

Regarding Roses

Tallahassee Area Rose Society

Affiliated with The American Rose Society



President's Message: Jan Godfrey

August 2020

Watering, watering, watering—the way I start my day. Sunrises are beautiful and Venus is so very bright in the dawn sky. I have to get up and at it early with the summer heat. One of my favorite sights right now is the spectacular blooming of our Easter Lilies. The large white flowers are towering overhead and are everywhere in front of and beside our house, in the rose gardens and beside the paths. Before Hurricane Michael, we only had a few but the strong Category 4 winds spread the then-mature seeds all over the land. They definitely perk up my day.

The Passion Vine is also having a good year. I think that its unique flower is very beautiful. It has actually gone crazy and I am having to “weed” it out of my roses. Watering, weeding and enjoying being with

my roses has been a great distraction while being isolated this summer.

So sad, I had to “shovel prune” one of my oldest (at least 17 years) and favorite roses Spice (found Bermuda China). The bush and the flowers have a lovely musky, spicy fragrance. I certainly hope I can replace it. I will miss the strong fragrance blowing in the breeze from the gigantic bush.

The roses are always teaching me something. This time I am learning what iron deficiency looks like. The leaf structure turns yellow but the veins remain green. Jean Bach Sisley (China 1889) is one of my high maintenance roses. She has suffered from so many maladies and is now iron deficient. It seems to be only on part of one side and she continues to bloom. Right now, I am spraying her with Blackstrap Molasses—a good source of calcium, magnesium, iron, potassium and a host of micronutrients. It provides for quick uptake of other nutrients as both a foliar feed and as a soil drench. In the soil it encourages beneficial microbe growth. I add it to sprayed nutrients and soil drench at 1-3 Tbl. per gallon.

I will miss seeing all of you during this pandemic. Even though we will not be meeting in person, I will continue to communicate through Regarding Roses each month.

Stay safe and well.

“A garden is a grand teacher. It teaches patience and careful watchfulness”
— Gertrude Jekyll

Jan

“I follow three rules. Do the right thing, do the best you can, and always show people you care.”

Lou Holtz

Thought You'd Like To Know – Sara May Price

Sara May Price is a rose that was registered in 2005 by Sam Cunningham. He named the rose for his mother. We lost Sam recently and we are planning to send a remembrance article for him and his wife Nell to the DSD Bulletin. His rose is a large flowered climber with flowers medi-

um pink and an intense fragrance. The foliage is large, dark green and semi-glossy. It has few prickles and the growth is tall and upright. The parents are listed as Maman Cochet and New Dawn (?).

His rose still grows at his home.



Sara May Price
(Large Flowered Climber)

August Society Picnic

The Society will not hold the annual picnic previously rescheduled for the August meeting.

It has been decided to postpone all society events and the hopes are that the current situation because of the virus will improve later. Follow all the precautions and stay safe. Take care of yourself and your roses. You will receive newsletters.

Inside this issue:

<i>President's Message</i>	1
<i>Thought You'd Like to Know—Society Picnic canceled and Notes</i>	1
<i>Goodwood Roses, Deadline, Help, Newsletter, Minutes, Events Canceled, RIR and Forward to Fall</i>	2
<i>CR Report, ARS Garden Restoration, CR Update, Mid-Winter.</i>	3
<i>Upcoming Programs, Future Events of DSD and General Information</i>	4
<i>TARS Officials</i>	4
<i>ARS Consulting, Master and Emeritus Rosarians</i>	4

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. The new plants are growing well.

Goodwood Roses

There are plants available now. If you can volunteer any Saturday you will be welcomed. Currently some of the work has been scaled back. Hopefully the volunteers will be able to root enough plants for a 2021 sale. If you have cuttings you can share that would be great. Wear a mask and come any Saturday morning to help. The rose bed at the reflection pool has had a great bloom this year. 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
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Ann Stevens, 850-576-1800
stevensann@yahoo.com
John Sullivan, 850-727-8636
jdsiv014@gmail.com

Deadline for September Newsletter

The deadline for submitting information for the September "Regarding Roses", the society newsletter, is August 20. Please send information to the editor Mary Maud Sharpe at wjmsharpe@aol.com or mail to 7020 Apalachee Parkway, Tallahassee, FL 32311-4122. Contact by phone at 850-878-9625.

Still 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 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! Visit our face book page. There is good information there.

TARS—Regarding Roses

You will continue to receive issues of Regarding Roses. The society will use this major means of communication until we are able to meet at Goodwood again. It is hoped that this virus situation will not continue much longer but at this point there is no way to know. We are thankful that our roses give us joy and happiness during these unusual times!

*"The only difference between
Stumbling blocks and stepping stones
Is how you use them"*

Unknown

Tallahassee Rose Society Minutes

Since it was necessary to cancel the May picnic of the society there are no minutes to report.

Exhibitor's School

This school which was scheduled and rescheduled has been postponed indefinitely. Perhaps it can hopefully be held sometime in 2021.

TARS Fall Rose Show

The society had planned to hold the annual society rose show on Saturday, October 31 and Sunday November 1 at the Conner Administration Building.

The virus situation will not allow us to hold our annual rose show. We feel that it is best that we let members and out of town exhibitors know now.

DSD Annual Meeting and Rose Show

We have learned that this event is canceled. It had been scheduled to be held in October. We can all understand this decision by the host society.

ARS National Convention and Rose Show

This event originally scheduled for August 26-30 in Colorado Springs has been canceled by the hosting Pikes Peak Rose Society. Refunds are to be sent to anyone that had previously registered.

Roses in Review (RIR)

Information on this important program is enclosed. Remember that even though you do not grow any of the roses listed, you are asked to make a report. You may also make your report on line. The deadline for reporting is September 26. The results of the RIR will be used to publish the annual ARS Handbook for Selecting Roses. If you have questions contact Jill Haisten. Her contact information is telephone, 334-201-6800 or e-mail, jillhaisten@gmail.com.

Many thanks to you who have all ready submitted your roses in review information.

Looking Forward to Fall

- With cooler weather on the way your roses should have larger blooms and deeper colors. Some of the best roses of the year are our fall ones.
- Generally any applications of fertilizer after the first of October need to be low nitrogen. What dormancy your roses have is generally in the late fall and winter months.
- Assess your roses and determine the ones that you will need to replace for the next growing season. If you like the variety and it has done well for you perhaps you may want to get a new plant or you may decide now is the time to try a new variety.
- There are many new varieties to choose from. Visit gardens in our area while they are still in bloom before making a decision.
- Get a soil test done.

Consulting Rosarian Report—August

By John Sullivan

ROSE STORIES

Mutabilis, a rose in the China family, came from Reunion, a French island near Madagascar. An Italian Prince, Ghilberto Borromeo, sponsored a botanical expedition to collect plants for his famous island garden in the Lake Maggiore, north Italian lake district. So, in 1894, this rose was introduced to Europe and eventually found its way into commerce and fame. The flowers start out as red buds opening to a peachy yellow, single five-petaled rose, then cameo pink and finally a crimson. The colors are not random as I used to think, but a progression over days. After all, *Mutabilis* comes from Latin meaning prone to change. The new growth is a beautiful burgundy color which adds to the spectrum of colors. The bush blooms continuously for at least 6 months.

The end effect is a bush about as tall as wide, 3 to 6 feet, that looks like a kaleidoscope of butterflies have landed. By the way, kaleidoscope is the official name for a group of butterflies, I looked it up. So, the rose is known as the “butterfly rose”. The American Rose Society gives the rose an “outstanding” 8.8 rating and it does well in hot climates.

Souvenir de la Malmaison is a Bourbon rose from 1843. Malmaison was eventually Josephine Bonaparte’s residence outside Paris, given to her by Napoleon after their divorce. Even though *mal maison* translates to “bad or evil house”, this was a magnificent Chateau, with a world-renowned garden. The name probably came to the area before the chateau was built, as a base for 14th century Norman warriors to carry out raids on the surrounding countryside. The Chateau sometimes served as seat of government for the Bonaparte’s. Although the garden contained the largest collection of roses in the world at its glory, it did not have the *Souvenir de la Malmaison* rose. Empress Josephine died in 1813, escaping the guillotine through the help of her cousin and lover, the Marquis de Sade. By the time this rose came to be named, the famous gardens of Malmaison had been raided and ruined.

The rose is a low growing, compact shrub, hardly ever exceeding 3 feet in diameter and height. The flowers may ball in cooler wet weather, but the plant does like hot weather. This shrub is rated 8.6 in the American Rose Society Handbook. The sweet scent rivals any modern hybrid tea bred for fragrance. The flowers are very double, shell pink, shallow-cupped and strongly quartered. The rose deserves its unofficial title of “Queen of Beauty and Fragrance”. *Souvenir de la Malmaison* produced a climbing sport in 1893. So, if you want more of these roses than the small bush produces, get a climber. An example of the climber can be found in the Healing Garden at the TMH cancer treatment center. “*Souvenir de St. Anne’s*” is another less double sport of Malmaison from Ireland from before 1916.

American Rose Center Great Garden Restoration Project 2017-2022

The gardens of the American Rose Center were first created in 1972. A five year master plan has been created to restore the gardens. The new gardens are made up of four large circles. The first circle is made up of the most colorful modern roses. Other circles will take visitors back in time to discover the history of the rose to the species roses that were found in China centuries ago. The master plan when completed in 2022 will celebrate the garden’s 50th year! To complete the plan and to maintain the gardens requires support from members. A generous donation to this project would be greatly appreciated by ARS. Please send donations to DSD Treasurer, Kay Harrell, 121 Shore Rush Circle, St. Simons Island, GA 31522-1420 and she will forward to ARS.

Update on ARS/TARS CR’s

This summer ARS has had a CR School online and anyone could participate. Your editor has joined all of the school presentations. They have been excellent programs and there has been a question and answer session with each of the topics covered. We hope that other TARS CR’s have been able to join some of the sessions. The focus and mission of the CR program is to serve members and anyone interested in roses to grow better roses. CR’s should if possible grow all types of roses in their own gardens. They should be familiar with chemicals and nontoxic approaches to growing roses. They should be the worker helpers in local and ARS rose society activities. Continue to attend CR meetings. Submit the annual Roses in Review report. They should be willing to share knowledge and enthusiasm for the joys of growing roses. Consulting Rosarians do not charge a fee for any rose advise. A Master Rosarian must have served a minimum of 10 years as a CR with outstanding service and a willingness to continue to serve. The TARS CR’s and Master Rosarians and their contact information is listed on the last page of each issue of “Regarding Roses” newsletters. Cheryl Gibbons is the TARS CR Coordinator. They also contribute articles for the newsletter. Remember to contact them.

Consider becoming a CR!

DSD Mid-Winter Meeting—2021

Thomasville and Tallahassee Area Rose Societies have been asked to rescheduled to host this meeting in March of 2021 which was originally scheduled for January. We have just learned of this from the district. Some tentative plans are being made. Hopefully the virus situation will be better by then. More news later.

*“Act as if what you do makes a difference.
It does.”*

William James

Upcoming Society Programs and Events

August 6—Annual Picnic (Canceled by the board)

October 31—November 1—Society Annual Rose Show. (Canceled)

(Members will be notified when meetings and events are resumed)

DSD Events

October 16-18 —DSD Convention and Rose Show— Gainesville, FL Contact Ralph and Jean Stream, 352-591-4474, streamj@gmail.com.
(Canceled)

ARS Convention and Rose Show

August - Colorado Springs. (Canceled)

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 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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Emeritus ARS Consulting & Master Rosarians

Bill Price	(No Contacts Please)
Martha Jean Woodward	(No Contacts Please)

*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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