

Shenandoah Rose Ramblings



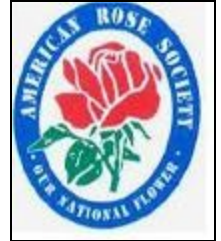
Shenandoah Rose Society

A Society of the Colonial District

Chartered by the American Rose Society

Volume 20, No. 5

June 2018



June Activities

June 2nd we will be at Milmount Greenhouses for Rose Days.

June 16 from 9 A.M. until 5 P.M. we will be at Kroger in Staunton with a small rose exhibition. Come by and spend a few minutes or hours with us talking to the public. We will raffle off a rose bush at \$1 per chance. The purpose is to let the public know we are here and gain new members.

From the President

I am getting excited about Shenandoah Rose Society. Some of the things I learned in Jacksonville about building membership are being implemented. Hopefully we can build the society back up to where it once was. I can remember when I first joined it was not uncommon to have 40 in attendance at a monthly meeting. I would like to get back to just a fraction of that. I know you get tired of listening to me give the seminars but outside speakers are expensive and we do not have the financial resources at present to do that.

First thing we are doing is we will be at Kroger in Staunton on Saturday, June 2 from 9 A.M. until 5 P.M. We will have a table set up with a small rose exhibition. Just enough rose blooms on the table to make a good showing. We will also raffle off a rose bush for \$1 per chance. Come out and join us if just for a few minutes or hours. Tell your friends we will be there—spread the word.

Another item we are doing is we will be able to accept credit and debit cards. Debbie Brown and I have card readers ordered for our smart phones where we will be able to accept cards. The money goes directly into the society account. For the past couple of years we have not received a single new member from Milmount. They sound interested and we give them an application, tell them to take it home, fill it out and send it in with a check. Well it does not come back in. If we can get their payment right there when we have their interest we have a greater chance of getting them as a member. Many people no longer carry cash and many do not carry a check book or even write checks.

It seems many other areas of the nation have societies that are growing. New societies are forming. The ARS membership is growing. Not only Shenandoah Rose Society but a majority of the Colonial District is falling behind. I have made a proposal to all the society presidents in the Colonial District that I am willing to travel to their society meeting and give a talk on Membership sharing what I learned in Jacksonville. Hopefully some will take me up on it and we can rebuild our societies and the district.

Our monthly seminar had a better attendance than normal. We had three new members there and they seemed interested in learning more about roses. If you have something in particular you would like in a seminar just let me know and I will do it. I want to keep your interest and build your interest in roses.

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Charles R. Shover

Shenandoah Rose Ramblings

The Rambling Rosarian

by Charles Shaner

Rain, Rain go away. Come again another day. Preferably July and August. I have not been able to do the work in my roses I want to do because of so much rain. I have registered 5 inches in 8 days. We are getting a couple of days break in the rain so maybe I can get some rose work done and mow my lawn hay.

My roses are starting to bloom in late May. I have noticed just a few aphids but the lady bugs seem to be taking care of them. I noticed one of the roses I got in Jacksonville has just a little Downy Mildew on it. Not serious but just a minor case which I can control with spray. Considering is such a minor case I may just cut that out of the bush.



Don't confuse black spot and downy mildew. The two may look similar to the untrained eye but are easy to detect the difference. Black spot starts at the bottom of the plant and works its way up where downy mildew starts at the top of the plant and works its way down. Also, the downy mildew circles will cross the center vein of the leaf where



black spot will not.

With all the rain, weed control is a problem. Many times I will use the old organic method called "Grab and Pull". In the rose beds and up close to the roses this may be the only way. Other than that I like to use Round Up. The patent went off Round Up a few years ago and there are generic versions of it out which I use. They are the exact same chemical and cost a lot less. They work just the same. There is a new version of Round Up out which I believe is a granular which you put on the ground and it is supposed to keep killing for most of the season. I have seen one warning about using this product. Seems it will leach out through the ground and kill items like your roses ten to twenty feet from where you put it down. Use caution with this product.

I noticed I am going to have to start my spray program. I have seen a few leaves with chew marks in them. With all the rain spraying has been impossible. Odd as it may seem, I have not detected any fungal problems. A few aphids but the lady bugs seem to be keeping them under control. Deer made a visit to my roses. They hit about a dozen bushes in the lower end of the garden. I guess they were getting back at me for putting the electric fence around my vegetable garden.



There is always something new and different. I was walking across my front lawn and had to stop for a double take. There was a wild turkey in my front yard. It didn't seem at all scared of me and I walked up within five feet of it. I guess by the looks it would go 30 to 35 pounds. Now I have deer, turkey, rabbits, squirrels, skunks, ground hogs, foxes, possums and coyotes. They only thing missing is a bear.

Shenandoah Rose Ramblings

Coming Attraction

by Charles Shaner

Yes, we have that coming attraction that hits us every year about mid June. That dreaded Japanese Beetle will be making it's yearly visit. The beetles were extremely heavy last year. In working my vegetable garden and in planting new roses, I have seen many grubs which indicates the beetles will be heavy again this year.

If you use the beetle traps make sure they are a good distance from what you want to protect. The way the traps work is to lure the beetles to them. You want to draw them away from what you are protecting. There are several sprays on the market that are recommended for the Japanese Beetle but it seems you have to spray ever second or third day to control them. When you spray the growth that is there is protected but that new growth two days from now is not.



About 10 or 12 years ago I put down the Milky Spore and it did what it was supposed to do. For several years I had very few beetles and then the Milky Spore wore off. I reapplied it last year but it takes three years for it to reach full potential.

Hand picking will work if you don't mind spending a good part of your day picking beetles. You would have to do this three or four times a day.

I recently came across an article that said making a spray from the Eastern Red Cedar will repel the beetles. This I am anxious to try. It has to be the Eastern aromatic cedar. I have plenty of it growing around my area. You can also purchase the cedar boards. You soak the cedar wood in water for 24 hours to make a spray. Spray your roses with this and it is supposed to repel the beetles.

The Japanese Beetles are a problem but there are ways to control them. I sometimes wonder what the next plague will be to hit our roses.

Election Time

It is time for ARS elections which comes every three years. This year we are electing a Vice President for the ARS. In the Colonial District and Carolina District a Regional Director for Region 2. You will receive an e-mail in June to vote. Voting will be done in June and July and you must be an ARS member to vote. Running for Regional Director is Charles Shaner and Edwin Krauss. ARS Vice President is Chris VanCleave and Diane Sommers.



Master Rosarians

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