

THE WEEDEER

MAY 2022

Volume 34 Issue 5

2022 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.

2022 General Meetings

January 24 - Auction - Canceled
February 28
March 28
April 25
May 23
June 27 - Members Potluck
July 25
August 22 - Auction
September 26
October 24
November 28
December 12 - Holiday Potluck

2022 Board Meetings

January 4	July 5
February 8	August 2
March 8	September 6
April 5	October 4
May 3	November 8
June 7	November 29

2022 Plant Sale: MAY 7

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

What a wonderful Plant Sale we had this year! The weather was perfect and, even though we had fewer plants than usual, we had a successful and profitable sale. Our faithful customers were so happy to see us back and they were full of compliments. We are so fortunate to live in such a great community and I find it such a pleasure to see our customers buy and enjoy the fruits of our labor and feel so good that we can provide our community with affordable and beautiful plants.



You DIGgers did an awesome job in putting this together. We have a really dedicated and hard-working group of people. Thank you to all who participated. A special thanks to the Castles for making the beautiful plant signs, they add so much. To John Sierra and his kids from Freedom who are also such a help. And of course a very special thank you to the Wolfe and Voortman families for having us there again.

I bought a lot of vegetables this year and am looking forward to having a great vegetable garden. I hope you found some great plants too.

Connie Miller, President 🌻



"We might think we are nurturing our garden, but of course it's our garden that is really nurturing us." - Jenny Uglow

Board Minutes

The May 3rd board meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by Connie. Members present were



Connie, Pat, Chris, Ginger, Bob S., Steve, Juli, Sue, Bob C., Cici, and Robin. ❀ Ginger presented the Treasurer's report. She pointed out that our balance is down, but is ok because of our membership increase. ❀ Chris reported we have 91 members. ❀ April Minutes we're approved as printed in the Weeder at Sue's request. ❀ Juli is focusing on finding us wonderful field trips for the future. ❀ Bob S. reported that Heritage H.S. has picked Juliana Gonzales as the recipient of our \$1000 scholarship. Juliana has over a 4.0 GPA, has attained the Girl Scout Gold Award, and plans to focus on Environmental Science. Bob S. will present DIG's Scholarship on May 16th at Awards Night. Bob S. attempted to contact the Bidwell Continuation High School several times. When the Bidwell liaison finally contacted Bob S., she informed Bob that they had no scholarship program. Since it was so late in the year, it was decided that no scholarship would be awarded in Antioch this year. ❀ The Plant Sale on May 7th dominated the rest of the meeting. John Sierra will be bringing 10-12 high schoolers to help. Last minute assignments were made. After sale schedule confirmed to donate any remaining plants to John Sierra at Heritage High School and Bruce Ellison at Deer Valley High School, and final clean up Wednesday 10am to noon. ❀ The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM.



Respectfully Submitted,

Sue Castle, Secretary ❀



FIELD TRIPS

At our April DIG general meeting I was given a few field trip location ideas. The first was for viewing and buying rose bushes. If there is an interest by several of you, the members, I'll plan a trip. Also mentioned was the Ruth Bancroft Garden in Walnut Creek and several of the members were interested in a visit. After we are recovered from the plant sale, we will get a field trip planned to Walnut Creek. We may even be able to include a stop at The Gardens at Heather Farm on that same day.

I do appreciate your suggestions for our trip destination. Please consider joining me and others on the field trip committee to plan our outings. We have meetings about three times a year and enjoy getting together for a lunch at someone's home or we can dine out.

Juli Redford ❀ 925-323-5854

❀ MAY 23rd SPEAKER ❀



EDIBLE FLOWERS

Presented by Master Gardener PAMELA AUSTIN

On May 23rd Pam Austin will speak about Edible Flowers. We will learn about the benefits and uses of edible flowers, and how to harvest and store them.

Pam lives in El Cerrito. She is a lifelong gardener and enjoys gardening in her yard and at other gardens in her community. In 2018 she was accepted to the Master Gardener program and graduated in February 2019. Soon after she was appointed co-lead of the School Garden Program.



Thank you Sandy Marmon for arranging for Pamela to speak.

Robin Choate ❀

FUTURE SPEAKERS

June 27: Members Potluck - location tbd

July 25: Succulents - John Fike

August 22: Auction - Save your Garden Stuff!

September 26: Seed Saving - Trish Clifford

October 24: Grafting - Greg Letts & Kirsten Mollo

November 28: Ed Laivo, Fruit Trees

Do you know of someone who has an interesting garden related story to tell? Ask them if they'd like to be a speaker at DIG. Contact Robin at 925-759-0700, and she will give you the information you need to schedule your speaker.

MEMBERSHIP

There's been a real boost in our membership lately and we now have 91 paid members. Two of our newest members are returning DIG members. They are Joan Foster of Bethel Island and Connie Kelly of Brentwood. Also, Denise Halstead who lives all the way in Walnut Grove has also joined our membership. Welcome ladies!



New member Kathy won the door prize.

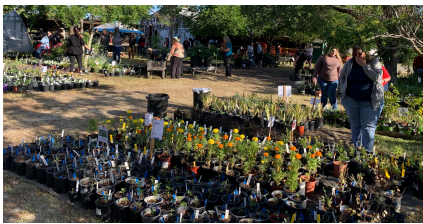


The line grew and this little one needed another cookie.



THANK YOU'S

🌸 To our fearless commander-in-chief/president, decision maker and moral support, Connie Miller, who kept us organized by constantly printing every single one of our plant labels and then handling the frustrating job of finding the matching plants. She also checked in with workers throughout the day of the sale to see if we needed a break which was truly appreciated. 🌸 To Steve Hendrickson for being the very best and longest serving Plant Manager and for always keeping us laughing, especially when he wears his chicken hat! 🌸 To Celia and Bob Selders, Pat Moore, and Bill Ku for donating hundreds of beautiful succulents. We really appreciate how you took care of these precious babies for so long! 🌸 To Pat Moore, Sherry Starks and Kim Wang for creating over one hundred attractive succulent dish gardens which were a lovely addition to our sale. 🌸 To everyone who contributed a wonderful variety of containers for our succulent dish gardens and to all of you who brought clumps of sturdy growing plants from your gardens for us to pot up. 🌸 To Robin Choate for always making us proud by producing our beautiful monthly newsletter, *The Weeder*, every single month of the year and also for being our



Assistant Plant Manager extraordinaire for many years. Also, kudos to her husband, Chris for finding and delivering the most incredible soil we've ever had. 🌸 To our fabulous treasurer, Ginger Guider, who miraculously kept our finances in the black over the last 3 years with bills to pay and scholarships to donate with little income.

🌸 To Poppy Holmes, Pat Moore, Carrie Alexander, Sue and Bob Castle, and Chris and Dan Artz whose wonderful "kids" showed up to help during the entire day of our sale. Sally Castle wins the prize for tirelessly working like the Energizer Bunny at propagation on Saturdays for the last two months! We're still trying to figure out how to clone this young lady. Juli Redford's husband Dave also saved the day by being one of our cashiers. 🌸 To Sue and Bob Castle for creating a myriad of colorful, laminated signs and pictures of our plants to show what they look like when they're in bloom. Bob also spends countless hours all year long repairing our carts which we couldn't appreciate more. 🌸 To John Sierra's fine group of student volunteers who did a fantastic job transporting customers' carts full of plants and bags of soil to their cars. Their assistance always delights our customers. 🌸 To Linda Cullen for not only watering our plants constantly but for also being in charge of scheduling all the wonderful members who have been watering our plants on a weekly basis since February. Such a vital task and much appreciated. 🌸 To Bob Selders and Dan Artz for being the first ones to cheerfully greet our customers while managing traffic on the morning of our sale. 🌸 To Cici Kirchner for providing all of us with name badges first thing Saturday morning. 🌸 To the Wolfe Family for once again graciously hosting our plant sale on their beautiful ranch. We so appreciate all their support and generosity throughout the many years we've been there.

Spring Green Spaghetti Carbonara

<https://barefootcontessa.com/recipes/spring-green-spaghetti-carbonara>

- Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 12 ounces spaghetti, such as De Cecco
- ½ pound snow peas, julienned lengthwise
- 1 cup shelled fresh peas (1 pound in the pod), or frozen peas
- 12 to 14 thin asparagus, bottom third discarded and tips sliced in 2-inch pieces
- 2 tablespoons good olive oil
- 8 ounces small-diced pancetta or bacon
- ½ cup heavy cream
- 2 extra-large eggs
- 2 extra-large egg yolks
- ¾ cup freshly grated Italian Parmesan cheese, plus extra for serving
- 5 scallions, white and green parts, thinly sliced diagonally
- ¼ cup minced fresh chives, plus extra for serving
- Zest and juice of 1 lemon



Bring a large pot of water with 2 tablespoons salt to a boil. Add the spaghetti and cook for 8 minutes, stirring occasionally. Reserve a cup of the pasta water, then add the snow peas, fresh peas, and asparagus to the spaghetti and cook for 2 minutes longer. Drain the pasta and vegetables together.

Meanwhile, heat the oil in a medium (10 to 11-inch) sauté pan over medium heat, add the pancetta, and cook for 7 to 9 minutes, stirring occasionally, until browned. Transfer the pancetta to a plate lined with paper towels and set aside.

While the pancetta cooks, fill a large bowl with the hottest tap water and set aside to heat the bowl. Just before you drain the pasta, pour the water out of the bowl. Put the cream, eggs, egg yolks, and ¼ cup of the reserved pasta water into the bowl and whisk to combine. Immediately, add the hot pasta and vegetables and toss with tongs for a full minute or two, until the pasta absorbs the sauce. Add enough reserved hot pasta water to keep the sauce creamy. Add the ¾ cup Parmesan, the scallions, chives, lemon zest and juice, 1 tablespoon salt, and 1 teaspoon pepper and toss well. Add the pancetta, sprinkle with salt, and serve hot sprinkled with extra chives and Parmesan.

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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 _(_____) _____ HOME MOBILE

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

We had another successful
Plant Sale!
Thanks to all who participated 🌸



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