



ROSE PROSE
OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE
FORT WORTH ROSE SOCIETY
AN AFFILIATE OF THE AMERICAN ROSE SOCIETY



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LARRY WILEY, EDITOR
WWW.FORTWORTHROSESOCIETY.ORG



Photo by Jay Goode

It's time to pay your 2011 dues!

If you have not yet paid your annual dues, please mail them to Treasurer Larry Norris or bring to the next meeting. You can find Larry's address and other membership information on the membership form at the end of the newsletter.

Don't miss our next meeting on Tuesday, February 1, in the Garden Center of the Fort Worth Botanic Garden. Hospitality time at 6:30 p.m., followed by the program at 7:00 p.m. Jeff Myers, Chief Rosarian of the Fort Worth Botanic Garden, will talk about Pruning Roses and discuss and demonstrate proper rose pruning techniques.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY JANICE CLARKE



Hi Everyone,

I hope you have had a great holiday season and will have a wonderful New Year.

I would like to thank Jack Walter and Virginia Carpenter for their help, flowers, and persistence in getting to our Christmas party

at Mimi's. Also, the decorations furnished by Claude and Claire Brown were greatly admired and enjoyed by all. Thanks to Larry Wiley and Jay Goode for photographing our event and to Lorna Parker's (our new publicity person) efforts to include our celebration in the Click section of the Fort Worth Star-Telegram. We also appreciated hearing from Mary Kathryn Anderson about the activities of the Tarrant Area Food Bank. Our Christmas gatherings give us an opportunity to visit with each other, share experiences, relax, and just enjoy life in very pleasant surroundings.

Larry Norris, our new treasurer, collected \$460.00 and 14 cans of food from the participants for the Tarrant Area Food Bank. That translates into 1,854 meals for those who can not obtain meals on their own. I am very proud to be a part of such a caring and generous group of people. For a short time, we made life a little better for others who are less fortunate than we are.

I look forward to working with our newly elected board members. Matt Orwatt and Nan Garvin have been very busy planning our new program schedule and I can promise you, it is an outstanding one. They have procured some well-known

speakers, from a variety of backgrounds, speaking on a fascinating range of topics, plus Linda Larkin has invited us to her home in April. How good does it get? The tentative 2011 schedule is on p. 8.

Jeff Myers, Chief Rosarian of the Fort Worth Botanic Garden, will be the speaker for our February 1 meeting in the Camellia Room. His topic will be PRUNING ROSES and he will discuss and demonstrate proper rose pruning techniques. We can later apply what we have learned to our February 19 pruning event in the Botanic Garden. This is one of our annual service activities; we need as many volunteers as possible. We will meet at 9:00 a.m. in front of The Gardens Restaurant in the Botanic Garden; please bring your rose pruning tools, gloves, friends, etc.

As an extension of our Fort Worth pruning activity, Pam Smith (Landscape Manager for the National Earth-Kind Trial Rose Garden & Display Gardens) in Farmer's Branch has invited us to their pruning clinic at 10:00 a.m. on February 12 to help with their pruning. Pam is doing a program for us in August and has offered the facilities at Farmer's Branch (free of charge) to the Fort Worth Rose Society/Dallas Rose Society South Central District (SCD) Convention. Farmer's Branch would not accept any cash donations for their efforts, so this is an opportunity for us to reciprocate. If you are interested, please let me know at our February meeting, or contact me at home.

I hope to see you at the meeting and at the two rose pruning sites.

EDITOR'S NOTE: I am honoring the president's request that her column not be edited.

EDITOR'S NOTES

BY LARRY WILEY



It is a cold winter day as I write this, not much in the way of roses to observe at this time. However, many of us had roses through Christmas day, a first for yours truly. **Jim Suggs** said he also was cutting roses in late December. A real treat.

And speaking of treats, how about the cover photo of a late December 'Veteran's Honor' (HT, 1999), taken by our own Webmaster, **Jay**

Goode? Remarkable! (FYI, Jay will be presenting a program for the FWRS in July on photographing roses.) Also check out the home page of our website, fortworthrosesociety.org,

WEBSITE REPORT JAY GOODE, WEBMASTER

Who would have thought it! My roses were blooming on Christmas Day. Not all of them, but the bloom that survived was breathtaking! Had a 'Veterans Honor' survive two days in full bloom in the wintery snow. Everyone underestimates roses, and Rosarians, too.

As the Fort Worth Rose Society's web site entered the Christmas weeks, the visitor count trended down slightly. We had 56 unique visitors who viewed 236 pages. The page most often viewed was the FWRS calendar. I try to keep the calendar up to date and accurate. If there are any inaccuracies, please let me know.

The calendar for 2011 year starts off with a gardening series offered free in Farmers Branch. It is called Landscaping with Roses. The courses will be taught by Dr. Steven George and horticulturist Pam Smith. They will have other speakers, including noted rose journalist Carole Mainwaring of the Red River Rose Society. She is the editor of the award winning Roses on the Red newsletter.

The last day of the series is a course on pruning. It is taught in the beautiful Farmers Branch Garden. I get to enjoy that garden weekly during the summer months. Bill Cashin and I are volunteer pruners. More like ole dead heads, we are.

I hope all you who can will be going to the South Central District's Consulting Rosarian School in Sherman, Texas. It was booked up as of early this week. Some 45 prospective Consulting Rosarians will take the course and become CR's. It's a real honor. If you missed it, then you can take the course when the South Central District holds its convention in Farmers Branch in October. That's on the calendar, too.

The calendar is constantly changing. So go out and look from time to time. Try to make it at least once a week. I am sending Larry an image of my 'Veterans Honor'. Hope he has room for it. If not, I will put it on the web site.

where he has posted some great video and still pictures of our Christmas Dinner.

Hope you saw the photos from our Christmas dinner in the "Click" section of the Fort Worth Star Telegram. Only three of the five I sent were published, but you can go to <http://preview.tinyurl.com/4epsm6t> to see all of them. Thanks to **Lorna Parker**, our new publicity person for arranging this. If you want copies of any of these, please let me know and I'll e-mail them to you.

Congratulations to **Herschell and Cheryl Fortner** for being awarded the ARS Bronze Medal for outstanding service to the Fort Worth Rose Society. Well deserved!

Be sure to check out the great deal on rose bushes offered by **Jack Walter**. Go to p. 6 for details of this outstanding offer. There will be more information at the meeting on February 1.

Linda Larkin and Ken Owens looking "Christmasy".



MEETING MINUTES DECEMBER 9, 2010 (LARRY WILEY FOR) YVETTE HENRY, SECRETARY

The annual Christmas party was held at Mimi's Café on December 9.

Approximately 36 members attended and donated \$460 and canned goods to the Tarrant Food Bank, the FWRS's chosen charitable organization.

Herschell and Cheryl Fortner were awarded the ARS Bronze Award for meritorious service to the FWRS.

Congratulations!

The 2011 officers were expertly installed by Jack Walter.

FEBRUARY ROSE NOTES

BY JIM MCCARTY, HORTICULTURE EDITOR

BEWARE THE DREAD "CABIN FEVER" DISEASE!



Baseball and football seasons are over. Soccer and hockey, at least for the writer, are yawn events. Golf is lost in the "Woods". Cricket—come on, this is a serious article! But hark! There are rumblings from the rose beds. A sure cure for

cabin fever is the sound of cold winds sighing through the bramble thicket you so short a time ago called your splendid rose garden. Repeating the writer's biannual quote, "Once more into the breach, dear friends, once more." The rest of the quote discusses healing the gap with English bodies. This is a bit drastic for our purpose here, however there will be casualties. The van of the rose resistance consists of the dreaded thorn lancers. The cavalry is massed in the form of insects, the rose spy force, what else but thrips. (The artistry of the writer in formulating weird—and what some unkind persons would say "really dumb" associations—is consummate.) You will be spared further beautiful descriptive comparisons by civic ordinances requiring a modicum of good taste. Still, you get the idea that the roses "suffer the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune". (The writer cannot just stop this habit cold turkey.)

First, do no harm. Too early pruning and/or feeding will bring forth shoots that stand no chance of surviving a freezing episode. The harm is not temporary as it uses nutrient resources that were necessary for the later good blooming and plant growth processes. Also be cognizant of your plants' continuing need for water. In cold periods the soil moisture tends to last longer, but it still will not span a protracted dry spell. Then there is the matter of mulch. One of the sterling properties of organic mulch is its habit of forming new soil. This begs the question of, "What happens to the mulch if it forms new soil?" To display his splendid grasp of the subject, the writer simply says, "it disappears." Even HE is right sometimes. In this case your early fall application may need a new layering. Those of us who are using plants

on '*fortuniana*' rootstock should pay particular attention to this by heaping extra mulch around the base of the plant. As Jack Walter has reminded us, this is primarily a subtropical rootstock that performs magnificently if given this extra protection.

Spraying the soil for overwintering black spot is the third rail of advice articles such as this. Our brave Horticulture Editor therefore merely says, "It ain't against the law."

Pruning has been, and perhaps still is, accomplished about the middle of February. In later years, this has tended to put our prime blooming period earlier than our usual Spring Show dates. Many are extending the pruning over several weeks to better accommodate this situation.

Spring feeding is determined by the type of food and the grower's guess on weather conditions. Some feeding with mulch applications can be justified on the basis of the mulch's consumption of nitrogen in the oxidation of the same.

Such strenuous pontificating has tired the writer's aging brain so he will rest it until next month.

After word!

A little Irish thought for 2011.

*May your thoughts be glad as the Shamrocks.
May your heart be light as a song.
May each day bring you bright happy hours,
That stay with you all the year long.*



'Brass Band' (F) 1993 Photo by Rich Baer

IF IT'S FEBRUARY, WE SHOULD BE...

Watering	Feeding	Spraying	Mulching	Planting	Pruning	Other
Water - a moist bed survives the cold better.	Feeding in February should probably emphasize replacing lost nitrogen. Consider the weather report before applying. This should be done after pruning late in the month or early March.	If you spray for fungus, you should do so after pruning. Check bushes for unusual problems such as scale and crown gall. Spraying for critters should probably be on an "as necessary" basis.	Keep 3 to six inches on beds. Same story, but may need more mulch. Some has turned to good soil and some has just oxidized into the air. Watch for late freezes. Mulching is much easier after pruning.	Watch weather reports and don't plant in the face of a blue norther. Protect with more mulch before a freeze. Planting done now will have a good chance for bloom this spring.	This is generally the pruning month. Begin in the middle of Feb. and plan it for the length of time you wish to spread your bloom. This is a subjective plan and will vary in its results.	Mulch, particularly pine bark will wash off of many raised beds. Be sure to replace. If you love your roses, mulch them. If not, that is another problem. Even hardwood oxidizes and needs supplementing

Pruning for bloom, shape, and deadwood should be started the middle of the month and be finished by March. Replenish mulch and practice clean beds. Run leaves through compost beds to break them down. Feeding may be judiciously started now with an eye cocked to the weather. In the absence of soil testing, feeding should emphasize nitrogen. This has almost certainly been drastically reduced by this month.

Some Scenes from the Christmas Party

(Photos #1, 4, and 5 by Jay Goode; # 2 and 4 by Larry Wiley.)



1. Herschell and Cheryl Fortner, Bronze Medal winners.



2. Carolyn Hayward, Janice Clarke, and Concha Jones.



3. Jimmy and Rosemary Sanford.



4. Nan Garvin



5. Linda Mitchell

ROSE SALE!

Jack Walter of Kimbrew-Walter Roses has offered to obtain roses for members of rose societies in the area. He has generously offered to donate \$5.00 per bush purchased to the ARS in the name of our District—a very good deal for our American Rose Society. Help support the ARS by ordering through Kimbrew-Walter.

Just peruse the list of roses below and follow the instructions. More information will be available at the February 1 meeting.

Instructions:

1. List the varieties requested and the number of each.
2. Provide the desired shipping date (roses will be shipped on Mondays or Tuesdays via UPS).
3. Provide the shipping address (for group or individual).
4. Provide **credit card information for payment** (credit card will be charged \$18 per bush plus shipping cost).
5. Send, by regular mail, to:

Jack Walter
Kimbrew-Walter Roses
2001 V.Z. County Road 1219
Grand Saline, TX 75140-475

Angel Face
Betty Boop
Bride's Dream
Burgundy Iceberg
Cary Grant
Ch-Ching
Cherry Parfait
Chihuly
Cinco de Mayo
Colorific
Dick Clark (New from Weeks)
Distant Drums
Dolly Parton
Double Delight
Drop Dead Red
Ebb Tide
Elizabeth Taylor
Europeana
Falling In Love
Firefighter
Fragrant Cloud

Gemini
Gentle Giant
George Burns
Gold Medal
Honey Dijon
Hot Cocoa
Julia Child
Lasting Love
Let Freedom Ring
Lime Sublime
Livin' Easy
Love
Marilyn Monroe
Marmalade Skies
Memorial Day
Mister Lincoln
Moonshine
Neptune
Olympiad
Opening Night
Paradise

Pascali
Perfume Delight
Pink Home Run
Pink Promise
Playboy
Purple Splash
Rainbow Sorbet
Rio Samba
Rock & Roll
Sexy Rexy
Sheila's Perfume
Stainless Steel
St. Patrick
Strike It Rich
Sunsprite
Touch of Class
Vavoom
Walking on Sunshine
We Salute You
White Licorice



2011 FWRS Officers: Herschell Fortner, 1st V.P.; Larry Norris, Treas.; Larry Wiley, Rose Prose Ed.; Nan Garvin, 2nd V.P.; Linda Mitchell, 3rd V. P.; Janice Clarke, Pres.; and Sandy Barrera, Parliamentarian. Not shown: Rachel Feldstein, 3rd V. P.; Yvette Henry, Sec.; and Matt Orwat, 2nd V.P.

Photo by Jay Goode

PRUNING ROSES 101

BY NANETTE LONDEREE,
CONSULTING ROSARIAN

(This article is from the Marin Rose Society website: <http://www.marinrose.org/pruning.html>. There are many excellent before-pruning/after-pruning photos on this website.)

There seems to be a lot of mystery surrounding rose pruning, as well as lots of "rules" to follow in order to do it correctly. If I have learned anything over the last decade of pruning hundreds of roses, it is that roses are very forgiving. If you cut too high, too low, at an inward facing bud rather than an outward facing one, in the long run, it really will not make a lot of difference. If the resulting growth does not grow in the fashion or direction you desire, cut it again to correct it. Once you realize that there is not too much one can do wrong, it makes the whole job much easier.

A few lessons learned by this rosarian (the hard way):

1. Do not prune old roses (once bloomers) at this time. The blooms on the old roses are produced on current growth. If you prune them now, you are pruning your spring flowers away!
2. Do not prune newly planted roses - they need to get established before you remove any growth (other than dead wood).
3. Prune first year roses (those you have grown for one season) lightly. They may not have developed a lot of top growth the first season, and need all their canes to continue to thrive.

Now for a few general pruning tips:

1. Invest in a good pair of shears and keep them oiled, adjusted and very sharp! Do not use anvil-type shears because they bruise the bark. If you use loppers, make sure they are also the pass-through type. A small pruning saw is a necessity for large canes and for getting into places that cannot be reached with shears or loppers.
2. Wear good, strong, durable gloves. They should be sturdy but flexible. It is also beneficial to use gloves with gauntlets that cover the forearm. Wear hard finish clothing such as denim and wear long sleeves.
3. Remove every leaf from newly pruned bushes; diseases tend to carry over in winter on old green leaves left on the bush. Once pruning is done, it is an excellent time to do a dormant spray; this will reduce insects and disease in the upcoming season.
4. Pay attention to where you are placing your hands. Roses don't stick you; you stick yourself on the roses! Experienced pruners rarely get severely scratched but it is a good idea to check to see if you have had a tetanus shot in the last 10 years.

5. Start at the bottom of the bush but look to the top before cutting. Do not let the "decisions" about what to cut make you tense or slow you down.
6. The cane will tend to grow in the direction the top bud is pointing - cut to an outside bud on uprights bushes and to an inside bud on sprawling bushes. Cut about 1/4" away from the bud. If cut closer, the new hygrowth may break off. If cut longer, an unsightly stub will remain.



7. Cut back to good healthy wood. Discolored pith (interior of cane) may indicate frost or disease damage, and while such a cane may bloom, it will usually die back come summer. At best it is a poor framework for future growth.
8. Remove about one-third to one-half of the volume of the plant, leaving healthy canes, and the center of the plant open.
9. Large canes can be cut easily with sharp shears if they are bent slightly away from the cutting edges of the shears.
10. Do not worry if the cut cane bleeds; there is no evidence to show that it is harmful to either roses or grapevines. It is not necessary to seal cuts.

PRUNING HYBRID TEAS/GRANDIFLORAS/ ENGLISH ROSES

How much you prune will depend on whether you exhibit roses or not. If you do exhibit, the more significant the pruning, the fewer, larger blooms you will produce. If you are growing for the garden, leave as many healthy canes as possible (four to six, each two to three feet tall), removing interior canes to promote good air circulation.

PRUNING FLORIBUNDAS

These can be pruned similarly to hybrid teas and grandifloras, however, they are generally pruned somewhat lower since they are usually smaller plants. They tend to have many more lateral canes on the interior of the plant that should be removed to promote air circulation.

(cont.)

PRUNING SHRUBS

These plants generally do not require the same type of drastic pruning - prune lightly to keep the plant in shape, remove dead wood, and open up the center of the plant if there is significant growth.

PRUNING MINIATURES

If you are an exhibitor, pruning of miniatures is similar to hybrid teas on a smaller scale. You want to significantly reduce the amount of growth, remove all dead, non-productive or twiggy growth, and open up the center of the plant. If you are growing minis for garden color, they can be sheared, then remove interior growth.

PRUNING CLIMBERS

For repeat blooming climbers, prune while plant is dormant. Remove all dead, non-productive or twiggy growth. Shape the plant or reduce for size control. Prune only laterals coming from the main cane, and leave three to five eyes on each. Maintain major canes in a horizontal position in order to maximize bloom. [Ed's Note: Once-blooming climbers should not be pruned until after the spring flush.]

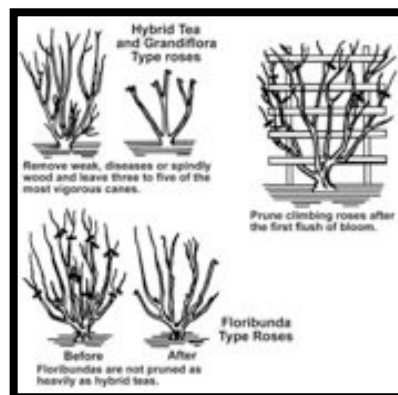
PRUNING RAMBLERS

Prune after spring bloom and only to shape or keep size in control. You can remove any dead or unproductive wood, as well as shape the plant if needed. Keep major canes horizontal in order to stimulate growth; support them on a wall, arbor or fence. The bending of canes stimulates the formation of lateral branches or flowering spurs all along the canes, greatly increasing the number of blooms produced

PRUNING OLD GARDEN ROSES

(albas, bourbons, centifolias, gallicas, etc.) AND SPECIES

For roses that bloom only once, do not prune at this time; prune immediately after flowering. If in doubt about pruning old garden roses, the best policy is do nothing. Old garden roses do not need or like the kind of heavy pruning that is beneficial to modern roses. Prune right after flowering has finished. Remove old, dead or unproductive wood. It is often beneficial to reduce the plant each season by one-third (oldest wood) in order to stimulate new growth.



TENTATIVE 2011 FWRS PROGRAMS

Below is the tentative schedule for the upcoming year. Keep an eye on the calendar for more details and/or changes.

All meetings are at 7:00 p.m., preceded by a hospitality time at 6:30, unless otherwise indicated.

Program V.P.'s Nan Garvin and Matt Orwat have done an outstanding job!

February 1 - Jeff Myers: FWBG Rosarian, on Pruning Roses.

February 12, 10:00 a.m. - Pruning Clinic at the National Earth-Kind Trial Rose Garden & Display Gardens in Farmers Branch.

February 19, 9:00 a.m. - Annual pruning day in the Fort Worth Botanical Rose Garden (FWBG).

March 1 - Herschell Fortner: Preparing for the Rose Show.

March 31 - Plant Sale (FWBG).

April 2 - FWRS Plant Sale (FWBG).

April - No regular meeting, but will have a Garden Party at the home of Linda Larkin, date and time TBA.

May 3 - Dr. Fouad Jaber: Water Conservation, Management, and Future Challenges.

May 7 (time TBA) - Rose Show.

June 7 - Barney Lipscomb: Murderous Plants: Poisonous Herbs.

July 5 - Jay Goode: Photographing Roses.

August 2 - Pam Smith: National Earth-Kind Trial Rose Garden (The Work We Do, Plus More)

September 6 - Claude Graves: Easy Teas.

October 4 - Vicki Agee: Fragrant Roses

October 21-23 - SCD Convention and Show in Farmers Branch, sponsored by FWRS and Dallas Rose Society.

November 1 - Jeff Myers: the State of the FWBG.

December 1 or a date near this, Christmas Party.

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FORT WORTH ROSE SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP FORM

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

TELEPHONE _____ E-MAIL _____

Single member, \$15.00

Two members at same address, \$18.00

Members receive:

- ❖ The official newsletter of the FWRS—Rose Prose—each month except January;
- ❖ Eleven (or more) meetings consisting of lectures, visits to members' homes, ice cream socials, plant exchanges, field trips and our annual Christmas party;
- ❖ Opportunities to participate in the Fort Worth Botanic Garden plant sales and other events.

Send to:
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Fort Worth, TX 76103