



## Shenandoah Rose Society

A Society of the Colonial District

Chartered by the American Rose Society

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Serving the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia and beyond

On the web [www.shenandoahrosesociety.org](http://www.shenandoahrosesociety.org)



### November Meeting

The November meeting of Shenandoah Rose Society will be held Sunday, November 15, 2 P.M. at the home of Genny Reid, 919 Mt. Elliot, Staunton. The program will be "The State of The Rose Society". As many members as possible should attend this meeting. It will not only address the state of on our local society but the Colonial District and the ARS as well and should be very informative.

### Dues Time!

It is one again time to renew your dues for the coming year. Dues are still only \$12 and may be paid to Meredith Yeago at the meeting or sent to him at 2926 Hermitage Road, Waynesboro, VA 22980.

### The Rambling Rosarian

By Charles Shaner

Our season has come to a close. I am still getting a few blooms but am letting nature enjoy them instead of cutting. The season has brought a mixed bag of problems and aggravation. The spring was wet, the summer dry, the deer plentiful and the beetles few.

Now is time to do nothing with your roses. Let nature take its course for about the next month and then will be time to winterize your roses. Some use winter protection in the form of rose cones and some simply cut their roses back to about 30 inches in height. With the wind I have in the winter months, the rose cones just won't do. I just cut back the taller canes and let them go. You may still add a few inches of mulch if you wish. You may even pile mulch up around the base of the plant as a form of winter protection. In the spring you simply spread the mulch out.

If you like, you can make a collar to go around the bush and fill it with pine cones or oak leaves. A collar may be made out of chicken wire or several layers of newspaper. Be careful on your leaf selection to use. Oak leaves are the best, maple leaves will pack and shed water. Walnut is

definitely out of the question. Walnut contains a chemical which will poison the ground. If you will notice, you do not see much growing under a walnut tree.

Hunting season is here so we may get a few of the deer thinned out. This will work well for the county deer but probably won't do much for the city deer. You can tell the difference between a county deer and a city deer. The county deer are more alert to what is around them and are constantly watching the area. City deer are more confident and less worried about the surroundings. The city deer will come closer to the house, eat your shrubbery and not pay much attention to you. There is more security for them and easier "pickin's" in the city.

### Cercospora Leaf Spot on Roses

by Charles Shaner

We have been fighting all summer what we thought was a bad case of black spot. It looked like black spot but did not have the characteristics of black spot. Where black spot normally starts at the bottom of the plant and works its way up, this started all over the plant, top, middle and bottom all at the same time.

Cercospora leaf spot is a little investigated disease, especially on varieties that belong to the groups of shrubs and ground cover roses. As with black spot and downy mildew, many of the same controls will take care of cercospora leaf spot.

Fungi of the genus *Cercospora* are parasitic and infect a broad range of herbaceous plants. The main species affecting roses is *Cercospora rosicola* (*Mycosphaerella rosicola*, sexual stage). *C. rosicola* is distributed worldwide and was first reported on rose leaves in Florida in 1885.



As with many of our diseases on our roses, a regular spray schedule will take care of the problem. Some sprays

recommended for the control of Cercospora leaf spot are: Captan, Copper Hydroxide, Copper Sulfate, Mancozeb, Neem Oil, Sulfur, and Ortho® Rose Pride Rose & Shrub Disease Control.

Cercospora leaf spot seems to be a fairly easy fungal disease to control if a regular spray program with the proper fungicides is used. It has been confused with and called both black spot and downy mildew because of having many of the same appearances and characteristics.

Care for your rose and they will reward you with beautiful blooms and foliage.

(Information for this article from the University of Florida copyrighted 2009)

### **From the President**

Another rose season has passed and some are already thinking about next year. The rose catalogs are out and now is the time to think about what new varieties you want for the coming year. Edmond's even has some listed in their catalog which are 2011 varieties.

It is also time to think about meetings for the coming year and this is where I need your help. Planning the meetings is no easy task. If you would give me an idea of what you would like to hear would be very helpful. We have people in our society who are capable of giving good meetings. We have six Consulting Rosarians two of which are also Master Gardeners.

We are a rose society and most of our programs should be geared toward roses. Master Gardeners could give us some programs which, not only provide information for general gardening, but also contain information which can be used on roses. Soil conditioning and Chemical uses are just a few. We can bring in one outside speaker with the finances we have at present without putting a strain on our budget.

I hope our newsletter gives you helpful information. I try to come up with articles to fit the problems we are having with our roses. This is sometimes a little difficult. After a certain amount of time, the pen seems to run dry. Articles are always needed and welcome for the newsletter. If anyone would like to submit an article, just write it up and send it to me. This would be good for the winter months when you can't get out in the garden to work. Just pick a subject of interest and start writing. I had thought about using articles from other society newsletters but in checking I discovered some are using articles I have written.

Please consider renewing you dues for 2010. The rose society is its members and it takes members to make it go. As members, we need to be more visible to the public. I can't count the number of people I have mentioned something to about the Rose Society and they replied "I didn't know there was such a thing". We need to get the word out we are here and here to help them with their rose problems. I would like to see a campaign started to do just that.

We now have a good working relationship with both Milmount Green Houses and Waynesboro Garden Center. We need to expand that relationship and use it to benefit both us and them. We have the Rose Days at Milmount around Memorial Day which usually provides us with at least one new member. This year, for the first time, we had our rose exhibition at Waynesboro Garden Center. They were very good to us and provided well for our needs for the exhibition.

As you can see, it requires members taking a part in activities to make the rose society, or any other organization successful. We have done fairly well in the past years but this year we seemed to slip a little. I hope we can get back on track in 2010.

I would like to thank the membership for your support this past year. Without you I would not have been able to attend the Fall Show and Meeting. It was a very special event for me and one I will never forget.

Remember the rose is our National Flower and you are the ambassador. Be a good representative, invite someone to join the Rose Society and share a rose with someone. The rewards are more than you realize.

*Charles L. Shaner* - President

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