



Rose Lore



Volume 1 Number 3

Bulletin for the Mesa-East Valley Rose Society

April 2018

Mary Van Vlack & Lynn Twitchell, Editors

Contents

- Page 1 – April Meeting
- Page 1 – Election Slate
- Page 2 – President’s Letter
- Page 2 – Garden Tour
- Page 4 – In the Garden
- Page 4 – Roses in Our Garden
- Page 5 – More in the Garden
- Page 6 – April Gardening
- Page 8 – Welcome New Members
- Page 8 – Auction Report
- Page 8 – Calendar
- Page 8 – Membership
- Page 9 - ARS

Officers & Board

- Pres – LeRoy Brady
- VP-Programs - James Racinowski
- Treasurer - Bud Morrison
- Membership - Carole Holkenbrink
- Recording Secretary - Yvonne Morrison
- Corresponding Secretary - Marylou Coffman
- Members at-large:
 - Helen Baird
 - Cheryl Doan
 - Linda Ahlborn
 - Lynn Twitchell (past president)

MESA EAST VALLY ROSE SOCIETY APRIL MEETING!

It is no secret many of us have questions about growing roses in our unique desert soils and what we should be doing to make our gardens even more productive. The program this month will give us information on soil testing and ways to improve the soil in our gardens. Come to ask questions and get answers about your garden soil.

Sheri McLane, an owner of IAS Laboratories will be speaking to expand our knowledge and understanding of the various soils in our Valley and what we can and should do to grow beautiful rose gardens. **IAS Laboratories** is an **Agriculture** laboratory that provides soils testing analysis, nutrient recommendations and now plant pathology analysis and determinations. Sheri, her husband and daughter live in central Mesa where they enjoy gardening in a down to earth way and take a practical approach towards gardening success.

Our meeting will be Thursday, April 12 at 7:00 pm in the MCC Library. Visitors are always welcome. In addition to the program, election of officers and board for the 2018-19 MEVRS year will be held. There will also be announcements about local rose societies’ activities, refreshments, tickets for the garden tour, and the opportunity to ask consulting rosarians questions about growing roses.

SLATE OF OFFICERS

The MEVRS Nominations Committee proposes the following candidates for office in the coming year:

- President – LeRoy Brady
- Vice President, Programs - Maggie Holloway
- Treasurer - Bud Morrison
- Membership - Carole Holkenbrink
- Recording Secretary - Yvonne Morrison
- Corresponding Secretary - Marylou Coffman
- At Large - Helen Baird, Cheryl Doan, Linda Ahlborn, Lynn Twitchell (past president).

Nominations will be accepted from the floor for these positions and two additional at-large positions.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

By Leroy Brady

SECRET GARDEN?

Is the Rose Garden at Mesa Community College a Secret Garden or one of Mesa's best kept secrets? I never cease to be amazed at how many locals have never noticed the beautiful roses in bloom from now until December. And yet, while we work in the garden it is also amazing how many visitors talk to us from Minnesota, Montana, North Dakota, New York, British Columbia, Alberta, Ontario, and during spring training, Chicago, just to name a few places people are from who have stopped to smell and enjoy the rose garden. Now is the time, April is one of best months to visit the garden and enjoy the beauty of our National Flower in all its many forms, colors and fragrances!

SPRING TOUR OF EAST- VALLEY ROSE GARDENS SUNDAY APRIL 15 12 TO 5 P.M.

It's a rare treat to be invited to some of the finest rose gardens in the East Valley. Four have been selected this year, and they are yours to amble through on a spring Sunday afternoon.

Three are home gardens - 2 in Tempe and 1 in Chandler; the fourth is a community public garden in Gilbert, at Val Vista Lakes. For \$ 5.00 per person you can drive your car and chose your ownroute. Children under 8 are free. There will be water at each stop.

Mike and Cindi Jepsen open their backyard garden in a quaint, older neighborhood of Tempe, near ASU. Mike is an award-winning Master Rosarian who tends some 140 roses as well as vegetables, mini-hibiscus, Gerber daisies and day lilies. His roses live in raised beds because of the city irrigation. Some thrive in pots and he is experimenting with fabric pots.

Mike has built Cindy a climate-controlled green house in which she nourishes 150 orchid plants. She travels the orchid show-circuit where she has earned a number of awards.



Farther south in Tempe near Kyrene & Warner, is the rambling home of Steve and Sue Sheard. Roses grow in the front yard as well as the back. Steve, an electronics engineer, is the caretaker. He has approximately 150 roses of all classes (minis, minifloras, hybrid teas, David Austins, shrubs and climbers.

Steve prides himself in accentuating the roses

with seasonal bedding and hanging plants, so the garden is always "showing off", he says. Using plants such as geraniums, petunias, snapdragons and amaryllis, the grounds around the Sheard home are a showplace. His is a "working garden" because he loves to propagate roses for the annual auction as well as for friends. And did this writer mention he grows trees - some 30 fruiting trees including banana, papaya, mango, apple and fig.

The home of Ryan, Nanci and Justin Regehr, was featured in the December, 2015 issue of *Phoenix Home and Gardens* magazine. It was touted as the garden that portrays an example of using all of the space available. Today there are 177 roses that hold an attraction for hummingbirds, butterflies, lizards and other beneficials

The Rose Gardens at Val Vista Lakes were designed and created by Jack and Lynn Twitchell to display the beauty of the rose. With the background of the lakes, it displays the artistry of a well-designed rose garden and what can be done in a desert environment.



The tour can be started at any of the four locations with maps and tickets available at any of them. The maps are fine; however, the use of GPS or smart phone map applications would be helpful. The locations are:



Steve and Sue Sheard
[242 W. Knox Rd](#)
[Tempe, AZ](#) 85284

Mike and Cindy Jepsen
[115 E. Vista Del Cerro Dr.](#)
Tempe, AZ 8528

Ryan and Nanci Regehr
[21126 E. Buena Vista Dr.](#)
Gilbert, AZ 8523

Jack and Lynn Twitchell
The Rose Gardens at Val Vista Lakes
1950 E. Lakeside Dr.
Chandler, AZ 85249

Photos of Sheard garden by Steve Sheard

Photos of Sheard garden by Steve Sheard

IN THE GARDEN, A MESA ROSE GARDEN JOURNAL

By Marylou Coffman and LeRoy Brady

Spread the word: Mesa has a Secret Garden and now is the time to see it in all its glory. Take time to smell the roses in the next several weeks and tour the Rose Garden at MCC. It is in full bloom now and it is truly beautiful. The bushes you cut back in January and February are now showing that your hard work was worth it by giving us their beautiful flowers. The colors are wonderful. With the 610 new roses planted in the garden this year, we have added many new roses and old roses to all the varieties you can see and enjoy.

Some of the varieties to look for in Section One (Veterans Garden): Rosie the Riveter, Queen Mary II and Top Gun. In Section Two you can find Parade Day, Crimson Bouquet, Dream Come True and BougainFeelYa (yes that is correct). In Section Three, look for Girls Night Out, Shining Moment, Apricot Candy, Fruity Petals and Mellow Yellow. In Section Four, Michelangelo, Brother Cadfael and Frida Kahlo. These are just a few of the many new roses planted in recent months.

This month we will begin evaluating our three test gardens for the American Garden Rose Selections, the American Rose Societies' Award of Excellence and the Sonoran International Rose Trials. These roses will be judged over a two-year period, 2018 and 2019.

This week we welcomed our permanent judging panel for the International Rose Trials. They will be judging the test garden on novelty, bud and flower form, color opening and finishing, substance, vigor, habit and foliage, quantity of flowers, repeat bloom, disease resistance and heat tolerance.

If you would like to learn more about the garden, please contact myself or LeRoy Brady. Please take the time and walk through the garden and enjoy the Southwest's most beautiful rose garden.

ROSES IN OUR GARDEN

By Marylou Coffman

EASY SPIRIT

This white floribunda is one of Weeks' Easy to Love series of roses. This group of roses are very disease resistant and do well in most climates, including our desert heat.

It has beautifully formed buds that open to a high centered flower. The blooms are spiraled, formal and large. Each bloom has 35 to 40 petals. It is a pure white bloom with a cream base. In cooler weather, it can have a light pink blush. It also has glossy dark green foliage that frames the bloom nicely. It is an upright, compact bush. The color stays from bud to fully open and doesn't burn in the summer like most white roses. This rose has a mild tea fragrance.

Tom Carruth, is the hybridizer and the parentage of this rose is Meredith X Easy Does It.



This rose is part of the International Trial roses and can be found in Section Three, Bed F.

In addition to Easy Spirit, the garden has other gorgeous white roses. In Section One, we have Queen Mary II , Honor, and John F. Kennedy. Section Two has White Majesty, Honor, White Drift and Bolero. In Section Three, look for Iceberg, French Lace, Bolero, Secret's Out and Easter Basket. Section Four has several white roses, White Meilland, White Licorice, White Eden and Glamis Castle.

MORE HAPPENINGS IN THE GARDEN

By Steve Sheard



As the MCC Rose Garden begins to bloom, it is prime season for visitors.

Girl Scout Troop 2619 returned to tour the garden on March 18. Unfortunately, the bloom cycle is late this year and there were very few flowers in bloom. They studied the garden design and how each section came about, finishing up in the Veterans Garden and learning about Ernest McFarland, a great opportunity to learn about some of the supporting stories without being distracted by flowers!



On March 28 we had visitors from Brookdale Senior Living. The garden was much more cooperative with the tour taking an hour and a half followed by lunch in the MCC cafeteria.

That same day also had college students in the garden sketching and painting.

Photos by Steve Sheard

THE GRATEFUL GARDENER IN APRIL

By Mary Van Vlack

Is it warm enough for you? Apparently, it is warm enough for our roses. After the jumpy winter we have had, warm, then cool, then warm, then cool... a warm spring was to be expected, but upper 90's in early April, well! After several years of warm winters, we have become accustomed to seeing our roses burst into bloom in March rather than April. At our first rose show of the year in Glendale on the 7th, some folks were saying that their first bloom cycle was almost over while others were finding their gardens just getting going. What we'll find in Phoenix on the 21st will be a surprise. If you have some nice blooms, do consider entering them in the Phoenix show. The show schedule is available on their web site at <http://prs.org/>. Even if you don't want to enter any roses, do consider seeing the show in the afternoon. People often ask me what would be a good rose for their garden, and I find going to local rose shows is a great way to get the answer, to identify rose varieties that I like and that perform well in our area. So, what should we be doing in our gardens this month?

Pay attention. Walk through your garden daily, if you can. Observe all the good things that are happening – the healthy new growth, the buds and blooms, the array of color. Notice which varieties seem to open up first and which keep us waiting. Watch for problems as well – the arrival of aphids and thrips, the signs of mildew, or the wilting or stunted plant that lacks sufficient water. And notice which plants seem to attract the most trouble.

Disbud. This is also a good time for a bit of disbudding, selectively breaking off buds before they grow large and prepare to open. Rosarians actually perform disbudding in two situations.



First, primarily with hybrid teas and grandiflora roses, along with some shrubs, we will remove one or two side buds that have formed next to a strong center bud. This will keep those side buds from drawing away nutrients and water and will allow that center bud to form the best flower possible. If we had left them, the side buds

would mature and open after the center flower is spent, making a less than attractive pair of flowers with a faded thing in the middle. If we disbud early enough, all signs of those buds will disappear.

In the second instance, instead of promoting a single flower, we disbud to improve the appearance of a spray of roses. Where there are several buds on a stem, the largest and usually center bud will open first and begin to fade ahead of the others, some of which will open in unison. If we remove the center bloom as it fades, it leaves a hole in the middle of the spray. But if we remove it very early in the bud formation process, the surrounding buds will grow into the hole and a much more attractive spray will result.





I will admit that when I am disbudding, and I stop to look at the little broken buds in my hand, I feel just awful, a baby-killer for sure. Cruella deVille. But there are many more flowers coming on to take their places, and I know I did the right thing. Disbudding is essential if you are going to exhibit your roses, but it is also a very helpful practice if you plan to cut and arrange your flowers for any purpose.

Cut your flowers and enjoy them. Bring them to the rose shows. Arrange them in vases in every room of your home, including the bathroom and especially in the rooms where you spend the most time. Give them to your neighbors and friends - a great gift they will appreciate.

Deadhead your roses. Deadheading means removing spent flowers from the plants. The technique is to cut off the bloom just above a 5-part (or more) leaf that faces out away from the center of the plant, cutting at an angle away from the leaf axil that contains the growth bud. Use this cutting opportunity to consider the direction you

want new growth to take and the desired shape for the bush. In March and April you will want to deadhead rather aggressively to promote a second bloom in May before the heat begins to really stunt the flowers.

Fertilize. Continue with your spring fertilization program to the middle of May. Our temperatures are rising, but there should be time for a second bloom before those 105° and 110° days arrive. At that point we can talk about fertilizing in the summer. If you have not done so this spring, give your roses some Epsom salts, ½ cup per large bush and 2 tablespoons per miniature, sprinkled around the drip line and watered in well. Magnesium sulfate encourages the development of cane breaks, canes, and leaves. We can't have too many leaves when summer approaches.

Control pests and disease. Once the shows are over, this is a good time to back away from spraying pesticides. Doing without pesticides gives the beneficials such as praying mantis and lacewings a chance to thrive and helps the bees and birds who visit our gardens. The heat will quickly chase away the aphids and the mildew will recede. Keeping a clean, weed-free garden and washing down your plants with a strong spray of water several mornings a week will go a long way toward controlling what remains. We need a clean garden full of beneficials to keep the spider mites under control. Remember, all these critters, the good and the bad, are naturally residents of our community – the best we can do is to encourage and protect the good ones while minimizing the damage the bad ones can do in our gardens.

Water. Be generous with the water. When daytime temperatures reach the mid 90's, it will be time to increase watering to three times a week. As always, water deeply when you do water. From now until the summer monsoon, we will receive very little, if any rain, so the roses are counting on you to provide what they need. Some gardeners resist installing automatic watering systems, perhaps to save money or because they enjoy hand-watering, perhaps only using an automatic system for lawns and flower beds in the ground. My experience is that for roses this always ends badly. When grass is deprived of water for a few days in summer, it does turn brown but then greens up pretty quickly once water is applied regularly. With roses, however, deprivation not only causes some wilting, but first causes root die-back, wrecking the vigor of the plant and killing it as summer progresses. When we have taken even short trips, we have found that our young adult sons and even house sitters just weren't perfectly reliable about the water. Roses in containers are especially vulnerable.

Planting. The preferred time for planting roses is over. Some nurseries are still encouraging this, but they have stock to unload and don't have to hover over new plantings that lack sufficient root system to thrive. If you see a rose in a pot that you just have to have, consider growing it this year in a large container. Place your containers in a location where they have afternoon shade or all-day shade and insulation on the pots themselves and provide them a consistent water source.

In the spring, at the end of the day, you should smell like dirt.
–Margaret Atwood

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

January: Clifford Hudson from Tempe, Misty Kelley from Higley, Jeffery Zarr from Mesa, and Susan Slickker from Tempe.

February: Ryan & Nanci Regehr from Chandler.

March: Carol Krumpas from Mesa.

Annual Rose Auction Update

This beautiful tree rose was the top bid winner for \$100.00 at the 2018 MEVRS Rose Auction. Stay tuned for future news about next year's auction.



Calendar

April 12, 7 pm	MEVRS General Meeting and election of officers, board	Mesa Community College Elsner Library Room 145	
April 15, 12-5 pm	Mesa-East Valley Garden Tour 4 gardens in Mesa and Tempe, \$5 per person	See article on page 2	Bud Morrison
April 21	Phoenix Rose Show, Phoenix Rose Society Open to public 1-3 pm. Exhibitors 6:30 to 9:45a.m.	Valley Garden Center 1809 N. 15 th Ave. Phoenix. Show schedule at http://www.phoenixrose.org/rose_show.html	Gerry Mahoney
May 10. 7 pm	MEVRS General Meeting and installation of officers and board	Mesa Community College Elsner Library Room 145	
May 19	Albuquerque 69 th Annual Rose Show	Albuquerque Garden Center, 10120 Lomas Blvd NE, Albuquerque, 87110	TBA
Oct 26-29, 2018	ARS National & PSWD Convention, Fiesta of Roses	San Diego RS	Info coming soon
November 3	Tucson Rose Show, Rose Society of Tucson	Trinity Presbyterian Church, Tucson, AZ	
November 17, 2018	MEVRS Rose, Arrangement, and Photography Show	MCC Student Center, Navajo Room	Marylou Coffman

Mesa–East Valley Rose Society Membership

Annual family or individual membership is \$25. Annual dues are payable by June 1.

Payments in cash or check at a meeting; or by check to this address:

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

Date _____ New _____ *Gift* _____ Renewal _____ Amount Paid _____

Cash _____ Check# _____

Names: _____ Telephone # : _____

Street Address: _____

City State Zip: _____

E-mail address: _____

JOIN THE ARS!

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

- **5 issues of *American Rose* magazine, \$40 value.** The only magazine devoted exclusively to roses and rose culture, these bi-monthly, 84-page issues feature informative articles and beautiful color photography for beginners and experienced rose growers alike.
- **1 issue of *American Rose Annual*, \$15 value.** The November/December issue of *American Rose* features 128 pages of the latest in rose research, growing techniques and tips and more, from writers across the country and abroad.
- ***The Handbook for Selecting Roses.*** Every year, rosarians from across the country participate in rating the newest roses. From those thousands of reports, we tabulate the ratings and publish the results in this guide.
- **Free or reduced garden admissions, a \$25 value after just 3 uses.** With the ARS Reciprocal Garden Admission program, members enjoy free or reduced admission to and discounts at hundreds of gardens, conservatories, and arboreta nationwide.
- **Free online access to five quarterly bulletins, a \$45 value.** Previously available by subscription only, the *Mini/Miniflora Bulletin*, *Old Garden Rose & Shrub Journal*, *Singularly Beautiful Roses*, *Rose Arranger's Bulletin*, and *Rose Exhibitors' Forum* are all now available online at no cost to all ARS members.
- **Discounts of up to 30% at merchant partners.** The ARS Member Benefit Partner program offers discounts at various merchants with new partners being added continuously.
- **Free advice from Consulting Rosarians.** The ARS Consulting Rosarians program connects members with expert rosarians that provide free assistance with your rose questions.



MEMBER BENEFIT PARTNERS

- Angel Gardens**
10% discount
- Chamblee's Rose Nursery**
5% discount
- David Austin Roses**
10% discount
- GreenCure**
Free shipping
(on one container)
- Heirloom Roses**
10% discount
- High Country Roses**
10% discount
- KeyPlex**
\$2 off + \$2 donation to ARS
- Mitchell Nelson**
20% discount
- Pine Straw Direct**
5% discount
- Rogue Valley Roses**
10% discount
- Tijeras Rain Barrels**
30% discount
- Vintage Gardens**
10% discount
- Walnut Hill Farm**
5% discount
- Witherspoon Rose Culture**
FREE rosebush for NEW members (full membership only) & 10% discount

YES! PLEASE BEGIN MY MEMBERSHIP IMMEDIATELY!

Name: _____

*Joint Member's Name _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ *E-mail: _____

Local Society Affiliation: _____

Check MasterCard Visa Discover American Express

Card#: _____ Exp. Date: ____ / ____ V-Code: _____

Annual	2-year	3-year
<input type="checkbox"/> \$49 Individual	<input type="checkbox"/> \$95 Individual	<input type="checkbox"/> \$140 Individual
<input type="checkbox"/> \$62 Joint*	<input type="checkbox"/> \$117 Joint*	<input type="checkbox"/> \$170 Joint*
<input type="checkbox"/> \$46 Senior (65+)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$89 Senior (65+)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$132 Senior (65+)
<input type="checkbox"/> \$59 Senior Joint*	<input type="checkbox"/> \$111 Senior Joint*	<input type="checkbox"/> \$162 Senior Joint*
<input type="checkbox"/> \$54 Canadian	<input type="checkbox"/> \$105 Canadian	<input type="checkbox"/> \$155 Canadian
<input type="checkbox"/> \$67 Canadian Joint*	<input type="checkbox"/> \$127 Can. Joint*	<input type="checkbox"/> \$185 Canadian Joint*
<input type="checkbox"/> \$10 Youth	<input type="checkbox"/> \$20 Youth	<input type="checkbox"/> \$30 Youth
<input type="checkbox"/> \$59 Foreign	<input type="checkbox"/> \$115 Foreign	<input type="checkbox"/> \$170 Foreign

*Joint membership is an individual and one associate residing in the same household. Associates enjoy all the member benefits of ARS but do not receive *American Rose*.

Mail to: P O Box 30000, Shreveport, LA. 71130-0030

JOIN TODAY!

**A \$155+ VALUE
FOR ONLY \$49!**

Call 1-800-637-6534
or visit www.ars.org