

THE WEEDEER

AUGUST 2026

Volume 38 Issue 8

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

February 3

March 3

April 7

May 5

June 2

July 7

August 4

September 8

October 6

November 3

December 1

2026 Plant Sale: May 9

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

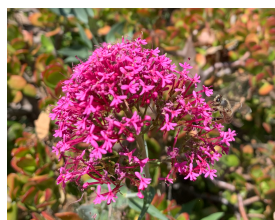
* Adjusted due to Holidays

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I hope everyone is enjoying their summer, it certainly is going by fast! Next month is what you all have been looking forward to! DIG's propagation program begins on Saturday, September 12, from 10:00 AM until noonish at DIG's Garden, 3900 Sellers Ave., Brentwood. We will be working every Saturday until mid November, then we take a break during the holidays. We'll start back up in mid January and work each Saturday up to our plant sale on May 8, 2027, the day before Mother's Day.

For our newer members we begin propagation of cuttings in September, start seeds in December - January and divisions of plants, succulents, etc. in February - March. We will have a class on each method of propagation as we move into that stage. Last year we propagated over 5,200 plants in one gallon and larger containers and expect to do more this year. We will need a lot of help each Saturday. I know that our members who have taken part in this process are anxious for the Saturday morning propagation sessions to start back up! Everyone who takes part has a great time working, learning, visiting, making new friends, and munching on the goodies that members bring to share.

Mark your calendar for Saturday mornings beginning September 12, 2026, we can use all the help we can get. This is our major source for income, enabling us to contribute funds for senior high school scholarships and funds to local nonprofit organizations that serve east county, etc.



Bob Selders, President 🌱



MEETING TREATS



Thank you Elinor B., Sally C., & Lori W. for volunteering to bring treats to our July 27th meeting.

Board Minutes

The August 4, 2026 Board Meeting was called to order at 7:07pm. Members present: Bob Selders, Chris Choate, Robin Choate, Connie Miller, Rachel Ortega, Ginger Guider, Sonja Sellers, Gina Flint, Joy Moniz, Bob Castle, Sue Castle, Sally Castle. ☼ Sonja motioned that the minutes of the July board meeting be approved as printed in The Weeder, it



was second by Connie. Vote was unanimous. ☼ Bob relayed from Chris Artz that we have 106 paid members. ☼ Sonja reported that our August speaker is on The Five Essential Herbs for your garden. September will be a Bonsai Demonstration. Others months are pending confirmation. Joy will be shadowing Sonja in consideration of taking on

the Program job next year. ☼ Robin requested Weeder articles by Thursday and Connie reminded her about visiting R & M Nursery the Friday before future meetings. ☼ Chris C spoke about the website progress and future plans for social media posts. Noting analytical data of recent posts and establishing standard posting schedule. ☼ Bob mentioned he hopes to get the new MOU from the City of Brentwood for the use of our sale site by the end of the week. ☼ We discussed the Plant Sale and things that could be done better. Sonja will shadow Connie in anticipation of taking on the sale manager position. Comments included more perennials and less annuals/tomatoes, more training, buddies for new people at propagation, start seeds sooner with training, more information about what plant cuttings to bring, watering techniques (soak each can, no sprinkling), keeping soil pile wet, start publicizing sale now, and have dedicated plant sale page on website. ☼ Start up of Propagation to be: Set up - September 12, Learn to Propagate Class - September 19 Robin to lead class, Propagation starts September 26. ☼ Nominating Committee reported that the tentative slate of officers for 2026 includes President - Chris Choate, V.P. - Sonja Sellers, Treasurer - Rachel Ortega, Secretary - Gina Flint, Publicity - Joannie Leach, Programs - Joy Moniz, Membership - Rachel. Other positions remain the same. ☼ Donations: After a presentation from Ginger, with list of previous donations and an explanation of our current cash status, a budget for donations was established for the rest of the year. The board voted to donate to Family Harvest Farm and Hope House. ☼ Meeting adjourned 8:11 pm.

Submitted by Robin Choate for

Juli Redford, Secretary ☼



AUGUST 24, 2026

7:30 pm - 809 Second St., Brentwood

FIVE Essential HERBS

DEBBIE ARNOLD

of the NorCal Herb Society

This month we are VERY excited to have Debbie Arnold and friend, sharing with us **"The Essential Five Herbs To Grow and Use"** which includes a background on herbs and their wonderful health benefits. They will be bringing plants to show the breadth of flavors and textures within each of the five essential herbs and will be bringing extras for sale if you're interested in purchasing them!

The Northern California Unit of the Herb Society of America are an active group of herb lovers! The Unit was founded in 1953. They explore topics from horticultural aspects, culinary uses, medicinal uses, teas, harvesting and preserving, using for crafts and personal items, working with natural dyes, propagation and more. They meet at Rodgers Ranch at 315 Cortsen Rd., Pleasant Hill, CA, on the second Sunday of the month (usually).

Sonja Sellers, Programs



Photos Courtesy of <https://www.norcalifornia-herbsociety.org/>

MEMBERSHIP

We currently have 106 paid members. To pay your dues, please make your check out to DIG and mail to DIG, P.O. Box 66, Brentwood, CA 94513, ATTN: MEMBERSHIP. Please include a completed membership slip with your payment.

Chris Artz ☼

Membership Chairman
925-234-0395

R & M POOL, PATIO, GIFTS AND GARDENS

Nicole at R&M has been very generous to DIG. She has been donating plants for the drawings at our meetings for a while now. She is very knowledgeable and is willing to answer questions.



Chris Artz, our membership chairman, invites everyone to join her the Friday before our meetings, around 10 am at R & M Nursery. R & M gets plant deliveries every Thursday, so Friday is the best day for us to visit and shop for interesting new plants. I'm pretty sure lunch at a nearby restaurant may happen.

Members should bring their DIG membership cards to get the 10% discount and also any questions they may have about their gardens.

R & M is located at 6870 Marsh Creek Rd, Clayton CA 94517

A New Garden from the Ground Up

Some of you may know that Chris & I recently moved from our home of 28 years on the water in Discovery Bay to a small house on an acre in Oakley. That acre needs a lot of work to make it what we want. We'll be sharing our Garden Adventures from time to time. I hope you enjoy the photos.

- Robin Choate



My future herb garden.

I'm looking forward to what our speakers have to say this month.

The former swimming pool that will become a fire pit area and one of the garden areas.



Fred Newlan - Iris Connoisseur & Rose Grower

Fred is at it again. Last year he brought us Coleus to grow. This year he's discovered Irises and brought some he had divided from ones he acquired to be raffled off at our last meeting.

He's also interested in Roses and would like to compare notes with other Rose growers and possibly form a Rose Group. If you're interested let Fred or Chris Choate know at the next meeting.



RECIPE



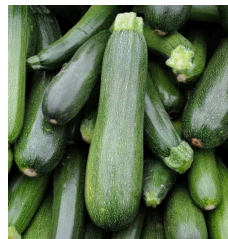
Zucchini Cornbread Casserole

INGREDIENTS

- 3 1/2 c of zucchini shredded and thoroughly drained
- 1 white onion finely diced
- 16 oz of premium cheddar cheese shredded and divided
- 1 c of corn thawed from its frozen state
- 1 jalapeño finely diced (seeds can be removed to reduce heat)
- 2 large eggs
- 1 tsp of garlic powder
- 1 tsp of cumin
- 1 tsp of salt
- 1/2 tsp of black pepper
- 1 package 8.5 oz of corn muffin mix

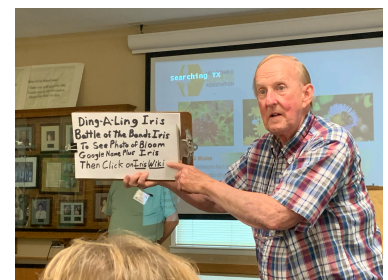


Instructions



1. Preheat the oven to 350°F. Prepare an 8x8-inch baking dish by greasing it with nonstick spray or butter.
2. In a bowl mix together the shredded zucchini, onion, half of the cheese, corn, jalapeño, eggs, garlic powder, cumin, salt and pepper until well combined.
3. Gradually add the corn muffin mix, to the vegetable mixture and stir until everything is evenly incorporated.
4. Transfer the mixture into the greased dish. Sprinkle the remaining cheese on top.
5. Place the dish in the oven. Bake for 50 to 55 minutes until the center is set and the top is golden brown.
6. Once baked remove from the oven. Allow it to cool slightly before serving warm, for the best flavor.

Recipe courtesy of Bitty of [nodashofgluten.com](https://www.nodashofgluten.com) on Pinterest



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(s) (_____) _____ ☐ HOME ☐ MOBILE

_____ New Member _____ Renewal

There is always music in the garden,
but our hearts must be quiet to hear it.



Minnie Aumonier



P.O. Box 66

Brentwood, CA 94513