



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 **OCTOBER 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 or on our website

EARLY DINNER STARTS @ 5:30 PM

Next Meeting: WEDNESDAY

OCTOBER 20, 2010 7:30 TO 9 PM

**Hillview Community Center, Room 12
97 Hillview Ave, Los Altos**

MEETING TOPIC: Rhododendron Travels with Don Selcer

SPEAKER: Don Selcer, Cal Chapter Member and Intrepid Traveler

How lucky we are to be able to take three trips – yes, 3 – with Don to far and exotic lands where rhododendrons grow. In 1992 Don explored Sikkim and India on an American Rhododendron Society trip. In 1999 Don joined a trip to Yunnan China, led by Graham Smith and other New Zealanders. His latest trip in 2001 was with Steve Hootman of the Species Foundation. On this trip they collected seed in the Dulong River Valley of Yunnan. Don is also a great photographer, so we'll get to see great pictures of rhododendrons and his travels. We get all this in the comfort of our meeting room after a comfort food meal of lasagna .

YES -- This month it's a LASAGNA POT LUCK

The Society will provide main dish, drinks & utensils, members to provide following:

Q -- Z: appetizers

J -- P: salads

A -- I: desserts

DINNER STARTS @ 5:30PM

(no extra sweets needed for this meeting)

DUES ARE DUE –MAIL BACK YOUR CHECKS AS SOON AS YOU GET THE ENVELOPES IN THE MAIL, OR, SAVE A STAMP & BRING YOUR CHECKS TO THE MEETING

SHOW & TELL

I know I have some plants starting to bloom so I'm sure you have too. Bring in your trusses for all of us enjoy and hopefully we'll get inspired to grow them too.

MAINTENANCE

The best time to transplant your rhodies is from late summer to late fall, in other words: now. You can still prune if you're willing to forgo flowers next spring. You can start fertilizing with high phosphorus fertilizer (P – middle letter) for bigger and better flowers. Don Wallace of Singing Tree Nursery likes cotton seed meal (also good for camellias). All the literature recommends under fertilizing rather than over fertilizing, but Howard Oliver always gave his prize winning trusses lots of phosphorus, starting in the fall. It's up to you to decide on fertilizer: if you're getting great blooms you're doing it right, if not, try some phosphorus. Sometimes epsom salts are suggested for magnesium. I soak my feet in epsom salts & throw the water on my plants: I like getting a "2-fer".

MEETING & ACTIVITY SCHEDULE FOR 2010 / 2011 SEASON

Oct 20th	Don Seltzer of Cal Chapter on his travels to Far East in pursuit of rhododendrons There will be a potluck this evening
Nov 17th	E White of Bovees Nursery in Portland OR
Dec 4th	Holiday Party @ Karina Nilsen's home in Los Altos
Jan 25th	Kathy Van Veen of Van Veen Nursery in Portland, OR NOTE: This is on a TUESDAY night & we will have a potluck
Feb 16th	Don Wallace of Singingtree Nursery
Mar 16th	TBD
April 20th	TBD Plant Sale – TBD
May 18th	TBD
June 18th	Annual End of Season Meeting & Pot Luck @ Bee Brown's Home in Portola Valley

Additional Dates to Mark on your Calendars:

STRYBING SALES: (10am – 1pm) Botanical Garden @ Golden Gate Park SF
Nov 13th – End of Season Sale

SEE YOU ON **WEDNESDAY EVENING, OCTOBER, 20TH**

Erika Enos – newsletter editor