



Rose Lore



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Mary Van Vlcek, Editor

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Treasurer - Bud Morrison
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Membership – Carole Holkenbrink
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Jessica Garcia

MAY MEETING

The next MEVRS meeting will be held outdoors in the MCC Rose Garden on Thursday, May 12. The meeting time is earlier - it begins at 6.00 pm. This is our annual installation of officers and potluck party. For the dinner we would like for you to bring something to share with six to eight people as follows (using the initial of your surname):

Members with their last name A-L are asked to bring a salad, M-Q a side dish and R-Z a dessert. The MEVRS board will supply meat, dinnerware and drinks.



May 2019 – a great day to remember

Since we will be meeting outdoors with a shared meal, there will be no Zoom version. The hybrid meeting with both in-person and Zoom versions will return in June.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

BY HELEN BAIRD

Letter from the desk of Mia Baird (the Chihuahua)

My mom, Helen, has told me that since this weather is getting very warm it is time to increase the water schedule. She also fertilizers her roses once a month. I am not supposed to tell you a story, but since this is my article, I want to share this story with you. Mom uses a wagon called a gorilla wagon to carry her bags of fertilizer around the garden. The wheels of the wagon always get flat tires so Mom purchased wheels that do not get flat tires. The problem was that when she put the new wheels on, the wagon did not move because she put three wheels on correctly and one wheel incorrectly so once she corrected that, the wagon worked perfectly.

She told me that there is a party on Thursday night at 6 pm and I have to stay home, but I hope you all have a great time.

SUCH AN UNEXPECTED SURPRISE!

BY LEROY BRADY

Marylou Coffman and I were requested to be at the Rose Garden at 1:30 on April 5th. That is not unusual to have a reason for either one of us to be called to meet and address questions that come up about the garden or even roses. Being the first week in April and the beginning of the spring bloom, neither Marylou nor I thought there was anything unusual about a meeting in The Rose Garden at MCC. We both got there and Mike Cryer and his wife were there, with Mike wearing his red Rose Garden shirt. Still nothing was that unusual and then Mike said he had to get something out of his vehicle.



Sitting there in the Rose Garden terrace talking about test rose evaluations and that the roses have just been fertilized, we looked up to see Mike walking towards us with two other persons. We stood to greet them and Mike introduced them from Channel 3's *Pay it Forward*. They handed Marylou \$100 bills. We were surprised but Marylou, seldom at a loss for words, recovered fast as he handed her the money. It did not take us long to agree that the money would be used to buy roses for the garden. This is well underway and you will see the results next year.

Thanks for this honor goes to Channel 3 and especially to Mike Cryer. Mike coordinates the rose garden volunteers and made the detailed application to Channel 3 the previous week; they immediately contacted him and made the arrangements for the meeting, The timing was perfect - the roses were just beginning the spring bloom. So many of the people that saw this *Pay it Forward* episode on Channel 3 and 5 that week have visited the garden. Many of them have said that until they saw the presentation, they did not know about the garden. Getting the word out is so important so that we all can enjoy the garden.

HONORING OUR GARDEN VOLUNTEERS



Last Saturday morning, April 30th we honored the Deadheaders and other volunteers who work so hard keeping our public rose garden beautiful. We gave special recognition for our 25-year volunteers (these are the original volunteers who were involved in the garden from its beginnings and are still working): Mary Lou Coffman, LeRoy Brady, Helen Baird, Mike Jepsen and Carole Holkenbrink. Five-, ten-, fifteen- and twenty-year pins were awarded as well as attractive service certificates prepared by Helen Baird. Photos of this happy event have been provided by member Ray Nagell.





2022 – 2023 MEVRS OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

President	Helen Baird
V.P. Programs	Maggie Holloway
Treasurer	Bud Morrison
Membership	Carole Holkenbrink
Recording Sec.	Yvonne Morrison
Corresponding Sec.	Linda Ahlborn
Members at Large	Sherman Weekes
	LeRoy Brady
	Pat Thiel
	Cathy Thiel
	Jessica Garcia

MEET OUR MEMBERS – LORI MURRAY

BY STEVE SHEARD



Steve: When and how did you become interested in growing roses?

Lori: We moved into our current home in May 2020. There were 4 rose bushes in the front yard and 3 in the back yard. With my time being spent on moving and organizing our home, I did not spend any time in our yard. Summer came and we all know what roses look like in the summer, even with a lot of TLC they look fairly rough. I had never had roses before and heard they were hard to take care of so I decided I was going to take all of them out. I had the landscaper remove the roses in the back, and left those in the front until I decided what to do so the HOA wouldn't get upset with me. Fall arrived and surprise, the roses were growing back. It was then that I decided that if they were that resilient, I was going to keep them and learn as much about them as I could.

Steve: Tell me about your garden. How did you choose your roses? How many do you have?

Lori: I love my rose garden and continue to learn each day. I now have 22 roses in my garden and Steve Sheard has assured me that I have room for plenty more! This last year when buying roses, I just bought based on what I visually liked without much of a plan in place.



Steve: What future plans do you have for your garden?

Lori: For the future (with all of the room I have for new roses) I want to spend more time planning. I want to have a method to the madness and purchase with a purpose. Whether that be certain types of roses together or certain colors, I haven't quite decided yet. I want to spend some time planning companions for my roses to build up healthy rose beds and support beneficial insects. Steve and I grafted a rose last year that I am beginning to get blooms on. I would love to do some more grafting and try my hand at propagating as well.

Steve: What is your favorite rose or which are your favorites?

Lori: I have to say my favorite roses are Koko Loko and Distant Drums, just because they are so unique! Throughout the season, I have different favorites depending on what is blooming. I got Cinco de Mayo in the Fall and it has been a nonstop bloomer for me. I just got climbing Edens, they are taking off and have a lot of blooms so that will probably be my favorite soon.

Steve: How did you learn about MEVRS and how long have you been a member?

Lori: Once I decided to keep my roses, I started searching for local rose groups. I found MEVRS on Facebook and started following. The first roses I bought were from the MEVRS auction. I became a member last year, but haven't been able to participate in meetings yet because that is my Bunco night 😊 I enjoy reading the newsletters and plan to become more involved in the future.

Steve: What roses did you buy on the MEVRS Auction?

Lori: The first auction in 2021 I got Koko Loco, Fun in the Sun, Iceberg tree, Iceberg/Ebb Tide/Showbiz tree, Pinata. The 2022 auction I got Perfume Delight and Fragrant Cloud.



Steve: What were your thoughts about the online auction?

Lori: There were so many great roses available and I love supporting a good cause so I really like to be able to purchase my roses from the auction. I wasn't very prepared for either auction with a plan, I just scrolled and purchased what looked interesting. Next year I will go in having a plan of the types/colors I'm looking for. All of the roses I bought were very healthy and are thriving!

Steve: What other interests do you have?

Lori: I love to cook, read and spend time with my family and dogs. I'm pretty rusty at my golf so I need to get out and spend a little more time golfing.

Steve: Your household? Family- spouse or partner, kids, pets?

Lori: My husband, Scott and I were high school sweethearts and will be married 36 years in August. He doesn't quite understand the rose addiction and asks why I'm buying new roses, when I already have some! He's learning it's because it makes momma happy! We have 3 girls that we're so proud of that are 28, 30 and 32. They often get group text photos of my roses and my oldest just bought her 1st rose. We have 2 dogs, Liv, a Cavalier King Charles and our new puppy, River, a Doberman Pinscher. With our girls grown, they are our babies and my shadows. Liv enjoys being out with me working on the roses, I'm sure River will be right behind her.



Photos of Lori and her garden by Steve Sheard

NEWS FROM AROUND THE ROSE WORLD

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR IN-PERSON MEETINGS

We need some volunteers to help with our in-person meetings. We all welcome the great refreshments – and the opportunity to socialize over the goodies, so we need a crew to manage the drinks and the rotating list of providers. You know what I mean! And we all love the raffle, so we need someone to wrangle the raffle items, someone to sell tickets, and folks to donate things to be raffled. If you can do any of these things, contact Cathy Thiel at cat.thiel222@gmail.com or at the April meeting.

MORE FROM THE MCC GARDEN

In one more sign of a return to 'normal', we have had two tour groups visit the Rose Garden recently, the Weeders Garden Club from Sun Lakes and Gilbert Oaks Assisted Living.



Photos by Steve Sheard, left, the folks from Gilbert Oaks and above the Weeders from Sun Lakes

A NEW ROSE LORE FEATURE

This month we are introducing a new feature to the *Rose Lore*, hoping it will become a regular – that is Steve Sheard's interviews with our members. We begin with Lori Murray and hope to meet so many more.

ARS NEWSLETTER AWARD SEASON

We are just delighted to announce that the ARS Newsletter Competition Committee has awarded the Bronze Medal for Smaller Local Rose Societies to our newsletter. There is also a rumor, not yet confirmed, of an Award of Merit for one of the articles. The official announcements will appear in the May-June issue of *The American Rose*, official publication of the American Rose Society.



MAY IN THE ROSE GARDEN

By Mary Van Vlack

The opening salvo from summer has arrived in the form of 100^o days and warmer nights. Our roses realize it; the blooms open fast and small, fade fast, and colors aren't always quite right. Just one more challenge of rose gardening in the desert!

Pay attention. As our weather warms, what happens in the garden begins to change as well as what we need to do. Walk through your garden regularly. Watch for signs of water problems, too little or too much. Watch for evidence of spider mites and chilli thrips and for signs of beneficial insects. Continue to cut your flowers to enjoy indoors and to share.



Deadhead your roses. Continue to deadhead your roses but be very conservative in what you cut – roses need as many leaves as possible to shade the canes and roots through the heat of summer. Cane burn often shows itself as patches of black on the canes surrounded by yellowing. Jeannie Cochell recommends not cutting off chilli thrips damage, no matter how ugly, because that will stimulate the neew growth that chilli thrips thrive on

Apply mulch. I really hope you did this already. If you did not, apply a fresh layer of mulch now.



Do not use rocks or those rubber crumbs. Use a 3 to 5-inch layer of organic mulch – forest bark, horse manure, compost, shredded bark, or pine straw are all excellent choices. Mulch will

discourage weeds, shade the roots of the roses and conserve moisture in your soil. This is an excellent gardening practice for the extreme heat characteristic of our climate.

Fertilize. It is time to make a transition to a summer feeding schedule. This is one of those areas where if you ask 20 consulting rosarians what the best practice is, you will get 20 different answers, maybe more. Some people do not fertilize at all in the summer, arguing that above 90^o the plants will not metabolize it. Many of us have pushed our roses hard to bloom in the spring with frequent feedings, but this is not a good idea in the summer. On the other hand, the heavy watering we are forced to do will leach away nutrients, so my experience is that some fertilization is necessary.

For my roses in the ground I will feed an inorganic “complete” solid fertilizer that releases slowly, such as Organo Rose Food. But I will apply it at half strength every 6 to 8 weeks. Roses in containers lose their nutrients even more rapidly as we water them so often, so I will give them a tablespoon of the granules every 3-4 weeks. Other people prefer an organic-based fertilizer such as Berridge’s or the nitrogen-only Milorganite, and some like Osmocote slow-release product, especially for container plants.

Be sure that you are applying the micronutrients such as iron and sulfur, as well as nitrogen, potassium, and potash. Water your roses well the day before you fertilize, and then water your product in thoroughly.

Control pests and disease. With 100° temperatures and warm nights, mildew will disappear. Do not continue to spray for aphids since they will disappear quickly too. Beneficial insects are arriving daily in our gardens, and it is important to protect them. Lacewings – those lovely light-green winged insects that come inside at night – are highly beneficial as are many others. Their eggs form a delightful little fringe along the underside of leaves.

Hummingbirds and other small birds are voracious consumers of aphids and thrips – protect and encourage them. Several people have told me that if you spray pesticides too eagerly in the spring, the negative impact on your beneficial insect population will make it much easier for spider mites to decimate your roses in the summer. Keeping a clean, weed-free garden



and washing down your plants with a strong spray of water several mornings a week will go a long way toward breaking up colonies of spider mites and discouraging their activity while not bothering the beneficials. Spider mites can be a serious summer problem for roses. When the leaf surfaces appear dull or pale, the undersides of the leaves feel sandy or rough, and fine webbing

appears on the leaves, the likely cause is spider mites. Spider mites are more closely related to spiders and scorpions than insects and will not respond to insecticides such as Orthene or Merit. If the infestation becomes severe, it must be treated with a miticide according to the product



directions. Usually, more than one application is needed to control the problem.

Chilli thrips have arrived in most of our gardens and we need to learn to recognize their signs of damage and learn to control them. Folks who have always objected to using pesticides in their rose gardens have been reconsidering their views on this and all of us are challenged.

Water. Be generous with the water. From now until the summer monsoon, we will receive very little, if any, rain so the roses are counting on you to provide what they need. When temperatures reach the 100's, you will be watering containers daily and roses in the ground three times a week or more. As always, water deeply when you do water, allowing penetration to at least 10 - 12 inches. It may be necessary to water twice on the days you do water to get that penetration without run-off.

Planting. Do not plant or transplant roses now.

The author may be reached with questions or comments at marywv@gmail.com

CONSULTING ROSARIAN PROBLEM

BY STEVE SHEARD

How well do you know your garden? And can you diagnose a problem?

Question: What is wrong with my rose?

Answer : Vegetative growth caused by too much nitrogen.



CONSULTING ROSARIANS, MEMBERS OF THE MESA-EAST VALLEY ROSE SOCIETY

Name	City of Residence	Email
*Helen Baird	Phoenix --	
Dean Baker	Scottsdale	dnbakeraz@gmail.com
*David Bassani	CA	greenscapesbybassani@gmail.com
*LeRoy Brady	Mesa	lbradyo3.lb@gmail.com
Phyllis Burgess-Jiacalone	Prescott	pjinprescott@gmail.com
Kyle Burnis	Gold Canyon	kburnis@mac.com
*Marylou Coffman	Gilbert	coffmanml@aol.com
Cheryl Doan	Tempe	stvxcd@gmail.com
*Phyllis Henslin	Mesa	phylbill22@aol.com
*Mike Jepsen	Tempe	mikejepsen@cox.net
Bud Morrison	Scottsdale	Budmorrison22@gmail.com
Yvonne Morrison	Scottsdale	yvonnem50@yahoo.com
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Mary Van Vlack	Phoenix	marywv@gmail.com
Sherman Weekes	Maricopa	shermanweekes@hotmail.com
*Master CR		

Mesa East Valley Rose Society (MEVRS) - Membership Application

Annual Family or Individual Membership is \$25.00 Yearly.

Annual Dues are due on June 1st every year. Optional - Name Badge are \$10.00 each

Payment can be made with Cash, Check or Credit Card at any meeting or by mail

Mailing Address: **MEVRS/Membership, P.O. Box 40394, Mesa, AZ 85274-0394**

Amount Paid: \$ _____ Date: ____ / ____ / ____ Name Badge: Yes / No

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: ____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Payment Type: Cash / Check / Credit Card: Visa - Master Card - Discover

Name on Card: _____ Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: ____ / ____ Billing Zip Code: _____ CCV Code: _____

Inquire about American Rose Society (ARS) Membership

CALENDAR

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
April 14, 7pm	MEVRS General Meeting, Election of Officers	MCC Library Rm 128 and ZOOM
April 16	Phoenix Rose Society Rose Show	Valley Garden Center, Phoenix
April 22-24	PSWD 67 th Annual Convention and Rose Show	Courtyard by Marriott, Monrovia, CA
April 30	MEVRS Honors Garden Volunteers	MCC Rose Garden
May 5, 7pm	MEVRS Board Meeting	ZOOM
May 12, 7pm	MEVRS General Meeting, Installation of Officers, Pot Luck	MCC Rose Garden
June 2	MEVRS Board Meeting	ZOOM
June 9	MEVRS General Meeting	MCC Library and ZOOM
July 7	MEVRS Board Meeting	ZOOM
July 14	MEVRS General Meeting	MCC Library and ZOOM
August 4	MEVRS Board Meeting	ZOOM
August 11	MEVRS General Meeting	MCC Library and ZOOM
November 19	MEVRS Rose Show	MCC



TRIAL MEMBERSHIP

The American Rose Society is now offering a four-month trial membership for only \$10 to anyone who is interested in becoming members of our organization. Most ARS members are home gardeners who enjoy growing roses and want to expand their knowledge of rose culture.

Four-Month Trial Members receive:

- Free advice from Consulting Rosarians. The ARS Consulting Rosarians program connects members with expert rosarians that provide free assistance with your rose questions.
- Free or reduced garden admissions, a \$25 value after just three uses. With the [ARS Reciprocal Garden Admission program](#), members enjoy free or reduced admission to and discounts at hundreds of gardens, conservatories and arboreta nationwide.
- Four issues of the online newsletter *Roses & You*, edited by Rita Perwich and full of helpful tips and tools of the rose growing trade.
- Two issues of American Rose magazine, \$20 value. The only magazine devoted exclusively to roses and rose culture, these bi-monthly, 84-page issues feature informative articles and beautiful color photography for beginners and experienced rose growers alike.
- Discounts of up to 30% at merchant partners. The [ARS Member Benefit Partner](#) program offers discounts at various merchants with new partners being added continuously.
- A four-month trial membership is valued at \$86 for only \$10!

Join Now!

You may [complete our online form](#) or call us at 1-800-637-6534.