

Ramblin' Rose "Outtakes"

The Charleston Rose Society

A Member of the Colonial District



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Ramblin' Rose Outtakes is an abbreviated version of the Charleston Rose Society's newsletter. Published monthly from March to June and September to December, *Outtakes* appears on the Colonial District's website.

(www.colonialdistrictroses.org)

The Charleston Rose Society, a member of the American Rose Society and part of the Colonial District, was founded in 1923. Its membership is dedicated to the growth of roses, the education of the public in rose culture, and fellowship with rose growers locally and across the country.

Meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of each month from March to June and September to November at Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church in Charleston and begin at 7:30 p.m. If you are interested in learning more about roses and their culture, we would like to invite you to join us at any of our meetings. If you are interested in joining the Charleston Rose Society, please contact:

Dick Hanlon, Treasurer
Charleston Rose Society
28 Gaylor Lane
Charleston, WV 25312.

Membership dues for the Charleston Rose Society are \$8 for an individual and \$12 for a family. This includes the newsletter.

ROSE OF THE MONTH



Rosa Rugosa

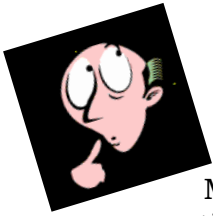
It's hard for me to believe we haven't talked about this rose before, because it's so wonderful. It's a deep mauve single (five petals) with lovely yellow stamens. This is a species rose native to eastern Asia and Japan that is known by many different names: *Hedgehog Rose*, *Tomato Rose*, *Japanese Rose*, and many more. At one time this rose was exhibited under the name *Rosa Rugosa Rubra*, but a couple of years ago it got changed, for some reason, to *Rosa Rugosa*. Whatever you call her, she's a wonderful rose. The hips in the fall look like a bunch of cherry tomatoes, and in a past generation it was considered a fruit item and the bush was grown specifically for the harvesting of its hips. The high vitamin C content of the hips' flesh, plus a great deal of vitamin E in the seeds, made this a sought after commodity.



Rosa Rugosa is very disease resistant. The Japanese beetles are about the only problem this rose has to contend with; even the deer stay away. The foliage is quite thick and dark green and distinctively veined. The bush grows about two feet a year until it reaches around ten feet. She has a very pleasant fragrance and is a repeat bloomer. The heavily-prickled canes end in a cluster of beautiful blooms. Many nurseries carry this rose for less than \$20.

This is a bush that you can plant and forget. Dick Hanlon has won quite a few trophies with his bush, so don't think she doesn't like to be taken to a show. The ARS has given her a 9.1 rating--not bad for an old girl!! I highly recommend this rose.

Donna Smoot



THINGS I DO NOT UNDERSTAND

Dick Hanlon

Mr. Hanlon's column will return in March 2010. He's on vacation!



THIS AND THAT

Lynda Grass

Our roses are still blooming, even though we've been pulling petals for a number of weeks. Our yard is probably warmer than most because we are in the city, have brick houses around us, and have the protection of a neighbor's fence and garage around the back yard as well as our garage. At this point, we have not had frost except for a little patch on the grass in the back yard and on the vehicles.

We have dug up all of the roses that we plan on giving away, need to find a home for, or disposed of. Our *Sally Holmes* was huge, but more and more of the stems were being affected by mosaic, and there's no cure for that. Steven cut her back and then dug it up--it had roots to China! Two *Nightingales* and the *Elizabeth Taylor-Tempie Lee* bush were also removed. All were mildew magnets and had been in somewhat of a decline. When I dug up the *Elizabeth Taylor-Tempie* bush, a large crown gall (nearly the size of a tennis ball) popped up from beneath the soil. No wonder it was in decline.

Steve has ordered a number of replacement roses, and is going to try his hand at three maiden hybrid teas again this year. He orders them from Wisconsin Roses. Phyllis McFadden turned him on to this way of starting roses, and she's been quite successful at it herself.

Now's a good time to add things to your beds to enrich or aerate the soil. If your beds are several years old, the soil can become compressed, robbing the roses of necessary air and lessening the effectiveness of fertilizers. There are a number of things that you can do to correct this. Working in mushroom compost, composted leaves, gypsum, perlite, worm castings, etc., will lighten and enrich the soil, and will make the earthworms very happy. Happy earthworms aerate the soil, enrich it with their castings (wondered about that term, did you?), and provide you a free service while they wiggle in your soft soil.



Last weekend Steven purchased a large bag of perlite from Green's Feed & Seed. He spread it over the large rose bed in the back yard that's had so many roses removed from it, and worked it into the bed with his small roto-tiller attachment to his weed eater. While it makes quick work of mixing in the perlite, it's a workout for the operator. Gives new meaning to Elvis' song, "I'm All Shook Up".



Having your pH tested with a meter, strips, or by having it analyzed by the Cooperative Extension Service will give you an idea of what else you may need to add to bring your beds to the 6.5 range said to be ideal for growing roses.

The days are getting cooler and more comfortable for working outside. Is there a better way to enjoy the fall weather than taking care of your roses?



After all the rain that we've had lately and the slow down in blooming, it may seem unnecessary to water your roses. This isn't correct--your roses still need to be watered if we haven't had rain for a number of days, and especially if you have potted roses. The wind and heat from the sun will dry out the bushes and put them at a disadvantage; they may be dormant (not producing new growth), but still require moisture to survive. You should also be prepared to water your containers during the winter if we don't have rain or snow in a month's time.

Some of you may already have had two killing frosts and are ready to cut back for winter. Make sure your pruners and loppers are clean and sharp. You may need a pruning saw for large canes. Take out all dead canes, cutting back until you see white pith. This may mean all the way to the bud union. Look for canes that cross each other since they may actually rub against each other in the wind, causing damage. Decide which one is the healthiest, and remove the other below the crossed area. We've propped crossed canes apart with a stake in order to save both canes; it doesn't always work but is worth a try if the bush doesn't have many canes to begin with. Depending on your preference, large roses should be cut back to waist high, miniatures and mini-floras to 12-18". This height will be shorter if you plan to cover with Styrofoam rose cones. If you use cones, you'll need some twine to go around the canes to bring them together in order to fit under the cone.

Remove the leaves or let them stay? Another choice for you to make, entirely up to you. We take them off.

You need to treat your canes and beds to kill insects and diseases that might try to overwinter. With the problems we've been having with blackspot and mildew, Steven's going to spray with copper first for those diseases, and then follow it with two separate applications of a combination product of lime sulfur and oil. This will smother any insects that may be on the canes and in the beds.

Mulch. What kind--there are so many now. Over the past few years we've used cypress mulch, but are most likely going to switch back to hard wood. We've found that cypress doesn't decompose as much during the year, where hard wood will break down by the end of the growing season, improving the beds in the process and making way for a new layer in the fall. But again, the choice is yours. Hard wood, pine bark, cypress; bagged or by the scoop. Mound the mulch 6-8" over and around the canes. If you've got a particularly winter-tender bush, extra mulch, a protective cage filled with mulch, or a rose cone may be needed.

Your container roses need even more protection. If you have a garage, you can move them in and out during the winter depending on the weather. They can be moved against the south-facing side of your house (or garage) where they will be more protected and get the winter sun, or you can bury them in the ground until spring. We put all of our container roses in a box that Steve built out of foam insulation board. The sides keep the wind from freezing the soil (and the roses), and when the temperatures are going to be below freezing, a cover sheet of insulation board is placed over the entire box.



ROSE RESOURCES

Most of us can't help ourselves--once we have one rose bush, we seem to feel the need to have more, and more, and more! While a number of nurseries carry potted roses from Jackson & Perkins and other national resources, many of the new bushes, miniatures/mini-floras, and old garden roses aren't available.

Listed below are resources to help you find what you're looking for. Websites are wonderful things, with beautiful photos and descriptions of the roses. Some of the companies also carry garden equipment, spray materials, and items to "spice up" your garden beds. This isn't a definitive list; there are many others out there, but these companies are ones that a number of us have ordered from before and have been happy with the results.

Now is the time to order for next spring, so treat yourself to some new roses!

The Antique Rose Emporium, www.antiqueroseemporium.com
9300 Lueckemeyer Road, Brenham, TX 77833, 1.800.441.0002
specializing in OGRs, antiques, shrubs, ramblers, etc.

Edmunds' Roses, www.edmundsroses.com
335 South High Street, Randolph, WI 53956, 1.888.481.7673

Regan's Nursery, www.regannursery.com
4268 Decoto Road, Fremont, CA 94555, 1.510.797.3223

Roses of Yesterday, www.rosesofyesterday.com
803 Browns Valley Road, Corralitos, CA 95076, 1.831.728.1901
specializing in OGRs, musks, perpetuals, etc.

Witherspoon Rose Culture, www.witherspoonrose.com
3312 Watkins Road, Durham, NC 27707, 1.919.489.4446

Jackson & Perkins, www.jacksonperkins.com
2 Floral Avenue, Hodges, SC 29653, 1.800.292.4769

David Austin Roses, www.davidaustinroses.com
15059 State Highway 64 West, Tyler, TX 75704

Rogue Valley Roses, www.roguevalleyroses.com
P. O. Box 116, Phoenix, OR 97535, 1.541.535.1307
specializing in antique, OGRs, and rare roses

Roses Unlimited, www.rosesunlimiteddownroot.com
363 North Deerwood Drive, Laurens, SC 29360, 1.864.682.7673
own root roses, large selection of English, OGRs, hybrids, etc.



Chamblee's Rose Nursery, www.chambleeroses.com
10926 US Highway 69 North, Tyler, TX 75706, 1.800.256.7673
David Austin, EarthKind, Griffith Buck, etc.



Rosemania, www.rosemania.com
4020 Trail Ridge Drive, Franklin, TN 37067, 1.888.600.9665
specializing in miniatures/mini-floras; also have hybrids

Two Sisters Roses, www.twosistersroses.com
P. O. Box 1412, Newcastle OK 73065, 1.405.392.4544
roses now come potted; distributors of Whit Wells' roses

Palatine Roses, www.palatineroses.com
2108 Four Mile Creek Road, RR #3, Niagra-On-The-Lake, Ontario, L0S 1 J0,
1.905.468.8627

Moffet Nursery
6451 State Route 6 NE, St. Joseph, MO 64507, 1.816.233.1223

Wisconsin Roses, www.wiroses.com, 1.262.358.1298
specializing in maiden roses, see website for more information

Rose Publications

Horizon Roses, \$10, send check to Johnny Premeaux, 700 Westbury, Orange, TX
77630
review of exhibition roses from exhibitors around the country (to include Gary & Monica Rankin and John & Diana Fleek)

Combined Rose List, \$24, send check to Peter Schneider, Box 677, Mantua, OH
44255
will be published in March 2010; international reference for rose sources, over 14,000 rose listings and over 300 rose nursery resources

Modern Roses XII, \$49.95; www.ars.org, book is now updated on the ARS website with
all new rose additions which you access with a registration number



Happy Thanksgiving and Happy Holidays!

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