 DIG Member Directory and how additions would be handled after printing of the Directory, and the difference between Honorary vs. Lifetime members. ✿ Juli reported on the Field Trip to the California Nursery Historical Park, Regan’s Nursery and that lunch was wonderful, even though the weather was extremely hot. Juli said that the next Field Trip Committee meeting is August 19th. ✿ With regard to the Plant Sale Bob S. stated that minor revisions will be incorporated into the Sale’s Procedures. The subject of the Plant Sale led to a discussion regarding workers taking plants prior to the Sale and it was determined that we should have a policy. ✿ Bob S. told the Nominating Committee that he would like the committee to find another member for an additional V.P position, which would be a “President in Training” and who would help with the plant sale management. ✿ Under New Business, Bob S. brought up the issue of giving gifts to members who have gone above and beyond their responsibilities for the club. Ginger, the Treasurer, stated that as a Non-Profit – members may not benefit from the club, therefore, gifts are not permitted. ✿ Chris read an absolutely wonderful thank you letter from Deer Valley’s Special Needs Community Based Instruction teacher, Bruce Ellison, for DIG’s donations. ✿ The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sue Castle, Secretary 🌻

Things To Do

UPCOMING CLASS AT MANGINI GARDEN

The UC Master Gardener Program of Contra Costa County has established a new demonstration garden, the Mangini Garden, at the Contra Cost County Fairgrounds in Antioch, 1201 W. 10th Street. Are you interested in turning your garden waste and kitchen scraps into a rich soil conditioner and fertilizer for your garden? Then the free “Home Composting and Soil Amendment” presentation on Tuesday, July 23, 2019 at 10:00 am. is for you. This workshop will teach you how to start a compost pile, add the best ingredients, nurture its decomposition and produce rich humus for your plants. The speaker will cover how composting works, various compost containers, what and what not to compost, techniques to encourage decomposition and where and when to use your compost. For information on other classes scheduled at Mangini Garden go to ccmg.ucanr.edu.



Do you have a recipe or photo to share? Heard of an event or garden to go see? Email it to rchoate80@yahoo.com



Hospitality

We want to thank Pat Moore, Michael Pollock and Elinor Bell for volunteering, way back in May, to bring goodies to our July 22nd meeting.

Field Trips

Our June field trip was to the California Nursery Historical Park in Fremont. We toured the old adobe and the museum. As we wandered the grounds, volunteers answered our questions about the various plants and trees. We then did some shopping at Regan Nursery in Fremont. Everyone seemed to find an item to bring home!

The field trip committee will be meeting in August, consider the results from the survey at the May general meeting, and plan the next field trip adventure. Thank you to those who gave us ideas and suggestions.

Juli Redford 

Membership

Our newest member is Anna Bracken of Brentwood. Welcome, Anna! We look forward to getting to know you.

Thank You

To Bob and Celia Selders for hosting a fun and delicious potluck in their beautiful backyard and making every attendee feel like royalty. What a wonderful way to celebrate our most successful plant sale ever! ♡ To Ginger Guider for being our “Executive Financial Officer” (aka Treasurer) for many years using her accounting background to keep our money safe while keeping our club’s budget on the straight and narrow in our financial decisions. In her spare time, Ginger also sorts and files hundreds of plant identification labels from last year’s left over plants so we can recycle them for next year’s sale which saves us lots of \$\$ and makes Ginger really happy! ♡ To Marilyn Lanfri (who VOLUNTEERED to be our Hospitality Chairperson months ago) for providing all the festive party supplies for our potluck. She’s also the one who sets up a lovely refreshment table for all the goodies complete with seasonal table decorations and a beverage dispenser filled with ice water and sliced lemons and oranges. Beautiful and luscious! ♡ To Connie Miller and Robin Choate for providing such awesome prizes for the winners of the “Curious Container Contest” at the potluck. Entries this year were very creative. ♡

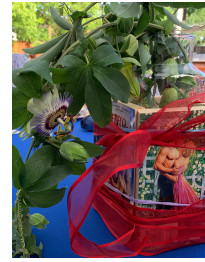


A THANK YOU FROM DEER VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL’S CBI (Community Based Instruction) TEACHER, Bruce Ellison.

Mr. Ellison was so appreciative of DIG’s recent check and the hundreds of plants we donated that were left over from our recent plant sale that he took the time to write this heartfelt thank you:

“You have no idea the impact that our special needs students’ garden has on the CBI Program at Deer Valley High School and the visual it provides to our school district and the public. What is the first thing you see on your way to our classroom? Not the fence. Not the CBI signs. You see the garden! DIG is our major contributor and has donated time, plants and money to make it successful. I get comments every day from staff, students, and administrators on our garden and also on the campus flower beds that our student clubs have planted with plants from DIG and are taking care of. EVERY DAY! People constantly visit the flower beds and our garden. You have no idea the impact DIG has had on our CBI Program, the campus and the students. Clubs are involved. Boy Scouts are involved. Students are involved. Staff is involved. The key word is INVOLVED which is the biggest thing we can do as teachers. I could go on and on. Thank you.”

Curious Containers



Thank you to everyone who created these entertaining containers!

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.....\$20

Family Membership\$25

Make checks payable to DIG

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Email address(es) _____

Phone (_____) _____

_____ **New Member** _____ **Renewal**

Dues Increased JUNE 1, 2019

For the first time since we became a club we have raised our dues. Individual memberships are now \$20 and Family is \$25, effective June 1, 2019.



P.O. Box 66

Brentwood, CA 94513