



The Rose Hip Newsletter of the *Peninsular Rose Club*

Meetings: 3rd Tuesday of each month (except Dec. & Jan.) 7:30 PM Elk Lake Baptist Church Hall, 5363 Pat Bay Hwy., Victoria. Email: peninsular@quillserv.com Website: <http://nurserysite.com/clubs/peninsular/>

Oct. 19 2004

Message from the President:

I'm looking forward to this month's meeting, we will have not one but two members with interesting talks.

The following meeting, November is our social evening, with our traditional potluck refreshments. It is also time for our General Meeting and elections.

Contact Joan Dobell for nominations to the executive. In my experience, I get more out of a club when I contribute to it than when just attending. I encourage you to take on an active role as either an executive member or a committee member.

I've done my bulb shopping, and there's a bit more "housekeeping" to do in the garden before the end of the year. I don't think I will add much to the garden but I do like looking through the catalogs. I just wish I could find some more of the yellow lily tulips like I got seven years ago. Last year my son brought me a collection of tulips from Holland, they were a very nice treat, very tall, and a good assortment of colours. I always get a charge with all the fresh, clear spring colours after the winter doldrums. The daffs in February, the tulips in mid-March, and the early flowering shrubs carry me through until the roses start showing.

Start thinking about cutting your roses back in November and stripping the leaves for winter. Reducing the amount of canes will help protect the roses from damage from wind-rock as the winter storms come in. The past few winters we haven't had much freezing, but there has been snow on the Prairies already this week. It's not so much cold temperature but the dessication from cold wind that causes damage, which is another reason to reduce the amount of canes on the bush over the winter. If you have roses that are in exposed locations, protect them with mulch, twigs or windguards.

Looking forward to seeing you all at the meeting,

Happy Growing, Orma.

This Month's Meeting: October 19 at 7:30 PM Elk Lake Baptist Church Hall

Bring your favorite photos or slides, we will be awarding a prize for the best Photo at November's meeting. Patrick White will give us a talk, and Cathy Johnson will give us a short talk on the new David Austin roses at Brentwood Bay. Bring any of your fall blooms for Show and Share. Bring a mug for coffee or tea.

Elections:

Our annual elections for executive will take place at the November meeting. If you would like to serve our club, or have a nomination of someone who has agreed to serve, please contact Joan Dobell at 656-8666

Next Month: November 16th Year end business meeting, elections and potluck. Orma will give a talk on pruning of climbing roses. Bring one sweet or savory dish, and your own mug, plate and utensils. Coffee and tea will be provided. Elk Lake Baptist Church Hall 7:30 PM

Last Month:

Judith McLaughlin from Brentwood Bay gave us a slide show and talk on companion planting.

American Rose Society Rose of the Month:

All That Jazz [TWOadvance] Orange-Pink Shrub, Hybridized by Jerry Twomey, USA, 1991 AARS winner in 1991.

"Healthy, vigorous, with vibrant colors, a strong and sweet scent and an excellent repeat bloomer - all necessary ingredients of a winner. And you don't miss seeing her in the garden. A dazzling combination of red, yellow and pink, essentially coral, with hints of salmon. All That Jazz has another distinctive characteristic. Her twelve petals are semi double at best, but at the height of bloom appear as elegant waves of color. In fact there are few sights as striking as the afternoon sun shining through the translucent petals of All That Jazz. Almost surreal." Gary Scales, *Marin Rose Society*



All That Jazz

Gary Scales

The Peninsular Rose Club Web site:

www.nurserysite.com/clubs/peninsular/ has photos and articles by Club members, pruning and rose care tips, and issues of The Rose Hip in PDF form as they are published. Send photos and articles to Trevor at peninsular@quillserv.com or 386-6227 (phone/fax)

Canadian Rose Society Newsletter:

The Comm-Poster, newsletter of the Canadian Rose Society, is available by email as an Adobe Acrobat .pdf file. Send a request to graber@sympatico.ca

Seen in Passing:

Garry the Onion King of Saanich Peninsula, up a ladder picking his... tomatoes? That's right, Garry has been picking ripe tomatoes from July until mid-October, and his container-grown tomato plants have grown so fast there was no place to go but up - so they got too tall to reach from the ground and had to be harvested aerially. Garry says that he'll be changing his nutrient mix next year a bit for less foliar growth and more fruit set.

Instead of salsa, the tomatillos that we saw during the garden visit this summer got baked into a crisp that Garry says was "not bad". The Triple Crown thornless blackberry is getting close to the holy grail of a thornless blackberry with the full blackberry flavour.

Garry has started to clean up his roses already, pruning and defoliating. With the wet season solidly upon us he figures the booms are done for the year.

He reports that the "Miracle-Gro" injector system for fertilizing didn't work very well on his drip systems for pots, where there were only two or three dozen "drippers" - there was too much back-pressure and the canister leaked. The on-ground systems that had hundreds of drippers worked much better because there was less back pressure.

What to do this month - October-November

Keep beds clean of leaves and pruned canes, so disease and insects don't over-winter. Top dress beds with mulch if desired.

Stop deadheading roses, and let them develop hips. Some roses' hips are attractive in their own right, and will stay on all winter. Allowing fruit to be produced signals the rose to slow down foliar growth and budding.

Plants can be moved if they are dormant. Otherwise wait 'til November. One tip is to prepare the holes for the roses to go into while there is some dry weather. Working soil that is water-saturated destroys the soil structure. Dig a 15" x 15" (or deeper) hole. To new soil, add compost, alfalfa, perlite and bone meal.

If you are going to fertilize, do not use any Nitrogen, rather use Sulphate of Potash to harden off the canes for the winter.

Check that plants are firm in the soil. Tie back climbers to protect against wind damage.

Even though it may be pouring rain outside, do check and water your containers regularly.

November: Plant new roses and container roses that are going into the ground, and move others.

Cut back bushes to 3 feet to prevent wind rock

Provide frost protection for the bud union with a mulch.

Strip remaining leaves from roses.

ARS Report - Texas A&M University search for Earth-Kind roses - roses that require little care, little fertilizing and no pesticides or fungicides.

"Our testing procedure was highly unusual in that we were as harsh to the roses as possible, because that is precisely the manner in which they will be treated by the average homeowner. Specifically, we did no amending of the soil. The containerized plants were set directly into a highly alkaline, pH 8.0, poorly aerated clay soil. The plants were never fertilized, never deadheaded, never pruned and were never sprayed with any pesticide (i.e. no fungicides, no insecticides, no miticides)!"

The only care that we provided was drip irrigation and a three-inch-thick mulch of raw wood chips straight from a tree service company. Whenever a cultivar did well in our research plots in Dallas, it was then entered into our statewide trials. This far-flung network of trial sites encompasses several universes of climates and soil types. And in all of this testing, no pesticides are ever applied to the experimental plants.

If, over a period of several years, a cultivar did very well in both the research plots and the statewide testing, it was designated as *Earth-Kind*. Only a few special roses possess the extremely high level of landscape performance coupled with the outstanding disease and insect tolerance/resistance that are required to receive this honor. Simply stated, *Earth-Kind* roses are the finest, most thoroughly tested, and most environmentally responsible roses for use in Texas landscapes and gardens.

Landscape roses designated as *Earth-Kind* by horticulturists with the Texas A&M Agriculture Program:

GROUND COVERS

'Sea Foam' Creamy White Double April-Nov 3'H x 6'W Shrub

DWARF SHRUBS

'Marie Daly' Pink Semi-Double (fragrant) April-Nov 3' x 3' Polyantha

SMALL SHRUBS

'Caldwell Pink' Lilac Pink Double May-Nov 4' x 4' Polyantha

'Knock Out' Cherry Red Semi-Double April-Nov 4' x 4' Shrub

'Perle d'Or' Yellow Blend Pompon (fragrant) April-Nov 4' x 4' Polyantha

MEDIUM SHRUBS

'Belinda's Dream' Pink Double (fragrant) April-Nov 5' x 5' Shrub

'Else Poulsen' Pink Single April-Nov 5' x 5' Floribunda

'Katy Road Pink' Pink Semi-Double (fragrant) April-Nov 5 x 4 Shrub

'Mutabilis' Single April-Nov 6' x 6' China Yellow, Pink & Crimson (yb)

CLIMBERS

'Pinkie, Climbing' Pink Semi-Double (fragrant) April-Nov 10' climber, Polyantha 5 x 7 shrub

* Blooming periods listed are for North Texas, USDA Zone 8a. from http://www.ars.org/d5web/1001124/docs/earth-kind_roses.pdf

Locally, we have seen Flower Carpet, Alba, Hybrid Rugosa and Meilandina roses planted en masse in landscapes, along the Pat Bay highway and on Esquimalt Road near the Johnson St, Bridge. It would be interesting to hear from Municipal gardeners which varieties they have found to be most trouble-free in the Victoria area.