

Regarding Roses

Tallahassee Area Rose Society

Affiliated with The American Rose Society



President's Message: Jan Godfrey

March 2020

Wow! What a fantastic turnout we had for last month's meeting—over 20 people. The program with the Consulting Rosarians had lots of good tips on how to grow beautiful roses. I had my list and pictures of things concerning to me and I got answers to all my questions. It's great that we have such knowledgeable rosarians in our Society.

This is one of my favorite times of the year. The land is bright green with rye and vetch growing everywhere. Our roses are surrounded by a carpet of both of them—what excellent weed control. Not only do they brighten up the land, they provide a great mulch and green manure when they are finished blooming. If you leave them to seed, you will have a new crop next year. Both are known as great nitrogen fixers and add this important nutrient

to the soil for use by the roses and other plants that come along later.

We have continued to spray for blackspot throughout the winter and the roses are faring much better. I am also working hard to get everyone pruned but I must admit it is difficult for me to cut back all the branches smaller than a pencil. The dry organics we have chosen to use this year include chicken manure pellets, Sigma 4-4-4 from Beaty Fertilizer, Azomite and a small amount of dolomite and Epson salts. I have also been using a concentrated liquid fertilizer called Grow Big which includes micronutrients as well as the usual NPK. For spraying I have been using a formula which includes Azomite, kelp, fish emulsion, SUPERthrive and molasses which is not only a nutrient but also controls blight. Alternately with the Azomite mix, I

have been spraying Green Cure (for blackspot) combined with either Spinosad (for chilli thrips) or ferilome Fire Blight Spray. I really enjoy starting to get the roses ready for the coming growing and blooming season.

You won't want to miss Ann Stevens presenting this month's program—Propagation 101. She will cover all the basic techniques of rose propagation. She really knows her stuff since she has started hundreds of roses for the Goodwood Annual Rose Sale.

Hope to see all of you on March 5.

"It is the time you have spent on your rose that makes her so important.

— Antoine de Saint-Exupéry

Jan



Sunny Sundays
(Hybrid Tea)

Thought You'd Like To Know – Sunny Sundays

Sunny Sundays is a hybrid tea introduced in 2013 by John T. Smith. It is a yellow blend and the blooms are light pink with a reverse yellow. The blooms are full and mostly borne solitary. It does not have fragrance. The foliage is large, medium green, matte. The growth is spreading and medium.

The parents are Gemini and St. Patrick. The entry of a Double English Box of *Sunny Sundays* was the best of show at the 2019 rose show. The exhibitor was Donna Harrell. It is available from Jim Mills, K&M Roses and could make a great garden addition for you.

March Society Meeting

Date: Thursday, March 5, 2020

Time: 7:00 pm.

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

Program: Presented by TARS Vice-President, Ann Stevens, on "Propagation of roses". Ann has volunteered at Goodwood propagating roses for a number of years. She has researched varied methods and has hands-on experience.

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Special Notes

- Volunteer at Goodwood Saturday mornings 9:00 am—Noon and third Wednesday 9:00 am.
- Volunteer at the Peace Garden to assist the city in its care. New plants are to be planted.

Goodwood Roses

The annual sale was February 8 from 9:00 am until Noon. Many plants were sold. There are still plants available. Come join us! If you can volunteer any Saturday you will be welcomed. For more information contact any of the regular volunteers:

Eva McElvy, 850-251-4810
evarenemc@gmail.com
Cheryl Gifford, 330-354-3087
giffgarden@gmail.com
Sam Miller, 850-459-3012
sammiller6113@outlook.com
Mary Maud Sharpe, 850-878-9625
wjmmsharpe@aol.com
Ann Stevens, 850-576-1800
stevensann@yahoo.com
John Sullivan, 850-727-8636
jdsiv014@gmail.com

The sale will continue on Saturday mornings until all plants find a new home.

Hospitality Committee—Martha Dooley

If you are willing to provide a goodie (sweet, savory, beverage) for 2020 meetings, please call me at 850-342-1711 or e-mail to mbdooley@embarqmail.com or text to 850-294-4016. Just let me know what item you plan to bring and I will coordinate with other member volunteers.

Deadline for April Newsletter

The deadline for submitting information for the April "Regarding Roses", the society newsletter, is March 19. Please send information to the editor Mary Maud Sharpe at wjmmsharpe@aol.com or mail to 7020 Apalachee Parkway, Tallahassee, FL 32311-4122. Contact by phone at 850-878-9625.

Asking for Your Help

Ginger Benjamin, a society member, has volunteered to be responsible for publicity and spreading the word to the community of news from the society and inviting others to join us. She will need the cooperation of the members to keep her informed of special events, our interesting monthly programs and rose tips from your garden that you are willing to share. Her contact information is 2658 Millbrook Dr., Tallahassee, FL 32301-8562, 850-264-4490, Ginger_Sells@yahoo.com. Let's all help Ginger spread the word about roses and TARS!

Thomasville Rose Show

The Thomasville Rose Show will be Friday, April 24 and Saturday, April 25 at the big tent downtown Thomasville. We hope that many of our members will exhibit at the show. Schedules will be available soon and the contact person is President Gail Altman, 229-224-1265 or glane@altmanlane.net. Schedules will also be available at the April meeting of TARS. Even if you cannot exhibit plan to go and visit the show.

Tallahassee Rose Society Minutes February 13, 2020

The Tallahassee Area Rose Society (TARS) meeting was called to order by President Jan Godfrey at 7:03 p.m. There were 24 attendees, including several new people.

Treasurer Mary Maud Sharpe presented the Treasurer's Report. A \$62 membership fee has been forwarded to the American Rose Society (ARS). Mary Maud said that 33 people have already paid their 2020 dues, and she encouraged others to do so. Membership cards will be sent out soon. The only bill expected soon was for the insurance. The bank used for TARS accounting is being merged with another bank, and the name will be changed to Truist.

Mary Maud reported that Oberley Andrews Brown, a former TARS member, passed away recently. Oberley was also a Goodwood volunteer, and a \$25 donation will be sent to ARS in her memory.

Seymour Rosen recommended that TARS make a donation to the ARS restoration fund.

The program for the evening consisted of talks by TARS Master Rosarians on various topics important to growing roses. A handout was provided that addressed each topic.

Cheryl Gibbons reported that ARS was organized in about 1892 and initially was for professional growers only. TARS was organized in about 1993. Cheryl listed things to consider when selecting roses and provided the names and characteristics of several of her favorite varieties.

Hank Rosen discussed points to consider in selecting and preparing good rose beds. Hank recommended planting roses in beds, rather than in holes, and stressed the importance of amending the soil, particularly if the soil is very sandy. New plants need to be watered and mulched well. Application of fertilizer should be delayed until new growth appears.

John Sullivan discussed pruning of roses, which should be done on established plants around Valentine's day. New plants generally do not require pruning. For established plants, pruning earlier than mid-February might stimulate new growth that could be killed by subsequent cold weather. Dead wood should be cut out whenever it appears.

Bob Schelhorn discussed fertilizers. Bob prefers organics, including alfalfa pellets, cottonseed meal, and milorganite. There are special rose fertilizers on the market, but about any general fertilizer can be used. Liquid fertilizers also can be used, and they produce a very quick response. Bob emphasized the need to water the plants well before and after applying fertilizer, and the foliage should be washed well.

Seymour Rosen discussed spraying. Blackspot and mites are particular problems in this area. Seymour recommended spraying only if necessary and with as safe materials as possible. Bayer's 3 in 1, a systemic, can be

used, which reduces or eliminates the need for spraying. Seymour stressed the importance of protecting yourself when applying pesticides. One should wear goggles while spraying, and shower and launder clothing after spraying. A minimal approach can be followed by spraying only the buds just before a rose show.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:09 pm, followed by the drawing for the door prize and delicious treats provided by John Sullivan, Bob Schelhorn, and Cheryl Gibbons.

Respectfully submitted by

Janet Newburgh

TARS Secretary

Consulting Rosarian Report

by Hank Rosen, Master Consulting Rosarian

March is an important month for the rosarian as it is the "kick off" of the growing season! By now you should have cut back your roses by reducing the height of the bush by one third or a little more. Shortly after you finished your mid-February pruning, you should start your spray program for the year to prevent black spot and other fungal diseases from occurring, if you decide to spray. Once your bushes leaf out, you can begin to fertilize them. I use a 13-6-6 formulation with 50% slow release nitrogen. I also apply organics of milorganite, cottonseed meal, and alfalfa pellets. If you have not done a soil test, now is the time to do so and then adjust your pH if necessary to the 6.2-6.8 range. If you do not get sufficient rainfall of 1-2 inches a week, be sure to water your roses to achieve this level. After you have done all of these items, check your bushes frequently and admire the new buds and blooms you will have shortly and in time for the Thomasville Rose Show.

Feeding Your Roses

Roses are like us they like food to eat and something to drink on a regular basis. When and how you fertilize and water your roses is very important. The six most common nutrients in decreasing order that plants get from the soil are:

- Nitrogen for growth of tall strong canes, good blooms and rich dark green foliage. Nitrogen should be in proper balance in the soil. A lack or an excess of nitrogen can be harmful. Additions of nitrogen must be transformed so that they are available to the plants.
- Potassium which promotes root growth and bloom color.
- Calcium holds cell walls together and promotes stability and early growth. Makes a sturdier plant.
- Magnesium promotes chlorophyll formation and interacts to produce greener foliage and healthier, disease-resistant plants.
- Phosphorus stimulates root growth, producing quality plants and big blooms. Also hastens plant maturity, adding to winter hardiness.

- Sulfur is the raw material for amino acids and proteins needed for plant health. Also lowers pH.

The minor micronutrients elements iron, manganese, boron, zinc, copper, molybdenum and chlorine are generally present in a well-prepared fertile soil.

The availability of nutrients is affected by the soil acidity. The soil acidity is measured by the pH of the soil on a scale of 0 to 14 with the ideal range for roses from 6.0 to 6.5. This ideal range is the point at which most nutrients are available to our roses. Usually pH tests will be lower than the recommended range and dolomitic lime will be needed to raise the pH. A form of sulfur is used to lower the pH. Adjustments may take some fertilizers which are organic (from once living organisms) and inorganic (chemical) are available in many forms. Examples of organic fertilizers are cottonseed meal, blood meal, alfalfa meal, fish emulsion, manures, compost and sewer sludge. Organic fertilizers will take longer to effect plant growth, but tend to last longer. Inorganic chemical fertilizers are salts and come as many materials and are listed as ingredients on the product. Choose fertilizers that are low in chlorides which are especially injurious as soil become dry. Fertilizers with a form of nitrate can have an almost immediate effect on plants. Other forms will generally take longer. Remember the rule of watering both before and after applying fertilizers and wash the foliage to remove any dust from the materials you use.

Plants drink their food and sufficient water is a must. Rainfall is generally not sufficient for our roses

DSD Exhibitor's School

We have learned that Saturday, June 20th is the same weekend as the ATS National Convention and so the date has been changed to Saturday, June 6. It will be held here in Tallahassee at Goodwood and we hope that you will plan to attend. There will be tips on exhibiting in horticulture, arrangements and photography for both beginning and experienced exhibitors. The morning sessions will be on horticulture and the afternoon sessions will be on arrangements and photography. We will begin at 9:00 am and plan to be finished by 3:00 pm. Lunch will be served and is complimentary. The three societies hosting this DSD event are Pensacola Rose Society, Tallahassee Area roses Society and Thomasville Rose Society. You are asked to contact Glenn Schulman, 850-261-3991 or glenn.schulman@att.net and let him know that you plan to come so that enough supplies, space and food can be available. This is a great opportunity to learn more about our rose hobby. More details will be available at a later date.

See You at the March Meeting

Upcoming Society Programs and Events

March 5 — “Propagation” - Goodwood Volunteer.
Ann Stevens

**April 2 — ”New Rules and Guidelines for ARS
Rose Shows.**

May 7—Annual Picnic. Details TBA later.

June and July—No Society Meetings

DSD Events

April 24-25 — Thomasville Rose Show. Contact
Gail Altman, 229-224-1265, gailaltman@altman.com

June 6—Exhibitor’s School. Goodwood Museum and
Gardens. Contact Glenn Schulman 850-438-5269,
gkenn.schulman@att.net

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. 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:

Website: www.tallahasseearearosesociety.org

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

Membership: Annual dues are \$15 individual, \$20 joint. Contact the treasurer, Mary Maud Sharpe, 850-878-9625, wjmmsharpe@aol.com

DSD Bulletin: 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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Board Member	Bob Schelhorn B.schelhorn@yahoo.com	850-907-1325
Board Member (Past President)	Marion Nimis marion@statistix.com	850-894-1133

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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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