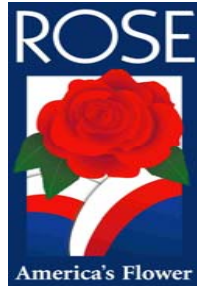


Shenandoah Rose Society
Shenandoah Rose Ramblings
*Dedicated to promoting the Rose and helping
 People with their Rose problems.*



Volume 9 No. 2 March 2006

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Web Site	www.colonialdistrictroses.org	

March Meeting

The March meeting of the Shenandoah Rose Society will be the Colonial District Pre-Spring meeting held at Holiday Inn March 10 & 11.

Last Call for Dues!

If you have not paid your dues for 2006 there is still time. They are \$12.00 and may be mailed to Meredith Yeago, 2926 Hermitage Rd., Waynesboro, VA 22980-6446

Pre-Spring District Meeting

For the Love and Beauty of The Rose



Plans are completed, the count down has started, the registrations are coming in and the nail biting has begun. We have had some



excellent planning sessions and the help of many members. About 14 members have regularly attended the planning meetings and assisted in decision making. We have a long list of raffle and auction prizes, the meals have planned, the table decorations will be picked up and the speakers are all confirmed.

We could always use more items for raffle and auction. Baked goods do well for either. If you would like to bake a pan of cookies, a cake or a pie, it is welcome. If you have an item that Aunt Gertrude gave you for Christmas that you have no idea what to do with – it will make a good raffle or auction item. If you would like to donate some of these items you may contact Al Minutolo 434- 823-1092 sminutolo@aol.com or Charles Shaner 540-885-4778 clshaner@mindspring.com .

We have three vendors so far that will set up and be selling their wares. Almost Heaven Roses will be present. We will also have The Rose Garden owned and operated by Margarie Morstein. Margarie is a member of the Greater Atlanta Rose Society, her web site, www.rosegardensbyryan.com selling gloves, pruners, Messenger®, etc. and a booth by our own Frank Van Lenten with Monty’s Joy Juice.

Friday night will be a fun night with Rose Trivia by Charles Shaner and Rita Van Lenten. This will not only be fun but educational as we explore the rose with Greek, Roman and Arabic legend and mythology combined with some modern day rose facts.

Plan to attend these meetings. It is an experience that is well worth while and a highly educational weekend. The full registration fee covers all your meals (4 of them) at the Holiday Inn. We are the home team. Let’s make a good showing.

What Do I Do With My Roses Now?

By Charles Shaner

This is going to end up being a very hard winter on roses. We had such a warm January bring up the sap in the canes and I even had some trying to leaf out. That did not last. February showed an ugly face with bitter cold temperatures. This will cause the canes to freeze and bust opening the way for canker. You

remember canker – it causes those terrible looking black canes that die back.

Canker is a fungus that enters the cane by way of breaks and lesions in the cane. I would highly recommend the first day we have that you can get out and do so, too spray your roses with a dormant spray such as Volk Oil. The oil will act as a sealant to the cane and help to prevent the canker from entering. As a dormant spray you may use as much as 5 tablespoons per gallon. Do not use it this heavy after the canes leaf out and the temperatures are above 70 degrees.

If you have not ordered roses for this year, there is still time. Most of the nurseries still have some in stock but some varieties may be limited. In a few weeks you may also purchase roses from the local garden centers.

Start putting together your game plan for this year. Beds will need to be mulched, pruning will need to be done, check out your spray equipment for proper operation and what about your supply of sprays?

A little planning now will lead to a much better growing season for you and your roses. Treat them right and they will reward you!

Rose Trivia

Banquets of Roses – At the banquets of ancient Rome, the tables and food were covered in rose petals, and the stores of the *rosarii*, the florists who specialized in roses, were as popular as those of the butchers and bakers. Roses were made into garlands and wound around goblets for the purpose of a toast called “drinking the wreaths.” The petals were scattered into the wine and were imbedded with the liquid. The Romans also loved a type of alcoholic drink obtained by macerating roses and other plants in must. They also made a sauce called *rosatum*, created by macerating fresh rose petals, renewed three times a day for seven days, to which honey was added. This was used to flavor fish or game stews with an extravagant richness of flavor. Pliny the Elder tells how “a number of elegant dishes arrived on the table, sprinkled with rose petals or soaked in their liquid which does absolutely no harm to meats and gives them a good flavor.”

A question immediately arises concerning the use of roses in cookery. Which types of rose should be considered? The connoisseurs are unanimous on this point. The best roses for cookery are from the garden, preferably dark-color (red or dark pink) and of the old-fashioned type (which retain their color for quite a long time) and, of course, heavily scented. *Rosa gallica*, the damask rose, the moss rose or the centiflora all give excellent results. They must be picked early in the morning and must be fully opened, and fragrant. The gourmets will tell you that roses bought from the florist for this purpose will always disappoint. But take, for example, the wild rose, *Rosa rugosa*, which is deep red, pink, or white. It has an exquisite scent and is as delicious to eat as it is to smell.

As for the cultivated roses, the varieties developed by David Austin, especially “Gertrude Jekyll” and “Constance Spry” are highly recommended. Many others are also delicious. These include “Tiffany”, “New Dawn”, and “Charles de Mills”, as well as “Papa Meiland” and Madame Isaac Pereire”. The ideal moment to pick the petals is early on a warm, sunny morning in July or August. Before using the petals, the white part at the base must be trimmed away, as it tastes bitter. The best way to do this is to hold all the petals of a rose in one hand and expose the white part by twisting them. Then clip out the white part with a pair of scissors held in the other hand.

Alice Caron Lambert, a world expert in floral flavors, and the author of more than four hundred recipes based on edible flowers, has performed research into flavors based on eighty-seven rose cents, twenty-five types of rose hips and two type of rose leaf. “They are fruity, peppery, musky, floral, woody, lemony, spicy and amber scents”, she explains, “all of which taste delicious in cookery.”

Buying a New Rose?

By Charles Shaner

If you are planning to purchase new roses this year, you have much to consider when you go to make your purchase. What

color do I want - do I want a hybrid tea, grandiflora, miniature, floribunda, Miniflora and where do I get it?

First, if you want a good quality rose you must start with good quality stock. I was in a local store recently and they already had rose bushes for sale. These were the “package” rose and, being out this early, you will be lucky if you can even get them to grow. I purchased one of these several years ago to use as a demonstration as to what not to buy. Did you ever wonder how they get all those roots in that little package? It is easy – they cut them off! A rose can’t grow without roots. With much tender loving care, I was able to get this one to grow and then the next problem appeared. It was supposed to be a *First Prize*. I do not know what I have but one thing for sure is that it is not a First Prize. It is the wrong color and form. When you buy these roses, you do not know what you are getting.

Purchasing “box” roses is a different story – these are good roses but they take a little different care in the beginning. Disregard the planting instruction on the package. You will want to remove the plant from the package and plant it as a bare root rose. The intent was for the box to be planted in the ground with the rose to make planting easier and for the box to decay in the ground. What actually happens is that the roots of the rose grow faster than the box decays and the plant becomes root bound. Remove these plants from the box and plant them as a bare root rose and they will do very well. You may want to purchase these early in the season.

Good quality potted roses are your best bet for local purchasing. These may be found at any of the local garden centers such as Waynesboro Landscape, Millmount in Stuarts Draft or Farm Bureau. You may also find good quality plants at Lowe’s or Home Depot.

If you are ordering roses, you want to have them delivered around the first of April as most of these will arrive bare root. I would suggest you note on the order form “For delivery after April 1”. One year I did not do this and my roses arrived – bare root – on March 15 when it was 19 degrees and the snow flying. I may suggest that you pot these roses and nurse them along for at least

six weeks before putting them in the ground. I have found they will do much better this way and you can actually gain one bloom cycle the first season. This will buy you some time in getting them in the ground as potted roses may be planted anytime. Bare root roses must be either potted or planted in the ground within a day or two of arrival. In our area, you must have a bare root rose in the ground no later than May 31 so it will have time to become established by fall. By potting a bare root rose, you have extended the time you have to get it in the ground.

The same may be said for moving a rose. I have many people ask me when is the best time to move a rose? The prime time is from April 1 to May 31. When you move a rose, you do major disturbance to the root system. It is impossible to get all the roots when you dig it up so the root system must re-establish. If you move the rose in April or May the roots will have time to re-establish before winter and your plant will have a better chance for survival.

SRS Consulting Rosarians

Meredith Yeago	Waynesboro	540-943-7874
Robert (Bob) Holsinger	Staunton	540-886-8783
Charles Shaner	Staunton	(H) 540-886-3133 (W) 540-885-4778
Polly Holston	Staunton	540-886-8551
Frank Van Lenten	Fishersville	540-942-7875
Rita Van Lenten	Fishersville	540-942-7875
John Crowley	Wintergreen	434-361-1733
Raymond Shipley	Lavale, MD	301-729-8271

Know Someone Who Wants To Join?



If you know a friend or neighbor that would like to join Shenandoah Rose Society, just give them the form on page 7 and invite them to our meeting. Let’s see how many new members we can get this year.

Shenandoah Rose Society Membership Application

_____ **New**
_____ **Renewal**

The Shenandoah Rose Society is an educational, non-profit, non-professional organization dedicated to serving all those in this area who enjoy roses. Its purpose is to assist and encourage the amateur gardener. Membership may include one or two persons residing at the same address.

Dues are \$12.00/year and include 10 issues of the Shenandoah Rose Ramblings newsletter, 7 educational meetings during the year and one rose exhibition. We also have one picnic in July and a banquet in November (dutch treat).

All members of the Shenandoah Rose Society are encouraged (but not required) to have membership in the American Rose Society. (P.O. Box 30000, Shreveport, La. 71130-0030. ARS dues are \$37.00/year (\$34.00 for persons 65 and over) and include 11 issues of the American Rose Magazine, the Rose Annual and the yearly Handbook for Selecting Roses.

Dues are payable in October for the succeeding calendar year.

PLEASE PRINT THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

I ENCLOSE \$_____ for membership in the Shenandoah Rose Society for the year beginning January 1st., and ending December 31st.

Name _____

Address _____

Street, Route, or P.O. Box City State Zip

E-Mail _____

Telephone Number: Home _____

Work: _____

Make checks payable to Shenandoah Rose Society and mail to Meredith E. Yeago, 2926 Hermitage Rd., Waynesboro, Va. 22980-6446 or give to a society member.