



Nashville Rose Leaf

Official Publication of the Nashville Rose Society
Serving Rose Enthusiasts Throughout Middle Tennessee

July 2017

<http://www.nashvillerosesociety.com>

Happy Independence Day!

Upcoming Meeting

Speaker: Justin Thompson of Elite Irrigation/Ewing Irrigation Supplies


Sunday, July 2nd


2:00–5:00 pm

Potter room, Botanic Hall/Visitor Center, Building 2
Cheekwood Botanical Gardens

Wow, it's almost the fourth and it is still raining occasionally and hasn't been that hot yet! The roses are looking gorgeous at the Rose Study Garden (RSG) thanks to John and the others of you who are volunteering. Check out Marty's rose notes if you are following the same fertilization program in your garden as is being used in the RSG—it's time to fertilize again.

If you are interested in installing drip irrigation in your garden to beat the heat as summer ramps up, be sure to be at our meeting this Sunday, July 2nd to learn about irrigation from our speaker, Justin Thompson. The meeting will also include a Grand Prix - you'll find details and recommendations on page 4.

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Congratulations to our President and First Lady, Ron and Francine Daniels, on their 50th wedding anniversary!

JULY ROSE GROWING NOTES

BY MARTY REICH, ARS MASTER ROSARIAN

If you are on the same schedule for feeding that the Study Garden is, Ron says it is time to feed again. He uses about half the amount of Bloomkote that he used at first and Epsom salts, so this time it's 1/2 cup of Bloomkote, 2-3 cups of Mills Mix, 3-tablespoons Epsom salts, and 1/2 cup of lime. He still feeds Easy Feed about every two weeks.

It is time for the next bloom cycle in my garden and I can hardly wait. The first part of June was a difficult time for the roses. The hot wind caused things to dry out quickly and then the Japanese beetles arrived. I know some of you have them worse than I do. My hated moles that destroy the yard may eat

the beetle grubs. The moles stay out of the rose beds due to a product I use called Mole Scram (or Mole Max) that the co-op carries. It smells bad but works if used every few weeks. At about \$25 for 10lbs., it is not cost effective to treat the whole yard.

I deal with the beetles by picking them off and dumping them in soapy water and by cutting off blooms just as they are opening and bringing them inside. Don't squash the beetles, that is supposed to attract more. Although many products claim to kill Japanese beetles, I have never heard of a fool-proof method except Sevin dust applied directly on them. Even if it deters

Cont. on page 4



2017 NRS Officers and Executive Committee

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licity (Instagram)

Cindy Worch, *Past President (2015-2016)*



HELP KIDS LEARN ABOUT ROSES

The Nashville Rose Society has been invited to participate in a children's educational program on Tuesday, September 19th. "Tuesdays for Tots" is a program for pre-school kids (and their parents) that is hosted by Cheekwood every Tuesday from 10:00-12:00 PM during the spring and fall. Cheekwood has asked if we'd like to be a part of the program on September 19th and teach the kids about roses out by the Rose Study Garden.

We would need 2 volunteers to man a table for about 45 minutes to an hour and lead the kids through a couple of quick and easy learning activities about roses that would be developed in partnership with Cheekwood — these could be anything from a "coloring contest", using coloring sheets available from the American Rose Society, to a true or false quiz on "Fun Facts About Roses" to a "show and tell" demonstration using rose stems picked from the Study Garden.

Cheekwood, along with the parents, will be responsible for chaperoning and controlling the kids; the NRS volunteers would simply need to conduct the learning exercises. This is a great opportunity to teach kids and parents about roses as well as gain exposure for NRS. If anyone is interested in volunteering or learning more about this event, **please contact John Wendler at 615-354-7353 or at wendlerjd@aol.com. Thank you!**



<i>July</i>	
2	Monthly meeting includes Grand Prix and speaker Justin Thompson of Elite Irrigation/Ewing Irrigation Supplies
<i>August</i>	
6	Monthly meeting and ice cream social Speakers Jeff and Jennifer Harvey of Dirt Dawg Nursery Topic: Companion plants for roses
<i>September</i>	
10	Monthly meeting includes Grand Prix and speaker Jack Wedekind Topic: Jack Wedekind on rose growing basics
30	Tenarky District Rose Show hosted by the Louisville Rose Society (Bowling Green, KY)
<i>October</i>	
1	Monthly meeting with speaker Mary Ann Hext Title: "It's not Greek, it's a rose show program"
7-8	NRS Rose Show at Ellington Agricultural Center

Membership

We are a non-profit organization serving the middle Tennessee area to educate persons on growing and exhibiting roses. Membership is open to everyone who supports the objectives of the organization. Annual dues of \$20.00 per household include a subscription to The Nashville Rose Leaf, the official newsletter of the society. To join, send a check payable to Nashville Rose Society to:

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Join the ARS today! Only \$10 for a 4-month trial. Call 1-800-647-6534 or visit

<http://www.ars.org>



Rose Notes, cont. them, it loses its effectiveness after three days and since they will be gone in a few weeks, I prefer not to use it. Traps just seem to attract more, milky spore does not work, and remember that yellow is their favorite color when you are picking out new roses.

Spider mites were also a small problem recently. Usually they come in the hot, dry days of July and August so they sneaked up on me on a couple of bushes. They are very tiny—appearing as specks of pepper on the undersides of the leaves which quickly get dry and brittle. Sometimes, you will see webs, but not always. There are excellent miticides, but water is your best deterrent. This is the one time when it is acceptable to wet the rose leaves. Wash the undersides of them well and I always wet the mulch too. A water wand is an expensive and useful tool for this. Repeat every three days or so since the mites have a short reproductive cycle and they will climb back up and cause havoc again if you do not act quickly. Some rosarians also remove the lower leaves on their bushes for prevention.

If you use chemicals for blackspot, keep up your spray program. Be careful not to spray in the heat of the day for fear of spray burn which makes the edges of the leaves brown and crispy. Always protect yourself when spraying. Wear Nitrile gloves, long sleeves and long pants, goggles and a respirator type mask (not a simple paper mask). I know, I know—you are not spraying yourself (at least not on purpose!). If you only sprayed a couple of times a year, precautions might not be quite as important. However, think about spraying every one or two weeks for months each season for years. Is it smart to push your luck so much?? Explain to your neighbors why you look like an astronaut and be careful your spray drift stays away from their vegetable gardens. ♣

GRAND PRIX ON JULY 2 (SCHEDULE ATTACHED)

Look at your garden right now and cut any nice blooms to store in the fridge until show time. Some roses do not refrigerate well (some reds turn purple-red), but most keep fine for several days. The schedule is attached again. Blooms with very short stems can be cut to float in one category, so do not leave them at home.

“Wedges are allowed.” What is a wedge? It is a small piece of dry floral foam cut in the shape of a wedge that is used next to the rose stem in the vase neck to help a rose stand up straight. Wedges are not always allowed so be sure to check the schedule before using them.

Speaking of floral foam, when you soak Oasis® foam for arrangements, float it on top of the water until it sinks. Forcing it down can create air pockets that defeat its purpose.

CALLING ALL DAVID AUSTIN GROWERS!



We're in the process of putting together an article about growing David Austin roses in Middle Tennessee and want to know about your experiences with different cultivars. Send your comments to Marty Reich at marty615@bellsouth.net or Joey Staubitz at joeystaubitz@gmail.com so we can include them. Our thanks to those of you who have already contributed!

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Contributions

Nashville Rose Society is a 501c-3 organization and all contributions to the society are tax deductible. Contributions may be made as memorials or to honor some person, group, or occasion. Checks for contributions should be made payable to Nashville Rose Society and mailed to:

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