



Award winning newsletter! National ARS Silver Medal 2004

# Rose Lore

## Mesa-East Valley Rose Society

Affiliated with the American Rose Society

**Dona L. Martin, Editor**      [www.roses4az-mevrs.org](http://www.roses4az-mevrs.org)      **February 2006**



**Thursday**  
**February 9th, 7 p.m.**  
**MCC Elsner Library**  
**Community Room**

**"Rose Hybridizing"**  
**Presented by**  
**Bob Martin**

**A program by Judy Singer**  
 PowerPoint presentation with commentary by successful amateur hybridizer, Bob shows how anyone can produce new rose varieties from their own gardens.

**Bring your Spring rose care questions for help from our ARS Consulting Rosarians.**

**Guests are welcome.**  
**We look forward to seeing you!**

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All For The Love Of The Rose....

MEVRS Rose Auction and Sale 2006

**By Cheryl Doan, 1st VP MEVRS, Auction Chairman**

Our Third Annual Rose Auction and Sale was held Saturday, January 28, in the Navajo Room of the Kirk Center, Mesa Community College. This type of project is never the effort of a few, but the effort of many. It was a terrific success due to the diligent work of many members of the Rose Auction Team. Each team member contributed huge effort. They were always willing to help each other complete whatever needed to be done. It was great team work in action. We thank everyone who contributed. And that includes those who bought our roses! We appreciate you very much. You made the event a success!



We want to give a "Big Thanks" to **Jared Langkilde** and Mesa Community College for allowing us to use the Navajo Room and all the equipment and facilities for this auction. MCC also allows us to use a room for our monthly meetings and a storage room for our equipment. We have the pleasure of working

and caring for the beautiful rose garden on the campus. Thank you, Jared, and all our friends at Mesa Community College for being our "Best Friends".

This year we were very successful in having wonderful newspaper coverage of Spring rose events, our need for pruning helpers in the garden and announcement of our Auction. Thank you **Lynn Twichell**, who handles our press releases.

The roses were donated by commercial growers from several states: Weeks Roses, Star Roses, Ashdown Roses, Heirloom Roses, Edmunds Roses, David Austin Roses, Nor'East Minis, John's Mini Roses and V&P Nursery. On Friday we unwrapped the huge boxes from the commercial growers and began wrapping the bare root roses in soaked newspapers and plastic bags. There were many magical hands working. The roses looked great, all dressed up for action! They were placed carefully and rechecked twice by the team before cutting out the lights. It was the

*(Continued on page 3)*

## MEMBERSHIP DISCOUNTS

The following nurseries will give MEVRS members a 10% discount (unless otherwise indicated) on any rose-related purchase when you show your membership card. In some stores you must pay by cash or check only to receive the discount.

**Be sure to get your annual Membership Card from the Membership Chairman.**

### A & P Nurseries

All three East Valley locations  
(15% off all products, except  
Advertised Specials.)

Pine needle much now in stock  
2601 E. Baseline Rd.  
480-892-7939

**Baker's Nursery**  
3414 N. 40th St., Phx

**Berridge Nursery**  
4647 E. Camelback Rd., Phx  
Potted roses always in stock!

**Gardener's World**  
3401 E. Baseline Rd., Phx

**Harper's Nursery**  
Three locations:  
Mesa, Scottsdale and Phx

**Summer Winds Nursery**  
3160 S. Country Club Dr., Mesa  
480-892-1469

**When you patronize  
these businesses, please  
remember to thank the  
manager for supporting  
the MEVRS!**



## President's Message

by Steve Sheard

**\*\*\*The March 9<sup>th</sup> MEVRS GENERAL MEETING  
will still be in the MCC Library, but we will be  
upstairs. We will have signs to direct you.**

First, a VERY BIG THANK YOU to all those that helped at our Rose Auction on January 28<sup>th</sup>. It was a great success and we all had a wonderful time.

**Cheryl Doan**, with you and of course **Phyllis Humphry, Bob & Dona Martin**, and many other helping hands, you did it again. Thank you very much.

We improved on a number of things from last year and it sure made life a lot easier. Richard Flick greatly improved the "check out" lines and book-keeping procedures. Refreshments were creative and terrific, thanks to Royetta Marconi-Dooley and Sue Sheard. However we could still do with making a few more improvements, so please before you forget, drop Cheryl or myself a note on what you feel could be improved – and if possible – a suggestion on how to fix it.

Ring Ring, Ring Ring, 6:30am, Friday 13<sup>th</sup>, my phone is ringing. The caller ID says Mary Andrews. I answer the phone and find a dear (elderly) lady who has a love of roses and needs some help with "white stuff" on the leaves. Mary had gotten my phone number out of the newspaper. Mary said she had about two dozen bushes; when I visited, I counted 60+! All miniatures, all in pots, all taken care of by caring hands.

We are fulfilling our mission. The article on Rose Pruning, written primarily to help get volunteers to prune the MCC Rose Garden, helped to get the word out that roses do wonderfully well here in Arizona. A thank you to all those that have answered a rose question, be it at the Home & Garden Show, or a co-worker or neighbor, it all helps to promote our National Flower, the Rose and rose growing here in Arizona.

**February 11<sup>th</sup>** will be a busy day for everyone. We committed to having an **MEVRS DAY At MCC**, where every member of MEVRS would come down to the MCC garden and help prune, starting at 9:00am. If you are not helping with our rose information table at the **Queen Creek Festival** or attending the **MCC Community Education class on roses**, we NEED you at the MCC Rose Garden. We want to do our part for the college in return for what they do for us, providing our meeting rooms, store room etc. Our Rose Auction was more successful because of the support we got from the college. Do not be the face we did not see!

**February 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>**, 10:00am to 3:00pm, **Flower Power at the Desert Botanical Garden**. The rose societies in the valley will have a table to answer questions and recruit members. We need some help Sunday the 26<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested in working our table and then taking some time to look at other exhibits and the garden itself, please contact Jeannie Cochell [jcochell@cox.net](mailto:jcochell@cox.net) (602-363-6444) to sign up, as I will be flying to England on 25<sup>th</sup>. ( Because of my absence, the March MEVRS Board of Directors meeting will be moved to Tuesday, March 7<sup>th</sup>.)

### Rose Auction 'Tweaking' Meeting

Come help us tweak the auction. Bring your ideas to help improve our next auction and sale, as we move through the learning curve of a new event. We just ask that you keep it funny and light hearted. Tuesday, February 8 at 7 pm, Pima Room in the MCC Student Center.



(Continued from page 1) *For the Love of the Rose*

efforts of **LeRoy Brady, Marylou Coffman, Mike Jepsen and Bob and Dona Martin** who made those donations happen. Congratulations and Thank You!

Additional roses were donated from the gardens of **Mike and Cindy Jepsen, Bruce and Evelyn Gannon, Heidi and Terri Leavitt, Bob and Dona Martin, Jack and Judy McClure and Steve and Sue Sheard**. Their generosity is appreciated as well. If you are a counter, we believe there were over 250 roses (actually 252!) in the auction and on the "Roses for Sale" table.

**Dona Martin** and **Phyllis Humphry** produced another beautiful program for us this year. We are so fortunate to have beautiful colored pictures in our program. This process takes so much time and effort. Phyllis produced the cover and ran the trips to the printer. **Donna Dibble, Bob Martin** and his grandson, Ryan, helped Phyllis to assemble the programs on Friday afternoon. Thank you all so much.

This year we added new elements to our auction: the Door Prize, the Roses for Sale table, the Tea and Refreshments and the Silent Auction. They were very successful. **Mike Jepsen** and his team of **Lindsay Mace** and **Phyllis Humphry** had the Roses for Sale section outside in the courtyard. The weather was great for enticing everyone to buy more roses. Mike gave free Consulting Rosarian advice on planting and caring for the roses. Our customers were pleased with their purchases and happy to have his excellent advice. Several customers asked if we would do this again next year.



**Retta Marconi-Dooley** and **Sue Sheard** presented the beautiful tables filled with yummy refreshments; tea sandwiches, desserts and several kinds of freshly brewed tea. One tea of great interest was made with tea leaves that formed a beautiful flower when placed in hot water.

The elegant table and the yellow rose arrangement in a large green tea cup (provided by **Steve Sheard**) were lovely. Thank you ladies and Steve!

This was our first year to add a Silent Auction. We appreciate



the joint effort of the committee: **Donna Dibble, Larry Bell, Alice Flick** and Dona Martin. We had several very interesting items. This section was also quite profitable. The donors for the Silent Auction were: Bree Robey, a massage therapist, Basha's, Baker's Nursery, Changing Hands Bookstore, Chrissy's Post Office and General Store, David and Donna Dibble, Alice Flick, Ranch House Restaurant, Subway, A&P Nursery, Village Inn and WalMart. This section was fun and had several people competing for their favorite items. There was one additional rose in the Silent Auction, bringing our count is 253, with the help of Larry Bell. Thanks to all of you.



There was a young man, Bidder #15, because he is 15, who was voted "best helper around" by several members. Larry Bell has the honor of the young man calling him, "Grandad". What a terrific young man! Thanks, **Jonathan**.

No auction is complete without the help of our very own auctioneer, **Bob Martin**. Bob did another wonderful performance, standing and talking for over three hours. We had several new people mention they loved the free education they received during the auction. Great job Bob! We hope his wife, Dona, will consider giving him the massage she won in the Silent Auction. Another big "Thanks" is due here.

**Our committee members were:**

**Inventory & Grooming of Roses:** David and Sam Presley, Bill Henslin

**Cart Donors:** Marylou Coffman, the Jepsens, the Martins, the Sheards, Cathy Pirch, Phyllis Humphry and Cheryl Doan

**Program:** Dona Martin, Phyllis Humphry

**Publicity:** Lynn Twitchell

**Greeting Team:** Cindy Jepsen and Phyllis Henslin

**Deadheaders Team:** Carol Poe, Cathy Obermiller, Peter and Jean Pegler

**Roses for Sale Team:** Mike Jepsen, Lindsay Mace, Phyllis Humphry

**Auctioneer:** Bob Martin

**Flip Chart Team:** Rose de Forest, Terri Sovereign

**Recording Auction Team:** David Presley, Jean Pegler, Janice Clawson

**Refreshment Team:** Retta Marconi-Dooley and Sue Sheard

**Silent Auction Team:** Donna Dibble, Larry Bell, Alice Flick and Dona Martin

**Finance Team:** Teresa McGaughey, Cathy Pirch, Alice & Richard Flick, Phyllis Humphry

**Cart Team:** Sam Presley, Bill Henslin, Peter Pegler, Steve

## My Favorite Hybrid Teas

by Robert B. Martin Jr

*"Nobody goes there anymore because it's too crowded."*

-Yogi Berra on a famous restaurant

The most popular rose class is, and has been for many years, the hybrid tea. The aristocrat of the garden, the hybrid tea accounts for well over half of the sales of all garden roses and over 90% of cut roses sold by florists. With its large pointed buds and high-centered form, the hybrid tea is what most people identify as a "rose".

Like the famous restaurant in Yogi's quotation, it has become popular for angle-seeking journalists and wishful fans of other types of roses to conclude that nobody grows hybrid teas any more because they are too popular. Other writers emphasize other classes or more unusual roses because of the ubiquity of the hybrid tea. I also have been guilty of this practice, having more recently published articles on my favorite polyanthas, floribunda and other varieties, while neglecting my favorite, the hybrid tea. In this article, I propose to rectify that oversight.

The selection of roses to grow is usually a very personal decision and this is so with hybrid teas. As an exhibitor, I like hybrid teas with classic exhibition form. I also grow roses for their flowers, so I am partial to hybrid teas that produce abundant bloom. With these likes in mind here – in reverse order – a dozen of my favorite hybrid teas:

**12. 'Touch of Class'**, orange-pink, Kriloff 1984. ARS rating 8.9. AARS

1986. The top exhibition rose in the US from 1986-1996, and again in 1998, this rose defined the exhibition rose in my formative years as an exhibitor. It also spawned a new ARS color class since it is neither orange, nor pink, but a pleasant combination of the two. The color actually varies by climate. For example, I have seen specimens in Northern California that are almost deep orange. The form is always exquisite, with a classic high centered spiral. The bush is of moderate height and requires spraying. Flower production is adequate but not as abundant as I'd like. It is somewhat passé as a show rose because the judges have seen so many superb examples to measure it against, and it loses color under refrigeration. Still, the beautiful specimens on the bush can take my breath away and if it chooses to bloom just before a show, it can still win.

**11. 'Elizabeth Taylor'**, deep pink, Weddle, 1985. ARS rating 8.4. Another excellent exhibition rose that has seen its best days on the show tables, this is a sentimental favorite of mine. I won my second queen with it in 1994 and have often placed it on the show table. The electric pink blooms have great form and the rose is a "cropper", which means that it produces a large flush of bloom at the same time. It does mildew if not sprayed and the growth tends to be angular. It also often has a white color fault in the bloom, which is distracting. So it's not perfect. But it produces consistently beautiful blooms and that's close enough.

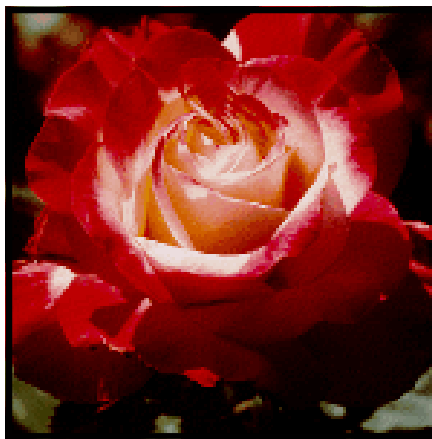
**10. 'Double Delight'**, red/white blend, Swim & Ellis 1977. ARS rating

8.4. AARS 1977. Continuing with sentimental favorites, I have grown this rose in every garden since its introduction. The distinctive white blooms with red edges rarely have form since the centers split. But the color is breathtaking and the red is more pronounced in the sun. Best of all, the fragrance is heavily spicy and distinctive. The bush is of medium height and requires spraying to avoid mildew. Flower production is adequate to generous.

**9. 'Mister Lincoln'**, dark red, Swim & Weeks 1964. ARS rating 8.3. AARS 1965. The biggest winner of the fragrance class at a show is another old sentimental favorite that I have grown in every one of my gardens. The blooms are a deep velvety red, nicely formed, but not enough so to win at modern shows. The fragrance is a strong damask that can make my head jerk back. The bush is very tall and it's a strong grower with lots of bloom. It also requires spraying.

**8. 'Signature'**, deep pink, Warriner, 1996. ARS rating 7.6. This is an outstanding exhibition rose that has won four queens of show for me. The large, deep pink blooms have a cream reverse and are of classic exhibition form. The blooms have good substance and refrigerate well. The bush is not much to write home about, particularly the foliage, which has a sensitivity to spraying and will occasionally drop its leaves for no particular reason. But nearly every bloom is of top show quality so I sign off on its faults.

**7. 'Black Magic'**, dark red, Tantau 1997. ARS rating 7.7. This is a florist rose that is an excellent garden rose as well. The dark red velvet blooms are nearly black and have excellent spiral form that is a bit flat. Surprisingly, the blooms do not burn on the edges in heavy sunshine, though the bloom size can be small in heat. The blooms are presented on long stems, as befits a florist rose, and it lasts a long time in a vase. The rose needs to be cut tight and it will open better. It is a very vigorous plant with deep green glossy foliage and flowers adequately.



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**6. 'Moonstone'**, white, Carruth 1998. ARS rating 8.2.

**6. 'Cajun Moon'**, white, Carruth 2001. ARS rating (7.8). OK – I am fudging here by giving you two for the price of one. These two roses were sister seedlings that Tom Carruth had to choose between for introduction. He chose 'Moonstone' but a bed of 'Cajun Moon' accidentally got dug up and sold into commerce. Exhibitors discovered it and so Tom registered it as well. Both have large, creamy white blooms with a blush of pink, more so in the center.

'Moonstone' is an exceptionally vigorous bush with leathery foliage that produces blooms in great abundance. Some have exceptional form and 'Moonstone' was the top exhibition rose in the country from 1999 through 2004. The form, however, is inconsistent and in cooler weather, the blooms are often muddled and split. 'Cajun Moon' is a taller bush that is thornless at the top. The blooms have fewer petals and are much more consistent in form, making it also a top exhibition rose. I like them both and am glad I don't have to choose between them.

**5. 'Hot Princess'**, deep pink, Tantau 2000. ARS rating 7.9. This is another florist rose that I discovered at the Los Angeles Flower Mart before it became available for the garden. It is a very vigorous bush with strong straight stems, glossy green foliage and perhaps wider leaf spacing than I'd like. The form is excellent with neon pink blooms that spiral into pinpoint centers. It lasts a long time as a cut flower. It grew well in California and loves the Arizona desert where it

thinks it's in a hot house.

### *Intermission...*

**'Gold Medal'**, Grandiflora, medium yellow, Christensen 1982. ARS rating 8.4. And now for an editorial break before I reveal my top four favorites. The grandiflora is a class adopted in the U.S, originally to explain 'Queen Elizabeth', which has the size and large blooms of a hybrid tea, but the flowering habit of a floribunda. The rest of the world have never accepted the class and considers 'Queen Elizabeth' to be a cluster flowered rose. The class has also not gathered much favor of late in the U.S. and roses classed as grandifloras in recent years have proved a mixed bag of dissimilar roses that, with some exceptions have not proven to be favorites. 'Gold Medal' is, however, the principal exception and could easily have been classed a hybrid tea. For years, when asked the question of what is my favorite rose, I replied 'Gold Medal'. It is a hugely vigorous bush that covers itself with golden striped yellow buds that open into golden blooms of excellent form. It also has a delightful fruity fragrance. It was a solid show rose in its time and can still win any class designated solely for grandifloras.

**4. 'Veteran's Honor'**, dark red, Zary 1999. ARS rating 8.1. Returning to my list of favorites, I give you an excellent show rose of exquisite form. The large, solid red blooms are huge, with thick petals and invariably have great form. It is somewhat stingy of bloom and for show it is difficult to groom the large, long petals down to the horizontal. The bush is very vigorous, however the foliage can be coarse and the stems can have trouble carrying the heavy blooms. It also lacks fragrance. But so what? – I love a red hybrid tea and this is quite simply the best.

**3. 'St. Patrick'**, yellow blend, Strickland 1996. ARS rating 8.0. AARS 1996. This is the best yellow hybrid tea ever. The blooms are a bright yellow with green at the edges; the amount of green varies with the weather. The blooms have tremendous substance and the chlorophyll in



the petals, which makes the green edging, permits the rose to thrive in bright sunshine and heat. It is a very vigorous grower that produces long stem multi-petaled blooms that last and last as a cut flower. The blooms are sometimes flat and the centers are often muddled, however the bush makes up for this deficiency by producing an abundance of blooms such that there are plenty with good queenly form. Until recently it was my favorite hybrid tea, having replaced 'Gold Medal'. It was bred by the amateur hybridizer, Frank Strickland, who was an excellent exhibitor before retirement and has always been a good friend.



**2. 'Marilyn Monroe'**, apricot blend, Carruth 2002. ARS rating (7.8). This rose, like its parent 'St. Patrick', loves heat and is the best exhibition rose for Arizona. The light apricot blooms have consistent excellent spiral form, perhaps a little flat, and thick petals that are impervious to thrips. It blooms abundantly on a vigorous

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*9th Annual  
Arrangement  
Workshop*

**Sponsored by the  
Fair Friends of Roses  
Rose Society  
Saturday, March 11, 2006  
10:00 AM – 3:00 PM**

Floriculture Building  
Ventura County Fairgrounds  
10 W. Harbor Blvd.  
Ventura, CA 93001

*“How To Arrange  
Semi-formal and  
Informal Place Settings”*

Guest Teachers:  
**Mary Lou Coffman  
and Helen Baird**  
ARS Judges from Arizona

What to bring:

- Warm clothes
- clippers
- place settings for two people
- glassware (cups, saucers, mug or wine goblet)
- Tablecloth (card table size)
- Container for flowers – (any type not too large)
- Accessories (candles, etc. if you wish)
- No flatware

Fair Friends of Roses will provide:  
flowers, greens, coffee, Danish and lunch

Send \$20 by March 6, 2006 to:  
Barbara Schneider  
253 McKee Street  
Ventura, CA 93001  
(805) 648-7322  
Barbara or Sue

*(Continued from page 5) My Favorite Hybrid Teas*

bush with disease-resistant foliage. It is a little slow to get started, but a little patience will be amply rewarded.

**1. 'Gemini'**, pink blend, Zary 2000. ARS rating 8.2. AARS 2000. And now for my favorite, the rose that has it all. 'Gemini' is a vigorous upright rose that produces many high-centered classic exhibition-form blooms of cream



with a coral pink edge and a cream reverse. The blooms come singly and in clusters. The blooms darken in sunshine and are best cut tight and opened indoors. It refrigerates very well and is a superb exhibition rose, having moved into the number one spot in 2005. The foliage is clean and well proportioned. It is also a great garden rose, having earned the ARS Member's Choice Award in 2004 for the rose that ranked the highest in the annual Roses in Review Program. If you are going to grow hybrid teas, this one demands a place in your garden.

**'Peace'**, yellow blend, Meiland 1945. ARS rating 8.1. AARS 1945. Finally, for a bonus choice, I include the all-time favorite rose that I have grown in every one of my gardens. It has won every award possible and is considered THE



hybrid tea of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. It has beautiful buds that open slowly into large generous blooms shading from yellow to pale gold and fringed with a delicate pink. The bush is strong with dark green, glossy foliage and the blooms are produced in abundance. It set the standard for the modern hybrid tea and was a superb exhibition rose in its time, but the form is too globular by modern standards. But it can win as a classic hybrid tea and also makes a beautiful open bloom. It was introduced in 1945 in Pasadena, California, with the statement, "We are persuaded that this greatest new rose of our time should be named for the world's greatest desire: PEACE." In these times, 60 years later, that continues to be a great desire and I wish you all peace and beautiful hybrid teas.

## *In The Garden At MCC*

**Marylou Coffman, Carol Poe  
and LeRoy Brady**

Pruning the MCC Rose Garden is really going well this spring! Thanks to the outstanding publicity by Lynn Twitchell, we have had record-breaking numbers of volunteers from the community. Those volunteers signing the Garden Register numbered 50 the first week, then 72, 86, and 60. There was an additional 10 or 15 each time who were there, but did not sign in. There has been a wonderful atmosphere in the Garden with much laughing and camaraderie, as everyone pruned the bushes they had chosen to groom for blooming in the spring.

Thanks go to Consulting Rosarians Steve Sheard, LeRoy Brady, Mike and Cindy Jepsen, Marylou Coffman and Phyllis Henslin, who gave excellent pruning demonstrations. We really appreciate Phyllis Humphry, who brought the Krispy Kremes, plus garden products, our video and booklet to sell and free handouts. Michelle Downin made each person feel welcome as she signed them in and gave out a free raffle ticket for each hour worked. The raffle will be held again this year on the third week of February and will include pruners, loppers and other necessities.

This has also been a great month for planting in our rose garden. We have planted over 180 new test roses for the All America Rose Selections, Inc. The AARS is an association of growers dedicated to the introduction and promotion of exceptional roses. By testing new varieties in various parts of the country, they determine what roses can be recommended to the public as rose varieties of top quality. We are one of 25 test gardens throughout the United States.

We will be evaluating these roses over the next two years. We test them for bud and flower form, color of buds and open blooms, aging quality, fragrance, plant habit, vigor, stem and foliage, disease resistance and repeat bloom. At the end of two years, our test scores

are used to rank the entries for final selection as AARS winners. The four outstanding AARS selections for this year, Julia Child, Rainbow Sorbet, Wild Blue Yonder and Tahitian Sunset were tested in our garden in 2002.

The Rose Garden at Mesa Community College is also an American Rose Society Award of Excellence (AOE) test garden. The ARS Miniature/Mini-Flora Rose Committee and Dr. Jim Hering, Chairman, along with support from Mesa-East Valley member Bob Martin, current ARS Director of the Pacific Southwest District, evaluated the garden as a whole prior to its selection. It is now one of eight official test garden sites across the country. The Rose Garden is the only AOE test garden in the Desert Southwest. The various miniature/mini-flora hybridizers send three of each of their new rose varieties for two years of evaluation, quite similar to the evaluations for AARS test roses. For 2006, we have nearly completed planting sixty bushes of twenty ARS AOE test varieties.

In addition to the test roses, we planted several more roses in various beds. We Salute You, Wild Blue Yonder and Lasting Peace were planted in the Veteran's Garden. In other beds throughout the garden, we planted Firefighter, Gentle Giant, Chihuly, Miami Moon, Janice Kellogg, Bolero, Betty White, Gina Lolabrigida, Gypsy Carnival, Johann Strauss, Love's Promise, Michaelango, Peter Mayle, Rouge Royale, Yves Piaget, Marilyn Monroe, Topsy Turvey and In the Mood. We also planted four new climbers, Red Eden, Polka, White Eden and Night Owl. These plants were donated by Star Roses and Weeks Roses, both of whom continue to be very supportive of the garden and the rose society.

Look for these new roses to be blooming about the middle of April. Come to think of it, finding them all in their new locations would make a great treasure hunt! If you need a clue to find those new roses, just ask. We will be happy to help, but will leave the enjoyment of discovery to you!

See you in the garden!



### *“Growing Great Roses In the Desert Southwest”*

**MCC Community Education Class  
Saturday, February 11th  
9:00 am – noon**

Long time instructor, **Carol Poe**, has “passed the baton” to **Dona Martin** for the bi-annual course. Come learn to prepare, select and care for roses in a desert environment. Understand the simple but important choices that will give you the results you want from your roses. The PowerPoint presentation and discussion will be followed by hands on instruction. Have a great looking yard and outstanding blooms all year round. **Bring to class: a wide brim hat, water, pruning shears and gloves.**

**Register now for course  
Section NC 500 0985  
at 461-7700.**

**Walk-ins welcome as space  
is available.**

**SOUTHERN & DOBSON CAMPUS**  
One 3 hr session: Charge \$21\*\*  
Rose Care booklet included.

\*\*A portion of the fee is used to support the volunteer group of “Deadheaders” who maintain the Mesa Community College Rose Garden.”



## ARS Pacific Southwest District Convention 2006

Sponsored by the Rose Society of Glendale AZ

### *“Desert Blooms” Schedule of Events*

**Time to register for our upcoming annual district convention and rose show! This fun and educational event will be held at the Scottsdale Plaza Resort at 7500 North Scottsdale Road. It is not held in Arizona very often, so this is a great chance for those who cannot travel outside the state to enjoy this special meeting and huge rose show! Registration form is included in the newsletter and also available on our website! Put this on your calendar.**

#### **Thursday, April 13, 2006**

4 pm - 9 pm Registration Lobby

7 pm -10 pm Hospitality Night cash bar, JD's Terrace

#### **Friday, April 14, 2006**

**4 am - 9:30am Exhibitor Prep Ballroom E,F**

5 am Exhibitor's Coffee Ballroom E,F

9 am -10 am Judges Coffee GardenTerrace

**10 am-1 pm Rose Show Judging**

11 am – 6 pm Vendors Ballroom E,F

**1 pm - 6 pm Rose Show Open Ballrooms**

1 pm – 2 pm Judges Luncheon Las Palmas A, B

1 pm – 2 pm Hort Judges Meeting Las Palmas

2 pm – 3 pm Arrangement Judges Meeting Las Palmas A,B

**3 pm - 4:00pm Trophy Presentation Ballroom**

4:15 pm - 5:15pm CR Meeting LasPalmas A, B

5:15 pm - 6:15pm Presidents Council Las Palmas A,B

**Dinner On Your Own**

#### **Saturday, April 15, 2006**

**8 am – 1 pm Garden Tour**

9 am - 1 pm Rose Show Open Ballroom A,B,C,D \*

1:30 pm - 3:30pm Arrangement Class Las PalmasA,B

1 pm – 3 pm Tear Down Rose Show Ballroom A,B,C,D

1:30pm - 2:30pm Photography Class El Teatro

2:30pm - 3:30pm Hybridizing Class El Teatro

4 pm Raffle - must be present to win Lobby

6 pm - 7 pm Happy Hour & Surprise Lobby / Cash Bar

**7 pm - 11 pm Awards Banquet Ballroom A,B,C**

7 pm - 8:15pm Dinner Ballroom A,B,C

8:15pm - 9:00pm Award Presentation

9 pm - 9:30pm Wild Rose

#### **Sunday, April 16, 2006**

8 am - 10:30am District Breakfast Meeting La Valencia

## Rose Care for February 2006

Dona Martin, ARS Consulting Rosarian



**Spring Pruning** – There's still time to prune, but try to finish by the middle of the month. Prune back your roses to about 1/2 - 2/3 of their current height. If plants are five feet tall, cut them back to 2 1/2 - 3 feet. Remove all spindly, crossing and dead wood, which will help open up the center of the plant to let the sun get down to the bud union. Dead canes should be removed at the bud union to open up room for new basal breaks. (Don't leave stubs!) Strip off all leaves and throw them away. Do not leave cuttings as part of the mulch, as the old leaves may contain disease spores and over-wintering insects. You should end up with from three to eight upright canes for hybrid teas, more for floribundas, OGRs and shrubs. You may have more canes if you are growing roses on 'Fortuniana' rootstock. OGRs can be shaped to keep them in bounds at least the first two to three years, then thinned as necessary.

Another option for late pruning: go through your garden and at least prune perhaps half of each bush, preferably on the west side of the bush. This is better than not getting to them at all. Then go back through and prune the other side of the bush. This also serves to extend and stagger your bloom time. (This is the reverse of what we sometimes do in the fall.) It will be especially more noticeable if we have an unusually warm spring.

**After Pruning** – Spray the soil with Orthene, Diazinon or Merit to kill insects, especially thrips, that are overwintering below the soil surface. Spray the canes with a good fungicide, such as Funginex, which is a mildew preventative. These are both preventative measures that will save much work later on. If mildew does get established, the best new irradicant on the market by far is Compass, available on Rosemania.com.

**Fertilizer** – If you use good organic fertilizers like alfalfa pellets and/or Miller's Rose Food (still avail-

able from Mike Jepsen only), they may be applied after pruning on established bushes. In our gardens, we apply 2 cups Miller's plus 1 cup alfalfa pellets per large rose bush, grown in soil; 1 cup Hickman's plus 1/2 cup alfalfa meal per miniature rose bush grown in the soil. For roses grown in pots, use 1/2 the above rate for standard roses or miniatures. When fertilizing, water thoroughly before application and again afterwards to prevent root burn. Epsom salts can be applied this month or early March, at a rate of 1/2 cup per large bush. The magnesium will promote basal breaks. A second application comes in early April or about six weeks after the first.

**Planting** – Bare root roses may still be planted into February, however few are now available locally. Be sure to hydrate them well, fully immersing them in water for at least 24 hrs, even up to a week or two if out of the sun. Add some Superthrive to the water to strengthen them prior to planting and 1/4 cup of bleach in a 32 gallon trash can to prevent bacteria. If we have unusual heat, it is more important than ever to keep the canes moist when trying to get them to bud out. Try covering them with wet mulch or peat moss, held around the canes by a bottomless brown grocery sack. Continue to keep the mulch wet until growth has started, then gradually wash it away! This really works and makes a big difference in how well the buds begin to grow.

This is also a good time to transplant. Roses transplant well when care is given to keeping the root ball intact and to not letting the roots dry out. Plants can be placed in a kitchen or grocery garbage bag to keep the moisture in for a short time or in a pot for longer holding. Continue to water! The tops should be pruned back in proportion to the root system.

Potted roses may still be planted through March and very early April. Berridge Nursery in Phoenix will start

selling its new stock of potted roses in early March. Harpers, Baker's and A & P Nurseries have potted roses, with the latter carrying an especially nice supply of tree roses. Roses from our fortuniana vendors, such as K & M and MerryGro, ship roses in 1 gallon pots.

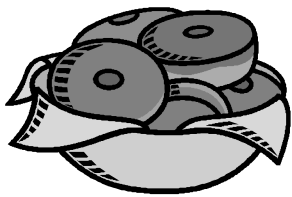
When planting any roses, be sure to check for good drainage by filling the hole and making sure the water soaks down within half a day. Mix up to 50% perlite into your planting mix to keep it loose and aerated. Add a cup of Dispersal or Tiger brand soil sulfur to the hole to help break down tight, clay soils. When adding nutrients to the hole, remember NOT to mix Triple Super Phosphate in with the soil mix. Place it in clumps around the perimeter of the hole (on the sides of the mound for bare root), where the roots will reach it. Mixing it in the soil allows it to bond with the soil and so it then becomes much less available to the plant.

As roses start to leaf out, irrigation should average once a week early in the month and twice a week by month's end. If you drip irrigate, set the flow at three to four gallons of water per bush. If you flood irrigate, water deeply once a week throughout the month. Always have a wide basin around the base of the bush to keep the water from running off. If you are adding new watering systems, talk with LeRoy Brady or me about in-line drip hose, such as Netafim, which is used on Arizona highway landscaping.

Finally, don't forget to apply a 3-4" layer of forest mulch or pine needles (now in stock at Gilbert A & P) around the roses and throughout your beds. It will help hold the moisture in, prevent weeds and keep beds cooler as it warms up.

For additional information, visit our web site:

[www.roses4az-mevrs.org](http://www.roses4az-mevrs.org)



**Refreshments  
for the  
February Meeting  
Phyllis Humphry  
Cathy Pirch  
Cheryl Doan**

**If you would like to  
volunteer, please contact  
Terri Sovereign at  
(480) 892-0972.**

**Thanks to all those who  
contributed refreshments  
last year and for those  
who have signed up for  
2006!**

Don't forget to pick up your copy of our one hour  
rose care video:

## **“Caring For Roses in the Desert” Starring Mike Jepsen**

Professional Agricultural Consultant and ARS Consulting Rosarian  
**Mike Jepsen** demonstrates Spring pruning and cleanup,  
planting both bare root and potted roses,  
various products and methods of fertilizing,  
insect and fungus control and  
the benefits of using the water wand.

The end result? See for yourself!

### **Award winning roses!**

Video is available at meetings and pruning  
demonstrations for \$15.00.

Video filmed over four months, from January through April, by  
Madge Thomas, in the Mesa garden of Dona Martin, with over 500 roses.

**\*\*\*\*\***

### **Also available, our 55 page booklet *Growing Roses in the Desert Southwest***

Compiled by Dona Martin from award-winning articles and information  
gathered by growing and exhibiting hundreds of roses of all types and  
varieties. Includes illustrations and photographs.

\$10.00 + \$3 S/H if mailed.



## **MCC Rose Garden Spring Prun- ing Update:**

**Pruning this spring is going great, but there's more to do! It's not too late to join us. We  
will be pruning through the fourth Saturday of February. Come on down!**

**Need some help getting started on your own pruning? Come to MCC for the pruning  
demonstration at 9:00 a.m. ARS Certified Consulting Rosarians will be there to answer  
all your questions about Spring care and help with hands-on training. Practicing pruning  
on the MCC roses will help you more than any books you might read about pruning!**

**A Raffle for volunteers will be held again this year, with tickets given out for each hour  
worked. Winners will be announced at the last Saturday get-together, with prizes of  
roses and rose gardening supplies. See you there!**

# Mesa- East Valley Rose Society



You or your recipient will receive our monthly 8-12 page newsletter, local nursery discounts and more. **Membership is \$20, due June 1 of each year.** This is for a single or family unit living at the same address. New members joining after September pay \$5 per quarter, from quarter joining through the following May, payable in full at month of joining. Please bring your completed application and payment (please make check payable to **MEVRS**) to a meeting or mail to:

**MEVRS/Membership, P.O. Box 40394, Mesa, AZ 85274-0394**

Date \_\_\_\_\_ New \_\_\_\_\_ **\*Gift\*** \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Paid \_\_\_\_\_  
 Cash \_\_\_\_\_ Check# \_\_\_\_\_

Names: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ **E-mail address** \_\_\_\_\_

**Yes! I would also like to join the national organization with which we are affiliated, the American Rose Society, for which I will receive the monthly *American Rose* magazine, the December *American Rose Annual*, the "Handbook For Selecting Roses" and more! I am including in my check an additional amount of \$37.00 for a one year membership.**

**\*\*Please note! By joining the ARS through the local society, \$5.00 of the cost will come directly back to us. Thank you for your support!**

## Standing Committees

## Consulting Rosarians

Audit..... \*Theresa McGaughy ..... 480-491-8443  
 Historian..... Stephanie Pietz..... 480-969-3398  
 ..... \*Evelyn Gannon..... 480-857-3090  
 Hospitality ..... \*Terri Sovereign ..... 480-892-0972  
 ..... Candee Raper..... 480-736-1120  
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 New Member Orientation  
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 +Newsletter, Editor..... Dona Martin ..... 480-807-3475  
 +Member Emails ..... Madge Thomas..... 480-834-1130  
 MCC Test Garden..... LeRoy Brady..... 480-962-9603  
 ..... Marylou Coffman..... 480-926-3064  
 ..... \*Steve Sheard ..... 480-831-2609  
 +Publicity..... Lynn Milner ..... 480-503-4508  
 Rose Garden Volunteers . Carol Poe\*\* ..... 480-895-7793  
 ..... \*Phyllis Humphry\*\*..... 480-529-8172  
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 ..... Bruce Gannon..... 480-857-3090  
 +Web site ..... Dona Martin ..... 480-807-3475  
 +RS Communications, Liaison Pam Thuillez  
 \*Board Member Liaison  
 \*\*Volunteer Coordinators

Larry Bell\* (Ahwatukee Foothills).....480-706-9667  
 Helen Baird\*(NPhx, Scotsdale).....602-953-0279  
 LeRoy Brady\* (Mesa) .....480-962-9603  
 Jeannie Cochell (NE Valley)jcochell@cox.net ..... 602-493-0238  
 Marylou Coffman\* (Gilbert) ..... 480-926-3064  
 Jo Ann Erickson (Mesa).....480-890-1480  
 Phyllis Henslin (Mesa, Apache Jct.) ..... 480-807-3592  
 Millie Hisey\* (Apache Jct-winter).....480-288-0472  
 Carole Holkenbrink (Chandler) ..... 480-962-8227  
 Michael & Cindy Jepsen (Tempe) ..... 602-312-1813  
 Ken & Peggy Jones (West Phoenix) ..... 623-931-5004  
 Arveda Larson\* (Scottsdale)..... 602-953-3832  
 Terry\* & Heidi\* Leavitt (Phoenix)..... 602-971-0179  
 Dave\* & Gerry\* Mahoney (Glnl/Peoria) ..... 623-581-3756  
 Bob\*# & Dona Martin (Mesa/Gilbert)..... 480-807-3475  
 Rod McKusick (Mesa) ..... 480-924-4454  
 Nelson Mitchell\* (Peoria) ..... 623-412-1586  
 Steve Sheard (Tempe, Chandler).....480-831-2609  
 John F. Green (Tucson) ..... 520-795-2964  
 Margaret "Peggy" A. Hughes (Prescott).....928-541-0265  
 Cathy Rose (Tucson).....520-722-0010  
 Terry Schick (Flagstaff).....928-853-0653  
 Liz Strong (Tucson)Lizzie441@comcast.net..... 520-797-7890  
 Terry Swartz (Tucson).....520-623-8285

\*ARS Judge  
 #PSW District Director

Meetings are held at 7:00 pm on the 2nd Thursday of each month at  
**Mesa Community College:**  
**Paul Elsner Library Community Room**  
 1833 W. Southern Ave., Mesa, AZ  
**New Member Orientation at 6:30 pm**

### Calendar of Events

**EVERY Saturday** - 8 am Volunteer Care at MCC Rose Garden. Come for Spring Pruning Demonstration at 9 am and stay to practice with hands-on help.  
**Feb 8th - 7pm - Auction Wrap-up Meeting Pima Room, Student Center**  
**Feb 9th - 7pm - "Rose Hybridizing" with Bob Martin**  
**February 11th - MEVRS Day at the MCC Rose Garden.** Come help out!  
**February 11th - 9 am to noon. MMC Community Education Class, *Growing Great Roses*, taught by Dona Martin.** Call Dona for information or MCC 480-461-7700 to register. Walk-ins welcome if space is available! \$21 Includes the new *Growing Great Roses* booklet. Administration Bldg Room 1E.  
**February 11th - 9am to 4 pm. Queen Creek Gardens In Bloom.** Rose information table.  
**February 25-26<sup>th</sup> - 10:00am to 3:00pm, Flower Power at the Desert Botanical Garden.** Rose information table.  
**March 7th - Tuesday - 7pm Board of Directors meeting**  
**March 9th- Heidi & Terry Leavitt - Rose Care in the Garden & For Container Grown Roses**  
 Check out the updated articles and pictures on our website:  
**[www.roses4az-mevrs.org](http://www.roses4az-mevrs.org)**



*The Rose:  
 Our National  
 Floral Emblem*

All articles for the newsletter must be submitted to the Editor by the 20th of each month.

### *Mesa-East Valley Rose Society* Executive Officers

President	Steve Sheard
1st Vice President	Cheryl Doan
2nd Vice-President	Jo Ann Erickson
Recording Secretary	Rose DeForest
Corresponding Secretary	Phyllis Humphry
Treasurer	Teresa McGaughey
Past-President	Evelyn Gannon

**Board of Directors**  
 Terri Sovereign  
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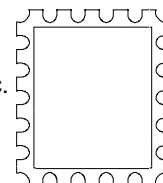
**[www.roses4az-mevrs.org](http://www.roses4az-mevrs.org)**



### *Rose Lore*

Dona L. Martin, Editor  
 Mesa-East Valley Rose Society Inc.  
 PO Box 40394  
 Mesa, AZ 85274-0394

**ADDRESS SERVICE  
 REQUESTED**



*Developers of  
 The Rose Garden at Mesa Community College,  
 the largest public rose garden in  
 the Desert Southwest!*