

ROSE GAZETTE

Northeast Louisiana Rose Society
Monroe, Louisiana
September 2007

Cooler temperature

What a delightful summer we have had – that is until August first. The 100 + temperatures and no rain for most of the month has taken a toll on the Rosarian as well as our roses. The roses in our garden have survived by providing water and another layer of horse manure. You will have to check with Bill Rambin and let him to tell you about his “Exotic Manure”. He may have discovered something that works really well, but from what I understand there is a limited supply.

Thanks to the Goughs

My apologies to Candy and Glenn Gough for not thanking them in the July newsletter for sharing their lovely home and rose garden with our Society in June. We really appreciated your hospitality.

“Run with Roses” June Winners

Congratulations to all those who brought roses to the June meeting at Candy & Glenn’s home. The winners were Diane and John Smith with 15 points; followed by Helen Roberts with 11 points; Adele Ransom was next with 9 points and Becky Bourgeois with 3 points. **No “Run with Roses” in September.**

July Picnic

Frank and I would like to thank each of you that came to our home in Ruston for the society picnic and for all the wonderful covered dishes you brought. We have great cooks as well as Rosarians in our society.

The weather cooperated for a nice tour of the Gardens at Louisiana Tech with Dr. Peter Gallagher as our guide.



Meeting

This month’s meeting will be hosted by Fran Beach at her home – Logtown Plantation south of Monroe. The address is 1463 Log Town Loop Road. From what I have heard you will not want to miss this meeting. Kathy Copeland will present a program on Old Garden Roses that grow well in this area – this should be perfect for those of you looking for roses with less maintenance. Adel says that she works at West Feed Mills and Farm Supply, Inc. in West Monroe. Phone your Rosarian friends and car pool to the meeting.

DIRECTIONS TO LOGTOWN PLANTATION

FROM I-20 IN MONROE, LA

At Exit 118A, take US 165 south toward Columbia. Approximately 10-12 miles from I-20 begin watching for JCT LA 841 signs. At the junction where LA 841 turns east, TURN RIGHT (WEST) on Logtown School Road. Follow Logtown School Road to the levee and turn left on the paved road atop the levee. The house is ¾ mile south, on the left facing the river. The house number 1463 is on the mailbox. Fran’s phone number is 322-9767 in case you have any problems.

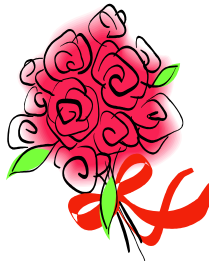
Frank & I will be attending the National Fall Show & Convention, September 14 – 16 in



St. Louis, Missouri. I will be representing the Gulf District at the ARS Board Meeting on Friday and we will serve as judges for the horticulture exhibits on Saturday.

Bouquets to Adele

Congratulations to Adele Ransom. She was appointed to the Ouachita Expressway Bridge Committee for a fourth bridge Across the Ouachita.



Roses in Review

The Roses in Review (RIR) report is due no later than September 26 to Dr. Don Edgerton, Gulf District RIR Chairman; 2627 Jackson Street; Alexandria, LA 71301. If you have not completed your report you can find the forms in your June issue of *American Rose* and make copies or go to the ARS web site www.ars.org to submit your report on line. Please submit even if you only have one rose on the list. If you do not grow any of the roses send Dr. Edgerton a form with your name and a note that you do not grow any of these varieties. You do not have to be an ARS member to participate in this.

As your Gulf District Director, I would like for our district to have as many reports as we possibly can.

Roses on Fortuniana (K & M Nursery)

Jim & Daisy Mills will be with us November 11 along with Eddie Edwards, a rose hybridizer for our program. They will have many of Eddie's roses for sale. You can contact Mr. Mills at 601-648-2908 for their new list of roses and pre-order. They will bring them with him that day.

September in the Rose Garden

Here in Monroe as well as throughout the south, we are blessed with two great bloom cycles in our Rose Gardens as well as many blooms of somewhat lesser quality in between. These cycles occur in spring and early summer (April to early June) with the second outstanding bloom cycle occurring in October and November when mild weather returns.

As good Rosarians, we pruned our rose bushes back in mid to late February (and not before) and they have been growing and blooming beautifully since then for us. Many of them, especially the hybrid teas and grandifloras as well as floribundas and shrubs may now look overgrown, leggy and less attractive. For the above reasons, a second, less severe pruning is recommended in late August or early September to get rose bushes in shape for the fall bloom and fall show time. This year Frank & I are pruning the first week of September. **If you have not pruned your bushes, DO SO NOW!**

To make the job of pruning easier, you will need a sharp bypass hand pruner and a pair of leather gloves. If you have to cut woody canes larger than one-half inch in diameter, you will need a pair of bypass loppers or a small saw. Proper tools make the job easier and you will be less likely to damage your rose bushes or scratch your hands on the prickles (thorns).

Examine the bushes carefully. Look for dead canes and weak growth. Check the height and overall shape. Is the plant overgrown and leggy? Is the present shape acceptable or does it need reshaping. Is the center open, so that the plant can have good air circulation throughout? – This can help in disease control.

The following recommendations are primarily for Hybrid Teas and Grandifloras. First, remove all dead growth. Make your cuts well into the healthy part of the canes just above a five leaf axel or dormant bud –

you may need to remove the cane back to its point of origin. Loppers may be needed.

Next remove weak, spindly canes that are the diameter of pencil or smaller, especially those on the interior of the plant. Cut these off at the point of origin, making sure you do not leave a stub. Remove any sprouts originating from the root-stock (below the large, knobby graft union). You should not remove any strong, new shoots (basil breaks) growing from the graft union.

The major part of pruning involves shortening the remaining vigorous canes. This will produce a fuller, more attractive bush with larger, better quality flowers in October. Oh yes, I know I don't like to cut off the blooms when I prune, but cut you must. Cut them and bring them in the house for arrangements or carry to a shut-in to brighten their day.

Cut the canes back to about 30 - 40 inches from the ground. This is very important for roses grafted to fortuniana rootstock. Older literature recommended bushes be pruned to about 18-14 inches. Try to make each cut just above a bud that faces outward – away from the inside of the bush. The cuts should be made about one-fourth inch above the bud at a slight angle slanting away from the bud. Don't leave a long stub sticking up above the bud, or you will encourage stem rot; and don't cut too close to the bud or you will kill it.

Clean up and dispose of all leaves and pruning. Then fertilize the roses to encourage vigorous new growth. Use your favorite rose fertilizer following label directions or use a general-purpose fertilizer appropriate for your area. If you are an exhibitor you may want to follow up with a liquid rose fertilizer for that extra push. Fertilize in late summer, so that you do not have a lot of young tender growth when the first frost occurs.

With old garden roses take a look at the situation and how the rose is growing, then prune accordingly based on how you want the bush to look.

Some roses, including **many climbing roses, ramblers and old roses** only bloom once in spring and early summer **should not be pruned now**, as they produce blooms on the growth they made this summer. Cutting these roses back now or anytime before they bloom next year will reduce the number of blooms they produce.

If you have a long hedge of shrub type roses, a technique using your hedge trimmers can prove effective and save time over the hand pruning technique, but would not look good in your hybrid tea bed.

A must for September: Continue your spray schedule for diseases and be on the lookout for the mighty "spider-mite". If you are planning to exhibit, you will need to control thrip damage by spraying your buds with an insecticide before color begins to show. If you are a new member, don't hesitate to contact one of the Consulting Rosarians if you are not sure how to treat or what to treat with.

Our nearest shows this Fall are the New Orleans Rose Society Show on October 27th and the Southwest Louisiana Rose Show, November 3rd. The Fall National Show & Convention is September 13-17, which may be a little early for our bloom cycle – but I feel sure some of you will have a few good blooms.

By: Flora Hover Consulting Rosarian



Officers

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Vice President -----John Smith
Treasurer ----- Nan Woods
Newsletter Editor - Flora Hover

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Frank Hover-----255-8158
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Diane Smith -----343-8977
John Smith-----343-8977

Calendar of Events

September 15 ---NELRS Meeting 3:00 P.M.
Logtown Plantation
September 13 – 16 ARS Fall National Convention &
Show -- St. Louis, Missouri

October 18 -----Wine & Roses at ARC, Shreveport

October 20 -----Fall Bloom at Klima Rose Hall – ARC

October 21----- -NELRS Meeting 3:00 P.M. – Nan Woods

October 27-----New Orleans Rose Show, Metairie

November 3 & 4----- Southwest LA Rose Show, Lafayette

November 11 -----NELRS Meeting – 2:00 P.M. – Speaker
Eddie Edwards & Jim Mills

November 26 – December 28 Christmas in Roseland, ARC

Rose Gazette
Northeast LA. Rose Society
103 Adam Circle
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