
THORNY BUSH

Newsletter of The Huntington Rose Society; Huntington, WV

Affiliated with the American Rose Society

Volume 29 Issue 1

February, 2010

Dates to Remember

February 16, 2010 The regular monthly meeting of the Huntington Rose Society will be held on *Tuesday, February 16, 2010 starting at 7:30 pm* at the Central Christian Church, 1202 Fifth Avenue. The program for the evening will be “**Rejuvenating Rose Beds**” presented by **Bill Dolen**. Bill will share with all of us what he did to his rose beds last spring to get them into the fantastic condition we saw during the annual picnic. Hospitality will be provided by Monica Valentovic.

March 19-20, 2010 The Pre-spring meeting of the Colonial District will be held at the Quality Inn in Staunton, VA Friday and Saturday, March 19-20, 2010. Details about the meeting and a registration form are included inside.

April 27 – May 2, 2010 The Spring National ARS Convention will be held in Shreveport, LA. For more details contact Mary Walker at 318-965-4153 or via e-mail at marycookwalker@bellsouth.net.

September 5, 2010 The **Huntington Rose Society Rose Show** will be held on Sunday, September 5, 2010 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.

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President's Message

Beverly Delidow

February feels a long way from garden days this year. The ice and snow have scoured the garden of all traces of the last fall blooms. Summer is a distant memory. This is the time of year I have to hope that the occasional thaw doesn't wake up my sleeping roses to be bitten by the next cold snap. My paperwhites were fooled by that short stretch in the 40's and they're wearing little brown fingertips now. With the wind kicking up and the snow coming down, this is a good time to check on the cones and protective mulch in the rose beds, to make sure that the canes stay protected from the wind and ice.

Winter can do a lot of damage to a rose garden, so can deer, drought, insects, and just plain bad luck. We've probably all experienced some version of any or all of these. When Bill Dolen moved his rose garden it took some time for him to find

the sweet spot for his new beds – but find it he did! At the picnic last summer, we saw how beautiful his garden is, and how the roses just shine. Bill is going to share his experiences with us in this month's program entitled: Rejuvenating A Rose Garden. I can't wait to hear his presentation and learn what might work for my yard. Please join us for this wonderful program, Tuesday evening, February 16, at 7:30 pm, Central Christian Church. Remember that our meetings are open to guests, so if you have a friend or neighbor who has mentioned their interest in roses – bring them along! We'd love to welcome them.

One last reminder: If you still need a calendar for the year, and would like a monthly reminder of our meetings and a constant reminder that roses offer their beauty to all, we still have some full-color calendars available. They are \$12, and proceeds benefit the society. If you'd like to see the images, or want to purchase online, go to: <http://snipurl.com/t6miy>

Wishing you warm thoughts on cold days,
and roses throughout the year,
----Beverly

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.

Colonial District Pre-Spring Meeting

The Colonial District Pre-Spring meeting will be held on Friday and Saturday, March 19-20, 2010 at the Quality Inn in Staunton, VA. Colonial District Director John Fleek has organized this meeting to include activities for everyone Friday evening and all day Saturday.

The details of the speakers and topics are still being finalized, but Friday evening there will be heavy hors d'oeuvres and a speaker. Saturday there will be general programs and a Judge's School. The Judge's School is free and open to all ARS judges. For more information contact Donna Smoot (304-744-8150; dksmoot@hotmail.com).

The general program speakers on Saturday will include Howard Jones (Spring Preparation), Ray Shipley (Gardens of the US), and Vernon Rickard (New Roses) followed by lunch. Lunch will be catered by Barbara Shaner and includes sandwiches, chips, cakes and pies. Don't eat too much because you will want to stay awake for the afternoon programs that will include Gary Rankin and Monica Valentovic (Products for Growing Roses), Rick Brown (OGRs) and John Simonton (New Pesticides). A business meeting will close the afternoon. After dinner on your own, there will be a talk by John Smith on the roses he has hybridized, a raffle drawing and announcement of the silent auction winners.

Registration using the enclosed form should be completed by March 8, 2010

2010 Huntington Rose Society Officers	
President	Beverly Delidow
304-429-4211	
Vice President	Gary Rankin
304-697-0321	
Treasurer	Monica Valentovic
304-697-0321	
Assistant Treasurer	Bill Dolen
740-886-6457	
Recording Secretary	Rudy Wang
304-736-0535	
Corresponding Secretary	Beth White
304-733-2004	

and mailed to George Wilson, 2433 Hemlock Street, Norfolk, VA 23513. You can call the Quality Inn directly (540-248-5111) to make room reservations (\$60/night). Be sure to mention that you will be attending the Colonial District ARS meeting. The hotel is easily accessible and is located at Exit 255 on I-81. For more information, you can contact District Director John Fleek (304-776-4048; fleek@suddenlink.net) or Charles Shaner (540-294-2875; clshaner@mindspring.com).

**HRS Rose Show has Openings for
New Trophy Donors**

Gary Rankin and Monica Valentovic

Each year, we have a few classes in the Huntington Rose Show that need a trophy donor. For the 2010 Huntington Rose Show in September, **we will have three classes that will need a trophy donor:** (1) Hybrid Tea/Grandiflora Spray, (2) Shrub Rose and (3) Club Rose: Best Gemini. If you, your business or someone you know would like to donate a trophy for one of these classes, please let us know at 304-697-0321 or via e-mail at rankin@marshall.edu or valentov@marshall.edu.

**Renew Your Membership in the
Huntington Rose Society!!!**

It is time to renew your 2010 membership. It is \$8 for a single and \$12 for a family membership. Please send your dues to: Monica Valentovic, Treasurer, 109 Cedar Court, Lavalette, WV 25535.

The annual membership fee provides a discount on orders of Mills Magic Mix and 9 newsletters. The newsletter is filled with seasonal information to get the maximum enjoyment out of your roses. Articles

published in the past 6 years have won 16 American Rose Society Award of Merit certificates in the national competition.

The discount on Mills Magic Mix is almost 50% off the list price. Just as a reminder, Mills Magic Mix is an organic based fertilizer that is group ordered by the Society in the spring. A 20# bag feeds 30 large roses or 60 miniatures one time. If you independently purchased a 20# bag of Mills Magic Mix, it would cost over \$26. In 2010 society members will be able to order Mills Mix at a cost of \$15.55 which is a savings of almost \$11. This means you almost save the cost of a family membership with the purchase of just one bag. **So please consider renewing your membership today!!**

The Society is also seeking additional donors that are signified as Queen, King, Princess and Prince levels. Donations at the Prince (\leq \$25); Princess (\$26-50), King (\$51-99) and Queen (\$100 or more) levels help to defray the yearly costs incurred by the Society. A membership application is included at the end of this newsletter. Remember that our rose society is a 501 C-3 non-profit organization and any donations are tax deductible.

Orders for Mills Magic Mix

Orders for Mills Magic Mix and Mills Easy Feed will be taken at the February meeting by phone and email. Please call Gary or Monica (697-0321) if you are interested in ordering Mills Magic Mix by **Monday, February 22**. You can also send your order by e-mail to Valentov@marshall.edu or Rankin@marshall.edu.

If you are not familiar with this product, it is an excellent organic fertilizer. The

components of Mills Magic Mix include alfalfa meal, bone meal, fish meal, sewer sludge and cottonseed meal. One 20-pound bag will feed 30 large roses or 60 miniatures. It is best to feed your roses Mills Magic Mix in the Spring and feeding a half-dose in mid-July. Feeding two times adds organic matter to the soil and provides a slow, non-burning feeding of your roses. Mills Magic Mix when applied in the Spring helps increase microbial activity in the soil. Each bag will cost **\$15.55** if we can get an order of 50 bags. We will once again combine our order with the Charleston Rose Society in order to get 50 bags. This is a **big** savings from the normal retail price of over **\$26** for one 20# bag. You are almost getting it at half-price by ordering through the society!!

We also will take orders for Mills Easy Feed liquid. This is a complete formula that can be used to fertilize your roses and contains magnesium and fish emulsion components. The cost of Mills Easy Feed is \$12.60 for 1/2 gallon (feeds 128 roses at a level of 1 TBSP/gallon water) and for a gallon \$23.00. The Mills Magic Mix and Easy Feed should be available at the March meeting. The cost of the Mills Easy Feed is **LOWER** than it was last year. PLEASE NOTE THAT YOU CANNOT BUY MILLS MAGIC MIX OR EASY FEED LOCALLY!

Other products that are also available include: greensand 50# \$22.60; fish emulsion (1 gal, \$10.25); alfalfa meal, 50#, \$21.55; liquid kelp 1 gal. \$19.90; worm castings 20# bag \$10.00. Beatty Fertilizer Company is once again selling Bloomkote. Bloomkote is a 16-18-14 time release fertilizer formulated to specifically feed roses for four (4) months. A 20# tub is \$38.50 (1 cup/rose, feeds 35 roses).

2010 Rose Patrons

Our Society would like to acknowledge our members who have donated for 2010 along with renewing their membership! If your name is missing please contact Monica.

Queen Level

**Gary Rankin and Monica Valentovic
Truman Watts**

Princess Level

**John and Diana Fleek
Bob Hogsett
Phyllis McFadden**

Prince Level

**George and Arlene Andrick
Ron and Kathryn Davidson
Dick Hanlon
Charles and Kathryn Moore
Bill and Linda Owens
John David Powell
THANK YOU!!!!**

☆☆☆☆☆

**THANK YOU TO OUR 2010
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 who have already paid for their ads in the 2010 Yearbook:**

**Lavalette Nursery
Little Victories Rescue Group
Romeo's Pizza
Spurlock's Flowers
Star USA Federal Credit Union
Tenampa Restaurants
Tri-State Eyecare
Union Missionary Baptist Church**

COLONIAL DISTRICT OF THE AMERICAN ROSE SOCIETY

PRE-SPRING MEETING

Hosted by the Colonial District

“Back to the Basics”

Quality Inn, Staunton, Virginia

March 19-20, 2010

Come and enjoy a fun-filled weekend sharing information on rose culture. Activities include a Horticultural Judges recertification session.

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Home Society: _____

	<u>Cost</u>	<u>#</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
<u><i>Two-Day Registration (includes all activities & meals)</i></u>	\$30	_____	\$_____
<u><i>Two-Day Registration and 1 Meal (indicate choice below)</i></u>	\$20	_____	\$_____
Friday evening (heavy hors d'oeuvres)		_____	
Saturday lunch		_____	
<u><i>Two-Day Registration but No Meals</i></u>	\$10	_____	\$_____

Meals will be catered by Barbara Shaner

Lunch on Saturday will include sandwiches (roast beef, corned beef, turkey, or ham); salads (tossed, potato, or macaroni); chips; cakes and pies

Saturday Dinner is on your own

TOTAL ENCLOSED WITH THIS REGISTRATION FORM \$_____

Judges' Seminar on Saturday

No cost; to register, please contact Donna Smoot at dsmoot@msn.com or at 304.744.8150.

Additional Information Contacts

John Fleek at 304.776.4048 or fleek@suddenlink.net

Charles Shaner at 540.294.2875 or clshaner@mindspring.com

Registration checks should be made payable to the *Colonial District Pre-Spring Meeting* and mailed to George Wilson at 2433 Hemlock Street, Norfolk, VA 23513 **NO LATER THAN MARCH 8, 2010.**

Motel Information

Contact the Quality Inn (I-81 exit 255) at 540.248.5111; specify the Colonial District of the American Rose Society. Room rate is \$60.00 per night (includes a continental breakfast).

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**