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# THORNY BUSH

*Newsletter of the Huntington Rose Society; Huntington, WV*

*Affiliated with the American Rose Society*

**Volume 36, Issue 6**

**August 2017**

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## Dates to Remember

**Tuesday, August 15<sup>th</sup>** is our **Society picnic** at the home of Archie and Linda Snedegar. Picnic starts at 6:30 PM with dinner at 7 PM. This is a **POTLUCK** event. **More information and directions are located in this newsletter.**

**September 5-11, 2017** The Colonial District Fall Meeting and Rose Show will be combined with the National ARS Fall Convention and Rose Show held at the Wyndham hotel in Gettysburg, PA. Contact for the ARS show is Nancy J. Redington, 717-264-6488, [rosered1@comcast.net](mailto:rosered1@comcast.net).

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## President's Message

**Monica A. Valentovic**

Our July meeting on budding roses went well. Gary showed how he buds roses on multiflora and there was considerable interest in making your

own new rose. So far, all of Gary's budded roses have taken. After almost one month since grafting, this is a great success rate. Perhaps some of them will be door prizes next year.

Archie and Linda Snedegar will be hosts for the annual Huntington Rose Society picnic. The activities will take place at their home on Tuesday, August 15<sup>th</sup>. Their yard is always beautiful, and it should be a nice evening. Please let us know by phone or email (telephone:304-697-0321; email: [valentov@marshall.edu](mailto:valentov@marshall.edu)) or contact Archie and Linda (304-755-9486 or [asnedegar@AOL.com](mailto:asnedegar@AOL.com)) if you will or will not attend. Archie and Linda have been gracious enough to once again provide the ham and fried chicken, green beans, lemonade, drinks, cups, utensils and plates. If you have never been to their yard, it is beautiful, and there is always something different from last year.

There is still time to consider attending the national rose show in Gettysburg, PA. The meeting will include our Fall District show. Consider attending the National and

enjoying Gettysburg and the surrounding areas including Lancaster, PA.

#### HRS OFFICERS FOR 2017

President	Monica Valentovic 304-697-0321
Vice President	Linda Snedegar 304-755-9486
Secretary	Archie Snedegar 304-755-9486
Treasurer	Gary Rankin 304-697-0321
Assist. Treasurer	Beverly Delidow 304-429-4211

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#### Society Picnic

**Tuesday, August 15th!!**

Archie and Linda Snedegar have graciously agreed to host the society picnic once again!! We are really glad that Archie and Linda are hosting the picnic as their yard is always beautiful. And the evening lots of fun. Archie and Linda have again agreed to provide drinks, meat, all the paper products and silverware. All you need to do is bring a dish that is a salad, vegetable or dessert. And don't forget to bring your appetite!! The picnic will begin at 6:30 pm. The directions to their home are given below. Call Monica at 304-697-0321 to let me know what you are bringing.



Directions to the Home of Archie and  
Linda Snedegar  
118 Corey Drive  
Poca, WV

Phone number (304-755-9486)

Take I-64 east from Huntington or I-64 west from the Charleston and exit at the Nitro exit. Turn right onto WV 25, which will merge into WV62 at the Sheetz (stay left on WV62 at this point) and follow WV62 to Poca (~3 miles from the interstate to Poca). Along this route you will pass Rock Branch Community Bank, Sheetz (where you get onto WV62), and a car wash, as you go through three stop lights.

When you get to Poca you will see the Fire Department with a Gino's Pizza on your right. **After you pass the Gino's, turn right onto Silver Street, which is directly across the street from the Poca Baptist Church.** As you travel on Silver Street you will pass the Methodist Church and several houses. The street will go to the right and after ~300 yards, turn right into the Silver Valley Estates subdivision.

At the first street on your right (Corey Drive), turn right. Archie and Linda's home is the 11<sup>th</sup> house on the right: 118 Corey Drive. (Home telephone number 304-755-9486). Parking is on one side of the Corey Drive only. Alternatively, parking is available behind the Snedegar's home. This parking can be accessed from Silver Street by turning right onto Cruthers Lane shortly after passing the Methodist Church. Go ~100 yards and turn left onto Muggins Lane and you will see the Snedegar's rose garden and parking spaces. Do not block the road.

### **HORIZONS ROSES 2017**

The 2017 Horizon Roses has been published. This is the 34th year for this publication which is the most in depth reporting about roses you will find in the United States and probably the world. This year Horizon Roses includes 1,524 reports by 91 reporters from 24 different states. The reports include individual comments on the exhibition potential of 237 roses that have come to market in the last five years.

A big plus for the Horizon Roses issue is that it contains over 190 colored photographs of some of the newer roses. This is a big advantage as it lets you see the picture of the rose grown in someone's yard as opposed to a catalog.

So how do you get a copy of Horizon Roses? You can purchase Horizon Roses 2017 in electronic format for Kindle at a price of \$9.95. It can be ordered at [Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com). Make sure when searching Amazon that you purchase the 2017 version as previous years are available.

### **Can I Get You a Bourbon? Mirjana Toyn**

Rest assured that despite my leading title I am not trying to drive you to liquor, but rather want to interest you in a popular class of 19th century roses. Originating on the volcanic Île de Bourbon (now known as Réunion) in the Indian Ocean, these beauties started as the love children of damask and china roses planted in hedgerows in the early 1800s. Some of these hips were sent to the French royal gardener, who produced a seedling named 'Rosier de l'Île de Bourbon'. Fragrant and blooming in flushes, a whole new class of roses was born.

Bourbons are intensely romantic and overwhelmingly fragrant. Draped over arbors or climbing up pillars, they will bring French charm to any garden and evoke a bygone era with a gentler pace of life, when there was time to smell the roses and revel in their sensual scent.

Many Bourbons can get quite large and require support such as fences or trellises. They are excellent candidates for pegging to the ground for maximum flower production. One of my absolute favorites, 'Zéphirine Drouhin') is a large, deliciously fragrant climber with the added benefit of being thornless! It is planted on the north side of my house and is almost never watered because my hosepipe doesn't reach easily. Nonetheless, it rewards me for my horrible treatment with a spectacular display early in the season and then intermittently throughout the summer.

Many Bourbons are widely available from the usual sources and I know that they are appreciated by several CT rose society members like the Longs, who grow Mme. Isaac Pereire and Louise Odier with great success.

'Mme. Issac Pereire' ranks amongst the most fragrant roses in existence and produces very large, pinkish magenta flowers that start off cupped and reflex into quartered blooms with a button eye. Mature blossoms fade at the edges and create a two-tone effect. Bright pink 'Louise Odier' can easily reach 6 or 7 feet and benefits from some support or training on an espalier against a wall. Deeply cupped and quartered

blooms appear almost continuously and are rich in fragrance. 'Mme. Ernest Calvat' is the pale, bushier sport of 'Mme. Isaac Pereire'. You can grow it as a pillar rose or prune it into a luxurious shrub that will produce fragrant blooms for cutting.

'Boule de Neige' produces clusters of blush pink buds on fairly upright canes that open to reveal creamy white blooms, with the occasional green eye in the center. If you are fond of striped roses, try growing 'Honorine de Brabant'. This modest climber has pale pink blooms streaked with delicate shades of mauve. The silvery blush pink of 'Souvenir de la Malmaison' is almost unsurpassed, and blooms, produced in clusters, are sweetly scented and have a mass of quartered petals. Despite its large flowers, it is one of the smallest in this class at about 3-4 feet in height and spread, but also comes in a climbing form. Marci has told me how she still pines for her 'Mme. Pierre Oger' that had to be left behind when she moved to Windsor from her previous home. This sport of 'La Reine Victoria' has dainty blooms of shell pink that make this a delicate and refined looking shrub.

Before you rush out and buy a garden full of Bourbons, I feel that I ought to mention the small matter of

disease. Of all the Bourbons I grow, 'La Reine Victoria' can attract a fungal spore a mile off and is the best indicator that it is time to spray! Not all Bourbons are this susceptible, but I suggest you plant them in areas with good air circulation, water and fertilize them well, and keep up a spray program.

We are not talking 'Knock Outs' here, but maybe not quite Hybrid Teas in terms of maintenance. I have found these roses to be quite hardy in my garden, but remember to plant them deeply and, if you live in a very cold microclimate, hill them up for the winter.

Old Garden Roses have a lot of beauty and variety to offer the modern garden. They are living history and a wonderful link to the great and ordinary folk who grew them: from Napoléon's Joséphine at Malmaison to our great grandparents and their country gardens. I feel passionately that they should to be preserved for future generations to love and appreciate. On that note, let's raise a glass and toast these old ladies! Long may they flourish!

*Reprinted from the American Rose Society website, [www.ars.org](http://www.ars.org).*

**In Memory  
David A. Ackers  
1943-2017**

Long-time member of the Huntington Rose Society, David A. Ackers, passed away on Thursday July 13, 2017 at the Pickering House in Lancaster, OH. He had suffered from a rare form of



cancer and eventually lost his battle just a few short weeks ago.

David was a member of the Lancaster Rose Society in Lancaster, OH and an avid exhibitor. He began to attend the Huntington Rose Society Rose Shows in 2001 and was a frequent participant, often winning Queen of the Show. In Ohio, he won the J. Horace McFarland Trophy numerous times, along with other Buckeye District trophies. He also won at the national level.

David and his wife Lois (Susie) helped us take down our shows when he came to Huntington. He was also always willing to share his knowledge about roses. It was always a pleasure to be around David, and we will miss him very much.

**2017 MEMBERSHIP IN THE HUNTINGTON ROSE SOCIETY**

**NAME(S)** \_\_\_\_\_

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**Make checks payable to Huntington Rose Society and mail to:**

**CHECK ONE**

\_\_\_\_\_ **SINGLE \$8**

**Gary Rankin, 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.

**The Thorny Bush  
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