

TENARKY 2023 MID-WINTER WORKSHOP SPEAKERS

Gary O. Rankin, Ph.D.



Professional

- Professor and Chair
- Department of Biomedical Sciences
- Vice-Dean for Basic Sciences
- Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine
- Marshall University

Research Area: Toxicology

Background in roses

Gary and his wife, Monica Valentovic, had been growing a few roses for many years, but became active in the Huntington Rose Society (HRS) in the early 1990s. Since the early 90s, the number of roses that they grow has increased from about 25 to around 300 rose bushes of all kinds, including about 125 miniature and miniflora roses. Gary has been President of the HRS and Rose Show Co-Chair for the annual HRS Rose Show on several occasions, and has held a variety of other positions in the HRS.

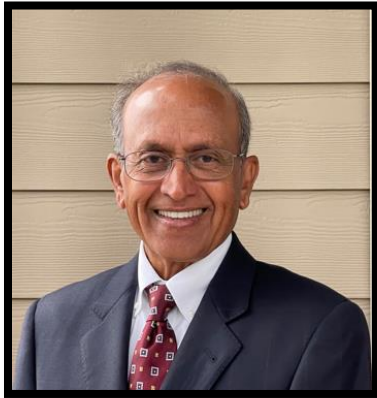
He and Monica have been the Editors for the HRS's newsletter **Thorny Bush** for the last twenty-six years. He is a Consulting Rosarian (CR) and Master CR for the American Rose Society, served as Cyber CR, and was Colonial District CR Co-Chair for six years. He served as a member of the American Rose Society's Product Evaluation Committee to evaluate new rose care products for over eight years and has been Co-Chair, with Monica, of the ARS Product Evaluation Committee since October, 2006. He has received the Bronze Honor Medal from the Huntington Rose Society and the Charleston Rose Society, the Silver Honor Medal from the Colonial District, and the Colonial District Outstanding Consulting Rosarian Award. He and Monica write the "Rosarian's Toolbox" column for the *American Rose* magazine and frequently contribute rose articles and programs at the local, district and national levels.

Peggy Martin



Peggy Martin is the District Director of the Gulf Region. She is also The Old Garden Rose and Shrub Chairman for the Gulf District. She is a member of the New Orleans Old Garden Rose Society and has served as the President for the past four years. She is also on the Financial Board of Directors and is a member of, the American Rose Society, Dallas Area Historical Rose Society, Central Louisiana Rose Society, Texas Rose Rustlers, and the Orlando Florida Rose Society.

Satish Prabhu, MD



Satish started growing roses in India at the age of 12 years. He was helping professional rose propagators to do budding when he was 15. He moved to the USA in 1975 with his wife, Vijaya. In 1977, they planted their first rose garden in USA in Charleston, SC. They moved to Columbia, SC in 1979 and planted their second rose garden, which they tended till 2020, when they moved to Charlotte, NC, where they now have a rose garden with only 150 rose bushes. Vijaya is a very accomplished rose arranger and has won several ARS national awards for her rose arrangements including some top awards. Together, they have been awarded the SCRS and the GCRS bronze awards and the national Blake Hedrick award for sustained successfully exhibiting roses at the national level and mentoring new exhibitors. He is a master rosarian, a life judge, and

has been awarded the district outstanding CR and outstanding judge awards. He has also been awarded the district silver honor medal.

Presently they are in number one position in the country having won 108 National Challenge Class trophies. That includes winning every national challenge class trophy currently available for competition at least once. Satish now believes he is retired from actively exhibiting roses in national conventions. He writes articles regularly for the American Rose, the American Rose Annuals and a few local and district newsletters and frequently makes presentations at the local, district and national conventions.

Connie Baird



A graduate of the Shelton White School of Floral Design, Connie believes designs should be imaginative and fun. Her floral creations and technical expertise have earned her many gold medals as well as the American Rose Society Millie Walters national trophy, the ARS Ben Williams national trophy, the ARS Betty Pavey traveling District trophy, and the Ruth Tiedemann traveling District trophy.

She is presently an ARS Consulting Rosarian, Horticulture and Arrangement judge. She recently conducted a modern design session at the ARS Judges' workshop in Nashville in 2022. She is a member of the American Rose Society, the Nashville Rose Society, and Gateway Acres Garden Club. She and her Master Rosarian husband, Larry, live in Duck River, Tennessee with 300 roses, a large greenhouse, 11 goats and 3 dogs.