



A Publication of the Bowling Green Rose Society, Bowling Green, KY

Rosebuds

August 2013

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www.bowlinggreenrosesociety.org

Meeting:
August 2
6:30 p.m.
Warren County
Extension Office

Our Rose Growing Hobby—Is it Worth It? *By Paul Banish, Detroit Rose Society*

At this time of year, many dedicated rosarians are just plain exhausted. We've waited and hoped through the long cold winter, dreaming of armloads of perfect blooms. Then April comes along and the back-breaking work begins. There's fertilizing, pruning, bed maintenance (things like weeding, mulching, trying to improve soil structure), constructing new beds (if there's any space left in the yard, that is), planting, replacing severely winter-damaged or just plain dead plants, and starting up the spray program if we choose to go that route. Our backs ache, our hands are sore, we're all scratched up by trying to work among our plants, which repay us by ripping our skin with their thorns (yes, I know, the proper terminology is prickles, but thorns remains the commonly used word). We're a lot poorer in the pocketbook, and still many of our beloved plants look less than ideal. So the logical question is the subject of this article: Is it worth it?

As someone who has struggled with a severe physical disability for a lifetime, the question for me is even more relevant. I have the added frustration of just plain not being

able to physically do much of the work that needs to be done, and so must rely on the help of family and friends, or pay someone else to do the work. Hiring outside help carries its own frustrations. How do we find someone honest and dependable? Even if we're lucky

enough to find such a person, how likely is it that this person knows what he or she is doing? Then, of course, hiring someone means even more expense. Those of us who do hire outside help probably rarely find their work to be as good as what we could do ourselves if we were able. Now a similar question comes to mind: Why bother?

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AUGUST MEETING

Our August program will be "Photographing Flowers". Rose photography is now a part of many rose shows, so come learn techniques on how to get good photos.

The Snyders will provide refreshments.

President's Corner *by Brenda Coffey*

Wow! Where did July go? I can hardly believe that August is almost here. My roses have done a super job of surviving with very little help from me. With so much rain this summer, the biggest tasks have been fertilizing, weeding and demolishing insects - especially Japanese Beetles. I know that several of my fellow rosarians have not been plagued by these lovely insects - so count your blessings! I'm not sure why my rose garden is so unfortunate unless it has to do with the roses proximity to the vegetable garden. Anyway the roses have survived so far.

In order to keep your roses happy, be sure to check the pH of your soil. It is also a good idea to have your soil tested to determine fertilizer needs. Presently there is a limited number of FREE soil tests (175) that can be done through the Warren County Conservation Office. Ordinarily the cost is \$7 through the Warren County Extension Office. If you need to check on your soil's fertility, now would be a great time to get the job done.

Also if you are interested in growing other plants and/or flowers, the Kentucky Master Gardener program will be offering classes through the Warren County Extension Office beginning August 20. If you are interested, please contact the extension office.

Have you ever tried to capture the beauty of a rose? Do you need help with your photographic skills? I know that my photographs do not do justice to my roses, so with this in mind we have an interesting program planned for the August meeting. Sheila Reeves and Alison Houk, both members of the Sunny 16 Camera Club, will be presenting a program on photographing flowers. Alison concentrates more on garden photography and Sheila's focus is on wildflowers. Having beautiful pictures of our roses while they are in their most impressive splendor will allow us to enjoy them year round!

Hope to see you August 2!

ARS Mini/Miniflora Conference and Rose Show

The 2013 American Rose Society National Miniature & Miniflora Conference and Rose Show will be held in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, September 20-22, and is hosted by the Winston-Salem Rose Society. The theme is "Mini Magic".

Complete information about the convention and rose show is found in the current ARS Miniature and Miniflora Bulletin which is on the ARS website and normally requires a password to access in the members-only section. However, since it contains the complete program, rose show schedules, registration forms, speakers biographies, and an announcement of this year's ARS Miniature Hall of Fame Winners, it is available without requiring a password. This access to everyone will give you an idea of what you are missing if you are not an ARS member.

Click on [this link](#) to access the Miniature and Miniflora Bulletin with the information about the conference.

Pruning for Fall Rose Shows by Mary Ann Hext, CR

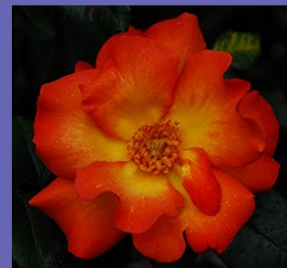
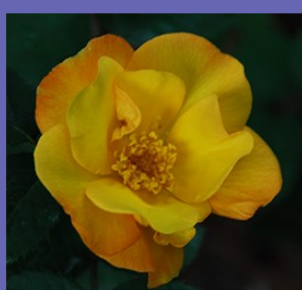
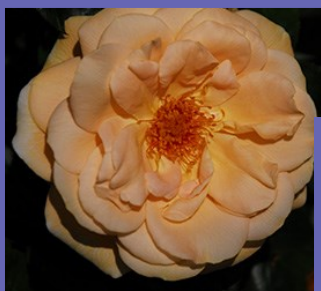
If you are planning to attend any of the fall rose shows or just want to have gorgeous fall roses, August is the time to start thinking about when to prune. Even if you don't plan to attend the Mini/Miniflora National, we have several rose shows then that are within driving distance starting the first weekend in September: Buckeye District Rose Show near Dayton, Illiana District in Decatur, Tenarky District in Louisville, and Nashville Rose Society. Dates for these shows are on page 4.

Pruning roses is not an exact science as there are too many variables such as temperature, rainfall, amount of sun, the variety of rose, and where to cut. But with all these rose shows, you are bound to have roses for at least one or two of them. Even though we have had sufficient rainfall this summer and much cooler temperatures than last year, some of my roses are still having issues with blackspot and downy mildew and I am spraying those bushes at least once or twice per week. In early June, I was gone for a week and a few plants were severely damaged by spiders mites when I returned. Those had to be pruned back to just a few inches from the ground and are just now starting to get new buds. So trying to time blooms for a specific date is partly just luck.

Some exhibitors suggest pruning half of the bush one week and then the rest the next week, but this has not seemed to work well for me. Some exhibitors have more than one bush of their favorite exhibition roses and are able to prune the bushes a week apart so they will have roses for each show. I have two or there of some of my favorite roses, so I normally use this method. The experts tell us that the average bloom cycle for our hybrid teas, grandifloras, and floribundas is 42-54 days. Some can even tell you which roses are at the high or low end of this range of days. Our minis and minifloras have a shorter cycle which is normally 35 to 42 days. I have a few roses with single petals and they repeat a little quicker than this. It seems the more petals the rose has, the more days it takes to repeat bloom. Also, the further down the cut on the stem, the longer it will take to re-bloom. OGRs just need to have their tips prune as they don't require pruning of the entire bush to promote blooms.

So plan now as we are approaching the time when you should determine which fall rose shows you will attend and exhibit and mark your calendars for the best prune dates.

Some of Bob & Ann Jacobs' Roses



Help Wanted: Rose Evaluators Needed Now!

It's Roses in Review Time!

The 2013 Roses in Review Survey (RIR) marks the 88th time members of the American Rose Society evaluate new rose introductions. A broad base of participation is needed to make this project worthwhile. We need your evaluations, whether you grow one of the varieties on the survey list or dozens of them. We welcome evaluations from you whether you are a new rose grower, a "garden" rose-grower or a seasoned veteran grower; whether you grow roses for your landscape and garden or if you also grow them to exhibit. We are happy to get reports from non-ARS members as well, so

pass the news along to all your rose-growing friends (and encourage them to try an ARS Trial Membership as well.)

Results of the survey will be included in the January/February 2014 issue of American Rose and will determine ratings in the ARS Handbook for Selecting Roses as well. For these results to be meaningful, we need everyone to participate. So please, take a few minutes of your time to evaluate your new roses.

Instructions are on the ARS website and the survey may be printed out and mailed to Jeff Garrett, our district RIR Coordinator; or you may submit your evaluations online at [this](#)

[link](#). The deadline for participating is September 26.

Please note that while participation in RIR is a voluntary activity for many rosarians, Consulting Rosarians need to remember that they are now required to participate as one of their CR activities.

Our district evaluation report is compiled by Jeff Garrett and the results are posted on the Tenarky website for review of rosarians in our area of the country.

Please take time to participate in the survey as your input benefits all roses growers! **[Click here to visit the official RIR website.](#)**

Our Rose Growing Hobby—Is it Worth It? *Continued from p. 1*

Let's consider what we hear and see on the news reports daily. Mass murders, building collapses, tornadoes that flatten whole towns, explosions (whether accidental or deliberate) that kill dozens. Many of us work in conditions with enough stress to kill a horse. Our congressmen and women act like spoiled children and accomplish nothing. The list just presented is but a tiny fraction of the items we are forced to face on a daily basis. The great poet William Wordsworth has said "The world is too much with us". How right he was over two centuries ago, and what he said then is even truer today.

The fact is that physical labor is good for us. It relieves stress. When we work in the rose garden, the insanity of the world is something we can leave behind, if only for an hour or two. And when we can see the results of our labors in the forms of some of the most beautiful flowers that ever decorated the face of the earth, with often intoxicating fragrances, we really can be enveloped in the peace of the rose garden. When we cut a bouquet and give it to loved ones--or even strangers--and see the joy and appreciation on their faces, that experience is irreplaceable. Our roses are truly one of the great gifts of God, and so are the friends we make through our rose growing hobby. They are treasures beyond price.

So my answer to the title's question "Is it worth it?" is a resounding "Yes"!!! I hope yours is, too.

This article appeared in the May 2013 issue of "Rose Lore" Roman Kwarciński, ed.

MONTHLY IN-CLUB COMPETITION—JUNE - NOVEMBER

The competition shall consist of **ONE entry in each** of the following classes: One bloom per stem, except for sprays. Groom and fill in tags as if entering a regular rose show. Judges will comment on 1st, 2nd, and 3rd choice. The top scorer in horticulture and arrangements will be recognized at the December meeting.

- **Class 1—1 Single Bloom Hybrid Tea/Grandiflora**
- **Class 2—Single Bloom Miniature**
- **Class 3—1 Single Bloom Floribunda**
- **Class 4—1 Floribunda or Miniature Spray**
- **Class 5—Specimen, Any Other Type**
- **Class 6—Rose in a Bowl—any type of rose at any state**
- **Class 7—Arrangements—*Modern (choice of style—large or small roses)***



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Bowling Green Rose Society

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We're on the Web!!

www.bowlinggreenrosesociety.org



LABEL



Jacobs' Garden in the spring. Photo by M. Hext

IMPORTANT DATES - 2013

- Sept. 7: Buckeye District Rose Show, Miamisburg, OH
- Sept. 14: Illiana Rose Show, Decatur, IL
- Sept. 20-22: ARS Miniature Conference, Winston-Salem, NC
- October 4-6: Tenarky District Rose show, Louisville
- October 12-13: Nashville Rose Show

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