



Nashville Rose Leaf

Official Publication of The Nashville Rose Society

Serving Rose Enthusiasts Throughout Middle Tennessee



JUNE 2008

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Volume 42, Issue 5



Dr. Raymond Cloyd

June Meeting
Cheekwood Botanic Hall
Tuesday, June 3, 2008

**“Rose Pests—
Identification & Treatment”**
(Article on Page 5)

Evening Schedule

5:00-7:00 pm Grand Prix I - Set Up/Entries

6:00-6:45 pm Beginner Program:

“Companion Plants for Roses” by Lynne Wallman

7:00-8:00 pm - Dr. Raymond Cloyd,

Kansas State University

Refreshments Served at 6:30 pm
Cheekwood admission free for meeting attendees

June Rose of the Month - Ronald Reagan

(See article on page 2)



Photo courtesy of Sam Jones

Photo courtesy of Leann Barron



Nashville Rose Leaf co-editor, Leann Barron is shown with a truckload of plants for her garden. What you see are ‘Princess’ pennisetum, ‘Rita’s Gold’ ferns, various sun coleus, cupheas, caladiums, ‘Sarah Bernhardt’ peonies, ‘Mystic Spires’ salvia and other assorted delights spilling from the truck bed, and some will be companions for her roses (See Article on Page 2)

Editor's Desk

In every organization there are people who make significant contributions and they always seem to do so without drawing attention to themselves. These are individuals that I call "Silent Soldiers." There are a number of "Silent Soldiers" in Nashville Rose Society, but as I sit at my desk today two persons stand out in my mind.

Several years ago NRS needed a treasurer and Charles and Robbie Griggs had only recently joined. Charles agreed to accept this position and for three years faithfully and efficiently executed the responsibilities. The Griggs recently moved to Knoxville to be near their son, and our loss is Knoxville's gain.. We will miss them as treasurer and as friends. Thanks Charles for your service to Nashville Rose Society!

www.nashvillerosesociety.com is one of the best websites on the internet for information about roses and you can also learn what is going on in our society. Don't take my word, go look for yourself. Believe me, it takes time and talent to have a website of this quality. Don Gill is the "Silent Soldier" who makes this happen. Although he and Sara Jo get lots of attention at rose show time, you never hear much about the website. He just quietly goes about his work and gets the job done. Thanks Don!

— Charles Lott

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Our thanks to the following businesses and foundations who have made sustaining donations to support the educational programs of Nashville Rose Society:

Houghland Foundation

SunTrust Bank

Rose of the Month-Ronald Reagan

(Picture on Front Cover)

Browsing through a nursery looking for a replacement for Mr. Lincoln that has lost its vigor after 15 years, I stumbled across a blooming plant of **Ronald Reagan**. The petal colors of this presidential namesake immediately caught my attention—a striking, bold red with darkened edges (with age) and a silvery reverse. Spying the long, vigorous stems and healthy foliage, I decided this one should

President's Column...

I hope everyone has been able to get out and enjoy one of the spring shows. Jennifer and I were judges at the Memphis Rose Society show. The show was at a local Lowes store and they did some interesting things. Tables were set up down the main hall of the store which presented a really nice appearance with one long row of roses. The store customers were patient and several were asking questions.

There are two miniature rose shows coming up in June. One is June 7th in Huntsville, Alabama, and the other is June 14th in Louisville, Kentucky. These shows are a lot of fun to go to. It is amazing how well the miniatures and minifloras are catching on. They really do hold their own in a show by themselves. They can appeal to people with large gardens as well as small. It is rather easy to grow a miniature rose in a large pot on a patio or balcony. They will bloom all summer long. If you keep them in pots just make sure they do not dry out. One secret to keeping them watered is using water crystals in the potting soil.

To keep your roses doing well all summer, be sure to keep them watered. You can use a drip irrigation system, garden hoses or overhead sprinklers. Make sure they get about one gallon a week minimum. Some large plants may need more. If you use overhead watering, turn it on in the morning so the roses and foliage have time to dry. Avoid overhead watering in the evening which promote fungal diseases. Overhead watering will also help keep the spider mites away, they like to attack plants when it is hot and dry.

Ray Cloyd will be our speaker in June. He is coming from Kansas State University where he teaches and helps instruct their state Master Gardeners. He will be talking on how to identify and treat certain pests. He has written and co-authored many books on Integrated Pest Management (IPM). I am sure he will be an entertaining speaker and have a lot to share with us.

—Jeff Harvey

So many plants, so little space

be placed in my garden alongside a new **Mr. Lincoln**.

Roses used to honor governmental leaders, royalty, even Roman emperors, have an ancient tradition, and it is altogether fitting that an exceptional rose should honor the 40th President, Ronald Reagan. It was Reagan, after all, who proclaimed The Rose as America's National Floral Emblem (November 20th, 1986), after signing a joint resolution into law in the White House Rose Garden. Among other things, the President proclaimed: "The American people have long held a special place in their hearts for roses. Let us continue to cherish them, to honor the love and devotion they represent, and to bestow them on all we love just as God has bestowed them on us."

It is wonderful that officially, thanks to Congress and Ronald Reagan, America honors The Rose as our national symbol. But what of this rose? Is it a good one to grow? Bred by Keith Zary of Jackson & Perkins (2003) it was introduced commercially in the U.S. in 2005. Besides its color and for a President popular with a large following what else does it have going for it?

Listen to a grower in Missouri telling of his experience with this rose: "I bought this as an afterthought to fill out an order, and this has turned out to be an outstanding rose and much the best of all the J&P New Generation roses I have purchased even including a very good **Veterans' Honor**." Into the third season of growing this rose (winter-protected with a collar of mulch), he adds: "The rose continues to impress me with its health, hardiness, blooms, and re-bloom rate. It blooms in flushes, but the downtime between them is minimal. I am so pleased to have this rose in my garden" (HelpMeFind.com). As Missouri has similar or cooler weather than our own climate, Middle Tennessee should offer good growing conditions for the **Ronald Reagan** rose. (GardenWeb.com)

ARS rating for this rose is a provisional 7.8 ("A solid to very good rose"), and Internet reviewers rate it highest for color and form, with disease resistance being third on the list. In my estimation, this rose is worth a try in my garden. The first bloom on the rose I brought home is well worth the recommendation. Check out the picture for yourself on the front cover.

A portion of the sales (10%) benefits the Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation, a non-profit organization promoting Ronald Reagan's "Four Pillars of Freedom" (liberty, opportunity, democracy, and national pride).

—Sam Jones

NRS Grand Prix I

June 3, 2008

The Grand Prix is a rose show that is held at a regular NRS meeting. Its purpose is to give members a chance to learn about and practice exhibiting roses. Grand Prix #1 will be held on June 3rd at the Cheekwood Botanic Hall. The Grooming Room will be open at 5:30 PM. Experienced exhibitors will be there to help beginners and others on the grooming of roses.

Although the Grand Prix is not an accredited ARS rose show, by following ARS judging rules, it gives participants an opportunity both to learn and practice, and have fun doing it! For entries in the horticultural division just find the place where you fit in. A NOVICE exhibitor is one who has never won a blue ribbon in an accredited ARS rose show. Novices who have only won blue ribbons in a Grand Prix (and not in an ARS Show) will be still considered novices for all future Grand Prix shows. An INTERMEDIATE exhibitor is one who has won a blue ribbon in an accredited ARS rose show, but who has not yet placed a rose in a Royal Court. An ADVANCED exhibitor is one who has placed a rose in any position on a Royal Court in an accredited ARS rose show. (In the Arrangement Division, all entries in each class will be judged together.)

Grand Prix judging is done by ARS standards. In order to even the competition, in the Horticultural Division, no more than six (6) total entries per exhibitor may be entered in any combination of classes. Two specimens of the same variety may not be entered in the same class. To learn more about different rose classes, check the annual 2008 Handbook for Selecting Roses, a helpful booklet sent to all American Rose Society members. Copies will be available if you need them at the meetings. In the Arrangement Division, you may enter one arrangement for each class. Arrangements should be done in the vase of your choice that you provide yourself.

Containers (unless otherwise stated) will be provided by the Nashville Rose Society. All exhibitors must fill their own vases with water for exhibiting and empty the vases before departing the meeting. Entry tags will be furnished by the ARS at the meetings. Both top and bottom portions of the

THE BEGINNING ROSARIAN

June—

By Nancy Jones

June is a variable month for roses because early in the month some are still at their peak from the first blooming of the season, the summer temperatures haven't become too "blistering hot, and, toward the end of the month, the "rest cycle" begins for many. June also coincides often with the invasion of the dreaded Japanese Beetles. We have noticed that in the last year or two the numbers of these pesky critters have been less and less. We hope that you have been as fortunate; but, if you haven't, this seems to be a simple rule of thumb:

Use a two-quart plastic bucket with a handle, fill with about 2 inches of water and use 2 drops of liquid dishwashing soap. With bucket in hand and placed under the beetle, knock it into the water and it will die quickly. Do this routine in the morning and in the evening. Our latest information states that the soapy water method is more effective because no pheromone scent is left behind. This is because you flush the contents of the bucket down the toilet. If you spray or stomp a beetle, its scent remains and attracts more beetles!! This eradication procedure is necessary usually 4-6 weeks and, then as surely as the beetles arrived, they leave. Another tip: leave some spent blooms that they are flocking to so they will have a "favorite" gathering place. Usually, at this time, you will be dead-heading quite a bit so that you can have more blooms; but just leave a few for the beetles. (They seem to like our white and light-pink blooms the best).

During June you will be watering and fertilizing on a schedule and will need good mulch that will help preserve the moisture. When

entry tags must be completed with the Class Number, Rose Variety (spelled correctly), and exhibitor name. (If you have never done this before, someone in the preparation room will show you how.) Wedges are permitted. Advanced exhibitors are always glad to assist others. All entries must be placed on show tables (by the exhibitor) by 7 PM.

Judging for the shows will be conducted by a two person panel including at least one accredited or apprentice ARS judge. Points from the June and September Grand Prix will be accumulated and awards will be presented to the winners at the December banquet. This year there will be separate awards for the Horticultural and Arrangement Divisions.

Grand Prix #2 will be conducted on September 2nd. For questions, call Dillard Lester at 615-896-0203 or e-mail at d-lester@comcast.net.

the hottest days of summer arrive, the mulch will help your bushes not suffer so much. You will want to give your beds a thorough soaking of water once or twice weekly, unless you have had at least two inches of rain during the week. Feed your roses with a balanced formulation (nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium) at least once during the month, or weekly if you use a liquid mixture. (One gallon liquid applied to the ground per bush is usually better than foliar feeding.) An organic fertilizer of once-living animal products and wastes (such as Mills Mix) applied monthly (one cup per bush or one-half cup for minis) will help keep your soil healthy.

You will also want to be pruning back spent blooms and stems to the strong part of the cane. This will prepare your bushes for the next bloom cycle and help them recover from the ravages of the beetles. When the heat seems to be stressing your roses, it is fine to overhead water, especially during the heat of the day. Watering from above too early or late in the day could promote black spot because evaporation is slower. So, save the middle of the day to water from above.

It is important in the summer to keep protecting your roses from black spot with a good spraying program. It is better to begin spraying before black spot develops, and you will be helped by calling a Consulting Rosarian about what to use, and when, early in the season. Prevention is much better than eradication. Also, spider mites are apt to appear (as "salt and pepper" gritty specks on the underside of lower leaves) during a real dry period; they can be removed with a strong water spray from the hose, aimed under the leaves. This method is a preferred and natural one that many rose growers use.

Enjoy your roses in June and look forward to the fall bloom cycle which often is just as glorious as the spring one. Prepare yourself to enter the Rose Show at the District Convention here on October 4th because this is a wonderful way to learn more about roses and to spread love and enjoyment for America's official flower!

Nancy Jones grew up in Arkansas where she met her husband Sam who led her into a love for roses. Nancy and Sam have one hundred fifty roses in their garden carefully planted so they can be enjoyed from the sunroom at their home in Bellvue. They especially enjoy having roses in their home and sharing them with others. Nancy says, "I love the many colors and varieties and am delighted when one has a prominent fragrance. I can hardly imagine life without roses." When not doing rose things, Nancy and Sam can usually be found having fun with their ten grandchildren.

Tirps, Thripes, Thrips, and Botrytis

By Baxter Williams

The phone rings again. The caller is dismayed, saying that her blooms won't open, and the buds turn brown, and rot, and fall off. She asks, "What am I doing wrong?"

We pretty much call them by the first name we heard them called. Their proper name is "Thrips" (rhymes with "Ships"). And one of them is a thrips (thrips is both singular and plural). I've got them. Well, they are in almost every bloom or bud in the garden, and the damage is dramatic. What am I to do? I guess the first thing is to organize.

Education

Our thrips are *Frankliniella occidentalis*, otherwise known as "Western flower thrips", and they like just about everything – amaryllis, tomatoes, and wild flowers – so there are numerous hosts around us. And thrips have six life stages: *Egg, first instar Nymph, second instar Nymph, Prepupa, Pupa* and *Adult*. An adult female, after damaging your otherwise beautiful bloom, then lays eggs in the ruined bloom. In only a week, the Prepupas and Pupas drop to the ground, and in 2-3 more days develop into winged Adults (it takes humans 21 years and 9 months to make a productive adult – that's 7,935 days). The 6-stage cycle takes of a thrips takes only 10 days! Well, I went to visit my sister and her family, so I missed a couple of sprayings." Uh-oh.

When asked how an avid and successful rose enthusiast kept his show entries free of thrips damage, he said that he "sprays the buds, flowers, spent blooms, foliage on both top and bottom sides, stems, canes, mulch, and grass out to 5-6 feet from the beds." When I suggested that doing so was obviously effective, but would surely kill off the beneficial predator insects, he said, "Baxter, I don't grow my roses for the benefit of any insects." And when you think of how miniscule the fraction of his rose garden (and mine and yours) is, compared to the hundreds of square miles in the city (think of looking down on it from an airplane at an elevation of 33,000 feet), I began to agree with his further comment, "If people want to see beneficial insects, they can go next door in my neighbor's yard." Will this rose enthusiast screw up the overall environment by "nuke-ing" the insects in only his yard?! I don't think so.

(And by the way, I didn't spray for aphids this year, and my rather large population of ladybird beetles couldn't keep up with the aphids baby boom.)

So, note that thrips are in the weeds, the grass, the mulch, the foliage, the air (flying),

the buds, and the blooms. If you want clean blooms, there is spraying to be done.

Action.

Spray with what? When? And where? You're to use Orthene (now available only as a fire ant killer) at 2 teaspoons per gallon for 75WP (75% wettable powder) formulation, or 1 teaspoon per gallon for 97% WP. Mix only as much as you think you will use; it doesn't store well after being mixed. Maverik is an alternative product.

I have seen thrips out in the open on blooms primarily at two times of the day – early morning, just as sunlight strikes the blooms, and just before sunset, both for about 30 minutes or more. It makes sense that it is easier to spray what you can actually see. And the spray won't seep between the petals, even though we wish it would.

And since thrips life cycles are only 10 days in length (when daytime temperatures are between 75 – 85 deg F), daily spraying will decimate your thrips population to permit you to again have beautiful blooms. The flowers will likely stay clean for quite a while, at least until your neighbor's uncontrolled thrips notice them.

A fact (not hear-say) needs to be reiterated: Thrips like roses of all colors. They seem to have a slight preference for white flowers (but I have never counted to see, and don't know of anyone else who has), and that personal observation might be predicated on the basis that they are much easier to see against a white background. And they also seem to prefer few petaled flowers, such as Sally Holmes, Sweet Penelope, maybe because they can easily spot each other thereon. And they even like freshly painted gazebos. But the deep red blooms of Uncle Joe seem to be thrips magnets. Since the outer two layers of petals (known as "guard petals") should normally be removed to give good form, it will be easier to dose any thrips running around on them, if you have your spritzer bottle handy. The other word, "botrytis" (actually "botrytis cinerea"), is the name of a fungus that inhabits rotting plant parts. Unfortunately for us, that ties to the damage of our blooms by thrips. Thrips mouthparts are rasp-like, and are used to rupture cell walls of the rose petals. The liquid seeps out of the wound and becomes a thrips meal, but there is subsequent residue (think of it as similar to the blood that oozes onto your skin when you accidentally hit a thorn). That petal "blood" causes the petals to stick together. And since the nasty thrips

Welcome New Members

Loulee Yen and Eric S. Haga
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didn't bother to "wash their little hands" after leaving the botrytis on the rotting cut grass down in the lawn thatch, they track it into the blooms. (Do you see some justification for my friend having sprayed for thrips in the grass 5-6 feet from his beds?)

I know how disconcerting it is to try to manipulate a somewhat large dirty-looking bloom to come open, only to have all of its petals fall into your hand, or to contact slimy brown petals in the process. To prevent that, some knowledgeable rosarians include Mancozeb, or Compass, in with the Orthene they are spraying for thrips.

Now I know that some people will wince at my apparent disregard for a more "natural, organic" approach to rose horticulture. Perhaps those people have never grown, or even seen a gorgeous, un-damaged by insects or disease, rose bloom. Perhaps they grow Old Garden Roses or EarthKind varieties hoping pests (fungus and insects) won't come to those "hearty" types. Perhaps they are willing to allow some blackspot or disease or insect damage in their gardens. **But I don't think that is why they joined our rose society.** I joined our rose society to learn how to successfully grow long-stemmed, beautiful Hybrid Teas (I hadn't, at that point, even heard of OGRs, but have since found them to be an interesting relic of natural hybridizations). And almost every person who has sought out a rose society for advice has been like me: "I have some roses [hybrid teas], but I am having problems." It wasn't that they made poor choices by selecting hybrid teas (OGRs have been around since before 1865, and have been passed over in favor of more-beautiful hybrids); it is that the magnificence of stem and flower of modern roses have brought the features they desire. Since there are no effective "natural" fungicides or thrips-eaters, and since manufactured products are designed to quickly decompose in the environment, we need to educate everyone on good horticultural practices and on the effective and safe use of available manufactured products that allow them to work.

Editor's Note: This article was originally published in the May 2008 issue of "The Rose-Ette" official newsletter of Houston (Texas) Rose Society.

The Man Behind Knock Out® Roses

By Jennifer Harvey

Many who thought all roses were disease magnets have been forced to take another look, thanks to the introduction of the Knock Out® rose series, marketed by Conard-Pyle Roses.

Bill Radler's Knock Out® started it all, and this caused others to join the crusade for breeding roses to be more disease resistant. Bailey Nurseries in St. Paul, Minnesota, is producing a series called the Easy Elegance Rose® Collection, and Weeks Roses also has a line called Easy-to-Love. Bailey rose breeder, Ping Lim, uses no chemicals in his evaluation program.™

Bill Radler graduated in 1968 from the University of Wisconsin-Madison with a Bachelor of Science in Landscape Architecture. After graduation, he worked with the Milwaukee County Parks System for 23 years, and from 1981-1994 as Garden Director of the Boerner Botanical Gardens. Radler developed his interest with roses as a child when he would visit his grandparents for holidays and paged through Jackson & Perkins' rose catalogs. He was 9 when he planted his first rose bush. He bought it at the grocery store with his allowance money for 49 cents. To acquire more skills and to share his experiences he joined a local rose society and at the age of 17, became a charter member of Milwaukee's North Shore Rose Society.

Bill transformed his parent's backyard into a beautiful showplace for roses. It did not take him long to realize how much work was involved in taking care of them. He started his breeding program wanting to "breed the maintenance out of roses". Radler takes no chances on selecting for disease resistance. To make sure conditions are favorable and for good measure he grinds diseased rose leaves in his kitchen blender to intentionally inoculate the plants. Following 15 years of breeding, in 1988 the award winning Knock Out® rose was created. After many years of trials all over the country Conard-Pyle Roses introduced Knock Out® in 1999. Selected as an AARS winner in 2000, in 2005 Knock Out® became the most purchased landscape rose in the United States. Since then they have introduced Double Knock-out™ (2004), Pink Knock Out™ (2005), Pink Double Knock Out™ (2007), and Rainbow Knock Out® – 2007 AARS winner. The next in the series will be Sunny Knock Out™ (2008) a pale yellow, almost white. But the Knock Out® roses are not the only roses that he has

June Rose Tips

Every rosarian has "tricks" they have learned that make gardening easier and more successful. How about sharing some of your "tricks" with others! Send your rose tips to the editor crlott@bellsouth.net.

The Robertson County Co-op in Springfield has several bags of Rainbow 13-13-13 in stock at a price of \$15.50. I called them and had them order some for the roses.

— Linda Shuler, NRS Member, Greenbrier, TN

I have had two reports of squirrels eating rose buds!! I suggested sprinkling Cayenne pepper on the buds. Maybe this will help (unless these are Cajun squirrels!).

— Marty Reich, ARS Master Rosarian

In late May or early June, remove the lower 8" or so of foliage on well established roses. This helps to keep the spider mites at bay and makes it easier to get spray materials to the interior of the bush from the bottom. Continue to check for unproductive growth fondly called "twizzles" (the swirling types of growth resembling cowlicks) and blind shoots that do nothing good for the roses. Removing them will give more energy to rose producing canes and will also improve air flow and spray coverage.

— Anne Owen, ARS Master Rosarian & Horticultur Judge

Starting in June it can get pretty dry and hot which means we need to start watering. I have a tendency to do more than one thing at a time especially while watering. I have more than once either gotten up at midnight or the next morning to turn the hose off. Now I use an inexpensive timer that goes between your hose and faucet and set it for an hour or two. I also discovered by using a timer I get more efficient watering, because I can water while I am sleeping or at work because it will shut off by itself.

— Jeff Harvey, ARS Consulting Rosarian, Horticulture & Arrangement Judge

When NRS members have a question about growing roses they are encouraged to call one of our NRS Consulting Rosarians (list on page 7). However, if you call five CRs it is likely you will get five different answers to the same question. All answers are probably correct with some better than others. So what should the confused new member do? I have found that I get best results by going to visit several other rose gardens, and when I find one that stands out above others I glean all the knowledge I can from the owner and then try to emulate what he/she is doing. Even though the NRS Mentor program offers you the opportunity to have someone come to your garden, I recommend you take the initiative and go to the Mentor's garden, observe what she/he is doing and try to catch their habits.

— Charles Lott, ARS Consulting Rosarian

Dr. Raymond Cloyd Speaks on Rose Pests at June 3rd NRS Meeting

"Rose Pests—Identification and Treatment" is the program topic June 3, 2008 at 7:00 pm for the Nashville Rose Society meeting at Cheekwood Botanic Gardens. Dr. Raymond Cloyd is Associate Professor and Extension Specialist in Ornamental Entomology and Integrated Pest Management at Kansas State University in Manhattan, Kansas. Dr. Cloyd has both a Masters and Doctorate in Entomology. He has also created Carefree Sunshine, Bright Eyes, and 2 Climbers – Rambling Red, and Lemon Meringue™. In 2008 he will also introduce Winner's Circle (climber), Carefree Celebration (shrub) and Morning Magic (climber).

These roses may not be an exhibitors dream but may get a "new generation" of rose growers hooked on this hobby. Jeff and I grow several of these so people that visit can see how really maintenance free a rose can really be.

tomology – the study of insects – from Purdue University. At Kansas State, his research involves pest management in greenhouses, nurseries, landscapes, turf grass, conservatories, and interior scapes. In addition to teaching and research, Dr. Cloyd operates a landscape gardening and horticulture consulting firm. He also supervises the landscape, greenhouse, and irrigation maintenance for several large California projects. He has published over 30 scientific publications and over 200 trade journals on topics related to pest management, authored books, book chapters, manuals, and many extension-related publications. Dr. Cloyd is a popular speaker and Nashville Rose Society is fortunate to have him for this program. You do not want to miss this opportunity.

FROM THE GROUND UP

By Leann Barron

Favorite Rose Companions

When planting roses in the garden, many of us isolate them in their own beds, away from other plants. This tradition is particularly useful for rose exhibitors and those with lots of garden space, but the roses can appear starkly bare, especially when not in bloom. For most of us, we want our roses incorporated into the mixed garden, The Queen of Flowers mingling with the commoners, so to speak.

The great British horticulturist Christopher Lloyd's advice was to combine roses with other perennials when possible. He loved roses, lecturing and writing about them all his life, including making the frightening observation, "I believe that in his choice and arrangements of roses in the garden alone, one can read a man's character." This is interesting, in light of the fact that later in life, he ripped out his mother's beloved rose garden, with some specimens over 70 years old, replacing it with cannas, dahlias and other flamboyant tropicals. Lloyd suggested that a person's true character is revealed through his art. He felt strongly about the ungainly bushes and awkward color mixes. But that is where we part ways. I don't worry too much about awkward color combinations or matchy-matching my roses with the house color or the perennials. I choose roses for various reasons, such as fragrance, repeat performance and disease resistance, plus, I like to have different colors available for cutting. Wonder what that says about "character?"

Here are some considerations to consider before investing in a companion plant for roses. Will it grow in the same garden conditions as roses? Does it prefer moist or dry soil? Can it handle full sun? What is its growth habit, and how close can you place it to other plants? What is its bloom cycle? Would the plant's texture harmonize with the rose?

Here are some of my favorite companion plants for roses:

Perennials, Vines, Herbs and Bulbs

Clematis (my favorite climbing rose companion, clematis are great for intertwining through roses--try white clematis with red roses, or purple clematis with pink, white, red or yellow roses)

Artemisia 'Powis Castle' This silver, lacy-

leaved woody perennial is a multi-purpose workhorse in the garden, and its delicate frosty foliage enhances any rose.

Calaminta (Catmint) Resembles baby's breath, available in white and purple, tall and short cultivars, great rose companion. Bees love it, so do cats!

Lavender A perennial favorite with rosarians all over the world.

Salvias Extremely useful and colorful perennial and annual cultivars available, many colors, attracts hummingbirds and bees.

Daylilies (Hemerocallis) Great underplanted with hybrid tea roses, hiding their bare "legs."

Oriental and Asian Lilies (Lilium) Classic rose companion, especially with old garden roses. One of my favorites.

Verbena bonariensis (Brazilian verbena, Verbena on a stick) an airy, tall plant, with small purple blooms that are great accents for shrub roses. Non-invasive perennial in our area. Lovely.

Dahlias So many dahlias, so little time! I'm fond of the lanky red 'Bishop of Llandaff' with its chocolate foliage. The slender stems, laden with single-petaled blooms, fall over in the summer and lace through roses--particularly great with white and yellow roses. Perennial for me.

Boxwood One of the most popular, classically attractive rose companions.

Lespedeza (Bush clover) a cascading, late summer purple-blooming shrub that I love with my few hybrid teas.

Other perennial favorites with roses:

Hydrangea, spiraea, flowering dogwood, evergreen trees (great muted backdrop for roses), phlox, buddleia (butterfly bush), bronze fennel (butterfly host plant), asclepias, colocasia, canna (especially bronze leaf cultivars such as 'Australia') rosemary, loropetalum, allium, late-blooming narcissus poeticus, Persicaria 'Red Dragon', Tanacetum 'Isla Gold.'

Annuals

Angelonia One of the best all-around annuals. Its perfect low-growing, non-stop summer blooms complement any rose. It can be planted near roses, and since it only grows

NRS 2008

Silent Auction Raises Funds

The Nashville Rose Society Silent Auction was a success again this year as a result of the hard work of Chairman Ron Daniels and all those who helped him, especially NRS Treasurer Jerry Keathley and his "money team." We raised almost \$1,000 that will help support NRS educational programs. NRS would like to express appreciation to the following Nashville area businesses who donated items for the auction:

- **Rosemania of Franklin**
- **Davidson County Farmers Coop**
- **Long Hollow Nursery of Sumner County**
- **Southern Nurseries**
- **Dickens Turf & Landscape Supply**

When you shopping for lawn and garden plants and other supplies remember to visit these businesses and be sure to thank them for supporting Nashville Rose Society.

18-24", can be used with container roses. Comes in variety of colors. Highly recommended.

Euphorbia 'Diamond Frost' This baby's breath look-alike is one of the best new annuals to hit the market. It has already won many top awards and thrives in the toughest garden situations. Its versatility is unsurpassed, I consider it a "must-have." Destined to be a classic.

Torenia Resembling violas, these are great underplantings for roses. New varieties are heat-tolerant and add a happy splash of color at roses' feet.

Other classic annuals with roses:

Dark leaved basil, petunias, sweet potato vine, sun coleus, pentas, impatiens, moon-flower vine.

Get out there and introduce your lonely roses to some new friends today. You'll be surprised at how well they get along.

NRS, Tenarky, & ARS Coming Events

Details & other event news on our website: nashvillerosesociety.com

MAY 2008

25	Nashville Rose Society - Spring Garden Tour Contact: Anne Owen (615) 794-0138, annio1203@comcast.net
31	Bowling Green Rose Show, Bowling Green, KY Contact: Kent Campbell, clairelc@aol.com (270) 842-8819

JUNE 2008

	<u>NRS Meeting @ Cheekwood - Massey Hall</u> 5:00-7:00 pm Grand Prix I - Prep & Entry Contact: Dillard Lester, d-lester@comcast.net , (615) 896-0203 6:00-6:45 pm Beginner Program: "Companion Plants for Roses" By Lynne Wallman 6:30 pm Refreshments by Melissa Gowan and Hospitality Team 7:00 pm "Rose Pests & How to Treat Them" by Roy Cloyd 8:00 pm Grand Prix I - winners announced - Dillard Lester
3	
7	Huntsville, AL: Huntsville-Twickenham Mini/Mini-Flora Rose Show, Parkway Place Mall, Contact: Bill Chappell, 256880-3773, greenmntnroses@comcast.net
14	Louisville Miniature Rose Show - Lowe's Home Improvement, 4930 Norton-Healthcare Blvd, George Jansing, gjansing@insightbb.com
25-29	ARS National Convention & Rose Show, Denver, CO Contact: pegwilliams22@comcast.net

JULY 2008

	<u>NRS Meeting @ Cheekwood - Massey Hall</u> 6:00-6:45 pm Beginner Program: "Shrubs & Old Garden Roses" By Keith Garman 6:30 pm Refreshments by Melissa Gowan and Hospitality Team 7:00 pm "Roses in Container Planting" by Barbara Wise
1	

Contributions

Nashville Rose Society is a 501c-3 organization and all contributions to the society are tax-deductible. Contributions may be made as memorials or to honor some person, group, or occasion. Checks for contributions should be made payable to Nashville Rose Society and mailed to:

CINDY WORCH

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Nashville Rose Leaf

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Jean Bruce**

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Nashville Rose Society Membership

We are a non-profit organization serving the middle Tennessee area to educate persons on growing and exhibiting roses. Membership is open to everyone who supports the objectives of the organization. Annual dues of \$20.00 includes a subscription to The Nashville Rose Leaf, the official newsletter of the society. To join send a check payable to Nashville Rose Society to:

Marty Reich, 5020 Dovecote Dr.,
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Disclaimer

While the advice and information in this newsletter is believed to be true and accurate at the time of publication, neither the authors nor the editor accept any legal responsibility for any errors or omissions that may have been made. The Nashville Rose Society makes no warranty, expressed or implied with respect to the material contained herein.

NRS 2008 Rose Sale

Potted Roses Available

Nashville Rose Society has about 60, healthy rose plants available for sale. These are No. 1 grade potted roses from Weeks Roses, Jackson & Perkins Roses and Bailey Nursery in two gallon pots. If you still need some roses for your garden, better hurry because these beauties will not last long at the bargain price of only \$20 each. To find out what varieties are still available and to place your order, contact Marty Reich, (615) 833-0791, marty615@bellsouth.net. Proceeds from the rose sale help support NRS programs and activities, including this newsletter.

ARS Consulting Rosarians

South Nashville

Leann Barron(615) 269-0240
*Marty Reich(615) 833-0791
*Glenda Whitaker(615) 373-2835

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Jerry & Marise Keathley(615)377-3034

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Murfreesboro Area

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Duck River-Centerville Area

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*Indicates ARS Master Rosarian



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 NRS Website Address: www.nashvillerosesociety.com

Photo courtesy of Jeff Harvey



Left is shown buds from the *Crested Moss* shrub rose in garden of Jeff & Jennifer Harvey. Known by several other names, *Chapeau de Napoleon*, *R. centifolia Cristata*, *Napoleon's Hat*, and *Crested Provence*, one of its prominent characteristics is the winged fringe on the edge of the guard petals. The rose is silvery pink with a button eye in the center. Exhibiting a strong fragrance the stems are a little weak for the enormous bud count. An ARS rating of 8.7 indicates its popularity among rosarians. I highly recommend this rose for a great conversation starter.

Below Alan Shew discusses the rose *Prarie Star* from his garden with Ann Lott at the May NRS meeting.



Photo courtesy of

The climbing rose *Zephirine Drouhin* in the garden of NRS Member Diane Richardson.

Wilma Wrongfoot and John Dawson enjoy refreshments at the May NRS Meeting.

Photo courtesy of Diane Richardson



Photo courtesy of Charles Lott