



Rose Lore

Mesa-East Valley Rose Society
Affiliated with the American Rose Society

Bob O'Brien, editor

www.roses4az-mevrs.org

January 2009

**Next Meeting —
Thursday, 7:00 p.m.
January 8, 2009**

**New Member Orientation 6:30 p.m.
Eisner Library Community Room
Monthly Meeting**

Friends and family welcome.
Refreshments will be served.

Bring your rose questions
and concerns. See you there!



Unnamed rose
MEVRS test garden @ Mesa Community College

January Program

Spring Pruning, Planting
& Rose Care
Panel of Experts

Join us as we refresh our memories
about what to do when:
pruning various types of roses,
how much to prune, removing leaves,

DON'T MISS THE MEVRS ANNUAL ROSE AUCTION

Saturday, FEBRUARY 21st
Mesa Community College
Navajo Room in the Kirk Student Center
(that's the clock tower bldg!)
Check website for correct time!

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**MEMBERSHIP
DISCOUNTS**

The following nurseries will give MEVRS members a 10% discount (unless otherwise indicated) on any rose-related purchase when you show your membership card.

In some stores you must pay by cash or check only to receive the discount.

Be sure to get your annual Membership Card from the Membership Chairman.

**A & P Nurseries (15%)
Four Valley Locations
Gilbert, Mesa (2), Queen
Creek**

**Berridge Nursery
4647 E. Camelback Rd Phx
Potted roses always in
stock!**

**Gardener's World
3401 E. Baseline Rd., Phx**

**Harper's Nursery
Three locations:
Mesa, Scottsdale and Phx
480-964-4909 (Mesa)
Potted roses still in stock**

**Treeland Nursery
2900 S. Country Club Dr.,
Mesa
480-497-2525**

**When you patronize
these businesses,
please thank the
manager for support-
ing the MEVRS!**

FLASH

"Attn: to the Rose Society: A&P Nursery now offers a 15% discount to members on non add items or net items. Please show clerk current membership card.— Rob Johns"

**A & P Nurseries
Four Valley Locations**

Gilbert: 2601 E. Baseline Rd.

Mesa : 2645 W. Baseline Rd.

Mesa : 6129 E. Brown Rd.

Queen Creek : 40370 N. Gantzel Rd.

FLASH

**MEVRS Member Bob Martin is a candidate
for Vice President of the American Rose Society.**

Check out his election website:

<http://bobmartinarsvp.com/>



Love and Peace

**Ruth Hauenstein, one of the founding members
of our Rose Society has moved to a group home at
2550 South Revolta, Mesa, AZ. 85209. She would
appreciate receiving New Years Greeting from any
of our current members.**

**ANNUAL ROSE AUCTION 2009
FEBRUARY 21, 2009**

*Here is a preliminary list of some the roses to be included in
the Annual Rose Auction.*

Look for more additions in the February newsletter.

Fabulous	FL	White	Rock and Roll	GF	Red blend
Germiston Gold	HT	Yellow	Dream Come True	GF	Yellow blend
Intrigue	FL	Mauve	Sunstruck	HT	Yellow blend
Honor	HT	White	Flutterbye	CL	Yellow blend
Mr. Lincoln	HT	Red	Coffee Bean	Min	Red blend
Gold Medal	GF	Gold	Pillow Fight Shrub		White
Iceberg	FL	White	Sentimental	FL	Red blend
Perdita Shrub		Apricot	Wild Blue Yonder	GF	Mauve
Ambridge Rose		Shrub	Innocencia Shrub		White
Spirit of Freedom	Shrub	Pink	Rockin Robin		
Veteran's Honor	HT	Red	Sheila's Perfume	FL	Yellow blend
Pink Promise	HT	Pink	Strike It Rich	GF	Yellow blend
Cherry Parfait	GF	Red/White	Memorial Day	HT	Mauve
Marmalade Skies	FL	Orange blend	Julia Child	FL	Yellow
White Majesty	HT	White	Crowd Pleaser	HT	Deep Pink
St. Patrick	HT	Yellow	Falling In Love	HT	Pink
Nicole Carol Miller	GF	Mauve	Marilyn Monroe	HT	Apricot blend
Gold Medal	GF	Yellow	Moonstone	HT	White blend
Pink Peace	HT	Pink	French Lace	FL	White blend
Charles Aznavour	FL	White blend	Playboy	FL	Red blend
Bronze Star	HT	Yellow blend	Vavoom	FL	Orange
Silver Star	HT	Mauve	Candy Land	CL	Pink blend
W. W. II Memorial Rose	HT	White	Easy Going	FL	Yellow blend
Remember Me	HT	Orange blend	Let Freedom Ring	HT	Red
Francois Rabelais	FL	Red	Crystalline	HT	White
Colette	CL	Pink	Love's Promise	HT	Red
Red Eden	CL	Red	Cherry Parfait	GF	Red blend
Black Bacarra	HT	Red	Be-Bop Shrub		Red blend
Jardins de Bagatelle	HT	Pink blend	Purple Heart	FL	Mauve
Mon Cheri	HT	Red blend	Chihuly	FL	Yellow blend
Olympiad	HT	Red	First Federal Renaissance	HT	Pink
Ingrid Bergman	HT	Red	Elegant Beauty	HT	Yellow blend
September Mourn	FL	White	Celebrity	HT	Yellow blend
Summer Love	HT	Yellow	Crown Princess Margareta	Shrub	Apricot blend
Home Run	Shrub	Red	Cara Caramella	Shrub	Light Yellow
Lasting Love	HT	Dark Red	Grest Grafyn Esterhazy	H China	Medium Pink
Legends	HT	Med Red	Babu Bloomfield Abundance	H China	Lt Pink

Rose Definitions (source WIKIPEDIA)

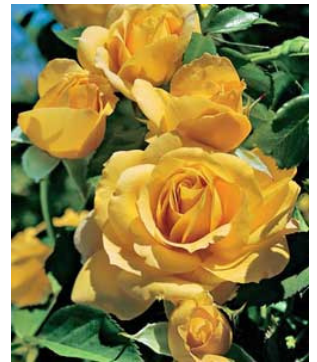
A **rose** is a [perennial](#) flowering [shrub](#) or vine of the [genus](#) *Rosa*, within the family [Rosaceae](#), that contains over 100 species. The species form a group of erect shrubs, and climbing or trailing plants, with stems that are often armed with sharp [thorns](#). Most are native to Asia, with smaller numbers of species native to Europe, North America, and northwest Africa. Most are all widely grown for their beauty and fragrance. Rose plants range in size from tiny, miniature roses, to climbers that can reach 20 metres in height. Species from different parts of the world easily hybridize, which has given rise to the many types of garden roses.

Modern Garden Rose Classifications (from MEVRS)



Climbers: Strong plants that produce long, arching canes with blooms of various forms, shapes and colors. They can be trained to grow over or around arbors, fences, trellises and walls.

Picture: RED EDEN



Floribunda: Characterized by their ability to bear profuse flowers in large clusters, with more than one blossom in bloom at any one time.

Picture: JULIA CHILD



Grandiflora: These roses are similar in height and form to hybrid teas, but produce more sprays.

Picture: CHERRY PARFAIT



Hybrid Tea: The most commonly known class of roses. They produce large, long-stemmed blooms, usually one per stem.

Picture: St PATRICK

Miniature: Smaller versions of modern hybrid tea & floribunda, blooms up to 1" diameter.

You are invited to come and help prune the rose bushes in this award-winning rose garden at Mesa Community College, 1833 W. Southern Avenue just east of Dobson Road. Pruning will be from 9 to 12 a.m. each Saturday beginning January 10th through February 28th.

Consulting Rosarians, who are rose experts, will demonstrate and teach proper pruning techniques at 9: a.m. each Saturday. Volunteers should bring their own gloves and shears. We do have some to lend if needed.

MCC Maintenance will come through the Garden first and mechanically cut all the bushes to a manageable height. Then volunteers will do the fine-tune pruning, shaping the bush, and removing dead and crossing branches.

Volunteers usually stay and work for several hours, but some clip all day. Volunteers may also ask for an MCC parking pass which allows them to come and prune any time they want.

Bill Henslin will bring his tool sharpening tools to the garden on January 10, 2009 and February 7, 2009. For a nominal fee, *(which goes to the garden)* he will sharpen shears, loppers, knives, etc

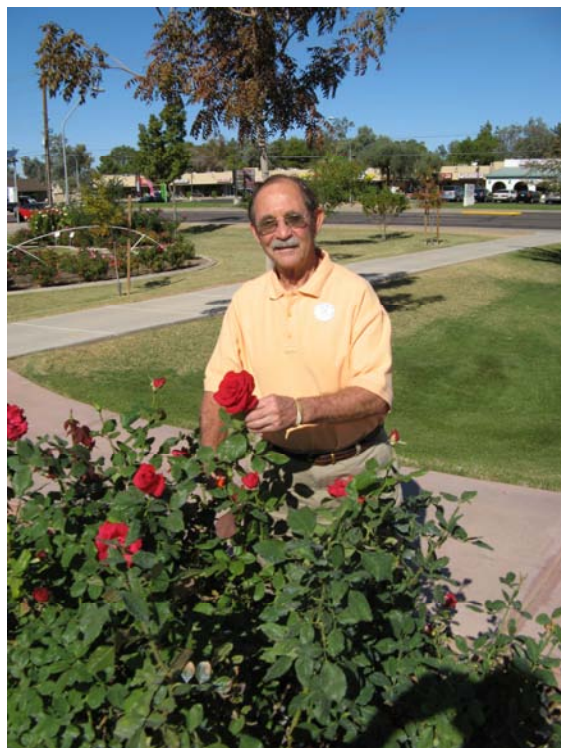
Coffee and Krispy Kreme doughnuts are served each Saturday. As an added incentive, volunteers are given a free raffle ticket for each hour they spend pruning. At the big celebration held in March, volunteers are invited to a garden luncheon to thank them as we celebrate We-Have-Finished-Pruning-the- MCC- Rose- Garden. At that time, the winning free raffle tickets are drawn and winners receive nice garden prizes including excellent pruners and loppers.

We are looking forward to having you join us in this great community endeavor!

For additional information:

Contact Carol Poe, Volunteer Coordinator.

Call (480) 895-7793 or e-mail: CAROLJPOE@msn.com



Mike Cryer, experienced pruning volunteer, shows his pride and joy in the garden, Veterans Honor rose.



Veterans Honor HT



Earthworms and Roses

By Robert B. Martin, Jr.

(ED: This article was originally published in 2002. The author has recently updated the material.)

There are over 3,000 species of earthworms in the world, all of which have the familiar earthworm appearance. Their bodies have many similar looking segments with a glandular organ, called the clitellum, near the middle. The most important to rosarians is the night crawler, *Lumbricus terrestris*, one of the largest of the earthworms.

The night crawler is common throughout the Southwest, and appears in almost any moist soil that is loose enough to burrow through and that has sufficient organic matter on which to feed. The worms seek levels in the soil that best suit their needs. As soil dries out they move deeper, but when the soil becomes water-logged, earthworms emerge from the soil to escape drowning. Because of their preference for loose moist soil, as well as their dislike of heat, earthworms are much less prevalent in the Arizona desert. But with an understanding of their nature, they can be encouraged to populate our gardens.

Earthworms follow a well-defined yearly cycle. The cycle starts in the fall. At that time, most of the earthworms are young. With the advent of wet, cool weather, they become extremely active physically. During damp, cool nights, and occasionally on wet cloudy days too, they come out of their burrows to seek new areas to inhabit. Within a few hours of a night, they may migrate a considerable number of feet. With dawn, they disappear into the ground but the tracks they leave in the soft ground are evidence of their nocturnal meanderings.

This high level of physical activity normally continues throughout the fall, winter and spring. During this period, the young earthworms mature and more eggs are laid. The heat of the summer slows down their activity considerably and large numbers die. This process can be slowed by using compost and mulch to keep the soil cool.

Earthworms thrive best on organic debris that contain a high percentage of nitrogen. This growth is encouraged through the addition of organics and mulch. Water is also a major necessity of earthworms as they contain about 80% water by weight and lose about 15% per day. If moisture is not available they will dig deep into the soil to find it.

Earthworms are capable of burrowing with considerable speed, especially in loose soil. Consequently earthworms are one of the most effective agents for loosening and aerating the soil. This is of particular importance in Southwest soils that have a high clay content. The intake of water by soil is dependent for the most part on the presence of extraneous channels. Earthworms are highly effective in making such channels. Earthworms form an interconnected web of channels that allow water to penetrate quickly throughout the soil.

Earthworms and Roses (con't)

Earthworm burrows also make passageways for the rose roots to grow. The worms perforate the topsoil especially and gradually penetrate the subsoil, opening it for root growth. Research has shown that earthworms introduced into uniformly packed soil completely altered the uniformity of the packed soil cores and significant preferential movement of nitrates occurred in these columns.

Also important is the granulation of the soil which earthworms bring about. This is accomplished by their production of castings from the soil and organic debris that they eat. As the soil becomes granulated with castings, it gets looser and looser.

Earthworms affect the ability of soil to supply nutrients by taking organic debris from the surface and incorporating it into the topsoil. They digest the debris and excrete in their castings the nutrients they do not need. These castings are deposited in their channels throughout the topsoil and some even in the subsoil. So distributed through the root zone, the castings constitute a source of nutrients for roses. The richness of the castings depends on the kind of organic debris and mineral soil that the earthworms have for food.

Earthworm castings are clearly visible in any soil inhabited by earthworms. During damp seasons of the year, cast production is especially prolific. At that time, castings are even deposited on the surface of the ground. However, there are always many more castings underground than there are on top.

A worm casting is a biologically active mound containing thousands of bacteria, enzymes, and remnants of plant materials and animal manures that were not digested by the earthworm. An important component of this dark mass is humus. Humus is a complicated material formed during the breakdown of organic matter. One of its components, humic acid, provides many binding sites for plant nutrients, such as calcium, iron, potassium, sulfur and phosphorus.

It has been demonstrated that earthworm castings contain about five times the nitrate, seven times the available phosphorous, three times the exchangeable magnesium, eleven times the potassium and 1.5 times the calcium as regular soil. . Research has also shown that microbial activity in worm castings is 10 to 20 times higher than in the soil and organic matter that the worm ingests.

Another effect is that the casts are always more neutral (closer to pH 7) than the surrounding soil. This helps neutralize the acids or alkali that may be present in the soil thereby optimizing the pH for the root development of the plant.

Because of their benefits, both earthworms and their castings are available for purchase commercially. However there is little reason to do so. A soil that is hospitable to earthworms will attract them naturally and the purchase of castings is an expensive way to get what earthworms provide for free. A better expenditure of money would be in the purchase and application of organic mulching materials to create a hospitable environment for these useful creatures. If you feed them they will come.

Mesa–East Valley Rose Society

You or your recipient will receive our monthly 8-12 page newsletter, local nursery discounts and more. **Membership is \$25, due June 1 of each year.** This is for a single or family unit living at the same address. New members joining after September pay \$5 per quarter, from quarter joining through the following May, payable in full at month of joining. Please bring your completed application and payment (please make check payable to **MEVRS**) to a meeting or mail to:

MEVRS/Membership, P.O. Box 40394, Mesa, AZ 85274-0394

Date _____ New _____ ***Gift*** _____ Renewal _____ Amount Paid _____
 Cash _____ Check# _____

Names: _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (_____) _____ **E-mail address** _____

Yes! I would also like to join the national organization with which we are affiliated, the American Rose Society, for which I will receive the bi-monthly *American Rose* magazine, the December *American Rose Annual*, the "Handbook For Selecting Roses" and more! I am including in my check an additional amount of \$49.00 (Seniors \$46.00) for a one year membership.

As a new member of the American Rose Society, you will also receive a FREE miniature rose from Nor'East Miniatures!

Standing Committees

Auction Chairman.....Cheryl Doan 480-838-4062
 Audit..... Judy Tolbert
 Historian..... Evelyn Gannon 480-857-3090
 Hospitality Sally Crofford 480-838-9497
 Librarian Linda Ahlborn..... 480-695-5891
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 Mickey Kundrat..... 602-359-8528
 Newsletter, Editor.....Bob O'Brien..... 480-831-5198
 Member Emails.....Linda Ahlborn..... 480-695-5891
 MCC Test GardenLeRoy Brady 480-962-9603
Marylou Coffman 480-926-3064
Lynn Twitchell..... 480-503-4508
 Pioneer Park Rose Garden Coordinators
Jean & Peter Pegler 480-969-9391
 Publicity.....Lynn Twitchell..... 480-503-4508
 Rose Garden Volunteers..Carol Poe..... 480-895-7793
 Rose Show Chairman.....Lynn Twitchell..... 480-503-4508
 Ways & MeansMike Jepsen 602-312-1813
 Bruce Gannon 480-857-3090
 Web site.....Corinne Geertsen..... 480-649-9822

Consulting Rosarians

Larry Bell* (Ahwatukee Foothills).....480-706-9667
 Helen Baird*(NPhx, Scotsdale).....602-953-9133
 LeRoy Brady* (Mesa)480-962-9603
 Jeannie Cochell (NE Valley)jcochell@cox.net.....602-363-6444
 Marylou Coffman* (Gilbert).....480-926-3064
 Donna Dibble (East Mesa).....480-380-4592
 Phyllis Henslin (Mesa, Apache Jct.)480-807-3592
 Millie Hisey* (Apache Jct-winter)480-474-9139
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 Ken & Peggy Jones (West Phoenix)623-931-5004
 Arveda Larson* (Scottsdale)602-953-3832
 Terry* & Heidi* Leavitt (Phoenix)602-971-0179
 Dave* & Gerry* Mahoney (Glnl/Peoria)623-581-3756
 Nelson Mitchell* (Peoria)623-412-1586
 Steve Sheard (Tempe, Chandler).....480-831-2609
 John F. Green (Tucson)520-795-2964
 Cathy Rose (Tucson).....520-722-0010
 Terry Schick (Flagstaff).....928-853-0653
 Liz Strong (Tucson)Lizzie441@comcast.net..... 520-797-7890
 Terry Swartz* (Tucson).....520-623-8285

***ARS Judge**

Meetings are held at 7:00 pm on the 2nd Thursday of each month at
Mesa Community College:
Elsner Library Community Room, 1st floor
1833 W. Southern Ave., Mesa, AZ
New Member Orientation at 6:30 pm

Calendar of Events

January 8, 2009 Thursday, 7:00 p.m.
Monthly Meeting
Pruning Demonstration

February 21, 2009 Mesa-East Valley
Annual Rose Raffle
Mesa Community College Navajo Room Kirk Center
Check website for correct time!



*The Rose:
Our National
Floral Emblem*

All articles for the newsletter must be submitted to the Editor by the 20th of each month.

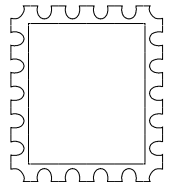
Mesa-East Valley Rose Society

Executive Officers

President	LeRoy Brady
1st Vice President	Cheryl Doan
2nd Vice-President	Lynn Twitchell
Recording Secretary	Shanna Cardita
Corresponding Secretary	Marylou Coffman
Treasurer	Phyllis Burgess
Past-President	Dona Martin

Rose Lore

Bob O'Brien, Editor
Mesa-East Valley Rose Society Inc.
PO Box 40394
Mesa, AZ 85274-0394



Board of Directors

Mickey Kundrat
Bob O'Brien
Alta Russell
(vacancy)



**Check out our
ARS Award Winning website:**

www.roses4az-mevrs.org

*Developers of
The Rose Garden at Mesa Community College,
the largest public rose garden in
the Desert Southwest!*