

THE ROSE PETAL



A Member of the American Rose Society

Calendar

Monday Sept.26@ 7 pm,
GPBRS mtg, Mounts, Adrian
Rodriguez. Chilli Thrips

Deep South District Meeting
& Show, Sept.16,17,18

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A message from your co-Presidents

September is here! Where did the summer go? There have been lots of changes over the summer... the most important is that we have a new rosebud in our group.



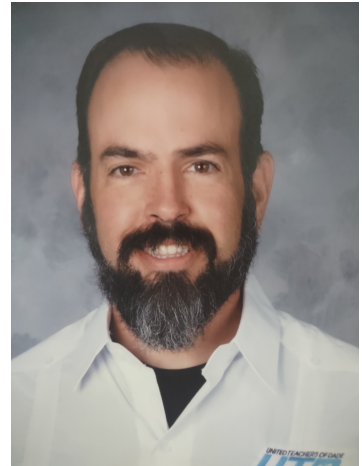
We welcome Carmelle Daniels, who made her appearance on September 4, weighing 7 pounds, 7 ounces. We will have a welcome shower for Carmelle at the October meeting. We'll publish a list of needed items closer to the time. Call me if you can help out.

We have lots of great programs lined up this fall, so mark your calendars. See the following page for a preview of our September program. Until September 26, enjoy your roses.

Best, Debbie & Geoff

Introducing Adrian Rodriguez...

At our September 26 meeting, our speaker will be Adrian Rodriguez. Below is a brief bio:



President of the Tropical Rose Society, of Southeast Florida, Adrian is a rose enthusiast with over 22 years of experience growing roses. He currently has 300 roses in his Miramar garden. Adrian is an English teacher as his trade; however, he is a rose doctor by addiction.

Adrian will be speaking at the Greater Palm Beach Rose Society meeting on Monday, September 26 at 7:00pm. His subject will be: **"Dealing with chili thrips on rose bushes."**

Be sure to join us!





In Your Garden

By Mark Prue, Tampa RS

Consulting Rosarian

Had enough of summer yet? Remember, summer and roses are about one thing – survival. Hang on, more temperate conditions will be here before we know it. If your bushes are without blackspot, consider yourself blessed! It has also been a strange summer in that I have helped some rosarians with a tricky problem. Some have had bushes that at first glance look like they are suffering from a lack of water: yellowing leaves that are dropping off the stems and canes! Use caution, this is most likely not the usual problem of too little water, it is too much water. With the rain my garden has been subject to over the last month, I have witnessed this first hand. Adjust your sprinkling system accordingly!!

September is the month where you should be doing some chores you've probably avoided in your garden because of the heat and humidity.

1. **Light pruning/shaping, not winter-style pruning.** Clip out straggly and spindly growth. Any diseased or dying canes should be removed. Try to keep the center of the bush free from growth if possible to help promote air circulation (to prevent fungus growth) Stay on top of your deadheading chores – remove blooms that have blown on a regular basis.
2. **Refresh mulch.** Whether you use pine bark or other type of mulch, it is probably not thick enough. Two to three inches is the minimum. This lowers the soil temperature and helps prevent weeds. With our regular downpours, you may find that your mulch likes to travel. Mine ends up all over the place. I have to invest in new pine bark this time every year. Once it is in place, it gives your garden a good look and a healthier soil.
3. **Feed!** The summer rains have also depleted a necessary nutrient that is essential to the health of your bushes. Pick up a bag of SPM, also known as Sul-Po-Mag which is short for Sulphate of Potash Magnesium. I like to add about a cup of SPM for a mature bush spread around the dripline. You should notice your leaves looking better in a couple of weeks. A good sign that your roses are craving this nutrient is a browning and yellowing of your leaves.
4. **Watch how much water your roses are getting.** For those of you relying on Mother Nature to supply water to your bushes, a word of caution. With our late summer hit-or-miss thunderstorms, your roses may be getting a good soaking on a Monday and then nothing for a week or more. If you haven't installed a micro-irrigation system to regularly water your bushes, put it on your to-do list for when fall finally arrives. As with most things, your roses will be their best when you regularly irrigate and are sure your garden is getting about three inches per week.

September in your Garden, continued from p.3

5. **Fertilize!** Roses are voracious feeders. A cup of a good rose mixture Growers 12-6-8 or the like once a month around the dripline will provide the essential nutrients. For younger bushes or minis, cut the amount back by about half. Remember to water well the day before and after to allow your bushes access to the food
6. **Spray!** A newsletter cannot go by without my regular diatribe on spraying your roses. If you want show quality blooms that amaze and astound, you really do need to spray with as much regularity as you can muster. I know it can be difficult with the oppressive heat and humidity, but if you can keep the blackspot fungus to a minimum, you will have removed a major "stressor" from your rose bushes. I fill my spray tank with water and add 1 tablespoon of Dithane M-45 per gallon. To this I add 1/2 teaspoon per gallon of Honor Guard. I then add 1 1/2 tablespoon per gallon of Thuricide to control caterpillars and other chewing insects. My second-to-last ingredient is a liquid seaweed (Beatty's Liquid Seaweed) – 1 teaspoon per gallon. Finally, add enough Indicate 5 or Scarlet to turn your mixture a light pink color. You're ready to go. Coat both the underside and the tops of your leaves. Try to spray at the coolest part of the day to avoid spray burn. This concoction will help to alleviate a great deal of issues that might be affecting your bushes. Every ten to fourteen days this spray needs to be applied. While you are deadheading, try to remove any leaves that may have blackspot and dispose of them.

Reproduced from the "Tampa Talks Roses", Sept.2022 , Annie Clasen, editor

Fall Pruning to Revive Your Roses by Bill Langford, Consulting Rosarian

The hottest part of the summer is behind us, hopefully, but if you lived in South Florida for very long you know that mild weather is probably still a few weeks away. This is why you should try to wait until October to do any pruning. Your roses will respond much better to being pruned if the nighttime temperatures are in the low 70's instead of the 80's. This is also the time when thrip activity decrease. You will experience less damage to the new growth when the thrips are gone.

I only do a hard pruning once a year, in late January or early February. In the fall, many times, instead of doing a pruning, I just cut longer stems when I cut blooms in order to bring the bush back to a more manageable size. The reason I do not do a hard pruning now is that I don't want to wait for 6-8 weeks to see blooms again in my rose garden. When I do prune in the fall, I do a lighter pruning, but many of the techniques are the same no matter when you prune.

1. Since you are cutting in the fall, when the days are still warm, make sure the bushes are well-watered and not experiencing heat stress. If you see any wilting, hold off on cutting until the rose bushes are hydrated.
2. Begin by remove any dead or diseased canes. If a cane is partially brown, cut it back to where the cane is healthy and green. The pith (the tissue within the cane) should be white. If it is brown or otherwise discolored then cut the cane back a little further.
3. If any canes are crossing and rubbing against each other, remove the most damaged, less healthy of the two.
4. Remove small, thin canes and blind shoots. (A blind shoot is stem that does not terminate in a bud. It is usually short with a lot of tightly-space leaflets).
5. Stand back and look at the bush. Decide how much you want to cut back. In general, I would not remove more than a third of the bush in the fall, but if the bush has grown much larger than you want it to be, you will need to cut more.
6. Always cut 1/4" above a leaflet or bud eye. In most cases you want to cut at an outward-facing bud eye so that the new growth will not grow toward the center of the bush.
7. Some people then use white Elmer's glue to seal the cuts. I usually reserve this task for just the thicker canes.
8. After you have completed your pruning you should then remove any yellow or diseased leaves that are still remaining. When I do the winter pruning I remove all the leaves, but I have never done this in the fall.
9. Place cuttings and leaves out by the street for pick up. Do not add them to a compost pile or bin. If they appear to have active Chili thrips you will want to put them in trash bag or can with a tight fitting lid.
10. If you have not fertilized recently now is the time to perform that task. The rose will need to be fed to have energy to put out new growth.

Chilli Thrips Alert!!!

Adapted from Thorny issues, Sept 22, B.J.Abshire, Editor

High temps in late spring have caused chilli thrips to be with us all summer. Do you still have damage like you see in the photos?

Check your roses for these signs...withered, crinkly leaves, brown, streak-like damage on the back of leaves, new buds and new growth.!!..

Prune off all affected leaves and stems, bag up and put in garbage...not compost or yard waste. Alternate spraying the entire bush and surrounding bed 3 times 5 days apart with products containing spinosad, imidicloprid, or any good insecticide. A drench could also be used.

If you're not sure what to do contact one of our Consulting Rosarians listed later in this newsletter.

Don't let chilli thrips ruin the new growth on all your fall pruning!



Streaks on older leaves, above, below and top right.



New growth above

Bud, on right

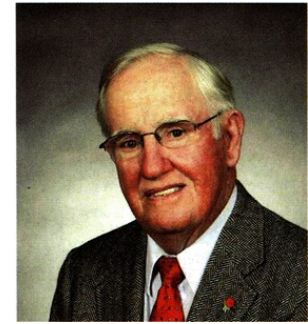


The Last Word

By Ted Mills aka RoseDoc

Whew! It's Hot! Just Ask your Roses!

ROSARIANS DON'T HAVE TO ASK OF THEIR ROSES WHETHER IT IS HOT OR NOT. Their wilted look is evidence to know it is frying pan hot. Much effort is spent to cool homes, but what about our rose gardens? It looks as if relief is not to come from Mother Nature. Do not despair, these heat waves will eventually pass.



Instead of wringing hands and complaining the dedicated Rosarian springs into action and applies aid to the struggling plants. It is a known fact that hydration is the chief remedy for alleviating heat stress. Frequent sprinklings of cool water will do the trick in most instances. Don't stop with just one application, mist repeatedly every day during elevated heat conditions. Use the mite buster since it delivers a finer spray of soothing water.

Another way to curb the damage caused by excessive heat is to raise roses in pots. During heat waves, move the potted plants into a shaded area. It is one of the advantages of growing roses in pots. Be sure the pots have sufficient holes in the bottom, thereby promoting good drainage. As far as irrigation in pots is concerned, it is imperative that these be watered more often than if planted in rose beds. Heat surrounds the pots, causing root systems to dry out quicker. Keep the pot's planting mix moist at all times.

Some people hesitate in applying mulch because it is extra labor and expense. Mulch helps cool the plant's root system. Remember the higher the temperature, the thicker the mulch. Keep the mulch moist, particularly during stressful heat periods.

With the coming of Independence Day, people tend to forget the plight of their **ROSE**bushes. Swimming pools and picnic grounds usually lure them away. Just keeping cool themselves is the goal. Precious rosebushes are left to wilt in the scorching sun. Don't allow this to happen. Just because summer brings elevated heat, causing blooms to be small, and lacking in luster, remember that fall is coming - a period when blooms are at their best.

Listen for rosebushes to sound a mournful plea for cooling. If blooms bend at the stem's neck, it is a sign that heat stress is maximized. Leaves that are wilted denote stress and need the cooling sensation of cold water immediately. In order to protect yourself, apply remedial action in early morning when the weather is coolest.

It is true some products that relieve wilting due to heat are on the market. One is called Wiltproof. These products help a little but nothing is as beneficial as a cool spray of water. Do this often and your roses will sound the applause. There was a time when RoseDoc shied away from watering foliage. He was afraid it would create a scenario that blackspot adores. However, if the bushes have been timely sprayed with an effective fungicide, blackspot will find it difficult to attack with its harmful spores. (editor's note: water must be on roses for over 7 hrs. before they are at risk of getting blackspot)

Visit the rose gardens more often and inspect them closely for heat damage. Reduce your spraying operation since excessive heat will cause leaf burn. RoseDoc reduces his dosage to half the regular amount to cope with the heated condition. In fact, it is not practical t

Ted Mills, creator of Mills Magic Mix, wrote The Last Word on the last page of American Rose Magazine for many years. This article was in the July/ August 2017 issue.

Nutritional Deficiency in Roses

by Ted Burg

A great article on understanding nutritional deficiency in roses is available at American Rose Society's website. *Here's an excerpt of his article:*

When your roses are looking stressed, have yellow foliage with green veins or leaf edges are brown, it's time to look at nutrient deficiencies in your roses and what may be causing it. Nutrient availability is highly affected by soil acidity. The acidity of the soil is measured by the



MAGNESIUM DEFICIENCY

In mature plants the leaves are chlorotic with yellow between the veins. May develop brown or purple blotches on leaves



POTASSIUM DEFICIENCY

In mature plants leaf margins become yellow then turn brown to purple

pH on an algorithmic scale running from 0 to 14. A very highly acidic (think battery acid) and a pH of 14 (think lye) is very highly alkaline (basic). A pH of 7.0 is considered neutral.

pH of 0 is

A soil may have sufficient levels of nutrients, but if the **soil pH is very far from the ideal pH for roses (6.0 -6.5)**, the nutrients may not be available to the plant. This is because in certain pH ranges, nutrients will react with each other and form insoluble compounds. This is frequently referred to as the nutrients being "locked up."

It is important to note that *many symptoms of a nutrient deficiency are problems with availability rather than supply*. The **nutrients may be present in the soil but are unavailable because of a pH that is too high or too low**. There may also be a nutrient imbalance that prevents absorption of one nutrient thus causing symptoms of deficiency. Many symptoms are similar. Generally, micronutrient deficiencies are rarely seen. The most common deficiencies are nitrogen, iron, oxygen, plus heat stress.

To read the full article and see more photos, navigate here: <https://www.rose.org/single-post/nutritional-deficiency-in-roses>

Can we do anything about the pH? Check your soil: It can be tested at <https://sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu/find-your-local-office/>

Fortuniana Grafted vs. Own Root Roses in Central Florida

by Dr. Malcolm M. Manners

I've had several conversations with local society members, lately, about the relative advantages and disadvantages of grafted and own-root roses. Much of what has appeared in print was written by authors in other climates and with different soil conditions than those of Central Florida. So I thought the subject might be worth an article. First some concepts:

The term "**own-root**" refers to roses that have been rooted from cuttings, divided, layered, tissue-cultured, or produced by some other method, which caused a branch to produce roots of its own.

In contrast, a **grafted** or **budded** plant is one in which a small piece of the desired flowering variety (the scion) was surgically attached to a root system from another rose (the rootstock, understock, or just "stock"). These two parts heal together, to become a single plant.

Budding is a type of grafting, and the terms are often used interchangeably. While methods of nursery production differ slightly, budded and grafted plants should behave identically in the garden, and any reference to "grafted" plants in this article is meant to include budded plants, as well.

Own-root plants have some significant advantages over grafted plants. Own-root plants are usually cheaper, since they take less time to produce, as well as less skilled labor and often less total labor. Own-root plants also tend to live longer than grafted plants in a soil to which they are well adapted. Also, if an own-root plant freezes to the ground, it will usually sprout back out from below the soil surface. The sprouts are still the original variety, so you haven't lost the plant. So, in many areas of the country, you may find own-root bushes 50 or more years old, sometimes much more. However, if a grafted plant freezes to the graft union, the rootstock may sprout out, but you will have lost the original grafted variety.

The biggest disadvantage of an own-root rose in Central Florida is that relatively few rose varieties are well adapted to our soil conditions. We have light, excessively well-drained, high-temperature soils, not at all ideal for most roses. While we can certainly improve the situation with the addition of generous amounts of organic matter, a problem we can't eliminate is nematodes – tiny worms in the soil. Most Florida soils are infested with many species of nematodes, some of which are entirely harmless, while others feed on plant roots. The most serious group on roses is the root knot nematodes (*Meloidogyne* spp.) If a rose is not resistant to these pests, it will not likely be successful on its own roots. Roses are not either absolutely resistant or susceptible; rather, there is wide variation from one rose cultivar to another, in the level of resistance. Often, an own-root plant will grow rapidly and healthily here, at first, then become less vigorous after a year or two, eventually becoming so unhealthy that it needs to be replaced. Others decline shortly after planting, while still others are highly resistant and may survive and thrive for many years.

The mere fact that a rose is grafted or budded does not insure that it is better adapted to a certain soil condition or more resistant to nematodes than an own-root rose would be. It is important to select a rootstock that is specifically adapted to your situation. It is by selecting a rootstock to match the local soil, that one can obtain a plant that is superior to an own-root bush of the same variety success.

Fortuniana, also sometimes known as "Double Cherokee," is currently the most popular rootstock in Florida. Fortuniana is also the most nematode resistant of all our rootstocks, allowing it to grow vigorously for 30 or more years. No one knows exactly how long such bushes may thrive, but the oldest grafted plants on Fortuniana in the State are probably around 40 years old, and some of them are still quite healthy. Plants on Fortuniana are sometimes slower growing during the first few months after planting than plants on some other stocks, but once established, they quickly catch up with, and surpass the growth of plants on any other root system. Fortuniana makes a very far-reaching root system, extending out many feet from the bush. It is more drought-tolerant than any of our other common stocks, and it is able to extract fertilizer nutrients from a wide variety of soils. Plants on Fortuniana ultimately grow to be unusually large. So, if you see an estimated height and/or width printed for a variety, you should assume that it will get substantially bigger if grafted on Fortuniana roots. With any grafted plant, it is important to watch for suckers -- stems growing out from the rootstock portion of the plant, below the graft. If allowed to grow, they will eventually crowd out the scion, and the graft will be lost. Many grafted plants are short-lived because no one bothers to de-sucker them. A convenient aspect of Fortuniana is that its leaves are drastically different from those of most other roses, so suckers are easily recognized in the garden, even when quite small.

There are some roses that are excellent on their own roots. Some of the Chinas, for example, have been known to live 70 or more years, here in Lakeland, on their own roots. Old Blush, Louis Philippe and Archduke Charles are among this group of roses. Some Teas and Noisettes may also be grown for a number of years on their own roots, but I would caution you that, in nearly twenty years of searching, I have never found an own-root Noisette over 5 years old in the Lakeland area, nor have I found a Tea more than about that age, unless it was growing next to a concrete building or slab. On three occasions, I've seen very old plants of Mrs. B. R. Cant (a Tea) growing next to a building. We have a plant on our campus that is at least 40 years old growing right next to a concrete sidewalk. Note that nematodes don't do well under heavy mulches, and in this case, concrete is a "heavy" mulch! We've never found any other own-root Tea in this area, regardless of its proximity to concrete. In addition to the roses mentioned above, here is a list of all of the other roses I've ever found in Central Florida, growing healthily on their own roots: Pink Pet, R. laevigata (the Cherokee Rose), La Marne (Polyantha; it is FAR better on 'Fortuniana' though), Spray Cecile Brunner (Polyantha, also grown as Bloomfield Abundance), and 2 plants of Tausendschon (Hybrid Multiflora).

I wouldn't hesitate to recommend any of these roses on their own roots, for this area of the State. But I would not recommend any other own-root roses for Central Florida, unless you know that the variety has been grown success-fully, for many years, or unless you are willing to replace the plant fairly soon. If you want to gamble, other Chinas seem most likely to be successful, followed by some of the Teas. Somewhat north of here, where the clay content of the soil is greater, the situation changes. Many roses do well there, on their own roots. This is probably because root knot nematodes do not thrive on heavy, clay soils. But that is not the case on our sandy, non-clay-based soils.

I think it is a very important observation that you just don't see old own-root bushes of other varieties in this part of the State. There must be a reason for that, and I think it is that the plants have all died, due to their inability to adapt to our soil and pest conditions. Many people are planting Tea roses on their own roots, in this area, now. I wish them luck and success, but until those plants become several years old and are seen to be still thriving, I won't recommend own-root Teas for this area. I would always elect to put them on Fortuniana roots, as I would all other roses not listed above.

One might ask if there are any disadvantages to a Fortuniana rooted bush. I can think of only two: It may be some-what more cold tender than an own-root plant (not an important consideration anywhere in Florida), and it will re-quire some sucker removal during the first few years. I don't consider either of these to be extreme disadvantages, and I think the advantages far outweigh them, in most cases.

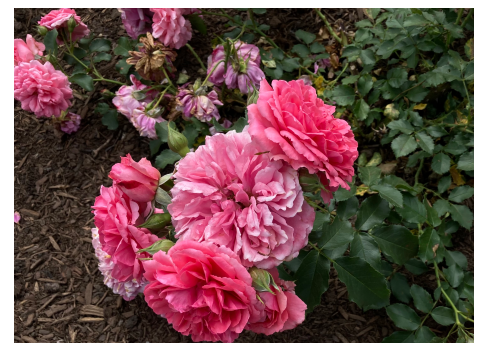
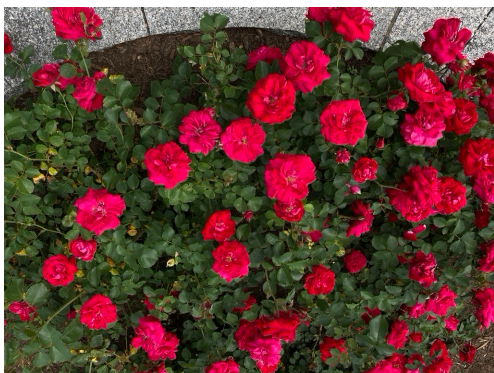
March, 2013 Addenda:

Now, after another decade of observation, I still consider most of this article to be correct, but a few further comments here. 'Smith's Parish', one of the Bermuda Mystery Roses, has also proven to be good on its own roots for 10+ years, so that can be added to the list. You may hear recommendations from north Floridians about the bene-fits of own-root roses, but realize that from about Ocala northward, they often have considerable clay in their soils, so their situation is far different from our beach-sand soils.

Another concept, which I think most people miss in the own-root-vs.-grafted debate: People often think of those as two ways of growing roses. But just as a grafted rose on 'Fortuniana' is a very different plant than one grafted to 'Dr. Huey' (so "grafted" is not just one thing), in the same sense, if you grow 50 different varieties on their own roots, then you have 50 DIFFERENT root systems involved, each of which differs from all the others in its soil preferences, pH tolerances, disease and nematode resistance, vigor, etc. That is a profoundly important concept that is almost always ignored in a simplistic discussion of the topic. By choosing a specific rootstock well-adapted to one's local soil conditions (in our case, that would be 'Fortuniana'), we can improve the over-quality of virtually any rose. So I actually prefer even the Chinas, 'Tausendschoen', etc., on 'Fortuniana' roots; they're just superior plants. There are a few exceptions: I've grown some David Austin roses, notably Graham Thomas ('Ausmas') and Heritage ('Ausblush'), which grow to be fantastically large, healthy shrubs on 'Fortuniana' roots, but they make very few flowers; they're just too vigorous. On the other hand, if grown own-root or on 'Dr. Huey' roots, they bloom frequently and consistently, on a much smaller bush that doesn't live more than 5 or 6 years.

The above article was originally published (prior to 2003) in The Cherokee Rose, newsletter of the Central Florida Heritage Rose Society.

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Baldo Villegas Bugs and Roses:

www.sactorose.org (rose and pest info)

RoseShow.com:

<http://roseshow.com> (rose show results)Heritage Rose Foundation: [https://](https://www.heritagerosefoundation.org)www.heritagerosefoundation.org (education about and preservation of old roses)Rose Hybridizers Association: [https://](https://rosebreeders.org)rosebreeders.org (all about hybridizing)The Redneck Rosarian: [http://](http://www.redneckrosarian.com)www.redneckrosarian.com (podcasts and more)The Heritage Roses Group: [http://](http://www.theheritagerosesgroup.org)www.theheritagerosesgroup.org (education about old garden and species roses)

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Please note, Cool Roses has moved to a nearby location. Their address is no longer 888 Chase Road, it is now 852 B Chase Road.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2022**Co-Presidents,** Debbie & Geoff Coolidge

Debbie 561-313-0077, Geoff 561 310-8508

coolidge38@gmail.com**Past President,** Bill Langford 561-309-8736whl2@prodigy.net**1st Vice President.** **Position vacant, applicants welcome!!****2nd Vice President,** Membership **If you can help call Debbie or Bill or Nakita, who is taking a leave of absence while baby is little.**

Nakita Daniels 351-246-3334

nsdaniels7@gmail.com**Secretary,** Karen Sullivan 561-596-8072**Treasurer,** Bob Ewart 561-445-2483jinnicky@bobsown.net**Hospitality** Susan Leiken 561-373-9371**Directors:**

Mike Becker 817-522-2970

Maria Wolfe 561-386-4903

Fred Frappier 561-951-8232

Frank Sullivan 561-596-8071

Newsletter Editor Kathy Rose 561-665-0535kathleenarose@gmail.com**Website** Bob Ewart 561-445-2483jinnicky@bobsown.net**Consulting Rosarians**

Our Consulting Rosarians are appointed by the American Rose Society after spending years growing roses and being tested on their overall knowledge of roses and their care. They freely share this knowledge with anyone who loves roses and wants to grow them.

Debbie Coolidge 561-313-0077

Geoff Coolidge. 561-310-8508

geoffcoolidge@comcast.net

Bill Langford 561-309-8736

WHL2@prodigy.net

*Mike Becker 817-522-2970

becker.mike@att.net

* Master Rosarian



St. Patrick

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