



NEWSLETTER

of the

VIRGINIA PENINSULA ROSE SOCIETY

President – Sandy Pait
First Vice President – Robert Little
Editor – Lydia Simpson

October 2009

<http://www.colonialdistrictroses.org/sitebuildercontent/sitebuilderfiles/2009vprsOctober.pdf>



Meeting Dates 2009:

October 4
November 1
December 6

2009 Meeting Hosts

Sep 6- Kostyal, Simpson
Oct 4-open
Nov 1-Lilygren, Tully

2009 Officers

President - Sandy Pait
1st VP/Programs - Robert Little
2nd VP/Membership - Alice Little
Recording Secretary: Stacey Olson
Corresponding Secretary: Lita Dick
Treasurer: Lydia Simpson

2009 Directors

Joy Long, Marti Youmans
David Cottrell, Terry Cottrell
Cathy Allsbrook, Dick Parsell

Honorary Directors

Janet Kosidlak, Helen Hill,
Virginia Kostyal, Annemarie Parker

Blessed is the man
who admires without
being jealous,
praises without
flattery, follows
without
intimidating, and
leads without
manipulating.

unknown

The next VPRS meeting is scheduled for **Sunday, October 4, 2009**, at 'The Woman's Club of Newport News'. Please join us to share rose information, refreshments and fellowship. Feel free to ask questions and bring a friend.

Directions from I-64: Take Exit 258 A – Route 17 West / J Clyde Morris Blvd. Follow J. Clyde Morris Blvd. crossing Jefferson Ave. The Virginia Living Museum is on your left before the bridge. The entrance to the Woman's Club, a one-story brick building, is to your right at the next traffic light, directly across from Riverside Hospital.

October 4, 2009

2:00pm

Board Meeting

3:00pm

Controls for Insects/Diseases/ Plans for Fertilizing

with Mike Price of the Tidewater Rose Society

Refreshments will be available after the meeting

From the President's Desk:

Please give Bob Little a big round of applause, he did a great job with the beginners rose show. Even experienced members learned new things and got hints and ideas. Thanks Bob for a wonderful program, I just wish more members had attended.

I hope those that attended the District Rose show in Richmond had a wonderful time. I can't wait to hear all about it when I return from my trip south. I look forward to seeing all of you at the next meeting on October 4.

See you then,..... Sandy

ORDER BARE ROOT ROSES from Rosemania NOW!!

We are excited to announce the availability of our 2010 bare root roses. Our list has expanded to over forty (40) roses this year! Availability is on a first-come, first-served basis so you will want to place your order early.

We also have a "Sneak Preview" of a few 2011 roses. We have a VERY limited number available and these "previews" have sold out quickly in the past, so don't delay.

As usual, we are offering our **Monthly Coupon**. This month we are offering products that will help check and improve the pH of your soil - **our complete line of pH testers and Limestone F**.

We have been getting more calls about our **Rose Show Gift Certificates**. They are a great way to easily put together trophies for your rose show. It's also an easy way to make a donation to your show. Read on for more details.

We've got a lot to cover so let's get started. For more information on all of our products or just on how to grow great roses, please visit our website at

www.rosemania.com.

Rosy Dates to Remember

Any articles, committee reports, or notices you wish to be included in the newsletter, must be submitted to the Editor by the 15th of the month.

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October 3 and 4, 2009 – Potomac Rose Society Fall Rose Show, Merrifield Garden Center, Fairfax, VA, Contact Kathryn George, 301-869-4948, kay.george@verizon.net

November 11 - 15, 2009 - ARS Fall National Convention and Rose Show, Desert Rose Society, Palm Springs, CA, Contact: Cliff Orent, cliff@clifforent.com; Hal Reynolds, Bob Martin, petrose@aol.com

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"MY NEIGHBOR'S ROSES"

The roses red
upon my neighbor's vine
Are owned by him,
but they are also mine.

His was the cost,
and his the labor, too,
But mine as well as his
the joy, their loveliness to view.

They bloom for me
and are for me as fair
As for the man who gives
them all his care.

Thus I am rich because
a good man grew
A rose-clad vine
for all his neighbor's view.

I know from this
that others plant for me,
And what they own
my joy may also be;
So why be selfish
when so much that's fine
Is grown for you
upon your neighbor's vine?

by A.L. Gruber

GARDENING TIPS OF THE WEEK

from Marie Iannotti

Watering Acid Loving Plants:

In areas with hard water an environmental engineer explained that some of the chemicals used to soften the water so it doesn't corrode the pipes will "sweeten" the ground or raise the ph which is bad for acid loving plants, especially the blueberries. In that case the recommendation was that I use water from an untreated well or collect rain water. I kept wondering why the ph was rising and now I know so I thought I would pass this along in case anyone else is trying to use city water in areas with hard water. *Submitted by Farmer John*

FOR THE BEGINNER

Q: What is a Tree Rose?

A: This interesting form of rose results from a special, propagative method. It is a small tree with a trunk about 3 feet tall, 1 inch or so in diameter, at the top of which are the branches, foliage and flowers of a rose bush. Tree roses are like their counterparts except that they have tall trunks. Any variety of rose can be budded or grafted to the taller understock to create a Tree Rose.

Q: What class of Rose can make a Tree Rose?

A: Roses of any class. Thus, there are Hybrid Tea Tree Roses, Floribunda Tree Roses, etc. Some Tree Roses are budded with two or three different varieties to create two or three different colors of flower on the same plant..

Q: What is a Standard Rose?

A: Same as a Tree Rose.

Q: What is a Miniature Rose?

A: The Miniature Rose is a separate and distinct species with its own permanent characteristics and qualities. It is not, as is sometimes supposed, a dwarfed or stunted rose, Miniatures resemble Hybrid Teas in all respects except in size. Flowers are only as large as a nickel or quarter, with petals proportionately small. Buds, foliage, stems, and thorns are all in keeping with the smallness of the flowers.

The plant itself usually grows to a height of from 8 to 24 inches. Jewel-like in all details, the Miniature Rose has great charm, and its appeal lies (as is the case with many small things) in the perfection of its minute parts as they relate to comparable parts of the large, garden roses.

Q: Is a Miniature Rose very fragile and tender?

A: No, it is just as rugged, tough, and hardy as its larger sisters, and will grow and last in the outdoor garden just as long.

Q: Can a Miniature Rose be made into a tree?

A: Yes, a Miniature Rose can be propagated in tree form. It has a trunk about one foot tall a half inch or so in diameter, at the top of which are the miniature branches, foliage, and flowers of its type.

Consulting Rosarian Corner

Creating a Dried Rose Wreath

By Charity Armstrong, BellaOnline's Rose Editor

About the author: Rose gardening became a hobby for me about seven years ago. I had recently relocated to a new "cookie cutter" style neighborhood and decided to purchase some bare root roses as a way to beautify the yard. Some of them grew and developed into beautiful mature rose plants while others passed on for various reasons. What this simple trip to the garden center managed to accomplish though was the start of a definite rose addiction.

Since that point, I've relocated cross country and completed the Master Gardener certification in Florida. Now I'm relocating once again to Virginia, where I plan to volunteer as a Garden Assistant with the Norfolk Botanical Gardens.

Rose gardeners love rose themed decor. Creating a dried rose flower wreath brings your garden's beauty indoors. Not only will you have a beautiful work of art, you can preserve your favorite blooms long into the winter.

Start out by selecting the roses you want to dry. It will take one to two weeks for your roses to dry completely. Roses dry best hanging upside down. Ensure they have adequate space around each flower so they don't dry crushed or mashed. Wire coat hangers or linen drying frames are excellent options for hanging your roses. Keep your roses away from light and moisture during this period. You want your roses to dry as quickly as possible without exposure to the sun. Placing a dehumidifier in the room will help your roses dry faster. Don't place your roses in a damp room such as a bathroom or basement. Your roses will rot rather than drying.

If you wish to include other plant items in your rose wreath you'll want to dry those now as well. Excellent additions are hydrangea blooms, woody herbs and flowering sages. If you choose to dry hydrangea blooms make sure they have a papery feel to the flowers before you cut them from the plant. Evergreens and waxy plant leaves such as magnolia can also be beautiful wreath materials. Use your imagination and see what's available in your garden.

Once you have all of your roses and other garden flowers dried. You're ready to select your wreath materials. I like using a dense grape vine wreath. The grape vine pattern is attractive so it won't matter if a bit is visible between the flowers. To assemble your wreath you'll need thin gauge florists wire and a small glue gun. Decorative items can also be added. Choose a color of ribbon that compliments your dried roses as well as the room you'll be hanging your wreath. Ribbon shouldn't be your only decorative item. Small shells with holes through their surface can be added in groups. Florist wire can easily be threaded through holes in shells, beads, berries or other decorative accents.

Begin assembling your rose wreath by placing all of your materials out on your work surface. Decide how you want to space your roses and other plant material on the wreath. If your dried roses are smaller they will be easiest to attach with a bit of hot glue. If your roses are larger try pushing florist wire through the back of a bloom or blooms then twisting the wire lightly before pushing through the front of the wreath and securing the wire around back.

Once you've placed all of your plant material you can add other decorative wreath accents. Any additional items that suit your room can be added. Don't feel you can only use some of the more common wreath additions I listed above. See what materials you can find and use your imagination.

Finally wind the ribbon you've selected diagonally around your rose wreath. If you've placed your dried roses and decorative accents in small groups you can wind the ribbon in the space left between these sections. Finish off your rose wreath with a bow at the top bottom or side if desired. Hang your finished wreath away from direct sunlight in a protected location.

Creating your own rose wreath enables you to bring your flowers indoors permanently. Wreaths created with dried flowers can be costly to purchase. Making your own rose wreath saves you money while giving you a higher quality personalized item.

Rose of the Month



California Wild Rose, *Rosa californica*

From the Santa Barbara Rose Society

Roses grow everywhere in the wild in the northern hemisphere. Locally wild roses can be found in bloom in the spring along the San Ysidro trail.

California's own wild rose, *Rosa californica*, was used by the Chumash for medicinal purposes. When a baby cries from teething, *Rosa californica* can help. Chumash people used to mash the petals in water and rub the fluid on their baby's gums to relieve the pain. Rose petals have a pleasant, sweet flavor. While chewing the petals, the nose fills with the smell of rose. Adults can chew the petals or drink a rose petal tea. *Rosa californica* helps relieve anxiety. This helps the spirit become more receptive to healing.

Rosa californica contains many fragrances called monoterpenes, such as geraniol, nerol and citronellol. These are found in the petals and are used in the perfume industry. These wonderful fragrances have strong effects on people. Some become happy, others soothed, when smelling rose fragrance.



Virginia Peninsula Rose Society

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Address Correction Requested

First Class Mail

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American Rose Society certified Consulting Rosarians
with the objective to assist others in growing better roses

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Next Meeting.....October 4, 2009