



A Publication of the Bowling Green Rose Society

# Rosebuds

May 2012

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

**Meeting: May 4**  
**WC Ext. Office**  
**6:30 p.m.**  
**Host: Coffey's**  
**Program:**  
**Planting New Roses**  
**Ricky Lockhart**

## BGRS 50th Rose Show—Why You Should Participate *by Mary Ann Hext, CR*

Our annual rose show is only a few weeks away, so hopefully each of you is starting to think about your entries and have pruned and fertilized your roses in preparation for this exciting event which will be our 50th 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.

Last year we added several new categories in the horticulture section which were successful so we will continue those this year: *A Rose in a Frame*, *Three Knock-out™ Roses*, *Basket of Shrub Roses*, and *Most Fragrant Rose* in the Challenge Section. In Special Classes, there is a "You Be The Judge" (to be selected by the public) which is for one bloom per stem of any stage of bloom, any variety. Voters will pick their "favorite rose" and the winner will receive a keepsake award. We hope this will be a fun activity for rose show visitors.

The theme for the Artistic Rose Designs is *50 Years of Roses*. Each section has several choices for the designers and we have also added a table design class this year. A complete rose show schedule is on the BGRS website.



Photo: M. Hext

I read an article in the Houston Rose Society newsletter last year on rose show exhibiting; and even though it was written for the novice exhibitor, it contained excellent information for even the experienced exhibitor. As I have only been exhibiting a few years, I found the information very helpful. I contacted the writer and was given permission to use it in our newsletter and am re-

printing it again this year as we have several new members we hope will exhibit. You will find it on pages 5 and 6, and I am sure it will be helpful for anyone who wants to try exhibiting.

The first year I was a member of BGRS, I had no idea what a rose show was. I did volunteer to help clerk which was a wonderful experience. I had never seen so many roses in one place—so many varieties and colors. I had no idea of the many types of roses as I was only familiar with hybrid teas and shrub roses. I loved the arrangements and I met many nice people; so of course I was hooked. The next year I made my rose show debut with one arrangement and one entry in horticulture and I actually won two ribbons. After that, I joined the ARS, started reading articles and books on exhibiting and arranging, and it has become a rewarding hobby.

I do enjoy the competition of the rose shows, but more importantly, I believe that rose shows are a way to share what we have worked so hard to produce, to learn about unfamiliar varieties, 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 much a competition against each other, but a competition against ourselves to work harder to produce better quality roses and improve our own skills.

### BGRS Rose Show—May 19

- 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 18.
- Volunteers are needed to help with the many rose show jobs. Contact Bob Jacobs or Kathy Dodson to help.

### From the President *by Kathy Dodson, Consulting Rosarian*

Hasn't it been a beautiful spring? (For the most part, except when the late frost damaged a few of my rose buds.) I have to admit that the knockout roses, (you know Mary Ann loves them), all over town have been so beautiful. The double knockouts are my favorites. I sure hope the rose breeders develop a hybrid tea rose that is as easy to take care of as the knockouts. I can see Richard Hudson's rose garden when I pass by, and it is looking beautiful.

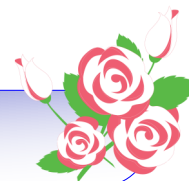
The new Crescendo rose I bought at the February Tenarky meeting is

finally putting out some leaves. I hope it's as pretty as the ones I've seen.

Everyone has done a great job with the ads for the rose show. We should be in good shape. At our meeting, we will finalize plans for the rose show. Ricky Lockhart has the program which will be on planting new roses. I hope we can also discuss how our roses are doing after the early spring that we've had. Brenda Coffey has refreshments. See you May 4, 6:30 p.m. at the Warren County Extension Office.



**Dr. Kent Campbell recognized by the ARS for 3 articles he wrote last spring for our newsletter.**



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

The Public Rose Garden was started in the Spring of 2006. On Saturday, April 7, 2011 several members of the Bowling Green Rose Society met at the public rose garden to prepare it for the spring. Members helping were: Kathy Dodson, Bob & Ann Jacobs, Viola Hudson, and Mary Ann Hext.

Everyone was excited to see how well the rose bushes looked. With such a mild winter, nearly all the bushes had buds and a few had started to bloom. Of course, all the warm weather had caused the weeds to grow more quickly so most of our time was spent digging them. Only minimal pruning was necessary to shape a few of the bushes. We also set out 3 new bushes: *Sally Holmes* will be growing across the back wall, a *Carefree Beauty* was planted along with Kent Campbell's favorite rose *Nicole* which was transplanted to the public garden.

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. Give Kathy or Bob a call if you want to share your time in this way.



*Photos April 7—By M. Hext*



May 2012

## 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



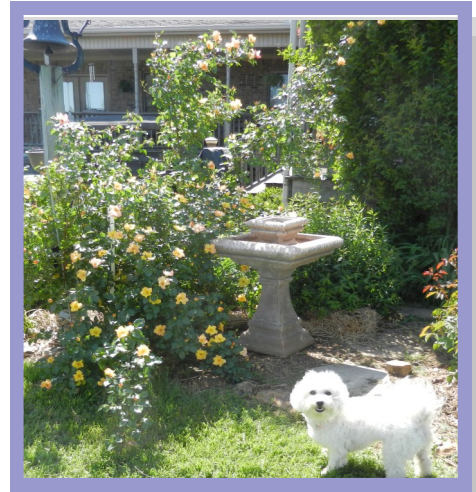
<http://www.entomology.umn.edu/cues/inter/inmine/Thripa.html>

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. *unknown*

### 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 the roses are blooming much earlier and the canes are heavier. It is so sad to find a large cane with blooms lying on the ground, so be sure to use stakes.

*Mary Ann Hext*



*Annie, our new rescue, in front of Flutterbye.  
Photo by M. Hext*



*BGRS Public Garden  
Photos April 22  
By M. Hext*



## 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 photosynthe-

sis. 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.*

### ARS Trial Membership Available



The ARS is offering a four-month trial membership for existing local society, non-ARS members. The \$5 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 four 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.*

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*We're on the Web!!*

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

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#### IMPORTANT DATES - 2012

- May 19: BGRS Rose Show
- June 1-2: Regional ARS Arrangement Workshop & Show—Cool Springs, TN
- June 27-29: ARS National Miniature RS & Conference - Columbus, OH
- TBA: Tenarky District Rose Show & Convention
- Sept. 26-30: ARS Fall National Convention and Rose Show - San Ramon, CA
- TBA: Nashville Rose Show