



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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Welcome to the FEB 2014 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: FEB 19th, 7:30
to 9 PM**

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

MEETING: How to Create a Garden

SPEAKER: DON WALLACE of SINGING TREE GARDENS NURSERY

Don is one of our favorite speakers. His talks are always full of practical information and the plants he brings down to sell are always unusual and fabulous. This time he will speak on "Creating a Garden". We love plants and collect plants, but don't always know how to actually create a garden with them. Don will enlighten us. He will focus on smaller sized rhodies and also fragrant ones. Don's Nursery, Singing Tree Gardens in McKinleyville, has a great web site to check out: www.singingtreegardens.com

If you'd like to join fellow members at the pre-meeting dinner @ Pompeii Restaurant in Los Altos Call or email Alma Fletcher by Tues @ 5 pm to reserve a spot @ the "Rhodie Table" almawfletcher@gmail.com. or 650-851-1334

SHOW & TELL

Our president has put together an informative packet for new members which includes information on the care and feeding of rhodies plus cultural tips and a glossary of horticultural terms.

MAINTENANCE

Do's and Don'ts: We are in a drought but our plants still need water, so be creative with water conservation: keep a small pail near your sink & shower: fill it with the water that first comes out of the shower, the water that you rinse your veggies and hands with and use this water to hand water your plants. Hand watering instead of turning on the sprinkler system also uses less water and makes you to pay attention to your individual plants. Another great water conserver is mulch: It helps keep evaporation in check and also breaks down slowly to create humus to enrich the soil. Please share your water conservation practices at our meeting.

Plus one more thing: Start enjoying your earliest blooms

Meeting & Activity Schedule for 2013/ 2014 Season

Feb 19th. Don Wallace of Singing Tree Gardens
Mar 19th. Japanese Maples
Apr 16th. Rebecca Sweet, Landscape Designer
May 21st. TBD
June ? End of Season Meeting / Pot Luck

Additional Dates to Mark on your Calendars

Feb 15 - 16th Annual Camellia Show & Sale 1400 Roosevelt, Redwood City, noon to 4 pm

Feb 21 - 22nd International Vireya Conference, Island of Hawaii (see Christy Hartsell for more info)

Mar 19 - 23rd San Francisco Flower & Garden Show, San Mateo Event Center

May 16 - 18th ARS Annual Convention, Cleveland, Ohio

SEE YOU AT THE MEETING ON

Wednesday, FEB. 19th

Erika Enos, Newsletter Editor

