



Bench Newsletter

NEXT MEETING

Friday April 1st 2016

Tea Meeting to be held at Diana Antonition's house

Meeting start time is 2pm.

Please bring a folding chair if you can.

1. Hat Competition to be judged during meeting

2. Table arrangements in a Tea Pot

Prizes not points

Time for entries between 1pm & 1-45 pm 1st April 2016

Judging will begin at 2 pm during meeting.

There will be no cut rose bench

We would also like gifts of food, baked goods etc. for the tea.

Directions to Jennings Land

Enter from Middle Road - Just past the junction of Middle Road and Vermont Road and before Whitney Institute - Jennings Road is on your left.

Enter Jennings Road, go down hill, follow road to blind left bend (signal right) (junction of Jennings Road and Holly Lane) -

Take the right hill up Holly Lane (See cedar sign that says Holly Lane and Neighborhood Watch on your right)

Top of hill is a large white wall, which turns into a yellow wall, follow road and take bend to the left

See Bermuda stone wall - "Fennel Height's" #9 - see a clay pot with croton plant in it. Continue on and follow signs past the house for "BRS PARKING" in neighbours' yards or along the road.

THERE IS NO RAIN DATE

We will email if cancelled, if not sure please call Diana Antonition at home. 295-9058 or cell 525-5651

Please return your AGM cups from last year at this meeting

Officers 2015 – 2016

President

Peter J.Holmes holmes@northrock.bm

Vice President - Programs - Bench Chair

Clare Russell crussellbermuda@gmail.com

Treasurer & Past President

Marijke Peterich peterich@northroock.bm

Immediate Past President

Diana Antonition 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

Rose Sales Coordinator

Pat Thomas lethomas@logic.bm

Waterville Coordinator

Lisa Marshall ljmarshall@northrock.bm

Volunteers Coordinator

Alison Masters alisonmasters@northrock.bm

Past President & Member

Eugene Rayner eugenerayner@gmail.com

AG Show Program Reminder

Saturday April 2nd 10 am Clean the Mews please bring cleaning materials.

Wednesday April 13th 9am Setup the Mews for Ag show.

Receiving 6 - 7.30pm

Thursday April 14th Receiving 7-30 am 8-30 am

Judging 9am to 12-30 pm

Montrose Mews Opens to the Public 12-30 pm

PROGRAM for 2016

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 refreshment table

3:00pm-4:00pm - Brief meeting AOB

Announce winners of the Tea Pot arrangements 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

We still have 1 Empress of the Garden for sale at \$35.00



The wait is over! The Bermuda Agricultural Show 2016 Catalogue is now Available for Download!
please visit <http://bit.ly/agshow2016catalogue>

Louis Philippe

If you have Louis Philippe please bring a long stalk with bloom, leaves etc to next meeting at Diana's house, so we can compare those with Gerry Ardis' ,Louis Philippe, which we believe is the real Louis Philippe.

RE-OPENING OF TULO VALLEY PROPAGATING UNIT

Members of the Executive Committee of the BRS have worked hard to repair the tunnel and pen following damage incurred during the past hurricanes and storms. Peter and Essie have spent many hours organizing our own water supply and we are now able to be independent, not relying on Tulo Valley's well. Some damage to the covering on the roof of the tunnel still has to be repaired and this will be done as soon as it can be arranged. Our volunteer team will be propagating slips in the tunnel once the new mister is in place, and we hope this will be up and working in a couple of months. We have a new list of volunteers who will look after the roses on a daily basis in the new pen – this will entail watering if needed, weeding, shaping and feeding them. Approximately 65 roses have been moved from members' gardens where they have been looked after over the past two years into the new pen, and a **Members' Sale** is planned for late April to sell as many as we can. Please support the BRS, and we are still looking for volunteers to help – it is a good way to learn about propagating and if you are interested, please email me with the days you can help, your home telephone number, and email address. We look forward to hearing from you and seeing you at the Members' Sale

Pat Thomas Tulo Valley Propagating Unit



Oreo, a lovely cat with a Rosarian background, which was originally adopted from the SPCA by the late Mr. Basil Hall. Mr Hall's family really does not want to send Orea back to the SPCA, Oreo is a lovely, friendly, big lad and would be great company for someone. If you think you can help find him a new home please contact Mingo.

Guess the Rose Competition



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

In our March 5th newsletter the rose was Duchesse de Brabant (below)

Thank you those who responded . Please keep trying it's all about getting to know roses!



“ADVENTURES IN THE LAND OF WINE AND ROSES”

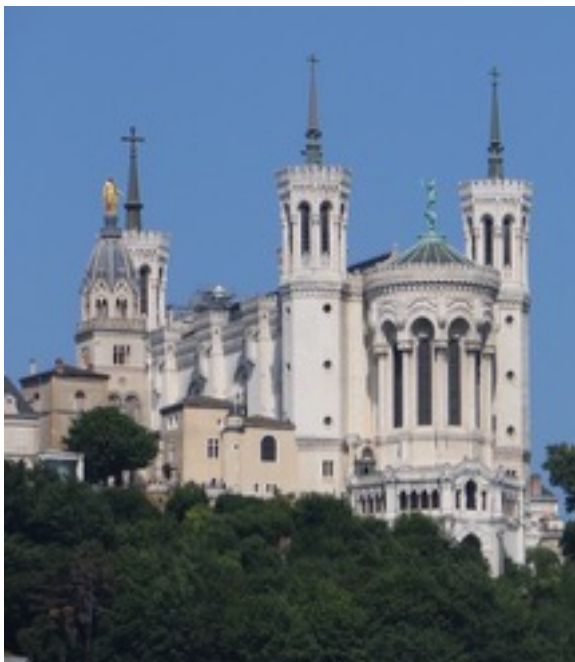
Another ramble from Gerry Ardis

After a leisurely lunch we were off again on a bus tour of the city of Lyon. Ironically, our first stop was back up to the Basilica of Notre Dame on top of the Fourviere Hill overlooking the city. While my memories of the steps on our previous visit to this Basilica were not the best, thankfully this time there was no steps to climb; the bus took us right to the top of the hill.

I must say we had a great lady guide on this tour and she took us more agile folk down through the Roman ruins and amphitheater on the hill and down through the narrow maze of streets of the old city pointing out lots of places of interest along the way.

After a leisurely walk down the hill we ended up in the main square of the old city of Lyon which was crowded with people where there was a group of forty or fifty young

people in green shirts in a circle singing and doing something similar to line dancing outside the main front door of the Cathedral. I wasn't certain exactly what was happening but the singing sounded good and everyone seemed to be having fun. The Cathedral is located in the square and is the actual cathedral of the city of Lyon as opposed to the Basilica of Notre Dame at top of the hill which is, essentially, a very large church. We didn't go into the cathedral because there was a great crowd of people milling around and I had seen enough of basilicas, cathedrals, abbeys and Pope's Palaces to do me for a while. Our young lady guide kept a close eye on us and led us to the cable car that took us back up to the top Fourviere hill for a couple of euro. While we enjoyed the remainder of our tour round the city I



think us more mature folk were glad to get back to the hotel and rest up before dinner. In the evening we had an enjoyable dinner at the hotel and just after dark watched a very impressive fireworks display from our hotel room balcony. The firework display was put on by one of the local municipalities of Lyon and lit up the night sky over the Rhone River and I must say it was very impressive.

Continued page 7

Cont

The first and second lectures of the Sunday morning session were by Pascal Heitzler and entitled "Rose Research in France".

I must be honest I didn't understand much of Pascal's lecture because he used a lot of scientific jargon I didn't understand. All I got out these lecture was that France has a significant rose research programme at a number of major universities such as St Etienne, Lyon and Marseilles and that France leads the international worldwide programme for the complete sequencing of the rose genome.

My thoughts were that while this research work is probably important and has some practical use most of the content of Pascal Heitzler's lectures were way over my head and probably beyond the understanding of the average rosarian, or even the rose breeders. After the lecture, in the question and answer period, Ludwig Taschner from South Africa, who grows thousands of roses each year, asked Mr. Heitzler if the rose research he described had any real practical application. I don't think Ludwig received a satisfactory answer or, at least, something he could understand.

After the first two lectures things went from bad to worse because the remainder of the lectures on Sunday morning all dealt with highly technical subjects. As an example the titles of the lectures "Genetic model of patrimonial redundancy", "Mechanisms of polyploidization" and "Genotype X environment interaction on the plant architecture in rose bushes". These lecture titles certainly didn't stir us with keen anticipation and I for one was somewhat discouraged. I thought these lectures sounded like someone's PHD thesis or scientific papers that someone in academia wanted published. The subjects were so esoteric that they could only have been designed for the ears of a very specific and select group of academics who were familiar with the research. We decided that these lectures was simply far beyond the scope of our meagre minds and convinced us to take an extended coffee break. I think it was during this break that Felicity and Marijke took the opportunity to sell all the Bermuda rose books we had brought with us to the Convention and take orders for a number of books to be mailed.

We returned to the auditorium in time to listen to the presentations of the upcoming Rose Conventions round the world. The next World Convention will be held in Copenhagen in 2018,. Regional Conventions will be held in Beijing in 2016, Punta del Este in Uruguay 2016 and Ljubljana in Slovenia 2017 all of which sounded interesting.



After lunch Millicent and I crossed to the right bank of the Rhone river by a foot bridge directly across the road from our hotel to the district of Saint Claire and spent some time in the botanical rose garden of Saint Claire located in the four hectare Saint Claire public park. The rose garden was created in 2011 by the city of Caluire et Cuire (part of Lyon) and the French Rose Society . The garden's display of roses stretches for a kilometer along the banks of the Rhone River in 150 beds. The garden has most of the rose families including 100 wild roses out of the 130 wild species in the world. This group also includes the first roses domesticated from the wild roses. While there were hundreds of rose varieties in the garden Millicent and I noticed that there were many of the old noisettes planted and it was nice we could recognize some of the names we grow in Bermuda.

To be continued in May



Photos from our March Meeting



Top: China Bench
Mid: Tea Bench
Bot: Mystery Bench



Judges hard at work

Mike Shoup kindly emailed me information on Compost Tea

Potential Benefits of Compost Tea

The whole set of beneficial organisms must be extracted and survive in tea. Soluble foods must be extracted or added to tea so the beneficial organisms can grow. If all these things occur, then the benefits of using of compost tea for foliar or root applications can include the following:

1. pathogens cannot infect the plant tissues because infection sites on the plant surface are occupied by beneficial organisms;
2. disease-causing organisms have no food and cannot grow because the exudates produced by the plant are used by the beneficial species present on the plant tissues before the disease-causing organisms arrive;
3. space on the surfaces of plant are occupied by beneficial organisms. The pests and pathogens cannot reach the plant surface, and disease cannot occur;
4. plants take up nutrients in the tea needed to allow them to resist infection more rapidly because the beneficial biology influences leaf surface gas concentrations causing stomates to open sooner and for a longer time;
5. food resources in the tea allow beneficial microorganisms to grow, protecting plant surfaces;
6. nutrients are retained on the leaf surface and become available to the plant with time, improving plant nutrition and health;
7. soil structure is improved and more oxygen reaches the root system, preventing toxins from being produced in the soil, increasing plant health;
8. water-retention in soil is improved, reducing water use by up to 50% in two years in some cases;
9. rooting depth of the plants is increased, increasing the nutrients the plant can access;
10. decomposition of plant materials and toxins are increased;
11. the nutritional quality of plant produce is enhanced;
12. worker exposure to potentially harmful chemicals is reduced;
13. chemical-based pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers are no longer used, and beneficial microorganisms in the ecosystem are no longer killed or harmed;
14. chemical input and labor costs are reduced;
15. on-farm recycling of waste is enhanced;
16. landfill space requirements can be reduced;
17. plant growth can be improved.

Not all of these benefits will be observed in every case of tea application, perhaps because the compost did not contain the necessary organisms. The necessary organisms may not have been extracted from the compost, or did not grow in the tea or were may have been killed during removal from the compost or during the growth process. Other reasons for lack of the necessary organisms in the tea may be if toxic materials were leached from poor compost, or the compost became anaerobic and killed the aerobes during the brewing cycle, or some other factor was not optimal.

Mike Shoup Compost Tea Menu

5 gallon batch of Aerobic Compost Tea

- Use 4 ½ gallons well water (not chlorinated)
 - 2 Tablespoons Fish Hydrolyze (Fish protein, extract or emulsion)
 - 2 tablespoons Super Seaweed
 - 2 tablespoons Humic Acid (if available)
 - 1 tablespoon of Molasses
 - 1 teaspoon lemon juice or vinegar
- 2 cups of compost preferably from a variety of sources to increase diversity put into a sock or sieve.

Place in bucket with aerator and brew for 18-24 hours at 72 degree temperature.

Final mixture should not smell of sulfur or ammonia...more earthy....fish emulsion can smell fishy and not pleasant (I prefer the hydrolyze)

If you would like further information, Peter has another PDF doc he could email you, please let him know.

The Bermuda Rose Society

Monthly Meeting

Friday, 4th March, 2016

Members Meeting of the Bermuda Rose Society held at Horticultural Hall at 11.00 am on March 4, 2016-

The President, Mr. Peter Holmes, welcomed the members and asked for a volunteer to take the minutes, Mrs. Peterich volunteered. He welcomed our guests for the day.

Apologies were received from Mr. M. Spurling.

Treasurer's Report: On February 2, 2016 \$43,700.31 were held at the Bank of NT Butterfield.

Tulo Report: Mr. Holmes reported that the new water tank had been installed and is working. Mrs. Hans reminded the members that the renovations cost a lot of money, but that everything was now operational. She asked for volunteers to water and deadhead. Next week the first rose bushes will be transferred to Tulo Valley. A Management Team will be formed. Slipping will start in the autumn as some repairs still will have to happen. A Rose Sale is planned for April.

Agricultural Show: Mrs. Diana Antonition asked the volunteers for the AG Show to fill out the sheet with polo shirt size and asked for extra volunteers to fill the open spots. All volunteers will receive a swipe card to give them access to the show.

The AG Show Ltd. has asked for as much community involvement as possible. Mrs. Antonition thought it would be fun for the public to vote for shadow boxes and arrangements. She will prepare the necessary forms. The volunteers will have to ask the public to vote. A small area behind Montrose will be organised with tables and chairs and a tea urn, so people can rest and enjoy the surroundings. Montrose will be made more attractive with roses in pots and hanging baskets.

The Montrose building will be cleaned on Saturday, April 2 starting at 10.00 am. One of the air conditioners needs to be serviced and the old machine replaced, AG Show Ltd. has been advised. Mr. John Howells asked whether the roses around Montrose could get a label and Mrs. Antonition thought this a good idea. She will take care of that.

The Show will run to Saturday 5 pm and clean up will be after 5 and on Sunday morning 10.00 am. The Specimen bench Committee will be Susan Swift, Diana Antonition, Gerald Ardis and Jo Linberg. Extra roses for the specimen bench are always welcome on Wednesday and Thursday.

AOB Long term member Mr. Basil Hall passed away in February. He had been very involved with the Society during the 80 and 90's propagating and growing roses. He tried his hand at growing roses from seed and we are still growing "Basil's Surprise" to this day, Basil also propagated "Bessie's Rose" from a rose in a bouquet, his aunt Mrs. Bessie Ramsbottom had received on a cruise.

Reminder April Tea Meeting at the home of Diana Antonition set-up 1 pm meeting at 2 pm.

Cut Rose Report, March 4, 2016

Cut rose judges: Liesbeth Cooper, Gill Gaade, Kathy Watson and Clare Russell

Set-up: Neil Cooper, Marlene + Billy Ferguson, Pat Thomas, Alison Masters, Clare Russell, Felicity and Peter Holmes

Stewards: Alison Masters, Jeanette Vallis, Judy Godfrey, Diana Hindess

Recording: Felicity Holmes, Diana Hindess, Kelly Sousa

Ribbons: Jeanette Vallis, Jermaine Wilson

Number of exhibits: 203

Number of exhibitors: 12

Best in Show: Peter Holmes with white Smith's Parish

Cut Roses Total points:

First Millicent Ardis – 281 points

Second Peter Holmes – 265 points

Third Diana Antonition – 160 points

Fourth Kelly Sousa – 105 points

Fifth Jeanette Vallis – 90 points

Sixth Molly White – 75 points

Flower Arrangement Report,

Title: "Anything Goes" – dry and fresh material, no height limit

Flower Judges: Susan Conyers, Deanna Moss

Number of exhibits: 12

Number of exhibitors: 5

Class A

First Diana Antonition

Second Mingo Cook

Third –

Class B

First Felicity Holmes

Second Diana Antonition

Third Mingo Cook

Class C

Second Mingo Cook

Third Molly White

D Shadow Box

First Diana Hindess

Second Felicity Holmes

Third Mingo Cook

Overall Flower Arrangement Points

First Mingo Cook – 30 points

Second Diana Antonition/Felicity Holmes 25 points

Third Diana Hindess 15 points



Bessie's Rose...as lovely as I have ever seen it

photo and words by Diana Hindess taken at Water-ville 17th March 2016

Next Meeting is:

Friday Mar 4th 2016

TEA MEETING

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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 yummies.

Tea Pot arrangement competition

2:30pm - Open up the refreshment table

3:00pm-4:00pm - Brief meeting AOB

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



Malcolm Manners at Holy Trinity Church, Hamilton Parish two weeks ago standing behind the Mystery Rose, "Trinity". He and his 16 students enjoyed a wonderful week touring Bermuda.