
THORNY BUSH

Newsletter of The Huntington Rose Society; Huntington, WV

Affiliated with the American Rose Society

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July/August 2009

Dates to Remember

July 21, 2009 Huntington Rose Society Meeting The regular monthly meeting of the Huntington Rose Society will be held on Tuesday July 21, 2009 starting at 7:30 pm at the Central Christian Church, 1202 Fifth Avenue. The program for the evening will be **Rose Photography Made Simple** presented by Drs. Beverly Delidow and Rudy Wang. Hospitality for the evening will be provided by Satwant Singh. So bring a few roses to photograph and your appetites!

July 17 - 19 2009 ARS All-Miniature Rose Conference and Rose Show will take place at the Radisson Penn Harris Hotel & Convention Center, Harrisburg, PA. Contact Glenn Smith by phone 717-938-9991 or email cowboysdal@aol.com if interested.

August 18, 2009 Annual Picnic The annual Huntington Rose Society picnic will be held on Tuesday evening, August 18 at the home of Bill and Oleta Dolen, 217 Township Road 339, Proctorville, OH starting at 6:30 pm. Details can be found inside this issue.

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 & Monica Valentovic TEL: 304-697-0321; e-mail Gary at rankin@marshall.edu or Monica at valentov@marshall.edu.

September 25-27, 2009 Colonial District Fall Meeting and Show will be hosted by Richmond Rose Society in Richmond, VA.

September 25-27, 2009. The theme of the show is "Kaleidoscope of Roses". For more information contact: Carol Fox CarolFox@scc.virginia.gov, Don Penzler dpenzler@verizon.net, or Willie Mills willie1091@comcast.net.

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⇨REMINDER⇧

This issue of the *Thorny Bush* will be for the months of July and August. There will be **no newsletter in August**.

OFFICERS FOR 2009

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Vice President	Gary Rankin 304-697-0321
Treasurer	Monica Valentovic 304-697-0321
Assistant Treasurer	Satwant Singh 304-736-6714
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Corresponding Secretary	Beth White 304-733-2004

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President's Message Beverly Delidow

Greetings to all from the middle of a lovely week in July. While it's not as warm as some years, the ample rains have kept my garden happy (well, OK, the weeds as well as the roses) and productive. All the fireworks in my yard are in a side contest at the moment between Edisto and Soroptomist International for top spray honors. I stopped counting at twelve blooms and just admire the show. We're all enjoying warm sun and a cool breeze and good water. In addition, I have been extremely fortunate this year in the bug department – I don't have any! Usually the first couple weeks of July are when the Japanese beetles show up, but I didn't see my first one until last night – and it was on wildflower a quarter mile from my contented roses. I think one reason for my good fortune may be my form of garden bribery. I keep bird feeders going all summer just above the beds, so when my birds have to feed their babies, they are used to foraging through my plants. This keeps the roses, the birds, and me very happy.

Because we have one July/August newsletter this is the time to remind everyone of important dates coming up: First, for members of the ARS, the voting period for ARS elections will close on July 31. Members wishing to cast their ballots may do so online with the membership number on the mailing label. Secondly, consulting rosarians should be have it on their radar to complete their year-end reports (due in September) and Roses in Review. Everyone who wants to can provide ratings for Roses in Review and the ARS is grateful for everyone's input. Once business is done, I hope everyone is looking forward

to our summer picnic on August 18th, as I am. Bill and Oleta Dolen have generously opened their beautiful garden to us. Come, bring a covered dish, and enjoy a lovely evening with good food, wonderful flowers, and the fellowship of your friends in the rose society..

Finally, at our meeting this month I hope to see everyone there for some hands-on fun. For our meeting on July 21st, we will be reviewing tips for making your roses last using another favorite hobby: photography. We hope to make this fun and interactive, so feel free to bring roses and your cameras – Let's play!

All the best for a warm and wonderful summer.

Annual Huntington Rose Society Picnic

The annual potluck picnic for the Huntington Rose Society will be held at the home of Bill and Oleta Dolen, 217 Township Road 339, Proctorville, Ohio on **Tuesday, August 18th starting at 6:30 PM**. Directions to the Dolen's home are given at the end of this article. The Society will provide meat, pop, plates, napkins and eating utensils. Everyone is asked to bring a covered dish (vegetable, salad or dessert) to add to the meal.

Everyone in the Society is invited to attend the picnic and to bring guests. We would especially like to encourage our new members to come and enjoy a relaxing evening among other rose enthusiasts and share the beauty of the Dolen's home and rose garden. This picnic is an especially great way for new members to interact with other members of the Society and to see someone else's garden. The picnic is always an enjoyable evening filled with good food, lots of friendly folks and a little conversation about roses. So please come out and enjoy the evening.

Directions to August Picnic

From Huntington, take the 31st Street Bridge (the suspension bridge) into Ohio. Once you enter Ohio you will be on Rtes. 7 and 775. Proceed on Rtes 7 and 775 for about 1 mile and turn left to stay on Rt. 775. Go ~4 miles and you will see a two-story building with a large blue strip around it on your left and a small green sign on you right that says "Union T 339". Turn right at the sign. The Dolen's home is the first house on the left.

Summertime Pests

Gary Rankin and Monica Valentovic

Now that we are entering July, it is time to deal with those pesky problems of summer. Summer time pests come in several forms including insects, mites and fungal diseases. Let's take a look at each one of these pests and see how we can deal with them.

Insects Insects can be a real problem during the summer. Aphids are usually gone by the time July roles around, but other insects such as Japanese beetles (early summer), thrips, leafhoppers, caterpillars and cucumber beetles (late summer, early fall) can play havoc with bushes and/or blooms. To prevent serious damage from these various threats, different approaches may be needed.

Japanese beetles usually appear in our garden around the middle of June and stay until late July into August. These beetles are about ½" long and have hard shells of green and copper shading. They prefer light colored and fragrant roses and will eat the blooms as well as the foliage. To get rid of Japanese beetles, I usually carry around a cup filled with water to which I have added a few drops of dish washing detergent. To date, I haven't found a Japanese beetle yet that can swim in soapy water!

You can also spray pesticides such as carbaryl (Sevin), Bayer Rose and Flower Insect Killer (imidiclopid/cyfluthrin), Tempo and Orthene to kill Japanese beetles. The carbaryl can be applied as a spray or dust, but this product leaves the blooms and foliage covered in a chemical residue. The Bayer product, however, does not leave a residue on blooms or leaves and can even be used (by exhibitors) on blooms in the refrigerator to kill thrips without spotting the blooms. Neem oil products have also been used as a deterrent to cause beetles to avoid eating rose blooms and foliage. Apparently, the oil tastes bad and the beetles will avoid roses sprayed with these products. Of the chemical insecticides, we prefer the Bayer Rose and Flower Insect Killer.

Another treatment to reduce Japanese beetle populations is Milky Spore, a biological control that is applied to the soil to kill the beetles in the grub stage. This treatment is rather expensive, but can be effective at reducing local populations. Another soil treatment to kill Japanese beetles in the grub stage, and the one we have used most, is Grub-Ex with imidiclopid/cyfluthrin as the active ingredient. Applied to the soil when grubs are present and feeding (mid to late summer), Grub-Ex can markedly reduce the Japanese beetle population in a few years. While Japanese beetle traps fitted with a pad treated with a Japanese beetle sex pheromone may attract these pests very well, not all of the beetles end up in the trap. In fact, it has been our experience that the traps actually increase the number of beetles in our rose garden. We have found that the best place for these traps is in your neighbor's yard.

Thrips are tiny (~1/16") wheat-colored winged insects that damage blooms by chewing with their raspy mouth parts. They usually invade our garden when tall grass in the area is mowed, which always seems to correspond to the week before a rose show. Thrips are easily killed by insecticides such

as Orthene, Bayer Rose and Flower Insect Killer, etc. Insecticidal soaps can also be effective if sprayed directly on the insects. A special insecticide developed for treating thrips is Conserve. Tests by The Ohio State University demonstrated that Conserve was highly effective against thrips and provide an alternative insecticide for serious thrips attacks.

Leafhoppers and cucumber beetles tend to appear in our garden in late summer into fall. Leafhoppers are small (~1/8") insects are wedge shaped and come in a variety of colors including mixtures of green, yellow, white and gray. They mainly attack leaves and can cause a series of tiny dots where they eat the leaf surface. When you get close to them, the leafhoppers quickly jump away to another location. Cucumber beetles are ~1/4" green beetles with black spots on their backs. They will eat blooms and foliage to a lesser extent. Leafhoppers and cucumber beetles can be controlled by spraying an insecticide such as pyrethrin/rotenone, imidicloprid/cyfluthrin mixtures, insecticidal soaps, Tempo or ultrafine horticultural oils.

Caterpillars are the larvae of moths and butterflies and will eat buds, blooms and foliage. They can be present anytime during the late summer and can be controlled by physical removal or by spraying with an insecticide such as imidiclopride/cyfluthrin or pyrethrin/rotenone. We often find a few tent caterpillars in our rose garden. A few years ago, the tent caterpillars came down from a neighbor's tall cherry trees by the hundreds, but a single spray with Bayer Rose and Flower Insect Killer was highly effective in keeping them from getting too far from the trees from which they descended and none made it to the rose garden!

Spider mites are present in the rose garden when conditions are hot and dry. Spider mites are not insects, but are in the arachnid family, like spiders, and have eight legs like spiders, not six legs like insects.

These almost invisible reddish mites suck the juice from rose leaves, hiding on the bottom side of the leaf and giving a salt-and-pepper look to the underside of the leaves when the mites are present. In severe infections, webs may also be seen. Mature spider mites usually come from the ground and work their way from the bottom of the bush upwards. Leaves with spider mites present soon become speckled with yellow, die and drop to the ground. In very hot and dry conditions, the mites produce thousands of offspring and can defoliate a bush in a few days if not eradicated.

There are several approaches to stopping the spider mite life cycle which includes a ground stage. A strong blast of water to the underside of leaves at three day intervals (three times) removes spider mites from the sites where they feed and breed. This action will not allow the mites the opportunity to complete their breeding cycle and the mites will soon disappear. The water also soaks the ground, which can be helpful in mite control since spider mites prefer that the soil be dry for their life cycle to continue.

There are also a number of miticides available (e.g. Avid, Floramite, Hexygon, Forbid) that target these hot weather pests. Insecticides such as pyrethrin/rotenone and Bayer Rose and Flower Insect Killer can also help reduce the number of mites in the garden. However, remember that you must spray the undersides of the leaves for contact miticides (Floramite, Hexygon) or insecticides (pyrethrin/rotenone) to be effective. Products such as Avid and Bayer Rose and Flower Insect Killer work by a systemic approach and can kill the mites when they ingest the fluid from the rose leaves.

Fungal disease that occurs in the summer is primarily in the form of blackspot. Blackspot infections occur when the air is hot and humid. Periods of rain during the summer or heavy dew combined with temperatures in the 80s (F) can soon turn susceptible rose bushes into blackspot factories. There are

always blackspot spores in the air during the summer and the moisture on leaves combined with heat, allow the spores to attach to the rose leaves, invade the leaf surface and begin to reproduce. The result is the appearance of small to large black circles on leaves that turn yellow in the area of the blackspot colonies. The leaves soon die and fall of the plant. If the loss of leaves is too severe, the plant will be weakened and may not survive the fall or winter.

The best treatment for dealing with blackspot is preventative treatments. Use of chemicals such as manzate (a powder) or mancozeb (a liquid formulation of manzate) combined or rotated with other fungicides can be very effective in preventing blackspot. However, manzate is a contact fungicide and can be washed off with heavy rain. Systemic (Banner Maxx or Cleary's 3336) are also good preventatives used in combination and/or rotation with manzate. A few hours after application, they are absorbed by the rose bush and will not be washed away. Should blackspot leaves appear in the garden, they should be removed and discarded. If an outbreak of blackspot does appear, then spraying with manzate three times at three day intervals will help restore control of the blackspot problem.

By keeping up with these summertime pests, you can have beautiful roses and enjoy healthy rose bushes and blooms into the fall for bouquets in the house or maybe a Queen of Show at the rose show.



Thank you to our Rose Patrons

The Society would like to express a deep and sincere **thank you** to our members who have become Rose Patrons of our Society. These individuals have donated at the following levels in order to help defray the costs of the rose show and education materials. Donations indicate the levels of Prince (\$1-24); Princess (\$25-49), King (\$50-99) and Queen

(\$100 or more). A HEARTY THANK YOU goes to the following individuals:

Queen Level

Gary Rankin and Monica Valentovic
Truman Watts

King Level

Gil and Betsy Ratcliff

Princess Level

Bill and Oleta Dolen
John and Diana Fleek
Cheryl and Mike Johnson
Phyllis McFadden
Rudy and Monica Wang

Prince Level

Ron & Kathryn Davidson
Kitty Hage
Dick Hanlon
Bob Hogsett
John David Powell
Jim & Barbara Preston
Rudy Wang
Beth White
☆☆☆☆☆

THANK YOU TO OUR YEARBOOK SPONSORS!!

The society would like to thank all of the local businesses who advertise in our Yearbook and help support our Society. Check the advertisements listed in the back of the Yearbook and support those businesses who advertise with us. This month we wish to thank: **Hearth and Patio, Huntington Dog and Cat Hospital, Southern States, Union Missionary Baptist Church and Southern States.** **Southern States** is a valuable source for fertilizers, organic materials, hard to find items such as pelletized gypsum, 0-10-10 and alfalfa as well as pesticides to take care of your insect and fungal problems. **Hearth and Patio** is a special source for BBB and patio furniture and equipment as well as supplies to make your outdoor BBQ

activities enjoyable. We would like to thank **Bill and Oleta Dolen** for their purchase of an ad in the name of Union Missionary Baptist Church. Finally, we thank **Huntington Dog and Cat Hospital** which provides excellent care for your pets.

The kaleidoscopic colors of roses Part Two – Color Specializations Beverly Delidow

In the first article on pigments in roses back in April I covered the chemical pigments that roses use to bring forth all the beautiful colors of their blooms. This time I would like to address one of my favorite characters of roses – the different ways that color is developed in the petals to produce a wonderful multicolored display. There are two basic ways to do this, one is called variegation, which involves turning color on and off like a light switch, the other is the production of a reverse, more like changing the bulb to a different color – it's still on, but it looks different.

A variegated rose is one like the lovely Fourth of July that has stripes on the petals. Every petal and every flower has a different pattern, producing a glorious, unpredictable display. The reason this happens has to do with the way roses make the machinery they use to produce color. The instructions for this machinery are encoded in the roses' genetic material. This is how the instructions are carried on to the roses' offspring, and how every bloom in the plant gets the same instructions to start with. However, in plants with striped flowers there is a floating genetic interruption to the instructions that pops in and out randomly. (These interruptions are also the reason for multiple colored corn kernels, which is how they were discovered.) In a rose petal where the instructions are interrupted very early, no machinery is made to produce pigment, and the rose petal is white. When this interruption occurs early in the formation of the petal, white area starts down at the base and may be very broad. Then as the petal

grows, little areas lose the interruption and can make color again. This causes pigmented stripes and spots for as long as the pigment machinery is active.

A reverse is in some ways even more mysterious. Roses with reverse color have one color on top of the petal and a different one underneath. A rose petal is such a delicate structure, how is this even possible? Petals with different color pigment in the two surfaces can occur because of the structure of a petal (Figure 1).

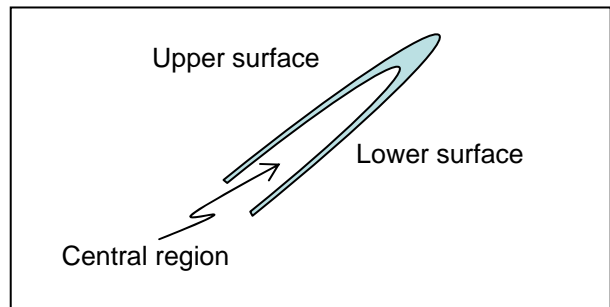


Figure 1. Even though a petal looks like a single layer to us, in fact petals are made of three layers: an upper surface, a central amorphous (or unstructured) layer, and a lower surface. The upper and lower surfaces may have different sets of color instructions, thus producing two colors.

The instructions on the two sides may be different for several reasons that are really fascinating. One reason they may be different is because of the same kind of genetic interruption that causes variegation. This means the instructions on the two sides of the petal are different because some or all of the steps are turned off. This causes the sets of pigments – or colors made – to differ because pigments are made in stepwise fashion. Another reason for the difference may be a change in the amount of pigment that is deposited on the two sides, leading to one side with more than the other, which we see as deeper or darker pigment on one side. And lastly, there is a very interesting variation of this in some flowers (the description I saw was for daffodils). In this situation all the instructions for making pigment are the same, *but* on

one side some additional machinery is turned on that destroys one or more of the pigments after they are made. So all the same colors are made, but one side is different because the pigment can't accumulate. The color of the reverse depends on which pigments are allowed to remain.

Variation and reverse-color are the common kinds of color variation in roses. Another intriguing type of rose is the color-spotted rose. These roses actually have spots – not stripes or streaks. It's not known how this occurs, though on the wonderful website "Spotted Rose Ranch" by Fara Shimbo (<http://spottedroseranch.com>) the author notes that some of the petal spots are thinner than the rest of the structure. However it occurs, it is very striking and lovely.

A rose is an amazing and beautiful flower – to me, it is even more amazing when you learn how it acquires the colors we love to admire.

The Thorny Bush
Gary and Monica Rankin, Editors
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Lavalette, WV 25535

COLONIAL DISTRICT FALL SHOW AND MEETING

The Colonial District will hold its Fall Show and District meeting September 25-27th in Richmond, VA. The Richmond Rose Society is hosting the meeting. A Registration form is included in our newsletter and the deadline for registering is September 11th.

The meeting begins with a Friday night reception and time for everyone to catch up with old friends and make new acquaintances. The Friday program will be by Dr. Susan Clingenpeel and is entitled ***Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow in our Colonial District.***

Saturday morning between 6-9:30 AM all rose exhibitors will be busy entering their roses. Judging begins at 10 AM. The Show opens at 1 PM. Annette Critelli, will present a program at 11 AM on ***Drying and Enjoying Your Roses Year Round.*** At 2 PM there is a guided tour of the Lewis Ginter Garden. Saturday evening is the banquet. Frank Robinson, Director of Lewis Ginter will be the speaker. Sunday morning is the Colonial District business meeting. A CR school will also be held on Sunday.

Colonial District of the American Rose Society
62nd Fall Rose Show & Meeting
A Kaleidoscope of Roses
Hosted by the Richmond Rose Society
September 25-27, 2009

****The show will be held at **Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden**. Remember to bring your **ARS membership card** for free admission to the Garden, otherwise regular admission fees apply. (There is no admission charge for those exhibiting only and not visiting the Garden.)*

*Meetings and social functions will be held at the **Holiday Inn I-64 West End/Crossroads**, which is just a short drive from the Garden.*

Registration Deadline is September 11, 2009

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone: _____ Society: _____

Full Registration - \$85.00 per person # of persons _____ \$ _____
(Includes Friday reception*, Saturday Rose Show programs, Saturday night banquet*)

Banquet* Only - \$35.00 per person # of persons _____ \$ _____
*cash bar available

TOTAL enclosed \$ _____

Please indicate your choice of dinner entree: _____ Chicken Virginian _____ London Broil
_____ Salmon _____ Vegetarian

Please make check payable to "RRS" and mail to: Kristin Natvig
4605 Kensington Avenue
Richmond, VA 23226

For further information contact Willie Mills 804-641-0656; Don Penzler 804-360-9863; or Carol Fox 804-360-3686

Room Reservation Deadline is September 1, 2009

Holiday Inn I-64 West End/Crossroads
2000 Staples Mill Road
Richmond, VA 23230

Our contracted room rate is \$99/night plus 13% room tax.

For reservations, please call the hotel direct at 804-359-6061 or toll free at 877-506-6061 and request the Richmond Rose Society group rate.

Check In: 3:00 p.m. Check Out: 12:00 Noon