



Rhododendron occidentale

OCCIDENTALE

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE DE ANZA CHAPTER,
AMERICAN RHODODENDRON SOCIETY

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| President: | Tom Wynn.....wynn.t@comcast.net |
| Vice President: | Alma Fletcher.....almawfletcher@gmail.com |
| Newsletter Editor: | Erika Enos.....db11@yahoo.com |
| Secretary: | Christy Hartsell.....christy.b.hartsell@lmco.com |
| Treasurer: | Diane Weissman.....diane1030@gmail.com |
| Membership: | Alma Fletcher.....almawfletcher@gmail.com |
| Refreshment: | Nan Ray.....nanray@earthlink.net |
| Publicity: | Mike McCullough.....mcculloughm@earthlink.net |



Bd. Members: Ann Gazenbeek, Vic Hesterman, Pat Ley, Karina Nilsen, Joe Randazzo, Bob Weissman, Bee Brown

The Newsletter of the De Anza Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society

Volume 5, Issue 7

Website: <http://www.deanza-ars.com/>

APRIL 2010

Welcome to the **APRIL 2010** Issue of the newsletter for the DeAnza Chapter of the ARS. I am seeking your input on what articles and topics you would like to see covered in the newsletter. Full color copy of the newsletter is available via email subscription or on our website

Next Meeting: WEDNESDAY
APRIL 28, 2010 7:30 PM
Hillview Senior Center,
Room 12
97 Hillview Ave, Los Altos, CA

MEETING TOPIC: Growing Rhododendrons & Deciduous Azaleas in New Zealand

SPEAKER: Denis Hughes of Blue Mountain Nurseries

Denis Hughes is owner and General Manager of Blue Mountain Nurseries, one of New Zealand's best known rhododendron nurseries. Located in Tapanui in southern New Zealand the nursery was established in 1932 and today the nursery covers approximately 5 hectares and has a staff of 16 full time employees. Denis is a keen plantsman interested in the rare and unusual and he has been instrumental in the breeding and development of the Blue Mountain deciduous azaleas, including the double-flowered 'Pavlova', 'Sunray' & 'Sofflights'.

Join other members for a special pre-meeting dinner @ 5:30 PM
@ Pompeii Restaurant, 100 State St, Los Altos, (across from CITI Bank Plaza)

Call or email Alma Fletcher to reserve your place by Tuesday, April 28th @ 5:30 PM
(awfletcher@gmail.com or 650-851-1334)

We need volunteer refreshment providers - if you're coming to the meeting & would like to bring something sweet besides yourself, Let Tom Wynn know.

No excuses now for not bringing blooms to share! We all have something in bloom now. If you'd like to bring an arrangement of what's blooming in your garden in April, or just some trusses – we'd all love to see them! Flower envy is not only condoned, but encouraged!

MAINTENANCE

April is the high point of the “rewards” period of gardening. During the next three months, we should be enjoying the fruits of our labor. It's also the busiest time for gardeners: don't forget to stop and smell the rhododendrons once in a while. Right after the flowers fade, deadheading is beneficial, as is pruning for shape and lots of new growth.

CHAPTER OFFICERS FOR NEXT YEAR

Officer Nominees for 2010-2011 Year are:

President – Bee Brown

Vice President / Speaker Chairperson – Nan Ray

Secretary / Newsletter Editor – Christy Hartsell & Erika Enos

Treasurer – Mary Tye

Refreshment Chairperson – Tom Wynn

Membership – Alma Fletcher

Publicity – Mike McCullough

We will vote for the new officers @ our annual End of Season Meeting, June 12th

MEETING & ACTIVITY SCHEDULE FOR 2009 / 2010

April 28th Rhododendrons in New Zealand (NOTE: this will be on the 4th Wed. in April)
May 19th Barn Owls
June 12th End of Season Picnic & Meeting @ Nan Ray's home (12 noon til 2pm)
This will be a pot luck with Chapter providing the main dish & drinks, we'll also have a “plant exchange” (not limited to rhodies), so look around to see what's outgrown its bed, or start some cuttings to share with other members

Additional Dates to Mark on your Calendars:

April 18th & May 9th – Monterey Bay Chapter's Tours of Monte Toyon Garden, Aptos, CA

April 23 & 24th – Gamble Garden Tour, Palo Alto, CA

April 24th – **Monterey Bay Chapter Show & Sale**, Cabrillo College, Santa Cruz, CA

April 25th – Belinda Brent's Annual **Garden Gala** in Portola Valley

May 1st & 2nd - **33rd Annual Noyo Chapter Show & Sale**, Ft. Bragg, CA

May 1st – Los Altos Garden Club Plant Exchange (we are to set up a “rhodie” blooms display)

MAY 14th – 17th – **Annual ARS Conference**, Long Island, New York

STRYBING SALES: 43rd ANNUAL SALE: May 1st (10am – 2pm) **Botanical Garden @ Golden Gate Park SF**

SEE YOU ON WEDNESDAY EVENING, APRIL, 28TH

Erika Enos – newsletter editor