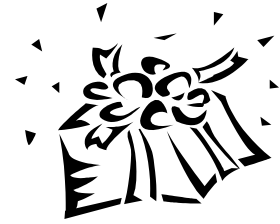


ROSE GAZETTE

Northeast Louisiana Rose Society
Monroe, LA December 2007



December Meeting

Our annual Christmas meeting will be Sunday, November 9 at the home of Helen Roberts, 108 Country Club Road, Monroe. It is open to members and their spouse or guest. **Everyone should arrive at 5:00 p.m. for a short meeting and election of officers for 2008. Eat 6 P.M.**

Helen is planning to prepare a ham. Members are asked to bring a covered dish that would be appropriate with ham. This could include vegetables, casserole, salads, deserts, etc). Please call Helen at 323-0638 to let her know that you are coming.

November Meeting

Eddie Edwards, rose hybridizer from Carrier, Mississippi presented a great program at our November meeting. Massive bouquets of his roses were on display for everyone to see, and a couple of lucky people won a bouquet as a door prize. Jim Mills, who owns K & M Nursery in Buckatunna, MS, was on hand with a supply of Edwards's roses to sell. Many of our members and visitors went home with new roses.

Adele Ransom, President invited the members to her home afterwards for a light dinner. Adele is truly a great hostess. Thanks so much for all the effort you put forth to get Eddie & Mr.

Mills to Monroe for our meeting and the meal afterwards.

December to do list!

Are you looking for something different to do this month? If so, take a trip to Shreveport and visit Christmas in Roseland at the Gardens of the American Rose Center located just off Interstate 20 (take Exit 5 at Greenwood and follow the signs). This 118 - Acre Park is a whimsical sparkling wonderland for both young and old. This spectacular festival will remain open through December 26 from 5:30 p.m. – 10:30 p.m. (closed Christmas Day). For admission rates, contact the American Rose Center at 318-938-5402.

December is a great time to build the new rose bed that you have been planning or rejuvenating the old beds. Have the PH tested. It takes several weeks for lime to work, if needed. The weather is usually ideal for working outdoors. Remember, while selecting the bed site, roses need at least six hours of sun each day. Many rosarians think that morning sun is best when possible. Other tasks for December include: adding more mulch such as pine straw, cottonseed hulls, rice hulls, oak leaves, or straw to your beds. Add extra mulch around the bud unions in case of a very hard freeze. Check to see if there is black spot on your

bushes, if there is, give a good spraying, of Manzate, which will kill the spores. Be sure to spray the canes and the mulch around the base of the plant, as this is where the fungi will hide for the winter. Continue to keep the beds weed free, as any that survive the cold will greatly multiply when warm weather arrives. This month is also a good time to add organics, such as cottonseed meal, alpha pellets, and fishmeal. Use approximately one cup each around large plants and one half cup each around miniatures. Adding the organics now, will allow time for them to be converted to food for the budding plants come spring.

Lift bushes that have sunk too low and are no longer thriving. Go around the bush with a spading fork and gently lift up, working soil under them. Stake to keep loosened bushes from being blown over, but do not prune. Keep the ground well watered after lifting or moving a plant for it to become established.

Move bushes from now through January and February with the same precautions as in lifting.

Pruning is done in mid-February. Do not prune your bushes now. Watch for information on pruning in January & February.

Dues are due

It is time to pay dues for the 2008 Rose Society year. Complete this form and give it along with your dues of \$10 per person or \$20 per couple to Nan Woods, Treasurer at our next meeting or mail to her: at 107 Raymond Dr.; Monroe, LA 71203

Name _____ Street _____
City _____ State _____ ZIP _____
e-mail _____ Phone# _____

Give away good bushes you no longer want for one reason or another. Your “dogs” may become someone’s “pet”. Miniature roses on their own roots that have grown too thick can be divided at this time. This is a great way to share with a friend or child in your life to get them started on the road to growing roses.

Use these cooler days to clean and sharpen your pruning shears. Apply a little WD-40 to blades and hinge.

Store pesticides where they will not freeze. Put leftover fertilizers in plastic bags and tie tightly. This way you will not have to use a hammer to break them up this spring.

Remember to pay your Rose Society dues to Nan Woods and join the American Rose Society if you are not a member. Consider a Gift Subscription to the American Rose Society to someone you know that loves roses or give a Subscription to your local library. Contact ARS for the Library rate.

Wishing you and your family a Blessed Christmas Season and a rosy New Year.

Flora

Officers

Adele Ransom-----President
Vice President----Vice President
Treasurer-----Nan Woods
Newsletter Editor---Flora Hover

Consulting Rosarians

Helen Roberts-----323-0368
Flora Hover-----255-8158
Frank Hover-----255-8158
Diane Smith-----343-8977
John Smith-----343-8977

Calendar of Events

Dec. 9-----NELARS Christmas Party, home of
Helen Roberts, 108 Country Club Rd

Dec 1- 26-----Christmas in Roseland 5:30 – 10:30
Closed Christmas Day

Jan. 20-----NELARS monthly meeting

Feb. 8, 9 & 10---Mid-Winter Workshop, Starkville, MS
Open to everyone. Registration required
See information in this newsletter

Feb. 16-----Pruning Party – American Rose Center



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Northeast La. Rose Society
102 Adam Circle
Ruston LA 71270