



The Rose Window



PC: Lauren Gisel

Turning Up The Heat

BY LAUREN GISEL

It is hard to ignore the intense heat waves that have been dominating this year's summer weather. My southern New Hampshire garden experienced several consecutive days of over 90 degree Fahrenheit weather with minimal reprieve overnight.

As observers of the gardens, we can all agree that the oppressive heat of peak summer affects the rate of plant growth and bloom cycles, but the question is why? And what can we do to protect the roses?

Inside:

HEAT STRESS IN ROSES

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE LOCAL SOCIETIES' ROSE SHOWS

PROPAGATION PARTY

A SPECIAL SECTION FOR THE ARS NATIONAL CONVENTION!

Signs of Heat Stress in the Rose Bloom

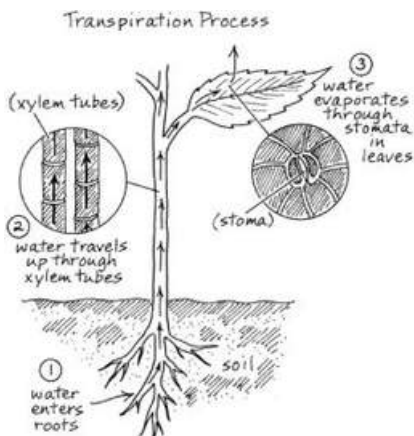
A bull nosed growth deformity of a rose bloom (pictured) is another sign of heat stress. This more commonly occurs on red roses due to their increased pigment density. The pigments absorb more heat during the day than lighter colored roses and then re-release the heat later in the evening.

Cool cloudy weather followed by intensely hot, sunny days will encourage the edges of petals to burn. This is also more likely to occur in red roses due to their increased pigment density.

PC: Fraser Valley Rose Farm

*High humidity
decreases watering
needs.*

On the under surface of the leaves, there are small pores, termed **stomata**, that allow for the evaporation of water. Ground water enters the plant through the root system and travels up the plant via a network of **xylem**, ultimately reaching the stomata. This occurs passively by capillary action: there is no pump that moves water. Water's intrinsic cohesive properties maintain a continuous water column.



If the ambient temperature is hot and the air is dry, water evaporation from the leaves will increase. If the soil also dries excessively, so that the roots cannot absorb enough water to counterbalance the increased water losses, you will notice the leaves beginning to droop. This is a signal that air has entered the xylem and the plant loses its turgidity, or firmness. If you notice drooping of the roses, it is time to increase irrigation in the garden, but be sure to keep the hose directed to the soil.

PC: Brett Carlson, University of Alaska

However, in times of high humidity, the air around the leaves is heavily saturated with water vapor and transpiration, or the evaporation from the stomata, slows down. Therefore, less water is pulled from the plant in high humidity and aggressive watering will not actually benefit the rose.

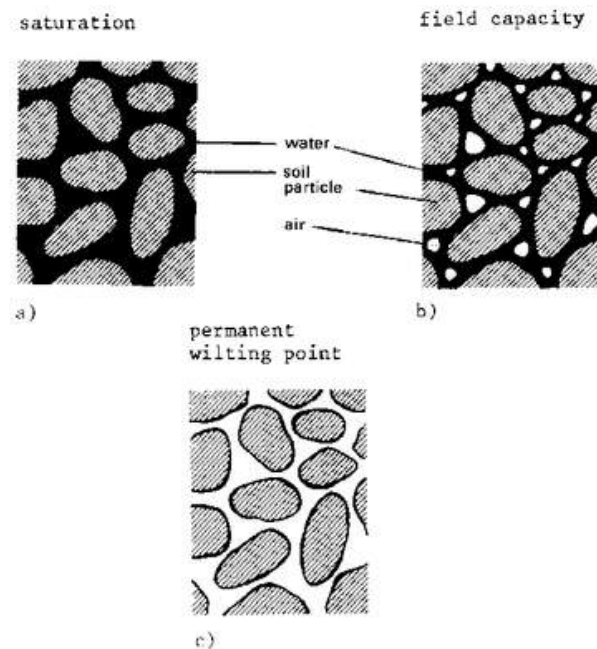
While it may be tempting to increase the watering of our gardens during times of extreme heat, I encourage you to take care with how you use your hose. Overhead watering will leave droplets sitting on the leaves. While the droplets may help cool the plant, they also act as magnifying glasses, intensifying the heat and energy coming from the sun. The result? Burning of the leaves!



Heat Scorching of Leaves
PC: Treloar Roses

Desiccated soil will expose the roots to an increased concentration of soil salts. This direct mineral contact damages the roots and therefore limits their ability to supply the plant with water and other valuable resources. The change you will notice above ground include scorched leaves and wilted stems. As the volume of soil around a potted rose is much less than that around an in-ground rose, the soil in a pot is more prone to desiccation and will likely require a more frequent watering schedule.

*Consider thoroughly watering
once or twice a week to support
soil and root health*



A) Saturated (non-aerated) soil; B) Wet soil with air and oxygen pockets; c) Desiccated soil

PC: FAO.org

However, as New England is a temperate zone, we also experience heavy summer rain storms. Heavy rainfalls (or heavy soaking by an enthusiastic gardener) will displace air and oxygen away from the roots. The lack of oxygen stresses the root structure, and primes the plant to further damage. If this rainfall is followed by intense dry heat, the plant is unable to match the metabolic demand of growth and wilting of new shoots will occur.

Daily watering of the roses will encourage superficial root growth, where high soil temperatures and soil desiccation is most likely to occur. Instead, heavy watering once to twice a week will encourage the roots to grow deeper into the soil.

Extra care must be given to roses that are newly planted during the heat of the summer. As you transfer the rose from the pot to the ground, the roots are exposed to the large air pocket in the newly dug hole. As the warm air pulls water from the new plants, the roots will pull air instead of ground water, and your new plant will look sad and droopy. This underlines why it is so important to promptly “water-in” newly planted roses upon moving them to the ground.

A generous 2-4" layer of mulch around the rose will provides an insulating barrier from the heat of the sun. This will minimize temperature extremes in the soil and aid in moisture retention of the soil



A Well Mulched Rose Bed

PC: Fine Gardening

Regardless of your best efforts, temperatures above 85 degrees Fahrenheit will cause your roses to enter a state of dormancy. You may notice a pause in new shoot growth, new leaf growth and smaller bloom size, if blooming at all. Do not fret! This is only temporary. Once the temperatures begin to decrease in August and September, your roses will awaken and your patience will be rewarded with fresh flowers for the landscape and for the home.



PC: Lauren Gisel

NERs Rose Jubilee 2024

Tewksbury, MA

Mahoney's Garden Center

Winchester, MA



PC: Regan Duffee

The New England Rose Society hosted a vibrant 2-day Rose Jubilee at two of Mahoney's Garden Center locations. On May 4th, the festivities began at the Tewksbury location, where our small but passionate crew engaged with customers, sharing their love of roses and what makes being a part of the New England Rose Society so special.

The celebration continued on May 25th at Mahoney's in Winchester, MA. Despite it being Memorial Day weekend, the event drew a bustling crowd, with rose season in full swing and excitement in the air. Mahoney's kindly donated a rose to every volunteer. The Jubilee was a great success, resulting in nine new members joining the society, expanding our community of rose enthusiasts.



PC: Regan Duffee



Rhode Island Rose Society

25TH ANNIVERSARY ROSE SHOW

Photos sourced from RIRS Facebook Page





Photos sourced from RIRS Facebook Page

RHODE ISLAND ROSE SOCIETY'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY ROSE SHOW

Silver Celebration

The Rhode Island Rose Society celebrated its 25th anniversary in grand style at their annual Rose Show, held on June 8th at the Valley United Methodist Church in Hope, RI. Themed "Silver Celebration," the show, co-chaired by Nancy Gaiewski and Linda Joslin, dazzled with many impressive entries. Zach Lau's stunning Elina rose captured the top honor as Queen of the Show, while Cindy and Irwin Ehrenreich's multiple head table entries earned them the Sweepstakes Award. It was a spectacular event for all who attended!



FOR MORE PHOTOS OF THE WINNING ENTRIES VISIT:

RIRS.ORG



Previous Page: Top-Irwin & Cindy Ehrenreich with Nancy Gaiewski

Center left: Anthony Brunetti with Nancy Gaiewski Center Right: Mike & Angie Chute with Nancy Gaiewski

Bottom-Entries for the Masterpieces of the Garden Class

Current Page: Top-Zack Lau with with Nancy Gaiewski

Middle-Rose' All Day - Diane Brailsford's entry

Bottom-Jacqui Nye with Nancy Gaiewski

Rhode Island Rose Society

25TH ANNIVERSARY ROSE SHOW

SILVER CELEBRATION

CLASS	ROSE	EXHIBITOR
Hybrid Tea Queen	Elina	Zach Lau
Hybrid Tea King	Dick Clark	Alice Thomas
Hybrid Tea Princess	Mother of Pearl	Rachelle Desrochers
Miniature Queen	Soroptomist International	Zach Lau
Miniature King	Ty	Dave Candler
Miniature Princess	Daddy Frank	Dave Candler
Miniflora Queen	Leading Lady	Zach Lau
Miniflora King	Dr. John Dickman	Dave Candler
Miniflora Princess	First and Foremost	Jacqui Nye
Dowager Queen	Gallica macrantha	Patsy & Ed Cunningham
Victorian Award	Rose de Rescht	Cindy & Irwin Ehrenreich
Classic Shrub (*Best Shrub)	Cape Diamond	Patsy & Ed Cunningham
Rhode Island Gold Rosarian Award	Crescendo, Signature, Lee Ann Rimes, Folklore, Mohana	Zach Lau
Sweepstakes		Cindy and Irwin Ehrenreich
ARRANGEMENTS		
By the Light of the Moon	Madame Hardy, Rosa glauca	Patsy Cunningham
Anniversary Waltz	DeeLish, Queen of Sweden	Nancy Gaiewski
Rodeo Rose	Dublin Bay	Laurel Curtis
For the Love of Roses		Diane Brailsford
Rose Jubilee	Easy Spirit	Nancy Gaiewski

Photos sourced from RIRS Facebook Page





New England Rose Society

2024 Annual Rose Show

“A Rose for Every Garden”

PC: Regan Duffee





**LAUREN GISEL &
DAVE CANDLER**



**LAUREN GISEL &
JASON CAPOTE**



**LAUREN GISEL &
REGAN DUFFEE**

The New England Rose Society's Rose Show, themed "A Rose for Every Garden," took place on June 15th at the beautiful New England Botanic Gardens at Tower Hill. Irwin and Cindy Ehrenreich stole the show, claiming Queen of the Show with Soft Whisper, and winning the Sweepstakes Award, continuing their streak from Rhode Island. Dave Candler also had a standout day, with eight entries making the head table. A fun highlight was the efficient work of the judges, led by Mike Fuss, who impressively completed their duties ahead of the 12pm curfew. We have to give a shout out to Dave Cannistraro and Baldo Villegas, who hosted educational seminars, and entered blue ribbon roses!



**LAUREN GISEL &
DAVE CANNISTRARO**

Photos sourced from NERS Facebook Page



New England Rose Society 2024 ANNUAL ROSE SHOW

“A Rose for Every Garden”

CLASS	ROSE	EXHIBITOR
Hybrid Tea Queen	Soft Whisper	Cindy & Irwin Ehrenreich
Hybrid Tea King	Philosopher's Rose	Baldo Villegas
Hybrid Tea Princess	Red Intuition	Zach Lau
Miniature Queen	Edisto	Dave Candler
Miniature King	Arcanum	Dave Candler
Miniature Princess	Ginny	Dave Candler
Miniflora Queen	Dr. John Dickman	Dave Candler
Miniflora King	Show Stopper	Dave Candler
Dowager Queen	Indigo, 1845	Zach Lau
Victorian Award	Jacques Cartier, 1868	Lynne Harrington
Modern Shrub (*Mod Shrub Queen)	All the Rage	Lynne Harrington
David Austin Roses (*Mod. Shrub King)	The Pilgrim	Cindy & Irwin Ehrenreich
Modern Shrub Princess	Distant Drums	Dave Candler
Mike Lowe Trophy	Gallica officinalis, Tuscany Superb, Felicite Perpetue	Zach Lau
English Box - David Austin (*Best Box)	Jubilee Celebration, Lady Emma Hamilton	Regan Duffee
Sweepstakes		Cindy & Irwin Ehrenreich
ARRANGEMENTS		
Roses for the Formal Garden	Moonlight in Paris	Lauren Gisel
Roses for the Cottage Garden	George Oliver	Jacqui Nye
Roses for the Zen Garden	Euphoria	Jacqui Nye

PC: Irwin Ehrenreich



Potluck & Propagation Party

JUNE 22, 2024

EHRENREICH'S HOME & GARDEN

BARNSTABLE, MASS

PC: Regan Duffee



On June 22nd, Irwin and Cindy Ehrenreich opened their home and garden to members of local rose and garden societies. Attendees enjoyed walking through their rose garden, boasting over 500 roses. Their garden has graced the pages of Country Garden Magazine, Cape Cod Magazine, Better Homes & Gardens Rose Gardening, and even the cover of American Rose Annual. Following the tour, Irwin lead a workshop, teaching how to take cuttings, with the hope they will sprout roots and grow into mature rose bushes. Guests then enjoyed a rare opportunity to stroll through the garden on their own, taking cuttings from the many out-of-commerce rose bushes, making it a truly memorable day for rose enthusiasts. The day ended under the rose covered pergola, where new and old members had a chance to enjoy some sweet treats and socialize. We want to thank the Ehrenreich's for their incredible hospitality.



Upcoming District Events

**September
9-13**

ARS National Convention
Warwick, RI

**September
14**

NERS Garden Party
Bedford, NH

**September
21-22**

New England Fall Flower Show
Wellesley, MA

October 12

RIRS Calendar Photo Contest

October 19

NERS Founders Day
Chateau Norwood

Yankee District Rose Society

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Photos sourced from NERS & RIRS Facebook pages



Jeannette Danehy



Dave Cannistraro



Baldo Villegas



Paul Raymond & Frank Karikas



Angie & Mike Chute



Irwin Ehrenreich



The Rose Window

We Will Be

‘SAILING ON A
SEA OF ROSES’



Thanks to Our Sponsors

BY PATSY CUNNINGHAM

When this newsletter comes out, we'll be preparing for or on our way to the ARS 2024 National Convention. It is being held at the Crowne Plaza in Warwick, a beautiful and convenient hotel for this event. It will feature multiple speakers from around the country, as well as our keynote speaker Matthias Meiland from France. All of the speakers are of course "gratis" in thanks for them coming and sharing their time and knowledge with us. There will be a National Rose Show, requiring use of the hotel ballroom, tables, signage, and certificates. We will be having two major banquets as well, for which programs, centerpieces and posters are being made. The outgoing and incoming presidents of the ARS and the old and new boards will be meeting during the week and there will be meetings for the Yankee, Penn-Jersey and New York Districts as well as an ARS member meeting. All this requires renting multiple rooms and audiovisual set-ups. The website, financial program and registration all needed to be purchased.

Inside:

THANK YOU TO THE
SPONSORS & RAFFLE
DONORS

REMEMBERING
NATIONALS PAST &
LOOKING FORWARD TO
SEPTEMBER

WHY I'VE GONE TO PAST
NATIONALS & WHY I'M
GOING TO THIS
NATIONALS



PC: IHG.com

You might think that the registration cost would cover all this, but in fact it does not even come close. It falls upon the host district to find the financial means to pay for this. There would be no way to host this Convention without the very generous support of our Sponsors. The convention sponsors were obtained through the work of our sponsorship chair Deb Konicki. They are all featured on our [seaofroses.org website](http://seaofroses.org) as well as on the Facebook page and Facebook group. This article is meant to showcase them and our donors to everyone in the District.



Photo sourced from LinkedIn

The conference will feature seminars by many distinguished rosarians from across the country, including keynote speaker Matthias Meiland

Our Premier Level sponsor is Easy Elegance® Roses. We have known them in the past as Bailey, the general name of the company who produce “Endless Summer® Hydrangeas”, “First Editions® Plants” and “Easy Elegance® Roses”. Varieties in the line-up of Easy Elegance® Roses will be known to most of our members, I daresay there are few who don’t grow at least one. I counted 27 different Easy Elegance® varieties on their website at easyeleganceroses.com. If you read through the names, you’ll see why their advertising motto is Easy Elegance® Roses: Roses You Can Grow.



Easy Elegance “Grandma’s Blessing

PC: easyeleganceroses.com”

These are among the types of roses we want to recommend to the public, who are looking for beautiful no spray easy care roses. We should let them know that Knockout is not the only rose variety that the average person can grow! Debbie Lonnee, a representative of Easy Elegance®, will present on the ‘History and Future of Easy Elegance Roses. So we may find what they are looking to achieve next.

Here is a list of the Easy Elegance® Roses now in commerce:

All the Rage, Champagne Wishes, Calypso, Chi, Coro Park, Coral Cove, Funny Face, Grandma’s Blessing, Head Over Heels, High Voltage, Kashmir, Kiss Me, Little Mischief, Macy’s Pride, Music Box, My Girl, Mystic Fairy, Oscar Peterson, Paint the Town, Pinktopia, Screaming Neon Red, Snowdrift, Sunrise Sunset, Superhero, Sweet Fragrance, Yellow Brick Road and Yellow Submarine

The sponsors for the National Rose Show are Joe and Carrie Bergs. Carrie is presently our American Rose Society treasurer and is our incoming Vice President. Looking online, I found that the Bergs were brand new to roses in 2008 and now grow over 400. Carrie has given a wide variety of talks and podcasts on roses and is known for her enthusiasm. Her slogan when first running for vice president was "Get Carrie'd away with Roses!"



*Photo sourced from
Carrie Bergs for ARS Vice President Facebook Page*



PC: Carrie Berg

The sponsor of our outgoing president celebration on Tuesday night in honor of Diane Sommers is Heirloom Roses. Heirloom is a wonderful commercial rose grower and offers over 900 varieties of roses. In these times when it seems like there are fewer rose varieties available, this is quite an achievement. Heirloom Roses is known for propagating their varieties on their own roots. However, unlike other companies that sell own root roses, these are not small plants grown in bands but are in industry standard 1 gallon pots. They are guaranteed virus-free.



Diane Sommers' Celebration Dinner is sponsored by

HEIRLOOM ROSES

PC: Diane Sommers' LinkedIn

With over 900 varieties, it's hard to give you an idea of their offerings. I've put a few on their sponsorship poster. There will be printed copies of their catalog in the registration bags at the convention. You can go online at heirloomroses.com and search under a variety of categories, such as breeders like Buck and Clements, categories like climbers, roses for containers, roses by zone etc. They also have collections like thornless roses, shade tolerant roses, and winter hardy roses.

They have also generously sent us a number of roses for the raffle or silent auction, including Green Romantica, Parfuma Earth Angel, Because She Served, Baronne E. de Rothschild, Louis Clements, Buxom Beauty, All American Magic, Joan Fontaine and La Fleurette. You can see all of these on our [convention Facebook page](#) where Jacqui Nye posted them or on the [Heirloomroses.com website](http://Heirloomroses.com).



BECAUSE SHE SERVED



LA FLEURETTE



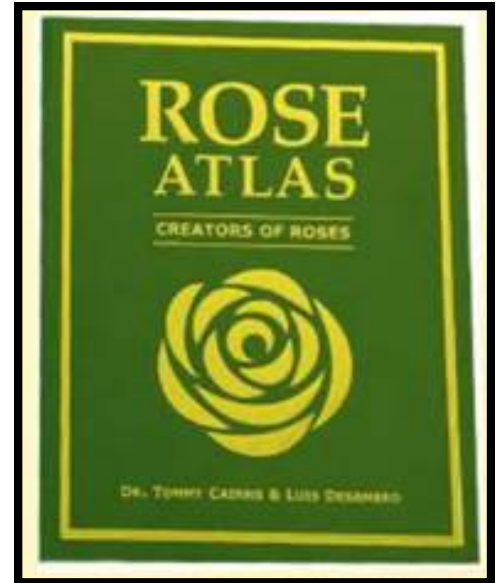
JOAN FONTAINE

PC: Heirloom Roses



We have a unique sponsorship from the Beverly Hills Rose Society with their donation. Beverly Hills is donating a copy of the exceptional book, 'Rose Atlas - Creators of Roses' to the full registrants for the convention (one per couple).

This is the second volume of the Rose Atlas, co-authored by Dr Tommy Cairns and the late Luis Desamero.



*Photo sourced from
Luis Desamero's Obituary*

Luis was just lost to the rose world and his family and friends this past week.

Some of our generous members and societies also made sizable contributions. We have quite a few horticultural, arrangement and photography judges invited. Bruce and Liz Monroe are sponsoring the Judges' breakfast for the rose show day.

We have two special donations that will be live auctioned at the Tuesday night banquet. Our auctioneer for this event is Mike Chute of the Rhode Island Rose Society.



*A Kathy Wykoff quilt
will be up for auction!*



First is a handmade reversible quilt by Kathy Wykoff featuring rose fabrics. Kathy is known for making quilts for the purpose of supporting ARS National Conventions.

The second is the naming rights of a special exhibition form miniflora rose hybridized by Dr James Sproul. The winner can choose to name the rose after someone special to them or go wild and name it (pretty much) what they would like. The winner will also have this rose shipped to them and can propagate it or have someone propagate it for them. Baldo Villegas, a well-known exhibitor and lover of minifloras, helped choose this rose from among Jim's seedlings. He feels it will be a winner.

What Will Be The Name Of This Rose?





We were surprised and pleased to see how many folks were willing to donate as part of the registration process. It really adds up to be an enormous help. Please visit our Donors page to see their names as well as the “in-kind” donations for raffles and auctions.

For anyone who may feel moved to make a donation to help cover our costs, our treasurer Maria Connell has worked with our credit provider to get this QR code that brings you right to a place to make a direct donation. If you haven't used a QR code before, you typically just point your phone's camera at it. A little square will appear around it and the website name and link will be shown below. Just click on that name and you will be connected to the direct donation site for the convention.

Last date for registration is August 30 so that food might be ordered.



*Thank you, again,
to all of our generous sponsors!*

*Many thanks to
Our Premier Level
Convention Sponsor!*

easy elegance[®]

ROSES YOU CAN GROW[™]



Funny Face



Daint the Town



Kashmir



All the Rage



Mystic Fairy



Music Box

See the whole collection at
<https://easyeleganceroses.com>



Coral Cove

Have You Been To An ARS National Convention? What Are You Looking Forward To At This Year's?

ROSARIANS LOOK BACK ON PAST NATIONALS & LOOK FORWARD TO THIS YEAR'S



I am looking forward to meeting the sponsors and other rose growers (to understand what does well in other climates, what roses they grow, how many, etc) The rose show! Photography show!
I'm excited for the whole experience: To be at a national event in Rhode Island!

VALENTINA NARDINI

In Syracuse there was a Mini National Convention. Many of our Yankee District friends were there. We were the only ones to exhibit since the rest were judging. We won 'Rose in a Bowl'. Cindy's photo of Autumn Sunset won Princess of show in the photography contest. There was a Friday evening buffet dinner and costume party with the theme 'Dress like a rose'. Some costumes were Queen Elizabeth, Mr. Lincoln, etc. This is where I got the idea for the 2019 District Convention on the Cape where we had a 1967 themed Summer of Love and Roses costume party/dinner/dance. I was the DJ and attendees dressed like hippies.

IRWIN EHRENREICH

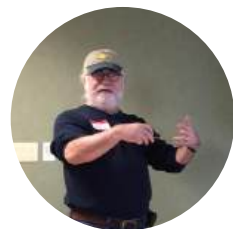


This will be my first one! I have no idea what to expect and I think that is just building my excitement! The Yankee District Convention was my first "big" rose event. I had gone with my sister and I wasn't even a member of NERS or ARS yet. The convention was so much fun, I signed up that weekend and raised my hand to be the editor of the YD newsletter. If that was the result of all the energy at a district convention, I can't wait to experience a Nationals!

LAUREN GISEL

In Memphis, TN, there was, during the banquet dinner, an Elvis Impersonator and band. They performed in between courses. While there, we visited the Peabody Hotel where, twice daily, ducks come out of the elevator and waddle down a carpet runner to a water fountain while tourists applaud and take photos.

IRWIN EHRENREICH



I love seeing all the different varieties of roses we cannot grow here and the people. Everyone has so much to share and are willing to talk anything roses.

JACQUI BILODEAU NYE

Have You Been To A Nationals Before?

What Are You Looking Forward To At This Year's Nationals?

ROSARIANS LOOK BACK ON PAST NATIONALS & LOOK FORWARD TO THIS YEAR'S



We were at the National in Dallas, Texas. Texas is so big and so was the airport, Dallas-Fort Worth. We rented a car with Oz & Audrey Osborn. It took us almost an hour of driving to finally leave the airport. On one of the days, we took a 1-hour bus ride to Chamblee's nursery in Tyler, Texas. This was at the time of the Earthkind Rose Trials. We made a stop at the location of the trials to witness it in person. Chamblee's had a page in their catalog of all the Earthkind roses in addition to many Polyanthas and Buck Roses (hybridized by Griffith Buck). We had a rose nursery at the time so we ordered a lot of Earthkind, Polyanthas and Buck Roses to sell. Everyone on the bus went home with a little potted Buck Rose. The convention had vendors selling rose related items and books. We had been to many District Conventions but there were no vendors. So, at the next District Convention, we started the first vendor room with gloves, pruners, birdhouses, soaps, etc. and we've kept it going for many years after.

IRWIN EHRENREICH

When I went to the Nationals in Syracuse I really enjoyed meeting everyone. There are all of these rosarians that you admire and hear about, but at the Nationals, I got to meet them in person. I also had a chance to clerk for the National Photography Show and I learned a lot. I didn't get to exhibit but this year I'm going to try!

JEANNETTE DANEHY



I went to the Nationals held in Syracuse and Gettysburg. Everything was great - it's like a Yankee District but bigger! This year, I am really looking forward to the amateur hybridizer panel. I have a great seedling from Imogen that has 100s of flowers from the bottom to the top of the stem. I really want to bring it to the show. I am also looking forward to Mike Chute's seminar about the Brownell roses since it's from New England. Irwin Ehrenreich will also have a presentation about the Cape Cod gardens - that should be really great as well.

DAVE CANNISTRARO

At the Gettysburg convention, there was a Civil War era themed costume party. Cindy made her own dress for the occasion. We visited the Gettysburg Museum.

IRWIN EHRENREICH



Thank you to the Sponsor of our
Outgoing President Celebration Banquet!



HEIRLOOM ROSES®

Making Our World Beautiful,
One Rose at a Time



Earth Song



Dee-Lish



Double Delight



The Peet's Wife



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Top Gun



Why I Have Gone to Past ARS Conventions Why I Plan to Go to



THE ARS NATIONAL CONVENTION IN RHODE ISLAND

BY: JASON CAPOTE



Hello members of the Yankee District and anyone else reading this newsletter, I am writing to you to share my experiences at past national conventions and to convince anyone who is still sitting on the fence about attending this upcoming national convention in Warwick, Rhode Island.

Since I joined the ARS in 2016, I have been to every ARS National and Mini-National Convention that my work schedule would allow, only missing the National Convention in Milwaukee in 2021, since the opening of that event was the first day of my new job in my new career. I have also been to a plethora of District Conventions since then as well, but I will get to that more later. The question of course is why attend an ARS National Convention and for that I have the following reasons:

I.) *Learn About What is Going on in the Rose Industry*

This is a huge reason why I go to rose conventions and it cannot be understated. It is our chance to see how the industry operates in terms of how roses are bred and propagated, why certain roses are discontinued, and what new roses are coming onto the market and what makes these roses stand out among other unsuccessful cultivars. At the Fall 2018 Convention in San Diego, I learned from a lecture given by Tom Carruth, former hybridizer at Weeks Roses, just how long it takes to breed new roses. Roses are apparently produced quite quickly but it can take up to 4 years for them to be properly trialed and then another 3 years for them to be mass propagated and sizably grown for the market. In total, it takes 7 years to go from a seed at the corporate farm to your garden.



TOM CARRUTH DURING HIS PRESENTATION

PC: Jason Capote



ROSA SOULILIANA

PC: Trevor White Roses

Some even take longer, as Tom Carruth's 'Julia Child' all started from a seedling of *Rosa souliliana* bred by Herb Swim in the 1950s. Similarly at the hybridizer panel at the Shreveport National Convention in 2023, we were told what hybridizers are looking for when developing roses for the mass market, hint: it is all about the easy care for households on the go, lots of color to act as eye candy, and hopefully a lot of fragrance to seal the deal on the sale at the local nursery. Even amateur breeders are trying to meet these demands as they hope to one day be picked up by a large corporation to have their roses mass produced.

At this convention in Warwick, we too will have a hybridizer panel led by Jim Sproul to learn what amateur hybridizers are developing across the country. We will also enjoy a talk from Matthias Meiland whose roses are introduced in the United States by Star Roses, a talk from Debbie Lonnee about the future of the Easy Elegance Series of Roses, and a talk from Christian Bedard, the current lead hybridizer at Weeks Roses. I had the pleasure of meeting Christian Bedard in 2016 at the Gettysburg Mini-National Convention where he famously said that Weeks Roses determined that most rose buyers are women over 70 who prefer their roses to be pink, red, and sometimes white, with lots of petals and with English Bloom Style flowers. For this author who loves Hybrid Teas and other varieties with exhibition form in odd and bright colors, I hope that his new presentation will delight me in saying that this has changed since the pandemic.

PC: starrosesandplants.com



DR. JIM SPROUL

2.) *Learn How to Take Better Care for Your Roses*



DR. MARK WINDHAM
PC: Nashville Rose Society

At ARS sanctioned events across the country, top scientific researchers present data on how to deal with rose related diseases. Similarly, seasoned rose growers also share their experiences, successes and even failures. If you are new to rose growing, or even if you are an old, seasoned hand, you don't want to miss this part as we all strive to grow better roses.

It was at past conventions that I connected with Dr. Mark Windham who has since shared his research on how to combat Rose Rosette Disease and updates on how to deal with Blackspot. At times, he has even shared his opinion on the new scourges of the Northeast such as Canker and Rust in his Q&A Sessions. At our convention in Warwick, we will hear from Diana C. Lopez Arias about current research on Blackspot Disease Resistance, which will surely not disappoint.



PC: The Spruce / Marie Iannotti

Unsightly Black Spot



DIANA C. LOPEZ ARIAS
PC: University of Minnesota Website

3.) *Enjoy the Rose Show*

This is important. So often we get so consumed in our own pursuit of growing “perfect” roses that we forget to literally take a step back to stop and smell the roses. Whether you are an exhibitor or just someone who enjoys growing roses, the show never disappoints.



JULIA CHILDS ROSE

PC: Jason Capote

*“[...] we forget to
literally take a step
back to stop and
smell the roses.”*

It is at rose shows where we get to see what grows in our area and around the country and where we are often introduced to new varieties, whether they are actually new cultivars or old varieties that are just “new to us”. It is also where you can see artfully crafted rose arrangements and gorgeous photos of roses.



PC: Jacqui Nye

For those of us who are experienced exhibitors such as myself, it gives us the opportunity to have our 3 seconds of fame if we can pull off a big win on a national stage. For those of you who may be new to exhibiting, heed my advice - bring what roses you have and exhibit them anyway! Show the world what you and your garden can do! First and foremost, even roses that do not win the big prizes are still very beautiful and you will get the chance to show attendees from all over the country what grows best in your garden.

Second, national conventions are some of the best places to learn from not only our own success and failures at showing good roses, arrangements, and photographs, but also where we can learn from the successes of our other more experienced peers. For example, it was at my first National Convention in Gettysburg, PA in 2016 where I learned the valuable lesson that roses with thin petals, while gorgeous, will not survive more than a day in the refrigerator. My beautiful bloom of 'Medallion,' while having perfect color and form and was murmured to be the rose to beat, the bloom did not survive its time in the refrigerator.

From this I learned that all roses that are to survive more than a day from a show, must be cut when they are slightly underdeveloped and that roses with thin petals like 'Medallion,' need to be protected from long stints in the refrigerator. Similarly, from watching other experienced exhibitors in the prep room, I learned how to properly groom my roses and was still able to achieve many blue ribbons and a best novice award for my specimen of 'Julia Child'. Despite being new to showing roses, I was able to make great value of just silently watching our more experienced peers.

4) *Meet New Friends*

This is one of the biggest perks of attending a national convention. With attendees from all across the country, we can meet new people with whom we can connect, network, and form lasting friendships. This is all possible because at a national convention, the rooms are filled with like minded people. It is at these conventions where I have made many amazing friendships. And it was at my first convention in Gettysburg in 2016 that I met many of you for the first time.

I drove many hours to Gettysburg and there were so few people from my local society. It was at this event that I was graciously invited to sit for dinner at a table with members from the Rhode Island Rose Society, and another night at a table with members from the Connecticut and New England Rose Societies. It was at this event where I became great friends with Jacqui Nye, the incoming Yankee District director, Audrey and "Oz" Osborn, and the former editor of this newsletter, Andy Venable who I still miss every day.



DAVE LONG, CRAIG DORSCHER, DAVE CIAK

PC: Jacqui Nye



PC: Andy Venable

I also met Marci and Bob Martin, Ed and Patsy Cunningham, Craig Dorschel - our incoming ARS President, Dave and Sandy Long, John Mattia and Baldo Villegas who were inseparable with their antics, and Marijana Toyn, who was in full period attire for her talk on the history of roses earlier in the day. Also at the convention, I connected with Bill Kozemchak from the Philadelphia Metro Region, who has become a great friend of mine, John and Cheryl Smith of Maryland, who is one of our best amateur hybridizers and a member of our Backyard Hybridizer Panel in Warwick, and Satish and Vijaya Prabhu from the Carolinas, who are perhaps the nation's top rose exhibitors and from whom I learned greatly from in the aforementioned rose show prep room.

PC: Baldo Villegas



LOIS FOWKES PRESENTING THE NICKELSON PERPETUAL CHALLENGE TROPHY TO VIJAYA AND SATISH PRABHU

It is because of these connections that I enjoy traveling to attend as many district as well as national conventions across the country. I am always up for meeting new people, meeting old rose friends, and seeing new things and how people grow roses differently in different parts of the country. Because of this I have been to district conventions as far as my car can drive me - as far south as North Carolina, and as far north as Andover, Massachusetts. It is also why, if I have the time to get off work, I am willing to

grab a midnight flight out of New Jersey to attend a convention in Shreveport, Louisiana after working a full shift with over 180 students. Or why I am planning to drive in the dead of night each way from New York City to Warwick to attend the convention.

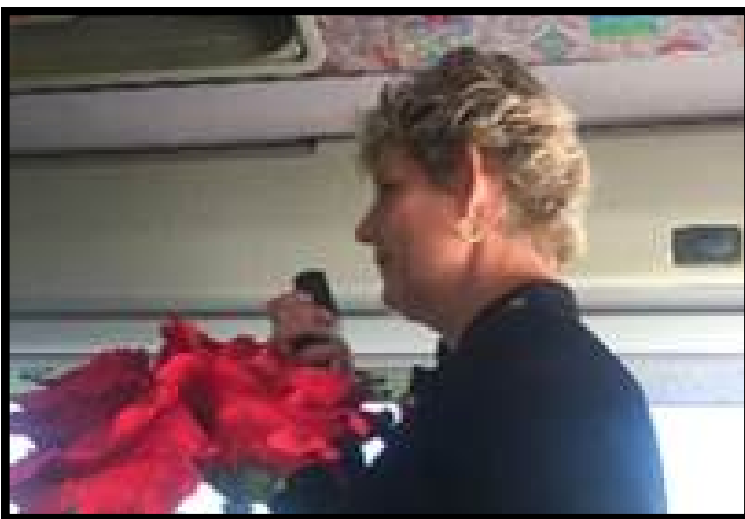
“With attendees from all across the country, we can meet new people with whom we can connect, network, and form lasting friendships.”

5.) *Take A Walk Through History*

ARS Conventions are some of the best opportunities we have to tour our country and see its amazing historical, cultural, and geographic locations. I truly enjoyed the Gettysburg Ghost Tour as an optional excursion at my first national convention in 2016. I also enjoyed the hospitality of the North Central District who invited me on their bus tour of the Gettysburg Battlefield, which is where I met our current ARS President Dianne Summers and our incoming ARS Vice-President Carrie Bergs who led the tour.



PC: Jason Capote



PC: Jason Capote

Similarly, at the 2018 Spring Mini-National Convention in Jacksonville, Florida, I thoroughly enjoyed our trip to St. Augustine where we got to see such historical sights as "the Fountain of Youth," and the Castillo de San Marcos.

I also ventured off on my own during past conventions that did not include historical outings, taking advantage of my free time during an ARS convention. For example, at the Fall 2018 ARS National Convention in San Diego, Jacqui Nye and I created our own adventure by exploring Coronado - visiting the historic hotel, the Pacific Ocean, and snapping photos of roses growing in highway medians. These included perennially fickle varieties such as 'Double



PC: Jason Capote



PC: Jason Capote

Delight,' 'Just Joey,' 'St. Patrick,' 'Angel Face,' and 'Medallion.' Similarly, during the 2019 National Convention in Nashville, Tennessee, I went on my own to see the Hermitage, home and present-day museum dedicated to our 7th President

Andrew Jackson, the replica of the Parthenon built for the Tennessee Centennial Exposition in 1897, the Bellevue Manor and Rose Garden, and got to eat authentic Nashville Hot Wings for lunch and Nashville BBQ for dinner.

At our convention in Warwick this fall, all of you will have the fantastic opportunity to visit the Breakers, the summer home of the Vanderbilt Family, recently featured in HBO's "The Gilded Age." It is truly a remarkable experience through history as one of the most famous works of art and architecture in US history. If you have the time to stay for the last day of the convention, I implore you to see this cultural and historical masterpiece.



PC: Jason Capote

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