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# THORNY BUSH

*Newsletter of The Huntington Rose Society; Huntington, WV*

*Affiliated with the American Rose Society*

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## Dates to Remember

**March 21, 2017** The first meeting of the Huntington Rose Society will be held on **Tuesday, March 21** at the Central Christian Church, 1202 Fifth Ave starting at 7:30 pm. John and Diana Fleek will be discussing **New Roses**. Who would not be excited about seeing new roses after crazy winter which is still going! Refreshment will be pizza.

### IN THIS ISSUE...

President's message .....	1
Banquet highlights.....	1-2
Food Drive Results.....	2-3
Officers and contact info.....	3
Mills Magic Mix order info.....	3-4
Pre-Spring Meeting Report.....	4-5
Membership renewal.....	6

## President's Message

**Monica A. Valentovic**

Greetings everyone! I would first like to thank all of our officers for the great job they did leading our society in 2016. One of the goals for this year is to somehow increase our new members. Please let me know if you have any ideas on ways to get new members for our society. Our Vice President, Linda Snedegar, has been quite busy organizing our 2017 programs and she has many interesting activities planned for our year.

If you missed our November banquet, then you missed a great time. I am grateful to

Central Christian Church for allowing us to have our banquet at the church. The food was excellent, we had great fellowship and were fortunate to have some members attend we have not seen for some time.

Lately it seems we have winter one day and Spring the next with intermittent gale force winds and pouring rain. Some days we have had a 30-40 degree swing in temperatures. Even our roses are showing some leafing out. That means Steve and Lynda Grass may be having blooms for Easter.

This month's program is **Sandy Lundberg's New Roses for 2017**. The program will be given by John and Diana Fleek. Sandy and Bob Lundberg are famous exhibitors from South Carolina who have an incredible rose garden. Hope you can come to the program.



## November Banquet

The annual rose society banquet was a great success. It genuinely seemed like everyone had a great time. There were 22 people in attendance, and a good time was had by all. The meal was fantastic and a special thanks to all the members that brought their favorite dishes! There was plenty of turkey, salads, vegetables, rolls and desserts.

After we all had enough to eat, the short business meeting was called to order by

Monica. The slate of officers was read, approved and voted upon by the members present. The officers were then installed by John Fleek. We truly wish to express our appreciation to John for once again installing our officers.



The Highlight...Bev's Ice Cream!

The installation of new officers was followed by the drawing for door prizes. Some of the prizes included the flower centerpiece donated by Spurlock Flowers, chocolate, scented candles, garden gloves and soil amendments. Everyone pitched in to clean up the hall. We left full of good food, wonderful fellowship and wishes for happy holidays. Our members are truly a fantastic group and made the evening special from setup to cleanup. Thank you everyone!



Let's eat!

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**NOVEMBER SOCIETY FOOD DRIVE**

Our society successfully completed the 6th Annual food drive as part of a community outreach. All members were asked to bring canned food or nonperishable items. For every 4 donated items, members and

guests received an extra door prize ticket. Our society collected over 150 cans of food, as well as pasta and rice. We also collected over \$40 in donations or checks made out to the Huntington City Mission. The items were taken to the **Huntington City Mission and they were very appreciative!** The cooks at the Mission were truly surprised to see the trunk full of food we had brought just prior to the holidays. Thank you for helping with this community service activity.



Rose Society Officers 2017 (l to r): Archie Snedegar, Linda Snedegar, Monica Valentovic, Gary Rankin and Beverly Delidow.

<b>HRS OFFICERS FOR 2017</b>	
<b>President</b>	<b>Monica Valentovic 304-697-0321</b>
<b>Vice President</b>	<b>Linda Snedegar 304-755-9486</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Archie Snedegar 304-755-9486</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Gary Rankin 304-697-0321</b>
<b>Assist. Treasurer</b>	<b>Beverly Delidow 304-429-4211</b>

### **Orders for Mills Magic Mix**

Orders for Mills Magic Mix, Mills Easy Feed, and other Beaty Fertilizer Company products will be taken by phone or at our March meeting. Please call Gary or Monica (304-697-0321) if you are interested in ordering **Mills Fertilizers or other products by March, 21, 2017.** You can also send your order by e-mail to [Valentov@marshall.edu](mailto:Valentov@marshall.edu) or [Rankin@marshall.edu](mailto:Rankin@marshall.edu).

Mills Magic Mix is an excellent organic fertilizer. The components of Mills Magic Mix include: alfalfa meal, bone meal, fish meal, sewer sludge and cottonseed meal. One 20-pound bag will feed either 30 large roses or 60 miniatures one time. It is best to feed your roses Mills Magic Mix in the Spring and give another feeding in mid-July. Feeding two times adds organic matter to the soil and provides a slow, non-burning feeding of your roses. Mills Magic Mix when applied in the Spring helps increase microbial activity in the soil. Each bag will cost **\$18.80**, if we can get an order of 50 bags. We will once again combine our order with the Charleston Rose Society in order to get 50 bags. This is a **big** savings from the normal retail price of **\$29** for one 20# bag. That is a savings of \$10/bag and our cost includes shipping provided you order through the society!!

We also will take orders for Mills Easy Feed liquid. This is a complete formula that can be used to fertilize your roses and contains magnesium and fish emulsion components. The cost of Mills Easy Feed half gallon is \$14.40 for 1/2 gallon (feeds 128 roses at a level of 1 TBSP/gallon water) and \$25.80 for a gallon. Rosemania.com is selling a gallon for \$39.99. We will try to get the Mills Magic Mix and Easy Feed delivered by the April meeting.

Other products that are available include:

- Alfalfa meal (50#, \$27.60)
- Blood Meal (50# \$67.00)
- Bone Meal steamed (50#, \$37.00)
- Fish Meal (50#, \$67.00)
- Green Sand( 50# \$37.00)
- Worm Castings (40#, \$20.60)
- Fish emulsion (1 gal, \$13.80)
- Humic Acid (1 gal, \$13.80)
- Fish and Seaweed (1 gal, \$22.80)
- Liquid Seaweed (1 gal, \$22.80)
- Super Thrive (1 pint, \$30.00)
- Super Thrive (1 quart, \$52.00)

Beaty Fertilizer Company is BloomKote. BloomKote is a 16-18-14 time release fertilizer plus minors formulated to specifically feed roses for four (4) months. A 20# tub is \$39.80 (1 cup/rose, feeds 35 roses). A 40# tub is \$71.60. Finally, they offer Rose Starter Fertilizer (11-40-6 with minors). A 50# bag is \$74.00.

A new product is 14-14-14 Polymer Coated Release fertilizer that is advertised to last 8 months. A 50# bag is 67.00.

**DISCLAIMER:** The Editors believe the information contained in this newsletter is accurate and up to date. However, the Editors do not guarantee the accuracy of any article nor do we provide any endorsement or warranty. The Society and the Editor's do not accept any legal responsibilities for omissions or errors that have been made in this newsletter.

### **Wrap Up of 2017 Colonial District Pre-Spring Meeting**

The Pre-Spring Meeting for the Colonial District occurred this past weekend from Friday through Sunday, March 3-4, 2017 at the Holiday Inn and Conference Center in Staunton, VA. There were approximately 36 people in attendance and 3 people were attending their first District meeting. A

Consulting Rosarian Recertification was offered at the District and required you to attend the Chemical Safety Talk and three additional talks from the five programs offered on Friday and Saturday. There also was a judges' seminar lead by Donna Smoot.

Friday evening had snacks and a presentation by our District Director, Ray Shipley on Gardens around the globe. We arrived after 10 PM were not able to see Ray's presentation in fact the hotel was really quiet except for the enthusiastic romping of our golden retriever to our room.

Saturday morning the programs began at 8 AM with Introductory information from Charles Shaner. The morning and afternoon talks were quite varied in their topics. We had a talk on Garden Chemicals by Debbie Brown from the VA Extension Office. We had a talk Deer Control by Pam Powers. There was a rose arrangement in the afternoon. We had a talk by Ray Shipley on different Rose Root Stocks.



### **Carol Fox Outstanding CR Winner**

During the Business meeting there was considerable discussion of increasing



membership. It was decided during the District Business meeting that the Fall Meeting and Rose Show will be combined with the National Rose Show and Convention in Gettysburg, PA. The show and convention will take place at the Wyndham September 8-10, 2017.



District Banquet



District Director Charles Shaner was our Banquet Speaker

**2017 ROSE SOCIETY DUES**

It is time to renew your membership for 2017. Membership dues remain at \$8 for individual and \$12 for a family membership. The renewal form is included in this newsletter. Send your dues to: Gary Rankin, Treasurer, 109 Cedar Court, Lavalette, WV 25535.

The Society is also seeking additional donors to help defray the yearly costs incurred by the Society. The levels of donation are denoted as: Queen, King, Princess and Prince levels. Donations at the Prince (\$1-25); Princess (\$26-50), King (\$51-99) and Queen (\$100 or more) levels will be acknowledged in our newsletter. Remember that our rose society is a 501 C-3 non-profit organization and any donations are tax deductible.



Abby's Angel, miniflora

**2017 MEMBERSHIP IN THE HUNTINGTON ROSE SOCIETY**

**NAME(S)** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS** \_\_\_\_\_

**CITY** \_\_\_\_\_ **STATE** \_\_\_\_\_ **ZIPCODE** \_\_\_\_\_

**PHONE NUMBER** \_\_\_\_\_ **E-MAIL** \_\_\_\_\_

**Make checks payable to Huntington Rose Society and mail to:**

**CHECK ONE**

\_\_\_\_\_ **SINGLE \$8**

**Gary Rankin, Treasurer  
109 Cedar Court, Lavalette, WV 25535.**

\_\_\_\_\_ **FAMILY \$12**

**Additional Contribution: \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**Levels - Prince (\$10-25); Princess (\$26-50); King (\$51-99); Queen (\$100 or more)**

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**The Thorny Bush  
Gary Rankin and  
Monica Valentovic, Editors  
109 Cedar Court  
Lavalette, WV 25535**