



THE WEEEDER

MARCH 2020

Volume 32 Issue 03

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.

2020 General Meetings

January 27 - Auction

February 24

March 23

April 27

May 18 (a week early due to holiday)

June 22 - Member's Potluck

July 27

August 24

September 28

October 26

November 23

December 7 Holiday Potluck

2020 Board Meetings

January 7

July 7

February 4

August 4

March 3

September 8

April 7

October 6

May 5

November 3

June 2

November 24

2020 Plant Sale: May 9th

President's Message

May 9th, the day of our Annual Plant Sale, is only about eight weeks away! It will be here before you know it and we need all the help we can get!! We are beginning to circulate the Sale Day Worker Sign Up Sheet, so please sign up for one of the many important job positions that we need filled on Sale Day. We will need a minimum of 50 workers on Sale Day, not including the student helpers. We really need about 75 workers so everyone can get a break for lunch and restroom breaks, etc. Whether you can work all day or only part of the day please sign up for a job and identify any time constraints you may have so we can schedule all workers accordingly. Please sign up to help and recruit any friends and family members to help us at our annual sale.

We are still in need of 4" pots, and we always need gallon pots, so if you have any that you don't need, please bring them out to the Wolfe Ranch and leave them in the pot container with our banner on it.

Bob Selders, President 🌱



Hospitality

We want to thank Michael Pollock, Leslie Servin and Linda Cullen for providing great goodies for our February General Meeting. And we thank Sandy Marman, Roxanne Solak and Juli Redford for volunteering to bring goodies for our March 23rd meeting.

Board Minutes

Bob S. called to order the March 3, 2020, Board Meeting at 7:00 pm. 🌸 Bob noted that the speaker for March 23rd is Gwen O'Neil who will speak about Aeroponics, the process of growing plants in an air or mist environment rather than soil. 🌸 John Sierra, science teacher at Freedom High School, visited to request DIG's help with fencing portions of their school garden. will return to the Board with specific costs, materials etc. for the project next month. John's students and DIG volunteers would help with the construction. 🌸 Kryssie has volunteered for the Publicity position and addressed the Board with her questions regarding publicity needs for the Plant Sale. 🌸 Bob gave the Treasurer's report as Ginger, has been ill and in the hospital. Connie volunteered to handle the duties until Ginger returns. 🌸 The Board approved the February Minutes as printed in the Weeder. 🌸 Bob S. asked that Sue send a thank you letter to Bruce Ellison, Deer Valley's Special Day program teacher, for his donation of two garbage cans, 2 carts and 100 one-gallon plastic pots. Plus, to acknowledge Deer Valley's Electronic Billboard thanking D.I.G. for it's support. 🌸 Chris Artz reported that DIG has 91 paid members and 15 that have not paid their dues as yet. 🌸 Martin has the paperwork out for our scholarships. 🌸 Juli discussed the successful field trip to the local nurseries. The next field trip is Thursday April 2nd, to the NorCal Home & Garden Show at Cal Expo in Sacramento. Tickets are \$16-18 at the gate or \$16 online. 🌸 A discussion of the Plant Sale ensued, including watering schedules, plants needed for the sale, workers needed, flyers, advertising, etc. Bob asked that all plants over-wintered at members homes be returned to Wolfe Ranch so that they may be spruced up with the rest of the plants. 🌸 The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sue Castle, Secretary 🌻



Celia, Connie, Pat, Juli, & Chris (taking the photo) sorted thousands of plant tags so we can use them again at this year's plant sale.



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

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Our programs have been arranged for by our Program Volunteers.

Monday, March 23rd, 7:30 pm

Sandy Marman stepped up again to arranged for our March speaker, **Gwen O'Neill** on **Aeroponic Gardening**.



Gwen has been a life-long gardener. Her mother was raised on a farm in Dubois, PA and has always felt that gardening was in her DNA. Even when they had a postage stamp backyard, they would always have at

least one tomato and pepper plant. Gwen has been using an "aeroponic system" for 8 years and will speak on "How to grow plants faster and easier, using air and mist, without soil". Gwen has indicated that she will generously donate her stipend to help furnish an aeroponic system to the residents of TreVista Senior Living in Antioch.



Kale and cilantro.

🌸 April 27: Richard Arp has arranged for a program on Daffodils: Nancy Tackett, President, American Daffodil Society will discuss a little daffodil history, the types daffodils that grow best here in Calif., and some of the Internet tools that the Daffodil Society provides for free to the public.

🌸 May 18 (note meeting is one week earlier due to the Memorial Day holiday): Robin Choate has arranged for a speaker on Vermiculture Teas & Extracts.

🌸 June 22: our Annual Spring Pot Luck at the Selders home.

We want thank all the volunteers who helped and arranged for these speakers to cover the first half of the year and to thank Sandy Marman, Roxanne Solak, Julie Pollock, Leslie Servin and Roger Marman who volunteered to get speakers for our July thru November meetings.

Field Trips

February's field trip to three local nurseries was enjoyed by seven of us DIG members with a nice lunch at El Camino to finish off the trip.

Our next outing is April 2nd. We'll travel to the San Francisco-Northern California Flower and Garden Show in SACRAMENTO, not in San Francisco. The show hours are 10 am to 6 pm. This will be an all-day outing. We will meet as usual at the BART Park and Ride lot on Walnut Blvd. in Brentwood and LEAVE at 9 a.m. You can purchase tickets at the gate for \$16-18 or save time and buy them online (get a discount if purchased by March 15) at: <https://norcalgardenshow.com>. Sign up at the next meeting or call Juli.

Juli Redford 🌻 925-323-5854



THANK YOU

To Bruce Ellison, Community Based Instruction Teacher at Deer Valley High School in Antioch, for publicly thanking DIG for our recent cash donation to the Student Garden by posting their thanks on the school's electronic billboard. They also donated 2 trash cans, 2 carts and continually donate one gallon cans to the recycle bin at the Wolfe Ranch.

To Sabina and Frank Morganti for not only sending in their dues but also surprising us with a generous donation! That's a first and such a lovely gesture.

To Kryssie Dupuis for volunteering to be our publicity chairman.

MEMBERSHIP

Thanks to everyone who has paid their membership dues for 2020. Our newest member is Kellie Robison who lives in Oakley which brings our total number up to 91. We look forward to getting to know Kellie soon!

Chris Artz 🌸

Cranberry Almond Cake



SERVES 18 | ACTIVE TIME 10 Min |
TOTAL TIME 50 Min

2 cups granulated sugar
3 large eggs, room temperature
¾ cups unsalted butter, room temperature
1 teaspoon pure almond extract
2 teaspoons pure vanilla extract
2 cups all-purpose flour
1 (12-ounce) bag fresh cranberries (or frozen and thawed)
1 cup sliced almonds

Preheat oven to 350°F. Butter a 9x13 baking pan. Set aside.

In a large mixing bowl, beat sugar and eggs for 5 minutes with an electric mixer on medium. The volume of the mixture will increase by almost half and will be thickened. Do not skip this step. The eggs will work as the leavening the cake needs to rise. Add butter and extracts and beat for 2 more minutes. Slowly add flour and beat until combined. Fold in cranberries.

Using a spatula, pour and smooth into prepared pan. Sprinkle almonds over top.

Bake for 40-45 minutes until a toothpick comes out clean. Let cool completely before cutting.

Celia Selders shared this treat with us recently.

Recipe developed by Donna Elick - The Slow Roasted Italian
Copyright ©2013 The Slow Roasted Italian
- All rights reserved.

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**

PROPAGATION IS UNDERWAY

🌿 Saturdays from 10am to Noon 🌿
At the Wolfe Ranch



P.O. Box 66

Brentwood, CA 94513