

THE WEEEDER

November 2019

Volume 31 Issue 11

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

- November 25
- December 9 Holiday Potluck
6pm Setup 6:30 Dinner

2019 Board Meetings

- November 26

2020 Plant Sale

- May 9 Wolfe Ranch



President's Message

Fall Propagation is almost done and we won't start up again until late January. We will announce the start up date after the first of the year. I want to thank the 38 members and non members who have come out to help propagate the during our Fall season. We averaged 18 Diggers each Saturday, who all had a great time, made new friends and contributed valuable time toward the success of our annual Plant Sale!! Thank you all.



We are still in desperate need of 4" pots for our cactus and succulents starts.

Please bring them and any gallon pots you may have to the Wolfe Ranch and drop them off in the DIG pot box any time. If you have a large quantity of pots, call or e-mail me and I can arrange to pick them up.



Don't forget the Holiday Party and Installation of the new Board on Monday December 9, at the Brentwood Community Center, 35 Oak Street. Set up will be at 6:00 and dinner at 6:30. Help decorate our tables by participating in our Gift Exchange. Bring something garden related that you'd be happy to receive as well as give, and remember don't spend too much.

Bob Selders, President 🌿

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Please bring a new unwrapped toy or gift-card to the November meeting. All items will go to local children in need via Delta Community Services.

Board Minutes

Bob S. called to order the November 5, 2019, Board Meeting at 7:00 pm. 🌸 Elinor reported that our speaker for our November 25th meeting will be DIG's own - Cathy Voortman. Her topic is "What to Start Now for your Spring Garden." Emil Geddes has again agreed to be the Auctioneer for our January auction. 🌸 Ginger gave the Treasurer's report, after which the Board discussed the 2020 Budget. 🌸 Sue informed the Board that a thank you card was sent to Tom Gregory for his generous time and effort in blending our soil. The October Minutes were approved. 🌸 Chris reported that the membership is 113. 🌸 Robin reported on the postcard and we discussed leaving our information cards at local nurseries. 🌸 Juli reminded us that our next field trip is Wednesday, December 4th to Western Garden Nursery in Pleasanton and Alden Lane Nursery in Livermore followed with a lunch at Terre Mia Italian Restaurant in Livermore. 🌸 Bob S reminded us that the new slate of Officers for the DIG Board - Bob Selders - President, Connie Miller - Vice President, Ginger Guider - Treasurer and Sue Castle - Secretary, will be voted on at the next General Meeting, November 25. The new Board will be seated at the Holiday Potluck Dinner and General Meeting, on December 4th. 🌸 Steve H. stated that there are approximately 50 plants to pot up on Saturday, November 9th. In addition, DIG needs cuttings of plants from our gardens to propagate. Saturday propagation will continue through November 16th and then will break until mid January. 🌸 Additional information: The Board approved monies for the Reforestation of the Paradise Burn Area has been sent. 🌸 The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sue Castle, Secretary 🌻

Hospitality

We want to thank Juli Redford, Elinor Bell and Marilyn Lanfri for volunteering to bring goodies to our November 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

UPCOMING EVENT - November 25, 2019

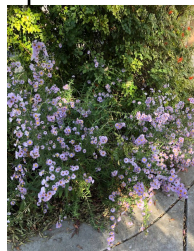
A SPRING GARDEN IN NOVEMBER

Our own Cathy Voortman will be the speaker at our November 25 general meeting. Some may remember her marvelous presentation about chrysanthemums a year ago. This year she's excited to be speaking on the topic of "A Spring Garden in November." Here in our temperate climate of California, November can be a very busy month prepping for a spring garden. For those that want to enjoy the earliest blooms possible in March, April and May do not relax inside yet by roasting chestnuts over an open fire! Come to our meeting and learn about some primo plants that need to be added now to your garden.



Cathy was born and raised in Brentwood and has been actively gardening here since after she returned from college in 2003. She received a BA from UC Davis where she learned her basic plant biology and studied amongst some of the finest greenhouses and arboretums a plant lover could desire. She will be giving a powerpoint presentation with photos from her garden with names of tried-and-true plants that work in Brentwood's wonderfully warm climate. Bring your notepad!

Elinor Bell, Vice President 🌷



PACK UP THOSE GARDEN TREASURES

January 27, 2020, will be here soon. DIG's biennial Auction will again feature Emil Geddes as our auctioneer extraordinaire. So now's the time to start collecting those gardening items you might want to donate to this very special and fun event. If you have tools, garden art, or pottery collecting dust, we'll happily auction it off with proceeds going to our general fund. Please remember NO books, magazines, or baskets.



Field Trips

Our next field trip will be Wednesday, Dec. 4, 2019! We will head to Pleasanton's Western Garden Nursery and then on to Alden Lane Nursery in Livermore. We expect to enjoy some Christmas decoration/gift shopping along with plants. An Italian restaurant in Livermore has been highly recommended for a good lunch. **CARPPOOLING:** Meet 9:00 am at BART Park n' Ride Lot, Walnut Blvd., Brentwood.

Juli Redford 🌲 925-323-5854



Thank You

To Tom Gregory for once again donating his time to blend our soils with his Bobcat and saving our "dirtologists" from having to mix it by hand for the next 6 months. What a blessing! 🙏

To all the members who have been showing up at our Propagation sessions at the Wolfe Ranch and bringing new and interesting cuttings from their yards for us to lovingly tuck into their beds of perlite until they have a healthy bunch of roots and can be planted in their new homes, their very own one gallon pot of soil.



MEMBERSHIP

We currently have 113 members, but only 35 have paid for 2020. Our newest member is a delightful lady named Marianne Jaeger, who recently moved to Brentwood from Pennsylvania. She has already been out to the Wolfe Ranch helping with propagation and making lots of friends every Saturday since the minute she learned about our garden club. Welcome, Marianne!

Membership fees are due January 1, 2020. Dues are now \$20 for an individual; \$25 for a family. Please remember to include a completed membership slip (printed on last page of this Weeder) with your current contact information before mailing your check. Checks should be made out to DIG and either mailed to DIG, P.O. 66, Brentwood, CA 94513 or given to Chris Artz at a meeting.

Chris Artz 🌸

Michael Pollock shares the most yummy treats at our meetings.

Here's the recipe for one he brought not too long ago...

LAVENDER SHORTBREAD COOKIES

Ingredients

- 1 1/2 cups butter, softened
- 2/3 cup white sugar
- 1/4 cup sifted confectioners' sugar
- 2 tablespoons finely chopped fresh lavender
- 1 tablespoon chopped fresh mint leaves
- 1 teaspoon grated lemon zest
- 2 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1/2 cup cornstarch
- 1/4 teaspoon salt

Directions

1. In a medium bowl, cream together the butter, white sugar and confectioners' sugar until light and fluffy. Mix in the lavender, mint and lemon zest. Combine the flour, cornstarch and salt; mix into the batter until well blended. Divide dough into two balls, wrap in plastic wrap and flatten to about 1 inch thick. Refrigerate until firm, about 1 hour.
2. Preheat the oven to 325 degrees F (165 degrees C). On a lightly floured surface, roll the dough out to 1/4 inch thickness. Cut into shapes with cookie cutters. Cookie stamps will work well on these too. Place on cookie sheets.
3. Bake for 18 to 20 minutes in the preheated oven, just until cookies begin to brown at the edges. Cool for a few minutes on the baking sheets then transfer to wire racks to cool completely.

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Allrecipes.com

<https://www.allrecipes.com/recipe/95697/lavender-shortbread-cookies>

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 are due January 1, 2020

Please pay your 2020 Dues by January 31st to be included in the 2020 Member Directory.



P.O. Box 66

Brentwood, CA 94513