

THE WEEEDER

SEPTEMBER 2023

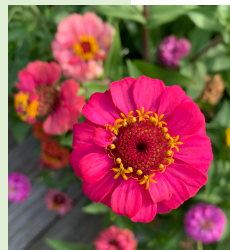
Volume 35 Issue 9

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 Garden Tour: MAY 20

* Adjusted due to Holidays

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Weird Weather: What a surprise I got when walking the dog the other morning... Rain! And then it went away. 😞



Well, Summer is almost over and it's time to prepare our garden beds for our Winter gardens. I wasn't as successful as I hoped with my Summer garden... my watermelon dangled in a stocking from the trellis on a dried out vine, I got 2 Armenian cucumbers and only a few tomatoes. It didn't help that every time I went out of town temperature soared and my irrigation clogged. My new fig and aprium trees are doing great, but the avocado looks pretty sad.



I bought a packet of cauliflower seeds, but haven't tried to start them yet as we were traveling again and the weather was Hot. I think it will be safe to start them soon, but will probably get some broccoli seedlings to play it safe. I'm looking forward to our speaker so I can hopefully improve my yield. As some of you know, I joined DIG because I killed more plants than I like to admit, so I'll take all the advice I can get.

I've picked a spot for my Chaos garden and will start it soon. Maybe I'll be more successful with that technique.

Robin Choate, President

"How lovely is the silence of growing things."

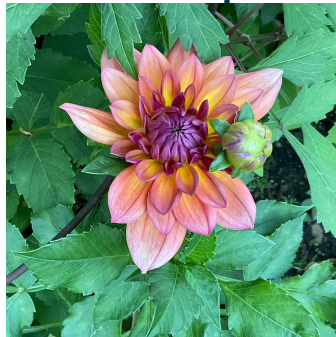
Evan Dicken

Board Minutes

The September 5th, 2023 board meeting was called to order at 7:12 p.m. by President Robin. 🌸 Members present- Robin, Pat, Connie, Ginger, Sue, Roger, Bob C. CiCi, Bob S., Juli. 🌸 Treasurer's report was given by Ginger. 🌸 Minutes from the August board meeting were approved. 🌸 We have 92 members. 🌸 Sue reported that September's speaker is Marian Woodard. We have speakers confirmed for future months. 🌸 Hospitality- DIG box in chair closet has been located. 🌸 Publicity- Roger will put the speakers and propagation in the local paper. 🌸 Scholarships- Liberty and Dozier-Libbey high schools this school year. 🌸 Site Committee- Still waiting for city of Brentwood's contract with Harvest Time. Preliminary design is being worked on. 🌸 Plant Manager- Clean up on 16th, propagation begins on 23rd. Assignments made for supplies to have on site. 🌸 Garment ordering- Orders will be taken at propagation and one more general meeting. 🌸 Old Business- The room will be reserved for our Holiday potluck party in December at the Brentwood Community Center. 🌸 Nominating Committee: The current board will stay with the addition of Debbie St. H. as field trip chairperson. A few new positions need to be filled. 🌸 Adjourned at: 8:18 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Juli Redford, Secretary 🌸



September 25th SPEAKER -

MARIAN WOODARD

“Putting Your Summer Garden to Bed”



This month of September a speaker is returning to us - Marian Woodard. Marian is an inspiring person who maximizes everyday participating in many activities in her Pleasant Hill and Concord communities. She will speak on “Putting the Summer Garden to bed and then preparing the garden for Fall and Winter. In her life, Marian wears many hats as Co-Founder and Co-Director of Rodgers Ranch Urban Farm and Teaching Gardens in Pleasant Hill. Rodgers Ranch is the 1860's historic homestead that is returning to its farming roots and building and feeding a stronger community - “Learn by Doing”. Volunteers from all over the Bay Area come to listen, learn, participate, practice and then return home and share what they have learned at Rodgers Ranch. One of Marian's hats includes Marian as a NGSS Garden

Educator in which she teaches at El Monte Elementary School in Concord. As a Garden Educator, Marian has learned how to teach children with hands-on outdoor garden classes that nurture their love of learning. She teaches Kindergarten - 5th Grade students how to garden. She then integrates the garden lessons back to the Next Generation Science and Common Core. El Monte has a great front garden from which neighbors and parents can harvest for better health and taste. This is part of a pilot program with Mt. Diablo Unified School District and the USDA. While Ms. Woodard has taught thousands of adults over the years, she deems teaching children her most important “hat” as “they are our future”. She views this teaching job as perhaps the most important job or “hat” that she has ever worn or position that she has ever held.



DIG SHIRTS & APRONS

Orders will be taken at our next general meeting and on propagation Saturdays. Samples and order forms will be available. There will be ladies' and men's t-shirts along with three apron choices. Shirts and aprons will have the DIG logo monogrammed and you can choose to include your name for an additional fee. If you choose to have your own shirt monogrammed, that is an option as well. Once we have a several orders we will place the order.

Juli Redford 🌸

925-323-5854 or julisews@hotmail.com

Memorial Service for Diane Lee


A long time DIG member.
Saturday, September 30th, 2023 at 10 am.
Brentwood Community United Methodist Church
809 - 2nd Street, Brentwood

Sue Castle, Vice President 🌸

PROPAGATION BEGINS SEPTEMBER 23RD



Propagation will start for this season on **September 23rd**. We will meet for now at 530 Third St., Brentwood, where we worked last spring. Please bring your gloves and shears. Part of the first day will be instruction, so please don't bring any plant material. As always we will meet from 10am to noon. The Saturday before, **September 16th**, we will have a clean up day there to get ready for propagation, so any help is appreciated. And of course any goodies are always appreciated. Hope to see you there. Any questions call Connie, 925-329-7195 .

Connie Miller 

Zucchini Spice Cake

This simple, made from scratch, Zucchini Spice Cake is loaded with spices and topped with a sweet cream cheese icing. No butter. No oil. Applesauce and zucchini make this easy snack cake extra moist and totally delicious!

Ingredients

- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 tsp baking soda
- 1 tsp baking powder
- 1 tbsp ground cinnamon
- 1/4 tsp ground nutmeg
- 1/4 tsp ground cloves
- 2/3 cup brown sugar
- 2/3 cup granulated sugar
- 2 eggs, room temperature
- 2/3 cup applesauce
- 1/4 cup almond milk
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- 2 cups grated zucchini
- 1 cups shredded, sweetened coconut (optional)
- 3/4 cup toasted walnuts, divided

Cream Cheese Icing

- 4 oz cream cheese, softened
- 1/4 cup butter, softened
- 2-3 cups powdered sugar
- 2-3 tbsp almond milk

Instructions

- Preheat oven to 350F.
- Spray a 9-inch square baking pan with cooking spray and line with parchment paper. Set aside.
- In a medium bowl, whisk together flour, baking soda, baking powder, cinnamon, nutmeg and cloves. Set aside.
- In a large bowl, whisk together sugars, eggs, applesauce, almond milk and vanilla extract.
- Stir in the flour mixture just until combined.
- Stir in zucchini, coconut and toasted walnuts.
- Pour into prepared baking dish and bake for 25 to 28 minutes or until an inserted toothpick comes out clean.
- Let cool completely before icing.

Cream Cheese Icing

- Beat the cream cheese and butter together until light and fluffy. Beat the powdered sugar in one cup at a time. Beat in the almond milk one tablespoon at a time until your desired consistency is achieved.
- Drizzle icing over the top of the cooled cake and top with remaining toasted walnuts.



Recipe courtesy Trish of MOMSONTIMEOUT.COM and found on Pinterest.
She has lots of Zucchini Recipes!

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

Our next meeting is
September 25th
Propagation Begins Sept 23rd



P.O. Box 66

Brentwood, CA 94513