



Rose Lore



Volume 4 Number 3

Bulletin for the Mesa-East Valley Rose Society

March 2021

Mary Van Vlack, Editor

Contents

- Page 1 – March Meeting
- Page 2 – More About Bob Martin
- Page 2 – Maggie’s Rumbblings
- Page 4 - Nominations
- Page 4 – Rose Auction
- Page 5 – February Gardening
- Page 8 – Website Workings
- Page 15 – Membership
- Page 9 - Calendar
- Page 9 – Join ARS

Officers & Board

- President– Maggie Holloway
phxmccoy@cox.net
- VP-Programs – Lynn Twitchell
jllynn43@cox.net
- Treasurer - Bud Morrison
Budmorrison22@gmail.com
- Membership – Carole Holkenbrink
greenroses@att.net
- Recording Secretary - Sherman Weekes
shermanweekes@gmail.com
- Corresponding Secretary - Cathy Thiel
cat.thiel222@gmail.com
- Members at-large:
- Yvonne Morrison
yvonnem50@yahoo.com
- Cheryl Doan stvxcd@gmail.com
- James Racinowski
jracinowski@gmail.com
- PatThiel pat.thiel455@gmail.com
- Past President LeRoy Brady
lbradyo3.lb@gmail.com

MARCH MEETING

Our February meeting will be Thursday, 2/11/2021 at 7 pm, via Zoom. Our speaker will be Bob Martin, talking on **“Things (about roses) I Didn’t Learn in Kindergarten.”** Bob is the 56th President of the American Rose Society and a former resident of Mesa. For more about him, see page 2.

Without access to the Mesa Community College facilities, we



‘Dona Martin’

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.

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.

MORE ABOUT BOB MARTIN

Bob has been growing roses for nearly 50 years. He and his wife Dona live in Escondido, California, where they maintain a rose garden of more than 600 roses of all types. He is an American Rose Society Master Rosarian, an Accredited Horticultural Judge and an Accredited Arrangements Judge.

Bob is well known as a humorous and effective speaker and rose evangelist, having spoken at 24 American Rose Society national conventions, at district conventions in all of the 18 ARS districts and more than 250 times at rose societies and garden clubs throughout the U.S.

Bob is also a prolific writer, having authored more than 700 published articles on roses. He is the National Editor of *Horizon Roses*, an annual review by the nation's top exhibitors of new exhibition roses. Bob is also the author of the book *Showing Good Roses*, and maintains a website covering U.S. rose shows at www.roseshow.com. He was honored for his lifetime contribution to rose education as a 2009 recipient of the ARS Klima Medal.

Bob is an active rose exhibitor at all levels and the 2007 recipient of the ARS Guy Blake Hedrick Jr. Award for lifetime achievement in rose exhibiting. He is also a hybridizer with 15 named varieties, including the show roses, 'Dona Martin', 'Butter Cream', 'Peter Cottontail' and 'Pasadena Star'. Two of his latest roses are an orange blend shrub named, 'Ruth Tiffany' and an orange blend floribunda, 'Escondido Sunset'.

Bob is active in the San Diego Rose Society, which he has served in several capacities, including two terms as President. In the past he has served as the Pacific Southwest District Director of the American Rose Society, and in numerous local, district and national rose society positions. Bob is the recipient of the ARS Silver Honor Medal for Service to the District, and four ARS Bronze Honor Medals for service to the Pacific Rose Society, San Diego Rose Society, Los Angeles Rose Society and Pasadena Rose Society.



'Butter Cream'

RUMLINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT

BY MAGGIE HOLLOWAY

My pruning is complete, or at least it is as done as it is going to get this Winter. Very few of my roses received a full pruning this time around, so it will be interesting to see how they do, compared to those I hardly touched. I still have a few blooming where I pruned and stripped leaves, but left the buds. Dolly Parton has been putting on quite a show the past few weeks, and I have never noticed such a wonderful scent on her blooms until now, and that bush is over 10 years old! I found what appeared to be a double-

spiraled center on a new bloom from my Black Magic rose that has opened into quite a beauty. This will probably be one of my last blooms of the season.



Next, I will be fertilizing and applying mulch. I found a product at Costco that I will be using this year that is made up of coconut fiber and “Coir Chunk”, whatever that is. LeRoy approved, so that’s all I need. I will be mixing it with mushroom compost that I bought at Lowe’s, and will fill my wells and cloth bags with the mixture, so I sure hope they like it!

We have a special guest speaking at our March meeting on the 11th. For those of you who have not had the pleasure of hearing Bob Martin present, I do hope you will join us as he is quite entertaining!



Maggie’s roses: Top, ‘Black Magic’ and to the left, ‘Double Delight’



2021 – 2022 MEVRS ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

March is the Month when our Nominations Committee presents the slate of officers and board members for the coming year. In April we will vote and in May they will be installed. COVID-19 has stopped so many things in our lives but it will not stop this routine process. We will conduct the process during our Zoom meetings and continue on Zoom until Mesa Community College is ready to resume hosting community events. 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 during the April meeting.

ROSE AUCTION REPORT

The results from our 2021 Rose Auction are in and we can be very proud of how well it turned out. The board is most appreciative of Ryan Regehr's work to make it happen with the new challenges of our time with COVID19. We also appreciate all the donors of roses products and the volunteers who helped to make it happen. While some of the profit will go to MEVRS, most will support the Public Rose Garden.

Total Proceeds: \$3030
Auction expenses: \$151
Total Bidders: 54
Total bid winners: 38
Average spent/ bidder: \$80
Total bids: 448
Roses with most bids (9 each): Pinata 1, Pinata 5, Hannah Gordon, Neptune



Ryan reports that for many areas of our lives the pandemic has been a negative, but for the rose auction it gave us a chance to change and make for a better experience. The online auction allowed for more involvement from many that have never been involved with MEVRS in the past.

All of the roses have been picked up and should be in all of the bidders' gardens by now. The pick-up also went very smoothly and worked better than the live auctions of the past. Thank you to everyone for your support - we are already preparing for the 2022 auction.



| | |
|---|--|
|  | FEBRUARY IN THE ROSE GARDEN |
| By Mary Van Vlack | |

March is the time of new beginnings in the rose garden. Fresh new foliage covers each plant and the promise of the beautiful roses soon to come gives us reason to smile. It is also the time when careful attention and a little work can make all the difference between a “nice” rose garden and a “fabulous” one.



‘Heathcliff’

Pay attention to your roses. Walk through your garden several times each week, examining every plant. Watch for signs of powdery mildew and for the arrival of both beneficial and undesirable insects. I have been seeing powdery mildew on my “mildew bell weather” – ‘Black

Jade’ - and a couple of other vulnerable roses. The crane flies are all over the place (no threat to roses there) and there are a few aphids. My first clue to look for aphids is when I see the smaller birds lingering in the roses like something good has caught their fancy. When I go out to investigate, I always find some aphids! Pull any weeds that have started. Look at the new growth, how and where it forms, and the quality.

Watch for signs of new cane breaks from the graft and for suckers. Learn to tell the difference or wait until you can be sure before removing them. Suckers should be snapped off where they form off the root. Cane breaks are treasures of new growth and should be protected from rabbits and clumsy feet. Rabbits have been scarce in my garden this winter – but the scat left behind by bobcats tells me why. If rabbits are a problem for you, consider using pest repellent sold in big box stores or use tomato cages around the young roses. Once the canes are thicker the rabbits will lose interest.

Consider finger pruning, which is not to be confused with disbudding, a very different process. Rosarians in many parts of the country argue for removing blind shoots and weak growth low on the canes that will not likely produce flowers. Here in the desert we want all the foliage our plants can grow to help them through the summer heat, so many of us do not finger prune or snap off these shoots with our fingers unless they are really blind and produce no leaves at all.

Then cut or break them right where they grow from the cane.

Disbudding is something to consider as well. Often a bush will produce a strong center bud along with one or more side buds. If the rose is, for example, a hybrid tea and there is only one side bud, pinch off the side bud as low as you can so that all the nutrients will go to the main bud. If, for example, you have a floribunda that produces a strong central bud and two or more good side buds, pinch out the center bud. Otherwise it will mature and open first, leaving an unsightly hole in the center of what otherwise might be a lovely spray, all flowers opening (almost) at once.



Bordeaux

Planting. Now is too late to plant bare root roses. Roses in containers can be planted for a few more weeks – if you plan to be here and pay close attention to them through the summer. The nurseries try to extend the planting season by insisting that this is just fine, but I believe that roses have a much higher summer survival rate if they have time to put out a good root system before the summer heat sets in. Planting late means they do not have much time to develop adequate root systems before our intense heat begins.

Fertilizing. One your plants are leafed out it is time to think about feeding them. I've heard lots of famous words on this subject. Bob Martin, the well-known president of ARS, writer, and exhibitor, says "Roses are pigs – they'll eat anything!" and "The best fertilizer is the one on sale." Dave Mahoney, local rosarian, photographer, and judge, argues for working out a fertilization program and sticking with it. Kitty

Belendez in California argues for a complex program of weekly applications involving a dozen or more different products. There is much good advice out there on the subject, and there are many, many products that you might consider using. While you will probably develop your own system over time, here are my 10 rules you should follow.

1. Roses need food – don't make them go without – and don't over-feed them all at one time.
2. Learn about the nutrients that roses need. In addition to oxygen, hydrogen and carbon, derived from air and water, they need the macronutrients nitrogen, potassium, and phosphorus (potash). They also need the secondary nutrients calcium, magnesium, and sulfur, and they need micronutrients iron, manganese, boron, zinc, copper, molybdenum, and chlorine. Shortages of any can have visible negative effects.
3. Many of these nutrients are already present in the soil, but some may be tied up or unavailable to the plants because of other soil conditions such as an inappropriate pH or acidity level. You need to know if that is the case.
4. "Organic" fertilizers derive their nitrogen from organic sources such as composted manure from various animals along with fish products. "Inorganic" fertilizers rely on other sources for their nitrogen. Both types usually use inorganic sources for the other nutrients. The rosebush can't tell the difference – it just wants the elemental nutrients. The two nitrogen sources behave a bit differently (organic nitrogen breaks down more slowly in the soil) and, of course, the choice may matter a great deal to you.



'Rosie the Riveter'

5. Roses also don't care about brand names, although they do care very much about getting the nutrients they need and not too much of anything.
6. Read the labels on the products you use – know what you are feeding them, and how much the plants should receive.
7. Some rosarians like to give less food more frequently, often half strength, twice as often. This is to insure a continuous supply of nutrients without burning the roots or new leaves.
8. Be sure your plants have been watered and are well hydrated the day before you fertilize, and then water the products in thoroughly. Wash the fertilizer off the leaves as well since this can burn them.
9. Do not feed newly planted roses until after their first bloom cycle (usually that would be sometime in May).
10. Remember that fertilizers can also damage or even kill roses, usually from applying too much and/or not providing sufficient water. Fertilizers release salts as they break down, and excess salts will burn.
11. Some cultivars do not like much fertilizer and will respond badly. Pay attention to which of your roses feels this way and respect that by giving them less.

Dry combination fertilizers with organic nitrogen sources include Mills Magic, Miller's Rose Fertilizer, and Berridge's Rose Food. Dry combination products containing a wide variety of elements include Organo Rose Food and Vigoro Rose Food; many rosarians find citrus food acceptable and less expensive, especially for large gardens. Combination liquid fertilizers often used on roses include MagnumGro, MiracleGro, and Super Bloom. Other products often used include wettable sulfur), magnesium sulfate (Epson salts), chelated iron (but not Ironite), triple super phosphate or bone meal (both provide phosphorous, but organic bone meal is very slow to become available in our soils), fish emulsion (organically sourced nitrogen and trace elements), blood meal (organically sourced nitrogen), alfalfa meal, pellets, or tea, and composted manure.

Dogs and other animals are very responsive to many of the organic products, inevitably digging

holes around the roses, looking for the bones and dead fish they believe must be there.

When you fertilize, be sure your plants are well-hydrated before you begin and then water the product in thoroughly. Also wash any residue off the leaves so they won't burn.

Insects and Disease. Watch for signs of insects and disease. Aphids usually show up first. They don't cause much harm, though it is easy to understand why some people call them plant lice. Wash them off the growing tips of your plants and use your fingers to knock them off as well. They won't be able to climb back up, but new ones will appear in a day or two. Just try to stay ahead of them. Thrips are a more significant problem, although they are much harder to see until too late. If you have citrus growing nearby, you most certainly have thrips. They chew their way into the buds right after the buds form and cause the brown petal edges, most visible on light colored roses, that so frustrate those of us who would like to show our roses. The most effective and least toxic control is regular spraying of newly forming buds with a product containing Spinosad. Their cousins, the chilli thrips will probably not appear until much warmer weather arrives. Incidentally, spraying for thrips will probably reduce the number of aphids that you find.



'Tahitian Sunset'

Powdery mildew is the most common disease at this time of year and if you had powdery mildew in past years, you will likely see it again. There are preventative and curative approaches, so make sure you know which you want and which you are using. Some plants are commonly referred to as mildew magnets because they

show mildew first and get it the worst. Treat this disease as soon as you see it because the mold spores will quickly spread it to other plants. More and more roses are being bred for disease resistance. This does not mean they won't get it; it means they have more resistance than others. Watch for this characteristic when you are selecting new plants for your garden.

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.

WEBSITE WORKINGS

Our new webmaster, Pat Thiel, has been hard at work on our website, updating and adding content. You can find event information, membership information, a list of great roses for your garden, copies of old newsletters, and articles on rose care. Soon there will be videos of the Mesa Rose Garden and some home gardens. Check it out at <https://www.roses4az-mevrs.org/> Be sure to tell Pat how great it looks.

Mesa-East Valley ROSE SOCIETY

[Home](#) [Calendar](#) [Best Roses](#) [Newsletters](#) [Articles](#) [Rose Sources](#) [Questions and Help](#) [Contact](#)
[Membership](#)

*Grow beautiful roses in the Desert Southwest.
Share a love of roses. Come join the fun.
You are welcome at all events.*



[About Us](#)

[Join](#)

[Fun](#)

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:
 MEVRS/MEMBERSHIP P.O. BOX 40394
 MESA, ARIZONA 85274-0394

DATE _____ NEW _____ *GIFT* _____ RENEWAL _____ AMOUNT PAID
 \$ _____
 CASH _____ CHECK# _____
 NAME TAG \$10 ADDITIONAL _____
 NAMES: _____ TELEPHONE # _____
 STREET ADDRESS _____ CELL _____
 CITY, STATE, ZIP _____
 EMAIL _____

CALENDAR

| DATE | EVENT | LOCATION |
|------------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| Mar 11, 2021 | MEVRS March Meeting – Bob Martin | Zoom |
| Mar 13, 2021 | CR Seminar – Chilli Thrips | ARS Webinar |
| Mar 27, 2021 | CR Seminar – Chemicals & Modes of Action (safety credit) | ARS Webinar |
| April 1, 2021 | MEVRS Board Meeting | Zoom |
| 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 _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ *E-mail: _____

Local Society Affiliation: _____

Check MasterCard Visa Discover American Express

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

Annual

- \$49 Individual
- \$62 Joint*
- \$46 Senior (65+)
- \$59 Senior Joint*
- \$54 Canadian
- \$67 Canadian Joint*
- \$10 Youth
- \$59 Foreign

2-year

- \$95 Individual
- \$117 Joint*
- \$89 Senior (65+)
- \$111 Senior Joint*
- \$105 Canadian
- \$127 Can. Joint*
- \$20 Youth
- \$115 Foreign

3-year

- \$140 Individual
- \$170 Joint*
- \$132 Senior (65+)
- \$162 Senior Joint*
- \$155 Canadian
- \$185 Canadian Joint*
- \$30 Youth
- \$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