

# KATnips

Publication of the **TENARKY District**

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[www.tenarky.org](http://www.tenarky.org)



## TENARKY District Convention and Rose Show

By: Sam and Nancy Jones

The Tri-State of Chattanooga and Nashville Rose Societies are hosting the TENARKY District Fall Convention and Rose Show, October 5-7, 2012, at Belmont University in Nashville.

The Schedule of Events, Registration Form and the Rose Show Schedule of Horticulture and Arrangements are located on our website, [www.tenarky.org](http://www.tenarky.org).)

Belmont University is enthusiastically welcoming us! You may recall that Belmont was a national Presidential Debate site in 2008. With breathtaking landscaping featuring a formal rose garden, reminiscent of the 1853 grand Belmont Plantation summer home of Adelia Acklen, America's wealthiest matron at the time, the school is not only steeped in history, but vibrant today with excit-

ing innovations for the 21st Century. Registrants may tour the authentically restored antebellum Belmont Mansion, which displays lavish southern aristocratic lifestyles and art and later housed the Ward-Belmont School for Women.

The Convention Hotel is the Vanderbilt Holiday Inn, a little over a mile from Belmont, with free

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## So You Want to Grow Roses

By: Ted Mills, ARS Master Rosarian and Judge

This article is written primarily to benefit the aspiring beginner in rose culture. One look at most rose societies portrays the presence of graying hair in abundance. This means that the median age of society members is quite high. For the sake of the rose-growing hobby's continuance, the recruitment of the

youngsters is very important.

We have seen many changes in the first decade of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Probably the most significant happened on 9/11. It was then that the USA took a changed perspective of the word, FREEDOM. RoseDoc makes this statement because America's outlook toward liberty has

changed. No longer can we sit smug in our homes and not ever expect attack. It has been 236 years since the British were driven from our land. Years passed and no foreign power attacked our soil until that fateful day in 2001. Now we must be vigilant to the extent that foreign powers will not

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### Upcoming Events

TENARKY

Fall District

Convention and Rose Show

October 5-7th

Belmont

University

Nashville, TN

[www.tenarky.org](http://www.tenarky.org)

ARS Fall National Convention and Rose Show

September

27-30th

San Ramon, CA

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

TENARKY

Winter

Workshop

February

8,9,10th

Marriott Hotel

Cool Springs – Franklin, TN

[www.tenarky.org](http://www.tenarky.org)



**Our Beloved Rosarian, Monty Justice, with 'Monty's Joy' in photo and on tie.**  
photo courtesy of Barbara Brickman

Monty Justice, a local rose garden enthusiast and inventor of a fertilizer known as "Monty's Joy Juice," which became the catalyst for the creation of Monty's Plant Food Co., died February 6, 2012 of pancreatic cancer at his Lyndon home. He was 84.

Roses and gardening caught Justice's eye in the early 1960s when he attended the National Rose Show in Louisville, but it wasn't until after early retirement from Tube Turns as a material manager in the mid-1980s that could he turn his passion for roses into a full-time gig, according to an online blog devoted to Justice's work and expertise.

For years, Justice ran Monty's Rose Care, which assisted gardeners across Kentucky with their rose beds and gardens. In a 1998 Courier-Journal article about Justice, it was reported that he, along with his partner and son-in-law Dennis Stephens, maintained about 160 gardens in the state.

During that time, Justice became a mainstay of the inner circles of rose gardening throughout the region and someone whom gardeners would look to frequently for advice, Stephens said.

"Monty was contagious," Stephens said of his father-in-law's personality. "His presence could put a smile on anyone's face."

Justice, who graduated from the University of Louisville Speed School, created a special blend of plant food in the late 1980s at his home that became known as "joy juice." In the 1998 article, he said it made "foliage on plants twice as big as any other fertilizer."

It helped kick-start his small enterprise of packaging the fertilizer in recycled milk jugs and personally delivering it to potential customers and rose conventions across the country into a thriving business, Stephens said.

Retired Courier-Journal columnist Byron Crawford, who wrote about Justice's special "juice," said in an email that he was one of the "great entrepreneurs of the Col. Harland Sanders variety who knew he had something really good and wouldn't give it up until people tried it."

"And he lived to see his dream come true," Crawford added.

With the growth in popularity of Justice's homemade rose fertilizer, the family-run business expanded even further with the creation of Monty's Plant Food Co. in 1997.

Justice was a member of Hurstbourne Baptist Church, contributing to some of the church's current landscaping as well as coaching Upward Basketball, a program for kids where there are no winners and losers and no score is kept.

Reprinted from *Louisville Courier Journal*, February 7, 2012.

## *A Special Invitation To Attend*

The American Rose Society will hold its 2012 Annual Fall Convention in beautiful San Ramon, California, at the San Ramon Marriott, Thursday through Sunday, September 27th - 30th, 2012.

This convention will include informative lectures and presentations on a variety of rose-related topics, wine tasting in the historic Livermore Valley, one of California's premier wine destinations, public and private garden tours, installation of ARS officers and, of course, the ARS National Fall Rose Show, featuring beautiful rose blooms and arrangements.

We are planning a pre-convention tour to San Francisco, highlighted by dinner in North Beach and tickets to Beach Blanket Babylon!

Our post conference tour features a trip to Gold Country and ends with a day in Yosemite National Park!

The East Bay Rose Society is the local host society for this wonderful convention. This event will have something for everyone, from the most experienced rosarians to rose novices.

***We welcome everyone to attend. See you there!!***

## Director's Column

By: Dr. Sam Jones, TENARKY District Director



**Pictured: TENARKY District First Lady, Nancy Jones and District Director, Dr. Sam Jones**

Fittingly, the 2012 TENARKY Fall District Rose Show, October 6-7, 2012, will be dedicated to Monty Justice.

Our District was saddened in February with the death of Louisville's son, the creator of Monty's Joy Juice, and teacher, coach and mentor to many gardeners throughout this area. After retirement, Monty Justice and his son-in-law, Dennis Stephens, maintained as many as 160 rose gardens. Monty had a positive outlook on life, and he knew almost no impossible task or vision. He encouraged youth and adults alike in sports, gardening, and life. Monty's presence could always "put a smile on anyone's face," according to Stephens.

Beginning this year, the TENARKY District Monty Justice Memorial Trophy was established by the Louisville Rose Society, for the best collection of three Gemini blooms—Monty's favorite. In addition, the Monty Justice Memorial Rose Garden was recently dedicated at the Louisville Zoo and Botanical Garden, with an inspiring ceremony attended by 100 of Monty's dear

friends, gardeners, and legacies.

The TENARKY District will miss Monty Justice, but his influence will continue with his liquid fertilizers, including his pioneering work with liquid carbon, and with his equally influential effect on people, young and old. Monty loved life, and he loved to promote abundance in people and nature. As much as anyone, he lived close to the Creator and reflected the Creator's Spirit with joy, inspiration, and encouragement. "That is so Monty!"

Joining forces this year, the Chattanooga Tri-State Rose Society and the Nashville Rose Society together are hosting the TENARKY District Fall Convention and Rose Show, held on the vibrant and historic campus of Nashville's Belmont University. A campus focal point is a formal rose garden, recreated from the original one designed in 1853 to complement the summer home of Adelia Acklen, among America's wealthiest, storied, southern matrons. It's an exciting location for roses, seminars, and touring the historic Belmont Mansion.

Good things have been going on in the District. May rose shows in Memphis and Bowling Green had great specimens in spite of spring extremes of heat and drought. Then in June, TENARKY hosted the first annual Multi-Regional, All Arrangement Rose Show and School in Franklin TN's Cool Springs Marriott. Almost 50 arrangers from the Northeast to Colorado came to learn and improve their

creative skills inspired by roses.

Congratulations to Mary Ann Hext, our new Web mistress of the district website, [www.tenarky.org](http://www.tenarky.org). Mary Ann brings abundant computer skills and experience to the task, building on the excellent legacy that Claire Campbell created over nine years. Thanks Claire, for your outstanding, faithful contributions that you and Kent have made to the District.

We also congratulate Pat Shanley on her election as the incoming Vice President of the American Rose Society. She will work closely with the new ARS President, Jolene Adams, who assumes the role in September at the close of the Fall National Convention in San Ramon CA. In promoting the American Rose Society's mission and membership, Pat Shanley has been a friend of the TENARKY District. She is the author of the Glenda Whitaker Membership Award, honoring one of the truly great first ladies of ARS. Only days before our District Convention, Nancy and I will be attending the ARS Board meeting and installation ceremony.

Keith Zary, the creator of 'Crescendo,' not only complemented our District by naming one of his best roses for the Nashville Symphony, but he recently called on Nashville rosarians to collect bud-wood for about 1,000 bud-eyes to perpetuate the variety on the national market.

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## Roses In Review

By: Jeff Garrett, TENARKY District RIR Coordinator

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## Holston Rose Society News

The 2012 Roses in Review (RIR) marks the 87th time the American Rose Society has evaluated new rose introductions. The ultimate value of this process is realized only when we have a broad base of participation. We need your contribution, whether you grow only one plant of one variety on the list or many of them. We need input from “garden” rosarians as well as exhibitors and from new rosarians as well as seasoned veterans. You do not have to be a member of the American Rose Society to access the online survey and participate. The complete results of this survey will be included in the January/February 2013 issue of *American Rose* and will help determine ratings in the *ARS Handbook for Selecting Roses*. In addition, the results for our Tenarky District will be compiled and published on our district website at [www.tenarky.org](http://www.tenarky.org).

You can use the RIR evaluation forms printed in the July/August 2012 issue of *American Rose* or complete your survey online at [www.ars.org](http://www.ars.org). Please give the online system a try if possible as it's easy and saves paper. You need only evaluate roses on the list that you grow. **The deadline for participating is September 26.**

To access the online system, go to [www.ars.org](http://www.ars.org) and look under the “News” heading on the homepage. Simply click on “2012 Roses in Review” and you will be taken to the RIR system. Carefully read the instructions and register as a New User. After registering, you are ready to start evaluating. Begin by selecting the group of the cultivar you are reporting, such as HT, Shrub, etc. After selecting the group, click

the refresh button to the right and it will populate the variety list. Simply select the variety and complete the information. **DON'T FORGET TO CLICK THE SAVE BUTTON AT THE BOTTOM OF THE PAGE AFTER COMPLETING YOUR REVIEW FOR EACH VARIETY.**

Please note that while participation in RIR is a voluntary activity for many rosarians, Consulting Rosarians need to remember that they are now required to participate as one of their CR activities. If by chance you do not grow any of the varieties on the list, send me an email at [rirjeff@aol.com](mailto:rirjeff@aol.com) stating such and you will get credit for participating.

Please participate—we would like to have the benefit of the experience of every rose grower in this survey!

### The Perfect Time to Join the American Rose Society –Pass the Word

The American Rose Society has so many benefits to offer its members and everyone who grows and loves roses! Be sure to note the following promotions:

- The Free 4-Month ARS Trial Membership Program for **new** non-ARS local society members.
- The \$5.00 4-Month Trial Membership for existing local society non-ARS members.

The \$10.00 4-Month Trial Membership for any person interested in growing roses but who is not yet a member of a local rose society

The Holston Rose Society of Knoxville, Tennessee, has had a very informative year on how to grow and enjoy roses.

Speakers have come from Cleveland, Greeneville, Morristown, and Knoxville, Tennessee. Topics have ranged from David Austin Roses to how roses add color to your landscape to proper pruning procedures to the how, what, and why of fertilizing our roses to making beautiful arrangements with our roses.

Dick Weidner of Fairfield Glade shared with us how he discovered his ‘Sweet Harriette,’ a red miniature rose. We also had an excellent speaker on how to take the best photographs of our roses as well as landscape and portrait photographs. This talk has prepared us for our Rose Photo Contest.

We are looking forward to entering our roses in the Tennessee Valley Fair Rose Show.

We are also looking forward to hearing from Susie Epperson about fragrant roses and from Dr. Mark Windham about the NO - Spray Trial Gardens and the Beall Rose Garden located in the University of Tennessee, Knoxville Trial Gardens.

We will end the year with our Christmas Luncheon. We will find out who the Man and the Woman of the Year are and also the Roses of the Year. Officers for 2013 will be installed at this luncheon.

Christine (Chris) Thompson

Vice - President and Corresponding Secretary

## Fall is For Roses

By: Jeff Garrett, ARS Consulting Rosarian

After a summer with record breaking temperatures, we can all look forward to the cooler days of fall. For many of us, fall is a time for watching football. Hopefully, for all of us rosarians, fall is a time for enjoying some of the prettiest roses of the entire season. If you have been diligent during a very trying summer, and maintained your rose garden chores, you will indeed be treated to a wonderful display of blooms in your garden. There are, however, a few things we can do to enhance our fall rose garden.

Many rose exhibitors prune their roses in an attempt to have a mass bloom similar to the first bloom cycle of the spring. Generally speaking, most standard roses will recycle in about 35 to 42 days. Miniatures, however, will recycle in an average of about 28 days. If you have a particular date in mind for your fall bloom, you simply get a calendar and count backwards to determine the pruning date for your roses. The next question is how far back should you cut your roses for this fall bloom cycle? Typically, most rosarians remove about 1/3 of the plant height. While this may sound severe, removing this much of the plant will help it redirect all of its energy resources into producing strong canes with big blooms. While you are performing this pruning, it is also a good time to clean up your bushes by removing all of the spindly and twiggy growth that is providing a welcome mat for insects and disease.

Now that the bushes are all pruned, it is a good idea to check the pH of your soil. For some reason, this little chore gets overlooked more often than not. It is essential for your soil pH to be

somewhere between 6.2 and 6.5 for your roses to grow and produce well. You can spend lots of money and effort on providing fertilizer for your roses, but if the pH is out of bounds, you are simply wasting your time and money. If you haven't already done so, invest in a good quality pH meter such as those available from Kelway. They offer an HB-2 model for around \$120 and a pHD model for about \$65. The only real difference is that the HB-2 model can be recalibrated while the cheaper pHD model cannot. When checking pH, it is a good idea to test several locations throughout your garden as the pH will vary throughout. Using one of these meters, you can know what you are dealing with in a matter of minutes.

If you discover that your pH is low or acidic, you will need to apply lime. It will generally take a few weeks for dolomitic lime to do its thing and get your pH up. Another alternative is to use a fast acting product. These are labeled as such and will do the job in a matter of days. While they are a lot more expensive per bag, you do not need to use nearly as much of the product.

The roses are now ready for a good feeding. We like to use a liquid fertilizer to get the food to them ASAP. Since we are looking for plant growth, we use an all-purpose of balanced product. We prefer to provide a balanced diet on a routine basis, so we liquid feed weekly at half the recommended dosage. Once you get within a couple of weeks of your expected fall bloom, switch to a "bloom booster" type product that is higher in phosphate to promote larger blooms. Another product we like to use is fish emulsion

with seaweed extract. This product will help your roses deal with the hot weather and also enhances the colors in your blooms. We simply add this product to our other liquid products.

All good rosarians have one thing in common. They like to provide their roses with lots of water. Your roses need from 2 to 4 inches of water per week. It is best to water at least twice weekly. Always make sure you water the day before you spray for insects and disease.

Speaking of insects and disease, by all means maintain your regular spray program until we have had at least two hard freezes. As the rose season winds down, too many rosarians tend to get a little lazy and let their spray program go. This only leads to more problems down the road.

Fall weather brings cooler temperatures which brings botrytis. Botrytis is a fungal disease that attacks the blooms causing the edges to turn brown and the blooms to appear rotted. Since we are growing roses for the blooms, it's important that we make sure they are protected. Once you get botrytis, the damage is largely done. Therefore, it is best to prevent it from attacking if possible. Thus, as the nights get cooler, we spray the buds with Chipco 26019 at 1 teaspoon per gallon every two weeks.

Even though the weather is getting cooler, we still need to be on the lookout for spider mites. If you notice some of your foliage turning a light yellow color, inspect the undersides of the leaves. If you see white salt-like specs, you have spider mites.

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Louisville, Ky.—Louisville-based Monty's Plant Food Company, a leading marketer and manufacturer of soil enhancement and plant fertility programs, dedicated a special garden today at the Louisville Zoo in memory of the company's co-founder Montrose "Monty" Justice. Justice, who passed away in early February, was a celebrated competitive rose grower and once owned a rose care business that maintained more than 150 rose gardens throughout the region.

Designed and planted by Justice's granddaughter, Sarah Stephens, for her Girl Scout Gold Project, the garden is nestled near the Zoo's lake. Plantings include roses from Monty's own garden and a variety of trees. Sarah worked to secure donations, select plants and establish the garden. She and her father, Dennis Stephens, president of Monty's Plant Food Company, also announced that they will teach a free, four-part rose care seminar at the Louisville Zoo.

**The memorial garden will be maintained by Zoo** horticulturalists with assistance from Sarah and Dennis Stephens. A memorial bench with a plaque dedicated "In Loving Memory" to Monty Justice adorns the front of the garden and welcomes visitors to sit and enjoy.

"Many people don't know that the Louisville Zoo includes botanical gardens, but we felt it was a fitting place to share some of Monty's prize roses with the community," Stephens said. "Monty was very active and touched many lives, including as a volunteer basketball coach for more than 40 years. We wanted to create a place where people could

come to remember him and continue to enjoy his roses."

Monty's Plant Food Company contributed more than \$5,000 to the Louisville Zoo, in addition to plants and manpower to create the garden, a new area for rest and relaxation at the zoo.

### About Monty's Plant Food Company

Monty's Plant Food Company develops plant and soil solutions for growers around the world in the agriculture, horticulture, lawn and garden and turf industries. In each segment, Monty's offer products and protocols to address specific needs and challenges. Founded in 1997, the Louisville, Kentucky-based company's products are effective, environmentally sound and economically feasible. For more information about Monty's plant, soil and specialty products, visit <http://www.montysplantfood.com> or

[Facebook.com/MontysPlantFood](https://www.facebook.com/MontysPlantFood).

### ARS Fall National Convention and Rose Show

September 26, 2012

The ARS 2012 Fall Convention and Rose Show, will be held at the San Ramon Marriott in San Ramon CA. For official information about the 2012 ARS Fall National Convention and Rose Show:

Thomas Bolden 707-280-5920

Website:

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

E-mail:

[tvbolden@yahoo.com](mailto:tvbolden@yahoo.com)

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After the depletion of 'Crescendo' mother plants through J&P's bankruptcy, Weeks' hybridizer Christian Beardard called on Keith, who turned to Nashville. As expected, Nashville responded and quickly shipped the requested bud-wood to California for producing the 2015 rose crop. Read the story by Ted Mills in the next issue of the *American Rose*.

We look forward to seeing you and your roses in Nashville the first weekend of October. Be sure to reserve quickly at the Vanderbilt Holiday Inn to get the lower convention rate. But most of all, come to Nashville, to Belmont University, and bring your roses!

Please call or email us if you have any questions.

Beautiful roses to all,

Sam and Nancy Jones

Sam: [gsamj@bellsouth.net](mailto:gsamj@bellsouth.net)

Nancy: [nancypj@bellouth.net](mailto:nancypj@bellouth.net)

Phone: 615-646-4138

130 Belle Glen Drive

Nashville, TN 37221

Additional information about the speakers and subjects will be posted on the district website, [www.tenarky.org](http://www.tenarky.org).

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We have found that water can be very effective in eradicating these pests. In the heat of day, we simply spray the undersides of the leaves with a sharp spray of water which knocks the mites right off the bush. If you are using this method and not getting good results, then odds are that you are not applying a sharp enough spray of water. A regular water wand does not have enough pressure to do the job, however, there are water wands on the market that have a rotating head with different spray patterns. We have found the "flat" and "angle" spray patterns will get the job done nicely. You will have to repeat this process in about three days for three times to get good control of your mites. Another option is to use the water and then come back a day later and apply your favorite miticide. The good thing about using water is the mites will not build up a resistance which results in the use of fewer pesticides.

A lot of nutritional supplements are appearing on the market. We have found that Nutri-Cal really seems to really help our roses deal with stress and promote healthy growth. Nutri-Cal is sprayed on as a mist and not to runoff. The best time to apply it is in mid morning before it gets too hot. We apply Nutri-Cal about every other week with our old Atomist sprayer and the results have been very rewarding. It is very cost effective, so you may want to give it a try.

Finally, if you pay attention to your roses and continue to provide them with good care, the fall bloom can be the best of the season.

**After all, fall is for roses!**

Our President, Tom Beath, has done an excellent job this year leading and representing the Nashville Rose Society. The monthly meetings have been well attended with a great lineup of events, speakers and rose education.

The annual spring Nashville Lawn and Garden Show in March has been a great way to share love of roses with the community. Members volunteer to man the booth and this year we picked up six new members as well as several returning members.

March is also highlighted by our Vendor Night where NRS members have access to buy just about everything they need for the coming year in their rose garden. Gary Spencer does a great job coordinating and managing this event that also serves as a fund raiser for our society.

Our annual spring rose tour featured three lovely gardens

- Keith and Martha Garman
- Iris Buhl
- The Nashville Music Garden

In June the 1st Annual ARS Multi-Regional All-Arrangement Rose Show was hosted just south of Nashville at the Marriott Cool Springs in Franklin, Tennessee. Rose lovers and arrangers from all over the country showed up for what turned out to be a really nice event. We all hope to see this event back again next year!

June also included the first of two Grand Prix's. The Grand Prix is a rose show that is held at a regular NRS meeting. Its purpose is to give members a chance to learn about and practice exhibiting roses with beginner, intermediate and advanced levels.

Our annual summer picnic was hosted by NRS members Lee and Martha Jeffery in July. Faced with triple digit temperatures the hosts made a wise decision and moved the picnic inside until it had cooled off enough to venture outside and enjoy the garden.

It seems that the keepers of our beloved 'Crescendo' rose lost all the stock cuttings for the next year's crop. The good news is that Sam and Nancy Jones along with the help of Dick Sittel and others jumped into the fray and saved the day by gathering over a thousand bud eyes to send to Weeks Roses. The bad news is 'Crescendo' will not be available commercially until 2014!

The Rose Doc, a.k.a. Ted Mills, will be writing about the complete story to be published in an upcoming issue of the *American Rose*.

## What Gets Ground Must Come Up

By: Jim Harding, Editor, Nashville Rose Leaf

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As a little fella, I remember my grandfather adding coffee grounds, (among other things to his garden soil) and he always grew the best vegetables! I figured if it worked for him it should work for me too.

With over 200 roses in our garden, the next question is where to get enough grounds to make a difference? Considering that Starla and I are a tea totaling household that doesn't drink coffee this could be a challenge. Even if we did, there are only two of us, so trying to drink enough coffee between us would be like spitting into the wind.

Enter our youngest daughter, Molly, who happens to work at a Starbucks. She confirmed that many of their stores give away their used coffee grounds for free. With the high cost of some fertilizers and soil amendments, free sounded pretty darn good so I started stopping by our local Starbucks. Each sack of grounds I took home filled up a five gallon bucket. Scattering them over the rose beds made me feel like I was carrying on an old family tradition that would make my "Papa" proud.

While it felt like I was doing something good, I wondered if there was any real benefit other than taking something destined for a landfill and returning it to the earth?

Bless Al Gore's heart; the internet truly is a great thing. It only took a few clicks of my mouse to figure out there was a distinct difference of opinion when it came to the pH of coffee. Some sources had the pH of coffee at a 5.0, way too low for roses. Other sources touted a pH of 6.9 which would be wonderful for middle Tennes-

see's chronic acidic soils. I am certainly no scientist, but I do happen to own a handy dandy Kelway pH meter. I took some coffee grounds home from work to test and bingo – 6.9 pH on the nose! I also tested the next batch of grounds from Starbucks – theirs had a pH of 7.0.

While this was good news, I was curious as to why some sources with very respected credentials were saying coffee had a pH of 5.0 versus other well respected researchers that claimed a pH of 6.9. As crazy as it sounds, it turns out both are correct. Before brewing, coffee does have a very low pH, but afterwards the pH changes the grounds to a very rose friendly pH of 6.9.

As rosarians we are taught the key to roses' ability to receive the benefits of any nutrients we offer is tied to the soil's pH. After testing our beds I found most of them were in the low 6 range so adding the coffee grounds seems like a free, easy, organic, and environmentally friendly way to help improve the pH and get it closer to the ideal pH of 6.5.

So far so good, but it would still be nice to know how coffee grounds affect the soil's nutrition, or if they are earthworm friendly. With mouse in hand I went back to the internet to see what I could find.

Nutrients - Coffee grounds are packed with good nutrients. A guaranteed analysis from the Soil & Plant Laboratory Inc. in Bellevue, WA, found that the grounds from Starbucks coffee contained 2.28 percent nitrogen, 0.06 percent phosphorous and 0.6 percent potassium. Magnesium and copper were also found in the

grounds. In comparison to other organic fertilizers like horse manure with an NPK of 0.6/0.4/0.5, coffee grounds have a lot to offer and without the worry of containing any weed seeds!

The nitrogen in content in coffee must decompose before it becomes available to plants. In other words, it acts like a slow release fertilizer for long term nitrogen input. Nearly all of the potassium and magnesium are immediately available when blended with the soil. About half of the copper and calcium are in immediately available forms. To get the most benefit, mix the coffee grounds into the soil. Avoid depositing thick layers on top, because coffee compacts easily and can form a water barrier.

Experts - A study conducted in 2007 by researchers from Saginaw Valley State University states that coffee grounds reduce soil compaction, improve aeration, decrease insects breeding in the soil and increase the production of worms.

Worms - gardeners everywhere know the benefits of worms and how they aerate the soil, working in important nutrients. Worms love coffee grounds, because of their small particle size, moisture retention, and their ability to grow microorganisms. Adding coffee grounds to the soil will make it more attractive to worms, adding a direct benefit to your roses.

Pests - I cannot vouch for this one, but according to multiple

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# What Gets Ground Must Come Up

By: Jim Harding

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multiple sources I found, slugs and snails, two garden antagonists, are no fans of coffee. Mulching with coffee grounds around plants will help reduce the ravages of these pests. According to Ann Lovejoy, garden writer for the Kitsap Sun, the caffeine and acid present in the grounds is absorbed by the slugs as they move over them, and it acts as a poison. Other sources cited said that coffee does not actually kill the slugs, but acts as a deterrent. Either way it is safe for you and your soil --- not so much for the slugs.

All of this sounds pretty good, but I am a visual person, so out of curiosity I wondered if something could grow in nothing but coffee grounds? I filled a small cup with some grounds, sprinkled in some grass seed, added water and a few weeks later there was lush green growth that looked a lot better than my lawn! Proof that what gets ground down can yield something good coming up.

I guess I could have taken the gardening practices of my grandfather at face value and simply follow in his footsteps, but it feels good to back it up with knowledge. After doing my homework, the bottom line is that on every level, using the dregs from the local coffee shop are good for the garden, the roses, the soil, the worms, the environment and my wallet.

One last thought. Not being coffee drinkers, Starla and I began

feeling a little guilty about taking something for free without offering anything in return, so we routinely bring a vase of roses as our way of saying thanks. The Starbucks staff seem appreciative. They proudly display the roses next to the condiments and tell their customers to look at what one of their customers grew with their coffee. While not one hundred percent truthful, we do not correct them as it is the thought that counts. One of the best reasons for growing roses is to share them. By giving back to Starbucks, maybe this is one small way to plant some rosy ideas in the heads of the young hip generation!

## Coffee Grounds



## Sack Coffee Grounds



Hello from the Memphis & Dixie Rose Society. It has been a good year for roses blooming over and over in the Memphis area. Our Rose Show was a success in May with good attendance by having our rose show at The Dixon Gardens & Art Gallery. The Dixon's 600 members were made aware of our rose show and there was a constant flow of people for two days. We are planning a Rose Tour this fall with a new membership drive that will be featured at each home.

Our most attended meeting was in March... over 80 people. Week's Rose representative, Bill Young, updated the club with the positive happening from Week's perspective of the rose industry. Two local nurseries brought for sale over 40 roses and all were sold.

My rose garden was featured on the local gardening TV show and I demonstrated how to plant and care for roses. This program was featured every day for a month and our summer meeting, in our member's gardens, have been well attended by people who saw the rose feature. Our rosarians have helped nine new rose gardens become a reality. Our club has grown by fourteen new members this year.

The Society's web page was redesigned and has received many hits to get directions to our meeting and rose growing guidance. Pot luck meeting and drawing numbers for prizes remain a wonderful way to have a good time at our monthly get-together.

Brad Dantone

# 2012 TENARKY District Fall Convention and Rose Show

Hosted by Nashville Rose Society and Tri-State of Chattanooga Rose Society

**October 5-7, 2012**

**Belmont University**

**1900 Belmont Boulevard Nashville, Tennessee 37212**

**Neely Dining Hall – Massey Business Center**

Adjacent to the Belmont Mansion

Acklen Avenue and Belmont Boulevard/17<sup>th</sup> Avenue South

Covered parking: North Garage/Inman Center – Wedgewood and 15th Avenue

Visit [www.tenarky.org](http://www.tenarky.org) for Registration and Rose Show Schedule

## Schedule Highlights:

### Friday, October 5:

Welcome Reception/Supper –

Massey Center Courtyard and Neely Dining Hall 6:00 PM

### Saturday Morning, October 6:

Tenarky Rose Show – Neely Dining Hall:

Entries: 6:00 AM – 10:00 AM

Judging: 10:30 AM – 1:00 PM

### Saturday Afternoon, October 6:

Judges Luncheon 1:00 PM

Rose Show Open to Public: 1:00 – 5:00 PM

Rose Growing Seminars: 2:00 – 4:00 PM

Tenarky District Meeting: 4:00 PM

Tours of Belmont Mansion: 1:30 and 4:30 PM

### Saturday Evening, October 6:

Awards Banquet: 7:00 PM

Massey Fourth Floor Boardroom – Speakers

Visit [www.tenarky.org](http://www.tenarky.org) for complete list of speakers

### Sunday, October 6:

Rose Garden Tours: 9:00 – 11:00 AM

Rose Show Open to Public: 11:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Public Seminar: “Basics of Growing Roses” – 2:30 PM

Rose Show Close: 4:30 PM

## **Convention Hotel – Holiday Inn Vanderbilt**

2613 West End Avenue, Nashville, TN 37203; Phone 615-327-4707

(Reservations: 1-877-327-4707; Convention rate of \$105 double occupancy:

Use Group Identity – TENARKY District American Rose)

## Have You Talked About the Fun of Roses?

By: Mary Bates, ARS Consulting Rosarian

Howard Walters in *Rosarian Ramblings* makes a profound statement when he states, "If your rose society is like most throughout the country, you are scoring more points at the rose shows than with new members, particularly the "young" ones that we all talk about but fail to recruit and hold. Maybe you are selling the wrong thing. When rosarians get together, talk usually dwells on problems with roses-diseases, insects, winterkill, and the necessity for magic potions for all occasions. Have you talked about the FUN of roses —and then done something about it? The easy-fun aspect of rose growing attracts members. A good salesman sells benefits, not difficulties. As rose salesman we have the world's greatest product, provided we don't talk ourselves out of the sale. Growing roses is just common sense. Make roses easy and fun and you won't be able to handle all of the memberships."

We are so fortunate to have the wisdom of rosarians from years past. The practical down to earth advice of Howard Walters is only one example, but his statement may hold the key to the future success of the rose and our rose societies.

I have found that growing roses is indeed fun! There is so much to read about and learn. As a child, I loved to read and was interested in history. The rose has a long history so there is always something new to read about and discover. I enjoy reading about Empress Josephine, Cleopatra, King Henry and Monet and how roses influenced this lives.

Roses are fun as they get us out of

the house and provide a great form of exercise with the added benefit of a beautiful garden. Taking time to smell the roses adds balance to one's life. A walk in the garden often takes all the cares of the day away.

I enjoy giving roses to others and seeing the pleasure the roses bring. Roses often invoke memories of loved ones. I am often surprised by those who have been touched by roses.

We have made rose friends from other parts of the world. Trips to New Zealand with our work in the Antarctic revealed a missing element in our Tennessee garden-roses!! In New Zealand roses were everywhere!! All the gardens had roses— and lots and lots of them! Even the smallest cottages had an abundant number of roses. Returning home to the states, my husband I knew we wanted roses in our garden. This was easier said than done but with the help of the local rose society, soon we too were growing roses. What fun it has been to grow beautiful roses!

Our garden was satisfying without the roses but when the roses were planted, they became "the icing on the cake." What fun it is to have each rose declare, "I'm the Prettiest!"

I have enjoyed the fun, friendship and fellowship of the Tennessee Rose Society now in its 66th year of association with the American Rose Society. With the help of these rosarians I have learned the basics of rose culture which has made me a better gardener. Although our 19 year old garden has

roses grown with all sorts of other flowers, they now all grow in happy harmony.

I have learned to meet the needs of the rose by improving the soil with organics and moving existing plants away from the roses to avoid overcrowding. Our hybrid teas now have their own special beds but the floribundas and shrubs mix happily with other flowers.

Rosarians are truly talented gardeners and there is so much to learn and share with others.

Now that is our turn to educate and pass the love of the rose along to others, perhaps the best way is to "talk about the Fun of roses!"

What fun have you had growing roses? Pass the word!!

Mary Bates, ARS Consulting Rosarian

*Rosarian Ramblings Howard Walters: Throughout the Years* is available online at [www.createspace.com/3448558](http://www.createspace.com/3448558).

This book includes thirty-two years of Walters' columns bearing the title *Rosarian Ramblings* which were published in the *American Rose* beginning in September 1970 until the April 2003 issue, just a month before his death. Although Walters taught the old tried and true methods of rose culture, he also shared common-sense practices that he learned from experience through years of growing roses.

By: Ted Mills, ARS Master Rosarian and Horticulture Judge

(Continued from page 1)

take away our freedom. It is imperative that we categorize 9/11 as a cowardly act that must not be allowed to happen again.

Although not nearly as important, it is fitting that rosarians review the changes that have gone on in the rose world. There are several. Many new rose specimens have entered the market although the mechanics of growing them has seen little change. It is true that of late we have seen a clamor for shrub-like bushes. The fact that specimens such as 'Knock Out' require little or no spraying makes them a popular entry into the rose kingdom. This treatise is basic instruction, but the turnover in rose society membership requires a simplistic instruction program.

RoseDoc is a firm advocate in keeping the hobby simple. Teaching presented in understandable terms allows the novice to grasp the rules with optimum ease. Leaving rose leaf pathology to the experts is the proper path of instruction. After all, learning to grow roses is the dream of most rosarians. Let's review the road-map to better roses.

First, establish a mental attitude that denotes a true love for the rose. Support this with the energy necessary to harvest award-winning specimens. Providing the rose bush with a "healthy" home is the next step after a positive attitude has been established. A site that provides at least six hours of sunlight is a must. Proper drainage is also of great importance. A planting mix of 1/3 fertile top soil, 1/3 coarse creek sand, and 1/3 organics is the

perfect residence for the bushes. Be sure that the rose bed is not near encroaching tree roots that rob the plants of nutrients. It is very important that the planting site be where at least 4 to 5 hours of sunlight is prevalent. Be sure to select plants that are Grade 1 with at least three lively canes. Avoid paraffin-coated bushes. Finally, test the planting mix and see that it is a slightly acid product that shows a pH of between 6.2 and 6.8, with 6.5 being ideal.

Rose bushes are heavy feeders making it essential that these are frequently fertilized. It is better to feed frequently rather than gorge the plants on a happenstance schedule. A combination of organic and inorganic food is the ideal method of feeding. Be sure and add compost to your rose bed. Micro-organisms are constantly devouring the vegetative organics requiring these be replaced frequently. Composting is nature's way of maintaining the food cycle of vegetation.

It is a known fact that disease spores and insects are lurking to feast on prized rose bushes. A well-planned spray schedule is a must. Never procrastinate in this duty. Establish a day for spraying which is weekly with few exceptions. Also, keep the rose beds hospital clean to prevent disease spores from residing on fallen leaves that may be contaminated.

Since rose bushes are really fruit trees, the plants try to go to fruit. By deadheading the spent blooms, the fruiting action is interrupted. A new cycle of blooms occurs and continues until frost or freeze enters the scene. Deadheading should be performed as soon as

the blooms are spent.

When winter approaches, the crafty rosarian begins to insulate his prized rose bushes. There are several ways to protect the plants from the winter freeze. Simply mound clean, fertile soil around the bud union to a height of 12 inches is a good way to restrict winter damage. Cover the mound with pine needles to prevent winter rains from washing the mounded-soil away.

When the warmth of spring is approaching and the bushes are leaving dormancy, the major pruning operation commences. This operation promotes vigorous new growth. Remember -- pruning high produces more blooms but does result in smaller blossoms. Pruning low ensures larger canes with larger blooms. It is a good idea to prune twiggy and unproductive growth all during the growing season. This allows proper air circulation for the plant, thereby helping to prevent disease and insect invasion through improved spray coverage. Contact a Consulting Rosarian for help since pruning methods are variable. It depends on whether the bush is hybrid tea, floribunda, shrub, or miniature.

Above all, keep the bush adequately watered. It is the most essential phase of growing roses. Six to ten gallons of water are needed each week. Failure to provide moisture spells doom for the bushes. Finally, be very sure that good drainage is present. If not, raise the beds to promote this all-important phase of growing roses.

Happy Rose Growing!!!

**Here is a peak into the Cookeville Area Rose Society meetings.....**

Cookeville Area Rose Society -- Minutes of Meeting May 14, 2012

The May 14, 2012, meeting of the Cookeville Area Rose Society was held at Johnson's Garden Center. Mrs. Sarah Johnson, President, called the meeting to order welcoming all visitors, new members, and members.

Our Vice-President, Mrs. Sue Klinefelter, introduced our special guest speaker for the evening, Mr. Tom Stebbins, U.T. Extension Agent for the University of Tennessee for Hamilton County, Chattanooga, Tennessee. Mr. Stebbins presented a slide program with discussion and member participation entitled "Identifying Rose Insects and Diseases."

The minutes from the April 9, 2012, meeting as taken by Mrs. Johnny Bruce were read and approved upon motion of George Boyd and second by Butch Baber. Thank you, Mrs. Johnny, for an excellent job!

Pat Cardinel, CARS Treasurer, reported a balance of \$1,755.81, existing in the CARS bank account on this date.

President Johnson gave a brief summary of the events of Rose Education Day held on April 28, 2012. The programs presented by our members and others during the day were a great success and as a result new members were recruited.

Our June 11, 2012, meeting will be held at the home of our member, Mrs. Rosemary Ponte and her husband, Al, who have graciously extended an invitation to their home for our yearly picnic. The Society will provide the meat and all members are requested to bring a side dish. All members and visitors are welcome to begin arriving at 5:30 with the meal to begin at 6:00 PM.

On Sunday June 10, 2012, members who are available are requested to come to Rosemary's to live-head the daylilies.

Nancy Layzer, our CARS Newsletter Editor, is planning to issue another newsletter prior to the June 11, 2012, meeting date.

At the conclusion of the meeting Butch Baber provided the Dogwood Park report stating the new sprinkler heads have been installed and there are new roses to be planted. After discussion, it was decided the roses would be planted on Saturday, May 19, 2012, beginning at 9:00 AM. Help from CARS members will be appreciated.

With the program and all business concluded, upon motion and second, the meeting was adjourned.

Vicki Qualls, Secretary

Continued from page 1)

shuttle service to Belmont and to other Nashville sites, including downtown. The TENARKY room rate is \$105, guaranteed through September 5th (available afterwards only until the hotel reaches 90% capacity). You can be assured of getting the almost one-half price of the lowest on-line discounted rate by booking before September 5<sup>th</sup>.

The Convention begins with a welcome supper and presentation on Friday evening in Neely Hall, adjacent to and reflecting the elegance of the original Mansion and a brief stroll from the rose garden. Seminars on Saturday afternoon offer in-depth views of the science of mulches and fertilizing practices, rose propagation, and the hardiest of American roses developed by Griffith Buck. The two-day Rose Show continues until late Sunday afternoon, with morning rose garden tours that include the famed Nashville Music Garden, across from the Country Music Hall of Fame. Interested beginners and the public may learn about the basics of rose-growing in Saturday and Sunday afternoon sessions.

We are looking forward to seeing you in Nashville October 5-7. Bring your roses--even if you are not planning to show them. The public loves roses, especially home-grown. They will buy roses, and the money will help our district.

## Bowling Green Rose Society News

## Tennessee Rose Society News

## An Open Letter From Our Web Mistress, Claire

Bowling Green Rose Society has had a very busy spring and summer. Members continue to maintain the public rose garden at Riverwalk Park. This year we added two new bushes including *Nicole* which was transplanted from Kent Campbell's garden and was one of his favorites. At the August workday, it was doing well and had blooms. The garden is enjoyed by many visitors to the park which overlooks Barren River.

Even though we had an early spring and rose bloom, our rose show in May was a success. It was well attended with beautiful blooms and arrangements. Bob Jacobs won Queen with *Marilyn Wellan* and Mini Queen with *Bee's Knees*. Howard Carmen and Paula Williams won Miniflora Queen with *Butter Cream*. Ann Jacobs received the gold certificate for her arrangement in the Oriental Manner and Paula Williams won the mini gold certificate with a modern arrangement. Mary Ann Hext won Best of Show with a mini mass arrangement.

In July, Bob and Ann Jacobs, Norma Stevenson, and Mary Ann Hext attended the Mini National Conference in Columbus. Norma won first place in the Novice Arrangement class and Mary Ann won first in the Judge's Class and the Basket Challenge in horticulture. Several members are planning to attend the fall workshops and rose shows.

Mary Ann Hext

Our program committee, Mary Bates, Kathy Brennan, and Rhonda Spruiell have planned a variety of programs for 2012.

For the first time, our society toured the UT Gardens. James Newburn, assistant director of the gardens, talked about the history of the UT Gardens and the Beall Rose Garden. A Beall Family Rose Garden intern gave us a tour of the rose garden and shared how they manage disease and pests.

Mary Bates arranged for Geri Sink and Tina Jennings of Remarkable Roses to speak to us in March about old garden roses and Buck roses. In addition to their presentation, Geri and Tina brought roses that could be purchased by members.

Susie Epperson again coordinated the sale of Roses from K & M Roses. Susie has worked with James and Daisy of K & M to bring a wide selection of roses on Fortuniana rootstock to our members.

Kathy Brennan began the workshop program which our members have enjoyed. The workshop is scheduled before the regular program. It focuses on the basics of growing roses. Mike Thompson and Dick Weidner plan and usually present each session. Each workshop focuses on the basics of growing roses. If there is a new disease or pest in the garden, Mike and Dick will be talking about it in our workshop!

We are looking forward to working with Holston Rose Society on our Rose Education Day in Spring 2013.

Carolyn Noey, President  
Tennessee Rose Society

Nine years ago, when Kent was beginning his first term as District Director, someone commented, "We really need a district web site." Well, since I didn't grow roses but wanted to support him any way I could, I decided to start a web site.

With my husband's encouragement, the help of the program Front Page, and first and foremost, Mary Ann Hext, I was able to get the web site up and running. For nine years, I have thoroughly enjoyed this. But now, it is time for a change.

I have developed problems with my neck which greatly limits my computer use and the doctor has indicated I should give up the web site. Mary Ann Hext has agreed to take it over. We are so fortunate.

Mary Ann is a devoted member of the Bowling Green Rose Society, does the society web site and newsletter, co-chairs the BG rose show, and is an apprentice arrangement judge. She teaches computer classes at Greenwood High School and is in her last year of teaching.

I will miss this but am not leaving the rose society. In fact, I am trying to take care of four of Kent's prize minis, so I finally am growing roses!

Claire Campbell

## District Directors

## District Officers 2009-2012

1958 - 1961 - Harry L. Burgess  
1961 - 1964 - Harry L. Burgess  
1964 - 1967 - Luther S. Keeton  
1967 - 1970 - Roy L. Graff  
1970 - 1973 - Roy L. Graff  
1973 - 1976 - Robert Whitaker  
1976 - 1979 - Robert Whitaker  
1977 - 1982 - Judge T. Mack  
Blackburn  
1982 - 1985 - Judge T. Mack  
Blackburn  
1985 - 1988 - Peggy Bingham  
1988 - 1991 - Peggy Bingham  
  
1991 - 1994 - Bill McMahon  
1994 - 1997 - Ted Mills  
1997 - 2000 - Donna Tarrant  
2000 - 2003 - Robbie Tucker  
2003 - 2006 - Kent Campbell  
2006 - 2009 - Kent Campbell  
2009 - 2012 - Sam Jones

*KATnips* is the semi-annual newsletter of the TENARKY District of the American Rose Society. TENARKY encompasses members of the American Rose Society residing in the states of Tennessee, Eastern Arkansas and Kentucky.

The newsletter is provided free in electronic format. The opinions expressed here are those of the author(s) and/or editor and do not necessarily represent those of the American Rose Society or the officers of the TENARKY District. While the advice and information in this newsletter is believed to be true and accurate at the time of publication, neither the authors nor editor can accept any legal responsibility for any errors or omissions that may have been made. The TENARKY District makes no warranty, expressed or implied, with respect to the material contained within.

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Mary Ann Hext

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Visit our award-winning website: [www.tenarky.org](http://www.tenarky.org)

For information on:

- ARS membership
- ARS updates
- Award of Merit Winners
- Bylaws
- Consulting Rosarians
- Current Show Results
- District Officers
- District History
- Events and Schedules
- Garden Tours
- Horticultural Judges
- *KATnips* Newsletter
- Local Society Listings
- Meeting Announcements
- Master Rosarians
- Gold Honor Medal Winners
- Silver Honor Medal Winners
- Winter Workshop Information

District Website Awards:

2004 King

2006 Princess

2007 Princess

2008 King

2009 King



TENARKY  
*District Workshop 2012*