
THORNY BUSH

Newsletter of The Huntington Rose Society; Huntington, WV

Affiliated with the American Rose Society

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Dates to Remember

November 17, 2009 The annual rose banquet and installation of officers will be held on Tuesday, November 17, 2009 beginning at **6:30 P.M.** The banquet will take place at the Central Christian Church, 1202 Fifth Avenue. In addition to the pot luck dinner, new officers for 2010 will be installed. Further information is provided in this newsletter.

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President's Message

Beverly Delidow

November greetings to all on a chilly fall night. We have been blessed with a run of beautiful days that only seem to accentuate the sweetness of those last few blooms of the year. Now that summer is behind us and the trees are dropping their leaves, it will soon be time for the roses to go to bed and for us to take our winter break. It has been a year of terrific programs and fellowship in our Society. I

am truly grateful to all who have played a role in making that happen. I count myself blessed when I think of the beauty rose gardening brings, and happy hours I have spent in wonderful company. I will never doubt that growing roses grows friendship.

Our annual celebration of the gifts that roses have brought us will be Tuesday, November 17, at 6:30 pm, at our annual Thanksgiving Banquet. As always, the society will provide the meat and drinks. Please come, share your wonderful dishes we look forward to every year and the memories of another good year. I look forward to seeing everyone on this festive evening!

Wishing everyone a happy holiday season and a host of roses in the year to come.

Beverly

Calendars are coming!

Beverly Delidow

The official HRS 2010 calendars are ready and will be available in two ways. We have had them professionally printed this year and they are on their way. I will have some available locally as soon as they come in (cost \$12.00). They may also be ordered directly from the Lulu.com website (\$14.49) at this address: <http://snipurl.com/t6miy> . You can see a preview of the calendar on the website.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Check out the website, the calendars are beautiful. Thank you Beverly for another great production.)

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE
2010 Slate of Officers**

The committee has announced a slate of officers for 2010. The names of the candidates will be read at the November meeting and voted upon at the November 17th banquet. The officers will then be installed at the Banquet. Don't miss this important activity of the Huntington Rose Society!!!

The candidates are:

President- Beverly Delidow

Vice President- Gary Rankin

Treasurer - Monica Valentovic

Assistant Treasurer- Bill Dolen

Recording Secretary- Rudy Wang

Corresponding Secretary- Beth White

November Banquet

The annual Huntington Rose Society banquet will begin at 6:30 PM, November 17, 2009 at the Fellowship Hall of Central Christian Church, Huntington, WV. As in the past, this will be a potluck dinner. The Society will provide **turkey, cups, plates, silverware, and coffee**. This is a great time to bring your favorite recipe to share with your fellow rose growers, and we all look forward to some of our rose society's members' favorite dishes. We hope to taste your favorite recipes for salads, breads, cranberries, broccoli, potatoes, corn, green beans, sweet potatoes/yams, squash and any other side dishes. We also anticipate the arrival of all kinds of goodies in the form of pies, cheesecakes and cakes. Are you getting hungry reading this article?

Following the dinner, President Delidow will open the floor for additional nominations for officers, followed by the election of officers for 2010. The officers will then be installed.

We hope you can plan to attend the banquet. It is the last time we meet as a group in 2009. We can guarantee lots of good food, some excellent door prizes and the fellowship of great people that are interested in having a good time. Hope you can make it!

Deer Me!!!

Gary O. Rankin & Monica Valentovic

For years we have tried various techniques to keep the deer from eating Monica's mother's roses and other flowers at her home with mixed success. At our home, the six-foot wooden fence around the rose garden in the backyard and the dogs barking and leaving their scent has kept the deer at bay, with only a few roses at the side of our home becoming dinner for wandering deer. But trying to deal with the deer in Brecksville, OH has been another matter. Fences (wooden, plastic or electric) aren't normally allowed, and an alternate method had to be found.

So, the search was on for a way to keep the deer in check. It seems that every time we asked someone about what was the best way to repel deer from the garden, they had a different way to handle the problem than the last person we asked. Solutions ranged from hanging fragrant soap around the garden to plastic bullfrogs that made a croaking noise every time the motion detector picked up movement.

Human hair and coyote urine didn't seem too appealing options and hunting was out! An electric fence wasn't practical and using monofilament fishing line gave mixed results.

Finally, we decided to try organic spray repellants that could be purchased locally. These products smell rather strong in the beginning and can be used to keep neighbors away, but the smell fades after a few hours so that only the deer can smell them. All of the products we have tried are considered to be environmentally friendly and won't harm the wildlife trying to eat your roses. We got really good results with these sprays as long as we kept up a spray schedule. Below are three products that we have tried and have found to work for us.

Liquid Fence Deer and Rabbit Repellent - Probably the gold standard among the repellent sprays, Liquid Fence is used by lots of rosarians to help deter deer (and rabbits) from eating all of those tender buds. The primary repellent ingredients are garlic oil and putrescent whole egg solids, and the combination provides a "strong pungent" odor. However, by the next day, the odor is gone for human noses, but deer and rabbits can still pick up the scent.

Liquid Fence recommends that it be sprayed once a week for three weeks and then about once a month thereafter. However, if feeding pressure is high, more than once a month during the "maintenance" phase should be considered. The product is considered to be rain resistant, but should probably be reapplied after heavy rains.

Liquid fence is available at most home stores (e.g. Lowes, Home Depot) and many local nurseries. You can also buy concentrates or ready mixed product in spray bottles. Liquid Fence Deer and Rabbit Repellent concentrate was evaluated this past summer by the ARS Product Evaluation Committee and was unanimously recommended for endorsement.

Deer Off - Another product that we have tried is Deer Off. Deer Off contains putrescent egg solids, garlic oil and capsaicin (the hot component of peppers). Deer Off was developed by Athena Loucas after moving from Philadelphia to a back country region of Pennsylvania. Her idea of a beautiful garden was hampered by all the deer in the area eating her plants. Since she didn't want to use chemical pesticides, she experimented for over two years with kitchen ingredients until she found the combination available in Deer Off. A newer version, Deer Off II, has four times more active ingredient than the original, and is now on the market.

Like Liquid Fence, Deer Off has a strong smell until the product dries. After the spray dries, humans can't smell it, but deer, rabbits and squirrels can. In our experience, it should be used at least every two weeks for roses, since new growth is not protected and new growth is what the deer are interested in. It also needs to be applied after rain, as rain will wash off the active ingredients. Deer Off is available at many home stores (e.g. Lowes) and comes in concentrates and ready to use spray bottles.

Bobbex Rose Deer Repellent - We picked up this product as a door prize, and Monica tried it on our roses this fall. The active ingredients in Bobbex Rose Deer Repellent are garlic oil, putrescent whole egg solids and clove oil. We felt that it was as effective as the other products and had the added benefit of being an insect repellent. Available from White Tail Solutions (www.whitetailsolutionsIIc.com), Bobbex Rose comes in ready to use spray bottles and concentrates. Unlike Liquid Fence Deer Repellent and Deer Off, Bobbex will not wash off readily due to the addition of non-repellent ingredients. The manufacturer suggests that it could last for 8 weeks. However, remember that new growth won't be protected and bushes must be sprayed at least every two weeks or so to provide complete protection for new growth. The manufacturers also claim that Bobbex Rose can repel insects (e.g. aphids, leafhoppers, greenflies and sawflies) and mites, reduce powdery mildew damage and decrease blackspot.

Other Organic Deer Repellent Products - Of course, these aren't the only deer repellent organic products on the market, but they are the only ones we have tried. Some other organic deer repellent products that can be found by searching the internet follow. *Deer Stopper* contains putrescent whole egg as well as mint oil and rosemary oil. *Natural Pest Solution* is a natural deer repellent containing cinnamon oil as the active ingredient. *Deer Scram* Deer and Rabbit Repellent is made from animal by-products (not sure what they are). *Deer Out* has a strong peppermint scent (like a peppermint patty) that creates a cool menthol burning sensation

that deer are repulsed by because of their increased sense of smell as compared to humans. So not all deer repellants smell like eggs.

If you are looking for an organic, environmentally safe way to repel deer and/or rabbits, you might consider trying one of these products. They need to be applied every 2-3 weeks. However, remember that as new growth appears, you will probably have to apply the product at a rate shorter than the maximum rate suggested by the manufacturer. Also, keep in mind that some of these products are washed away by rain faster than other products, and reapply accordingly. With that in mind, Good Luck!

☞2010 ROSE SOCIETY DUES☜

It is time to renew your membership for 2010. Membership dues remain at \$8 for individual and \$12 for a family membership. Please send your dues to: Monica Valentovic, Treasurer, 109 Cedar Court, Lavalette, WV 25535. Dues can also be paid at the annual banquet on November 17th.

The Society is also seeking additional donors to help defray the yearly costs incurred by the Society. The levels of donation are denoted as: Queen, King, Princess and Prince levels. Donations at the Prince (\$1-25); Princess (\$26-50), King (\$51-99) and Queen (\$100 or more) levels will be acknowledged in our newsletter. Remember that our rose society is a 501 C-3 non-profit organization and any donations are tax deductible.

DISCLAIMER: The Editors 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.

Thank you to our 2009 & 2010 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:

2009 Rose Patrons

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
Bill & Linda Owens
John David Powell
Jim & Barbara Preston
Rudy Wang
Beth White

2010 Rose Patrons

Our Society would like to acknowledge some of our members who have already donated for 2010 along with renewing their membership!

Queen Level

Gary Rankin and Monica Valentovic

Princess Level

Phyllis McFadden

Prince Level

George and Arlene Andrick
Dick Hanlon
Bill and Linda Owens

THANK YOU!!!!

☆☆☆☆☆

**THANK YOU TO OUR 2009
YEARBOOK SPONSORS!!**

The society would like to thank all of the local businesses who advertise in our Yearbook and help support our Society. Although this has been a tough economic year for some of our sponsors, we have been fortunate to have their support! Please support these businesses who advertise with us. **We would like to thank the following sponsors for our Yearbook:** B&E Menswear, Blatt's Greenhouse, Designs by DJ, Hatcher's Greenhouse, Hearth and Patio, Huntington Dog and Cat Hospital, Lavalette Nursery, Little Victories Rescue Group, Romeo's Pizza, Spurlock's Flowers, Star USA Federal Credit Union, Southern States, Tri-State Eyecare (2009 and 2010) and Union Missionary Baptist Church.

2010 MEMBERSHIP IN THE HUNTINGTON ROSE SOCIETY

NAME(S) _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ **STATE** _____ **ZIPCODE** _____

PHONE NUMBER _____ **E-MAIL** _____

Make checks payable to Huntington Rose Society and mail to:

CHECK ONE

_____ **SINGLE \$8**

**Monica Valentovic, Treasurer
109 Cedar Court, Lavalette, WV 25535.**

_____ **FAMILY \$12**

Additional Contribution: \$ _____

Levels - Prince (\$10-25); Princess (\$26-50); King (\$51-99); Queen (\$100 or more)

The Huntington Rose Society is a 501 C-3 non-profit organization and any donations are tax deductible.

**Gary Rankin & Monica Valentovic,
Thorny Bush Editors
109 Cedar Court
Lavalette, WV 25535**