



OCCIDENTALE



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

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NEXT MEETING: SEPT., 21st, 2019 (noon to 2 pm)
LOCATION: Nan Ray's Home: 845 Magnolia St., Menlo Park

To start this season we will have a social get-together & potluck lunch, as usual the board will provide main dish & drinks, members will provide the following:

A - I: APPETIZERS & NIBBLES, J - R: SALADS, S - Z: DESSERTS

So we can have a "informative" meeting as well as a social & delicious one, Nan has come up with a surprise speaker. Suzanne Legallet's current intern from Filoli, Terence Huang, will speak. He is absolutely brilliant and has an astounding background in horticulture. Plus he is very entertaining! He will give us a talk on: **50 Shades of Green** which is entertaining as well as informative! Also, he would be glad to answer garden questions (bring drooping leaves as well as sad tales).

I know you will all enjoy him AND the picnic, so come prepared for a fun day of good food and great entertainment.

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 looking for vase donations. If you have any you no longer need/use, please bring them to Nan's on Sat. Patty Hartsell will gladly take them off your hands.

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

MAINTENANCE

Don't be lulled by shorter days & cooler nights, the days are still hot, so keep your plants well watered & mulched. Advice from Don Wallace: "Around this time of year, (late summer or early fall), you may notice the symptoms of Powdery Mildew that affects rhododendrons. At first you may notice one of your rhododendrons is dropping much of its foliage, making it look leggy and bare. Upon closer inspection, you will notice the leaves have a 'mottled' appearance...faint yellowish blotches on the tops of the leaves. When viewing the undersides of the leaves, you will see faint purplish-gray splotches. This is the classic look of this disease. It will not kill your plant, but will cause much of the foliage to drop. The cause varies from poor air circulation to humid, shady conditions, to rhododendron cultivars that have no resistance to the disease (the most common cause). Powdery mildew is more severe on shaded plants and is favored by the high humidity found in crowded plantings and damp locations. The disease literally eats the leaf tissue, and when it gets to the petiole, where the leaf attaches to the stem, the connection fails & the leaf drops.

Non-Chemical Management

Rake and destroy fallen leaves year-round to reduce infection source. Do not compost diseased materials. Do not over-water or over-fertilize plants, as the fungus favors succulent new growth. Space plantings to allow good air circulation. Do not plant in extremely shaded or damp areas. Plant resistant species or cultivars. "(Ask Don for names)

Chemical Management

Multiple applications may be necessary to really clean up your plants. We don't recommend very hard chemicals, but do feel the either copper or sulfur work well. We recommend those that are liquid that you can easily mix and put into a sprayer. There is a biological fungicide called Actinovate, This one is categorized as Organic. Most plant nurseries carry it."

Meeting & Activity Schedule for 2019 - 2020 Season

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

See You Sat the 21st @ noon
 - erika enos - newsletter editor

