



THE WEEDEDER

NOVEMBER 2024

Volume 36 Issue 11

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

ELECTION OF NEW OFFICERS

We will vote for our 2024 Board at the November meeting. The following have been nominated. If you would like to throw your hat in the ring for any of these jobs you are welcome to let Robin know by the next meeting.

- Bob Selders, President**
- Connie Miller, Vice President**
- Juli Redford, Secretary**
- Ginger Guider, Treasurer**

Positions appointed by the President include: Membership: Chris Artz, Programs: Sonja Sellers & Sue Castle, Hospitality: Cici Kirchner, Field Trips: Debbie St. Hilaire, Publicity: Roger Marman, Weeder: Robin Choate, Facebook: Sandy Marman.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The end of the year is fast approaching. Our Holiday potluck will be held December 9th. Plan on bringing food to share that will feed around 8 people. We don't assign food types, we trust you to bring a somewhat balanced menu. Occasionally we have more desserts than main dishes, but that's the joy of being Informal!

If you would like to participate in our gift exchange, bring a nice, yet relatively inexpensive garden related gift. Be sure it's something you'd like to receive when picking your gift. The gifts will be used as table decorations during dinner and will be distributed via tickets drawn at the end of the evening. The event will be held at the Brentwood Community Center.



Robin at the Pyramid Hill Sculpture Park in Hamilton, Ohio

Robin Choate, President 🧑‍🌾

HOLIDAY TOY DRIVE

Please bring a new unwrapped toy or gift card to the November 25th meeting. These gifts will go to local children in need. We've been doing this for a number of years and the gifts are always appreciated.



Board Minutes

The November 5, 2024 board meeting was called to order by Robin at 7:00 pm. Members present- Connie, Robin, CiCi, Bob S., Juli, Roger, Ginger, Sonja, Sue, Bob C. 🌸 Next board meeting: Nov. 26th. 🌸 Ginger gave the treasurers report. 🌸 Minutes from the October board meeting were approved. 🌸 Current membership is 98. Robin will put together a new member booklet in the new year. 🌸 November speaker is Chris Choate- Soil health. Sonja will be the coordinator for speakers beginning January 2025. Members are encouraged to submit speaker suggestions to her. 🌸 December 9th DIG potluck. Rent a Carrol will entertain, invitations will be mailed to members. 🌸 Publicity- Locations around the city for DIG signs were discussed to advertise that the plant sale will return in 2025. Big push will start in January. Roger will get banners produced. 🌸 Site Committee- We have a one year agreement, but will get a permanent one when Harvest Time has their agreement set with the city. 🌸 Donations- This quarter: the Brentwood Community Chest and Hope House. 🌸 Plant Sale- A well service will evaluate the pump and water flow. Pump house needs to be rebuilt. 🌸 November 13th daffodil planting workday on new site, 10 am to noon. 🌸 Propagation: Last day is Nov. 16th 10:00 am to noon. 🌸 Garments: Juli will start taking orders again in January for shirts, vest, and aprons. 🌸 Meeting adjourned at: 8:22 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Juli Redford, Secretary 🌸



NOVEMBER 25th SPEAKER

CHRIS CHOATE HEALTHY SOIL:

How to make it and how to keep it.

Chris Choate of Delta Worms will be sharing good soil practices with us. He will talk about the three key components of healthy soil: Structure, Nutrients and Biology. He'll probably throw in some information about worm castings too.



Chris is a long time DIG member. When he retired in 2016 he started a worm farm, which, according to him, was the natural progression from civil engineer/vice president of a garbage-recycling-composting company.

Sue Castle, Vice President - Programs 🌸



FIELD TRIP

On December 4th we will head to San Rafael's West End Nursery and then The Holiday Shop in Sausalito, with lunch in between. We'll meet at 9am at the BART Park and Ride lot on Walnut Avenue in Brentwood. Sign up at the November 25th meeting or call Debbie at (209)483-2135.



FUTURE SPEAKERS & PROGRAMS

I am feeling blessed and honored to assist with planning our 2025 general meeting programs. A garden club can only meet the needs of its members if their members are willing to communicate what those needs and wants are. I'm here to listen. Why did you join DIG? What issues are you having in your garden? What do you love about gardening? What do you dislike the most? What do you want to know more about? Remember this is a *volunteer* organization. What strengths, expertise, and experience can you share with us?

We will have a brief survey at our November meeting for you to share your thoughts. Or, if it's easier, just contact me and chat for a bit. (my number is [925-408-5293](tel:925-408-5293)).

Debbie St. Hilaire 🌲

www.westend-nursery.com

Sonja Sellers 🌹

DIG's New Propagation & Sale Site

We have been talking about our new propagation and sale site for the last 2 ½ years and finally we have executed an agreement with the City of Brentwood allowing temporary use of an area just north of the East Contra Costa Historical Society! This site is on the same property as where our permanent site will be, however we can't locate on our permanent location until Harvest Time completes negotiations with the City for their project and are able to begin development of their project.

On November 7th we had our first work party to raise the tree canopy on our site and had the water well evaluated by JJ Pump & Well. There are some issues with the well, but I won't have a full understanding of what needs to be done until next week. We will be having additional workdays over the next two months and hope to be up and running at the new site when we start up propagation after the Holidays. So, when we ask for help to move material, set up tables and temporary fencing, etc. please help as much as you can! We will need trucks and trailers to move our equipment, cans, etc. from our prior location to the new site. With this new site I'm confident we will have a great Plant Sale this year.

Bob Selders

PROPAGATION

Our final day of Propagation for this year is Saturday, November 16th, from 10 to noon, at 530 3rd St., Brentwood, in the Chestnut Street side yard. We really appreciate all the people who came and helped this year; those who brought plant material and those who brought baked goods.

We still need lots of plant material for our last day. If you brought things early in the season some of those cuttings did not take, so please bring more. This is not uncommon.

The good news is we should be at our new site when we start up again in February. We will also be starting seeds at that time. Any questions call Connie 925-329-7195.

Connie Miller 



RECIPE

CAULIFLOWER CASSEROLE (LOADED STYLE!)

INGREDIENTS

- 1 large head Cauliflower (cut into small florets)
- 2 tbsp Unsalted butter (melted)
- 1/2 tsp Sea salt (plus more to taste)
- 1/4 tsp Black pepper (plus more to taste)
- 2/3 cup Sour cream
- 1/4 cup Heavy cream
- 2 cloves Garlic (minced)
- 1 1/2 cup Cheddar cheese (shredded, divided)
- 6 tbsp Cooked bacon (crumbled or chopped, divided)
- 1/4 cup Green onions (chopped, divided)



INSTRUCTIONS

Preheat the oven to 450 degrees F (232 degrees C).

✿ In a large bowl, toss the cauliflower florets with butter. Season with sea salt and black pepper.

✿ Transfer the cauliflower to a small 1.5 quart casserole dish in a single layer. (Roasting in the baking dish saves on dishes, but you could also roast on a sheet pan to make it faster.)

✿ Roast in the oven for 15-20 minutes if using a sheet pan, or 25-30 minutes if using the baking dish (stir halfway through if using this method), until crisp-tender.

✿ Meanwhile, in the same bowl, whisk together the sour cream and heavy cream, until smooth.

✿ Stir in the minced garlic, half of the cheddar cheese, half of the bacon, and half of the green onions.

If desired, season sauce with sea salt and black pepper. (Don't over salt -- it will get more salty as the cheese melts later.)

✿ When the cauliflower is done roasting, take it out and leave the oven on. Add the cauliflower to the bowl and mix with the sauce.

✿ Return the cauliflower mixture to the casserole dish. Top with remaining cheese and bacon.

✿ Bake for 5-10 minutes, until the cheese melts. Top with remaining green onions.

Author Maya Krampf from WholesomeYum.com

<https://www.wholesomeyum.com/recipes/easy-cheesy-loaded-cauliflower-casserole-recipe/>

MEMBERSHIP

We currently have 98 paid members.

It's that time of year again, folks! Membership fees are due by January 1, 2025. The sooner you pay them, the sooner we can get to work on our 2025 Members Booklet. Dues are still only \$20 for an individual; \$25 for a couple/family. Please remember to include a completed membership slip (printed on last page of this Weeder) with your current contact information before mailing your check. Checks should be made out to DIG and either mailed to **DIG Membership, P.O. 66, Brentwood, CA 94513** or given to me at a meeting or a propagation workshop.

Chris Artz Membership Chairman 

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

“The garden is a love song, a duet between a human being and Mother Nature.”

— Jeff Cox



P.O. Box 66

Brentwood, CA 94513