



Rose Lore



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November 2021

Mary Van Vlack, Editor

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NOVEMBER MEETING

Our November general meeting falls on Veterans Day, November 11. This Veterans Day is the Centennial of the Unknown Soldier. Mentioned elsewhere in this newsletter is the celebration and garden dedication planned for the morning in the Veterans garden at the Mesa Community College. At our general meeting at 7 pm there will be an exciting video presentation on the Rose of the Unknown Soldier. This presentation will be given by Bob Martin, immediate past president of the American Rose Society. This very informative presentation provides information on how the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier was established, it's significance and the selection of the rose to honor the Unknown Soldier.



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.

NEVER FORGET: 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TOMB OF THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER

MCC hosts Veterans Day Never Forget Garden dedication, honors Tomb of the Unknown Soldier



Innocencia white rose bush.

Veteran's Day at Mesa Community College will be especially meaningful this year as the Nov. 11 observance features the dedication of its new Never Forget Garden, a space within the nationally renowned MCC Rose Garden, to honor U.S. service members and the centennial of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

Ceremonies are scheduled from 10-11:30 a.m. at the Southern Avenue and Dobson Road garden location, 1833 W. Southern Ave., Mesa. The public is invited to attend; refreshments will be served.

The dedication includes a ribbon cutting ceremony for the Never Forget Garden, planted exclusively in white roses. The significance of the white rose dates to 1921 when a bouquet of white roses was placed on the casket of an unknown WWI soldier indicating his selection as the first placed in the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, a historic monument located at Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia. Unknown soldiers from later wars were added in 1958 and 1984 creating a sacred memorial that inspires reflection on service, valor, sacrifice and mourning.

Partnering with the MCC Veterans Day Planning Committee, the Mesa-East Valley Rose Society led the effort to design and plant the garden with 15 'Ducher' and 'Innocencia' rose bushes which complement the existing white 'Honor' roses and red 'Veterans Honor' roses in the Veterans Garden, on the east end of the MCC Rose Garden, the largest public rose garden in the Desert Southwest. A 'Never Forget' white rose, named to honor the centennial, will be planted when it becomes available.

“Planting white roses is an expression of our profound love, respect and pride in the millions who have served to preserve the United States of America,” said Mike Cryer, volunteer coordinator, captain of the Veterans Garden section of the garden and a member of the MCC Veterans Day Planning Committee. “White roses represent respect, remembrance, honor and admiration.”

Cryer, a Vietnam veteran, pointed out that as a veteran, the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier carries an overarching recognition of all the men and women who have served and made the ultimate sacrifice for the freedoms Americans enjoy today. “It is very significant that the tomb is guarded 24/7 much as these warriors have guarded us over the years.”

Prior to the ribbon cutting, the event will open with the posting of the colors by the United States Army National Guard Honor Guard, followed by the singing of the National Anthem by local vocalist Jocelyn Kleinman. MCC Interim President Dr. Lori Berquam will give the welcome address

Dignitaries providing remarks include Bob Martin, the 56th president of the American Rose Society, who initiated national support for Never Forget Gardens across the country; and Matthew Scott, life member of the Society of the Honor Guard, Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

Scott, a resident of Goodyear, has deeply personal ties to the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier through his grandfather and parents and will tell the story of how the white rose became a symbol for this national monument and the importance of the centennial: “I want to make sure that people are aware

of the centennial and what it means--that we will never forget those who gave everything for their country.”

Following remarks, 21 bells will ring in remembrance of the events of 1921 and in a symbolic gesture, white roses will be distributed to attendees. Guided tours of the garden are being provided following the ceremony. [Click here to RSVP for the event.](#)





The Rose of the Unknown Soldier

*By Robert B. Martin, Jr.
President of the American Rose Society 2018-2021*

The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National Cemetery is an iconic monument dedicated to members of the United States armed services whose remains have not been identified. It was first authorized on March 4, 1921, when the U.S. Congress approved the burial of an unidentified American serviceman from World War I. Thereafter, on November 11, 1921, an unknown soldier brought back from France was interred below a three-level marble tomb. Congress subsequently appropriated funds for the construction of the superstructure above the tomb which was completed in 1932. Since that time crypts have been added to inter the Unknowns from World War II and Korea. A crypt was later added that that once contained an Unknown from Vietnam whose remains were positively identified in 1998 and were removed.

On October 22, 1921, four unknown servicemen were exhumed from four World War I American battlefield cemeteries in France and taken the following day to the city hall in Châlons-en-Champagne, France where they were draped with American flags. U.S. Army Sergeant Edward F. Younger, who had been selected as one of the pallbearers, was handed a bouquet of white roses and ordered: "You will take these flowers, proceed to the chapel, and place the bouquet on one of the four caskets resting there. The one you select will be the Unknown Soldier." After kneeling in prayer, Sergeant Younger stood and circled the caskets three times, touching each casket. He then saluted and placed the flowers on the second casket to his right. The roses remained on the coffin throughout the journey home and were buried with the unknown soldier at Arlington National Cemetery along with some soil taken from France.

Later recalling the reason for his selection, Sergeant Younger said: "It was as though something had pulled me. Something seemed to stop me each time I passed grew irresistible; I could not have turned back now had I tried.... A voice seemed to say, 'This is a pal of yours....' Something seemed to say 'Pick this one.'"

The 100th Anniversary of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier will be commemorated at Arlington National Cemetery at 11:00 AM on November 21, 2021. The commemoration will include the dedication of "Never Forget" gardens throughout the United States, including one at America's Rose Garden in Shreveport.

In preparation for the commemoration of the Centennial, the Historian of the Society of the Honor Guard, Tomb of the Unknown Soldier contacted the American Rose Society to ask if it is possible to identify the white roses used in the selection of the American Unknown Soldier in France in 1921 by Sergeant Edward Younger. As President of the American Rose Society, and a student of American history I undertook this project. In doing so I determined that since there is no historical record that specifically identifies the roses used, it is impossible to answer that question with certainty. There are, however, some references in the historical record that provide clues that suggest a likely candidate.

For purposes of my examination I studied the detailed historical account of the selection set forth at the following link:

<http://www.smootheredges.com/selecting-unknown-soldier-ww1-edward-younger/>

From that account I have noted that the selection took place in the French town of Châlons-en-Champagne on the morning of October 24, 1921. Châlons-en-Champagne is a city in the Grand Est region of France. It is the capital of the department of Marne, despite being only a quarter the size of the city of Reims. Formerly called Châlons-sur-Marne, the city was officially renamed in 1998. The account goes on to say: "He stood alone in the small, dark

**NATIONAL SALUTE - VETERANS DAY, CENTENNIAL OF TOMB OF
THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER & NEVER FORGET GARDEN
MESA COMMUNITY COLLEGE VETERANS ROSE GARDEN
11/11/21
PROGRAM**

- 10 - 10:25 am Gathering & Refreshments
- 10:25 - 10:27 am United States Army National Guard Honor Guard Presentation of Colors. and
Pledge of Allegiance
- 10:27 - 10:30 am Advance & Post Colors
- 10:30 - 10:33 am National Anthem - Star Spangled Banner: Jocelyn Kleinman, Student, Musical
Theatre Department
- 10:33 - 10:36 am Welcome from MCC Interim President Lori Berquam
- 10:36 - 10:39 am Acknowledgements of dignitaries
- 10:40 - 11:10 am About this Veteran's Day - Centennial of the Unknown Soldier & Never Forget
Garden, Bob Martin, Past President of American Rose Society
- 11:11 am Ringing of 21 bells and moment of silence
- 11:13 am Introduce Matthew Scott, Life Member of the Society of the Honor Guard, Tomb of
the Unknown Soldier, Past President Palo Verde Chapter SAR and Former
Commander of the Arizona Society SAR Color Guard
- 11:14 - 11:18 am Remarks: Mathew Scott
- 11:18 am Distribute white roses
- 11:19 am Taps
- 11:20 am Retire the Colors. Dismiss
- 11:22 am Ribbon Cutting & Photo Opportunity

ABOUT BOB MARTIN

Bob Martin recently concluded his three-year term as the 56th President of the American Rose Society, the nation's largest plant society. During his term Bob undertook research in response to an inquiry from the Society of the Honor Guard of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier to identify the white roses used to select the Unknown Soldier in 1921. The results of that research are set forth in his article "The Rose of the Unknown Soldier", now widely circulated in connection with the Centennial Commemoration of the dedication of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National Cemetery.

Bob also initiated action by which the American Rose Society pledged its support of the Centennial Commemoration, including the dedication of a special and permanent place within America's Rose Garden as a 'Never Forget Garden' to remember America's fallen heroes, and to encourage members of the American Rose Society across the country to do likewise. Bob also authored the poem "In Arlington", a modern day response to "In Flanders Fields" in honor of the Centennial Commemoration.

On a personal level, Bob has been growing roses for 50 years. He and his wife Dona live in Escondido, California, where they maintain a rose garden of more than 650 roses of all types. He is an American Rose Society Master Rosarian, an Accredited Horticultural Judge and an Accredited Arrangements Judge. Bob and Dona are former residents of Arizona active in the Mesa-East Valley Rose Society and have been long-term supporters of the Mesa Community College Rose Garden.

Bob is well known as a humorous and effective speaker and rose evangelist, having spoken at 25 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.



PRESIDENT'S LETTER

BY HELEN BAIRD

For those following Marshmallow Fluff, my foster dog, he has been adopted and the new forever parents have renamed him Einstein. The last time that I saw the quail family, it was just the parents and one surviving quail. They have moved on for the winter, but I am still putting out hearts and flower plants to feed the love birds that visit my yard.

It is time for everyone to get their pruning shears sharpened in preparation for winter pruning in the rose garden in January. I hope to see everyone there to help with the pruning.

The first Saturday in November the Rose Society of Glendale kicked off the restart of rose shows after our hiatus from shows due to Covid. It was a small show, but it had some nice blooms and it was great to get back into showing roses and seeing so many of our fellow rose exhibitors in person. Although we had to cancel the Mesa East Valley rose show, I am confident that we will be having a show in 2022. There will also be rose shows in April of 2022 by the Rose Society Glendale, Tucson Rose Society, and Phoenix Rose Society.

IN THE GARDEN NOVEMBER 2021

MARYLOU COFFMAN -
LEROY BRADY,
GARDEN CURATORS



This is the best time for making rose performance observations! A visit to The Rose Garden at MCC provides us an opportunity to observe and learn which roses are performing the best to the characteristics we are looking for in growth and size of the plants, flowers, color and even disease resistance. With nearly 400 varieties planted, there are lots to see that are excellent performers and those that fall short of excellence. With the price of roses at least \$21 up to nearly \$50 in the nurseries, it makes sense to plan and choose carefully. In visiting several nurseries and garden centers I am seeing varieties that may grow well in other climates but do not perform well in our Sonoran Desert weather, no matter how hard I try to make them grow and produce beautiful flowers. The rose garden has many of the latest varieties to be introduced as well as new test roses being evaluated. The AGRS test garden area and the Sonoran International Rose Trial Roses both have some roses that I would like to have in my garden at home and some that I am glad I don't have.

Now is a great time to look in our own gardens to determine roses that are excellent and those that are not and no matter what we do will provide roses that we can be proud to take into our home for an arrangement or cut to enter in a Rose Show. Speaking of one that I had only seen at several rose shows and was taken in by its beautiful form and picotee color (white petal with red edging), 'Dina Gee', it grows well with nice stems, but is very susceptible to several species of thrips. I seldom see a bloom that does not have severe damage. I have had it growing for three or four years and it has not performed. Is it inertia? A performing rose could be in that same location and giving me good roses. 'Hannah Gordon' is also a picotee rose that does well and provides beautiful flowers. I am overcoming this inertia and will be taking out 'Dina Gee' and putting in the 'Hannah Gordon' this planting season. Now is the time to make evaluations in 'The Rose Garden at MCC' for ideas and then with enthusiasm look in our own gardens get over the inertia and plant new roses.

NEWS FROM AROUND THE ROSE WORLD

Save the Date

Instead of our traditional holiday party in December, our board is planning a special, live-and-in-person event in the MCC Rose Garden on the morning of December 11, 2021. We'll have food and some fun events along with time to reconnect with each other. Details will be coming soon.

Welcome New Members

- Carolyn Fritz
- Ernest and Elizabeth McKay

Condolences.

Edward Gerald Nickos, born in St. Paul Minnesota 8-21-1941, died 10-17-2021 Mesa, Arizona.

Ed was preceded in death by wife Joann Nickos, Mother Edna Nickos, Granddaughter Stacy Norton, Son Michael Anderson. Survived by: Life Partner Sally Willis-Crofford and family. Children Jeff (Sue) Nickos, Michon (David) Coutts, Pamela Regan, Sandy (Gordy) Sather. Grandchildren William (Kate), Nickolas, Amy, Tracy (Mike), Julie (Mark), Kari (Chad), Katy (Derrick), Kristopher, Emily. Great Grandchildren Bryce, Brooklyn, Jaxon, Aubrey, Gavin and Emma. Siblings George, Lily and Bill many nieces, nephews, friends and family. Special Companion Rosie.

Ed, along with Sally, was a member of the Mesa-East Valley Rose Society and a familiar face to all who enjoyed the refreshments at our meetings and events. We will miss him.

Service and Visitation Thursday October 21, 2021 6:00 – 8:00 PM at Meldrum Mortuary 52 North MacDonald Mesa AZ 85201. Interment at Fort Snelling National Cemetery Minneapolis, Minnesota at a later date.



NOVEMBER IN THE ROSE GARDEN

By Mary Van Vlack, CR

Now, while we enjoy these cool nights and wonderful days, we may also realize that our roses enjoy this weather just as much as we gardeners do. It's such a well-earned relief from the scorching summer. So, what should we be doing in the garden this month?



Big fall blooms of 'Just Joey' in the Washington Park Rose Garden, Portland, OR

Pay attention. This should be a great month for roses. The cooler weather means that the buds open more slowly, producing larger flowers, often the largest flowers we see all year. Usually, late fall also brings more social events where we can decorate our holiday tables with beautiful bouquets of roses and share roses with friends. A California rosarian whose garden I have toured reports that last spring through Memorial Day she cut bouquets of roses, put them in plastic to-go cups and left them on her driveway for neighbors and strangers to take. Soon people were leaving her a fresh supply of

cups and nice thank you notes. What a lovely gift to our hurting world!

Take some photos of you best blooms. In preparation for the spring rose shows and other photo competitions, you may want to build up a file of great photos of great blooms to simplify preparing your entries when the opportunity to show them arises.

Water, water, water. You can reduce your watering this month, but do not stop altogether. Continue to water deeply, just do it less often.

Deadhead your roses. Between my cervical spine surgery and a confusion of early fall events, I have worked very slowly to groom my garden this fall, so now I find I'm both deadheading and fall-pruning. Do keep your garden clean, spent blooms removed, weeds pulled, and debris cleared away. A clean rose garden provides a healthier environment for the plants without all the breeding ground for pests and diseases, and is much prettier than a messy, grassy, weed-choked garden.

Fertilize. Roses need to be fed. I used to suggest that you continue with your fertilization schedule until late November and then stop until next spring. This winter some folks will be considering allowing the roses to continue growing and blooming throughout the year with some regular grooming and deadheading. In that case a slow-release fertilizer or a complete fertilizer with an organic nitrogen source would be well-advised. Watch for shortages or excess of micronutrients and address them promptly.

Control pests and disease. Unless we have some freezing spells this winter, pest control will continue to be a problem through the winter. Do be vigilant both for evidence of harmful diseases and insects and mites

If you had a big problem with mildew in the spring, the cool fall nights may bring it back; you may want to spray a fungicide as prevention at least once this fall. Either Banner Maxx or

Immunox should be effective when used according to package directions.



Botrytis on 'Moonstone'

Another disease, botrytis blight, often shows up in late November or December, especially if we have cool days with rain. This is similar to the "Noble Rot" that affects grapes, creating those sweet and intensely flavored dessert wines. Signs of the blight include red or pink freckles on light-colored rose petals and moldy gray, black or brown blooms. The best treatment is prevention by keeping affected buds and flowers removed and litter cleaned up. A change in the weather will quickly clear this up.

Aphids are usually not a problem in the fall, but thrips and chilli thrips can be, particularly if you grow citrus and if you had a great deal of trouble with them last spring and summer. The best control is Spinosad sold as *Conserve SC* by Rosemania and as *Captain Jack's Dead Bug Brew* in local nurseries. It should be applied only to the newly formed buds and new growth every 7 to 10 days. Don't give your bugs a chance to adapt to this but rotate your pesticides with Orthene or Merit or another broad-spectrum pesticide. The cooling weather should reduce the activity of spider mites so that a weekly

spraying up and down with water should be sufficient. As always, when using pesticides take great care: spray early in the day before bees are active, wear long pants, socks and closed shoes, long sleeved shirt, hat, mask or respirator, and chemical-impervious gloves. Do not apply your pesticides to your unsuspecting neighbor's yard or on a windy day.

Planting. This is a good time to plan for the new roses you want to add to your garden. Dig out any dead roses immediately and consider candidates for "shovel-pruning." Weak and non-performing plants should be identified and considered for replacement. Roses require work and incur expenses for water, fertilizer, and pesticides. If a rose is down to one live cane, it will probably never be productive again. If a rose never gives you good flowers, it just isn't earning its keep. If you find you really don't like a rose very much (maybe you planted it on someone's recommendation or as an impulse), then why continue to invest all those resources? The financial cost and the labor of buying and planting a rose is far less than the cost and labor of growing it over the years. Therefore, all of these, the dead, the nearly dead, the unproductive, and the ugly, are all good candidates - dig them up and throw them away. Or pot them up and donate them to someone else who may have better luck.

You may also want to consider adding more roses to your landscape, so now is a great time to prepare that new bed or planting area. Choose your site carefully; roses need 6 hours of sunshine daily, preferably morning rather than evening sun, and they do not want to compete with trees, oleander hedges, or other large plants for water and nutrients. In areas of poor soil or caliche layers, you may want to consider building raised beds 20 to 24" high and then filling them with good quality planting soil. Otherwise you will want to dig out your new garden area to a depth of 2 feet, defining its boundaries to discourage the encroachment of grass or nearby plantings.

Consulting Rosarians, Members of the Mesa-East Valley Rose Society

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*Marylou Coffman	Gilbert	coffmanml@aol.com
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Sherman Weekes	Maricopa	shermanweekes@hotmail.com
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- **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.
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- \$155 Canadian
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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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