

The Ventura Rose

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VCRS October Meeting & Presentation

October 23, 2014

**Hetty Shurtleff, ARS Award Winner for Rose Arrangements
"Floral Arrangements for the Holidays"**

Doors open at 6:30 p.m. for refreshments
Rose Sharing & Celebration 7:00 p.m.
Guest Speaker Presentation 7:30 p.m.

5100 Adolfo Road, Camarillo, CA
www.venturarose.org



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Musings from Elton MacPherson

Hello Fellow Rose Lovers,

I'm so happy that we are resuming our newsletter, *The Ventura Rose*. It was just a matter of finding the right person to take it on and fortunately we found that person in Roz Thébaud. Her organizational skills

and her creativity will be apparent (this of last year's December Holiday Party that she put together).

It will be fun to watch this Newsletter evolve and we can all be a part of it. I'm sure Roz will appreciate any articles or photos you would like to submit.

See you at the next meeting!

Elton MacPherson

(Editor's Note: Thank you for the kind words, Elton! Now I need live to live up to the praise! Roz)

Consulting Rosarian News

Our Community Outreach Program for 2015 is making progress thanks to our president Elton! He has arranged for us to have our rose information table set up at Green Thumb in Ventura sometime in January. Earl Holst and Roz Thébaud will let you know the day

and times as soon as we hear back from Green Thumb. This is a perfect time for members in the Ventura area to talk about our rose gardens and share our love of roses. If you have a favorite Garden Nursery in your home area, please talk to the

manager and see if they would like VCRS members to talk about roses during their rose days event. I will have rose information, photos and our society information ready for you to use. Please contact me and I'll be glad to help.

*Dawn-Marie Johnson
Consulting Rosarian*



Double Delight blooming in our garden. Photo by Roz Thébaud. And who doesn't just love the double pleasure of Double Delight?

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Questions for Rosarians

Question: Is it better to keep rose hips on the bush or cut them off? What is their purpose?

Answer: In the fall, it is better to leave the hips on the bush. It tells the bush to stop making flowers that eventually, if fertilized, will make hips. Hips contain the rose seeds.

The job of flowers is to make seeds and encourage bees and insects to pollinate the flower so that the rose can reproduce.

In the spring and summer, you want the flowers, so you cut the dead flowers to encourage more flowers. In November and December, we want the bush to get ready to pruning, so we leave the hips on unless you want flowers for Christmas in California. In that case, keep dead-heading the roses.

Rose hips have lots of Vitamin C and are used in recipes and teas. Some people want the hips for

recipes and will leave the dead flowers on the bush to make hips. Not all roses make hips and some make large colorful hips useful in decorations. To use the hips for seeds, they need to have cold temperatures and need to be kept in a refrigerator for several weeks before planting the seeds.

Janet Nklar, Rosarian and Master Gardener



Rose Hips
Photo from
funflowerfacts.com

To prevent an infestation of cane borers, use inexpensive foam brushes to dab white glue onto freshly pruned canes.
Janet Nklar

Good News

Last May, the winners of the 2014 Biltmore International Rose Trials Competition were announced. Our very own dear Jim Delahanty won "The Honorable John Cecil Award for Open Group" for his "Pookah", a polyantha which he bred. The rose is available through Burlington Rose Nursery in California.

When you get ready to prune your roses this year, you may wish to try something easy and useful. I heard a lecture a few years ago by one of the staff at the Huntington Library Rose Gardens who said that she put white glue on the rose canes after she cut them to protect them from cane borers. Since I had many canes with holes in them which lead to die back, I decided to try this. I found it time consuming and messy as the bottle tip dripped white glue down the sides of the canes. The following years I tried a small

bristle paint brush. This was cumbersome also since it took several strokes, but better than the drippy white glue bottles.

A few years ago, I came upon the easiest and fastest way to put white glue on canes! I bought some small inch foam brushes at Joann's or Michaels on sale for 10 cents each. I took a small margarine container or a cream cheese container with lid and poured some of the white glue in the container. (Buy white glue at the Dollar Store for cheap glue). After I pruned several

bushes, I put the foam brush in and just dabbed the tops of the canes with no mess or drips.

At the end of my pruning for the day I put the lid on the glue container and put the foam brush in a paper cup of water and both were ready for the next time I pruned. If the brush got hard – they are cheap enough to throw out. I have not had cane borers on my rose canes for several years. Be sure to brush on the white glue on a day or two days when rain is not expected so the glue can dry hard.

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Rugosas and Hybrid Rugosas



'Hansa' Rugosa Hybrid rose. Photo by www.davesgarden.com



'F. J. Grootenhorst' Rugosa Hybrid. Photo by www.classicroses.co.uk

This story is adapted from *The Ventura Rose*, November 1997:

This month, we take a look at **Rugosas** and **Hybrid Rugosas**. Rugosas are Old Garden Roses and Hybrid Rugosas are not Old Garden Roses.

Rosa rugosa, a vigorous, thorny shrub rose, grows wild in Japan and other parts of Asia. The Rugosas are considered to be *Species* roses, and are often found growing on their own along the seaside and on sand dunes in their countries of origin. As a *Species* rose, **R. rugosa** is considered to be an Old Garden Rose because *Species* roses of various types were known prior to 1867 (that being the year of introduction of the first Hybrid Tea

Rose).

You will find the **R. rugosa** in the Genesis class at ARS rose shows. We see it most commonly in two forms: **R. rugosa alba** (from around 1870) produces white blooms; **R. rugosa rubra** or **R. rugosa atropurpurea** (from Japan around 1796), produces deep crimson-purple or red blooms. Both produce large, single-petalled blooms with golden stamens. Both are fragrant, large bushy shrubs in the neighborhood of 7 feet x 5-6 feet in size. Both are among the few *Species* roses which repeat bloom, so you will find them at Fall shows, as well as Spring shows.

As a family, the **Rugosas** derive their

name from the appearance of their foliage. The leaves of Rugosas are rather coarse-textured, with deep veins that give them a "ridged" or "rugose" appearance. As garden plants, they offer great coastal growing conditions. NEVER use sprays on Rugosas. Spray materials burn the leaves of these plants which are covered with microscopic "hairs." Instead wash them often with a garden hose and provide plenty of water, and they will show their colors as hardy, carefree garden roses. If left alone after blooming, the flowers are replaced by beautiful, glossy red hips which add their own touch of decoration to a

Continued: garden, provide food for birds, and can be used to make an excellent tea loaded with Vitamin C. Because they need little mollycoddling, and are dependable bloomers, roses of the Rugosa family are popular subjects for landscape planting.

Crossbred with other varieties and types of roses, the *Species*

Rugosas have given birth to a large family of roses known as **Hybrid Rugosas**. Unlike their *Species* forebears, the Hybrid Rugosas are considered by the ARS to be "Classic Shrub Roses". These include such garden stalwarts as '**Belle Poitevine**', '**Blanc Double de Coubert**', '**F. J. Grootendorst**', '**Pink Grootendorst**',

'Hansa', '**Roserae de l'Hay**' and many more. '**Scabrosa**', introduced by Harkness of England in 1960 is one of the newer members of the class, and one of its most decorative. It's five big, regal purple petals offset the royal gold stamens to perfection. Most Hybrid Rugosas have retained the good health and (continued next page)

" When weeding, the best way to make sure you are removing a weed and not a valuable plant is to pull on it. If it comes out of the ground easily, it is a valuable plant."

Author Unknown

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Coming Soon

**November 20: Steve Benning
 from Star Roses**

**December 11: Annual Holiday
 Party**

**January 22: Tom Carruth
 Roses at the Huntingdon**

**February 26: Bob Martin
 The Future of Roses**

**March 26: Kitty Belendez
 Kaleidosope of
 Fabulous Floribundas**

Board Members

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Treasurer: Earl Holst

Secretary: Roz Thébaud

Members-at-Large:

Dawn-Marie Johnson, Nell August,

Kathy Ayers, Dr. Ken Kerr,

Janet Sklar

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Rosecrans

Librarian: Nell August

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Audit Chair: Bud Jones

Program Chairs: Elda Bielanski & Karen Fitzpatrick

Garden Tours: Ted Hermsen & Bella Hermsen

Sunshine Chair: Nell August

Rugosas and Hybrid Rugosas:

(continued from p. 3)

vigor of their Species forebears, along with their tendency to produce decorative hips. Descanso Gardens in La Canada offers a good selection of Hybrid Rugosas.

Rugosas are most often grown and sold on their own roots, and are very popular for harsh climates. If you want to experiment with this interesting family of roses, but prefer to start 'small', consider varieties such as 'Pink Grootendorst' or 'F.J. Grootendorst' (moderate growers to about four feet).

*Jeri Jennings
 Consulting Rosarian*

Hospitality Table

*"Feed them and they
 will come!"*

Refreshments begin at
 6:30 p.m. at each
 meeting.

If you are bringing
 goodies to eat for the
 October meeting, think of
 all the yummy soul food
 we have in the fall:
 apples, candy corn,
 cinnamon, mmm...



*"An addiction to
 gardening is not all bad
 when you consider all
 the other choices in
 life."*

Cora Lea Bell

The Editor invites VCRS Members to share photos and stories from their garden. Not just roses, but birds to butterflies, ponds, companion plantings, vegetables and fruits and even pets who enjoy your garden! Send to thebsk82it@aol.com. Be sure to include "VCRS News" in the subject line. Thank you.