



*Rhododendron occidentale*

# OCCIDENTALE

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE DE ANZA CHAPTER,  
AMERICAN RHODODENDRON SOCIETY

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

Volume 5, Issue 5

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

FEB 2010

**Welcome** to the **FEB 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.

**Next Meeting: WEDNESDAY**  
**FEB 17, 2010 7:30 PM**  
**Hillview Senior Center,**  
**Room 12**  
**97 Hillview Ave, Los Altos, CA**



*The Mathey's Home & Garden*

**MEETING TOPIC:** *The Mathey's Harmony Woods Garden in Fort Bragg*

**SPEAKERS:** *Judy & Bob Mathey*

Having been there, just the thought of seeing this garden again (even though it's only pictures) excites me! Here's Tim Walsh's comment on our speakers for this month: *"They talk about their garden and it's a VERY worthwhile show! They've created a little slice of heaven on their redwood-studded property just south of the town of Mendocino with a lot of Rhododendrons and MANY other interesting plants. They created a creek and a beautiful (...as in "very expensive") stone bridge to cross this "creek"; all that's missing is the troll."* Every plant is labeled & cataloged, yet the garden is not static, but is planted in artistic way. If you'd like to be inspired and awed by a spectacular garden, don't miss Wednesday night's meeting!

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 Tom Wynn (this time) to reserve your place by Tuesday, Feb 16th @ 5:30 PM  
(408-245-1785) or [wynn.t@comcast.net](mailto:wynn.t@comcast.net)

We need volunteer refreshment providers – if you're coming to the meeting & would like to bring something sweet besides yourself, Let Tom Wynn know (contact info above)

Show & tell

Anything blooming in your gardens now that you would like to bring to share @ our meeting?  
At last month's meeting, Pat Ley shared a beautiful spring floral arrangement with blooms from her garden. If you'd like to bring an arrangement of what's blooming in your garden in mid-Feb, or just some trusses – we'd all love to see them! Flower envy is not only condoned, but encouraged!

MAINTENANCE

**AND don't forget:** Rhododendrons and azaleas are dormant when in bloom, so the next 2 months will be the perfect time to transplant them if you need to. To get bigger flowers, now is the time to feed your plants with food high in phosphorus (middle element in NPK analysis). **The society will sell plant food @ our next meeting in 2 ½ lb packages with NPK elements: 5-35-35. The plant food should be dissolved in water for a quick feeding boost now as the buds swell.**

MEETING & ACTIVITY SCHEDULE FOR 2009 / 2010

SEASON

Feb 17 <sup>th</sup>	The Mathey's Harmony Woods Gardens, in Ft Bragg
March 17 <sup>th</sup>	Jim Celeri (Nursery in Mendocino County)
April 28 <sup>st</sup>	Rhododendrons in New Zealand (NOTE: this will be on the 4 <sup>th</sup> Wed. in April)
May 19 <sup>th</sup>	TBD
June (date TBD)	End of Season Picnic & Meeting

Additional Dates to Mark on your Calendars:

Camellia Society, @ RWC Community Center, 1400 Roosevelt Rd RWC:  
Feb 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> - **Annual Camellia Show & Sale** 10:30 to 3 PM,

March 6<sup>th</sup> – Monthly **Strybing Plant Sale** 10 AM to 1 PM

March 24<sup>th</sup> thru the 28<sup>th</sup> - **San Francisco Garden Show** @ the San Mateo County Fairgrounds

MAY 14<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> – **Annual ARS Conference**, Long Island, New York

**SEE YOU ON WEDNESDAY EVENING, FEB. 17TH**

*Erika Enos – newsletter editor*