

The American Rose Center
America's Rose Garden
Volunteer Newsletter Mar. 22 – Issue 2

“News You Can Use”

The newsletter for volunteers to the American Rose Center to keep you apprised of service opportunities

Contacts for Garden Volunteers for information at the American Rose Center are:

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Don Morgan, Garden Director (Thursdays Only)	Email: don@rose.org	Phone:

*Please contact Frank or Pam for work assignments or other information,
Contact Don (other than a Thursday) only if Frank or Pam are not available.*

ARC regular Volunteer Day is Thursday of every week

Master Gardener scheduled service day is the third Thursday of each month.

**The Master Gardener Volunteer Committee Chair is Lou Osburn
Please contact Lou for scheduling your Master Gardener Service Hours
Loucosburn@gmail.com 318-294-0642**

Rambler Ramblings... Claude Graves

With a tip of my hat to my first rose mentor, Howard Walters, I have named this column after Howard's famous "Rosarian Ramblings" column that ran in The American Rose magazine for 32 years.

In each issue I will be writing a *Rambler Ramblings* about ramblers, it may be about a hybridizer, a particular rambler variety, or group of ramblers.

Dr Walter Van Fleet



Last month we looked at what is a rambler, this month I will introduce one of the most famous American Hybridizers who created many of the world's favorite rambles. Dr Walter Van Fleet (1857-1922) not only hybridized many great climbing roses he was also a close friend of J Horace McFarland the father of the American Rose Society. Dr. Van Fleet wrote many articles about his work with roses over the years that were published in the American Rose Annuals and his influence permeated the rose society during the early years.

Dr Van Fleet was first a medical doctor whose hobby interest in hybridizing plants lead to him to quitting the medical profession and eventually working for the US Department of Agriculture Plant Introduction Station at Glenn Dale, Maryland. His greatest interest lay in trying to develop cold hardy, healthy plants that could be grown without the use of pesticides and the extreme care required to grow the imported Hybrid Tea roses. He referred to these roses as "dooryard" roses. Van Fleet was way ahead of his time. He was developing "sustainable roses" 100 years before the Earthkind Roses and 'Knock Out'!

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The importance of his work is emphasized by the Journal of Heredity, vol. XI (1920): "The award of the medal in 1919 was made to Dr. Walter Van Fleet of the United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C., "for advance in the hybridization of garden plants, especially of the rose."

Money and fame were not Dr Van Fleets motivation. He did not introduce many of his great climbing roses into commerce, much the same as Dr Griffith Buck of Iowa State University did 50 years later. When he died very unexpectedly in 1922, he had a large collection of unintroduced seedling ramblers. Many of his poplar ramblers were introduced into commerce by his colleagues after his death.

His namesake rose, 'Dr W Van Fleet' is displayed at America's Rose Garden on the towers on either side of McFarland Plaza. 'Dr W Van Fleet' notably is the rose that in sported in 1930 into the reblooming climber 'New Dawn', the reblooming climbing rose that marked the beginning of the end of the once blooming ramblers' era in rose history.

Another pair of Dr Van Fleets ramblers are also displayed on the pillars at McFarland Plaza. 'Breeze Hill' is a rambler Dr. Van Fleet named for the home of his friend J Horace McFarland.

Dr Van Fleets Ramblers in the Anne Belovich Rambler Collection include:

Alida Lovett, American Pillar, Bess Lovett, Breeze Hill, Dr W Van Fleet, Dr. E. M. Mills, Glen Dale,
Mary Lovett, Mary Wallace, May Queen, Philadelphia Rambler, Ruby Queen, Silver Moon



'Glen Dale', HWich, 1927

Glen Dale was named for the Dept of Agriculture Station Van Fleet worked at and was introduced after his death by his colleagues

'American Pillar', HWich, 1902

One of Van Fleet's best ramblers. 'American Pillar' is beloved in France and can be found in most great European gardens, it is seldom seen in the US, one exception is that 25 of them surround the entry plaza at the famous Longwood Gardens in Pennsylvania





'Breeze Hill', Which, 1927

Large 3" blooms with a mild apple fragrance. This rose was introduced into commerce by the American Rose Society further bolstering evidence the relationship between J Horace McFarland and the ARS.



Mary Wallace

'Mary Wallace', H Wich, 1924

A Van Fleet Rambler loved not only for its 4" blooms, but also because it is thornless! Mary Wallace is one of the ramblers on the towers at the entrance to the ARC.



'Dr E M Mills', Hybrid Hugonis (Shrub), 1925

The most unique rose in the Anne Belovich Collection is classed as a Shrub. It was Introduced by the American Rose Society after Van Fleets death. It is the first of the collection to bloom each spring and the startling beauty of the large delicate crepelike blooms on the thorny canes covered with dark green rugose foliage are a pleasant reminder of why I love roses! I can see why Anne had to add this rose to her collection!

All Photos by the author

First Master Gardeners' Service Day

Thursday, March 17

8:30 AM - At the fenced area East of the administration building (not the west side).

Claude Graves, ARC Committee Chair and Curator of the Anne Belovich Rambler Garden at Chambersville Tree Farms will conduct a training session on the various tasks that will be used in caring for the ramblers growing in the new Rambler Nursery at the American Rose Center. This information will be essential for proper care and training of the ramblers.

The various correct procedures and techniques will be demonstrated and explained for pruning and tying the roses.

Tools needed: Pruners, Gloves, Knee Pads.

Master Gardeners and all other volunteers for the American Rose Center are invited to attend our Spring Rose Festival & Garden Marketplace.

Attendees to the Marketplace will have full access to the programs and demonstrations to be conducted at the American Rose Society Gulf District Early Spring Workshop

Attendees have the option of attending the American Rose Society South Central District Rose Arrangements Workshop

(Reservations required beforehand,- form attached page on 6)



Gulf District Early-Spring Workshop
Saturday March, 26, 2022 - 9:30 am - 2 pm
Held in conjunction with the First Annual
Spring Rose Festival & Garden Marketplace
Friday and Saturday Mar 25 & 26th - 8 am - 5 pm
American Rose Center - Shreveport, LA

Something new. Something different. Something educational for rosarians. A time to celebrate being in the garden with an opportunity to tour the rose gardens at the American Rose Center, browse outdoor vendor booths with garden crafts, purchase roses, plants, rose supplies and attend indoor rose programs in Klima Hall.

Usually Mid-Winter Workshops provide educational sessions allowing rosarians to earn credits to maintain their status as Consulting Rosarians. Now, these credits can be earned online each Saturday in February by attending sessions of the Consulting Rosarian School. The Gulf District Early-Spring Workshop programs will not be for credit but they will be practical, useful and fun. All rose society members will have lunch together in Klima Hall with time to visit the vendors and gardens before the sessions and after lunch.

Contacts: peggyrosemartin@eatel.net abshirebj@gmail.com billieflynn5@gmail.com

Klima Hall - Programs - 10 - 12:45

9:30 - 10:00: Registration, coffee, donuts
10 - 10:15: Greetings from District Director Peggy Martin
10:15 - 10:35: *Basic Rose Care* - Connie Reeves
10:45 - 11:05: *Recommended OGRs* - Peggy Martin
11:15 - 11:35: *Recommended Modern Roses* - Carol Shockley
11:45 - 12:05: *Garden Structures* - Pam Smith
12:15 - 12:35: *LA Super Plants as Companions* - Allen Owings
12:45: Lunch, Gulf District Awards, Recognitions, Announcements.

Wellan Terrace - Demonstrations

10:15 - 11

- *Propagation Techniques*
by Steve Roussell
Rooting cuttings and grafting
- *Arrangement Techniques*
Secrets behind stable arrangements
- *Tools & Gadgets*
by B. J. Abshire
Making Gardening Easier



SPRING ROSE FESTIVAL & GARDEN MARKETPLACE

Friday, March 25 — 10:00 am – 6:00 pm

Saturday, March 26 — 8:00 am – 5:00 pm

(Rain Alternative: April 1 & 2)

ADMISSION - \$10 – CHILDREN FREE - ENTER THROUGH VISITORS CENTER

AMERICAN ROSE CENTER

8877 Jefferson Paige Road - Shreveport, La.

Exit 5 on Interstate 20. Phone 318-938-5402

SOMETHING NEW AND FUN at AMERICA'S ROSE GARDEN—

Be outdoors in our beautiful gardens this first week of Spring! Shop for plants and home and garden related items.

FRIDAY—PROGRAMS & DEMONSTRATIONS on interesting topics. Garden tours.

SATURDAY—PROGRAMS & DEMONSTRATIONS

New programs every 30 minutes - General Rose Care / Ideas for Garden Structures / Using Louisiana Super Plants as Companion Plants / Recommended Old Garden Roses / Recommended Modern and Newly Introduced Roses / How to Propagate from Cuttings / Propagate Using Simple Grafting Techniques / Simple Techniques for Creating Rose & Flower Arrangements / Useful Garden Tools & Gadgets /

VENDORS: Roses / Herbs / Trees / Bulbs / Shrubs / Annuals / Daylilies / Camellias / Perennials Garden Tools / Native Plants / Louisiana Iris / Garden Structures / Garden Products / Wood Products / Garden Décor / Bird Feeders / Metal Works / Jams-Jellies / Vegetables / Birdhouses / Baskets / Candles / Honey / Books / Art / ARS Giftshop

FOOD TRUCKS

COFFEE-TEA-HOT CHOCOLATE STATION

Vendors: Contact victoria@rose.org or phone 318-938-5402

