



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



September Meeting

The September meeting of the Shenandoah Rose Society will be the annual exhibition to be held at Waynesboro Garden Center September 12 for 8:30 until 5:00. This is our first time at this location so let's make it a good showing. Vases will be provided by the Society. You will need 3x5 cards to tag your roses with and rubber bands to attach them to the vase. Your roses should be free of blackspot, powdery mildew and critters. Please bring your roses and join in the exhibition.

From the President

From time to time I feel it is good to talk a little about our Society and a direction for us to go. Our total membership is down just a little from the past couple of years. It is important for us to maintain our membership for the health of the Society.

In order to remain healthy, it is up to the existing members to bring in new members. This is done in several ways: personal contact, inviting friends to meetings, contact with the public, our rose exhibition, etc. We all know someone who is growing roses and is not a member of the Society. Invite them to a meeting or to join. We all have people who see our roses and ask how we grow them. Again, an invitation may gain a new member. Our rose exhibition is usually good for one or two new members. Your help is needed at the exhibition and as you talk to people, an invitation is a good move.

Anyone can grow roses. I am a good example. Before I joined the Society, I could not get a rose to grow. I was doing everything wrong. The Society taught me how and now I am teaching others. It is all in knowing what to do, when and how to do it. The Society teaches you that through meetings, both local and district.

Our Society is healthy but it could do better. Our attendance at meetings has not been the best. In the past we have pulled our weight in the District by hosting District meetings. I do not feel we are able at present to do another for now. I hope we

can again in the future. It requires a commitment by a number of members to do the planning and work required and it must be teamwork with a good leader.

We have a good Society with good people. As with anything, there are some areas we could do better. As a Society member, each of us is an ambassador of the rose. Do your part by attending meetings, talking to people about roses, recruiting new members and taking part in activities such as our exhibition and, if we do it again, hosting meetings.

Finally, I would like to give the Society a very big THANK YOU! It was to my surprise at the last meeting that a motion was made for the Society to pay my way to the District Meeting & Show to be held in Richmond. The motion passed unanimously. Barbara and I had to virtually start our business over again this year in a new location. With the economy the way it has been, that has not been easy. I was not going to go. THANK YOU Shenandoah Rose Society for making this possible.

Charles L. Shaner

The Rambling Rosarian

By Charles Shaner

Summer is about gone and we are entering the "wind down" stage of our season. This is when you get the better blooms brought on by the cooler days and nights. Watering is a must with the lack of rain. Feeding organics can still be done but chemical fertilizers should be stopped by September 15. Spraying is always a must and this is the season for powdery mildew.

There have been few reports of Japanese beetle infestations but they should about be gone for this year. I saw a total of 8 beetles during the summer. The big problem this year seemed to be rose slugs. That is what produced the small holes in your foliage. Regular spraying should have taken care of them.

Deer have been the biggest problem. I put up an electric fence and they have not returned.

You can install a simple electric fence around your garden for under \$100 and it can be reused year after year. I have had mine for at least 10 years and it still works just fine. I recommend at least two wires on the fence, the first being about 18 inches off the ground and the second about 36 inches. The Virginia Game and Inland Fisheries recommends 4 wires but I find 2 works well. For extra protection you can spread a little peanut butter on aluminum foil and hang it on the electric fence. The deer will stick their nose on it and get a shock on a very tender spot.

You should stop deadheading after September 15. Deadheading encourages new growth which we want to slow down. Remember, an average bloom cycle is 45 days. From September 15 would put it about November 1st. We should be having killing frost by then.

AMERICAN ROSE SOCIETY ANNOUNCES 2010 AWARD OF EXCELLENCE WINNERS

Shreveport, LA - The American Rose Society announces four new miniature and mini-flora rose varieties have won the 2010 Award of Excellence, a designation of merit given for superior quality and marked distinction. The winners are 'Magic Show', 'First and Foremost', 'Daddy Frank' and 'Spirit Dance'.

Each year commercial and amateur hybridizers submit their roses for evaluation. Roses are evaluated for two years in ten public test gardens across the country and are rated on eleven criteria multiple times during the growing season. Upon availability, consumers will be able to purchase all of the winners from Rosemania, www.rosemaina.com.

'Magic Show' - This miniature rose was hybridized by Frank Benardella. The bright color and excellent form will catch the eye of a home gardener who wants a rose that is quick to repeat and provide lots of flowers a display.

'First and Foremost' - This mini-flora was also hybridized by Frank Benardella. The rose has a deep pink with a lighter reverse and white center and makes an excellent choice for display and arrangements.

'Daddy Frank' - This mini-flora was also hybridized by Robbie Tucker. This deep red rose is dis-

ease resistant and can survive the winter well. It was named in honor of his grandfather.

'Spirit Dance' - This mini-flora was also hybridized by Christian Bedard. This rose has yellow bud that opens to a warm butterscotch opening.

ARS Website

As you may know, the ARS website was hit by a virus and was taken down. A new site is under construction and is up and running with limited information. Rose articles are not up yet along with many other items. Be patient and they will get it going again.

ARS Trial Membership Available

The ARS is offering a four-month trial membership you may want to check out if you are not already a member or you may want to take a regular membership. If you are interested in the trial membership you may go to www.ars.org and download the information or call Charles Shaner 540-294-2975.

The American Rose Society is now offering four month Trial Memberships for \$10!

Benefits include:

- Free advice from Consulting Rosarians
- Free or reduced garden admission
- Free online access to four quarterly bulletins (\$45 value)
- Two issues of American Rose magazine
- Discounts of up to 30% at merchant partners.

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