



# Bench Newsletter

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## **NEXT MEETING**

**Friday March 4th 2016**

Horticultural Hall

7-30 am Hall open

11am Meeting

Bench & Hospitality

## **Flower Arrangement Title**

“Anything Goes” – using fresh and  
dried plant material – there is NO  
height

limit in ANY of the classes this month

**Class D - Shadow Box**

## **Program**

Lyon 2015 slide show with  
Diana Antonition

**PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF MAILING ADDRESS SEE BELOW**

## Officers 2015 – 2016

### President

Peter J.Holmes [holmes@northrock.bm](mailto:holmes@northrock.bm)

### Vice President - Programs - Bench Chair

Clare Russell [crussellbermuda@gmail.com](mailto:crussellbermuda@gmail.com)

### Treasurer & Past President

Marijke Peterich [peterich@northroock.bm](mailto:peterich@northroock.bm)

### Immediate Past President

Diana Antonition [diana.antonition@gmail.com](mailto:diana.antonition@gmail.com)

### Recording Secretary and Publicity

Post available. Please apply to help your Society

### Tulo Valley Coordinator & Team Leader Book Sales

Essie Hans Past President [ccd@northrock.bm](mailto:ccd@northrock.bm)

### Rose Sales Coordinator

Pat Thomas [lenthomas@logic.bm](mailto:lenthomas@logic.bm)

### Waterville Coordinator

Lisa Marshall [ljmarshall@northrock.bm](mailto:ljmarshall@northrock.bm)

### Volunteers Coordinator

Alison Masters [alisonmasters@northrock.bm](mailto:alisonmasters@northrock.bm)

### Past President & Member

Eugene Rayner [eugenerayner@gmail.com](mailto:eugenerayner@gmail.com)



Souvenir de St. Anne's (Bourbon) showing well in the garden this week

**PROGRAM for 2016****Thursday Mar 3rd 2016****SET UP**

Horticultural Hall  
Set Up for the Friday meeting  
9 – 10 AM

**Friday Mar 4th 2016****MEETING**

Horticultural Hall  
7-30 am Hall open  
11am Meeting  
Bench & Hospitality

**Flower Arrangement Title**

“Anything Goes” – using fresh and dried  
plant material – there is NO height  
limit in ANY of the classes this month

**Class D** - Shadow Box

**Program**

Lyon 2015 slide show with Diana Antonition

refreshment table

3:00pm-4:00pm - Brief meeting (update on  
upcoming AGM

AOB

Announce winners of the Tea Pot arrange-  
ments and award prizes - Fancy Hat parade/  
judging and award prizes.

**Thursday May 5th 2016****SET UP for AGM**

Horticultural Hall  
Set Up for the Friday meeting  
9 – 10 AM

**Friday May 6th 2016****Annual General Meeting**

Horticultural Hall

**Friday April 1st 2016****TEA MEETING**

To be held at the home of Diana Antonition's  
home in Jennings Land  
Rose Hat and Arrangement in a Tea Pot  
Competitions.

Program

2.00pm-2.30pm - Everyone arrives and can  
view the rose gardens and orchid house  
Receiving of yummys.

Tea Pot arrangement competition

2:30pm - Open up the

We still have 2 Empress of  
the Garden for sale at \$35.00  
each



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## **Rose News**

The Wait is Over! The Bermuda Agricultural Show 2016 Catalogue is now Available for Download!

The AG Show Ltd. is excited to announce that the 2016 Bermuda Agricultural Show Catalogue is now available. The catalogue provides an all-inclusive reference guide for all the divisions and sections that the public can enter. It features 13 different divisions and more than 1,000 different types of entries.

The 2016 catalogue also includes entry forms for the poultry, rabbits and caviar and general entry forms.

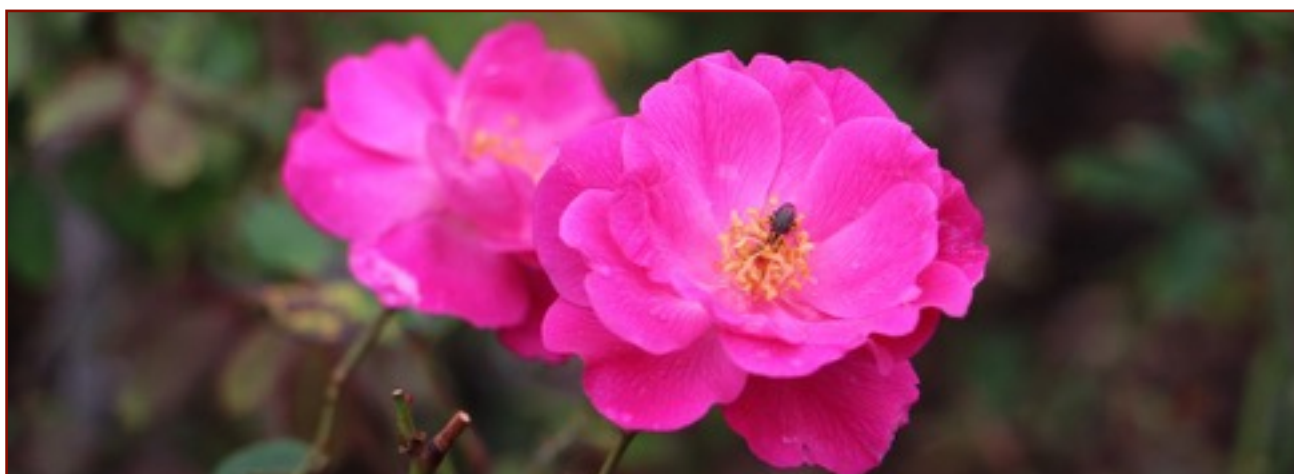
Close of entries for this year's AG Show is March 18, 2016 at 5pm. For additional information about what you can enter in this year's show, or to request a copy of the 2016 catalogue, please visit <http://bit.ly/agshow2016catalogue>.

The Bermuda Agricultural Show - registered charity number 968 is a public-private initiative formalised through memorandum of Understanding between the AG Show Ltd and the Government of Bermuda. The AG Show Ltd was established in Bermuda in February of this year as a not-for-profit company limited by guarantee.

The guarantors are all Bermudian and they all volunteer their time to help manage the affairs of the company. For more information please email [secretary@theagshowbda.com](mailto:secretary@theagshowbda.com)

### **STEWARDS/JUDGES at The Ag Show**

Diana Antonion would also like stewards, judges, in fact all members assisting at the Ag Show to advise her of their Polo Shirt size as The Ag Show Limited are giving away Polo Shirts to all helpers S,M,L XL, XXL. Please email Diana direct [diana.d.antonion@hsbc.bm](mailto:diana.d.antonion@hsbc.bm)



### Guess the Rose Competition



If you think you know what the rose above is, please email your bench team.

In our Feb 5th newsletter the rose was Alton (below)

Thank you those who responded . Well done, Ronica Watlington!

Please keep trying it's all about getting to know your roses!



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## **“ADVENTURES IN THE LAND OF WINE AND ROSES”**

### **Another ramble from Gerry Ardis**

On Friday we visited a number of the rose breeders and nurseries in the Lyon area. We were pleased to find out that these large French nurseries were growing roses on their own roots. The young man who gave us a guided tour told us they now grow some eighty varieties of heritage roses from slips and plan to grow more. Growing roses in and around Lyon is a big business and the large nurseries have acres of green houses and one nursery produces and sells a million and half rose plants every year.

When we got back Millicent and I had a nice dinner together in the hotel restaurant and had an early night after the hectic activities of the previous few days.

Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> of May was a relatively quiet day for us and I think everyone was grateful after what seemed like a non-stop, high speed gallop round Southern France the previous week.

After breakfast we attended some of the lectures in the Convention auditorium. The session was moderated by Rosario Algorta from Uruguay and Sheenagh Harris from South Africa. Many of us in Bermuda know Sheenagh who is a past President of the WFRS and visited Bermuda last year to help us celebrate the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of The Bermuda Rose Society. Unfortunately, Sheenagh had a fall the previous day and had the most noticeable black eye. We were all very concerned but she assured us that while she had a few aches and pains and a couple of sutures above her eye no bones were broken.

Sheenagh seemed more concerned about what her husband would think when she meets up with him in Vancouver after the Convention, than any of her injuries. In any event Sheenagh's injury didn't hold her back and she and her fellow moderator Rosario Algorta, did a good job moderating the speakers who presented some excellent lectures.

The first lecture was titled the “Remarkable Rose Gardens in Australia” by Kelvin Trimper. Kelvin has just been appointed the new President of the World Federation of Rose Societies (WFRS).

Kelvin's illustrated presentation highlighted both the private and public rose gardens in each of the Australian States which included the WFRS Garden of Excellence Award recipients in the State of Victoria; the wonderful cool climate rose gardens in Tasmania; the Botanical Gardens in Sydney and the great rose gardens in South Australia, Queensland and Western Australia.

The second lecture of the morning was by Hans-Peter Muhlbach whose lecture was entitled “Rose Gardens of Germany” Hans-Peter described the Europa – Rosarium at Sangerhausen which is reputed to have the largest living collection of roses in the world and is an important center for rose research.

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Hans-Peter went on to describe many of the most beautiful rose gardens in Germany such as the famous gardens in the cities of, Dortmund, Berlin, and Baden Baden. Peter's lecture focused on the great rose gardens of Germany and his recommendation on those worth a visit.

The third lecture was by Jean-Yves Meignen who describes himself simply as "The Gardener of the Valsaintes Abbey" Jean-Yves lecture was entitled "A Rose Garden in Haute Provence". This was a particularly interesting talk, especially for those of us who were on the pre-Convention tour of Provence, because we were lucky enough to have visited this amazing garden at Valsaintes Abbey in Haute Provence. While we have previously described this garden in some detail as the result of our earlier visit we really enjoyed listening to Jean-Yves because we knew exactly what he was talking about regarding the garden. It was also good to hear that in 1998 they started a small nursery producing mostly old, but some contemporary roses, from cuttings on their own roots, just like we do in Bermuda.

The fourth lecture of the morning was presented by Stephen Scanniello, President of the U.S Heritage Rose Foundation and Curator of the Peggy Ruckerfeller Rose Garden in the New York Botanical Gardens. Many of us in the Bermuda Rose Society know Stephen because of his visits to Bermuda over the years and our visits to the Heritage Rose Foundation conferences in the U.S. Stephen's talk was entitled "The Heritage Rose District of New York City".

Many of us are very familiar with the Heritage Rose Foundation's project of planting over fifteen hundred roses that pre – date 1920 at thirty two locations in the district of Harlem at the northern end of Manhattan in New York city. The project was inaugurated in October 2009 while the roses were donated by nurseries, botanical gardens, universities and private collectors. This project was especially created for the children of Harlem and every year the Heritage Rose Foundation sponsors courses and workshops for children on pruning, planting and the propagation of roses from cuttings.

Stephen was largely responsible for making this wonderful project happen in Harlem and, in his own particularly amusing style, described the original gardens and the accomplishment of the younger generation of rose gardeners in Harlem.

The sixth lecture we attended in the morning session was entitled the "The Earth-Kind Rose Research and Outreach Programme" by David Zlesac, an Associate professor of Horticulture; together, with Maria Eva Giogioni and Allison Watkins of the University of Wisconsin Plant and Earth Sciences Department.

Essentially, the lecture described the current parameters of the Earth-Kind rose trials that are ongoing in different regions in North America and throughout the world. David emphasized the need for ongoing research and mentioned the minor modifications to the parameters of the trials that are allowed based on regional needs. David went on to emphasize that the Earth-Kind rose trials continues to provide consistent and strong international rose trialing and outreach models to identify and promote genetically–superior cultivars for the benefit of regional consumers, nursery professionals, researchers and breeders.

At this juncture I think we all had enough lecturing for one day and decided that it was time for lunch and a cold beer or a glass of wine.

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## **Waterville Report: Mike and Jean Shoup visit to Waterville, February 6, 2016**

The Waterville Team were treated to an impromptu session on important rose identification tips, when Mike and Jean Shoup, together with Liesbeth Cooper and Peter Holmes, visited Waterville in the morning of February 6, 2016. The weather co-operated (to the extent early February weather permits!) to allow us to have a good long visit, and the Team came away with useful information.

The first item we discussed: Is that Waterville rose bush 'Louis Philippe'? BRS members may recall, from reports at past members meetings, that the rose bush labeled 'Louis Philippe' in Waterville might not be 'Louis Philippe'. The Waterville Team have found three examples of 'Louis Philippe' being grown in different gardens but each rose bush did seem to be a different variety of rose. BRS members will be familiar with the 'another red china rose' problem! All assembled came to the conclusion that the rose bush in Waterville is not 'Louis Philippe'. The colour is too pale (but not as pale as 'Heydon Pink China' which was in bloom at the same time – convenient for comparison!), not enough petals, and the leaflets did not have the colour and sheen expected of that rose traditionally grown in Bermuda and at The Antique Rose Emporium as 'Louis Philippe'. Also the Waterville rose freely hips and the typical 'Louis Philippe' seldom hips. Until we know what is this rose, the Waterville Team will designate the name "Waterville Red China" (a Bermuda Mystery) to this rose bush. Does anyone have information on the origins of this Waterville rose bush? Bloom colour is very important: This time of year, 'Louis Philippe' in Bermuda is a rich crimson, that darkens with age – a richer, darker colour than 'Agrippina'. 'Louis Philippe' does not have the centre rings of petals that 'Agrippina' has, and so not as full. Mike did mention that the old paintings of 'Louis Philippe' showed a much fuller bloom than what he grows (and what is grown in Bermuda). If your 'Louis Philippe' does not remind you of rich, dark crimson velvet, then you may not have 'Louis Philippe'. You may want to look a "Waterville Red China"!

Near "Waterville Red China" is "Martha Gonzales" (Waterville Bed #4). Mike confirmed that the bush is indeed "Martha Gonzales". If your "Martha Gonzales" does not have small leaflets and a dainty appearance, then you should compare your rose bush with that growing at Waterville. You may not have "Martha Gonzales".

"Dan's Rose", Waterville's latest addition, is doing well. Mike found the leaves and growth structure interesting, reminding him of Hybrid Chinas. When he heard about "Dan's Rose" typical once a year flowering (with a few flowers scatter throughout the year) but the flowers giving a very heady perfume, Mike thought that this rose could be showing a heritage typical of the Hybrid Chinas. Chinas were crossed with Gallicas, Centifolias, Damasks and Albas, to produce Hybrid Chinas two hundred years or so ago. There will be great excitement when "Dan's Rose" produces it first flower - hopefully this May!

One of the difficulties for the novice BRS member is determining the rose variety happily growing in the garden. Reliance on photographs alone may not provide the correct answer. Sometimes a photograph of a rose can lead to confusion, for example it is difficult to appreciate scale.

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Cont: Waterville Report: Mike and Jean Shoup visit to Waterville, February 6, 2016

For example, “Martha Gonzales”. Further, Waterville Team members have noticed how different temperatures and growing conditions (between Waterville and home gardens) affect bloom, and bush size. It is very useful to understand the practical aspect of a rose variety’s heritage as an identification tool. Mike demonstrated this in connection with his examination of a length of stem from a rose labeled in a member’s garden as ‘Félicité Perpétue’ but the plant was growing like ‘Prosperity’. Waterville’s collection includes ‘Prosperity’ (but not ‘Félicité Perpétue’), and, though the Waterville plant seems to struggle to do well in its location, the blooms do look like ‘Prosperity’. Simply focusing on the leaf structure, Mike showed the Waterville Team how knowing about the heritage of a rose variety can help greatly in identifying a rose. In the case of these two roses, the heritage is quite different and so inherited traits are different. ‘Prosperity’ has inherited from one of its forbearer, R. Multiflora, the characteristic stipule with hairs or teeth of a comb-like fringe. ‘Félicité Perpétue’ does not have R. Multiflora among its forbearers, but does have R. Sempervirens. R. Sempervirens has smooth stipules. If your rose has stipules resembling combs (i.e. the stipules are not smooth), then your rose descends from R. Multiflora. The Waterville rose’s stipules are not smooth but have the comb-like appearance, and this supports the rose being ‘Prosperity’. If your ‘Félicité Perpétue’ has a fringe or comb-like stipules, then you do not have ‘Félicité Perpétue’. There are other key differences between these two rose varieties but when one does not know for sure, and the plants are not in bloom, look at the leaf structure for clues. The member’s rose plant turns out not to be ‘Félicité Perpétue’ but ‘Prosperity’.

The variations in bloom and hips brought about by temperature and local growing conditions are amazing given Bermuda’s small size. Based on casual observation, this warmer winter we are experiencing has caused roses to go to hip readily where previously the rose bush has not produced any hips (or very few). Last winter, when the temperature was a lot cooler than this winter, Waterville’s ‘Isabella Sprunt’ looked glorious for Dr. Manner’s visit – lots of blooms! This year, the bush had a lot less blooms for Mike and Jean to see. One member’s early February ‘Papa Gontier’ blooms were pale for ‘Papa Gontier’ causing a discussion that perhaps this was not ‘Papa Gontier’. The blooms did have the deep pink carpels, though. Two weeks later, the same bush produced blooms of the darker colour associated with ‘Papa Gontier’. If only one could have more time to observe the many variations – and if only one could retain all the identification details! Mike did commiserate with the Waterville Team about the struggle to keep Waterville roses looking at their best, given Bermuda’s salt-laden winds (and the recent hurricanes). Mike suggested a special information plaque be placed at the entrance of Waterville, explaining the history and purpose of Waterville. This would help visitors understand that Waterville was not a typical rose garden but a rose repository of significant importance due to its collection of Bermuda Mystery Roses and other roses. A matter worth pursuing (or revisiting), as well as updating the information card, which is displayed at The Bermuda National Trust front desk, with the BRS book.

The Waterville Team is very grateful to Mike and Jean Shoup, and Liesbeth and Peter, for visiting Waterville, and giving of their time. The Waterville Team benefitted greatly from the visit.

### Mike & Jean Shoup visit Waterville



Waterville looked stunning on Mike & Jean Shoup's visit, the grass had been mowed and the beds weeded and the roses were looking good. A lot of hard work by Lisa Marshal and her loyal volunteers also Peter Lee and his crew who are now helping with the heavy work, mulching, weeding etc.

Arrangements for the Smith's Parish St Valentine;s Seniors' Lunch held at St Mark's Church Hall on the 13th February.

Thanks for preparing arrangements go to Diana Hindess, Felicity Holmes, Mingo Cook, Diana Antonition & Marijke Peterich. This was organized by Kelly Souza who also did an arrangement.



**Photos from our lunch meeting held at The Tempest on 5th February**



# The Bermuda Rose Society

## Monthly Meeting

Friday, 5th February, 2016

The President, Peter Holmes, welcomed members and guests, Peter Bubenzer, Jane Jackson, Sally Godet Bill Ferguson, Joy Nash, Jenny Hengesbaugh, Louise Conyers, Margret Smith, Joana Hunt.

Apologies were received from: Michael Darling, Molly Luthi, Molly Godet, Gill Gaade, Kate Fetigan and Nea Willits

The minutes of the 8<sup>th</sup> January 2016, meeting:

Approved by: Susan Swift

Seconded by: Molly White

**Treasurer's Report:** Same as last month

**Tulo Valley Report:** Peter Holmes explained that the new water tank had been ordered and is due to arrive mid February and that a concrete base has now been poured.

**Waterville Report:** Lisa Marshall informed the meeting the garden was now looking great after the lawns had been mowed and Peter Lee's group had completely weeded all the beds

**Ag Show:** Diana Antonition reported that she and Peter Holmes attended the last meeting and that there was another meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> Feb. She also informed members that there was a sign up sheet for the Ag show for stewarding. All members were encouraged to sign up early. Peter Holmes announced that the Mews will have a clean up on 2<sup>nd</sup> April; John & Judy Howells had already offered to paint the shelves, more volunteers are required.

### Table Arrangement Competition Results

1<sup>st</sup> Diana Antonition

2<sup>nd</sup> Mingo Cook

3<sup>rd</sup> Diana Hindess

Honorable Mention Jane Jackson

After the meeting we were treated to a talk on Compost Tea making and the Empress of the Garden including slide show by Mike Shoup of The Antique Rose Emporium. Peter thanked Mike for his most interesting and informative presentation.

**The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, 4<sup>h</sup> March, 2016 at Horticultural Hall**



Some of the roses growing at  
Warterville during the Shroups visit  
Top: Miss Attwood  
Middle: Bermuda's Yellow Mutabilis  
Right: Mrs Dudley Cross

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