



Black Night, Hybrid Tea

Rose Ramblings

<http://spokanerosesociety.org/>

Newsletter of Spokane Rose Society
Affiliated with the American Rose Society

Vol. 64, Issue 8

September, 2011

NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, September 28, 7 pm

Penny Simonson is our featured speaker for our September meeting. Penny will be speaking on garden design and landscaping, something that will benefit many of us who are always looking for ways to update or improve our gardens.

This is a good time of the year to contemplate these things, and I'm sure Penny will have some great ideas.

Why not close out our rose growing season with some time with good friends and the coffee hour after. We encourage you to bring your questions about your rose gardens and take the time with refreshments to learn or share. We all can learn things from other rosarians. Even when you think you know it all, you find out that's not true.

Carol Newcomb will be our hostess for the refreshment time this month. Plan to join us!



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Cliff Winger, President

September is the Spokane Interstate Fair month. We were invited by the Fair folks to do a display. In the past, **Heather Figg** had put up rose displays for us but was discouraged by some of Fair personnel. This year, the Floral Display was under new management and they made the job easy for the Spokane Rose Society to display some roses and information on our club that **Gwynne Mee** put together for us. **Carol Newcomb** and **Lynn Shafer** brought roses from their gardens to display at the Fair. Since this modest display was successful, perhaps next year we can improve our presence at the Fair to promote rose growing here in the Inland Northwest?

Eva Lusk gave us a lot of great ideas last month on plants that can complement and help show off our roses. Gardens that have many plant species also have less plant pests. Thank you Eva for your good ideas to build a more flowerful garden and a safer environment.

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COMING EVENTS:

Wednesday, Oct. 26, 7 pm –Annual Meeting and election of officers
Also MarvaLee Peterschick speaking on Lilacs, the floral symbol of Spokane

Wednesday, Nov. 16, 6 pm – dinner meeting at Golden Corral,
Steve Smith, Guest and featured speaker

President's Message (Cont. from page 1)

This month our President's Message focus is on the Irish McGredy family who have been breeding roses for more than half a century. Much of their breeding stock was lost during the WW II. Sam McGredy IV took over the family business in 1952 and introduced Chanelle, Orangeade, and Picadilly in 1959. His rose Handel in 1965 made Sam McGredy an international breeder. In 1972 he moved his whole operation to New Zealand from Ireland to eliminate the need for greenhouses. He produced a number of climbers, striped roses and one of his more successful brilliant reds with a white center called Eye Paint which was shown at the Fair this year.

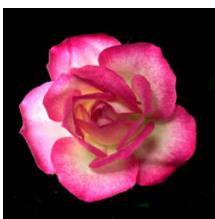
Sam also produced several popular hybrid teas such as Electron, New Zealand and Olympiad. His popular and hardy New Zealand is a very easy rose to grow. Sam McGredy's most superlative effort was the floribunda Sexy Rexy which as done well at our Spokane Rose Society Rose shows.

He wrote in his book "*A Family of Roses*" "The things we do not work for, I and other hybridists, are pink hybrid teas, because they appear in breeding lines anyway, and we do not work for white, because there is a limited demand for white. I do not work for single or semi-double floribundas either, because they would have to be exceptionally good to be at all popular. The market shows clearly enough that what people want are floribundas with blooms of hybrid-tea shape. I work for climbers of many kinds, and at present I am working on miniatures. My idea for roses in my lifetime is that the gardener may order any color he wants in any form -- as a bush rose, as a climber, or as a miniature. I would do away with the terms 'hybrid tea' and 'floribunda'. Instead I would classify roses according to use -- for house decoration, for garden display, for exhibition, for climbing or rambling, for ground cover, for greenhouses..."

I think we gardeners should follow Sam's advice and employ our roses by use and place in our gardens. Sam McGredy has produced many great roses for many years. He also is unique in that he has winners in many different types with very unusual colors. Some of the popular and unusual McGredy roses are Galway Bay, Ginger Rogers, Ice White, Octoberfest, Old Port, Orangeade, Oranges 'n' Lemons, Paddy Stephens, Reba McEntire, Singin' in the Rain, Spiced Coffee, Sundowner, and Top Notch.

(Internet sources HelpMeFind, RoseFile, hortico.com/roses/hmcgredy.htm, and Wikipedia)

'Kristin' and 'Olympic Gold' Elected to Miniature and Miniflora Rose Hall of Fame



Kristin, Miniature

Since its creation in 1999, the Miniature and Miniflora Rose Hall of Fame has honored those miniatures and minifloras that have stood the test of time in commerce for at least 20 years, recognizing excellence and longevity.

Each year rose lovers are asked to select their choice(s) for miniature and/or miniflora roses they feel should be included in the Hall of Fame. There are many deserving roses, and the honor roll has grown substantially. It all began with five roses being installed – Beauty Secret, Magic Carousel, Party Girl, Rise 'n' Shine and Starina.

This year two more roses were elected – Kristin shown on the left and Olympic Gold, below. **Kristin**, if you look at the coloration, gives away the name of the hybridizer, the late Frank Benardella, as his newer creations – Magic Show and Double Take – are similar coloration. A former President of the American Rose Society, Frank loved his roses and loved talking about roses. Lesser known was his company, Harlane, with the engraved metal garden labels. Wendy Tilley has since bought the company and sells under the same name. Another Hall of Famer, Black Jade, was a Benardella rose, and he has many other popular mini and miniflora roses to His credit.



Olympic Gold,
Miniflora

Olympic Gold was hybridized by Nelson Jolly introduced Loving Touch the same year. You know, you can find almost anything on the Internet these days, but little was found on Mr. Jolly, who was actively introducing miniature and miniflora roses in the 1980s, but since the class of miniflora wasn't adopted by the American Rose Society until 1999, some of his roses such as Olympic Gold had to be reclassified, as they were just miniatures at the time they were introduced. I well remember the first Tiffany Lynn blooms we saw on show tables and how people were conflicted with the old idea of 'petiteness.' That criteria went out the window with Tiffany Lynn.



Rose Logic

Lynn Schafer
Master Consulting Rosarian

Well, it appears the crazy, hazy, lazy days of summer have about run their course for what it's worth this year. We can't complain about heat or drought such as some of our friends to the east and south have experienced. In reading the exchange newsletter from Houston, Texas, you can only pity the folks there with multiple days of 100+ temperatures topped off with water rationing, this on top of below normal temperatures last winter. They have even lost some trees through all this.

The roses have really been settling into the vibrant colors of fall. Don't you just love the intensity of their last hurrah for the year? It's hard to decide whether those first blooms of summer or the wild color of fall are my favorites. I wander past Cocoa Bean, which hasn't stopped blooming all summer, and admire the bright colors, cutting a few for an acquaintance. I ponder what we learned at our last meeting about companion plants for our roses. Last year I tried nasturtiums between the mini roses...and they took over. This year I decided to try much more disciplined gazanias...and they took over. Not only that, but I put some short zinnias in the middle of one rose bed, and they took over as well, so it was only with persistence that my roses kept growing taller. New Zealand is an older rose but still one of my favorites with good form and a lovely soft pink color.

Vigorous isn't even a strong enough term for John Cabot which has taken over my arbor and will have to be severely pruned this coming spring...so I can walk *through* the arbor instead of *around* it. However, it is another that has remained in bloom throughout the summer, as have Dicky and Mariandel beside our deck. One of my all-time favorites has to be William Davis in front of the house, as it provides lovely bright pink blooms all summer and a perch for the birds in the winter. With a bird feeder right next to it, I get a wide variety of birds to enjoy through the window – kind of makes up for the lack of roses through the winter.

With the **warm days and cool moist nights** comes the threat of fungus disease, particularly powdery mildew. Fortunately many of our modern roses have been bred to resist fungus diseases, but you will still want to watch. A rose that goes into winter (yes, I said that bad word!) will be less likely to survive if the weather is severe, and as you know, we can never predict what even October will bring. There are many fungicides on the market, and prevention is far better than trying to cure or control the problem.

This is also the time of year when **weeds** know they have limited life left, so they barely get out of the ground and begin setting seed. Manage them now and you'll thank yourself next spring. Keep up your watering program until we get substantial rainfall which we assume will be coming if everything holds true. Here again you are keeping your roses in top condition to prepare for winter. (There I said it again!) Deep watering is what they need, not just a sprinkle, so keep it up.

This is a good time to review what went right and what went wrong this year, while you can still observe what is going on. You also can see which roses performed to your liking and where you may want to either move or remove some. You may have a rose that seemed to pout, however, when it is moved to another location it may be outstanding. It is much easier to make your decisions based on observation than memory. It won't be long and the new rose catalogs – most of them online these days – will be forthcoming, and while you have good recall you can decide which roses need to be moved or replaced and which new ones you want to get.

This is also the time for the **Pacific Northwest District conference**, coming up October 21-23 in Vancouver, WA. Rich Baer always has good advice on new roses he has grown. Portland isn't Spokane, but it is a lot closer to it than, say, Dallas, TX, so you can be assured the roses he likes will do well here, too. Check for the registration form at www.pnwdistrict.org as well as particulars on the conference, but if you plan to go, don't waste time registering. Early registration needs to be in by October 1 to avoid paying \$15 more.

While the **old rule** was to avoid cutting blooms after September, don't worry. If you see blooms you want in a vase in your home, go right ahead. Because we have stopped fertilizing our rose bushes mid-summer, they have gotten the message, and as temperatures cool and we have some frosty nights, it will be very evident to them that they need not try to put out new growth. Enjoy your roses; that's why we plant them.

2012 Award of Excellence Winners Announced

By Cindy Dale, C.R.

The ARS Award of Excellence (AOE) is given annually to miniature and miniflora roses that have undergone rigorous testing and evaluation for two years at 11 AOE public test gardens across the United States. The 2012 winners were announced at the ARS National Miniature Conference and Rose Show in Syracuse, NY on June 26th. This year's honorees are:

“Ann Hooper” is described as “an outstanding miniature of ivory white with a broad pink picotee.” It was hybridized by Tom Carruth for Weeks Roses and is his third AOE winner. “It has fistfuls of shapely, rich pink buds which open to clusters of starry-eyed blossoms.” Bloom color is non-fading and foliage is a deep, glossy green on a medium tall bush. Petal count is 15-20. The parentage is „Santa Claus” x „Goldmarie.” This rose is named to honor rosarian Ann Hooper who passed away this year. She was the owner of Primary Products that sold rose growing chemicals and many other items. She was also very active in the ARS as a Consulting Rosarian and a Region Director.



Courtesy of Weeks Roses



Courtesy of Weeks Roses

“Butter Me Up” is a “butter yellow miniature -not too gold, not too bold or too fleeting – it’s just right.” The hybridizer was Christian Bedard for Weeks Roses and this is his 4th AOE winner. The bloom has 25+ petals with exhibition form. The plants are medium-tall in height with bright green foliage. Parents are „Tropical Twist” x „Vavoom.”

“Oso Happy™ Petit Pink”

is “a medium pink miniature with flower power for the landscape. Prolific bloom on a full mounded plant makes “Oso Happy™ Petit Pink” a cheerful addition to sunny borders, beds, and containers. Bred from miniatures

and hardy landscape roses, it combines *very high blackspot* tolerance and compact size and has 50+ petals.” Parents are (“Lemon Fluff x George Vancouver”) x (“Orange Honey” x “Spanish Rhapsody” x “Applejack”). The hybridizer is David Zlesak and this is his first AOE award. It will be introduced by Spring Meadow Nursery.



Courtesy of David Zlesak

Thank you to Dr. Jim Hering for providing the information and photos for this article.

(This article appeared in the September, 2011 Issue of the South Metro (Georgia) Rose Society Newsletter, Cindy Dale, editor)



Courtesy of Proven Winners®

Notes from the Spokane Rose Society Meeting

August 24, 2011

Harry Rendle gave a report on the mini rose bed on Rose Hill. There was a need to replace some of the micro minis in the bed. He could not find Bambino, so we now have only one Bambino, but he obtained three Baby Cheryl and three Live Wire, so the bed is now complete. There are some missing plants in the large mini bed which will have to be replaced in the future.

Cliff reported on the nominations for the various offices. They are as follows:

President: Gwen Mee

V.P: Scott Ingles

Secretary: Pat Vacha

Treasurer/Newsletter: Lynn Schafer

Board Members: Carol Newcomb. There is a need for some more people on the board, as if elected, Pat and Scott would leave the board and Kent Zwick has served his two years.

Greg Mee will be in charge of the Rose Show which will again be held at Northland Rosarium. Anyone interested in serving on the board or for any other offices should contact Cliff. Elections will be held at the October meeting.

Mini Rose Sale: This will be held at Garden Expo. The roses will again be ordered through the Rosarium. There was some talk about ordering through Rosemania as a special order for our members who wanted some of Rosemania's varieties. [Note: I received an e-mail from Rosemania that they are going to be focusing on the breeding program for the next two years and will not be producing any miniature roses for resale during that time.]

Respectively submitted:

Rose Jacobus

Rose Medicine for Good Friends

by Michael Berger, PRS Master Consulting Rosarian

Michael Berger in the Capital Rose newsletter, September, 2011, had a good tip for sharing our roses, particularly miniatures. Using a plastic 'vial' in which you might get prescription medicine, remove the prescription label, puncture the top of the container, and after you fill it with water and replace the top, insert the stem of a mini rose. He mentioned using a larger container for larger roses, but our vigorous, healthy rosarians here probably don't get prescription medicine in containers of that size, don't you think? Still, it's a great tip – keeps the rose fresh and you don't need to worry about getting the container back.

Roses in Review

The American Rose Society annually prints the Handbook for Selecting Roses. This booklet provides ARS members with ratings of a large number of roses based on reports submitted by rose lovers across the country.

In order to make this a meaningful report, it takes participation of a large number of people, just as meaningful tests of new prescription drugs require more than just a handful of participants. Time is running out, but you can go to the ARS website: www.ars.org and there is a link on the left hand side under News for Roses in Review. I'm willing to bet there are roses on the list that are in your garden, and you can voice your opinion in a very easy format. You need to sign in first, and then at the top of the rating page you select the class of roses, refresh it, and a pull down list of all the roses in that class being rated will be available.

Each District Roses in Review chairperson is given the ratings by people just in that district, and this will be made available on the PNW District website, so take the time ***right away by Monday, September 26*** to rate your roses and help every rose lover out!

A Penny for your Thoughts

This will give you a month to think about ideas to give Spokane Rose Society direction. We always look for ways to be a vital part of the gardening scene, and fresh ideas and other's opinions are always appreciated. You may not want to place yourself in a position of leadership as an officer, but it is very easy to offer ideas and opinions. Surely you have thought, "I wish we would do this...or go there." That's what we want to know.

October is our business meeting where we elect new officers and approve the budget for the coming year. This will give you a whole month to think of programs, of garden tours, of other things you think would make our organization GREAT. We are an educational organization, and that's what we want to do.

If you can't make the meeting, email your comments and suggestions to your editor at the email listed on the back. I'll be sure to get your info to the proper person.

Spokane Rose Society in the Examiner

Our webmaster, Greg Mee, always has his eyes out for good information, and he recently found an article online talking about Spokane Rose Society. At <http://www.examiner.com/gardening-in-spokane/the-spokane-rose-society> Laurie Brown, Spokane Gardening Examiner, had this to say:

Did you know that Spokane has its own rose society? There is one, and it's active both locally and online. The objectives of the Spokane Rose Society are to share the love of roses, to educate people that roses are easy to grow in the Inland Northwest, to provide free basic rose care information and share the knowledge of their Consulting Rosarians, to invite neighbors to come together and discuss roses and companion plants, and to provide activities that benefit the community.

Their web page <http://spokanerosesociety.org/> gives you access to the calendar of events (meetings, workshops, garden tours, rose shows), articles on growing roses in the zone 5 parts of Spokane and wintering roses in Spokane, and links to other resources.

Meetings are open to anyone and are held on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the meeting room by the conservatory at Manito Park, February through November.

Members have the benefit of access to a lending library of rose related books and are given a free copy of the Society's Basic Rose Care Guide (also available to non-members for \$6.95).

The Society has an online book store, where their recommended books are available for purchase via a click-through to Amazon; for every book purchased via this click-through, Amazon pays them a small percentage of the purchase price to benefit their fund for activities.

The thing I'm enjoying the most of their online presence is their blog, located at <http://spokanerosesociety.org/roseblog/>. You can sign up for their posts via email or follow them on RSS feed. Their archive has posts on unusual roses, floribundas, arranging roses, Old Garden Roses, mini roses, garden tours and a lot more.

The Spokane Rose Society also has a Facebook presence at <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Spokane-Rose-Society/171324226278280?sk=wall>

If you use Facebook, this is a great way to be reminded of meetings, tours and workshops. This is where most of the photos of tours and rose shows are viewable.

If you have even a passing interest in growing roses in our area, take a look at the Society's site and consider attending some meetings. They'll help take the fear out of growing rose in the Inland Northwest!

Thanks, Laurie!! Nice article. And since that article Spokane Rose Society now has a 'legitimate' Facebook page without all the numbers to remember – just search for Spokane Rose Society.

I Couldn't Have Said it Better

My friend and fellow editor from Portland, Oregon, who is currently serving as president of the society, is a Master Consulting Rosarian, Horticulture and Arrangements Judge, photographer par excellence and goodness knows how many other things had this to say in his August Portland Rose Chatter. It certainly isn't written as a criticism – by Rich or by me – but as something to seriously consider. After all, Angry Birds or Facebook can only occupy so much time, and then we find we are lacking something. Hear what Rich has to say:

My ambition for my year as president was to try to get more people involved in doing things. My thrust was that life is not a spectator sport, so go out and get involved in activities. You will find that you will enjoy it much more. But this year has sort of become the year of the "I" as in iPhone and iPod. The advertising tells you that if you have one or both of these, what else could you possibly want? I hope that in the long run most people find out that they really do need more than an object to keep them satisfied as they travel through life. Interacting with others is still an important way to spend some of your quality time. I will not suggest that you do this on your extra time because it seems that no one has any extra time. At least the answer very often to the question of "Would you be a volunteer" is that "I just cannot spare the time". Often I feel the same way. I absolutely love to spend my time out in the garden, be it tending the plants, photographing the flowers, watching the birds raise their young, sitting under a tree and reading a book and any of a hundred other things that I can find to do. When the sun finally sets I have to face the office. That means that things like the *Chatter* either have to take up daylight hours or I have to squeeze doing it between the hours of 9:30 and Midnight. I really am not thrilled at the prospect but I give the time because I think that the Rose Society is an important activity that makes my overall life a little better. So, here it is almost midnight and I am trying to finish another monthly missive, something I have now been doing for twenty- three years. I hope that all of you can find a little time to give to our great organization this coming year and with that donation of yours we can become an even better organization than we are now. I hope that you will be able to find a few hours to stop over at Oaks Park and enjoy the picnic with many of the rest of us. Enjoy, enjoy, enjoy.

Of course Rich was talking about a *Portland* picnic which is now past, but the idea is true. A number of years ago I found a poem/writing which I believe I even published in the newsletter. It carries out this theme very well:

Everybody, Somebody and Nobody

Once upon a time, there were four people...

Their names were *Everybody*, *Somebody*, *Nobody* and *Anybody*.

Whenever there was an important job to be done,
Everybody was sure that *Somebody* would do it.

Anybody could have done it, but *Nobody* did it.
When *Nobody* did it, *Everybody* got angry because...
it was *Everybody's* job!

Everybody thought that *Somebody* would do it,
but *Nobody* realized that *Nobody* would do it.

So, consequently, *Everybody* blamed *Somebody*...
when *Nobody* did what *Anybody* could have done in the first place!

- Anonymous (of course!)

We need *Everybody*, *Anybody* and *Somebody* in our organizations, be it gardening, volunteer organizations, churches and any other place you can consider. So even if you haven't the time to spare as an officer, your opinions are very valuable to us, and we want to hear from YOU.

SPOKANE ROSE SOCIETY OFFICERS - 2011

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MEMBERSHIP in Spokane Rose Society is open to anyone. We meet on the **fourth Wednesday** of each month, February through November, 7:00 p.m. at **the meeting room by the conservatory at Manito Park** in Spokane, Washington, (unless otherwise noted) with a special program each month and a coffee hour following hosted by members. Guests are always welcome. Our rose library has rose-related books you can check out. A Basic Care Guide is also provided to each new member. Workshops may be held at pre-announced times throughout the year on meeting nights.

DUES are as follows: If you receive the newsletter by Email it is \$7 per person; \$9 for husband and wife. For those wishing to receive the newsletter by postal service it is \$10 per person, \$12 for husband and wife. Mail your check, made payable to SPOKANE ROSE SOCIETY to Lynn Schafer, 42108 S. Bourne Rd., Latah, WA 99018-9508. THIS NEWSLETTER, one of the benefits of membership, is published 10 times a year, to coincide with our monthly meetings.

If you wish to join the American Rose Society, dues are \$49 per person (\$46 for those 65 and older). You may pay this through the Spokane Rose Society as well. Three-year membership is \$140 (\$132 for seniors). Benefits of membership include *The American Rose Magazine*, *The Rose Annual*, and the *Handbook for Selecting Roses*. You also receive *The Northwest Rosarian*, our informative District quarterly

Spokane Rose Society

www.spokanerosesociety.org

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