

Regarding Roses

Tallahassee Area Rose Society

Affiliated with The American Rose Society



President's Message: Janet Newburgh

President's Message for March, 2023

What a thrill it is to see so many people actively involved with the Tallahassee Area Rose Society! It of course takes considerable time and effort to come to meetings, and even more time and effort to contribute to those meetings in one way or another, whether it be by arranging a great place to meet, or by making meeting presentations or reports, or by donating roses for the door prize, or by bringing delicious treats to share, or by driving miles and miles to get there. It's always wonderful to see all of you--new members, returning members, and those who have been there all along--and to be able to chat with you about our favorite flower.

Many of you are coming forward to volunteer your ideas for TARS, and this is great. I want to encourage this. New ideas, or resurrecting ideas that were helpful in the past, are always welcome. I hope everyone feels comfortable discussing both the highs and the lows of their own rose gardening. No question is ever too mundane for discussion; it's sometimes amazing how many other people also have that same query. It's so important to learn from each other. And I hope that you'll volunteer to spearhead new rose-related projects. We'll try our best to partner people with an interest in working on those projects, to share the effort and input.

As you no doubt know, we're moving around a bit in our meeting locations, experimenting with what works best for most people. This morning brought a phone call from a member who has grown and shown heirloom roses in the past but who has not been that active recently. He expressed his encouragement for trying the new meeting venues, and I'm hoping that he'll come check them out with us.

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Time and Place change for March Meeting!

Leroy Collins Main Library
200 West Park Avenue
Tallahassee 32301
Start time: 6:00 p.m. sharp

March 2023

March Meeting March 2, 2023

6:00 p.m.
Leroy Collins Public Library
"Rose Propagation"

April Meeting April 6, 2023

6:00 p.m.
Pedrick Road Public Library
"Old Garden Roses"

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2023 Membership

We need your Support!

If you haven't already done so, please fill out and send in your 2023 TARS Membership renewal.

We still need a theme for the 2023 Rose Show.

Bring your ideas to the meeting or email to TallahasseeAreaRoseSociety@gmail.com

President's Message continued from page 1

The March 2nd meeting will be in the Leroy Collins Public Library downtown, starting at 6:00 pm, with John Sullivan making a presentation on Rose Propagation. This is the time when people are pruning their roses, and the prunings can be used to propagate new roses. John has been propagating roses for many years, and he's a real expert in this. I'm confident that you'll find a lot to learn at this session. We're delaying our program on Old Garden Roses till the April meeting.

I hope to see you at the meeting, and extra credit goes to those who bring a friend. You don't even have to grow roses to be a member of the Tallahassee Area Rose Society. Just come and enjoy the camaraderie, and the cookies!

Tallahassee Area Rose Society Minutes

February 2, 2023

President Janet Newburgh called the meeting to order at 6:10 pm. The meeting minutes were prepared by Janet, since Secretary Amy Beaven had to be away because of a death in her family.

Members were reminded to pay their 2023 dues for the Tallahassee Area Rose Society (TARS). A show of hands revealed that almost everyone present at the meeting were also members of the American Rose Society (ARS).

Thank you was extended to Newsletter Editor Tim Holmes for a very nice publication. The newsletter is now being distributed by email. Printed copies can be mailed to Individuals for an extra \$10 to cover printing and mailing expenses.

TARS Treasurer Gerard Nimis reported a bank balance of approximately \$3,144. Dues received in December, 2022, totaled \$165, and \$215 has been received so far in January, 2023. A \$25 check was sent to the American Rose Society in memory of Robert Schelhorn, who recently passed away.

Show Co-Chair Jan Godfrey provided an update for the Rose Show, scheduled for October 28-29, 2023. Montine Herring will organize the show judges, which probably will include Mary Maud Sharpe. More judges are needed. Jan also asked for suggested show names and distributed a list of previous show names. Jan pointed out that a lot of help will be needed to put on a really good show.

Upcoming events include an online Consulting Rosarian School sponsored by the ARS on February 4 and 11, 2023. The next TARS meeting will be on Thursday, March 2, 2023, starting at 6:00 in the main Leon County Library downtown. Cheryl Gifford and Jan Godfrey will present a program on Old Garden Roses. The next meeting after that

will be on April 6, starting at 6:00 pm, at the Library at 1583 Pedrick Road, with Cheryl and Jan presenting a program on Rose Propagation. The last meeting of the spring will be a picnic at the Gifford home in May, with the date to be announced later.

Ed Gifford told of a plan by the American Legion of Tallahassee to construct a Rosie the Riveter Rose Garden. This might be a good public service activity for TARS. Ed will seek more information about this.

Help is needed in fundraising activities for TARS, and publicity. There was considerable discussion about propagating roses to sell as a fundraiser. A drip system probably would aid successful propagation. Paul Watson described a drip system that could be constructed very inexpensively. He plans to build one to try it out and to share what he learns.

Janet presented a program on End-of-Winter and early Spring Care of Roses, with emphasis on pruning techniques. February is the best time for a hard pruning of roses. This would involve removing dead, diseased, or too-small growth, shortening the canes by at least one-third, and opening up the structure of the plant to enable good air circulation. Drip irrigation is ideal, both to conserve water and to minimize problems with black spot and other fungal diseases. The application of fertilizer can begin in early March. Roses need plenty of water, especially during the dry times such as those seen frequently in the spring. Janet also provided a list of Earth-Kind roses that have been identified because of their minimal needs for fertilizer, pesticides, or water once they are established.

Frances England donated a rose plant for the door prize drawing, which was won by Jan Godfrey.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:37 pm.

Respectfully submitted by
Janet Newburgh
On behalf of Secretary Amy Beaven

Please Note

Program Changes

The March program will be on "Rose Propagation" presented by John Sullivan.

"Old Garden Roses" has been rescheduled to the April 6 meeting and will be presented by Jan Godfrey and Cheryl Gifford

March Consulting Rosarian Report

By Janet Newburgh

How to Care for Fungus Issues

Spring is almost here, and it's time to really get enthusiastic about growing beautiful roses. You go out to your garden on a beautiful, sunny day and, oh, no!!! many of your roses may have leaves bearing black spots, with the leaves yellowing and falling off! This may well be black spot, a major fungal disease that is much too common in our warm, humid climate. And some of your roses may have what look like soggy mops in place of beautiful blooms. This latter condition is probably caused by a different fungus called botrytis. These, as well as the many other fungal diseases that can infect roses, such as powdery mildew, rust, and anthracnose, can cause serious problems for your roses, and can even kill the plant. Hence, it's very important to take fungal diseases seriously.

Fungi thrive in warm, moist conditions, such as what we encounter so much of the year here in north Florida. As in many things, the best way to deal with fungal diseases is prevention. The first line of prevention is in deciding where to plant your roses, and what kinds of roses to plant. Roses should receive at least 6 hours of direct sunlight, although I have read that miniature roses can do okay with only 4 hours of direct sunlight daily.

Your choice of the particular kinds of roses to plant in your garden can make a big difference in dealing with fungal diseases. Different rose species and varieties are known to vary widely in their susceptibility to fungal diseases. The American Rose Society website (rose.org) lists roses that are reported to be disease resistant, including resistance to fungi. It should be noted that the American Rose Society's findings are for roses grown in a wide range of locales and growing conditions across the country and so may not fit our north Florida situation. Hence, you probably will want to talk with other local people to learn which roses grow well for them in this area. Just a few of the roses that tend to be more disease-resistant in our growing conditions include the Double Knockout series, the hybrid tea Beverly, the floribunda Iceberg, and the most faithful of all, the Old Garden China rose named Louis Philippe.

The roses should have good air circulation, and they should be planted at least 4 feet apart. Also, it's important to prune the rose plants to give them open centers—open them up like a vase, removing plant material from the center of the plant, to further assist in good air circulation.

Cleanliness is essential. The area around the roses should be kept clean of debris that might harbor fungi. Be sure to remove all fungal-infected materials, such as leaves

infected with black spot or blossoms infected with botrytis. This might require removal and replacement of some of the mulch. Tools should be disinfected, ideally between cuts, with a 10 percent solution of bleach, or Lysol, or 70 percent alcohol.

How the plants are watered is another key factor. While the roots of the rose plants do of course require water, be sure not to overdo the water, and try to do any overhead watering early in the day so that the foliage and flowers are able to dry by afternoon. Drip irrigation that delivers water directly to the base of the plant is ideal and very water-efficient.

Many situations can benefit from the regular application of fungicides. Fungicides that are used on your roses should be rotated and applied every couple of weeks to reduce the ability of the fungi to build up resistance to them. The mildest fungicides include sulfur or Neem oil, although spraying with Neem oil may burn the roses if the temperature is over about 85 degrees Fahrenheit. If Botrytis is a problem, the use of lime sulfur is recommended and should be incorporated into the soil around the plants to eliminate spores harbored there. Fungal sprays to consider are Daconil (also known as chlorothalonil), which kills fungi on contact, or Tubuconazole, which is a systemic fungicide that is taken up by the plant. Tubuconazole can be applied solely as a spray or can be found in some granular or liquid formulations that are applied at the base of rose bushes and then well watered in. Banner Maxx (also known as Propiconazole) is another systemic fungicide that is taken up by the plant, while another compound that kills fungi on contact is Manzate. Still another useful antifungal treatment is Heritage Action, which contains not only the fungicide Daconil but also a chemical compound that stimulates plants' natural defenses.

When spraying any chemical, first of all, **READ THE LABEL AND FOLLOW THE DIRECTIONS CAREFULLY.** And please **PLEASE PLEASE** protect yourself by wearing long sleeves, long pants, solid shoes, chemical-resistant gloves, and a respirator if aerosols are involved. Respirator masks that protect you against toxic gases can be obtained easily online, and they need to fit well on your face in order to protect you. After working in your garden, a shower not only helps to protect you from the effects of any of the chemicals that you are using, but it really feels good, particularly chased with a nice, cold glass of iced tea or lemonade. And then sit back and enjoy your beautiful roses.

Upcoming Society Programs and Events

March 2, 2023 6:00 p.m.—Monthly Meeting.

Rose Propagation
Leroy Collins Public Library
200 West Park Avenue, 32301

April 6, 2023 6:00 p.m.—Monthly Meeting

Old Garden Roses
Leon County Public Library
1583 Pedrick Road, 32317

May t.b.a.—Annual Picnic

July 8, 2023—Exhibitor’s School

Jubilee Cottage, Goodwood Plantation & Gardens

DSD Events

Greater Atlanta Rose Society Rose Show
Saturday, May 13 and Sunday, May 14, 2023
Atlanta Botanical Garden
For information, contact Bobbie Reed, 770-979-4237,
berdks@mindspring.com

South Metro Rose Society Rose Show
Saturday, May 20 and Sunday, May 21, 2023
Fayetteville Church of Christ, Fayetteville GA
For information, contact Cindy Dale,
rosepro@bellsouth.net

DSD Fall Conference & Rose Show
Friday, October 13 and Saturday, October 14, 2023
Best Western Gateway Grand Hotel, Gainesville FL
For information, contact Karen Barnes,
barneskw@yahoo.com

ARS Membership

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 emails members the publication of ARS & You.

“Regarding Roses”

Newsletter of the Tallahassee Area Rose Society
Submissions and comments to:
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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.

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Martha Jean Woodward (No Contacts Please)

*Denotes Master Rosarian

Society Information:

Website:

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Email:

TallahasseeAreaRoseSociety@gmail.com

Facebook:

@TARSFL

Meetings:

Monthly meetings are on the first Thursday of the month except June and July. Please see our web site for location and time details.

Membership:

Annual dues are \$15 individual, \$20 joint. Download the membership form from the web site or contact us by email to send you a copy.

DSD Bulletin: Quarterly Bulletin, available by email to all ARS members. A black and white copy is also available to members with no email 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