

Roseways

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March Brunch Meeting

Our March brunch meeting will be at the Officers Club at Ft. Snelling. We are very excited to have Mr. John Vanderkruk from Hortico in Canada as our guest speaker. He will be talking about many different subjects. Some of his favorites include winter care, rose pruning, rose planting and rose propagation. Each program will include pictures and diagrams. He will also have a question and answer period.

If you are unable to attend the brunch, you are welcome and encouraged to attend the meeting and Mr. Vanderkruk's presentation. He will also be bringing catalogs, so if your wish list isn't finished you might

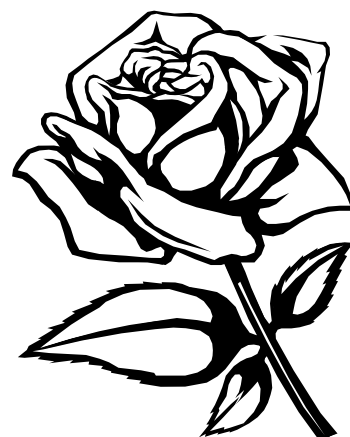
find some roses from Canada to add to it.

We have lots of fun things planned for 2006, including a tour of Len Busch greenhouses on Saturday, July 22 at 10 a.m. Mark your calendar!

Hope to see you at some of these events.

Jackie L'Allier

Vice president & program chair



Sunshine Report

Esther Filson—surgery

Lois Helgeson—surgery

Bernie Marx—thinking of you
(Bernie is moving to an assisted
living facility)

Lorraine Churilla—happy
retirement

If you know of someone who
would like to receive a card,
please contact Jackie L'Allier.

Spring and Summer Events for the MRS

There are a good number of things happening between now and our May meeting. The Home and Garden Show at the Mpls Convention Center runs from March 1-March 5. There may be some help needed yet so contact Margaret Anderson if you can volunteer.

On March 18-19 the North Central District meeting will be held in Mauston, WI. There will be some good speakers and an arrangement seminar.

April 8 is Rose Education Day in St. Cloud, MN with the Granite City Rose Society.

April 8 is also Garden Fest at the Landscape Arboretum in Victoria. April 22 we will raise the roses at the Landscape Arboretum which takes as much help as we can get out there. On April 29 we will be planting roses at the Arboretum, and on May 6 we will

prune the roses.

A change that will take place this year is with our Rose show. **This year it will be a one day show and will be held at Linder's Nursery and Garden Center in St. Paul.** All of the details are being worked out as we move along. It should also create more interest at Linder's and it looks as if it will be held in the rose house itself. The location is 260 Larpenteur Ave, just west of Rice Street. We will be able

to drive up to the door and unload our many containers of roses that we plan on showing.

If anyone has any other ideas or things that they would like brought up at any future meetings please talk to an officer or one of the directors.

Jim Stillings



Mid-Winter Meeting, March 18-19, 2006

Mauston, WI

This year's meeting promises to be exciting and fun. We have great speakers and have added another arrangement seminar on the Traditional style of arranging. Note that registration for the arrangement seminar is on the form with the other registration information this year.

Some of this year's speakers are Andrew Platz on exhibiting from a small garden, Lois Ann Helgeson and Bruce Barr on how to write a rose show schedule, Jim Beardsley on the new roses from Bailey's, Henry Najat

on international judging and David Booty on unusual rose show classes. For arrangement judges the arrangement seminar does count as your required seminar for your continued accreditation. As usual, we will get together on Friday evening for a reception in my suite.

This is a great way to beat the winter blues. See you there.

Norma Booty, NCD Director

Calendar

- March 1-5—Home & Garden Show, Mpls Convention Center
- March 11—brunch meeting, Officers Club at Ft. Snelling
- March 18-19—North Central District Meeting in Mauston, WI
- April 1—North St Paul Home & Garden Show
- April 7—board meeting, Langton Place, Presbyterian Homes
- April 8—Garden Fest at Arboretum
- April 22—raise roses at Arboretum
- April 29—plant roses at Arboretum
- May 6—prune roses at Arboretum
- May 12—spaghetti dinner, Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Roseville
- June 2—board meeting, see April above
- June 3—mulch roses at Arboretum
- June 17—deadheading starts at Arboretum, through Labor Day
- June 17—rose show, Linder's Garden Center, St. Paul, **NOTE NEW LOCATION**
- June 18—Madison Rose Society rose show, Madison, WI
- June 21-16—ARS Convention and Show, Seattle, WA
- June 24—Milwaukee Rose Society rose show, Hales Corner, WI
- July 1—Gateway Rose Society rose show, Racine, WI
- July 8—Lake Superior Rose Society rose show, Duluth, MN
- July 8-9—Twin Cities Rose Club/North Star Rose Society rose show, Mpls
- July 15—Granite City Rose Society rose show, St. Cloud, MN
- July 21-23—ARS mini convention and show, Yorktown, PA
- July 22—tour of Len Busch greenhouses in Plymouth starting at 10 am
- August 4—board meeting, see April above
- August 6—Milwaukee Rose Society rose show, WI State Fair, West Allis, WI
- August 20—New Rose Society rose show, Green Bay, WI
- August 25-27—NCD ARS Convention and Show, Waukesha, WI
- September 8—dinner meeting and small rose show, location TBD
- October 6—board meeting, see April above
- October 7—tie roses at Arboretum
- October 14—tip roses at Arboretum
- November 10—dinner meeting and election of officers, location TBD
- December 3—board meeting



Budded Roses

Ask a rosarian a question about the importance of the graft and the answer will likely be “very important”. The graft is the point where the root stock is grafted or budded to the flower producing part of the plant. The new life of the bud begins with a sharp knife. A cutting is taken from the mother plant and inserted into a slot on the foster mother plant. This T-shaped slot is cut into a portion of the main cane just above the soil line. It is wrapped with a special tape to allow some air to enter the cut to help it heal. It must not dry out or the bud will die. The foster mother plant characteristic is toward a strong root system and generally lax at producing flowers. The hopeful combination of strong root system with a flower-producing top is what rose producers strive for.

After several months, the entire top of the foster mother plant is cut off just above the new graft (also called the bud union). With the leaf producing part of the plant gone, the roots now put their efforts into the fledgling graft/bud. If the contact between the graft points is good, the area around the bud begins to swell with the energy produced from the roots. The first year the plant is known as a maiden. The second year the plant has matured to start producing the roses it was destined to. The larger the graft area swell the more basal breaks you should get. A basal break is a shoot originating from the graft area, which again is called the bud union.

When I purchase a rose, I check the size of the bud union. A large bud union generally

means the plant will be more apt to put out more basal breaks. Another feature of a larger bud union should mean that the canes are spread out more evenly. You will often see a lop-sided bud union. The canes will all appear to be on one side of the plant. With good pruning you may be able to push some growth to the opposite side of the plant.



When you plant the rose, the bud union should be just above the surface of the soil. Here again, this is to encourage the plant to push out more basal breaks. I like to put the dominant side of the bud union towards the direction I tip [Minnesota Tip Method]. The plant tends to tip into the ground easier than if the bud union is on the opposite side. Another option is to turn the dominant side to the out side of the bed where it is planted. The growth naturally leans out of the bed to improve air circulation between other plants.

As a plant ages the bark on the bud union gets thicker and makes a basal break more difficult to push out, let alone form. Scaling off excess bark with a soft brush is a good idea. Tom Roi is a good teacher to learn basics in scaling off an older bud union. When I water, I like to get the bud union wet to help soften the bark. As you can see, the bud union is crucial to having a thriving plant.

It is possible to plant the bud union below the soil. Doing this will limit the basal breaks from the bud union. New growth will now come from the canes near the top of the ground. Burying the bud union would be

Budded Roses—continued

preferred if you do not Minnesota Tip or winter protect your roses. This is almost the only chance of survival in our zone 4 climate. If the graft dies, the root section takes over with nearly no chance of flowers.

The current trend in roses is to be own root. This means that the portion of the rose under the ground is the same as above. This improves the chance of the rose living through a tough winter. Many of the new modern shrub rose introductions are own

root. They are capable of providing many nice flowers. So far, they do not come close to the complexity of most budded hybrid roses.

In closing, it comes down to how much you value a grafted/budded rose. Certainly more work is required to keep a grafted/budded rose growing in our climate zone. My vote says it is worth it!

Rich Hass

“So Many Roses, So Little Time”

That's the winning theme for the 2006 MRS Rose Show submitted by Sandy Abraham at the January breakfast meeting at Joseph's Grill in St. Paul. Great theme Sandy!

Look for more information on the rose show to be held June 17 at Linder's in St. Paul in the May/June issue of *Roseways*.

Happy Spring!

10 Roses You'll Rave About!

I think I have a subscription to nearly every garden magazine published. And I buy specialty garden magazines while I'm waiting in the check-out line at Cub!

I found one last month called *Flower Gardens* by Country Almanac. Among other things, it has a great article about roses, and lists some fool-proof favorites. The author, Barbara Jacksier, lists *Gemini* as the most disease resistant, *Iceberg* as the best white

for rainy climates, *Mr. Lincoln* as the most fragrant (I agree!), *Bonica* as the best for hilly landscapes, *Simplicity* as the easiest to grow, *Gold Medal* as the best cut flower, and several others. It's a great article, gives lots of technical information about the 10 roses listed, and would be a great help to someone planning a rose garden. I'll bring it to the March meeting so you can have a look!

Nancy Carlson

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**Address Correction
Requested**

We're on the web!
[www.minnesotarosesociety](http://www.minnesotarosesociety.org)
.org

Raising, Planting Roses at the Arboretum

It's that time of year again—spring! That means it's time to raise the roses at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum. We'll be raising the roses on April 22, one week later than normal.

We need lots of help raising the roses. It's a tough and muddy job (particularly if it rains or snows!), but a fun and rewarding one. Can we count on you to help on Saturday, April 22 starting at 8 am? Come for whatever time you can, it is greatly appreciated.

Bring your sturdy work gloves and a garden fork and shovel if you have them. The Arboretum will provide tools if needed.

We'll have treats mid-morning in the gazebo,

including coffee and pastries.

Rose planting will be Saturday, April 29 starting at 8 a.m. We need volunteers for this job too! It's always interesting to see what new roses will be planted.



If you have questions about either event, please contact Bob White at 612-823-5878.

See you there!