



NEWSLETTER

of the

VIRGINIA PENINSULA ROSE SOCIETY



President – Sandy Pait
 First Vice President – Marti Youmans
 Editor – Lydia Simpson

April 2010

<http://www.colonialdistrictroses.org/sitebuildercontent/sitebuilderfiles/2010vprsApril.pdf>

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2010 Meeting Dates

April 11
Inventive Arranging Containers

May 2
Rose Show Prep

May 15 – Rose Show

June – Picnic

September 12
Arranging the ARS way

October 3
Fall Rose Care

November 7
Winterizing your Roses

December 5
Christmas Luncheon

Refreshments

If you plan to attend the April Meeting, please bring something sweet, or something salty, or cold drinks, etc. let your imagination be your guide

Cups, plates, napkins, and utensils are furnished. .

The next VPRS meeting is scheduled for **Sunday, April 11, 2010**, 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.

April 11, 2010

1:30 pm
3:00pm

Board Meeting
‘Inventive Arranging in Containers’
 with Marti Youmans

From the President’s Desk:

Dear Members,
 What a lovely spring day we had for the Pruning clinic. A few weeks ago it seems impossible!!

Thanks to Carol and Wiley for a great clinic. Great job by all our members that attended and worked with the 16 participants! It was a great event and the garden beds we did look wonderful. We even had people take membership applications, good job Bob Little.

Thank you to Lydia, Virginia, Marti and Lois for bringing desserts to the Garden Council meeting on March 12. Everyone enjoyed the goodies.

We had a great showing at the Horticulture Extravaganza on Saturday, March 13 at York High School. We answered a lot of questions, passed out literature, and even some membership forms. Wiley Waters was also presenter so we had a BIG presence. Thanks to all who volunteered. For those of you that missed this opportunity, you still have a chance!! We will have a booth at the CNU program on April 10, 2010. I am sure Margie Tully will be happy to schedule you to help out. It really is a great way to get the word out.

The Pre-Spring meeting was wonderful. We had great speakers and a good retraining for judges. It was announced that the Fall meeting and District Rose Show will be hosted by Tidewater on September 25 so mark your calendars!!

Happy Easter to all!! See you on the 11th.

Sandy Pait

Gifts & Contributions Corner

The Virginia Peninsula Rose Society accepts donations to further the knowledge of roses among the public. The names of contributors will be listed in future newsletters and in the 2010 Rose Show Program. If you would like to be a donor, please include a check. Levels: Queen (\$100 or more); King (\$50-99); Princess (\$25-49); Prince (\$24 or less). The Virginia Peninsula Rose Society is a 501 C-3 non-profit organization and any donations are tax deductible (but not your membership) receipt is available upon request.

“Queen Level”

Terry and David Cottrell

“King Level”

Cathy Daley

“Princess Level”

“Prince Level”

Sheila Elliott

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.

April 29-May 2 2010, PLANET ROSES - 2010 ARS Spring National Convention and Rose Show, Shreveport, LA

Don't forget to register for Planet Roses, our 2010 ARS Spring National Conference in Shreveport, Louisiana. Come be our guest at the headquarters home of the American Rose Society. Early-bird registration closes on April 15. Hurry and get your registration in now. Go to <http://www.ars.org/?p=304> to register online today!

Don't miss this opportunity to visit our headquarters, gardens and the new Klima Center. You will enjoy a tour of the center and a trip to the rose fields at Tyler Texas. There will be interesting and informative programs.

May 15, 2010 – VPRS Rose Show
Patrick Henry Mall, Newport News, VA, more information to follow in next newsletter, for info call Dick Parsell 757-850-2765
osagefarm@cox.net

GARDENING TIPS OF THE WEEK

from Marie Iannotti

Easy Organic Lawn Care: One of the easiest ways to feed your lawn is to over seed it with clover. Clover is a legume, so it pulls nitrogen in and slowly releases it. Clover stays green in hot, dry conditions and the flowers attract all kinds of pollinators, who will also visit your gardens. And, perhaps best of all, it requires minimal mowing.

Composting Paper Products: I try to recycle my used, compost-friendly paper towels. They break down very quickly and the earthworms seem to like them. I also recycle the empty cardboard rollers from the paper towels and toilet paper, as well as newspapers and any other "white" paper that we would otherwise throw away. *Submitted by hawaiirocks—Editor's note: compost your paper egg cartons by shredding them*

Going Vertical in Small Spaces: Having a small back yard, I try to grow as much vertically or hanging as I can. A trellis or rebar fence holds my beans, cukes, etc. Also these "verticals" shade some of the tender low growing plants. Even small melons can go vertical by putting the fruit in the foot of an old pantyhose and tying it to the frame. TV ads show the upside down tomatoes. Make your own with hanging plastic pots. I plant tomatoes, peppers, herbs in the bottom drain holes and flowers in the top. Double duty pots. *Submitted by Packratbob--*

FOR THE BEGINNER

Q. I have some problems with my rose garden, do I have to start again from scratch?

A: No, you can redesign your rose garden by removing plants that are not doing well and transplanting others to new locations. It will take some research and planning. Start considering the changes you want to make in the late fall or winter, so that by early spring you are ready to start. The best time to transplant existing rose bushes is in the early spring while they are still dormant. It's also the best time to plant new ones. Don't try to tackle this project when your plants are actively growing.

Q. I have a beautiful rose bush in my yard, but its in an awkward spot. Will I kill it if I try to move it?

A: It is possible to transplant roses, but it should be done in early spring when the plant is still dormant. Prepare a hole for the rose and fertilize, then very carefully use a spade around the rose bush to be transplanted. Go wide around the plant and deep into the soil in order to avoid cutting any of the roots. Gently remove the plant and move it to its new home. Do make sure the new location has at least 6 hours of sunlight a day.

Q. What are Knock Out roses and are they hard to grow?

A: Knock Out roses are amazingly easy to grow. They are disease and drought resistant and self cleaning so it isn't necessary to do any dead heading. The foliage is dark purple and changes to burgundy in the fall. The blooms come in a variety of colors to suit any gardener. They attain a height of about 4 feet and a width of about 3 feet. For gardeners worried about caring for roses, these are the perfect choice.

Q. Do Knock Out roses need to be pruned?

A: All roses need to be pruned and the Knock Out rose is no exception. Dead wood can and should be cut out whenever you find it. Ideally Knock Out roses should be pruned in early spring, but they can be pruned in summer. Summer pruning will slow their growth.

Q. Are carpet roses a ground cover?

A: No, Flower Carpet roses are a hardy low growing shrub rose. They reach a height of 24 to 32 inches and a width of about 4 feet. They are disease resistant and low maintenance, and will grow in just about every climate zone in the continental United States. They come in six colors and add beautiful and easy care roses to any garden.

Consulting Rosarian Corner

Natural Aphid control

by Cliff Orent, Owner of EuroDesert Roses

Welcome to the first installment of "Cliff's Notes on Roses." I've been growing roses for quite a few years now and I'd like to share some tricks and tips I've learned mostly through trial and error! These are just simple, practical things I've added to my rose care routine that give me more time to stop and smell the roses

With spring approaching (albeit faster in some parts of the country than in others!), my thoughts turn to the beauty of the first spring flush of blooms. But with those blooms -- and even before the blooms emerge -- come those nasty little aphids that suck the life out of tender new foliage and buds and that are responsible for the "honeydew" and black/brown residue they leave behind.

For those of us who want to control aphids yet don't wish to spray, there's a natural alternative, and one that I've used for the past few years with a good deal of success -- lady beetles, commonly known as ladybugs. The variety most common in North America is *Hippodamia convergens* and its primary target pests are aphids, whitefly, fruit-worm and certain types of mites.

Ladybugs are the most popular and best known of the beneficial insects in the garden, and it's likely that they'll emerge at some point on their own. But often they arrive after aphids have already been on the prowl for a while. Here is the solution that works for me. Purchase ladybugs from a commercial source. The trick, however, is to time the arrival of your purchased ladybugs to coincide with the arrival of the aphids.



Lavender Pearl. 2004 Introduction by Ben Williams. Available on our website.

If the ladybugs arrive before the aphids appear in sufficient number and therefore have little to eat, they're not likely to stick around to wait for their dinner.

There are a number of things that are said to be helpful in keeping your ladybugs in your garden, as opposed to having them fly off to a neighbor's yard. These include releasing them in the evening before they settle down for the night, or in the cool of the morning, mixing certain types of carbonated beverages or sugar with water and spraying the roses with this concoction before releasing the ladybugs.

What I've found works for me is to release the ladybugs when it's relatively cool - - in early morning or in the evening, and lightly hosing down the foliage of the roses before releasing the ladybugs. After a few years of purchasing ladybugs in early spring, I've been pleased to see them appearing on their own -- earlier and in greater quantity each year.

There are a number of sources of ladybugs listed on the internet. Some are:

<http://www.buglogical.com/>

<http://www.planetnatural.com>

<http://www.thebeneficialinsectco.com>

<http://www.marchbiological.com>

And while you're visiting these sites, have a look at some of the other beneficial insects that are available against other rose pests. Sometimes the best defense against what nature throws at our roses is - nature itself!

I hope you've enjoyed Cliff's Notes on Roses and that it helps in your garden care. As always, your comments are appreciated and if you have a tip you'd like to share please send it to us so we can pass it on to our readers. Be sure to include your name and where you live so we can give you credit..

How to eliminate and prevent Blackspot

by George E Wilson, TRS

The question that I am asked the most is how to get rid of blackspot on my roses. I hope that the following information will help. With any good spray program, the key is "prevention." You don't want to be spending all of your time fighting blackspot and powdery mildew. You want to prevent it from happening in the first place.

When you prune in the spring, you should immediately start your preventive spray program. The folks at Rosemania recommend that you spray the canes and beds with a blackspot contact-killer such as Mancozeb or Manzate. This will eliminate any blackspot spores that wintered over. One week later, start your preventive program and continue until your roses go dormant in late fall, early winter.

If you already have blackspot active in your rose garden, a preventive is going to do little good. You need a contact-killer. Rosemania recommends that you spray Manzate (which is a powder) or Mancozeb (which is a liquid) three times at three day intervals: Example: Spray on Monday, Thursday and Sunday. Be sure to spray the top and bottom side of the leaves and the soil in the bed. This will kill all of the active spores and give you a fresh start. Once completed, go back to your regular preventive program.

After you have rid your garden of blackspot, you will want to add either Manzate or Mancozeb, at the rate of one tablespoon per gallon, to your regular spray every other spraying. Anytime you combine products, always use them at full strength. If you have any questions, please contact a Consulting Rosarian.

“Rosy Shade”

You probably don't think about roses for a shade garden. However, if your garden doesn't quite get the 5-6 hours of full sun usually recommended for growing roses, you may still be able to grow select varieties of roses. No rose will thrive and bloom without some sun, but there are roses that will do just fine with a little shade.

According to Steve Hutton, President at the Conard-Pyle Company, introducers of Star Roses. “In general the roses that flower the most, like floribundas and shrub roses, will do better in the shade...Anything less than six hours of sun will sacrifice some blooms. But, if you pick a rose that has prolific flowers with big blooms you will have a perfectly happy plant.” And pale petaled beauties that can look washed out in bright sunshine seem to glow in partial shade. No rose will be happy and bloom in full shade, but here are some top rosarian picks for great roses able to perform in partial shade.

Anthony Meiland™ 'Meitalbaz'

Anthony Meiland is a deep, rich shade of yellow that doesn't fade and will glow in shade. A pleasant, mild fragrance and a second bloom in late summer add to its appeal. Anthony Meiland is a bushy, mounded plant ideal for borders, hedges and in the landscape in mass plantings. Zones 6 - 9

Ballerina (Hybrid Musk, 1937)

Dainty, five petaled blooms of pink and white grow in clusters on this beloved hybrid musk shrub, a class noted for their disease resistance, fragrance and shade tolerance. Ballerina can bloom well into the fall and has the bonus of attractive hips. Ballerina can also be trained as a beautiful small climber, to six feet. Zones 5 - 10

Carefree Wonder™ 'Meipitac'

Carefree lives up to its name, adapting to almost any conditions. While the blossoms are exceptional in appearance, the sheer quantity of blossoms makes the bush a delight in the garden. Carefree Wonder is a repeat bloomer with single blooms of pink with white edges. Zones 4 - 9

F. J. Grootendorst

It's hard to beat the hybrid Rugosas for toughness and dependability. F. J. Grootendorst is a classic carefree grower. Clusters of double, bright red blossoms are offset by small puckered leathery leaves. Makes a great specimen plant, easily growing as tall as 6 feet. Zones 5 - 9

Fair Bianca® 'Ausca'

David Austin scored again with this English rose. Fair Bianca has densely petaled pure white blooms with a spicy scent. A compact 3 feet tall bush, Fair Bianca packs all of the great features of David Austin roses: pest resistance, cold hardiness and heat tolerance. Bloom heavily in mid-summer and then sporadically through fall. Zones 4 - 9

Gruss an Aachen

This compact floribunda is covered with buds that open as clusters of salmon pink double flowers and fade to creamy white. Bloom profusely over a long period and doesn't seem to mind partial shade at all. A favorite since its 1909 introduction, Gruss an Aachen grows to about 2 feet wide by 3 feet tall, making it a nice choice for a border or hedge. Zones 5 - 9

Ice Meiland® 'Meivahyn'

Ice Meiland is billed as "The perfect rose for busy people". It is one of the new, easy care ground cover roses. The first ground cover roses tended to be real sprawlers, but the latest crop is more well behaved and also more pest resistant. Beautiful white pompom shaped blossoms are shaded with a soft pink. Zones 5 - 9

Iceberg

Iceberg roses have long been the standard to which other floribundas are measured. Iceberg was inducted into the World Federation of Rose Societies Hall of Fame in 1983 and remains a garden classic today. It lives up to the category floribunda with lots of icy-white buds that open into double rose blossoms. Zones 5 - 9

Marmalade Skies® 'Meimonblan'

Marmalade Skies, an everblooming floribunda and a 2001 All-America Rose Selections award winner, is a tangerine blooming machine. Blooming won't be quite so abundant in partial shade, but shouldn't disappoint. This compact, everblooming plant is ideal for low borders, or as a specimen in any landscape. Blooms early summer through fall Zones 5 - 9

Mary Rose® 'Ausmary'

Dark pink buds open to full, paler pink rosettes with a soft honey fragrance. Mary Rose is a David Austin English Rose and is a great repeat-flowering, shade tolerant, disease resistant specimen. Makes a nice, bushy shrub, growing up to four feet. Zones 6 - 10

Passionate Kisses™ 'Meizebel'

Passionate Kisses is a relatively new rose that first attracted attention because of its name. As if a rose needed to advertise being romantic. A continual blooming floribunda, Passionate Kisses has salmon colored blossoms that light up in partial shade. Staying compact at about 3 1/2 to 4 feet, its a good candidate for borders and containers. Zones 5-9

Playboy

Some rosarians say this is the best shade tolerant rose there is this side of Knock Out. Glossy green foliage offsets the large, orange-scarlet semi-double blooms. Playboy's flowers pass through shades of yellow and orange on their way to the deep red of the fading blooms. A 1989 Gold Medal winner, Playboy has very good disease resistance. Its heavy blooming and medium, rounded habit make it a great rose in the border or landscape or planted as a hedge. Zones 4-9

Seafoam

Seafoam, being one of the mounding groundcover type roses or a Floribunda landscape rose, can also be trained as a climber. The persistent mass of white blooms gave rise to its name. It is extremely cold hardy and adaptable. Works great as an edger or in mass plantings. Zones 4 - 9

The Knock-Out™ Rose 'Radrazz'

By far the most shade tolerant of roses is this 2000 All-America Rose Selection winner and 2004 American Rose "Member's Choice" winner. The Knock-Out™ Rose 'Radrazz' is incredibly disease resistant and easy growing. It is also drought tolerant; surviving and even thriving in the most devastating of dry summers. Humidity... bring it on. It is highly resistant to black spot. The cycle of bloom and growth is never ending and provides a show of brightly colored cherry-red blooms from early spring until well into the hard frosts of winter. Zones 4 - 9

CLIMBERS

Eden Climber™ 'Meiviolin' (aka 'Pierre de Ronsard')

Eden Climber is a large, old-fashioned looking rose with large, double blooms in pastel shades of pink, cream and yellow. Eden Climber has a pleasant scent and looks and smells wonderful along a fence. It is one of the most floriferous climbers, with equally attractive deep green foliage. Zones 5 - 9

Golden Showers®

Considered a modern climber, Golden Showers was named an AARS winner in 1956. Its name comes from the bright yellow blossoms that seem to flower continuously. With a honey-like fragrance, the blossoms make excellent cut flowers. Grow 6 to 8 feet tall and looks equally nice against walls or structures. Zones 5 - 9

New Dawn

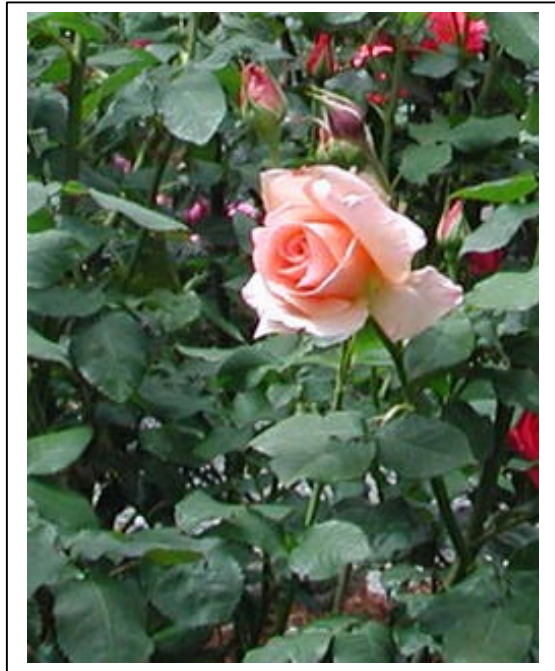
Beautiful, disease resistant and fragrant, New Dawn is a near perfect rose. New Dawn was inducted into the World Federation of Rose Society Hall of Fame in 1997. The double pink, fragrant flowers fade to soft pink and stay attractive for a long season. Expect New Dawn to bloom in the spring and again in late summer. Zones 5 - 9

Zepherine Drouhin (aka Zephirine Drouhin)

Zepherine Drouhin is known as the thornless climber, making it not just beautiful but easy to work with. Canes grow 8 - 10 feet long and can be easily trained and trellised. Deep cerise pink bloom and an old fashioned rose fragrance have kept this Bourbon climber growing in gardens for decades. Although it accommodates shade, it is prone to fungal problems in high humidity. Zones 6 - 9

Rose of the Month

Apricot Nectar



By Gaird Hamilton

Every year most of us get busy looking through the Fall rose catalogs, looking at the pictures of the newest and the latest roses. We read all kinds of superlatives about just how great they are. Sometimes in all of this even a veteran rose grower can lose sight of just how great and wonderful some very common older roses can be. A case in point is Apricot Nectar, a floribunda and AARS winner in 1966, which we bought probably in 1966 when we only had two roses in our yard.

All of the intervening years while we were accumulating a huge number of roses, it has continued to bloom abundantly year after year with large fragrant flowers in nice clusters on a healthy bush. Flowers which have a very unique warm apricot color and which last an incredibly long time in a bouquet, filling the room with their wonderful aroma. When we took all kinds of roses to the library this Summer, Apricot Nectar was a rose, which the librarian asked about when we got there the next week because of comments from the public. It may not be a big winner at rose shows, but where it counts, in the garden, in a bouquet, or in your heart, it's a real big



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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 – April 11, 2010