
RALEIGH ROSE SOCIETY

FOUNDED IN 1947
AFFILIATED WITH THE AMERICAN ROSE SOCIETY

May / June 2007

Membership Drive at the NC Farmers Market



Kathy Nicoll, Julie Atteberry, Pat Duhoski, Rich Radic, Dave Illg, Scott Dean and Mavis Davis having a great time at the Spring Membership Drive.

Next Meeting

Saturday, June 23 at 10:00 am

Rose Show June 2nd
JC Raulston Arboretum
No May Meeting
All meetings are held at:
Garden Supply Company
1421 Old Apex Road
Cary, NC 27513
919-460-7747



A great big “Thank You” to all who helped out with the Raleigh Rose Society’s Spring Membership Drive at the NC Farmers Market. The Market was bustling with streams of people out enjoying the beautiful Spring Day. Donnie Rico, owner of Roseland Nursery, a RRS member, vendor and familiar face at the farmers market was a huge help by sending her many customers over to the “white tent” for rose related questions. We were there to help and also share the benefits of membership. Look for some of those new faces at future meetings.

RRS Rose Show

June 2, 2007 marks the Raleigh Rose Society's 60th Annual Rose Show. The Show will be held at the JC Raulston Arboretum at NC State University 4415 Beryl Road, Raleigh, NC 27695. Driving Directions can be found on their website: www.ncsu.edu/jcraulstonarboretum/. Doors will open at 7:00 am with judging beginning at 10:00am. A complete schedule can be found on the RRS website at: www.raleighrosesociety.org.

Putting on a rose show is a great undertaking and we need everyone's help. If you are willing to **volunteer** please contact Julie Atteberry at 919-368-2977 or jva400@yahoo.com. Even if you cannot stay for the entire day we will need volunteers to help set up Friday afternoon and break down Sat. **We are also looking for financial contributions**, so please consider sponsoring an award. Sponsorship levels start at \$25 with checks made out to the Raleigh Rose Society (RRS). Please mail checks to our treasurer, Pat Duhoski at 1113 Secotan Place, Fuquay-Varina, NC 27526.

Come enjoy the day and see some of the most beautiful roses and best exhibitors around! We really need to put our best foot forward as we will be hosting the Carolina District Rose Show in 2008!!

Grooming Roses for a Show

If you were not at the last meeting, you missed a very excellent hands on demonstration on how to groom roses for exhibition; given RRS member Harold White. Harold is considered one of the best exhibitors in our district and nationally. Some of the tips of the meeting included what to have in your "tackle box."

Harold recommends to do most of your grooming at home, especially the foliage. Harvest your rose with the longest stem possible. Harold's motto is "You can take away from the flower, but



you cannot add anything to it." After harvesting your roses soak them for at least one hour in a large bucket up to the base of the bud in order to remove debris from the foliage. He then transports his roses in plastic sleeves that are contained in containers in plastic crates.

Upon arriving at the show, he whips out his tackle box of supplies. In Harold's tackle box there are various types of tweezers to remove debris from the rose. Scissors to remove offshoots from the stem and to shape leaves. Shoe shine cloths to polish the foliage to a shine. And finally cotton balls of various sizes and q-tips to coax the bud into opening into the shape you desire.

The bud should unwrap from a tight single center and then develop symmetrically into a large bloom. The rose should measure about 28" high in a vase, If need be, roses can be propped up with bits of styrafoam .

After sharing his knowledge, Harold brought roses and vases for all of us to practice under his watchful eye. Somehow, we could never get our to look quite like his sample. Thank you Harold for your time and knowledge!!



Rose Shows? Why Bother?

By Jeri Jennings

- "HEY! See you next weekend at the rose show!"
- "Rose show? Oh, no! I don't go to rose shows. I'm not interested."

Not interested? You're a member of a rose society, and you're "not interested" in rose shows? I don't understand how that can be.

There are two simple reasons why you should "bother" with rose shows. You go to rose shows, or take part in them, either to do good for yourself, or to do good to others. Some of you might go for both of those reasons.

I assume that you joined a rose society because you LIKE roses. You probably grow some roses. Perhaps you even grow a great many roses. You enjoy seeing roses, and being around people who share your interest in roses. You do, of course, find the requisite roses and lovers of roses at our monthly meetings, but that opens only a very small door to a very small sampling of the greater world of roses.

At a rose show, usually for free, you will see, smell, touch, and enjoy roses that, in all probability, you will never see in your neighborhood nursery. At a rose show, you will have the opportunity to pick the brains of the folks who GROW those unfamiliar, tantalizingly lovely roses. With the beauty that a rose show rolls out in front of you I can't see why ANY lover of roses would NOT want to take advantage of the opportunity to take part, or at LEAST to go to a rose show!

What's that you say? OH! Some of the roses you see at a rose show won't do well in your garden? I still don't understand! Why wouldn't you still want to see and enjoy them, after someone ELSE did the work? I'm an artist of sorts, but I haven't the talent to paint like Monet. I ENJOY Monet's work, though, and I wouldn't miss an opportunity to attend an exhibit of it (especially if there was no

charge for the privilege!). Besides, you'll find, if you ask some questions, that many of the roses you'll see at a rose show WILL do well for you. With just a little detective work, you'll quickly learn which is which.

When the doors open on a rose show, I walk into the room hoping to fall in love. Roses seduce me. I'm as vulnerable to their beauty as a lonely cowgirl on Saturday night . . . so I've learned to slow down, take a deep breath and make sure I'm not dancing with the wrong beau. When I see a rose that's new to me, a rose that fills my eye, and makes my heart flutter . . . I take myself sternly in hand, and open the entry tag. I look to see who grew it, and where it was grown. I look at the foliage. (A clever exhibitor can clean mildew away, but the disease usually leaves damage. If you look closely, you'll spot it. And I ASK! Go to the exhibitors, and ask them about the roses they brought. They don't mind! In fact, they're pleased to have been asked. (THEY love roses too). "Does this rose mildew?" "Does it rust?" "Will it handle a cool, coastal climate?" I ask, and if I'm lucky, I may find an 'Excellenz von Schubert,' or a 'Vineyard Song' roses that flourish in the conditions my garden offers.

The matter of Doing Unto Others . . .

I grow quite a few roses that you won't find at the corner nursery. Look around your garden, the day or so before the next rose show, and look at your roses. Pick some with the longest stem you can. Wash the foliage off with warm water. Bring your roses to the rose show, and enter them so that others can see them, and enjoy them and maybe even fall a little bit in love.

What's that you say? Your roses won't WIN? True they might not. So what? How badly, after all, do you need a piece of inexpensive crystal? It's fun to win. We'd all rather win at whatever games we play than lose at them but at a rose show, you can't lose.

How's that? Right, that's what I said. YOU CAN'T LOSE at this game. You enter your rose, and the WORST thing that can happen is you

Rose Shows? Why Bother?.....cont'd

make an error, and it's disqualified. That doesn't happen often but even if it should happen to your entry, the rose is still out there on the exhibition table. People who come to see the show still get to see it, and enjoy it. THAT is what's important. Not the ribbons, not the trophies, but the sharing of something beautiful.

So come to a rose show, whether to help, to enter, or simply to enjoy the beauty of the show.

Reprinted from the September 2000 issue of The Ventura Rose, bulletin of the Ventura County Rose Society, Jeri Jennings, Editor.

Consulting Rosarians

Scott Dean 919-462-8853

Richard Donovan 910-575-9868

Dave Illg 919-779-2969

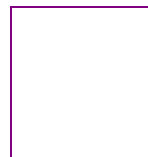
Julie Jones 919-244-3072

Don & Mary Myers 919-761-1707

Consulting Rosarians are trained and very knowledgeable about roses and rose culture. Do not hesitate to contact them with any of your rose related questions.



Kathy Nicoll, VP Membership
100 Midden Way
Holly Springs, NC 27540



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED