From the President

These past couple of weeks have certainly verified that Hotlanta is definitely HOT! Amazing heat – and summer hasn’t even arrived yet. The picnic at Ryan and Wendy’s house was a ton of fun – heat and all! They have a most beautiful place, with spectacular roses. It’s quite evident how much work goes into their rose garden and the landscaping. Thanks, Ryan and Wendy, for sharing your lovely home and rose garden with us on the 7th!

Mark and I had the pleasure of attending the South Metro picnic yesterday (June 14) at Walt and Linda Reed’s home. It was a lovely event and attended by an impressive number of South Metro members. The temperature was hot, but not quite as hot as the weekend before! We met lots of new people, and indulged in tremendous amounts of food. There are some mighty good cooks in the South Metro group! Linda and Walt’s rose garden is magnificent! Clearly, an enormous amount of work goes into their garden, and the payoff is awesome beauty! (Walt said he hadn’t seen any Japanese beetles yet this year, but we saw a few in his garden. We told him we brought them as a gift from our garden because we had plenty to share!!)

The very first Douglasville Hydrangea Festival was held on June 7. I was encouraged by several garden club members to enter a rose or two in the show. Unfortunately, my roses were finished with their first bloom cycle, so I had very little to choose from. I was able to enter one class with a large spray of Knockout, and somehow managed to pull a first place award!

It was my first experience with a show other than roses, and I found it very enjoyable! The hydrangeas were in full bloom that weekend, and they were a spectacular sight.

Summer is nearly here. The roses are holding their own. Remember to take care of you – drink lots of cold lemonade, sit in the shade, watch the hummingbirds and enjoy the beauty that surrounds us! See you at the July meeting.

Linda Schuppener

July Meeting
Tuesday, July 15, 7:30pm, ABG
Heat-Loving Roses

Well, I hope everyone enjoyed the June picnic as much as I did. A little hotter perhaps than the usual June, but with Ryan’s ‘coolers’ I never really noticed. For all of you who missed it, you missed a good time, good company, and a wonderful garden. Lots of blooms were still very much present and the bushes were in great condition. Thanks, Ryan and Wendy, your place is beautiful.

For the July meeting, at the usual air conditioned Workshop room at the Atlanta Botanical Gardens, we will get to do a little summertime dreaming as we delve into the roses which love the heat. Old fashioned Teas, Polyanthas, and Noisettes will featured for those who want beauty in the Garden with minimal care, the way our ancestors had to garden before chemicals. See you on the 15th, 7:30 pm.

Chris Woods

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July 2008

Rose Calendar

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<td>GARS meeting, 7:30pm, Atlanta Botanical Garden</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 4-5</td>
<td>GGRS/NortheastGeorgia RS Rose Show, Bogan Park, Buford. Contact Nancy Miller, 770-963-6490, <a href="mailto:2manyroses@bellsouth.net">2manyroses@bellsouth.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 4-5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 10-12</td>
<td>Deep South District Convention &amp; Rose Show, Birmingham, AL. Contact Bob Eskew, 205-823-6621, <a href="mailto:daddybobsq@aol.com">daddybobsq@aol.com</a></td>
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<td>Oct 21</td>
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July In The Rose Garden

By Bobbie Reed, Consulting Rosarian

Observe – Look around to see what's happening in your garden – your roses will tell you what they need. The drought continues (no surprise!) – June 2008 was one of the driest on record, and we are 30% short on rainfall for the year. Recent rains have been quite localized, although the rainfall has mostly averaged out to evenly dry. Japanese beetles are here, of course, though not in such high numbers as in recent years – that's one thing the drought has been good for. Knocking the beasties off the bush into a can of soapy water is the least toxic way to limit their damage. Summer arrived with a bang in early June, despite what the calendar says and despite what the mild spring led us to believe. Temperatures have already reached the high 90s. Know what that means? Spider mites!

Water – The most important thing you can do for your roses this summer is to keep them watered. Roses need lots of water when it gets this hot, so try to find a schedule that lets you water as often as possible, consistent with our watering restrictions. Be sure to check with your county government to verify your water rules, as some have changed recently. Some are now more liberal, but mine is still 25 minutes a day, three days a week. Ouch! As you water, wash the underside of lower leaves to keep spider mites at bay.

Feed – Keep feeding your bushes so they'll have energy for now and more in reserve once cooler weather returns. Roses need lots of water to prevent fertilizer burn; since that can be hard to provide around water regulations, try to use organic or dry time-release fertilizers. You could supplement this with a liquid fertilizer occasionally.

Spray – Don't let blackspot get ahead of you; keep up with your spray routine. Most fungicides must be applied at 7-10 day intervals; if blackspot runs rampant, shorten the interval to 5 days for a couple of weeks, and change chemicals periodically. Use insecticides sparingly, only when harmful insects are observed, but add a miticide like Avid or Floramite if spider mites are overactive. Try to water before spraying to minimize spray damage. Cover yourself up, and spray in the cool of the day to protect both you and your roses.

Deadhead – If spent flowers are left on the bush, the roses will channel their energies to producing hips (fruit) rather than making more flowers. Remove dead flowers immediately to encourage your bushes to produce the next bloom cycle. This will also reduce the amount of botrytis in your garden – those ugly brown globs left where the bloom used to be. On a small bush, cut just above the first set of leaves; on a tall bush, cut as far down the stem as you need for the next flower to be at a good height and on a strong stem. Or try this – snap off the spent bloom just below the calyx. On a well-watered plant, the peduncle snaps cleanly and easily, while a water-starved plant will resist your efforts.

Enjoy – Stop and smell your roses, cut some for the house and to share. And most important in a hot, dry summer – keep your cool!
Leave The Leaves
By Baxter Williams, Master Rosarian

Every season the phone call comes, and a voice says, “My roses’ leaves all fell off. What am I doing wrong?” Mostly the answer is, “It is what you are NOT doing.” In the majority of cases the reason for leaf drop this time of year is an infection of blackspot fungus disease. But that is not always the case. Let’s look at some of the common reasons.

Blackspot. Our recent weather conditions are ideal for fungus infections. Nighttime temperatures of 70 – 85 degrees F, with evening humidity levels beginning around 90 percent (nighttime humidity almost always rises all of the way to the “dew point” in early morning hours just before dawn), make for disease. Expect it. And pre-empt it.

If you already have the disease, then you must take steps to get it under control. One spraying will not suffice. To assure its containment you must spray your roses with a “killer” [contact] fungicide, such as with a product containing Mancozeb. That will decimate the spore populations, and give you and your bushes some relief. But it makes some real sense to also use a fungus preventer [systemic] product that will assure that the new spores that land on the leaflets on the morning’s breeze have no chance of re-infecting the plant. Two good preventive products are Banner MAXX and Compass, and although they are mildly expensive, they give good results. Funginex (Ortho Rose Pride Rose and Shrub Disease Control) is a less expensive alternate that is more readily available. Utilize both Mancozeb and one of the other products, mixed together, at 5-day intervals, for a month. At that time, if you haven’t missed any sprayings, the blackspot should be arrested. And the nice thing about the preventers is that they will, thereafter, give 2 weeks of protection (Funginex gives a 7 day protection when plants are clean).

Think of how many daylight hours you will save by having to apply the products every other week, instead of every week (in our case, at 4 hours time to spray the entire garden, I save about 100 hours per year by applying product 25 times per year instead of 50 times!).

Do not dilute these chemicals beyond what is called for on the product labels. The object is to kill the fungi, not make them sick. You want them dead, dead, dead. All preventers should be alternated with other types of chemicals. The continued use of a single product will make the disease more resistant to that product.

Not Enough Water. Too little water will cause the leaves to yellow and fall off. The plant drops its leaves to conserve moisture, but will simply die if moisture isn’t provided soon after going into stress. Such stress almost always causes all of the leaves to yellow at the same time, usually beginning near the bottom of the plant. The solution is simply to get adequate water to them.

Spider mites. Spider mites can, and will, defoliate your bushes, if not detected soon and dealt with sufficiently. They inhabit the undersides of the leaflets, and suck the juices out of them. They are easily detected by discoloration of the leaflets. The centers of the leaflets develop a lighter color than the edges and, if turned over, usually exhibit a trashy, “salt and pepper-ish” look. Examined under a strong magnifying glass, the little beasties are seen scampering about. Kill ’em. Either knock them off the undersides of the leaflets using a strong water blast (garden hose, with a pistol grip nozzle or a Jet-All), or use Avid. The only problem with Avid is that it offends your pocketbook.

Mechanical damage. If a root, or bud union, or cane, or leaf part, is damaged, it is likely to die. Naturally, leaves above the damage will be lost. If damage is not extensive, then the damaged bud union or cane may continue to function for a while. This buys you some future production time, but you should still plan to cut away the damage before long. In doing so, be sure to use sharp tools, and use white glue (Elmer’s) to seal cuts on the bud union.

Random necrosis. Sometimes a rose bush will simply abort a stem or cane. I sometimes say that the affected stem “is plugged up with cholesterol”, but that is somewhat far-fetched. The fact is that the affected stem or cane has lost its value to the plant, and the plant will
discontinue sending nutrients its way, causing it to die. Just cut it off the plant, and hope that the plant will send up another, better one.

The rose plant must have leaves to live. See that it does.

From the August 2007 issue of the Houston ROSE-ETTE, newsletter of the Houston Rose Society, Patsy Williams, Editor.

Picnic Pleasures

A great time was had by all at the GARS picnic last month. Wendy Tilley hosted a group touring the Tilleys' garden.

While Cindy Dale and Linda Reed pondered the identification of a rose, Chris Woods looked on.

Tidbits

David Baker's mom, Anna Ruth Baker, passed away in Columbia, SC, on June 3. She was an active member of local and state rose societies, as well as of the American Rose Society, and we’re sure she contributed to Dave's lifelong interest in roses. Our condolences go out to David and Susan.

At last report Verne Davis was still awaiting shoulder surgery. Hang in there, Verne (and Anna)!

A Message About Messenger

Bruce Gillett, M.D., Consulting Rosarian

Recently we started using Messenger at the Smith-Gilbert Arboretum (SGA) Rose Garden, a gift from Eden Bioscience Corporation. Half of the roses in the garden were sprayed with Messenger, half were not. We plan to compare the treated roses in the south beds with the control sample roses in the north beds, those plants that receive the same care except for the omission of Messenger. There are obviously many flaws in this study, but I think that we can make reasonable observations as to the effectiveness of Messenger. Early results suggest that Messenger has stimulated growth and vigor of four roses that were struggling to survive; they are thriving and blooming.

Messenger's active ingredient, a harpin protein, was discovered by researchers at Cornell University in the early 1990s. The protein is derived from hrp genes of a bacterium, Erwinia amylovora, the pathogen that causes fire blight in the apple and pear orchards in the northeastern United States. When the harpin protein is introduced into plants, i.e., roses in the arboretum, receptors detect the protein, perceive that it is under attack, and signal the rose to activate its defense mechanisms. Because Messenger stimulates a plant's natural defenses, degrades rapidly without toxic residue, exhibits environmental safety without adverse effects on fish, birds, honeybees, aquatic invertebrates, beneficial insects, algae, and non-target plants, the Environmental Protection Agency in 2000 allowed its sale and use for a wide variety of crops, turf, trees and ornamentals. Messenger can be a part of an Integrated Pest Management program.

Plants treated with harpin protein develop increased photosynthesis, increased biomass, stronger cell walls, better root formation, improved nutrient uptake, increased fruit and vegetable yield. And because a plant, such as a rose, thinks that it may die, Messenger stimulates flower formation.

Specific mechanisms of action of harpin proteins improve a plant’s ability to resist viral, bacterial, and fungal diseases, as well as
enhancing a plant’s ability to fight insects and nematode infestation. The hypersensitive response prevents the spread of disease. A systemic acquired resistance enables plants to reject a large variety of pathogens. Messenger stimulates the jasmonic acid-induced pathway and the salicylic acid-dependent pathway, both important in plant defense. Plants grow larger and faster with accelerated ripening and higher yields.

Messenger, a fine granule, is supplied in packets. We use the 0.12 oz. packet per one gallon of water. Fill the sprayer about ¾ full with water, and then add Messenger and finish filling with water. This amount will treat 25 to 50 roses, tomatoes, etc., or 1,000 sq. ft. of garden area. If Messenger is to be sprayed with other products such as fungicides, add Messenger first to the water, mix then add other products and fill with remaining water. A representative at Eden Bioscience informed me that Messenger is compatible with most agricultural products. The rose fungicide program that I use at SGA includes Indicate 5, which lowers the pH of the water solution; this will inactivate Messenger. We also use Pentathlon (Manzate, Mancozeb), which also inactivates Messenger, so we do not mix those products with Messenger. Apply as a foliar mist; you can root drench any extra for houseplants. Messenger activates a response in 5-10 minutes and produces a full response in 3 to 5 days. Because it lasts about 3 weeks, it needs to be re-applied at three-week intervals.

A few more tips:
- Tightly seal unused granules and use within 3 weeks
- Use Messenger in the sprayer within 4 hours
- Re-apply if it rains within 30 minutes
- Begin to use Messenger on young plants
- Apply every three weeks during growing season
- Apply during bud formation, flowering, fruit setting, and ripening
- Morning applications are best

My thoughts while writing about this harpin protein dreamingly returned to one of my favorite childhood fairy tales, “Jack and the Beanstalk.” I wonder if those five magic beans were infused with Messenger.

Weeds are thieves robbing roses (and other desirable plants) of water, fertilizer, and even sun. Some are blatant, like dandelions. Often, weeds are inconspicuous: grassy Poa annua, or clover-like Oxalis. Occasionally they start off covertly, and then suddenly explode into wild growth.

Strategies for weed control fall into two broad categories: mechanical and chemical. Mechanical strategies include hand weeding, cultivating, and mulching. Chemical weed control involves the careful use of herbicides. Used in combination, these techniques can defeat your weeds (at least until the next batch appears).

Manual Weeding

Hand weeding is best done when the ground is still moist – the day after watering, for example. Grasp the weed as close to the base as possible, and pull slowly and firmly, trying to remove all the roots from the ground. Some weeds are easier to pull after you have split them in half, like crabgrass. (These weeds split down the middle easily.) Sometimes tools will help like an asparagus or ball weeder; an old cheap steak knife, trowel, and a pair of needle-nose pliers are among the arsenal in my hand-weeding kit. But most important is timing. Hand weed (or cultivate) while weeds are still young, usually less than one inch tall or long. Always pull any weeds in flower, before they have a chance to produce more seeds.

Don’t neglect proper attire when working in the garden: gloves (you are working around roses and their thorns.); eye protection (a pair of sunglasses will do); sun protection (like a wide brim straw hat); and kneepads.

Cultivating around roses should be very shallow (about one-half inch or less). Rose roots grow within an inch of the soil surface, so avoid damaging these roots by keeping cultivation shallow. A shallow scraping with a hoe or cultivator will kill or discourage most weed seedlings. Deeper cultivation is not necessary for control of weed seedlings. Hand weed any that escaped your scythe-like cultivation. Cultivation during dry weather is the most effective:
seedlings not killed or severed outright will usually dry out.

**Application of a Mulch**

Mulching with two to four inches of a coarse organic mulch will conserve soil moisture, insulate against changing temperatures, and discourage weeds. Thick mulching smothers many existing weed seeds before they sprout. The few weed seeds that sprout are weakened by their struggle toward the Sun. Wind-borne weed seeds may root in the mulch. Both of these classes of weeds are easily pulled out.

Vary the thickness of mulch with the seasons. Topdress lightly before winter. Too thick a layer will keep in autumn heat (slowing dormancy) or winter cold (slowing spring sprouting). A couple of inches will do at these times. After the roses have sprouted, and the leaves have started to turn green (around March, in our area) increase your mulch to a three to four inch layer.

Soil conditioner has a fine enough texture to discourage weeds when applied in a sufficiently thick layer. Bark mulches, due to their larger particle size, need to be applied in thicker layers to achieve good weed control. Shredded materials may last longer in windy areas.

**Use of Herbicides**

Chemical weed control involves the use of herbicides. While we think of herbicides as weed killers, herbicides are actually plant-killers and should be used carefully (as directed on the label) and appropriately to avoid problems (and heartbreak). Always check the labels on these products before using. Herbicides fall into two categories: Pre-Emergent (used before the weeds sprout, inhibiting the growth of weed seedlings), and Post-Emergent (controlling the weeds after they have appeared).

**Pre-Emergent Herbicides** (like Preen or Concern) control weeds by inhibiting weed seed germination. These anti-sprouting agents are useful in any situation where you are not trying to germinate seeds. Begin with a weed-free area, apply the pre-emergent, and check on the results a week or two later. (You may still have to weed, but pre-emergents really reduce the workload.) Preen is triflurin-based. Concern is made from corn gluten (100% organic!). Both of these products are granular; just shake on or broadcast the proper amount per square foot, following label directions. Try adding pre-emergents to a weed control regime: hand weed any really big weeds; lightly cultivate; hand weed any obvious stragglers, apply pre-emergent, and mulch.

**Post-Emergent Weed killers** promise you control after the weeds have emerged from the ground. Read the labels on these products twice and carefully. Eye these powerful herbicides suspiciously – many are meant for lawn care. Roses are broad-leaved shrubs, and many herbicides don't distinguish between broad-leaved weeds and broad-leaved shrubs.

Herbicides that promise long-term total vegetation control (see: scorched earth) are to be avoided completely. They have no business anywhere near a rose garden. Most of them are used by professional pesticide applicators for weed control in driveways and parking lots. Atrazine-based herbicides are especially dangerous to roses, as they are long lasting, absorbed through roots, and can be spread by watering.

Round-Up and its clones of glysophate-based herbicides also attack most plant life. Round-Up is absorbed through green, living foliage (the softer the better), and not through the roots. This allows careful, judicious applicators (like yourselves) to use these powerful chemical weapons of botanical destruction against the marauding weeds, while leaving beautiful, peace-loving roses relatively undisturbed. Using a cardboard shield while spraying, daubing with a disposable foam brush, or applying with a "cotton candy" glove finger (over a protective nitrile glove) are three ways to apply properly diluted Round-Up without endangering your beloved roses. (These work especially well on any oxalis eluding hand-weeding.) Some weeds are difficult to control, even with Round-Up: Morning-glory, Nutsedge, and Ivy among them. If you need help in identifying and controlling these especially difficult weeds, take a bagged sample to your local nursery [or county Extension office] for more help.

One other class of post-emergent herbicides to consider are the non-systemic weed killers like Superfast. Many are organic, and based on fatty
acid soaps. I find these and other contact herbicides of limited use in the rose garden. Contact herbicides don’t control the roots of the weeds, they just burn off the top growth. I’d rather hand-weed or use Round-Up.

Weed control can be achieved by proper timing, diligence, and technique. A combination of mechanical and chemical methods will bring you weed control success in your Rose Garden.

Adapted from the May 2008 issue of The Rose Reporter, newsletter of the Tinseltown Rose Society, Luis Desamero, Editor.

**American Rose Society's 2009 AWARD OF EXCELLENCE Winners Announced**

The Award of Excellence, a designation of merit given to new miniature and mini-flora rose varieties of superior quality and marked distinction, was established by the American Rose Society Board of Directors thirty five years ago. Since the inception of the Award, there have been 106 AOE winners.

Unnamed seedlings or sports of miniature or Mini-Flora varieties are submitted by commercial and amateur hybridizers for evaluation for two years in nine AOE public test gardens, spaced geographically across the United States. Each public garden has an AOE supervisor and five evaluators. Entries are scored on eleven criteria four times during each growing season. At the end of the trial period, Awards of Excellence are given to deserving seedlings, with a maximum of five per year.

The 2009 AOE winners announced in Oklahoma City, OK, on May 31, 2008, are Deja Blu, Ambiance and Warm and Fuzzy.

**Deja Blu** (‘BENwise’)

This “Pick-able Patio Rose” is a mauve Mini-Flora with light fragrance and good exhibition form. It should do well as a garden rose and on the show table. Deja Blu’s habit is upright; it is vigorous and tall.

**Deja Blu** does equally well in the ground or a patio planter. Its cut flower breeding makes for long lasting blooms that repeat quickly and are set off by very dark green holly-like foliage. It was hybridized by Frank Benardella and will be introduced by Nor’East Miniature Roses.

**Ambiance** (‘BENsiete’)

Another Mini-Flora from Frank Benardella, which he also describes as a “Pick-able Patio Rose”. Ambiance is apricot and really catches your eye with its perfectly formed blooms. It is a tall plant with large blooms and foliage. It performs well in the ground or in a planter, and the more blooms you cut, the quicker it is to repeat. This rose should be a winner on the show bench or your kitchen table. It will be introduced by Nor’East Miniature Roses.

**Warm and Fuzzy** (‘WEKhasamiro’)

Its color is a warm red, which refuses to fade or blue, and its buds are pointed to ovoid, covered with soft “moss”. Thus it gets its name.

Warm and Fuzzy is a miniature of medium height (12-16”) with a rounded to slightly spreading habit, deep glossy green foliage and fully double blooms (more than 25 petals) borne in shapely clusters. It has a strong sweet juniper fragrance when you rub the fuzzy buds. It was hybridized by Tom Carruth [its parentage is listed as (Seedling x Santa Claus) x Danny Boy] and will be introduced by Weeks Roses.
Tea Roses: Great Roses For the South
By Bobbie Reed, Consulting Rosarian

Before there was Veterans' Honor, before there was Peace, even before there was La France, there were Tea roses. Teas, not Hybrid Teas, are one of the classes of Old Garden Roses. Tea roses were descendants of R. gigantea, a species rose found in China. Two of the "four China stud" roses that figure in the genealogy of modern roses were tea roses – Hume's Blush Tea-Scented China [1809], and Park's Yellow Tea-Scented China [1824]. As you can tell from the names, the fragrance of the flowers was distinctive – Graham Stuart Thomas describes it as "like a freshly-opened packet of gentle China tea.” It also brought to European gardeners longer petals, a distinctive elongated bud shape, and the beginnings of "yellow" color in roses. While these roses were too winter-tender to thrive in much of Europe, they did quite well in the southern United States. A few years ago, we decided to add a few to our garden; as is usual for us, ours are mostly in pots, and much smaller than mature specimens. Most are "named" varieties, but we also have several "found" Tea roses.

In our garden, we find that the "winter tender" roses are often harmed because they are tricked into early growth by warm winter days, while the hardier roses resist those first urges, waiting until spring is well under way to begin leafing out. When spring cooperates, the Tea roses are among the earliest to bloom. Often the first rose we find blooming is Isabella Sprunt [1855], the yellow sport of the better-known Safrano [1839, below], which is buff-yellow with apricot tints, the best cut rose in France in the late 1800s. Both are semi-double, perhaps prettiest in bud, and open flat with petals that fold to points.

The earliest Teas were much like Chinas, with smaller flowers. Fortune's Five-Colored Rose [1844] was one of these, subsequently lost to commerce. It is believed to have resurfaced as "Smith's Parish," one of the Bermuda Mystery roses. It has semi-double, 2" flowers, which may be white, pink, or red, or some combination of these colors. The variety common in the US was selected to be mostly white, and shows only an occasional red stripe.

The rose that epitomizes the old Teas to me is Duchesse de Brabant [1857, below], a pale shell pink, cupped bloom with a nodding head. It's quite durable (we've found it thriving untended in old cemeteries), and it's been added to the EarthKind™ Rose list. The style was very popular in Victorian days, and this was Teddy Roosevelt's favorite rose – he is reputed to have often worn it as a boutonniere. The white sport of this rose is Mme. Joseph Schwartz [1880].

Another favorite is Rubens [1859, page 1]. It starts with a creamy white bud, opens like a hybrid tea, then finishes in a star-shaped flat flower, with each petal folded to a point.

I mentioned that yellows came into the rose world with Teas. Perle des Jardins [1874] is a full-flowered yellow with an unfortunate tendency to ball in humid weather. Lady Hillingdon [1910, right] has fewer petals, and opens more reliably with soft apricot-yellow semi-double blooms; there's also a
climbing form [1917]. Several Teas are in the orange-pink color range; one of the more distinctive is Monsieur Tillier [1891, left], with quilled petals in shades that approach brick red. Maman Cochet [1893] was famous in the American florist trade around the turn of the century, with long, pointed buds of creamy pink. There are both a climbing sport [1909] and a white sport [1896], which also sported a climber.

A rose found often in old gardens is Mrs. B. R. Cant [1901, right], a silvery-pink cabbagey bloom with darker pink reverse, and great fragrance. Allowed to grow unchecked, it develops into a huge bush.

The Tea that has been in our garden longest is Mrs. Dudley Cross [1908, below]. It is sometimes described as the smaller, less-thorny version of Marie Van Houtte [1871], but is still over 6' tall each year. It has big, cupped flowers of straw yellow, which become tinged with pink as each petal is exposed to the sun.

By 1922, most hybridizers had switched to Hybrid Teas, but a late contribution to the Teas remains – Rosette Delizy [1922, top right]. Small, Hybrid Tea-form blooms contain yellow, apricot, and red tones. Our original information indicated that this was a small plant, suitable for containers, but ours came from a garden where it exceeded 8', and I've since read of others up to 12'. Sombreuil, a climbing white rose, is probably the best-known Tea. Except that it isn't a Tea. The rose grown under this name has been determined by rose experts to be an imposter – it certainly has more in common with Wichurana hybrids like New Dawn than it has with the Tea roses – and it is now classified as a Climber. Ours did not perform well enough to justify its space in our garden, and has moved on to a new home. Another likely imposter is the lovely Francis Dubreuil [1894, right], a dark velvety red rose with a fragrance like Mister Lincoln's, which is thought by some to be an early hybrid tea. That would explain why its color, fragrance, and growth habit are so different from other Teas.

To grow them in your garden, remember that Teas resent pruning, especially in spring, and will sulk for months if pruned like their descendants, the Hybrid Teas. They want lots of space to make large bushes – at least 6’ x 6’, often larger – full of twiggy stems. Typically, the blooms come with lots of side-buds growing out at funky angles – repeated disbudding is needed to get a long-stemmed bloom suitable for cutting. Look for Tea roses at Antique Rose Emporium, Chamblee’s Roses, or Roses Unlimited. Each rose has its own unique beauty, and that of the Teas is well worth getting to know.
Georgians headed west in force in June. It may be summer in Atlanta, but it was still spring in Denver! **Alice & Bud Boyd, Susan Clingenpeel, Madison & Bruce LeRoy, Cindy Dale, Cathy Farmer, Kitsy Mostellar, Karen Radde, Linda & Walt Reed, Bobbie Reed & Don Schwarz, Pam & Rob Russell, and Wendy Tilley** all represented GARS at the Spring 2008 American Rose Society Convention and Rose Show, June 26-30.

The rose show was small but had good quality roses, which many of us were able to observe as clerks or judges. The speakers were informative, and included some familiar names like Tommy Cairns, Don Julien, Stephen Scanniello, and Baldo Villegas, as well as others whose names were less familiar, but who were just as knowledgeable. Yes, there will be new products and new books to look for! The tours were varied and interesting – Don and I got to visit a railroad garden and a cemetery renowned for its assortment of "found" roses and OGRs. The vendors’ area had more variety than I’m used to seeing at a convention (more purchases!), and the rose/quilt show was fabulous! We saw old friends, and made new ones. I kept finding myself in groups discussing newsletters and how to produce them. I also learned something about judging rose photographs, so I learned a lot throughout.

We were all keeping our eyes open to learn how the convention was put together, how well different ideas worked, and what we can do better in 2010. I must say Denver set a high standard!

The ARS membership meeting always gives deeper insight into our national organization. Most interesting was a membership program – through the end of 2008 new members of local societies will automatically receive a 90-day trial membership in ARS to learn the benefits of membership in both societies [and since GARS memberships are half-price this time of year, it’s a no-brainer!]. Also, in 2009 those wonderful quarterly specialty publications (for exhibitors, arrangers, minis, and OGRS & shrubs) will be available electronically to all ARS members at no additional charge, a savings of $45+. Awards were announced for the national website contest, and all the winners this year were first-time entrants, including one from the Deep South. Amateur hybridizers who had roses tested in the Shreveport garden also received awards – for only the fifth time, a gold medal was awarded. The Northern California, Nevada & Hawaii District won the 2007 Roses In Review awards for most reporter, and the highest ratio of reporters to members – but Linda & Walt Reed say that their numbers are well within our grasp in the DSD for this year – so get your report in now. And it was announced that a travel agency site has been added to the ARS website, which will share commissions with ARS – a check it out!

We also had a chance to meet with recent and future convention hosts, to share experiences, hopes, and concerns. Boy, we have a lot to do before 2010.
Need Help With Your Roses?
Our society is fortunate to have a number of members who have been trained and certified as Consulting Rosarians and Master Rosarians by 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.

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<td>Alice Boyd</td>
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<td>Anna Davis</td>
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<td>John Keller</td>
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<td>Carroll Olson</td>
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<td>Michael Rooks</td>
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<td>Rob Russell</td>
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<td>Connie Winter</td>
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<td>Kisty Mostellar</td>
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<td>Anita Smith</td>
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<td>Ryan Tilley</td>
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<td>Jane Zinn</td>
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<td>Nancy Miller</td>
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<td>Karen Radde</td>
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<td>Bobbie Reed</td>
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<td>Diane Snyder</td>
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<td>Louise Stafford</td>
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<td>Linda Schuppener</td>
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<td>Linda &amp; Walt Reed</td>
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Additional Rose Resources
American Rose Society, PO Box 30,000, Shreveport, LA 71130, phone 318-938-5402. Annual dues are $49, or $46 for those 65 or older. Three-year memberships are $140; associate memberships and family memberships are also available at a discount. 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/Mini-Flora Rose Bulletin, and Rose Arrangers’ Bulletin ($15 for REF, $10 for each of the other three), to help you explore the world of roses. Website: www.ars.org

The DSD Bulletin is the 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. Simon's Island, GA 31522. DSD e-mail: DSDbulletin@Faithmarsh.com DSD website: www.deepsouthdistrict.org

Greater Atlanta Rose Society
2008 Membership Form

Name ______________________________
Address ______________________________
City __________________ Zip _____-____
Phone (H) ___________________ (W/C) ______________
E-mail _____________________________

GARS Membership Dues Categories (Per Household)
Regular Membership $25.00 _____
Senior Membership (65 and over) $20.00 _____
I would like to do more to support GARS:
Friend of GARS $26 - $34 _____
Contributing Member $35 - $49 _____
Sponsoring Member $50+ _____
HALF PRICE AFTER JULY 1!
I would prefer to receive the full-color Society newsletter by ____E-mail, OR
I would prefer to receive the black & white newsletter by ____U.S. Mail
Make check payable to “GARS” and forward to: Jesse Usleton, Treasurer 2690 Gleneagles Drive
The Greater Atlanta Rose Society is affiliated with the American Rose Society. We meet at the Atlanta Botanical Garden, 1345 Piedmont Ave NE, Atlanta, on the third Tuesday of most months. Membership is open to anyone interested in growing roses. Annual dues are $25 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: Mail payment to: Jesse Usleton, GARS Treasurer, 2690 Gleneagles Dr., Tucker, GA 30084

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