



THE WEEDEEER

JULY 2020

Volume 32 Issue 07

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 - Canceled
September 28 Potluck Canceled
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

It's hard to believe another month has passed so quickly! I hope that you and your families are happy, healthy and sane during these crazy times. Unfortunately, our hope for improvement with the Corona Virus by now has not materialized. The infection cases and hospitalizations have increased over the past month, causing the loosening of the pandemic restrictions to be delayed and tightened. Consequently, the Board's hope of resuming General Meetings in August and having the Spring Potluck that was rescheduled for September is no longer a possibility. So at our July Board Meeting the Board canceled the August General Meeting and the September Potluck. We will decide on the October General Meeting and subsequent meetings at our September Board Meeting, based on the pandemic regulations at that time. We will keep you all informed on when we can once again meet as a group!



In regards to beginning our propagation process in September for our May 2021 Annual Plant Sale, we are considering having propagation twice per week, depending on restrictions in place at that time. We would restrict the number of workers at each propagation day to a maximum of 12 people and require members to sign up in advance, so that we can maintain the maximum limit at each session. We will provide more details as we get closer to propagation. If anyone has any thoughts or suggestions on how we can best meet the State/County restrictions and meet for propagation sessions, please call or email me with your thoughts. Bob Selders – r.selders@yahoo.com, 925-642-0080.

The past five months have been tough on all of us. We all miss being able to do many of the things that we used to do with family and friends. We are lucky that we have our gardens that we can work in and enjoy. Many of you have submitted photos of your flowers and gardens to share on the DIG Facebook Page and we thank you for that. We ask that you continue sharing your photos and any other garden related videos, tips, DIY ideas, etc., that you think would be of interest to other gardeners. I will be posting various gardening tips and try to post timely information for the time of the year in your garden. If you find something of interest, you can send it to Robin Choate at rchoate80@yahoo.com, and Robin can place it on our Facebook Page for all to enjoy. Times will eventually get better and we will once again be able to meet as a group and catch up on all that has happened in our lives during these trying times. We will get back to a normal life that we once enjoyed, hang in there and think positive! HAPPY GARDENING!

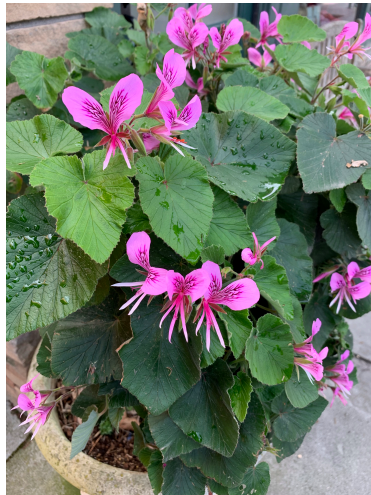
Bob Selders, President 

Board Minutes

Bob S. called to order the July 7, 2020, conference call for DIG's Board Meeting at 7:05 PM. Included on the call were Bob S., Connie, Ginger, Sue, Chris, Robin, Pat, Juli, Kryssie and Steve. 🌸 Ginger gave the Treasurer's report and noted that DIG had received Thank You Letters from Hope House for our \$500.00 donation, and from both Deer Valley High School and Freedom High School for our \$1,000.00 Student Scholarships. 🌸 Chris announced that our Membership increased by 1 and we now stand at 97. 🌸 Sue followed with the Minutes and obtained Board approval for the June 2nd Board Minutes as printed in the Weeder. 🌸 Bob added that Field Trips and Publicity are still on hold. 🌸 It was determined that watering at Wolfe Ranch will remain three times a week. 🌸 Adding more content to the Weeder was discussed, with all articles to Robin by Thursday. 🌸 John Sierra's fence project at Freedom High School's garden is also on hold as John is waiting to see how the School proceeds with re-opening. 🌸 The Board discussed the recent spikes in the Corona Virus and decided that DIG would need to cancel the August General Meeting as well as DIG's September Potluck. The Board will revisit having in person meetings at the September Board Meeting. 🌸 DIG was contacted by Kathryn Mustar, a Girl Scout working on her Girl Scout Gold Award. She wants to redo and/or create a vegetable garden at Shepard's Gate in Brentwood. She is looking for help with supplies, soil, plants, etc. Sue will contact her requesting a written proposal with more specific information. 🌸 Shepard's Gate has contacted DIG regarding pruning/ dead heading their roses at the Brentwood location. They were told that pruning will need to wait until Fall for the cooler weather. 🌸 The Board discussed ways to hold our propagation workshops that usually start in September. Bob suggested twice a week with only 10-12 members, who signed up in advance. Kryssie recommended using Sign-Up Genius as a way to sign up. 🌸 It was announced that Antonio Murillo, Steve's wonderful hardworking helper, had recently passed away. A condolence card will be sent to his wife, Rosa. 🌸 The meeting was adjourned at 7:48 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sue Castle, Secretary 🌻



MEMBERSHIP

We have another new member! Yay! Her name is Nan Kreeger, she lives in Brentwood and is interested in succulents.

Looks like she came to the right place since DIG has many members who are crazy about succulents! Looking forward to meeting you as soon as we're allowed to have a membership meeting, Nan.

Chris Artz 🌸

Recipe

🍒 Easy Cherry Cobbler 🍒

Spray a deep pie dish or 9" square Pyrex dish with cooking spray. Preheat oven to 350 degrees.

1 can cherry pie filling
½ of a boxed yellow cake mix
1/4 cup butter, melted

2 Tbsp. brown sugar
1 tsp. cinnamon
3 Tbsp. chopped walnuts



Spread pie filling into baking dish. Top with the dry cake mix and melted butter. Do not stir. Mix sugar, cinnamon and walnuts together in small bowl and then sprinkle over top.

Bake in oven for 30 minutes or until top is starting to brown OR bake uncovered in microwave on high for 10 minutes.

Serve with vanilla ice cream while still warm.



Recipe courtesy of Chris Artz



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

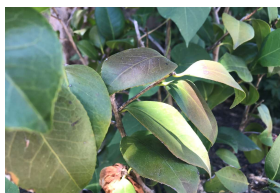
JULY GARDEN TASKS

Courtesy of Green Acres Nursery & Supply
<https://idiggreenacres.com/blogs/articles/july-garden-tasks>

The message is loud and clear that it is hot out there. You put a lot of hard work and planning into your yard and garden, and we want to make sure it sails through the hot summer. Our July Garden Task list offers advice to help you keep your cool when heat hits your garden.

Leaf Me Alone

Leaves are sensitive, and the tips of the leaves are the most sensitive part. Still, if just the leaf tips are hurt, that might be okay. If just the outer layer of leaves on the plant are hurt, that might be okay too. Plants have ways to protect themselves and they know just what to do with those heat damaged leaves: they are used as an umbrella to shade the rest of the plant! Please do not prune off those leaves.



Check the Soil Before Watering

Are you seeing your plants wilt in the middle of the day? Please do not rush to turn on the water! Plants can wilt on purpose to protect themselves from extreme heat and sun. Always check the soil first to see if it is dry and needs water. If we add water it doesn't need, we can add drowning to the stress. If the soil is indeed dry, adjust your watering schedule to help your plants get through our hot Mediterranean summers.



When using overhead water by sprinklers, be sure to only water early in the day. Wet plants burn when the hot sun hits them. If we use sprinklers at night, diseases like powdery mildew and rust show up. Lawns easily get diseases and mushrooms when watered at night. Sprinklers are best used from about 4am to 8am in the summer.

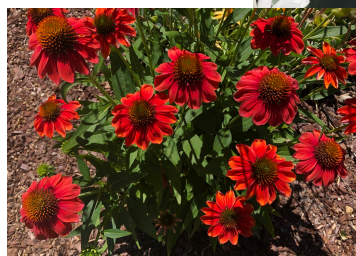
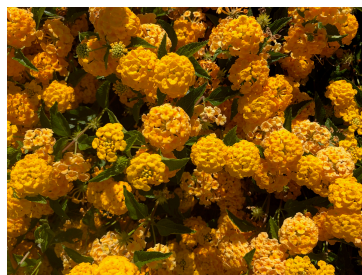
Other Tasks For July

- 🪄 Pick up dropped fruit off the ground to stop insect and disease cycles
- 🪄 Feed veggie gardens each month with organic fertilizers.
- 🪄 Adjust mower height so cut grass is tall enough to keep the sun from hitting the soil. Taller lawn keeps irrigation in longer and stops weeds from sprouting.
- 🪄 Keep an eye out for suckers growing at the soil line or below graft lines for citrus, olives, fruit trees, and roses. Prune off all suckers.
- 🪄 Still have room to plant more veggies? It's time to plant seeds for broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cabbage and cauliflower.

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:



🐰 BUNNY POOP AVAILABLE 🐰

I have bags of rabbit manure available for those interested.
Text me or call me on my phone 925-759-7579.
Donelle Bomben



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**

Are you following us on Facebook?
www.facebook.com/BrentwoodDIG



P.O. Box 66

Brentwood, CA 94513