

# *Growing and Showing Roses*



# Welcome to Our Garden



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# Spring 2021 Bloom



# Shrub Bed Spring 2021



# Greenhouse and “New Rose” Evaluation Area



"YOU CAN PUT YOUR  
BOOTS IN THE  
OVEN, BUT THAT  
DON'T MAKE THEM  
BISCUITS"

Texas saying



‘Savannah’

Photo courtesy of NewFlora, LLC

Most Outstanding Rose of the Trials (Best  
in Show) – 2015 Biltmore International  
Rose Trials

# You have to grow good roses to show good roses!

“TO SHOW  
WINNING ROSES  
YOU HAVE TO  
GROW SHOW  
ROSES”

Bob Martin  
ARS President

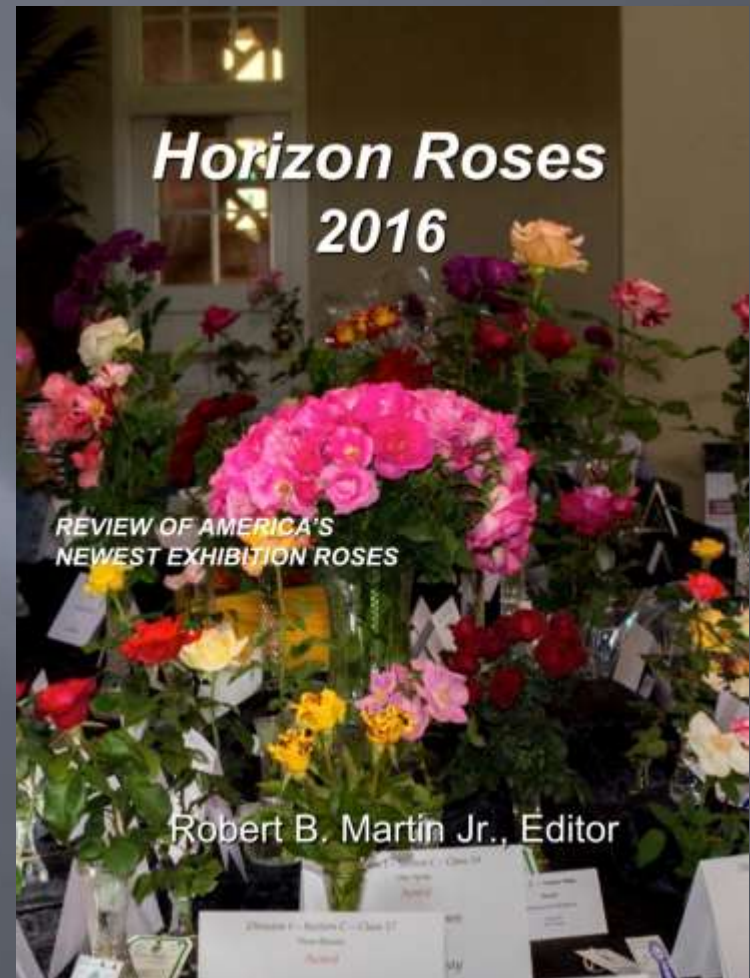


‘Powerhouse’  
Photo by Dona Martin

*“Horizon Roses”*  
2021  
*Our 38th Year*

\$9.95

[www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)



# Getting Ready for the Show

- ▣ We are in the “Dog Days” of the rose growing season.
- ▣ Need to keep your roses healthy to have good blooms for the show.
- ▣ What you do in the garden now will determine what you will have for the show
- ▣ *So what should you be doing right now?*

# Out in the garden.....

- ▣ Keep roses and rosarian well watered
- ▣ Maintain spray program.
- ▣ Cut back plants to get long stems with big blooms
- ▣ Make sure your plants are well fed.

**“THE MOST  
IMPORTANT THING IN  
GROWING SHOW  
ROSES IS WATER”**

Bob Martin



# Water makes it all happen!

- ❑ Roses need 1 to 3 inches of water per week.
- ❑ Fertilizer needs water to work!
- ❑ Water gives the blooms substance
- ❑ Overhead watering in heat of the day will cool down your roses! (Roses need to be blackspot free to overhead water)

# Pest Management



**Winning roses are clean roses!**

# Disease and Insect Prevention

- ▣ Most good exhibitors spray to prevent disease and insects.
- ▣ Blackspot prevention is a must
- ▣ Be on the lookout for spider mites
- ▣ As we move into fall, thrip can become a problem. Prevention is the key.

# Cutting back plants for fall show

- ▣ Generally cut bush back by 1/3
- ▣ Cut back large roses somewhere between 35 and 45 days before show. Miniatures are usually faster to repeat.
- ▣ Timing depends on how fast rose repeat blooms and the weather
- ▣ Can't control the weather, so try to stagger your cut back schedule over several days.
- ▣ If you have multiple plants of same variety, stagger each bush. Otherwise, cut 1/3 of bush at a time over a week or so.
- ▣ Remove as much spindly growth as possible.

# Fall 2007 Pruning Summary

Variety	Plants	Low	High	Average
Bride's Dream	3	35	38	37
Cajun Moon	6	37	44	40
Cajun Sunrise	5	35	42	38
Gemini	6	32	47	40
Hot Princess	8	39	48	42
Let Freedom Ring	5	46	51	49
Louise Estes	9	40	45	43
Moonstone	6	37	45	40
Veteran's Honor	7	35	40	39

# Fall 2007 Pruning Summary

Variety	Plants	Low	High	Average
Bee's Knees	6	44	49	46
Glowing Amber	6	36	43	40
Hilde	8	34	43	38
Miss Flippins	4	34	39	36
Sweet Caroline	5	38	43	40
Butter Cream	7	37	48	43
Conundrum	4	39	44	42
Louisville Lady	4	40	46	44
Regina Lee	5	38	46	40

“52.6% OF ALL  
STATISTICS ARE  
MADE UP”

Anonymous



‘Golden Celebration’  
Photo by Dona Martin

# What can we assume from these pruning statistics?

- ✓ Growing roses is not an exact science
- ✓ Many variables are out of our control
- ✓ You can't mess with Mother Nature!
- ✓ "Stagger Pruning" is best method
- ✓ Prune "slower to repeat" varieties first

# Keep plants well fed!

- ▣ Bushes have been cut back, so they need food to grow
- ▣ Use balanced growth fertilizers initially to get plants growing.
- ▣ We like liquid fertilizers used more often at half strength.
- ▣ As we get closer to the show, switch to liquid bloom booster products.

“ROSES DO NOT  
CARE WHAT YOUR  
EXCUSE IS FOR  
HAVING FAILED  
TO WATER THEM,  
TO FEED THEM OR  
TO LOOK AFTER  
THEIR HEALTH”

Bob Martin



Spider Mites Run  
Amuck on 'Lavaglut'

# The Show Schedule



- ✓ Get a copy of show schedule as soon as it is available
- ✓ Carefully read and make sure you understand the rules
- ✓ Mark classes where you might have potential entries.

# American Rose Society Rose Show

There are typically three divisions:

- 1 – Horticulture
- 2 – Challenge Classes
- 3 – Rose Arrangements

# Point Scoring

FORM.....	25
COLOR.....	20
SUBSTANCE.....	15
SIZE.....	10
STEM AND FOLIAGE.....	20
BALANCE AND PROPORTION.....	10
TOTAL	100

Perfection probably does not exist.

The most beautiful rose is the one with the  
fewest faults

# Exhibition Form

- Form at 25 points is  $1/4^{\text{th}}$  of the equation
- Classic hybrid tea form displays a high pointed center, with petals unfurling from the point in a symmetrical spiral to the outer row of petals that ideally lay upon a horizontal plane



'Marlon's Day'  
Photo by Dona Martin

# Exhibition Form Viewed From the Side

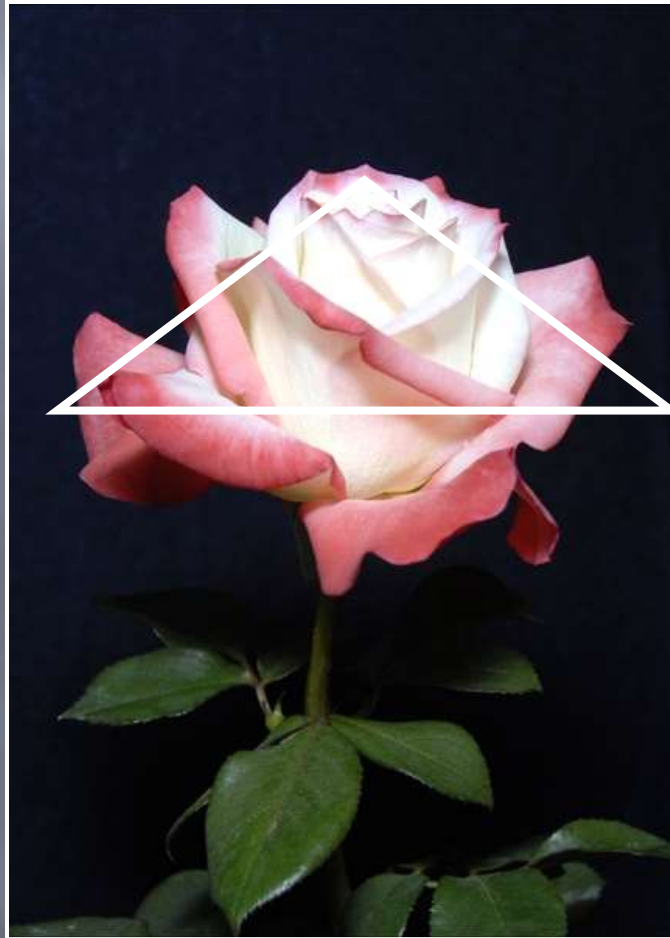
- When viewed in profile, the high-pointed center and symmetry of the bloom should be apparent
- The outer row of petals should ideally lay along a horizontal plane



‘Whirlaway’

Photo by David Clemons

# The Golden Triangle



‘Gemini’

Photo by Dona Martin

# Hybrid Tea Form

Hybrid Tea form applies to HT/Gr class as well as Miniature and Miniflora classes

- Viewed from above, the petal edges should lay within an imaginary circle circumscribing the perimeter of the bloom



# Decorative Form

- The decorative bloom may present a flat, cupped, or even sunken center
- Instead of symmetrical spiral of petals, they may display a different configuration
- Roundness and symmetry still matter



‘The Impressionist’  
Photo by Dona Martin

# Singles

- A single rose is defined as having a petal count of 4-8 petals
- A single is considered at its most perfect phase of possible beauty when fully open
- The stamens should be upright and fresh



‘Grace Seward’  
Photo by Dona Martin

# A Single is a Single

- A rose is either a single or it is not.
- A rose listed as a single in an ARS publication is a single no matter how many petals the specimen may have



'Bronze Medal'  
Photo by Bob Martin

# Open Blooms

- Look for the symmetry of the petals with a circular outline of the outer petals and the stamens fully exposed.



'Oh My!'  
Photo by Dona Martin

# Judging Open Blooms

- Often, in order to give greater exposure to the stamens, the exhibitor removes an excessive number of petaloids and inner petals.



‘Mister Lincoln’

A real winner-pinpoint center, circular  
("Form")

2/3-3/4 of fully open is ideal



**Great and almost great?**



# Split Centers



# Confused Center



‘Dark Desire’

# Two Centers



# Color

- ▣ Color is second in importance at 20 points.  
Color consists of:
- ▣ Hue – the visual sensation produced by the specimen color
- ▣ Chroma – the purity of the hue (color)
- ▣ Brightness – is the clearness of the rose.



‘Shirley Raye’  
Photo by Dona Martin

# Substance

- Substance is worth 15 points
- Substance is the amount of moisture and starch in the petal. It constitutes texture, crispness and firmness of the petals.
- Substance is an expression of the freshness of the bloom



‘Marilyn Monroe’

# Size

- Size refers to the actual dimensions of the bloom and is worth 10 points
- The element of size carries with it some special considerations
- Although larger is better in some cases, this is not always the case (or is it?)



‘Denali’

Photo by Andrew Hearne

Circular, center is well established  
“substance”(hydrated), color is vivid



Gemini

Open Bloom (Stamens showing)-this is no longer exhibition form for HT, minis, minifl

There are usually classes for fully opened HT, minis and floribundas



# Stem & Foliage

- Stem and foliage is the only element of judging that does not consider the bloom and is worth 20 points
- The stem should be straight and serve to support the bloom
- The foliage must be sufficient to frame the bloom
- The foliage must be clean, healthy and free from signs of damage



‘You’re the One’

# Stem-on-Stem-not allowed for HT, Floribunda, Miniature, Miniflora Allowed for Shrubs and OGRs



STEM-on-STEM



SIDE BUDS



# Side Growth

- One-bloom-per-stem specimens must be disbudded
- A side bud is a growth emanating from a leaf axil, having sufficient maturity to display the formation of a stem, with or without a flower bud



# When should you remove side buds?

- ▣ If bud is just forming in the garden, you can pinch out small side buds.
- ▣ If bloom has developed, pinching out side buds will eventually leave a black mark at leaf axil.
- ▣ Therefore, wait until just before you enter the specimen and carefully remove the side buds

# Balance and Proportion

Balance and proportion are worth 10 points

Balance and proportion is that physical property of a rose specimen that combines the relative size of the bloom, stem and foliage into an aesthetically pleasing exhibit.

A general rule of thumb used by many exhibitors is the stem length (including the vase) should be about six times the height of the bloom.

Have also heard some use 2 times height of the vase. Others say 18" for hybrid teas and grandifloras

# Stem Length



# Stem & Foliage

stem approx. 6x height of bloom

**There should be foliage  
360 deg around the  
bloom**

Too Long

Good

Too Short

## Proportion-

bloom should not be  
very big or very small  
compared to the  
stems/leaves



“IF YOU HAVE TO ASK  
IF IT’S TOO TALL IN  
THE VASE, IT IS”

Bob Martin



# A Spray

(Multiple Blooms on one stem)



# What is a Spray?

- A spray must bear two or more blooms to be eligible for exhibition



‘Simple Splendor’

# What is a Spray?

- In no case should one bloom flanked by one or more immature buds be considered a spray



‘Barbra Streisand’

# Spray Form

- The florets should be arranged in a regular geometric outline, which may be circular, oblong, rectangular, triangular or any other symmetrical geometric shape



‘Passionate Kisses’  
Photo by Dona Martin

**Floribunda spray (Fresh stamens!)  
Floribundas and shrubs often look best  
when fully opened**



# Polyantha Spray



‘Sneezy’  
photo by Dona Martin

# Shrubs/ OGRs

- ▣ Shrubs/OGRs/Species are very diverse in growth habits-can be one bloom per stem or sprays containing many individual blooms. The scoring system is the same except stem-on-stem is allowed

Golden Wings (S)



Falstaff-David Austin (S)



**Shrubs**-many are shown as sprays but not necessary -looking for full coverage of blooms and all fresh stamens!

# Classic Shrub Spray



‘Bouquet Parfait’  
Photo by Dona Martin

# Miniature Spray



'Irresistible'  
Photo by Dona Martin

# Preparing Roses for the Show

# Cutting and Conditioning Roses

*To have good cut roses, you have to cut good roses!*

*You can't make chicken salad with chicken manure!*

# Process for Cutting Roses

- When should I cut my roses!
  - *Make sure your rose bushes are well watered before cutting so they will be well hydrated.*
  - *Cut in the early morning or late evening.*
  - *Avoid mid-day if possible*
    - *Exhibitors Note: If a bloom is right for cutting, we cut it regardless of the time of day.*
  - *The “ideal time” to cut a rose is toward the last hours of daylight as the nutrient content is at a peak. An ample supply of nutrients will allow the bloom to develop more naturally.*

# Process for Cutting Roses

- ❑ Clean containers with 10% solution of bleach
- ❑ Clean pruners with Lysol/Water solution.

We keep our pruners clean and disinfected by spraying them with a mixture of Lysol and water.

Mix a capful of Lysol concentrate with 8 ounces of water in a spray bottle.

This will keep your pruners clean and sanitary.



# Process for Cutting Roses

- ▣ Prepare your conditioner/ preservative of choice in a clean container.
  - *What is the difference between a conditioner and a preservative?*
    - ▣ *A conditioner contains an agent to kill bacteria, but does not provide any nutrients. Conditioners are used to “hold” roses in the cooler.*
    - ▣ *A preservative (cut flower food) contains an agent to kill bacteria and also provides food for bloom development. Most of these will have to be changed every three days or so and stems re-cut. Can be used in cooler and at room temperature.*

# Chrysal Professional #2



- Is both a conditioner and a preservative
- 70% hydration (RVB) and 30% sugars (Chrysal clear)
- Keeps water clean, clear and odorless
- Can be used in cooler and at room temp
- Good for one week
- 2 teaspoons/quart of water.

# Chrysal RosePro Liquid Flower Food



- Preservative especially made for roses
- Each packet makes 1 quart of solution
- Keeps stems firm, leaves green, helps buds open to bigger flowers
- Enhances color and fragrance
- No need to change vase water!

# Chrysal Fresh Flower Food Sachets



- Fresh flower food preservative
- Keeps water clear
- Each sachet makes 1 pint of treated solution.

# Other Possible Preservatives

- 1) Use one part lemon-based soda (Sprite, Seven-Up, etc.) to three parts water. Change every 3 days. *Do not use diet sodas!*
- 2) In a gallon of warm water, add ½ cup sugar and 2 teaspoons of bleach. Allow to cool before using
- 3) Use 4 TBS of Listerine per gallon of water. Change solution every 3 days.

# Process for Cutting Roses

- ▣ *How tight should I cut my blooms?*

# Process for Cutting Roses

- ▣ *How tight should I cut my blooms?*
  - Depends on the variety
  - Depends on number of petals.
  - General rule is to cut  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{1}{3}$  open.

# Process for Cutting Roses

- After you have prepared conditioner/preservative, take your sharp pruning shears and a bucket of warm water into the garden.
- Immediately place the cut blooms in the bucket of warm water!
  - *The warm water opens the channels in the stems that transport water to the blooms.*

# Process for Cutting Roses



- After you have cut all your blooms:
  - *Re-cut blooms under warm water at a 45 degree angle.*
  - *Place in a cool location in the house for about an hour to allow water to cool to room temperature. This is the “hardening hydration period.”*
  - *Place blooms in conditioner/preservative and refrigerate*

# Refrigeration

- ❑ *Cover blooms with plastic sandwich bags*
  - *Not necessary with older, non-frost-free refrigerators!*
- ❑ *Place a pan of water on the bottom to add humidity*
- ❑ *Remove ripening fruit such as apples and lemons, as they give off ethylene that will damage bloom.*
- ❑ *Ideal temperature is 34 to 38 degrees.*
- ❑ *Make sure no foliage is in water solution.*
- ❑ *Blooms should not touch back sides or coils.*
- ❑ *Overnight refrigeration will extend life of your blooms 4-5 days*



# Generally Speaking!

- ❑ *Some roses refrigerate better than others!*
- ❑ *Varieties that tend to open quickly need to be cut tighter (i.e. Gold Medal)*
- ❑ *Some of the “older” red roses do not refrigerate well (i.e Mr. Lincoln, Uncle Joe)*
- ❑ *Mauve, pink and most white varieties refrigerate well*
- ❑ *Some varieties with orange coloration tend to change colors in the cooler (i.e. Touch of Class)*
- ❑ *Don't be afraid to experiment on your own!*

# The Night Before the Show

- Sort your roses and leave your non-contenders at home
- Make/Review your list of entries
- Make out your entry tags



# Entry Tags

Entry Tag 1

Section A Class I  
 Variety CRYSTALLINE

Name Robert B. Martin, Jr.  
 Address 1232 So. El Molino Ave.  
Pasadena, CA 91106-4306  
 Exhibitors No. 32

1st • Award	2nd • Award	3rd • Award	Honorable • Mention
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1st • Award	2nd • Award	3rd • Award	Honorable • Mention
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Section A Class I  
 Variety CRYSTALLINE

Name Robert B. Martin, Jr.  
 Address 1232 So. El Molino Ave.  
Pasadena, CA 91106-4306  
 Exhibitors No. 32

Entry Tag 2

Section C Class 10  
 Variety FAIRHOPE

Special Awards \_\_\_\_\_

1st • Award	2nd • Award	3rd • Award	Honorable • Mention
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# Transporting Roses

- Rose Tubes
- Rose Cones
- Miniature Container
- Vasebrace Vase Holder



# Grooming Matters



**“GROOM A DOG  
WELL AND  
YOU WILL HAVE A  
WELL-GROOMED  
DOG”**

Dr. Satish Prabhu



**“TAKE THE BEST YOU  
GOT AND DO THE  
BEST YOU CAN WITH  
IT”**

Carl Mahanay



**‘Marmalade Skies’  
Photo by Dona Martin**

“YOU CAN  
OBSERVE A  
LOT JUST BY  
WATCHING”

Yogi Berra



# Grooming Box

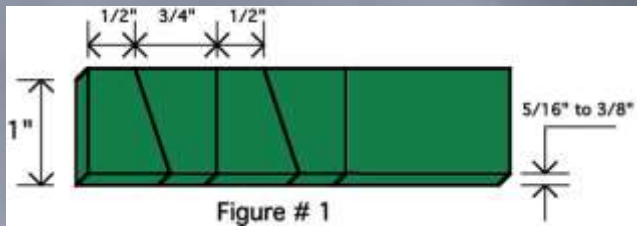


# Q-Tips



Photo Courtesy Baldo Villegas

# Wedge Entries Upright



The Cadillac of Wedges



‘Whirlaway’

Photo by Dona Martin

# Cleaning Leaves



Photo Courtesy Baldo Villegas

# Staging

- ✓ Challenge class entries are typically staged by the exhibitor.
- ✓ Staging skills typically take practice
- ✓ Goal is to make your entry as pleasing to the eye as possible.
- ✓ If entry has roses of multiple colors, make sure the colors are arranged so they compliment each other.
- ✓ If entry has multiple blooms, arrange in a manner that highlights your best blooms.
- ✓ After judging is complete and show is open to public, it is a good idea to look and see how other exhibitors staged their entries.

# Parting Thoughts.....

- ✓ Judges are human and just like us, they have their preferences.
- ✓ New rose varieties are easier to win with as the judges probably have not seen them before.
- ✓ All things being equal, a clean white bloom is hard to beat.
- ✓ Bloom that is too open versus bloom that is too tight?
- ✓ Prepare as much of entry tag in advance of the show as possible.
- ✓ Try to ask questions about the show in advance of the show day!
- ✓ Arrive at the show prep area as early as possible.
- ✓ Stay focused and don't get intimidated by other exhibitors in the show prep area.
- ✓ Remember that you are the toughest judge of your roses. If it looks good to you, enter it!
- ✓ Have fun!

# Questions?

# **Good Exhibition Varieties**

# Black Magic

hybrid tea



# Cajun Sunrise

hybrid tea



Photo by Kitty Belendez

# Desperado

hybrid tea



# Gemini

hybrid tea



photo by Elaine Pawlikowski

# Hot Princess

hybrid tea



Photo by Donna Martin

# Louise Estes

hybrid tea



# Mr Caleb

hybrid tea



Photo courtesy Cindy Dale

# Moonstone

hybrid tea



# Randy Scott

hybrid tea



Photo by Donna Martin

# St. Patrick

hybrid tea



# Sunny Sundays

hybrid tea



Photo courtesy of Andrew Hearne

# Best of 04

miniature from Whit Wells



# Magic Show

miniature from Frank Benardella



Photo courtesy of Donna Martin

# Abby's Angel

miniflora by Whit Wells



# Jolene Adams

miniflora from Jim Sproul



Photo by Dave Bang

# Sunglow

miniflora from Whit Wells



Outstanding photo by Jeff Garrett

# Tammy Clemons

miniflora from David Clemons



# Whirlaway

miniflora from David Clemons



