

# THE ROSE WINDOW



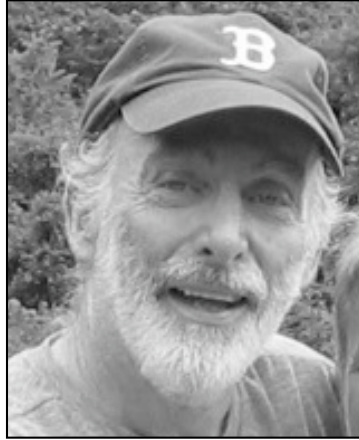
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# THE ROSE WINDOW

## Meet Oz, the new District Director

I like hats, I have worn a lot of them - literally and figuratively. I have caps from Long Beach Island to West Palm Beach, from Disneyland to Roseland, and from Brasil to (where is) Nerja. But you will most often see me wearing my favorite, a royal blue cap with a white "B", a remembrance to my beloved Brooklyn Dodgers. In the rose world I have also worn many "hats". I have been a member of the Garden State Rose Club and



eventually served as its President. Leaving the Penn-Jersey District, Audrey and I moved to Cape Cod and the Yankee District of the ARS. We joined the Seaside Rosarians, where I became the rose show chair. The next year I co-founded (with Audrey) the Lower Cape Rose Society and became its President for the next four years. Our first meeting was held in our living room, with

ten people present, and now we have a newsletter mailing of one hundred. After my two terms as President, I continue to serve the society as a member of the executive board and rose show chair.

During the past years, Audrey and I have regularly attended the Yankee District Conventions. It has been at these March meetings that I have had the opportunity to meet most of the officers and chairs of the local societies as well as those of the district. I have also met some wonderful people who support the district with their presence at the conventions and continued membership in their local societies ... more on this thought elsewhere.

Although all the accomplishments with the Lower Cape Rose Society were "labors of love", I was surprised when awarded with the Bronze Honor Medal in 2001 -- what made it extra special was the fact that Audrey was presented with the medal at the same time. The next year we were the recipients of the Outstanding Consulting Rosarian Award of the Yankee District. Soon after, we traveled to Tyler, Texas, with a mission to become certified horticultural judges. After an agonizing (mandatory?) wait, we received the good news that we were Apprentice Judges; and after some wonderful learning experiences we became Certified horticultural Judges -- mission accomplished! (continued on Page 10)

### COME TO THE YANKEE DISTRICT CONVENTION

The Rhode Island Rose Society will host the next Yankee District Convention in beautiful Newport, Rhode Island. The newly renovated and moderately priced hotel is located only a mile from the Brick Market Place and is close to the mansions, Ocean Drive and the Cliff Walk. It is also directly across from the Newport Grand Casino. We look forward to seeing you at the convention MARCH 16<sup>TH</sup> - 18<sup>TH</sup> 2007

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AUDREY OSBORN - YANKEE DISTRICT  
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## EASY ELEGANCE ROSES

By Donna Fuss

For rose Northeast, David the idea of having series of roses identified by the public. The next that was the Meidiland House of Meiland



There have been several other series that have come along, but I feel that none of them have had a significant impact on the rose growing public until the newest series to emerge - the Easy Elegance series from Bailey Nurseries.

Usually I read or hear about roses before I purchase them, however, once in a while, I purchase roses and then find out what I have. I should preface this statement by saying that this is the way I buy for Elizabeth Park. At home, when we are spending our own money, we can experiment and buy on a whim. Not so for the park. Two springs ago, there was a really sparse bed in the park. It was in the main section of the garden in a fairly prominent place. It was one of those surprises - the roses were fine in the fall but the bed was very dead in the spring. I talked to Dan Moore, the rosarian at Prides Corner Farms. He suggested a rose that was new to them, but was performing very well and it read well also. The rose was called Yellow Submarine. I purchased a bed of them for the park, and to quote another Beatles song title "I'm a Believer". We also now have bought Yellow Submarine for our yard.

I was so impressed by Yellow Submarine that I wanted to know more about it and did it have any relatives. The answer is a resounding YES! Bailey Nurseries in Saint Paul, Minnesota, a major wholesale grower, is best known for its hardy trees and shrubs. For a long time Bailey's has wanted to also be known for their roses. They started a rose growing program that involves arduous testing before the rose can ever be considered for introduction. In 1992, Bailey's hired a master, internationally known hybridizer, named Ping Lim.

growers in the Austin started a group or that were easily rose growing major group introduced was series from the in France.

He has overseen the entire program in Oregon where the Easy Elegance series has been developed. His quest is for beautiful roses that are easy to care for and are environmentally friendly. This is accomplished by hard work, critical observation and major testing.

It takes approximately ten years from hybridization to market. Every year Ping Lim creates about 25,000 seedlings. He culls them to about 1,000 to be looked at a second time. Out of this group, usually emerge ten to twenty roses that are sent for testing. For several years, these roses are inoculated with the usual fungal diseases. (While we're trying to prevent black spot by spraying, Ping Lim is giving his roses shots to get it.) There are several other test sites in the country where they are tested for disease resistance. If the rose survives the disease resistance test, they are then rewarded by being allowed to spend the next two winters in Northern Minnesota and Manitoba without the aid of winter protection. If they winter well, they may be introduced.

Ping Lim has set very high standards for his roses. They have to meet all of his criteria before he will place his name next to them. My personal experiences with the three beds that are in Elizabeth Park is so positive that I want to share these roses with you. In the park is My Hero (bed 321), Macy's Pride (bed 452) and Yellow Submarine (bed 36). There are many others in the collection. You will see more in Elizabeth Park next year and we will buy more for our personal garden. If you are looking for roses that are much easier care, extremely floriferous, winter hardy and beautiful, then Easy Elegance roses may be for you.

To learn more about these roses and find a garden center near you that carries the Easy Elegance series, go to [www.easyeleganceroses.com](http://www.easyeleganceroses.com). I hope you too enjoy your ride in a Yellow Submarine or get Grandma's Blessing or join the Fiesta or .....

### Observations from the rose garden in October

By Lee Macneil

While weeding a rose bed on a crisp cold October day I was thoroughly enjoying the peace and quiet of my yard. I was accompanied only by my 2 small dogs who kept themselves busy finding apples under our old tree, and digging holes by the stonewall. It was a great day to be attending to my end of the season chores. Colorful leaves were falling from the trees, and some time soon we would rake them into the beds to provide nature's own protection for the roses!

As I went along the bed on my knees, I pulled the little tufts of runner grass and clover from the cold dark soil. I wasn't in any particular hurry and I gave each plant a good "look over" as I came to it. I yanked a clump of grass out from under my shrub rose "Firecracker", what a fine show this bush put on this year! Funny you don't hear folks talk more about this one. Here is a beautifully shaped shrub that was as wide as it was high. It had very little black spot in a year that my garden was plagued with it. It was almost never without blooms, and has a bright pleasing cherry red single flower that fades attractively to pale pink. I wondered why "Knock Out" became the best seller that it is, and "Firecracker" is a relative unknown. Next in the bed is "Flutterbye", I love the bloom, but it is high maintenance and needs to be sprayed more often than I did this year! I'd better get all of those old dead diseased leaves out from under there! Nearby is "Bonanza" another under appreciated shrub in my opinion! Generous bloom, fragrance and super clean shiny foliage! Then "Cherries and Cream", a good rose, but she had some black spot and took a long break in between her couple of good flushes. In the middle of the bed "Soaring Spirits" resides on a fan trellis. I was very disappointed with her growth habit ..... until just last month! Last year and the first part of this season she was looking more like a low octopus type bush than a climber with "Soaring" in her name! But now that she made it to the top of her trellis I have higher hopes for her! (I have another "Soaring Spirits" in a different bed, on an arch arbor with a "Berries and Cream". The two pink and white striped flowers look lovely together, but "Soaring Spirits" cannot compare with the robust growth habit of the "Berries and Cream" of the same age.) After the trellis comes "Heart and Soul", such beauty and

fragrance in her flowers! Look at all the blooms on this cool weather lover! Poor little floribunda Judy Garland got off to a rough start after last winter. She is the smallest rose in the bed, and as she struggles to grow, her blooms knock my socks off! I will give her just a bit more winter protection than the others and who knows? Maybe next year she will be a star! Here is "Playboy", I love this rose! He's been on the market for 30 years, and he earns his keep in my garden! Oodles of blooms in the heat or the cold, he out performs most of my other floribundas with sheer abundance of flowers! Last in this line up is "Be-Bop" a low growing rose with a bright red single flower. He sends up one tall cane at a time with amazing huge clusters of blooms. He is a keeper for sure, but due to his growth habit I anticipate a move to a more appropriate spot in his future! Well, this bed is all set now. I think the dogs are getting cold. Its time to head into the house. I may have time to get to the hybrid tea bed tomorrow...

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## KEEPING A GARDEN JOURNAL

By Kate Daniels

Reprinted from the RI Rose Review

edited by Angelina P. Chute

Ever since I moved to Rhode Island from Los Angeles in 2001, I have kept a garden journal. The inspiration came from books I had read about garden design. The authors recommended mapping your site and taking pictures, and in particular taking pictures from windows and from other natural viewing points that duplicate the way you most often see your garden. Several authors rate a camera high on their lists of garden tools.

I had never taken the time to do this in Los Angeles. Too busy to buy a notebook; too busy to measure; and too busy to take pictures and then get them developed in time to use them. However, I was not always successful with my garden plans in Los Angeles. The garden design authors often stated that keeping a journal of written observations and pictures would lead the gardener to create a more beautiful garden. When I moved to Rhode Island, I resolved to start a journal.

When we arrived in August 2001, I bought a notebook. I drew a plan of the house and garden. JD and I mapped out the compass points and I put them in the journal. I took some pictures. There was not much to see. There was very little in the way of developed garden. Instead, there were some nice trees, some lumpy grass, and little else of value. I did not use pictures very often because I found it tedious to shoot a roll of film and get it developed in time to use the pictures for the journal.

My first journal lasted from August 2001 until June 2003, reflecting the condition of the garden at various points and a chronological record of what I was doing. The more interesting aspect of that notebook is that it reflects the progression of the journal leading the gardener rather than the other way around.

I had never grown spring bulbs, but I was determined to have them for our first spring. In the fall of 2001, I pored over information on plant spacing and bloom times from bulb catalogs. Using tracing paper given to me by the architect who was working on remodeling our home, I prepared a plan of early to late blooming tulips and daffodils for one planned bed, and ordered the bulbs. This was the first measured plan I had ever prepared. I folded the plan into my journal and taped down one end. When I made the plan, I envisioned a bed two feet across and thirty feet long running alongside the south side of the driveway. This area was covered with grass. JD then dug me a bed in that space to match my plan that was close to a foot deep before I amended it. The bulbs arrived. I spread out the plan and planted.

In the spring of 2002, I graduated to digital photography. I took pictures of the results in the bulb bed. I was no longer confined to rolls of film, and could put pictures in the journal contemporaneously, more or less, with timely comments. Later, we acquired a little printer that takes photographic paper, and I was able to print at home.

In the summer and fall of 2002, I woke up to the fact that the photographs I was taking were often different than my mental picture of what was happening in the garden. I started some plants from seed that I planted in the bulb bed as the bulbs died down. In my mind's eye, I saw the beauty of the plants themselves. When I looked at my pictures of the results, I was disappointed with the overall effect. In reality, which of course is what you see when you look at a photograph, I probably did not pay as much attention to spacing as I should have. The plants were too close together, creating a jumble rather than a nice mosaic, showing me that my planning was deficient. This was possibly the most important lesson that keeping a journal taught me: that I make mistakes, and that pictures help me to learn from those mistakes.

As a result, during the winter of 2002/2003, I went back to measured plans. The back and side garden areas of our home had been totally torn up by a remodel that did not end until mid-October 2002. Over that winter, I made plans for raised boxes that would hold roses and other plants without being overly full, and for a bed of cherry trees down the north side of our property spaced to grow to mature trees without interfering with each other. So far, those beds have turned out fairly well.

By this time keeping a journal was no longer simply a record of comments on the garden, pictures of plants, plans, the dates I started seeds or when I planted outdoors. I had begun taping all manner of materials into my journal. My journal is just a private set of notes. It is not a serious horticultural record, but is more like a kid's scrapbook of anything I find interesting. When I start seed that comes in packets with a pretty picture or drawing of the flower or plant, I tape the picture into the journal, with the instructions. I include photos of various critters that turn up in the garden. In 2003, we had a number of visits from a very young fox bent on eating cat food, duly snapped. We also took a few pictures of the local woodchucks before running them off. The squirrels that take peanuts from my fingers occasionally do something photogenic in a funny way. Also, we could not resist snapping pictures of our cats lolling around in the cat mint, getting a buzz. I also clip newspaper articles that I find interesting, like one on Thomas Jefferson's design for his garden at Monticello, and one on Beatrix Farrand's garden in Maine, and I tape these into my journal.



On the more useful side, when I order plant material, I tape the order into the journal. This does several things: it tells me how much money I'm spending on seeds and plants; if something goes wrong or, more happily, the plant is spectacular, I know just where it came from; and, it prevents me from ordering the same thing twice.

When I acquire a new product for plants, I tape the instructions into the journal. This way, I do not lose them, and I am able to throw away the duplicates. The first time I ordered chemicals from Rosemania, Rosemania sent me a helpful chart of how much per gallon for every chemical they sell. That chart is taped into the summer 2004 segment of my journal. Whenever we use one of those chemicals, I can turn to the chart in an instant. (And, it beats pawing through papers in a drawer!)

Keeping a journal helps me to minimize uncertainty when it comes to feeding and spraying. When I started keeping a journal, I was not particularly focused these aspects of growing roses. However, when JD and I started a program and tried to stay on it, the journal became important. When we feed or spray, I record it. If I did not, I would be dithering over how long ago we did such-and-such. This helps us avoid over- or under-feeding or spraying. Also, the written record is helpful when folding the program of feeding and spraying together. I use one spray product that comes with the instruction that it should be used only at certain intervals and also that it should be used at least five days after application of any non-organic plant food. I would never be able to follow the recommended pattern of use for this product without my journal.

Sometimes I save information for future reference without regard to when it might come in handy. In the summer of 2004, I ordered a system for irrigation and feeding. The vendor needed various items of information, and gathering it was time-consuming. My letter to the vendor, including a garden plan reflecting the measurements of the beds, is taped into my journal. I did not foresee that I would look at any of that information again, but when we needed to estimate the amount of mulch for winter protection, the dimensions of the beds reflected in the letter turned out to be useful.

I take pictures not only of the garden itself but of blooms in vases. Aside from decorating my journal, these pictures allow me to compare the size and strength of the rose blooms and their stems against pictures of blooms from the same plants when we were not feeding as much or spraying at all, and against the blooms of other roses. The pictures show what feeding and spraying will or will not do, given the nature of the plant and the length of time it has had to get established. My snaps of blooms in vases are usually taken in one of several places in our kitchen, where there is a lot of light. Because the settings tend to be similar, it is easy to make fairly valid comparisons, rather than wondering whether I am just kidding myself.

Another use for my journals is a year-end analysis of what worked and what did not. I run through my journal and list the types of seed I have started, the plants I have planted, whether the plant survived and, if so, prospered. This little exercise helps me to focus on what I need to do for the future, like moving plants, or foregoing certain seeds. It sounds like work, but I look forward to it, because I revisit my plans and ideas and look at pictures of a living garden rather than one that is buried in snow or totally brown. The pictures are helpful whether they show failure or success. The late December-early January time frame is perfect for a reality check for the coming season outdoors, and is also the time when the pictures most cheer me up.

This past February, at the Rose Society's table at the Rhode Island Flower Show, I used my current journal for still another purpose. Many people came to the table uncertain about growing roses at all. On the table, we had catalogs that illustrated beautiful roses, and we showed these pictures. I think that everyone who visited the table appreciated that, first, catalog vendors are not home gardeners, and, second, the vendors have professional photographers. To show our visitors that the result is possible in Rhode Island, I pointed out a few roses in the catalogs that I have growing at home. Then I said, "Look at the same rose as it grows in my garden in Rumford . . .," and flipped to the picture in my journal. Like they say, seeing is believing. When it comes to seeing through pictures, amateur photos showing the beauty of a rose grown locally may be more credible than professional shots.

I certainly would not derive as much pleasure or instruction from my journal without digital photography. Keeping a journal may not be a given for every gardener, but I can honestly say that keeping my journals has helped me improve. Also, since looking back on lovely blooms, especially rose blooms, can be such a charming experience, I truly regret that I did not keep at least some sort of garden journal while I lived in Los Angeles.



## THE JUDGES' TABLE

By Craig Drorschel

I am pleased and honored to have been chosen Chairman of Horticultural Judges for the Yankee District, and to have this opportunity to update matters concerning judging and schedules.

### 2008 Judging School

The District is in the early stages of planning a horticulture judging school in 2008. This will be an opportunity for current judges to update their credentials, and to train a new class of apprentice judges, and we are hoping that several of you will want to become judges. The school takes the form of a seminar for judges, candidates, and other interested parties followed by written and practical examinations for the candidates.

Why mention this more than a year in advance? The reason is there are several specific prerequisites to be met before attending the school. The entire list is below, but the following may require advance planning:

1. Candidates must be ARS members for at least 36 consecutive months prior to application. This requirement has been strictly enforced in the past. If you are not now an ARS member, it is too late to join for 2007, but be sure not to let your membership lapse if you have been a member since summer 2004 or earlier.

2. Candidates must have exhibited for at least three years, in at least five shows, winning five blue ribbons and two ARS certificates in that time.

3. Candidates must have clerked in at least three shows. The last time we had a judging school, many of the candidates, myself included, scrambled to meet the clerking requirement. It's a good idea to keep track of the names of the judges you clerked with, and at which show.

With two full show seasons to come before the school, hopefully everyone interested will be able to meet all the prerequisites. I'm sure you will be welcome to clerk at any of the rose shows in the district, but do contact the show chairman or chairman of clerks well in advance of the show date. I would also advise purchasing a copy of the current Guidelines for Judging Roses from ARS. Since its publication in 2003, there have been some revisions, including a completely written chapter on mini-flora roses. These may be found on the ARS web site. Here are the qualifications, as published in the Guidelines:

"Any person applying for an Apprentice Rose Judge Certification must have the following qualifications:

1. Must be a member, either regular or joint for 36 consecutive months immediately preceding application.

2. Must have personally grown garden roses or been involved in their culture for five years.

3. Must know intimately the characteristics and range of variability of at least 100 varieties, of largely grandifloras, hybrid teas, floribundas, miniatures, Mini-

Floras, climbers and Old Garden Roses and be able to verify labeling.

4. Know and follow ARS show rules and be aware of standards of judging; know the technical requirements concerning disbudding, bud vs. bloom, ideal form, substance, color, size, etc.

5. Must be observant and careful in all details.

6. Must be able to substantiate decisions with concrete and specific reasons.

7. Must be a person of high integrity who is able to subjugate all personal likes, dislikes and biases.

8. Must be diplomatic, constructive, definite in adhering to rules and passing judgment.

9. Must have successfully exhibited (by winning two ARS certificates and five blue ribbons) for at least three years in at least five rose shows.

10. Must have worked as a show clerk in at least three rose shows, in this way familiarizing himself with proper show procedures.

11. Must have completed an accredited judging school, (which need not be in the district where the applicant resides) and passed the written and practical test.

12. If an applicant is not successful in passing the test, one year must elapse before a member may reapply."

I would add that a judge must be willing to travel at least moderate distances to shows.

I have found judging to be an extremely rewarding and enjoyable aspect of the rose hobby, and I would encourage anyone with an interest in judging to attend the school and take the exam. Anyone interested in exhibiting would benefit from attending the seminar portion and is welcome to do so without having to meet the qualifications for the exam.

### Recent Changes and Additions

I noted that there have been changes and additions to the Guidelines, and there are also some new awards. These include the following:

Definition of a "single rose." A single rose is now defined as one that possesses 4 to 8 petals. (This should not be confused with one-bloom-per-stem.)

Court of Honor for Floribunda Sprays. ARS Gold, Silver, and Bronze medal certificates for floribunda sprays will be available should a show choose to have a court of honor in this category. The Best Floribunda Spray certificate will continue to be offered.

A fragrance certificate was approved in 2004, but to be awarded the roses must be judged by accredited judges and the decision must be made based on 70% for fragrance and 30% for horticultural excellence. I believe the intent of the latter was to be sure the roses were properly identified and not "dogs." Many shows have the public choose the most

fragrant rose, and I suspect they will happily continue to do so.

Award certificates for mini-flora roses have been available for some time now.

Climbers and "Ramblers." This category in the 1993 Guidelines includes some changes from past practices, and introduces not a few ambiguities. First of all, the word "rambler" is not used at all, as ARS no longer considers ramblers to be a distinct class in the Genus Rosa family tree. The climber class is now referred to as Climbers and Hybrid Wichuranas. This includes the large-flowered climbers and hybrid wichuranas, abbreviated LCl and HWich in the ARS references. That's the easy part. It continues true that climbing sports of "bush" roses are shown with their "bush" counterparts in the appropriate class. Now it gets complicated. Climbing hybrid teas, with no "bush" counterpart are to be shown in this class. Fine. However, there are climbers without "bush" equivalents in other classes as well, such as the recent climbing floribunda 'Stairway to Heaven.' The best information I have suggests these, by extension of the climbing hybrid tea example, be shown in the climber class. And, inconsistently, all climbing miniature roses are shown as miniatures, whether there is a "bush" equivalent ('Cl Rainbows End') or not ('Jeanne Lajoie'). Finally, hybrid multifloras ('Seven Sisters'), sometimes thought of as ramblers, are now classed as old garden roses.

I think it would be good if the ARS had another go at this chapter. In the meantime, I can try to resolve any questions on this or any other matter related to judging.

# **YANKEE DISTRICT TREASURER** **STEVE ROGERS**



District Treasury	Summary Report
01/01/06 - 12/31/	06 We had a
beginning balance of	\$8,053.57. Income
during the period	was \$3,077.89
(Spring convention:	\$2,921.93, Fall
District show: \$60.96, interest: 95.00)	Expenses for the
period were \$3,308.31 (Newsletter: \$1,499.14, District	Awards & Committee expenses \$182.99, website: \$113.35,
Fall District Show \$676.88, Consulting Rosarian School:	\$335.95, Spring 2007 convention \$500.00) As of December
31, 2006 we have an ending balance of \$7,823.15	

## **Shellys, Bergs, Macneil Winners at District Show**

**By Craig Dorschell**

John and Loraine Shelly, Dave and June Berg, and Lee Macneil were trophy winners at the 2006 Yankee District Show, held at the Harwich Community Center on Cape Cod on September 6.

The Shellys were winners of the McFarland trophy with 'Crystalline,' 'Gemini,' 'Touch of Class,' 'Signature,' and 'Rina Hugo.' They were also winners of the AARS trophy with 'Double Delight,' 'Gemini,' and 'Touch of Class,' and the Yankee Rosarian trophy with 'Robusta,' 'Fair Bianca,' and 'Golden Wings.'

The Bergs won the Moore trophy for the second year in a row with their collection of 'Glowing Amber,' 'Black Jade,' 'Jennifer,' 'Iced Raspberry,' 'Breath of Spring,' 'Miss Flippins,' and 'Sweet Diana.'

Lee Macneil's miniature rose arrangement on the theme "Champagne," using 'Glowing Amber,' won the Mildred Bryant Traveling Arrangement Trophy. The Bryant Trophy is offered to each ARS district in turn, and thus is available only every eighteen years.

Other winners were:

Queen	Shellys	Gemini
King	Shellys	Let Freedom Ring
Princess	Herma Altman	Veterans Honor
Floribunda Bloom	Shellys	Playboy
Floribunda Spray	Shellys	Cotillion
Climber	Shellys	Handel
Classic Shrub	Shellys	Robusta
Modern Shrub	Shellys	Falstaff
Dowager	Louis Horne	Green Rose
Victorian	Shellys	Rose de Rescht
Mini Queen	Dave Candler	Kings Mountain
Mini King	Herma Altman	Miss Flippins
Mini Princess	Craig Dorschel	Bees Knees
Mini Spray	Dave Candler	Picotee
Mini-Flora Queen	Craig Dorschel	Butter Cream
Mini-Flora King	The Ciaks	Ruffian
Mini-Flora Princess	The Ciaks	Starship
Mini-Flora Spray	Dave Candler	Conundrum

We're going to do it again in 2007. Patsy Cunningham is chairman, and we will be at least adding the popular open bloom classes. We would also like to encourage more people to exhibit. The district show is an opportunity for everyone to get together to display their fall roses and enjoy socializing. Come on down!



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## EARTH KIND ROSES

By Cindy & Irwin Ehrenreich

At the fall ARS Convention in Dallas, we had the opportunity to learn about Earth-Kind Roses. These are roses that were studied at Texas A&M University and the Texas Cooperative Extension. They started this study in 1996 to find roses that do well with minimal or no care. The initial 5 year program studied 117 varieties of rose bushes under the most adverse of conditions.

The theory was to replicate conditions found in nature. The roses were planted in high alkaline clay soil. No soil amendments were added. The roses were never fertilized, never sprayed, never pruned (except for dead wood) or deadheaded, and only watered the first year. What were they smoking?!!!! The only humane treatment they received was a 3-4" layer of hardwood chips mixed with ground leaves. The purpose of the

chips was to simulate the falling leaves and rotting branches on the forest floor. So, how many of these roses made the grade? Only 11 varieties out of the original 117 received the Earth-Kind designation. In order to obtain this designation, these roses exhibited spectacular blooms and outstanding disease and insect resistance. A certain amount of black spot and leaf dropping were acceptable. Keep in mind that these roses were grown in southern gardens.

Most of you are familiar with some of these already.

Mutabilis



Knock Out



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The first eleven roses to earn the Earth-Kind designation are: Sea Foam (S) Marie Daly (P), The Fairy (P) Caldwell Pink (P) Knock Out (S) Perle d'Or (P) Belinda's Dream (S) Else Poulson (F) Carefree Beauty (S) Mutabilis (Ch) and Climbing Pinkie (Cl P) Since 2001, four more roses have made the grade. These are Ducher (Ch) Duchesse de Brabant (T) Georgetown Tea (T) and Spice (Ch). In case you haven't noticed there is not a Hybrid Tea in the bunch. Don't let that keep you away from these beautiful roses. Belinda's Dream is as beautiful as any Hybrid Tea.



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In 2004, the National Earth-Kind Rose Brigade was formed to study more varieties in different regions of the country. Right now there are thirty varieties involved in this study. Fifteen of these roses were hybridized by the late Griffith Buck. A few of these include April Moon, Country Dancer, Earth Song, Polonaise, and Quietness. Some others you might be familiar with are Blushing Knock Out, Carefree Wonder, Cecile Brunner, Dublin Bay and Pink Knock Out.



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### TEXAS A&M IS LOOKING TO RECRUIT MEMBERS TO JOIN THE ROSE BRIGADE

In the Spring of 2007, the Rose Man Nursery will become a participant in this study and will be carrying a good selection of these roses. Any gardener, group or nursery can join in the study as long as you follow the protocol and report your findings annually to A&M.

Earth-Kind Roses fill the needs of those who want easy care roses that are environmentally friendly and add color and beauty to the landscape. They will take the fear out of growing roses and encourage more people to join rose societies.

## GOALS

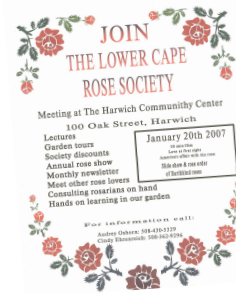
By Oz Osborn

I'm not worried about leaving less money in the treasury when my term is over. Just in case you didn't know it, I must admit that I'm a big spender. When I have money, I spend it...spend, spend, spend. I give the stuff away ! Those who know that I have it, can have some. I go with it ! The trouble is, I never have anything to spend. So, again I'm not worried about spending, because on the District level there will be several financial guard dogs watching my every move.

What I am worried about is membership. Membership on both sides of the coin. We, as local societies, have to ask ourselves two very important questions. What are we continually doing to attract NEW members, and what are we continually doing to keep our EXISTING members interested and active? The key word in that sentence is "continually". I will take the blame for preaching to the choir only if we all agree that this message is being read by many non-choir members.

The easiest place to find a prospective new member is through personal contact. You were probably invited to several parties between Thanksgiving and the New Year. What an opportunity to have asked someone if

they grow roses. It is not an opportunity lost if you call that friend - or friend of a friend - and invite them to your next meeting. There's more than one way to grow a rose (member) of course. We must become more visible in our town. Lets put an attractive flyer on the library bulletin board, lets contact the local newspapers, lets post the meeting on the community television screen, lets inform the local garden clubs of the date, time and program, lets do something ! We have to promote rose growing through visibility and education. We can do it by making every gardener interested in becoming a rose gardener.



### NEW FACES - POTENTIAL MEMBERS - "GET THEM INVOLVED"

When a guest, your friend or a complete stranger, comes to your meeting, we should try to have them leave as a member. Of course they should be greeted with smiles, eye contact and conversation. "How are your roses doing?" is a great way to start. If they are not ready to join that day, make sure that the membership chair has their name and address or e-mail. A colorful combination brochure-application and maybe a current newsletter or recent ARS magazine should be in their hand. Good luck !

Even more important is the vitality and perhaps rejuvenation of our current members. We are groups of people who have formed societies with a common goal of growing the most magnificent roses possible. Through these societies bonds of interest and friendship should develop. Therefore a successful meeting is filled with rose culture and warmth. The rose information has to be timely, simplified and easily remembered. The atmosphere has to be personal and relaxed. It may follow that the most important people in the society are the program chairs and the meeters and greeters. Do you know



everyone at the meeting? After the program, you have a chance to share your experiences with other members.....know their names, and have them know yours. In my introductory message I mentioned "the seminar would not have been a success without several of our overused members helping"... It is a sign of a weak society whenever a minority of the members do a majority of the work. And I mentioned "some wonderful people who support the district with their presence at the conventions and continued membership in their local societies". I am willing to wager that these "faithful" are waiting to be asked into service in many capacities. Do you know their names? Where are the meeters and the greeters?



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**ROSES IN REVIEW 2006**

By Clarence Rhodes, RIR Coordinator, Yankee District

ROSES IN REVIEW is the method the American Rose Society uses to arrive at the rose variety rating number in the Handbook for Selecting Roses which each member receives once a year. Each district has a RIR coordinator who receives the report from the District reporters and compiles the data. The data is then forwarded to the National RIR Coordinator. The RIR report can be submitted to the District RIR coordinator by paper report or electronically by an online form at ARS headquarters. The form is usually available in the June issue of the ARS magazine and online at that time.

Here is how it works. When a new rose variety is registered it is not put on the evaluation list the first year. The reason, it gives the public a year to grow the variety. Then it is put on the list for three years. It has to receive at least ten reports nationally to achieve a rating number in the Handbook. The reporting form has a comprehensive description on how to complete the report form. You do not have to be an ARS member to submit a report. Consulting Rosarians are required to submit a report each year.

Below is a summary of the reports for the Yankee District as submitted to the National Coordinator. The full report will be available at the Spring Convention. The name of all the reporters will be in the "hermetically sealed envelope". The lucky winner will receive a twenty-five pound bag of Magnum Grow fertilizer. You have to be present to win.

**NUMBER OF REPORTERS: 37**

TYPES OF ROSES	FL	GR	HT	LCL	M-M/FL	SH/OGR	SP-GR	TOTAL
NO. OF VARIETIES	14	7	19	5	33	17	8	103
NO. OF REPORTS	54	28	54	7	88	39	11	281
NO. OF PLANTS	62	41	69	8	125	71	22	398

**DISTRICT DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE** (continued from the front page)

When Art Emmons informed me that the position of Chair of Horticultural Judges had become available, I told him that I was interested and he later told me that I was "hired". I am still proud of the judging seminar that was held at the Harwich Community Center in conjunction with the Fall District Rose Show. Of course, the seminar would not have been a success without several of our overused members helping to fill in because of last minute speaker cancellations ... more on this thought elsewhere. Then came the latest award, the Silver Honor Medal of the American Rose Society, which Audrey and I received in 2005. So there it was, I had received three coveted awards - The Bronze Honor Medal, the Outstanding Consulting Rosarian award, and the Silver Honor Medal - all at the same time as my wife Audrey. Like I always said, to paraphrase Billy Graham, "The family that Sprays together, Stays together".

A while ago, Art Emmons asked me if I would consider following him in the position of District Director. I immediately told him that there were several very qualified people in the district that had more experience and seniority than I had. After going through the names, I told him that I would be happy to accept the offer ... not because I was better qualified or had more experience .. But because I couldn't resist putting on one more "hat". I'll try my best which is all that anybody can ask. I will also remember that the difference between wearing a halo or a noose is only twelve inches. Looking back on the last six years, I am not as worried about my new hat fitting as I am about filling a big pair of shoes. Thank you Art, for your dedication, sacrifices and service to the Yankee District of the American Rose Society.

## YANKEE CONVENTION IN NEWPORT

Despite the fact that we haven't had a Winter yet, it's time to think about Spring. Each spring in March, the Yankee District of the American Rose Society has a Convention. Each of the local rose societies of the Yankee District, i.e., the Rhode Island, Connecticut, New England, New Hampshire, Lower Cape, Maine and Quebec Rose Societies take turns hosting this event. This year, Rhode Island will be hosting it in Newport from March 16 to 18.

Take a look at the schedule in the newsletter to see what we have planned for this weekend. The main events are all on Saturday March 17, but since they start early and end late, you might want to take advantage of the inexpensive hotel rooms we have reserved under the Yankee District name. If you look on the Convention registration, you'll see that you must reserve your room early, as Newport is extremely busy on St. Patrick's Day weekend. The hotel can hold the rooms only until February 23, 3 weeks before the convention. Register now for the convention while it's fresh in your mind, though we will have the forms online as well if you misplace them.

For those who come on Friday, we have a large Hospitality Room reserved for us (room 258). The informal wine tasting was so enjoyable last year that we're keeping that and adding a beer tasting as well. Boston Beer, the maker of Samuel Adams, will be donating some of their many varieties of beer for us to taste. As before, bring your favorite bottle of wine you'd like other folks to taste. Saturday starts with coffee, juice and pastries while we register and make introductions. We'll have a "slide show" running in the background while we eat, with photos of various Yankee District events and people from the last few years. I'd love it if you have any digital photos you could email me ([patham@cox.net](mailto:patham@cox.net)) to add to the slide show. Our first speaker will be Irwin Ehrenreich, who, along with his wife Cindy, owns The Roseman Nursery on the Cape. Irwin will give a presentation on Earth Kind roses, a topic of great interest to those who want to grow roses without chemicals. He will be followed by Lisa Bednarski from Eden Bioscience of Seattle, the creator of "Messenger", a natural growth enhancer used on roses and other crops. Meanwhile, upstairs in the "conference room", there will be rose and garden related vendors selling their products throughout the day.

We'll then have a banquet luncheon, followed by Lois Fulton & Nancy Warner, the Worm Ladies of Charlestown. Lois and Nancy will explain the art of vermiculture and its use in enriching the soil for your roses. You'll also be shown how to build a worm composting bin. After a break, Wendy White from Nor'East Roses, now located in California, will give a presentation. Wendy is the hybridizer for Nor'East, which specializes in breeding miniature roses.

We'll end the afternoon with a big raffle. I'm hoping that besides the individual societies bringing a prize for the raffle, individual members would consider a donation of something that they make or grow or a service they do. This raffle, along with the auction in the evening, is the only fundraiser that the district has each year.

The evening starts with drinks in the restaurant bar, next to our meeting/banquet room. Tom Carruth of Weeks Roses, our keynote speaker, will follow our big dinner buffet. Tom is well known to all of us through his wonderful new introductions of recent years. I guarantee that you have a number of Tom's roses in your garden. Here's a very short portion of the long list he has hybridized: Hot Cocoa, Outta the Blue, Julia Child, Blueberry Hill, Fourth of July, Scentimental, Moonstone, Crystalline, Cajun Moon, Wild Blue Yonder and Harm Saville. You can see his work ranges from exhibition hybrid teas, to minis, climbers and wonderful shrubs and floribundas. The Yankee District awards follow next and finally one of my favorite parts, the rose auction. Bare root roses donated by various producers will be raffled off at bargain prices. This is where you can often get new varieties that won't hit the market for an additional year after the convention. We'll adjourn to the hospitality room.

Sunday morning after breakfast, there will be the yearly Yankee District meeting. As always, everyone is invited to attend this meeting. If you're coming from a distance, take advantage of Sunday afternoon for a drive around Brenton Reef, shopping at the Brick Market Place or seeing the Newport Mansions.

If you've never come to a convention before, come now. You'll find our district is full of people who are not only knowledgeable about roses, but are also interesting enjoyable people who make good friends.

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**The 2007 ARS Yankee District Convention  
Hosted by the Rhode Island Rose Society  
March 16, 17 and 18, 2007  
Best Western – The Mainstay  
151 Admiral Kalbfus Road, Newport, Rhode Island, 02840-1310  
FRIDAY EVENING, March 16**

**6-8 PM**                      Registration in lobby  
**6 PM**                        Hospitality Room open  
**8 PM**                        Informal beer and wine tasting in hospitality room (room 258)  
                                 Samuel Adams Brewery will be donating the beers to taste. Bring your favorite  
                                 bottle of wine to share)

**SATURDAY, March 17**

**8:00-8:45AM**            Registration  
**8:45-9:30AM**            Coffee, juice and pastries with background Slide Show: Yankee District Moments.  
                                 Vendors upstairs.  
**9:30AM-9:40AM**        Welcome  
**9:40-10:30 AM**          Irwin Ehrenreich – Earth Kind Roses  
**10:30 -11:00AM**        Break for vendors (in upstairs conference room) and raffle tickets  
**11:00:00-11:50AM**    Lisa Bednarski – from Eden Bioscience in Seattle  
**12-1:15PM**              Lunch (private area of restaurant beside conference room)  
**1:30-2:20PM**            Lois Fulton & Nancy Warner - The Worm Ladies of Charlestown  
**2:20-2:45PM**            Break for raffle tickets and vendors  
**2:45-3:35 PM**            Wendy White – Nor'East Miniature Roses hybridizer  
**3:35- 4:15PM**            RAFFLE  
**6-7 PM**                    Cash bar in hotel restaurant  
**7-10 PM**                   Banquet Dinner, keynote speaker Tom Carruth, hybridizer for Weeks roses  
                                 followed by District awards and rose auction  
                                 Hospitality Room (room 258) open after dinner

**SUNDAY, March 18**

**6-10 AM**                   Breakfast in hotel restaurant  
**9:30 AM**                   Annual Yankee District meeting, upstairs conference room  
**11 AM**                     checkout



## **THE ELIZABETH PARK CENTENNIAL ROSE**

By Donna Fuss

The long awaited (for some people) rose is here. Elizabeth Park Centennial is in the Rose Garden. It is a beautiful, pale pink, with a raspberry or deep pink picotee edge, hybrid tea. The form of the bush is upright and it is of medium height. It has a fairly fast repeat and it seems to always be in bloom.

Elizabeth Park Centennial was hybridized by John Mattia of Orange, Connecticut. John is an amateur hybridizer, but he is no amateur when it comes to roses. John is one of the top three rose exhibitors in the United States, having won all of the top national awards including the prestigious McFarland and Nickelson trophies. John is one of the founding members of the Connecticut Rose Society, he is both a consulting rosarian and a master consulting rosarian for the American Rose Society, as well as being a Horticultural Judge. John is also a member of the Board of Directors of Friends of Elizabeth Park.



In 1998, John accepted the challenge of hybridizing a rose to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Elizabeth Park rose Garden. He met the challenge well and Elizabeth Park Centennial was chosen out of all his seedlings. The original introduction of Elizabeth Park Centennial was unfortunately delayed because of production problems with a small commercial grower. Luckily, John still had a few bushes in his garden. He contacted Tom Carruth, the head hybridizer for Weeks Wholesale Roses, who agreed to produce Elizabeth Park Centennial. The Friends knew that they would have Elizabeth Park Centennial, we just had to wait. The stock or mother plants would be available for planting in the 2006 garden and the orders would be ready for purchase in May, 2007. John has exhibited his blooms of Elizabeth Park Centennial this spring in two New England rose shows and has won the coveted Best Seedling award in each show.

This rose, planted in pots, is a limited edition and will be available for pick up in May of 2007. If you would like to have a commemorative Elizabeth Park Centennial rose, you may reserve it by sending your check and the order form to the Friends.

The order form is available in the information Center in Elizabeth Park, the Pond House or on the Elizabeth Park web site [www.elizabethpark.org](http://www.elizabethpark.org).

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The 2007 ARS Yankee District Convention  
Hosted by the Rhode Island Rose Society  
March 16, 17 and 18, 2007  
Best Western – The Mainstay  
Newport, Rhode Island

Come join us for a fun filled weekend in Newport with fellow New England rosarians. Make reservations at the hotel by calling 401-849-9880. See the Yankee District website for links to the hotel, local attractions and custom area maps. The Yankee District block of rooms can only be held until February 23, 3 weeks before the convention. Since this is Saint Patrick's Day weekend, a very busy time in Newport, DO NOT DELAY in making your hotel reservations. Friday night is \$59, Saturday is \$88. The hotel is located across from the Newport Grand Casino and is 1 mile from downtown Newport with its shopping and restaurants, mansions and spectacular Brenton Reef coastline

NAME(s): \_\_\_\_\_

(please print name(s) as you would like it to appear on name tag)

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

Registration fee for convention: \_\_\_\_\_ X \$30 each

after March 3 \_\_\_\_\_ X \$35 each

FRIDAY EVENING Beer & wine tasting FREE

SATURDAY LUNCH

Grilled Chicken Caesar Salad \_\_\_\_\_ X \$15 each

Thin sliced London Broil with fresh mushroom sauce \_\_\_\_\_ X \$20 each

served with green beans almondine

Both are served with Italian wedding soup & apple pie for dessert

SATURDAY AWARDS BANQUET

(Tom Carruth – keynote speaker)

Deluxe Buffet \_\_\_\_\_ X \$30 each

with Steamship Round & Roast Sirloin au jus carved by chef

Baked stuffed scrod with Newburg sauce

Baked stuffed breast of chicken

Roasted potatoes, fresh vegetable; caesar and tossed salads, assorted desserts, coffee, tea

SUNDAY BREAKFAST

Dine on your own in Hotel Restaurant

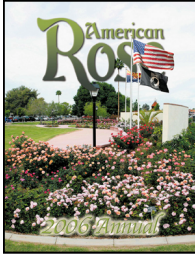
TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Everyone is invited to attend the Annual Yankee District Meeting after breakfast Sunday, beginning promptly at 9:30AM  
In the upstairs conference room. Please send this application and your check, payable to RIRS, by March 3 to:

Marion E. Cafferky PO Box 466, Wrentham, MA 02093.

For more information, contact Patsy Cunningham at [patham@cox.net](mailto:patham@cox.net) or 401-965-8286

# Join the American Rose Society



By joining the American Rose Society today, you will receive a coupon for a free rose from Northeast Miniature Roses.

You will receive The American Rose, a monthly magazine published by ARS and the American Rose Annual as your December issue.

The Handbook for Selecting Roses, an annual rose ratings guide to thousands of roses in commerce.

For more info see ARS.ORG or call 1-800-637-6534 mention you are joining from the website.



## Rose Shows

### June 16, 2007

New England Rose Society  
Rhode Island Rose Society

### June 23, 2007

Lower Cape Rose Society  
New Hampshire Rose Society

### June 24, 2007

Connecticut Rose Society

### September 8, 2007

Yankee District Rose Show &  
Lobster Fest

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## THE ROSE WINDOW

% WILLIAM "OZ" OSBORN  
12 SCOTCH PINE FARM  
EAST HARWICH, MA 02645