



A Publication of the Bowling Green Rose Society

Rosebuds

March 2018

E-mail: bgrs@twc.com

Meeting:
March 11
WCEO—2 pm
Program: Sharpening
Pruners & New Roses
Refreshments:
Kathy
Dodson

2018 Tenarky Winter Workshop –A weekend of rose education & friends!

Decent weather, excellent speakers, lots of roses, and great rose friends made the Tenarky Winter Workshop (TWW) another huge success. We had an enjoyable weekend for the over 75 people who attended. Our society hosted the event and we have received many compliments and notes of appreciation for another great event. Ann Jacobs and Janet Miller, LRS, welcomed rosarians at the registration table (*photo at right*).

Our very own Osei Thomas was voted the 2018 Tenarky Gentlemen Rose Fashionista (*left photo below*) following the rosy fashion show on the red carpet! Larry Baird (*center photo below*) did a great job auctioning the rose “Top Gun” a highly disease resistant rose which also survived rose rosette in the Weeks’ test garden at Whitehouse, Tennessee. Unfortunately, we learned that it has been susceptible to RRV in other gardens. District Director, Mary Ann Hext, presided at the workshop (*right photo below*).

Three members of the NRS rose society became ARS Consulting Rosarians after passing their tests at the CR School on Sunday.

A special thanks to Bob and Ann Jacobs, Dan and Cindy Wernigk and Ricky Lockhart for all their help; and also thanks to Lynda Gibson for clerking at the photography show. For those of you who did not attend, you missed some very informative rose education seminars and new information about growing roses at our CR school.



Osei Thomas was selected
“Tenarky Best Gentleman Fashionista”



President's Corner *by Bob Jacobs, Master Rosarian*



While attending the Tenarky Winter Workshop on February 17, we heard Dr. Mark Windham mention how he learned to clean and sharpen his pruners correctly.

A lightbulb came on in my head and I started looking for information on the ARS website and came up with an article by Michael Denson, Consulting Rosarian. Thus another idea came to mind. Why not a "Pruners 101 Sharpening Your Pruning Tools" at our March meeting?

What you need:

- WD 40® or other silicone –based lubricant
- A sheet of sandpaper (400 grit) or/and an SOS pad
- A screwdriver
- A clean rag
- A wrench
- A sharpening stone or GATCO® Sharpening System

Bring your pruners and I will hand out a complete set of instructions by Michael Denson, Consulting Rosarian. This workshop will take place after our meeting for about 20 minutes or so.

Mary Ann will have a 30 minute presentation "Exciting Roses of 2018" by Carol Shockley during our meeting. We missed Carol at the Tenarky due to a memorial service in her family.

Spring is coming soon—March 20! Be careful uncovering and pruning roses to soon as we can have freezing temperatures in March and April.

I am looking forward to seeing all members and guests. Come visit and share your love for roses and gardening.



BGRS Members in the Tenarky Rosy Fashion Show—*photos by Bob Jacobs*

Ann, Bob and Dan model their rosy outfits at the district fashion show.





MARCH ROSE TIPS *by Noah Wilson, Holston Rose Society*

So far this winter has been a mild winter and I have seen no winter damage to any roses. I will proceed with caution as we could have cold which damages roses attempting to send new growth out.

1. I will spray once more, maybe twice with lime sulfur.
2. I will move slowly with spring pruning and then not prune as low as I would have due to possible extreme cold coming and doing damage to my roses.
3. I will plant my new roses as they arrive using plenty of organic materials in the new holes, making my holes about 20 inches across and 16 inches deep. If a new bed, I will add perlite to loosen the soil, along with my compost, organic materials. If my soil is heavy clay I will use Gypsum (soil softener) to help loosen it.
4. I will check my fertilizer supply and get some in for the season upcoming. I will also get my spray materials for the new year.
5. I will clean and sharpen any pruning shears as needed to assure spring pruning goes well and leaves my roses ready to start a new season of blooms.
6. I will be ready to speak to garden clubs on how to grow roses easily and have beautiful blooms all season long with ease. My garden will be open for viewing at any time for the public and I will encourage others to start growing roses for pleasure and sharing.
7. I will now wait for late spring to come and start enjoying the fruit of my labor, which is a bountiful supply of beautiful roses, sharing them with everyone.

It's Time to Prune *by Patsy Williams, Master Rosarian, Houston Rose Society*



Editor's Note: This article appeared in the February 2018 issue of the "Rosette" the Houston Rose Society Newsletter. Dates for pruning will need to be adjusted for our area. The article is used with permission from the author.

Pruning is our way to assist Mother Nature along in her process of growing stronger and healthier bushes. While a rose bush will grow and bloom with no pruning, it will do much better with some assistance from you, the gardener. We usually begin about Feb. 14th. Pruning south toward Galveston can begin a week earlier, while north toward Conroe might want to wait a week to begin.

Having lost all or most of their leaves during December and January, it will be easier to see and evaluate the structure of your bushes. There are two ways to look at a bush which you are about to prune. You can look at them and decide what you are going to remove; or look at them and see what structure the bushes have that you are going to keep. These are the very canes that are going to produce healthier bushes for you during the year.

Let's first gather the tools which we will need.

- A good pair of leather gloves, to protect our hands.
- A good sharp pair of scissor action bypass pruning shears. Felco shears seem to be the brand of choice.
- A keyhole saw, to cut canes in tight places.
- A folding Felco saw, for cutting larger canes.
- Protective clothing, to prevent being scratched.
- Be sure that your tetanus booster is up to date.

How-tos

- Pull the mulch back from the bud union to allow the sun to hit the bud union and to enable you a better view of this most important part of the plant. Take good care of the bud union.
- Take a good look at the bush from the ground up. Cut off everything that is dead; don't allow anything dead to remain on the bush; and remove old, hard, and corky bark.
- Look for any "nubs" (those little short pieces of canes that were hard to reach, so you left them on the bush) on or near the bud union, and saw them off flush (smooth) with the bud union or cane. Be careful not to damage brand new growths on the bud union.
- Look for cross-over canes (two or more canes crossing each other in the middle of the bush). Crossing canes interfere with the growth and development of other canes and rub abrasions one on the other.

(continued on page 4)



It's Time to Prune *continued from page 3*

- Look for, and identify, 3 or 4 (or more, hopefully) good strong canes which can handle enough growth to produce the flower production which you wish. These canes should be at least the diameter of a pencil; thumb-sized would be even better.
- Take this opportunity to evaluate each cane for its productivity during the last year. The more productive that a cane was, the more that you want to encourage it to do the same this year, by pruning for maximum growth. Likewise, a cane whose only production was small, spindly (twiggy) canes and small blooms with weak peduncles (the stem between the first set of leaves and the bloom) would be a great candidate for removal (pruning away).
- Begin the pruning process with your miniature roses. Minis are cut back much farther and therefore will take longer to come into bloom. Minis react well to severe pruning. When a plant gets too large (after 3-4 years), it can be dug up and cut in two (making two plants out of one) during the dormant season. Minis are pruned 5 to 8 inches in height, depending on growth habit. While they will grow and produce if left taller, their productivity will be lessened. Severe pruning stimulates more basal breaks.
- Floribundas are the next to be pruned. Since they produce an inflorescence of blooms on their stems, they take longer to produce and open. Small canes with some branching are acceptable for floribundas.
- The heavy-petaled HTs are next, then all other HTs. Prune to strong canes with white pith in the center. Remove older woody canes, and leave newer more productive canes.
- The picture perfect rose bush will resemble a tall vase (an open center, with canes on the outer perimeter) when pruned. BUT REMEMBER, rose bushes are like people, not all are picture-perfect. You must work with each bush individually.
- Climbers are a different ball game. Most climbers bloom on mature wood (last year's growth or older). Older canes (3 - 4 years old) can be removed, if newer canes are available as replacements. Canes should be trained to grow horizontally for maximum bloom production.
- Old Garden Roses are pruned lightly. Like all other types, dead and twiggy canes are to be removed. "Pegging" is used to manage roses like Hybrid Perpetual. They grow like semi-climbers, with long arching canes. Long canes can be forced into contact with the soil, using either weights or pegged at their tips. A cane will then sprout where it is in contact with the soil, forming a spider-like plant.

General "Rules of Thumb"

1. Always hold your shears so that the sharp cutting blade is down toward the roots (the "fat" blade contacts the part that is cut away).
2. Make each cut at a 45° slant about 1/8 to 1/4 inch above an outward-facing eye. The eye should be at the topmost part of the slant. The slant of the cut is important, since it enables moisture to run off the cut, away from the eye.
3. Cut down to clean white pith in the center of the cane. Discolored pith is a sign of freeze or other damage.
4. Canes can be sealed with white Elmer's glue to protect them from insects (cane borers), etc. I used glue, until the task became too great to accomplish with the number of bushes in our yard. I still recommend it to Rosarians with a manageable number of roses.
5. Take this opportunity to remove as many "dog-legs" as possible. There is a tendency to cut a stem, leaving two or three eyes, and then do the same thing the next time we cut a stem, thereby making a "dog-leg" effect. Should you need to, or choose to, leave a secondary stem, at least two eyes must be left for future production (one eye will not do the job).
6. While there is NO set height to prune a bush, a good rule of thumb is to remove at least the top 1/3 to 1/2 off the bush. This can be adjusted to your own specification and space limitations.



It's Time to Prune *continued from page 4*

7. Prune to increase the airflow in the center of the plant by removing canes growing toward the center of the bush.
8. Remove secondary growths on the main canes that are not capable of supporting a stem (should be pencil sized or larger).
9. Do not be timid about cutting off a bud which is near the top of the bush. With proper pruning, new and better ones will reward you.
10. When pruning is completed, remove all remaining old foliage from the bush. ALWAYS clean up around your bushes and beds, and discard any findings.

After pruning is completed. It is time to begin your spray routine. **DO NOT WAIT** until new foliage begins to grow. This is to be done immediately after pruning. If you are pruning over several days or weeks, spray bushes "as-you-go", don't wait until you finish the entire garden. Spray both roses and mulch using a "clean-up" spray, consisting of both your favorite **fungicide** and **insecticide**. This is the only time of year that I will recommend that you spray an insecticide on the entire bush and bed. This spraying will help to eliminate over-wintering of both fungi spores, and insects and their eggs. Be aware: this will also kill any beneficial insects, too. Some rosarians choose to omit the insecticide at this time. Bare stems are hard to spray, but do.

TOOLS NEEDED FOR PRUNING—*Carol Green, South Metro RS, Photos by Walt Reed*

You will need by-pass pruners, a small pruning saw, by-pass loppers for the larger canes, heavy duty garden gloves, and buckets or trash receptacles for cleaning up the debris. All tools should be very sharp so that cuts are clean. Have a sharpening tool available for that purpose.



Photos from the February meeting—*photos Cindy Wernigk*





Five Stars to Simply Mulch!

We appreciate the folks at Simply Mulch as they accepted deliveries of Roses from Certified and Weeks Roses. We were allowed to use their business to prepare and store the bare root roses to sell at our Tenarky Mid-winter Workshop. So let's all support Simply Mulch this spring as we prepare our gardens. We will give them three rose bushes as a thank you and they plan to put them along their driveway.

—Bob Jacobs



Lynda Gibson March 10
Claire Campbell.....April 4

Potted Roses for Sale!

Left from the Tenarky Winter Workshop

Potted by S&W Nursery

\$15-\$20 each

A list will be available at our March meeting!

Contact Bob or Mary Ann for information!

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 May 19

- Our rose show schedule will be available soon.
- 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 Ann Jacobs for information.
- Mark your calendars to help with the rose show set up on Friday afternoon, May 18.
- 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.
- Save large cans for roses to take to the nursing home.

E-mail: bgrs@twc.com

Bowling Green Rose Society

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We're on the Web!!

www.bowlinggreenrosesociety.org

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REMINDER

2018 Dues are Past Due!

If you have not paid, please send your 2018 dues to our treasurer:

Kathy Dodson
3197 Browning Road
Rockfield, KY 42274
ASAP!

Ask a friend to join!!

2018 IMPORTANT DATES

- May 4-6: ARS National Miniature Rose Convention & Rose Show in Jacksonville, FL
- May 19: BGRS Rose Show
- September 22-23 Nashville RS Rose Show
- September 29: Louisville RS Rose Show
- October 12-14: Tenarky Fall Convention & Rose Show hosted by M&D Rose Society
- October 25-29: ARS National Rose Show & Convention in San Diego, CA



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