



THE NOVUS NEWSLETTER
OF THE
THE TIDEWATER ROSE SOCIETY
FEBRUARY 2010



PRUNING YOUR ROSES FOR A COLORFUL SPRING

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Peggy Scott

The first meeting of the Tidewater Rose Society's Seventy-fifth year will be held at the Norfolk Botanical Garden, Sunday at 1:30 p.m., February 21, 2010, in the Holly Room of Baker Hall. Mr. Howard Jones will give a presentation/demonstration for pruning your roses. (A brief board meeting will be held during the meeting). **Don't forget, membership renewal is now due. Page two has renewal information, renewal form attached.**

COUNTRY STORE NEWS: I will be taking orders for Mills Magic, Easy Feed, Fish Emulsion, 20-20-20. If you have ordered Fish Emulsion you may pick it up at the February meeting. The country store will have Felco pruners and gloves. I will also be taking orders for bare-root roses. Order form enclosed in newsletter. See you at the meeting.

George

From the President's Desk

I would like to thank all the members that attended the January banquet. It was a pleasant way to start the New Year. There are two people I would like to recognize for the success of the banquet: Nancy Sutcliffe was the banquet chairperson and did an excellent job coordinating this event, thank you for all your hard work. Margie Tully gave an outstanding presentation before she installed the officers and board members, thank you.

The 2010 rose growing season is fast approaching and of course it is time to sharpen and oil the pruners, find your gloves and saws and then come to the February meeting for Howard Jones presentation and demonstration on **"PRUNING YOUR ROSES FOR A COLORFUL SPRING."** I have not missed a presentation by Howard since I have been in the society and at each session I have gleaned more insight in the art of pruning. After the presentation/demonstration, participants will be invited to go out into the Botanical Garden rose beds to do some hands-on pruning. See you at the meeting and bring a friend.

Mike

IN MEMORIAM

Claudia Minetree "Missy" Green

Missy Green passed away January 29, 2010. Missy was a native of Norfolk and had 30 years of service teaching in Virginia Beach at Thalia Elementary School. Missy was a dedicated member of the Tidewater Rose Society serving on the executive board, as an officer and offered her help in rose shows and the Tidewater Rose Society monthly meetings. Growing roses was not her only hobby, she loved to weave baskets. Missy will surely be missed.

James Robert "Bob" Stiffler
December 7, 1921 – January 20, 2010

Bob was born Dec. 7 1921, in New Virginia, Iowa. He was a graduate of St. Ambrose University in Iowa. Of all the careers Bob had during his life, he will be remembered most for his 28 years as a freelance garden writer. Bob was the gardening columnist for the The Virginia Pilot and was a long standing member of the Tidewater Rose Society. We thank you Bob for all of your information and support for the gardening community.

POETRY & PROSE

Selected by Pat Wilson

Would Jove appoint some flower to reign
In matchless beauty on the plain
The Rose (Mankind will all agree)
The Rose the Queen of Flowers should be.

Sappho

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES ARE NOW DUE. Annual membership is \$15.00 per family/individual. Membership is from 1 January to 31 December. Membership forms are enclosed. Please submit this form with payment. Membership form will also be used to update TRS Roster. Please make checks payable to Tidewater Rose Society and send to:

Eveline Price
1972 Edgewood Ave.
Norfolk, Va. 23503-3226

NOT JUST A PRETTY FACE: PLANTS THAT DO MORE THAN LOOK GOOD IN YOUR GARDEN

In my last article, I talked about the organic revolution and how even the most ardent “better living through chemistry” folks are stopping to consider the consequences of their actions. I also mentioned the Native American Three Sisters method of companion planting squash, maize and climbing beans so each crop helps the other. This month, I’d like to expand on the idea of companion planting and include trap crops and banker plants as alternatives to chemical pest control on roses.

Trap plants are plants or crops planted specifically to lure pests to them. These plants/crops are not for display or harvest; they are sacrificed in order to save another plant or crop. Banker plants are plants that serve as hosts for beneficial insects. Companion plants are plants living closely together that complement each other. Neither competes with the other for food or water. Companion plants repel pests or diseases that are harmful to their companion and can act as living mulch. Sometimes, one is growing and blooming while the companion is resting, thus extending the color season in your garden.

Trap Plants

I first became interested in trap plants a few years ago when I noticed an aphid infestation on some gopher purge that was growing between my roses. The gopher purge was completely covered with aphids, while the roses were bug free. The gopher purge was so close to the roses it was logical to expect the roses to have aphids, too. But that was not the case. All the aphids were on the gopher purge instead of my roses.

Gopher purge is not a pretty plant, and it produces a milky sap that can cause skin irritation in sensitive people. Its claim to fame is that the roots are bitter tasting and thus repellent to burrowing animals such as moles and gophers. There does not seem to be any scientific research to prove or disprove this claim, but I have to admit I don’t have any gophers in the areas where the gopher purge is growing. But, back to the aphids.

So here was the gopher purge, swarming with aphids. Pretty soon, I noticed ladybugs — lots of ladybugs. They were having a feast. And when they finished with the gopher purge, they moved into the rest of my garden, relieving it of any stray aphids, too. This is a classic example of how a trap plant works — and another reason gopher purge is welcome in my garden.

Nasturtiums are probably the most common trap plant for aphids. Black aphids in particular love nasturtiums, but the plant seems to draw other aphid species as well. All those aphids will attract and feed beneficial ladybugs and green lace-wings in your garden. To prevent nasturtiums from becoming a breeding ground for future aphids, you must pull out and discard infested plants before the aphids begin laying eggs.

Have a problem with thrips? Try yellow chrysanthemums or the blue verbena cultivar “Tapien Lavender”. Remember, you’ll have to get rid of the trap plant with its bug load in order to keep the pests from establishing in your garden.

One problem with using trap plants for thrips is that the trap works best if it flowers before the plant you want to protect. Thus, to protect early spring flowering plants, you might want to use blue sticky traps until the verbena and chrysanthemums get going.

Banker Plants

Banker plants are hosts to beneficial insects. This is a relatively new field of organic pest management, and there is a great deal of research going on — particularly in the greenhouse setting where the banker plants are inoculated with the pest and the predator to build up populations of beneficials that can protect the cash crop.

Jane Hoehaver, director of the Plant Science Research Center at Auburn University in Alabama, is using barley as a banker plant for aphid control on tomatoes and peppers. She inoculates the barley with cereal aphids that feed only on grasses. When the cereal aphid populations have built up, she releases beneficial aphid parasites (*Aphidius colemanii*) and minute pirate bugs onto the barley. The beneficials feed on the cereal aphids and reproduce there. Later, if aphids infest the tomatoes or peppers, a large population of beneficials is ready and waiting.

According to the folks at Applied Bio-nomics Ltd. in Canada (www.appliedbio-nomics.com), eggplants can't be beat for protecting roses. For greenhouses, they recommend at least one eggplant per 10,000 square feet. At first, the eggplants serve as monitoring devices, alerting the grower to the arrival of pests. Then the grower turns the eggplants into banker plants by releasing onto them beneficial insects specific to that pest.

This two-part method of using banker plants has been developed for greenhouses. The home gardener can start more simply by planting things that will provide a food and a home for beneficial insects. Beneficials are most attracted to plants that have lots of small flowers such as: asters, coreopsis, dill, Queen-Anne's Lace, alysum, mustards, yarrow, goldenrod, tansy and Black-eyed Susans. The following herbs attract beneficial parasitizing wasps: angelica, chervil, cilantro, dill, fennel, lovage, parsley, sweet cicely and valerian.

Companion Plants

Many banker plants are considered companion plants because the beneficials they host will protect other plants around them. A true companion plant forms an almost symbiotic relationship with the rose and can ward off pests, provide nutrients and act as a living mulch.

Because we give our roses lots of water, rich soil and plenty of nutrients, any companion growing near the rose enjoys these benefits, too.

A fascinating aspect of companion plants is their ability to ward off pests — usually because they taste or smell bad to pests, or are toxic. For example, geraniums are toxic to Japanese beetles, but the hapless beetle comes to eat them anyway.

A good rose companion plant should have shallow roots and not be invasive. It's also nice if the companion blooms when the rose isn't. Following is a short list of companion plants that love roses:

Garlic, onions, chives, shallots and ornamental alliums protect against blackspot, mildew and aphids.

Parsley protects against rose beetles.

Marigolds discourage nematodes and insects.

Geraniums protect against Japanese beetles and cabbage worm.

Tansy protects against many flying insects including Japanese beetles, but can draw cabbage worms.

Tomatoes protect against blackspot.

Rue protects against Japanese beetles.

Lupines attract earthworms and increase soil nitrogen.

Four 'o Clocks protect against Japanese beetles.

Experienced organic gardeners have probably discovered other plants in their gardens that make good companions or trap plants — much the same way that I noticed the aphids on the gopher purge. For more information on companion planting and organic pest control, try *Carrots Love Tomatoes* or *Roses Love Garlic* by Louise Riotte, or *Growing Roses Organically* by Barbara Wilde.

Paulette Mouchet is a member of the ARS Good Earth R.O.S.E. Committee (www.OrganicRoseCare.org), which is dedicated to helping people grow gorgeous roses using earth-friendly, organic techniques.

(The above article appeared in the September/October 2009 American Rose.)

TIDBITS:

Aspirin is good for plants. The salicylic acid in aspirin is the same in plants and is used to activate the plant's natural defenses against bacteria and fungi. Three aspirins dissolved in 4 gallons of water can improve the growth of plants tremendously. Aspirin water has also been shown to improve the germination rates of seeds. Salicylic acid was originally derived from willows. Willow water – water that has had willow twigs soaking in it – is also great for rooting cuttings and watering seedlings. (This article appeared in the Weekly Planner, The Virginian – Pilot).

GreenCure is a fungicide for a less toxic approach for spraying and is for organic production. You can get more information at: www.muckbootsonline.com/GreenCure_Fungicide

ACTINOVATE is an organic fungicide for lawn and garden. Foliar diseases it is to be used for are: Powdery and Downy Mildew, Grey Mold (Botrytis), Black Spot, Leaf Spots and Rusts, and Fire Blight. You can purchase this product at Gardens in a Flower Pot. Joe started using this product last year on his roses at his garden center.

Good Earth R.O.S.E. Care is a free website service of the American Rose Societies Good Earth R.O.S.E. Committee. This website is the place to go for up to date organic gardening for roses: www.organicrosecare.org.

Not a member of the American Rose Society? We have a trial membership available. The American Rose Society is one of the best sources for information that one can obtain for growing roses. When you support the American Rose Society you are also supporting the Colonial District and the Tidewater Rose Society.

I would like to thank Jeanne Marcus and Margie Tully for their articles in the November 2009 newsletter.

Colonial District Pre-Spring Meeting

The Colonial District Pre-Spring Meeting will be held March 19-20, 2010, Quality Inn, Staunton, Virginia. The registration form is enclosed in the newsletter. Come and enjoy a fun-filled weekend sharing information on rose culture. Activities include a Horticultural Judges recertification session. Registration form is also available at www.colonialdistrictroses.org.

Tidewater Rose Society Meeting Dates for 2010:

February 21
March 21
April 18
May 16
June 13 (picnic)
August 15
September 19
October 17
November 21

Consulting Rosarians
George Wilson, Chairman

Cathy Daley	757-440-3417
Lynn Hunt	410-221-0283
Howard E. Jones	757-481-4158
Glenn Millard	757-488-2171
Marian Millard	757-488-2171
Michael Price	757-583-6770
George Wilson	757-853-0621
Patricia Wilson	757-853-0621

Editor
1972 Edgewood Ave.
Norfolk, Va. 23503



Conundrum, Mini-Flora, Hybridized by Robbie Tucker

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Tidewater Rose Society

Affiliated with the American Rose Society

The membership year for the Tidewater Rose Society begins January 1 and ends December 31. New members who join after our October rose show will be enrolled as members for the following year.

Please print following information

Date: _____

Name (Mr & Mrs., Mr., Mrs., Miss, Ms.) _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Member ARS _____ Yes I would like to join ARS _____

Tidewater Rose Society Membership: \$15.00 individual/Family.

Make checks payable to the Tidewater Rose Society and mail form and check to:

Eveline Price

1972 Edgewood Ave.

Norfolk, Va. 23503-3226

Gardens in a Flowerpot will offer bareroot roses to TRS members for \$14.00 plus tax. These roses will arrive in mid-February 2010 and you will be called to pick them up at Gardens in a Flowerpot.

Quantity

_____ Dream Come True, Grandiflora, golden yellow edged & blushed with ruby

_____ Easy Does It, Floribunda, mango peach & apricot blend AARS 2010

_____ Elle, Hybrid Tea, shell pink & ivory bi-color

_____ Gemini Hybrid Tea, creamy/pink blend

_____ Gold Medal, Grandiflora, golden yellow suffused with orange

_____ John F. Kennedy, Hybrid Tea, greenish white

_____ Midas Touch Hybrid Tea, bright neon yellow

_____ Monkey Business, Floribunda, yellow

_____ Mister Lincoln, Hybrid Tea, velvety deep red

_____ Oregold Hybrid Tea, deep yellow-gold

_____ Peace, Hybrid Tea, lemony yellow edged with pure pink

_____ Perfume Delight, Hybrid Tea, deep rose pink

_____ Pope John Paul II, Hybrid Tea, white

_____ Queen Elizabeth, Grandiflora, clear pink

_____ Radiant Perfume, Grandiflora, medium yellow

_____ Sedona, Hybrid Tea, red, coral & orange

_____ Signature, Hybrid Tea, pink blend

_____ St. Patrick, Hybrid Tea, yellow gold shaded green

_____ Sweetness, Grandiflora, lavender

_____ Veterans' Honor, Hybrid Tea, dark red

_____ Welcome Home, Hybrid Tea, light yellow

Name _____

Telephone # _____

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