
THORNY BUSH

Newsletter of The Huntington Rose Society; Huntington, WV

Affiliated with the American Rose Society

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Dates to Remember

February 17, 2009 The regular meeting of the Huntington Rose Society will be held on Tuesday, February 17 at the First Christian Church, 1202 Fifth Avenue, Huntington. The program for the evening will be “**Splendid Singles**” presented by **Donna Smoot**. Hospitality will be provided by Beverly Delidow, Monica Valentovic and Gary Rankin.

March 13-14, 2009 The Colonial District Pre-Spring Meeting will be held on Friday and Saturday, March 13-14 at the Holiday Inn Golf and Convention Center, Staunton, VA. See the article inside for more details and a registration form. For more information contact Peggy Scott at 757-588-1865 or via e-mail at tarralltontigers@yahoo.com or George Wilson at 757-853-0621.

April 4, 2009 The **Buckeye District Spring Meeting** will be a one day event on Saturday, April 4th at the Berwick Party Center, 3250 Refugee Road Columbus, Ohio. The cost is \$25 and includes continental breakfast and lunch. Send check payable to the Buckeye District to Barbara Zimmerman 430 N. Main Street, Englewood, Ohio 45322 Information: Tel: 937-836-4703 – e-mail: BJZROSE@aol.com

September 20, 2009 The Huntington Rose Society Rose Show will be held on Sunday, September 20, 2009 at the Huntington Mall, Barboursville, WV. Set

up will be held on Saturday evening starting at 9:00 pm. For more information contact Rose Show Co-Chairs, Gary Rankin and Monica Valentovic TEL: 304-697-0321: e-mail Gary at rankin@marshall.edu or Monica at valentov@marshall.edu

DISCLAIMER: The Editor's believe the information contained in this newsletter is accurate and up to date. However, the Editors do not guarantee the accuracy of any article nor do we provide any endorsement or warranty. The Society and the Editor's do not accept any legal responsibilities for omissions or errors that have been made in this newsletter.

Table of Contents

President's Message	Pg 1-2
Membership renewal notice	Pg 2
Colonial District meeting	Pg 3
Officers and phone numbers	Pg 3
Mills Magic Mix Order info	Pg 3-4
Sponsors	Pg 4
Colonial District Registration	Pg 5
Membership renewal form	Pg 6

President's Message **Beverly Delidow**

New Year greetings one and all! It is a fine February evening, with a soft full moon just peeping over my sleeping gardens. Indeed, I am lucky that my roses are still napping in this lovely turn of mild weather. I sometimes wonder if February can teach me what it teaches

the rose: Patience. Don't put away the winter coat after that first warm day. A little cold weather is good for you. Don't run out of salt before the second big snow. And don't worry about a few small canine donations – that's a slow-release fertilizer... .

While the roses are still asleep, my imagination is not. I completed much needed renovations to my landscaping late last summer and the yard is now ready for the real stars of the show: NEW ROSES! So I am very excited about this month's program. For our February meeting, accomplished judge and rosarian Donna Smoot will present a program on the petite darlings of the rose world, the single roses. I am really looking forward to hearing Donna and expanding the selection in my garden to include more "single girls". I hope to see you next Tuesday, February 17, 7:30 pm, at Central Christian Church, as we kick off the new year in style.

Finally, it is a privilege to serve with my fellow officers and to welcome you to join in another year of fellowship and fine meetings. I am much indebted to Gary Rankin, our Vice President, for his hard work on the programs, and to both Gary and Monica for our outstanding newsletters. Their exemplary work was also noticed by the ARS – two of their articles in our newsletter have been recognized with Awards of Merit. Kudos!

I am grateful to all of you for your confidence, your friendship, and your many contributions to our wonderful society. Wishing you all a happy February and many roses this spring!

Renew Your Membership in the Huntington Rose Society!!!

It is once again time to renew your membership for 2009. It is \$8 for a single and \$12 for a family membership. Please send your dues to: Monica Valentovic, Treasurer, 109 Cedar Court, Lavalette, WV 25535.

The annual membership fee provides a discount on orders of Mills Magic Mix and 9 newsletters. The newsletter is filled with seasonal information to get the maximum enjoyment out of your roses. Articles published in the past 5 year have won 15 American Rose Society Award of Merit certificates in the national competition. So your membership includes a newsletter with articles that are award winning!!

The discount on Mills Magic Mix is almost 50% off the list price. Just as a reminder, Mills Magic Mix is an organic based fertilizer that is group ordered by the Society in the spring. A 20# bag feeds 30 large roses or 60 miniatures one time. If you independently purchased a 20# bag of Mills Magic Mix, it would cost over \$26. In 2009 society members will be able to order Mills Mix at a cost of \$15.25 which is a savings of almost \$11. This means you almost save the cost of a family membership with the purchase of just one bag. **So please consider renewing your membership today!!**

The Society is also seeking additional donors that are signified as Queen, King, Princess and Prince levels. Donations at the Prince (\$10-25); Princess (\$26-50), King (\$51-99) and Queen (\$100 or more) levels help to defray the yearly costs incurred by the

Society. A membership application is included at the end of this newsletter.

Colonial District Pre-Spring Meeting

The Colonial District Pre-Spring Meeting will be held on March 13-14, 2009 at the Holiday Inn Golf and Conference Center, Staunton, VA. The meeting will be hosted by the Tidewater and Virginia Peninsula Rose Societies. A registration form, meeting location and information about hotel reservations is included in this issue of the ***Thorny Bush***. Completed registration forms and the registration fees should be mailed to George Wilson, 2433 Hemlock Street, Norfolk, VA 23513 no later than March 1, 2009. Hotel reservations should be made by February 24, 2009. Copies of the registration form can also be downloaded from the Colonial District website www.colonialdistrictroses.org.

Registration at the meeting opens at 3 pm Friday afternoon. The program will begin Friday evening with a social hour starting at 6:00 pm. At 7:00 pm, candidate for Vice-President of the American Rose Society, Robert B. Martin, Jr., will be the featured speaker.

Saturday morning begins with a continental breakfast at 7 am with welcoming announcements at 8:00 am. Speakers (topics not provided) for the morning session include Dr. John Dunn, Susan Waites and Barry Boyd. After lunch, a presentation will be made by John Fleek and Clif Jeter followed by the District Business meeting. A Consulting Rosarian re-certification program is also planned with speakers including Barry Boyd (old garden roses and shrubs), John Smith (hybridizing hybrid teas) and Don Myers (Integrated

Pest Management and Chemical Safety).

Saturday evening will be the closing banquet with Jolene Adams, the second candidate for Vice-President of the American Rose Society, as the featured speaker.

A silent action and raffle are also planned. All questions about the meeting can be directed to Peggy Scott at 757-588-1865 or via e-mail at tarrallontigers@yahoo.com.

OFFICERS FOR 2009	
President	Beverly Delidow 304-429-4211
Vice President	Gary Rankin 304-697-0321
Treasurer	Monica Valentovic 304-697-0321
Assistant Treasurer	Satwant Singh 304-736-6714
Recording Secretary	Rudy Wang 304-736-0535
Corresponding Secretary	Beth White 304-733-2004

Orders for Mills Magic Mix

Orders for Mills Magic Mix and Mills Easy Feed will be taken by phone. Please call Gary or Monica (697-0321) if you are interested in ordering Mills Magic Mix by **Tuesday, February 24**. You can also send your order by e-mail to Valentov@marshall.edu or Rankin@marshall.edu.

If you are not familiar with this product, it is an excellent organic fertilizer. The components of Mills Magic Mix include alfalfa meal, bone meal, fish meal, sewer sludge and cottonseed meal. One 20-pound bag will feed 30 large roses or 60 miniatures. It is best to feed your roses Mills Magic Mix in the Spring and feeding a half-dose in mid-July. Feeding two times adds organic matter to the soil and provides a slow, non-burning feeding of your roses. Mills Magic Mix when applied in the Spring helps increase microbial activity in the soil. Each bag will cost **\$15.25** if we can get an order of 50 bags. We will once again combine our order with the Charleston Rose Society in order to get 50 bags. This is a **big** savings from the normal retail price of over **\$26** for one 20# bag. You are almost getting it at half-price by ordering through the society!!

We also will take orders for Mills Easy Feed liquid. This is a complete formula that can be used to fertilize your roses and contains magnesium and fish emulsion components. The cost of Mills Easy Feed is \$14.70 for 1/2 gallon (feeds 128 roses at a level of 1 TBSP/gallon water) and for a gallon \$27.65. The Mills Magic Mix and Easy Feed should be available at the March meeting.

Other products that are also available include: greensand 50# \$20.50; fish emulsion (1 gal, \$10.50); alfalfa meal, (50#, \$21.70); liquid kelp (1 gal. \$15.25);

A new product being offered by Beatty Fertilizer Company is Bloomkote. Bloomkote is a 16-18-14 time release fertilizer formulated to specifically feed roses for four (4) months. A 20# tub is \$46.00 (1 cup/rose, feeds 35 roses).

Our Recent Rose Society Patrons

The Society would like to express a deep and sincere **thank you** to our members who have become Rose Patrons. A big Thank You goes to the following individuals:

**Queen
Truman Watts**

**Prince
John David Powell
Rudy Wang**

SOIL TESTING Monica Valentovic

Fall is the best time to test your soil pH. However, it is not too late to do a soil test. If you have not yet tested your soil pH and don't want a full soil analysis, bring a sample of soil from your rose beds to our regular Huntington Rose Society meeting on Tuesday (February 17th). We can test your pH and let you know the results. Take a sample 3" below the surface and mulch of your rosebushes at the distance of the drip line. Take approximately a quarter to half-cup of soil or fill a Dixie cup with soil and place it in a ziplock bag. The soil is quite wet at this time and it would be very beneficial if you would air dry the sample prior to placing in the ziplock bag. We will provide your pH values within a few days to you.

Famous Quotes from Howard Walters, Rambling Rosarian American Rose Magazine November 1999

It is easier to suggest solutions when you don't know too much about the problem.

Colonial District of The American Rose Society
Pre-Spring Meeting
 Hosted by the Tidewater and Virginia Peninsula Rose Societies
Holiday Inn Golf and Conference Center
Staunton, Va.
March 13, 14, 2009
Roses! Always On My Mind

Come and enjoy a fun-filled weekend sharing Roses On My Mind!
 Activities include a CR recertification session. Our Banquet Speaker will be Jolene Adams.
Full Registration includes meals Friday night, Saturday Continental Breakfast, (Lunch on your own),
 Seminars and Saturday night Banquet (CR recertification is a separate fee) **\$100.00**
Partial Registration includes seminars and Saturday night Banquet **\$ 55.00**
Saturday Seminars (NO BANQUET) **\$ 20.00**

Friday
 Registration opens 3:00 PM
 Social Hour with Heavy Hors d'Oeuvres (counts as a meal, included in registration) 6:00 PM
 Robert (Bob) Martin 7:00 PM

Saturday
 Continental Breakfast (included in registration) 7:00 AM
 Registration Table opens 7:00 AM
 The day's activities include CR recertification and Banquet (Jolene Adams Speaker) with raffle and
 auction
More information call George Wilson – 757-853-0621

Holiday Inn Golf and Conference Center – I-81 and RT. 275 Staunton, VA. (I-81 Exit 225)
For reservations call 540-248-6020 OR 1-800-932-9061 by Feb. 24, 2009
Room Rate is \$82.00/night +tax

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____
 Phone _____ E-Mail _____
 Number attending _____ Total registration \$ _____

Mail registration to George Wilson, 2433 Hemlock Street, Norfolk, VA 23513 no later than March 1, 2009.

Make checks payable to Colonial District Pre-Spring Meeting

