

TULSA ROSE SOCIETY MEETING **SUNDAY April 9, 2017 2 p.m.**

Our speaker for April will be Karen Barnett of Roses Inc. located in Broken Arrow. Roses Inc specializes in selling roses. You won't find other plants there.

Karen is familiar with the new roses being introduced this year. She will be sharing her knowledge about these roses and possibly some information on where to find them. Karen will also answer any and all rose care questions as part of the program.

Why should we be interested in what new roses are being introduced by the hybridizers? First and foremost is the development of roses that are more resistant to the diseases that we face in growing roses. It is not that they will not get blackspot, but given the correct environment for their growing they are less likely to develop blackspot and similar fungal diseases. The correct environment includes adequate hours of sun and good air circulation.

Some of the new rose introductions will have certain growing tendencies bred into them. You can find varieties that will remain low growing if you are looking for a ground cover area as part of your landscape plan.



Above: Grateful Heart



Simply Magnificent



South Africa



Above: Polar Express



Tranquility



Wollerton Old Hall

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Looking Ahead

April 9 - New Roses
May - show time

Refreshments -

If you would like to help with refreshments for any of the future meetings let Judy Carter know.



Things to Do in April

- You should be completing your pruning and removing your winter protection if you have not yet done so. Watch the weather forecasts. Remember that your grafted roses will be more susceptible to freezing than your miniatures and own-root roses. You will need to watch your new basils and protect them from the wind or stake them up to prevent them breaking off.
- You should have put down your initial feeding of the roses. Keep in mind that your roses may not be able to use the feed if the pH of your soil is too high or too low. A pH of 6.0 - 6.5 is ideal for roses. Your soil pH can be tested with a simple tester you insert into the ground.
- You need to start your spraying program to prevent blackspot and powdery mildew. There are a variety of sprays available and you do not have to use highly toxic chemicals. If you have Earthkind® roses or disease resistant roses you should give them a chance to perform as they were advertised and skip the spraying.
- Watch the moisture levels in your soil. Some areas had a good rain but we are having lots of wind which can dry the soil out. If your soil is drying out pretty quickly you may need to add more mulch.
- Remember to water before fertilizing and after fertilizing. Newly planted bushes should not be fertilized until after they have bloomed.
- Pick up a show schedule at the April meeting and start planning your entries for the May show.

Remember the Tulsa Rose Society exists as an educational program for you and the community. Any time you have a question or problem relating to the care and growing of your roses feel free to contact one of the consulting Rosarians listed above or in your member directory. You can also find many resources online or in a number of good books on rose growing and care.

Who We Are

The *Rosarian Reminder* is published monthly by the Tulsa Rose Society. Submit information and articles to John Carter, Editor at 1825 W. Lincoln St, Broken Arrow, OK 74012-8509 or via email at editor@tulsarosesociety.org or call 918-355-8020. Newsletters are mailed or emailed to Tulsa Rose Society members. Memberships are \$20 for individuals or families. Membership benefits include the newsletter, group purchases of roses and rose care products and support from an active organization.

Your Club Officers for 2017 are:

Gordon Beck - President
 Dennis Voss - 1st Vice President - Programs
 Mary Horrigan - 2nd Vice President - Membership
 Liz Enochs - Secretary
 John Carter - Treasurer
 Dr. Don Johnson - Immediate Past President

Consulting Rosarians:

Don & Brenda Johnson (Sapulpa) 918-227-1954
 John Carter (North Broken Arrow) 918-355-8020
 Liz Enochs (South Tulsa) 918-664-5301
 Norma Whitehead (North Broken Arrow) - 918-286-8244
 Butch Neumeier (Claremore) 918-342-2885

Meetings are normally held at the Tulsa Garden Center at 2 PM on the second Sunday of each month. Monthly business meeting is the first Thursday of every month at the Tulsa Garden Center at 10:00 AM. Everyone is welcome. Visit our website at www.tulsarosesociety.org.

In the Tulsa Rose Garden

Approximately 300 new roses have been planted in the Tulsa Rose Garden this year, mostly on the fifth level. This is a "test" garden to evaluate the various varieties and their growth in the garden. Oklahoma State University will be monitoring for disease and problems.

A general workday in the Tulsa Rose Garden is scheduled for the third Saturday of each month from March through October. The work will vary each month depending upon the current need. Weeding will still be part of the effort of course. Hopefully it will not be the problem it was last year. Meet at the Tulsa Garden Center Parking lot at 7 AM on the third Saturday and help!



Tulsa Rose Society -- Executive Board Meeting -- March 2, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 10:03 a.m. by President Gordon Beck in the Tulsa Garden Center New Volunteer Room. Present were Gordon Beck, Don Johnson, Bev Forrester, Lester Stowell, Mary Horrigan, John Carter, Judy Carter, Dennis Voss, Sammy Stevens, Sheila Gist, Butch Neumeier, and Liz Enochs.

Minutes from the February Executive Board and the February Regular Meeting were approved as published in the newsletter.

Officer and Committee Reports

Treasurer's Report

John Carter gave the treasurer's report. Current assets for the Rose Society are \$10,076.59.

Membership

Mary Horrigan reported that one new member was added at the February meeting.

Hospitality

Judy Carter announced that every member has been invited to bring finger foods for the Rose Bingo.

Editor

John Carter can always use information for the newsletter.

Publicity

Mary Horrigan is sending out postcards to the members alerting them of the meetings and also sending out emails to our affiliates. The Garden Center has reduced the area that information can be displayed from affiliates. A carousel rack is the only available place to show information.

Programs

Don Johnson reported that the Weeks roses are in and we have 65 roses. People are encouraged to bring any roses that they are donating. Setup for the Rose Bingo in the auditorium was discussed.

Nominating Committee

Don Johnson proposed to suspend the bylaws restricting the term of officers to two years and extending it by one year, allowing an officer to remain in the same position for three years. Proposal was seconded and approved.

New Business

Mary Horrigan reported that the 2016 audit was completed. She provided a copy to each board member in attendance. There were no objections to accepting the report and Judy was thanked for her service.

Mary spoke with ARS to acquire details about insurance purchased by the Tulsa Rose Society for 2017 (44 members at a cost of \$5 per person). A significant change for 2017 is that the coverage is now a comprehensive liability rather than an event liability, meaning that TRS is covered 24/7 at any location. Individual event certificates are no longer required for coverage.

Bev Forrester reported on the Bring Back the Roses emphasis in Broken Arrow. She encouraged members of TRS to attend the Broken Arrow City Chamber meeting. A group will go before the Chamber Committee on March 7 at 6:30 p.m. to seek approval for Broken Arrow to adopt the tag line of *City of Roses*. Bev Forrester would like for as many TRS members as possible to be there to support the proposal. April 17-23 will be plant-a-rose week in BA. Bev Forrester requested a few minutes at the April meeting to promote the BA Bring Back the Roses Event. May 6 will be the Rose Festival in BA. Tent table and chairs will be available to the Rose Society to use. Butch Neumeier will be a judge for the show.



The Garden Center reported on the progress in the Rose Garden. Tier 5 has had over 200 roses planted to be used as a test garden for Rose Rosette Disease. Tier 2 was pruned with help from some members of the Tulsa Rose Society and students from TU. The Wine and Roses Event will be reinstated this year because of progress in the rose garden and will be held on September 29, 2017.

Old Business

Name tags have been printed and most have been distributed.

The Tulsa Rose Show will be held May 20, 2017. The Society will look into paying people to help with the setup of the Rose Show on Friday and teardown after the show. HOW will be contacted along with other organizations/people to see about the cost.. Bev Forrester said that she had 3 people who would help with the setup.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:03 p.m.

Liz Enochs, Secretary

March 12 General Meeting

Over 50 members and guests attended Rose Bingo on March 12 beginning at 2:00 p.m. in the Tulsa Garden Center auditorium. President Gordon Beck called numbers for participants to be able to win roses, and two sessions of bingo were available where people purchased cards for \$5 a piece. More than 65 rose bushes were available, and all were distributed. A table with assorted items for sale was also available to raise funds for the Tulsa Rose Society. An assortment of finger foods were available for all to enjoy. The meeting was adjourned at 3:57.



Growing Roses Organically

Tips from Karen Barrett of The Rose Pros at Rose Inc.

Spring is here and once again we strive to grow the beloved Queen of Flowers without the chemical pesticides and achieving the outstanding results, free from pests, that we're all looking forward to. I am here to tell you that this is the road less traveled. There will always be pests waiting to pounce on our rose bushes for the pleasure (and phytonutrients) that they derive from punching holes in our leaves and petals (much to our dismay).

Talking about organic gardening is also zone, crop and pest-specific. What we combat here in zone 6a-7b, in Broken Arrow, OK, is a lot of blackspot, aphids and thrips in the spring; and spider mites, Japanese beetles and grasshoppers in the summer. One of the best ways to act preventatively is to work with your local nursery to select rose varieties that thrive in your specific area. We hand select all of our rose varieties to withstand the intense summer heat here in Oklahoma; we do *not* select them to survive Minnesotan winters. That said, **in order for roses to 'bloom where they are planted', they have to like where they are planted. That will be your first line of defense.**

We also recommend selecting varieties that are known for their disease resistance.

Many modern roses have also been bred for disease resistance. Shrub roses are always going to be more dense and burly than a hybrid tea (the quintessential long-stem rose). Some of the new varieties we are carrying that we see excellent performance from are Francis Meilland, Lady of Shalot, Bolero, Iceberg, Cinco de Mayo, Livin' Easy, Julia Child, Icecap and Belinda's Dream to name a few. Earth Kind roses have also been tested for their ability to perform in adverse conditions. The highly prized designer roses like Double Delight and Mister Lincoln were not made for hands-off conditions, y'all. We love them, and their roses are phenomenal, but they do require more coddling.



Aside from rose choice, you must also keep your garden area clean. Pests love to harbor in messy beds, so we recommend new layers of mulch after winter; cleaning up debris after pruning or deadheading; keeping leaves and twigs out of the main bed, etc. Just put a reminder on your calendar to "tidy up" your garden, much like you would do any other room in your house. It is worth the investment of time, energy and work. What you reap, you sow! This will also cut down on weed germinating if you're diligent.



When it comes to organic gardening you always want to act preventatively.

A great reference for any gardener – pesticide-wielding or not -- to begin with is Integrated Pest Management. This will teach you lots of ways to implement cultural practices, like monitoring your garden for specific pests before they appear in droves; investing in a drip irrigation watering system instead of overhead spraying (which promotes blackspot); introducing biological controls like beneficial insects to bite off the heads of their enemies... I mean, target the

peskier pests. Talking to your local extension office about which pests affect your area is also a wise decision.

There is simply no replacement for good old fashioned hard work. When the Japanese Beetles arrive at our farm-nursery, for example, we go out with soapy buckets and hand squish any lingering beetles and/or drop them into the buckets. The soap creates a film that breaks the surface tension, and they can't escape. Lower populations of Japanese Beetles mean less sex hormones that lure more of them toward our farm. For aphids, our first line of defense is a hard jet stream of water to the new growth they love to gather upon. They are soft-bodied insects, so the harsh stream damages their exoskeletons and disables them to climb back up the plant. Also, as female aphids literally birth their young while they eat, this cuts down on the spread of the population.

For blackspot it really is about prevention. Keep mulch around the base of your plants so that the spores don't ricochet back up in a rebounding raindrop and implant themselves on the undersides of the leaves. Pick off *any* affected leaves – they will *never* turn green and shiny again. Remove problem plants from your garden, and keep your soil nutrient-rich: that means fertilizing, mulching and using compost, friends. Make sure that your roses are getting enough of what they need – just like humans, when our bodies aren't getting adequate rest, sunlight or nutrition, our immune systems suffer rendering us more susceptible to illness. Plants are amazing biological creatures that require our help. They can't move to seek out what they need. It is the gardeners job to help their root systems thrive. The health below the soil, will be reflected above the soil!

Lastly, choose companion plants that aid in your goals! Citronella, milkweed, basil, mint, garlic, chives, dill, fennel and lavender... choose plants that will draw in a large insect culture to promote predatory beneficials. Planting native species is also wise. Put the responsibility of protecting the ecosystem back on the plants and insects that naturally thrive where you are. By using pesticides we took over that responsibility. It is time to help our environment reclaim that role. An easy book to read touching on this subject is "Roses Love Garlic" by Louise Riotte.

We wish you luck in your organic gardening endeavor. Go into it confidently, believing in your abilities and resourcefulness.

On March 9th TRS held the fun Rose Bingo at the meeting and we hosted about 50 attendees. Gordon Beck called the games and we made around \$750 for the club. All enjoyed the refreshments and had a great time!

The following article was taken from the ARS newsletter "Roses and You" which all members receive. If you are not a member of the American Rose Society this is an example of one of the benefits of membership.

What's Soil Got to do With It?

by Rob Daniels President, Nashville Rose Society,
Master Gardener & Consulting Rosarian

When I talk to people about how to grow roses I always spend a lot of time talking about soil. As

What's Soil Got To Do With It?



one of my mentors told me years ago; "Don't go buy a twenty dollar rose bush and put it in a fifty-cent hole (soil)."

What he was saying is put your time, money, and preparation in creating good healthy soil to grow your roses; they will love it.

This is what you need to have good soil. A mixture of 1/3 sand and 1/3 clay (topsoil) and 1/3 humus (organic matter). You can amend existing soil with sand and organic matter with a premixed blend of soil that has sandy loam in it already. I like a product called "Holy Cow Soils" this product has everything you need to have good soil to grow roses. With worm casting as one of the organic matters; this should give you a loose soil structure that will allow air, water and fertilizer to move freely in the soil.

Remember, soil is alive with beneficial microbes and fungi that stimulate root development and increase micronutrient availability to your roses. So, once you have good, live soil keep it healthy. Keep adding organics and adjust your soil to the right texture and acidity. Keep PH between 6.2 and 6.7 (6.5 being ideal); lime to bring it up and sulfur to bring it down.

After you have this good, healthy and organic soil, you will soon own your own business with lots of workers. It will be your own fertilizer factory with earthworms producing worm castings that will provide organic matter for your soil and roses. They will also turn soil over for good water and air circulation around the roots. Just pay them with organic matter and the worms will do the rest. You now have good, healthy soil and it has everything to do with having great, healthy rosebushes and blooms.

Rose Food for Sale: We have 2 - 10# Mills Magic Mix @ \$20 each, 2 - 1/2 gal Liquid Easy Feed @ \$20 each and 2 - 1 gal. Fish emulsion @ \$20 each. These were ordered as extras for those who missed the regular ordering date. They will be available at our meeting.



Tulsa Rose Society

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The following will be available at our meetings.

For Sale:

Stainless Steel Plant markers:

20" \$2.00 15" \$1.75

Keep these in mind for birthday and holiday gifts!



Keep Broken Arrow Beautiful' s

4th Annual Rose Festival and Rose Show

Saturday May 6th, 2017 8 AM - 3 PM

Farmers Market, 418 S Main, Broken Arrow, OK

Hometown Rose Show: 8 color classes, Youth, Most
Fragrant, Mini, Small and large bouquets.

Bring your Roses from 8 - 11 AM - Judging 11 AM - Noon

Noon: winners announced - Cash Prizes & Ribbons

