



Shenandoah Rose Society Shenandoah Rose Ramblings

A Society of the Colonial District
Chartered by the American Rose Society

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August Meeting

The August meeting of the Shenandoah Rose Society will be held Sunday, August 13, 2 P.M. at the Community Room in Colonial Mall located next to J. C. Penney. The program will be “*Exhibiting Made Easy*” given by Charles Shaner.

Preparing for the September Exhibition

By Charles Shaner

When is it time to start planning for our September exhibition? You should have already started. The **pruning** and deadheading you did the last week of July will produce the blooms you need for the September 9 exhibition. As a general rule of thumb, roses are on a 45-day bloom cycle. This may vary slightly with different varieties; for example, *Timeless* and *Artistry* are on closer to a 35-day cycle.

Feeding your roses heavily during this period is required for producing show-winning blooms. A water-soluble food will help in this area. Remember, water-soluble foods are only good for two weeks and must be reapplied at that time. If you have been feeding Mills Magic Rose Mix® or other organics, you may give them another “heavy” feeding early in August.

Watering is essential to produce those good show blooms. Roses require a minimum of 1 inch of rain per week. If nature does not provide it, then we must make it up. During this period of show preparation, you may want to step up the watering to 2 inches per week. Water working carries the

nutrients from the food to the plant to give it proper nourishment.

Spraying regularly will help to keep critters and diseases from your roses. A good specimen for exhibition will be free of diseases and insects. By the time of the exhibition, the Japanese beetles should be gone or at least greatly declining. You do not want to put a specimen on the table that has black spot or powdery mildew. Regular spraying will prevent this.

Remember **PFWS: Prune, Feed, Water, and Spray**. This is part of rose growing, but if you want to show roses, this takes on a whole new meaning. It is all in the duties of caring for your roses.



Doing these simple tasks, which for the most part you should be doing anyway, will produce better blooms to exhibit. For our exhibition, we are not looking for perfect blooms. We just want to show the public what can be done with a little bit of proper care. If you want to show at the District Show in Charleston, WV, September 15th, then you need to push for the perfect blooms. I have never done better than a blue ribbon in the District Show. With the competition that is there, I am happy to get that. It would be nice to get one on the head table, but in time that may come.

I would hope many of our members will plan to go to the Colonial District Meeting & Show in Charleston, WV. These people travel from this far corner of the District to support other societies as they did ours. Now it is our turn to support them.

The Rambling Rose

By Charles Shaner

We are now at midseason of rose growing. This means we are in a maintenance period on our roses. Spraying, feeding, watering and pruning are the biggest issues. The Japanese beetles are at their peak and we are planning for fall exhibitions and shows.

Weed control seems to be a big issue with me at this point. With the welcome rains we have had, the weeds are springing up as if the seeds fell with the rain. Mulch helps but some weeds still feel this is a good place to grow along with the early stages of fall grass, foxtail grass and nut grass.

Last year, I put cardboard down under my mulch and it did a great job during the season. But in the spring, weeds seemed to thrive on top of the cardboard that had not decomposed. After a big job of weed pulling, my beds looked pretty good but the weeds have decided to return.

One of the best products recommended for weed control is Round Up®. Round Up requires direct contact to kill. I have had problems with it burning my roses this year. I do not know if they have changed the formula but the directions say to mix 6 oz. to a gallon of water. I find I get better results if I only use 4 oz. to a gallon and it does not seem to burn my roses as quickly. The lighter mixture will take a little longer to kill but it still does the job.

One of the sure ways to get rid of weeds is old-fashioned pulling. I did that this spring and I believe two returned for each one I pulled. I have heard it said that some weed seed can lay in the ground for as much as 40 years before germinating. Birds also carry them in. Along with the weeds, I have been fighting wild cherry trees coming up in my roses. Now that has got to be birds doing this!

Weed control is an ongoing problem and if you are a gardener or a rosarian, you know the problem never ends. Weeds to me are in about the same class as Japanese beetles. About all you can do is your best, call them a few unmentionable names and wish they would go away. All you can do is just try to keep them under control. They will never be eliminated all together. Wouldn't it be nice if we could!

Coming Events

- **August 13** – Exhibiting Made Easy at the Community Room, Colonial Mall given by Charles Shaner.
- **September 9** – Annual rose exhibition at Colonial Mall
- **September 14, 15, 16** – Colonial District Fall Meeting & Show hosted by Charleston Rose Society, Charleston, WV
- **October 8** – Preparing for Bed Time given by Al Minutolo at Christ Lutheran Church in Staunton. Election of 2007 officers.
- **November 12** – Banquet and installation of officers at Holiday Inn, Staunton

SRS Garden Store

Shenandoah Rose Society has Mills Magic Rose Mix® in stock. If your supply is running low and you would like more, please contact Raymond Shaner at Augusta Steel (540-248-2301). You may pick it up from Raymond at Augusta Steel or if you are both attending a monthly meeting, he will bring it to you there.

We still have a selection of miniature roses for sale from Bridges Roses. They are potted and are \$7.00 each. Contact Charles Shaner (540-885-4778 or Al Minutolo (434-823-1092). We can either bring them to the monthly meeting or make arrangements for you to pick them up. Several varieties are still available, to include *Best Friends*, *Sweet Charlotte*, *Fancy Pants* and more.

“Shall We Dance?”

Lynda Grass, Rose Show Chairman



The Charleston Rose Society invites you to Charleston, West Virginia, the weekend of September 15 to enjoy the Colonial District's Fall Rose Show and Meeting. The show's theme is "Shall We Dance?", and we have put together an informative weekend that will allow you to enjoy the show and

meetings, each other's company, and area shopping and entertainment.

Friday's light wine and cheese reception will precede a discussion of "Horizon Roses" by Jeff and Cindy Garrett, who grow around 450 roses at their home on Lake Chickamauga, Tennessee. Jeff and Cindy serve as Regional Reporters for "Horizon Roses", so they should have a good perspective on what roses we should think about purchasing for our gardens.

If you're exhibiting, get a good night's sleep! Prep rooms open Saturday at 6:00 a.m., with entries being accepted beginning at 7:00. Entries close at 10:00, and the judging begins. The show will open to the public at 1:00 p.m., and local awards will be presented at 4:30. Bring lots and lots of roses--we have beautiful trophies just waiting to be won.

We are very excited that Class I of the Design Division is an "ARS Designated Class". ARS arrangement judges will judge this class in accordance with ARS design rules. It's very important that this class be filled by designers from the District, so please get in touch with Eileen Hamilton to reserve your space. Class IV is for rose photography, and Class V will showcase Rosecraft. I think there's something for everyone here, and hope that you will be encouraged to create a design and/or bring your photos and crafts for competition. Space is limited and prior reservations for the Design Division should be made with Eileen Hamilton at 304/744-5634.

Two workshops are scheduled on Saturday. At 11:00, Jeff and Cindy Garrett will discuss "Rootstocks and Roses", and at 2:30 there will be an exhibiting panel with some of our best exhibitors--Randy Scott, Bob and Linda Knerr, and Susan Clingenpeel. Both of these meetings should appeal to all of the weekend participants.

Be sure to bring some extra money--we will have vendors with great products, raffle tickets, and silent auction items to tempt you. For those of you who want to shop, the Town Center mall is within walking distance of the hotel. Several fine restaurants are located about town and at the mall.

Our social hour Saturday evening begins at 6:30. A buffet dinner will be followed by the awarding of District trophies, and our entertainment will be provided by the Capital High School VIPs. This group of young men and women has won

many awards throughout the country, and we look forward to their participation in our event.

Finally, our Sunday breakfast and business meeting will round out the weekend. Remember that this is an election year, and all District offices are going to change hands.

Gasoline prices are not making travel easy, but we have endeavored to keep the cost of the meeting at a level that will allow you to come to Charleston and enjoy a weekend of roses and friends. So, *shall we dance?*

The Colonial District website will provide you with a link to an Adobe® Acrobat® registration form that is "user friendly" (i.e., fillable) as well as a link to the Schedule of Events and Rose Show Schedule. www.colonialdistrictroses.org



SRS Consulting Rosarians

Meredith Yeago	Waynesboro	540-943-7874
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Charles Shaner	Staunton	(H) 540-886-3133 (W) 540-885-4778
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Frank Van Lenten	Liberty, SC	864-850-3435
Rita Van Lenten	Liberty, SC	864-850-3435
John Crowley	Wintergreen	434-361-1733
Raymond Shipley	Lavale, MD	301-729-8271
Al Minutolo	Crozet	434-823-1092
John Huddle	Waynesboro	540-943-2229

Know Someone Who Wants To Join?



If you know a friend or neighbor that would like to join Shenandoah Rose Society, just give them the form on page 4.

Shenandoah Rose Society Membership Application

_____New _____Renewal

The Shenandoah Rose Society is an educational, nonprofit, nonprofessional organization dedicated to serving all those in this area who enjoy roses. Its purpose is to assist and encourage the amateur gardener. Membership may include one or two persons residing at the same address.

Dues are \$12.00/year and include 10 issues of the Shenandoah Rose Ramblings newsletter, 7 educational meetings during the year and one rose exhibition. We also have one picnic in July and a banquet in November (Dutch treat).

All members of the Shenandoah Rose Society are encouraged (but not required) to have membership in the American Rose Society (P. O. Box 30000, Shreveport, LA 71130-0030). ARS dues are \$37.00/year (\$34.00 for persons 65 and over) and include 11 issues of the *American Rose Magazine*, the Rose Annual and the yearly Handbook for Selecting Roses. Dues are payable in October for the succeeding calendar year.

You may also get or renew your ARS membership through Shenandoah Rose Society.

PLEASE PRINT THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

I ENCLOSE \$_____ for membership in the Shenandoah Rose Society for the year beginning January 1st and ending December 31st.

Name

Address

City State Zip

Telephone Number: Home _____

Work: _____

E-mail _____

Make checks payable to Shenandoah Rose Society and mail to Meredith E. Yeago, 2926 Hermitage Road, Waynesboro, VA 22980-6446 or give to a society member.