

Shenandoah Rose Ramblings



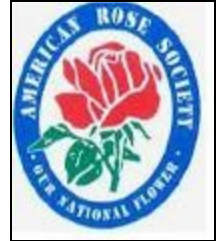
Shenandoah Rose Society

A Society of the Colonial District

Chartered by the American Rose Society

Volume 19, No. 10

Oct. 2017



Dues Time

It is time to renew your dues for the 2018 season. Dues are still \$12.00 which includes member and spouse. We also have a youth membership for \$10.00. There is no time like the present you get the young people interested in roses and gardening. A renewal and membership application is attached.

From the President

Our rose season is coming to an end. It has been a challenging one with wet weather in the spring and then hot and dry during the summer months. The Japanese beetles didn't help the situation either.

I enjoyed the National meeting in Gettysburg. I have attended several National meetings for the ARS Board of Directors meeting but this is the first one I have stayed the full four days. The next one is in Jacksonville, FL and I am going to try to make that on.

Shenandoah Rose Society members seemed to have gain some interest this year with more people attending seminars. We gained a couple of new members but at the same time have a few who did not renew their membership. The membership renewal for the 2018 season is starting now. I hope everyone will renew their membership. If you have friends or neighbors who are interested in roses, invite them to join. We also have a youth membership. No better time than now to get the young people interested in roses and gardening.

We have the Colonial District spring seminars and meeting coming up in March to be held in Staunton. This should be an interesting one. Pat Shanley, the outgoing ARS President has said she will be with us. I am also going to try to get both the candidates for the ARS Vice President to attend and have a debate between them. It should make for an interesting weekend.

I would like to end up our season the way we once did with a "Dutch Treat" meal at a restaurant. If you are interested in this e-mail me at clshaner@yahoo.com or call 540-294-2875 and leave a message if I do not answer. I was thinking possible of Home Town Grill in Staunton (was the old Shoney's).

Inside this issue:

From the President	1
Dues time	1
Rambling Rosarian	2
Master Rosarians	3
Roses and Winter	3

Charles R. Shoner

Shenandoah Rose Ramblings

The Rambling Rosarian

By Charels Shaner

This has been a difficult growing season. I planted my corn in the vegetable garden in the spring and not a single seed came up. The second planting produce about 60% germination. The season started out rough. The spring produced much rain and then it turned hot and dry. These are all the joys of gardening and growing roses but the avid gardener will find solutions to the problems.

The summer produced more problems with black spot. Regular sprayings were required to combat the problem. Spraying is sometimes a problem for me as I believe I live in the windiest place on earth. The wind is why I cannot use the rose cones for winter protection. I have put two bricks on top of the rose cones and the wind still took them away. If anyone wants some of the rose cones for winter protection, I have a small supply free for the asking.

I started rose cuttings in my greenhouse over the winter and had about fifteen to set out in the spring. This called for building a new rose bed. After setting out the new bushes there were only two that didn't make it. The rest are doing very well except for one of which I do not think will survive the winter.



I have purchased a new greenhouse which is larger than the old one. The people who write the instructions for assembly apparently never assembled one. The instructions said it could be assembled by two people in half a day. My grandson works construction and it took him and I all day to put it up. That did not count building the foundation for it which I had already done – another half days work. It had a manual vent opener and I contacted the company looking for an automatic opener. I was told an automatic opener would not work with that model so they tried to sell me another manual. I found an automatic opener on line made for that greenhouse. It was easy to install and works great.

Now it is time for me to start looking at the rose catalogues for new varieties. Fall is a good time to think about what you want to plant in the spring and possibly order for spring delivery. If you live West of the Blue Ridge you will want to note on your order to deliver after April first. If you do not your roses will come in around March 15th and it may be cold and snow flying as it did for me one year. Not the perfect time to get bare root roses.

I discovered a couple of years ago, contrary to what I had always been taught, bare root roses can also be planted in the fall. I tried this on the advice of one who should know and it worked. In the spring that bush took off like a weed and out grew the ones I planted that spring. This is an example of keeping up your society membership and attending meetings. You are always learning new ways to better do what you are doing.

I am trying out my new greenhouse and I believe it will work out great. At present I have 12 cuttings set for rooting. I am also trying a different product for rooting cuttings which is a clone jell which I ordered from Amazon. It is supposed to work much better than the root tone I have been using. As I did with the old greenhouse, I have a heater in it. The idea is to keep the temperature above freezing. I have it on a thermostat so it will not get overly hot during the day.

Shenandoah Rose Ramblings

Roses and Winter

by Charles Shaner

Many people get in too big of a hurry to put their roses to bed for the winter especially with a fall pruning. If you do a fall pruning, it should not be done until sometime between Thanksgiving and Christmas. You want the roses to be dormant when you do this pruning. I have had responses from other parts of the country that roses do not go dormant. These people must live in warm areas like Florida or Southern California where it stays warm all year.

If you use winter protection such as the rose cones, you must cut the roses back far enough to fit under the cones. If you do not use rose cones for winter protection then you cut them back to about waist high mainly to keep the wind from rocking the roots loose.

The “old fashion” winter protection was to pull soil up around the base of the plant. In the spring, you simply spread the soil back out. It was more of a job but a system that worked. You can do something similar by dumping a shovel full of pine bark mulch down in the center of the plant. In the spring, just spread it out.

The idea of winter protection is not to keep the plants warm but to protect them from the winter sun. In winter, the sun is low in the sky and shines on only one side of the cane. This does damage to the cane especially in cold weather when the cane freezes. It warms that side of the cane and cause the cane to bust and die.

I have seen winter protection from nothing to something elaborate like building a Styrofoam box to cover the entire rose bed. In the extreme north with a lot of snow, winter protection is not used. The snow serves as their winter protection.

If we have a dry winter you may need to occasionally water your roses. The plants may not seem to be growing but winter is a time when root production continues. You want to keep the plants as healthy during the winter months as possible.



Master Rosarians

Charles Shaner	Staunton, VA	540-294-2875
Meredith Yeago	Waynesboro, VA	540-943-7874

SRS Consulting Rosarians

Raymond Shipley	Lavale, MD	301-729-8271
Al Minutolo	Crozet, VA	434-823-1092

Membership Application Shenandoah Rose Society

Affiliated with the American Rose Society

_____ **New \$12.00 per year**

_____ **Renewal \$12.00 per year**

_____ **Four month Trial \$4.00**

_____ **Youth (up to age 18) \$6.00 per year**

The Shenandoah Rose Society is an educational, non-profit, organization dedicated to serving all those in this area who enjoy roses. Its purpose is to assist and encourage the amateur gardener. Adult membership may include one or two persons residing at the same address. With the one year membership and youth membership you will receive 10 issues of the Shenandoah Rose Ramblings newsletter, 7 educational meetings during the year and one rose exhibition. We may also have one picnic in July (covered dish) and a banquet in November (dutch treat). There are other public activities as they may come up.

All members of the Shenandoah Rose Society are encouraged (but not required) to have a membership in the American Rose Society. (P.O. Box 30000, Shreveport, La. 71130-0030. ARS membership dues are \$49.00/year and includes 5 issues of the American Rose Magazine, the Rose Annual and the yearly Handbook for Selecting Roses. You may join or renew your ARS membership through Shenandoah Rose Society. Dues are payable in October for the succeeding calendar year.

PLEASE PRINT THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION: I ENCLOSE \$_____ for membership in the Shenandoah Rose Society. Full and youth membership normally runs from January 1st and ends December 31st.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-Mail _____

Telephone Number: Home _____ Work: _____

Make checks payable to Shenandoah Rose Society and mail to Debbie Brown, 2926 N. Waverley St., Staunton, VA, or give to a society member.