

# Regarding Roses

## Tallahassee Area Rose Society

*Affiliated with The American Rose Society*



## President's Message By Jan Godfrey

March 2017

Spring starts officially around the 21<sup>st</sup> of March but my Old Garden Roses (OGRs) are confused about the calendar. Almost all of them have been blooming for the past few months. It has been so pleasing to walk through the gardens and enjoy all the beautiful, odiferous blooms. I grow mostly OGRs purchased from the annual sale. They are strong bushes and don't need to be sprayed very often.

Last year, however, I had a ferocious fungus that not only attacked my roses but also some of my pear and persimmon trees. So, I had to use a chemical spray a couple of times to beat it back. I usually use 2 different sprays for my roses, an organic spray which is mostly fish and sesame oils and foliar feeding of kelp and diluted hydrogen peroxide. I also use hydrogen peroxide and

fish emulsions as a soil drench. This year my blooms are larger and have deeper colors than in previous years. I believe that the fish emulsion and kelp were instrumental in these positive changes.

Goodwood Rose Volunteers still have roses for sale at Goodwood. They will be there every Saturday from 9 a.m. until noon. I encourage you to come by and pick one or more Old Garden Roses to add to your garden.

This month, our program is Bob Schelhorn presenting his favorite Hybrid Teas and Grandifloras and what he does to have a queen of show. Since I know very little about growing them, I am looking forward to hearing about Bob's methods for successful cultivation. I hope to see you at the meeting on Thursday evening, the 16<sup>th</sup>. The weather is perfect. Enjoy!

On a more serious note, as

a sufferer of long-term Lyme disease, I'd like to talk about the prevalence of tick borne diseases in North Florida. Ticks carry several different bacteria, including Lyme, that can cause serious physical and neurological problems. If you get bitten by a tick, please get in touch with your physician. Even if you don't develop the telltale bullet rash, a course of antibiotics is still a good idea. Only 30% of those infected will develop the rash and the current tests for determining infection are severely inaccurate. Of our 7 Board members, at least two have had Lyme disease. One developed the bullet rash and went on a 30 day course of antibiotics and seems to be over the disease. The other, me, did not develop the rash and was therefore

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## Thought You'd Like To Know— Sugar Moon

*Sugar Moon* is a pure white hybrid tea that has a sweet citrus and rose fragrance. The flowers are big pointed buds that open to broad petals. The petal count is 26-40. The foliage is dark green and glossy. The growth habit is tall, bushy and upright. It is very disease resistant. It repeat blooms

well throughout the growing season. The parents are Meredith (seed), Moonstone and Baby Love (pollen). The hybridizer is Christian Bedard and it was introduced in 2012. It is a favorite of Bob Schelhorn and we think it would be a favorite for you too.



***Sugar Moon***  
**(Hybrid Tea)**

### March Meeting

**Date:** Thursday, March 16, 2017

**Time:** 7:00 pm

**Place:** Jubilee Cottage, Goodwood Museum and Gardens, 1600 Miccosukee Rd., Tallahassee, Florida

**Program:** Speaker Bob Schelhorn. Come and learn about "Great Roses to plant this spring". He will show and tell you about the favorites in his garden. He grows prize winning roses. You may ask questions.

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### Special Notes

- Volunteer at Goodwood Saturday mornings 9:00 am till noon.
- Volunteer at the Peace Garden the first Wednesday March through October beginning at 9:00 am. Contact Mary Maud Sharpe, 850-878-9625, wjmm-sharpe@aol.com

(President's Message continued)

diagnosed many years after exposure. I am still fighting the effects after years of antibiotics and other treatments. Always get a tick check!

*Jan Godfrey*, President  
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### ***Goodwood Roses***

The Goodwood volunteers report that roses have done well. If you would like to volunteer in this propagating program come to Goodwood on Saturday mornings from 9:00 am till noon. We have recently added new volunteers to the Goodwood group and would be pleased to have others. There is always something to do. For more information contact any of the regular volunteers:

Mary Maud Sharpe, 850-878-9625  
wjmmsharpe@aol.com

Ann Stevens, 850-576-1800  
stevensann@yahoo.com

John Sullivan, 850-727-8636  
joh4@aol.com

The 2017 rose sale on Saturday, February 11, was quite successful. Thank to the many members who were there to help. There are still plants available and will be sold each Saturday from 9:00 am till noon. Some plants are being reserved for planting at Goodwood. We'll keep you updated about the new rose garden there.

### ***TARS Dues***

The treasurer is still accepting dues for 2017. A membership makes a great gift for a rose lover friend and the society will mail a gift membership card and add your friend to the newsletter mailing list.

### ***CR / Exhibitor's School***

In 2015 the Tallahassee, Thomasville and Wiregrass societies sponsored a Consulting Rosarian School and in 2016 these societies sponsored an Exhibitors School. Both proved to be a success. We have been asked if these societies would again repeat these schools. Please let members of the board know if you are interested in attending either or both of these schools. We are planning a CR School on June 17, 2017. It has been proposed that the schools be conducted on alternate years. We have made arrangements with Goodwood to schedule Jubilee Cottage. We have had several ideas that might improve the schools. If you have attended in the past, we would like your comments good and bad. We hope that we have learned what worked and what didn't, but your input would be a great help. You do not have to be or become a consulting rosarian to attend—just an interest in growing better roses. We are centrally located which makes it easier travel for many in the district. A registration form will be available soon.

### ***Tallahassee Area Rose Society Meeting February 16, 2017, Jubilee Cottage, Goodwood Museum and Gardens***

The meeting was called to order by President Jan Godfrey at 7:18 pm.

The minutes from the January meeting were approved as printed in the newsletter. The Treasurer's report was presented by Mary Maud Sharpe and approved by those in attendance. So far this year, there are 37 paid memberships for 2017, which is good considering how early it is in the year.

The rose sale that was held on February 11, 2017, may have brought in over \$2000. There was a steady stream of shoppers, and there still are a few bushes left. The recent survey on meeting dates was discussed. Two past presidents cannot come on the current meeting date of the third Thursday of the month, and two board members would not be able to come if the meetings were held on the first Thursday of the month. Overall, the fourth Thursday evening seemed to be the most favorable. This change to the fourth Thursday of the month will begin with the March meeting, which will be held on March 23. There will be a lot going on this year in TARS, especially in the fall, when the District meeting will be held in Tallahassee.

Hank Rosen presented a very informative talk on pruning. He said that mid-February to early March is the prime time for the heaviest pruning. Lighter pruning is done in the fall, to prepare for shows. Information on pruning roses can be found in the ARS Consulting Manual. This can be found on the website, can be downloaded, and is updated regularly. Hank noted that pruning is considered to be basic rose care, the main goals being to reduce the size of the bush, to remove dead canes, to modify the bush's shape, and to rejuvenate the plant. Dead canes occur frequently on older bushes. Some people strip the leaves, and you can spray the plant with lime sulfur. In shaping, one should prune out the center of the bush, as if you were shaping the bush around a small ball. It is very important to have a good set of garden gloves (goat skin gloves work well) and a good set of tools, including pruners (bypass type is recommended), secateurs, loppers, and a pruning saw. Wire saws are helpful and can be purchased at camping supply stores.

It might be useful to cut at an angle away from a dormant bud eye. The goal is to force new growth, by removing old canes. On fortuniana root stock, Hank recommends removing no more than 1/3 to 1/2 of the bush. On healthy hybrid tea roses, one can remove all growth of less than a pencil diameter, leaving three to five canes. All debris, especially old leaves, should be removed from the site. Grandifloras also should be pruned to three to five canes. Floribundas require very little pruning. Similarly, old garden roses generally require little pruning; they frequently have a lot of dead wood that should be removed but, beyond this, one should never remove more than 1/3 of the plant. Shrub roses can get very big and may require pruning to keep

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(TARS Minuets, 2-16, 2017, continued)

their size under control. As to climbers, Hank recommends letting the bush grow to 4 to 5 feet tall, then wrapping the cane with a piece of leather and attaching a weight to bring the branch down.

Mary Maud brought in an Alex Red blossom, as well as a Queen Elizabeth grandiflora (grandifloras have clusters of hybrid tea-size blooms). The Jema on the newsletter was photographed in Mary Maud's garden. There was a discussion about identifying roses. Mary Maud noted that sepals can be used to identify roses. Red Cascade is considered to be a good ground cover plant.

Mildew is a frequent problem on roses. A really good fungicide is Daconil (chlorophalonil). Powdery mildew looks like cotton on the leaf and is easily cured, while downy mildew, which goes down the stem, is more difficult to treat.

Other points made include the following: 1) Roses generally are not as productive after 15-20 years. 2) Water before you do anything! 3) Liquid Fence is a good deer repellent and can be purchased in concentrated form. Milorganite and alfalfa meal also may help to keep deer away from your precious roses.

After Hank's presentation on pruning, Mary Maud discussed and demonstrated how to keep your pruning tools in good condition. To do a professional cleaning and sharpening, all parts of the clippers should be taken apart and cleaned thoroughly. You can use a small wrench to loosen the nut. Lay the parts out so that you will remember exactly how to put them back together. All parts should be cleaned thoroughly, using any solvent, but "Goo Gone" may work the best. For most of these tools, only one side (the cutting blade) should be sharpened. For very dull tools, start with a small file, using a stroke in just one direction, not back and forth. For finer sharpening, continue with a whetstone, very fine sandpaper, or special tape with a fine abrasive. Lubricate the inside part of the blades with white grease (available at local hardware stores or auto supply stores) and then wipe off the excess. Reassemble the clippers and adjust the tension on the nut so that the clippers are firmly tightened but still move freely. Test them to see if they will cut a piece of regular paper. If so, you are ready to prune!

Hank won the drawing of the evening, and everyone enjoyed delicious refreshments courtesy of Mary Maud, Martha Dooley, Jan Godfrey, and Ann Stevens.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted by

*Janet Newburgh*

Secretary

*"Always be a first rate version of yourself,  
Instead of a second rate version of somebody else."*

Judy Garland

## ***March Consulting Rosarian Report***

*By Bill Dority*

Nature did us no favors by not giving us enough winter to allow our roses to go dormant sufficiently this year. As a result, my rose garden is a confused/profused mess. I have roses that are: a) continuing to bloom through N,D,J&F; b) full of long, thin, straggly stems; and c) loaded down with buds ready to pop open in March. Take your pick of either or all on any bush. What I am doing in the latter part of February and early March is to get to the HTs and prune them so they can produce the Show type blossoms for Apr/May. For the Garden types. I am selectively/repeatedly combing thru the bushes trimming back the dead-wood, spent blossoms, and straggly stems, even some with very small buds. But, taking care to protect strong stemmed budding singles and sprays. I expect to have to make several trips thru my 200+ before the job is done. Also now is the time to get your fertilizer right and make sure your watering system is up to snuff, as they say. Also, I notice that the drought conditions of last year has left me with a number of Garden types that either did not make it or should be shovel-pruned out. Thank- goodness for the Good-wood Rose Sale. Other-wise my rose garden is a source of joy for a four score plus ten old man. It keeps me busy and out of trouble, so far.

### ***DSD Convention and Rose Show***

In 2017 the Tallahassee Area Rose Society and the Thomasville Rose Society will be hosting this annual event. Plans are beginning to be made and we will need your help in making it a success. This event will be in October (dates are 26-28) and will be our TARS rose show as well as the district show. You will be hearing much more about this during the year. If you have ideas for speakers please contact the president. The district officials will help with plans since this is a district event. This will be a great opportunity to attend an annual district convention since there will not be out of town travel. Let's make this a memorable one! We need a theme too, so be thinking.

### ***E-Mail Addresses***

On occasions the society finds it convenient to contact members by e-mail. The list needs to be updated. If you have an e-mail that you are willing to share or have changed you e-mail address, please send it to [wjmm-sharpe@aol.com](mailto:wjmm-sharpe@aol.com) and we promise it will not be given to others, but used within the society. Since the DSD Bulletin is now online it could be easily shared through e-mail to all members. We will plan to share copies of the Bulletin with members who have given us e-mail addresses. Many of you may all ready be receiving it from the district. We think that e-mail addresses will be quite helpful as the society plans for the CR School and the Convention and Rose Show.

## Upcoming Society Programs and Events

**March**—Bob Schelhorn will present the program on “Rose recommended Varieties that do Well in Our Area”.

**April**—Seymour Rosen will present the program on photos he took of our 2016 rose show.

**May**— Covered Dish Picnic TBA

### DSD Events

**DSD CR School**— Saturday, June 17, Jubilee Cottage, Goodwood Museum and Gardens. Contact Mary Maud Sharpe, 850-878-9625 one [wjmmsharpe@aol.com](mailto:wjmmsharpe@aol.com)

**DSD Convention and Rose Show**—October 27-29. Tallahassee, FL

### ARS Events and News

Four month trial memberships are still being offered by ARS. You get free access to the monthly bulletins and two issues of the American Rose magazine plus much more. There is much interesting information in the ARS magazine such as news from ARS, articles on varied rose topics, beautiful photos, national, district and local events and much more.

Visit the ARS website [www.rose.org](http://www.rose.org) there is valuable information for local society members. As a member you have access to the members only information in addition to information for all who visit the site.

Publications such as Horticulture, Arrangement and Consulting Rosarian Manuals are available for reference and download. The Rose Registration Listing is also available.

ARS e-mails members the publication of ARS & You.

**Information:** [www.tallahasseearearosesociety.org](http://www.tallahasseearearosesociety.org)

**The Tallahassee Area Rose Society meetings** are at 7:00 pm on the third Thursday of the month except June and July at the Jubilee Cottage, Goodwood Museum and Gardens.

**Membership:** Annual dues are \$10 individual, \$15 joint. Contact the treasurer, Mary Maud Sharpe, 850-878-9625, [wjmmsharpe@aol.com](mailto:wjmmsharpe@aol.com)

**The Deep South District** of the ARS issues a quarterly copy of the Bulletin. It is available though e-mail to all ARS members. A black and white copy is also available to members who do not have an e-mail address. Make check for \$10.00 to Deep South District and mail to Kay Harrell, 121 Shore Rush Circle, St. Simons Island, GA 31522-1420

## TARS Officials

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\*Denotes Master Rosarian

## “Regarding Roses”

Newsletter of the Tallahassee Area Rose Society

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