

Pruning All Those Other Kind of Roses

By Peggy Tippins

(ARS Consulting Rosarian & Master Gardener)

A rosarian friend once told me that miniature roses could be pruned with a lawnmower. Probably so but not recommended! All roses love and need a haircut. Removing the older, crisscrossed canes or twiggy growth strengthens plants and helps with disease protection. The plant can breathe better, has added energy for more blooms. Circulation of air and sunlight do two things: allow leaves and canes to dry better; plus, spraying is easier when plants are not too thick.

What tools are needed for pruning roses? Very sharp by-pass pruners such as Felco, a small pruning saw, large scissor pruners, sharp pruning pole (Fiscars is great for thick canes as well as trees or shrubs). Do use long rose gloves for protection. Have ready either stick glue or wood glue to apply to cut canes.

When to begin pruning? Some say "When the forsythia blooms" usually later February or early March. Great if you only have a few plants to prune. But, if you have large numbers to do before warm weather, you can start anytime after two "killing frosts" or 28 degree weather has occurred in early December. It's okay to begin in early winter. Plants are dormant. Annie Owen, a Consulting Rosarian in the Nashville Rose Society, has been a wonderful friend and advisor to me about pruning all those other kinds of roses. She knows her stuff so I will share her suggestions. Large climbers or shrubs can be at risk with too much growth. Canes can mutilate each other with thorns that tear other canes' "flesh". It is best to remove the old or diseased canes in early winter before winds cause that to happen. Besides, limiting canes puts more power into the roots. Bigger blooms, more blossoms. Choose the newer green canes to keep.

Before you begin pruning, know your roses! Once blooming old garden roses or climbers should never be pruned until after blooming in spring. Otherwise, the buds will have been cut off. Pruning is done differently on climbers and ramblers than shrubs. Why prune at all? For the health of the plant as aforementioned. Also, to reduce the size, to keep the rose under control, to make it manageable for handling. No yearly pruning equals massive overgrown canes. Too much growth means the energy goes into cane production rather than blooms. Spraying is almost impossible. You are in charge! Gain control of that Austin or Musk. Keep it in line by reducing its size late winter and again in late August if needed. You will be rewarded!

You are ready to begin the cutback. First, use a hand claw to gently pull back the winterizing material around the plant. Don't forget to replace it after you are finished with that rose. Beware of harming new basal breaks appearing from roots which are growing. Stand back and look at the total plant. Decide

April Rose Tips

Every rosarian has "tricks" they have learned that make gardening easier and more successful. How about sharing some of your "tricks" with others! Send your rose tips

- *Roses are heavy feeders. Feed them a small amount bi-weekly rather than gorge them only when it is convenient to do so.*
- *The most important moisture provided roses is perspiration on the part of the rosarian who works in the rose beds regularly.*
- *Remember this -- only God can grow roses. Rosarians are simply conduits of help.*

— Ted Mills, ARS Master Rosarian

With the unpredictability of the weather during March and April, I have found that in my garden, it's best to leave the main portion of the mulch in place until after mid April. If you remove all the mulch for pruning, it's impossible to get it back with the same level of protection, especially if there are new canes growing into the mulch.

In mid March, I remove just the top portion of the mulch, prune whatever needs pruning above the main portion of the mulch, then replace the top. This keeps the protection for the bud union undisturbed until it's safe to uncover. There will be a little more touch up pruning to do after fully uncovering.

— Anne Owen, ARS Master Rosarian

Now that the weather is getting a little warmer and we can get into the garage or attic without too much discomfort, it is a good time to look at your design materials. Look and see if you have some pin holders or oases. You do not want to be left in the lurch when you need to bring something to a friend's house or to work. We have already brought daffodils to work. It won't be long until roses are in full bloom. One of the things we like to do is go to the flea markets and get old florists vases that are being sold for a quarter or 50 cents and that way you do not have to worry about getting your container back or broken. The clear ones are even really good because you can spray paint them any color.

— Jeff Harvey, ARS CR, ARS Horticulture & Arrangements Judge

Examine the foliage of your roses, make sure the ground beneath them is clean of old diseased leaves, give the canes one last look and finish pruning if you haven't yet, and apply lots of aged compost and fertilizers. Spring is upon us!

— Leann Barron, ARS Consulting Rosarian

which canes to take off. Remove those canes using whichever tool is best for each cane.

Also take off twiggy non-productive growth, usually anything less than the width of a pencil. Always prune canes to an outward facing bud node. Let's consider particulars about the different varieties:

Shrubs (old, new, modern, Bucks, etc.): the rule of thumb is to remove one-third of the existing canes each year plus one-third of the top growth. Use guidelines above. Every 2-3 years, cut once blooming old shrubs (OGR) drastically to strengthen plant.

Climbers (ramblers, pillars): Know which ones bloom on old wood, new wood or both. You can tell from cane patterns. Do not prune off possible blooms. Wait until after the first flush of blooms. Then, get plant down to proper size.

Whether vertical on an arbor or horizontal in V-shaped layers on a fence, look at number of main canes. Remove old, crisscrossed or diseased wood first. Then re-tie canes spread out in the best pattern for air, sun and bloom space.

Use small hand-pruners to trim each "vertical" growth on cane to 2-3 bud nodes or apx. 6 inches. After each flush of seasonal blooms (3-4 May thru Oct.), continue to prune back those verticals for mass flower production.

Vertical climbers perform better if main canes are limited to 4-6. Otherwise, there will be two shrubs on either side of your arbor

Congratulations New

Consulting Rosarians

Nashville Rose Society members Dillard and Diane Lester and Ron Daniels passed the American Rose Society test on February 24, 2008, and have been awarded certification as ARS Consulting Rosarians. You will now find their names and phone numbers listed on the ARS CR list in this newsletter.

We extend congratulations to each of them for this significant achievement. Please contact any NRS Consulting Rosarian for answers to all of your rose questions.

For information on how you can enter the NRS Apprentice Consulting Rosarian program and become an ARS Consulting Rosarian, contact NRS CR Chairperson Jennifer Harvey, (615) 268-7032.

when you meant for canes to join at the top of arbor! Learn from my mistakes! Happy pruning!

Questions? Call me at 865-690-7281 or E-mail: ptippins04@yahoo.com.

Editor's Note: *This article does not apply to hybrid teas, grandiflora and floribundas.*

***NRS Members
Achieve Awards at
Tenarky Winter
Workshop***

While the late February-weekend snow gathered outside the Bowling Green, KY Convention Center, inside Claire Campbell took TENARKY Winter Workshop members on a summer tour of TENARKY rose gardens. Many of these gardens can be viewed on the TENARKY website (www.tenarky.org/Gallery_of_Gardens). Claire narrated the pictures with facts, stories, and histories that made for an amazing panorama of locally-grown and artistically designed rose gardens, impressing even veteran guests and rose hybridizers from California, such as Keith and Debbie Zary of the Jackson & Perkins Company.

Among the many show-place rose gardens were John and Kay Rogers of Knoxville, TN; Mary Jane and Peggy Utz and Barbara and Jim Preston of Louisville, KY; Anne and Robert Jacobs of Bowling Green, KY; Jeff and Cindy Garrett of Soddy Daisy, TN; John Skinner of Chattanooga; Jimmy and Evelyn Moser of Memphis; Ron and Francine Daniels of Hendersonville, and Don and Sara Jo Gill of Nashville; and Larry and Connie Baird of Duck River, TN.

At the TENARKY Winter Workshop awards banquet, Marty Reich was recognized as an ARS Master Rosarian, honoring "a Consulting Rosarian who has demonstrated a greater knowledge of roses and rose culture..." Among other awards presented, Nashville Rose Leaf editors Charles Lott, Glenda Whitaker, and Sam Jones were presented the 2007 Bronze Certificate for Division A newsletters. Connie Baird was recognized for her Award of Merit article, "No More 'EVS' or Niche Fright," from the August, 2007 issue of the Nashville Rose Leaf.

Nationally recognized speakers for the workshop included rose-arranger Kreg Hill of Palm Springs, CA (subject: "Traditional Designs"); Keith and Debbie Zary of Jackson & Perkins (subject: "Modern Roses—Easier than You Think!"); Paul Zimmerman of Ashdown Roses (subject: "Gardening with Antique Roses"); and Martin Stone, Ph.D., Horticulture Professor of Western Kentucky State Univer-

***Welcome Eighteen New
Nashville Rose Society Members***

Jeannie Heller
601 Cheltenham
Franklin, TN 37064
615-794-1590
Nancy Harris
1190 Blake Ct..
Murfreesboro, TN 37130
615-890-7929
Anne Peterson
6712 Ascot Dr.
Antioch, TN 37013
931-267-5038
Chris Childress
1648 Sunset Rd.
Brentwood, TN 37027
615-456-7779
Alissa Hilbert
404 Sierra Ct.
Old Hickory, TN 37138
864-414-8750
**Larry Kennedy &
Bridget Dalton**
209 South 13th St.
Nashville, TN 37206
615-262-5467
Cynthia LeMay
120 Countryside Dr.
Hendersonville, TN 37075
615-338-4275
Catherine Holland
104 Revere Dr.
Columbia, TN 38401
931-490-9796
Cindy Reese
213 Wessington Place
Hendersonville, TN 37075
615-822-0489
Nancy Rawlings
130 Pembroke Dr.
Hendersonville, TN 37075
615-824-0745

Cynthia Kwazu
1516 Simpson Ct.
Nashville, TN 37211
615-445-8090
David C. Sharp
601 Woods Court
Mt. Juliet, TN 37122-3453
615-754-6393
Mikki Roach
1703 Catalpa Ct.
Thompsons Station, TN 37179
615-202-6666
Iris Buhl
3505 Belmont Blvd.
Nashville, TN 37215
615-297-3191
John W. Dawson
1307 Glen View Dr.
Brentwood, TN 37027
615-370-8712
Linda Ring
6036 Pinson Rd.
Springfield, TN 37172
615-654-0422
Sandra Janus
4053 Sawmill Rd.
Woodlawn, TN 37191
931-551-8523

March was a banner month for new members with EIGHTEEN individuals or couples joining the ranks of Nashville Rose Society. We recommend that all NRS members go over this list, find the persons living in your area and make a commitment to contact and encourage these aspiring rosarians as they begin the rose gardening journey. Help them discover that the best part of being an NRS member is the wonderful people you get to know.

sity (subject: "Innovative Growing Techniques in the Plant Industry").

Among those attending the Winter Workshop and the Sunday Consulting Rosarian School from Nashville were

Dillard and Diane Lester, Charles and Robbie Griggs, Leann Barron, Jeff and Jennifer Harvey, Glenda Whitaker, Ron Daniels, Logan and Joan Shillinglaw, and Sam and Nancy Jones.

THE BEGINNING ROSARIAN

April—A Time to Plant

By Glenda Whitaker

“There is a time for everything and a season for every activity under heaven.”

—Ecclesiastes 3:1

So here are some rose garden times for us to consider:

- ◇ *A time to plant and a time to transplant*
- ◇ *A time to uproot (shovel prune) and a time to clear away*
- ◇ *A time to form a garden and a time to renew*
- ◇ *A time for growth and a time to care for that growth with sun, water, and nutrients*
- ◇ *A time to be surprised and a time to enjoy one's toil*
- ◇ *A time to cut and a time to arrange those cuttings*
- ◇ *A time to share and a time to be thankful.*

“I know that there is nothing better for men than to be happy and do good while they live. That everyone may eat and drink and find satisfaction in all his toil—this is the gift of God.”

—Ecclesiastes 3:12,13

Each of us is a partner with God in our gardening, in the placement of our plants as a beginning. Knowing roses need at least 4-6 hours of good sun, think in terms of location, location, location (preferably morning sun if that is possible since the morning sun helps dry the dew first thing to help prevent black spot or mildew from taking hold). We have learned from experience that an elevated bed of good loose soil mix helps to insure good drainage, or even a slight incline that gives natural drainage. Digging the planting holes at least 18” deep by 18” wide – or even 20”-24” depending on size of root system, allows room for those anchor roots to go deep and feeder roots to spread horizontally. I have a shovel with a serrated blade that I purchased from Beaty Fertilizer, one of our very faithful vendors, that can make cutting into clay soil much easier.

Another favorite tool is a long tined hay fork that is good for keeping soil loose throughout the season. The long tines can go deep around the drip line of the rose bush (where the outer branches of the bush extend). Use a rocking motion

with the fork to “open the pores” for better fertilizer reception, as well as allowing the watering to go “whoosh” down to those feeder roots. Unless one plans to till a whole bed, a good wheelbarrow is a must for mixing perlite, peat moss, and some aged organic material together with the soil dug from individual planting holes. With a good loose medium, you are now ready to plant those new rose bushes. This is also an excellent time to transplant a bush that may not have done well in its former location. Your garden is a thing of beauty where color combinations, height considerations and background should be noted for aesthetic purposes. By all means, those weak plants that suffered through the last two or three years should be cleared away for a new start.

April is the time to complete the pruning of hybrid teas and grandifloras, getting down to clean, white pith in the cross section of the stems. Remember the rose has woody stems, so that center pith should be solid, not spongy. Stems of at least pencil thickness should be retained, especially in younger plants, thickening as the bush ages. I have been guilty of shocking a plant by pruning too hard, so give the bush a little leeway when it comes to looking for pure white pith in the stem. A little brown will not hurt short term and can be pruned back later when the plant has time to put on good spring growth. Do prune damaged, bruised canes, for these become susceptible to fungus diseases, promoting black spot. Spraying a fungicide at the first sign of leaf growth will help ward off disease. Spray the canes and surrounding ground to kill any fungal spores that might be over wintering.

Climbers should not be pruned until after their spring bloom. Many climbers bloom on “old” wood – last year's growth, so do not lose that beautiful bloom. Train the limbs of the climbers in a horizontal fashion as much as possible for maximum laterals to grow and produce more blooms. Of course, any dead canes can be cut out at anytime.

Floribundas, polyanthas, and shrubs will require very little pruning – mainly just removing any dead or damaged canes.

A good organic fertilizer and a general “once a season” fertilizer such as Osmocote or Bloomcote applied mid to late April will give good coverage for growth. As the rains

Kudos to Gary Spencer For A Successful 2008 NRS Vendor Night

Congratulations to Gary and Lycrecia Spencer and their team of workers for a very successful Vendor Night that raised \$1000 to support NRS programs. Nine area vendors offered a wide variety of products to NRS members and guests in one of our best managed Vendor Nights! Charles Griggs has been head cashier for four years and he said this one was his easiest. Thanks Gary and Lycrecia!

April 1, 2008 NRS Meeting Features James Mills of K&M Nursery

When Daisy Mills saw beautiful roses on exhibition at a show, she wanted her own. The first roses planted by husband James Mills were not too successful. After they joined a local rose society things changed. That small garden in Buckatoona, Mississippi has grown and now K&M Nursery is the largest grower of Fortuniana root stock roses in the South.

The April 1, 2008 meeting program will feature James Mills telling about the “*Amazing Fortuniana*.” If you want to learn more about these fantastic roses be present for this program.

In addition to Fortuniana root stock roses, K&M Nursery also grows magnificent blueberries and last year shipped more than seventy tons throughout the US.

come and your own supplemental watering, these long acting fertilizers are released into the root system. Liquid fertilizers can be used throughout the season to give any extra boost desired.

If our weather cooperates, surprises will greet your eye every day in May and beyond. Cut short stems on those blooms in early spring to give the bush a chance to advance. Since our annual rose show will be in cooperation with the Tenarky District Convention at Cheekwood Oct. 4th, there is plenty of time to prove the success of your toil.

Plan, Plant, Prune, Feed, Water, Cut, Enjoy. And be thankful!

FROM THE GROUND UP

By Leann Barron

Questions for Don Gill

Don, you are one of Nashville Rose Society's top exhibitors. I am glad I'm still in the novice category so I don't have to go up against you. How and when did you get started in roses?

Sara Jo and I have always enjoyed gardening, and grew a few rose bushes along with other flowers and herbs. We went to see a rose show at Cheekwood and were blown away. We could hardly wait to try growing some of the roses that we saw. We met John Brevard that day, and he encouraged us to try our hand at showing roses. He could see that we were intrigued by the idea. He turned out to be a wonderful friend and mentor. He talked us into taking a few of our roses to the State Fair that fall. We won our first blue, and had a great time with the people we met. We were hooked on what has become a fifteen year hobby---growing, showing and sharing beautiful roses.

What are your top guns--I mean roses--for 2008?

My top guns are Crystalline, Moonstone, Veteran's Honor, St Patrick, Signature, Louise Estes, Hot Princess, Gemini, and Pop Warner.

What is your method for planting bushes that are on Fortuniana root-stock?

I plant Fortuniana bushes by digging a hole in well prepared soil (we are very fortunate in Nashville to have two great sources for soil) about eighteen inches wide and as deep as the pot they come in. I put in the bottom of the hole ½ cup of Osmocote and ½ cup of Fish Meal. Then I lift the bush from its container and put it in the hole very carefully so I won't disturb the roots. I fill the hole half way up, and I add another half cup of Osmocote and a half cup of Fish Meal. I finish by covering and watering in really well. That will be all I feed this new plant until the following spring. They have such tender feeding roots that too much food can burn the new bush. I then stake the bush so that the wind won't break the graft.

What is your secret to winning so many awards? I WON'T TELL A SOUL...

Having a mate that enjoys showing as much as I do, and working together to do our best. (We both enjoy the challenge). Also the knowledge that I have gained from many masters of the game and mentors.

What soil amendments do you recommend for beginning Rosarians?

Mills Mix is an excellent complete mixture, and is a good choice for beginners. I make

sure my soil has Blood Meal, Fish Meal, Milorganite, Alfalfa Pellets, Earthworm castings and I have added Mushroom Compost as well. I always try to have my PH around 6.6 to 6.8. Also, I add Dolomite lime when the PH is too low.

Boxers or briefs? (Just kidding) Hybrid Teas or Grandifloras?

Well, I'll be brief---hybrid teas

What spray program do you follow? Do you ever forget to spray?

I spray every two weeks with Banner Max, alternating with Honor Guard and Compass. I try not to use Insecticides until I actually see the critters, then I will use Orthene or Bifen. Keeping a close eye out for spider mites in our area is a must. I start out in the spring using Avid (always spraying alone for best results). I also believe it helps with aphids. If mites are present, I spray with Forbid or Floramite. I don't forget to spray. Writing it on my calendar helps (as the senior years continue). I just make a date with the sprayer.

What rose has been a disappointment for you on the exhibition table?

Rosie O'Donnell and Pristine I have entered these roses as perfect queens, only to have them open to full blown before the judges saw them. Roses that hold their form make the best show roses!

What is your favorite rose for landscape use?

Knockout and Graham Thomas

What are your top three choices for exhibition roses?

Crystalline, Veteran's Honor and Moonstone

Besides sobbing uncontrollably, what do you do when a prize exhibition specimen is decimated by Japanese beetles? What do you do to discourage their populations?

I have sprayed with some success with Bifen (same as Talstar). It is a contact insecticide that works on soft-bodied insects and on beetles.

What is your all-around favorite rose, and what's so great about it?

I would say Crystalline, a pure white classic hybrid tea, with perfect form, a long lasting bloom, and lovely fragrance that smells like vanilla. The foliage is dark green and shiny. Just thinking about it right now makes me excited about seeing that first bloom in May.

Describe your dream rose.

A perfect yellow, with the form of Crystal-line that would hold its center for days. How about the aroma of the Lily of the Valley?

What roses would you recommend for beginners?

I recommend going to Nashville Rose Society web site and look under Favorite roses for growing in this area. (www.nashvilleroose-society.com/FavoriteRoses.html)

What should a beginning Rosarian know about Fortuniana roses?

That when we purchase a new Fortuniana bush, it may be only months old, compared to the bare root bush, which may be two years old. So winter calls for extra protection of the new graft or bud union,

Naysayers comment that roses are too hard to grow. How do you respond to them?

Roses are worth the effort!

What other advice would you give to people just getting started in roses?

- Join their local rose society and the American Rose Society. Then I would suggest they know this information:
- Roses need at least five hours of direct sunlight daily. Morning sun is preferable because it dries dew from the foliage, helping prevent disease.
- Roses should be where you can enjoy them. Consider the views from windows or outdoor living areas when designing a rose bed.
- Only plant as many as you have time to care for
- Depending on the variety planted, you will probably have to spray.
- No matter what soil type you begin with, mix in generous quantities of organic matter and make sure it drains well (roses do not like to sit in water).
- Learn from people growing roses in your area which cultivars do best.

Learn as much as you can before growing roses. This will make for better and easier gardening. The roses you plant will teach you, and when you have grown roses for years you. After growing roses for years, you will find you are still learning.

Why roses?

Growing roses is an adventure with incredible rewards. There is nothing more rewarding than sharing your roses. There are many wonderful flowers---but --let's face it--roses are the QUEEN of flowers!

NRS member Don Gill is a lifelong horse-man, having trained show horses and race horses for national competitions. An expert at growing and grooming, when he is not wrangling horses, he's rustling up top rose show awards at local, district and national shows. [See Pictures on pages 1 & 8]

NRS, Tenarky, & ARS Coming Events

Details & other event news on our website: nashvillerosesociety.com

APRIL 2008

1	4:00-6:00 pm Fortuniana Roses Delivery & Sale Cheekwood Parking Lot NRS Meeting @ Cheekwood - Massey Hall 6:00-6:45 pm Beginner Program: "Hybrid Teas & Miniatures" 7:00 pm James Mills of K&M Nursery- Amazing Fortuniana
---	--

MAY 2008

6	NRS Meeting @ Cheekwood - Massey Hall 6:00-6:45 pm Beginner Program: "Those Pesky Pests" Larry Baird 7:00 pm Answers to Your Rose Questions
24	NRS Cut Flower Rose Sale Flea Market at Tennessee State Fair Grounds Contact: Jeff Harvey (615)268-7089, dirtdawg@hughes.net
25	Nashville Rose Society - Spring Garden Tour Contact: Anne Owen (615) 794-0138, annio1203@comcast.net

JUNE 2008

3	NRS Meeting @ Cheekwood - Massey Hall 5:00-7:00 pm Grand Prix I - Prep & Entry Contact: Dillard Lester d-lester@comcast.net , (615) 896-0203 6:00-6:45 pm Beginner Program: "Companion Plants for Roses" By Lynne Wallman 7:00 pm "Rose Pests & How to Treat Them" by Roy Cloyd 8:00 pm Grand Prix I - winners announced.
---	---

Contributions

Nashville Rose Society is a 501c-3 organization and all contributions to the society are tax-deductible. Contributions may be made as memorials or to honor some person, group, or occasion. Checks for contributions should be made payable to Nashville Rose Society and mailed to:

CINDY WORCH

137 Urban Farms Rd.
 Manchester, TN 37355
 ((931) 723-2142
rosegardener@hughes.net

Nashville Rose Leaf

The Nashville Rose Leaf is published twelve times annually by the Nashville Rose Society, Nashville, Tennessee

Editorial Advisory Committee
Don Reed & Marty Reich

Nashville Rose Leaf is printed by
 The Print Authority, Brentwood, Tennessee

Nashville Rose Society 2007 Officers

President..... Jeff Harvey (615) 268-7089
 Vice-Pres.....Sandra Frank (615) 383-7058
 TreasurerJerry Keathley (615) 377-3034
 Rec. S'ty.....Diane Sepich (615) 292-9352
 Cor. S'ty Cynthia Worch (931) 723-2142
 At-Large.....Louis Mishu(615) 373-2799
 Previous Pres... Charles Lott (615) 824-5614

Nashville Rose Society Membership

We are a non-profit organization serving the middle Tennessee area to educate persons on growing and exhibiting roses. Membership is open to everyone who supports the objectives of the organization. Annual dues of \$20.00 includes a subscription to The Nashville Rose Leaf, the official newsletter of the society. To join send a check payable to Nashville Rose Society to:

Marty Reich, 5020 Dovecote Dr.,
 Nashville, TN 37220-1614

Phone: (615) 833-0791; E-mail:
marty615@bellsouth.net

Disclaimer

While the advice and information in this newsletter is believed to be true and accurate at the time of publication, neither the authors nor the editor accept any legal responsibility for any errors or omissions that may have been made. The Nashville Rose Society makes no warranty, expressed or implied with respect to the material contained herein.

Fortuniana Roses

Delivery & Sale April 1, 2008

Attention - Persons who ordered Fortuniana root stock roses! James Mills of K&M Nursery will deliver Fortuniana rose orders Tuesday, April 1, 2008 beginning at 4:00 PM in the Cheekwood parking lot. In addition to delivery of advance orders there will be some additional fortuniana roses available for sale. If you placed an advance order, please pick up your roses no later than 6:00 PM. **In case of emergency and you cannot come for your roses call Charles Lott (615) 207-7266.** If you want to purchase roses available for sale, be present between 5:00-6:00 PM.

ARS Consulting Rosarians

East Nashville

David & Lori Marler.....(615)228-5191

South Nashville

Leann Barron(615) 269-0240

Marty Reich(615) 833-0791

Glenda Whitaker(615) 373-2835

West Nashville

Keith Garman.....(615) 352-6219

Sam & Nancy Jones.....(615) 646-4138

Jim Ruppert.....(615) 356-8003

Brentwood Area

Louis Mishu(615)373-2779

Cecil & Bessie Ward(615)373-2245

Jerry & Marise Keathley....(615)377-3034

Franklin Area

Anne Owen(615) 794-0138

Logan&Joan Shillinglaw ..(615) 790-7346

Robbie&Marsha Tucker....(615) 595-9187

Hendersonville Area

Ron Daniels.....(615) 330-7083

Pieter Hoonderd(615) 822-3593

Charles Lott.....(615) 824-5614

Jack Wedekind(615) 824-8696

Murfreesboro Area

Dillard & Diane Lester.....(615) 896-0203

Columbia Area

Lyle Worsham(931) 388-4547

Faye Vandiver(931) 833-3805

Lebanon-Watertown Area

Jeff Harvey(615) 268-7089

Jennifer Harvey(615) 268-7032

Duck River-Centerville Area

Larry & Connie Baird(931) 729-5259

Editor's Desk

Snow melting away from the roses in our garden is a promise that spring is just around the corner. This is a crucial time in the life of middle Tennessee rose gardens. If spring preparation is effective you will be rewarded with healthy plants and a plethora of blooms. The recommendations below are for an established garden.

Pruning: Proper pruning is critical for healthy plants. The articles on pages 3 and 5 in this issue provide some pointers on proper pruning techniques. I prune our roses the last week of March.

Feeding: Pruning signals the plants to begin new growth, so adequate feeding will ensure strong, healthy plants. If you have questions about what and how to feed, contact a Consulting Rosarian (list on page 7). Initially I use Mills Mix, magnesium sulfate, alfalfa meal, and Osmocote.

Spraying: Unless all of your roses are Earthkind, a regular spray program is essential to prevent fungal infection. You will find a spray reference chart on the NRS website nashvillerosesociety.com. Call an NRS CR if you have questions.

Success in these three areas will go a long way in helping you have beautiful roses to enjoy, share and exhibit for the NRS Grand Prix and at the Tenarky District Rose Show in October.

— Charles Lott

NRS Patrons

Our thanks to the following businesses and foundations who have made sustaining donations to support the educational programs of Nashville Rose Society:

Houghland Foundation
SunTrust Bank

Roses of the Month

April In Paris, Crystalline

(Pictures on Front Cover)

April in Paris: What a romantic she is with her tea rose perfume just purchased from an exclusive Paris perfumer

President's Column...

Last month was the mid-winter symposium in Bowling Green. Jennifer and I finally decided we were going to attend and we are glad we did. The speakers were wonderful. We met Keith and Debbie Zary from Jackson and Perkins, who gave an interesting lecture. They told how some of the newer roses although not AARS winners can be better than some of the older AARS winners. They emphasized the importance of breeding for more disease resistance and faster bloom cycles.

J&P donated bare root roses that were auctioned off at the end of the night. We came home with a bunch, the prices were very good and I have a feeling there may be one or two as NRS door prizes this year. I hope you will plan to attend the Winter Workshop next year.

We have a new brochure on Earthkind roses that we will be able to use to encourage novice rose growers. All roses on the Earthkind list (17) are disease resistant with no spraying. The purpose for this brochure is to encourage people to grow roses again and then become a member of a local society.

Jim and Starla Harding, who are relatively new members have taken on creating a membership booklet for the rose society. This is a big undertaking and Jim has a lot of great ideas for it. I believe the first copy may be ready to proof by the April meeting. We are giving everyone a few weeks to look it over and then give feedback on the information it contains. If there is information for you that is not correct or you do not want entered please tell them right away so it can be changed. The booklet is to make contacting other members easier so we can share our experiences and see each others gardens.

Speaking of gardens, the spring garden tour will be May 25 in the afternoon. We have three private gardens and three public gardens on tour. It will be a fun time. I hope everyone will be able to get out and enjoy the gardens.

See you on April 1st

—Jeff Harvey

So many plants, so little space

Long time Consulting Rosarian Burke Bell passed away August 2007. Burke and his late wife, Wanda, hosted several picnics at their lovely garden in Camden. A bench in honor of Wanda is behind Cheekwood's Botanic Hall.

to accompany her beautiful creamy pink gown! The flowing skirt edged in soft pink moves gracefully as she exits to breathe in the fragrance of *April in Paris*. No wonder she was chosen as Jackson & Perkins 2008 Rose of the Year Winner. With parentage of the distinctive white *Pristine* (a William Warriner rose with 8.6 ARS rating) and the very fragrant light pink *New Zealand* (Sam McGredy, 7.9), *April in Paris* should be a 2008 winner in your garden too. Bonus: This hybrid tea rose will have the toughness to survive because it is on its own roots, not a grafted plant. Keith Zary, chief hybridist for Jackson & Perkins, has come up with another winner! He and his wife Debbie gave a truly informative talk at the Tenarky Winter Workshop and a few folks there were lucky enough to take home *April in Paris* to their garden for planting.

Aromatherapy: Therapeutic essential oils – aromatherapy by name -- the current buzz word amongst today's generation, with my hotel soap even stamped Aromatherapy. Oh, but don't confuse the soapy scent with the scent of Jackson & Perkins "New Generation" hybrid tea *Aromatherapy*. Given the distinction of their "most fragrant hybrid tea rose in 20 years," this classically formed pink has the added bonus of being own-root, assuring extra garden vigor. The glossy dark green foliage will be a rich compliment to the 4" -5" blooms, the fragrance satisfying every longing for that best Aromatherapy. If you are lucky, you may find a plant of this great rose left from the NRS Rose sale.

Crystalline: Anyone who has ever observed one of Sara Jo Gill's impeccable arrangements at our Nashville Rose Show using the pure white hybrid tea *Crystalline* knows how magnificent this rose is. Then there was Don and Sara Jo's English box display of six perfectly formed *Crystalline* on the awards table for all to admire. Don's evaluation of this cultivar: "It's the best!" Described as the "whitest of whites," the 30-35 petaled large fully double blooms enjoy full sun and the heat of our summers. A little hint for whites, yellows, and light pink roses: give extra winter protection for the first few years while getting established. The light colors seem to be more winter tender, but don't let that stop you from enjoying this bevy of beauties.

—Glenda Whitaker



Nashville Rose Leaf

Official Publication of The Nashville Rose Society

Serving Rose Enthusiasts Throughout Middle Tennessee



APRIL 2008

Affiliated with the American Rose Society - www.ars.org

Volume 42, Issue 3

April Meeting Cheekwood Massey Hall

Tuesday, April 1, 2008

"Amazing Fortuniana" by James Mills

Evening Schedule

4:00-6:00 pm Fortuniana Roses Delivery/ Sale

6:00-6:45 pm Beginners Session

"Hybrid Teas & Miniatures" by Lyle Worsham

7:00-8:00 pm - "AMAZING FORTUNIANA"

(See Articles on pages 3 & 6)

Refreshments Served at 6:30 pm

Cheekwood admission free for meeting attendees

April Roses of the Month

(See article on page 2)



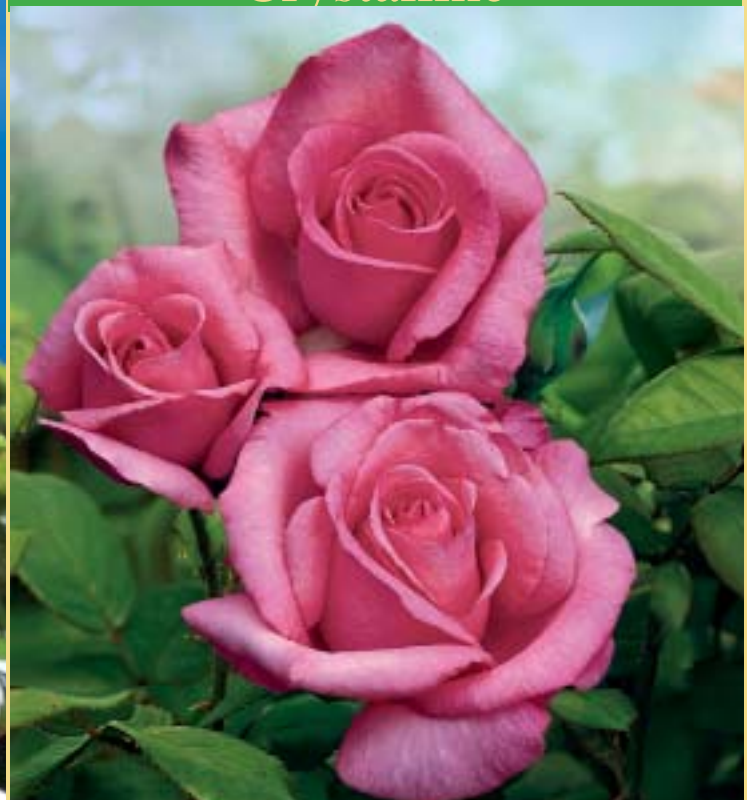
Crystalline

Photo courtesy of Don Gill



April in Paris

Photo courtesy of Jackson & Perkins Roses



Aromatherapy

Photo courtesy of Jackson & Perkins Roses



Nashville Rose Leaf

Editors: Sam Jones, Charles Lott, Leann Barron

Editor Emeritus: Glenda Whitaker

NRS Website Address: www.nashvillerosesociety.com

Tenarky District Website Address: www.tenarky.org

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
BRENTWOOD, TN
PERMIT NO. 162



Pictured above are some of the Nashville Rose Society members who attended the Tenarky Winter Workshop, February 24-25, 2008 in Bowling Green, Kentucky. 1-r Charles & Robbie Griggs, Leann Barron, Jennifer & Jeff Harvey, Glenda Whitaker, Nancy & Sam Jones. Not pictured are Ron Daniels, Dillard & Diane Lester, Logan & Joan Shillinglaw. (See article on page 4)

Pictured below are some of the prize-winning roses in the beautiful garden of Don & Sara Jo Gill located in Brentwood, Tennessee. (See article on page 6)



Photos courtesy of Sam Jones

Photo courtesy of Don Gill