



Rose Lore

Mesa-East Valley Rose Society

Affiliated with the American Rose Society

Dona L. Martin, Editor

www.roses4az-mevrs.org

October 2006



**Thursday
October 12th,
7:00 p.m.**

**Monthly meeting, Elsner
Library Community Room**

How To Show Off Your Roses For Exhibition Or At Home!

Our panel of experienced exhibitors will share their methods of selecting and preparing roses to look their best. For hands-on practice, bring some fresh blooms to share and your bypass pruning shears!

**Your friends and family
are always welcome.**

**Refreshments
will be served.**

**Bring your rose questions
and concerns.**



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Rose Arrangements 101 (Part 1) By Robert B. Martin, Jr.

In addition to the division for horticultural specimens, the typical rose show schedule contains a second (or third) division for rose arrangements, sometimes referred to as the "Artistic Division", or, as in the case of the Mesa-East Valley Rose Society Show, simply as "Rose Arrangements." The emphasis on arrangements in the Pacific Southwest District has grown strongly in the last five years under the direction of **Kreg Hill**, who has served as District Chairman of Arrangement Judges and will become our District Director later this month. This growth has been particularly strong in Arizona, encouraged by our own **Marylou Coffman**, the recipient of the 2006 District Outstanding Arrangement Judge Award. Marylou has organized several local arrangement workshops and will become the District Chairman of Rose Arrangement Judges for the next three years. Her work and that of **Helen Baird**, **Heidi Leavitt**, **Jim Anderson** and many others, including our members **Steve Sheard** and **Larry Bell**, have helped draw attention to the fact that rose arrangements are a very popular attraction and contribute greatly to the overall beauty of a rose show.

To many members, however, rose arrangements are still something of a mystery. This is particularly true of horticulture exhibitors who find it hard to understand how roses are to be integrated into an arrangement, and particularly how they are judged. As an arrangement judge myself, in addition to being a horticultural judge

and exhibitor, I have therefore thought it would be useful to provide some basic information on rose arrangements in order to encourage more of our members to try their hand at it. This, then, is Part I of a two part series on the subject.

Rose Arrangements

A flower arrangement is an artistic expression in which the arranger uses flowers, other plant materials, design components and supporting mechanics to create a unified, harmonious and beautiful design. However, unlike other flower arrangements, which may use any number of different flowers, a rose arrangement is distinguished by the fact that the rose must be the dominant flower in the arrangement and the perfection of the roses is a factor in judging the arrangement. In addition, there are a number of design principles that are of relevance to showing good roses. In this Part, I intend to provide an overview of the general principles applicable to rose arrangements and how they are judged.

Judging Guidelines

The current standards for exhibiting and judging rose arrangements are set forth in the *Guidelines for Judging Rose Arrangements*, as most recently revised this year. The *Guidelines* are designed as a reference, a handbook and a teaching guide. It is invaluable to arrangers and is also of value to specimen rose exhibitors and anyone seeking a better appreciation of the Artistic Division of a rose show. The *Guidelines* are available from the American Rose Society and I strongly

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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 came in 7/15
and is now bagged!
2601 E. Baseline Rd.**

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
480-964-4909 (Mesa)**

Summer Winds Nursery

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

Treeland Nursery

**2900 S. Country Club Dr., Mesa
480-497-2525**

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

President's Message By Dona Martin

Have your roses breathed a sigh of relief? We have and we are starting to see the roses come back as well. It is an exhilarating feeling, just walking out there to see the new growth and color returning to the blooms.

Our **50th Annual Rose and Arrangement Show** is coming up on November 18th. Amazing, isn't it? Fifty years of rose shows here in Mesa. The first show was three years after the society was organized, which was in 1953. So our show theme is "**50 Golden Years**", another Golden Celebration. And LeRoy Brady has been around for....many of those decades! So once again, he and his committee are working on the details for another great exhibition of many hundreds of rose entries and arrangements. MCC provides the best venue ever and lots of opportunity to interact with the public, both in the show and in the garden. Show schedules will be available at our meeting on the 12th.

We need lots of volunteers to set-up the rose show on Friday afternoon the 11th and to help in various capacities throughout the day Saturday until cleaning up, about 4 p.m. Check out the description of **Rose Show Jobs** on page 5, as there is something for everyone. Sharing the responsibilities of events like this gives us experience, new friends and more knowledge about roses. Please find several hours to help and return to roses a little of what they give us.

Meanwhile, a bit of interesting information on happenings in the nursery world. Earlier this year we learned the sad and disappointing news that one of the best suppliers of roses, **Edmunds Roses**, was closing their doors. However, the company and all its roses was purchased by the owners of Jung Seed Company of Wisconsin. They will continue to market under the name Edmunds Roses. Edmunds was always one of the first places to retail Weeks Roses, hybridized by Tom Carruth.

Thanks to all those who helped with the Home and Garden Show last month. Members from all the Valley rose societies worked the three day, three times per year event, sharing the responsibility of coverage. And, we have all gained new members and generated more interest in growing roses.

We also appreciate all the help in the **Mesa Community College Rose Garden** with **fall pruning**. It is always a big job and we have a shorter window for pruning in the fall than in the spring. LeRoy Brady has indicated that about 2/3 of the roses were pruned over the three weekends in September. Our "Deadheaders" and other volunteers will meet again on the 21st of October for regular monthly care and getting the garden ready for the November bloom cycle. We have lots of visitors during November and throughout the holiday season and want the garden to look its best.

Speaking of the holiday season, it is time to plan our December Christmas Dinner. All members will be asked for their input on options that have been suggested, including having a reasonably priced catered dinner, such as we have enjoyed in the past, at a private home or other location or a restaurant dinner. Either could be held on our regular night or on the Friday or Saturday following. Please watch for your email and give us your thoughts! Additional discussion will held at our meeting on Thursday.

Bob and I will be attending the **ARS National Convention in Dallas**, leaving Thursday morning, so will miss being at the meeting this month. We hope you enjoy the program LeRoy has prepared and will learn more about how to have great looking roses in your home or on the show table!

(Continued from page 1) *Arrangements 101* recommend that anyone interested in understanding rose arrangements obtain a copy.

Also of considerable value to arrangers is the ARS quarterly publication, *Rose Arrangers' Bulletin*, currently edited by Sandy Dixon, which publishes national rose show results of arrangements, as well as articles of technical interest to arrangers. It is available at \$10 per year from the American Rose Society.

The Components of Design

For the horticultural exhibitor, the difference between an arrangement and a display of a collection of rose specimens in a vase lies in the combined use of roses, other plant materials, physical objects and mechanics for the expression of a design. These materials are collectively referred to as the "design components" and each of the components are evaluated as part of the design.

Roses

The principal design component of a rose arrangement is the rose. The rose must be the dominant flower in the arrangement and roses must be used in all arrangements. The roses in every case must be outdoor grown roses and the failure to use outdoor grown roses is, in fact, one of only two reasons for the disqualification of an entry. This does not mean that florist roses may not be used in arrangements, it simply means that they must have been grown outdoors and not in a greenhouse. It also does not mean that the arranger must have grown the roses, as it is permissible for an arranger to use roses grown by others. However, for purposes of ARS high awards and the principal challenge classes, the roses must have been grown by the arranger and the arranger is expected to indicate this fact by marking "AG" on the upper right-hand corner of the entry tag.

In a standard arrangement, any type of rose may be used at any degree of openness. Miniature arrangements, however, may only be executed with miniature roses. Miniature roses may

also be used in standard arrangements.

In judging the perfection of the roses, the arrangement judge draws on the standards used in the judging of horticultural specimens, with certain modifications. For example, it is accepted that an arranger might use roses with short stems and no stems, abstracted leaflets or hidden stems. It is also accepted that the arranger may use buds, individual blooms or sprays, at any stage of opening. Essentially the arrangement judge takes the roses as presented and draws on his knowledge of what constitutes a good specimen to assess the perfection of the rose.

Other Plant Materials

Subject to the requirement that the rose be the dominant flower in a rose arrangement, other living plant materials of all types may be used. These include other flowers, grasses, foliage, stems, branches, seed pods and roots. It is in fact the integration of such material into the design that usually makes an arrangement.

There are exceptions to this rule that apply in certain arrangement classes. These include a class calling for the award of the "Princess of Arrangements"; here only fresh roses and rose foliage, hips and roots are allowed. There is also an exception for the class termed the "Duchess of Arrangements", which specifies the use of fresh roses with dried and/or treated plant materials.

In all cases, material from endangered plants, as listed on State conservation lists is not permitted and is subject to penalty. In addition, arrangements with painted or dyed fresh material are subject to penalization, as is the use of live creatures, such as fish. Finally, under no circumstances are artificial plant materials permitted. Violation of this latter requirement is the second of the two reasons for disqualification.

Containers, Backgrounds, Bases and Accessories

Another design component of an arrangement is the container. In the

horticultural classes containers are provided by the show committee and are of no relevance to the judging of the roses. In contrast, the container used for a rose arrangement is provided by the arranger and is part of the design. It may be an integral part of the design or a stage for the arrangement, in which case the container is expected to be subordinate to the design. There is no requirement that the container have any particular character, but only that it be suitable for the expression of the design intended.

Other design components used in arrangements include backgrounds, bases and accessories. A "background" is the surface or scene against which the design is displayed. Sometimes shows provide a "niche" in which the arrangements are displayed; these may be covered or adorned by the arranger with materials to enhance the design. In other cases, arrangers are permitted to provide their own portable niche to display the arrangement. When niches or background materials are used, they are considered part of the design and evaluated accordingly.

A "base" is anything placed under the design and is considered part of the container. When used, it is also considered part of the design. An "accessory" is an accent added by the arranger to emphasize an interpretation or expression. Accessories are considered part of the design and should not dominate or distract; accordingly more often than not, accessories are used sparingly if at all. The use of the American Flag as an accessory is not permitted and is subject to penalty.

Mechanics

The construction of a design using the design components also involves what are termed the "mechanics". This has reference to the devices that are used to hold the design in place, including floral foam, pinholders (also known by the Japanese term "kenzan"), orchid tubes and wires. With the exception of the occasional use of floral foam, such

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devices may not be used in the display of horticultural rose specimens. However, in an arrangement they are often essential and the skilled use of mechanics by an arranger is an essential part of his art. In general, the mechanics themselves should not be seen, however the effects of good mechanics are noted and considered in the evaluation of the arrangement.

The Elements of Design

The organization of the design components of an arrangement draws on seven physical properties that are called the "elements of design". These elements are (1) space; (2) size; (3) line; (4) form; (5) texture; (6) pattern and (7) color. These elements are the same in all branches of art and are considered the building blocks through which an artistic design is expressed.

Space and Size

"Space" is the unoccupied area within and around the arrangement. Space is organized to establish balance, proportion and to achieve interest in the design. Space is related to the physical dimension of "size", which in an arrangement has reference to the size of the arrangement in its entirety and the size of the design components. Plant materials have different sizes and shapes, which the arranger controls through placement, pruning and shaping. Other open, closed or enclosed spaces are controlled by the arranger through the selection and placement of the physical design components.

Line and Form

"Line" expresses the directional movement that leads the eye through the design. Line is closely related to "form" which is the shape, structure and outline of an arrangement. In a rose arrangement form is three dimensional with height, width and depth. Line is considered one-dimensional and establishes the structural framework of the design. Line may be long or short, curved, straight, or angled, and it may extend in any direction.

Texture and Pattern

"Texture" is the surface characteristics of the various components of a design.

There is roughness and smoothness, evenness and irregularity. Different textures within a design offer contrast and interest, but should not be allowed to affect balance and unity. "Pattern" is an overall concept achieved by the relative placement of the various design components. It has some relationship to texture, but is also formed by the shapes and colors of the materials used.

Color

The most important and influential element of design is considered to be color. An arranger uses color to create a visual and emotional response to the design. In so doing, he considers and applies theories of color construction, harmonies and disharmonies, often by reference to the color wheel, which shows the relationship of one color to another, including tints and shades.

The Principles of Design

In an arrangement, the elements of design are expressed through the six principles of design. These six principles of design are considered the governing principles of all visual art that have been worked out over history by artists of all professions. They are (1) balance; (2) proportion; (3) scale; (4) rhythm; (5) contrast; and (6) dominance. As explained by the Guidelines: "design is the pattern or plan of an arrangement, organizing the elements according to the principles." The principles of design are an important factor in judging an arrangement and, also have relevance as well to the staging of horticultural specimen entries, particularly in challenge classes.

Balance, Proportion and Scale

Balance is the actual and visual stability of an arrangement. Balance is achieved through the placement of design components on each side of an imaginary vertical axis. It may be symmetrical, in which case the components are placed in equal amounts on each side of the axis; or it may be asymmetrical, in which case the physical weights although unequal appear visually equal. An arrangement that lacks balance is usually seen to be excessively weighted on one side of the axis, sometimes giving the visual feel-

ing of falling over, which in fact happens in extreme cases.

Closely related to balance is the concept of "proportion" which is the relationship of the area, volume or amount of one point of an arrangement and of one point to the whole, and the whole to the space it occupies. Also related to balance and proportion is the concept of "scale". This refers to size only, specifically the size relationship of the component parts of an arrangement. Excessively large or small blooms can offend notions of scale. The same can be said of the existence of excess foliage or stems.

Rhythm, Contrast and Dominance

"Rhythm" is the flow or feeling of related movement that carries the eye through the arrangement. Rhythm may be regular or repeated or free and variable and can be evident in line, form, pattern or color. The idea conveyed by the principle of rhythm is that the eye of the judge should flow naturally between each of the elements of the entry.

Related to rhythm is the concept of "contrast". Contrast is difference and is achieved by placing opposites or unlike qualities or opposing elements together in a way to enhance differences. Also related is the principle of "dominance". Dominance is the use of more than one element than of another and is important in establishing unity. In a rose arrangement roses should dominate and this dominance is sometimes tested by arrangement judges by covering their eyes and then opening them in the expectation that the first thing they will see in looking at the arrangement are roses.

Summary

The components, elements and principles of design represent the basic principles on which a rose arrangement is constructed. They are therefore the "building blocks" that an arranger uses in executing a design. Although somewhat abstract, they take on more meaning when specific types of arrangements are considered. I will turn to this subject in Part 2 of this series.

What Are Rose Show Jobs and How Can I Help?

By Dona Martin

Putting on a rose show takes lots of helping hands. There are jobs for the newest member and some handled only by those with experience. Everyone is invited to help us set up for the rose show. **Setup** is during the late afternoon and evening prior to the show and is supervised by our Show Chairman, LeRoy Brady. Helpers need to meet at the MCC Student Center as early as 5:00 p.m. on Friday and help is needed until the job is done, sometimes 8 p.m.

Placement: The rose entries have to be placed in a manner that's makes sense to the judges. With a few exceptions, the exhibitors are not allowed to place their roses. Volunteers refer to a map drawn up by the placement chairman and carefully put the roses where they belong. Placement starts at 7 a.m. in the morning, so this is a job for early birds. It is absolutely essential that no one who is not approved by the placement chairman enter the placement area. Two exceptions to this limitation are that Challenge Class entries may be placed by the exhibitor and arrangements are all placed by the arrangers.

Clerking: Each group of judges needs a clerk to fasten the ribbons to the entries and call runners when roses need to be placed on the winners' table. Most people like this job. Although you are not permitted to talk to the judges, they will often discuss their judgments and this can be very educational. All clerks will report to the Chairman of Judges, Marylou Coffman, at the entry door about 9:30 am.

Blue Ribbon Clerks: These more experienced clerks pay special attention to those entries awarded blue ribbons and make sure that class winners are relocated to special tables. For example, all blue ribbon winning hybrid teas in the specimen class are group together for another vote by the judges, selecting the Queen and Court. Many blue ribbon entries are judged again to select winners for special categories, like Best Horticulture.

Runners: The roses have to be taken to the winners' table and to the recorders so that the award certificates can be filled out. Runners also make sure the correct certificate is with each winning rose. Most of the time extra clerks become runners, so both should



Hybrid tea roses on display, with varieties arranged alphabetically, at Mesa-East Valley Rose Society Show, 2004 - Photo by Dona Martin

report to the entry gate at the same time.

Information table: We have a table with membership and rose care information available to the public. We will also have our booklet and video for sale. Members replenish the materials and answer whatever questions they can. Ideally this table is manned throughout the day Saturday. The show does not open to the public until after the judging, usually around 12:30 or 1:00 p.m. This job is for those who like to sleep in the morning.

Consulting Rosarians: This is a time to fulfill your CR Obligations. There are always guests asking questions. There will also be a pruning demonstration in the garden at 2:30 p.m. and help is needed there. Attendance is usual very good and there are information sheets to be handed out and directions to give.

New Members: This is a time to get to know others in the society. For those who enjoy people, we could use "Greeters" at the doors to the show, just to welcome visitors and make them feel welcome. You will definitely learn more about roses and get to see which roses grow the best in our area.

Let's all pitch in and make this the best and biggest show ever. Please contact me, Dona Martin, LeRoy Brady or Marylou Coffman for information or just show up on Friday and/or Saturday and we'll give you a job.

What Makes A Good Rose Arrangement: Rose Arrangements for non-exhibitors

by Carolyn Elgar, reprinted from
Orange County Rose Society
Newsletter, Oct 2006

Many local rose shows include a category for rose arrangements. Hmm, you may think: I can do that! I arrange roses for my home all the time. No, these are not simple arrangements of some flowers in a vase. Exhibition rose arrangements are subject to strict guidelines established by the American Rose Society. The rose lover who likes to attend rose shows may find all the different arrangements somewhat puzzling.

The names assigned to arrangements are mysterious and seem to have no relationship to the roses. And how can you tell if an arrangement is a strong one? The judges know and they award ribbons accordingly, but what are you supposed to evaluate when you, the non-exhibitor, look at an arrangement?

It's always fun to know what you're looking at, so what follows is a simple explanation of some of the types of rose arrangements you may see at a show. It is very important to look at each show's schedule for arrangements because specific requirements of each arrangement, such as the use of dried roses, height limitations or special container requirements, will be detailed there. All roses should be identified on the show tag. The roses in any kind of arrangement must be the dominant visual factor.

Arrangements can be Traditional, Modern, or Oriental. Traditional and Modern categories each include mass, line, and line-mass arrangements. The Oriental category is divided into two types of arrangements: those that call for a tall container and those that require a short one.



Westside Story, this traditional mass arrangement designed by Tee Bower, won at the Pacific Southwest District Rose Show in 2005. Duet and Golden Celebration were used for effective contrast. (photo: Glen Fiery)

Traditional arrangements

Traditional arrangements, as a group, demand understated, traditional containers and plant materials. Mass arrangements in the traditional category can have an oval, circular, or triangular overall form. The edges of the arrangement are closed and the flow of the material in the arrangement carries the eye to one focal point, in the center and close to the rim of the container. Emphasis of color and form flows from this focal point and there is an overall richness and depth in the arrangement. However, the roses should not be crowded; each bloom should appear distinct. Line arrangements are simpler than mass ones and require less plant material, but they can be more challenging for the arranger. The roses follow a vertical, horizontal, slanted or curved line. This arrangement emphasizes height and width and has little depth. The line that the roses establish should be easy to discern. The arrangement is more open and simple.

Line-mass arrangements have a mass and a line of roses. The trick here is to effectively balance the two forms. The mass of roses must have depth, but the line material should be strong enough to establish the two dimensional line. Using spiky plant material can reinforce the line. The arrange-

ment is a complicated integration of texture, color, and size.

Some shows include Tray Setting or Tabletop Setting arrangements. Such arrangements may be formal or informal; specifics are given in the show schedule. The materials used in these arrangements should reinforce the theme described by the schedule. Their relationship to each other and the empty space in the setting should have the appropriate scale and proportion. If a table setting is for two, the roses should not be in the middle of the table, between the two settings.

Oriental designs

Oriental arrangements require either a low container (Moribana) or a tall one (Nageire). The container is understated and oriental looking in design. The arrangement forms an asymmetrical triangle. The emphasis is on the differing heights of the established lines in the arrangement. The silhouette of the arrangement must be a strong one and the plant material should be used sparingly. Because Oriental designs have few roses, it is important that the roses used be striking and of superb quality. These arrangements are subtle and harmonious.



Marcia Sanchez Walsh arranged this traditional line-mass, Southern Belle, ARS Gold Medal winner at the 2006 Riverside Rose Society Rose Show. The soft blended gold to mauve hues of Distant Drums makes this a soft looking, romantic design. (photo: Glen Fiery)

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Modern arrangements

Modern arrangements include many unusual forms that are combinations of boldly different colors and textures. Modern looking containers can be used, but they should be understated in color and texture. The utilization of space is important in the arrangement. Unusual plant materials are allowed but they should be used sparingly. The dominance of the roses is reinforced by the negative space around them and there may be more than one focal point. Accordingly, modern line arrangements may have a few dramatic looking blossoms that form a line; the space between them becomes part of the line.

Modern mass arrangements still maintain a closed silhouette, but there is minimal transition material between the roses. Modern line-mass design establishes a bare looking dramatic line balanced with an airy looking mass. But more often the Modern Arrangement section of a rose show includes more dramatic looking arrangements. A Free Form design is full of irregular curves inspired by the naturalistic plant materials used with the roses. In an Abstract arrangement nothing looks natural. The roses may be placed in a nonrealistic manner, such as hanging in air or partially under water. Transparent or reflective materials may be used. A Parallel arrangement includes three or more groupings of materials that contain negative space, but still appear to be unified. A Stretch design is an arrangement of two units that are connected in some way.

Every rose society approaches the arrangements part of their show differently. Some will include a large number of arrangements in their schedule while others will not include arrangements at all. If a show does include arrangements, they are usually named in a manner that guides the designer's creativity in choosing and staging the materials in their arrangement.



This Modern Underwater design fulfills the requirement of placing its parts both underwater and above water. Appropriately named, Finding Nemo and featuring the rose Duet, it was a 2005 Pacific Southwest District show winner created by Tee Bower. (photo: Glen Fiery)



A 2006 Pacific Southwest District Rose Show winner, arranged by Marylou Coffman and featuring Outta the Blue, was an Oriental Classical design.

For example, "Texas Canyon", a modern miniature arrangement at the 2006 Pacific Southwest District Show where the theme of the show was "Desert Blooms" implies the use of rustic looking, natural plant materials. Other arrangements in the show supported the desert theme with names like "Barbed Wire" and "Monument Valley."

Quite often, the arrangers are allowed to choose the kind of design they will use to demonstrate the theme. However, the kind of design used must be written on the show tag so that the judges know how to evaluate the arrangement. The *ARS Guidelines for Judging Rose Arrangements* gives judges the specifics to be evaluated in each arrangement. This publication can be purchased from the American Rose Society's website, www.ars.org.

Preparing a rose arrangement for exhibition is quite different from preparing blooms for horticultural exhibition. Arrangers are allowed to place their entries and quite often do their work right on the exhibition table. Lots of patience and a great deal of skill is required when designing and composing exhibition arrangements. Talent grows with experience. There are not as many arrangement exhibitors as there are horticultural ones and those who are most successful have entered many shows. Once you know what you are looking at, the arrangements in a rose show become even more impressive. The subtlety of rose choice for a particular theme, the variety of materials used, and the overall form of the design can have a powerful appeal. Arrangements may end up being your favorite part of a show.

The rose societies in our area which often have impressive arrangement categories are the [Mesa-East Valley Rose Society, West Valley Rose Society and the Desert Rose Society.] To see photos of arrangements that have won at these shows, go to the Pacific Southwest District website, www.pswdistrict.org and click on Show Results. The photos for this article were taken from this website.



Natasha Monet and Stainless Steel give this arrangement, Barbed Wire, a certain sharp edginess. Brenda Landers Smith won the Artist's award at the 2006 Pacific Southwest District Show with her design, a Modern free form design. (photo: Glen Fiery)



Barbara Steffensmeier created this Modern stretch design for Over the Rainbow at the 2005 Desert Rose Show. Bright orange Living Easy in striped orange containers contributed to the whimsical look of the arrangement. (photo: Glen Fiery)

Soil Nutrients

MEVRS September Program

Notes from Dr. Jerry Miller

Boron

B is necessary for the movement of sugars, for reproduction (affects flowers), and for water intake by cells. It also tends to keep calcium in a soluble form. Boron deficiency causes distorted and dead growing tips, hollow stems and deformed fruit. Leaves are often scorched and curled and sometimes mottled and discolored. Young leaves are affected first. Excess boron may cause scorched leaf edges similar to potassium or magnesium deficiencies (rare in high calcium, high pH soils). On roses, will make for poorly formed blooms. Sources of boron for the home gardener include boric acid crystals (preferred) and borax, which also unfortunately adds sodium.

Calcium

Ca is a major ingredient in cell walls and functions to help control permeability and nutrient uptake. Low Ca leads to K and Na equal uptake and Na toxicity while high Ca leads to much higher K uptake than Na. It is important for root growth, especially root tips. Calcium deficiency causes poorly developed roots with weak tips. Leaves are distorted with hooked tips and curled margins. Generally immobile. Symptoms appear in new growth. The Ca to Mg ratio should be less than 20:1 but more than 4:1. If it is wider, Mg supplements such as magnesium sulfate may be required. High calcium levels in plant tissue are promoted by boron.

Copper

Cu is necessary for the production of proteins and is important for reproduction. Cu is easily reduced and oxidized and is essential in electron transfer in photosynthesis. Copper deficiency causes bluish green leaves which may wither or fail to unfold. Younger leaf tips may be yellow at the edge. Growing tips may form rosettes and reproduction fails. Can look like K deficiency. Five ppm in soil is usually adequate.

Iron

The oxidation/reduction of Fe²⁺ to Fe³⁺ drives many enzyme reactions including those for chlorophyll formation and for oxygen transfer. In addition, ferridoxin is the first stable compound in photosynthesis. Iron is not mobile and deficiency

causes leaf yellowing while often only the leaf veins stay green. Younger leaves are affected first. Excess lime may cause iron deficiency. Correct with applications of chelated iron. As high pH soils tie up iron rapidly, pH must be below 7.5.

Magnesium

Mg is vital to chlorophyll production and is important in almost every phosphorylating enzyme reaction as well as protein synthesis. Magnesium deficiency causes different symptoms in different plants, but commonly includes leaf yellowing with brilliant tints. Leaves may suddenly drop off without withering. Symptoms show first on older leaves. Excess magnesium may cause calcium deficiency. Very mobile in plants. Sources of magnesium include Epsom salts.

Manganese

Mn activates many enzymes and is important for chlorophyll formation and root growth. Manganese deficiency causes different symptoms in different plants, but commonly causes leaves to turn yellow while veins stay green. N and P levels rise as a result of slower growth. White or gray specks may appear on leaves. Mn is not mobile and younger leaves are affected first. Excess manganese may cause iron deficiency and may cause symptoms similar to manganese deficiency. Certain fungicides contain manganese such as Dithane or Manzate.

Molybdenum

Mo is essential to nitrate reductase enzymes and for the formation of root nodules in beans and peas. Levels of Mo in nodules can be 10x leaf levels. Molybdenum deficiencies cause yellow mottling and dead spots on the leaves. Mo may be involved in Fe uptake and Mo deficiency symptoms often mimic Fe deficiency. In some plants, the growing tips are distorted or killed. Excess Mo in forage can be toxic to animals.

Nitrogen

N is an essential part of all amino acids and stimulates leaf and stem growth. Nitrogen deficiency causes reduced growth and pale yellowish green leaves. The older leaves turn yellowish first since nitrogen is readily moved from the old leaves to new growth. If the soil is cold and wet, nitrogen in the soil is not as available to the plants. Excess nitrogen may cause potassium deficiency. Excess nitrogen in roses results in large leaves, increased distance between nodes, and

poorer blooms. Ideal rose fertilizers will have an N:P:K ratio of around 1:2:1

Phosphorus

The phosphate molecule is the energy storehouse of the plant as ATP and ADP. P is important in the germination and growth of seeds, the production of flowers and fruit, and the growth of roots. Phosphorus deficiency causes reduced growth and small leaves that drop early, starting with the oldest leaves. Leaf color is a dull, bluish green that becomes purplish or bronzy. Leaf edges often turn scorched brown. Excess phosphorus may cause deficiencies in potassium, iron, zinc and copper. Phosphorus is mobile within the plant and immobile in soils. High calcium, high pH soils rapidly tie up phosphorus as calcium phosphates.

Potassium

K is involved in water relations, charge balance, and osmotic pressure in cells and across membranes. Highly mobile in both the plant and the soil. K promotes general vigor, disease resistance and sturdy growth. Potassium deficiency causes stunted growth with leaves close together. Starting with the older leaves, the leaf tips and edges turn scorched brown and leaf edges roll. In roses, new leaves will be red and do not turn green. Excess potassium may also cause calcium and magnesium deficiencies.

Sulfur

S is an ingredient in amino acids, proteins and is necessary for chlorophyll formation. Sulfur deficiency causes slow growth with small round leaves that roll upward and are stiff and brittle. Leaves in crucifers can show reddish on the bottom and drop off and tip buds die. Plants are stunted, spindly and uniformly chlorotic, i.e. no green veins. Can be confused with N deficiency but since it is not very mobile, symptoms usually appear in new growth.

Zinc

Zn is necessary for the production of proteins and affects plant size and maturity. Zinc is not mobile and deficiency causes leaf yellowing between the veins, usually with purple or dead spots starting with the older leaves. Veins only stay green. Leaves are close together, small and deformed. Fruiting is reduced. Excess zinc may cause iron deficiency and can actually rise to toxic levels.

Rose Care for October 2006 Dona Martin

ARS Consulting Rosarian

October has rolled around again, bringing with it much needed changes in our weather. At least the nights have cooled off and the days look like they may stay under 100 degrees. Mornings are already in the high 60s to low 70s, a great time to get into the yard. Your roses should be looking better as well, with new growth having started.

During the first ten days of the month, fall pruning should be completed. You can still prune lightly after that time, but try to see where new growth has started and cut to just above the new shoots.

In most cases, especially for modern roses, this is considered light pruning, as usually no more than 1/4 to 1/3 of the bush should be removed. Start by cutting below the candelabras, spindly growth that has branched out from cuttings earlier in the year, dead canes, thin and crossing stems. The objective is to cut back to at least a pencil size stem, particularly for hybrid teas, which is what is needed to support a good bloom. However, for bushes that have been especially damaged by the heat, prune more lightly, leaving as many undamaged leaves as possible.

When finished, be sure to clean up cuttings, dead leaves and any other debris. Forest mulch seems to just melt into the soil during the summer months. Spread more, to at least two to three inches deep, to feed the soil, as well as spruce up the beds for the holidays. Add mulch in any bare areas, with a topping of pine needles, if desired.

Start to use liquid fertilizers like **Magnum Grow or MiracleGro** now, which provide quick release nutrients. Fertilize every 10-14 days, with one gallon of mix for hybrid teas, grandifloras and floribundas. Miniatures, depending on size, require about half as much. Potted roses also require somewhat less, depending on the size of the pot. In addition, a fall application of **Epsom salts** will provide magnesium, which will help green up the foliage and stimulate basal breaks. Use about 1/2 cup per bush, which is about a handful or two. Be sure to water both before and after fertiliza-

tion.

When daytime temperatures stay below 85 degrees, start to reduce your irrigation cycles. By late in the month, if you flood irrigate, you can go to once a week. Drip irrigation can be reduced to twice a week. Pots can then go two to three days between watering. With cooler nights and warm days, watch for powdery mildew. **Immunox** is available locally, however, the best control comes from a rotation of **Compass** and **Banner Maxx**.

For those who want cleaner blooms, especially for exhibition, you need to control thrips, which we are already seeing. Start spraying buds when they are pea-sized to control thrips. Among the best products are **Merit**, **Orthene** or **Cygon 2E**. Merit, which contains the chemical called **imidacloprid**, is also found in **Bayer Rose and Flower Insect Killer**. (Be sure you get the product with this exact name as Bayer has an entire line of insecticide products all in the same type of packaging.) **Avid**, which is also used against spider mites, can be rotated with these products as well. Mix as directed for each product in a hand sprayer or small pump sprayer, depending on how much product is needed, and spray directly on the blooms. Spraying just the buds instead of the entire plant helps avoid a reduction in the population of beneficial insects.

It is amazing how much difference eliminating thrips damage makes, not just in the appearance of the individual petals, but even in the size of the entire bloom. For the best quality blooms, spraying can be done several times a week, especially in the last two weeks before the shows. Anytime fertilizers or pesticides are sprayed onto the foliage, other products can be added to optimize their intake and effectiveness. One of the most popular is a red seaweed liquid formulation call **Response**, used consistently by top rose growers around the country. Use of a spreader-sticker additive, such as **Indicate 5**, allows neutralization of the pH of Arizona's alkaline water, again helping with more even distribution and retention of the products applied.

Finally, for those interested in maximizing fertilization, also when buds are pea-sized, switch to **fish emulsion**. It

can be applied every 7 to 14 days at a rate of 1 Tbsp/gallon of water, just as with **Magnum Grow**. Diehard exhibitors actually apply it weekly through November. The fish emulsion adds additional micro-nutrients in the quickest acting organic compound available. We find **Safer Brand Fish Emulsion** to contain less fish oil than other brands and so is less messy and smelly.

If you plan to add to your rose collection and have extra time before the onslaught of holiday activities, it is a good idea to start preparing your planting holes or beds. Amend the soil as you turn it, to a depth of at least 24". Add lots of organic matter, composted mulch or planting mix, along with **Dispursal** or **Tiger Brand Soil Sulfur** and **Triple Super Phosphate**, so the structure of the soil will begin improving.

Our heavy soil needs these additives so that it can drain properly and become more biologically active. We also recommend mixing in **Perlite** with your final planting mix, which will help keep the soil loose and aerated.

When adding Triple Super Phosphate, do not mix it evenly into the soil, but rather place it in clumps around the bottom of the planting hole. This will keep it from bonding with the soil, which it readily does, thereby becoming less available to the roots.

Don't forget to go through the new spring catalogs or their online editions to start planning for your next new roses! If you can't decide what you want, check the **Recommended Roses** list on the website or call a Consulting Rosarian for suggestions. Late October through December are the best months for planting new potted roses, as it really gives them a jump on spring. All roses growing on fortuniana rootstock come shipped in one gallon containers, not bare root, so this is the perfect time to add them to your collection.

**Products listed here are available locally in nurseries, at Wilbur-Ellis Farm Supplies, Tempe, or online at Rosemania.com and other quality vendors of rose supplies. If you are not sure what you need or cannot find it, please do not hesitate to contact me or one of the other Consulting Rosarians for assistance!

*All About
Growing Great Roses
In The Desert Southwest
2nd Edition*

We now have a new printing of our excellent booklet on all aspects of rose care, selection, planting, maintenance and much more!

Newly updated.

Still \$10 for the Award Winning 56 page book!
Available at most rose society events,
by mail or email.



**HOW TO RECEIVE
OUR EMAILS!**

To receive the MEVRS emails regarding activities, the newsletter and other communications, please be sure that Madge Thomas's e-mail address is in your address book!
Don't forget to let her know if your email address has changed, too!



**A big THANKS to
Linda Ahlborn
who has agreed to accept the
appointment as Recording Secretary
for 2006-2007.**

**Stephanie Pietz had to resign because of
conflicts with another commitment
and she will be missed.**

**ARS Fall National Convention and
Arizona/Desert Rose Shows**

Join the **American Rose Society** and join us at these great events! Meet rosarians from around the country, see area gardens and attend educational seminars, so it's tax deductible!

October 13-16, 2006

ARS Fall National Convention

InterContinental Dallas Hotel, Dallas TX
Contact: Claude & Pam Graves
972-234-5184 / 972-907-8198 (fax)

November 4, 2006

Arizona West Valley Rose Society Rose Show

Arizona State University at the West Campus
Phoenix, AZ
Info: Heidi Leavitt htroses@cox.net
Entries accepted: 6AM to 9:30am

November 5, 2006

Rose Society of Green Valley Rose Show

Info: Bob Dahms 520-762-1692
bdahms@mac.com; www.gvrose.org

November 11, 2006

Desert Rose Society Rose Show

The Mystique of the Rose
Palm Desert Community Center
Palm Desert, CA
Info: Barb Steffensmeier
760-568-2778; Bjspd@aol.com

November 18, 2006

Mesa-East Valley Rose Society Rose Show

Mesa Community College
Mesa, AZ
Info: Marylou Coffman
480-926-3064; coffmanml@aol.com

December 2, 2006

All Arizona Rose Societies Annual Banquet and Rose Show

Show and luncheon with speaker and annual awards, being held at Embassy Suites, Phoenix Black Canyon Highway. Info: Marylou Coffman 480-926-3064.

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

Auction Chairman.....Cheryl Doan480-838-4062
 Audit..... tbd
 Historian.....Stephanie Pietz480-969-3398
 Evelyn Gannon.....480-857-3090
 Hospitality.....Terri Sovereign.....480-892-0972
 LibrarianAlice Flick480-839-4563
Cathy Obermiller, Asst.480-786-9186
 MembershipDonna Dibble.....480-380-4592
 New Member Orientation Dave Dibble, Asst.480-380-4592
 Newsletter, EditorDona Martin.....480-807-3475
 Member Emails.....Madge Thomas480-834-1130
 MCC Test GardenLeRoy Brady480-962-9603
Marylou Coffman480-926-3064
Dave Presley.....480-699-6562
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 Rose Garden Volunteers..Carol Poe480-895-7793
Sam Presley.....480-699-6562
 Rose Show Chairman.....LeRoy Brady480-962-9603
 Ways & Means.....Mike Jepsen.....602-312-1813
Bruce Gannon480-857-3090
 Web site.....Dona Martin.....480-807-3475

Consulting Rosarians

Larry Bell* (Ahwatukee Foothills).....480-706-9667
 Helen Baird*(NPhx, Scsdale).....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 (Gndl/Peoria)623-581-3756
 Bob*# & Dona Martin (Mesa/Gilbert)480-807-3475
 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

Third Saturdays - 8 am - Volunteer Care at MCC Rose Garden

- October 7th - Quarterly MCC Rose Care Class 9 am-Noon
 Register through college or call Dona Martin
- October 7th - Arrangement Seminar 9 am to 5 pm - Contact Marylou Coffman for information
- October 12th - 7pm Gen. Meeting - How To Show Off Your Roses**, for exhibition or at home! Panel of experts, with hands-on practice. Bring fresh blooms!
- November 4 - West Valley Rose Society Rose Show - Arizona State University at the West Campus, Phoenix - Entries accepted: 6AM to 9:30am
 Info: Heidi Leavitt htroses@cox.net
- November 5 - Rose Society of Green Valley Rose Show - Info: Bob Dahms 520-762-1692 / bdahms@mac.com / www.gvrose.org
- November 11 - Desert Rose Society Rose Show - Palm Desert Community Center, Palm Desert, CA, Info: Barb Steffensmeier, 760-568-2778 / Bjspd@aol.com
- November 16 - 7pm Gen. Meeting - New Spring Roses & What To Plant In Arizona**
- November 18 - Mesa-East Valley Rose Society Rose & Arrangement Show** - Mesa Community College, Info: Marylou Coffman, 480-926-3064 / coffmanml@aol.com
- December 2 - Annual All AZ Rose Societies Banquet**, Embassy Suites, Phoenix, with special guest speaker, **Dan Bifano, "Rosarian to the Stars"**, Rose Show and special achievement awards. Mark your calendars!



*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**

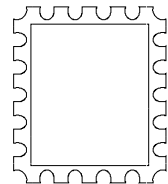
- President Dona Martin
- 1st Vice President LeRoy Brady
- 2nd Vice-President Donna Dibble
- Recording Secretary Linda Ahlborn**
- Corresponding Secretary Pam Thuillez
- Treasurer Alta Russell
- Past-President Steve Sheard

****New Officer**

Rose Lore

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

**ADDRESS SERVICE
 REQUESTED**



Board of Directors

- Cheryl Doan
- Bruce Gannon
- Evelyn Gannon
- Sam Presley
- Madge Thomas

Check out our

ARS Award Winning website:

www.roses4az-mevrs.org

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

Dues were due June 1st!