



Penn-Jersey District of the American Rose Society's Quarterly Newsletter

From the District Director's Desk

_					
11	าท	7	0	n	tc
Cc	,,,	и	51	и	LЭ

Director's Message 1
Penn-Jersey Convention2
Convention Registration Form . 3
CR School 4
CR School Reg Form 4
District Nominations5
Arrangement Corner6
Invisible Deer Fence 7
Rose Show Results 9

Penn-Jersey Fall Convention
Sept. 14 - 16
Eden Resort & Suites
Lancaster PA

Check out our website:

http://PennJersevRose.org

To Do List

There are a number of things you need to do in the near future so I thought I would give you a list to follow:

- **1. Vote in the American Rose Society Vice President election**. Details are contained in the May-June issue of the American Rose. Deadline is 12:00 pm (CDT) July 27, 2012. I have endorsed Pat Shanley for Vice President.
- 2. Attend the Consulting Rosarian School hosted by the Philadelphia Rose Society on August 4, 2012. Details on page4.
- **3. Go on-line and fill out your Roses in Review reviews**. The website gets easier each year Go to the ARS website (www.ars.org) and follow the link on the home page. It took me about 15 minutes to fill out 10 reviews. Further information on page2
- 4. Register for the Penn-Jersey District Fall Convention and the Arrangements Judging School. Details on pages 2 3.
- **5.** Book your rooms for the Penn-Jersey Convention early our block of rooms could be taken early and that means you may be camping outside at the Lancaster KOA (tent optional). Hotel information is on the Convention Registration form on page 3.

Kevin

The Rose Vine Page 2 of 12

2012 Penn-Jersey Fall Convention

Registration is now open for the 2012 PJ Fall District Convention. This year's convention theme is "Seasons Change" and is being held at the Best Western Eden Resort in Lancaster, PA September 14-16th and is being hosted by the York Area Rose Society. PJ has used the Eden Resort for years as our spot for the Mid-Winter Convention and the Eden is eager to have us back for the fall district.

This year's convention has a few "firsts" for us. We will be holding an Arrangement Judges School on Sept 14-15th with the practical exam taking place during the district show on Saturday. There is also a "combined" Arrangement & Horticulture judges audit on Friday, Sept 14th from 9-2. There is a fee required for the audit to cover lunch.

The district meeting will be held on Sunday where the new district director, Nancy Redington, will be installed. Also, a vote for the 1st & 2nd Director, Treasurer, and Secretary will be conducted. Please make every effort to attend so your vote gets counted.

Please come out and enjoy our last show of the season! The show schedules, registration forms, and other information can be found on the York Area Rose Society website at www.yorkarearosesociety.com

Please be aware that there are other functions at the Eden Resort that weekend and rooms may be at a premium, so make your reservations NOW before the rooms are all gone! If there are questions or problems, please contact Curtis Aumiller at 717-612-1575 or via email at caumiller1@yahoo.com

Roses in Review

It is time for the annual Roses in Review (RIR), the American Rose Society's annual survey of roses. Results from the "Garden" evaluations are used as the ratings in the Handbook for Selecting Roses. Participation in the RIR process is open to EVERYONE! Membership in the American Rose Society (ARS) or a local rose society is not required.

The link to the on-line entry form is http://www.stsrv.com/rir/rirsplsh.htm. To register to use the site, click on "New User" on your first visit. The ARS will not use the information to SPAM you as the info is used to allow reporters to enter data over a period of time (register once, use the same info to come back and enter more info later), also to assist the RIR coordinators with data tabulation, and is deleted after the end of the survey period. You do not have to complete your entries at one time, you can come back and add more ratings at a later time. Just be sure to use the same information (e-mail and name) the next time you want to enter ratings. Also, remember to hit the "Save" button after entering data. If you participated last year, you will have to register as a "New User" again this year.

The 2012 RIR survey form is also available in the July/August issue of American Rose (the magazine for members of the ARS). On-line and paper forms must be submitted on or before September 26, 2012 in order to be included in this year's results. This year the survey will include not only recent introductions, but also older roses of interest that do not currently have a rating.

A reminder to all Consulting Rosarians and Judges, you are required to submit a RIR survey.

A personal "Thank You" to the members of the Penn-Jersey District who participated last year!

Remember, the RIR survey process is open to everyone! So, pass along this e-mail, and ask your rose-growing friends to participate! Feel free to e-mail me with questions. Thank you!

Diane Wilkerson, Penn-Jersey District Roses in Review Coordinator

The Rose Vine *Page 3 of 12*

THE YORK AREA ROSE SOCIETY **HOSTS**

THE PENN-JERSEY FALL DISTRICT CONVENTION AND ROSE SHOW

September 14-16, 2012

Name:				
Spouse or Life Partner:				
Address:				
City:				
Telephone	Email			
Do you plan to exhibit?	Horticulture	Yes	No	
	Artistic Design	Yes	No	
	Photography	Yes	No	
Registration – Mandatory (Includes Continental Breakfa	st on Saturday of Coffee,	Tea, Donuts and F	Pastries)
	Individual	\$35	\$	_
Spo	ouse/Life Partner/Child**	\$15	\$	
**Children 16 and under do no These children are eligible to e convention.				
Arrangement Judges Scho	ol (September 13-15th)			
Lunch included for both day	vs (\$45)		\$	_
Arrangement Judges Exan	nination (\$10 required by	ARS)	\$	-
Judges Audit (for both Hor	ticulture & Arrangement .	Judges)		
(Friday, Lunch provided) (\$	25) 9am – 2pm with lunch	1.	\$	_
Dinner (must be registered in	for convention)			
(Saturday) Sliced Roast Top	Sirloin of Beef \$35.00 ea	nch	\$	_
Thin slices of Top Sirloin served with a	a Burgundy Wine Sauce			
Grilled Chicken Chardonnay	y \$33.00 each		\$	_
On a Bed of Spinach, topped with Ligh	at Chardonnay Sauce and Grapes			
Children's Dinner \$17.00 each			\$	-
Chicken Tenders, Potato, Veg.				
Sunday Breakfast (before t	the District meeting) \$15.0	00	\$	_
All American – Scrambled I	Eggs, Breakfast Potatoes,	& Bacon		
Do you have any special die	tary concerns/needs?			
	7	Total Amount Enclosed	l \$	
Make checks payable to Yor	k Area Rose Society			
Cand resistantian and abasis	to. Ican Singar 6256 Win	ataulaamus Duissa Claamal	anahuma DA 170	00

Send registration and check to: Joan Singer, 6256 Winterberry Drive, Chambersburg, PA 17202

Hotel Registration

Reserve rooms directly with Eden Resort Inn, 222 Eden Road, Lancaster, PA 17601.

Phone 717-569-6444. Rates are \$124.95/room/night (up to two people per room), \$134.95 for three people per room, and \$144.95 for four people per room.

Mention the PA/NJ District American Rose Society 2012 meeting to get the special room rates. If making reservations online, please use the Group # 452700

Reserve rooms by August 14, 2012!!!

The Rose Vine Page 4 of 12

Consulting Rosarian School

The Philadelphia Rose Society will host a Consulting Rosarian School on August 4, 20012. The school will start at 9 am and run until 5 pm, lunch and breaks will be included. There is a \$25 fee to cover expenses.

The school will serve to re-qualify any current CRs. Any one interested in becoming a Consulting Rosarian must attend the school and complete the open book test. There is an additional ARS \$10 fee for individuals taking the CR test. The school is open to anyone who wants to increase their rose growing knowledge. You do not have to be a CR or take the test to become one to attend. The school will be at the Morris Arboretum in the new Horticulture Center (the old barn site) across the road from Morris Arboretum entrance.

To become an ARS Consulting Rosarian you must:

- 1. Be an ARS member for three consecutive years.
- 2. Be an active member of a local society.
- 3. Must have grown various types of roses for five years and be knowledgeable in rose culture.
- 4. Must provide three letters of recommendation from CRs.
- 5. Must participate yearly in Roses in Review.
- 6. Must exhibit a continuing willingness to share knowledge and an enthusiasm for the rose and the American Rose Society.

Everyone attending the school must have a copy of the CR Manual. Manuals <u>will not</u> be available for purchase at the school. They must be purchased directly from the ARS. Allow at least ten days for shipping when you order the manuals.

Anyone interested in attending the school or becoming a Consulting Rosarian please contact Gus Banks 609-267-3809 jrsyrose@verizon.net. Please complete the registration form for the school.

CONSULTING ROSARIAN SCHOOL REGISTRATION

Registration – CR School on August 4, 2012

Name:		Phone:		
Address:				
City:		State	ZIP	
Registration	\$25.00	\$		
CR Test	\$10.00	\$		
T	otal Amount Enclosed	\$		

Make check payable to **Philadelphia Rose Society** and mail to Kathy Kozemchak, 12 Violet Road, Levittown, PA 19057

NOTE: Individuals attending the school must have a copy of the CR Manual. Manuals <u>will not</u> be available for purchase at the school. They must be purchased directly from the ARS.

The Rose Vine Page 5 of 12

District Nominations

This is the slate of officers that I will place in nomination at the District:

Secretary: Terri Johns,, lives in Dover Pa and is a member of YARS since 1980. Terri not only is one of the 'almost' founding members of YARS but has held almost every office there is to hold. She is a Bronze Medal recipient from YARS and has been the best Secretary to that society that one would want. Terri is an exhibitor in Hort and Arrangements and has presented programs on drying roses at local and National meetings. Terri is a member of the ARS since 1983 and a Consulting Rosarian since 2007. Most will recognize her immediately as the lady who is always smiling. Thank you Terrill

Treasurer: Georgie Papale. Besides being our past treasurer, Georgia's knowledge of appropriate book keeping comes from her many years as an IRS agent. Georgie has also shouldered a lot of the responsibilities for her home Pittsburgh society. She joined Pittsburgh Rose Society in 1987 and ARS a short time later. She has been President of PRS several times in the past and currently holds that office. Georgie is a recipient of the District Silver Medal and the Pittsburgh Rose Society Bronze medal. She is an active exhibitor in Hort and Arrg. and is also a Hort Judge. She is a Master Consulting Rosarian. Most of us have been the grateful recipients of her newsletter. Georgie has graciously accepted the responsibility to run again and keep us on the straight and narrow.

1st Assistant Director: Brenna Bosch most recently attracted the responsibility as show chairman for the very large West Jersey Rose Society. Brenna has been exhibiting and helping at the District and local levels for some time. Brenna is a member of the ARS since 2008. This will be her first District responsibility and we are grateful that she has agreed to put her name in nomination.

2nd Assistant Director: Kathy Kozemchak. Kathy used to be the District Representative when that position was part of our by laws. She is very familiar with not only her one society Philadelphia but really the whole district. Kathy is a member of the ARS since 1997. You can find Kathy at almost every rose show within shouting distance with her husband Bill and always with a helping hand..

These individuals have agreed to have their names put into nomination for the offices listed. The nomination process will not close until done so at the Fall District and at that time election will take place. If there are no other nominees the election will be by acclamation.

Any other nomination must have the individual present to confirm that they will run or a written statement to that affect. No nomination may be made without the individuals permission either in written or oral form.

Nancy Redington

News from Pittsburgh RS

Doug Oster, garden columnist for the Pittsburgh Post Gazette, visited the Renzie rose garden with a photographer. He has a page on his blog about his visit. Go to http://www.pghrosesociety.org to pick up the link to this blog. On the right hand side of the blog is a series of videos you can view. One of these is a video of Doug and Georgie walking through the garden.

The Rose Vine Page 6 of 12

Arrangement Corner

Dear Arrangers and Arrangement Judges:

I wanted to let you know that due to some personal issues, Pat Bilson has asked me to take over as the Acting District Chair of Arrangement Judges.

Nancy Redington has asked me to be the District Chair starting with her induction as District Director in September, so I get to have the mentoring of Pat into this position. I wanted to give you my information and let you know about a few things that are coming up that will impact you as an arrangement judge or even as an arranger:

First off, we are having an Arrangement Judges School in conjunction with our district convention this year! We are looking for people who are interested in becoming judges OR just those arrangers who would like to just come to the school to find out what the judges are looking for so you can be an even better arranger! Please consider taking the test if you are eligible. The Penn-Jersey District has some of the best arrangers in the ARS (okay, I have a biased opinion, but you guys do rock!!) I would like to set the example for the rest of the ARS that we know how to arrange and how to judge. If you have any questions about the requirements to become a judge, or any questions about what the school might be like, just let me know!



Second, the judges will be receiving their annual reporting form from me in November. Please try to get it completed and returned to me before the end of the year so that I have the info to give to our new National Chair of Arrangement Judges.



Photos by Tom Mayhew

The final piece is to start thinking about the Mid-Winter convention, February 15-17, 2013 at the Eden Resort. For the past two years, about 50% of the attendees participate in the arrangement workshop. This has led me to plan on having a table with items for sale for arrangers. I'm still working out the bugs and such, but I would like to have containers, kenzans, etc. for arrangers. If you have items you would like to donate, or know where I can obtain items to sell, please let me know as soon as possible.

I look forward to working with everyone in the future and I look forward to serving the arrangers of the Penn-Jersey District. See you at the school and convention!!

Curtis Aumiller

5 Brentwood Rd. Camp Hill PA 17011 717-612-1575 caumiller1@yahoo.com

The Rose Vine Page 7 of 12

An Almost Invisible Deer Fence - Easily Removable & Reusable

Consulting Rosarian Report By Tom Mayhew, MCR

You can discourage deer from entering your rose garden and still maintain a nice view of the garden roses by constructing an almost invisible deer fence made by using strands of thin low visibility green fishing line strung on green garden stakes. The fence blends in with the green leaves of the roses and any other green stakes used to support roses in the garden. When you look at the garden from a distance, it is hard to see that there actually is a fence.

The green stakes look like they are supporting roses and the green fishing line is hard to see. (See Figure 1.)

I use five rows of Stren Lo-Vis Green 12 lb. fishing line strung on six foot long x 5/8 inch diameter green garden stakes. (See Figure 2.) The stakes are appropriately placed, about eight to ten feet apart, along the periphery of the rose garden that I am protecting. The five strands of fishing line rows are about 8-12 inches apart with the lowest line about 12 inches above the ground and the highest about four to five feet above the ground.

Theory behind the Fence: The theory behind the fishing line fence is that when the deer touch the fishing line (which they may or may not see), they get "spooked" and prefer to go another way. Of course if a herd of deer are running they could easily run right through the fence and knock it down. But it has been my experience to date, that the deer do not go through the fishing line fence. I first learned of this technique many years ago when I visited the house of a man who lived at the edge of the woods in Bucks County, PA near New Hope. He had a lawn made completely of moss that was shaded under the trees in his back yard. In order to keep the deer from tearing up his moss lawn, he used a fishing line fence around his back yard to "spook" the deer and it worked well for him. I think he used a single line. Since then, I have experimented with the fishing line fence from time to time. I live in a wooded area and a few years ago I decided to build a short fence to block one entrance to my back yard from one of the paths in the woods behind my house. Inadvertently, I left a big gap between the bottom fishing line and the next line up, a gap of about two feet or so. One day, I noticed that a doe and a fawn had entered my back yard from an unblocked side entrance to the back yard. When I went outside to see what was going on, the deer were standing near my short fishing line fence. The large doe looked at the fence and then she turned away and quickly went out of the back yard another way. However, the little fawn looked at my fence and quickly jumped right though the large gap between the two lower rows of fishing line. This taught me a lesson, that if I want to keep the little fawns out, I need to have the distance between the rows of fishing line small enough to impede the entrance of small deer.



Fig 1. Almost Invisible Deer Fence - Can you see 5 strands of Low Visibility 12 lb. fishing line?



Fig 2. Garden Stake and Stren Lo-Vis 12 lb Fishing line

The Rose Vine Page 8 of 12

Deer Fence Construction: The fence is made by appropriately placing green garden stakes along the periphery of the garden and encircling it. Rows of low visibility green fishing line are run between the stakes and each line is tied to a stake as it passes by. (The use of a fisherman's knot, which is used by fishermen to tie a fishing hook to a fishing line, is somewhat helpful here to tie a line at each starting point.) Six foot or taller stakes, about 8-12 feet apart with five or more rows of fishing line seem to be appropriate. Periodically along the fence line, make removable entrance doors to the garden. (See Figures 3 & 4.) This can be done by ending the rows of fishing lines by cutting each line after tying it to a garden stake and then by placing another stake right next to the one you just ended the fence on, about an inch away. Next place a another stake at about 3-4 feet away and use these two stakes to make a removable door. Tie about 5 parallel fishing lines between these two stakes. Use a strap loop made of something like Velcro Tape (available from GardensAlive.com) or some similar material to hold each doorway stake to its adjacent stake in the main fence. (See Figure 4.) To open the door, you need only to remove the Velcro loop on one of the door stakes and move that stake out of the ground and to the other side to provide an opening to the garden for yourself and visitors.

A note about the hard to remove SKU sticky labels on the garden stakes. The garden stakes are available from several sources including Home Depot and Lowe's. For some reason, the garden stakes from Home Depot have the sticky labels on the pointed end of the stake while the garden stakes from Lowe's have the disadvantage of having the sticky label on the non-pointed end. Since the pointed end of the stake goes into the ground, there is no need to remove the label from the Home Depot stakes since the labels will be underground and will not be seen. However, if you use the Lowe's stakes with the hard to remove sticky label on the non-pointed end, you will have to spend a lot of time removing the sticky labels or else you will have the unsightly appearance of labels at the top of your fence stakes and it will no longer be a nearly invisible fence.

The Stren Lo-Vis Green 12 lb. fishing line is available online from amazon.com as well as from other sources of fishing equipment. If you prefer a stronger fishing line, Stren also offers a 20 lb. line.

Deer Fence Removal and Reuse: The Deer Fence is easily removable and reusable. If you make the fence in sections, then when the rose season is over, if you want to, you can take down the fence by removing the stakes from the ground one at a time and carefully rolling up the fishing line onto the just removed stake. Put a tag on each rolled up fence section to identify where its position is in the overall fence in the garden. If next spring, you decide to put the fence up again, you will not be bothered with having to make the fence again, avoiding the time consuming job of tying all of the fishing lines to the stakes. Just unroll the fence sections and use the identification tags to place the stakes in their proper place in the overall deer fence.



Fig 3. The Removable Doorway on the Left Provides a Gateway to the Garden, when Temporarily Removed.



Fig 4. Close-up of poles at one side of a Gate to the garden. Gate is Temporarily Held Closed with Removable Velcro Loop. The Fence is Made Using Stren Lo-Vis Green 12 lb. Fishing Line strung on 6 ft x 5/8 in Green Garden Stakes.

The Rose Vine Page 9 of 12

Rose Show Results - Spring 2012

West Jersey RS Moorestown Mall May 26

Philly continued

Queen	Gemini	Ken Borrmann	Mini Princess Reneg
King	Let Freedom Ring	Ken Borrmann	Mini Prince Glowing
Princess	Hot Princess	Ken Borrmann	Mini Duchess Marie
Prince	Veterans' Honor	Ken Borrmann	
Duchess	Dublin	Ken Borrmann	Miniflora Queen Wh
			Miniflora King Rick
Mini Queen	New Hampshire	Suni & Rafiq Bolar	Miniflora Princess D
Min King	Kristin	Gus Banks	
Mini Princess	Jean Kenneally	Suni & Rafiq Bolar	Miniflora Prince Shar
Mini Prince	Irresistible	Gus Banks	
Mini Duchess	Amber Star Bill & I	Kathy Kozemchak	Miniflora Duchess F

Miniflora Queen Foolish Pleasure Ken Borrmann Miniflora King Shawn Sease Ken Borrmann Miniflora Princess Dr John Dickman Ken Borrmann

Harrisburg RS Harrisburg Mall June 2

Queen	Keepsake	Joseph Yelinek
King	Randy Scott	Joseph Yelinek
Princess	Elina	Joseph Yelinek
Prince	Hot Princess	Joseph Yelinek
Mini Queen	Joy	Andrew Hearne
Mini King	Renegade	Andrew Hearne
Mini Princess	Soroptomist Interna	itional Joseph Yelinek
	1	J 1
Miniflora Oue	en Shawn Sease	Andrew Hearne

Miniflora Queen Shawn Sease
Miniflora King Whirlaway
Miniflora Princess Unbridled
Andrew Hearne
Andrew Hearne

Philadelphia RS Morris Arboretum June3

Queen	Hot Princess	Wayne & Deb Geltz
King	Moonstone	Ken Borrmann
Princess	Let Freedom R	ing Ken Borrmann
Prince	Veterans' Hono	or Wayne & Deb Geltz
Duchess	Marlon's Day	Ken Borrmann
Mini Queen	Joy	Andrew Hearne
Mini King	Sam Trivitt	Rafiq & Suni Bolar

Mini Princess Renegade Andrew Hearne Mini Prince Glowing Amber Rafiq & Suni Bolar Mini Duchess Marie Jeannette Andrew Hearne

Miniflora Queen Whirlaway Andrew Hearne Miniflora King Ricky Hendrick Andrew Hearne Miniflora Princess Dr. John Dickman Rafiq & Suni Bolar

Miniflora Prince Shawn Sease Rafiq & Suni Bolar

Miniflora Duchess Foolish Pleasure Andrew Hearne

York Area RS HACC June 9

Queen	Moonstone	Don and Laura Wade
King	Sandra	Joe and Sue Yelenik
Princess	Folklore	Don and Laura Wade

Mini Queen Jean Kenneally Mike Wrightstone Mini King Erin Alonso Glenn and Donna Smith

Mini Princess Memphis Belle Mike Wrightstone

Miniflora Queen Whirlaway Don and Laura Wade

Miniflora King Abbey's Angel Mike Wrightstone Miniflora Princess First and Foremost Judy Yingling

SPARS 1st Lutheran Church, Chambersburg June 9 – 10

Queen Andrea Stelzer Dale & Elaine Martin King Randy Scott Dale & Elaine Martin Princess Moonstone June & Charlie King Prince Opening Night Kim & John Spittler

Mini Queen Shameless June & Charlie King Mini King Glowing Amber Pat Lawrence

(cont on next page)

The Rose Vine Page 10 of 12

Mini Princess Bees Knees Dale & Elaine Martin Mini Prince Whirlaway Dale & Elaine Martin

Reading-Berks Boscov's North June 10

Queen	Crystalline	Ken Borrmann
King	Cajun Sunrise	Rafiq and Suni Bolar
Princess	Moonstone	Ken Borrmann

Reading continued

Mini Queen Joy Andrew Hearne Mini King Irresistible Rafiq and Suni Bolar Mini Princess Klassy Lady Rafiq and Suni Bolar

Miniflora Queen Powerhouse
Miniflora King Whirlaway
Miniflora Princess Shameless
Rafiq and
Suni Bolar

Overheard on the Internet

GOD: Frank, you know all about gardens and nature. What in the world is going on down there on the planet? What happened to the dandelions, violets, milkweeds and stuff I started eons ago?

I had a perfect no-maintenance garden plan. Those plants grow in any type of soil, withstand drought and multiply with abandon. The nectar from the long-lasting blossoms attracts butterflies, honey bees and flocks of songbirds. I expected to see a vast garden of colors by now. But, all I see are these green rectangles.

St. FRANCIS: It's the tribes that settled there, Lord. The Suburbanites. They started calling your flowers 'weeds' and went to great lengths to kill them and replace them with grass.

GOD: Grass? But, it's so boring. It's not colorful. It doesn't attract butterflies, birds and bees; only grubs and sod worms. It's sensitive to temperatures. Do these Suburbanites really want all that grass growing there?

ST. FRANCIS: Apparently so, Lord. They go to great pains to grow it and keep it green. They begin each spring by fertilizing grass and poisoning any other plant that crops up in the lawn.

GOD: The spring rains and warm weather make grass grow really fast. That must make the Suburbanites happy.

ST. FRANCIS: Apparently not, Lord. As soon as it grows a little, they cut it-sometimes twice a week.

GOD: They cut it? Do they then bale it like hay?

ST. FRANCIS: Not exactly, Lord. Most of them rake it up and put it in bags.

GOD: They bag it? Why? Is it a cash crop? Do they sell it?

ST. FRANCIS: No, Sir, just the opposite. They pay to throw it away.

The Rose Vine Page 11 of 12

GOD: Now, let me get this straight. They fertilize grass so it will grow. And, when it does grow, they cut it off and pay to throw it away?

ST. FRANCIS: Yes, Sir.

GOD: These Suburbanites must be relieved in the summer when we cut back on the rain and turn up the heat. That surely slows the growth and saves them a lot of work.

ST. FRANCIS: You aren't going to believe this, Lord. When the grass stops growing so fast, they drag out hoses and pay more money to water it, so they can continue to mow it and pay to get rid of it.

GOD: What nonsense. At least they kept some of the trees. That was a sheer stroke of genius, if I do say so myself. The trees grow leaves in the spring to provide beauty and shade in the summer. In the autumn, they fall to the ground and form a natural blanket to keep moisture in the soil and protect the trees and bushes. It's a natural cycle of life.

ST. FRANCIS: You better sit down, Lord. The Suburbanites have drawn a new circle. As soon as the leaves fall, they rake them into great piles and pay to have them hauled away.

GOD: No! What do they do to protect the shrub and tree roots in the winter to keep the soil moist and loose?

ST. FRANCIS: After throwing away the leaves, they go out and buy something which they call mulch. They haul it home and spread it around in place of the leaves.

GOD: And where do they get this mulch?

ST. FRANCIS: They cut down trees and grind them up to make the mulch.

GOD: Enough! I don't want to think about this anymore. St. Catherine, you're in charge of the arts. What movie have you scheduled for us tonight?

ST. CATHERINE: 'Dumb and Dumber', Lord. It's a story about....

GOD: Never mind, I think I just heard the whole story from St. Francis.

The Rose Vine Page 12 of 12

The Rose Vine Published by the Penn-Jersey District of the American Rose Society 1215 Cross Keys Road Reading, PA 19605