



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

APRIL 2011

**Welcome** to the **APRIL 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,  
APRIL 20TH, 7:30 TO 9 PM**  
**Hillview Community Center**  
**Room 12**  
**97 Hillview Av., Los Altos**

**MEETING TOPIC:** **Rhododendron Growers & Gardens in Northern Germany**

**SPEAKER:** **Bob Weissman of our DeAnza Chapter**

Bob Weissman will present highlights of the 75th Anniversary Conference of the German Rhododendron Society held in Bremen in May 2010. Bremen is located in northwest Germany in an area well suited for growing plants. The region has more than 450 nurseries and is the main area for production of rhododendrons in Germany. Bremen highlights includes a visit to the city's Rhododendron Park, that has one of Europe's largest rhododendron collections. The very large Botanika Greenhouse exhibits non-hardy rhododendrons in a natural-like landscape with waterfalls, ponds and many ethnic exhibits. The talk includes interesting visits to rhododendron nurseries that supply millions of plants all over Europe. These include the Fredo Schroder, Stockman, Bruns and the well-known Hachmann nursery. He also will show photos taken at the historic Hobbie Rhododendron Park in Linswege, and the Palace Garden in Oldenburg. A very special treat will be the tour of the RHODO Festival in Westerstede, the biggest rhododendron show in Europe, held every four years. Come and enjoy hearing about this trip of a lifetime.

**Bringers of goodies this month:** **Bob Benson & Bob Weissman**

We need refreshment volunteers (2) for **May** - let me know @ the meeting

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**WE NEED HELP!**

**Our annual plant sale is this coming SATURDAY APRIL 16<sup>th</sup>**

Volunteers should be @ the CITI Bank Plaza by 7:30 AM to help get the plants displayed properly. We will need members to answer questions about our plants and help the public pick an appropriate plant and pay for it quickly and easily. The more volunteers, the easier the work for all of us. Please mark your calendars & contribute your time on this special day. (Lunch will be provided)

## SHOW & TELL

Now that our gardens are filling with blooms, please, bring in a truss to share so the rest of us can see your garden blooms during our monthly meeting.

## MAINTENANCE

Now is the time to enjoy the fruits, or should I say, blooms of our labors. We have had a wet winter so don't be lulled into thinking that we don't have to water. A couple of days of 70+ degrees, plus dry and windy weather will dry out the soil and wilt blooms.

## MEETING & ACTIVITY SCHEDULE FOR 2010 / 2011 SEASON

April 16th Our Plant Sale (9 am to 1pm)

April 20th Bob Weissman on the 2010 International Convention in Germany

May 18th Bee Brown will speak on Companion Plants

June 18th Annual End of Season Meeting & Pot Luck @ Bee Brown's Home in Portola Valley

### Additional Dates to Mark on your Calendars

NAN RAY'S GARDEN PARTY: April 17<sup>th</sup> in Menlo Park (4 to 7)

NOYO CHAPTER SHOW & SALE: April 30<sup>th</sup> & May 1<sup>st</sup> in Fort Bragg

BELINDA BRENT'S ANNUAL GARDEN PARTY: May 1<sup>st</sup> in Portola Valley (3 to 9)

ANNUAL STRYBING SALE: May 7<sup>th</sup> - 10 am to 1 pm - General Sale

ARS ANNUAL CONVENTION: Vancouver Washington, May 11-15, 2011 (see ARS Journal for details)

**COME HELP OUT AT SATURDAY'S PLANT SALE (April 16<sup>th</sup>)**

**SEE YOU AT THE MEETING ON WEDNESDAY EVENING, APRIL 20TH**

*Erika Enos - newsletter editor*