



# NEWSLETTER

of the

## VIRGINIA PENINSULA ROSE SOCIETY



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

October 2010

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

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Virginia Kostyal, Annemarie Parker

### 2010 Meeting Dates

**October 3**  
*Fall Rose Care*  
**November 7**  
*Winterizing your Roses*  
**December 5**  
*Christmas Luncheon*

### Refreshments

**If you plan to attend the October 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. .

*All truth passes through three stages. First, it is ridiculed. Second, it is violently opposed. Third, it is accepted as being self-evident.*

*Arthur Schopenhauer,  
German philosopher, 1788-1860*

The next VPRS meeting is scheduled for **Sunday, October 3, 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.

### **October 3, 2010**

**2:00 pm Board Meeting**  
**3:00pm General Meeting**  
**‘Fall Rose Care’ with Marti Youmans**

### News from the Colonial District Fall Meeting and Rose Show

*Hear Ye, Hear Ye.....John Smith conquers Virginia once again with his lovely wife Pocahontas, ...’er... Cheryl.* The Smiths - members of the Maryland Rose Society - swept the Court at the Colonial District Fall Rose Show in Norfolk this past weekend, but many of TRS’ members also won trophies. More information will be published in the November newsletter. Congratulations to all winners.

### From the PCGC Chairperson

The Peninsula Council of Garden Clubs is sponsoring a fund-raiser to help finance their 2011 Civic Beautification Project. Twice before, the Council funded a rose bed at the Huntington Rose Garden. This year the project is to improve the entrance to the Poquoson Library.

Each member-club is requested to submit five recipes for a cookbook to be published. Since VPRS is a member of PCGC, we encourage the membership to submit their favorite recipe - we need at least five, but more is better. Each contributing member-club is asked to sell ten cookbooks.

If you would like to contribute a recipe, a form will be available at the VPRS’ October meeting, or you may send it directly to Virginia Kostyal, 5 Burwell Circle, Newport News, Va. 23606, or e-mail to vkostyal@verizon.net.

Include the title of the recipe, the name of person submitting the recipe, list of measured ingredients needed, amount of servings, preparation instructions, including temperature and time. So bring/send your favorites.

## 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.

The Virginia Peninsula Rose Society is a 501C-3 non-profit organization and any donations are tax deductible (but not your membership) receipt is available upon request.

*“Queen Level”*

*“King Level”*

*“Princess Level”*

*“Prince Level”*

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## 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 15<sup>th</sup> of the month.*

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### *A Little Budding Rose by Emily Bronte*

*It was a little budding rose,  
Round like a fairy globe,  
And shyly did its  
leaves uncloze  
Hid in their mossy robe,  
But sweet was the slight  
and spicy smell  
It breathed from its  
heart invisible.*

*The rose is blasted,  
withered, blighted,  
Its root has felt a worm,  
And like a heart beloved  
and slighted,  
Failed, faded, shrunk its  
form.  
Bud of beauty, bonnie flower,  
I stole thee from  
thy natal bower.*

*I was the worm  
that withered thee,  
Thy tears of dew  
all fell for me;  
Leaf and stalk and rose  
are gone,  
Exile earth they died upon.  
Yes, that last breath  
of balmy scent  
With alien breezes sadly  
blent!*

## GARDENING TIPS OF THE WEEK

*from Marie Iannotti*

**Cleaning Up the Vegetable Garden:** When you clean up the vegetable garden in the fall just clip off or break off the beans, tomatoes etc just above the ground. There is no need to pull them the roots will rot during the winter. I do it all season long and have never had a problem. *Submitted by Charlie—*

**Temporary Drip Irrigation:** Use old milk and juice jugs to drip water to your plants, when you're away on vacation. Just poke a few small holes in the bottom of the jug, fill with water and place at the base of plants. You can use them in the garden or in containers

**Keeping Varmints Out of Containers:** I have been a container gardener for many years due to moving around. Of course the plants get eaten from the bottom by many varmints, etc. Had a sliding door screen that I cut from frame and rolled on a pole. Cut piece just big enough to cover bottom, scrunch the square corners press down and fill pot to hold screen in place. Proceed with planting. Seems to work well. *Submitted by mthicalga*

I use **dryer lint** to line new pots (that are usually recycled) and layer into soil. After drilling holes in whatever container I'm using, I put down a decent layer of dryer lint at the bottom. It prevents soil from leaking out the bottom, and holds some moisture. It can also be layered into soil to hold additional moisture! *Submitted by mcbrecycl*

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## Cutting or "Deadheading" Roses

By: Rachel Hunter, ARS contributor

Once a rose has bloomed, it should be removed, and the term applied to this procedure is called "deadheading". One should use pruning shears that are sharp in order to avoid tearing the cane as opposed to cutting it. Cuts should also be made at a 45-degree angle and about 1/4" above a leaf set.

Roses are deadheaded in order to prompt the bush into producing yet more blooms. The blooms should be deadheaded just as the petals are about to fall or shortly thereafter.

The first blooms of Spring will typically be borne on plants that are rather short either because the bushes were newly planted or because they were heavily pruned back in the previous Fall or Winter. In any event, one must remove the first set of spent blooms without cutting too far down the cane. A cut made at the second leaf axil down from the bloom will be sufficient to effectuate the removal of the spent bloom yet still leave enough cane to aid in the production of the second bloom cycle.

In subsequent bloom cycles, one can deadhead farther down the stem depending on the size of the bush. If the bush is a particularly tall-growing variety and one wants to control the size of the bush, a cut can be made several inches below the bloom.

Leaf clusters on roses either come 3, 5 or 7 leaves to a set. The first deadheading of the season will likely be made just above a 3-leaf set. Future dead-headings will usually take place just above a 5-leaf set, usually because you'll find many more 5-leaf sets than 3 or 7. The goal is to cut the stem far enough so that when the new growth emanates, you'll have a decent-sized cane. If you cut up at a 3-leaf set, the new cane emerging will be quite small. If you cut down at a 7- leaf set, you'll be removing a lot of cane because the 7-leaf sets usually occur far down the cane.

In areas where cane borers are present, it is also advisable to seal the new cut. This can be done by either painting nail polish over the cut or using Elmer's Glue.

By following these simple procedures, one can ensure repeat bloom cycles and have many more roses to enjoy during the course of the growing season.

# Consulting Rosarian Corner

## September Checklist for the Rose Garden

by Bob Alde, ARS Consulting Rosarian

The primary objective of work in the rose garden in the fall is to prepare the plants for the winter. Unfortunately, the fall weather is often so nice that rosarians will include in their fall chores some activities, which are not in the best interest of the plants.

With the loss of leaves, the plant's appearance often encourages some light pruning. But remember that pruning will tend to discourage the dormancy process and encourage new growth, which can set the plant up for damage from freezing temperatures which may occur in late fall. Remember that research has shown that a dormant plant can withstand a very low temperature (would you believe the temperature of liquid nitrogen!), but a plant not yet dormant can be seriously damaged at the freezing temperature of water!

It's too late for application of fertilizer, which would tend to encourage new growth. Studies have shown that the spores of fungus diseases such as blackspot can over-winter either on the plant or on leaf debris on the ground, so an important fall task is to get rid of all those infected leaves. Don't put them in your compost pile – they should go in your trash for pick-up and disposal miles from your garden.

This is a good time to have a soil test. Your local Cooperative Extension Service should be able to provide you with addresses of the testing labs. Reports from these labs will provide you any corrective action indicated necessary. Fall is also a good time to evaluate the performance of your plants. You will then be better prepared to possibly select replacement plants, which will be available at local nurseries or through mail order.

Finally, should there be any questions on the past year's performance or questions in planning for next year, I recommend contacting a Consulting Rosarian (see the ARF and PRS websites on page 2 to find a CR near you). The Consulting Rosarians know the mid-Atlantic environment and probably will be familiar with your particular problem.

## Spider Mites

by Tom Estridge

One of the great problems during hot weather is controlling, or more specifically, eradicating spider mites. Mites are found on the underside of foliage. They reach their peak of activity during the summer months, although I have seen them on warm days in December. If they go undetected, by late May or June, one has a defoliated rose garden. Therefore, it pays to always be on the lookout for these harmful critters.

There are as many as six species; most common in our area are the Two-spotted Spider Mite and the Red Mite. They are about the size of a straight pinhead and are hard to see (especially with aging eyes). Use a simple reading lens to examine the leaves or carefully pick a discolored leaf. Tap the leaf lightly over a white piece of paper; under a light, you can see these tiny mites scurrying around. Infected foliage will take a reddish-brown appearance at first, then bronze- falling off soon after.

Solution: For a long time, the method for control of spider mites consisted of a forceful stream of water from a water wand or hose end nozzle, sprayed underneath the foliage knocking the mites off and drowning them, also breaking up their tiny webs and knocking off the eggs. Some of us have come to believe, for water to be effective, it must be used at least three times at two- to three-day intervals. Contrary to what we have said about the use of water, I am now convinced that the use of water only slows down their activity, you can't drown them all nor can you expect to remove all of their eggs that are firmly attached to the underside of foliage. Remember that it only takes two to tango and the mite's reproductive ability is unbelievably fast.

I am now convinced that water should still be used to wash off, doing whatever damage it can to the mites. However, it should be followed up after the plants have dried off or at least the next day, by a miticide. To name a few: Avid 0.15EC (1.90% avermectin), a systemic - ¼ teaspoon per gallon of water; Floramite (50% bifenazate) 1/8 to ¼ teaspoon per gallon of water.

I recommend alternating use of miticides since it had been determined that after a period of using one miticide repeatedly, mites have developed an immunity. There are several other miticides at your local garden center, check with your local garden center or a consulting rosarian.

## Rose of the Month



**Anna de Diesbach** by Kitty Belendez, Master Rosarian

'Anna de Diesbach' is an intensely fragrant, deep pink hybrid perpetual (old garden rose) that was bred in France by François Lacharme in 1858. Its parentage is [La Reine x seedling]. The bloom size is about 3-1/2 inches with large cupped, double bloom form consisting of 40 or more petals. It is eligible for Dowager Queen at rose shows.

My bush of 'Anna de Diesbach' was grown from an own-root cutting that I got from a friend's garden about 10 years ago. It was slow to grow at first, but once it spread its feet this rose eventually grew to 8 feet tall and 6 feet wide even though it is growing in a less than perfect spot in my Southern California garden. I planted 'Anna de Diesbach' on the northeast side of my house, in a narrow 8-inch planter that is placed up against a 6-foot

high block wall between my house and my neighbor's house. The bush gets about 4 hours of sun a day. 'Anna de Diesbach' didn't do much at all until it was about five years old and had reached near the top of the fence where it could get more sun.

'Anna de Diesbach' now produces an incredible mass of blooms in the spring, with light sporadic repeat bloom through early summer, with only an occasional bloom in the fall. The matte foliage is a light green with just a touch of mildew that can be easily controlled with fungicide. The stems are long and thin, with few thorns, but still manage to hold the heavily-petalled blooms in an upright position.

'Anna de Diesbach' loves to be heavily fertilized and mulched the same as I feed my modern roses. I've never seen a vegetative center on the blooms, and the light green foliage can be enhanced with an occasional application of iron. This rose likes to be pruned and produces more blooms when about 1/3 of the bush is thoughtfully thinned and pruned each year.

Although held prisoner in a crummy, shady location, 'Anna de Diesbach' continues to reward me with incredible blooms in the spring. And even though I often ignore her and sometimes prefer other OGRs (such as 'Yolande d'Aragon' and 'Rose de Rescht'), 'Anna de Diesbach' has given me a Dowager Queen, a Pacific Southwest District OGR trophy, and a National Stemler trophy. She has earned a permanent place in my garden.



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Address Correction Requested

First Class Mail

### V.P.R.S. Consulting Rosarians

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

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Marti Youmans	Yorktown	757-867-5566

**Next Meeting – October 3, 2010**