

THE WEEEDER

AUGUST 2024

Volume 36 Issue 08

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: June 8

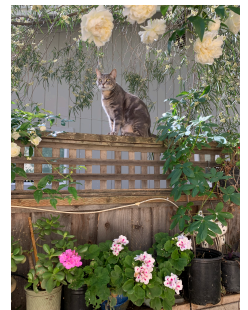
* Adjusted due to Holidays

** Subject to Change

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

What to do in the Garden - August edition. I've been perusing articles about what I should be doing in the garden and I agree with most of them. It's just too darn hot to be out there! A lot of the articles are geared for places other than our Delta region, so they take a lot of "weeding" through to get useful information. Most of them say get out there early, clean up, harvest, fertilize, and plan your Fall garden. I am not a morning person, so getting out there while its still cool enough can be a challenge. We did manage to get a couple applications of vermi-compost* tea on everything and we are seeing new growth.

It seems way to early to be thinking about next year, but it does take a lot of planning to get ready. In August (that's this month!) we start looking for next year's officers and planning the next plant sale. Propagation typically starts in September with site clean up and prep, then a refresher on how to propagate from cuttings, and then the actual cuttings are done. We should have a schedule in the next Weeder.



PJ surveying his realm (Robin's side yard garden).

We are on the hunt for a Vice President, who will be willing to become the next president, and a Program Director who will find and coordinate our speakers. The new VP will get to shadow the President (Bob Selders has volunteered for 2025) to learn the job. The Program Director will be in charge of arranging our speakers. New members are encouraged to take one of these positions. If either of these sound like fun to you, please call Connie at (925) 329-7195.

Robin Choate, President 🧑🌾



* Vermi-Compost Tea: worm castings soaked in water until it resembles muddy tea and then sprinkled over the plants and soaking their roots. The plants will absorb some of the nutrients through their leaves, but they do look dirty for a couple days. The roots absorb nutrients too as the soil benefits from microbes.

Board Minutes

The August 6, 2024 board meeting was called to order by Robin at 7:02 pm. Members present: Connie, Robin, CiCi, Bob S., Juli, Chris, Roger, Ginger, Debbie. 🌸 Treasurers report - Ginger: Plant sale profit was given. Balance Sheet and income statement for July were presented. Potluck cost was discussed. 🌸 Minutes from the July board meeting



were approved. 🌸 Field trips - Debbie: Two locations are planned for the coming months. 🌸 Membership - Chris: 102 members paid for 2024. 🌸 Publicity - Roger: Ideas were presented for developing connections with other community groups. 🌸 Site Committee - Bob S. is still waiting to hear from city for approval for temporary use of the site. 🌸 After a discussion, Robin made a motioned to authorize making a change to our insurance agency. 🌸 Plant Sale: A large donation of seeds was received to grow plants for

the 2025 sale. A thank you will be sent to Scott of the former Valley Oaks Nursery. 🌸 The nominating committee is seeking candidates for vice president and program director. 🌸 Meeting adjourned at: 8:14 pm.
Respectfully,

Juli Redford Secretary 🌸

MEMBERSHIP

We have 102 lovely paid members. At our last membership meeting we had Pamela & Marc Bush of Brentwood and Debbie & Dan Lane of Oakley sign up and we were thrilled to meet them and look forward to getting to know them.

Dues are still only \$20 for an individual or \$25 for a family. Kindly make your check out to **DIG and mail it to DIG, P.O. Box 66, Brentwood, CA 94513, ATTN: MEMBERSHIP.** Don't forget to include a membership slip and please do not mail your check to Chris Artz. Thank you.

Chris Artz

Membership Chairman 🌱

August 26th **SPEAKER**

BONNIE DWYER

Master Gardener Program Presentation

Preparing the Fall and Winter Garden

Like gardening tasks, seasonal garden preparations are an ongoing exercise. Summer has kept us busy, weeding, feeding, on constant pest patrol and vigilant in detecting diseases. With all this effort we hope to be rewarded with a rich harvest.

As we are winding down with our summer gardens we begin to turn our thoughts and attention to the fall and winter garden. You may just want to let your garden to rest for a season or you may be gearing up to plant those crops which like the cool of our winter months.

This Master Gardener presentation will guide you through the two options:

- For those who want to rest and refresh the garden you'll learn how to put the garden to "bed" and enrich your soil in the process.

•For those who want the adventure of growing a winter garden we'll explore the best crops for cool weather and the timing for planting. You will be delighted that some of these winter crops can enrich your soil while giving you a bountiful harvest.



Bonnie Dwyer comes from a long line of Vermont dairy farmers and vegetable gardeners. Working in the vegetable garden was a family affair, which has now become a life passion. Bonnie realized she could expand her love of gardening and share her knowledge with other aspiring gardeners by applying to the California Master Gardener Program. She became a Master Gardener in 2013. To date she has volunteered over 4,500 hours with the program.

Sue Castle, Vice President - Programs

2025 OPEN BOARD POSITIONS

We have filled most of the Board positions for next year. There are still two left. We are still looking to fill the VP job as well as the job of Programs Director. It would be great to get some new people involved and learning the ropes of running this club. Of course you would not be alone and we are all here to help new people learn and guide them through these jobs.



This club belongs to all of us and becoming part of the workings of the club is fun and rewarding. Please consider joining the Board. Any questions call
C o n n i e
[925-329-7195](tel:925-329-7195)

Connie Miller 🍋



Southern Peach Bread

This Southern Peach Bread comes together using only ingredients you may already have on hand! Packed with flavor and no yeast required, this will be a new favorite!

Prep Time: 10 minutes
Cook Time: 25 minutes

Ingredients

- 1 cup peaches, peeled/diced
- 1/2 cup vegetable oil
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 2 eggs
- 1/2 cup sour cream
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 1/2 cups flour
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon salt



Instructions

- Preheat oven to 350 degrees and spray 3 mini loaf pans *or 1 large loaf pan
- In a medium bowl, combine the peaches, oil, sugar, eggs, sour cream, and vanilla extract.
- Stir in the flour, baking soda, and salt....mixing until just combined.
- Pour batter evenly into prepared pans.
- Place pans in preheated oven and bake for 25-30 minutes if mini loaves, 50-55 minutes if large loaf.
- Remove from oven and allow to cool slightly before slicing and enjoying!

Author: The Cookin' Chicks on Pinterest
www.thecookinchicks.com

August Garden Pruning Checklist from kelloggarden.com

- Pinch off basil to promote a bushier plant and keep it from going to seed.
- Pinch off the flowers of coleus plants to encourage a fuller plant with more beautiful foliage.
- Deadhead flowering annuals and perennials.
- Trim back herbs to prevent going to seed and prolong your harvest.
- **Prune tomato suckers**, pepper plants, and eggplant to encourage new growth.
- Prune squash plants if their foliage is overlapping other plants.
- By the end of the month, you can remove the female flowers from pumpkin plants to push more energy back into the producing plant.
- Deadhead roses and practice **summer rose care** during the month of August.

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 _____

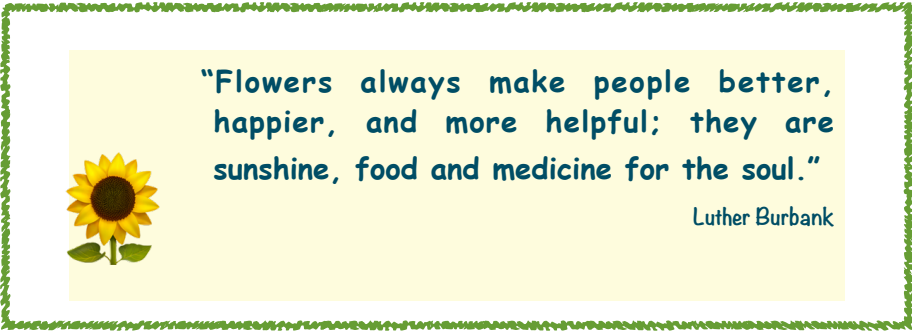
City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Email address(es) _____

Phone _(_____) _____ HOME MOBILE

_____ New Member _____ Renewal



P.O. Box 66

Brentwood, CA 94513