



# OCCIDENTALE



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE DE ANZA CHAPTER  
OF THE AMERICAN RHODODENDRON SOCIETY

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**NEXT MEETING: OCT., 16th, 2019 (7:30 to 9 pm)**

**LOCATION: Los Altos Masonic Hall, 146 Main St., Los Altos**

We will access our meeting room (on lower level) via the back entrance where we store plants for our sales. You can park once, have dinner @ Pompeii Restaurant then walk across the street to our meeting.

**SPEAKER: Ken McCloud, Retired US Fish & Wildlife Agent**

**Ken will discuss "Saving Endangered Flora & Fauna".**

Ken has retired after 31 years of work as an undercover agent for US Fish & Wildlife Services where he trapped & caught smugglers of endangered species, including orchids & cycads. He will share the knowledge & experiences he accumulated during long his career. Even though retired, Ken is still active in various conservation groups.

If you'd like to join fellow members and our guest speakers at the pre-meeting dinner @ 6PM @ Pompeii Restaurant, 100 State St, Los Altos, please contact Pat LeLe([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.

### SHOW & TELL

Do you have small flower vases you no longer use & would like to donate to a worthy cause? "Blooms" a group who delivers small fresh bouquets of flowers to patients in hospitals & nursing homes. is in need of these small flower containers. Christy's wife Patty is active in this group. You can bring your donations to our meeting where Christy will collect & deliver them to Patty

Strybing Plant Sale: Oct 12 (12-3pm, Oct 13 (11 -3 pm)

### MAINTENANCE

Another great tip from Don Wallace, owner of Singing Tree Nursery & periodic speaker at our meetings: "I often hear "To insure good drainage, I always add broken pottery or rocks and gravel at the bottom of my pot when transplanting". This technique can be found online, but it is incorrect. Adding rocks or gravel or broken pottery will make the drainage worse. As shown in the illustration below, the gravel at the bottom will make the volume of potting soil, less and push the wettest soil up around the roots. This can result in root rot and plant loss. It is better to make your soil mix well drained with the addition of bark, sand and perlite and keep it consistent from top to bottom in the pot."

### Meeting & Activity Schedule for 2019 - 2020 Season

- OCT 16: Ken McCloud - Plant Conservation Issues
- NOV 13: Combined Meeting w/Camellia Society - Tom Nuccio
- DEC ? : Holiday Party
- JAN 15: Mike Stewart, Species Foundation
- FEB 19: TBD
- MAR 18: Jason Martinez
- APR 15: Butterflies
- MAY : TBD
- JUN : End of Season Meeting & Picnic

See You WED NIGHT the 16th @ 7:30 - erika enos - newsletter editor



