

THE WEEDEER

JULY 2022

Volume 34 Issue 7

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 |

2023 Plant Sale: MAY 13

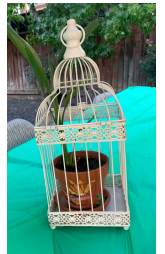
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We had a wonderful Potluck last month. Wonderful food and, as always, very clever Curious Containers for the competition. I'm always amazed at you clever and talented DIGgers who put together such fun containers. Thank you to Celia and Bob Selders for hosting our Potluck. Thank you also to Cici Kirchner, our hospitality chairman, for the decorations and tableware. Also, a big thank you to Chad Dupuis, our wonderful judge.

As I was driving through Brentwood today, I couldn't help but notice how beautiful the landscaping is and how colorful the shrubs and trees are. The Crepe Myrtles always amaze me. I'm putting new plants in the front of my house (where the lawn used to be) and I'm very inspired by what I see around town. I'm glad to have the lawn gone and am looking forward to having new landscaping there. And I might add that my water bill was pretty decent too. As our drought continues, I'm always looking for ways to save water. I'm also putting in more drip systems. Do you have any special water saving tips?



At our last Board Meeting we appointed Steve Hendrickson and Bob Selders as our new Site Acquisition Team. They have had one meeting with Brentwood's Park and Recreation head regarding our use of property out on Sellers Rd. They will meet later this month with the Park and Recreation Commission to discuss our proposal. So stay tuned.....



Don't forget our Auction in August. Save your unused garden items that you no longer want and bring them to auction. We have lots of fun while raising money for DIG.



Connie Miller, President 🌻

“There are no gardening mistakes, only experiments.”

– Janet Kilburn Phillips

Board Minutes

The July 5, 2022 meeting was called to order at 7:11 pm by Connie. Members present were Connie, Steve, Bob S., Robin, Pat, Chris, Ginger, Juli, Sue, Bob C., and Sally. 🌸 DIG's Potluck was a great hit with wonderful, yummy food. In fact, so many people requested recipes, we request that you send copies of your yummy recipes to Robin. Connie thanked Bob S. and Cecilia for hosting the event. 🌸 Ginger presented the Treasurer's report. She reminded everyone to get in their Plant Sale receipts to her for reimbursement. 🌸 Chris stated that Membership stands at 94 - this total includes new members. 🌸 The June 2022 Minutes were unanimously approved by the Board as printed in the Weeder. 🌸 For a nice summer outing, be sure to catch Juli's Field Trip suggestions and recommendations in the Weeder. 🌸 Bob S. pointed out that for the 2022-23 school year Liberty High School and Antioch High School are the schools in the queue for DIG's Scholarships. 🌸 Steve announced that he and Bob S., the Site Acquisition Team, have another meeting with the City of Brentwood's Parks Department on July 21, 2022, for DIG'S possible new Digs. 🌸 Robin announced that she is holding off on re-ordering DIG's info/business cards due to increased costs. 🌸 Robin should have a new Membership handout / address list available at the next meeting. An actual booklet will be done for 2023. 🌸 Robin is working with Vertical Response, our email software company to determine why some members are not receiving all emails. Members should let her know if they are not receiving the Weeder and other emails. 🌸 Speaker for the July 25th General Meeting, John Fike, will focus on succulents. 🌸 On August 22nd the General Meeting is DIG's Auction. Be sure to save your garden treasures and donate them to the Auction. Set up of Auction items is at 6 PM with the Auction following at 7PM. 🌸 The meeting adjourned at 7:45 PM.



Respectfully Submitted,



AUCTION IN AUGUST

We are going to have our Auction at the DIG meeting on August 22. Emil Geddes has agreed to be our auctioneer again. Set up & Preview is at 6pm - Bring those garden related items you no longer need and spend some time checking out the new to you items you want to take home, all while enjoying some snacks. Items that sell well are clean garden tools, pottery, hoses, garden art, bird houses, etc. Please, no books or baskets.

The auction will begin at 7pm. Volunteers are needed to be ticket runners - when an item sells you label the item with the winner's name & price, while your partner runs a tag to the buyer with the item name & price on it. Tags are taken to the cashiers at the end of the evening to make your donation. This is always a fun and entertaining evening.

All proceeds go to DIG's general fund and will be part of our donations back to the community.



SPEAKER

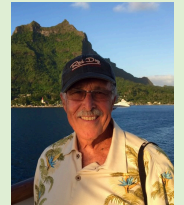
Monday, July 25th

John Fike - On Succulents

SUCCULENTS: What to do, and what NOT to do! John will speak to us about the extensive topic of succulents, touching on the aesthetic qualities, adaptations the plants have made to survive, the reproductive aspects and more.



After 34 years on the faculty at UCSF, John Fike retired from academia and soon thereafter became active in the **Master Gardener** program for Contra Costa County. He co-leads the Ask a Master Gardener program, is active in the Speaker's Bureau and is on the leadership team for the organization. His passion for biology and his interest in education have been instrumental in his contributions to new volunteer training and programs like Growing Gardeners. One of his goals as a Master Gardener is to introduce more science into the gardening landscape in the hopes that people will develop an enhanced perspective and appreciation of the fascinating world around us.



FUTURE SPEAKERS

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

FIELD TRIPS

In last month's Weeder I suggested visiting the Contra Costa Master Gardeners' demonstration gardens and onsite classes. The Walnut Creek Our Garden is in full production with fruit trees being harvested, vegetables producing well, and a beautiful grape arbor. It's very inspiring! There are also flowers planted between the food crops for a lovely touch of color. Take a look at their webpage for information on location and hours: ccmg.ucanr.edu/DemoGardens/

With water rationing a probability, I'd highly recommend watching a webinar I recently viewed: Water in Your Garden - Taking Control: A UC Master Gardener Webinar By Lori Palmquist. This can be found by searching YouTube for the Contra Costa Master Gardeners recording. Or use this link: www.youtube.com/watch?v=nOPTcoV0Gw&t=20s

This past week, I discovered an interesting website: www.plantright.org. California has a wonderful climate for growing many wonderful plants but some can be invasive. This site provides information on how to avoid planting the wrong things in our gardens.

Juli Redford 🌸 925-323-5854

Master Gardener - "Our Garden" Speakers

111 North Wiget Lane, Walnut Creek

See [Our Garden Event Calendar](#) for full schedule.
Most talks are from 10am to 11:30am.

July 13 - No-Till Gardening

July 20 - Plant Pests and Diseases

July 27 - Grapes 🍇

August 3 - Vertebrate Pests

August 10 - Vermicompost. 🐛

August 17 - Cool Season Veggie Gardens

POTLUCK RECIPES

🌽 CORN AND AVOCADO 🥑 SALAD

From Elinor Bell

- 4 ears corn, cooked
- 2 avocados
- 1/4 - 1/2 cup chopped onion
- 1/4 - 1/2 cup chopped celery
- 1/2 cup minced parsley, loosely packed
- 1 Tbs minced cilantro (or to taste)

Dressing:

- 2 Tbs olive oil
- 1 Tbs lime juice (or more)
- Salt and pepper to taste
- Zest of 1 lime

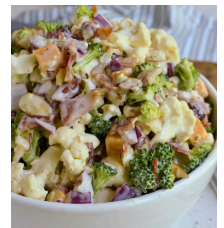
Cut corn off the cob. Add chopped herbs, onion, and celery. Mix. Add chopped avocados and gently toss all ingredients together with dressing

Broccoli Cauliflower Salad

<https://www.smalltownwoman.com/broccoli-cauliflower-salad/>

INGREDIENTS

- 1 cup mayonnaise
- 1 1/2 tablespoons sugar
- 3 tablespoons apple cider vinegar or red wine vinegar
- 3 cups broccoli florets cut in bite size pieces
- 3 cups cauliflower florets cut in bite size pieces
- 2/3 cup sliced almonds
- 1/3 cup finely chopped red onion
- 1 cup finely cubed cheddar cheese
- 10 slices crispy cooked bacon coarsely chopped



INSTRUCTIONS

1. In a small bowl whisk the mayonnaise, sugar, and cider vinegar together.
2. In a large bowl combine the broccoli and cauliflower florets, sliced almonds, red onion, cheddar, and chopped bacon.
3. Pour the dressing over the top and stir to coat. Season with salt and black pepper to taste.

NOTES

- Cut the broccoli and cauliflower florets into fine bite size pieces avoiding most of the thick stems. Try to do them as close to uniform size so the salad is aesthetically pleasing.
- The dressing can be mixed up to 2 days in advance.
- Choose a good quality sharp cheddar and cut into tiny cubes. It can also be shredded.
- Cook the bacon until crispy so it holds up well in the salad. I like to cook mine in the oven in a single layer on an old baking sheet. Cook at 375 for about 14-15 minutes flipping halfway through.
- The salad can be prepared up to 24 hours in advance however hold the almond and bacon. Then toss in right before serving.
- Store in an airtight container in the fridge for up to 3 days.

RECIPE VARIATIONS

- Fruit – add dried cranberries, raisins, cherries, or diced apples.
- Nuts and seeds – add chopped pecans, walnuts, almonds, cashews, pistachios, or sunflower seeds.
- Cheese – add Pepper Jack, Monterey Jack, Muenster, Gruyere, or bleu cheese

Celia made this one and added dried cranberries

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

Auction in August

Donate those garden items you no longer need and find something new you do! Details inside.



P.O. Box 66

Brentwood, CA 94513