



*Rhododendron occidentale*

# OCCIDENTALE

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE DE ANZA CHAPTER,  
AMERICAN RHODODENDRON SOCIETY

- President: Bee Brown.....beebrown01@gmail.com
- Vice President: Nan Ray.....nanray34@gmail.com
- Newsletter Editor: Erika Enos..... dble11@yahoo.com
- Secretary: Erika Enos.....dble11@yahoo.com
- Treasurer: Christy Hartsell.....christy.b.hartsell@gmail.com
- Membership: Pat Ley.....ley.pat@gmail.com
- Refreshments: Joe Randazzo.....via phone
- Publicity: Mike McCullough...mcculloughm@earthlink.net



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

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MAR 2018

**Welcome** to the MAR. 2018 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: MARCH 21th, 7:30 to 9 PM**

**MEETING TOPIC: What's in a Name? How the R. genus got its name**

**SPEAKER: Bruce & Nelda Palmer**

Being curious, we like to know the how, why, & how come of things. In their talk about rhododendrons, Bruce & Nelda will enlighten us in detail as to how the rhododendron genus got it's name and what some of the unique characteristics of the genus are, plus why there are subgenera. Bruce has spent his career in education, first in Humboldt County and later @ the U of Hawaii in Maui. Now that he's retired, he volunteers @ Humboldt Botanical Garden and is active in the Eureka Chapter, where he writes a column in their newsletter. In 2015, Bruce received the prestigious ARS Gold Medal.

If you'd like to join fellow members and our guest speaker at the pre-meeting dinner @ Pompeii Restaurant, 100 State St, Los Altos, Please contact Pat Ley ([ley.pat@gmail.com](mailto:ley.pat@gmail.com) or 650-941-1674) by Tues @ 5:30 to reserve your spot at the rhodie table.

**Bringers of goodies this month: Christy Hartsell, Anne Gazenbeek**



## SHOW & TELL

Bring what's blooming in your gardens to share

## MAINTENANCE

Even though it's already March, Don Wallace of Singing Tree Gardens Nursery says it's not too late to give your plants a final feeding for big, colorful trusses. Use slow release fertilizer: 1 handful for plants around 3 ft high & 2 handfuls for plants 5-6 ft high scattered 6 inches from truck & watered-in should do it. Use food with high "P" number in NPK formula. And let the blooming begin!

## Meeting & Activity Schedule for 2017 / 2018 Season

Mar 21 <sup>st</sup>	Rhododendron Genus Naming w/Ruth & Bruce Palmer
Apr 18 <sup>th</sup>	Plant Sale Planning & Strybing Arboretum Talk w/Jason Martinez
May 12 <sup>th</sup>	Field Trip to Sonoma Hort. & Western Hills Garden
June 13 <sup>th</sup>	Year End Meeting & Picnic

## Additional Dates to Mark on your Calendars

Apr 7 <sup>th</sup>	Cal Chapter Show & Sale - Lakeside Park, Oakland
Apr 17 <sup>th</sup>	UC Santa Cruz Arboretum Spring Sale
Apr 21 <sup>st</sup>	DeAnza Chapter Annual Sale, Los Altos Masonic Lodge
Apr 27-29 <sup>th</sup>	Eureka Chapter Show & Sale
Apr 28 <sup>th</sup>	Monterey Chapter Sale, Aptos Farmers Market, Cabrillo College
Apr 28 <sup>th</sup>	Los Altos Garden Club Plant Exchange 10-12 Hillview Soccer Field
Apr 29 <sup>th</sup>	UC Berkeley Spring Plant Sale
May 4 <sup>th</sup>	Strybing Annual Plant Sale
May 5 <sup>th</sup>	Noyo Chapter Show & Sale

Do you know of any gardening related events members would like to know about, please share

See you Wed the 21<sup>st</sup> – Remember New Room #18

*Erika Enos – newsletter editor*