

THE WEEEDER

DECEMBER 2022

Volume 34 Issue 12

NEW 2023 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.

2023 General Meetings

- January 23
- February 27
- March 27
- April 24
- May 22
- June 26 - Members Potluck
- July 24
- August 28
- September 25
- October 23
- November 27
- December 11 - Holiday Potluck

2023 Board Meetings

- | | |
|------------|--------------|
| January 3 | July 11* |
| February 7 | August 8 |
| March 7 | September 5 |
| April 4 | October 3 |
| May 2 | November 7 |
| June 6 | November 28* |

2023 Plant Sale: MAY 13 ?

* Adjusted due to Holidays

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It has been a pleasure serving as your president for these last two years. We have had many challenges and will have many more to come, but I know our new President, Robin Choate, is the one person who is up for the task. DIG will be in good hands. I would like to thank the board members who always work hard behind the scenes and keep DIG running so smoothly. Special thanks to Bob Selders who is working hard on acquiring our new site. And I'd like to thank all of you, our members, for your help and friendships and dedication to DIG. I know we'll all be eager to see what the coming year will bring. Robin has great ideas and I'm looking forward to working with everyone next year.

Happy Holidays to all and Best Wishes for the coming New Year. I look forward to seeing you all at our Holiday Party, Monday Dec. 12th.

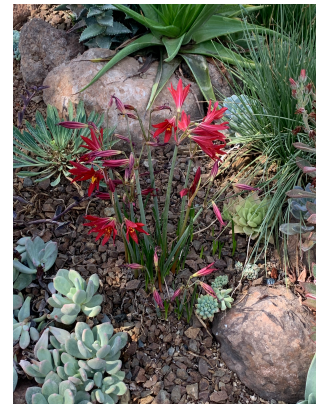
Connie Miller, President 🎄

Fall in December
Photo credit:
Connie Miller



“A weed is a plant that has mastered every skill except for learning how to grow in rows.”

— Doug Larson



RECIPE

LOADED CAULIFLOWER

1 cauliflower, broken into large pieces
½ lb. bacon, cooked crisp, drained on paper towels & crumbled
6 Tbsp. chopped green onions (heaping 1/3 cup)
½ cup real mayonnaise
½ cup sour cream (no low fat or fat free)
2 cups shredded cheddar or Colby Jack cheese
8 oz. mushrooms, sliced

Microwave cauliflower in a single layer in a large shallow baking dish that is covered with plastic wrap until tender but not completely cooked (6-8 min., depending on your microwave.) Or blanch in salted, boiling water for about 3 minutes. Plunge into cold water immediately to prevent cauliflower from getting mushy; then drain well. Repeat with remaining cauliflower. Place cauliflower in a large bowl. Sprinkle with salt & pepper. Stir in remaining ingredients until blended. Pour into greased 13" X 9" baking pan.



Bake, uncovered, at 425 degrees for 15-20 minutes or until cheese is melted and casserole is heated through. If mixture has been made ahead and refrigerated, bake for 30-35 minutes.

Recipe Courtesy of Chris Artz

❁ HOLIDAY POTLUCK ❁

Monday, December 12th

Set up is at 5:45pm and the Party is from 6:00 to 9:00 pm. Bring an appetizer, salad, main dish, or dessert to serve 8-10 people. We don't assign what to bring and we've never been disappointed if we have more desserts than salads!

If you would like to share your recipe please bring it in a format that can be photographed with a cell phone. It might get featured in a future Weeder. (Hurray for modern technology and saving paper.) There will be cards available for you to label your dish & ingredients so those who don't eat certain things will know.

D.I.G. will provide plates, napkins, and culinary, as well as water and coffee. You may bring a beverage of your choice, but no alcoholic beverages this year due to a City rule that requires a security team, which is an additional cost.



Gifts brought for the gift exchange will be used as table decorations. Please bring something that you would like, but is inexpensive (under \$20). We will hand out tickets and hold a drawing after dinner. Participation is optional.



HOLLY AND MISTLETOE

Now largely associated with Christmas celebrations, holly and mistletoe were once part of pagan rituals and ancient superstitions.



Holly has been used since the days of the early Pagans as a decoration for midwinter festivities, when it was brought into homes to keep evil spirits away. Mistletoe was once held sacred by the Norse, Celtic Druids and North American Indians. It is actually a parasitic plant that grows on a wide range of host trees. The plant was thought to be a symbol of peace, and anyone standing below it should receive tokens of affection. This is how the tradition of kissing under the mistletoe likely began.

Homeowners who hang mistletoe and holly around their homes during the holiday season should be mindful of pets and youngsters around the plants. Mistletoe and holly are considered to be moderately to severely toxic, and ingesting the leaves could be dangerous. Therefore, keep these plants away from curious hands. Mistletoe is commonly hung up high, which should make it less problematic, but holly should be hung high as well.



Board Minutes

The November 28, 2022 (December) board meeting was called to order at 7:21 pm by Connie. Members present were Connie, Chris, CiCi, Bob S., Pat, Juli, Bob C., Sue and Roger. 🌿 DIG's upcoming Holiday Potluck Party is on Monday, December 12th at the Brentwood Community Center, from 6:00 PM until 9 PM. Set up is at 5:45. Members bring to share an entrée, salad, appetizer, or dessert to feed 8 to 10 people and non-alcohol drinks for your own consumption. The optional gift exchange gifts will be used as table centerpieces and "won" by raffle ticket handed out upon arrival. 🌿 In lieu of Ginger, Connie gave the Treasurer's report. 🌿 Chris followed sharing that membership stands at 103. 🌿 Sue asked and the Board unanimously approved the November Minutes as printed in the Weeder. 🌿 Bob S. said that all is quiet with the Scholarship Program until after the first of the year. 🌿 Bob S. put his Site Committee hat on and a discussion followed. Evidently, the City has had a plan regarding the Sellers Ave. location for some time. The City's Plan incorporates a combination of Ag Preservation, 4H, and Gardening. Bob S. added that he has not been able to get information from the City so that he can proceed with the next step in the process. 🌿 Juli announced that DIG's December field trip is on Wednesday, December 7th. They will be going to Orchard Nursery in Lafayette. Lunch will follow at a nearby restaurant. The Field trip members will gather at the BART parking & ride lot on Walnut Blvd. and will leave promptly at 9AM. 🌿 Roger Marman has joined as the Publicity Chairman. A discussion followed regarding the avenues of D.I.G. and publicity. 🌿 The meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sue Castle, Secretary 🌞

Toy Drive Success

DIGGERS are awesome! The bags of toys donated by our members filled the back of my car! There will be a lot of happy kids on Christmas. Thank you so much!



STEVE'S CATS

Steve left behind nine cats. If you are interested in adopting one or more of Steve's cats please contact Connie at 925-420-5347. Most of the cats are over 12 years old. The fostering plan fell through, so we really hope someone can step forward to take in one or more of these cats.



FIELD TRIPS

By the time you read this we likely will have had our last field trip for the year 2022. But there is always next year!

You are all, every one of you, invited to join the field trip committee to help plan for 2023 trips. The committee meets once a quarter, so it is not a large time commitment. We have met by Zoom, but we can gather in person too. Maybe even have lunch together!

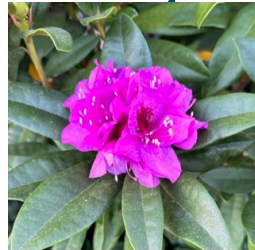


Photo Credit: Juli Redford

Next year we plan to visit Family Harvest Farm in Pittsburg, Rodgers Ranch in Pleasant Hill, and other local places of gardening interest.



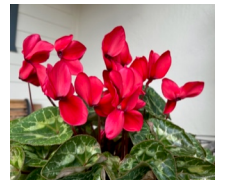
Juli Redford 🌲

925-323-5854 or
julisews@hotmail.com

MEMBERSHIP

We have one new member, De-De Hays who lives in Oakley and was previously a member. She brings our membership up to 103. It's time to get those dues paid by December 31, 2022. So far we only have 33 members who have paid for 2023. First of all, please fill out a **membership slip**. Then make your check out to **DIG and mail it along with your membership slip to DIG, P.O. Box 66, Brentwood, CA.** Easy peasy, right? Thanks!

Chris Artz 🧑🏻‍🎄



In Memoriam

Long time member **Diane Lee** has passed away. Diane was a retired city librarian and will be missed by all who knew her.

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

HOLIDAY POTLUCK
MONDAY, DECEMBER 12th.
 What will you bring? Dessert or Salad or Mashed Potatoes?




P.O. Box 66

Brentwood, CA 94513