

# Regarding Roses

## Tallahassee Area Rose Society

*Affiliated with The American Rose Society*



## President's Message By Bill Dority

March 2011

First of all I wish to offer my congratulations to Pat Stanford for becoming our newest Consulting Rosarian. She will make great contributions in that role. I encourage others to eye that role, also. The first step is to join the American Rose Society. Next, I am very pleased to see active participation in support of our meetings. Thank you! Now is the time of the tax collector, right? And, as good citizens we pay our taxes. However, our friendly government allows us to reduce our tax burden by donating to certain institution/organization, such as TARS where every dollar we receive will be put to good use. All services are done by volunteer members and our expenses are minimal. So for a great bang for your buck, think of TARS

for your tax deductions. It is the right thing to do!

We had the pruning demonstration in my Rose Patch on February 19th. Thanks to all who participated. We cut them just right and they are coming along nicely. Our next planned event is the Open Garden Day in May just before Mother's Day. Plans will be finalized soon and details will be sent to you. We are asking for as many members to participate as possible. I believe that this can be a great outreach program for the public. Please contact me so that your garden can be included in this very special day. You will find that this is not the "Boogie Bear" that may first cross your mind. Remember that this is not a competition, it is a participation. If Garden Day is

not your thing, there are still other assignments open to you. I accept all phone calls and e-mails.

*Bill Dority*  
850-570-7046,  
billdority@yahoo.com

### ***Invasive Plants***

If you have a problem with invasive plants in your garden this month's program is for you. Mike Jenkins will be there to help you. I've talked with him and he thinks he can help me to get rid of cogon grass. The best advise I've had so far is to move off and leave it. We have tried everything and it seems to become a worse menace. It is so bad you wouldn't wish it on your worst enemy. I'm going to be there. Hope you are too! *MMS*

### Society Meeting

Date: Thursday, 17, 2011

Time: Time 7:00 p.m.

Place: Jubilee Cottage at Goodwood Museum and Gardens

Program: Mike Jenkins is the speaker and the program is "Removal of Invasive Exotics from Your Garden".

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## My Favorite Rose— Prosperity by Weej Broderson

My daughter Jan and I walked the rose garden recently. Neglect the last couple of years has done some damage to old spectaculars, but *Prosperity* is still a husky mound in the northwest corner, covered with buds and ready to take charge for the twentieth year—an old faithful looking as

good as ever—I owe her a special pat. This rose grew from a cutting I got while propagating Old Garden Roses at Goodwood with Bill Kerber twenty years ago. Like many of our favorite old garden roses, *Prosperity* has provided me with a continued on Page 2)



***Prosperity***  
***A Hybrid Musk***

### Special Notes

- Volunteer at Goodwood Saturday mornings 9:00 a.m. till noon. Call Bill Kerber 893-1165 or e-mail wkerber@juno.com for more information.
- Exhibit at the Thomasville Rose Show.
- Volunteer to serve on a committee.

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

wealth of memories as well as wonderful new blossoms year after year.

(Editor's Note: Prosperity was introduced in 1917 and is generally considered the best of the white Hybrid Musks. It has a rating of 8.6. The individual blooms are charming, but the large clusters are very impressive and it flowers throughout the growing season. It is best trained as a pillar rose. It is easy to propagate from cuttings and is not only Weej's favorite but a favorite at Goodwood gardens too)

### ***Dues are Due***

A membership form is enclosed for you to use in paying your 2011 dues (if not currently paid). There is a four month ARS trial membership available to new local society members that is free. Local society members may also join ARS with this same trial membership for \$5.00. The ARS memberships listed on the form are for members who are all ready ARS members. The treasurer will be glad to help you with any of the membership offered by ARS. Visit ARS.org and learn more about the American Rose Society.

### ***TARS Hospitality Committee***

Call Isabelle de Sercey 850-997-2170 to volunteer to bring finger food "goodies" for the meetings. Beverages are provided by the committee.

### ***Thomasville Rose Show***

The Thomasville Rose show will be Friday, April 22, and Saturday, April 23, in the big tent downtown Thomasville. The contact person is Rick Thomas 229-226-8310 / 800-234-9536 or e-mail rthomas@rose.net. Plan to exhibit and/or visit the show. Schedules will be available soon and there will be a sign up sheet at the meeting to receive a schedule or you may contact Mary Maud Sharpe at 850-878-9625 or by e-mail at WJMMSHARPE@AOL.COM.

### ***DSD Exhibitor School***

Plans for the school to be held mid-May have been cancelled.

### ***Annual TARS Rose Show***

It is not too early to begin planning the annual show. The dates will be Saturday, October 29, and Sunday, October 30. The location will again be the Doyle Conner Building. If you have any suggestions for improvements that can be made in the schedule, publicity, or any other aspect of the show, please contact any of the board members since work on this event will be finalized during the summer break. Be thinking too of what you can do to help with set up and take down, clerking for the judges, being a host or hostess, etc. We'll need lots of volunteers to make the show successful.

## ***MINUTES OF THE TALLAHASSEE AREA ROSE SOCIETY, February 17, 2011***

Monthly Meeting at Jubilee Cottage  
Goodwood Museum and Gardens 7:00 p.m.

A regular meeting of the Tallahassee Area Rose Society was held at Goodwood Museum and Gardens in the Jubilee Cottage. President Bill Dority presided. President Dority welcomed all members and visitors to the meeting. He asked Vice-President Marilyn Watson to introduce the program speaker for the evening. She introduced David Marshall, Agricultural/Natural Resources Program Leader, University of Florida IFAS Extension in Leon County. David presented an excellent program on "Nutritional Requirements of Roses," explaining in detail what has to happen in the soil for roses to receive the nutrients they need. He included detailed instructions on how to read and understand soil test analysis results, as well as instructions on how to interpret the listing of ingredients found on a bag of fertilizer and translate that into how many cups of fertilizer to use in a garden area. His presentation was very interesting and informative and there were questions and interactions from the audience. At the end of the presentation President Dority thanked David for his informative program and sharing his extensive knowledge in this area of gardening.

President Dority conducted a short business meeting. He asked if a motion would be made to accept the Secretary's minutes for the January 20, 2011 meeting, as presented in the bulletin. A motion was made, seconded and carried. President Dority asked for the Treasurer's report. The Treasurer presented the report and a motion was made and seconded to accept this report. The motion carried. President Dority reminded members and visitors about the upcoming "Rose Pruning Workshop," to be held Saturday, February 19, 2011, at his home at 3201 Brookforest Drive from 2:00 - 4:00 pm. The drawing for door prizes was held. The door prize for visitors was a rose bush and worm castings. The door prize for all attendees was a wire saw to use in pruning rose bushes.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm and members enjoyed refreshments. During the refreshments and socializing time, a mini-workshop was presented on the techniques of pruning roses, presented by Bill Dority. Mary Maud Sharpe displayed items used for pruning.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Lennie Kennedy*, Secretary

***Mistakes are a fact of life.  
It is the response to the error  
That Counts!***

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

By Sam Cunningham

Rose work done in the latter part of February and all of March sets the stage for a year of good or poor performance.

Pruning should have been done and all bare canes and straw surface of the beds can then be sprayed with liquid lime sulfur to help rid scale and other problems left over from the previous year. Fresh straw should be added.

The fertilization done at this time is very important. Each well established bush can use two or three cups of an organic fertilizer and a handful of slow-acting 16-4-8. If soil sample is acidic, this can be corrected with Dolomite Lime. Alfalfa pellets, Milorganite and magnesium sulfate are excellent additives. Around the end of the March each plant will welcome and respond to a cocktail of fish emulsion. Spraying following all directions, should begin NOW and should be done regularly. Consistent watering as needed pays off in quantity and quality of blooms.

### ***Rose Tip for the March Meeting***

At the meeting this month we will have a collection of items that you will find useful in garden maintenance. The door prize will be a unique garden rain gage that can be put in your rose bed.

### ***Understanding Fertilizer Uses***

Probably the most frequent questions rosarians ask other rosarians is what fertilizers do you use, when do you fertilize and how much do you use? There are many answers to these questions. You have generally heard that roses are heavy feeders and require frequent applications of fertilizer. "They are hungry." They do require nitrogen which stimulates the growth of tall, strong canes, good blooms and rich dark foliage. Nitrate nitrogen is the available form of nitrogen and other forms of nitrogen are transformed to so that they are useable to plants. Phosphorus stimulates root growth for plants and for roses makes big blooms. Soil test usually indicate sufficient phosphorus. Potassium from fertilizers also promotes root growth and additionally bloom color. Calcium make a sturdy plant by helping to hold the cell walls together. Magnesium produces greener foliage and healthy, disease resistant plants. Sulfur is the raw material for amino acids for plant health and helps to lower pH. Minor elements are iron, manganese, boron, zinc, copper and molybdenum and are usually sufficient in a well prepared fertile soil. If your soil test shows an iron deficiency use Sequestrene. This will bring back the good green color to your foliage. Over fertilizing is never recommended. The ARS Consulting Rosarian Man-

ual recommends a pH of 6.0 to 6.5 for roses. This is the pH at which the nutrients in the soil are available to the plant. At some pH ranges nutrients react with each other and form insoluble compounds and therefore not available to plants. Almost all fertilizers whether chemical or organic tend to make the soil more acid and thus reduce the pH. Most rosarians agree that it is best to water both before and after applying chemical fertilizer. It is especially helpful to rinse any dust from the plant foliage that may have happened with using a dry fertilizer. Most rose growers use both organic and inorganic fertilizers. Many growers use liquid applications too. This is helpful for container grown plants. You may also use a slow release fertilizer that can be effective for several months depending on the coating, temperature and rain fall. These fertilizers are formulated and prepared so that the plant has continual feeding. Slow release fertilizers can be used when planting roses. Organic fertilizers are very good and are sometime readily available from a local source. The most communally used are manures and compost. Fish emulsion is also good as a pick-me-up when rose need a special addition as after a long rainy spell. One of their special benefits of organics is to add humus to the soil. Organics are fertilizers that come from once-living organisms. Other examples of organics are cottonseed meal, alfalfa meal and sewer sludge (Milorganite). Over use of fertilizer may be harmful and this is the reason that successful growers use organics in addition to chemical fertilizer to give plants that continual slow feeding that make for healthy plants and good blooms through out the season. The drainage condition of your soil will help to determine the amounts and frequency of the fertilizer that you need to use.

### ***ARS Consulting Rosarian Manual***

This manual that is used by consulting rosarians is available for purchase by any rosarian from ARS for \$10.00 and is a bargain. The information has been compiled by knowledgeable rosarians and cover almost any question that you need answers to about rose culture. It is printed on letter size paper and will fit notebooks. It includes colored pictures of rose foliage showing deficiencies, rose insects and rose diseases. You may contact the ARS office, P. O. Box 30,000, Shreveport, LA 71130-0030, Telephone 318-0938-5402 or go to the ARS web site ARS.org to order. The web site has other information that will be helpful to you.

### ***DSD Bulletin***

This award winning publication is published quarterly. The subscription rate is \$10.00 per year or \$25.00 for 3 years for E-mail copies and \$15.00 per year or \$40.00 for 3 years US mail copies. Mail your subscription to DSD Bulletin, 121 Shore Rush Circle, St. Simmons Island, GA 31522-1420. For more information call 912-634-0323

### ***Bring a Friend Who Loves Rose to the Meeting***

## Upcoming Society Programs

**March 17, 2011:** Mike Jenkins of Florida Native Plant Society and Florida Division of Forestry will give a program on techniques for safely removing invasive exotics from your property. Mike's information on techniques and chemicals will be available to TARS members soon.

**April 14, 2011:** Hank Rosen will lead a panel discussion and demonstration on "Photographing Roses". Several TARS members are very accomplished photographers. We expect to have lap tops set up to show "real time" results of techniques that our photographers use in various settings.

## Calendar of Events

### TARS Society

**March 17, 2011—Society Meeting**

**April 14, 2011—Society Meeting**

**May 1, 2011—Rose Garden Open House**

(Details to be provided in the May newsletter)

**May 19—Society Picnic-Location TBA**

**June-No society Meeting**

**July- No Society Meeting**

**August 18-Society Meeting**

### Rose Shows: Spring

**April 22- 23—Thomasville** Big Tent downtown Thomasville, GA. Contact: Rick Thomas 229-226-8310 or 800-234-9536

**April-16-Gainesville**

**April 16-Central Florida**

**May 7-Jacksonville**

**May 30-Pensacola**

**May 7-8-Atlanta**

**May 7-8-Birmingham**

**May 14-South Metro**

**Rose Shows: Fall**

**October 29-30-Tallahassee**

## 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

## 2011 TARS Officials

President	Bill Dority 3201 Brookforest Dr. Tallahassee, FL 32312-2002 billdority@yahoo.com	850-570-7046
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Board Member	Rosemary McGrotha rmcgrotha@comcast.net	850-893-2779
Board Member	Frank Parker (Past President) stagerider@earthlink.net	850-893-9740

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\*Denotes Master Rosarian

## "Regarding Roses"

Newsletter of the Tallahassee Area Rose Society  
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