

Regarding Roses

Tallahassee Area Rose Society

Affiliated with The American Rose Society



President's Message: Janet Newburgh

BUSY TIME FOR ROSES!

First of all, I want to thank Cheryl and Ed Gifford for hosting the Tallahassee Area Rose Society's annual spring picnic in their beautiful home on May 7th. The Giffords and their two dogs welcomed us enthusiastically, the weather was pleasant, and the food and drinks, contributed by the Giffords and by several TARS members, was delicious and plentiful. What a treat it was to visit in a relaxed atmosphere with other TARS members and to see the Giffords' fantastic roses!

Then, the following Saturday, Cheryl Gifford and Monday England staffed a table for TARS at the annual Master Gardener Open House. The beautiful roses that they had on the table attracted a lot of interest among the 1200 Open House attendants. People stopped by to chat about roses, to inquire about TARS, and Leslie Paugh became a new TARS member.

Then, the very next day, Mother's Day, our longtime very enthusiastic member, super organizer, and benefactor Mary Maud Sharpe passed away unexpectedly at age 97. Mary Maud was very well known throughout the world of both roses and camellias, and she did much to promote the cultivation and exhibition of both of these beautiful flowers. Mary Maud never came to events empty-handed; she was famous for her many home-made goodies that she shared, most notably her pound cake.

And now, after a bit of a respite, we are already well into July, with August and Autumn just around the corner. Several of our members benefitted from a terrific Exhibitor's Workshop on July 8 in which Glenn Schulman and Ralph Stream shared their secrets in exhibiting winning roses, Karen Barnes gave a humorous but informative presentation on how to stay safe in your garden, Joanne Maxheimer discussed how to enter roses in shows, and Taura Bryant shared valuable information and beautiful photos on photographing roses. Jan Godfrey, Tim Holmes, Nicole Balanoff, Leanna Willison, Cheryl Gifford, and Jean Stream made sure that we were well fed and hydrated. It was a pleasant day, very well spent and very educational.

The Tallahassee Area Rose Society (TARS) starts its fall meetings on August 3, with a hands-on workshop on Arrangements starting at 5:30 pm. Light refreshments will be provided to help us keep our energy levels up. We will meet in Program Meeting Room B at the Leroy Collins Main Library, located at 200 West Park Street in downtown Tallahassee. (There may be a small charge to park

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August, 2023

First Fall Meeting
August 3, 2023
Arrangement Workshop
Note Time: 5:30

September 7, 2023
Paul Watson talks about
what's going on in his
garden.

October 5, 2023
Cheryl Gifford—
Rose Show Photography

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Time & Place for August Meeting!

Leroy Collins Main Library—Program Meeting Room B
200 West Park Avenue, Tallahassee 32301
Start time: 5:30 p.m.

Fundraiser

Don't forget that Teresa & Paul Watson have generously offered to create personalized, laser engraved slate plant markers. They are \$20 each or \$15 each for 2 or more. Email Paul for orders:
pbwatson@gmail.com

in the large parking lot behind the library.) To get to Meeting Room B from the parking lot, take the elevator or stairs up to the main level. Then, without entering the library itself, follow the signs down the hallway to the left, all the way to the end. Sandy Dixon, Deep South District Chair of Arrangement Judges, will come from Jacksonville to lead this workshop. Sandy is a very creative expert in arranging. This is a terrific opportunity to advance your skills in floral arranging, and creators of the arrangements can take their work home for further enjoyment.

Although not required, we hope that many workshop participants will choose to enter roses, photographs, and an arrangement in the Tallahassee Rose Show on October 28-29, 2023, at the Conner Agricultural Center. People wanting to participate in the workshop should already have let me know so that we can have ample supplies, but additional people most certainly are welcome to come to just

watch. **Hands-On participants should bring their own pruners.** Roses, vases, and additional materials will be supplied, and you can bring any additional materials that you would like to incorporate into your own arrangement. It will be great fun seeing the design created by each person.

And speaking of the Rose Show at the end of October, Rose Show co-chairs Jan Godfrey and Amy Beaven are hard at work in show preparations. This is our biggest event of the year, and it requires many hands, hearts, and heads to make this a successful community event. I hope that you will step forward to help however you can, and that you will let Jan and Amy how you can help before, during, or after the big show.

Meanwhile, I hope to see you on Thursday August 3, at 5:30 pm at our meeting at the Leroy Collins library in downtown Tallahassee.

Janet

Successful Exhibitor's School!



Ralph Stream demonstrates preparation.



Karen Barnes presents Chemical Safety.



Ralph answers participants' questions.

We had a great turnout from our own TARS members as well as participants from other DSD chapters in Georgia, Alabama and Florida.

We learned a great deal from the presenters and hopefully, the good turnout will translate into entries in the Rose Show.

Thanks to all who came.



Images above courtesy of Cheryl Gifford.

Image at left, Janet Newburgh.

It's Rose Showtime!
Tallahassee Area Rose Society
37th Annual Rose Show
October 28 & 29, 2023

August Consulting Rosarian Report

MIDSUMMER ROSE CARE

By Janet Newburgh



Right now in the middle of the Florida summer, our roses might not look so happy. They, like us, might be suffering from the heat and humidity. A little attention and tender, loving care can make a huge difference in how they get through this difficult time of the year.

Especially in hot, sunny weather, roses need plenty of water on a regular basis. If it doesn't rain, they depend on us for that water. I prefer to water by micro drip irrigation at the base of my roses to minimize fungal problems, but overhead irrigation is also fine as long as it's administered early enough in the day that the upper part of the plant can dry out before nighttime. Warm, humid weather does increase the chance of fungal diseases, such as black spot on the leaves, or botrytis, which produces grayish brown fungus on the blossoms. If you see signs of these or of other fungal diseases, you should first evaluate your cultural practices to help reduce the problem, and you might consider spraying your roses with a fungicide or treating them with a granular product containing a systemic fungicide. When using any chemical substance, be sure to read the label and follow all instructions!

Roses are heavy feeders and, depending on the fertility of your soil, they may need the application of fertilizer from time to time to keep good color in the leaves and flowers. The Sunny Knockout Rose plant in the photo is showing signs of needing fertilizer. Avoid fertilizing the plants if they are very dry, to avoid putting further stress on them. I periodically apply granular fertilizers that include a slow-release component for long-term, more continuous feeding, but on occasions I also

use a liquid fertilizer, such as Jack's 20-20-20 or a water-soluble fertilizer to give the plants a quick pick-me-up when pale leaves and blossoms indicate that they're hungry!

In the web of life, there are lots of hungry critters out there, ranging from deer and rabbits to spider mites, to all manner of insects, that would love to chow down on your roses. Fencing, either the standard kind or liquid spray deterrents, helps protect your roses from the larger animals. Spider mites can be controlled by a vigorous spray from a hose, particularly shooting the water on the underside of the leaves and repeating this procedure as often as necessary to keep the plants healthy.

Some of the insects in your garden are beneficial, as they dine on other critters that like to eat roses. This morning in my garden, I saw a Daddy Longlegs spider among my roses. I was very glad to see him, as they can do an awesome job cleaning up insect pests. Then, a few minutes later, I saw a huge Georgia Thumper, also known as an Eastern, or Georgia, or Florida, Lubber, sitting atop one of my best roses preparing to chow down. That big grasshopper was at least 2 inches long, and I was not pleased to see him, as I know how much damage they can do to desirable plants. I used my trimmers to put an end to its plans to breakfast on my rose. Sometimes, a bit of insecticide spraying directly on nice buds can protect them from foragers.

August is a good time to give your roses a light pruning, especially if you want to groom them for a fall show, like the one right here in Tallahassee the last weekend in October. For plants that have been growing for at least a year or so, prune them to reduce their height by about one-third, and open the center of the bush to give the plant plenty of air circulation, removing smaller and crossing branches. Good air circulation helps reduce fungal problems. Also, as you prune, keep in mind that you want to encourage nice, long stems for stunning roses.

A nice thing about roses is how quickly they can respond to good care. Hopefully, we will all be rewarded by beautiful blossoms in the fall.

Upcoming Society Programs and Events

August 3, 2023 5:30 p.m.—First meeting of fall.

Arrangements Workshop by Sandy Dixon

Leroy Collins Public Library

200 West Park Avenue, 32301

September 7, 2023 6:00 p.m.—Monthly Meeting

Paul Watson tells us what's going on in his garden.

Leon County Public Library

1583 Pedrick Road, 32317

October 5, 2023 6:00 p.m.—Monthly Meeting

Cheryl Gifford on preparing Photos for the Rose Show

Leon County Public Library

1583 Pedrick Road, 32317

October 28-29, 2023 2:00 - 5:00 p.m.

37th Annual Rose Show

Doyle Conner Building

3125 Conner Boulevard, 32311

DSD Events

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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Society Information:

Website:

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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

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