



Rhododendron occidentale

OCCIDENTALE

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE DE ANZA CHAPTER,
AMERICAN RHODODENDRON SOCIETY

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Welcome to the April 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: APRIL 16th,
7:30 to 9 PM

Hillview Community Center

Room 12

97 Hillview Av., Los Altos

MEETING: Refresh Your Garden Design

SPEAKER: REBECCA SWEET

This is the perfect topic for this month's meeting since our gardens are showing (or not showing) new growth. This past winter's freeze damage and the current drought conditions are providing us with the perfect excuse to rethink the scope and types of plants we want in our gardens. As always, Rebecca will give us lots of useful information and plant suggestions to refurbish our gardens for added interest and ease of maintenance.

*Rebecca is a well known and respected landscape designer, author of several books and writer for Horticulture Magazine. She also produces an interesting gardening newsletter: **Harmony in the Garden***

This month dinner is on us. We will have our pre-meeting pizza night in our meeting room. Come @ 6:00 for a slice (or two), a salad and drink.

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. Feel free to ask Nan for a copy.

MAINTENANCE

Key words for maintenance this month: water and dead head. Although we had some rain this last month, we are still experiencing a drought. Hand watering instead of turning on the sprinkler system uses less water and makes you to pay attention to your individual plants. Dead heading early will put more energy into producing next year's flowers, instead of seeds.

Plus one more thing: Enjoy your blooms

Meeting & Activity Schedule for 2013/ 2014 Season

Apr 16th. Rebecca Sweet, Landscape Designer
May 21st. Azaleas @ Nuccio Nursery (pending)
June ? End of Season Meeting / Pot Luck @ Bee Brown's Home

Additional Dates to Mark on your Calendars

April 19th Cal Chapter Sale & Show
April 25 & 26 50th Anniversary of Rhododendron Species Foundation, Federal Way, WA
May 3 & 4th Annual Plant Sale @ Strybing Botanical Gardens, San Francisco
May 10 & 11. Noyo Chapter Show & Sale
May 16 - 18th ARS Annual Convention, Cleveland, Ohio

SEE YOU AT THE MEETING ON Wednesday, April 16th

Erika Enos, Newsletter Editor