

Top Exhibition Roses of 2007

By Robert B. Martin, Jr.

For the 2007 season, *Rose Exhibitors' Forum* published the results of 194 U.S. rose shows, down from the 200 reported in 2006. The decrease appears to be primarily due to an increased failure in reporting results by local societies for reasons that are unclear. Based on the listings in *American Rose*, and other information, I estimate this represents approximately 85 percent of the ARS accredited shows held in 2007. The purpose of this article is to summarize the top roses represented in these shows.

Hybrid Teas/Grandifloras

Results are tabulated for all hybrid teas and grandifloras that have received royalty awards or have appeared as individual specimens in the district and national challenge classes. For tabulation purposes, Queen is awarded six points, with five points for King, four for Princess, and three each for roses appearing in the Court of Honor and the challenge classes.

'Gemini' edged 'Moonstone' by two points to reclaim the position of the top exhibition hybrid tea. The two roses have been alternating places now for several years with 'Gemini' finishing No. 1 in 2003 and 2005, and 'Moonstone' finishing No. 1 in 2002, 2004 and 2006. 'Veterans' Honor' retained its position as No. 3.

'Louise Estes' finished No. 4 for the year, reclaiming the position it held in 2004, following a fifth place finish last year and a ninth place finish in 2005. 'Marilyn Monroe' continued to rise, moving up two positions into No. 5. 'Let Freedom Ring', which debuted on the list last year at No. 11 moved up five positions into No. 6.

Making room for the upward movers, 'Hot Princess' was down three slots, and 'Signature' was down two. Rounding out the top ten were 'St Patrick' and 'Dublin'.

The largest gain was recorded by 'Mavrik', which was up nine following a drop of seven the previous year. The largest drops were recorded by 'Cajun Sunrise' and 'Helen Naude', both down nine.

There were five newcomers to the list, only two of which are really new. 'Marilyn Wellan' debuts on the list as No. 20, while 'Timeless' (known informally as "White Timeless") debuts at No. 22. 'Uncle Joe', which had dropped off the list on 2006 for the first time in 31 years

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reappeared at No. 16. 'Liebeszauber' and 'Andrea Stelzer', both of which have been off and on the list reappeared near the bottom.

Peeking off the list, newcomers moving up are 'Sunstruck' at No. 33, 'Here's Gert' at No. 35, and 'Marlon's Day' at No. 37.

HT/Grandiflora Royalty

2007

Rk	Pts	Chg
1 Gemini	307	(+1)
2 Moonstone	305	(-1)
3 Veteran's Honor	239	(--)
4 Louise Estes	192	(+1)
5 Marilyn Monroe	185	(+2)
6 Let Freedom Ring	180	(+5)
7 Hot Princess	176	(-3)
8 Signature	174	(-2)
9 St. Patrick	154	(+1)
10 Dublin	149	(+5)
11 Mavrik	144	(+9)
12 Black Magic	140	(+2)
13 Cajun Moon	109	(-5)
14 Touch of Class	107	(-2)
15 Crystalline	102	(-2)
16 Uncle Joe	97	new
17 Pop Warner	84	(+2)
18 Cajun Sunrise	82	(-9)
19 Lynn Anderson	59	(-3)
20 Marilyn Wellan	54	new
21 Brooks' Red	47	(--)
22 Timeless (RUIcrevi)	45	new
23 Liebeszauber	44	new
24 Andrea Stelzer	43	new
25 Helen Naudé	41	(-9)

Miniatures and Minifloras

The same point system is used in the tabulation of miniature and miniflora royalty. For the first time, the results for miniatures and minifloras have been segregated and are presented separately. This recognizes the fact that well over half of the shows now separate the royalty awards for the two classes.

The year 2007 saw the end of the 11-year reign of 'Fairhope' as the top exhibition miniature, leaving it one year short of the record established by 'Starina', which had accumulated 12 consecutive years as No. 1 from 1969-80. The new No. 1 rose is 'Bee's Knees', fulfilling a prediction I made three years ago. The 41-point margin over second place 'Fairhope' was convincing and suggests that 'Bee's Knees' may be able to last as No. 1 for several years. 'Soroptimist International', No. 2 in 2006, finished

third. The next four positions were unchanged.

The biggest gain of the year was recorded by 'Ty', which was up a remarkable 14 positions to finish at No. 10. 'Erin Alonso', the yellow sport of 'Bee's Knees' was up six positions into a tie for No. 13. The largest decline was recorded by 'Hilde', down 12 and in danger of disappearing from the list. 'Breath of Spring' was down eight, and both 'Incognito' and 'Chelsea Belle' were down seven.

There are three newcomers to the list, led by 'Heather Sproul', appearing on the list for the first time at No. 12. 'Best of 04' is also new at No. 16, while 'Michel Cholet' enters the list at No. 21. 'Baby Boomer', 'Sweet Melody', 'Behold' and 'Marie Jeanette' all dropped off the list.

Looking off the list, 'Joy' is at No. 30 and 'Willing' at No. 37, both having a fair chance of making the list next year.

Among the minifloras, 'Dr John Dickman' assumed the position of No. 1 passing 'Conundrum', which finished second. 'Louisville Lady' and 'Tiffany Lynn' were both up one position into third and fourth respectively. 'Butter Cream' gave ground to finish fifth. 'Tiffany Lynn', the oldest miniflora on the list has gained some traction as smaller shows have added miniflora royalty, initially attracting exhibitors who grow a more limited number of minifloras.

The biggest gain of the year was recorded by 'Dr Troy Garrett', up 13 positions into No. 11. 'Peter Cottontail' was up seven and 'Whirlaway' was up six, into the top ten. The biggest decline was recorded by 'Cachet', down seven. 'Luscious Lucy' and 'Jerry Lynn' were both down six.

There were four newcomers, the most notable of which was 'Leading Lady', which entered the list at No. 9, a most remarkable debut. 'Robin Alonso' debuted as No. 18, 'Nemesis' appeared in a tie for 20th while 'Rachel' sneaked on to the bottom of the list. 'Memphis Magic', 'Tiffany Lite' and 'Amy Grant' dropped off the list, while 'Summer Night' was dropped following the determination that it is the same rose as 'Conundrum'.

There are several potential newcomers just off the list, with 'Seattle Sunrise' at No. 27, 'Ricky Hendrick' at No. 28, 'Ashton' at No. 29 and 'Fitzhugh's Diamond' at No. 30.

Robbie Tucker now has twelve roses in the top 25 of the miniatures and minifloras, the most of any hybridizer. Frank Benardella and White Wells each have five.

In the miniature sprays, the tabulations record trophies won. 'Green Ice' upset 'Irresistible', to take the top spot by two. The latter finished second in a tie with 'Soroptimist International'. The remainder were nominally new as the miniature spray continued to be the most

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Miniature Royalty 2007

Rk	Pts	Chg
1 Bee's Knees	340	(+2)
2 Fairhope	299	(-1)
3 Soroptimist Int'l	239	(-1)
4 Irresistible	173	(--)
5 Nancy Jean	166	(--)
6 Miss Flippins	161	(--)
7 Arcanum	148	(--)
8 Dancing Flame	146	(-1)
9 Glowing Amber	140	(+1)
10 Ty	116	(+14)
11 Hot Tamale	115	(+3)
12 Heather Sprout	104	new
13t Erin Alonso	97	(+6)
13t Pierrine	97	(--)
15 Kristin	90	(+1)
16 Best of '04	89	new
17 Breath of Spring	88	(-8)
18 Incognito	83	(-7)
19 Sam Trivitt	78	(-2)
20 Doris Morgan	68	(+2)
21 Michel Cholet	66	new
22 Jean Kenneally	57	(-2)
23 Chelsea Belle	55	(-7)
24t Hilde	50	(-12)
24t Luis Desamero	50	(-4)

Miniflora Royalty 2007

1 Dr John Dickman	245	(+1)
2 Conundrum	219	(-1)
3 Louisville Lady	196	(+1)
4 Tiffany Lynn	193	(+1)
5 Butter Cream	186	(-2)
6 Foolish Pleasure	155	(--)
7 Whirlaway	154	(+6)
8 Memphis King	118	(+2)
9 Leading Lady	103	new
10 Solar Flair	78	(-1)
11 Dr Troy Garrett	74	(+13)
12 Peter Cottontail	71	(+7)
13 Lady E'owyn	70	(-5)
14 Cachet	66	(-7)
15 Charismatic	58	(-3)
16 Class of '73	57	(-5)
17 Regina Lee	52	(+3)
18 Robin Alonso	49	new
19 Equinox	43	(+2)
20t Autumn Splendor	42	(-5)
20t Nemesis	42	new
22 Luscious Lucy	40	(-6)
23 Camden	39	(-5)
24 Jerry Lynn	30	(-6)
25 Rachel	29	new

competitive category on the show table with 105 roses having recorded at least one trophy for the year.

Floribundas and Polyanthas

In the floribundas, the introduction of floribunda spray royalty has required a revision in the point structure. In the past, the tables had simply reported the number of trophy winners in both the floribunda bloom and spray class. This year, I have adopted for the floribunda spray the same point system used for hybrid tea, miniature and miniflora royalty. Specifically, the floribunda Queen is awarded six points, with five points for King, four for Princess, and three each for roses appearing in the Court of Honor. The floribunda blooms continue to be reported by the number of winners.

The determination that the rose commonly shown as 'Nicole' is in most cases 'Hannah Gordon' has thrown a wrench into the year's tabulations. Some exhibitors grow and show the real 'Nicole' while many others who grow 'Hannah Gordon' have simply not got the word and continue to show their rose as 'Nicole'. Judges have been notoriously poor at differentiating the two and from my desk it looks like many have also not become aware of the change. Last year, roses shown as 'Nicole' held the number one position in both the spray and the one-bloom-per stem category. Unable to tell from the reports which rose was which, I have simply reported them as reported to me. 'Nicole' is now No. 4 in both classes, with 'Hannah Gordon' moving into No. 3 in the spray class as a "new" entrant. Hopefully this will sort out in time.

As an aside the principal difference between the two roses is that 'Hannah Gordon' is lightly petalled – typically about 20 petals – and grows as a very large bush, often approaching a climber. 'Nicole' has more petals – around 32 – and is a mannerly well-shaped bush. Most exhibitors are growing 'Hannah Gordon' since it was much more widely available in commerce.

Among the floribunda blooms, 'Day Breaker' emerged as the top exhibition rose, followed by 'Kanegem' and 'Sheila's Perfume'. The extraordinary hybrid-tea formed 'Pinnacle' entered the list as No. 4.

Reversing the trend from the last several years, the top four floribunda bloom winners (and five of the top eight) normally display classic hybrid tea form. This represents 49 of the 78 winners on the list. Last year eight of the top ten winners, representing 61 of the 83 trophies won, normally display single, semi-double or decorative form. This suggests another change in judge's taste, back toward the classic hybrid tea form.

In the floribunda sprays, the No. 1 exhibition rose is 'Lavaglut', followed by the old-timer, 'Europeana', which appears nominally as a new rose on the list. It was helped by the introduction of floribunda royalty because it continues to be widely grown and makes a good show specimen,

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although not as often the best. The remainder of the list is pretty much the same as last year, allowing for the division of the awards between 'Hannah Gordon' and 'Nicole'. The only real newcomer is the AARS winner 'Marmalade Skies'.

Floribunda Trophies 2007

Floribunda Bloom

Rk	Wins	Chg
1 Day Breaker	13	(+2)
2 Kanegem	11	(+2)
3 Sheila's Perfume	10	(-1)
4 Pinnacle	9	new
5t Nicole	8	(-4)
5t Sentimental	8	(+1)
7 Chihuly	7	new
8t French Lace	6	new
8t Sexy Rxy	6	(-2)

Floribunda Spray

1 Lavaglut	93	(+1)
2 Europeana	74	new
3 Hannah Gordon	73	new
4 Nicole	66	(-3)
5 Playboy	54	(-2)
6t Sexy Rxy	50	(-1)
6t Showbiz	50	(-2)
8 Lady of the Dawn	48	(-2)
9 Playgirl	46	(-2)
10 Marmalade Skies	44	new

In the polyanthas, 'The Fairy' again blew away all contenders for the umpteenth year. 'China Doll' finished second again, under some pressure from 'Mothersday' and 'Verdun'. Of particular note, the extraordinary new polyantha 'Wing-Ding' from Tom Carruth of Weeks Roses, made the list in its first year of introduction with seven trophies, all recorded in the fall. I expect it will challenge 'China Doll' in the near future and perhaps even give the venerable 'The Fairy' a run for the roses.

Polyantha Trophies 2007

Rk	Wins	Chg
1 The Fairy	25	(--)
2 China Doll	11	(--)
3t Mothersday	10	(+1)
3t Verdun	10	(-2)
5t La Marne	8	new
5t Lullaby	8	new
7 Wing-Ding	7	new
8 Margo Koster	6	new
9t Excellenz von Schubert	5	(-2)
9t Red Fairy	5	new

Climbers

The climbers continue to be a two-horse race between 'Fourth of July' and 'Altissimo', with 'Altissimo' continuing to make it something of a race. Nevertheless, 'Fourth of July' has now claimed the top spot in six of the last seven years, clearly establishing its position as the best show climber. 'Altissimo', which had been number one in 2003 and for numerous year prior to 2001, continues to be No. 2, well ahead of the rest of the field. A newcomer to watch is the beautiful striped 'Soaring Spirits' which enters the list at No. 6. 'Soaring Spirits' is a 2005 J&P introduction from a cross of 'Berries 'n' Cream' and 'Fourth of July' (both of which are on the list). Last year's newcomer 'Night Owl', the striking new purple single with a white eye, failed to make the list but is expected back soon.

Climber Trophies 2007

Rk	Wins	Chg
1 Fourth of July	37	(--)
2 Altissimo	28	(--)
3 Clair Matin	12	(--)
4 America	11	(-1)
5 Don Juan	7	(+2)
6 Soaring Spirits	6	(--)
7t Aunt Ruth	5	new
7t Berries 'n' Cream	5	(--)
7t Rosarium Uetersen	5	new

Shrubs

In the modern shrubs, 'Graham Thomas' and 'Sally Holmes' continue to run one-two, with 'Graham Thomas' coming out ahead for a second year, this time by one trophy. The diversity of modern shrubs continues to be illustrated by the remainder of the list, with five newcomers and five holdovers from last year. The holdovers are 'Robusta', 'Leonard Dudley Braithwaite', 'Belle Story', 'English Garden' and 'Flower Girl'.

Eight of the 12 on the list this year were introduced by David Austin, compared with three of nine roses last year, six of ten the prior year, three of ten in 2004, and eight of 13 in 2003. What this means is hard to say; it may in fact mean nothing. It also might mean that Austin roses oscillate in popularity among the judges.

Among the classic shrubs, 'Ballerina' and 'Linda Campbell' finished for a second year in a tie for 'No. 1'. Last year there was a three-way tie for first, which included 'Dortmund', which fell into a tie this year for third with 'Prosperity'. Four of the ten roses on the list are hybrid musks, accounting for just over half of the trophies recorded.

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Shrub Trophies 2007

Modern Shrub

Rk	Wins	Chg
1 Graham Thomas	13	(--)
2 Sally Holmes	12	(--)
3 Robusta	7	(--)
4t Country Dancer	6	new
4t L. D. Braithwaite	6	(-1)
4t Lyda Rose	6	(+3)
7t Belle Story	5	(-4)
7t English Garden	5	new
7t Fair Bianca	5	new
7t Flower Girl	5	(--)
7t Prospero	5	new
7t The Squire	5	new

Classic Shrub

1t Ballerina	11	(--)
1t Linda Campbell	11	(--)
3t Dortmund	7	(-2)
3t Prosperity	7	(2)
5 Penelope	5	(+1)
6t Belinda	4	new
6t Bouquet Parfait	4	new
6t Jens Munk	4	new
6t Pink Grootendorst	4	new
6t William Baffin	4	(--)

Old Garden Roses

In the Dowager/Genesis classification the 'Green Rose' finished on top for the second consecutive year. 'Baronne Prevost', finished second, well ahead of the third place finisher, '*Rosa rugosa rubra*'. The latter was the top rose for the Genesis award, followed by '*Rosa rugosa alba*' and '*Rosa gallica versicolor*' (Rosa Mundi). 'Sidonie', now spelled with an "i", was new to the list.

In the Victorian Award, 'Rose de Rescht' again finished first by a wide margin, as it has for each year in which I have been tabulating these results. Once again it recorded more trophies than the next three combined. 'Paul Neyron' again finished second, followed by 'Pink Pet'. The rumor that 'Pink Pet' is in line to be reclassified as a polyantha proved to be untrue.

Show Results Encouraged

As always, I extend my sincere appreciation to all of those who sent in reports of rose show results and encourage those knowing of unreported shows to make efforts to see that the show results are promptly forwarded to me.

The ARS does provide a Rose Show Winners report form with each show order, and the form is included in the Society Handbook. The report form is also available for printing out on the ARS website at www.ars.org. Please keep in mind that these forms are provided simply for your con-

venience and, if you would prefer, you could just send me the complete results of your show by e-mail to my address above and I will extract what I need.

As Spring approaches, a review of the names of the roses on these lists bring to mind the beauty of our rose shows and I hope every reader will consider entering as many shows as possible this year in order to share their roses with other members of the local society and the public. The roses always bloom in the spring and I wish all of you a happy new show year in 2008.

OGR Trophies 2007

Dowager/Genesis

Rk	Wins	Chg
1 Green Rose	26	(--)
2 Baronne Prévost	22	(+1)
3t Rosa rugosa rubra	12	(+1)
3t Souv de la Malmaison	12	(+2)
5 Rosa rugosa alba	9	new
6 Rosa gallica versicolor	8	(+2)
7t Rosa gallica officinalis	7	new
7t Sidonie	7	new
9 Louise Odier	6	new

Victorian

1 Rose de Rescht	40	(--)
2 Paul Neyron	13	(--)
3 Pink Pet	12	(--)
4 Mme Isaac Pereire	10	(-1)
5 Zéphirine Drouhin	7	(+2)
6t Baron Girod de l'Ain	5	new
6t Francis Dubreuil	5	(--)
8t Mons Tillier	4	new
8t Precious Dream	4	new

Pacific Southwest District Rose Show Results and Awards from

April 19, 2008

can be found at:

**[www.pswdistrict.org/text/
showresults.html](http://www.pswdistrict.org/text/showresults.html)**