

The Rose Vine

Newsletter of the Greater Gwinnett Rose Society

Affiliated with the American Rose Society

April 2008

From the President

Dear Fellow Rosarians:

Spring is definitely here. It is nice to see so many things start their life cycle again and to see so many flowers. Hearing the birds early in the morning is such a treat. What a beautiful time of year! I have been rather reluctant to start pruning my roses this year for fear of a repeat of last April's freezing weather. Nonetheless, it is time to start transplanting, plant new roses, prune, fertilize, start the spraying routine, and mulch. Whew, that's a lot of work! Every year Mother Nature seems to nurture the plants and trees, even though it is hard to understand the many challenges she gives them throughout the growing season. I hope everyone is on target for completing their springtime rose-related jobs. Just think, in another month there will be roses to enjoy and exhibit at the many rose shows coming up.

There are some local events in the next few weeks. Any event can be a success if you volunteer a few hours or join in one of the many rose show jobs. It is fun and also rewarding.

Pike Family Nurseries Rose Day, April 12, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm – Contact or see Don Schwarz at the April meeting for store availability. I am sure they could still use some more volunteers to help cover the remaining stores.

GARS Annual Rose Show, Atlanta Botanical Gardens, May 10-11 – This is a wonderful rose show with a huge variety of roses on display. You don't want to miss seeing it. If you have not exhibited before, it would be a great start to bring some of your roses to exhibit in the Novice classes. Many exhibitors are willing to assist you in preparing your roses.

South Metro Rose Society Rose Show (SMRS), Fayetteville, May 17-18 – This is a smaller rose show. So if you are intimidated by

exhibiting at a larger show, think about participating in this one. They would love to have you share your roses.

Don't forget to bring those plants that have become too abundant in your garden to the April meeting for the Annual Plant Swap. In past years, there has been a large assortment of plants. It is always a pleasure to see members leave the meeting with their plant choices.

Diane Snyder did a fantastic job in coordinating last year's DSD Photo Contest. As this growing season progresses, remember to take lots of pictures of the roses in your garden and enter them in this year's contest. Even if you see roses while you are on a trip, take a picture, label it, and send it to Diane. Over the last few years, I have personally enjoyed seeing the rose that won in each class. Contest rules were published in the March newsletter. Let's see if this year's entries can surpass last year.

Have a great rose growing season. See everyone at the April meeting. You won't want to miss Anna Davis's presentation.

Linda Bohne, CR

In Your *Rose Vine*

Dates to Remember	Page 2
Meeting Update	Page 2
April In the Rose Garden	Page 2
Rose of the Month	Page 3
Ladybugs—Good Guys in the Garden	Page 4
In Sympathy	Page 5
Upcoming Rose Shows & Conventions	Page 5
Rose Resources	Page 5
Officers and Consulting Rosarians	Page 6



Dates to Remember

April 1—GGRS monthly meeting, *Gardening in Small Spaces* with Anna Davis
April 12—Rose Day at Pike's Nurseries
May 6—GGRS monthly meeting
May 10—GARS Rose Show, Atlanta Botanical Garden
May 16-18—DSD Judges School, Bainbridge
May 17—SMRS Rose Show, Fayetteville
May 30-June 1—ARS Mini Convention & Rose Show, Oklahoma City, OK
June 3—GGRS monthly meeting
June 26-30—ARS Spring Nat'l Convention & Rose Show
July 12—GGRS Annual Picnic at Kim Borland's
October 4-5—GGRS/NGRS Rose Show, Buford, GA

April Hospitality

Jesse Usleton will provide this month's refreshments. Remember, you need only bring the food. Diane Snyder will provide drinks, ice, plates, cups, forks, spoons, etc.

If you signed up for refreshments this year, look for your name here each month as a reminder.

April In the Rose Garden

By Bill Belknap

The blossoms will be here soon with maybe even a few near the end of April. Time to continue, if possible, with our biweekly or monthly liquid fertilizer feedings and either weekly or biweekly spray program for fungal disease.

Plant: You can still plant roses, and with the warmer weather both bare root and potted roses, which have broken dormancy may be planted. Take care with the bare root roses. With the drought restrictions, make sure you have sufficient water for them. Bare root roses need additional watering to get properly established. After planting, water the rose well to help settle the soil around the roots and to provide needed moisture. With the drought we also need to make sure we apply a good organic mulch - about 2-3 inches - to help prevent weeds and retain moisture.

Prune: Pruning of hybrid teas and grandiflora roses should have been done last month, but if you find diseased, dead or crossing canes you should remove them to improve the health of the rose.

Spray: Hopefully, you have started your regular spray program for fungal disease including powdery mildew and blackspot. Note it is best to rotate fungal sprays so that you do not use a single chemical. Using a combination of a systemic and a contact spray on either a rotating basis or in combination will provide the best

GGRS April Meeting

Tuesday, April 1st, 7:00pm
Gwinnett Justice & Administration Center
Conference Room C

Gardening in small spaces

Join us to hear Anna Davis speak about "Gardening in Small Places". This is the same presentation that she gave at the Deep South District Rose Show and Convention, which most Gwinnett members who were attending the meeting missed. Anna is an enthusiastic gardener, who has had three rose gardens, each more fabulous than the one before. Her rose gardens have been featured in a variety of newspaper articles, magazines, and books, including *Landscaping with Roses*. Anna is both a Consulting Rosarian and a Master Rosarian, and is an ARS Horticulture Judge. We all have a lot to learn from her.

Annual Plant Swap

Don't forget to bring your garden "extras" to exchange at our annual plant swap at the April meeting. Bring perennials, annuals, roses, books, or whatever. Be there to join in the fun, and take home something special for your garden.



protection against disease. Be sure to follow the manufacturer's directions. Don't forget to dress appropriately – hat, respirator, goggles, long sleeved shirt and long pants should be your minimal outfit. After spraying, clean your spray equipment well and remove your clothing and wash well. Spraying in the morning is generally best as there is plenty of time for the spray to dry and there is generally less wind. You may purchase *Bayer* and *Ortho* products from local nurseries. Products such as *Banner Maxx* and *Mancozeb* or *Manzate* are available via mail order, if you do not have them.

Fertilize: You can apply liquid fertilizer on a biweekly or monthly basis. Alfalfa and Manure teas work well, as well as many of the products in your favorite garden shop. Ideally, look for fertilizers with micronutrients to help give the roses a balanced feeding. Fish and seaweed emulsions are also excellent sources as well as products such as *Response* and *Monty's Joy Juice*. If you cannot apply liquid fertilizer, consider adding compost to the soil. Remove the mulch and give a top dressing of an inch or so of compost. There is no need to work it into the soil, as the worms will do that. Compost will provide both nutrients for the soil and humus to help retain moisture. Reapply the mulch over the compost.

Water: Although roses require an adequate amount of moisture this time of year to put on the growth and those wonderful blooms, the watering restrictions must be followed. So far we have done well as the rains seem to have returned to provide much needed moisture. To help reduce the need for water; when you water, always water deep.

Mulch: If you have not already applied mulch, it is not too late to apply 2-3 inches of a good organic mulch. Actually, delaying a few weeks after pruning and fertilizing is not bad, as it will allow the ground to warm up a little faster. However, it will also allow those weeds to germinate. A 2-3" layer of organic mulch is probably one of the most important things you can do for your roses and garden.

Rose of the Month

By Amanda Borland

I know her as “Tropicana”; others know her as Super Star, Tanor Star, TANorstar. Many years back when my mom started growing roses she picked out a wonderfully, vibrant orange colored rose. And of course I helped her plant it. Helped meant I dug the hole and then filled in around the bush. “Tropicana” is the third rose my mom ever planted. Also my great granny Clark had this rose in her garden before I was born. That is why I chose “Tropicana” for this month's rose.

“Tropicana” is a hybrid tea. The bush can grow up to 6' and about 36" in width. Her registered name is TANorstar, but her exhibition name is “Tropicana”. She was bred in Germany by Mathias Tantau in 1960. Her orange, coral blooms were the perfect color for the 60's. She was introduced into the United States in 1962 by Jackson and Perkins Co. Her fragrance is



Tropicana, photo courtesy of Star Roses

very strong, distinct, and fruity! A great addition to any fragrant bouquet. Not just for the smell but the texture of color.

The bloom has from 17 to 35 petals, depending on the age and health. She blooms vigorously throughout the season. So you always have something to brighten up your garden. Her foliage is semi-glossy and dark green. Her mom is Peace, and her dad is Alpine Glow. And what a beautiful baby they made. This bush is so gorgeous, who wouldn't want it in their garden.

Ladybugs – Good Guys In The Garden

By Bobbie Reed, *Consulting Rosarian*

*Ladybug ladybug fly away home,
Your house is on fire and your children
are gone...*

Everyone knows the nursery rhyme, and everyone recognizes a ladybug. But what do we actually know about them? There are about 200 species of ladybugs (or lady beetles, or ladybird beetles) in North America, almost all of which are garden beneficials, preying on problem insects like scale and aphids. In Georgia, ladybugs may be native or immigrants, with different species preferring different prey on different host plants.

One of the ladybugs we seem to see most often in Georgia gardens is the "multicolored Asian lady



Ladybugs feasting on an army of aphids, photo by Bobbie Reed

beetle," *Harmonia axyridis*. The US Department of Agriculture released this critter in the southeastern United States in 1979-80 to combat aphids in pecan trees, and as always, the ladybugs spread beyond their intended targets. Many other ladybugs

that we see were also introduced to the US, some intentionally, some arriving on their own. The Asian variety is more interested than other species in aphids on woody plants; it eats 50 different species of aphids and other soft-bodied insect pests of pecan, crepe myrtle, plum, peach, apple, magnolia, clover, cabbage, vetch, pine, tulip tree, and maple, as well as our beloved roses.

The adult Asian ladybug is oval, about ¼" long, variously colored bright red or orange or yellow-orange with black spots, or dark with red spots.

Eggs are bright yellow, and are laid in clusters of about 20 on the undersides of leaves, near a good food source like an aphid colony. The larvae have been compared to miniature alligators, elongated and spiny, dark with yellow-orange spots on the



Ladybug larvae, miniature alligators of the garden

sides. Eggs hatch in 3-5 days, the larval stage lasts 12-14 days, and the pupal stage lasts 5-6 days. Depending on temperatures and food availability, the progress from egg to adult can take 15-36 days, but the adult can then live for as much as 2-3 years. Each larva can consume 600-1200 aphids, and an adult can consume 90-270 aphids per day. What an asset to a garden!

Since ladybugs are so helpful, we don't want to interfere with their labors. Avoid using insecticides when ladybugs (and their favorite prey) are present. If ladybugs are so good for the garden, should we buy more to add to their population? That doesn't really seem to work well. The new arrivals will stay around only as long as they find lots to eat – as soon as they've finished off your garden, they'll move on to another. And commercial varieties may not feed on the prey species available in your garden. So preserve and enjoy the ones you find in your garden, and encourage them to stay. Ladybugs are less welcome in the fall and winter, when adults congregate on light-colored, sunny surfaces, and seek shelter for the winter. All too often, that shelter is inside our houses. If threatened, ladybugs will secrete a yellow, foul-smelling liquid to discourage predators; this can stain walls and fabrics inside the home. However, they rarely bite people and do no real damage to people or to structures, so we are advised to exclude them if possible, and otherwise to tolerate them, perhaps sweeping them up in a vacuum cleaner and moving them outdoors if they become bothersome. Come spring, when temperatures



warm, they'll move back to the garden in search of tasty aphids.

*Ladybug ladybug fly away home,
The aphids are swarming and my roses need your help....*

In Sympathy

Our condolences go out to Louise and Bill Stafford upon the death of Louise's mother, Modenia Andrews. Louise's mother had been ill for some time, and had started hospice in the last month. She passed away March 20th at home.

Louise and Bill, our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Upcoming Rose Shows and Conventions

April 12-13—Greater Palm Beach Rose Show, Mounts Botanical Garden, West Palm Beach, FL, Bob Sanford rolasan@aol.com

April 25-26—Thomasville Rose Show, Downtown Thomasville, GA, Rick Thomas rthomas@rose.net

April 26—Golden Isles Rose Show, Colonial Mall-Glynn Place, Brunswick, GA, Kay Harrell kay@fairmarsh.com

May 10-11—GARS Rose Show, Atlanta Botanical Garden, Atlanta, GA, Chris Woods cwoods@us.ibm.com

May 17-18—SMRS Rose Show, Hood Ave. Elementary School, Fayetteville, GA, Cindy Dale rosepro@bellsouth.net

May 30-June 1—ARS Mini Convention & Rose Show, Oklahoma City, OK, Website: www.2008arsdenver.com

June 25-29—ARS Spring Nat'l Convention & Rose Show, Denver, CO, pegwilliams22@comcast.net

Oct. 4-5—GGRS/NGRS Rose Show, Bogan Park, Buford, GA

Oct. 10-12—DSD Convention & Rose Show, Birmingham, AL

*There came a time when the risk to remain
tight in the bud
was more painful than the risk it took to
blossom.
Anais Nin*

Additional Rose Resources

American Rose Society, PO Box 30,000, Shreveport, LA 71130, phone 318-938-5402. Annual dues are \$49 Individual, \$62 Joint, \$46 Senior (65+), \$59 Senior Joint, \$10 Youth and a three-year membership is \$140 Individual.

Membership benefits include the *American Rose Magazine*, the *American Rose Annual*, and the *Handbook for Selecting Roses*.

The **American Rose Society** also publishes four specialty quarterly bulletins: *Rose Exhibitors' Forum*, *OGR & Shrub Gazette*, *Mini News*, and *Rose Arranger's Bulletin* (\$15 for REF, \$10 each for the other three), to help you explore the world of roses. ARS Website: www.ars.org



The **DSD Bulletin** is the 2003 Gold Medal-winning quarterly publication of the Deep South District of the ARS. Subscriptions are \$10 per year, or \$25 for 3 years. Mailing address: Jim & Kay Harrell, 121 Shore Rush Circle, St. Simons Island, GA 31522.

DSD email: DSDbulletin@Fairmarsh.com
DSD Website: www.deepsouthdistrict.org

GGRS Officers and Rose Help Line

The following GGRS officers and Consulting Rosarians (CR) are available to assist you with your rose questions.

President: Linda Bohne, CR, 1960 Travers Circle, Lawrenceville, GA 30044, 770-822-6933, Linda.bohne@mindspring.com

Vice-President: Don Schwarz; CR, 3388 Lennox Ct., Lawrenceville, GA 30044, 770-979-4237, berdks@mindspring.com

Secretary: Rosie Tripp, 1220 Taramore Drive, Suwanee, GA 30024, 770-476-8014, aroseinga@charter.net

Treasurer: Kim Borland, 6705 Mountain Meadow Dr., Clermont, GA 30527, 770-983-1806, kim.borland@yahoo.com

Hospitality Coordinator: Diane Snyder, CR, 1028 Gate Post Lane, Lawrenceville, GA 30044, 770-985-8861, roberthsnnyder@bellsouth.net

Newsletter Editor: Nancy Miller, CR, 1974 Branches Way, Lawrenceville, GA 30043, 770-963-6490, 2manyroses@bellsouth.net

Newsletter Distribution: Bill Belknap, 715 Singley Court, Lawrenceville, GA 30044, 770-985-0467, wmb1@bellsouth.net

Web Site: <http://www.gwinnettrose.org>

While the advice and information in this newsletter is believed to be true and accurate, neither the authors nor Editor can accept any legal responsibility for any errors or omissions that may have been made. The GGRS or ARS makes no warranty, expressed or implied, with respect to the material contained herein.

Consulting Rosarians

Wallace Beggs 706-754-4369 wabeggs@juno.com

Linda Bohne 770-822-6933 Linda.bohne@mindspring.com

Kim Borland 770-983-1806 kim.borland@yahoo.com

◆Susan Clingenpeel 770-868-4476 Roses4sjc@comcast.net

Henry Everett 770-938-3134 dandlioncat@earthlink.net

Nancy Miller 770-963-6490 2manyroses@bellsouth.net

Karen Radde 706-548-3372 knradde@hughes.net

Bobbie Reed 770-979-4237 berdks@mindspring.com

Don Schwarz 770-979-4237 berdks@mindspring.com

Diane Snyder 770-985-8861 roberthsnnyder@bellsouth.net

Louise Stafford 770-985-6014 roseylou@earthlink.net

◆*Master Rosarian*

The Greater Gwinnett Rose Society, which is affiliated with the American Rose Society, meets at the Gwinnett County Justice and Administration Center, 75 Langley Drive, Lawrenceville, on the first Tuesday of most months. Membership is open to anyone interested in growing roses. Annual dues are \$15 for one person or \$20 for two people at the same address. Membership benefits include the newsletter; meetings with informative speakers and programs; and conversations with some really nice rose-growing people! Contact any officer for more information, or come to a meeting.

Renewal: All memberships are now due. If there is an error in your mailing address, please notify Kim Borland.

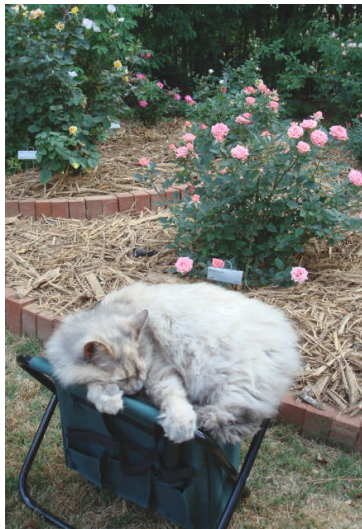
The Rose Vine

A Publication of the Greater Gwinnett Rose Society

Nancy Miller, Editor

1974 Branches Way

Lawrenceville, GA 30043



Llama Kitty is looking forward to another season of relaxing in the rose garden.

photo by Nancy Miller