



THE WEEDEEER

FEBRUARY 2026

Volume 38 Issue 2

2026 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.

2026 General Meetings

- January 26- Auction: Early time 6:00 pm
- February 23
- March 23
- April 27
- May 18*
- June 23 - Members Potluck
- July 27
- August 24
- September 28
- October 26
- November 23
- December 7*- Holiday Potluck

2026 Board Meetings

- | | |
|------------|-------------|
| January 6 | July 7 |
| February 3 | August 4 |
| March 3 | September 8 |
| April 7 | October 6 |
| May 5 | November 3 |
| June 2 | December 1 |

2026 Plant Sale: May 9

At DIG's Garden - 3900 Sellers Ave., Brentwood

* Adjusted due to Holidays

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Our propagation program started back up in January and we have planted all the successful cuttings that we started late last year. Our success rate was much higher this year than the past several years, so great job to everyone who helped! I also want to thank Bob Castle and his crew for salvaging several of the old canopies and getting the 2 new canopies up. They should be able to finish setting up and enclose the sides for our temporary green house by mid February, in time for beginning the transplant of seedlings that many of our members have started. We still have a lot of projects to complete before the May 9 sale day and we can use a lot of help from all our members. We are working at our propagation and sale site (3900 Sellers Ave.) every Saturday from 10:00 to noon rain or shine. I hope to see you there.

Our biennial auction was at our January General meeting. I want to thank everyone who donated items and a big thank you to all who bid on the many items available. I think that everyone who attended had a great time. If you missed the auction, start thinking about January 2028, set aside garden items that you don't need or use anymore for the next auction, and be sure to join the fun.



Bob Selders, President 🌱



🌹 **Happy Valentine's Day** 🌹



MEETING TREATS 🍪 🍰 🍩

Thank you to Connie, Rachel, Debbie, Mary, and John & Kathy for bringing treats to our January 26, 2026 Auction-Meeting.

Board Minutes

The **February 3, 2026** meeting was called to order at 7:02pm. Members present: Bob Selders, Chris Choate, Connie Miller, Robin Choate, Sue Castle, Bob Castle, Sonja Sellers, Rachel Ortega, Ginger Guider, Debbie St. Hilaire. 🌸 **Vice President**, Chris Choate discussed bringing committees back. We will be asking members to join committees to help the chairperson plan and execute their functions. 🌸 **Treasurer**, Ginger and Rachel: Year end reports were distributed, as well as January's. The Auction income was announced as the most we have made. Creating a budget was also discussed. 🌸 **Secretary**, Robin Choate filling in: The January Board Minutes were approved as printed in the Weeder. 🌸 **Membership**, Chris Artz emailed her report: 68 paid members. We currently have 76 memberships consisting of 107 people. We will be working on the new member booklet soon. Members should check to see if their listing is correct. 🌸 **Programs**, Sonja Sellers: February will be Leslie Servin on Dahlias. March will be James Brennen on Native Plants. April will be Lori Palmquist on Watering Your Garden. May will be Anna Mindruff on Pollinators. June is the Summer Potluck. Ideas for future speakers included Fungi, Garden Design, Rose Pruning, Kitchen Herb Gardens, Houseplants, & Hydroponics. 🌸 **Publicity**, Roger (via email) requested the flyers be prepared: Robin provided preliminary design which includes prices. Pricing was discussed and voted on. 1 Gallon annuals will stay \$5, 1 gallon perennials will be \$8, 2-3 gallon plants will be \$12. Other plants will be individually priced. 🌸 **Field Trips**, Debbie St. Hilaire: Our next trip is Wednesday, March 11th to Richmond. We will visit Curious Flora and Watershed Nurseries. We will go to Lunch afterwards. Sign up at next meeting. 🌸 **Hospitality**, Debbie St. Hilaire: Location for June 22nd Potluck was discussed. Bob will check with Historical Society. Other locations were discussed. 🌸 **Weeder**, Robin Choate: Articles due by Thursday. 🌸 **Website**, Chris Choate: Our website needs to be updated. He will review and a committee will be formed to discuss content. 🌸 **Permanent Site**, Bob Selders: Numerous City Staff have left. New City Manager will meet with Harvest Time to discuss contract. 🌸 **Plant Sale**, Connie Miller: We will start with divisions and succulents. Remind people there are no early sales. 🌸 **Donations**: We will donate to John Sierra's garden class at Freedom High School and the local 4-H towards their Pancake Breakfast fund raiser. 🌸 Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm. Respectfully submitted,

Robin Choate for *Juli Redford*, Secretary 🌸



🌱 FIELD TRIP NEWS 🌸

On **Wednesday, March 11th** we will take a Field Trip to Richmond. We will visit Watershed Nursery and Curious Flora (formerly Annie's Annuals) and then go out to lunch. Sign up at the next meeting or call 209-483-2135.

Debbie St. Hilaire 🌸

February 23, 2026 SPEAKER



Leslie Servin DAHLIAS in the GARDEN

Leslie Servin is a lifelong resident of Brentwood- dedicating herself to the preservation and beautification of the community. In a full circle moment, she has enjoyed working side by side with her kindergarten teacher Marlyis Carisle at many of the DIG propagation workshops and plant sale events. Another special connection to DIG is that Leslie attended Cloverdale Nursery School, which was located where DIG's current growing grounds and sale site are.

Leslie is a Radiologic Technologist. She has worked for over 40 years at the Kaiser Permanente Walnut Creek Campus where she enjoys mentoring students of the Kaiser Permanente School of Allied Health Sciences Radiology program. She has shared her passion of medical imaging with over a hundred students and now has the pleasure of working closely with many of them throughout Northern California.

Leslie's dedication and passion is also evident in her garden! Her love for dahlias started while running errands in Pleasant Hill where she spotted a front yard exploding with various colors and sizes of dahlias. She now inspires others by changing her garden year to year and featuring dahlias that come in 16 forms and 10 main colors and 5 color blends! She is a proud member of various societies within the Pacific Southwest Dahlia Conference.

Leslie also enjoys membership and serves on the boards for the Northern California Camellias Societies and the Bay Area Chrysanthemum Society.

Sonja Sellers, Programs 🌸



MEMBERSHIP

We currently have 70 paid members. If you still haven't paid your dues, please send your check made out to DIG soon: DIG, P.O. Box 66, Brentwood, CA 94513, ATTN: MEMBERSHIP. Kindly include a completed membership slip with your payment. If you plan to pay me at a Saturday propagation workshop, please make sure your check or cash is in an envelope along with the membership slip. Thank you.

Chris Artz 

Membership Chairman
925-234-0395

Members Booklet

We will be working on the 2026 Members booklet soon. Please check your listing to be sure we have your correct contact information; address, email & phone numbers. Please email your corrections to info@deltainformalgardeners.org



SEEDS & PLANTS

Thank you to everyone helping with our Saturday workdays. We have already accumulated 800+ plants which is a great start toward our May Plant Sale. If you are growing seeds please keep me updated if you want more seeds to grow, or if you have lost something. Thank you also to those of you bringing plants from home. Please make sure you let me know if you have brought any potted up plants. I always have a binder there on Saturday so be sure and add them to the list of plants. We try hard to keep an accurate inventory. Bring divisions now and as always please write down any information you can such as size, color, etc. That helps in accurate labeling. See you Saturday.

Connie Miller  925-329-7195



CRANBERRY CHOCOLATE CHIP BLONDIES

Ingredients

- ½ cup unsalted butter 1 stick, melted
- 1 large egg
- 1 cup light brown sugar packed
- 1 tablespoon Pure Vanilla Extract
- ½ teaspoon Ground Cinnamon
- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- ¾ cup dried cranberries
- ¾ cup white chocolate chips



Instructions

1. Preheat oven to 350F. Line an 8-by-8-inch baking pan with aluminum foil, spray with cooking spray; set aside.
2. In a large, microwave-safe bowl melt the butter, about 1 minute on high power.
3. Wait momentarily before adding the egg so you don't scramble it. Add the egg, brown sugar, vanilla, cinnamon, and whisk until smooth.
4. Add the flour and stir until just combined, don't over-mix.
5. Stir in the cranberries and chocolate chips.
6. Turn batter out into prepared pan, smoothing the top lightly a spatula.
7. Bake for about 24 to 26 minutes, or until done (I baked 24 minutes because I prefer very soft blondies). A toothpick inserted in the center should come out clean (as long as you're not hitting chocolate), or with a few moist crumbs, but no batter.
8. Allow blondies to cool in pan for at least 1 hour before slicing and serving.

Notes

Storage: Blondies will keep airtight at room temperature for up to 1 week, or in the freezer for up to 6 months.

Debbie St. Hilaire brought these to the last meeting.

Recipe courtesy of Averie Cooks:

www.averiecooks.com/wprm_print/cranberry-chocolate-chip-blondies

Thank You

To Ginger G. for digging up hundreds of daffodils from her garden so we could plant them along the entrance to the ECC Historical Museum a few years ago. They have already multiplied greatly and provide such a warm welcome to the property. They announce "DIG HAS ARRIVED!"



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**

“If I had a flower for every time I thought of you,
I could walk through my garden forever.”
🌹 Alfred Lord Tennyson



P.O. Box 66

Brentwood, CA 94513