

Regarding Roses

Tallahassee Area Rose Society

Affiliated with The American Rose Society



President's Message: Jan Godfrey

March 2021

Hello everyone.

By the time you read this, we will (hopefully) have held our Zoom practice session and our first virtual Society meeting. I really want to thank Janet Newburgh for organizing and hosting the Zoom events. She has generously allowed us to use her Zoom account as well as sending out all the invitation emails. As a reminder, please send any updated email addresses to Janet (JanNewburgh(at)gmail.com) or me (JannieG(at)tds.net).

I have been spending quite a bit of time reading the American Rose magazine. I hadn't realized just how long we have been having horticultural exhibitions. Some of the first were in both the United Kingdom and United States starting in the late 1820s and early 1830s after the formation of Horticultural Societies. It was 1838

that the first competition for roses took place. I am glad that we are continuing to have rose shows and competitions nearly 200 years later—a grand tradition.

Along with the history lesson, the 2020 Rose Annual edition has many articles that interest me. From the value of earthworm castings in growing roses to companion plantings and beneficial insects. I really appreciate all of the informative articles.

The roses here are all covered with new growth, no blossoms yet, although Papa Hemeray (China 1912) is starting to look like it's about to burst into flower. I am particularly happy to see Marie Pavie (Polyantha 1888) popping out new growth on branches that have usually been bare. Yay, Marie Pavie. We have almost finished our spring care and I am having lots of enjoyable

time with the roses.

Do try to join in on our virtual meetings. Details will be on the web site.

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

— C. Joybell C.

Jan

Spring Bloom

Now can be the most exciting time of the ear for rosarians—the anticipation of the spring bloom! You may have new varieties that you have only seen in photographs and now you will see and smell the actual blooms. Some of the blooming tress are beginning to show color. There could still be more cold weather. No buds on pecan trees yet, even though we have had several warm days

MMS



Olivia Rose Austin
(Shrub)

inches. The petal count is 40 and it has a strong fruity fragrance. The foliage is glossy and the growth is vigorous. David Austin shrubs are a favorite with many rosarians. It has a rating of 8.5. It was introduced in 2015 so you should be able to find it.

Thought You'd Like To Know – Olivia Rose Austin

Olivia Rose Austin is a David Austin shrub and is the winner of both the ARS Members' Choice award and the Members' Choice Fragrance award for 2020. It is featured on the 2021 American Rose Society Handbook for Selecting Roses. The blooms are a soft pink and measure three and one half

March Society Meeting

The month for our zoom meeting has arrived and we hope that you are planning to join us. See the additional information that is a reprint of information sent to you by Janet Newburgh which gives specific details. Jan Newburgh is your contact if you have questions. Hopefully this will go well and the society can hold more 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.

Goodwood Roses

There are plants available now. The 2021 sale was successful. If you can volunteer any Saturday you will be welcomed. Wear a mask and come any Saturday morning to help. The rose bed at the reflection pool will be in full bloom soon. Stop by for a visit if you can. 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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John Sullivan, 850-727-8636
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Deadline for April Newsletter

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

Consulting Rosarian Report—March By Mary Maud Sharpe

By now you should have pruned your plants and added organics. Spray programs should begin as soon as the plants begin to leaf out. "Prevention is much better than cure." Now is the time to be particularly observant to disease or insect problems, which can devastate your garden in a very short time. Make daily trips to observe new growth. Although we have had some rains, be sure to check your irrigation system, if you have one to be sure that it is operable. Roses require regular watering – not just when it rains. It is best to deep water less frequently than to lightly water more frequently. Roses need to drain well, so do not over water. New fresh mulch adds such a wonderful touch as well as deterring weeds and moderating the temperature of the soil. Most rosarians in our area use pine straw, but there are other materials that work well too. Be sure that water will drain through your mulch. If it is too compact water tends to run off rather than through to your plants. Enjoy the anticipation of the first bloom of new plants and the joy of the re-bloom of your favorites.

"You have brains in your head.

You have feet in your shoes.

You can steer yourself any direction

You choose."

Dr. Seuss

Tallahassee Rose Society Minutes

Since it was necessary to cancel the February 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 on Friday and Saturday, April 23-24.

Please mark your calendars now and plan to exhibit and attend. There will be schedules available soon for TARS folks. Some rules have changed so read the schedule carefully. There will be help available if you are a novice exhibitor. There are special classes for novice exhibitors.

"Zoom" Meetings

The society is planning zoom meetings in the future at least until the virus situation has greatly improved. Zoom meetings begin in March. Information that Janet Newburgh has shared with us is enclosed. Please contact her with questions. Be sure to send her your e-mail address so that she can include you.

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!

Peace Garden

In a drive by the Peace Garden it appears that the city will be replanting the plants there. Society members have learned through the years that peace roses though very beautiful are not the easiest rose variety to grow and maintain. Occasionally they need to be replaced and started over again. I'll check again soon and let you know what I learn. This project has been on going activity for a number of years. It is located in the downtown chain of parks and is at the east most end of the parks. It has many frequent visitors and is easily viewed from the street as a drive by site as well as a walk up garden.

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 need to raise the pH. A form of sulfur is used to lower the pH. Adjustments may take some time.

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.

Judging Jottings

You need to know that the ARS Board has adopted two items that make major changes in the way roses are judged which will affect the judging of all future shows.

“AEN” now means “American Exhibition Name” will be

the name under which the rose is exhibited or otherwise generally known in the United States.

Most disqualifications are now a thing of the past because this Board action eliminated most grounds for disqualification. All local and district show schedules must be rewritten to reflect these rule changes.

The stem-on-stem is now a potential penalization. Stem-on-stem above the lip of the vase is not disqualification in any class. It may be considered a fault.

Stem-on-stem below the lip of the vase is irrelevant.

The side bud disqualification is now a potential penalization in those classes in which side buds are not permitted.

An entry may be disqualified for a foreign substance only if it is evident that a foreign substance has been applied to enhance the bloom. Grooming materials accidentally left on shall be removed by the judge or clerk at the direction of the judge.

All misplaced entries are to be moved to the proper class.

Entries that contain an erroneous class on the entry tag shall if practicable be moved to proper place and judged.

Misnamed entries will be disqualified. However, accepted synonyms are permissible.

Roses bearing acceptable synonyms, e.g., trade names are not considered to be misnamed. Misspellings, including abbreviations are not a cause for disqualification.

An entry tag bearing the exhibitors name, the variety name and the class number is still required.

Show rules establishing additional reasons for disqualification are prohibited unless the rules address the specifications for a challenge classis. Wedging materials are not disqualifications but penalizations only above the lip of the vase. Entries shall not be disqualified for failure to include details on entry tags.

Exhibitors name visible may be corrected by a clerk if it is discovered before the entry is judged.

Roses must still be outdoor grown by the exhibitor. Entries not grown outdoors and/or by the exhibitor must be disqualified.

One Healing Place The TMH Cancer Center

The Tallahassee Garden Club that maintains this garden would welcome your help on the first Thursday morning of the month. It has a number of old garden roses that Bill Dority donated as original plants and this month is the time to prune them. If you can help by showing the workers how to prune the plants this would be most helpful. There are several society members that are regular volunteers—Marty Quinn, Ann Stevens and John Sullivan. In the past the Goodwood volunteers have used this garden as a source for cuttings to root at Goodwood. This is an excellent way to help that is much needed and will give you a feeling of accomplishment.

Upcoming Society Programs and Events

March 4 (Zoom Meetings are beginning) Join us at 7:00 pm.

April 1 (Zoom Meeting) Join us at 7:00 pm

DSD Events

March—DSD Mid-Winter Meeting—Tallahassee, FL, (Canceled) Plans are to reschedule for January 2022

April 23-24, 2021—Thomasville Rose Show. Downtown Thomasville in the big tent

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

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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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