



The Phoenix



Newsletter of the Greater Atlanta Rose Society
Affiliated with the American Rose Society

June 2005

From the President

Dear Rose Friends:

Several staff people at the Atlanta Botanical Garden made a point of telling me that they had very much enjoyed the Rose Show component of the Gardens For Connoisseurs Tour. Based on the numbers of people coming to the show, I would say that it was a most successful endeavor. Thank you to all our members, and friends, who contributed roses for competition and for sale. And, the biggest thanks of all to Pam and Rob Russell for their time and expertise in chairing the 2005 GARS Rose Show. Of course, they did call for a little help: Cathy Farmer, Linda Schuppener, and the many more volunteers listed in their article.

It is nice to have a break from all the Spring obligations. As hard as it was always to be busy representing the rose fancy by word and by deed, our

coffers are much the plumper for it. However, the roses are still growing and blooming.

Congratulations to Bobbie Reed! She has just been named Consulting Rosarian Coordinator of the Deep South District of the American Rose Society, and I am mighty proud of her.

If you find time on your hands or the need to swear at a bush other than you own, please join me the 1st Monday of the month at ABG and every Wednesday at Fernbank. Many hands make light work!

See you at the Picnic!

Victoria

GARS Picnic

June 25, 2005

Fernbank Rose Garden

It's June, so that means it's time for the Picnic! This year, the picnic is a joint effort with other rose societies in North Georgia, and we're returning to our favorite venue, the Robert L. Staton Rose Garden at Fernbank. Come at 11am, the luncheon will be served at 12 noon.

GARS will provide an entrée and soft drinks. Please bring an appetizer, a side dish, or a dessert with serving utensil, and any additional beverages you would like.

You may have seen the garden at Pruning Day, but have you been back to enjoy the fruits of our labors? The rose garden at Fernbank includes test roses for the All America Rose Selections program, and for the American Rose Society's Award of Excellence program for miniatures.

The garden is located at the corner of Ponce de Leon and Clifton Road. Don't forget to wear comfortable walking shoes, and bring your hat – you won't want to miss this chance to see all the beautiful roses!

COMING EVENTS

Jun 11 – Roses Unlimited Rose Day, featuring presentations by Indian hybridizers Viru & Girija Viraraghaven, 9am to 1pm, Laurens, SC. Contact Bill Patterson, 864-682-7673.

Jun 25 – GARS Picnic at Fernbank, 11am

Jul 8-10 – ARS All-Miniature Conference, Indianapolis, IN. Contact Linda Kimmel, 317-882-1563, lovroses@comcast.net

Jul 19 – GARS meeting at ABG, 7:30 pm. Pick up orders of Purely Organic and other products from H.L. Shealy.

Aug 12-14 – Deep South District Blackspot & Beetle Festival, George T. Bagby State Park, Ft. Gaines, GA. Contact Rob Russell, 404-870-0973, rob@russellproperties.com

Aug 19 – Deadline for submission of entries to the DSD Photo Contest. Contact Rob Russell, 404-870-0973, rob@russellproperties.com

Sep 29-Oct 2 – ARS Fall National Convention, Memphis, TN. Contact Barbara Olive, 901-385-9759, barbsroses@evl.net

Oct 15-16 – Northeast Georgia/Greater Gwinnett RS Rose Show, State Botanical Garden, Athens. Contact Bobbie Reed, 770-979-4237, berdks@mindspring.com

Oct 21-23 – DSD Fall Convention, Augusta, GA. Contact Linda Benson, 803-278-7275, BensonL@aol.com

June In The Rose Garden

By Bobbie Reed, *Consulting Rosarian*

Observe – The first spring bloom has passed, and summer has now arrived, bringing with it the usual assault from rose enemies in our gardens. Japanese beetles, blackspot, thrips, and spider mites will besiege our roses in the next couple of months, accompanied by hungry mosquitoes that are eager to have us for dinner.

Water – Dry times in May were great for the rose show, but we're now a couple of inches short on rainfall for the year. Early June rains are welcome, but be ready to resume watering when they subside. Lush new foliage they promote will soon show the effects of heat stress when sunny weather returns.

Feed – It's time to fertilize again! Be sure not to let your plants dry out after fertilizing them, to protect them from root burn.

Spray – Cloudy, rainy days in early June gave us long periods when the leaves on our rose bushes never had a chance to dry off. That means we're going to have some serious blackspot on our roses. To control it, try increasing the frequency with which you spray – maybe to as often as every three days, for three weeks or so, until the problem is under control. Manzate and mancozeb are recommended for these frequent sprayings, in conjunction with a systemic fungicide. If you choose to spray for Japanese beetles (and many of us don't), Sevin or Orthene must be applied at frequent intervals, since the beetles will fly in from a mile away to feast at gardens as luscious as ours.

Prune – We don't need to prune much this month, the Japanese beetles are doing it for us! They're attracted to the color and fragrance of roses. We can make life less interesting for them if we cut all blooms as soon as they start to open. There will be less color in the garden for a few weeks, but we'll get to enjoy the roses indoors, and the beetles won't. Don't forget to keep deadheading, to promote new blooms rather than fat rosehips.

Mulch – Mulch not only helps to keep soil from drying out too fast, it also keeps the soil cooler in the summer, and protects it from being eroded by summer thunderstorms.

Plant – This time of year, we can plant roses in containers or in the garden where we're sure they'll be watered regularly. New roses are much too delicate to be abandoned to a once-a-week hit-or-

miss watering schedule, though.

Enjoy – June pests can be frustrating, but don't forget to stop and smell the roses!

Weather Word

By Ryan Tilley, *Consulting Rosarian*

This has been perhaps the most “normal” and enjoyable spring we have had in a long time, definitely on the cool side with regular rains. Temperatures of 28° on April 25 and 35° on May 5 are not something you are likely to see very often. The dry spells in May made for some mighty fine blooms, but the dry weather is also a signal that we may be in for a typical dry summer. Can't count on 3 hurricanes every summer.

June 15	Avg high	Avg low	Avg Rain
Atlanta	87	68	3.56
Alpharetta	85	64	3.67
Athens	87	66	3.93
Blairsville	81	57	4.32
Columbus	90	68	4.07
Helen	83	59	4.58
Macon	90	69	3.58
Rome	85	62	4.16

Scenes From Our Rose Show

Sandy & Bob Lundberg won
Miniflora Queen & King



Pop Warner was Queen



Bobbie Reed & Don Schwarz
won Best In Show

Adlibberosa

By Sharon Phillips, *Consulting Rosarian*

Have a gardening tip to share? Send it to me and, if it is published in the next issue of the Phoenix, you will win 10 door prize tickets for the July 19 drawing. You must be present at the meeting to claim prize. (E-mail: adlibberosa@earthlink.net or 770-973-2166)

May 21: A new record in my garden for the earliest sighting of a **Japanese Beetle!** (They usually have the courtesy to wait at least until Memorial Day.) Do I panic? Not any more! Thanks to fellow GARS member Walt Reed who shared his combat tactics with me a few years ago, I am much more in control of this annual garden siege.

I combine liquid Sevin® and Green Light's Rose Defense® (neem oil) diluted with water according to label directions, mixing a gallon at a time. I then transfer some of the mixture to my quart misting bottle, go out to the garden about 7 o'clock in the evening when the pests are a little sluggish and spritz the tops of the bushes. I repeat every few days, gradually increasing the length of time between applications as the threat subsides. The one-two punch of the Sevin® and neem oil serves to deter the beetles' presence and to permanently disable (as in kill) any hiding between the petals.

In between spraying, any live ones that I see I simply pick off and drop into a coffee can of sudsy water. (They are not good swimmers....) The next day I discard the remains with the trash. Eggs can hatch from dead beetles so I don't take any chances by throwing them on the ground.

For the long term, an application of Milky Spore Disease, available at local nurseries (see www.biconet.com/biocontrol/bpopillae.html) is helpful, especially if you can convince your nearby neighbors to cooperate by applying it to

their yards. It takes a few years to become effective but one application can last many years. It is not harmful to beneficial insects, animals, pets, humans or water sources. In any case **DO NOT PLACE BEETLE TRAPS IN YOUR YARD!** It only invites thousands of them to the party.

Good luck and may the rose gods look with favor this season on your little patch of heaven.

2005 GARS Rose Show

By Pam & Rob Russell

The 2005 Greater Atlanta Rose Show was a big success. It was our chance to show the public that great roses can be grown in Atlanta and for our society to gain 10 new members. It is also a fun event for our members and out-of-town visitors. ABG was very busy the entire weekend, due to their "Locomotion" exhibit. It was difficult for some of our volunteers to get into the garden due to traffic, and I am sure many people who wanted to see the rose show were not able to get in.

We had 580 entries, 417 big and 163 minis, with over 1100 blooms. We also had 30 arrangements. Thirty-one horticulture exhibitors brought their blooms to show the public, which is terrific! We want to thank some of our out of town exhibitors – Kay & Jim Harrell, Sandy & Bob Lundberg, and Cindy & Spider Harper.

Our Rose Show could not happen without the committee chairmen and their volunteers. A very big THANK YOU

Lee Hale's modern arrangement "Boogie" won the George Harbour award for best arrangement.



to: **Cathy Farmer, Linda Schuppener, Alice Boyd, Robert Burns, Al Coleman, Anna Davis, Dave Ely, Henry Everett, Victoria Fleming, Shirley McCall, Kitsy Mostellar, Sharon Phillips, Mary Alice & Hart Phinney, Bobbie Reed, Don Schwarz, Anita Smith, Diane Snyder, and Louise Stafford.**

We had a new layout for the awards table this year, which we think was well received. Our Mini Rose sale was a success. Cool Roses from West Palm Beach, FL, provided the roses. **Anna Davis** was in charge of our Arrangement Sale with the left over roses. Between the Mini Rose Sale and the Arrangement Sale, we cleared \$450, which will help offset the rose show expenses.

Thanks to everyone who sponsored awards this year. We were able to offset the cost of awards by \$790 contributed by members and friends of the rose.

Cathy Farmer and Linda Schuppener



will be our Rose Show Co-Chairs next year and we wish them all the help and support that we had this year!

New GARS member Mary Trautman was the happy Novice winner with her Queen Elizabeth

Reflections on the Spring 2005 ARS National Convention in Shreveport

By Linda Bohne

What was it going to be like going to a National Convention? I did not have a clue. I had only attended district conventions and local

rose shows. Would it be that different? Upon my arrival in Shreveport there were plenty of activities to choose from to keep busy, in addition to the events I selected when I mailed my registration. Throughout the week I met with rosarian friends: **Bobbie Reed, Don Schwarz, Louise Stafford, Alice & Bud**



Boyd, Linda & Walt Reed, and Kitsy Mostellar.

GARS members attending the awards banquet in Shreveport.

I also had the opportunity to meet with rose enthusiasts from other states (California, Oregon, Minnesota, Texas, Pennsylvania, Indiana, Ohio, and Florida). What did we talk about? ROSES, what else? Many of us shared the same experiences or similar problems. We talked about diseases, discussed treatments and fertilizing programs, gave opinions on the performance of various roses, and talked about our favorite roses.

The visit to the Tyler Municipal Gardens and Center in Tyler, TX, [photo below] was absolutely

breathtaking. I did not expect to see so many roses in bloom all at the same time. It is a 14-acre park with over 38,000 rose bushes of at



least 500 different varieties. The gardens are a popular location for many activities. I was fortunate to carpool with friends. By arriving at the gardens early in the morning, we were able to see the beautiful roses and to take advantage of the overall serenity of the

gardens. On the way back to Shreveport, we stopped at Chamblee's Rose Nursery. There were many roses to see and I could not resist the urge to purchase a few.

Among the many events, on one afternoon there was a hands-on arrangement workshop with about 30-35 participants. After listening to Sam Jones, everyone present had an opportunity to choose a vase, roses and filler to make a floral arrangement, which were going to be used for an event later in the week. A mentor was assigned to each table to give us guidance and to answer the many questions. Everyone had the same basic materials but it was surprising to see how many different arrangements were made.



Louise Stafford and Linda Bohne display their arrangements

The roses exhibited at the rose show were gorgeous. There were several roses I had not heard of, like *Blake Hedrick* [photo on left], and *Mu Lan*. Some of the newer roses will certainly be challenging the older exhibition roses in future shows. The many trophies and awards were well



deserved by the exhibitors. I had an opportunity to clerk arrangements with a judge and an apprentice. These two individuals worked well together. Through their conversations, I learned more about how judges critique an arrangement.

Oline Reynolds judged, and Linda Bohne clerked, at the rose show in Shreveport.



Linda Bohne and Don Schwarz enjoy the view from the base of the carillon at the American Rose Center gardens.

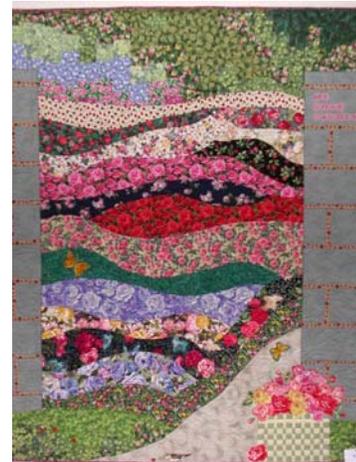


Taking a leisurely walking tour through the many gardens at the Gardens of the American Rose Center was such a delight. Even though it will be several months before construction on the Klima Rose Hall will be completed, several presentations were held there. When the building is finished and the grounds landscaped, the facility will be quite impressive. After the presentations, everyone had a chance to look at the quilts, which were on display for the quilt contest and see the certificate awards they received.

I did not have the opportunity to listen to all of the speakers, but I am sure everyone was very good. The speakers I listened to were very informative and entertaining as well. I especially enjoyed listening to Linda Cobb talk about her cottage garden with David Austin roses, and listening to Felder Rushing during the convention keynote lunch.

It was a fun filled week of being with friends, meeting new rosarians, attending many of the attractions, great food, music and shopping at the vendor booths. The National Convention seems to be much busier than other conventions I have attended. Overall, I had a good time. I am glad I went.

"Welcome to My Rose Garden" was the people's favorite quilt at the ARS Quilt Show.



Have Roses, Will Travel

By Bobbie Reed, *Consulting Rosarian*

The Greater Atlanta rose show on May 7 was fabulous, but in spring it's hard to have all those beautiful roses in our gardens and not want to show them off. Some of our members take that to great lengths.

In April, **Linda & Walt Reed** attended the American Rose Society convention and rose show in Shreveport, where their rose *Hansa* won Best Classic Shrub.

After the Atlanta show every year there's a show in Fayetteville, hosted by the South Metro Rose Society. Several GARS exhibitors, frustrated at the lateness of their garden's peak, decided to exhibit late-blooming roses there. Among the winners were **Susan Clingenpeel** and her daughter **Madison LeRoy**, winning queen with *Dublin*, Princess with *Bride's Dream*, and court with *Affirm*; mini queen and king with *Conundrum* and *Dancing Flame*, and mini court with *Breath of Spring* and *Tiffany Lynn*; best modern shrub and best in show with *Sparrieshoop*; single mini with *Grace Seward*; and various collections and miniature sweepstakes. **Al Coleman** won with a collection of *Magic Lantern*. **Anna Davis** won matching roses with *Kardinal* and *Miss Flippins*, and one-bloom floribunda with *Hannah Gordon*. **Sharon Phillips** won cycle of bloom with *Jema*, and best climber with *Altissimo*. **Bobbie Reed & Don Schwarz** won Dowager and Victorian queens with *Gros Choux d'Hollande* and *Mme Isaac Pereire*; best species with *Rosa eglanteria*; and best single

hybrid tea with *Mrs. Oakley Fisher*. **Linda & Walt Reed's** winnings included king of show, *Veteran's Honor*; court,



Linda & Walt Reed with some of their winning roses.

Hot Princess; hybrid tea spray, *Dainty Bess*; fully open hybrid tea/grandiflora, *Queen Elizabeth*; rose in a bowl, *Hot Princess*; mini spray, *Gourmet Popcorn*; best polyantha, *Perle d'Or*. They also won several collections, and not surprisingly, sweepstakes.

Rob Russell won the Royalty award for a traditional mass arrangement, while **Pam Russell** won Mini Royalty for a miniature line-mass arrangement, both big and mini modern arrangements, and the Mini Oriental award. **Jane Zinn** helped judge the show, and won the best judge's entry with *Old Blush*.

Hart & Mary Alice Phinney traveled to Albuquerque to visit their daughter at rose show time, and decided to take a few roses with them. They won king of show with *Angela Lansbury*. They've been encouraging daughter Leslie to grow and exhibit roses; she won Novice last year, and this year won best fully open hybrid tea with *Perfume Delight*.



Madison Leroy and Susan Clingenpeel with their Queens at the South Metro RS rose show.

And some folks show off their roses without even traveling. **Anna Davis** entered the American Rose Society photo contest last year, and won several ribbons for her photos.

So what should this be telling you? Rose show season resumes in the fall with the **Deep South District convention in Augusta on October 22**, the **Georgia National Fair show on October 14**, and the **Northeast Georgia/Gwinnett RS rose show in Athens on October 15**, when we'll have yet another chance to share and show off our roses. Don't forget, at some of the smaller shows, with less competition, it's easier to make your way to the head table. I'll see you there!

Have You Had a Tetanus Shot In the Past 10 Years?

By Karen Garland

Many gardeners are unaware that they face an increased risk for tetanus, a potentially fatal disease caused by bacteria found in dirt, potting soil and manure. Commonly called lockjaw, tetanus is a bacterial disease that affects the nervous system. It is contracted through a cut or wound that becomes contaminated with tetanus bacteria. The bacteria can get in through the tiniest pinprick or scratch, but deep puncture wounds or cuts, like those made by nails or knives, are especially susceptible to infection with tetanus. Infection with tetanus causes severe muscle spasms, leading to "locking" of the jaw so the patient cannot open their mouth or swallow.

According to the 2004 National Gardening Survey, 80 percent of gardeners say that they get cuts and scrapes while working around the yard, garden or home – which is how tetanus enters the bloodstream. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends a combined booster vaccine known as "Td" once every 10 years to protect against tetanus and diphtheria, another infectious disease.

"Every time you work in the dirt you expose yourself to tetanus – so it is important to get your Td booster shot before you dig in," urges National Foundation for Infectious Diseases (NFID) Medical Director Susan Rehm, MD. "Call your doctor today to see if you are due for your 10-year Td vaccine."

According to Dr. Rehm, tetanus is a very painful disease, and can prove challenging to diagnose. In one recent case, a gardener apparently developed a tetanus infection from a bite from a fire ant – but it took more than two weeks after symptoms began before this woman learned she had tetanus.

To learn more about tetanus and diphtheria, or to take a quiz to assess your tetanus risk, visit the National Foundation for Infectious Diseases at www.nfid.org.
Karen Garland is a Cherokee County Master

Gardener and Georgia Conservancy's Environmental Education Coordinator. She can be contacted at kgarland@gaconservancy.org.

'Purely Organic' To Be Delivered at July Meeting

Purely Organic fertilizer will be available for pick up before our July 19 meeting. This all-organic fertilizer does not contain sewage sludge! It is made up of a combination of alfalfa meal, cottonseed meal, fish meal, blood meal, steamed bone meal, finely ground rock phosphate, sul-po-mag, kelp (seaweed), greensand, and other natural ingredients the roses love. Cost is \$12 for a 25-lb. bag, \$20 for 50-lb. bag.

Orders may be placed with Sharon Phillips (770-973-2166 or adlibberosa@earthlink.net) on or before Sunday, July 10 and must be picked up and paid for at the meeting on Tuesday, the 19th.

Jim Young will also bring any chemicals or other gardening items offered by the H. L. Shealy Company. To place an order for any of these items, call 803-892-2651.

Ryan's Garden Notes

By Ryan Tilley

So far 2005 has been the kind of year that makes rose-growing a pleasure, with outstanding weather, cool and invigorating, but no late killing March freeze. Just the stuff to make you want to be out in the garden – I hate working outside in hot weather! The aphids have not been too bad and they do no real damage, so true to my "lazy man's credo" I did nothing to get rid of them. The mites are still waiting for some extended hot weather, which hopefully will not come until June.

With the near-record cool April, the blooming times of the roses were a bit off. Most were a few weeks late, with the English

roses being nearly one month late! Fortunately, the weather has stayed unbelievably cool right through May, so many of my hybrid teas still have a lot of buds going into June. The blooms in my garden have been the best they have ever been in my 15 years of growing roses!

Dis-Buds for you!

It showed again the benefits of disbudding hybrid teas. For those who haven't tried it, disbudding is simply removing all new small buds except the central, main bud. Doing this early allows the remaining bud to grow larger and more beautiful. When the side buds are left on, the central bud opens first and then fades as the other buds open. For maximum garden color, there is no need to disbud at all; for the best single blooms, disbudding is the way to go.

I was able to keep up with the disbudding this year and all the one-bloom-per-stem beauties were well worth the effort. Hybrid teas by definition are supposed to give lots of single blooms, but the truth is most of them give lots of sprays and might better be classed as grandifloras. So disbudding turns them back into "real hybrid teas."

For example, *Gemini*, *Hot Princess*, *Cajun Sunrise*, and *Stainless Steel*, are quite ordinary looking left to grow "as is", but disbudded, they are spectacular. And *Veteran's Honor* [photo on right] is "to die for" when



disbudded. It has now made the leap to the top of my all-time best roses, it's that good. So to make your garden look like the pictures of exhibitors' rose gardens, take a few minutes each day to do some disbudding, and I do mean every day because your bushes are always making more of those extra buds.

I also like to do some disbudding of English roses as well. I don't do every stem; that would take too much time. But disbudding several stems gives some very large, single blooms, or, if you pinch out the center bud, some

outstanding larger sprays.

Once the hot weather sets in, I don't do as much disbudding since the blooms are smaller anyway as well as being the main course for beetles.

There's a fungus among-us!

As always, my main concern this time of year is botrytis, especially for the many-petaled roses like *Affirm*, *Nine Eleven*, and *Uncle Joe*. In fact, I have been just about ready to get rid of these roses because they are so susceptible to botrytis. So I decided to give the chemicals Decree and Chipco another go around, and used Daconil Ultrex a bit more than I usually do to try to stop botrytis. Whether it was the chemicals or the dry spells that occurred in May, I had much less botrytis this spring than normal. The thrips started off a little lighter this spring than normal, but I have been misting the tops of the roses nevertheless with the insecticide Conserve SC (1 tsp/gal), which is supposed to be highly effective while not being too hard on beneficial insects. All of these things together combined to give me fairly clean blooms. The only disappointing thing was that the roses did not really start to pop until the day after the Atlanta Rose Show. Had the show been two days later, I could have filled the show with roses. As it was, I had a few *Moonstones* to exhibit.

A new look at old roses

Anyway, I finally got plenty of great blooms off of *Affirm*, just like 3 years ago when I was first wowed by its huge creamy light pink blooms. Botrytis still affected many blooms, but not enough to ruin the appearance of the bush. Other roses like *Veteran's Honor*, *Andrea Stelzer*, *Milestone*, *Cajun Sunrise*, and *Hot Princess* were absolutely outstanding with dozens of great blooms on each bush. These five roses should be in everyone's garden. *Veteran's Honor* now occupies the number one spot on my best roses list, and *Andrea Stelzer*, [photo on right] with its 2-3



foot cutting stems, is breathing down its neck as number two.

Grace de Monaco is a rose that I've been trying to talk myself into getting rid of for the last few years. It has always had nice blooms, but never really had vigorous growth or a lot of blooms. But this spring, I can no longer deny this rose its rightful place in my garden. The rich botrytis-free, medium pink blooms were large with tremendous substance atop strong medium length stems. And there were enough of them to make a very good show on the bush and in the vase, as their staying power was very impressive over a three-week period. Yep, I am forced to say this is now one of my favorite pink roses.

However, *Joyfulness*, *Leonidas*, *Lover's Lane*, and *Sweet Amy* were not so fortunate. With so many bushes performing at such a high level, I no longer have the desire or time to waste on those that only occasionally give me great blooms. *Joyfulness* blooms had a muddy color, *Leonidas* again showed no stem length, *Lover's Lane* still has no real vigor with stingy blooms on short stems, and *Sweet Amy* sported just ordinary light pink blooms. From now on, a rose is going to have to earn its keep to remain in my garden.

A new look at new roses

The best thing about this time of year is that the new varieties are blooming and I can evaluate them. So far I have been impressed by

Honey Dijon

[*photo on right*], the mustard colored grandiflora with an outstanding fragrance. The blooms are beautiful, a tad more orange than advertised; but that could be due to the cool early season weather and the fact that it had started blooming in my greenhouse before I



planted it. It may very well show more yellow in warmer weather.

I am finally seeing some interesting new red roses on the market, instead of the cookie-cutter ones that have turned up the last decade or so. *Lasting Love* [*photo below*] is still small, but is throwing out lots of new basals already. The first blooms on this hybrid tea were a dazzling deep red with a strong fragrance.



Another new red, *Black Baccara*, is still very small on fortuniana rootstock. It has had one bloom, which was indeed a very blackish-red color. However, another grower said that the bloom was not very black at all. I guess this is a rose that we'll have to grow for the entire year to fully evaluate its color.

While I'm on the subject of red roses, a new one from last year, *Firefighter*, was very impressive this spring. The blooms were a very rich, deep royal red with outstanding fragrance and long cutting stems. Last year *Firefighter* got off to a sluggish unimpressive start, and then came on like gangbusters this year. *Firefighter* is carried by Edmunds Roses.

One of the more intriguing new roses I've tried this year is *Sun King*, which was recommend by Jim Mills. Over the winter in my greenhouse the blooms were a very deep yellow with a powerful fragrance. When I set this rose out of the greenhouse in April, I noticed that the bloom on it had changed from yellow to deep apricot. A day later the same bloom had changed to yellow with bright orange edges; this is how the blooms have seemed the last few weeks after being planted in the ground. Without a doubt, it has show stopping color and fragrance. It is still small,

however, so I look forward to seeing its growth habit for the rest of the year.

Milva was another unknown rose to me, but again recommend by Jim Mills. The highly fragrant blooms are an interesting bright orange blend. More on this rose and *Sun King* later this year.

For white roses, *Maria Shriver* and *Pure Poetry* look good. They both sport pure white blooms with outstanding fragrance. Normally, the shrub rose *Pure Poetry* would not find a place in my garden, but the promise of grapefruit-scented blooms was too much to pass up. And indeed the blooms do have a fragrance that could be considered grapefruit.



The new David Austin English rose *Christopher Marlowe* [photo at left] looks outstanding! The blooms are exactly as promised,

bright pink with a hint of orange and nicely fragrant. *Golden Zest* reminds me of its parent, *Golden Celebration*. The intensely fragrant blooms are very large, very full, and a bright golden yellow. I hope that the bush ends up just a bit smaller than *Golden Celebration*, but time will tell on that.

Lemon Zest, the new shrub rose from Jackson and Perkins, was a disappointment though. It promised medium-sized yellow blooms with a strong lemon scent. Instead, I have only seen smallish ordinary blooms with very little fragrance. I've already got the shovel ready for this one.

Another mild disappointment so far has been *Aromatherapy*. It appears to be a vigorous grower like its parent *New Zealand*, but the early, moderately fragrant blooms were small with an uninspired light pink color. This rose may be just a slow starter, so hopefully it

will pick up steam later on this year.

One thing to keep in mind as we head into June is that we won't be able to count on the continual rains we have enjoyed earlier this year. It is easy to forget about soaker hoses and irrigation systems while it is raining, so get them out now if you haven't already, and make sure your roses are getting enough water. It won't take your roses long to tell you if they are thirsty, and you don't want to wait that long. While you're at it, why not pour yourself a tall, cold one as you stroll through your garden. It makes for a more enjoyable time.



Remember Rose Day America? Despite torrential rains and tornado warnings, GARS members talked roses with Lowe's customers at over 20 stores on April 30.

Need Help With Your Roses?

Our society is fortunate to have a number of members who have been trained and certified as Consulting Rosarians of the American Rose Society. These members are available for advice and consultation. Please call on any of them whenever you need help with your roses.

Inside Perimeter

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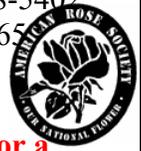
Linda Schuppener 770-489-4865 linda2742@comcast.net

South

Linda & Walt Reed 770-632-9907 linwalreed@aol.com

Additional Rose Resources

American Rose Society, PO Box 30,000, Shreveport, LA 71130, phone 318-938-5402. Annual dues are \$37 or \$34 for those 65 or older; a three-year membership is \$100. Associate membership for the spouse of a regular member is \$13. **For a limited time, new memberships are discounted by \$5, and you'll also receive a free rose from Nor'East.** Membership benefits include the *American Rose Magazine*, the *American Rose Annual*, and the *Handbook for Selecting Roses*.



The American Rose Society also publishes four specialty quarterly bulletins: *Rose Exhibitors' Forum*, *OGR & Shrub Gazette*, *Mini News*, and *Rose Arranger's Bulletin* (\$15 for REF, \$10 each for the other three), to help you explore the world of roses.

Website: www.ars.org

The DSD Bulletin is the 2003 Gold Medal-winning quarterly publication of the Deep South District of the ARS. Subscriptions are \$10 per year, or \$25 for 3 years. Mailing address: Jim & Kay Harrell, 121 Shore Rush Circle, St. Simons Island, GA 31522.

DSD e-mail: DSDbulletin@Fairmarsh.com

DSD website: www.deepsouthdistrict.org



Our own Linda Hoff and Jim Tromanhauser were married in April, and have returned to share a life in roses in Woodstock. Congratulations!

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WEB SITE: www.atlantarose.org

The Phoenix

Newsletter of the Greater Atlanta Rose Society

Bobbie Reed, *Editor*
3388 Lennox Court
Lawrenceville, GA 30044-5616



Susan Clingenpeel's Olympic Gold won Mini Queen at the GARS show.

The Greater Atlanta Rose Society is affiliated with the American Rose Society. We meet at the Atlanta Botanical Garden, Piedmont at The Prado, Atlanta, on the third Tuesday of most months. Membership is open to anyone interested in growing roses. Annual dues are \$20 per household. Membership benefits include the newsletter; meetings with informative speakers and programs; and conversations with some really nice rose-growing people! Contact any officer for more information, or come to a meeting.

Memberships & Renewals: Interested in joining? Please send \$20 dues to Louise Stafford, Treasurer, 1280 Hollytree Lane, Snellville, GA 30078-5995.

While the advice and information in this newsletter are believed to be true and accurate, neither the authors nor Editor can accept any legal responsibility for any errors or omissions that may have been made. The GARS and ARS make no warranty, expressed or implied, with respect to the material contained herein.

REMINDER: Our annual picnic will be Saturday, Jun 25 at 11am at Fernbank.