



THE WEEDEEER

JUNE 2020

Volume 32 Issue 06

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 - Canceled
April 27 - Canceled
May 18 - Canceled
June 22 - Canceled
July 27 - Canceled
August 24
September 28 Member's Potluck
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: Canceled

President's Message

We are now in month four of the Corona Virus restrictions and those restrictions are slowly loosening up. Let's hope that the pandemic slows throughout the world and we find a vaccine so that we can get back to some form of normalcy soon. In the mean time, we are maintaining a large number of perennials, succulents and cactus at the Wolfe Ranch for next years Plant Sale. Thank you to all the volunteers who have been watering the plants. If anyone wants to help water, please contact Robin Choate at rchoate80@yahoo.com.

I know everyone is missing getting together with fellow DIG members at the meetings, field trips, and propagation sessions at the ranch. We all are anxious to get together once again.

Depending on the status of the corona virus and related restrictions, the Board is hoping to begin General Meetings again on August 24. We'll be starting up Propagation again in September and hold our annual Spring (June) Potluck on September 28! More information and confirmation of these activities to follow over the next few months. In the mean time, enjoy your gardens, stay safe and healthy.

Bob Selders, President 🌱



Board Minutes

Bob S. called to order the June 2, 2020, Board Meeting conference call at 7:03 PM. Included on the call were Bob S., Connie, Ginger, Sue, Chris, Robin, Pat, Juli and Steve. 🌸 Bob reiterated that DIG's General Meetings and Speaker program have been canceled until at least August 2020. Our Members Potluck is tentatively scheduled for September 28th at the Selders's home. 🌸 Ginger gave the Treasurer's report and announced that DIG had received donations that amounted to more than 50% of the 2020 Plant Sale expenses incurred. Ginger added that she had sent out the two High School scholarship checks and the Hope House donation check. 🌸 Sue followed with the Minutes and obtained approval for the May 5th Board Minutes plus the April 13th Minutes that were printed in the Weeder. She further reported that all Donation Thank You and 501(c)3 Receipt letters had been mailed. 🌸 Chris reported that DIG has 96 paid members. 🌸 Bob pointed out that very little is going on with regard to field trips and publicity. 🌸 He added that he will contact John Sierra regarding the proposed fence project at Freedom High School's garden, which is currently on hold because of the virus.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sue Castle, Secretary 🌻

Container Gardening

Instead of putting gravel or small stones in the bottom of your container cut up an old kitchen sponge and place a few pieces in the bottom. It will help water drain sufficiently and keep moisture in the soil longer.

Pat Moore



Peach Cobbler

From the Kitchen of Celia Selders



Batter:

1 cup flour

1 cup sugar

Pinch of salt

2 teaspoons Baking Powder

¾ cup Milk

Mix batter ingredients together.

Melt **1 cube (1/2 cup) of margarine (or butter)** in a 9"x13" baking dish, then pour the batter over the melted butter in the baking dish, do not stir the batter into the butter.

Add **3 or 4 cups Peaches (5 or 6 large) peeled and sliced** over the top of the batter. Bake for 45 to 60 minutes in oven preheated to 350 degrees.



Serve hot or at room temperature with whipped cream or ice cream. It is best if eaten the same day that it is baked.

You can also use other fruits and or berries.

Enjoy!



Do you have a garden tip or recipe or photo to share?
Heard of an event or garden to go see?
Email it to info@deltainformalgardeners.org

How to Raise a Drought Tolerant Plant

Courtesy of Green Acres Nursery & Supply
<https://diggreenacres.com/blogs/articles/drought-tolerant-plants>

Did you know it can take two years for your plant to become drought tolerant? Your brand new plant has a very small root zone, and we have to help the plant develop a much larger root zone. How is that done? It all happens in three stages: during the first six months, the second six months, and forever after.



For the first six months, the plant is thirsty at the original pot line (not at the trunk). Water your new plant to the depth of the original pot, plus one additional inch down. Once the soil is dry a few inches below the top of the soil, it is time to water.

The next stage is after six months in the ground. Now start watering at the furthest reaches of the plant edge—the drip edge. The drip edge is where the thirsty roots are. Continue to water as deeply as before. But now you have a deep and wide root zone, and the soil can be several *additional* inches dry before watering again. Congratulations! It is a drought tolerant plant.

The last stage is to adjust where you water the plant as it grows. Every few years it will have a new drip edge, and the water needs to be at that new drip edge. Keep watering just as deeply, but the plant needs water less and less often.

Use a water meter or soil probe to be sure you are watering as deeply as needed. Use that meter or probe again to find out if the soil dried out enough to water. And remember to keep mulch deep to retain moisture in the ground even longer.

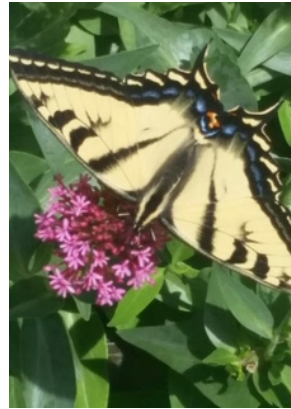


From our 2018 field trip to Green Acres in Elk Grove.

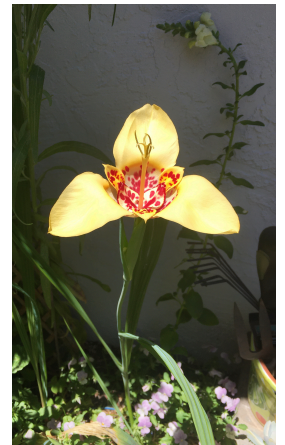
SHOW US YOUR GARDEN

Since we are Sheltering-In-Place let's share our "places" online. Post photos of your garden on www.Facebook.com/BrentwoodDIG so we can enjoy them with you. If you don't have facebook or have trouble posting you can email them to info@deltainformalgardeners.org

Here are a few we've already received:



Gorgeous Tiger Swallowtail butterfly found in the Lanfri's garden.



A Tigridia, Mexican Shellflower or Tiger flower from the Artz's backyard.



Bothered by bugs?

Sue Castle suggests you try these plants in your garden:

Mosquito fighters:

Lemongrass, Rosemary, Lavender, Bee balm, Cat mint, Thyme, Lemon balm

Flies:

Basil, Bay leaves, Lavender, Mint, Tansy, Wormwood, Rue

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**

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