

Regarding Roses

Tallahassee Area Rose Society

Affiliated with The American Rose Society



President's Message By Pat Stanford

April 2012

The weather has been very nice (except for the darn pollen) and I've spent more time in my garden than usual in watering, fertilizing, spraying, and planting more new plants. Roses look so much better than 20-year-old, box-woods. Goodwood still has some – go get a few and get those old hedge plants out of your yard!

April and May are busy months for rose growers, exhibitors and judges. While it takes some effort, the results can be very rewarding.

Your bushes should be ready to burst into bloom just in time for the Thomasville Rose Show – April 27-28. Even if you don't have a potential Queen of Show, there are many fun classes to enter. Please participate—It's fun!

I mentioned judges—have you considered

becoming one? I really hadn't until Bill Dority gave me a copy of Guidelines for Judging Roses after our show last year. I've decided to go to the Judges School in Gainesville May 26 & 27. If you really want to be inspired to grow better roses, this school is for you! You'll learn what judges look for in the quest for the *best* rose and that will help you to make yours better – even if you never show or judge.

Please make sure to introduce yourself to Michael Michelis—he is our Rose Show Chair this year. At the April meeting, I will present him with a notebook that many people had a hand in completing. We hope it will make this very important part of our Society a little easier.

Thanks to Joan Rosen and her organizing skills, our open gardens have been secured and we should be set

to view some great ones! She asked three folks over on the east side of our area in Monticello and three in Tallahassee. This is a great idea—it gives us a chance to broaden our horizons. Mark your calendar now for Sunday, May 6. I'm going to get to all of them. I love road trips!

Our April program will be on arrangements and should be very informative. If you have never exhibited an arrangement, it might encourage you to take that first step and find it very rewarding. If you just *don't* show roses, come and find out how to make nice arrangements for your dining table or to give to friends. It is fun to do and you can make some very impressive *works of art*! See you at the meeting. *Pat*

Society Meeting

Date: Thursday, April 15

Time: Time 7:00 p.m.

Place: Jubilee Cottage at Goodwood Museum and Gardens

Program: "Rose Arrangements Anyone Can Do" You'll learn tips on making bouquets for home, friends and arrangements for show. Bring roses if you have some.

Inside this issue:

President's Message	1
My Favorite Rose	1
Peace Garden, TRS Show, Garden Tours, Goodwood Roses, Minutes and Picnic	2
CR Report, Judging School, Hospitality, Workshop and Cutting and Keeping Roses	3
Upcoming Programs, Future Events and General Information	4
TARS Officials	4
ARS Consulting and Master Rosarians	4

My Favorite Rose—Louise Estes By Bill Price

Our first Queen of show at Thomasville was Crys-talline. When you see a white rose in great form with no petal faults you must be aware that you are having a rare experience. That feeling of awe and reverence happens occasionally with other roses and is one of the rewards for being in-

involved with rose shows. All that is to say no one rose can be an all-time favorite unless there are other reasons for the attachment.

There is one hybrid tea rose bush in the gardens of this area which is largest growing, most disease resistant, generous with (continued on Page 2)



Louise Estes
(Hybrid Tea)

Special Notes

- Volunteer at Goodwood Saturday mornings 9:00 a.m. till noon. Contact John Sullivan, joh4@aol.com for more information.
- Volunteer to help at the Peace Garden on first Wednesday of the month.

***My Favorite Rose* (continued)**

number and size of blooms and that is *Louise Estes*. The blooms are a beautiful pink blend and most frequently are on the table at shows. So far, *Louise Estes* is my favorite. It is a good example why we want to see more hybrids being developed because the future bushes will require less care, be more vigorous and produce even more blooms.

Finally the old garden roses deserve a mention among favorites. They are uniquely important to the beauty of the garden. Their variety of form is exceptional in the rose world. Try cutting 6 or 8 and make a bouquet. It will astonish you how beautiful they are in combination. There is a whole new experience of rose appreciation to be found among this group of roses.

Peace Rose Garden

The regular Peace Garden volunteers continue to maintain the garden. They are pleased with the way the new plants are growing. They will be meeting on the first Wednesday of each month at 9:00 am to do maintenance work. Come and join them. Bring your own clippers and gloves. All rose supplies are provided plus "cookies" and beverages.

91st Thomasville Rose Show

The Thomasville Rose Society will be hosting this rose show on Friday, April 27 and Saturday, April 28. We hope that many of our members will exhibit. We plan to have schedules available at the meeting and some entry tags too. You may contact Rick Thomas 1-800-234-9536, rthomas@rose.net for more information. Even if you do not exhibit, plan to make the trip to Thomasville to see the show. You'll be glad you did.

TARS Garden Tours

A special thanks to the member's who have invited us to visit their gardens. There is a flyer in this mailing that you can share with others to help us spread the word. There is also a listing of the gardens with direction on how to find them. Joan Rosen is the contact person and you can reach her at 1-850-272-4222. A special thanks to Joan for coordinating this event. Invite someone who loves roses to come with you. The date is Sunday, May 6. Mark your calendar now!

Goodwood Roses

There are still some plants available at Goodwood. John Sullivan will be there on Friday and Saturday mornings from 9:00 am until Noon to help you make selections. All of the plants do well in our area and they need to find a good home. Make room for one more rose!

***"Anyone who stops learning is old,
whether at twenty or eighty.***

Anyone who keeps learning is young.

The greatest thing in life to keep your mind young.
Henry Ford

Minutes of The Tallahassee Area Rose Society, March 15, 2012

A regular monthly meeting of the Tallahassee Area Rose Society was held at 7:00pm at Goodwood Museum and Gardens in the Jubilee Cottage. Vice-President Marilyn Watson presided and welcomed members and visitors. The minutes of the February 16, 2012 meeting were approved as presented in the newsletter. The Treasurer's report was presented and accepted. Mary Maud Sharpe announced that the Pensacola and Wiregrass Rose Societies have declined to chair the 2013 Deep South District Mid-Winter Meeting. She asked our society consider co-chairing either the DSD Fall Convention and Rose Show or the DSD Mid-Winter Meeting. After some brief discussion, Vice-President Marilyn Watson called for a preliminary vote as to which Deep South District meeting our society might consider chairing. The vote indicated that society members might consider chairing the 2013 DSD Mid-Winter Meeting. Vice-President Watson stated that this would be brought before the Board of Directors in their next meeting.

Vice-President Watson introduced the speakers for the evening's presentation. Society members Rick Thomas, Mary Maud Sharpe, and Hank Rosen spoke about what they were doing in their gardens at this time of the year, including products used when planting roses, fertilizing roses and protecting against fungus and insects. The speakers presented much useful information and the audience responded with many questions and comments.

Door prizes were awarded and the meeting ended at 8:00 pm. The workshop during refreshment time featured systemic products on the market for three in one care of roses. Refreshments were served after the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Lennie Kennedy, Secretary

Society Picnic

The TARS picnic will be held on May 17 (our regular meeting date) at Goodwood. We plan to eat outside under the trees at Jubilee. The hospitality committee is making plans to have "Reggie" chicken. Members will be asked to bring side dishes or desserts. The society will supply drinks and paper goods. This a special social time to get to know fellow members better. Sampling all the variety of dishes is a special treat. You may also use this time to visit the gardens. Most of the early spring bloom will be over, but the volunteers have planted new plants and worked to get the beds in shape for the summer. If you haven't seen the Bill Kerber bench and plaque, be sure to visit the front garden.

April Consulting Rosarian Report

By Hank Rosen

For most rosarians, April is a very busy and exciting month. By now you have done all of the heavy lifting of pruning, fertilizing, and starting your spraying program. April is a good time to revisit your mid-February pruning and prune out any new dead or diseased wood and any canes which are not growing where you want them to grow. You should also check for blind eyes or non-developing shoots and prune below them.

You should continue your spraying program on a 7-14 day routine. My personal routine for fungicides includes using Banner Maxx combined with Manzate (contact fungicide) as the basis for my spraying. I will alternate Compass or Immunox for the Banner Maxx to avoid the bushes developing immunity to just one fungicide. I will use either Orthene or Conserve as an insecticide, and only when I notice the critters are present or have done some damage. During this hot and dry weather we are now having, you might use miticides such as Avid or Floramite, as necessary. A daily visit to the rose garden will enable you to keep tabs on what is going on. Always be sure to water your garden before spraying. Roses are thirsty plants and if you have well drained soil, you cannot over water them. If you plan to exhibit, you can use a "bloom booster" type of fertilizer such as 9-59-8 four weeks before the show, then again two weeks before. Use Sequestrine FE 330 (chelated iron) to green up your leaves.

A good practice is to keep a calendar or small note book and record each spraying and what products you use. You can also use the calendar to plan ahead for future sprayings, fertilizing, rose show dates, etc. April 27th is the date for the Thomasville Rose Show. This is always a good show and well worth the trip to exhibit or just enjoy the beautiful roses. Please consider entering if you have never done so or never won a blue ribbon. There are always some exhibitors who will take the time to help you in entering the show. There is even a special class just for novices. Good luck and we will see you at the show!

ARS/DSD Judging School

This school is for current judges to up date their status, for persons who wish to become judges to take the examination and for others to audit for information only. There will be a gathering on Friday evening. The school will be on Saturday and the examination will be held on Sunday. It can be a learning experience that may make you a better exhibitor even if you do not plan to become a judge. See contact on page 4.

Hospitality Committee

If you would like to help with refreshments at the meetings, please contact Martha Dooley, 850-342-1711 or jkdooley@embarqmail.com. You may bring a special "goodie" to share. The society hospitality committee furnishes the beverages and paper goods.

Workshop for April Meeting

There will be a display of types of containers for roses, as well as mechanics used in doing arrangements, including background niches to use in a show.

Tips on Cutting and Keeping Your Roses

- Try to cut roses in the early morning or late afternoon. They will have more substance at these times of day. Use sharp clippers so canes are not damaged.
- Carry a container of water with you to the garden. Put roses in the water as soon as you cut them.
- Be sure to cut sufficient stem length. It is a must to cut down to a five leaflet leaf. This is a point on the cane that the next flower will emerge.
- Remember that you are pruning as you are cutting blooms. Shape your bushes.
- While you are in the garden, cut spent blooms. If spent blooms are allowed to produce hips (seed pods) plants do not re-bloom properly.
- After cutting blooms, store them in a cool dark place until you are ready to use them. A home made solution to help your roses last longer can be made by using 4 tablespoons of vinegar, 4 teaspoons of sugar and 1/2 teaspoon of bleach in one gallon of water. Extra solution can be kept in the refrigerator.
- You may strip extra foliage that will be below the water line. Leave as much foliage as possible.
- Leave extra petals on your blooms until you are ready to use them. This will help to keep blooms from opening faster.
- When removing extra petals use a rocking motion to remove them rather than just pulling them off.
- If you need to transport cut roses, place the container of roses on a piece of webbed shelf liner. This helps to keep the container from slipping or tipping.
- Re-cut rose stems under water before making your arrangement. This will help to hydrate them.
- Cut rose stems at an angle especially if you are using a flora foam. The stems will insert easier.
- If using a floral foam wet it before using. Allow the foam to sink in water. Never force water into the foam by pushing the foam into the water. Air pockets may form and your roses will not take up water properly and can wilt.
- Place arrangements in a location away from direct sunlight and away from drafts if possible. This will help them to retain their freshness longer.
- Keep sufficient solution in the container. Roses like to drink. You will probably find that adding more solution rather than trying to change it will work.
- Roses with more petals will generally last longer as a cut bloom than roses with fewer petals.
- You may mist blooms to maintain freshness.
- Clean foliage with a damp cloth. If extra spray materials are present a small amount of detergent to your cleaning solution.

Upcoming Society Programs

April 12: Arranging roses that anyone can do (*Please note change of date*)

May 17: (No Planned Program) Covered Dish Picnic

June: No society program/meeting

July: No society program/meeting

August 16: Program TBA

September 20: Program TBA

Calendar of Local Society Events

April 12—Society Meeting

May 6—Open Gardens (Self tour to member gardens—Maps and directions provided)

May 17—Society Covered Dish Picnic (Members and guests)

June and July—No society meeting

August 16—Society Meeting

September 20—Society Meeting

Rose Shows:

April 27-28—Thomasville 91st Rose Show. Contact Rick Thomas 800-234-9536, e-mail rthomas@rose.net.

October 27-28—Tallahassee Area 28th Rose Show. Location Conner Building—Contact and more information TBA.

DSD Events:

May 25-27—DSD Judging School—Contact James Small, 407-628-3874, jsmalljr@cfl.rr.com.

ARS Events:

May 25-27—ARS/DSD Horticulture Judging School—Gainesville, FL

June 1-3—ARS Multi Regional Arrangement Judging School—Franklin, TN. Contact Sandy Dixon, 904-778-2887, e-mail sandydixon@comcast.net.

Information

The Tallahassee Area Rose Society meetings are at 7:00 p.m. on the third Thursday of the month except June, July, and December 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

The Deep South District of the ARS issues a quarterly E-mail copy of the Bulletin for \$10 a year or \$25 for three years. Printed copies are \$15.00 a year or \$40.00 for three years. Kay Harrell, DSDBulletin@fairmarsh.com

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*Denotes Master Rosarian

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Newsletter of the Tallahassee Area Rose Society

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