THE ROSE PETAL

A MEMBER OF THE AMERICAN ROSE SOCIETY

CALENDAR

LOCAL EVENTS

Sept. 27, 7:00 pm Mounts Auditorium, Dr. Lance Osborne on Chilli Thrips

Oct.25, 7 p.m. Consulting Rosarian Panel

Nov. 22, 7 p.m. Rose Petals Nursery presentation

Dec.6, 6:00 p.m, GPBRS Holiday Party

NATIONAL EVENTS

Sept.10-14, ARS National Conference & Miniature Rose Show, Milwaukee WI
www.creamcityroses.org

DISTRICT EVENTS

Oct.15-17 - Gainesville FL, DSD Conference & Rose Show, host: Gainsville RS

Jan 21-23, 2022, Gainesville FL, DSD Midwinter Meeting, host: Thomasville Rose Society

A Message from our Presidents, Debbie and Geoff Coolidge

Happy August !! My goodness where does the time go? I cannot tell you how beautiful the Beckers place is inside and out!! What a wonderful time we all had in June visiting with each other, sharing stories, eating great food, playing games, and touring one of the most beautiful gardens I have ever seen.

After spending that afternoon with friends it made me realize that the Greater Palm Beach Rose Society is more than just growing roses, it is a group of people from all walks of life coming together to share in our passion. I know some of our members have not renewed their membership as of yet. For only $18.00 you not only learn about roses, you are helping preserve our society which started back in the 1950's. With the internet lots of folks are missing out because they can go online and find out anything they want to learn. I get it, we are in a different world now, but please think about how important a society is (whether it's roses, orchids, herbs, etc). This is one way to help ensure we can continue what we do, so please consider rejoining the Rose Society.

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The Mounts Botanical Garden has brought back their PBC Residents Days. Members can visit the garden for free on the 3rd Thursday of the month thru September. I have seen lots of different programs offered this summer. One of our grandchildren attended an intense art class workshop and loved it. Stay involved!! We are finally coming out of this pandemic and we need to get back to enjoying life.

Rosey regards, Debbie

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VIRTUAL BOARD MEETING

There will be a "Virtual" board meeting on Monday, September 13. Bill has reserved a Go To Meeting time slot from 6-8PM.

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IN MEMORIAM

On Thursday, August 5, former Rose Society member Betty Budano passed away peacefully. Betty and her husband Joe were enthusiastic members of the GPBRS for several years, until Joe passed suddenly in 2014.

Their daughter Angela Budano was also a valuable member of the society until her mom needed full time care due to the increasing challenges of dementia. We hope Angela will return to us.

All who knew Betty and Joe will remember their warmth and willingness to help our club in whatever ways they could.

Betty is survived by her daughter Angela and son Joe, by five grandchildren and two great grandchildren. Betty was 84.

Our warmest condolences go out to Angela and the Budano family.

Editor's Note: This article appeared in the May 2021 Rose Petal. It is being repeated because our September speaker will be Lance Osborne, an expert on the subject of Chilli Thrips.

Summer Rose Care in South Florida

By **Bill Langford**, Consulting Rosarian, past President of GPBRS

1. **Watering is the single most important action** you can take to keep your roses healthy. In the summer months, if we are not getting rain, you will need to water roses in the ground at least three times a week. Roses in pots need to be watered daily. If they are in small pots in the full sun you may need to water twice a day. Get a rain gauge and empty it regularly so you know how much rain fell in your garden, and so you will know when you need to irrigate. Add mulch around the roses to help retain the moisture in the soil. This applies to the potted roses as well as the in-ground bushes. Pine bark or nuggets, or pine straw (needles) are often used for mulch. Keep the mulch a little bit away from the base of the rose so the bud union or canes emerging from the ground do not stay wet all the time.

2. Do not prune your roses in the summer. You want to keep as much foliage on your bushes as possible. This keeps them healthier and cooler. It also reduces the amount of new growth you will be encouraging. Tender new growth will attract the chilli thrips. If you cut roses to bring in the house, it is better to cut short stems over the next few months. When removing spent blooms, just cut the bloom so you retain all those leaves below.

3. If time permits, visit your rose bushes everyday. Pull off any leaves that have blackspot and discard them in a trash can. Getting them out of the garden will reduce the spreading of the disease. Unless you exclusively grow blackspot-resistant varieties of roses, you will probably need to spray fungicides to control the disease. As mentioned above, the objective is to keep as much foliage on the rose plant as possible, so it is imperative to maintain a weekly or bi-weekly spray program. The best spray program is a combination mixture for systemic and contact control. *Banner Max* [*Honor Guard* (generic)], *Compass*, *Cleary 3336F* and *Ortho Rose & Flower Disease Control*. Examples of contact fungicides are *Dithane M-45*, *Pentathlon* or *Manzate 200*. It is recommended that you mix spray materials with a spreader sticker like *Indicate 5* (1tbsp/gal) or buffer the water with vinegar (1tbsp/gal) and *Dove* soap (1 tbsp/gal). When spraying the rose bush, spray both the upper and lower surfaces of the leaves.

4. Look for spider mite and chilli thrips damage. It is best to catch these before they spread to all your bushes. **Spider mites** cause the leaves to lose their green color. The underside of the leaf will look grayish and feel a little like sandpaper. Hold a piece of white paper under the leaf, shake the leaf and you will see the mites on the paper (use a magnifying glass if your eyes are bad like mine). To control the mites, hit the underside of the leaves with a strong spray of water (I use the "fan" setting on my water wand). All the foliage except the very new growth can handle being hit by the water, and the spider mites will not be on the just-emerged growth anyway. Because you will **not** knock off all the mites and eggs the first time, it is best to repeat the water spray again in 2-3 days. For heavy infestations I would repeat 3 times and then once a week thereafter. If we get rain you will not have as much problem with them. They like dry conditions.

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You will not actually see chilli thrips, they are quite small, but you can spot their damage. Leaves will usually curl up or be otherwise distorted, as will the buds. Black, brown or
Continued from p. 2
purplish spots may show up on canes. This damage will first appear on the newer growth (as opposed to spider mite damage which will first appear on established growth). This is one reason why we recommend you not cut back your bushes in the summer, as it encourages new growth, which will attract the chilli thrips. If you do find infected foliage, remove it from the plant and place it in a sealed container or bag. You want to contain the thrips and prevent them from returning to the rose bushes. The chemical control that works best as a foliar treatment is *Conserve SC.* If you have do not have a large rose garden, more economical choices are *Conserve Naturalyte* or *Monterrey Insect Control*. They contain the same active ingredient as Conserve. These products can be ordered online from *Amazon, Rosemania.com or SeedRanch.com,* among others.

5. You should continue to feed your roses in the summer. Do not use high-nitrogen fertilizers. Organic blends like *Espoma's Rosetone* work well. I often use *Milorganite* and *Sul-po-mag* (aka *K-mag*), feeding them every 4-6 weeks with about a cup of *Milorganite* and one-third cup of *Sul-po-mag* for large roses in the ground. For large pots (20" diameter or bigger) I reduce it to about two-thirds cup and one-quarter cup, respectively. For small pots, use a third to a half-cup of *Milorganite* and 2-3 tablespoons of *Sul-po-mag*. Another option is to use a slow-release fertilizer like *Osmocote*. Just remember that in our summer heat these products breakdown quicker than what the label states.

6. Summer is probably not the best time to plant rose bushes, but it can be done successfully if you keep them well-watered until they acclimate. Repotting them into larger pots can be done anytime of year. The perimeter of the pots can get very hot this time of year and if the plant is rootbound the roots are probably right up against the side of the pot. If you move the bush to a larger pot there will be more soil available to insulate the roots.

7. If you feel the rose bushes are getting adequate water and fertilizer, but are still in decline, you should consider getting a soil test done to check the pH. If the pH is too low or too high the nutrients in the soil will not be made available to the plant. For a inexpensive test without analysis you can take a soil sample to the UF/IFAS extension service at the Mounts Botanical Garden. They will send it to be tested and a report will be mailed to you. Visit https://soilsLab.ifas.ufl.edu for more information. Check with the entity you plan to use for their recommended method for taking the soil sample. Do not take the sample right after fertilizer has been applied, as this may give you false readings.

8. **You need to look out for your own well-being**, as well as that of your roses. If you can't remember the last time you had a **Tetanus** booster shot, check with your doctor to see if it is time to get one. This very important for people like us who work in the soil and sometimes get pricked by a thorn. Plan to work in the garden in the early morning or early evening. If you see your rose bushes wilting during the heat of the day make sure they are getting enough water. You can spray the foliage with water to help cool them off. Just do it at least an hour before sunset so they have a chance to dry. (Don't spray them with water the same day you sprayed for blackspot). And like your roses, **make sure you are well hydrated!**

Planting Your New Rose

*Reproduced from T**he Florosia**, of the East Bay Rose Society, Martine La Belle, editor*

So what's the big deal about digging a hole? I mean, we were all kids ... we've all dug holes ...holes to bury pirate's loot, holes to see if we could dig all the way to China, holes for the deceased pets from our growing years, holes just for the sake of digging holes. So what could be so special about digging holes? What kind of hole do you need to dig for a rose?

Well now, holes come in many shapes and sizes; they occupy space in various types of soil; they are a yawning promise of fulfillment—if they're the right kind of hole!

Roses grow in holes in the ground (or in holes in pots and planters). Just any old hole won't do. The Queen of flowers wants room to wriggle, to spread out, to grow, to eat, to drink, ... and to send up suckers if she has a mind to!! A hole for a rose needs some special planning and attention.

First - how big do you think this new rose you are planting is going to get? The hole you dig has to be placed a goodly distance from other bushes and plants to allow room for the air to circulate around the fully grown rose bush (you may be looking at three years down the road here). Rosarians often say that the "average" rose bush should be planted on four foot centers. (Translation: from the center of this hole to the center of that hole should be four linear feet of rose bed.) Of course, we've all seen gardens where the roses are all squished together, less than three feet between their crowns, and they seem to be doing fine.

Ah yes, the operative word here is "seem"!!! What extra-special work must be done for those roses that are crowded in like that? How much time and energy is being expended by the gardener to keep them in top condition?

Next - how deep does this hole have to be? Here's a clue—deeper than you thought it should be!! The soil in your garden has a lot to do with how deep and wide the hole needs to be. If you have very sandy or very clay-ey soil (clay-ey? Is that a word?) You will need a deep hole so you can build up a good layer of mulch and topsoil for your rose to sit on. Yep ... sit on! She's gonna sit on a cone of good dirt that you have mixed up with all the soil goodies and amendments recommended by the rose experts. You're going to "fan" her roots out around this cone, and still leave room for her to grow. That means that you'll look at her bare, naked roots and think "This hole needs to be at least twice the depth of these roots." DON"T CLIP HER ROOTS SHORT! That's not nice. Dig the hole about 24" deep (if you can).

Finally - how wide should this hole be? Imagine how wide your rose will get. Where will the drip-line be (the imaginary line where water drips off the edges of the bush and makes a circle around the plant). You want the hole to be that wide or wider. Her roots are going to grow sideways as well as down. She will need the extra room for her feeder roots so she can grow strong and produce beautiful roses for you. A good rule of thumb—make the hole as wide as it is deep.

The hole can never be too deep or too wide! Any extra room in the hole will be filled with the good soil you have mixed. Your rose will appreciate it; your blooms will be the best you've ever seen!

An Article of Interest

A LITTLE BOTANY

by Rich Baer Master Rosarian and Botanist

As a person who grew up as a plant person and has obtained a plant education including advanced degrees in Botany, I am very attuned to the "lingo" of the plant world. As with any specialty there are a lot of words that are special to the field and are often misused. As long as it does not lead to any communication problems, it really does not matter. If roses have thorns or not is not a major problem because we all understand what roses do have, what exactly we call them (the correct word for them is prickles) causes no problems.

One little phrase for describing roses does however bother me and I have spoken about it a number of times and that is referencing roses that have one row of petals as being single-petaled roses. This problem came from exhibiting roses. One rose in a vase for entry purposes is referred to as a single rose. So then, what do we call a rose that has four to eight petals in one row around the bloom. To differentiate it from one rose in a vase it began to be referred to as a single-petaled rose. The picture to the right is what a collection of four single-petaled roses would really look like. In nature there are no single-petaled roses. The minimum number of petals on any rose currently known is four which is the number of petals on *Rosa Omeiensis Pteranctha* also called the wingthorn rose. This is the rose with the very large red prickles which is the reason those who grow it do so. For the sake of exhibition, the American Rose Society has defined a single rose as one which has between 4 and 8 petals. Personally, I find single roses to be very attractive and probably have as many as 20 or more of them in my rose collection

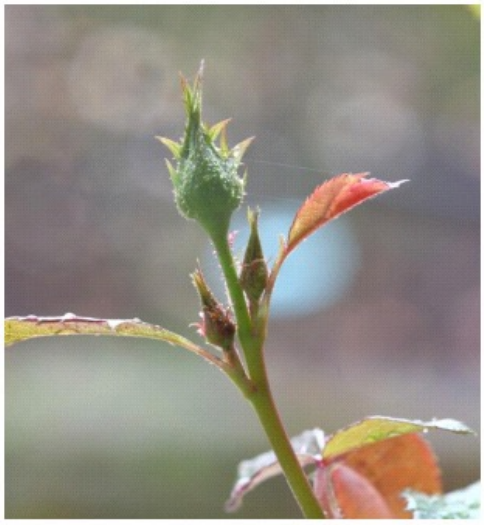
Every day that we go out into our rose gardens we observe the roses growing. I believe that this year (2020) they have done exceedingly well with great vigor and many, many blooms. However, do we ever look at that rose growth very carefully and up close? As a botanist I am always watching to see exactly what my roses are doing so that I can gain more appreciation for what I am seeing. A number of visitors to my garden this year have commented on how tall my roses are. I generally reply that because I look at them more as a garden, how high the flowers are is not a concern.

The picture on the right represents a typical new stem growing from an old stem at the point that the last deadheading was done. The stem typically grows rather rapidly, producing leaves at intervals from nodes along the stem as it grows. At each of these nodes, at the base of the leaf is a vegetative bud. At this point in its growth, you will never see any side shoots developing from this shoot. If you look closely at a stem you can find the tiny buds at the very base of each leaf located along the stem. At the very tip of this stem there are thousands of cells called the apical meristem. These cells divide into non-differentiated cells. That is, they are not leaf cells or stem cells. They will eventually become specific cells that will grow into leaves and other tissues along the stem as time passes. But back at the tip of the stem, the meristem cells continue to divide and at the same time they are producing new cells, they are also producing *auxin*, the most well known plant hormone. This auxin travels down the stem and its presence prevents any of the new buds that have formed at the nodes from growing, thus the reason you rarely see side shoots on the newly developing canes.

At a time that is determined by several factors (including environmental and hormonal) the vegetative stem will become reproductive. The meristem cells produce other cells that become the forerunners of a flower. Once the flower bud begins to grow it occupies the tip of the stem and there are no longer any meristem cells. All of the new parts have been produced by the meristem cells, the stem and foliage beneath them and the growing flower bud above them. The pictured “reproductive stem” shows the existence of the flower bud at the tip of the stem. When you can first see the tiny bud, it is the first time you will notice that the stem is about to bloom, but the production of this new bud has been going one for quite a while. With the disappearance of the meristem cells there is also no more production of auxin at the tip of the stem. The reduction in the concentration of auxin in the stem allows the previously inhibited buds near the tip of the stem to begin growing. Depending upon the variety of the rose the number of these stems which begin growing can vary.

You probably know that part of the definition of the hybrid tea rose is that it grows with one flower per stem. Without disbudding, you rarely get just one bud and flower per stem; you usually get more than one bud at the tip of the stem. The picture left and below represents what a single bloom looks like. There is the developing flower which is attached to the plant by a stem.

However, this attaching piece is not a stem but varies from any other stem on the plant in several ways. This structure also has its own unique name and is called the "peduncle". The most obvious difference you can see by looking at it is that it has no nodes. No leaves have developed along its length. It does, however, originate at a leaf node, much as any other stem on the rose plant. If you deadhead by snapping off the dead flowers this peduncle usually cleanly snaps off at its origin when you push it over. If you do remove dead flowers this way, just grasp the peduncle between thumb and forefinger and bend to the right or left. After it breaks off, look at the tip of the stem left on the rose bush and you will see at its very end a leaf. It may be a regular leaf that you will recognize as a leaf or it may be just a little green fold which does not look like a leaf but it is. If you try to break a rose stem you will not find that it will cleanly break away from the plant as does the peduncle. Sometimes the peduncle will not snap off cleanly but usually it does. If you have tried deadheading this way you know what I mean. Almost always after you see a stem become reproductive with a flowering bud at the tip of the stem, you will see additional buds beginning to grow as well. With the absence of auxin to inhibit the growth of the side buds on the rose stem, they often begin to grow. As you can see in the next picture, we often see side buds beginning to grow from just below the peduncle. In this case you can see the two nodes; they are at the base of the leaves projecting to the right and left. From the very top node the peduncle of the new bloom is growing as is one of the side buds. In hybrid tea roses it is often the norm that at least the top two nodes will produce side buds. If you could watch the progress microscopically what you would see would not be just the emerging of the two side buds. The bud at the base of the leaf would begin to grow just like any bud on the bush. However, it would not grow like a stem for very long. It quickly changes to a reproductive stem and begins to produce a peduncle and bloom. The stem often will grow enough before this happens to produce enough normal rose stem to have two or three leaves and thus nodes. So, each of these side buds is produced just like the major



bud that is at the tip of the stem. In most cases the buds at the nodes on these side bud stems do not grow so we have the main bud with an indeterminate number of side buds.

Everything is the same for each of these side buds as it is for the major bud that originally was produced. So we have stems with tiny leaflets at two or three nodes below the peduncle and bloom. The same thing can happen here that happened to the main stem; side buds can begin to grow. They can grow with the same results as we had before. They will produce very small stems that can have several nodes and tiny leaves and a bud and peduncle on their end.

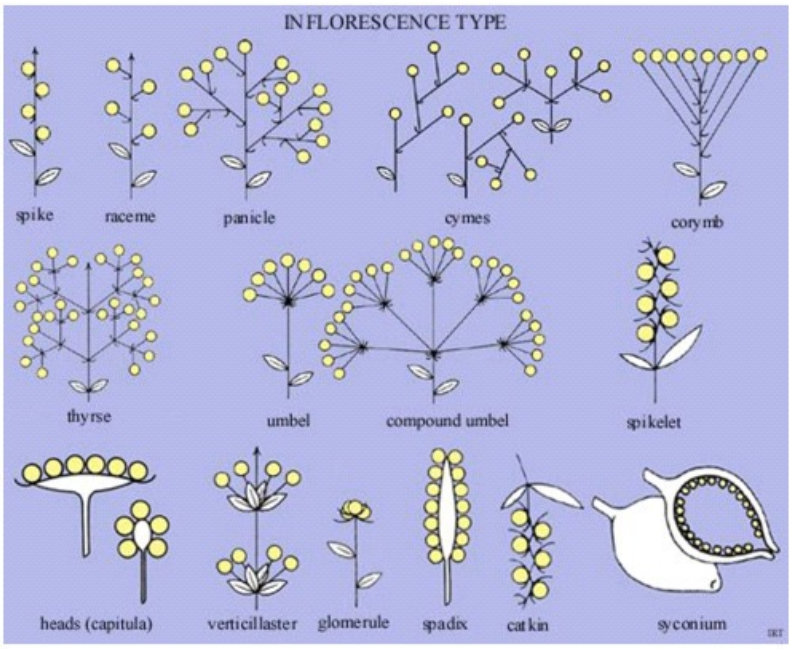
This can lead to a very large spray of roses being produced at the end of the main stem if they are allowed to proceed. This is what happens in the case of many of the floribunda roses and other roses which are grown as landscape roses for color.

The next picture to the right depicts the blooming of one such rose called 'Greetings', a shrub rose from Jackson and Perkins. The main bud can be seen in the center and is showing color. You can follow the progress of this spray in the stems below. Below the main bud side shoots began to grow and produce stems and buds. Then from those shoots additional side shoots grew and produced buds and there are places in this spray where there is a fourth group of buds being produced. All of the stems and peduncles grow from a node that is marked by the presence of a rudimentary leaf, but a leaf just the same. There are no peduncles which originate from other peduncles and there are no stems that do not originate from other stems.

In this case the original terminal bud will bloom first, and then all of the first wave of side buds will bloom at the same time. Then each additional wave of buds will mature and bloom in sequence. That is why disbudding large sprays can become tedious to the exacting exhibitor. But in the garden, we just let them bloom to produce the great color spots that they can become. There was a reason for trying to establish how flowers are produced on the ends of rose stems, and the importance of the peduncle. Which, as I hope you see, exists from the bottom of the bloom to the first node from which it came. In this case the node can be easily seen as there is a leaflet growing from where it emanates from the stem. There is no instance in which one peduncle arises from another peduncle; they always begin at a stem node and end at the base of the growing flower.

Plant Taxonomy is the science that finds, identifies, describes, classifies and names plants. Every part of the plant is examined in determining how to classify it. The reproductive parts are very important in this classification of plants overall. The way the flowers are arranged when they bloom is very important as well. In roses the presentation of the flowers is very much at random. The vegetative tip produces a bud and then all sorts of different combinations can occur below the first bloom. In many plants the presentation of the blooms is not at random but occurs in a specific way for any one variety

of plant, and the presentation is called an inflorescence. The names of most of the different types of inflorescences are probably not known to many, but there are a few that are familiar. Probably the most common would be the head. This is the type of flower presentation in plants such as sunflowers. There is one peduncle formed at the tip of the vegetative stem, just like in the rose; however that peduncle begins to divide and re-divide may times over. The stems that are produced by this division of the peduncle are called pedicles. In the case of the sunflower each of the pedicles produces a flower at its tip and they grow such that the structure that we know as a sunflower head is formed. In the representation to the right are many of the different ways that plants produce their flowers. In any one the of flowers, sunflower for example, every time the vegetative stem becomes reproductive and produces a reproductive peduncle a head will be the result. The type of inflorescence formed by any one variety of plant will always be the same as it is in the genetics of the plant to grow that particular way. A rose may at random produce a spray of blooms that resemble one of these classic inflorescence types, but it will not be a repeatable event. The occurrence will be strictly accidental since the genetics of the rose have it produce its flowers in the way previously described with each bloom arising from the stem of the plant on an individual peduncle.



Another common type of inflorescence is the umbel. The peduncle that is produced branches into any number of different pedicles, each having a flower at its tip. Probably one example know to gardeners would be the carrot or Queen Anne's Lace. You can turn the flower over, the inflorescence, and see how the peduncle is divided over and over again producing the classic look of the Queen Ann's Lace flower head. In each of the examples in the diagram you will notice that the peduncle is emerging from the last leaf on the stem and then there are no leaves on it as it grows and divides.

As a botanist I observe what is going on in the garden at a little different level than the average gardener, which is not necessarily good or bad. But I think that the more you know about the things you enjoy the more that you can enjoy them. I have a number of plants growing in pots that I am able to observe closely most every day of their growing cycle, including one that has fascinated me for the last three years. When I first saw Asclepias physocarpa in a catalog I knew I wanted to experiment with it in my garden. The taxonomists recently renamed it to Gomphocarpus physocarpus but it is the same plant. It has many common names, including balloon flower, and Family Jewels tree. But it is a member of the plants, milkweed, that Monarch butterflies feed on. I would like to see them in our part of Oregon. I have never seen one here in my over forty years of gardening here, but there is always

hope. This plant produces flowers in an inflorescence known as an umbel. The peduncle originates from a node on the stem of the plant and grows and then it begins to divide into pedicles. Normally with this plant there will be five to seven, each of which will bear one flower. I have nine of these plants growing around the yard, all of which are over 8 feet tall, and there are literally thousands of blooms on them and every one of them is produced by exactly the same type of structure, the umbel. There is no randomness to all of the flowers, every one of the inflorescences looks exactly the same. So you see it certainly is not a random occurrence that the flowers are produced in umbels; the genetics of the plant makes every one of them the same. Going back to the rose you might find five or six blooms that are presenting themselves so they loo like they are an umbel, but it will certainly be random and will not repeat with any regularity, and besides… each one of the blooms would be on its own peduncle.

The usage of the word inflorescence has become the dominant way that rose sprays are described in the judging guidelines for roses. I believe that the term is being misused, and all collections of rose blooms on one stem should be referred to as sprays. In referring to the individual blooms of a spray the term floret is often used to describe them, and I believe that botanically this is incorrect as well. The word floret botanically refers to the tiny flowers of some grasses. It is correctly used for the flowers of cauliflower or broccoli or members of the composite family, like sunflowers.

Reprinted from "The Portland Rose Chatter", Portland Rose Society, February 202Greater Palm Beach Rose Society Meeting - - -

IN PERSON AT LAST !

Fall 2021 Meeting Schedule:

September 27 - Dr. Lance Osborne will speak about dealing with chilli thrips.

October 25 - Our four Consulting Rosarians will form a panel to answer questions and offer advice.

November 22 - Art and Cydney Wade of Rose Petals Nursery will be our speakers. They specialize in Antique, Heritage and Old Garden roses. Members can pre-order roses on their website for delivery at this meeting. www.rosepetalsnursery.com.

December 6 - ***GPBRS Holiday Party… SAVE THE DATE***

Mounts Auditorium, 6 - 8 p.m.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2021

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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.The freely share this knowledge with anyone who loves and wants to grow roses.

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GREATER PALM BEACH ROSE SOCIETY 2019 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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___ *NEW MEMBER* ___ *RENEWAL Choose one type of membership below:*

___*ANNUAL MEMBERS DUES : $18.00*

___ *CONTRIBUTING MEMBERS : $25.00 (Membership period runs from January to December)*

Make checks payable to: GPBRS *and mail* ***with this form*** *to:*

Bob Ewart, 445 NW 10th St., Boca Raton FL 33432-2542

Did You Know? By Elaine Ornelas, eornelas1949@att.net

Female aphids can reproduce without a male, giving birth to 'clones' of themselves and the offspring are almost all female! The female gives birth to live young instead of laying eggs, and many of the young are already pregnant. During the fall some male offspring are produced, but the offspring resulting from these males mating with females are entirely female! A curious phenomenon of nature.