



# Rose Lore



Volume 4 Number 4

Bulletin for the Mesa-East Valley Rose Society

April 2021

Mary Van Vlack, Editor

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Past President LeRoy Brady  
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## APRIL MEETING

Our April meeting will be on Thursday, April 8; our speaker will be Sheri McLane who will be speaking on:

### ***Organic Roses Can Be Done (Growing Organically: The Not so Sexy Side)***

One of the biggest problems people have with roses is they try to grow organically when they don't understand what organic means or the process of growing organically. Sheri will explain the definition of organic for the consumer, the fertilizer companies, and government regulation because it varies.

Since organic growing is important for soil health, she will cover the common issues gardeners experience when gardening organically, the remedies to solve such issues, and how to successfully garden organically.



Sheri McLane has been actively involved in agriculture for over 18 years. During this time, Sheri has received both her

certificate in agronomy, CCA (certified crop advisor) and CPAg (certified professional agronomist) license. Currently she is president and agronomist of IAS Laboratories as well as teaching a soils class at MCC. In 2018, Sheri received her graduate degree in Agronomy from Iowa State University for her research in molybdenum effects in muskmelon seedlings. She received a Bachelor of Science degree in Marine Science with an emphasis in Biology with a minor in Environmental Science from University of San Diego (USD) in 2001.

Without access to the Mesa Community College community meeting facilities, we continue holding our meetings using Zoom, a popular virtual meeting program that can be used on a desktop or laptop computer or tablet with access to the internet or by smart phone. If you have not used it before, you might want to download the program ahead of time at [zoom.us](https://zoom.us).

The link to join the Zoom Meeting is:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4770043990>

The Meeting ID: 477 004 3990

If you need help, you may contact Sherman Weekes or Pat Thiel for assistance in using Zoom.

## RUMBLINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT

BY MAGGIE HOLLOWAY

Happy Spring! Or at least I think it is Spring. The outside temp as I write this is over 90. Gosh, that happened way too fast this year, or maybe I just missed it. Thankfully, my roses have done pretty well considering how late I pruned this year. I have had lots of pretty blooms and loads of buds yet to open.



I do have some aphids and a disease on my Black Baccara rose called Anthracnose that I need to battle. It's a fungus and I will treat similar to black spot in hopes that it will go away and the rose will survive. Wish me luck!

I took the dive and purchased a rose at Costco this year called Peach Swirl. I sure hope it looks like the picture on the tag – peach in color with yellow stripes scattered around the petals.

Our program this month is on soil – something I am clueless about, so I will be listening with interest as I am told there will be discussion on soil for potted roses, and with about 20 roses in pots in my yard, I need to make sure I'm not missing anything.



Maggie's roses: Page 1 – 'Paradise', Page 3 - right, 'Peachy Swirl'



## 2021 – 2022 MEVRS ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

During our April meeting we will vote on the slate of officers and board members for the coming year and in May they will be installed. The slate of officers and board members is as follows:

President	Helen Baird
V.P. Programs	Sherman Weekes
Treasurer	Bud Morrison
Membership	Carole Holkenbrink
Recording Sec.	Cathy Thiel
Corresponding Sec.	Yvonne Morrison
Members at Large	Maggie Holloway - Past President
	LeRoy Brady
	Pat Thiel
	Linda Ahlborn
	Adam Downer
	Dean Baker

If anyone wishes to nominate additional candidates, they will be permitted to do so from the floor before the vote is taken.

### MICKEY KUNDRAT

Steve Sheard reports that that Mickey Kundrat passed away in early March of congestive heart failure. Mickey was known for spending many hours in the rose garden.

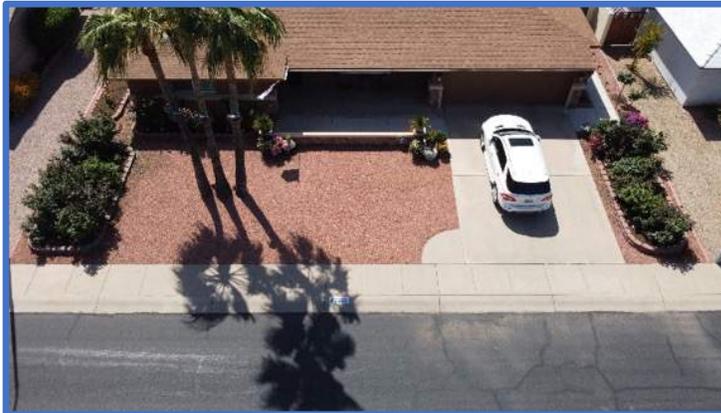
Cards can be sent to his spouse:

Diane Kundrat  
545 W Ivanhoe Ct  
Gilbert AZ 85233



## MEVRS VIDEO PROJECT – WE WILL DO THIS FOR NO CHARGE! FREE MEMBERSHIP BENEFIT

This project has been funded through donations from the following people: Bud and Yvonne Morrison, Sherman and Euphemia Weekes, Adam and Becky Downer, and Pat and Cathy Thiel.



Check out a sample video at: [MEVRS SAMPLE Garden Video - Arial](#)

Want to share your hard work in your rose garden? **The MEVRS team is looking for gardens both small and large.** During the last year we have all been locked down and not able to meet in person or share our gardens. Adam and Pat are offering to come to your home garden and video your garden for your use and bragging rights. We will use a drone and special camera's to document your garden and create a short video and a number of pictures that you can have when done to share with all your friends.

You do not need to have a huge garden to do this. We have many members who are asking for examples of small gardens and what people of have done to start growing roses. We would like to share with our members both small and large gardens to encourage the love of roses in AZ. Most of our gardens are just getting to the stage that they are blooming. Let's have some fun with this FREE benefit.

Send an email to [pthiel@mevrs.org](mailto:pthiel@mevrs.org) and Pat will reach out and let you know how it works. Do this today! **If you would like to donate to help with this project the donations can be a TAX Deduction via our 501 (c) 3 status – Just send your donation to Bud Morrison and you will receive a donation letter. Make sure you say it is for the Video project. Thanks for your help to make this work.**

# THE NAME OF THE ROSE

BY MARY VAN VLACK

*It may be 'That which we call a rose, by any other name would smell as sweet,' but I should be loath to see a rose on a maiden's breast substituted by a flower, however beautiful and fragrant it might be, that is went by the name of skunk lily."*

*Alexander Henry, American Painter 1860-1894*

Well, this all started after the Mesa-East Valley online rose auction. One of the offerings was called 'Sitting Pretty' and was linked to a HelpMeFind.com posting of a Dee Bennett mini spray rose in pretty pink. I thought it would look great in a container, so bid on it. Actually, I got confused and bid on two of them, winning bids. But when I picked up the plants, (which the auction chairman had not actually seen) they were clearly marked as grandiflora and had the canes and roots to prove it.



Above – 'Sitting Pretty', the grandiflora, left - 'Little White Lies', below – 'Tiffany'



That left me wondering why breeders – and wholesalers/distributors - reuse names and how often does it happen. Actually, I have seen this

before when checking out newly acquired roses but never took time to study it. [HelpMeFind.com](https://www.helpmefind.com) lists six roses named 'Eureka', ranging from three hybrid teas to Dave Bang's miniature, all released between 1914 and 2016. There are at least four 'Eternal Flames', three 'Silver Stars' (one of which is white), two of 'Love and Peace' (one with red stripes), four versions of 'Eclipse' plus 'Baby Eclipse' and 'Lunar Eclipse', four 'Andreas' and three 'Alohas'. There are three 'Tiffanys', one of them a climbing version of the better known pink hybrid tea, along with nine variations including 'Tiffany Lite'. Most of those are pink or peachy-pink although one is white. And there are at least seven roses named 'Moonlight', all released between 1913



and 2003, along with 18 'Moonlight Somethings'. Among the 'Moonlights', three are white, three are yellow and one is apricot. 'Moonlight Niagara' is orange (but that makes sense because Niagara Falls is only a little less gaudy than Vegas. At least two 'Moonlights' are considered florist's roses, but in warmer climates florists' roses are often grown outdoors.



Why does this happen? Well, sometimes breeders may claim they really didn't know about the others, but I found these examples easily enough. Sometimes they think they are resurrecting a perfectly good name from the heap of forgotten roses no longer in commerce, but some of these duplications occur within ten years of each other, short memory. Sometimes I think there must be a good story or a little rumored spat involved – consider 'Olivia Rose' and 'Olivia Rose Austin'. Sometimes I think they must actually love confusing retailers, public garden directors, rose show exhibitors and judges, all of whom may be easily confused anyway.



**Roses on this page: above is 'Moonlight Niagara', left is 'Queen Elizabeth' and below is 'Sorooptimist International'**

There are about a million words in the English language and more than 170,000 in current use, more than any other living language in the world. In addition there are names of people and places as well as made-up names. With such a large vocabulary available, one would think it would not be too difficult to be original. And breeders, etc. can invent names and can use more than one word in the name, as in 'The 9/11 Flight 93 Rose' and 'Good Ole Mountain Dew'. Many roses, especially hybrid teas, are named to honor famous people, mentors and sponsors of rose research, and loved ones – consider 'Queen Elizabeth', 'Frida Kahlo' and 'Dona Martin', a practice that usually results in a unique

name that is easy to remember.

Often, marketing ideas influence the decision; cute, pretty, elegant and colorful names usually sell well. That brings me to another pet peeve – renaming a rose, same shampoo in a different bottle. This is usually a marketing decision as in 'Cesar Chavez'/'Beloved', 'Life of the Party'/'Huntington's 100' and 'Canyon Road'/'Scarlet Bonica'. This is not the same as translating a name from another language ('Lavaglut'/'Lava Flow'). It is just a marketing decision.

Some English language words would never be used for roses and some rose names are just bad ideas – see above, 'Skunk Lily'. 2014 gave us 'Not First Choice' and in 1989 'Topsy Imperial Concubine' was reintroduced. Some names just don't roll off our tongues, but they are at least memorable. 'Gartendirector Otto Linn', 'Sorooptimist International' and 'Hydrangealicious' come to mind. Most likely none of these will be used again! Using foreign languages expands the possibilities, such as Malcolm Manner's 'Xiuhcoatli', 'Xochimilco' and 'Xuchitl'! But rosarians are not always great linguists and I'm tired of hearing about *Jeannie La Joy* when, of course, she is *Jhanne La Zhwah!*



Some rose name-givers try to help out by incorporating the color or another characteristic of the rose into its name. I find at least 25 'White something-or-others', but wouldn't you already have assumed that 'Avalanche' would be white? Actually there is also a 'Pink Avalanche'. Sometimes even that strategy is misleading - what about 'White Licorice'? I suppose that 'Yellow Licorice' doesn't sound too tasty, but maybe 'Cream Licorice' would work. I have found 24 'Yellow Somethings', 22 'Red Somethings', and 22 'Pink Somethings'. By the way, there are five versions of 'Lady in Red' and



they aren't all red. While the color class is referred to as mauve, I didn't expect to find mauve in the names of many roses, but there are at least 23 of these plus 'Mauvelous'. Also there are at least 24 Fragrant somethings including the famous hybrid teas 'Fragrant Cloud' and 'Fragrant Hour'. Presumably all these have nice fragrance but are we to think that all other roses do not?

There are many names for roses that I think are just terrific. Breeders of miniature roses seem to be



especially creative. In addition to 'Si' and 'Ty', we have 'Yoyo', 'Crazy Dottie', 'Cutie Pie', 'Zinger', 'Tabasco Cat', 'Freckles', 'Jelly Bean', 'Baby Bumbles' and let's not forget 'Bees Knees'. Dave Bang is the latest to join these artists, giving us 'Swirly Pop', 'It's So Yummy' and 'Swizzle'. Those are memorable.

Photos this page: top right 'White Licorice', above left 'Lady in Red' (the climber), directly above 'Bees Knees' and left 'Swirly Pop'



Breeders of other types of roses have also made great choices, though often more dignified. I think of David Austin's practice of naming many of his roses after characters in English literature and there is the polyantha series of the seven dwarves. Some of the popularity of 'Ketchup and Mustard' can probably be attributed to its name. I also like buttery 'Julia Child', 'Kardinal', 'Mango Salsa', 'Queen Nefertiti' and 'Brandy'.



Just please don't call me 'Meddlin' Mary'!

Photos: above is 'Cutie Pie' and right is 'Ketchup and Mustard'

## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT MEVRS?

What's happening? Lots of things, actually.

One new thing you may have noticed is that we have an official logo, as shown on our masthead at the top of page 1. Our thanks to Pat Thiel and Sherman Weekes for making that happen.

We also now have some business-sized cards to promote the public garden, our website, and membership in MEVRS. If you want some to pass out to interested people, you can pick them up on working Saturdays at the garden.

We have a supply of West County Rose Gloves available for sale. These are the same high quality gloves available at big name suppliers for \$35 to \$45 a pair. You can support the MEVRS by buying these for \$30.00 a pair, with profits going directly to the Society. You save money, and support MEVRS. Full run

of sizes are available, and we can deliver to the MCC rose garden. Email Yvonne Morrison at [yvonnem50@yahoo.com](mailto:yvonnem50@yahoo.com) or call her at 480-274-7852.

Our new garden video project is now underway and several volunteers are rushing to film private rose gardens and the Mesa Garden during the peak bloom. This project has been funded through donations from: Bud and Yvonne Morrison, Sherman and Euphemia Weekes, Adam and Becky Downer, and Pat and Cathy Thiel.

And one more thing. The Mesa Rose Garden has been selected for one of the Unknown Soldier Remembrance events around the United States on November 11 and is the only site where roses will be in bloom at that time. Stay tuned as plans for this develop.

	<p><b>APRIL IN THE ROSE GARDEN</b></p> <p>By Mary Van Vlack, CR</p>
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More than a year has passed since this COVID pandemic began and we are still dealing with it – did not expect it to go on for so long and still no end in sight. One of the best things for me and, I think, for many of you, is that we still have our gardens. In mine the roses were preceded by an array of flag iris and calla lilies announcing the



arrival of spring. Now our roses are bursting into bloom, making our hearts sing. Too bad we don't have actual rose shows and garden tours where we can share the beauty. But there is work to be done, if only to keep our roses happy.

**Pay attention.** Walk through your garden daily, if you can. Observe all the good things that are happening – the healthy new growth, the forming buds, the first flashes of color. Notice which varieties seem to begin opening up first. 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. Take your camera or camera phone along to catch the special beauty as it emerges.



**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 de Ville. 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 photograph or cut and arrange your flowers for any purpose.

**Cut your flowers and enjoy them.** Arrange them in vases in every room of your home, including the bathrooms and especially in the rooms where you spend the most time. Give them to your neighbors and friends - a great gift they will appreciate. You can just leave flowers on someone's front porch and then call to alert them to retrieve them.

**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 April you will want to deadhead to promote a second bloom in May or early June before the heat begins to really stunt the flowers. Preserve foliage wherever you can; leaves help protect canes during summer heat.



**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.

**Control pests and disease.** Continue with your program to control disease and pests. 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 mildew and aphids. Spray if you must, especially for thrips. Sadly, thrips do their worse while the buds are still tightly closed, so you really can't assess the damage until too late to do anything about it.

**Photos in this article:** Page 9 -left iris and calla lilies, right 'Black Baccarra', this page - above 'Midnight Blue' and left 'Simplex', Page 11 – 'Hot Princess'



**Water.** Continue to be generous with the water. When 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.

**Planting.** Although you may still see a few packaged roses in the big box stores, and at great bargain prices, ignore them. It is way too late to be planting bare root roses. We are also coming to the end of the preferred time to plant potted roses into the ground. Roses need as much time as possible to establish their root system before our summer heat, so if you have any thought of planting something, do it today.

**Water, Water, Water.** As the weather grows warmer and as your plants grow and open more foliage, adjust your watering system accordingly. Check your soils regularly for moisture levels.

**Mulch.** If you have not mulched your garden this winter, do it now.

## WELCOME NEW MEMBER

Please welcome new member Eliza Jones-Hedrick who lives in Gilbert.

**MESA EAST VALLEY ROSE SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP**  
 ANNUAL FAMILY OR INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP IS \$25.00.  
 ANNUAL DUES ARE PAYABLE BY JUNE 1. NO DISCOUNTS FOR LATE PAYMENTS.  
 PAYMENTS BY CHECK PAYABLE TO MEVRS, MAIL TO THIS ADDRESS:  
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 MESA, ARIZONA 85274-0394

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## CALENDAR

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
April 8, 2021	MEVRS General Meeting, election of officers	Zoom
May 6, 2021	MEVRS Board Meeting	Zoom
May 13, 2021	MEVRS General Meeting, installation of officers	Zoom
Jul 30, 2021	ARS 2020 National and District elections	
Sept 10-14, 2021	ARS National Convention and Rose Show, 'Cream City Roses'	Milwaukee, WI
Nov 11, 2021	National Unknown Soldier Remembrance Event	Rose Garden at Mesa Community College

# 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 \_\_\_\_\_

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\*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*.

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