

Red River Rose Society Newsletter

Volume 1

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The Red River Rose Society is a local, nonprofit organization affiliated with the ARS and dedicated to the study, enjoyment, enhancement, cultivation, and promotion of the rose.

RRRS Meetings

The Red River Rose Society meets the third Tuesday of each month (except Jul & Aug) in the Denison Public Library meeting room at 7:00 pm.

If you have questions/concerns about your roses you can email

rosemedic@cablone.net . Your inquiry will be forwarded to an expert for an answer.

“Ask the Expert” will be held from 6:30 to 7:00pm prior to our monthly meeting. Bring your questions, cuttings to share, or just come to cuss & discuss.

THERE WILL NOT BE A RRRS MEETING IN DECEMBER!!!

Next RRRS Meeting: Jan 20, 2009, 7:00 pm. Dr John Allen will speak on “Grafted vs Own Root Roses.”

Red River Rose Society

NOVEMBER 2008 MEETING RECAP

Speaker: Jack Walters, owner and operator of Kimbrew-Walters Nursery, introduced us to *Hybridizing 101*. This task involves much attention to detail and patience. Before you start hybridizing you must decide what characteristic you want: form, color, disease resistance, etc. But give it a try— you may produce the next Knockout type success. Jack also touched on the three best (depending where you live) root stocks—multiflora, Dr Huey, and Fortuniana. Jack brought some inventory for our purchasing pleasure. Sue Abernathy will really be stylish in her new garden boots!

Activities/Information/Announcements:

1. New Membership Applications: We need to actively recruit new members. Remind all your friends that the American Rose Society is offering a 4-month trial membership to all new members of local rose societies. Nancy Grella will submit their info to ARS when they join they RRRS.

2. Society Membership: 42

3. Attendance: 21

Finances: As of 31 October: \$350.32 cash on hand and \$1,160.75 in the bank for a total of \$1,511.07. Just a gentle reminder – pay your 2009 RRRS dues. For those who anted up last night, much thanks.

4. **Joe Abernathy's Shear Sharpening Service:**

5. **Continuing Education Hours: 1 hour** can be reported to GCMG.

6. **Jerry Haynes headed up the Nominating Committee. He delivered a slate of wonderful (am I little prejudice or what?) candidates. The results of tonight's election are:**

Sue Abernathy: President

Richard McGowan: First Vice President

Jerry Haynes: Second Vice President

June Boyett: Secretary

Nancy Grella: Treasurer

And rounding out the group who help make the RRRS such a blooming success:

Bill Cashin: Events Coordinator

Carole Mainwaring & Linda Mortimer: Newsletter Editors

Carole Mainwaring: Consulting Rosarian

7. **We also selected a name for the RRRS Newsletter: *Roses on the Red Watch* out Herald Democrat!**

8. **Carole Mainwaring volunteered to take on the task of updating and expanding our rose binder. She sent RRRS members, through email, for your input. So, if you haven't responded yet....get with it. Carole would like your input by December 15th. She hopes to have the new product ready in January 2009. If you need the forms again let me know.**

9. **I want to personally thank everyone for making the ARS Calendar sale a success. All the calendars have sold. The profit from this sale is \$216.90.**

10. **We also had a special guest with us last night – Kathy Harris made the trek from Dallas to attend the meeting. Kathy is the President of the Dallas Rose Society. She is also a member of the Red River Rose Society—thanks for your support Kathy!**

Raffle Winner: Jerry Haynes received "Overnight Scentation". The raffle for the library roses will be discontinued thru the winter months. Start again when the roses bloom again!

Drawing Winners: Jack Walters, with his signature mark of generosity, donated nine roses for the drawing. The winners were:

Linda Mortimer – *Rainbow's End*

Sandra Haynes - *Scentsational*

Gerald Frimann – *Memphis Magic*

Phyllis Lawrence - *Moonlight Scentsation*

Sue Abernathy - *Y2K*

June Boyett – *Amy Grant*

Carole Linsteadt – *Autumn Splendor*

Ed Supina – *Memphis Magic*

Ann Supina - *Knockout*

Other Drawing Winners include: Terry Irvin and Charles Hall took home "Jean Kenneally" miniatures and Carole Linsteadt received a copy of the ARS magazine.

Enjoy this upcoming holiday season. I wish you *Faith* to light the darkened sky...*Strength* to carry on...*Love* to touch and heal the soul...and *Hope* to grace the dawn.

Nancy Grella, Your Humble Servant

LOOKING AHEAD

Jan 20, 2009 – RRRS meeting 7:00 pm. Dr. John Allen, topic is: Grafted vs Own Root Roses.

Feb 17, - RRRS meeting. The popular Mark Steljes from Tulsa, probably speaking on anything and everything roses.

Mar 17 – RRRS meeting. Claude Graves on: “Growing Easy Tea’s and Easy Hybrid Tea Test Gardens.”

April 24 & 25 – CCRS Garden Tour, Sat & Sun.

April 25 – Dallas Rose Show. Sunday at the Arboretum.

May 19 – RRRS meeting. Mike Becker on the docket.

June 16 – RRRS meeting. Owner of Wayside Flowers will give a presentation on Flower Arranging.

Oct 17 – Chambersville Rose Dango.

Oct 18 – Dallas Rose Show. Sunday at Farmers Branch Senior Ctr.

South Central District Winter Workshop and Consulting Rosarian School Saturday, March 7, 2009 Tulsa, OK

**Schedule of Events: Friday, March 6, 2009 7:00 – 9:00 PM Reception Radisson Hotel,
Tulsa Airport**

Saturday, March 7, 2009 – *Horticulture Sessions*

7:30 AM Registration Opens

8:00 AM Opening Remarks – Ed Bradley

8:10 AM Soils - John Kahre

8:50 AM Break

9:00 AM Chemical Safety - Jolene Adams

9:50 AM Break

10:00 AM Fertilizers - Baldo Villegas

10:50 AM Break

11:00 AM New Rose Introductions – Susan Barry

NOON Lunch Break

1:00 PM Hybridizing & New Multi Floral Roses - Whitt Wells

1:50 PM Break

2:10 PM Bugs and pests - Baldo Villegas

3:00 PM Break

3:15 PM Diseases - Baldo Villegas

4:00 PM Break – Silent Auction Results Announced

4:10 PM Consulting Rosarian Exam

Saturday, March 7, 2009 – Arrangements Sessions - Lew Shupe and Gary Barlow 7:30 AM Registration Opens

8:00 AM Arrangements Workshop Begins Instructors will schedule breaks

NOON Lunch Break 1:00 PM Arrangements Workshop Continues Instructors will schedule breaks

4:00 PM Workshop concludes

The Arrangements Workshop is designed as a full day workshop and you will miss important information if you try attending portions of the Horticulture sessions. All materials for the arrangements will be provided but you should plan on bringing your tool box with cutting tools and things you have found helpful in the construction of arrangements. If you have a container you do not know how to use bring it for some ideas from the experts. Door prizes will be awarded during the breaks.

The silent auction will close at 3:15 PM and the winners announced at 4:00 PM.

December RRRS Consulting Rosarian's Report

Carole Mainwaring

I would rather have roses on my table than diamonds on my neck.

Emma Goldman (1869–1940)

'Tis the season for giving and receiving. Our roses have blessed us with their beauty and fragrance for many months and now are ready for a short Texas winter's nap. While they may not have put diamonds on our necks, they have certainly given us beautiful memories to tide us through the long winter nights ahead. We may still find blooms to bring to the table for a few more weeks, but most of our bushes should be going dormant. We can turn our attention at this time of year to holiday festivities with a clear conscience that our roses are well-bedded, watered, and staked to withstand any Blue Northers that come our way.

Reflect and Resolve

December is a great month to begin planning for 2009. Which roses do you want to buy, which do you want to keep, which need to be moved to a better location in the garden, and which need to be shovel pruned? If visions of new roses have been dancing in your head lately, then where will you buy and plant them this spring? Do you have room for more rose beds? There is no room at the rose inn for new roses in my garden; hence, a rose must come out for a new one to be planted each year. I shovel prune roses that grow poorly, show virus, or do not live up to my expectations. Ask yourself what you are trying to achieve in the garden: Do you want all fragrant roses, a garden with roses mixed with other flowers in color coordinated beds, all hybrid teas, all David Austins, all old garden roses, all EarthKind roses, etc? If you do shovel prune a rose bush, see if you can pot it and give it away to another rose grower or donate it to a rose society for a raffle item. My garden has roses that I won in raffles which are doing great in my soil and microclimate. Add name tags to all your roses as you plant them so that you will remember their names. Choose something permanent for name tags so you don't have to keep replacing them. I use AAA Quality Engravers from New Orleans (504-361-3944 <http://www.gardeneureka.com/AAAQU/default.htm>) because the markers look very nice and are permanent.

One of the most important things you can do for your garden is be its advocate. Only you know what really works in your own back yard. Like raising children, there are a lot of "experts" in the rose field who may give advice that just doesn't make sense for your garden or for you. Be bold and sift through the advice--follow what works for you and discard the rest. Grow the roses you like for the reasons you have and ignore any rose snobs who put down a certain rose or class. The most wonderful aspect of roses, in my opinion, is that they are so varied. There truly is a rose for every taste!

Relocate

As you complete your winter protection, keep a list of the roses you might want to relocate in the garden. Your reason for moving a rose bush may be to give the bush more room to grow. It could be that you crowded too many roses into a bed causing too little light to reach each bush or too much disease to be present. Relocating roses should take place when the roses are dormant and ground is workable. Late January or early February is the ideal time for transplanting roses in our area. It is best to move roses before the buds begin to swell in the spring. You want the plant to direct its energies to growing new roots prior to growing leaves. I usually move roses in early February before I start pruning. The day before you move a bush water the ground around the bush well to make digging easier and to fill the plant's cells with water. This will help avoid transplant shock. The following day dig a circle all around the dripline of the bush with a shovel being careful to dig down as deep as possible to get as many roots as you can. Pop the bush up and check it carefully the same way you would a bare root rose bush. Trim away all damaged roots. (If the roots are diseased, throw the bush away!) Immediately plant the bush like you would a bare root rose being sure that the roots don't dry out. Be sure the top of the bush is cut back to match the roots. If your bush is very large or has been in the same location for a long time, you may need to cut a circle in the soil 18-24 inches around the bush a month or so before you move the bush to a new spot. This will force the bush to grow new roots closer to the base of the bush. Then when you move it from the ground, you will be able to move more roots with the bush. Water your bush after you move it, but be careful not to over water while it is getting established. You can use a root stimulator fertilizer when you transplant, but be careful not to use strong fertilizers that could burn/kill the new feeder roots which will be growing. Keep lots of mulch around the bush the first year to conserve water and cut down on weeds.

Prepare

If you are among the fortunate few, you will find more space in your yard for another bed or two of roses. Fall is a great time to prepare the soil for planting in the spring. First perform a soil test to see what kind of soil you have. Kill or remove all the grass growing on top of the soil and then remove all the grass roots from the soil. Dig down to a depth of at least one foot and mix in 6-8 inches of organic material (compost, aged manure, and/or peat moss) and adjust the pH if needed for each 100 square feet of bed area. Another reference point is to add 25% by volume of organic matter to the native soil. Next

let the bed mellow for a couple of months and perform a soil test again to see if you need to make any adjustments to the pH or add any other nutrients. Letting the bed mellow helps prevent fresh organic matter from burning the roots of new bushes. Adding 4 cups of alfalfa meal to the above is also suggested by some rosarians. Be sure that your bed is able to provide excellent drainage. This may mean that you have to prepare raised beds. Materials to avoid in making raised beds are creosote cross-ties or timbers that are less than several years old. One of the sites I found on rose bed preparation that was very informative was Ed Bradley's article for Texas A&M. He was the first person who mentioned fortuniana rootstock to me.

<http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/plantanswers/publications/roses/rosebedprep/>

He definitely put a LOT of time and thought into preparing his rose beds!

Protect

Don't forget to water your roses during the cold winter months—especially before a freeze. I will spray my roses right after the New Year with lime sulfur and dormant oil to prevent diseases and kill insects that are overwintering.

Commend

One rose that has been nominated as a top 10 favorite rose by several of the RRRS members is a great rose for December: **Peace**. One reason Jerry Haynes nominated Peace was because he and Sandra were in the Peace Corps. I nominate it because of its amazing history. Peace is quite simply the most famous rose in the world. Known as Mme A. Meilland in France, Gloria Dei in Germany, and Gioia in Italy, it was hybridized by Francis Meilland of France. At the end of WWII and upon the inauguration of the United Nations, it was named Peace. Peace is a hybrid tea with flowers that are golden yellow edged in rose pink. The blooms are enormously large (up to 6 inches), and the fragrance is slight and sweet. The foliage is large and very dark. Peace has a vigorous, tall, bushy growth. It has won many awards including The World Federation of Rose Societies (WFRS) in 1976 and the AARS in 1946.



Peace Photo: Jackson & Perkins

RRRS Roses

Please help us update our list of all roses grown by the Red River Rose Society members. This list will then be distributed to new and continuing members with the goal of aiding members in their search for new roses to grow in their own gardens. To make this task as easy as possible, you are requested to:

- list all the roses you grow,
- make comments about each one **only** if you wish to do so and have the time, AND

list your top ten favorite roses.

You can complete this form and snail mail it to:

Carole Mainwaring
773 CR 2045
Ravenna, TX 75476

OR

you can email the form to me at:

cmainwak5@verizon.net

cmainwak5@aol.com

Thank you for your help!