
THORNY BUSH

Newsletter of the Huntington Rose Society; Huntington, WV

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Dates to Remember

Tuesday, October 16th will be a presentation on "Winterizing your Roses" by Steven Grass at Central Christian Church, 1202 5th AVE Huntington. Monica will provide hospitality. The doors will open by 7:10 for refreshments and the program will start around **7:30 PM**.

October 25-29, 2018 ARS National Convention *Fiesta of Roses* at the Crowne Plasa San Diego, CA. Information regarding the meeting and show can be found at the following link <http://fiestaofroses.org>

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President's Message

Gary O. Rankin

There is no President's message as Gary is away bird watching in Barrow, Alaska. Barrow is the most northern town in the United States and it is

237 miles NORTH of the arctic circle. The residents of Barrow voted in 2016 to change the name back to Utqiagvik, which is its Inupiat name. No matter what you call the city it is way up north and routinely has snow in July. **Gary is looking for a Ross's Gull**



which is usually in Siberia or Manitoba. The second bird (bottom) is an Ivory Billed Gull which lives in Greenland and the arctic circle. If you see these birds, call Gary!

Huntington Rose Society Officers

President	Gary Rankin 304-697-0321
Vice President	Archie Snedegar 304-755-9486
Secretary	Linda Snedegar 304-755-9486
Treasurer	Monica Valentovic 304-697-0321
Assist. Treasurer	Beverly Delidow 304-429-4211

Fertilizers for Fall and Winter Monica Valentovic

You must admit we have had a very wet September and so far the month

of October has been extremely rainy. According to weather underground (wunderground.com) our September average rainfall is 2.99 inches or as Tony Cavalier the weatherman would say, less than 1 inch per week. This September we had 10.4 inches of rain, which is unbelievable.

On the plus side, all the rain we had over the summer along with our late July to September fertilizing program, has given us very nice roses that have grown well this Fall. They are certainly taller and stronger, with many more new canes than last year. As we ease into fall each year, we stay away from high nitrogen fertilizers. Promoting growth that gets killed in the late October/early November frosts and freezes saps energy from the bushes that could help them survive the winter.

To still provide a little fall food, we switch from Easy Feed, Miracle Gro and Monty's All Purpose Growth (8-16-8, yellow label) to Monty's Root and Bloom (2-15-15, orange-pink label). Monty's Root & Bloom is a liquid concentrate that gets diluted at a rate of $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon per gallon of water and is applied as a rate of 1 gallon per large rose and $\frac{1}{2}$ gallon for each miniature or miniflora rose. It can also be added to spray material for a foliar feed during spraying. In addition to the N-P-K, Monty's Root &

Bloom contains 0.3% chelated iron and 0.05% zinc. When diluted, the pH of the fertilizer ranges from 6.5 - 7.5.

The low nitrogen in Monty's Root & Bloom limits new growth, while the phosphorus and potassium aid in root development and winter hardiness, making this a great fertilizer for use after September 1. We usually stop using this product around early October and when we winterize the roses, we add solid 0-25-25 (or similar non-nitrogen fertilizer) to continue root development all winter.

<p>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.</p>
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Where to Buy Roses?

Monica Valentovic

Fall is a time for everyone to start letting their roses wind down, adjust their soil pH and remove old roses that were a disappointment. Fall is also the time to start ordering new roses for next year's garden. The question though is where can you buy roses? This month I am going to focus on sources for Large roses.

First, when you order a bare root rose it will arrive in the Spring looking like the figure on the next page, but will not be in a pot.



Palatine roses is an excellent company in Canada. These roses are grafted on multiflora which allows for better growth in our area. Palatine sells out quickly but they will ship to your house in November of this year or in the Spring. Quite often we order our roses to arrive in the Fall and we plant them in the ground and cover them well with mulch. Planting in the Fall allows the roots to become more established. However, the risk is that you must winter protect or your new rose bush will struggle next Spring. The Palatine Website is www.palatineroses.com. We have never had any problems ordering from this company. The roses arrive healthy with nice green canes. We distributed catalogs at the last monthly meeting from Palatine so perhaps something looked interesting for your garden.

Some roses to consider from Palatine are the hybrid tea Beverly which is fragrant and has many petals. Another rose is a new addition to Palatine for



this year. It is a light pink climber (left) called Compassion. It is listed as



fragrant. The plant can grow to a height of 8 feet.

Another online source for roses is **Witherspoon Rose Culture** (www.witherspoonrose.com). This company ships in the Spring. They are located the Raleigh Durham area of North Carolina. Witherspoon is a great source for David Austin roses. They also carry some disease resistant roses such as Home Run. We grew Twilight Zone this year and it is a short plant but has great fragrance. It is a very deep purple. This rose has great fragrance but grows less than 3 feet so you do not need much space or could grow it in a pot.



Twilight Zone

Witherspoon currently has in stock Blue Girl and the climber Joseph's

coat which are very popular in our area. They carry Ring of Fire (below)



which was a new hybrid tea for us. I really like this rose as it has a coral orange color that does not fade even in 90 degree heat. It has a light fragrance similar to Gemini. This is the only source of Ring of Fire that I know of other than K&M which will have it on fortuniana rootstock. They also list:



Fragrant Cloud

Roses Unlimited is located in South Carolina. Their website is www.rosesunlimiteddownroot.com. If you are looking for some unique roses,

then Roses Unlimited may carry them. Roses Unlimited is a good source for old garden roses. Roses Unlimited specializes in Earth Kind Roses which are more disease resistant. You must contact them by email and they will then respond if they have roses ready to ship next spring but it will be in a pot.

A newer rose source is K and M nursery and their website is www.kandmroses.com. K and M is located in Buckatunna, MS; they also grow blueberries. If you are looking for roses hybridized by John Smith, Eddie Edwards or Fred Wright, then this is the place to order these roses. Sunny Sundays (see photo), was hybridized by John Smith and is carried by K&M. Their roses are grafted on fortuniana and need extra winter protection.



Sunny Sundays

Another source to consider is Chamblee's Rose Nursery www.Chambleeroses.com, which has Dr.

Griffith Buck roses, as well as Earth Kind Roses.

If you want a challenge, then consider Wisconsin roses. Steve Singer provide grafted maidens for some hard to find roses. The maidens are on a multiflora rootstock which grows well in our area. Wisconsin Roses website is www.wiroses.com. Steve Singer has Cajun Moon which is a sport of Moonstone. Wisconsin Roses also has Louise Estes and Zach Nobles. Zach Nobles is an orange colored sport of Let Freedom Ring with great form. The one challenge of Wisconsin roses is that they sell out fast so order today.

These are some options for purchasing roses. I hope this gives you some ideas about where to find various rose varieties. Take some time and check out the websites. You might find a rose you just have to have in the garden in 2019!

November Banquet

We will have our banquet on November 6th at Central Christian Church. The banquet will be a covered dish with the society providing turkey, gravy and pop. Archie and Linda have already purchased the plates and table covers so it is starting to look like fall for our banquet. We will have a sign-up sheet for the banquet at our

October meeting. Please consider signing up for your favorite dish at our October gathering.

Kelway pH Meter Donated to Cabell County Master Gardeners



The society donated a Kelway pH meter to the Cabell County Master Gardeners. Debbie Martin and Jane Wilson accepted the donation on behalf of the Master Gardeners. This was a great service activity of our society. The Kelway pH meter will help with their education programs. The advantage to the Kelway is it does not require any batteries or charging, just cleaning the probe. I tested the soil around the azaleas at the church to show them how it works and the pH was 7 so a little basic for azaleas. Debbie and Jane were very glad to have this new tool to measure soil pH that gives immediate results. They will not have to send off soil samples and wait for results when testing a garden site.

2019 MEMBERSHIP IN THE HUNTINGTON ROSE SOCIETY

NAME(S) _____

ADRESS _____

CITY _____ **STATE** _____ **ZIPCODE** _____

PHONE NUMBER _____ **E-MAIL** _____

Make checks payable to Huntington Rose Society and mail to:

CHECK ONE

_____ **SINGLE \$8**

**Monica Valentovic, 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)

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

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