



A Publication of the Bowling Green Rose Society

Rosebuds

March 2011

E-mail: bgrs@insightbb.com

Next Meeting:
 March 4
 WC Extension Office
 6:30 p.m.
 Host: Ann Jacobs
 Program:
 Rose Photography
 Bob Jacobs

TENARKY—From the Winter Workshop—by Mary Ann Hext, CR

Another informative district workshop was held February 18-21 in Franklin, Tennessee. The workshops offered a variety of information for Tenarky rosarians and it was good to see so many in attendance, especially the “legends” whose names everyone recognizes even if you are still a “newbie” like me. Bob and Ann Jacobs and I represented BGRS.

I had a great seat near the front at the morning programs. Sitting next to me was Monty Justice, from the Louisville Rose Society, whose name is well known to me since I use his products. He shared some of his latest “experiments” with his products, so I hope I will hear the results by the fall meeting. In front of me were Jimmy and Evelyn Moser from the Memphis & Dixie Rose Society. I remembering

visiting their rose garden the first year I was a member of BGRS and attended the national convention in Memphis. Last fall I again met them at the district rose show. Behind me were Ted & Mary Alice Mills whom I have heard about many times and I always look forward to reading his articles in newsletters and the ARS magazine.

We were treated to some great speakers including Tom Siebert from Weeks Roses (who spoke at our rose show dinner last June). He updated us on their new roses and acquisition of some of the J&P roses. Carol Shockley from Arkansas gave us information on 2011 roses along with some great photos. Gary Rankin and Monica Valentic shared a wealth of information about products they have tested for the ARS. ARS Executive Director, Jeff



Ware, explained “Campaigning for the Grand American Rose Society,” which we will discuss at our March meeting. Pat Shanley, president of the Manhattan Rose Society, and ARS Marketing and Membership Committee Chair, presented information on a variety of topics. Sam Jones conducted the district business meeting; and we will discuss this at our meeting also.



President’s Corner by Kathy Dodson, CR

Spring fever—do you have it yet? It makes you want to get outside and poke around in the garden. But don’t uncover or prune the roses yet. There’s still quite a bit of winter left. We normally prune back the roses 45-50 days before our show. That would be April 1-6.

It was exciting to see everyone again last month. All of our members were present except for one who was unable to attend. Please invite several to our meeting this month. Even if they are not growing roses yet, they may catch some enthusiasm and embark on a great new hobby. Bob Jacobs will present

a good program on photography, and Ann is in charge of refreshments.

So make plans for our meeting, March 4, at the Warren County Extension office on Nashville Road. Refreshments and rose talk will be at 6:30 p.m. See you then.

ROSE GARDENING 101

Bob & Ann Jacobs

BGRS Consulting Rosarians

Saturday, April 17

9:00 a.m. - noon

Jacobs Home—Seminole Way

Sign up through BG-WC

Community Education

March Rose Tip

We have been out in the yard looking at our rose bushes and see the daffodils coming up. As anxious as we are to start uncovering the roses, it is too early. We heard years ago from a Consulting Rosarian, “Wait until you see the Forsythias bloom before you start your Spring work in your roses”. We feel this is a good formula to remember in our area. One thing we can all do now is to test the soil of our rose beds. Take the soil from three to four areas. Home testing kits can be used, but we have not had good luck with them working correctly. It is best to take your samples to the Co-op Extension Office. Having good soil in our rose beds is essential to having new and strong growth in the spring.

Bob & Ann Jacobs, Consulting Rosarians

Handy Products for Growing Roses *from Tenarky workshop notes of Mary Ann Hext*

One of the most informative and entertaining programs at the recent Tenarky Winter Workshop were Drs. Gary Rankin and Monica Valentovic, professors at Marshall University in Huntington, WVA, and very active members of the Huntington Rose Society. They are also members of the ARS Product Evaluation Committee which evaluates new rose care products to see if they are worthy of an ARS recommendation.

Some of the products and tips they shared follow:

- An adjustable rake to easily get between rose bushes available at Big Lots for \$3.99 (most had bought more expensive ones).
- Cheap single by-pass pruners for rose show prep—buy ones with colored handles as they are easier to find.
- Knife sharpener for pruners—his was from Ace Hardware for \$5.
- Use a Scotch Brite pad to remove the gunk off your pruners.
- Buy a cheap (\$1) spray bottle and put in it a mixture of Lysol concentrate (1 cap to 1 cup of water) to spray pruners as you work so you won't spread disease from rose to rose. This mixture will not rust the pruners.
- Purchase a carpenter's back brace from any hardware or home store to support your back while working the roses. It also has places to carry items. (He is modeling his in the photo.)
- Purchase goatskin gloves from Rosmania or The Rose Gardner to



keep from having cuts and scratches while working in roses. Mud gloves are great for wearing when spraying as are Cool gloves (have a rubber coating) and bionic gloves with tip pads help with hand problems. Neoprene or Nitril disposable gloves are also good for spraying as they don't absorb the chemicals.



- A headlight, available at sporting goods stores, is great for going to your rose garden at 3 a.m. before a rose show in search of the "queen."
- Bone meal, green sand, and worm casings are recommended to put in the hole before planting a new rose.
- Monty's Joy Juice (yellow then 2 weeks prior to a show change to orange)
- Other products to promote growth and blooms are Super Thrive and Response
- Use a cup full of Shultz Starter in a bucket of water when soaking bare root roses before planting
- Liquid Fence is great for repelling deer if sprayed every two weeks. They also carry rabbit repellent
- FreezeProof (also sold by Liquid Fence) is recommended for spraying roses in April when frost is predicted. Must spray six hours before the frost and cover the



leaves (both sides) and canes. It has glycerin in it and is expensive but will last 4 weeks. There was a problem with the sprayer but that has been corrected.

- Mills Magic Rose Mix and Mills Easy Feed were recommended as a good organic fertilizers.
 - Bayer All-in-One is recommended for rose growers with 10-15 roses. Granular can be used once per month and is a fungicide and insecticide. It is earthworm safe. Bayer Rose and Flower for insects is also food safe and kills Japanese beetles, aphids, thrips, and mites.
 - Immunox Plus is expensive but good for spot treatment for insects and diseases in small gardens. Keep sprayer 18" from flowers.
 - A book called "Good Bug, Bad Bug" is very helpful in identifying insects.
 - Jaz Rose Spray is useful in humid climates. It reduces heat stress and lessens the amount of watering. It is good for potted roses.
 - Monica's recipe for organic growers for spraying roses is:
 - 1 Tbs. of cooking oil (olive oil or canola oil)
 - 1 Tbs. dish detergent (Dawn lemon or orange—no ammonia) and
 - 1 Tbs. plain baking soda
 - 1 Gal. water
- Shake continuously to keep the oil and water mixed. This works as a fungicide and insecticide for aphids and spider mites. It changes the pH, and the oil prevents the fungus from getting into the leaves and smothers the mites.



Check the ARS website for other recommended products.

March 2010

What Good Rosarians Will be Doing in March *by Kent Campbell, CR*

March is an “in-between month.” It is unruly, neither winter nor spring it seems. The folk lore is “in like a lion, out like a lamb” or, heaven forbid, vice-versa. Also, March and early April usually provide short cold “snaps” to interrupt the gradual warming into spring. My grandma called them strawberry winter, blackberry, winter, and dogwood winter depending on what was in bloom.

Even though it is impractical to try to plan very far ahead, there are certain very important chores facing us. In this order, we must prune, feed, spray, and mulch. At the same time we should check the pH in our rose beds, and plant any new bushes we acquire.

Above, I mentioned that first comes pruning. This is the key to the entire summer, in regards to growing outstanding roses. The timing of spring pruning to have blossoms at their peak for a certain date is a very inexact science. It is, roughly, 45 to 55 days. Successful exhibitors in the mid-south say that at forsythia bloom or dogwood bloom is the “right” time to begin your pruning. My guess is that we are looking at the very end of March and/or early April to begin. March 29 is 55 days before our 2011 show, so do not become impatient and start too soon, even if in your pruning you have to cut out some new growth! If weather or other problems delay you, it is better to be a bit late than a little early!

Since spraying, feeding, and mulching will come in April, I will hold that discussion until the April issue of *Rosebuds*. Here, it is important to finish the subject of pruning.

In an effort to be in the peak of my first bloom cycle at show day, I begin cutting about 55 days prior to the show, depending on the weather!

What I am going to say about method is for Hybrid Teas, Grandifloras, miniatures and mini-floras, and floribundas. Shrubs, species roses, old garden type roses, climbers, and roses on fortuniana root stock require a slightly different approach, and will be discussed separately.

With the first group above, you should cut out all dead canes, all canes smaller than a pencil, and all canes of any size growing across other strong canes. This should open the bush, much like a deep bowl. Then cut the long, strong canes, a few inches at a time, down to white centers. As you cut, always cut at a slight angle, and to an outside bud. Do this to all canes on the bush and then re-trim the longest ones until all canes on the bush are the same height, even if you are cutting cans with white centers shorter. (Nature loves the strong and does nothing to assist the weak!) You should end up with a bush of only strong cans about 12 to 16 inches high. Small minis and mini-flora bushes, of course, should only be cut back to about half their height. But, they can go deeper into the canes if needed to get to white. Many rosarians maintain that it is important to seal the cut on top of the large canes with nail polish, Elmer’s Glue, or orange shellac.

I usually prune in the order that it takes plants to mature to their bloom cycle. Floribundas require the most time to produce the sprays you seek; start with them. Next do the minis and mini-floras as their bloom cycles last the longest. Finally, do the H-Teas and Grandifloras, from dark-colored, heavy petaled ones first to the light colored ones with a smaller number of petals last.

Species roses such as Chinas, shrubs, and polyanthas require a light

trim and shaping. If there are unruly or unproductive canes, they should be removed. Too severe a cut-back really slows these genres in development.

The same is true for bushes on fortuniana roots. They, however, seem to produce more dead wood than other bushes. I have two H-Teas on fortuniana that have produced massive, top heavy, bushy roses. The expert at our Nashville workshop last week told me to thin them out aggressively, as they are loaded with small canes and cut them back to about half their height. This I will do.

Climbers and Old Garden Roses are very special cases. I have none of these varieties and hesitate to give advice about them. Essentially, I have read that one should wait until after the first bloom cycle to do any trimming of climbers, as they bloom on one year old wood and you will be able to tell which canes these are. Then cut out old non-productive canes.

I have been told that old garden type roses should be treated much the same as climbers. Cut out dead wood and trim back lightly.

Finally (about time you say!) this is an important task. It should be done at the proper time, in decent weather, and with a good, unhurried attitude. It is a key to everything else!



A Conversation with Mama, circa 1943/44 — by Kent Campbell, CR

“Kent, get out there and pick those peas, and if you leave any ripe ones on the vine, I’ll take a switch to you. After that, hoe the two tallest rows of shelly beans.” “Ah, Mama, I hate those jobs. I have to wear my shoes ‘cause the rocks hurt my feet. And when you hoe, it’s just clang, clang, clang rock after rock. Why do you pick the rockiest corner in a field every time you change garden area?”

“Well, honey, there’re several reasons. Number one, your daddy don’t yell at me for taking a good corner of his wheat field or corn field. Number two is even though tough rocky soil is hard to work in, it makes a good garden. Rocks are cool and hold moisture, and if you notice, there are no

moles in my garden areas as there are in the rest of the field. Now get out there and do what I told you.”

Author’s note: The rocks we speak of here are called burr rocks. East Tennessee is loaded with them. They are the size of tea cups and smaller. Now, let us move forward about 60 years and a conversation with Whit Wells.

“Whit, why are these piles of large driveway type gravel around the area of your rose beds?” “Well, Kent, I keep mixing the gravel into areas to be planted. They hold moisture, help keep the soil cool, and moles won’t come around them.”

The old folks should have written a book!

PRUNING DAY AT BGRS PUBLIC ROSE GARDEN

APRIL 2, 2011

Meet at 9 a.m.

Bring your pruners!

Contact
Kathy Dodson
or
Bob Jacobs
for information

Pauline Matus’ Favorite Rose

Q. What is your favorite rose?

A. Right now my favorite rose is Queen Elizabeth because it is pretty.

Q. What type of rose is it?

A. It is a Grandiflora (the reason the classification was created, if I recall correctly.)

Q. Why is it your favorite?:

A. My garden is small. Altissimo is very nice for a smaller garden as it is the right size and easy to keep in bounds and train on a trellises. I love single flowers—they are so simple and elegant. rose shows.

Q. How long have you grown this rose?

A. We planted one in our first rose garden in Hayward, California, over 30 years ago.

Q. Why did you start growing this rose?

A. Once we decided to plant roses we went to Regan’s Nursery in Fremont, where they had a couple

of acres devoted to roses. They had 8’ x 8’ boxes made of 2 x 10’s filled with bare root roses lying on their sides and covered with sawdust. On a stake at the front of each box was a placard with a picture, name and description of the roses in the box. All of our original plants were selected from those pictures.

Q. What else can you tell me about this rose?

A. We had an Apollo, two Blaze on a horizontal trellis and another yellow on the front of the house. In a bed along the front walk we had the Queen Elizabeth, Tropicana, Honor, Chrysler Imperial, Mr. Lincoln, Fragrant Cloud and a couple of others I don’t recall. They did well considering our inexperience. Seems like powdery mildew was our biggest problem. No trouble with black spot or Japanese beetles.

My Favorite Rose



Photo: Google Images

Queen Elizabeth

- Hybridizer/Date: Walter Lammerts, USA 1954
- Fragrance: Mild
- ARS Color: Medium Pink
- Awards: Portland Gold Medal 1954, National Rose Society President's International Trophy 1955, AARS Winner 1955, American Rose Society Gold Medal 1957, Golden Rose Of The Hague 1968, World's Favorite Rose 1979.

Source: www.rose-roses.com

Choosing A Potted Rose—by *Baxter Williams (The Rosette, Published by Houston Rose Society, March 2011, Patsy Williams, Editor)*

There they stand, all in rows, with stems beginning to turn into buds and flowers. This spring there will be new color in your yard, especially since this nursery is one of those offering a ten percent discount to rose society members. Where to begin?

You already know the varieties that you wish to purchase, so the choice is between bushes in their pots. Oh, wow! They all look so good! What shall be the deciding factors?

Well, why not choose the best and the biggest? Look for the rose with the largest bud union and the longest, thickest canes. There maybe a choice

or two to make while comparing bushes, such as whether two large canes are better than three medium ones, or the fat bud union is to be preferred over one having more or larger canes.

My own ordering of priorities, lowest number being most-important, is--

1. Size of the bud union
2. Size and number of canes
3. Low basal breaks showing
4. Length of canes.

The most-ideal combination of features would be a bush having a large, smooth bud union with three thumb-sized canes 15-18 inches in length, and with one or more basal breaks

showing. Avoid bushes in small pots (below 3-gallon size), those having old bud unions, those with only one large cane, those with small or short canes, those with diseased bark or foliage. A hint or two:

- Big root systems are to be desired; big root
- systems are not found in small pots.
- Dead canes don't grow.
- Backspotted foliage is always doomed; spots on leaves vanish when the leaves drop off.
- Scrawny bushes in pots are likely to be scrawny bushes in rose beds.



Heritage—Ben Matus, October 2010

News from our Members

- Richard and Viola Hudson celebrated their fortieth wedding anniversary in February.
- Welcome new members, Larry & Connie Baird, from Duck River, Tennessee. Larry and Connie have exhibited at our rose show for many years. Larry is the current president of the Nashville Rose Society.

ARS Trial Membership Available

The ARS is offering a four-month trial membership for existing local society, non-ARS members. The \$5 fee offsets processing and mailing costs. ARS does not make money on this offer. Four-Month Trial Members receive:

- Free advice from Consulting Rosarians.
- Free or reduced garden admissions, a \$25 value after just 3 uses.
- Free online access to four quarterly bulletins, a \$45 value.
- 2 issues of American Rose magazine, \$16 value.
- Discounts of up to 30% at merchant partners.
- A four-month trial membership is valued at \$86 for only \$10!

Visit www.ars.org for more information and to take advantage of this offer.



BGRS Rose Show

- Our rose show schedule is available on our website: www.bowlinggreenrosesociety.org and on the Tenarky site: www.tenarky.org
- Make plans now to enter. There are categories for novice exhibitors in horticulture and arrangements.
- Please purchase or sell an ad to help with expenses. Contact Kathy Dodson for information.
- Mark your calendars to help with the rose show set up on Friday afternoon, May 20.
- Volunteers are needed to help with the many rose show jobs. Contact Bob Jacobs or Kathy Dodson to help.
- If you would like to clerk at the show, contact Kathy Dodson.

E-mail: bgrs@insightbb.com

Bowling Green Rose Society

c/o Mary Hext
1997 Browning Road
Rockfield, KY 42274



We're on the Web!!

www.bowlinggreenrosesociety.org

LABEL



REMINDER

2011 Dues are Past Due!

If you have not paid, please send your 2011 dues at to our treasurer:

Ben Matus
2552W. G. Talley Rd.
Alvaton, KY 42122
ASAP!

IMPORTANT DATES - 2011

- March 3-6: Nashville Lawn & Garden Show
- March 11-13: Louisville Home, Gardening and Remodeling Show
- May 21: BGRS Rose Show
- June 2-6: ARS Spring National Convention—Winston-Salem, NC
- June 24-26: ARS National Miniature RS & Conference - Syracuse, NY
- September 23-24: Tenarky District Rose Show & Convention—Knoxville, TN
- October 1-2: Nashville Rose Show
- October 12-16: ARS Fall National Convention and Rose Show - Universal City, CA

2011 BGRS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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