



Page One: News:

- Effective January 1, 2008, local society dues will increase to \$35 for Chapters and \$70 dollars for Affiliated Societies.
- Effective February 01, 2008, Life Memberships for Individuals will increase to \$1350 (from \$1000) and Senior Life Memberships will increase to \$675 (from \$500). (That leaves four months for locking in current rates by thrifty ARS members.) Gift memberships, which many societies use to reward special services by members, will increase to 3 for \$130 or 2 for \$87 on October 1, 2007; they will apply to new memberships only.
- Horticultural Judges Chair Susan J Clingenpeel reports that the committee is working on a major revision of the Challenge Class section of the 'Guidelines for Judging.' The committee welcomes comments from any members on the revision of this section. A list of committee members as well as District Chairs can be found on the ARS website (www.ars.org), listed under About ARS or in Member's Only at the 'ARS Committees' link.
- At the September St. Louis Convention the Board of Directors approved the election of 'Pierrine,' to the Miniature Rose Hall of Fame. "Pierrine" is a salmon colored 1988 rose by Michael C. Williams.
- The Board of Directors approved a new Triennial membership award named in honor of Glenda Whitaker, a veteran champion of the American Rose Society.
- Tom Carruth was recognized as the hybridizer of 'Moonstone,' the latest winner of the David Fuerstenberg Award for an American rose bred for the American climate. He thus becomes one of a small band of duplicate winners of this award, including J.H. Nicolas, Herb Swim, and Eugene Boerner.
- 'Fragrant Plum' by Jack E. Christensen is the latest recipient of the James Alexander Gamble Fragrance Medal.

Page Two: Views: Cleaning Pruners: Cass Bernstein is a volunteer administrator of Helpmefind.com/roses as well as a member of the ARS, the Heritage Rose Foundation and Gold Coast Heritage Rose Society.

Cleaning Pruners: One Rosarian's Perspective by Cass Bernstein

The motivation to disinfect my pruners arrived late one winter with a pathogen traveling down rose canes a foot beyond each pruning cut. Research yielded advice from Dr. Linda Chalker-Scott of the Washington State University Research and Extension Center. She recommends disinfecting pruners for dealing with viruses, a vascular fungus or bacteria, a canker or an irreplaceable plant. She suggests choosing a disinfectant treatment already shown to be effective. This does NOT include alcohol, which does not kill important garden pathogens.

An effective program reduces the levels of contagion by cleaning, removing, and destroying—to a practical degree—agents injurious to the health of the rose bush. To be

effective, disinfectants must come into contact with the full cutting blades of the pruners. The blade must start out clean for the disinfectant to reach the pathogens. The most appealing products clean and disinfect in one step. Quaternary ammonium chlorides, or Quats, are widely used in hospitals, labs, and beauty salons for such purposes. Quats are the active ingredients in all the products I list.

Each disinfectant requires that (1) the tool must be cleaned first, and (2) the disinfectant must remain in contact with the pruners for ten minutes.

Product	Warning label	Price	Comments
Clorox Disinfecting Floor & Surface Cleaner	Warning	\$3/32 oz	Easy to buy; no PPE needed; does not contain both Quats in Physan 20; discolors pruners
Lysol All Purpose 3 in 1 Cleaner	Warning	\$4.50/40 oz	Easy to buy; no PPE needed; can be used full strength; does not contain Both Quats in Physan 20
Physan 20	Danger	\$8.55/16 oz (plus S & H)	Mail order; discolors metal tools; requires PPE for mixing; good price; fungicide, viricide, and bactericide labeled for pruning tools.
SaniZide Plus RTU	Caution	\$7.15/32 oz	Pump spray; ready-to-use (RTU); contains the same Quats as Physan 20; NOT intended as dip

My Personal Choices:

For reasons of convenience, safety, and overall cost, I follow Dr. Chalker-Scott's recommendation. I use a household cleaner, Lysol All Purpose 3 in 1 Cleaner. Why? I can buy it at the grocery store. If necessary, Lysol can be used full strength or diluted, allowing me to approximate the concentration of Quats in the product labeled for pruning tools. I do not need Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to open the container and mix the solution. I can easily adjust quantities to the two or three cups I need daily by diluting at the rate of 1 part Lysol to 10 parts water. Finally, Lysol does not discolor my pruners if I soak only 10 minutes. Clorox Disinfecting Floor and Surface Cleaner is an excellent alternative with better scent, but it discolors my pruners more. BUT—

If I suspect that I am dealing with a serious plant pathogen, I will use the labeled product, Physan 20.

In the Garden:

I start the day with three sets of clean pruners, so sanitizing will not slow pruning to a crawl. I carry a container of freshly mixed disinfectant (a quart plastic food container with an X cut through the top) for soaking my pruners between plants. If a troubling pathogen is present on canes, I can dip between pruning cuts. Build-up on the pruners turns black, indicating the blades must be wiped. At the end of the day, I clean my pruners in a three step process. I wash them with kitchen detergent and a kitchen pad. I

dip them in fresh disinfectant for at least ten minutes. Last, I flame the cutting edge briefly to dry the blade. I do not flame the blade for long, as it deforms the metal.

A Final Word:

Because each of us has the obligation to use powerful chemicals responsibly, I never flush disinfectant into my septic system. Carelessly discarded anti-microbials contribute to the development of resistance through adaptation by pathogens. Extra solution can be used to clean birdbaths, other tools, or lawn furniture. The remainder is poured on a dry concrete sidewalk or macadam to evaporate.

Questions can be addressed to cbernstein@earthlink.net.

Page Three: Re-Views. The Local Society Relations Committee is considering revisions of the White Book Section on By-laws and Job Descriptions (pages 41 through 43). These revisions will be posted on the ARS website at the ARS & You link for comment by individuals from October 1st through the 10th. Below LSRC Chair Jim Delahanty highlights some considerations.

By-Laws and Job Descriptions

- Credit for developing the revised By-Laws and Job Descriptions goes to Susan Barry and the previous 2003-2006 Local Society Relations Committee.
- These By-laws and Job Descriptions are essentially suggestions for a local society to adapt in creating or reviewing their own by-laws, standing rules, and job descriptions. Thus, a vice-president in charge of the rose show is inapt for the hundred or so local societies that do not offer a rose show.
- The original suggestions recommended that all local officers be members of the American Rose Society (as practiced by chapter societies because all society members must be in the ARS) (Article IV, Section 1). Discussion has elicited concerns that the function of the LSRC is to integrate activities of the ARS and local societies through mutual memberships versus concerns that the practicalities of getting officers for local societies do not permit such requirements.
- Another concern was expressed regarding the recommendation that any moneys remaining after dissolution be directed to the ARS (Article XIII). Some thought that this recommendation might be perceived as self-serving, while others thought that, given the connection between the ARS, districts, and local societies, it was a logical suggestion. And there was some sentiment for recognizing that local charities might have a stronger claim.
- Probably 'The Reading of the Collect' ought to be dropped from the Model Rules of Order since its origins are more spiritual than parliamentary.

In any event, commentary on these and any other issues raised by the By-laws can be directed toward members of the Local Society Relations Committee as posted on the ARS website with email addresses.

Opinions expressed in this monthly email are not necessarily those of the American Rose Society or its subsidiaries.