

Next Meeting

April 10, 2022
2 p.m. WCEO

In-Club Competition

Program:
Growing & Showing
Roses

Refreshments:
C. Dickinson



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BGRS is a
member of the
Tenarky District
of the
American Rose Society

www.tenarky.org

and an
Affiliate Member of
the
American Rose Society



April 2022

Rosebuds

www.bowlinggreenrosesociety.org

A Publication of the Bowling Green Rose Society

How to Prepare the Perfect Rose Bed *by David Muholland, High Country Roses*

Editor's Note: I have ordered roses from [High Country Roses](http://HighCountryRoses.com) several times and have been pleased with them. While looking at their website recently, I found this article which will be of interest to those of you who are thinking about a new rose bed.

Our favorite thing to plant at High Country Roses, is well, roses. And nothing excites us more than preparing a new rose bed. But there is more to it than sinking some roses in the ground and spreading some mulch.

Keep reading for all the tips and tricks you'll need to prepare amazing rose beds for perfect summertime blooms. Be sure to read to the end because the last step is the most important.

First Things First, Pick Your Site

In real estate, the best advice you'll get is, "location, location, location." When it comes to rose beds, that is pretty good advice too.

When picking a location for a new rose bed, here are a few things to keep in mind:

- **Follow the Sun.** You'll want lots of sun for most varieties of roses. Morning sun is preferable over afternoon sun. Ideally, you're looking for a minimum of six hours of direct sun exposure a day. (But don't fret, if "lots of sun" didn't come included in your backyard, High Country Roses has [A Collection Of Shade-Tolerant Roses](#) for your backyards too.)
- **But Don't Fry Your Roses.** When selecting your location, keep your eye out for walls or concrete surfaces that will reflect and intensify the sun.
- **Healthy Competition Isn't Actually Healthy.** Competition is another thing to keep in mind. Watch out for tree roots and large shrubs that will compete with your rose bushes for water and nutrients.

Finally, the Wet Stuff. Make sure your new rose bed will have access to water. It's important to know that roses like a steady amount of water but they don't like to sit in water (which can damage the roots).

Plan Your Rose Bed

A great way to plan the size and shape of your rose bed is to lay out some garden hoses in the shape of the rose bed you want to create. Leave them out there for a day and you can see how the sunlight will hit your new rose bed.

A few more things to consider:

- A common rose bed design is a 5-foot wide strip, either curved or straight. This allows for two large roses to be planted in a row or a large rose in the middle with rows of miniature roses on either side.
- You'll want to design your rose beds so that you can avoid stepping on the rose bed soil. Your foot will compress the soil and could damage the roots. An easy way to work around this is to place pavers or stepping stones between the roses.

Select Your Roses

As you might have guessed, here at High Country Roses, this is our favorite part of the process. We have over 600 rose varieties to choose from. All of our roses are

(continued p. 4)



President's Corner by Dan Wernigk, CR

Our next meeting is Sunday, April 10, at WCEO. We will be having a discussion and program about growing and showing roses. We will also discuss the new spray program used by Joanna Deck, a top exhibitor in the Tenarky District.

Please plan to attend as we also need to discuss plans and get members lined up for jobs at our May rose show. See you at the meeting.

Dan



2022 BGRS Dues

If you have not paid your dues for this year, please bring to the April meeting or send to our treasurer Linda Ford to be included in the 2022 yearbook.

Linda Ford
413 Mary Mack Lane
Russellville, KY 42276

PRUNING CUTS

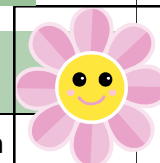
1. Cut to high
2. Cut too low
3. Correct cut



**"Prayer of the Rosarian: Please, Lord,
give me a little patience ... and give it to
me right away."**

—Rosarian Ramblings,
Howard Walters: *Through the Years*
May 1977
Submitted by Cynthia

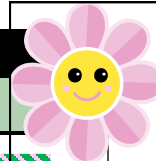
April in My Rose Garden by Mary Ann Hext, MR



As I write this, it is early Saturday, April 2, and my car windshield has ice on it, and there is frost on the grass, the pasture, and my roses. I already have damage from the freeze last Saturday night, so hopefully the weather will improve soon. I have yet to prune a single bush nor have I applied any fertilizer. I was planning to spray, but now the new growth is wilting from that previous freeze. Even if the weather had been better, I would have done none of this as I have been out of town 18 of the past 30 days and had appointments and/or meetings in town for five more of those days. Surely April will be better!

What I hope to do during April is:

- Order replacement fungicides to rotate. (I did not get this done in March.)
- Clean the beds of all the tree limbs and debris from the tornado and days of high winds in February. (I did not get this done in March, and we had even more strong winds the past two weeks so now there are even more limbs on the ground.)
- Begin pruning when the forsythia blooms for my garden roses and within the time frame for the roses I hope to exhibit at our rose show on May 21 and possibly the Huntsville show on May 14. (I did not get this done in March either, but the forsythia still has fading blooms so I hope to start pruning after our BGRS meeting on April 10 as I am out of town four may days this week).
- Start my regular spray program when the bushes have leaves. (I did not get this done in March but the leaves are all damaged from the frost now, so I will start spraying when they grow back out).
- Continue pulling up the henbit, chickweed, and other weeds that I have been pulling up all winter as it somehow survives all the freezing temperatures we have had. (It is even worse now, so will take much more time).
- Pray that the predicted freeze for the upcoming weekend will be our last for this season!



Attention Photographers !!!

From Beth Smiley, ARS Publications Director

We are now accepting photos for the 2023 Roses Wall Calendar - open to all ARS members. Here are a few guidelines:

- **Photos must be 13" x 11" AND at least 300 dpi.**
- **Please, no more than 5 submissions**
- **Digital photos only**
- **The roses must be commercially available**
- **Please identify all roses in photos**
- **Deadline: June 1, 2022**

Please contact Beth Smiley (beth@rose.org) for more details. Email submissions to beth@rose.org or mail a CD to American Rose Soc., ATTN: Editorial, P.O. Box 30000, Shreveport, LA

PRUNE

P—Prepare your plant: Cut to waist height (about 30 ") to get a look of the structure of the bush.

R—Remove all dead, diseased and crossing canes.

U—Understand your rose: Leave fewer canes for bigger blooms; like long stems (for hybrid teas) Leave more canes for more blooms of smaller size Prune to about 24 to 16 inches.

N—Nothing left behind: Remove all debris, be careful with cleaning inside the rose.

E—*Enjoy your rose!*

*Ben Hanna at Heirloom Roses
(<https://www.heirloomroses.com/info/pruning>)*

**BGRS Rose Show
May 21**

Setup—May 20

**Please
Volunteer to Help!**

- Sell ads
- Contribute for In Memory photograph
- Load/unload show properties
- Setup/Tear-down the show
- Clerk
- Help with recording winners and certificates
- Bring items for judges/exhibitors breakfast
- Monitor welcome table

It takes all members working as a team to have a beautiful and successful rose show!!!

SAVE THE DATE!

**Bowling Green Rose Society Rose Show
May 21—American Legion
Schedule at www.tenarky.org**

Articles of Interest

own-root which means they are hardier and avoid most of the pitfalls associated with grafted-root roses.

When you are trying to decide which roses are right for your new rose bed, be sure to read all the information about the rose. Make sure the [Hardiness Zone](#), the size of the plant, and the amount of sunlight required work with your location.

Also, just in time for spring, be sure to check out all the [New Roses](#) we are offering for the first time this year. Here are a couple of standouts:

[Fruity Petals – Climber](#)

[Life's Little Pleasures – Miniature](#)

[Queen Of Elegance – Floribunda](#)

Prepare Your Soil

First thing first, you need to make sure your soil is ready. Fortunately, roses do pretty well with most soil types. However, they do best in soil that drains well and is high in organic matter with a pH of 6.0 to 7.0.

When creating a new rose bed, add 2 to 4 inches of organic matter to the area prior to tilling. This will help improve the soil condition for your roses. Generally, you can add one-part compost, prepared planting mix, or aged manure to two parts of your garden soil.

Bonus tip to see how well your soil drains:

First, dig a small hole where you want to put your new rose bed. Then, fill it with water and see how long it takes to drain. If it takes more than an hour you'll want to improve your drainage by digging deeper planting holes and adding some coarse sand to allow for faster drainage. If your soil drains too quickly you can add organic materials to the planting hole to help retain moisture.

Dig Your Holes

Dig your hole deep and wide enough to accommodate the expanding root system, about 8-12 inches beyond the pot size. For High Country Roses' quart sized 5-inch pots, that means a hole about 18-inches deep and wide.

Ready to Plant Your Roses?

Actually, not yet. You need to make sure they are hardened first. Before putting a newly purchased rose in the ground, you need to harden it for a few days. Hardening plants means leaving them in the pots and keeping them watered while allowing them to acclimate to their new home. You can expose them to the sun and the wind for a few hours on the first day, then increase the lengths of time each day. Just be careful not to let the roses dry out... and avoid over-watering.

Once the roses are hardened, it's time to get them into the dirt. Since High Country Roses are all own-root, there's no graft or bud union to worry about. When you're ready, gently remove the rose from its pot and place the root and pot-soil into your hole and lightly packed some soil around your plant.

Once planted, we recommend using two to three inches of mulch on the surface to conserve moisture, reduce weeds, and encourage healthy root growth.

Everything Comes Up Roses

And here it is. The last, and most important step:

Enjoy your roses!!



"Forsythia is pure joy. There is not an ounce, not a glimmer of sadness or even knowledge in forsythia. Pure, undiluted, untouched joy."

-Anne Morrow Lindbergh



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c/o Mary Hext, Editor
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www.bowlinggreenrosesociety.org



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April 4: Claire Campbell
April 18: Connie Baird

IMPORTANT DATES

- ♦ **May 7: Birmingham Rose Show**
- ♦ **May 14: Huntsville Rose Show**
- ♦ **May 21: BGRS Rose Show**
- ♦ **September 23-25: Tenarky Fall District Convention & Rose Show hosted by NRS at Belmont University**
- ♦ **Sept/Oct ?? - LRS Rose Display**
- ♦ **September 17-24, 2024: ARS National Convention & Rose Show in Warwick, Rhode Island.**

2022 BGRS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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