

ROSARIAN REMINDER

Published by
The Tulsa Rose Society
Affiliated with the American Rose Society
May 2009



This Month's Meeting:

Tulsa Garden Center

2435 S Peoria

Tulsa, OK

2:00 PM

May 3, 2009

*Member Rose Garden Tours
Meet and leave from the TGC*

Refreshments

Board provided at

Don & Brenda Johnson's garden

Goings On . . .

Tulsa Rose Society events for May 2009

The Tulsa Rose Society rose garden tour of members' private rose gardens will be Sunday May 3rd at 2:00 pm. This event is free and guests are welcome to come. Maps of the individual gardens will be available in the parking lot of the Tulsa Garden Center at 2:00 pm. A rose society member will be available to hand out the maps to those interested in attending.

Four rose gardens will be featured. Jan Edwards will open her garden as a small rose garden. Ronald and Joan Anderson's rose garden features flowering shrubs, a water garden and many other companion plants in an owner landscaped garden. Dr. Don and Brenda Johnson of Sapulpa will be the third home that displays around 500 roses on one acre. They consider their garden a display garden of all classes of roses. The last garden on the tour will be Dr. Sandra Carroll who has a farm west of Sapulpa on Route 66 just west of Kellyville. Her garden features many of the David Austin English roses.

For more information call Brenda Johnson (918)630-0749 or go to our web site at www.tulsarosesociety.org.

Events to Come

**Regular meetings are held at the
Tulsa Garden Center the second Sunday
of each month at 2:00 PM**

Business Meetings are held at the
Tulsa Garden Center the first Wednesday
of each month at 10:00 AM in the Volunteer Room

May	3	Monthly Meeting: Member Garden Tours
May	15	Setup for show at the Tulsa Garden Center
May	16	Spring Rose Show
May	21	TGC Brown Bag - rose program
June	14	Picnic at Tulsa Garden Center
July	12	Monthly Meeting: Fertilizers, chemicals and equipment for the rose garden
August	9	Monthly Meeting: Garden Pest control
Sept & Oct		Little Rose Show at our meetings

Visit the Tulsa Rose Society website for the full year of meeting dates after the calendar is known.

Spring Rose Show

The Tulsa Rose Society will host its annual Spring Rose Show on Saturday, May 16 at the Tulsa Garden Center in the auditorium. The show is free and open to the public from 1:00 to 5:00 pm. This show is also open to any individual who wants to enter roses. Entries are accepted from 7:00 am to 10:00 am on Saturday. Rose Society members will be available to help those who are entering roses for the first time. Trophies will be awarded for the best entries in each class.

For more information call Brenda Johnson (918) 630-0749 or go to our web site at www.tulsarosesociety.org.

Brown Bag for May 2009 --

English roses for Tulsa area gardens

A power point presentation on English roses will be presented by Dr. Don Johnson, a past president of the Tulsa rose society. He will discuss selection and care of English roses for Tulsa area gardens. Dr. Johnson is a consulting rosarian and an American Rose Society arrangement and horticulture judge. His garden is a United States test site for David Austin roses.

(continued on page 2)

**TULSA ROSE SOCIETY
BUSINESS MEETING
WEDNESDAY APRIL 1, 2009**

President Butch Neumeier called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m. on Wed., April 1, 2009. Wayne Parker, Dennis Voss, Jan Edwards, Judy Carter, Roger Matthews, Myrna Matthews, John Carter, Dr. Don Johnson, Brenda Johnson, and Rose Rusnam were present.

The minutes of the March 4, 2009 meeting were approved as printed in the *Reminder*. Judy Carter gave the Treasurer's report. We have total assets of \$22,560.27 with no liabilities. The report will be filed for audit.

Jan Edwards reported that we have one new member, Julie Skye, who joined in March. Butch is functioning as the property chairman at this time. The fertilizer will be available from John Carter at the general meeting. The Tulsa Rose Society will do the Brown Bag presentation on May 21 at the Garden Center. Don Johnson, Brenda Johnson, and Rose Rusnam will talk briefly about Earth Kind roses and other roses that are easy to grow.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

The photography section of the rose show was discussed. We have no one to head that section. It was decided that we would ask for input about this from the membership at the general meeting. Certificates for the rose show were also discussed. Jan Edwards will help with calligraphy on them. The presentation of awards will be given right after lunch instead of at the end of the show. We do need more volunteers for entries, placement, and other jobs at the show. The show is open to the public after the judges have finished judging, tentatively from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Brenda Johnson will write an article about the Brown Bag presentation and the garden tour for our May meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

John Carter and Dennis Voss will explore the options for producing the DVD's of the winter workshop.

Butch adjourned the meeting at 11:12 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rose M. Rusnam

Your Help Needed!

We need a few willing workers to help with our spring rose show. Friday afternoon, May 15th (1:00 PM until 4:00 PM) at the Tulsa Garden Center we need a few helpers to fill vases and get the show room ready for Saturday. Saturday morning we need a few to help place the roses in the proper location on the tables and to help clean up after the entries are completed.

No experience is required. Most of the jobs do not require any lifting or heavy work. Let Butch or Brenda know that you want to help. Exhibitors can help after they complete their entries.

Brown Bag (continued from page 1)

Dr. Johnson grows 65 varieties of Austin roses in his private rose garden.

Rose Rusnam, a consulting Rosarian, arrangement and horticulture judge for the American Rose Society, will talk briefly about the use of rugosa roses in gardens.

The Brown Bag series is an ongoing educational effort sponsored by the Tulsa Garden Center. They are held the third Thursday of each month. Thursday March 21st at noon is the date and time for this presentation on roses.

For more information contact Brenda Johnson (918)630-0749 or go to our web site at www.tulsarosesociety.org.



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Mark Stelljes Owner/operator
ARS Consulting Rosarian

13201 South 129th East Ave
Broken Arrow, Ok 74011
(South of 131st on 129th E Ave)

- Rose Bushes, over 600 varieties
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Tulsa Rose Society Garden Tours

Please note that if it rains the day of the tours we will reschedule the tours to another date. We would appreciate you touring the homes in the order given so the members can come to the Johnson's garden for refreshments at the same time.

Traveling from the Tulsa Garden Center go east on 21st street to the Broken Arrow, Expressway. Take the Sheridan exit, turning right (south). Follow Sheridan south until you reach 58th St. Turn right (west) and travel to Lakewood. Turn left (south) onto Lakewood. You may also go to 60th St and turn right (west) and then turn right onto Lakewood.

FIRST GARDEN: Jan Edwards

5848 S. Lakewood Ave.
Tulsa, Ok. cell 407-7949

From our first garden, go south on Lakewood until it runs into Kingston, turn left onto Kingston and go south to 61st St. Turn right (west) onto 61st St and move to the inside lane and make a left turn onto Irvington (south) and follow it until you reach 64th St. Turn right (west) onto 64th St. The Andersons home is at the end of the cul-de-sac. Their driveway is pretty steep so you may prefer to park on the street. After walking up the driveway the gate to the garden is to the right (north) of the garage.

SECOND GARDEN: Ronald and Joan Anderson

5703 E. 64th St.
Tulsa, Ok. 495-1238

Leaving the Second garden, return to 61st St. Turn left (west) and travel to Yale Ave. Turn north on Yale and follow it north until you reach I-44. Turn left (west bound) on I-44 and follow the directions below.

THIRD GARDEN: Don and Brenda Johnson

2718 Raintree Circle
Sapulpa, Ok. cell 630-0749

Drive to I-44 and go West. Take 66/33 towards Sapulpa. Come to the Creek Turnpike and get on the turnpike going East. Take the first exit HICKORY HILL ROAD. Turn South on Hickory Hill Road and go to the first STOP sign. Raintree Circle is on your right. Make a right into the circle and stay left. This is a tan brick home with storage building and greenhouse on the East side.

FOURTH HOME: Dr. Sandra Carroll

17936 S. 273rd West Ave
Kellyville, Okla. call Brenda's cell 630-0749

Driving West approximately 12 miles West of Sapulpa 273rd will be on your LEFT. A large MFA propane tank will be on your right near your turn. This is just before 66 crosses over the Turner Turnpike. (If you cross over the turnpike, you missed 273rd). Dr Carrolls home will be the third house on the left. We hope to carpool from Brenda Johnson's garden out to Sandy's.

Please note if you have these instructions you can begin the tour without going to the Garden Center at 2:00 PM, but please go in this order so the tour families can leave their own garden and join the tour.

Happy Rose Gardening!
Don and Brenda Johnson

Exhibiting for the Novice

By Baxter Williams

After growing roses for a while, you will notice that all of the horticulture has extrapolated itself into making *roses that are capable of winning a rose show*. So, those roses that have been providing your garden with beautiful color are probably ready to "see the inside of a rose show," aren't they? Be aware that looking at a rose on a show table is no different than looking at one on the dining table at home, provided you understand that an emphasis on perfection is found at the show.

Preparation for your first entry at a rose show starts in the garden. There are a few principles that should be considered at the outset: • If the rose looks good to you on the bush, it will look good on the show table, too.

- It is the judges' problem to choose the best entries; it is the grower's obligation to provide the judges with a morning's work.
- Well-grown roses always do better in the judging than do others.
- An un-entered rose collects no trophy.
- The early bird gets the worm, which simply means that, if you arrive at the show just before entry time is over, you will have neither a convenient preparation area nor time to prepare and enter all of your blooms. The other adage, that it is always best to not be the first worm, is not true at rose shows.
- It does no good to look at other exhibitors' entries.
- Cut more stem than you will need.
- Don't depend on anyone else to bring needed items, except vases, to the show for you.
- A well-stocked prep box has all of these items:

Soft cloths

Small, soft paintbrush

Shears

Fingernail scissors

"Deco" (serrated) shears

Tweezers

Rubber bands

Exacto knife(s)

Propping material (aluminum foil, styrofoam, or clear plastic film)

Pencils

Extra Entry Tags, with your name(s) already on them

Q-Tips

A "Handbook for Selecting Roses"

- Register *first* by filling out the entry envelope. (N/A for TRS)

- Get a Show Schedule ahead of the show date, *and read it ahead of time*.
- With your flashlight and shears in hand, check the bushes one more time before leaving the garden.
- If possible, polish the foliage the night before, and before refrigerating them.

Cut your entries either in the late evening or in the early morning. Re-cut their stems *under water*, and place them into containers having warm water. After they have achieved room temperature, polish the leaves before putting them into the refrigerator; they are much more difficult to polish when they are moist with condensate after having been removed from storage.

If you cut additional blooms for use in the rose sale, keep them separate from the show blooms. More of them can be stored in the same bucket, whereas jamming show blooms together too tightly can cause foliage damage, causing show blooms to get less consideration by the judges.

It makes a lot of sense to fill out entry tags the night before, because there will be more than enough to do on show day without having to spend precious time writing on entry tags. Upon arrival at the show prep area, find a suitable prep table, and accumulate a sufficient quantity of vases thereto. Then, *immediately* fill out an entry form (envelope). Carefully lift the potential entries from your container, and put them into vases. It is a good idea to put all of those of the same variety in close proximity on the prep table, so that obviously-inferior blooms can be put into the "sale bucket" right away. Return unused vases to the common area, so that other exhibitors can use them. If you must talk to other exhibitors, make it short, just a "Good morning," or some other pleasantry; they will be more receptive to conversation *after* the entry period has ended. Once an entry is ready, either take it to the entry table, or place it in a holding area on your prep table, to give more room for work other blooms. Be sure that there is a completed Entry each one. Take them to the entry table in batches, rather than individually, to save time.

Examine each entry for the obvious disqualification problems: misnamed, misclassified, misplaced, unlabeled or mislabeled, stem-on stem, foreign substance (cotton balls, etc.), and not-disbudded. Remove the problem; don't be disqualified. Keep track of what you have entered; it is a

disqualification of the show rules to enter more than one entry of the same variety in the same class.

Then turn your attention to the problems that would cause your entry to receive a lower evaluation by the judges, such as -

- Un-polished leaflets
- Un-removed "guard petals"
- Un-groomed, or torn, leaflets
- Poorly done side growth removal
- "Balance and Proportion," issues with regard to the length of the stem above the vase
- Poorly propped entries that lean, instead of being erect.

Use the soft cloths in your prep kit to polish away any remaining fungicide on the leaflets. Leftover fungicide is a real distraction to any discerning judge, *and you don't want to do that!* Guard petals are those smallish petals that sometimes are wrinkled or are color-faulted, and that are at the base of the flowers. They should be removed, and can be easily twisted sideways between your thumb and index finger to do so. Torn, or black-spotted, or leaf cutter bee damaged leaflets should be either groomed to a more leaf like shape, or removed altogether. The "Deco shears" in the prep kit have serrated blades, which make ragged edges look much better after being cut. Try to cut the edges into the same basic shape of a normal, yet smaller, leaflet, even if it means cutting away part of the leaflet that isn't damaged. If the leaflet is badly damaged, it might be necessary to remove it entirely. If so, then use your fingernail scissors to take it off all the way down to the next leaflet or petiole (little stem piece between leaflets); sometimes *no* leaflet is better than a badly-torn one.

It is highly recommended that any disbudding of an entry be reviewed just prior to taking it to the entry table. Scars, particularly those that were done soon enough to show darkening by time for Tag on entries to cease, need attention. Carefully scraping the blackened area with your Exacto knife will usually expose the green cambium underneath. If a stem piece or bud is still attached, the Exacto knife will make short shrift of such. Don't leave anything sticking up, particularly down in the middle of a floribunda bloom head. The amount of stem above the top of the vase should be approximately equal to three-and-one half times the width of the bloom, assuming single-bloom entry. Prop the entry high, if the stem is short; or put it all the way down into the vase, if the stem is long (I wish all of mine were *that* kind!), even cutting off some more of the stem, if required.

A leaning stem is very distracting to the judges. Being very careful to check the Show Schedule for what is allowed in the way of propping materials, add and adjust your entry to get it into the most erect position in its vase. Again, *don't depend on others to bring enough propping material to be able to loan some to you; bring your own stuff!* Aluminum foil has more structural strength than does plastic wrapping material, so it is a good idea to have some it in your prep kit at all times. *Note:* it is not necessary to use only one kind of propping material, *if* there is no restriction called out in the show rules; although it makes sense to use only one kind in an individual entry.

When all of your entries are put into the show, *clean up your own prep table.* And other tables, too, if you have time on your hands before other show activities claim your efforts. Your willingness to assist the show committee will encourage others to likewise, particularly if you ask them to help you in the project *Finally, enjoy the experience.* Your participation in the show has many benefits: your garden will have received extra care, and the plants will therefore be healthier; the judges will be satisfied in having accomplished their task; the Show Committee will beam; and your newly-acquired ribbons and trophies will provide you with enormous gratification.

Just do it! I'll see you on the show table!

The above article was copied from the Houston newsletter. It is well written and came close to following our own show procedures.

We will have copies of the Tulsa Rose Society show schedule to pass out during our garden tours next Sunday. You will also be able to get entry tags to pre-complete before show time.

If you do not join us at the garden tours, copies will be available from Brenda Johnson and it will be available on our website to copy or print.

If you have not won a blue ribbon at an ARS judged show you qualify to enter our novice class. Experienced Rosarians will be available Saturday morning to help you make your entries. Vases are furnished. You must know the correct name of your rose to enter it. Cut as long of a stem as possible and keep your rose in fresh water from the time it is cut until you put it in the vase for entry into the show.

Much To-Do About MULCH by Ed Bradley

Copied from the San Antonio Rose Society newsletter.

If you have been paying attention to our writings or to our “talking”, you should know that one of our biggest recommendations for growing exceptional roses is the use of lots and lots of mulch. Actually, mulch produces the same benefits for all plant-life; however, since we are a rose society and our hobby is growing roses, we’ll talk about the use of mulch in our rose gardens.

Different Rosarians will have different opinions about exactly when to apply the mulch, but most will agree that it is best to apply a good 2 – 3 inch covering at least three times during the year – Spring, Summer, and Fall. I prefer to apply the Spring mulch in February, or immediately after the Spring pruning. The Summer application will go on in late May or early June to provide a good covering during the hot summer months. The Fall mulch will go on in early September in order for the roses to reap the benefits during the Fall bloom cycle. (Mulch can be applied at any time – these intervals seem to be more beneficial because they coincide with other events that are going on in the Rose Garden.)

Let’s define some terms:

- Mulching is placing a layer of organic material on top of the soil. Organic matter is the remains of anything that was once living.
- Typical organic matter includes: manures, leaves, sawdust, wood chips, hay, straw, pine needles, pine bark, grass clippings, cotton burrs (gin trash), rice hulls, pecan shells, spent garden plants and other yard waste.
- Compost is the decomposition of organic material to humus. Humus, then, is the remains of organic material. It is that soft, sweet smelling (earthy smell), dark brown or black crumbly substance.
- By far, the best mulch is a manure-based compost.

So, what are the benefits of mulching?

- Reduces extreme fluctuations in soil temperatures.
- Retains a moist, cool soil where the feeder roots live and grow.
- Provides an organic source of soil nutrients.
- Enhances soil structure by keeping the upper soil loose and porous.
- Improves water retention, yet allows for better water penetration through the soil.
- Prevents weeds and grasses, and if they should germinate, the seedlings are much easier to remove.
- Mulch is generally an attractive, healthy looking cover for gardens and around landscape plants (prettier than dirt!).

The benefits of mulching do not come with a single application, but with a serious, sustained soil building program. A major step towards that is a home compost pile. Get some good compost mulch and put it on your garden. Your rose bushes will be happier and will reward you with healthy growth and “drop-dead-gorgeous” roses... ***Happy Mulching !!***

Free Mulch

The City of Tulsa’s Green waste site is located at 10401 East 56th Street North (one-half mile west of Highway 169 on 56th Street North), is open seven days a week, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. (excluding City holidays.)

The City of Tulsa offers a YARD WASTE DROP OFF service free to Tulsa residents. Tree branches, grass clippings and leaves are accepted. A current driver’s license with a Tulsa address must be presented to site monitors in order to waive charges. Commercial and Non-Tulsa Residents can also drop off yard waste for a small fee. You can pick up an unlimited amount of FREE WOOD CHIPS by visiting the City of Tulsa’s Greenwaste site. You must load it yourself. Their website is <http://www.cityoftulsa.org/Environment/Greenwaste/>

Maureen Turner will allow members of the Tulsa Rose Society to pick up small amounts of mulch from the Parks Dept facility located in Woodward Park.

From Our President

This month I want to share my experience with the all mighty **Spider mite**. This is not intended to scare anybody but most of you know I have a greenhouse and everything is a bigger deal, good and bad in it. Hot, cold, too much water, not enough water, etc. Well, I did well all winter and had right at 1000 roses growing and in bloom. It looked like a picture in a magazine. Then about 3 weeks before the Work Shop I decided to fertilize one last time. Well, I burned them badly and I watered heavy trying flush them, but the leaves kept falling. Then I found a couple of plants with spider mites so I sprayed with my standard spray for spider mites. The next morning I still had spider mites [to be expected] so I sprayed the next 2 mornings. I now had more live spider mites than ever and the leaves are still falling. I decided with 300 root stock roses on the floor of the greenhouse coming up through the bench tops it was just too much foliage to deal with, so I took them outside. Then I changed my miticide spray and sprayed three days in a row, still got live spider mites and the leaves are still falling. So I made a cocktail of two miticides and one insecticide and sprayed three days in a row. No luck. I bought a new miticide and tried again. No luck. By this time 90% of the leaves are gone.

Then **BAM**, I noticed no more spider mites on the root stock outside the greenhouse! So I took all the potted roses outside and 2 days later no more spider mites. By now with no leaves the roses look dead but most are putting on new leaves and should recover. What did I learn? As I see it the conditions in the greenhouse [hot, fairly dry and not a lot of air movement] were a spider mite incubator I could not overcome with the chemicals I was using. So when we prune, we want to open up the center of the plant so our Oklahoma winds can get in there, plus water spraying the underside of the leaves helps, too. See you at the **Rose Show**.

What To Do in May

By now you should have pruned your roses and started a regular program or basic rose care. Check over your roses to see if you have any late freeze damage that should be trimmed back. I know the following items sounds repetitive but they are a reminder of what you need to do:

- Water - always important. Without adequate wa-

The Rosarian Reminder is published monthly by the Tulsa Rose Society. Submit information and articles to John Carter, Editor at 1825 West Lincoln St, Broken Arrow, OK 74012-8509 or via email at editor@tulsarosesociety.org or call 918-355-8020.

Newsletters are mailed to Tulsa Rose Society members. Memberships are \$15 for individuals and \$20 for families. Membership benefits include the newsletter, group purchases of roses and rose care products and support from an active organization.

Your Club officers for 2008 are:

Ed (Butch) Neumeier - President
 Don Johnson - First Vice President - Programs
 Jan Edwards - Second Vice President - Membership
 Rose Rusman - Secretary
 Judith Carter - Treasurer
 Brenda Johnson - Immediate Past President

Consulting Rosarians:

Bobby Palmer (East Tulsa) - 663-4580
 Norma Whitehead (North Broken Arrow) - 286-8244
 Troy Garrett (Checotah) 473-5649
 Don & Brenda Johnson (Sapulpa) 227-1954
 John Carter (North Broken Arrow) 355-8020
 Mark Stelljes (South Broken Arrow/Bixby) 455-7673
 Butch Neumeier (Claremore) 342-2885
 Alice Klein (Collinsville) 371-2540

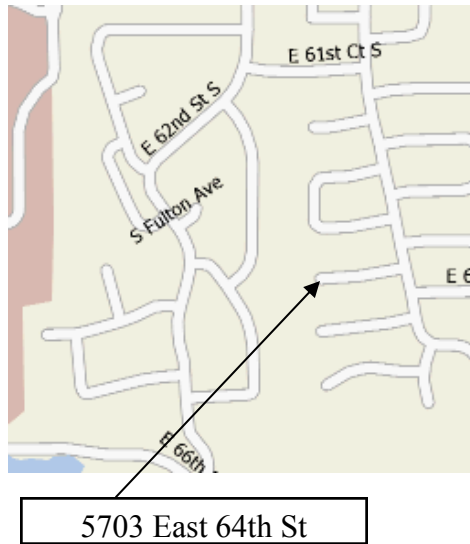
Meetings are normally held at the Tulsa Garden Center at 2 PM on the second Sunday of each month. Monthly business meeting is the first Wednesday of every month at the Tulsa Garden center at 10:00 AM. Everyone is welcome. Visit our website at www.tulsarosesociety.org.

ter your roses will not do anything but try to survive. They should receive at least the equivalent of one inch per week and as it gets warmer even more. The kind of soil you have and the amount of mulch you have are factors in moisture retention. Check your soil with your finger.

- Spraying - prevention of disease is easier than trying to kill it and suffer the consequences of getting it. You should follow a regular program of spraying. The frequency depends upon the product you use. READ and FOLLOW label directions. Spraying for insects is generally not needed. A general spraying will kill the beneficial insects as well as any pests. If you have problems with thrips or aphids on your buds, just mix up a small spray bottle and mist the buds.
- Weed control - pulling weeds and grass by hand is the most effective and safest way of controlling weeds without harming your roses. If they are firmly rooted I find a tool like a dandelion digger will loosen the roots with a couple of tries.

Tulsa Rose Society
1825 W Lincoln St
Broken Arrow, OK 74012-8509

First Class Mail



See driving directions on page 3. The fourth garden is way out in the country. You can set the address in your GPS or follow the convoy/car pool from Don & Brenda Johnson's garden.