

Regarding Roses

Tallahassee Area Rose Society

Affiliated with The American Rose Society



President's Message By Bill Dority

January 2011

I am honored to be your new president of this historic society. I certainly plan to do the best job that I can, but I will need your help. As I see it our society goals are very fundamental. 1. Keep TARS alive and kicking. 2. Get our membership headed to the plus side of 100. 3. Increase attendance at our monthly meetings. Bring a friend with you. They will enjoy the presentations and the finger-licking goodies at the social time. 4. Get more activities. A list of members involved with the society committees is found on page 2. Most of the chairmen have been confirmed. Look them over and decide the one you would be most interested in this year. There is an old saying about, "busy hands and bush minds...and happiness doth make".

5. Promote tax deductible contributions to allow us to maintain the current membership fee (a real bargain). We do have routine expenses and sometimes unexpected ones. Fortunately, we have had some members who have in the past made very generous contributions. We are grateful to them and solicit their continued support and ask others to join them. The treasurer will provide you with information to claim tax deduction. 6. As a closing gleam in our eye, we need to get members headed down the path to becoming ARS Consulting Rosarians and Horticulture and Arrangement Judges. Some of our current CR's and Judges may be thinking about emeritus status and we need some new folks to take

their places. We will be calling on your from time to time, you can count on that. So, be the wiser for it, when you see something that needs doing or fixing, volunteer to do something about it. What a great New Year's resolution. However, remember, "If it ain't broke, then we won't need to fix it." We'll have plenty to do fixing what needs fixing. Ideas are always welcomed and a volunteer with an idea is the salt of the earth to me. Our overall goal must be to make our society even better and keep on being all she is cut out to be. Let me hear from you, please.

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

Society Meeting

Date: Thursday, January 20 2011

Time: Time 7:00 p.m.

Place: Jubilee Cottage at Goodwood Museum and Gardens

Program: Donna Legare of Native Nurseries will review techniques of organic horticulture.

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My Favorite Rose— Verdun By Rosemary McGrotha

I have to say when I was asked to write about my favorite rose I panicked. "What"? I thought, "I have so many favorites." So I picked one that comes to mind, that has recently impressed me and that is still producing flowers, even in this cold weather. This rose is called *Verdun*.

Verdun was one of the two roses I had purchased from Bill Kerber at a Goodwood rose sale, before I became a gardener or knew anything about plants or the differences between them, let alone roses.

After bringing my rose continued on Page 2)



Verdun
(Polyantha)

Special Notes

- Volunteer at Goodwood Saturday mornings 9:00 a.m. till noon. Call Bill Kerber 893-1165 for more information.
- OGR Sale—February 12
- Pruning Demonstration—February 19.
- Make your New Years Resolution to grow better roses!

My Favorite Rose (continued)

home I got busy with other things and never planted it. I had cast it aside and I had thrown it into some bushes out of sight, out of mind.

Four years later, after I had completed my education at the Master Gardener Program, I was cleaning up my yard. Low and behold, there it was, on its side, my *Verdun* lying in the bushes intact and trying to bloom.

Verdun is an old rose true to its name; I was told that *Verdun* was a famous French battle during the First World War. This rose produces so many beautiful clusters continuously and gives off a light fragrance. For what it lacks in fragrance, it makes up in everlasting bright, beautiful flowers. *Verdun* is a Polyantha rose.

If I ever want to cut a little bouquet. I know I can always count on *Verdun*. This is why it is one of my favorite roses.

Dues are Due

A membership form is enclosed for you to use in paying your 2011 dues. 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 Web Site

When you have an extra minute visit our society web site and contact Frank Parker, 850-893-7099 or stagerider@earthlink.net with any new information you would like to see added. Frank is in the process of doing some updating and he would be pleased to hear from you. Go to tallahasseearearosesociety.org. You will be pleased with all the work Frank has done in developing the web site.

TARS Committee Chairmen—2011

Audit—Montine Herring
Consulting Rosarian—Bill Dority
Hospitality—Isabelle de Sercey
Newsletter—Mary Maud Sharpe
Nominating—Frank Parker
Program—Marilyn Watson
Rose Show—TBA
Publicity—Rosemary McGrotha
Membership—TBA

All of these committee chairmen need members to help in carrying out the activities of the committee. Contact president Bill Dority and he will help you get started. Call Isabelle 850-997-2170 to volunteer to bring "goodies" for the meetings.

MINUTES OF THE TALLAHASSEE AREA ROSE SOCIETY, November 18 2010

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

Vice-President Jennie Myers called the meeting to order and presided.

Bill Dority moved the acceptance of the minutes of the October 21st meeting: Bill Price seconded; motion carried.

The Treasurer's report was given by Mary Maud Sharpe and was accepted.

Bill Price presented the report of the Nominating Committee for 2011 Officials as follows:

President	Bill Dority
Vice-President	Marilyn Watson
Secretary	Lennie Kennedy
Treasure	Mary Maud Sharpe
Director	Isabelle de Sercey
Director	Rosemary McGrotha
Director (Past President)	Frank Parker

Jim Dooley moved the committee report for officials be accepted and that the nominees be elected by acclamation; Delphine Strickland seconded; motion carried.

The Bronze Medal and certificate for outstanding service to a local society was presented to Rick Thomas.

Mary Maud Sharpe presented the program on soils and soil samples test kits were available to members. Water retention and drainage were demonstrated and technique handouts were distributed.

The door prize, a bag of gypsum, was awarded.

The meeting adjourned and members enjoyed refreshments.

Mary Maud Sharpe

Acting Secretary

Goodwood OGR Rose Sale

The sale will be held on Saturday, February 12 from 9:00 am till noon. A list of the varieties available in enclosed with this mailing. You are sure to find a must have on the list. Plan to be there early for the best selection. The sale will be held rain or shine. Hopefully the weather will be pleasant. There will be knowledgeable Goodwood volunteers there to help you with your selections. Varieties will also have photographs and brief descriptions to help you. There will be handouts on suggestions for planting. If you have questions after reviewing the enclosed list contact Bill Kerber at 850-893-1165 or wkerber@juno.com. This sale is open to the public, so tell your friends.

The trouble with experience is that it usually teaches you something you really didn't want to know.

January Consulting Rosarian Report

By Rick Thomas

When I write articles for the newsletter, my theme is usually to keep it simple, both in my style of writing as well as my message to the reader. So today I could write this article with four words or one sentence. GET A SOIL TEST. The end. That was easy, and this will be short, too.

Actually it is easy to get a soil test done and should be done at least once a year. What I do is to gather 18-24 samples in each of 3 or 4 areas of my garden. I use a soil testing tool from the county agent mixing the soil from each area in a large bag, one bag for each area. One section shall be sample 1, the second section shall be sample 2, etc. I always try to make my sections of similar rose beds with similar locations such as around the house foundations and pool deck as one section. Then I mail my samples to the soil lab. There are many soil labs from which to choose. Personally, being a Georgia resident, I use the University of Georgia. A & L Labs in Pompano Beach, FL is another great lab and is Eric Yount's lab of choice. You all know that Eric and Sue grow the best roses in the country. In fact, he will be teaching the CR school at the mid-winter in Lake City and his subject will be soil. Go and listen to him speak and learn from the best.

Get it done and follow the direction to correct the problem(s) the lab finds. Be assured they will find at least one problem!

Rose Tip for the January Meeting

At the meeting this month we will be demonstrating the way you can sharpen your clippers and loppers. This will be during the fellowship and refreshment time. Bring your clippers and all materials needed will be furnished. There is no charge for supplies. It is not difficult and sharp clippers are a must for your February pruning.

Special Announcement

Stuart Smith plans to give away many of the rose plants from his garden and is offering them to society members on a first come basis. Contact him at 850-893-2853 for details. His garden has many types and varieties.

Schedule of Events

Enclosed is a schedule of events for the current year of TARS activities. Please note the dates on your calendar now and plan to participate in as many of the meetings and other activities as possible. There should be something of interest for all members (including youth). Invite friends and neighbors to come with you. President Dority is sponsoring an ARS membership to the member who brings the most visitors during the year. More later.

New Year's Resolutions

- Make care of my roses a number one priority and grow better rose this year than I did last.
- Do what my soil test tells me to do as soon as possible.
- Do a better job of checking on the water my roses receive. I got a new rain gauge for Christmas.
- Wait until I'm sure the cold weather is over before finishing my pruning.
- Never leave my sprayer without first cleaning it properly after each use.
- Do a better job of recording what I do and when I do it. I made this resolution last year, but I still didn't do as well as I should have.
- Continue to do the things I know that work and only try other things after I have talked to another local rosarian.

Things to Do

While the Weather Outside is Frightful

Take an inventory of your garden. What plants do you need to re-gift to someone else, move to another location or discard if they need to be replaced with healthy plants.

Don't feed until later.

Use lime sulfur at this time or year as a clean up spray. Spray the left over mulch too. This can help you rid plants of things that overwinter on rose bushes.

It is O. K. to cut back very tall bushes so bushes are not damaged by winter winds, but do not prune yet. Wait till mid February or early March to do your heavy pruning.

Add mulch if your mulch has thinned. Mulch helps to deter those pesky winter weeds and keep the soil warmer.

Check on your supplies and be sure that you have everything that you will need for your spring work.

Sharpen your clippers and loppers.

Check your irrigation system, if you have one.

DSD Mid-Winter Meeting

Several members will be attending this weekend of programs, workshops and the consulting rosarian school. They will be glad to share with you what they learned. Talk to them at the meeting and find out what is new in the rose world.

New Plants for Your Garden

If you are new to the rose hobby, make sure that you purchase grafted plants at nurseries that carry fortune root stock. In our area most rosarians have found that this rootstock produces much better plants than other rootstocks. Ask before you buy if the rootstock is not listed on the label.

Upcoming Society Programs

January 20, 2011: Donna Legare of Native Nurseries will review techniques and practices of organic horticulture. She'll help clarify what "organic gardening" means and why definitions are variable across organizations. We'll follow with a group discussion on the degree to which these methods may be helpful in growing roses.

February 17, 2011: David Marshall of Leon County Extension Service will present a program on the primary, secondary and minor nutrients and elements that our roses need. Bring your soil sample reports. Soil test results will be reviewed and recommendations made..

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 lab tops set up to show "real time" results of techniques that our photographers use in various settings.

Calendar of Events

January 14-16, 2011—DSD Mid-Winter Meeting
Lake City, FL. Contact Ralph Stream 352-591-4474, streamj@gmail.com

January 20, 2011-Society Meeting

February 12, 2011 Goodwood Rose Sale

February 17, 2011-Society Meeting

February 19, 2011—Pruning Demonstration

March 17, 2011—Society Meeting

April 14, 2011—Society Meeting

April 22- 23, 2011—Thomasville Society Rose Show, Big Tent downtown Thomasville, GA. Contact: Rick Thomas 229-226-8310 or 800-

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
Vice-President	Marilyn Watson dantebaron@earthlink.net	850-343-1193
Secretary	Lennie Kennedy oagauditor@aol.com	850-878-3787
Treasurer	Mary Maud Sharpe WJMMSHARPE@AOL.COM	850-878-9625
Board Member	Isabelle de Sercey Desercey@embarqmail.com	850-997-2170
Board Member	Rosemary McGrotha rmcgrotha@comcast.net	850-893-2779
Board Member	Frank Parker (Past President) stagerider@earthlink.net	850-893-7099

ARS Consulting & Master Rosarians

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*Denotes Master Rosarian

"Regarding Roses"

Newsletter of the Tallahassee Area Rose Society
Disclaimer: While the information and recommendations in this newsletter are believed to be correct and accurate, neither the authors, editor nor the Tallahassee Area Rose Society can accept responsibility for errors or omissions that may be made. The Society makes no warranty expressed or implied with respect to the material herein. Articles, information, etc. for the newsletter will be greatly appreciated.
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