



A Publication of the Bowling Green Rose Society

# Rosebuds

May 2013

E-mail: [bgrs@insightbb.com](mailto:bgrs@insightbb.com)  
[www.bowlinggreenrosesociety.org](http://www.bowlinggreenrosesociety.org)

Meeting: May 5  
WC Ext. Office  
6:30 p.m.  
Host: Hudsons  
Program:  
BG Rose Show  
Bring your schedule!

## BGRS 51st Rose Show—Why You Should Participate *by Mary Ann Hext, CR*

Our annual rose show is only a few weeks away, so hopefully you have finished your spring pruning, fertilized your roses and started thinking about possibly entering something in the show. Exhibiting roses is an important way for rosarians to share the love for roses and rose growing with others. It also gives the public a first-hand look at roses that grow well in our area and an opportunity to meet our members and ask questions about roses.

At the May meeting, the program will be about our rose show and will give new and old members information

about the rose show, categories to enter and a chance to ask questions and discuss the different items in the schedule. Members should bring a copy of the rose show schedule in order to take notes.

The theme for the Artistic Rose Designs is *Rivers and Roses*. Each section has several choices for the designers and we have including a fun table design class this year. A complete rose show schedule is on the [BGRS website](http://www.bgrs.org).

hibitor. I included this article in the May 2012 issue of *Rosebuds* and am including it again for review. I am sure it will be helpful for anyone who wants to try exhibiting whether it is you have been exhibiting for many years or if this is your first time.



Our rose show is a way to share what we have worked so hard to produce, to learn about unfamiliar varieties of roses, to meet other rosarians and share experiences. It is nice to get a ribbon or to get something on the trophy table; but the rose show is a culminating event for us to display our efforts. It is not so

Included in this newsletter is an article from the Houston Rose Society newsletter two years ago about rose show exhibiting; and even though it was written for the novice exhibitor, it contains excellent information for even the experienced ex-

hibitor. It is not so much a competition against each other, but a competition against ourselves to work harder to produce better quality roses and improve our own skills. So join in the fun and enter something in the 2013 BGRS Rose Show!



### BGRS Rose Show—May 18



• Our rose show schedule is available on our website: [www.bowlinggreenrosesociety.org](http://www.bowlinggreenrosesociety.org)

- Please purchase or sell an ad to go in the rose show program. Contact Kathy Dodson for information.
- Mark your calendars to help with the rose show set up on Friday afternoon, May 17.
- Volunteers are needed to help with the many rose show jobs. Contact Bob Jacobs or Kathy Dodson to help.
- Watch our own Bob Jacobs on AM Kentucky March 13 and Midday on March 15 when he will be sharing information about the rose show.
- Mark your calendars for the rose show dinner May 20 at Mariah's.

Photos: M. Hext—2012 BGRS Winners



## From the President *by Brenda Coffey*

Hasn't it been a beautiful spring? (The Rose Show is coming!! The Rose Show is coming! Are you and your roses ready?

My roses seem to be doing their part by putting out new growth and I'm sure your roses are too. Nature is offering some rain, warmth (most of the time) and sunshine. So now its our turn to feed, nurture and groom our roses for the show.

Due to the late cool spring weather I am behind on scheduled maintenance of my roses. I have one new rose that has started well and another that has just begun to show any sign

of life. My established roses are growing beautifully at this time, but I am concerned about their blooming cycle and the timing of the rose show.

On April 13, Mary Ann, Bob, Ann, Norma, Ben, Pauline and I worked at our public rose garden This was a very efficient group and the job was finished in about an hour. Thanks everyone. There will be no official workday in May since everyone will be working with the rose show.

Thank you to all members of BGRS who obtained sponsors for the Rose Show. Your personal touch made the difference in getting individuals to be

sponsors. I would like to say a special thank you to Ann Jacobs for her diligence in working with sponsors for the Rose Show. She makes a lot of personal contacts after the letters are sent in order to follow up and collect the sponsor's donation. Thanks Ann for going the extra mile.!

The May meeting will focus on the Rose Show. Mary Ann will present a program on "What is a Rose Show". We will be finalizing all facets of the show. Traditionally our shows have been successful because of the dedication and work of our members, so the continued success depends on each of us doing our part. See you on May 3 at the Extension Office.

## BGRS Public Garden Report *by Mary Ann Hext, Consulting Rosarian*

The Public Rose Garden was started in the Spring of 2006. On Saturday, April 13, several members of the Bowling Green Rose Society met at the public rose garden to prepare it for the spring. Members helping were: Ben & Pauline Matus Bob & Ann Jacobs, Norma Stevenson, Brenda Coffey, and Mary Ann Hext.

Everyone was excited to see how well the rose bushes looked although they weren't as large as when we pruned last year on April 7. (see photo below). Because we did such a good job last fall preparing our roses for winter, all of them looked great and we only had to pull back the mulch, snip off the ends, remove dead canes, and fertilize. Only minimal pruning was necessary to shape a few of the bushes. Bob planted a new climber—Fourth of July to go with the Sally Holmes we planted last spring to grow on the back wall. Kent Campbell's favorite rose *Nicole* which Mary Ann transplanted last spring was growing well.

We look forward to having our newer members stop by to enjoy the rose garden we are providing for our community. Scheduled workdays are listed in the BGRS Yearbook so we hope all members

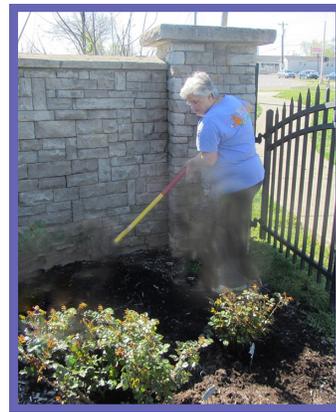
will add one or two of these dates to their calendars. The more members we have helping, the faster we finish.



April 7, 2012



April 13, 2013



May 2013

## Tips for May in the Rose Garden *compiled by Mary Hext*

### Spray for Thrips

As soon as your roses bloom, the thrips will come. They will spoil a beautiful prize winning blossom in one hour. Keep a hand spray bottle near with Tal-Star mixed either in it or available for it. Walk through your garden as often as you can. I go for twice a day (morning and evening) and simply squeeze one mist of spray on each bud and each blossom. The thrips will leave! Keep doing this until you cut for the show!

*Dr. Kent Campbell,  
(from archives)*

### A Final Word

We are a small society, but many people have worked very hard for many years to develop and maintain our reputation as a great place to come to workshops and shows. We are in a transition period right now and need maximum participation from everyone.

If you have been doing something for the show for a while and felt like it was more than others were doing, it probably was. That's the way it is with volunteer organizations. If you love the hobby, the society, and going to other locals for shows, etc., please consider continuing to give of the expertise you have reaped over your years of service. Kathy and Mary Ann are doing a fantastic job, but they can't do it all alone. We are hosts here; we get our pay-back as guests at Louisville, Nashville, Evansville, Knoxville, Memphis, and more!

*Dr. Kent Campbell, (from archives)*

### Finger Pruning

A simple procedure that is guaranteed to improve the look of your bushes and increase the size of the blooms is finger pruning. As buds

appear on stems, you will notice which direction they are going to send out the new growth. If it's going to be a new stem that cuts horizontally across the center of the bush, rub it off with your thumb. This keeps the open, vase shape of the bush. Keep the outward growing and remove the inward. The other thing to do is remove unwanted baby buds. This is particularly true with Tea roses or Floribundas. Often the early baby buds are overcrowded and growing into each other. Remove a few and let those that remain grow even bigger.....and always remove the center one, as it matures first and you end up with a dead bloom in the center of four or five half opened ones. Do this when the buds are new, green and soft enough to pinch out. *HRS Newsletter*

### Stake Tall Canes

Our location receives very strong winds all year. As I have several roses growing on fortuniana, it is necessary to stake these, even the minis growing in pots. I have used everything from metal fence posts to canes cut from the creek bank tied with old socks cut in strips and/or green plastic ties made for this purpose. Even

with staking, I have already had several broken canes this spring as we have had high winds. It is so sad to find a large cane with blooms lying on the ground, so be sure to use stakes.

*Mary Ann Hext*

### Remove Dead Canes

Continue to remove dead or damaged canes and blind growth as needed, and weed. Weeds will rob your roses of nutrients, and grow like mad if you don't keep up with them.

*WV Newsletter*

### Watch for Aphids

You will see these critters on the tender growth of your plant, canes, buds, and leaves. Wash them off the plants with a water wand or spray with an insecticide if necessary.

*Mary Ann Hext*



[www.honolulurosesociety.org/pests](http://www.honolulurosesociety.org/pests)



[www.entomology.umn.edu/cues/inter/inmine/Thripa.html](http://www.entomology.umn.edu/cues/inter/inmine/Thripa.html)

## Rose Feeding Guidelines *by Doug Craver CR, Winston Salem RS*

Roses, in some respects are like people - they like to be fed regularly, but not too much or too little at one time, with a balanced diet, so lets explore their needs and how to best fill them.

**NITROGEN** is the first number listed on the bag. Nitrogen is a part of all living cells and all proteins, it is a major part of chlorophyll, the green pigment that is responsible for photosynthesis (conversion of sunlight to matter). It helps plants with rapid growth, increased bloom and fruit production and improves the quality of leaf and stem. Nitrogen, in most forms, is highly soluble and easily leached away by excessive water, as in winter rains, so the vigorous growth in early spring needs a type of nitrogen that is quickly available, and the label on the bag will list TOTAL nitrogen, then WATER SOLUBLE nitrogen, (quick release) then WATER INSOLUBLE nitrogen, which is slow release and further down the label it will list the kind such as "polymer coated urea, or sulfur coated urea" and give the percent of the total. In early spring we need a fast acting nitrogen such as 16-8-8 or 18-9-9, but at this high nitrogen content

it should be used sparingly with later feeding having more or the slower release. Here are some of the nitrogen types and their timing. NITRATE of SODA -16% fast, CALCIUM NITRATE -15.5% fast and one of the best, AMMONIUM NITRATE - 34% medium, UREA - 46% fast, UREAFORM (BLUE CHIP) 38% slow, and the SULFUR OR POLYMER COATED NITROGEN - slow. Organic types are slow release.

**PHOSPHORUS** is the second number listed is also important for photosynthesis, plant maturation and withstanding stress. It also effects rapid growth and encourages bloom and root growth.

**POTASSIUM** is the third number and it is absorbed by plants in larger amounts than any other element except nitrogen. It helps in the building of protein, photosynthesis fruit (bloom) quality and reduction of diseases.

**CALCIUM** is an essential part of cell wall structure, provides for normal transport and retention of other elements as well as strength in the plant.

**MAGNESIUM** (Epsom salt) is important in the chlorophyll in all green

plants and essential for photosynthesis. It also activates many plant enzymes needed for growth.

**SULFUR** essential for production of protein and development of enzymes and vitamins.

The above are the most important elements in fertilizers, others are Boron, Copper, Chloride, Iron, Manganese, Molybdenum and Zinc, but these are needed in such small amounts that too much of most of these can be toxic to the plants.

**MANURES** have an important place in rose culture so I will list some of their nutrient contents in pounds per ton for comparison.

HORSE: N-14.2 P-4.8 K-12.4

COW: N-9.7 P-2.8 K-9.5

SHEEP: N-20.6 P-7.0 K-19.8

POULTRY: N-20.0 P-16 K-8.0

My idea of the best way to feed roses is to use a combination of mineral and organics and be alert to their needs.

*This article appears in the April 2012 edition of the "Clippings" which is the newsletter for the Winston Salem Rose Society, Pam Schill, Editor/Publisher. It is used with permission from the editor and the writer (spring 2012).*

### ARS Trial Membership Available



The ARS is offering a four-month trial membership for existing local society, non-ARS members. The \$10 fee offsets processing and mailing costs. ARS does not make money on this offer. Four-Month Trial Members receive:

- Free advice from Consulting Rosarians.
- Free or reduced garden admissions, a \$25 value after just 3 uses.
- Free online access to quarterly bulletins, a \$45 value.
- 2 issues of American Rose magazine, \$16 value.
- Discounts of up to 30% at merchant partners.
- A four-month trial membership is valued at \$86 for only \$10!

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## Preparation Timeline For The Rose Show *By John Mueller, Tampa RS*

As you may have heard, our Tampa Rose Society's annual Rose Show is only one month away! For our novice exhibitors, the following preparation timeline will be very helpful in your quest to garner your first blue ribbon or maybe even the Queen Of Show! It has been done before!

### 3 Weeks Before The Rose Show

1. Walk through your garden to find "contenders" with long, straight stems and fully closed buds that may be ready in time for the show.
2. Prep the contenders by removing all the side growth at the various leaf axils.
3. Make sure the best canes have an unobstructed opening to be able to grow upright by moving or removing any "blocking" growth.
4. If any important canes are growing at an angle, stake them upright using bamboo stakes and twist ties.
5. Apply Epsom salts and fish emulsion at the rate of 2 Tbs. per gallon and one-half gallon per bush.
6. Remove the center bud from floribunda sprays in order to make the spray more symmetrical.

### 2 Weeks Before The Rose Show

1. Apply chelated iron such as Sequestrene at the rate described on the label. Stop applying fertilizers that contain nitrogen or use low nitrogen, high phosphorus fertilizer.
2. Begin a conscientious effort to remove all side growth. This should be done each day but no less frequently than every other day.
3. Water your rose bushes every day or every other day from now until the rose show.
4. Recheck your staked canes as the twist ties may have to be adjusted because of the cane's growth.
5. Straighten the necks of the blooms as necessary using either bamboo

sticks or skewers and twist ties as a splint.

### 7-10 Days Before the Rose Show

1. Spray your bushes early in the week. Do not use powders in your spray, as that will have to be removed from the leaves before the bloom is entered into the show.
2. Just before dark each evening, mist the buds that are about to "show color" as well as opening blooms, with Orthene and Conserve to reduce the damage caused by thrips. The rate of application should be 1/4 tsp. of Orthene and 1/4 tsp. of Conserve SC per quart of water.
3. Make sure your grooming kit is complete.
4. Study the show schedule to determine the classifications you may wish to enter.
5. Attach your name and address stickers, as well as rubber bands to the entry tags that you have obtained in advance.
6. Check your garden for blooms at the proper stage to cut. After you have cut your blooms, re-cut them underwater in order to prevent the intrusion of air bubbles into the stem. If you cut some blooms a few days before the show, you may need to refrigerate them, inside a plastic bag, to slow down or preserve their exhibition stage quality.
7. Make a list of the blooms you have cut and be certain that you have the correct spelling of their names.
8. Clean and trim the foliage on your cut specimens. Do all of your grooming, except for the bloom, at home, as you will not have as much space and time at the rose show.

### The Day Of The Show

1. Arrive at the show early in order to obtain sufficient space.
2. Make sure that the vases are full of water.

3. Place your roses in vases together with an entry tag containing the correct name.
4. Position the stem to the proper height. (HT's about 27 to 29 inches overall height from the top of the table).
5. Enter your sprays and fully open blooms early to free up table space.
6. Select the blooms that are not yet at "exhibition stage" or too "tight" and start the procedures early to open them.
7. Select your best 4 to 6 blooms and set them aside to enter at the last minute for Queen. Take the remainder of your blooms and enter them in the "Challenge" classes and "Collections".
8. Don't forget to enter classes for fully open, floating bowl, artist's palette, picture frame, etc.
9. Save your Miniatures for entry last as they usually open faster.
10. Ten to fifteen minutes before the entry deadline, stop working on your roses! Carry your remaining entries to the classification table.
11. Put your "un-entered" roses into a bucket of water and give them to the Society to sell during the show.
12. Clean up your work area and carry your grooming materials to your car.
13. Come back and help clean up the preparation area.
14. Now is the time to relax and enjoy talking to your fellow exhibitors or help by being a judge's clerk.

*This article appeared in the April 2012 Newsletter of the Tampa Rose Society, John Mueller, Editor, and is used with permission from the editor and author. This article was adapted from an article written by Jean and Harold Baker.*

## A Rose-aholic *by Jim Delahanty*

**Hello. My name is Tim and I am a rose-aholic.**

**Chorus: Hi, Tim!**

Well, it's Show and Tell time. Again. Must mean that the scheduled speaker has canceled. Again. You didn't miss much. It was just old Vinnie Mueslix mauling on about how he leaves stuff all over his property but calls it pre-planning instead of forgetfulness. He hasn't changed that talk in ten years; he just gives it new names. Of course, since he doesn't remember giving it before, it is always fresh and new to him.

The topic tonight is Non-rosarians as friends, neighbors and family. Now I know that we are supposed to get all gooey about bringing them in as prospective new members. Hooey. Keep 'em as far away as possible. They ain't a bit human in the first place.

### **Non-rosarians as Friends:**

You can't really have a non-rosarian as a friend. They give up too easy. You are barely into your first hour talking about your new roses and their eyes glaze over and they nod weakly after each and every sentence till they look like those little kewpie dolls on the dashboards of low-slung cars. And just when you are started on your second hour, they make a mad dash for the commode blubbing something about a call of nature. Why don't they just cross their legs like the rest of us? Or water the compost pile? A call of nature is when you plant one more rose bush than you thought you had room for.

### **Non-rosarians as neighbors:**

The damned fools sow the wrong plants, with the wrong ideas and the wrong attitude.

Creeping vinca covers the eastern part of the property. Tradescantia infests the southern fence. Honeysuckle eats the boards of the temporary fence they threw up on the north. And I tried to explain to them gently, and patiently, that these plants weren't good for my roses. I honestly did. All they did was get all hoity-toity about 'property rights' and the 'common good.' They don't understand that I grow something important and they just waste good fertilizer on 'weeds.' But I maintain a cool temper and a friendly mien.

They also like shade. They like it so much their trees cast it all over my yard. And their pets—midnight marauders who frolic with the possums and coyotes, dig holes, and disport themselves among my roses....

But my day is coming. Soon the collective effect of all those empty containers of illegal hazardous materials that I toss into their jungle of plants will pay off. Anybody who suckles a little honey from the north is gonna wind up a test case for the Center for Disease Control. And before I'm done, I'll get their little dog, Toto, too.

### **Non-Rosarians as family:**

You can't dismiss family the way you can with friends and neighbors. For one thing, they keep bringing up that blood tie thing; although to tell the truth, I have more blood in common with my pyracantha than with most of my relatives. But you can deter them a little. Planting Marilyn Monroe right in the path to the front door brings fewer visitors every year. And it has the beneficial byproduct of discouraging visitors at Halloween as well. You would be surprised at the number of crybabies who fret at the sight of their own blood. Too bad most of the children don't feel that way.

Your own children are a great help in the rose garden, digging and weeding, toting and fetching—at least until they reach the age of reason. Then they reach the age of hormones and disappear for years at a time. Spouses are also a great help if they supply money for the roses, or dig holes for the roses, or take them up to the placement table when you have finished grooming them. Or help remove prickles from your palms.

Sometimes, though, they get strange ideas about roses and want you to plant 'pretty ones' rather than the ones you know will win awards. Or they want to adopt 'orphan' or abused plants from unprofessional nurseries; they just don't get it when you snarl that this is a rose garden, not an infirmary.

Now I know that some of you think I am negative about all this. That is not true. I welcome the non-rosarians in the marketplace. They buy the roses that die. They replenish them year after year. They glut up the sewers with their lemon Pledge magic potions and sour milk elixirs. And every spring they light up the cash registers as they purchase dried out sticks with the fervent expectation that the Gardens of Babylon will be recreated in their own little patches of real estate. Corporations call them customers; cruel and unkind people call them suckers; but I call them non-rosarians. I warmly welcome them as members of the buying public. Of course, NIMBY.

\*This article inspired by an old friend and longtime Pacific Rose Society member, Bill Hillman, who went by the sobriquet 'Sunny Bill' on the Internet.

*Used with permission.*

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*We're on the Web!!*

[www.bowlinggreenrosesociety.org](http://www.bowlinggreenrosesociety.org)



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### IMPORTANT DATES - 2013

- May 18: BGRS Rose Show
- Sept. 20-22: ARS Miniature Conference, Winston-Salem, NC
- October 4-6: Tenarky District Rose Show, Louisville, KY
- Oct. 5: Memphis & Dixie Rose Society Rose Show
- Oct. 12-13: Nashville Rose Society Rose Show