



# THE WEEEDER

OCTOBER 2023

Volume 35 Issue 10

## 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

*Is it Autumn or is it Fall?* Or is it still Summer? I got the extra blankets out and put on long pants, only to put them away a few days later. I guess we just have to go with the flow these days. My garden can't decide if it should grow or die back. The carrots I planted months and months ago were only a few inches long when I pulled the beautiful green tops out of the soil. My Armenian cucumber is an odd shape, but ready to be picked. I'm still rather inept at growing vegetables, but I keep trying and eventually I might get it right.



I'm sure you're all tired of seeing photos of my garden, so I'd like you to send me photos of yours. Email them to [info@deltainformalgardeners.org](mailto:info@deltainformalgardeners.org). I'll share them in the Weeder or on our Facebook page. If you'd like to submit an article or an idea for an article or information about a garden related event you can send it to the same email.

*Robin Choate*, President 

*"My green thumb came only as a result of the mistakes I made while learning to see things from a plant's point of view."*

**H. Fred Dale**

## Board Minutes

The October 3rd, 2023 board meeting was called to order by Robin at 7:03. Members present: Robin, Connie, Chris, Ginger, Roger, Bob S., Juli. 🌸 Treasurer report was given by Ginger. 🌸 Minutes From the September board meeting were approved. 🌸 Chris reported we have 95 members. 🌸 October general meeting speaker is Cathy Voortman on Seeds. 🌸 Publicity: After publicity on Facebook and local papers, there were new people at propagation and meetings. 🌸 Scholarships correction: in 2024 they will go to Deer Valley in Antioch H.S. District and La Paloma in Liberty H.S. District. 🌸 Site Committee: Still in holding pattern waiting on the City of Brentwood & Harvest Time for lease agreement. 🌸 Plant Sale/Manager: Propagation continues, need cuttings from members brought on Saturdays. 🌸 Garment ordering- see Juli at propagation Saturday and one more general meeting. 🌸 Old Business: We donated plants to Edna Hill School gardening project. 🌸 New Business: Martin and Bev to donate plant material & gloves. 🌸 Send photos and ideas to Robin for the Weeder or DIG Facebook site. 🌸 December 11<sup>th</sup> potluck: Paper invitations will be sent and possibly have the Liberty Carolers. 🌸 Auction likely in January. 🌸 Adjourned at: 8:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Juli Redford*, Secretary 🌱



### DIG SHIRTS & APRONS

The last days to place an order will be our October general meeting and on propagation Saturdays until then. 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. Having your own shirt monogrammed is an option as well.

*Juli Redford* 🌻

925-323-5854 or [julisews@hotmail.com](mailto:julisews@hotmail.com)



Chris Artz has 2 large bags of red lava rock to give away. If anyone wants them, please call her at

925-234-0395

## October 23rd SPEAKER -



### CATHY VOORTMAN

#### “GROWING YOUR GARDEN FROM SEEDS”

I am so excited that our speaker for the month of October is Cathy Voortman. Cathy will be speaking on “Growing Your Garden from Seeds.” She’ll explore starting seeds, soil, and planting the seedlings in the garden. She has lived in Brentwood most of her life and it is truly wonderful that her talk can apply directly to all of us living in this warm-seasoned climate. As a lover of flowers a few years ago she changed her focus from “just-survive-the-summer garden” to “thrive-in-summer garden.”

Cathy is a wife, mother of four lovely little girls, a Businesswoman, and a Farmer in her own right. She has been an avid gardener for over twenty years and a lifelong lover of plants. Her love of plants is probably rooted in the influence and experiences with her father, an apricot and peach farmer. Cathy majored in Biology at UC Davis, interned at UC Davis Botanical Arboretum, and graduated in 2000.

*Sue Castle*, Vice President 🍊



## PROPAGATION SATURDAYS - 10 AM TO NOON

We meet Saturday mornings at 530 Third St., Brentwood to make cuttings to start plants for our next sale. Bring your clippers and enough plant material to make 30-40 6" cuttings. Remember to water well the night before.

For now we are only working with perennials that need to be rooted. We will wait until the first of the year for plants like geraniums, succulents, and divisions, because they don't need rooting hormone and time in perlite to set roots. They can go straight into soil. You can always start those at home - we have cans you can use, but no soil at the moment. If you have questions about what to bring you can call or text a photo to Robin at 925-759-0700 or Connie 925-329-7195.

*Connie & Robin* 🌱

### MEMBERSHIP

We now have 95 members. Our newbies are Nick Liew and Joy Moniz, both from Brentwood, Joannie and Steve Leach from Oakley and Sonja Sellers from Discovery Bay. We are happy to welcome these new members and look forward to getting to know them.

### THANK YOU

To Connie Miller for kindly letting us use her yard again to propagate cuttings and grow our plants until our next plant sale. We couldn't possibly have a more accommodating host.



To Robin and Chris Choate of Delta Worms for their generous donation of a 5 gallon bag of worm castings which Roger Marman was thrilled to win for his vegetable garden! Thank you Delta Worms!

To Judy Secor for her wonderful donation of dozens of beautiful ceramic containers. These will be used to make lovely succulent dish gardens for our next plant sale.

To Sonja Sellers for inquiring about a specific duty she could take on to help out with one of our club's many duties which was music to President Robin's ears. (Wouldn't it be great if we could clone this lady?) Yay, Sonja!!

*Chris Artz*, Membership Chairman 🍊



### RECIPE

## MAHOGANY GLAZED RIBS

2 sides baby back or St. Louis pork ribs, sprinkled with salt early in the day. Cover and refrigerate.

### SAUCE

- 1 cup hoisin sauce
- ¾ cup plum sauce
- ½ cup soy sauce
- 1/3 cup cider vinegar
- ¼ cup dry sherry or Chinese rice wine
- ¼ cup honey
- ½ cup chopped green onions
- 6 cloves minced garlic
- ½ tsp. or more red chili flakes or cayenne pepper



Combine all sauce ingredients in bowl. Cover and chill until needed.

3 hours before serving, grill ribs over high heat for 6-7 minutes per side to brown. Then place browned ribs in large baking pan and cover with foil. Bake ribs at 325 degrees for 2 hours. Then uncover pan, pour about 3/4ths of the sauce over ribs and bake 15-30 min. longer.

Serve with extra sauce and lotsa napkins!



Recipe courtesy Chris Artz

## 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  
October 23rd  
+ Propagation Saturdays at 10am



P.O. Box 66

Brentwood, CA 94513