



Wind Chimes

A Publication of the Central Florida Rose Society
Affiliate Member of the American Rose Society - A Non-Profit Organization

September 2010

Volume 25, Number 7

Next CFRS Meeting

Held in the "Main Garden House"
at Leu Gardens

September 1, 2010, 7 pm

"Earth-Kind Roses"

Presented by Phil Paul

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Upcoming Events

October 7 - 11, 2010

ARS Fall National Rose Show & Convention

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October 17, 2010

CFRS "Meet and Greet" Event

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November 13, 2010

CFRS "South Orlando Neighbors" Garden Tour

See Page 2

November 21, 2010

CFRS Rose Tour Bus Trip

Reserve Your Seat Now!!

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December 11, 2010

CFRS "Holiday Open House"

See Page 2

"Society News" From The President

This has been a challenging year in the rose garden. It seemed that overnight we went from longer than normal freezing weather to scorching summer heat. I read in the *American Rose*, the magazine of the American Rose Society, an article entitled "The ABC's of Rose Growing" by Ted Mills (a/k/a Rose Doc). This article helped renew my interest in becoming a better rosarian by evaluating how I look at and care for my garden ... now and going forward. One of the most important aspects is to keep things as simple as possible so we don't get discouraged or disinterested. Remember, even the best rosarians have occasional failures in their rose gardens ... so don't give up. One way to make growing roses easier is to utilize the knowledge of our Consulting Rosarians, whether it is with help in selecting roses for your garden or following the planting and care guides presented in the *Wind Chimes*. Do yourself a big favor and get to know and take advantage of the years of experience our Consulting Rosarians have to offer. And best of all, their help is free!!

Now that we have taken our traditional summer break I am looking forward to getting back together at our September 1st meeting ... visiting with "Rose Friends" and learning more about our passion of growing roses in central Florida. Your board of directors has been meeting over the summer break and we have a **very** busy lineup of events scheduled for the final months of 2010. Check out the schedule of Upcoming Events at the left!! I encourage you to attend our monthly meetings and make sure you don't miss out on the many opportunities being offered ... from excellent guest speakers to garden tours. I also encourage you to bring a friend to the upcoming meetings ... I know they will enjoy the programs and meeting activities.

Our November 21st bus trip will present an opportunity to visit a garden with over 900 rose bushes and a second garden that will showcase roses being grown in partial shade. A 55 passenger bus has been reserved ... so all we need is YOU! Our bus trip is also a great opportunity to invite a friend that has been considering growing roses and joining CFRS. Reserve your seats now as we anticipate this trip to fill up fast. More information on the gardens we will be visiting and how to sign up for the tour can be found in this issue on page 3.

Remember ... Water is your rose's best friend! Be sure that YOU also keep hydrated. It's still hot out there ... but cooler gardening months are ahead!! I look forward to seeing you at the September meeting.

Ray Bagshaw

Your CFRS Refreshment Team needs your help ...

In the past we have asked members to volunteer to bring a snack/dip/dessert to the meetings. We all love the social time ... enjoying the "treats" and talking. It would be great if more members could bring refreshments. We'll cover the soft drinks ... if you could please bring food to share.

Thanks in advance for your generosity - Debbie Hixenbaugh and Bonnie Bagshaw

What's Blooming in CFRS ...

By Shalamar Summers, CFRS 1st VP

As I am writing this article for September, the summer seems like the longest I can remember. Hopefully everyone is trying to stay cool and that your roses are not suffering as mine are from the summer's heat. Many things about the fall make gardening much more enjoyable ... hopefully some cooler nights, which will result in improved growth and blooms.

Please join us for our "welcome back from the summer break" meeting, which will be held on September 1st at 7 pm at beautiful Harry P. Leu Gardens. Please help me welcome our guest speaker Phil Paul for an exciting presentation about the new "Earth-Kind" Roses. "Earth-Kind" is a special designation given to select rose cultivars by the Texas Agrilife Extension Service, through the Earth-Kind landscaping program. It is based on the results of extensive research and field trials and is awarded only to those roses

demonstrating superior pest tolerance, combined with outstanding landscape performance. Phil Paul has been growing roses for 20 years and is presently growing about 70 rose bushes. He specializes in antiques and miniature roses. Phil is the 2010-2012 Vice District Director of Deep South District of the American Rose Society. Phil is coming to us from the Bradenton-Sarasota Rose Society. Let's give him a big CFRS welcome!!

Mark your calendar for an exciting Rose Garden tour this fall on November 13th. CFRS member Pat Perfito and three of her neighbors will be hosting a 4 garden tour in their South Orlando neighborhood. Stay tuned for details on time, directions and parking!

Save the date for our 2010 Holiday Get together ... On December 11th we will be holding a "Holiday Open House" at the home of Robie and Gail Robinson. Anyone who would like to participate in planning this event please contact Shalamar at 407-415-2361 or by email at gardensbysbs@gmail.com

Please bring a friend to our next meeting ... its free and fun! Don't forget to bring a rose for the "Share A Rose" table. Remember you get a free raffle ticket when you bring a rose. Looking forward to seeing all your smiling faces on September 1st.

In Rose Blooms, Shalamar

Central Florida Rose Society "Meet and Greet" Invitation

Greetings!! ... And a very a warm welcome to all of you ... especially our newest members!!

The CFRS New Member Hospitality Committee is pleased to announce a "**Let's Get Acquainted**" event ... especially for all you "new" and "newer" members on **Sunday, October 17, 2010 from 2 pm until 5 pm**. We are excited to get together at Shalamar Summers' home, located in Ocoee at **1050 Mark Adam Road, 34761**. It is a lovely farm, and the perfect setting for us to spend a few hours, discuss any and all of your rose questions, and connect with folks that are new or newer to Central Florida Rose Society. All CFRS members are invited as well. Light refreshments will be provided, and we plan on having at least two Consulting Rosarians available to give you the inside track on growing roses. More information, including directions to "Shalamar's Farm", will be included in the October Wind Chimes. So plan to attend, save the date, and mark you calendars now. We are looking forward to seeing you there!!

Andrea Webb, 2nd VP and New Member Chairman



Photo by E. Pawlikowski

CFRS Bus Trip !!! Sunday, November 21, 2010

Come along for a great day of roses ...

Reserve your seat NOW for the CFRS bus trip to visit two beautiful gardens in the Brooksville area. These trips are VERY popular and fill up fast! We will hit the road on Sunday, November 21st, departing around 8 a.m. and returning around 5 pm. We have reserved a first class "coach", (complete with restroom facilities). We'll leave the driving to our "chauffeur" while we sit back, relax and talk roses all day!!!

Our first stop will be at "Green Acres", the home and garden of Barry and Carol Green. Having 8.3 acres on which to grow the Queen of Flowers is both a blessing and a curse. Their garden boasts over 900 roses!! The focus here is on the use of roses in the landscape. There are collections of singles, polyanthas, hybrid teas, floribundas, shrubs, miniatures, minifloras and over 100 varieties of old garden roses. There is great use of garden ornamentation and manicured hedges, as well as plenty of places to relax and enjoy the views. Lunch and drinks will be graciously provided by our hosts and you are welcome to bring along a blanket and take a break under the trees, or enjoy one of the countless benches and tables scattered throughout the property. Our group will have plenty of time to enjoy the extensive gardens of "Green Acres", have a leisurely lunch and talk roses. Barry and Carol look forward to joining us for a walk through the garden. Don't forget your camera as you may want a photo sitting on Delilah the dinosaur or Arnold, the pig!



Photo By Carol Green

Part of the miniature and miniflora rose collection at "Green Acres", the garden of Barry and Carol Green



Photo By Al Whitcomb

... A peek at "Rosebuds in Nottingham Forest", the garden of Sharon and Al Whitcomb

If you have ever wondered if roses can be grown in partial shade, you will see many fine examples at our next stop, "Rosebuds in Nottingham Forest", the home and garden of Sharon and Al Whitcomb. This is a country styled garden nestled under oaks and pines in the hill country just north of Brooksville. In the fall of 2002 a Tampa rosarian friend gave Sharon and Al their first rose, Ballerina, a beautiful pink hybrid musk rose. It wasn't long before their garden expanded to 200 roses. The garden currently includes about 30 varieties of old garden roses and over 100 varieties of modern roses. It also contains a wide assortment of plants, flowers, structures and many examples of roses that can be grown in partial shade.

Seating for the tour is limited, so reserve your spot now. A sign up sheet will be available at the September meeting. Additionally, you can reserve a seat by contacting Ray Bagshaw: 407-858-

0599 (home); 407-491-6231 (cell); RayBagshaw@cfl.rr.com (email). The cost of the bus trip is \$20.00 per person. All seats must be paid for in advance on or before the November 3rd meeting (if space is still available at that time). You can also reserve a seat by sending a check made payable to Central Florida Rose Society to: Ray Bagshaw, 409 Oak Lynn Drive, Orlando, FL 32809.

Additional details on this event will be given at our upcoming monthly meetings and included in the October and November Wind Chimes, (such as suggestions on what to bring and where to meet and park on the morning of the trip). Plan now to come along on this very special event. The wonderful rose varieties, beautiful gardens and new rose friends you will discover will amaze you!

Planting Roses — Then and Now

James W. Small, Master Consulting Rosarian

As we approach the fall and lowered temperatures, many rosarians begin thinking about planting new bushes. New varieties pique their interest or that older variety is wearing out its welcome in the garden. Container grown Fortuniana grafted roses, the type preferred by Deep South rosarians, cost \$25 or more when bought at local nurseries or at several mail order distributors. With this much investment in a bush, it is surprising how many buyers spend little effort, time, and money on preparing where the new variety will live, the planting hole. Just digging a hole and putting it in the ground is not acceptable if one expects to have a vigorous and well performing rose bush.

The official State Soil of Florida (yes, we have one) is something called Myakka and consists of a surface layer of fine gray sand, a subsurface layer of light gray fine sand, a subsoil of dark reddish brown fine sand with organic stains, and a substratum of brown and yellowish brown fine sand. Note the recurring word in this description: SAND. Sand is composed of particles of silica in the 0.0625 mm to 2 mm size range. While sand offers excellent drainage, it does little to hold on to nutrients. Fertilizer applied to sandy soils quickly leaches away to the groundwater and is lost from your roses and garden. That is why we need to put some effort into changing the characteristics of our local soil to get the best performance from our roses. How to modify your soil is the ultimate subject of this brief article, but I will digress a bit along the way by telling you about my own journey over the last 35 years in preparing soil for Florida rose growing.

Soil scientists agree that the best soil to grow roses and many other plants is a sandy loam. A sandy loam is composed of a mixture of sand, silt, clay, and organic matter. Inorganic matter (the sand, silt, and clay) should be about 45% of the soil by volume and in the ratio of 60%: 20%: 20%. Organic matter (decomposing living matter and resulting humus) comprises about 5% of a sandy loam by volume and the remainder is air and water. The roots of roses need air, water, and nutrients. This mixture provides adequate air and good water and nutrient holding capability while still allowing water to flow freely. The latter is an important property because roses can drown if there is not adequate drainage. We need to get the soil in which we plant our new rose bushes as close to this profile as possible.

In my many years of growing roses I think I have made about every mistake possible. The first rose bushes I ever bought were planted directly in the existing soil. They never did all that well so I decided to plant them in soil with a high level of organic matter (compost) and that worked even less well. I gave up on the roses for some time thinking you can't grow these things in Florida. Finally, after visiting a local rose show, seeing some decent roses, and talking to a big guy named Ron Kast, I decided to try again. I then read in the newspaper about a class on rose growing at Leu Gardens. Ron turned out to be one of the instructors and I must admit I learned an awful lot about rose horticulture. I have made a lot of progress over the many years that have now passed since I took that course at Leu Gardens.

I became interested in rose exhibiting and began to study, talk to good rose growers, and experiment in an attempt to produce a good enough rose to at least get on the awards table. Several of the people I talked to (all excellent exhibitors) had rather elaborate rose hole formulas to prepare the ground for their roses. As an example, Alan Wolking (from Tampa) recommended digging a 36" by 18" deep hole and mixing about 2/3 of the native soil with a 40 lb bag of topsoil, a cubic foot of Canadian Peat Moss, 15-20 lbs of dehydrated cow manure, 8-10 cups of cat litter (plain and unscented type-this is a source of clay), 4 cups of Milorganite, 4-6 cups of cottonseed meal, 2-3 cups of alfalfa meal (or pellets), 2 cups of agricultural gypsum, 2 cups fish meal, 2 cups of superphosphate, 2 cups of dolomitic limestone, and 1 cup of dry minor nutrient fertilizer. One had to mix all of this together and let it stand several weeks with frequent watering before planting the rose. The reason for the wait is that this mixture gets very hot! One had to test the temperature of the soil to make sure you could plant your rose without burning the roots. I actually used this formula for a few bushes. I had progressed a bit in my exhibiting and thought I had a rose no one could beat at the show over in Tampa. Well, Alan beat me (I did win 2nd place, King of Show). That encouraged me to try his formula and, yes, the performance of these roses was improved somewhat over others in my garden. This method, however, was way too much work and, being impatient at the time, I didn't like to wait around to put my new roses in the ground.

Like most people, I started out planting one rose at a time and continued to dig up more grass as I expanded my rose collection. One thing I learned while doing this is that our preferred rootstock, Fortuniana, is very shallow rooted but extends its roots for relatively long distances. Therefore, the plants quickly outgrew the planting hole. When adding an additional area for roses on the other side of my house, I decided to prepare the whole bed rather than single planting holes. I purchased cow manure compost, Canadian sphagnum peat moss, and finely ground pine bark. I mixed these products with my existing

soil (sand) in about a 50:50 mix. I then put out a number of bags of Milorganite and began to plant my roses. To each hole I added about a cup of superphosphate. This rose bed has done reasonably well over the years but I apply mushroom compost across the whole bed about once a year. The soil is gritty, moist, and retains water well and still has good drainage.

About two years ago, when I had to take out my original large rose garden, I lost two truckloads of topsoil but still retained some of the soil that had been developed over many years. To rebuild my soil for a new rose garden I first thought that I would mix Canadian sphagnum peat moss and compost with the existing soil in a 1:1:1 ratio. But, I've become more eco-friendly over time and was trying to forgo Canadian Sphagnum Peat Moss as much as possible. While peat is useful for growing plants that require an acidic environment (such as roses) and has good water and air holding qualities, it is virtually devoid of nutrients and its mining probably causes ecological havoc. I first became aware of how important peat bogs are to the global ecosystem and how peat mining is changing them after reading an article in the magazine of Britain's National Trust. I had become a subscriber after buying a membership during a visit to Great Britain (allows entry to a great many historic buildings and gardens). They operate many of the great gardens in Britain and are now recommending against the use of peat.

So, to prepare the new soil mixture for rebuilding this original bed, I first brought in two loads of spent mushroom compost. The mushroom compost was obtained at a local mushroom farm for the excellent price of five dollars a truckload. I tilled in the compost and many bags of Milorganite and let the garden set for almost two months. I checked the pH over that time and found, as expected, that it was a bit high. Mushroom compost contains a high level of lime, hence the high pH. Ideally, one would like a pH in the 6.0-6.5 range so I began lowering it through the addition of fertilizer and elemental sulfur. I began to plant a few new roses after that time but it took me over a year to finish the garden (it took a while to obtain the varieties I desired). During that period I continued to add organic fertilizers and check the nutrient levels through soil tests. I believe I now have the soil where I want it but continue to fertilize the garden regularly to maintain nutrient levels.

After rebuilding the garden, I obtained a few new roses that "I just had to have." I was not willing to part with any roses that I had at the moment ... I had sworn that I was not going to add anything new without getting rid of something old, but there goes that New Year's resolution. I was kind of lazy this time and wanted to have a quicker and easier way to expand the edge of the garden. I am not getting any younger and recently reestablishing the garden almost killed me. While at Home Depot I found a new product called "Miracle-Gro Garden Soil for Flowers and Vegetables." You mix it 50:50 with the existing soil. I bought the number of bags I needed and decided to give it a try. The results were quite good. The mixture, which included time-release fertilizer, gave my new plants a good early start and the soil mix looked good to the eye. Subsequently, I found a version of this product that is especially designed for roses, "Miracle-Gro Garden Soil for Roses". I bought a few bags to give it a try and actually like it a bit better than the more generic "flower and vegetable" one. Either provides your roses a good planting mix and is a lot easier to use than anything else I have found. It is reasonably priced as well.



So now, after telling you my history, I am ready to give you some advice about planting your new rose bushes. First of all, a bed is a lot better than a planting hole. Depending on the number of bushes you are planting, prepare the soil across the whole area. The general recommendation is to prepare the soil by mixing 1/3 Canadian sphagnum peat moss, 1/3 good topsoil (or compost), and 1/3 existing soil (sand). If you feel as I do about using peat, you might drop it from your mix (use 2/3 existing soil). Supplement this mixture with Milorganite at a rate of about 4 cups to 15 cubic feet of soil volume. Alternatively, you can buy the appropriate amount of the Miracle-Gro product mentioned above (either is OK but my preference is for the "Rose" one) and mix it 50:50. Once the bed is prepared, dig a hole about 18-20 inches deep (Fortuniana is shallow rooted) and plant your rose with the crown above the soil level (an inch or two is fine), as it will eventually sink down a bit. I normally spread about 3/4-1 cup of superphosphate about the bottom of each hole before planting. The Miracle-Gro rose product contains bone meal, a source of phosphate so the use of super phosphate with this sort of hole is optional. If you were doing a planting hole rather than a bed, I would definitely use the Miracle-Gro product in a 2-3 foot diameter hole, 18 inches deep. After allowing your amended soil to settle for about a month and your new rose bush to become established, I would at least have the pH tested. The pH should be in the 6.0-6.5 range for optimum nutrient uptake by your roses. If the pH is too low then add the appropriate amount of lime. Fertilizers tend to lower pH so lime is usually the product you will need. Elemental sulfur is used in the less likely case that the pH is too high.

Taking a little more time and spending some money preparing the soil for your roses will pay big dividends over the life of your rose bush. Don't be penny wise and pound foolish when planting your roses.



“A LOOK BACK” ...
Things I once believed, (but now I don't)
By A. J. Pop Warner

Raised beds are always better than ground level beds. (While this is generally true, in very sandy soil where drainage is adequate the raised beds may require more watering and fertilizing than is practical or is practiced.)

Roses should be planted with the bud union facing east. (I have found it makes absolutely no difference. Roses are not Muslims.)

Roses should be planted with the bud unions high enough that they do not strike roots from above the union. (The theory that rooting above the bud union bypasses the roots of the understock, and weakens the plant has not proven out in practice.)

Budded (or grafted) roses are better than own-root roses. (Some are, some are not, some it just doesn't seem to make any difference. We just have to try them.)

Light soil is better than heavy soil because the roots can penetrate better. (Not necessarily so! As long as there is good internal drainage the heavier soil has given me better results. It holds moisture and fertilizer better.)

There are red roses and then that other kind. (I have come to appreciate and even get excited about all shades of pinks, yellows, whites, mauves and blends. Roses, like people, come in different colors, shapes and sizes, each with its own kind of beauty.)

Roses are heavy feeders needing lots of fertilization, the more the better. (I have long since learned that too much of a good thing is a bad thing.)

If a rose won't win at a rose show it is not worth growing. (Now some of my favorite roses, especially some of the OGR's, never go to the show. New Dawn never placed higher than third in the Climber class, but I would hate to lose it off my fence.)

An AARS label is a guarantee of a good variety. * (I now try to see them growing before succumbing to the yearly hype. It saves me money and bed space.)

Blackspot does not survive on dead leaves. (Although experience has indicated that this is true, a couple of eminent rosarians have cited compelling scientific evidence to the contrary. Since I never argue with science, (only with scientists) I must concede the possibility. However, routine spraying with no attention to dead or fallen leaves has kept me essentially free of blackspot for many years.)

Roses must be sprayed frequently and regularly with insecticides. (Since instituting a practice of spraying with insecticides ONLY when insects are found and ONLY where they are found, I have had no increase in insect damage and considerably less trouble with spider mites. I also saved money on insecticides and had less foliar burn.)

Organic gardeners have some weird ideas. (I still think so, but they have some good ones too. When they make a little sense I try them, and some of them work).

Allowing hips to form induces dormancy or inhibits re-blooming. (I once snatched off every bloom as it faded, but when I started dabbling with hybridizing I noted that mother plants covered with seed hips bloomed just as often and as generously as the others. However, I did note that some seed-setting floribundas seem to bloom less if not deadheaded.)

One should never wet the leaves, especially in the evening. (This seemed logical until I realized that in our climate the foliage stays wet with dew from dark until two or three hours after sunup. Water does not cause blackspot; it merely dissolves spore masses so the spores can be blown by the wind.)

Never use loppers to cut canes too large to cut with hand shears, but rather use a saw. (For years I looked with horror on a pair of loppers in a rose patch. After observing some good rosarians using a good sharp pass-through type loppers and seeing the results I decided they often caused less damage than the saws. I bought a pair and I like them.)

Some people have “green thumbs”. (It is obvious that some people grow things better than others but I have concluded that instead of a green thumb they have a dirty thumb. We have to work with the roses in the beds and not from an armchair.)

Plant hobbyists such as rosarians are loners and prefer plants to people. (Nothing could be farther from the truth. I have never seen people who liked each other and liked to be together more than rosarians.)

Roses are too much trouble. (What isn't? No activity has given me greater returns for my trouble than my roses.)

I am an expert rosarian. (I blush to think that once I really believed that!)

The above article was originally published in the September 1991, *Rose Triangle*, monthly newsletter of the Golden Triangle Rose Society, Beaumont, Texas, A. J. Pop Warner, Editor. “Pop’s” writings are timeless, and his advice applicable to central Florida rose gardens (and gardeners).

* What is an AARS label?

All-American Rose Selections (www.rose.org) is a nonprofit association of rose growers and introducers dedicated to bringing exceptional, easy-to-grow roses to gardeners across the country. AARS operates the world's most rigorous plant trial program via a network of more than 20 official test gardens throughout the country and representing all climate zones. Since 1938, the AARS testing program has encouraged the rose industry to improve the disease resistance, ease of care, and beauty of roses. Today, the AARS program is one of the most successful and highly regarded of its kind, having brought to the forefront some of the most popular roses in history, such as Peace, Knock Out and Bonica. AARS Winning Roses are labeled with the AARS red rose seal of approval to distinguish them from other plants in the nursery. For a list of all AARS winners visit <http://www.rose.org/past-winners>.





SEPTEMBER IN THE ROSE GARDEN

By Jim Small, CFRS Master Consulting Rosarian

I am back after taking a break from my June column to visit France for a few weeks. France is a beautiful and very modern country. Their transportation system (among other things) puts ours to shame. The “plazas” along their excellent “turnpikes” really impressed me; those on the Florida turnpike are not in the same league. Everything I saw was very clean and well run. I came away very impressed with the country and the people. Unlike what I hear all the time when Americans talk about the French, everyone there was very nice to us. I didn’t spend all my time drinking French wine, eating French food, visiting cha-teaus, or seeing cathedrals (but did a lot of these things, particularly the first two). I also made an effort to see some

rose gardens. The one in Lyon on the Fourvière Hill was quite impressive. Shrub roses dominated the garden, many varieties overflowing arches as seen in the photo I sent from France that was published in last month’s Wind Chimes. I knew a few of the varieties, primarily Austin shrubs, but a great many I had never seen before. Another rose garden I particularly liked was at the Musée Rodin in Paris (shown in photo at right). The garden was in full bloom and highlighted all the wonderful art by Auguste Rodin.

I was less impressed with the roses at Versailles. They were good but could have been better maintained as seen in the photo (below right). Still the grounds are



very extensive and most impressive. The fountains and statuary are spectacular. Seeing the mansion and grounds helped me understand why the French people ultimately sent its inhabitants to the guillotine. Beyond these formal gardens, I was impressed with seeing roses growing along streets in French villages (as shown in Viviers at left) and next to the “plazas” on the “turnpike.”

When I returned from France, I found my garden full of weeds but otherwise in good shape. I had sprayed, fertilized, and deadheaded before I left. I now have almost all the weeds removed (they keep popping back up) but it has been so hot that I have not done much else. It has been a bit dry this summer, but I may have ended that by spraying today. It seems to always rain when I spray (it just started as I write this). I noticed a few suckers coming up from the rootstock and a few leaves with black spot. Both the cutter bees and the flower thrips have been active. I don't like the color of some of the foliage I saw today and many other leaves are dying and falling off. Actually, that is not all that unusual over the summer. My two bushes of Louisville Lady seem the most stressed. Both were beautiful in the cooler weather. I definitely need to fertilize all my roses so it looks like I need to make a trip over to Growers Fertilizer, as I am totally out of granular. I may put some liquid out in the meantime. I am currently spraying every two weeks with Banner Maxx plus Dithane and adding Merit or Conserve to control Chilli Thrips. I am happy enough with the results. I do need to do some pruning to clean out rosettes of leaves and crossing canes. That should improve air circulation and help prevent cane damage. I imagine I will give them some more organics in late August and do light pruning in September. I would like to have some decent roses by November. I plan to attend the ARS National Rose Show in Atlanta, October 7 –11, but don't plan to show roses, as I will be acting as chair of horticultural judging.

I received a single question over all the time I have been away. My correspondent wrote: ***"Hi Jim, I am new to rose gardening and joined the Central Florida Rose Society today. I am very confused as to the different types of roses there are and what hybrid tea or floribunda or grandiflora mean. So I guess I need a basic education on roses. I mainly want to know how to identify what roses are, one time bloomers as opposed to continuous bloomers, or roses that have many blooms at once, or roses that are bush like, that type of info. What do you suggest?"***

I told this reader that most roses grown today are ever blooming. The once a year blooming types are typically historic or old garden roses (although many roses classified as Old Garden Roses (OGR) are ever-blooming). I grow one of these, *Rosa Fortuniana*, for rootstock. The ever-blooming characteristic seems to have arisen as a mutation in some Chinese roses, *Rosa chinensis semperflorens* perhaps being the most famous. [As an interesting aside, this rose was thought to be extinct until found in Bermuda in 1953. The Bermudians called this "mystery rose" Belfield after the house where it was found]. Varieties of this rose were bred with existing European varieties in the late 18th and early 19th centuries and the rest is history.

A Hybrid Tea (HT) is a large rose type typically producing single blooms but can produce sprays at various times. Most (but not all) tend to have high centers and a characteristic spiral. They were produced first in the 19th century by hybridizing a Tea rose with a Hybrid Perpetual, both old garden groups with Chinese roses in their ancestry. Hybrid teas are today's most popular roses.

Floribunda roses (FL) tend to form sprays, clusters of blooms, and many are smaller bushes (but the one I have is a really big bush). They arose from crossing Polyantha roses (many-flowered varieties resulting from crosses of *Rosa chinensis* and *R. multiflora*) and hybrid tea roses. The form is somewhat more variable than Hybrid Teas.

Grandifloras (GR) are the result of back-crosses between hybrid teas and floribundas. They tend to be a bit larger than either hybrid teas or floribundas (but not always) and usually possess hybrid tea like flowers in clusters. They are not all that popular. Indeed, I have none at the moment and about the only variety I personally like is Gold Medal. Others will disagree.

I specialize in hybrid teas, minifloras, and miniatures although I do have a few OGRs, shrubs, a single floribunda and a single Polyantha. Shrub roses are getting increasingly popular, especially those known as English or Austin roses. They make beautiful displays as I saw in France.

I recommended that the reader only buy Fortuniana-grafted roses. These can be obtained at local nurseries (e.g. Blodgett's, Lucas, Apenberry's, etc.). I would avoid the ones at Lowe's and Home Depot unless they specifically say "Fortuniana grafted". You will pay a little more for Fortuniana roses but it will pay off in the long run. Once you buy your roses, you will need to put some money and effort preparing the hole or bed in which they are to be planted. I will address that issue in a separate article. As to which roses to buy, it is like art: buy whatever attracts you. There are lots of potential choices; each cultivar has its own particular issues. Many are easy to grow (relatively trouble free for roses) but others take more knowledge and effort. Roses are often described as high maintenance plants and I believe that is correct in comparison to other plants. But, I find roses rewarding and worth the extra level of care they require.

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Now it is time to turn to advice for the month of September. The summer has been hot and it is still hot in September, but it is time to force yourself back into the garden. The first thing I would do is to take a few minutes to evaluate your rose bushes. How green are the leaves? How much twiggy growth is present? Are black spot or spider mites evident? After doing this evaluation, you may find several issues that need to be addressed.

If black spot is present try to remove as many of the spotted leaves as possible and get on a regular spray program. I alternate Banner Maxx (or Honor Guard PPZ, the generic version) with Cleary's 3336, combining either with Dithane TO (Dithane M-45 and Pentathlon DF are alternatives). Ortho® RosePride® Rose & Shrub Disease Control, available in all kinds of places, is another good choice to combine with the Dithane or equivalent fungicide and probably makes the most sense for the small garden. Dosage requirements are listed in the accompanying chart. I also use Indicate 5 at a rate of 1 TSP per gallon as a spreader sticker (an alternative is to use a few drops of dishwashing liquid per gallon). If black spot or other fungal diseases are really bad, you may need to spray twice a week until it is under control. The garden should always be well watered about 12 hours before spraying. I may have mentioned that I am spraying bi-weekly at the moment but as the temperatures drop I usually move to weekly spraying.

If your roses are infested with spider mites, use a water wand to knock them off from the undersides of leaves and to interfere with their reproductive activities. Weekly use of the water wand should be sufficient unless the mites get out of control. You may need to water wand daily if the infestation is bad. For chemical control, I like Floramite as it can be used along with your fungicide. Forbid 4F and Avid 0.15EC are other good choices. With Avid you are going to need to spray at 3-5 day intervals for about two weeks to get rid of spider mites as this product only kills the adults. Forbid 4F kills both adults and the eggs so you will need to spray less often. Do not mix Avid with your fungicide or any other pesticide product. However, Avid may be mixed with horticultural oil (Target at 1 TBSP per gallon) or Indicate 5®. It should be noted that you will need to be prepared for "sticker shock" when purchasing Forbid 4F, Avid, or Floramite. Use them sparingly to slow down the development of resistance.

Thrips are always with us and I imagine even more will be arriving in the fall. When the flower thrips begin to do more damage than you can tolerate, mist the buds with insecticides like Orthene, Bayer Dual Action Rose & Flower Insect Killer, or Merit. Spraying the blooms and buds about twice a week should produce acceptable flowers. Conserve SC is also a good choice for the control of thrips and is easier on beneficial insects. Many people mix Conserve SC with their regular spray mix. Spray in the early evening for greatest effectiveness. The presence of chili thrips or red-banded thrips will necessitate spraying the whole plant rather than just the blooms, as these species prefer the vegetation to the flowers. I use either Conserve SC or Merit in my fungicide to suppress these pests. I try to rotate insecticides to lessen the chance of developing resistance.

Caterpillars, corn earworms, and like pests may show up this month. You will notice leaves that are just a net, all the green tissue being removed. Parts of buds may also be eaten out. For control, I recommend the use of Thuricide in your regular fungicidal spray. Thuricide, a natural product, is very effective against caterpillars. Use of any of the pesticides listed in the accompanying chart should control the rest.

Rain leaches many nutrients out of the soil, so we may need to supply fertilizer more often. I continue to recommend feeding at two-week intervals with a good granular fertilizer designed for roses. Broadcast about 1/2 cup per feeding under each mature bush to just past the drip line. Give your miniatures, minifloras, and OGRs about half as much fertilizer as the hybrid teas. For these roses and shrubs, I often use a mixture of 1/2 TBSP of Miracle-Gro plus 1 TBSP of fish emulsion per gallon of water every other week. Use 1-2 gallons of mix per large bush and a quart per miniature. I also recommend that you supply additional amounts of potassium by using either sulfate of potash or Sul-Po-Mag (S-P-M), giving each bush 2-4 TBSP. If your foliage begins to look pale green, lack of available iron may be the problem. Apply chelated iron (Sequestrene 330 Fe 10% Chelated Iron) to your roses at a rate of 1 TBSP per gallon, using about a gallon of this mix as a drench per mature bush. If that does not help you may need to look for other causes of the problem. Our acidic rains may have lowered your pH from the ideal level of 6.0-6.5 and that affects nutrient uptake. Have your pH tested at a local nursery or soil lab and correct it if necessary. Dolomitic limestone is commonly used to raise pH if the soil is low in magnesium. When the magnesium is high, use calcitic limestone. If nutrient levels and pH are in good shape, the light foliage problem should correct itself as the temperatures become more moderate.

I recommend that your soil be tested for nutrient levels twice a year. Once you know your soil nutrient levels, you can make adjustments as necessary. Collect samples from throughout your rose garden with a bulb planter (or small shovel) and mix the soil in a bucket. There are lots of soil labs on the Internet. Many local rosarians use A&L Southern Agricultural Laboratories LLC, which has a new address. It is 1199 West Newport Center Drive, Deerfield Beach, Florida 33442. The phone number is (954) 571-2103 and the Fax is (954) 571-2104.

If you did not apply organic fertilizer and other soil amendments to your roses in August, do it now. A simple solution to organic fertilization is to apply 2-3 cups of Mill's Magic Rose Mix (obtained from Millsmix.com) or Purely Organic Mix, (H.L. Shealy & Co. Rt. 1 Box 86, Gilbert, SC 29634 or purelyorganicmix.com). Depending on garden pH, I may also add dolomite. An alternative to the Mill's Magic is to use 8-10 cups of dehydrated cow manure, 4 cups of Milorganite®, 1 cup of alfalfa pellets, and 1/2 cup of Epsom salts (MgSO₄). Use your hose to wash these fertilizers down into the mulch or, better still, rake the mulch back and apply these products. I sometimes apply mushroom compost and Milorganite® at this time of the year. Mushroom compost is good but can raise your pH. Therefore, I usually apply sulfur to lower the pH when I use it. You can get a truckload of this stuff at the mushroom farm up in Zellwood for about \$5.

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Jim Small's Recommended Spray Formulations

Problem	Treatment	Dosage Per Gallon Of Water
Blackspot and other fungi	Funginex (Ortho® RosePride® Rose & Shrub Disease Control) or Cleary's 3336 or Banner Maxx Plus one of the following: Dithane T/O, or Dithane M-45, or Pentathlon DF	1 TBSP 1 TSP 1/2 TSP 1 TBSP
Powdery Mildew	Immunox or Rubigan or Systhane or Eagle 20 EW	2 TBS 1/2 TSP 1/4 TSP 1/3 to 2/3 TSP
Aphids	Malathion (50% EC) or Bayer Advanced Garden Rose and Flower Insect Killer or Water wand	2 TSP 1 TBSP As needed
Spider mites	Water wand or Avid (0.15EC) or Floramite	Weekly as preventative 1/2 TSP 1/4 to 1/2 TSP
Caterpillars	Thuricide	4 TSP
Thrips	Bayer Dual Action Rose & Flower Insect Killer or Orthene (9.4% EC) or Merit or Conserve SC	Ready-To-Use (also available as a concentrate) 2 TBSP 1/8 TSP 1/2 TSP (may be used with fungicide)

Whether you are interested in showing roses or not, it is a good idea to do some fall pruning to clean up the garden and encourage new growth. Fall pruning differs from that we did in the spring, as it is less severe. I remove crossing, dead, or diseased canes, and twiggy (less than ¼ inch in diameter) or non-productive growth. I also try to open up the center of the bush to allow for better air circulation. The fall bloom cycle is primarily determined by the time of cutting and most of our roses have a 35-55 day cycle with 45 days being the average. Variation in weather can affect this schedule somewhat.

As buds start to grow, thumb prune those that are growing toward the center of the bush or are interfering with other canes. Also remove buds when there are too many to be supported by a single cane (3 maximum). Thumb pruning should allow for the production of stronger canes with larger blooms. Try to make sure that your roses get at least two inches of water a week. Potted roses will still need watering every day.

September is the month to prepare for a great bloom in late October or early November. How well your roses perform is dependent on what you do now. Over the summer, we have all ignored our roses to some extent due to heat and vacations but it is now time to get back in the garden. When you think of them, send me some questions for the October issue. Just e-mail questions to jsmalljr@cfl.rr.com and I will endeavor to provide an answer.

GREAT ROSES IN THE SOUTH!!

ARS NATIONAL CONVENTION AND ROSE SHOW

October 7 – 11, 2010 Atlanta, GA



The American Rose Society National Convention will be held closer to home this fall!! Take advantage of some great activities that any rose lover would enjoy!! You can meet fellow rose growers just like you who gather from all across the country to see roses, learn more about growing roses, make new rose friends and enjoy some of areas sights, including some fabulous rose gardens.

The list of convention workshops has something for everyone. The program speakers are excellent and include Connie Vierbicky: "Austin Power, Roses of International Intrigue"; Pat Henry: "Exciting Roses from Around the World"; Dr. Robert J. Burns: "Eudora Welty's Roses, a Legacy of Southern Roses"; Dr. Mark Windham: "Developing Roses Resistant to Foliar Diseases"; Tom Carruth: "Outstanding Roses Hybridized by Tom Carruth"; and Baxter Williams: "How to Grow Your Society Membership".

The convention schedule includes four great tours; two of which feature rose gardens. The first rose tour takes you to three beautiful public gardens that are only minutes apart. The second garden tour showcases a wide variety of rose collections in four private rose gardens. Additional workshops, activities, and "meet and greet opportunities" will be featured throughout the convention, as well as an extensive vendor area where you can purchase roses and rose supplies.

So don't delay ... Make your plans today to be part of the "Great Roses In The South"!

For further information contact Bobbie Reed, Convention Chairman, 770-979-4237, berdks@mindspring.com

You can view and download a detailed convention schedule, convention hotel contact information, and a registration form at the convention website:

<http://www.gwinnettrose.org/fallnational2010.html>

Rose Notes ...



Tetanus: What You Should Know and What You Should Do

By Mary Maud Sharpe

All gardeners should be aware of some basic facts about tetanus and make certain that their tetanus immunizations are current. The wound need be no larger than a thorn prick to harbor bacteria to produce the toxin which is very poisonous. In recent years approximately 11% of reported tetanus cases have been fatal. The highest mortality rates are in unvaccinated persons and persons over 60 years of age.

Tetanus, also called "lockjaw," is a medical condition characterized by a contraction of muscle fibers. The incubation period is usually about 8 days, but may be as long as several months. There is no blood test that can be used to diagnose tetanus so the diagnosis is made from the symptoms. It is best to prevent tetanus by vaccination. The CDC recommends that adults receive a booster vaccine every ten years. Some doctors recommend boosters every five years. It is standard practice give a booster if people are uncertain of when they were vaccinated.

Tetanus occurs in soils rich in organic matter [which is why gardeners are at a higher risk] and is also often associated with rust, especially rusty nails. This concept is misleading, but the rough surface of rusty metal provides a habitat for *C. tetani* endospore and the nail may puncture the skin and allow endospore to enter the wound. When tetanus infection does occur, it is highly lethal. If tetanus develops in a person who has not been immunized, the fatality rate runs from 45 to 55 percent even with the best hospital care.

Always consult you health care provider for more information, never neglect a wound, and keep your booster vaccinations up to date! It's easy to protect yourself.

From the September 2009 issue of *Regarding Roses*, newsletter of the Thomasville Rose Society, Mary Maud Sharpe, Editor.

The torch has been passed!!! Care of raffle roses changes hands ...

Our continued thanks to Lukas Nursery, who, for the past six years has donated over 600 roses for our monthly meeting's raffle. During that time CFRS member Wayne Gamble, assisted by his wife, Rosie Joels, cared for these bushes at their home. This was a huge undertaking. It took a lot of dedication and hard work to keep all the roses watered, fertilized and sprayed. Then when the bushes were ready, Wayne and Rosie would bring them to the meetings, where lucky raffle winners could provide the bushes continued care in their gardens! Wayne and Rosie have recently moved to Tennessee to be closer to family ... We wish them the best and send a huge CFRS "THANK YOU". Wayne and Rosie's years of dedication provided a very healthy addition to our treasury and countless rose bushes and blooms for CFRS members to enjoy and share.

We are very fortunate that CFRS Board Member Tom Burke has agreed to take over the job of caring for the raffle roses that Lukas will continue to donate. Thank you Tom!! Over the past few months many rose bushes have been moved from Wayne & Rosie's home to Tom's garden and will make their appearance on our monthly raffle table starting at our September 1st meeting.

Again, our thanks to Lukas Nursery, Wayne Gamble, Rosie Joels, and Tom Burke!!



Don't forget the deadline for the 2010 "Roses in Review"

This year's "Roses in Review" (RIR) marks the 85th time that new rose introductions have been evaluated. The ultimate value of this procedure is realized only when we have a broad base of participation. We need your contribution, whether you grow only one plant of one variety on the list or many of them. We need input from "garden" rosarians as well as exhibitors, and from **new** rosarians as well as seasoned veterans. **We also welcome reports from those who are not ARS members. "Roses in Review" is a requirement for all Consulting Rosarians.**

The complete results of this survey will be included in the January/February, 2011, issue of *American Rose*, and will help determine the ratings in the 2011 ARS *Handbook for Selecting Roses*. For these results to be meaningful, **we need everyone to participate**. Please - take a few minutes of your time to evaluate your new roses. **Only evaluate roses you grow from the cultivar list. The list of roses and the evaluation forms can be found and completed on line at www.ars.org.**

Reviews must be submitted by September 26, 2010. Your reports will be automatically sent to your District coordinator. By the way, you can report even if you do not have any of the roses listed ... just respond "you do not have any of the listed roses to rate this year"!!! The Deep South District gets credit for each response. Thank you for your participation.

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The deadline for all submissions for the October *Wind Chimes* is September 10, 2010.

Please send to the *Wind Chimes* editor at pawlrose@cfl.rr.com.

The American Rose Society

The American Rose Society is now offering a four-month trial membership for only \$10 to anyone interested in becoming a member of this great organization.

This price drops to \$5 if you are currently a member of a local rose society.

The trial membership includes:

- Free advice from Consulting Rosarians
- Free or reduced garden admissions
- Free online access to four quarterly bulletins
- 2 issues of *American Rose* magazine
- Discounts of up to 30% at merchant partners

For information, or to join, contact the ARS at www.ars.org, or by phone, 1-800-637-6534.

The Deep South District

The Deep South District's award winning publication is available for just \$10.00 per year (3 years for \$25) by email or \$15 per year (3 years for \$40) by regular postal mail. The Bulletin is essential reading for all Consulting Rosarians, Judges within this District, and anyone who just wants to keep up with the continuous changes and improvements in growing and/or showing roses. We'll also keep you up to date on new products and new rose varieties that have won approval from other DSD rosarians and exhibitors. For information or to subscribe contact: Jim & Kay Harrell, 121 Shore Rush Circle, St. Simon's Island, GA, 31522-1430 or go on line at www.deepsouthdistrict.org.

The Central Florida Rose Society

(CFRS) is a non-profit organization established to provide education and educational resources to its members and to the public regarding the culture of roses, including site selection, propagation, planting, maintenance, harvesting, arranging, preserving and exhibiting. Anyone interested in learning more about roses is invited to join. CFRS meets at 7:00 pm on the first Wednesday of each month (except July, August and December) at: Harry P. Leu Botanical Gardens, 1920 North Forest Avenue, Orlando, Florida. Each meeting features a speaker or program on rose related topics, refreshments and good friends. Visitors are always welcome!

CFRS MEMBERSHIP

An Electronic Membership for all family members at the same address:

Please choose one

\$20.00

Special "By Mail" Memberships are available for members needing a mailed copy (B&W only):

\$30.00

Do NOT include my information in the Society Directory when published. _____ (Initial)

Date: _____ Renewal ___ or New Member ___ Check Number: _____

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ - _____ Phone: _____

Email address: _____

Please return this form with your check, made payable to the "Central Florida Rose Society" to the Membership Chairman: **Tom Burke, 111 N Silver Cluster Ct., Longwood, FL. 32750-4029**

A membership form can also be downloaded from the CFRS webpage, www.CentralFloridaRoseSociety.org.

On our November Bus Trip to
Brooksville you can expect to see ...



One of many views at "Green Acres"

Tended and Photographed
By Carol Green



Souv. de la Malmaison,
an Old Garden Rose

Grown and photographed
By Al Whitcomb



The Shrub Rose, *Distant Drums*

Grown and photographed
By Al Whitcomb



Lemon Zest, a Shrub

Grown and photographed
By Al Whitcomb

NEED HELP WITH YOUR ROSES?

Call or Email a CFRS Consulting Rosarian

Tom Burke (Longwood) 407-721-9852
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Roses4friends@aol.com
Eric Yount (Winter Park) 407-644-3850
EricCYount@aol.com

**** Denotes Master Rosarian**

For additional rose information, visit the CFRS award winning web site at www.CentralFloridaRoseSociety.org.

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