
THORNY BUSH

Newsletter of The Huntington Rose Society; Huntington, WV

Affiliated with the American Rose Society

Volume 30 Issue 7

September 2011

Dates to Remember

September 16-18, 2011 Colonial District Fall Rose Show and Convention sponsored by the Charleston Rose Society. The meeting and rose show will be held at the Charleston House in Charleston, WV. For more information contact: John Fleek, 304-776-4048, fleek@suddenlink.net.
NOTICE THERE IS NO SEPTEMBER HUNTINGTON ROSE SOCIETY MEETING SO WE CAN ALL HELP WITH THIS DISTRICT MEETING AND SHOW!

October 13-16, 2011 National Fall Rose Show and Convention sponsored by the Tinsletown Rose Society from Los Angeles California. The convention and show will be held at the Universal Hilton Hotel, Universal City, CA. For more information contact: Marcia Sanchez-Walsh at losangelestinseltownrs@gmail.com.

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.

President's Message

Bill Dolen

Since last month there has been a big change in our weather the extreme heat is probably gone for the year. Our nights have cooled down significantly. I have seen a big difference in my roses several new canes and more blooms.

I don't know if I will any roses for the District Rose Show but I am happy with how well they are growing. The District Rose Show is a good chance for all of us to take part in a district show close to home.

We should continue to spray our roses as nights are damp and daytime temperatures are high enough to allow disease to grow. Some years we have had some very dry September weather but this year we have had quite a bit of rain.

Hope to see all at the October 18th meeting.

In this Issue

President's Message.....	1
District Meeting & Show.....	2-3
Beverly Delidow NEWS.....	3
Roses in Review.....	3
Consulting Rosarians.....	4
September in the Garden.....	4-6

COLONIAL DISTRICT FALL SHOW AND MEETING

This year the Fall Colonial District meeting and show are in Charleston, WV, the closest it has been in years. The show and meeting will take place at the Charleston House Ramada. 600 Kanawha Boulevard, East, Charleston, WV 25301, 304.344.4092

Directions to the Charleston House:

I-64 East: Take the Virginia Street exit, following the off ramp right over the Virginia Street bridge. Go five blocks and turn right onto Laidley Street. Entry to the hotel is on the left at the end of the street (you'll be facing the river).

From I-77/I-79 South and I-64 West: Take the Washington Street/Civic Center exit. Go past the Go-Mart on the right, staying in the center lane. Go through the light at Kelly's Men's Shop as well as the next light (you will see the interstate on-ramp to the far left). Move to the far left lane, going through the light at the corner of Pennsylvania and Randolph Street (a BP station will be on the right). At the next corner, turn left (you will see the interstate on-ramp ahead of you). You are on Virginia Street and should follow the directions given above after passing over the bridge.

The weekend has something for everyone. **The Charleston Rose Society needs our help!! If you have the time please come Friday afternoon to help with rose show**

set up. If you have time on Saturday morning, they can use help with runners and other jobs during the rose show and if you have time Sunday morning, they need help taking down the show!

Friday evening the meeting will start with a presentation by Jeff Ware from the American Rose Society. On Saturday evening at the banquet Jeff Ware will give a second talk on the ARS rose gardens and grounds throughout the seasons. We heard this talk at the TENARKY District this Spring and it is a wonderful presentation. There are many pictures and images of the rose gardens and facilities. Most of us will never see the ARS rose gardens but you will enjoy the presentation.

On Saturday rose exhibitors will be busy putting in their entries. At 10 AM all roses need to be in and the judging will begin. Conference attendees can go to a talk on fertilizers by David Maxwell. David is very interested in analysis of various fertilizer programs so it is worth listening to and hearing about the differences in various fertilizer programs. The rose show will open around 1 PM and should be beautiful. In the afternoon our own Beverly Delidow will give a **Rose Photography workshop**. Beverly is an avid photographer and has taken classes in Texas on wildlife photography and locally with Mike Adkins, a professional photographer. In the afternoon Donna Smoot will do a walk through the rose show. These are great opportunities to understand what judges are looking for in various entries including floating

bowl or English box. In the evening there will be a banquet along with silent auction and door prize tickets for various items. I really hope you can support the District. There are only 36 registered at this time and we need as many people as possible to attend this District meeting.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO
BEVERLY DELIDOW!!!**

We are delighted to announce that Beverly Delidow will have 2 pictures in the 2012 ARS calendar! Beverly submitted 4 photos and 2 were selected out of a national competition. Beverly's photos are of Pop Warner and Dublin. The Dublin was one of Archie and Linda's Roses at the 2010 rose show in Huntington. We all knew that Beverly is an excellent photographer but now she has hit the national and international levels of exposure. Congratulations to you Beverly!!!

Beverly will be conducting a rose photography workshop at the District. So if you were still debating about going to the District meeting this weekend, this is an excellent reason to see you Charleston.

**ROSES IN REVIEW
Monica Valentovic**

It is time again for Roses in Review (RIR), the American Rose Society program where the rosarians who grow the new roses, get to rate the new roses. Once again the ARS is asking that "garden" rosarians as well as exhibitors rate the roses listed for review this year. **You do**

not need be a member of the ARS to participate in RIR. Consulting Rosarians should remember that you are required to participate in RIR as one of your CR activities.

The fastest way to respond is to complete the RIR process on-line. The ARS web site (www.ars.org) has a link for **Roses in Review** on the home page, on the left panel, that will direct you to electronic forms and other information that you can use to complete the rating process. **All RIR forms must be submitted online by September 26, 2011.** Once you submit your ratings to the ARS, they will automatically be forwarded to the District RIR Coordinators. Each year there is a District contest and as of September 13, 2011 there have been 14 reporters in the Colonial District providing 75 reports. I hope you have a chance to check out the list of roses and submit a review. One unique aspect this year is that there is a review called "Other roses" these are many older varieties that have not had enough evaluations. So even if you do not have the new roses, you may have one of these varieties to evaluate.

Handwritten forms can be mailed to the Colonial District RIR Coordinator: **Diana Klassy 21693 Saratoga Drive Lexington Park, MD 20653. All RIR forms must be submitted by September 26, 2011.**

Got a Rose Question?

If you have a question about roses, why not call on a Consulting Rosarian for help? The Huntington Rose Society has several Consulting

Rosarians and Master Consulting Rosarians who can answer questions about your roses or help you with general rose questions as well. And its free.....! So call one of these folks in our area today if you need help with your roses. They will be glad to help you find a solution to a problem or just answer questions for you.

Master Consulting Rosarians

John & Diana Fleek 304-776-4048

Lynda & Steven Grass

304-345-3634

Dick Hanlon 304-744-8074

Gary Rankin 304-697-032

Donna Smoot 304-744-8150

Archie & Linda Snedegar

304-755-9486

Monica Valentovic

304-697-0321

Truman Watts 304-824-7661

Consulting Rosarians

Molly Clingenpeel 304-343-3684

Beverly Delidow 304-429-4211

Bill Dolen 740-886-6457

Phyllis McFadden 304-727-4881

September in the Garden

Monica A. Valentovic

September is a time when our gardens are finally getting a relief from the 90 degree heat and the high humidity. September is a time to enjoy your roses and share them with others. September is an important time in the garden. Things done in the Fall will help get your roses ready to fend off winter's cold snaps and keep your roses strong for the next year. Fall is a time when you think of football season. But Fall also means that our roses and rose

gardens will begin to recover from the summer heat as the cooler days and nights approach.

First for fertilization of your roses, remember to stop supplying nitrogen. By mid-September, the use of nitrogen containing fertilizers should be stopped. Nitrogen will promote new growth that will be killed when the first frosts occur in October. This loss of energy will reduce the energy stores of the bushes that are needed to help the plants survive over winter. If you do want to continue feeding, select a fertilizer such as more bloom or 0-10-10 which will stimulate root development.

Beginning October 1, *stop pruning your roses to again help signal dormancy.* When rose blooms have become fully open or spent, do not cut to the first 5 leaflet as is done all summer long. Instead, only remove the petals from the bloom. Pruning roses sends a signal to the plant to initiate new growth. By only removing the petals you help get the plant ready for winter.

September offers rose show opportunities. This is the month that the rose catalogs begin to arrive to excite us to start ordering those new varieties for next year. So let's look at a few things that rosarians need to keep in mind as we transition from summer into fall.

Early September in our area can be cool, quite warm or just down right hot. There are some problems that you still need to be vigilant in your garden to prevent a major outbreak.

Many gardens this year have experienced problems with powdery mildew and blackspot due to the rainy conditions and foggy nights. Keep spraying your roses with fungicides and try to rotate. I rotate between Immunox plus, Cleary's 3336, Compass & Honor Guard.

Powdery mildew is a fungal infection that is caused by *Sphaerotheca pannosa* and appears primarily on the newer growth. In severe infections powdery mildew can also appear on established leaves. The powdery white appearance of the mass of mycelium and spores looks like powdered sugar and gives this fungal infection its name. The earliest signs of a powdery mildew problem can be a purplish coloration on the underside of the leaf and a curling or puckering of leaf edges. Powdery mildew grows optimally when cool damp nights are followed by warm sunny days. Although humidity at night helps with fungal growth, dry leaf surfaces are required for optimal growth of powdery mildew spores. The best control of powdery mildew is prevention, using fungicides such as Immunox, Rubigan or Systhane when conditions are right for fungal growth. Alternative approaches include the use of baking soda (sodium bicarbonate) or potassium bicarbonate (Remedy) alone or combined with insecticidal soaps or Sunspray ultrafine oil. These alternative agents provide protection by altering the pH of the leaf surface (bicarbonates, too high a pH for fungal growth) and by forming a barrier to fungal penetration and being a spreader-sticker for the

bicarbonate (ultrafine oil). One recipe calls for 3 teaspoons of baking soda and 2 tablespoons of ultrafine oil per gallon of water. Higher concentrations can burn foliage and should be avoided. Another product to prevent powdery mildew is E-RASE, which contains jojoba oil.

Spider mites have been a problem for many rosarians this year. To keep spider mites under control, there are several alternatives. First, a strong spray of water from underneath the leaves will blast the little critters off the roses. Water blasting of mites is best performed during the heat of the day, so that the roses will dry before nightfall. The water spray also gives the roses a cooling effect against the hot weather we have been having. You can repeat this procedure three times at three day intervals to break up the reproductive cycle of the mites OR you can wash the leaves the day before your regular spray day and use a miticide such as Avid, rotenone/pyrethrin or Bayer Rose & Flower Insect Killer. A more expensive alternative to Avid is Floramite, which kills spider mites in the egg as well as adult stages. For the last few years we have had excellent control of spider mites by washing the underside of the leaves with a strong blast of water the day before the roses receive their regular spraying. Usually within two to three weeks the mites are completely gone, even in our hottest weather, and they are not a major problem in between sprayings.

Although we have not had to water due to the rainy weather, make sure

your roses are well hydrated especially when we have windy conditions. Normally, we try to give our roses between 1 and 2 gallons of water per week if it doesn't rain. During dry September weather, you will need to water more often and roses grown in pots may need to be watered daily. So, don't forget to water your roses if they need it.

Fall is a beautiful time in our area, and with a little care, the rose blooms can be large and the bushes healthy. A small amount of extra attention to the roses now will be rewarding not only this year, but next year as well.

The Thorny Bush
Gary Rankin and Monica Valentovic, Editors
109 Cedar Court
Lavalette, WV 25535