

Shenandoah Rose Ramblings



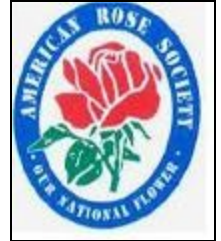
Shenandoah Rose Society

A Society of the Colonial District

Chartered by the American Rose Society

Volume 19, No. 9

Sept. 2017



Our next seminar will be Tuesday, Oct. 3, 2017 at the home of Charles and Barbara Shaner, 93 Shaner Lane, Staunton. You will learn the technique of rooting cuttings. Check page 3 for items you may want to bring with you. I will have some but may not be enough to go around.

From the President

I enjoyed the trip to Gettysburg for the National and District meeting. There were over 200 in attendance from all across the Nation. I did not have roses to show due to weather an Japanese Beetle.

The Board of Directors meeting was on Thursday and as usual was long. I took the Ghost tour of Gettysburg on Thursday night. I didn't see a ghost but heard plenty of ghost stories. One member in our group took a picture and a ghost did show up in the picture.

Friday was a tour of the battle fields. This gave a new prospective on the Civil War. Friday night was a welcoming buffet. I must say the food was delicious. I thought the registration was a little high until I realized it covered seven meals.

Saturday was the rose show. I don't know how many blooms were exhibited but there were plenty. That brought us to the banquet on Saturday night. We had good entertainment and good food. There were four districts officially represented for the weekend and district awards from each of those districts were give. From the Colonial District Ray Shipley was awarded the Silver Honor Medal.

The Colonial District business meeting was held on Sunday morning. A request was made by Charles Shaner for reimbursement help on his expenses for the weekend. There is a prevision in the District bylaws for this where the District will reimburse up to \$500 per year for the District Director's expenses. The request was for half of the motel bill which came to about \$315.

The Shenandoah Rose Society lost a little over \$800 on the spring meeting. The bylaws call for the District to reimburse losses at the rate of the first \$200 and half of the remaining expenses. A decision was made to go back to the Church for the 2018 Spring meeting to save expenses. The meeting will be the first weekend of March.

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Charles R. Shaner

Shenandoah Rose Ramblings

The Rambling Rosarian

By Charels Shaner

This has been absolutely the worst rose season I have ever had. I have fought dry weather, hot temperatures, beetles and short handed at work not allowing me time for my roses. It will get better one way or another.

I did get my rose fed and a fairly regular schedule. I took rose to the show in Martinsville but didn't do anything with them. I had one of the largest blooms from Marilyn Wellan I have ever seen. It must have been over six inches across. I was ask what kind of steroids I had it on.

It is the time of the year when roses are coming to the end of the season. This is when I start letting them go. Deadheading has come to an end. Spraying and watering still continues. I am still feeding but only organics. You should continue spraying until the plants go dormant. Fall is a prime time for black spot and powdery mildew.

Growing roses is something I really enjoy and sharing with others what I do and how I do it. I continue to learn from other people and pick up tips to make what I do better. I do not know of anyone who knows it all even though some think they do. They also continue to learn.

At the Board of Director's meeting in Gettysburg we voted to give \$15,000 to the research of Rose Rosette Disease. Hopefully some day there will be a cure for this terrible disease in roses. I think it has slowed down in our area but I still see and hear of a few cases each year.

Membership was also a topic in Gettysburg. Three new societies have formed in the past year—one each in Colorado, Tennessee and Louisiana. Membership in the ARS has started to grow. If you do not have a membership in the ARS I would suggest you get one. There are many advantages to an ARS membership. You can get in free to many gardens that have an agreement with the ARS. Many garden centers around the nation will give discounts.

The rose catalogues will be coming out in the next couple of months. You can order from these for spring delivery. If you live west of the Blue Ridge put a note on your order to deliver after the first of April. I didn't do this one year and my roses came in, bare root, the 15th of March with it 19 degrees and snow flying. I had not choice but to pot them and set them out later.

You may want to wait until spring and purchase you roses from Millmount. They are the same price as in the catalogues and you don't have to pay shipping. Even with that, Millmount does not carry all the varieties. If you are looking for a particular rose you may need to search the nurseries on line.

I like and have several of the roses hybridized by John Smith but the only place you can get them is K&M in Louisiana. I have had mixed results with roses from this nursery and they are a little expensive especially after paying the shipping.

I would hope everyone would renew their membership for 2018. October is when we start reminding everyone to renew. The only income the society has is for the dues of the members. \$12 is not bad for covering member and spouse. I know of other societies where it is much higher. Please consider renewing.

Shenandoah Rose Ramblings

Rooting Cuttings

By Charles Shaner

Our seminar on September 26 will be a “hands on” program on rooting cuttings. If you have it available, bring a ½ gallon milk jug and a one liter drink bottle. You may also bring your pruners. I will provide the potting soil and rooting hormone. You will take a cutting from one of my roses and I will show you how to set it for rooting. You will then have it to take home with you.

You will be instructed on the proper care of it over the winter and if all goes well you will have a new bush to set out in the spring. I have had good success with this method and had about fifteen to set out this past spring.

I have been using Root Tone in past years which gives about 85% success rate. At the Martinsville show I learned about a rooting jell that is much better and I ordered a bottle of it. We may try that and see how it does. I am anxious to see.

Most roses have a patent on them and it is illegal to root cuttings for sale. You can root them for your own use which is what I do. In our seminar, you will be setting a cutting to root for your own use.

Some varieties are easier to root than others. Some do better on their own root than grafted and vice versa. I have tried some that just would not root, some that took two or three tries to get one to take and some that took right off.

I will show you how to carefully select your cutting to root. The preparation of the cutting is very important. The care after it is set is even more important. With the proper selection, preparation and care, by spring you should have a new rose bush to set out. It brings pleasure and pride to know that you successfully rooted a cutting.

Come to the seminar this month and learn a procedure that can give a lot of pleasure and be fun to do. Your friends will ask where you got that beautiful rose and you can say “I rooted it from a cutting”.



Master Rosarians

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