

Regarding Roses

Tallahassee Area Rose Society

Affiliated with The American Rose Society



President's Message: Jan Godfrey

February 2021

Hello everyone,

Something new and fun for the Society—Virtual Meetings. We will be holding Zoom meetings starting with our regularly scheduled March meeting on Thursday March 4th at 7:00 p.m. Many of you will have become familiar with Zoom during this pandemic but those who have not should not find it too difficult to participate. I am looking forward to seeing you all “on screen”. You should have received an email invitation to the meeting from Janet Newburgh, Secretary. If you think that we do not have a current email address for you, please contact Janet (JanNewburgh@gmail.com) or Jan Godfrey (JannieG@tds.net) with updated information. We will also post a link to the meeting on the TARS web site.

In one of Montine Her-

ring's Consulting Rosarian reports, she mentioned using Lime Sulphur as a dormant spray on roses. It kills fungus spores on the ground and on the plant upon contact. So, I decided to give it a try. It was not easy to find, since now it seems only to be available as an agricultural chemical—I finally had to order a 5-gallon container from a supply store in Idaho. I find it interesting that this long used, formerly OMRI certified chemical is now difficult to find. It may be that it requires protective gear to apply and that it has very different and specific instructions depending on what plants you are treating. I also sprayed it on my pear trees at a higher concentration to try to kill the fire blight that I have been fighting for years. All of the black on the bark and dead leaves on the ground turned white immediately when

sprayed. I will let you know how it goes.

Mary Maud and I have both lived here for a long time and this year has had more days of frost than any other year either of us can remember. The roses have fared well over this winter, even the finicky ones. Actually, most of them are now sporting lots of new growth. Growing roses for me is a constant learning situation. They are continuing to teach me about their individual needs. It is definitely not a boring hobby.

Hope to see you for the March meeting. The agenda for this first virtual meeting is to enjoy seeing each other again, work out any Zoom kinks and learn a bit about the history of our Society.

“To smell a rose is to teach your soul to skip...”

— C. Joybell C.

Jan

Thought You'd Like To Know – Pearly Gates

Pearly Gates is a Large Flowered Climber introduced in 1999. The blooms have an old-fashioned form and have a strong sweet fragrance. It does best on an arbor or trellis. It blooms throughout summer and fall. The color of the blooms is an angelic, pastel pink and it blooms on old

and new wood. The ARS rating is 7.8 and it would make a good addition to your landscape of your garden. It does well in full sun and partial shade. This rose's disease resistance and drought tolerance are well above average. Why not give it a try?



Pearly Gates
(A Large Flowered Climber)

February Society Meeting

The society is still unable to hold in person meetings. Hopefully that time will come. Be sure to read the plans to start zoom meetings in March and we hope that many of you can join us. Please read and respond to Janet Newburgh. See information from her on Page 2. She is setting up the zoom meetings.

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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. The new plants are growing well.

Goodwood Roses

There are plants available now. If you can volunteer any Saturday you will be welcomed. The volunteers have been able to root enough plants for the 2021 sale to begin on February 13. Wear a mask and come any Saturday morning to help. The rose bed at the reflection pool had had a great bloom this past year and will soon be blooming again. For more information contact any of the regular volunteers:

Eva McElvy, 850-251-4810
evarenemc@gmail.com
Cheryl Gifford, 330-354-3087
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Sam Miller, 850-459-3012
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Ann Stevens, 850-576-1800
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John Sullivan, 850-727-8636
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Deadline for March Newsletter

The deadline for submitting information for the March "Regarding Roses", the society newsletter, is February 18. 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.

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.

Thomasville Rose Festival-2021

The Thomasville Rose Society, our sister society, is currently looking forward to celebrating their 100th Annual Rose Show Friday and Saturday, April 23-24. It will again be at the big tent downtown.

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.

This is the 100th show and celebration! Don't miss it.

Tallahassee Rose Society Minutes

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

"Zoom" Meetings

The society is Planning zoom meetings beginning in March. Janet Newburgh is setting up the zoom programs. You need to send her your preferred E-mail address asap to join us. It is JanNewburgh@gmail.com. She has asked that the following information be sent to you.

Greetings, and Happy Valentine's Day! TARS President Jan Godfrey has asked me to communicate with you to let you know our plans for TARS meetings going forward. Jan says: "Even though we can't see each other one-on-one the board thinks that we should do our meetings virtually via Zoom. I am looking forward to seeing you, as it has been a year. Join us on March 4th at 7 pm." To help us get started with TARS Zoom meetings, on Monday evening, March 1, at 7:00 pm, I will host a Zoom tutorial for you to check out the system and get acquainted with it. While not necessary, it is recommended that you download Zoom onto your computer or smart phone. I will email you a link earlier on March 1 for our Zoom practice session that evening, and all you'll have to do to join the practice session is to click on the link and then follow the prompts that you see on your screen. And if you get stuck or have any questions, you can always email me at JanNewburgh@gmail.com, or phone me at 850 385-4431.

Meeting by Zoom may not be as good as in-person meetings when we don't have a pandemic around, but for now, it seems to be the best solution. Zoom does give us some advantages that we don't have with in-person meetings, such as having speakers from faraway places, and not having to drive to a meeting, especially at night. We are aware that not everyone may have internet access for the meetings, but we do want to reach as many of you as possible.

On March 4, we hope to have a relaxed, informal meeting to renew friendships and get used to the Zoom format. We hope to include in that meeting a brief history of TARS and how it came to be. We also will discuss plans for future programs, and we can even end our meetings with virtual refreshments, each person enjoying their own refreshments, sharing and interacting with others in the comfort of their own homes.

Meanwhile, I hope you're out there pruning your roses, getting them ready for a glorious spring.

Respectfully submitted by
Janet Newburgh
TARS Secretary
JanNewburgh@gmail.com

Consulting Rosarian Report-February

By Mary Maud Sharpe

We hope you have planned the changes you wish to make in your garden for the spring. Now is the time to put those plans into action. The local nurseries have plants and it is time to begin planting, pruning and all the other routines of watering, fertilizing, spraying and replacing mulch. There is a hint of spring in the air. Some flowering trees are blooming. Pruning is the most important task and it needs to be completed usually by the first week of March in our area. There are general rules that need to be followed, but each plant grows differently and each rosarian has their own approach and guidelines. One rule is don't worry after you have pruned because you can't put a lopped off cane back on the bush. Very rarely will a plant die from pruning. Generally it seems to give them the energy to come back and begin their new growth. There have been volumes written about pruning and it is worth while to read articles by other rosarians. However, if your way is working, stick to it. Contact any of the Consulting Rosarians for help. They will be glad to share their experiences with you.

Pruning Roses

Why, When and How

ARS has the Consulting Rosarian Manuel available on their web site and it is free for download. You may visit it for general rose information and the section on pruning is especially helpful. There is much more information available on pruning in books and on the internet.

Most plants and especially roses are improved for another year's growth by pruning. It is an age old art. These are the points of why we prune.

- To correct, adjust and modify the size and shape of rose plants
- To keep plants blooming all summer
- Remove dead branches
- Allow better air circulation
- Rejuvenates your rose bush

In our area it is generally recommended that rose be pruned mid-February (Valentine's Day) to early March. Generally then new growth will not be killed by very cold weather. This timing will usually bring blooms in mid to late April. If you have a frosty morning it is best to wash off the frost before the sun melts it to save the new growth.

The tools you will need are hand clippers, loppers and saws. Clippers are the most important and the tool most used. Invest in a good pair that fits your hand. Clippers come in several sizes. Loppers are used to cut larger canes and some have extension handles that give you more leverage. Pruning saws come in different sizes and some fold. They are useful for large canes. There are even wire saws for hard to reach canes that need to be removed. Be sure to keep all your clippers, loppers and saws clean and sharpened.

Wear a good strong pair of thick leather gloves that are puncture proof. Rose thorns can be wicked.

When beginning pruning, cut away dead wood first. Healthy wood is a white core after the cut is made. This will give you the chance to look at the canes that are left and decide which ones to keep. Shape your plant. The center of the plant should be open. Most instructions tell you to find a dormant eye and cut at an angle. Be sure to remove any twiggy growth and suckers. Any wood left should generally be the size of a pencil. The size of the plant should be reduced. Some plants require more pruning than others. Do not prune drastically for the first couple of years of growth. Experience is a great teacher.

Clean your beds of all debris and especially old leaves. All materials should be bagged and discarded as trash. It is a good idea to use a dormant spray such as lime sulfur as soon as you have pruned. Spray both the plant and the beds.

Specific types of roses will require slightly different approaches to pruning. Generally hybrid teas will require more drastic pruning and other varieties such as floribundas, miniatures/minifloras, old garden roses, shrubs and climbers are best shaped.

Pruning gives you new spring growth and wonderful spring blooms.

Landscaping with Roses

This spring as you make additions to your roses think outside the box and use your roses as landscape plants in different ways. Many rosarians do container plantings. There are many creative containers that you can find at local nurseries and garden centers. There are many varieties that do well in containers. Just be sure that your container is large enough for your plant growth habit. Containers give your garden a special charm and can be placed almost anywhere. They can also be moved to other locations. You may need to water more frequently. Climbing roses give your garden height and many varieties are repeat bloomers. The structures you can use are endless. They can be purchased or you may construct your own. Fences work well. Roses make excellent borders for walkways that take you from one part of your garden to another. Be sure that you plant so that they do not take over the walkway. Think about planting roses with companion plants. There are many companion plants that grow well with roses and add much beauty. Get ideas from visiting other gardens and use them for yourself.

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

Upcoming Society Programs and Events

March 4– Zoom Meeting. 7:00 pm.

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

DSD Events

March—DSD Mid-Winter Meeting—Tallahassee, FL, (Canceled) This meeting has been rescheduled for January 2022

April 23-24 —Thomasville 100th Rose Show, in the big tent downtown Thomasville, GA

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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*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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