

The Rambling Rose March 2009 Edition

Saginaw Rose and Garden Society



May the leprechauns be near you,
To spread luck along your way.
May all the Irish angels,
Smile upon you on St. Patrick's Day."

Meeting
Monday March 23rd
6:30P.M. Sharp

Irish Pot Luck

Speaker : John Dusek of Faber's

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Clint's Clippings

Hello everyone!

I really would like to take this time to say thank you to Ben Jean for coming to the meeting and showing us all how to take care of water plants and making and maintaining a water garden! Thank so much, Ben! I would also like to thank him for the donations of water plants to people who have ponds. They are very beautiful plants, I have seen them, trust me they are beautiful well developed plants!

This month we are having John from Faber's greenhouse coming in and talking about a very important topic! Bees! That's right, the hardest worker in everyone's garden! He is going to tell us some really cool facts about Bees and how they help us out, it's about time we help them out. I have no doubt that he will have a lot of really good ideas and great information for us to utilize in our gardens.

If you are anything like me I have bird feeders up everywhere! I love to watch the birds outside. I have a few tips that can help your birds survive the winter! First of all, try and fill your feeders daily or when they are about half empty, natural food is on very short order for them right now.

Watch for the first birds of spring, of course you know that would be the red wing Black bird, and the Robin of course! They should start migrating back this way soon. When they arrive back from their trip they need as much food as possible to help them out. Suet is the best for them. A high peanut suet would be best.

Start to clean up your bird baths and get them ready for this year. Make sure to wash off all of the soap or bleach for the birdbath, it can make the birds really sick and they could die just from a small amount of detergent.

Start cleaning out their nesting boxes and getting them ready for new parents! With this you should also start putting out new nesting materials for them to use. I know our dogs that shed in the spring make great nesting materials. I have no idea how many nests we have found that have our dogs hair in them.

Don't forget to check the paper for the Butterfly house in Midland. I believe it starts the first part of April and goes till about the middle part of May. You can give them a call and find out when the butterflies will be here.

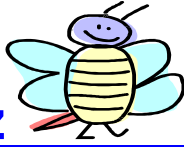
The final tip that I have....Check out your gardens for die back! I have a few that have died back, other than that I think I am pretty good. One of my roses I think isn't going to make it but that is because the nasty little rabbits have gotten to it and eaten it right to the ground.

Other than that I hope everyone has a wonderful March! I'll see you in March at the meeting where John will fill us in on the bees and why we should be helping them out! See you then!

Happy Clipping!! Clint



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Bev's Buzz

It looked like all enjoyed the evening. Thank you Jackie and William for the treats!

Our guest speaker Ben Jean was full of information for us, as well as the video of ponds he has installed. He has offered us a pond tour once he has it pulled together.

This month for March we have John Dusek coming in for a presentation on bee's and plants that go with roses, and to help our little flyers " bee's". He owns Faber's Greenhouse in St. Charles. It should be very informative for all.

Don't forget the bus trip to Beal Gardens for July 18th. If you haven't paid for the trip, please send in the money for it, send it to Clint Bremer at 14845 Ithaca Rd. St. Charles, 48655.

Also the spring convention held in Troy. We have information on it on our web site as well as copies for folks who don't have computers. It will be available at our March meeting.

Pot luck---Irish----for March.!!

Also, we hope Bunny is doing better when the letter comes out. Get better Bunny!!! Also Thank You very much for the thought of the card for Bunny. Very beautiful thoughts from Madeleine.

Once again, thank you all for coming and hope to see everyone this month.

Beverly Bremer 

President - The Saginaw Rose & Garden Society (2009-2010)

The Garden Guru



Betty Watters

Practical Roses for Hard Places

When selecting roses, many people think only of Modern roses {hybrid teas and floribundas. These require meticulous care and extreme winter protection in the North to survive. With busier lifestyles and growing aversion to chemicals, gardeners are returning to more practical roses. Don't overlook the once-a-year blooming antique roses. They'll create 3 to 4 weeks of show in mid to late June. These offer bountiful blooms and stunning fragrances. Rugged Rugosa roses, which bloom unattended all summer in the toughest conditions. There is also the hardiest newer shrubs from English breeder . Once established these are undemanding. David Austin. Just give them food and water and they will respond. Like children they are all different, but they all respond to care and consistency. I could list many varieties here that I have grown over the past thirty years or so I now grow and recommend. A garden is forever changing as you know. Search out books and gather knowledge from others. That is after all what I did. And still do.

See ya Betty



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Minutes of the February Meeting

The meeting of the Saginaw Rose and Garden Society was called to order on Monday February 23, 2009 at 7:53 P. M. by President Beverly Bremer. There were 18 members and 0 guests in attendance.

Sunshine Report: There was a card being passed around to send out to Bunny. We have you in our prayers and thoughts, Bunny. A card was sent to Irv Ignash for best wishes and get well soon.

Treasurer's Report: \$ 1,168.83 in checking. A check for \$64.00 for Modern Roses 12, a check for \$42.00 for stamps and a check for \$70.00 for ARS dues was also made out.

Secretary's Report: none

Historian Report: none

Librarian Report: 8 books were brought from the library. If you would like to check anything out see Nancy.

Hospitality Report: Filled up for the year. March is a pot luck, try to bring something green please.

Publicity Report: none

Membership: No new members this month, we are missing one member's dues.

Webmaster: We have had 2,788 hits on our site as of January 1, 2009. Thank you to Rick Grojean for donating the space for the site.

CR Report: You can lose your roses really easy this time of year as we are getting thawing and freezing. Check your rose garden, take off damaged canes and make sure you keep the bud unions covered. Check your chemicals, check the labels the dates and check your pruners and loppers. No wilt (we have it for sale, see Jackie) use this when we are going to have a frost, use No Wilt and it will not burn from the frost. Park seed has pictures of roses in it that are MIS NAMED! Be careful when you order from them.

Old Business: Christmas Party, we have made the reservations at La Belle's restaurant. We have attempted to find a new location and have found that no one else can beat the price.

New Business: *Beal Gardens* We are going to be leaving from Gratiot Road Meijer at 9:00AM. We ask that you be to Meijer's Parking lot at 8:45AM for a headcount. Arrive at Beal Gardens around 10:30-10:45AM view the gardens for about two hours leaving there at around 1:00PM. Stopping in downtown Lansing around 1:15-1:30 for lunch and shopping till around 5:30PM leaving at 5:45-6:00PM arriving back in Saginaw around 7:45PM. The District Convention will be held in Troy, MI this year. We have guests coming from Huron County one month in the future. Ink pens were made with our logo and web address that were being handed out.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:25 P. M. Seconded by: Rick

Respectfully submitted,

Corresponding Secretary: Clint Bremer

CR report for March- by Jon Bradley



Happy March Birthday to Bill LeVasseur

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MENU FOR POT-LUCK

Jean Bradley - Green Jello

Jackie - Mashed Potatoes

Raeann - Irish Stew

Barry - Pistachio Salad

Madeleine - Dessert

Nancy - Cole Slaw

Kathy S - Cake

Rick - Kraut and Sausage

Bill - Fried Cabbage

Crystal - Meat Loaf

Joyce - Relish Tray

Joanne - Spinach Salad

Rita - Deviled Eggs

Betty- Irish Potatoes

If anyone else would like to bring something to the Pot Luck feel free to add to the list. Thank you! See you in March!



On March 5th our dear friend and fellow Rosarian Bunny Skran passed away. She will be sorely missed. Bunny was a Master Rosarian and an accredited Arrangement Judge and Horticultural judge for the American Rose Society and for our own Great Lakes District. She grew old garden roses among other roses but the old garden roses were her favorite. Bunny was a talented artist as well. At the time of her death she was getting a book ready to publish with watercolors of roses. Her daughter Dena is going to see if she can get it finished and published for everyone to enjoy.