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# THORNY BUSH

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

*Affiliated with the American Rose Society*

**Volume 37, Issue 6**

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## Dates to Remember

**Tuesday, August 21<sup>st</sup>** is our monthly gathering which will take place at the home of Gary and Monica. We will start at 7 PM. Refreshments and food will be provided by Gary and Monica. More information and directions in this newsletter.

**September 7-9, 2018** The Colonial District Fall Meeting and Rose Show will be combined with the Penn-NJ District Convention and Rose Show. The meeting will be held at the Wyndham hotel in Gettysburg, PA. Contact Patricia Bilson, 610-644-1860 [patbilson@yahoo.com](mailto:patbilson@yahoo.com) for more information. The registration form can be found at <http://www.pennjerseydistrict.org/events.html>

## IN THIS ISSUE...

President's Message.....	1-2
Officers & Contact Info.....	2
In Memory of Bob Lundberg.....	2-3
Horizon Roses 2018.....	3
Directions to August Gathering .....	3
Roses in Review 2018.....	3-4
Colonial District Fall Meeting.....	4
ARS Election Results.....	4
Watering Your Roses .....	4-5
Howard Walters Sayings.....	5

## President's Message

**Gary O. Rankin**

First, let me say that Monica and I are looking forward to having everyone come to our home for the August get together. Our roses have been recovering from the late spring and are getting lots of rain (and fertilizer!) to help them grow.

We have a number of new varieties for us this year in the garden. Ring of Fire, the new hybrid tea, has put out some spectacular blooms that really hold their form and deep orange color. In the miniflora/miniature line, we added Bob Martin, Old Tappan, City of Torrance, Dream Catcher, Pat Shanley, Heart of Fire, Chessie's Favorite, Ellie Marie, Eternal Hope, Fr. Gervase, Francesco, Meddlin Mary, Nancy Mae and Hugs & Kisses just to mention a few. Some are still small, but they continue to grow and hopefully will be in bloom for everyone to see.

In addition, to the roses and good company, everyone will get a chance to be greeted by our 5 year old Golden Retriever Bonnie and her new Golden

Retriever "sister" Casey, who just turned five months old. They love company and will believe that you only came to our home to see them.



Next month the Colonial District Fall Meeting and Rose Show will be held in conjunction with the Penn-Jersey Fall District Meeting and S in Gettysburg, PA (see article in this issue). We are just now getting a look at the schedules and it looks like we will only have 4 or 5 District Challenge Classes as part of the show. But Gettysburg is an area full of Civil War history, and a visit to the nearby battlefield is always educational.

So, we hope to see everyone at our home on Tuesday evening, August 21<sup>st</sup>, and bring a friend or two!

**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.

### HRS OFFICERS FOR 2018

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### In Memory of Bob Lundberg



If you ever attended a District, Carolina Top Gun or National Rose meeting you probably met

Bob and his wife Sandy from Bluffton, SC. Sandy presented a well received and popular talk "Sandy's Picks." Sandy passed away, June 18, 2017 after a battle with small cell lung cancer. Bob was diagnosed with the same lung cancer and passed away 6 weeks after his diagnosis on July 21, 2018. Many of you were friends with Bob and Sandy. We visited their garden which was stunning. The size and quality of their blooms was memorable. We have all lost a good pair of rose enthusiasts.

In lieu of flowers please consider donations to the American Rose

Society, or the Bluffton, SC United Methodist Church.

### **HORIZONS ROSES 2018**

The 2018 Horizon Roses has been published. This is the 35th year for this publication which is the most in depth reporting about roses you will find in the United States and probably the world. This year Horizon Roses includes 1,590 reports by 100 reporters from 24 different states. The reports include individual comments on the exhibition potential of 252 roses that have come to market in the last five years.

A big plus for the Horizon Roses issue is the inclusion of over 201 colored photographs of some of the newer roses. This is a big advantage as it lets you see the picture of the rose grown in someone's yard as opposed to a catalog. So how do you get a copy of Horizon Roses? You can purchase Horizon Roses 2018 in electronic format for Kindle at a price of \$9.95. It can be ordered at [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com). Make sure when searching Amazon that you purchase the 2018 version as previous years are available.

### **Directions to the August Gathering at the Home of Gary and Monica 109 Cedar Court, Lavalette, WV**

The evening goal for everyone is "Enjoying the Garden". Hospitality will

be provided by Gary and Monica beginning at 7 PM.

How to get to our home? First, travel south from I-64 (Exit 8) about 7.1 miles on WV Rte. 152 toward Wayne to the entrance to Rolling Hills on your right. Turn into Rolling Hills and follow the entrance road up the hill to an intersection with Hickory Lane. Turn right and go <0.1 mile to Cedar Court. The Rankin home is at the intersection of Hickory Lane and Cedar Court and is yellow with brown trim and a wooden fence around the back yard. Everyone is welcome and we encourage you to bring a friend.

### **Roses in Review (RIR) 2018**

It is time for rose growers to submit their opinions and evaluations of roses to the American Rose Society. Anyone who grows roses is encouraged to submit a review of the different rose varieties on the 2018 RIR list. This year is the 92nd year that roses have been evaluated through Roses in Review.

**You do not need be a member of the ARS to participate in RIR. We want to remind Consulting Rosarians that submission of a RIR report is a required duty for Consulting Rosarians. If you don't have any of the varieties, then submit that you do not grow any of the varieties. All reviews must be submitted**

electronically. Begin by going to the <https://modernroses.rose.org>

that is a link from the American Rose Society website. The links at the ARS.org website do not work when I checked this week. Register as a new user at this link <https://modernroses.rose.org/Account/Login> and you are set to review. Reviewing roses is free and your reports will go automatically to our RIRI coordinator. The electronic submission will provide immediate reports to our District coordinator. This year's coordinator for RIR is Pam Powers.

Once you register as a user use the pull down menus to select a category (HT, Miniature, Miniflora, etc.) and then a variety (e.g. Brenna Bosch or Silver Cream). The next step is to submit your garden and exhibition rating for the selected variety. The scale ranges from (0 - 10), with 10 being the best. You will also be asked to evaluate winter hardiness, height, disease susceptibility, and fragrance. Finally, you also have the opportunity to write a short statement about what you particularly like or dislike about each rose. The deadline for RIR reports is September 26, 2018.

### **COLONIAL DISTRICT FALL SHOW AND MEETING**

**The Colonial District will hold its  
Fall District Meeting and Rose Show**

**September 7-9th in Gettysburg, PA. The meeting is being held in conjunction with the PENN-Jersey District meeting and show. The show will be at the Wyndham in Gettysburg which is a very nice location. There is still time to consider attending the district meeting and rose show in Gettysburg, PA. The meeting is in a very historic location as well as close proximity to Lancaster, PA. The registration form can be found at this link and it not too late to register <http://www.pennjerseydistrict.org/events.html>**

### **American Rose Society Election Results 2018**

It is official and Diane Sommers has been elected Vice President of the American Rose Society. Charles Shaner our current Colonial District Director was elected Regional Director for the Colonial and Carolina Districts. Ray Shipley will be our next District Director as Ray ran unopposed. We wish everyone congratulations on their new elected offices. They will all need us to help them be successful in their endeavors.

### **Watering Your Roses Ronald G. Schwerdt**

The key to growing bigger and better roses is maintaining the proper balance in the soil of air, water, and nutrients. While there are many reasons why your roses did not

perform, as they should last year, some problems have simple solutions while others are more complex. Many are simple physiological problems, and have no relation to an infectious disease. Many arise from problems with plants environment, such as: too much water or too little water, poor drainage, insufficient soil aeration, or a nutrient deficiency, etc.

Water is one of the most common compounds on earth, profoundly affecting all plant growth, both physically and chemically. The dictionary refers to water as a transparent, odorless, tasteless fluid. To a plant, it is the lifeline of its existence. Water is the means by which fresh air is introduced into the soil, since rainwater contains more oxygen than normal tap water. When the soil contains sufficient oxygen, combined with the proper nutrients, it results in a greater pulling in of moisture by the root system. This abundance of moisture is what puts that crispness in the petals of your finest looking blooms, and substance in the foliage.

A plant's tissue is about 90% to 95% water. With this in mind, it is easy to see that without this vital compound, roses would not exist. While water is considered one of the main resources required to sustain life on the plant, it can also cause some significant changes to take place within the soil

that should be addressed. These changes can trigger the start of retro-gradation in a balanced soil.

What happens when water is added to a soil? It forces carbon dioxide out of the soil. The carbon dioxide is generated by the plants roots and soil microorganisms. At the same time, it carries dissolved nutrients to the root zone where they can be absorbed by the fine feeder roots. Even though roots absorb fertilizers from the soil, they do not benefit from it at this time. It is only after fertilizer has gone through the cycle in the leaves (photosynthesis), that roots derive the benefits of the nutrients. This is one of the reasons why a deep soaking once a week is more beneficial than a light sprinkle two or three times a week.

*Note: Excerpted from the American Rose Society website; [www.ars.org](http://www.ars.org).*

### **Howard Walters Sayings**

When I need a little advice about growing roses, I can always look in the Rosarian Ramblings book of Howard Walters sayings. Here are a couple to think about from past issues of the American Rose Magazine:

1. When you think you are the end of your rope, tie a knot and hang on (July, 1973)
2. When everything else fails, read the directions (September, 1973)

**2018 MEMBERSHIP IN THE HUNTINGTON ROSE SOCIETY**

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**Monica Valentovic, Treasurer  
109 Cedar Court, Lavalette, WV 25535.**

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The Huntington Rose Society is a 501 C-3 non-profit organization and any donations are tax deductible.

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