



A local, nonprofit organization affiliated with the American Rose Society (ARS) and dedicated to the study, enjoyment, enhancement, cultivation and promotion of the Rose.

<http://redriverrosesociety.com>

<http://www.ars.org>

2009 and 2010 ARS Bulletin Contest Gold Medal Winner

March 2014

Vol. 5 Number 3

President's Corner

Sandra Haynes

Is winter over or will we have freezing temperatures until April? Too bad we cannot grab some chilly air and keep it for August. If you missed last meeting, it certainly was entertaining and we learned a lot about bird houses and bat houses. If you have too many mosquitoes then your best bet is a bat house. And another plus, the fertilizer you get is free.

Our March meeting will also be very informative. Pam Smith will be talking about landscaping with Roses. The Farmer's Branch rose gardens are in the process of getting a new 'look' with major changes in the landscaping. Here is a message from Pam, describing the changes and it sounds like a RRRS 'Garden Trip' this spring.

Purple Rain – Kordes
Photo by Chamblee's Nursery



**DON'T FORGET TO SEND YOUR ROSE ORDERS TO ME ASAP.
THANKS**

Greetings to all!

Exciting things have been going on in the gardens. The roses have been pruned - THANKS to all who helped. The arches are going up as I write. Benches were added last week. All four water features donated by the Farmers Branch Woman's Club are installed and running. The new class of trial roses in the Jeff Fuller garden have been arriving and going into the ground. The French roses have been planted. The beds have been added prepped in preparation for the David Austin Trial. This includes the bed complete with fencing for the climbers. Adopt -A - Bed markers are a little out of sorts (but keep on weeding!). We need additional support in the garden so if you want to take on more beds or have a friend wanting to help, let me know. I know some of you have asked and now would be a good time to confirm that request.

WOW that's a lot of happenings!

Pam Smith

Consulting Rosarian Report for February

By Kathy Harris, CR

January in the DFW area usually finds us cold and not doing much in the garden except insuring the roses have enough water, either from the sky or from the hose. They continue to need to have about 1 inch of water per week. I usually sit by the fire and contemplate which roses will go and which rose I want to buy. I love looking at the catalogues and dreaming of roses.

This all changes in February when so much time and hard work is required in the garden before spring bloom can begin.

The typical and time honored tradition for pruning roses in the Dallas/Fort Worth area is February 14th. Love and roses. Is there anything better? I usually START around this date, beginning with my old garden roses. The

entire project usually takes 2 – 3 weekends. If you are unsure of your ability to prune, you can go to the Farmers Branch rose gardens and practice on the roses there on February 8th. Pam Smith welcomes all volunteers.

Roses like to be pruned; they perform better with increased vigor and larger flowers. It is hard to damage the plant if common sense is used.

Examine the rose bush from the ground and start by cutting out the dead canes first. Cut them as close to the ground or bud union as possible. This allows more room for brand new canes just waiting to emerge.

Cut away all the canes that cross over the center of the plant or rub against other canes or are seriously crowding each other.

Once again, cut them close to the ground or bud union. You have already put a serious dent in the pruning process. Decide how tall or how short you want the bush to be. I usually prune down to 1/2 off most roses, less for Fortuniana rootstock roses. Remember, YOU are in charge and YOU can make it as short or as tall as YOU want it to be. Some Old Garden Roses do not like to be pruned heavily, especially Tea Roses that will sulk and be stingy with their flowers to punish you.

When you have decided how tall you want the rose, find an out-facing bud eye on each cane and cut about 1/4 " above the bud eye at a 45 degree angle. (see photo) If you cannot find an appropriate bud eye anywhere close, cut it all off. Then move to the next cane.

Be sure to remove small, twiggy growth. I usually cut off stems smaller than a pencil. Small stems produce small flowers on short, spindly stems. It is ok to be kind of ruthless following the small stems rule. You want big flowers on stems big and strong enough to support them.

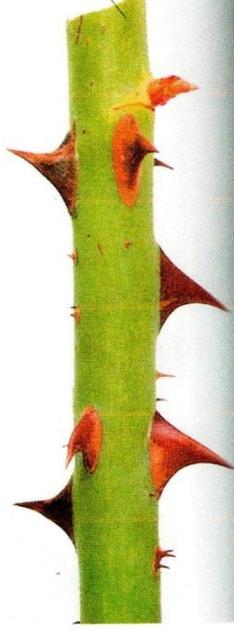
Clean up, water, fertilize, spray (if desired), mulch a good layer and wait for beautiful blooms!

WHERE TO MAKE THE CUT

This cut has been made far too close to the bud. Once the bud has grown, it will blow out in the wind due to lack of adequate support.



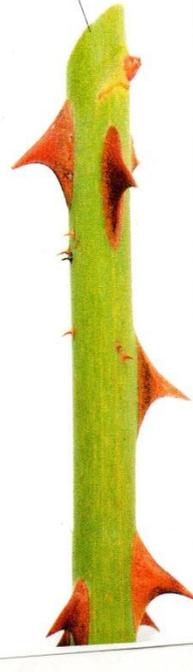
In this example, the length of wood left on the branch above the bud is far too long. The stem will 'die back' and harbor disease spores.



A jagged cut means that your secateurs are not sharp. Damaged wood will create a haven for small insects and other creatures.



This is the ideal length to aim for when pruning. The slanted cut will soon heal up and the bud will develop into a strong branch.



Editor note, pictures that came with the article I was unable to copy. These pictures should give you a good idea of the pruning. Remember Kathy lives in a warmer climate than we do. I would be as sure as you can be to wait until the last freeze date, to start pruning your roses. This year probably means sometime after March 15th.
Printed from an article in Rose Petals DRS with the permission of Kathy Harris

**The Red River Rose Society will meet on March 18th at the Denison Library.
Starting at 6:30 p.m.**

**Our Speaker Pam Smith will present
Landscaping with Roses**

Join us at Tuscan Slice at 4:45 or as soon as you can, for a relaxing, delicious, fun meal.



Star of the Republic

This rose is a peach, apricot color with an old fashion quarter form. The bloom is medium to large, very full (41 plus petals) mostly a solitary bloom. It has a spring flush with scattered later blooms on tall spreading almost thornless canes. It can be pruned from 5 to 8 feet. The foliage is semi-glossy, dark green which makes a lovely frame for these outstanding flowers. The fragrance is medium to strong (depending on your nose). Mike Shoup is the hybridizer.

Photos by Mike Shoup, Antique Rose Emporium



The Red River Rose Society

Officers

President	Sandra Haynes 260 Forest Meadow Drive Gunter, TX 75058 201-861-1066		shaynes@solbroadband.com
Vice President	Kay Karns	505-205-5843	kaykarns@yahoo.com
Secretary	Martha Mangrum	903-815-5790	martha.mangrum@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Harriet Steward	903-465-8628	hsteward@cablone.net
Past President	Jerry Haynes	201-601-1066	jhaynes@solbroadband.com
<u>Hospitality</u>	Meg Mayes	903-465-5769	mayesmeg@hotmail.com
<u>Editor</u>	Sandra Haynes	201-861-1066	shaynes@solbroadband.com
<u>Photographer</u>	Gerald Frimann	903-813-1318	jerrfrim@verizon.net
<u>Publicist</u>	Richard McGowan	903-463-7421	RJMC@cablone.net
<u>CR Coordinator</u>	Bill Cashin	940-464-3068	billcashin@verizon.net

Ask a Consulting Rosarian

Sue Abernathy	903-523-5029	sueellen07@verizon.net
Bill Cashin	940-464-3068	billcashin@verizon.net
Gerald Frimann	903-813-1318	jerrfrim@verizon.net
Claude Graves	972-234-5184	claudegraves@att.net
Nancy Grella	903-868-9811	nancygrella@verizon.net
Kathy Harris	972-620-1131	kharris747@yahoo.com
Jerry Haynes	210-601-1066	jhaynes@solbroadband.com
Sandra Haynes	210-861-1066	shaynes@solbroadband.com
Carole Mainwaring	972-985-8316	cmainwak5@aol.com

Consulting Rosarians are rose growers who have met the qualifications set by the ARS and are there to help you with your rose growing questions. Call on them when you have a need!

Disclaimer – The advice and information presented in *Roses on the Red* are believed to be true and accurate, but its Editor, the Red River Rose Society nor any Member thereof can accept responsibility for any errors or omissions. The Red River Rose Society makes no warranty, expressed or implied, with respect to the material contained herein.

Subscriptions are available through membership in the Society. Membership is available to any person interested in growing roses. The newsletter is published 4 times a year and is emailed to all members. Monthly meetings are held in the Denison Public Library, 300 W Gandy, Denison, TX 75020 (903-465-1797) at 6:30pm.

Dues are \$20.00 per household per calendar year and checks made out to the River Red Rose