



ORLANDO AREA HISTORICAL ROSE SOCIETY

www.oahrs.org - Affiliated with the American Rose Society - www.ars.org
and the Deep South District

~The Historical Rose Herald~

MARCH 2012

Volume 15, Issue 3

Sunday, March 4, 2012

Doors open 2:00 pm, program starts at 2:30 pm.



Growing Delicious Herbs :

"Why, what, and how to incorporate other Herbs into your Heritage Rose Garden."

presented by Chuck & Lois Clark

We all love food. And we love foods even more when it's cooked with tasty herbs. Growing your own herb garden is easy and it is a great way to always have

fresh herbs for all of your favorite recipes. Don't miss attending this program where you learn about growing herbs and what herbs can be used for.

*The International Herb Association has selected the **rose as the "Herb of The Year" for 2012**. You can learn more by going to the Herb Association's website, <http://iherb.org/hoy2012.htm>

Chuck and Lois started converting their traditional garden into "Clark's Herbal Pathways" some two decades ago. Over the years, they have conducted many tours, been featured as herbalists in The Orlando Sentinel newspaper and on television. They do not sell herbs but over these years have donated thousands to the Herb Society and other interested folks. They utilize a self constructed data base listing only those herbs they have grown which numbers over one thousand variety of different plants. Chuck is the current president of the Herb Society of Central Florida. His wife, Lois, has presented a number of programs on the care of and use of herbs in cuisine, flower displays.

* * **March 11th daylight saving time begins** – 'Spring' clocks forward 1 hour * *



**PAM GREENWALD
ANGEL GARDENS
ALACHUA FL**

for your interesting and informative program presented to our members and guests at the February 2012 meeting of the Orlando Area Historical Rose Society.



**PRUNING WORKSHOP AT THE OAHRS ROSE GARDEN
WAS A SUCCESS!** By Tom Burke

All went well especially with the help of OAHRS members: Bobbie & Charlie Lang, Margie Brown, Jean Webber, Sue Napolitano, Elaine & son Evan Ellman, Eric Easterling (Bits wanted to come too but she was sick in bed), Lois Harris, and Colette & Jerry Cadwell. Gosh I hope I didn't forget someone! I believe that was all but Elaine, Margie, Bobbie, or Charlie may remember more.

There was a member of the local community who talked to Elaine about joining and I was going to give her an information sheet as Elaine said she would email her some info. I also had three master gardeners helping: David Grace who oversees the MGs in the teaching garden, Christel Block who helps a lot in the garden, and Bonnie Harrison, a past member of the historical rose society and also is a personal friend of Tom. All in all, we had a good turnout. We only still have three or four bushes that need some grooming and pruning but that is all. We ended up with 17 huge bags of chopped up cuttings for recycling pick up.

Serena Fisher not only opened up the museum for us but also helped pull weeds and prune. Serena was very appreciative of all the publicity that OAHRS provided to the media as this information was published in both the Sanford newspaper and the Seminole and Orange sections of The Orlando Sentinel as well as other area news sources.

March 31st

The monthly workday in the OAHRS Rose Garden at the museum is normally held on the last Saturday of the month, from 9:00 am to noon. For details or driving directions, contact Tom Burke, tjburke@cfl.rr.com, 407-721-9852.



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Jeanette Ryan, President,

Orlando Area Historical Rose Society

Children are very sharing people and my granddaughters are no exception. Unfortunately, this month they shared their respiratory viruses with me, and then, following their example, I shared with my husband! So I had to miss the 15th anniversary meeting of the OAHRS.

Thankfully, our organization has great officers and members. Charlie and Bobbie Lang stepped in very graciously, and did a wonderful job of making sure the meeting went well. Thank you so much, Charlie, for conducting the meeting, and Bobbie for all the work you have done to take notes of the meeting and also to help plan our upcoming road trip.

I was very saddened to find out that I missed a delicious anniversary celebration menu - and a scrumptious cake. I think George gets credit for the lovely cake. Thank you George for all you do. And to Marie Wisniewski and members who provided the lovely tea sandwiches and other delectable goodies. Rosy thanks to all!

I also understand that members saw many lovely slides of European roses and program presented by Pam Greenewald of Angel Gardens nursery.

Please remember to sign up to help at the rose sale at the Leu Garden Plant Sale on March 17 and 18. It is going to be a fun event - fun with our members and fun walking around on your 'time off' finding plants and garden accessories you realize you cannot live without!

At our March 4 meeting we will find out more about the roses we will be selling at the plant sale. This information will help us to sell roses and will also increase our knowledge of the individual roses. I look forward to seeing everyone then!

A revised OAHRS Membership Directory has been published and copies are available from the Membership Coordinators: Joyce Sydnor and Lois Harris.

Let's inspire one another in 2012!



SOME INTERESTING ROSY WEBSITES

Help Me Find - Roses

<http://www.helpmefind.com/rose/index.php> -- A website devoted to roses, clematis and peonies and all that is gardening related, including selecting, buying, breeding, caring for and exhibiting. They have cataloged over 44,000 roses and have more than 160,000 photos along with thousands of Rose nurseries, public and private gardens, Rose societies, authors, breeders, hybridizers and publications from all over the world.

Every Rose database

<http://www.everyrose.com/everyrose/index.lasso> -- **Search** for roses by name, color and many other characteristics. Or simply **Browse** through this database of over 7,500 roses & 2,700 photos. Learn about other **Gardeners' Experiences** with specific roses, and look for **Rose Sources** where you can order roses and supplies.

Old Garden Rose Primer -- <http://scvrs.homestead.com/ogrprimer.html>

Old Garden Roses (OGR's) are those classes of roses which were known before 1867, the date the first hybrid tea, La France, was introduced. The major classes include: albas, bourbons, centifolias, chinas, damasks, gallicas, hybrid perpetuals, mosses, noisettes, portlands, species, and teas. There are lesser known OGR classes including: ayrshires, boursaults, eglantines, etc. All roses belonging to these classes are OGR's, even if the individual variety was introduced after 1867.



Rose Feeding Formula

Add nutrients to each rose as soon as pruning is complete. When new growth appears begin weekly feedings with water soluble fertilizer (such as Miracle Gro®) until blooms appear in April. Roses like people enjoy a good meal. The following is but one of the many beneficial monthly recipes for supplying nutrients to roses. Use more for larger roses and climbers, less for miniatures:

- 1 cup alfalfa pellets
- 1/3 cup cottonseed meal
- 1/3 cup Epson salts
- 3/4 cup time release fertilizer (such as Osmocote® or Miracle Gro®)
- 1/2 cup balanced granular fertilizer (such as 8-8-8, 10-10-10, 13-13-13)
- 1/3 cup fish meal
- 1/3 cup bone meal
- 1/3 cup blood meal

Pull back the mulch, WET THE SOIL, add nutrients and water them into the soil. Do not allow dry fertilizer to sit on the soil surface. DO NOT ADD fertilizers to dry plants. It will burn the roots. Newly planted roses should not be fertilized until after their first bloom.

(Adapted from Central Louisiana RS Rosebud newsletter, March 2011, Billie Flynn, Editor)



“How to Eat a Rose”

– Long Creek Herbs, Jim Long.

***Contact Margie Brown to purchase your copy(ies).
You can email her at Brown20120@aol.com
Be sure to get your copy before they are sold out!**

- 37 pages filled with recipes using rose petals and are very attractive, and will make fabulous Christmas gifts. Simply Delicious Recipes for Eating Roses Really? Roses for food? Absolutely! In many areas of the world the rose is considered a seasoning herb as well as a lovely flower. Jim has collected recipes from around the world, as well as creating many all new ones himself. You'll find recipes for cakes, cookies, beverages, ice creams, candies and lots more, all using the fragrant rose as the primary flavoring ingredient. 36 pages.

The International Herb Association has selected the **rose** as the “**Herb of The Year**” for **2012**. You can learn more by going to the Association’s website, <http://iherb.org/hoy2012.htm>



March 17

2012 Leu Gardens Plant Sale

March 17th and 18th 2012

Setup March 16th

This year the Orlando Area Historical Rose Society is again participating in the sale of Old Garden Roses at the annual Leu Gardens plant sale. The plant sale is a great way for our Rose Society to meet the local gardening community. The sale of Roses is not only our one big fundraiser of each year but it is a great way for our Rose Society to introduce ourselves to rose buyers; answer rose questions, and encourage them to join us. We are the faces they will meet at our monthly meetings and we will become their rose growing family. It is also a GREAT way for all of us to learn more about the different roses we will be selling and how to plant and grow them. By listening to what other members say to prospective buyers and prospective members, we all learn something new.

There are three days we need volunteer help. - On Friday we will be setting up the booth and on Sat and Sun we will be selling Roses and Memberships. Dress is casual but (hopefully) ROSEY FUN and colorful. The sale is over at 5 pm Sunday and we will need those persons who are staffing the booth at the end of the sale to stay and help clean up.

If you have any questions, comments, suggestions, etc please feel free to call email, or talk with us at the meetings.

We need your help as we can't do it without **YOU**.

Tom Burke 407 721-9852 tjburke@cfl.rr.com

Charlie Lang 407-423-2444 bclang2@aol.com

PLEASE contact Charlie or Tom NOW!

Based on latest reports, these are the varieties that will be available at the Rose Sale:



Bermuda Spice



Cecile Brunner



Caldwell Pink



Duchess de Brabant



Carefree Beauty



Louis Phillippe



Marie Pavie



Penelope



Martha Gonzales



Old Blush



Prosperity



Red Cascade mini climber



Rosette Delizy



Tausendschon (aka Thousand Beauties)

Handouts will be available at the rose plant sale and will contain pictures of the roses and growing information.

**If you haven't signed up to help,
please do so and contact Charlie NOW!**

call 407-423-2444 or email bclang2@aol.com



**Annual Plant Sale
at City of Orlando's
Harry P. Leu Gardens
Saturday, March 17
and Sunday, March 18**

Gardens entry FREE both days

*** Bring a wagon or plant cart for your purchases!**

Saturday, March 17

- **Members Only 8:00 – 9:00 am**
- **Open to the public 9:00 am – 5:00 pm**
- **Plants & Garden Accessories On Sale**

Sunday, March 18

- **Gardens open 9:00 am – 5:00 pm**
- **Plants & Garden Accessories On Sale**



A vendor list and map of the plant sale is available for you to download. In their efforts to be green, the Leu gardens vendor list and map are only available online. You can print the list and map or save them to your mobile device.

[Plant Sale Vendor List](#), <<<< click on link ---> [OAHRS : Booth 21](#)

[Plant Sale Map](#) <<<< click on link --> [OAHRS : located approximately between Leu House Museum and the Rose Garden](#)

Please wear your OAHRS logo polo shirt!

And remember to smile and have lots of rosy fun!!

ORGANIC GARDENING – LOVE YOUR SOIL

by Kathy LaLiberte, Gardener's Supply

More people than ever before are gardening organically. This doesn't really surprise me. The more time you spend in the garden, the harder it becomes to ignore what's really going on out there: the incredible interconnections, the mind boggling diversity, the delicate beauty and the high-octane intensity. It's humbling. And along with that humbling comes respect; the first and most important step to becoming a successful organic gardener.

Here are some things I always keep in mind:

Love Your Soil - A favorite quote of mine from the book *Solar Gardening* by Leandre and Gretchen Poisson says it best:

"Several years ago, we watched a television program about agriculture as it was being practiced in the province of Quebec. The program focused on how farmers couldn't make much money because the prices they received for their crops were too low when compared to their costs. These Canadian farmers were barely making a living despite the long, hard hours of physical labor they put in seven days a week. Part of the show featured an interview with a man whose family had been farming the same piece of land since they had first settled in Quebec. It was hard to tell the age of the farmer, since he was slightly stooped and had such a weathered face. The interviewer asked him the obvious question of why he had stuck with farming, even though it clearly was a hard life with little or no profit. The farmer reached down with a large, bony hand, picked up a handful of black, rich soil, and said, '*J'aime la terre assez pour en manger,*' or, '*I love the soil enough to eat it.*'"



You might not feel that way about your soil now, but with time and effort, all soil can be improved. Adding compost, leaf mold, seaweed, manure, or whatever organic matter and soil nutrients you have access to will eventually change the texture and fertility of your soil. As your soil improves, it will become dark and crumbly. Earthworms will take up residence there. The soil will teem with beneficial microbes and be rich with nutrients. It will retain moisture and be easy to work. Your plants will thrive. And along the way, I guarantee you'll come to love your soil.

Chill On the Bugs - It may require a leap of faith, but the fact is that most bugs are good, not bad. And the good ones are absolutely essential. They process organic matter into usable plant nutrients; they pollinate plants; they feed the birds; and they eat other bugs.

Bad bugs are always lurking about, but in a healthy organic garden they rarely gain the upper hand. When they do, organic gardeners don't rush to douse them in chemicals. We step back, take a deep breath, and decide just how serious the problem really is. You have a few choices:

- Wait it out. Most pests have a very short life cycle and don't actually do that much harm.
- Deal with the worst offenders. Handpick and destroy the problem insects or carefully apply an organic pesticide that specifically targets the problem pest.
- Check to see if the plants are under stress. Bugs rarely attack healthy, vigorous plants. A thorough watering and a dose of compost tea or water-soluble organic fertilizer might just do the trick.

Like the perky yet soulless cut flowers in most florist shops, and the blemish-free yet flavorless produce in most supermarkets, perfection has a price. Organic gardeners accept a few bumps and bruises because we'd rather have flowers that are vibrant and intensely fragrant; food that's fresh, nutritious and packed with flavor.

Coddle Your Plants - Imagine your garden as a classroom of first graders. Your job is to get to know each and every one of them and figure out their strengths, their weaknesses, and what they need to thrive.

In my garden, the most challenging "kids" are the eggplant. But if I keep them sheltered from the wind, well fed, thickly mulched and convinced they're in Florida rather than Vermont, my eggplant produce spectacular 2-pound, shiny purple fruit that give me no end of satisfaction. Same goes for my delphinium. They won't send up a single flower until their second year, usually peter out after their third, and are vulnerable to wind, pests and disease. But I manage to keep them happy with lots of compost, weekly doses of liquid fertilizer, vigilant inspections for bugs and disease, and careful staking. When they're in bloom, those 5-foot spikes of blue are worth every minute I've spent caring for them.

Getting to know your plants and learning how to make them happy is half the fun of gardening. If the plant hates heavy soil, fork in some extra compost and sand. If the plant's a heavy feeder, feed it every two weeks during the spring and summer. If it hates wind, plant it in a sheltered location. If it prefers an acid soil, mulch with pine needles and side-dress with cottonseed meal.

As an organic gardener, I take great pleasure in knowing that I'm part of a quiet revolution: A reawakening to and a reconnecting with the natural world. Glad to know you're out there with me!



Kathy LaLiberte is an avid gardener and award-winning gardening author. She has worked for [Gardener's Supply](#) since it began more than 24 years ago, and currently serves as Director of Gardening. Gardener's Supply is the country's leading catalog and internet provider of innovative gardening products and solutions. You'll find hundreds of earth-friendly, garden-tested products at www.gardeners.com.



“Here in the deep south, we may have to occasionally fight the humidity and the afternoon thundershowers. It is a lot of work. But if you put in the time and effort, you can gain much pleasure from having fresh cut beautiful roses on the dining room table all season.” –John C. (as well as to share with friends – Editor)



WHAT'S HAPPENING

2012

Have you been to an Orlando Area Historical Rose Society meeting or event this year? Your rose society's officers and board members have been busy planning and organizing events for you but we need your participation if they are to succeed

OAHRs members Meeting and Book sale Sunday, **March 4.**

Rose Plant Sale at Leu Gardens, Sat & Sun, **March 17 and 18 - sign up now!**

Monthly cleanup of Rose Garden at the Students Museum - Saturday, **March 31**

OAHRs members and guests bus trip on Saturday, **April 14. Sign up now!**

The *Rose Lover's Gathering* 2012 on **April 14** is destined to be the best yet!

Spring Festival on Saturday, **April 28**, 9am-3pm, at the Students Museum.

We hope you are well AND able to come to a meeting AND attend an event AND offer your help. Remember that membership begins with 'me'. Be a member-bringer and invite a guest to accompany you. Maybe they too will join!

♪ Happy Birthday ♪



- ~ Hilda Polkosky -- FEB 17 ~
- ~ George Williamson -- FEB 27 ~
- ~ Margie Brown -- FEB 28 ~
- ~ Sue Napolitano -- MAR 3 ~

May the beauty and fragrance of roses be yours to enjoy for many seasons.

And remember --- birthdays are good for you. The more you have, the longer you live.

If anyone would like their birthday listed, please email the newsletter editor Roses4friends@aol.com and include your name, month and day.



American Rose Society

CHILDREN'S ESSAY CONTEST

contact: beth@ars-hq.org

All children ages 12 and younger may take part in the contest. They may use their own rose-related theme or choose one of the following:

- Why the Rose is America's National Flower.
- Why Roses Are the Symbol of Love, Friendship, Beauty and Peace
- Why I Love Roses
- Why My Parents or Grandparents Love Roses
- A fictional story about roses.

Entries may be accompanied by a drawing or painting. Essays should be no more than 400 words. The deadline for submitting entries is June 30, 2012

Mail entries to: American Rose Society • Children's Essay Contest • P.O. Box 30,000 • Shreveport, LA 71130.

ROSY COOLER

- 4 cups fragrant white or pink organically grown rose petals
- 2 quart glass bowl
- 1 bottle dry white, blush, or Sparkling wine
- ¼ cup vodka



1 cup fresh raspberries to taste (optional)

Ice cubes

Berries (optional)

Rose petals (optional)

Mint sprigs (optional)

Cut out yellow centers at base of rose petals to remove bitter taste.

In the glass bowl combine rose petals, wine, vodka, and raspberries; cover and chill 2 hours. Before serving strain the wine mixture and discard petals and raspberries. Serve over ice. If desired, top with a splash of sparkling wine, and garnish with additional berries, rose petals, and/or mint sprigs. Makes 6-8 servings.

(Copied from GreaterCincinnatiRS-Forum-Feb2012, editor Karen Freeman)

MOVING DAY APPROACHETH

by Jeanette Ryan

The BIG DAY is coming, if we are both well enough! That is the day we are redoing the rose garden. Even as we lie on our sickbeds, we have been thinking and planning how we can make a better home for my roses. I have been anticipating this day for months.

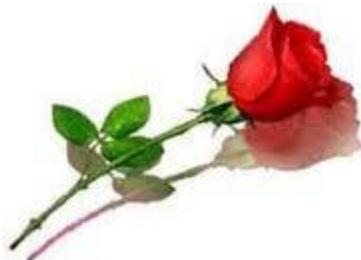


My husband - whose usual outdoor work consists of riding the mower around the property - has even cooperated to assist me in my mission and has built a model micro sprinkler system and has already tested it to see if it will supply my roses with the much needed moisture.

He has also drawn plans for my rose bed and has even promised to repair the sprinkler system when I dig it up or cut it when I am weeding or replanting. I am ecstatic! (Of course, nothing has actually really happened yet -- But - I have faith!) I have a helpful friend who is coming to help dig up the roses and rearrange them according to the new Plan.

Will the roses like their new home? Will they dislike the shock of being moved and decide life is not worth living? Will the sprinkler system work well? Will Jeanette and Eugene continue to be married after 44 years? Will the helpful friend still be on speaking terms with us? Will we all have backaches? Will the chili thrips decide to try a new location this year?

The ending to this saga will not soon be written. Hopefully, it will be a 'happy ever after- rosy ending'!!



***Queen of Fragrance, lovely Rose,
The Beauties of thy Leaves disclose!
The Winter's past, the Tempests fly,
Soft Gales breathe gently thro' the Sky;
The Lark sweet warbling on the Wing
Salutes the gay return of Spring;
The silver Dews, the vernal Show'rs;
The joyous Fields, the shady Woods,
Are Cloath'd with Green, or swell with Buds;
Then haste by Beauties to disclose,
Queen of Fragrance, lovely Rose!***

William Broome (1698-1745)

The Rose Bud: To the Lady Jane Wharton from "A Gift Book of Roses"
A Storey Publishing Book, Storey Communications Inc.



Another grower Caught Illegally Propagating Roses **December 6, 2011 Conard-Pyle Press Release**

West Grove, PA – [The Conard-Pyle Company](#) has recently reached a settlement with a nursery in Central Louisiana found to have infringed its plant patent rights on the popular [Knock Out®](#) roses. Conard-Pyle required the nursery to immediately destroy all infringing plants and to sign a binding agreement which carries substantial penalties if the nursery is found doing it again in the future.

The nursery was in violation of United States Plant Patent Laws that state that no one may asexually propagate or sell any patented plant without the permission of the patent owner. The nursery found in violation has been warned in the past and Plantwatch®, the well known monitoring program that is helping Conard-Pyle as well as other nurseries to enforce its Intellectual Property Rights was able to confirm the infringement.

“Illegal propagation is a matter that we take very seriously,” says Jacques Ferare, Vice President of License for The Conard-Pyle Co. “As the introducer of The Knock Out® Family of Roses, we are committed to ensuring that these plants are grown only by legitimate growers. This not only protects legitimate nurseries, it also guarantees that the consumer is getting the real thing and not a ‘knock off.’ Unfortunately, this is the second time this year that we had to take such an action, and sadly we are working on other cases as well as we speak.”

To ensure the rights of their popular Knock Out® brand of roses are being protected, Conard-Pyle is taking legal steps to enforce its Trademark and Plant Patent rights throughout the horticultural industry.”



Remarks on the “State of the Rose Nation”

(permission was obtained from Don Swan, Omaha Rose Society, Editor, Ramblin Rose, to reprint this article from his society's Feb 2012 edition)

The recent economic problems of our country have seriously impacted the rose hobby. We have seen many changes to suppliers that now limit our choices in rose plants available for purchase.

Suppliers

Jackson & Perkins, the largest retail mail-order supplier, was purchased and then taken into bankruptcy. Weeks roses, the largest wholesale grower of garden roses then followed J&P into bankruptcy when J&P failed to live up to purchase agreements for roses growing in Weeks fields.

J&P continues to offer rose plants for sale, but purchasers differ on how their service is compared to what their service had been. Weeks has begun to ramp up production of rose plants again under new ownership, but we can expect some shortage of plants available for purchase.

Those who exhibit Hybrid Tea roses saw one of our primary sources much reduced when Edmunds Roses was sold. The company reduced the emphasis they had previously placed on exhibition roses and moved towards more general offerings.

Weeks roses has become the primary source of supply of roses plants for local nursery companies. The variety of plants offered for sale is now pretty well limited to Weeks' offerings. Unfortunately Tom Carruth, Weeks lead hybridizer, recently announced his retirement.

The primary retail miniature rose dealer for many years was Nor 'East Miniature Roses. They had expanded to major locations on both coasts when management difficulties forced them first to close the California facility then to sell the company to Greenheart, a major wholesaler of plants. Greenheart discovered the retail sales did not fit their business model and discontinued the retail operation. Greenheart continues to grow miniature roses but only sells to retail nurseries – in the process excluding rose societies from what had been a lucrative fund raiser; selling miniature rose plants.

Rosemania had become a retail mail-order outlet for miniature roses, particularly for those roses hybridized by Rosemania owner Robby Tucker. When Greenheart ceased retail miniature sales two years ago, Rosemania picked up some of the slack. Rosemania began growing and offering many of the Greenheart-produced plants for retail sales. Rosemania also supported a smaller rose society fund raiser by offering reduced prices for quantity purchases.

Rosemania announced in 2011 that they will not be offering retail miniature rose sales for at least 2012 and 2013 as Mr. Tucker turns his attention, and greenhouse space, once again to hybridizing miniatures and away from supporting sales of miniature roses.

In looking at the ads in the American Rose Society magazine American Rose, You notice that there are few choices of suppliers. A number of dealers of Hybrid Teas offer only plants grown on ‘Fortuniana’ root-stock which is not suitable to all areas. A number specialize in old garden roses, not offering much in the way of modern roses. Only one miniature rose dealer advertized in the current issue.

Locally, most nurseries carry potted roses. The selection is dominated by the Knock Out roses and similar “easy to grow” roses. Most of the Hybrid Teas and Floribundas offered are limited, with a few exceptions, to those older favorite varieties which do not require patent royalty fees.

Easy Roses

I mentioned “easy to grow” roses. They fill a need for those who wish to grow roses as a landscaping plant. They are reliable, winter hardy and mostly disease resistant. They have come to dominate the local stores offerings. Most of the varieties, however, are not suitable for those who want roses for cutting whither for the home or for a rose show. They do fit into the English style border gardens as they have loose, informal form for the most part.

I began growing roses because they were a challenge. I read about them, experimented with differing varieties and types. I have exhibited all types of roses. My favorites remain those roses with the classic florist type bloom, whether they are Miniatures, Hybrid Teas or Floribundas. I have found a place in my garden for easy care roses as well as those that require spraying. I am finding that it is becoming more difficult to find the form I prefer.

Rose Clubs

I grew up with parents who belonged to the PTA, who attended church, who associated with their neighbors and who joined organizations they were interested in. I followed suit when I became an adult. One of the organizations I joined was the Omaha Rose Society – because they furthered my interest in the challenging hobby of growing roses. I followed that closely by joining the American Rose Society because the provided a magazine on growing roses – later I stayed in both groups because they supported growing peoples interest in roses.

Despite our example, our children’s generation is less likely to become involved in any organization, other than those their children our interested in. Where we pursued our

interests and took our children along to meetings, now they go to organizations serving children's sports, or join no organizations that demand involvement.

If our children's generation does develop an interest, they feel they can learn all they need to know on the internet. Facebook and other social media provide them with the feeling they are interacting with other people – never realizing the loss of face-to-face contact.

A result of the change to easy care roses, the lack of interest in any organization, and the use of the internet, all organizations have suffered grievous losses in membership numbers and involvement. Our society at one time regularly had meeting attendance of 75 to 100. The American Rose Society membership has gone from over 25,000 to under 10,000. Rose shows that once boasted of a thousand blooms and even once ten thousand visitors now make do with 200 blooms and fewer visitors than that.

What is the future?

I wish I knew what could restore interest in growing difficult roses and in joining rose societies. Perhaps if we quit giving new rose growers difficult advice, and instead encourage them to try easy care roses that also have florist form, we can restore an interest in more difficult roses in the long run. Rose hybridizers are continuing to produce varieties that may help restore interest in roses.

Rose societies are using the internet to at least allow new growers to know we exist. We are working to make meetings more agreeable to attend – we have worked to keep the meetings fun, informative, and varied in content.

You can help. Attend the meetings. Suggest topics on rose growing you would like to hear or even that you would like to lead a meeting about. You could even – *horrors* – offer to become an officer of the society.

I would encourage all of you who have not done so, to join the American Rose Society. The ARS is emerging from its financial difficulties brought on by reduced numbers. ARS introduced a new, modern look to its *The Rose* magazine with the Jan/Feb 2012 issue. Prospects are good to begin membership growth again.

Added comments from Pam Greenewald, Angel Gardens, FL

The economy is only one reason why some of the large rose Nurseries have gone bankrupt. The public has been fed up with roses for a long time. Every day I hear someone say "I gave up on roses a long time ago." In their haste to grow roses quickly for market, the trend over the past 20 or more years has been for the giant rose companies to "contract out" the rose growing to huge mega rose farms that grow

every rose to look exactly like the next one, feeding them with a constant flow of synthetic fertilizers, spraying with massive amounts of chemicals, grafting them on rootstocks that sucker, get diseased, and in general force the rose to grow into an unnatural size so fast that immunity to disease is sacrificed. When the rose goes home and the gardener cannot provide the rose with it's daily drug of choice, the rose quickly goes through withdrawal just like an addict in his first weeks of Rehab. The rose customer becomes convinced that he/she cannot grow roses when in fact it is the fault of the system and not the rose at all.

Those that know better are demanding roses grown on their Own Roots. Even the Big Box rose growers like Weeks are now growing many of their roses on their own roots. There are many reasons for this, including much better disease resistance, no suckers, stronger root system, cold hardiness, no graft diseases, and the list goes on. Therefore, the smaller Rose Nurseries that are providing roses grown sustainably (and even organically) on their own roots, who offer Old Garden Roses as well as Modern roses are not only surviving into the new Era, but are thriving. Just like the demand for Slow Food is catching on everywhere, so is the demand for Slow Roses. Organic produce is in high demand while chemically grown produce is harder to sell as it has done nothing but cause suffering and disease and the public is waking up to all of this. Many customers are "happy to wait" for a rose to grow slowly and naturally because they know the Temptations as well as the pitfalls of a drugged up gorgeous budded Beauty Queen in full bloom.

The public has been spoiled by this chemically-induced fast-paced rose industry where every rose has been produced on such a large scale that even Dollar Stores are able to get in on the game, selling the inferior bare-root leftovers from too many months in the coolers, continuing the failure of the rose -buying public to grow roses with any kind of success. We may have taken for granted the struggling small rose nurseries, not realizing the expense of time and the task of growing healthy viable roses where availability must suffer when grown correctly.



OAHRS IS ON THE ROAD AGAIN!

April 14 - 4th Annual Rose Lovers Gathering
North Central Florida Heritage Roses Group
at Angel Gardens, Alachua FL

only \$30 pp round trip fare

bus has 47 seats, toilet, and under-bus storage.

To reserve a seat contact Elaine Ellman, (emails are preferred) EE5815@earthlink.net

other info: cell phone 407-719-0344

([payment due not later than March 28, 2012](#))

make checks payable to OAHRS

and give to Ken Friedland

or mail to: Ken Friedland, PO Box 2406, Titusville FL 32781-2406.

Sign-up list available at March 4 meeting

or send an email request to Elaine indicating

number of seats to reserve and name of occupants

Bus trip - car parking and bus loading area
(see attached for map)

Just to the West of the intersection of I-4 and Lee Road is a Home Depot store. At the traffic light in front of Home Depot turn north as if you are going to Home Depot but once you are facing Home Depot there will be a Stop Sign. Turn left at the Stop sign and go around the west side of the store. When you get to the next Stop sign you will be facing the loading area. (5401 Diplomat Circle, Orlando) Go through the intersection into the Everest University parking lot and park along the wall under the trees. Please note that the loading area is 'behind the Home Depot' not at the Home Depot.

The bus will start loading at 7:15 AM and leave promptly at 7:30 AM, arrive Alachua 10:00 am, depart for Hospice rose garden 2:30 pm, enroute to Orlando 3:30 pm, and arrive 5:30 pm (times are approximate).. It will return you here at the end of the day around 5:30 PM.

Also, we may have access to a video player on the bus --- so if anyone has a video DVD (about roses or another form of gardening) please bring it.

Greetings from Pam Greenewald
and all the rosy members of the North Central Florida Heritage Roses Group

The Rose Lover's Gathering 2012 is destined to be the best yet! Over the past 3 years we have had such an enthusiastic group of rose lovers come that word is spreading how these events are "not to be missed". Even **Stephen Hoy** was so impressed with last year's events because he said that it draws a different crowd (people he has never seen before) than the "usual rose events" around the state.

Last year was so full of speeches and discussions about growing roses without chemicals that all were inspired by the evangelistic "Can Do" atmosphere with Rose myths being busted all over the place. With **John Starnes** talking about Probiotics for roses in the natural world

and 94 year old **Dr. Senn** speaking on Kelp, the Flowers of the Sea, and being surrounded by so many classes of roses being actually grown without chemicals, it was a site for sore eyes, a talcum for the soul, sweet honey to our ears, (You get the picture!)

I think the club members would appreciate so much having been to the very first one WITH Peggy Martin and having a Reunion with her now after all we have all been through in the world of roses and how the "tide has turned" to our favor Internationally, it is a different rose world than it was 4 years ago.

Peggy Martin will be accompanied by **Margaret Ganier**, who is President of the New Orleans Old Garden Rose Society. Peggy said that Margaret has been the head of the propagating committee for many years. She is so successful that they have 600 roses to sell this year at their annual rose sale at Lakeside Shopping Center, one of the busiest Malls in the New Orleans area. Last year they sold out in little more than an hour. She uses the moon dates (Water signs) to take cuttings.

Now we will be rehonoring 77 year old **Ruth Knopf** (who many of you know) as she was honored earlier at the GROW East/West events. She wants to talk about how she got into collecting the old roses and especially her favorites which are the Tea roses. She will be accompanied by her friend, **Joanne Breland**, who is the Horticulturist for the City of Charleston. I am hoping she will say a few words about the Noisettes that are so famous from that town. I am sure Ruth will have the book available and can sign it as well.

Speaking of books, **Gene Waering** will be here again as he was last year and will be selling and signing his book, "The Sustainable Rose Garden". He may even have his cousin, **Maria Cecilia Freeman**, with him. Cecilia is the botanical artist who did all the watercolors in the book.

And, of course, the other highlight is to be with Peggy Martin again who is as beautiful and gracious as ever and full of powerful insights about growing roses. I was fortunate enough to be able to stay with Peggy when I gave a talk to her Rose Society in November. Like the Phoenix rising from the ashes, she and her husband have created a lovely new home and haven for Peggy's gorgeous thriving rose collection.

I have purchased a nice tent for the event so we can see the slides from the speakers, have plenty of shade, etc. The guests will be treated to great potluck lunch brought by our members. And, of course, don't forget the Raffle that I always tend to "Overdo"!

When the OAHRS visited before, I probably had less than 500 varieties of roses. My own collection has grown to well over 1200 varieties with many new rose beds (hope I can weed and mulch them all before the event!) including a newer David Austin bed, a Buck rose bed, and a Cutting garden of old and modern HT's and Floribundas. You will see my 50 imports from 3 rose Nurseries in Europe in the Quarantine area who will be released for sale in Feb. 2013 (reservations being taken now). There are many Old roses in this collection.

*There will be time throughout the day to purchase roses which will be discounted 15 - 20%. I do encourage you to order ahead and let me hold for you as it will be less chaos (beginning April 1st, as orders before that will not be able to get the Event discount).

As a special part of this year's visit, I would like to offer a couple of prizes to just your rose society members for the "Most beautiful" and "Most Interesting" rose from the OAHRS members' rose gardens. This could be put in a container you don't mind leaving and brought up on the bus with your other belongings. I think it would be a fun challenge AND will add to the decorations. Please label the rose of course and maybe write a little synopsis on it. It is always fun to exchange these with each other as cuttings at the end of the day.

For fun, the group will also get to experience our Aquaponics Greenhouse which uses 2 different systems to grow fish and plants, both Koi and Tilapia. You will see my propagation of the roses in the same fish water as the veggies are growing. This is something very different and very exciting. The name of my husband's business is *Living Waters Aquaponics* and we are starting with 4 workshops this spring to teach others how "to fish".

The **Hospice Garden** is well worth seeing as it is not only 100% Organic, no spray, but there are some modern shrubs (Buck), Floribundas, and even HT's planted there and all on a fabulous state of the art drip system (donated by Witherspoon Rose Culture). It is a simple but elegant design for a maintainable rose garden and it will be over a year old. To realize that it only receives maintenance every few weeks is a real treat and feat to see how it takes such good "care of itself" because everything was done right. Hospice is proud enough to pay for an expensive fence for climbers and a future paving job for walkways. We released white pigeons and butterflies at the ribbon cutting ceremony last June!

The North Central Florida Heritage Roses Group is so excited about our sister club, OAHRS, coming back to "share" in this special day with us.



THE HERITAGE ROSES GROUPS STUDY, PRESERVATION, FELLOWSHIP



The Heritage Roses Group, formed in 1975, is a fellowship of those who care about Old Garden Roses, Species Roses, Old or Unusual Roses – particularly those roses introduced into commerce prior to the year 1867. Its purposes are to preserve, enjoy, and share knowledge about the Old Roses.

The **Heritage Roses Group** of the United States inspired the establishment of similar groups in Australia, England, New Zealand, and France.

In the USA, members are located across the country, in five different Regional Groups: SouthWest (includes all of California), NorthWest, SouthCentral, NorthCentral, NorthEast, and North Central Florida — with a Regional Coordinator for each area.

To join North Central Florida Heritage Roses Group, contact Pam Greenewald, gardenangel22@gmail.com

Ask an Expert



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Q. There is a plant blooming in my neighborhood that has large white flowers that fade to pink, I think. What is this and where can I get one? They are beautiful.

A. You are noticing a favorite fall blooming perennial in Central Florida. In fact the large blooms of the *Hibiscus mutabilis* or confederate rose do change in color. The flowers start out as white blooms about 4-5 inches across then slowly fade to pink and then deep pink or red over the course of three days. You can often see all three colors on the same plant making for quite a sight. According to legend, it gets its name from the flowers soaking up the blood spilled on Confederate battlefields. It is kind of a dark description of such a pretty flower, but that is the explanation for why it is called the Confederate rose.

This hardy hibiscus relative can grow to up 14 feet tall as a multi trunked shrub and returns every year after the winter freezes. It was once a favorite throughout the south and because it propagates very easily from cuttings. This plant is often shared from one gardener to another as a pass-along plant. If you don't have a friend that you can ask for a cutting, you should be able to find a potted plant at your local nursery.



Confederate Rose (*Hibiscus mutabilis* 'Plena') Jack Schaper © 2003 Floridata.com

If there is something you would like to know about rose culture, garden design, exhibition of roses, rose arrangements, rose photography, etc., that we haven't recently covered in our programs, please let Margie Brown (brown2010@aol.com) know. We want our programs to reflect the interests of all our members and would appreciate your suggestions.



Orlando Area Historical Rose Society

Meets monthly on the first Sunday of the month, Sept thru June at City of Orlando's Harry P. Leu Gardens, 1920 N. Forest Ave., Orlando, FL 32803-1537, programs info: 407-647-1219, Doors open 2:00 pm, program starts at 2:30 pm.

Free admission for first time visitors. Free parking.

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Founding Officers of OAHRS: (est. FEB 23, 1997)

Elaine & Ron Ellman, Midge Mycoff, George Williamson, and Peggy Coven

Past Presidents : (calendar year, Jan thru Dec)

Elaine Ellman 1997-1999

Margie Brown 2000-2003

Susan Machalek 2004-2005

Joyce Sydnor 2006-2007

George Williamson 2007-2008

Tom Burke 2009-2011

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We isernt mitaskes rounitley in tihs pubiclaiotn to prvoide amnumiotin for the contsanly cracitial. Mrak all cerrotcions wth a red pecnil and pcalle in curcilar flie.