



# THE WEEEDER

DECEMBER 2023

Volume 35 Issue 12

## 2024 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.

## 2024 General Meetings

- January 22
- February 26
- March 25
- April 22 Earth Day!
- May 20\*
- June 24 - Members Potluck
- July 22
- August 26
- September 23
- October 28
- November 25
- December 9 - Holiday Potluck

## 2024 Board Meetings

- |            |              |
|------------|--------------|
| January 2  | July 2       |
| February 6 | August 6     |
| March 5    | September 3  |
| April 2    | October 8    |
| May 7      | November 5   |
| June 4     | November 26* |

## 2024 Plant Sale: MAY 11

\* Adjusted due to Holidays

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*Happy Holidays!* We had a lot of fun at our Holiday Potluck and what a great turn out! I was glad to see everyone and to taste all the yummy foods. The gift exchange was a success... some of the gifts were very creative. Case in point, the lovely succulent Christmas tree made by Kay.

The Liberty Singers sang Christmas carols for us as we finished our dinners. Then there was dessert!



Our gardens are settling in for winter. I have a few plants that survived the caterpillar invasion, so I'm hoping to get some broccoli in the future.



Our cuttings are progressing, but aren't ready to pot up yet, so we'll wait until January before we get together again. Keep an eye on your gardens for plants we can divide or start easily. We'll be looking for those in February or March. If you signed up for seeds you'll be hearing from Connie after the New Year.



Speaking of the New Year... I wish you all a Happy One! It's going to be a busy one.



**START GATHERING YOUR UNWANTED GARDEN STUFF**

**See Page 2**

**for important information on our AUCTION in January**

## Board Minutes

The November 28, 2023 board meeting was called to order by Robin at 7:01. 🌿 Members present- Ginger, Bob S., CiCi, Debbie St., Connie, Robin, Juli, Roger, Chris 🌿 All dates for DIG meetings at the church building are on the church's schedule. Next board meeting is January 3<sup>rd</sup>. The 2024 Calendar will be in the next Weeder. 🌿 Treasurer report was given by Ginger. October's bank reconciliation was reviewed and approved. 🌿 Minutes from the November 7<sup>th</sup> board meeting were approved. 🌿 Debbie said 6 are signed up for the Dec. 7<sup>th</sup> field trip to Morris Nursery in Riverbank and Poot's Cactus in Ripon. 🌿 Chris reported that we now have 110 members. 🌿 December's general meeting is replaced with our Holiday Potluck the on the 11<sup>th</sup>. The January 22<sup>nd</sup> general meeting is The Auction. Event starts at 6:30 with refreshments then the bidding begins at 7:00. 🌿 Hospitality- CiCi: 5:30 set up, 6:15 appetizers and dinner for the potluck, Liberty Carolers at 6:45. Table decorations are the gift exchange provide by the members and will be the ticket drawing prizes. 🌿 Publicity- Roger will advertise the February meeting when it's closer to that time. 🌿 Donations- Checks went to organizations as planned at the last meeting. 🌿 New site lease update: Nothing new. 🌿 Plant Sale/Manager- Some of the cuttings are ready to be potted up and will need to be done in December. Connie will let us know when. Many people signed up to start seeds. Connie is preparing the seed order. 🌿 Garment ordering- Juli visors are ready. Price is \$12. Shirts & aprons are ordered and should be ready at the Christmas potluck dinner. 🌿 Toy drive donations will be picked up on December 10<sup>th</sup>. 🌿 New Business- It was suggested that we have an alternative location for the plant sale and will revisit ideas at January's board meeting. We will look into having electronic payment options such as VENMO at the sale. 🌿 Adjourned at 8:09 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

*Juli Redford*, Secretary



## JANUARY 22<sup>nd</sup> MEETING

### "GARDEN AUCTION"

Our Biennial Auction will be held at the DIG meeting on January 22. This is a fun evening where we shop for treasures from our friend's old stuff. Set up & Preview begin at 6:30 pm - 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, 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 and set them aside, 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. Call or text Robin at 925-750-0700 if you'd like to volunteer. Don't worry, volunteers can bid on items too!

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.

Thanks Debbie S, CiCi, and anyone else who would like to volunteer for providing refreshments for this event.



*Sue Castle*, Vice President 🧑🏻‍🎄



## FIELD TRIP

On December 7th we traveled to POOT'S Cactus in Ripon and were given a wonderful tour of the Greenhouse by Mr. Poot. There we were so many unusual succulents and cactus it was hard to remember what was what. He has been "collecting" for decades. Of course we did a little shopping after the tour.



Our second stop was Morris Nursery in Riverbank. They had a little bit of everything, including a Christmas Shop and model trains! We added a few more plants to our collections.



We had lunch at Esmeralda's Mexican restaurant in Ripon.

On our way home a few of us stopped at Park Greenhouse in Ripon. This turned out to be an amazing stop. We scored with Mums, Poinsettias, and cyclamen.

*Debbie St. Hilaire*



## MEMBERSHIP

Welcome to our newest member, Kathy Brunck, who lives in Knightsen. Her membership slip noted that she's interested in seed planting and propagating cuttings so we've already informed her that she joined the right garden club! We now have 110 members.

If you haven't already done so, kindly pay your dues for 2024 BEFORE you get crazy busy with the holidays. Dues are still \$20 for an individual or \$25 for a family. Please make your check out to **DIG**, and mail it to **P.O. BOX 66, Brentwood, CA 94513, ATTN: MEMBERSHIP.**

*Chris Artz* Membership Chairman 🍌



## Crispy Coconut Orzo with Peas

Servings: 4.

Author: Giada De Laurentiis

Prep Time: 5 minutes.

Cook Time: 20 minutes

### Ingredients

- 1 can light coconut milk
- 2 cups water
- 1 2-inch piece of ginger, sliced
- 3 1/4 teaspoons kosher salt (divided)
- 2 cups orzo pasta
- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 1 bunch scallions (sliced thin (about 1/2 cup))
- 1 cup frozen peas (thawed)
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice (from 1/2 a lemon)

To a medium saucepan add the coconut milks, water, ginger and salt. Bring to a boil over medium high heat. Add the orzo and stir. Cook for 6 to 7 minutes or until the pasta is al dente, stirring to prevent sticking. Drain well. Remove and discard the ginger.

Heat a large skillet over medium high heat. Add 2 tablespoons oil and heat another minute. Add the drained orzo and spread out evenly in the pan. Cook undisturbed for about 4 minutes or until the bottom of the pasta is getting browned and crispy. Flip the pasta, add the remaining oil and continue to cook an additional 4 minutes undisturbed to brown the other side. Flip again and brown another 3 minutes. Season with the remaining 1/4 teaspoon salt and stir in the scallions and peas. Cook another 2 minutes to warm through. Finish with the lemon juice. Serve warm.



Recipe recommended by 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  
January 22nd  
It's Our Biennial Auction!*



**P.O. Box 66**

**Brentwood, CA 94513**