



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

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FEB 2012

Welcome to the FEB 2012 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

February 22nd, 7:30 to 9 PM

**Hillview Community Center
Room 12
97 Hillview Av., Los Altos**

MEETING TOPIC: Pruning Japanese Maples

SPEAKER: Bruce Andrews

Since 1975, Bruce Andrews has worked in landscape design, building, and maintenance throughout the South Bay. He studied in the Landscape Architecture and Design Programs at the University of California at Berkeley, and is a licensed contractor. After 25 years of landscape management, working extensively on various estates in Woodside & Atherton, Andrews launched his own company, Grateful Gardens, in 1998. Although Bruce is very familiar with California native plants, microclimates, and water conservation, his expertise is pruning Japanese Maples. Bruce presented a very informative program to our group last year, demonstrating pruning techniques on several real maples. This year he will show us stage 2 of pruning of some of the specimens he brought last year. Bruce can be reached @ bea.andrews@gmail.com or 650/224-7441

This month we will have a “pizza night” dinner prior to the meeting. Come @ 6 pm to share some pizza, drinks and camaraderie

Bringers of goodies this month: Jim Helmer, Pat Ley

We need refreshment volunteers for each monthly meeting, so we will pass around a sign-up sheet @ this month’s meeting, since not all the spaces got filled on the last pass around

SHOW & TELL

No excuse for not bringing blooms from you garden to share

MAINTENANCE

According to some experts like Don Wallace of Singing Tree Nursery, February is a great time to feed your plants – a rhododendron/azalea fertilizer placed around the drip line. Alfalfa meal scratched into the soil is also beneficial, since it is a good source of nitrogen.

Soon it will be time to start enjoying the fruits and blooms of your labor, although I'm enjoying the blooms of my *Seta* now.

Meeting & Activity Schedule for 2011 / 2012 Season

Feb 22 th	2 nd Year Pruning of Japanese Maples
Mar 21 st	Steve Hootman
April 18 th	TBD
April 21 st	ANNUAL PLANT SALE
May 16 th	TBD
June 8 th	End of Season Meeting & Pot Luck

Additional Dates to Mark on your Calendars

March 10: Strybing Plant Sale (10 to 1)

March 21-25: SF Flower & Garden Show, San Mateo Event Center (www.sfgardenshow.com)

Mar 31: Master Gardeners Spring Garden Market (<http://www.mastergardeners.org/spring-garden-market>)

May 4-7: ARS Annual Convention (www.azaleas.org/convention12.html)

SEE YOU AT THE MEETING ON WEDNESDAY EVENING, FEB 22ND

Erika Enos – newsletter editor