



Rhododendron occidentale

OCCIDENTALE

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE DE ANZA CHAPTER,
AMERICAN RHODODENDRON SOCIETY

President:	Bee Brown.....beebrown01@gmail.com
Vice President:	Christy Hartsell.....christy.b.hartsell@lmco.com
Newsletter Editor:	Erika Enos.....dble11@yahoo.com
Secretary:	Erika Enos.....dble11@yahoo.com
Treasurer:	Mary/Jennifer Tye.....mjtye@hotmail.com
Membership:	Alma Fletcher.....almawfletcher@gmail.com
Refreshment:	Tom Wynn.....wynn.t@comcast.net
Publicity:	Mike McCullough.....mcculloughm@earthlink.net



Bd. Members: Pat Ley, Karina Nilsen, Joe Randazzo, Bob Weissman, Tom Wynn, Lynda Thomas, Nan Ray

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

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OCT 2011

Welcome to the **OCT 2011** 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,
October 19st, 7:30 to 9 PM
Hillview Community Center
Room 12
97 Hillview Av., Los Altos**

MEETING TOPIC: *Lepidoptera – Butterflies and Moths on our Gardens*

SPEAKER: **Jan Washburn**

Jan Washburn, who is a docent at both UC Berkeley and UC Santa Cruz Botanical Gardens, will talk about the evolution and ecology of butterflies and moths in Bay Area. Find out why you shouldn't squish caterpillars, and what plants to grow to encourage pollinating butterflies & moths to visit your gardens.

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, OCT 18th @ 5:30 PM
(almawfletcher@gmail.com or 650-851-1334)

Bringers of goodies this month: Tom Wynn, Lynda Thomas

We will need refreshment volunteers for each monthly meeting, so we will pass around a sign-up sheet @ this month's meeting.

Who hasn't paid their yearly dues YET? Save .44 cents & bring your checks to the meeting

SHOW & TELL

It's a little early for rhodie blooms, but does anyone have azaleas blooming that they would like to show? Have anything else interesting, that's blooming now, you would like to share? Bring it!

MAINTENANCE

The weather is getting cooler, and we've had some rain already, but has it rained enough to consider turning off the sprinklers and irrigation systems for the winter? Watering can be tricky now, too much or too little can each have negative results. To be sure, invoke the "finger test": stick your finger in the dirt about an inch down, to make sure the soil is moist beyond the top layer. Now is also the time to start feeding your plants with some extra phosphate for bigger blooms (the middle letter in the NPK formula).

Questionnaire

Do you have any favorite rhododendrons or azaleas that do well in your garden? Share the list of your favorites with Bee so she can forward them to add to this year's list of **Proven Performers for our area**. This list is published each year by ARS to help gardeners learn which plants do best and are readily available in different areas. Share your successes: beebrown01@gmail.com or answer the questions to the quiz @ the meeting. Yes, there will be a quiz.

Meeting & Activity Schedule for 2011 / 2012 Season

Oct 19 th	Talk on Butterflies w/Jan Washburn
Nov 16 th	Bonsai for Everyone
Dec 10 th	Holiday Party @ Karina's House in Los Altos
Jan 18 th	Tim Walsh
Feb 15 th	TBD
Mar 21 st	Steve Hootman
April 18 th	TBD
April 21 st	Annual Plant Sale
May 16 th	TBD
June	End of Season Meeting & Pot Luck

Additional Dates to Mark on your Calendars

Nov 12th: Strybing Plant Sale: End of Season Sale

SEE YOU AT THE MEETING ON WEDNESDAY EVENING, OCT 19th

Erika Enos – newsletter editor