



Award winning newsletter! National ARS Silver Medal 2004, Honorable Mention 2005

Rose Lore

Mesa-East Valley Rose Society

Affiliated with the American Rose Society

Dona L. Martin, Editor www.roses4az-mevrs.org **August 2007**

**Thursday
August 9th, 7:00 p.m.**

**Monthly Meeting
Paul Elsner Library
Community Room, MCC**

MEVRS welcomes back
**Jimmy Berridge of
Berridge Nursery**

Jim was raised in the nursery, standing on hay bales to reach the tables where bare root roses were wrapped for customers. Come find out the latest news in roses from this terrific rosarian, owner of one of our favorite nurseries. His programs are always fun and informative!

Friends and family welcome.
Refreshments will be served.

Bring your rose questions and concerns.
See you there!

Moving Fortuniana Roses

by Mike Denson

The Carolina District Newsletter, Spring, 2004, Sandy Lundberg, Editor

Over the last few months I have been working on selling my James Island home and preparing the garden for its new owners. I would like to think that they would be enthusiastic rosarians like me, eager to spray the hybrid teas on a regimented weekly basis, crawling around on their hands and knees vigilant for spider mites and other garden invaders.

In my dreams I imagine them whipping up smelly vats of fermented alfalfa tea and hand feeding each bush with its own liquid fish emulsion and Epson salts cocktails. Maybe they will lay on the ground underneath each bush counting basal breaks after the first spring flush of blooms and shake their fist at the sky at the first signs of an impending windstorm? Maybe they will pace back and forth the night before a rose show nervously waiting for the three in the morning alarm to go off so they can run out and check that last bloom to see if its ready to be cut? Maybe they will traipse around in the garden at night with a flashlight to see if there was something they missed as they hastily made their rounds before supper? Maybe they will stroll around thinking about how peaceful this garden is and how lucky they were to get the house along with it....

Unfortunately, my initial assessment has been that they will enjoy the rose bushes while they bloom and then when the first black spot problems arise, with little fanfare they will dig them up and put them at the roadside. Many of you will remember my very large Veteran's Honor, Dublin, Lynette, Louise Estes, White Success, Cajun Sunrise and Cajun Moon bushes. I really worked hard at it and it is a heart breaking experience to leave some of my friends behind.

Well, as you expected I just couldn't do it. Yes, I sold the house, but most all of the biggest and best roses that were 4-5 year old varieties grafted onto fortuniana rootstock are growing happily in my Mt. Pleasant garden on the other side of town. In fact, one of my Cajun Sunrises was kind enough to throw me a King for Savannah, perhaps as a show of appreciation for having spared him. Even though many say you cannot move a mature bush on fortuniana rootstock, I say that you can and I will tell you how. This effort requires a strong back, little sense, a bad addiction to roses, lack of patience and lots of help. I happen to have checks in all of these categories.

Moving roses is best accomplished when they are dormant or semi-dormant. For Charleston, I think December and January are best. Fortuniana grafted plants can be 8-10 feet and maybe you already took some height off the top, lets say 2-3 feet, to prevent wind whipping during

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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.)
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
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

Back in San Diego again, I am enjoying the great weather, but am sorry to have missed out on so many great storms! Monsoon season has always been one of my favorite times of the year. This year has brought even more much needed rain than in the last few years. Last week before I left, I could already see improvement in the new growth and color of the plants, along with lawns that are greening and thickening. With school starting and vacations ending, we know fall is around the corner...well, sort of. At least it is in sight!

I hope you will make an extra effort to attend our August meeting. Speaker **Jim Berridge** has long been a favorite of valley rose societies. His lively personality and contagious enthusiasm is second to none. He took about a six year hiatus from the industry, while pursuing other business interests, after a lifetime in the family-owned and run nursery on Camelback Road, east of 44th Street. **Berridge Nursery** has long been a source of both bare root and potted roses. When the bare root roses arrive, Jimmy explains, they take half of them and pot them up in their special soil mix, but do not put them out for sale. The newly potted plants are held until the 1st of March, by which time their root systems have started becoming established, at which time they are made available. A trip to Berridge Nursery is always worthwhile because of the quality and selection of all their plants and supplies. They also have a fabulous Holiday Shop! So please help us welcome "Jimmy" back on the 9th. (Rumor has it that Jimmy is now "James"...we'll see!)

Meanwhile, we have some great new programs coming up, starting with next months program on garden structures and design with roses, by Bruce Solomon of Baker's Nursery. We have enjoyed growing roses in our garden on pillars or obelisks, as well as arbors, and it is always hard to find good sources for sturdy and attractive structures. Baker's is also able to do custom iron work for those hard to fit areas or to give you a more unique look.

In October we will be getting an update on new roses for winter and spring planting. It will also be time to get ready for fall rose shows. Marylou Coffman will be in charge of the MEVRS Fall Rose and Arrangement Show at MCC this year and will be looking for lots of volunteers. We especially want to encourage those of you who have never exhibited to let us help you enter some blooms from your gardens!

Speaking of volunteers...No, we have not sold our house yet, but I am sure the right, brave soul will come along, one who won't be afraid of inheriting a rose garden of notable size! So, somewhere in our large membership, there must be someone who is also brave, who will be willing to live dangerously and...volunteer to take over the newsletter! Let's do it together NOW so the transition will be easier and smoother. This is a rewarding experience and one to be enjoyed, while it provides another opportunity for service and personal growth. I look forward to hearing from YOU, our next editor!

We'll address the website a little later, unless someone wants to volunteer now. It's an even easier job, especially with today's computers and software.

See you all on the 9th!

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the winter.

Conventional wisdom tell us that when you move a large bush you must remove up to 1/3-2/3 its height so that it doesn't go into shock. You have to balance the root mass with the upper part of the plant. Dr. Huey and other rootstocks have big prop roots that sit directly underneath the plant. For those of you who grow fortuniana roses, you know that the root mass is quite often well away from the plant and likely in an adjacent flowerbed, mixed up with the roots of a neighboring bush or growing under the walkways around your bed. I hope you notice at this point that I have not talked about cutting my roses down to 12-24 inches as is often suggested. I recommend removing only small growth that is heavily foliated and leave just 5-6 ft of the biggest fattest canes with very little foliage. Yes, that's still a big plant! You will need heavy gloves, a big plastic pot and burlap or a tarp to wrap the canes in for transport.

As you begin to excavate a trench two-foot away from the bush you intend to move, you will notice either lots of feeder roots infused in a ball of soil underneath your root shank (this is great) or you will see 3-4 moderate sized roots that go far a field (this is more likely). In any case, it is best to keep as much of the rootball intact as you can. Leave it in the soil and put your shovel or fork under the bush and rock it back and forth until you loosen it up adequately. Your 5-6 foot monster will probably wish to fall over now and you can use its weight to help you leverage it up.

Place the tarp on one side of the hole and let the canes fall on top of it. Use your shovel or fork to lift the soil and roots into a waiting 20-gallon plastic pot, adding soil on top of roots that have come up without any. Prune cleanly any obviously mangled roots, but don't leave any roots exposed to the air for very long. Wrap the rest of the bush with the tarp, tie it up and carry it to the truck. Have your hired help (Rocco and Moose) lift the whole thing into the truck and go back for the rest. If just moving across the yard, you can drag the tarp to its new location.

My rationale for leaving the very large canes was that fortuniana rootstock possesses a fine net of roots and this is probably not where the bush is storing the necessary carbohydrates for the next spring's growth. This energy is inside those large canes. Sugars are moved from a place where they are made and stored to a place where they are required. Botanists use the term "translocation" to refer to the movement of carbohydrates through the plant. Roots often store carbohydrates, but so do canes! Carbohydrates that the roots and canes do not immediately need for energy are stored for later use.

It doesn't seem to make a lot of sense to me to remove all that stored energy when the plants have little

stored in those roots (what roots you can actually excavate and transport). Instead, the energy resource you are moving is in those canes.

I moved my roses to holes with amended soil, well-rotted manure and added super triple phosphate to stimulate root growth. I planted the bush at the same level it was originally planted. This time, though, I planted the rose laying down on its side and watered it in very heavily. I then piled oak leaves over it with very little of the canes exposed. They weren't packed in there but it provided a nice moisture barrier. Given that I had lost a good deal of feeder roots, the biggest risk was dehydration. I then watered the mulch down and made sure they remained moist for the next couple months.

When spring pruning time came, I removed the leaves and propped the bush half way up. being sure not to disturb the roots. I pruned off only the blackened tips or obviously dead canes. Believe it or not, the bushes put out lots of new top growth. The canes were smaller than you would usually expect, but they were followed by bigger laterals lower down those canes.

Now that the first flush is over, I have propped them up almost completely vertical and have noticed numerous basal breaks and low laterals filling in. As the new laterals create my new bush, I will remove unproductive canes that have lots of small, blind growth and those that have any signs of disease.

My friends rewarded me on James Island for some time and now they will be rewarding me in Mt. Pleasant for years to come. Sounds like a lot of work? Well at \$25 a pop, the cost for new roses can be high and why wait the additional two years for them to mature? I am enjoying good blooms now and won't have to suffer through the nightmares of knowing someone put my friends out at the side of the road because they were too much work. What rosarians will do! Well, I guess ya'll know what I am talking about.

Top national rosarian Harold Baker has another suggestion if you are not in a hurry to move your healthy, large fortuniana roses. Determine the size of the root ball you can handle. Cut down into the soil and through the roots about 2' down, but only about 1/3 of the way around the circumference. Wait two weeks, then cut another 1/3 of the way around. After two more weeks, complete the circle. Two weeks later, you can carefully lift the entire section onto a burlap or into a very large pot.

Waiting two week in between cuts, allows new hair roots to form in each section. Then when the bush is moved, it will not suffer as much shock as if the entire root system is cut at the same time. **LeRoy Brady** confirms that this method is used to remove native trees from the soil for the same reason, recommending that the moves be made while plants are actively growing in fall or spring, not in the winter!

Wine Country Flower Farm - High Performance Gardening

By David Sakata, May 2007

David and Patty Sakata are the owners of Wine Country Flower Farm, a favorite nursery of visitors to the Temecula, California area.

What is High Performance Gardening?

1. Growing healthy plants that have less problems with diseases, insects and stress from heat, cold and drought.
2. Using a few key strategies and products that work as a system to produce positive, long-lasting results.
3. The ultimate goal of our activities is to enable our plants to receive **complete and balanced nutrition**.

How is this different from regular gardening?

1. When synthetic fertilizers are used, nutrient imbalances and/or deficiencies are created.
2. Even though plants might look good, often they are weak and are more susceptible to having problems with insects, diseases and other stresses.
3. Generally, problems are addressed with temporary solutions, which usually involve an agent that kills the problem instead of enabling plants to naturally defend themselves.
4. There are negative side effects for us and for our environment.

How do we benefit from High Performance Gardening?

1. Less exposure to toxic chemicals - safer for our families, pets and environment.
2. Get better results with less work.
3. Better nutrition from fruits and vegetables.
4. Save money and time.

High Performance Gardening: The Five Key Strategies

1. Water properly. This means we adjust our watering to meet our plants' needs, not just whatever is set on our irrigation timer. In general, plants like a deeper watering and time to dry out before the next irrigation. The drying time allows air to enter the soil for healthier root growth. This also encourages deeper roots for better water and nutrient uptake and better resistance to drought stress.
2. Excellent Soil Structure. This means soil is loose, easy to dig, drains well and still retains water and nutrients in the root zone. Excellent soil structure allows roots to grow wide and deep. Most soils need work to have excellent structure. For existing planted areas, one of the easiest and most cost effective ways to build and maintain soil structure is to use **John and Bob's Soil Optimizer** and **Turf and Garden Pro**. These products are like a concentrated version of compost and are a lot easier to apply on a regular basis. For new areas that can be mechanically tilled, one of the best ways to create instant excellent structure is to use PAM Soil Conditioners.
3. Beneficial Soil Life. This life means the earthworms and microorganisms (like bacteria, fungi, protozoa, etc.) that exist in high numbers in a healthy soil. They are the key to getting results with less work because they control nutrient availability and balance, they keep water and nutrients in the root zone, they improve and maintain soil structure and they provide protection from disease. To build and maintain high populations of beneficial soil life, we need to use strategies 1,2, and 4 and we may even need to add soil life with a product like Alaskan Humus or compost tea.
4. Organic Nutrients. These come from plants, animals and minerals. Our job is to provide a complete nutrient buffet for our plants and they will choose what they need when they need it. Organic nutrients offer a wide range of nutrients in a form that will remain in the root area where our plants can utilize them for a long time.
5. Large Root Systems. The root system enables plants to absorb the necessary water and nutrients for optimum health and increased ability to survive and resist stress. We encourage better roots with strategies 1 - 4. We can

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also encourage better roots with proper planting techniques, using mycorrhizal spores and selecting plants with ideal root development.

What we accomplish with the key strategies:

1. We turn our soil into a nutrient reservoir and factory to provide a wide availability of minerals and nutrients that last a long time.
2. With good roots and beneficial soil life, our plants are able to get complete and balanced nutrition.
3. Complete and balanced nutrition results in optimum plant health and resistance to stress and problems.
4. We create a system where the beneficial soil life does a lot of the work for us, so we get better results with less work.



David and Patty Sakata's fabulous hanging rose baskets and floribunda pots, also popular at local wineries. Photo by Dona Martin

High Performance Rose Strategy

After winter pruning, apply about 2 cups Biosol and 2 Tablespoons John and Bob's around the drip line. If you have a "collar" around the base of your roses and the drip line is beyond the collar, see if you can get the nutrients into that drip line zone instead of just at the base within the collar. The drip line zone is where most of your feeder roots are. Sprinkle about 2 cups Alaskan Humus around the drip line also and lightly scratch the materials into the soil if possible. Apply a layer of mulch 1-2" deep. The Biosol and John and Bob's need some overhead watering to activate so if you have a drip system, you need to water around the soil surface once a week until you notice the products disappearing into the ground. Repeat the use of these products each year after pruning. If you've had heavy rust or mildew problems, add Alaskan Humus 1-2 times more during the year. Maintain a 1-2" layer of mulch around your roses, so add mulch during the year.

Apply 1-2 cups Biosol every 6-8 weeks or sooner if you notice the granules have disappeared. Apply John and Bob's three times the first year and then two times per year in the following years.

If growth is not as vigorous as you'd like, use Eco-Hydro Fish Fertilizer, 4 tablespoons per gallon and use about a gallon per bush. This should give you a quick boost of growth and better foliage color.

If your soil is heavy, to improve soil structure faster, drench with Turf and Garden Pro, 3 oz. per gallon, using one gallon per bush. Apply monthly or as often as you can and evaluate. As your soil improves, reduce applications to 3-4 times per year or none if you feel you don't need it.

For added benefits and if diseases and insects have been problems, use Wonder Grow as a spray and soil drench, 2 to 4 times per month, 1 tablespoon per gallon of water. To increase resistance during a disease or insect attack, spray foliage and apply to soil two times per week for 2-3 weeks in a row until your plants are stronger.

Check out our product recommendations on the next page!

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The Two Main High Performance Products

John and Bob's Soil Optimizer is concentrated organic matter, with added calcium and iron for optimum results. Small amounts produce big results. Cheap and easy to apply. Use 1 lb. John and Bob's as a substitute for 1 cubic yard of bulk soil amendment. John and Bob's main functions are to improve soil structure, increase nutrient availability and feed your beneficial soil life. Use twice per year, every year.

Biosol Organic Fertilizer provides nutrients for beneficial soil life and plants. It also adds beneficial soil life. Nutrients are released slowly over time. When switching over from synthetic fertilizers, you need to apply Biosol a little more.

The Other High Performance Products

Turf and Garden Pro is liquid concentrated organic matter with beneficial organisms and micro nutrients. Use to hasten soil structure improvement, deeper rooting and better nutrient availability. Especially recommended for fixing tight soil areas in your lawns that show up as dry spots during hot weather. Also recommended for drenching your newly planted plants for quicker takeoff and better chance of survival.

Wonder Grow Organic Plant Food is liquid seaweed and yucca applied as a foliar spray and as a soil drench. Supplies very wide range of nutrients (over 60) and plant growth stimulators. Especially recommended to maximize resistance to diseases and insects.

Alaskan Humus is a compost found in nature that contains high levels of beneficial soil life. One of the best materials to increase beneficial soil life population.

Eco-Hydro Liquid Fish Fertilizer is better than fish emulsion because it contains more fish parts and more organic compounds are preserved during processing. Not as strong smelling as other fish products we have used. Provides a quick fertilizer boost similar to synthetic fertilizers with a lot more minor elements for better plant health.

Mycorrhizal Fungus Spores are used to inoculate roots. Mycorrhizae are highly beneficial fungi that colonize roots, increasing the roots' ability to absorb water and nutrients and improve plant performance and health. Need to put into contact with roots.

PAM Soil Conditioner is a granular material that is used to create instant excellent soil structure. When used properly, it will immediately aggregate soil in a way that takes years of work by beneficial soil life and organic matter additions. Highly recommended for installing new lawns, amending new planter beds and amending vegetable garden soils - anywhere soil can be mechanically tilled.



Just a small part of their many acres of beautiful and healthy rose plants, carried all year round. This photo was taken in June.

The selection includes not only the best of modern varieties, but an excellent selection of old garden roses as well.

Photo by Dona Martin

TEN REASONS TO JOIN THE AMERICAN ROSE SOCIETY

By Robert B. Martin, Jr.

The American Rose Society (ARS) is the largest specialized plant society in the U.S. Founded in 1892, this national nonprofit educational organization promotes the culture and appreciation of the rose – America's national flower. If you love roses, you should belong to the ARS. Why? Here are ten good reasons – in reverse order – for you to consider:

1. Support Your Local Society

There are more than 350 local rose societies affiliated with the ARS. You don't have to be an ARS member to belong to one, and it is good to support your local rose society. The ARS also supports your local society. For example, it provides information to local societies on how the local societies can better serve their members. It directs inquiries from prospective members to local societies. It provides a blanket insurance program for local societies that enables them to obtain insurance for their activities at considerably less expense than if they tried to obtain insurance separately. Also, the ARS is recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as an educational organization that is exempt from Federal income taxation. Local rose societies affiliated with the ARS are also eligible for tax exemption as an educational organization under a "group exemption" procedure under the blanket of the ARS. Contributions to local rose societies that have been recognized as eligible are tax deductible. This support of the local rose societies by the ARS is valuable, and you support your local rose society by joining the ARS.

2. Visit Promised Rose Gardens

ARS headquarters and the Gardens

of the American Rose Center are located in Shreveport, Louisiana. With over 42 acres and 20,000 roses, the American Rose Center is the nation's largest park dedicated to roses. The Gardens are open seven days a week March 30th through October 31st, and in the evenings between Thanksgiving and Christmas Eve for a wonderful Holiday treat. Your membership in the ARS gives you free admission should your travels ever take you to Shreveport. But if they don't, your automatic membership in the American Horticultural Society's Reciprocal Garden Admission Program allows you free admission to more than 100 select gardens and horticultural events throughout the United States.

3. Support Rose Science

The ARS is an educational organizational that supports the horticultural science of roses. It undertakes cooperative research programs on rose problems at universities and experimental stations. It also tests and evaluates rose-related products. As the International Registration Authority for Roses, the ARS records the registration of the roses of the world and maintains the most comprehensive database of roses of historical and botanical importance in the world. The ARS publishes the information periodically in *Modern Roses*, the latest edition of which, *Modern Roses XI*, contains information on over 24,000 rose varieties. Your membership supports these important activities.

4. Engage Your Special Interests

The ARS has a variety of publications about roses, including special interest quarterly bulletins. They include *Rose Exhibitors' Forum*, devoted to all aspects of rose exhibiting and rose culture; *Rose Ar-*

ranger's Bulletin, featuring tips on arranging, design, materials, techniques and arrangement show results; *Mini/Mini-Flora Rose Bulletin*, offering a wealth of information specifically designed for miniature and mini-flora roses; and *The OGR & Shrub Gazette*, with articles for lovers of old and landscape roses. There is a small added cost for each, but your membership is the starting place.

5. Become a Consulting Rosarian

The ARS has a Consulting Rosarian Program consisting of more than 2,200 expert rose gardeners around the country who provide free expert advice to gardeners who want to learn how to grow better roses. You don't have to be a member of ARS to use the services of your local Consulting Rosarian. But you do have to be a member if you want to be a CR; in fact you have to have been a member for at least the last three years. The best way to learn about roses is to prepare to teach, so if you want to learn a lot about roses, you want to be a part of this program. The CRs are the evangelists of roses. Hallelujah! If you want to carry the gospel of roses you have to become a CR. Amen.

6. Show Your Roses: Judge Others

A central activity of nearly every local rose society is the annual sponsorship of a rose show. The rose show is an opportunity for rosarians to show non-rose growers the vast potential and beauty of roses. You don't have to be a member of the ARS to show your roses in your local show, in fact you don't have to be a member to show your roses in a national show. But let's suppose you really want to get serious about growing and showing the best roses. Then

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maybe you ought to become a rose judge and, to do that, you have to have been an ARS member for at least three years. And suppose you wanted to compete for District and National rose show trophies – the top awards. Well, you also have to be a member to do that.

7. Search for the Perfect “Ten”

The ARS has for 78 consecutive years conducted an annual survey of newer rose varieties, to determine how they actually grow in the gardens of America. Now called *Roses in Review*, the roses are rated on a ten-point scale, and older varieties are periodically reassessed. You don't have to be a member to participate in this survey, but it's valuable and your membership supports it. Then each year the ARS publishes and sends to every member, *The Handbook for Selecting Roses*, in which the findings from these surveys are published, along with information on thousands of commercially available roses. The *Handbook*, which fits right in your pocket, will help you select roses for your gardens and can save you some big bucks in making the best choices. It might even help you find the perfect “ten” for your garden.

8. Read All About It.

Your membership in the ARS will bring you 11 monthly issues of the *American Rose*, a 46 page full color monthly magazine with columns, feature articles, advertisements and information on all aspects of rose growing. Then, in December of each year, you will receive the *American Rose Annual*, a perfect bound 132 soft cover book containing full-length feature articles with scientific information on roses and rose culture, plus articles of general interest to rose lovers. The *American Rose Annual* has been

published annually since 1916 and back issues are collector items, challenging some members to collect them all.

9. Connect With Nice People.

Rose people are the nicest people I know. I have found the nicest ones of all in the ARS. They gather at two National Conventions and a Miniature Rose National Conference each year to share their roses, hear lectures, take garden tours and hang out together. They've even been known to dress as roses. Each District also has its own convention and conferences where local rosarians gather. The ARS is a volunteer organization and through it you get the opportunity to work together with people who have but one primary purpose – to enhance knowledge of the rose. The personal connections people build through their involvement in non-profit organizations provide the backbone of relationship communities, and the ARS is just that – a relationship community. Through service on committees, in offices and the undertaking of commitments to the ARS, I have developed friendships throughout the United States. Everywhere I go, I know there are rosarians who welcome the opportunity to share their gardens, their friendship and to simply talk roses. With the ARS I have friends, many of whom I haven't met yet. You can be part of this community of friends.

10. The Roses Deserve It

So that's a lot of benefits to consider, but now we come to the most important. The benefits cited above are the tangible things we get from joining the ARS, the *quid pro quo*. But the most important thing is not tangible; it cannot be evaluated as a business transaction, and whether you get your

money's worth. The higher question is not what we get but what we give. The rose is the most beautiful flower in God's creation, a gift that has been generously given to us. It is not in the “getting” that we receive but in the giving. By giving to roses, we receive from them. My friend Lynn Snetsinger has said that we are the “Guardians of the Rose.” That is the role God gave to those of us who love roses and the roses deserve it. The rose is so generous in our gardens. It always gives back in multiples for whatever we put into it. So how do you give back? Well, you join the community of those of like mind and you give to it. To modify the words of President John F. Kennedy: “Ask not what the rose can do you for you, but ask instead what you can do for roses.” As Sherlock Holmes said to Dr. Watson: “Our highest assurance of the existence of Providence seems to me to rest in the flowers. All other things, our powers, our desires, our food, are all really necessary for our existence in the first place. But this rose is an extra. Its smell and its colour are an embellishment of life, not a condition of it. It is only goodness which brings extras, and so I say again, that we have much to hope for in the flowers.” The ARS is our hope for the rose and my hope is that you will join us.

Convinced? There's probably a membership application in this publication. If not, go to the ARS website at <http://www.ars.org> Click on the left link that says “Membership Info”. There are roses waiting for you.

Important News from the American Rose Society

The following is a letter by ARS president Steve Jones regarding the changes in dues and the publishing schedule of the *American Rose* adopted by the Board of Directors at the St. Paul Spring ARS Convention.

For months I have written in the President's Message (in the *American Rose*) about declining memberships and how it has been affecting our cash flow and member services. At the St. Paul Convention the Board took action to try and stabilize our finances.

The ARS Finance Committee chaired by Diane Sommers, District Director of the North Central District, did an excellent job presenting a matrix of expenses and income generating options, including dues increases. The matrix modeled our expenses, income and projected membership decline over the next five years. What the matrix showed is no one option is the silver bullet we need and the Board needed to take action now to avoid any loss of member services in the future.

At the St. Paul Board meeting, the Finance Committee recommended three items that would immediately help ease our cash flow crunch: increasing membership dues, condensing the magazine to 6 issues a year, and deleting the Annual. When the Board discussed possible dues increases, we considered the fact we have not had a dues increase for 6 years, plus the cost of living has increased 16% and postage has increased 21% since then.

The Board discussed all of these options and voted to increase dues \$12 a year effective August 1, 2007. The regular membership dues will increase from \$37 to \$49 a year, sen-

ior to \$46, etc. ...There will be no change o the Associate, Corporate, Life or Youth memberships at this time. The increase will also bring us in line with many other horticultural organizations.

The Board also approved reducing the number of magazines to 5 issues a year, every two months, and to continue the Annual in its current form and format. The combined two-month magazine will be double the size. Currently, a one-month magazine contains 44 pages. We will increase each combined magazine to 84 pages. The combination will be approximately the same number of pages and articles as our current monthly publications. Condensing the magazine into 5 issues and the Annual will save us \$52,000 a year in printing and postage costs with no negative benefit to the membership and the magazine should be arriving in a more timely fashion.

The July magazine is now in the mail. The next magazine will be the combined August/September issue, followed by the October/November issue, then the Annual. Starting in 2008, the magazine issues will be January/February, March/April, May/June, July/August, September/October and the Annual.

I realize this is a substantial increase in due and hope it will not deter you from continuing membership in our worthwhile organization. We will be working hard to improve member services including having a real voice answering the phone at Headquarters and streamlining other services to help reduce overhead. We are looking at having electronic publications available at a reduced price and will start with the specialty bulletins, and then foreign memberships with the magazine. In addition, we realize we need to go to outside sources for other monies, so we will be concentrating on fundraising, grants, better marketing and corporate sponsorships.

With these changes and concerted efforts, I believe we can stabilize our expenses for many years to come, even with a declining membership that I hope that will level out sometime in the near future.

Note from the Ed.: I continue to encourage all of you to consider joining the American Rose Society. The American Rose magazine alone is worth the cost of membership. The additional benefits of membership, as detailed in the facing article, will greatly enrich your enjoyment of all things roses. You will have the opportunity to give return service as an ARS Consulting Rosarian. And, your support of the American Rose Society itself will allow our parent organization to continue to provide the educational tools, support and enrichment it has given to rose enthusiasts for over 100 years. DM

Roses In Review:

For the 82nd year the ARS is collecting data on roses in commerce from those who actually grow them.

The form is available online at the **ARS website** as well as being available in the June issue of the *American Rose*.

The **Consulting Rosarian** duties include an obligation to report on the roses grown in their gardens; additionally, non-members of the ARS are encouraged to fill out the forms in order to broaden participation in this activity to ensure as wide a representation of growing experiences possible.

Last year over 10% of the members of the ARS filed reports; as of this writing the NCNH district has the most members participating in the RIR. The deadline for participation is **September 26th**.

Summer Rose Care:

THINGS TO DO IN JULY AND AUGUST

By ARS Consulting Rosarian,
Dona Martin

[Ed.: Continue with these instructions and with the monsoons, you should already be seeing improvement in the health of your roses!]

What a hot June we had and now July is getting off to a really toasty start! It hits us as well, so advance preparation will allow for healthy, stress resistant plants, to keep the maintenance under control. Beds should be mulched with three to four inches of forest mulch or pine needles, which will help keep the ground significantly cooler, assist in moisture retention and discourage weeds. It is never too late or the wrong time of year to add mulch to your garden! It is really worth the effort, so check around your yard to see where it might be needed. Even if you put down mulch at the beginning of the year, it may have broken down so much that more should be added.

IRRIGATION - If you flood irrigate, water deeply three times a week. If you drip irrigate, water 3 to 4 times per week, a minimum of 3 to 4 gallons per plant each time. Water needs to be able to soak down 18" below the surface of the bed. Notice how long it takes for the wells around the roses to drain. If water sits for too long, you may need to add a soil sulfur product such as Dispersul or Tiger Brand Soil Sulfur, which helps open up the soil structure. Another aid in promoting water penetration is to water a second time in the same day once a month. This allows the water to move lower and wider, washing the salts in the soil further away from the root system. This helps prevent salt burn on the plant.

If you grow roses in pots, water seven times per week because of more rapid transpiration and lower capacity. Deep watering all areas at least once every two weeks will help push salts out of the root zones. It is also good to hose

off your roses at least one time per week. This month get yourself a water wand, with an adjustable jet nozzle on the end. Spray the top and undersides of the leaves. This will increase the humidity around the bushes, clean off the leaves and knock off any lingering spider mites you might have. (If spider mites continue to be destructive, there are a number of good miticides on the market. These include Avid, Hexygon, and Floramite.)

FERTILIZING – Fertilize at half rate every four to six weeks during the summer. Use a good **ORGANIC** fertilizer like Dr. Earth or Groganic Rose Food, along with alfalfa meal. If you applied fertilizer in early June, then apply ½ cup Rose Food and ½ cup alfalfa meal on July 15th and September 1st. Top dress fertilizer and lightly scratch into soil. Do not forget to water deeply both before and after fertilizing, very important steps to prevent fertilizer burn damage. Roses and other plants still need to be fed during the summer so that they will be healthy enough to start growing again when the weather becomes more hospitable. By reducing the amount of fertilizer, we do not risk stimulating excessive new growth which would burn even more easily.

DEADHEADING – It is important during this time to remove spent blooms on a regular basis. A number of rose growers experimented with leaving them on, but this resulted in the bushes becoming so dormant that they did not do as well in the fall. The roses will also think it is time to start making hips (seeds), causing energy to be spent there instead of in foliage production. We have, however, found that deadheading conservatively, cutting at a shorter distance down the cane and leaving as many leaves as possible, resulted in healthier plants for two reasons. First, more leaves were present to provide more protection of the canes from the sun. Second, there are more leaves providing nutrition to the plant. This is especially important if spider mites hit, causing the loss of leaves on the lower half of the bush.

Hang in there! When we hit August, we hope to start seeing the light at the end of the tunnel. When at least the nights start to cool off, our roses will enjoy the break.

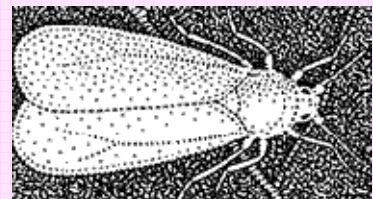
Visit the Mesa-East Valley Rose Society website for additional articles on year round rose care, pruning and planting instructions, Best Roses for Arizona and much more!

[www. Roses4az-mevrs.org](http://www.Roses4az-mevrs.org)

More than you really wanted to know about the Whitefly...

The adult white fly is about 1.5 mm large and is covered with a white powdery wax-like layer over the whole body, except for the eyes. The wax is produced by four wax glands under the body and is quickly spread out with its legs. The development goes through six stages: egg – four larvae and nymph stages – one puparia stage to adult stage. Fertilized eggs produce males while unfertilized eggs produce females. The female sucks on the underside of the leaves during the egg laying period. She produces eggs with 'studs', which are embedded in the leaf and are kept fresh by absorbing moisture through the stud. The first stage larvae move around the leaf until it finds an open suction point and there it stays throughout its development into the puparia stage. This is not a completely dormant (pupa) period, because the puparia still sucks sap until just before hatching into an adult white fly. The total cycle takes about 22 days in our summer.

By Ludwig Taschner, South Africa—Excerpt from *Talking Roses with Ludwig Taschner* newsletter



[Ed. Late summer brings white flies to our gardens, especially if there are cotton crops being defoliated nearby. Use Merit/Bayer Insect Killer and/or your trusty water wand.]

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 \$49.00 (Seniors \$46.00) for a one year membership.

As a new or renewing member, you will also receive a FREE miniature rose from Nor'East Miniatures!

Standing Committees

Auction Chairman.....	Cheryl Doan	480-838-4062
Audit.....	Judy Tolbert	
Historian.....	Evelyn Gannon.....	480-857-3090
Hospitality.....	Terri Sovereign.....	480-892-0972
Librarian.....	Alice Flick	480-839-4563
.....	Linda Ahlborn.....	480-695-5891
Membership	Donna Dibble.....	480-380-4592
New Member Orientation	Dave Dibble, Asst.	480-380-4592
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
.....	Dave Presley.....	480-699-6562
Publicity Team.....	Member volunteers	
Rose Garden Volunteers..	Carol Poe	480-895-7793
.....	Sam Presley.....	480-699-6562
Rose Show Chairman.....	LeRoy Brady	480-962-9603
Ways & Means.....	Mike Jepsen.....	602-312-1813
.....	Bruce Gannon	480-857-3090
Web site.....	Dona Martin.....	480-807-3475

Consulting Rosarians

Larry Bell* (Ahwatukee Foothills).....	480-706-9667
Helen Baird*(NPhx, Scotsdle).....	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
Phyllis Henslin (Mesa, Apache Jct.)	480-807-3592
Millie Hisey* (Apache Jct-winter).....	480-288-0472
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
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**

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

August 9th - 7 p.m. General Meeting - The Return of Jimmy Berridge! Owner of Berridge Nursery with what's new in the world of roses. Always fun and informative, don't miss it.

September 14th - 7 p.m. General Meeting - Bruce Solomon of Baker's Nursery will be speaking about garden structures and integrating them into your garden design. Baker's is now offering custom garden structures, a service that is very hard to find.

October 11th - 7 p.m. General Meeting

Please bring your dues to the meeting or mail to the post office box listed below. Thanks for your support!



*The Rose:
Our National
Floral Emblem*

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

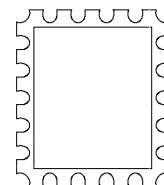
Mesa-East Valley Rose Society

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2nd Vice-President	Donna Dibble
Recording Secretary	Linda Ahlborn
Corresponding Secretary	Pam Thuillez
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Past-President	Steve Sheard

Rose Lore

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



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!*