
THORNY BUSH

Newsletter of the Huntington Rose Society; Huntington, WV

Affiliated with the American Rose Society

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Dates to Remember

Tuesday, March 20th The regular meeting of the Huntington Rose Society will be held at the Central Christian Church, 1202 Fifth Avenue, on Tuesday, March 20 starting at 7:30 pm. The program for the evening will be "Roses in My Basement" by Steven Grass. Hospitality will be provided by Beverly Delidow.

May 4-6, 2018 The 2018 National Miniature/Miniflora Conference and Rose Show will be held in Jacksonville, FL and hosted by the Jacksonville Rose Society. For more information, contact Ray Guillebeau, 904-777-1256, kokosrose1@gmail.com.

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President's Message

Gary O. Rankin

It is hard to believe that another year has rolled around and it time to

start thinking about the rose garden. With the warmer weather we had in February, the roses near our home have started to leaf out already! Even a budded rootstock planted in the rose garden last fall has leaves on the multiflora canes. This growth is much too early for us, as there will be more freezing weather to come that could "nip" the new growth. But it is good to see some green and know that spring isn't far away.

Now that we are entering March, it is time to start thinking about getting ready for spring. This is a good time to make sure that your pruners and loppers are sharp and well lubricated, as time for spring pruning isn't far away. If you need new garden tools, stores are starting to get the year's shipment in their stores and on display. You need to buy them before they run out, as many stores don't get replacements for sold out items.

You will also want to order your fertilizers and soil amendments from Beaty Fertilizer Co. Each year we go together with the Charleston Rose Society to order products from

Beaty. By ordering as a society, we get great savings. A list of products, prices and ordering information are located in this issue of The Thorny Bush, so check it out!

Our program this month will be presented by Steven Grass. Last year, Steven learned how to bud roses at one of our meetings and has a number of these and other roses growing in his basement. He will be giving us an update on his roses and giving us some tips on overwintering roses inside. I hope to see all of you at our first meeting of 2018 to hear Steven's fascinating program!

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.

Annual Banquet

The banquet was once again a great success. There were 18 people in attendance, including some guests. Archie provided the blessing of all the wonderful food. There were plenty of excellent dishes including apple crisp, corn casserole, ham, turkey with gravy, stuffing, cranberry salad, homemade rolls and ham. We want to thank our society for all of the food drive contributions, as we had over 100 pounds of non-perishable food donated to the city mission and to the

Central Christian food bank. Your generosity to the community was well received at the city mission, which seems to always be in need for non-perishable food items.

After our feast, we had a short opening of the floor for nominations of officers. The announced slate of officers was accepted, and the members voted unanimously to accept them. Donna Smoot then provided the installation of officers. Steve Grass provided roses (in November!) for the installation.

One of the highlights of the meeting was the door prizes. Linda and Archie won the beautiful centerpiece from Spurlock's flowers (see photo below). We also had chocolate, rose fertilizer, Epsom salts, a rose book and more chocolate for the winners.

Willis Chaney had such a good time he lost his hat, but it was found by our golden. She did return the hat intact but got a lot of use out of it first!





HRS OFFICERS FOR 2018

The Huntington Rose Society officers for 2018 are listed below, along with their contact information.

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

Orders for Mills Magic Mix

Orders for Mills Magic Mix, Mills Easy Feed, and other Beaty Fertilizer Company products will be taken by phone or at our March meeting. Please call Gary or Monica (304-697-0321) if you are interested in ordering **Mills Fertilizers or other products by March 20, 2018**. You can also send your order by e-mail to Valentov@marshall.edu or Rankin@marshall.edu.

Mills Magic Mix is an excellent organic fertilizer. The components of Mills Magic Mix include: alfalfa meal, bone meal, fish meal, sewer sludge and cottonseed meal. One 20-pound bag will feed either 30 large roses or 60 miniatures one time. It is best to feed your roses Mills Magic Mix in the Spring and give another feeding in

mid-July. Feeding two times adds organic matter to the soil and provides a slow, non-burning feeding of your roses. Mills Magic Mix when applied in the Spring helps increase microbial activity in the soil. Each bag will cost **\$19.00**, if we can get an order of 50 bags. We will once again combine our order with the Charleston Rose Society in order to get 50 bags. This is a **big** savings from the normal retail price of **\$29** for one 20# bag. That is a savings of \$10/bag and our cost includes shipping provided you order through the society!!

We also will take orders for Mills Easy Feed liquid. This is a complete formula that can be used to fertilize your roses and contains magnesium and fish emulsion components. The cost of Mills Easy Feed half gallon is \$14.40 for 1/2 gallon (feeds 128 roses at a level of 1 TBSP/gallon water) and \$26.00 for a gallon. Rosemania.com is selling a gallon for \$39.99. We will try to get the Mills Magic Mix and Easy Feed delivered by the April meeting.

Other products that are available include:

- Alfalfa meal (50#, \$28.10)
- Blood Meal (50# \$72.50)
- Bone Meal steamed (50#, \$38.50)
- Fish Meal (50#, \$67.50)
- Green Sand(40# \$20.50)
- Worm Castings (40#, \$21.00)

Fish emulsion (1 gal, \$13.80)
 Humic Acid (1 gal, \$14.00)
 Fish and Seaweed (1 gal, \$23.00)
 Liquid Seaweed (1 gal, \$22.80)
 Super Thrive (1 pint, \$30.00)
 Super Thrive (1 quart, \$50.00)

Beaty Fertilizer Company is BloomKote. BloomKote is a 16-18-14 time release fertilizer plus minors formulated to specifically feed roses for four (4) months. A 20# tub is \$34.00 (1 cup/rose, feeds 35 roses). A 40# tub is \$70.00. The Rose Starter Fertilizer (11-40-6 with minors) is \$18.00 for a 20# bag. A time release 17-17-17 that feeds for 8 months is \$67.50 for a 50# bag.

☞ **Thank you to our 2018 Royal Contributors** ☞

The Society would like to express a deep and sincere **thank you** to our members who have become Rose Patrons of our Society by contributing amounts above their regular dues.

Queen

Gary Rankin/Monica Valentovic

King

Jiang Liu and Fang Bai

Princess

Phyllis McFadden
 Bill and Linda Owens
 John David Powell

Prince

Bill and Oleta Dolen
 John and Diana Fleek

2018 ROSE SOCIETY DUES ☞

It is time to renew your membership for 2018. Membership dues remain at \$8 for individual and \$12 for a family membership. The renewal form is included in this newsletter. Send your dues to: Monica Valentovic, Treasurer, 109 Cedar Court, Lavalette, WV 25535.

The Society is also seeking additional donors to help defray the yearly costs incurred by the Society. The levels of donation are denoted as: Queen, King, Princess and Prince levels. Donations at the Prince (\$1-25); Princess (\$26-50), King (\$51-99) and Queen (\$100 or more) levels will be acknowledged in our newsletter. Remember that our rose society is a 501 C-3 non-profit organization and any donations are tax deductible.

Howard Walters' Sayings

One of my Christmas presents from Monica last year was a book entitled *Rosarian Ramblings, Howard Walters: Through the Years*. The book is a collection of his articles in the *American Rose* magazine, including his "Thought for the Month". Here is his thought for March, 1971: *There's a great deal of difference between good, sound reasons and reasons that sound good.* This is still true today!

2018 MEMBERSHIP IN THE HUNTINGTON ROSE SOCIETY

NAME(S) _____

ADRESS _____

CITY _____ **STATE** _____ **ZIPCODE** _____

PHONE NUMBER _____ **E-MAIL** _____

Make checks payable to Huntington Rose Society and mail to:

CHECK ONE

_____ **SINGLE \$8**

Monica Valentovic, 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)

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The Thorny Bush
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