

Regarding Roses

Tallahassee Area Rose Society

Affiliated with The American Rose Society



President's Message: Jan Godfrey

December 2020

"HAPPY HOLIDAYS"
Did you know that President Ronald Reagan proclaimed the Rose to be our National Flower in 1986? This is around the same time that TARS was started. He wrote "More often than any other flower, we hold the rose dear as the symbol of life and love and devotion, of beauty and eternity." The study of the fossil record reveals that the rose has existed in America for ages.

Our first President bred roses and one named for his mother is still grown today—Mary Washington (Noisette before 1890). Roses are grown in all 50 states and several states also have roses as their State Flower. The rose for New York, the Oklahoma rose in Oklahoma, the Cherokee rose in Georgia and the wild prairie rose in Iowa and North Dakota. The American people have

long held a special place in our hearts for roses. Let us continue to cherish them to honor the love and devotion they represent, and bestow them on all we love.

I missed having our Holiday Party. We always have such great food and conversation. I also have missed seeing everyone who usually attend the monthly meeting.

December 21st, the Winter Solstice and longest night of the year has just passed. We are now truly in winter but the days are starting to get longer and we can begin looking forward to spring and to our roses growing and blooming again. December had a number of reasons to look up into the night sky. The Geminid meteor shower was particularly impressive and who

could miss the extremely bright "Christmas Star" rising in the east each night. This conjunction of Saturn and Jupiter brought them closer in our sky than any time since 1226. It was fascinating watching them get closer and closer until the Solstice when they were at their very closest and brightest.

I hope everyone is well and staying safe during this very unusual Holiday Season. May 2021 bring us relief from the pandemic and we will be safe to meet in person once again.

"To smell a rose is to teach your soul to skip..."

— C. Joybell C.

Jan

***A Merry Christmas
and
A Happy New Year!***

December Society Meeting
The Society will not hold a December Meeting. The decision still remains to postpone all society events and the hopes are that the current situation because of the virus will improve soon. Follow all the precautions and stay safe. Take care of yourself and your roses. You will continue to receive newsletters monthly.

Inside this issue:

| | |
|---|---|
| <i>President's Message</i> | 1 |
| <i>Thought You'd Like to Know—Society Meeting canceled and Notes</i> | 1 |
| <i>Goodwood Roses, Deadline, Help, Newsletter, DSD Mid-Winter, Minutes, Thomasville Rose Show and, Consulting Rosarian Report</i> | 2 |
| <i>ARS/CR Information, Gardening Gifts, Tetanus, Thanks to Officials and Bronze Medal</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 |

Thought You'd Like To Know – Top Gun

Top Gun is a shrub that was introduced in 2016 by Tom Carruth and flowers are medium red with darker red blush, reverse medium red. The fragrance is moderate. The foliage is large size, dark green and glossy. The growth is

bushy and medium. The parents are Memorial Day and Home Run. The ARS rating is 8.1 Vasta Yarbrough told us years ago that shrubs were the roses of the future. *Top Gun* helps to prove that Vasta was right. It could be a great addition to your garden.



Top Gun
(Shrub)

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
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Ann Stevens, 850-576-1800
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Deadline for January Newsletter

The deadline for submitting information for the January "Regarding Roses", the society newsletter, is December 19. 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. It is hoped that this virus situation will not continue much longer. We are thankful that our roses give us joy and happiness during these unusual times!

DSD Mid-Winter Meeting—2021

Thomasville and Tallahassee Area Rose Societies have been asked to rescheduled and 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.

Tallahassee Rose Society Minutes

Since it was necessary to cancel the November meeting of the society there are no minutes to report.

Thomasville Rose Festival 2021

The Thomasville Rose Society, our sister society, is currently looking forward to celebrating their 100th Annual Rose Show April 23-24.

Please mark your calendars now and plan to exhibit and attend. There will be more information available later and schedules will be available to TARS folks. Help spread the word.

Consulting Rosarian Report—December

By Hank Rosen, Master Rosarian

2020--WOW, what a strange year this has been! This year will long be remembered as the year of the asterisk, since very little after March has been "normal" thanks to COVID-19.

Since I remained at home so much this year, I was able to spend more time with my roses and they rewarded me with more beautiful blooms from the extra care they received. I will now suggest some important ideas for you to consider in dealing with your roses.

December is a great time to do your planning and organizing for the upcoming rose growing year. During December you can peruse rose catalogues in person or online and select from the beautiful images and lofty descriptions what roses you wish to order and plant next spring. You can also decide which old bushes are no longer being as productive as you would like and need to be shovel pruned. This is also a good time to inventory your chemical supplies and decide which ones are out of date (about 5 years or so, if stored properly) and need to be replaced. There are always "new and improved" chemicals on the market and this is a good opportunity to try them.

If you have been diligent in your rose care all year, now is a great time to take a break from spraying and other less than enjoyable tasks. Do keep watering as roses need about 1.5 inches of water a week. December is a good time to start a log and record everything you do to or for your roses. This includes soil testing, planting, pruning, mulching, fertilizing, watering, spraying and the materials used. I personally use a large rose wall calendar and write down on a given day when I do something.

For all of our sakes, may 2021 will be a much nicer year for everybody and we all remain healthy and safe. May you and yours enjoy a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

*"Make yourself so happy
That when others look ay you,
They become happy too."*

Yogi Bhajan

Our Rosy World - Consulting Rosarians

Gerry Mahoney

Article from Roses & You, January 2019

When recently asked what is a Consulting Rosarian (CR), my first thought was the answer to this question is obvious. However, after giving it more thought, I must agree with the description one rosarian used – a CR is a “Rose Evangelist.” This describes a person with a passion for growing roses and sharing knowledge. So, how do you become a Consulting Rosarian? There are qualifications that need to be met – as well as having a desire to share rose information...

But first, a candidate must be 18 years of age, a member of the American Rose Society for 3 consecutive years and have grown roses for five years. They must also be an active member of a local rose society. There is other criteria which are found in the Consulting Rosarian manual under Education / Publications at the ARS website <https://www.rose.org>.

After meeting the criteria, attending a Consulting Rosarian school, taking the test (and passing it), candidates are certified as Consulting Rosarians. But – the story should not end there. The CRs are ambassadors of the ARS. Since 1920 they have represented the ARS in direct interactions with the public. Being an active Consulting Rosarian is more than an obligation to share technical knowledge; it is a call to service. It involves participation in every aspect of the rose society, to which they belong. The object is to HELP others and to stimulate interest in growing roses; and promoting the growth and the rose society to which they belong. Most of these things cannot be done sitting behind a computer, or on the couch. As Consulting Rosarians, we need to be out in the public as much as possible – getting our hands dirty in gardens and putting out the word about how amazing the world of roses can be.

Gardening Gifts from Santa

This is a list of suggestions you can ask Santa to bring you for your rose gardening in 2019. Make sure you get your list to him in time for Christmas delivery.

- A new pair of leather gloves for your early spring pruning.
- A rake with long wire tines to use in replenishing and adding new pine straw mulch. (One like Jim Dooley has)
- New rose plants! (Especially ones you don't have such as miniature and miniflora ones so that you can enter those classes in the show next year)
- A calendar with plenty of writing room for your rose activities such as when you fertilize and/or spray.
- Permanent labels for the plants that you now know, but may forget their names.
- A good easy to use edger to keep grass from invading your rose beds.
- A wide brim hat to protect you from the sun.

- New bud vases and other containers so that you can enjoy your roses as cut bloom inside your home.

You can add to this list as you surely have other wants. Thus list can also be used for holiday gifts for you gardening friends. Visit the local nurseries they have an endless supply of gift ideas for gardening folks.

Tetanus What You Should Know and What You Should Do

All gardeners should be aware of some basic facts about tetanus and make certain that their tetanus immunizations are current. The wound need be no larger than a thorn prick to harbor bacteria to produce the toxin which is very poisonous. In recent years approximately 11% of reported tetanus cases have been fatal. The highest mortality rates are in unvaccinated persons and persons over 60 years of age. Tetanus, also called lockjaw is a medical condition characterized by a contraction of muscle fibers. The incubation period is usually about 8 days, but may be as long as several months. There is no blood test that can be used to diagnose tetanus. Diagnosis is made from symptoms. It is best to prevent tetanus by vaccination. The CDC recommends that adults receive a booster vaccine every ten years. Some doctors recommend boosters every five years. It is standard practice to give a booster if persons are uncertain of when they were vaccinated. Tetanus occurs in soils rich in organic matter. Tetanus is often associated with rust, especially rusty nails. This concept is misleading, but the rough surface of rusty metal provides a habitat for *C. tetani* endospore and the nail may puncture the skin and allow endospore to enter the wound. When tetanus infection does occur, it is highly lethal. If a tetanus develops in a person who has not been immunized, the fatality rate runs from 45 to 55 percent with the best hospital care. Always consult you health care provider for more information. Never neglect a wound. Keep your booster vaccinations up to date! It is easy to protect yourself.

A Special Thanks to Officials and Volunteers

We can be proud of the accomplishments of the society during 2020. We are grateful to The TARS Officials and volunteers for the past year of leadership. Even though most events during the year have because of the virus situation have been canceled, we have continued to function as a society. We have propagated roses for the old garden rose sale in Mid-February. To our leadership and to the many other volunteers “Thank You.”

TARS Bronze Medal—2020

We are unable to present this award at a meeting. The medal has been engraved and will be given by President Jan Godfrey with the ARS Certificate to Seymour Rosen, the 2020 recipient. He has been an active member of the society and contributed much. He has presented programs and written articles for the newsletter. He exhibits in horticulture and photography in rose shows. Congratulations Seymour!

Upcoming Society Programs and Events

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

DSD Events

March—DSD Mid-Winter Meeting—Tallahassee, FL, (Tentative)

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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|----------------------------------|---|--------------|
| President | Jan Godfrey 986 Winding Creek Rd. Quincy, FL 32351-5290 JannieG@tds.net | 850-442-9076 |
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| Board Member (Past President) | Marion Nimis marion@statistix.com | 850-894-1133 |

ARS Consulting & Master Rosarians

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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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