



A Publication of the Bowling Green Rose Society

# Rosebuds

BGRS 50th Anniversary Issue

November 2010

Meeting:  
November 5  
Alive Center  
6:30 p.m.

Host: Kathy Dodson  
Program: Mary Hext

## Happy Golden Anniversary Bowling Green Rose Society by Mary Ann Hext

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the organization of the Bowling Green Rose Society. Since our records prior to 1984 have been lost, last spring I began contacting many of the former members or our society and asked them to write an article for this special 50th Anniversary issue or allow me to interview them. Nearly all responded by sharing some of their memories and pictures of their roses. I had the privilege of meeting Paris Pillion, our oldest living charter member. I received copies of the first 15 issues of *Rosebuds* and many Rose Show Schedules from the daughter of Claude Rose, also a charter member. I hope you enjoy reading about their experiences in our society and their love for roses.

This "Bit of History" of the Bowling Green Roses Society appears on our website:

"On May 30, 2010, the Bowling Green Rose Society presented their 49th rose show. The first show was held on September 30, 1961. Mr. and Mrs. Paris Pillion won Queen of the Show with *Kaserine Auguste Victoria*.

Alina Lane, Society Editor of the *Park City Daily News*, wrote a sterling article about the show. She reported that: "Twenty-four exhibitors placed 178 entries in the rose show Saturday which local and out-of-town judges termed 'one of the loveliest shows they had ever seen.'

The guest register listed 175 guests from Bowling Green and surrounding areas who called between the hours of 1:00 and 8:00 p.m. at the First Christian Church." This event, which was the first major effort by the newly formed Bowling Green Rose Society, remains to this day the largest annual event on the society's calendar.

The effort to form a rose society in Bowling Green had begun at 7:30 p.m. on November 28, 1960, when a group of approximately 25 men and women met at Snell Hall on the Western Kentucky University Campus. These interested rose growers heard a talk on roses given by Mr. Charles Dawson of Louisville. (Ed. Note: Mr. Dawson was the author of "Uncle Charlie's Corner," a regular feature in *The American Rose* for a number of years.) Mr. Haywood Brown was chosen as temporary Chair-

man.

The first regular meeting of the new local society was convened on Jan. 9, 1961, again in Snell Hall. Mr. Brown was elected the group's first president. The treasury began with a balance of \$29. As noted above, it was less than a year later that the first rose show was presented.

The original ten members enrolled at this first meeting were: Dr. T. O. Hall; Mrs. Earl Rabold; Mr. Claude Rose; Mr. Paris Pillion; Mrs. Richard Peete; Mrs. J. C. McCubbin; Mrs. Edith Kolair; Mrs. Opal Kirk; Mrs. Tena Borders; and Mrs. John Collet."

Some of this information came from a program presented to the Bowling Green Rose Society on September 10, 1994, by Jim Bennett and some from Paris Pillion, the only living charter member of the BGRS.



Early photograph of BGRS members from the 1960s at the garden of Mr. & Mrs. Paris Pillion who are standing at the left. Kneeling is Bill McMahan, leaning behind him is Pearle Rose, mother of Claude Rose (the photographer), Mr. and Mrs. Skip Henderson are standing, on their left side is an unknown woman, next is O. L. Kirk is in plaid shirt and Mrs. Kirk is kneeling, then an unknown man, Dorothy McMahan is at far right. (Photo McMahons)

## A Program Presented to the Bowling Green Rose Society on September 10, 1994 (Our 30th Anniversary) by Dr. Jim Bennett

America is a nation of joiners. And organizers. We know from our own experience that when we meet two or three of our friends downtown, we immediately elect officers.

There are both historical and psychological reasons for doing this. To a certain extent, we are a nation of immigrants. When these immigrants arrived on our shores, they were alone--isolated by language, religion, appearance. It was only natural they should seek out others like themselves. Organized into clubs, societies, unions, or associations, they found friendship and felt less alone. Associations were used for economic reasons also. The power of numbers could result in securing better jobs, higher wages, more favorable treatment, and more even-handed justice.

So we organized. Almost from the earliest settlement in America, we organized. Benjamin Franklin used this inclination to organize as a means of obtaining America's first library and the colonies' first fire insurance company.

As settlement moved Westward, organization as used to achieve tasks which could not be accomplished singlehandedly: barn raising, crop harvesting, road building.

We have, then, as a nation, a history of organization, societies, fraternities, lodges, to give us a feeling of belonging, to foster a sense of security to accomplish tasks, to secure economic benefits.

A valuable research tool available in most libraries is a work titled *Encyclopedia of Organizations*. Printed in three volumes, its 3,600 pages list thousands and thousands of organizations existing in the United States. From "A" to "Z", this listing covers

and amazing range of interests, hobbies, goals, and activities. For example: The Messianic Jewish Perspective; the Abbot and Costello Fan Club; the Abandoned Military Posts Association; the Program to Abolish the Department of Education; the Acid Rain Association; the Tattoo Club of America; the International Women's fishing Association, ; the Uncle Remus Museum; and the Tyrolean Zither club. A small sampling, but it gives an idea of the diversity of organizations to which Americans belong.

Among the listings is the *American Rose society*, founded in 1899. The society was the first major attempt to organize and interest which had existed in America since the 17th century. Almost from the founding of the first settlement at Jamestown in 1691, Americans have had an interest in, and have cultivated, the rose. The action by the federal congress in 1986 officially declaring the rose to be the national flower was really quite unnecessary--American had long since adopted it as their favorite.

The early colonists found native varieties of roses when they arrived in America, and some immigrants even brought seeds or cuttings of roses from Europe. By the end of the 17th century, there were a few well-established gardens in America, and even a few recognized nurserymen practicing their trade.

William Young, a Philadelphia nurseryman, in 1783 printed a catalogue of plants for export to France. The list included *rosa polustric*, the Swamp Rose. An even earlier reference to native American roses was made by John Parkinson, a British herbalist, who described *rosa virgi-*

*nus*, which grows over a large part of North America.

Colonists brought roses from their homelands: albas, damasks, gallicas, sweet briars, which had been cultivated in Europe for centuries. Early American housewives cultivated these roses for use in medications, cooking, sachets, deodorants, and hand-washing waters. Mostly, though, they raised roses because they agreed with the British garden writer Thomas Hyll, who wrote in 1577, "of all the flowers in the Garden, the rose is the chief for beauty and sweetness."

Thomas Jefferson, that statesman who was most happy when gardening, once wrote that he had just shipped to a friend in France "seed of every variety of rose growing in America, a half bushel of each." On his stays in Europe, Jefferson spent much time searching out unfamiliar varieties of roses and collecting cuttings and/or seeds which he planted at his beloved Monticello.

The number and variety of roses available in America increased dramatically during the 18th century. In 1790 Robert Prince, who had founded the first major American nursery in 1737, listed only 17 varieties in his 1790 catalogue, Prince's great grandson, William, listed 1,630 varieties in his 1846 catalogue.

By 1844 roses were so important to the business of Robert Buist, a nurseryman in Philadelphia, that he published *The Rose Manual*, the first book in America devoted entirely to the rose.

The first American flower show, sponsored in 1829 by the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, revealed that roses were the second most important class.

November 2010

## 30th Anniversary Program *(continued) (article from Roy & Helen Almond)*

In 1835 there were 132 varieties of roses in one exhibition alone at the Massachusetts Horticultural Society Flower Show. By the 1870s, and annual show devoted solely to roses had been established by that society.

Americans contributed to the creation of new roses during the 19th century. In 1811 John Champneys, in Charleston, South Carolina, raised *Champneys Pink Cluster*, a rose which led to a new class, the Noisettes.

In the 1830s and 1840s, Samuel and John Feast in Baltimore experimented with the *Prairie Rose* and produced a number of hardy climbers which could withstand severe winters.

True to their nature, Americans responded to the growing interest in roses by organizing the *American Rose Society* in 1899.

In its early years, the ARS was a small association of commercial nurserymen. The man who transformed the society into a dynamic organization of dedicated amateurs as well as professional rose growers was J. Horace McFarland, president of the Society from 1930 to 1932. McFarland published the first *American Rose Annual* in 1916 and edited this prestigious publication for nearly 30 years.

Today the ARS has more than

20,000 members in local societies through the United States.

Foremost among the many honor chapters is the Bowling Green Rose Society.

At 7:30 p.m. on November 28, 1960, a group of approximately 25 men and

women met in Snell Hall on the Western Kentucky University campus. These interested rose growers heard a talk on roses given by Mr. Charles Dawson of Louisville and, later, chose Mr. Heywood Brown as their temporary chairman.

There first regular meeting of the local society was convened on January 9, 1961, again in Snell Hall. Mr. Brown was elected the group's first president. The treasurer's report indicated a balance of \$29.00 on hand. The original ten members enrolled at this first meeting were: Dr. T. O. Hall; Mrs. Earl Rabold; Mr. Claude Rose, Mr. Paris Pillion, Mrs. Richard Peete, Mrs. J. C. McCubbin, Mrs. Edith Kolair,

Mrs. Opal Kirk, Mrs. Tena Borders, and Mrs. John Collet.

Since that modest beginning, the Bowling Green Rose Society has grown in numbers and in rose-cultivating knowledge. One feature which was not originally a part of the regular meets is the potluck dinner, perhaps the most important feature of our meetings today,

and a strong recruiting tool. One suspects that culinary ability has become one of the secret but vital requirements for membership.

It should be noted that today we can point with pride to one founding member still with us, still showing us how to grow prize roses, and still leading us in singing "Happy Birthday": Claude Rose!

*Editor's Notes: This article was written by Dr. James D. Bennett, retired History Professor, Western Kentucky University. Dr. Bennett was a member of BGRS until his death in March 2009. The 2006 BGRS Rose Show was dedicated to Jim and Nina Bennett.*



**The Bennetts—2006 (photo M. Hext)**

## Bob Toohey's Memories of BGRS *from telephone conversation with Mary A. Hext, CR*

On a Sunday afternoon in July, I spoke by telephone with Robert "Bob" Toohey, a former member and past president of BGRS and a Rosarian for over 20 years. He currently lives in Horse Cave, Kentucky, and was very gracious to share with me some of his memories of being a member of our society.

Around 1976 while Bob was working at the post office on the campus of Western Kentucky University, a steady stream of rose bushes were arriving

and being picked up by a professor, Dr. Bill McMahan. One day they struck up a conversation and Dr. McMahan asked him if he liked flowers. This led to Bob becoming a member of BGRS and starting his rose garden with 3 roses recommended by Dr. McMahan one of which he remembers was Mr. Lincoln.

Each year after that he ordered roses until he had over 150 bushes in his garden and a 20-year period of growing roses. When his wife died in

1987, he dropped out for a few years; but later rejoined. Bob served as president of BGRS in 1991 and again in 1995 and 1996.

His two main memories were winning Queen of the Rose Show sometime in the 1980s with *Pascali*, and all the good meals they had at the Houchen's Center. He also remembers working hard in his roses, but with that came much enjoyment. He hopes to attend our next rose show.



## A Conversation with Paris Pillion—BGRS Charter Member *by M. Hext, Ed.*

It was a gorgeous fall day in early October when I visited the only living charter member of the Bowling Green Rose Society, 92-year-old Paris Pillion at his home in Bowling Green. Mr. Pillion grew up in Harlin, Kentucky, and later taught school there. His father was a “perfect gardner” and Mr. Pillion learned from him.

He came to Bowling Green where he married Martha Jones Galloway in the late 1930s. Mr. Pillion had about 25 rose bushes which later increased to many more. His wife

loved roses and making arrangements. He traveled to Louisville and met with a man (he didn’t remember the name) to talk about organizing a society in Bowling Green with the organization meeting being in November 1960. He remembers that members of the Nashville Rose Society were very helpful getting BGRS started and with the first rose show.

Two roses Mr. Pillion grew were *Peace* and *Pink Parfait*. His favorite rose was a white hybrid tea called *Kaserine Auguste Victoria* which won

queen at the first BGRS Rose Show. He also remembers taking 5 of them to the Nashville Rose Show and winning there. Mrs. Pillion won many ribbons with her arrangements. Mr. Pillion will be moving to Louisville in the near future to be near his sisters. (photo M. Hext)



## Retirement Made Special by BG Rose Society *by Roy & Helen Almond, Emeriti*

Who knew that upon retirement in 1980 a lifelong hobby of gardening and roses in particular would develop into the most rewarding adventure we could imagine!

We experienced our first rose show as spectators in Thomasville, Georgia, while Roy was stationed there during World War II.

Later we had our own small rose bed in Springfield, Missouri, in the early 50s. But when we moved to Bowling Green, Kentucky, in 1964 (Roy’s hometown), Roy really got serious and built a real raised rose bed. (We had to import some good soil). We continued happily developing our garden and rose bed until Roy retired. We were not aware of the rose society until Claude Rose (a fellow Kiwanian) invited us to a meeting at his home on Roselawn. We were impressed beyond belief that such good roses could be grown in Bowling Green! We met new friends and discovered old friends at this meeting. After attending several meetings, we became full fledged members and about to enter our first rose show held at State Street United Methodist Church! It was all a mystery to us but

everyone was so friendly, encouraging, and we were learning so much.

We started to attend the winter workshop in Jackson, Tennessee. They hosted those for several years and the seminars were so informative and we made so many new friends, roses being the common denominator!

The rose show led to another all around the District and accidentally becoming consulting Rosarians and then attending a judging school in Knoxville Tennessee. We really went to learn what judges were looking for?? Eventually, we became judges--more shows and more wonderful people. The National shows were exciting--more seminars and more new roses we had to have. Before

we knew it, over 20 years had passed and we had looked forward to every one of them.

Finally it became evident that we could no longer care for our garden—time to sell—but had we created a monster? Who would love it as

we did? It took awhile but finally someone liked our little greenhouse!

For the last eight years, we have been comfortable in our independent living condo in a retirement center sponsored by the Christian Church.

We enjoy all the rose publications and try to keep in touch, enjoy

our albums of photos and have fond memories. We are happy to have known several of the founding fathers and hope the Bowling Green Rose Society will continue another 50 years! Congratulations!!



**Roy Almond in his rose garden**  
(photo Helen Almond)

## Memories of BGRS *by Bill & Dot McMahon (former members now residing in AK)*

Warm greetings to all the members of the Bowling Green Rose Society from Bill and Dot McMahon. For twenty-five of our best years, the BGRS people and its rose world activities were a tremendous joy to us. The lovely garden club lady Mabel Thomas played a large role in establishing and preserving the BGRS. Two more lovely garden club members, Jo Jean Scott and Gladys Holzapfel, taught all the rest of us how to make arrangements. All through the sixties and seventies, the Bowling Green group was very famous for the quality of the arrangements in our rose shows, well above the levels of Nashville and Louisville and Memphis.

Bob and Glenda Whitaker judged our first rose show at the First Methodist Church. They laid down many basic principles of a show for all of us. Our basic meeting pattern was half the meetings in homes and half at the Houchens Center, with wonderful potluck dinners. On one occasion we took a car caravan tour to the ARS grounds in Shreveport, driving down and up the gorgeous Natchez Trace highway.

We were famous for our attendance. It was almost never the case that more than one member would miss a meeting, either on Friday night or Saturday morning. Maybe it was the good food, plus the good people, but it was certainly the lovely rose gardens through which we strolled each time. We still have pictures of our stroll through the Pillions' and Scotts' gardens, plus one of our son who won his first Queen of the Show

at about 11 or 12.

Our society was very well known for its fundraising. It received lots of help from local businesses. My wife would walk into a business (looking just a bit sexy) and say "It won't be necessary for you to give more than \$500 this year." She was careful to get dates of special occasions for



**McMahon's Roses (photo Dorothy McMahon)**

each sponsor, upon which she would take them a special arrangement of roses. She received help from other members of the club in this lovely gesture. The Bowling Green Society also established the publication "Horizon Roses," which gave a wonderful cross-section of opinion from all the districts on which roses seemed to do best for a given reporter. All profits from this went to the ARS gardens. We had a rule back then that all members also had to be members of ARS.

Back then, all important decisions were made by the full board. It worked well for us. The Board was made up of Committee chairs: historian, editor, ways and means, membership, publicity, arrangements, staging, plus an elected executive secretary. The highly competitive nature of rose

shows can lead to frictions, and of course some people are more competitive than others. The rose is such a marvelous flower. It deserves to have hands reach across the table. Many social and economic conditions back in those golden days for us were encouraging for horticulture societies. That is not so true now. We wish this were not the case.

Most of the people we loved and worked with as the club started are dead now, and we soon will join them. In the rose world and every other human world, the living are bonded to the dead with strong ties. Someone said to the poet T.S. Eliot: "We know so much more than the past." Eliot replied, "Yes, and the past is what we know."

### The Rose

*The rose we know has roots  
that reach far back  
To many lands  
For many million years;  
And so do we, the touch of  
many hands,  
The richly woven track  
Of all our trails of love and  
joyous hours  
And sometimes tears,  
The ways we served so well  
the Queen of flowers.*

*--by Bill McMahon*



From the Past *obtained from various sources*



Cliff McMahon & Mul Lockwood judging in-club competition



Roy Almond judging at 2006 BGRS Rose Show

KUCKY

SUNDAY, MAY 26, 1974

Bowling Green Rose Society

Spring show scheduled Saturday

The Bowling Green Rose Society will have their Spring show Saturday, June 1 at College Inn, 1149 College St. The free show is open to the public from 11:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. after 6 p.m. single tea roses will be on sale, five for \$1.

There will be an artistic division and a horticultural division and trophies will be donated by local merchants and banks. Winners keep trophies for one year.

The hybrid tea, grandiflora, floribunda and classes for all other rose types, such as the climbers and miniatures, will be included in the show.

A new 3rd class, will be introduced this year. "Name the Rose" will require the judges to identify the name of the rose. Judge Roy Graff, past district director of Tennessee-Kentucky district, will be the main judge with several apprentice judges assisting him.

The show is for the membership but there will be two classes open to the public. Exhibitors are expected from Indiana, Tennessee and Kentucky.

Louis Holzappel, 302 Bellvue Drive, is president of the Bowling Green Rose Society which is an affiliate of the American Rose Society. The Bowling Green club was organized in 1961 with 15 members and was sponsored by the Bowling Green Garden Club. The purpose of the club is to encourage and advise rose growers.

This annual show, sponsored by the 50-member club, presents a colorful show with gorgeous blooms, both pleasing to the eye and challenging to the rose growers.



(Staff Photo by Peggy O. Kirkpatrick) TWO MEMBERS OF THE BOWLING GREEN ROSE SOCIETY who are exhibiting in the Spring show at College Inn Saturday are (left to right) Frank Quisenberry, 519 East 13th St., and Cliff McMahon, son of Dr. and Mrs. William McMahon, Highland Road. Quisenberry, who received the Queen of the Show award in 1972, and McMahon, who received the award the following year, are the oldest and youngest members of the Rose Society.

School reunions planned

**POLKVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT REUNION**  
Teachers and students of the Polkville school district are having a reunion beginning at 10 a.m. Saturday, June 1 on the Polkville Church grounds. The location is 10 miles east of Bowling Green on the old Bowling Green-Glasgow Road, Highway 1297.

A potluck dinner will be served at noon. Those attending have been asked to bring a covered dish and table service.

**St. JOSEPH SCHOOL REUNION**

St. Joseph School will have a class reunion for all classes from 1958 to 1965 on June 29-30. On Saturday at 7 p.m. a dinner-dance is planned at the Ramada Inn, Bowling Green, and on Sunday a brunch will be in the school gym.

Tickets are \$20 a couple and for reservations contact Mrs. Sandra Read Stout, 1137 Rosewood Drive.



Compliments of J. C. Kirby & Son

(Staff Photo by Katrina Larsen)

Rosarians enjoy informal show

MEMBERS OF THE ROSE SOCIETY and their guests enjoyed an informal rose show June 6 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Scott. Roses, like anything else, can be temperamental and by all reports refused to bloom at their loveliest until the

rose show was over. Two days later, members gardens burst mercilessly into fabulous bloom. Best rose of this particular show was "Folklore" from Mr. and Mrs. William McMahon.

June 1986 L-R Roy & Helen Almond, Mr. Toohy, Gladys Holzappel, Dorothy McMahon, Jo Ann Toohy, Mr. Houchens-guest (photo Jo Jean Scott)



Evelyn Lockwood



Deedie Hooks



Jo Jean Scott & Evelyn Lockwood in Evelyn's garden May 1987 (photo Jo Jean Scott)



## Memories of Bowling Green Rose Society by Jo Jean Scott, former BGRS Member

In recognition of the 50th Anniversary of the Bowling Green Rose Society, it is a pleasure to recall our days of membership in this organization. I believe that we were driven out of the "rose" business by the advent of the Japanese Beetle in the mid-90s and the activities of our family. I am unable to recall when our membership began or exactly when it ended. However, I can say that a bouquet of hybrid tea roses had a place of honor on the dining room table, June 12, 1987. On June 6, a few years later, a picture of



**Jack Scott—The Big Thorn  
BGRS President—1993-1994  
(photo Jo Jean Scott)**

our group appeared in the *Daily News*. Club members were enjoying an informal rose show on the back deck of our Alvaton home. Once each month, excepting the coldest months of winter, a delicious potluck dinner and program were enjoyed. And we were all very good cooks! In spring and fall, there were tours of members' gardens which inspired and encouraged every member. In early spring, final pruning of our plans was an



**Mrs. Scott in their rose garden.  
(photo Jo Jean Scott)**

issue, followed by fertilizing and spraying, and lots of whispered instructions to the awakening, respon-

sive roses. The annual Rose Show was coming, and every member was asked to be a part of the show. The production of the Rose Show involved all members and required planning and investments of time and energy. Some things never change!

Jack Scott enjoyed two years as Chairman of the Bowling Green Rose Society and announced himself as "the Big Thorn" In 1990, his entry in the annual show, "Pristine" won the certificate for Bee Gee Princess. This certificate is signed by Evelyn Lockwood as Awards Chairman and Tom Poole as Executive Secretary. Here at Big Shanty Farm, we grew long

stemmed, hybrid tea roses that I remember with joy. They were such a pleasure to share with others and they brought wonderful color and fragrance into the house. During these years, I served on the flower committee at Bowling Green's First Baptist Church. It is my hope

that when roses graced the altar, hearts were lifted closer to the Creator by the beauty of the flowers. Jack certainly did his best for our roses. He fertilized, sprayed, pruned, and mulched; but he let me cut the blooms and arrange them. It was a very special gardening time.

During these years, members were hard working, enthusiastic and totally captured by the beauty of The Roses they grew and loved. Our consulting Rosarians were Bill and Dot McMahon of Western Kentucky University. Other Rosarians were Gladys and Louis Holzapfel, Evelyn and Mulford Lockwood, Helen and Roy Almond, Nina and Jim Bennett, Romanza and Ralph Johnson, Linda and B. J. Booth, Dr. Jim "Pete" Hicks, and wife, Ruby, Dotty Harris, and DeeDee Hooks, Mr. Hubert Houchens, Marge and Jack Sagabiel, Linda and Tom Poole, and many other great friends and lovely people.

Thank you, Bowling Green Rose Society, for unique gardening experiences and truly special friendships. Congratulations on your 50th Anniversary!



**Arrangement by Mrs. Scott  
for First Baptist Church  
(photo J.J. Scott)**

From the Past *obtained from various sources*

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15, 1984

DAILY NEWS, BOWLING GREEN, KENTUCKY



(Staff Color Photo by Mark Workman)

MRS. LOUIS HOLZAPFEL of 302 Bellevue Ave. cuts roses from one of her 75 rose bushes. Mrs. Holzapfel and her husband have been growing roses in earnest since Holzapfel retired 14 years ago. The roses require special care and attention, but the couple believe the result is worth it.

# Growing roses creates sweet smell of success for Bowling Green couple

Photo from Mr. & Mrs. Bob Holzapfel

### BGRS ARS Bronze Medal Winners

- 1997—Roy & Helen Almond
- 1998—Gladys Holzaphel
- 1999—Evelyn Lockwood
- 2000—Jim & Nina Bennett
- 2001—Claire Campbell
- 2003—Ann Jacobs
- 2004—Kent Campbell
- 2005—Robert Jacobs
- 2007—Kathy Dodson
- 2009—Georgia Snyder

### BGRS ARS Silver Medal Award

- 1997—Roy & Helen Almond



Helen & Roy Almond

### BGRS ARS Outstanding Consulting Rosarian Awards

- 1987—Roy & Helen Almond
- 2000—Kent Campbell
- 2009—Bob Jacobs

### BGRS ARS Outstanding Horticulture Judge Awards

- 1996—Roy & Helen Almond
- 2009—Kent Campbell



## Bits of BGRS History *from various sources*

- BGRS was a bit famous for its male artistic design arrangers in the 80s. Most large clubs then had zero, but BGRS had five: Pete Hicks, Claude Rose, Tom Poole, Roy Almond, and Bill McMahan.
- Claude E. Rose was a charter member of BGRS and remained so until his death in 1977. He won several major ARS awards and exhibited in horticulture. He, along with his daughter, Cheryl (Meredith) also exhibited arrangements. She remembers that after her father was suffering from a nervous condition, his doctor recommended he get an outdoor hobby. He soon dug a hole in his yard 4' deep and 8' wide and was asked who he was planning to bury in it. This became his first rose bed and began his long love with growing and exhibiting roses.
- The first year of BGRS, membership dues were \$2 local and \$5.50 for national. There were 40 members. The guest speaker for the first annual dinner held at Western Hills Restaurant on November 13, 1961, was Mr. Charles Dawson from the Louisville Rose Society who wrote a column for the *American Rose*. A \$1 assessment per member was needed to help defray some expenses of the society during its first year. *(from C. Roses's newsletters)*
- The rose art logo that has appeared on the front of the BGRS newsletter *Rosebuds* for many years was drawn by Dr. James Hicks who taught in the education department at WKU and was an amateur artist. He and his wife, Ruby, were active members of rose society. He did a beautiful picture of the rose, Peace, and evidently did an ink drawing of his painting to be used as a logo for BGRS. *(information from Claire Campbell)*
- Claire Russell Injeian remembers Gladys Holzapfel being the "arranger supreme" winning many awards for her creations. Mrs. Charles Martin remembers that her mother taught many arrangement classes and gave containers to many upcoming arrangers.
- Helen Almond recalls that her husband Roy, Tom Poole, the Lockwoods, and others took cut roses to the farmer's market each week to waiting customers. The proceeds were used to establish a BGRS scholarship fund at WKU.
- Bob Toohey served as a member of the National Nominating Committee in 1995, a position held by Helen Almond the previous years. Roy Almond was Tenarky District Treasurer. Helen and Roy Almond served as judges at the ARS National Convention in Denver in 1995. Bill McMahan served as KatNips Editor for several years in the 80s. Roy Almond was Tenarky vice-chair from 1987-1989.
- Mul Lockwood was known as the BGRS "roving reporter" and hysterical historian" providing interesting reading of old minutes and newsletters obtained from Tom Poole.

## More Memories from the McMahan's

The McMahan's joined the Bowling Green Rose Society in 1968. Bill said that in the past, BGRS did not have presidents, but Executive Secretaries, with more or less permanent committee chairs. As Ways and Means Chair, Dot McMahan became a famous fund raiser. For a while she was chair of the National Membership Committee. Bill McMahan was the society's publication Chair, and the Bowling Green Rose Society newsletter was mailed out to many states.

Bill and Dot and Cliff became a good team of exhibitors, and they won a bunch of the District McFarland Challenge classes at the District shows. Bill served two terms as Tenarky District Director, and was for several years the editor of the of the District newsletter KATNIPS. Mul Lockwood gave it that name. He had a great sense of humor.

Back in those years, the Arrangement Chair was Gladys Holzapfel, the Staging Chair was Jane Cooksey, the Publicity Chair was Evelyn Lockwood, and the Properties Chair was Roy Almond. The club secretary was Mulford Lockwood. The minutes he read were very humorous. The board position of Executive secretary changed every two years, and we used this as a way to bring new members into leadership roles. We got a cute performance from Jack Scott, who would demand committee reports every month at our meetings, even if there were no reports.

Bill, in secret, was proud of his role in restoring peace to the ARS after a very strong political fight, a sort of inner Civil War. Bill was on the mediation team that settled all the points of dispute. Bill says he never got much credit for restraining the wild folk on both sides. Back in those years, Roy and Helen Almond also had important District and National roles. Helen was on the National nominating committee. Bill and Dot got some fame as originators and editors of the national survey of new roses HORIZON ROSES, and for this work Bill received a Presidential citation from Pete Haring.

One of America's very greatest virtues is all the volunteer social and cultural organizations in every American town. BGRS was very active and was part of this part of American life that can only be called grand. We go towards death with fond memories.

**From the Past** photos from Shirley Holzapfel Martin (daughter of Louis & Gladys Holzapfel)



**1996 BGRS Rose Show—Gladys Holzapfel helping Ruby Hicks with her arrangement. Ruby won “Best of Show.”**

Louis and Gladys Hozapfel were members of BGRS for many years. Prior to moving to Bowling Green, they lived in Richmond, Virginia, where Gladys took arrangement classes and became a certified arrangement instructor. According to everyone I talked with, she made fabulous arrangements and won many local, district, and national awards. Louis grew the arrangements and competed in horticulture while Gladys entered in arrangements. She also taught many people how to make arrangements.



**1989 BGRS Rose Show—One of Gladys Holzapfel’s winning arrangements.**



**1981 BGRS Rose Show blue ribbon arrangement.**



**Louis Holzapfel with a rose called Kings Ransom in the late 1970s.**



**1993 BGRS Rose Show—Bill & Dot McMahon standing by Gladys Holzapfel.**



**1988 BGRS Rose Show at Briar Patch Restaurant**



## From the President *by Bob Jacobs, Consulting Rosarian*

Hello again:

The calendar shows me November is here. But with the long, hot, dry days it still feels like summer. I'm sure most of you are with me in saying our roses have been stressed due to the heat. I have stopped fertilizing, and quit cutting and dead heading. Do keep spraying the roses and water to keep them well hydrated. The nights are getting cooler so we can expect a frost about anytime.

The Rose Shows are over for the year. Mary Ann, Ann and I exhibited in Louisville, The Tenarky in Memphis and in Nashville. Kathy, Claire and Kent attended The Tenarky also. Then Ann and I traveled on down to Marietta, GA for the National Rose Show. While we did not exhibit, we enjoyed the show, took a lot of pictures and visited with

many rosarians. As this was Ann's birthday and that of her niece that lives near Atlanta, we met Julie and her family at the show giving them a personal tour then went out for dinner.

I want to take a moment now to congratulate Kathy Dodson on passing the Judges Exam while we were in Memphis. Mary Ann, Ann and I audited the class as did Kathy. But Kathy was the only one of us that sat for the very difficult exam. We are proud to have another Judge in our society. As you know Kent Campbell has been a judge for several years.

A nominating committee was appointed at the October meeting. They will present a slate of officers at the November meeting. Nominations may be made from the floor prior to electing the new officers for next year.

Thanks to everyone for your support and cooperation during the past two years. My term as president ends with this year.

I want to extend my sympathy along with the members of the society to Mary Ann in the loss of her mother on October 21<sup>st</sup>. Our thoughts and prayers are with her and her family.

And in case some of you are not aware, Vi Hudson had a knee replacement since our last meeting. Vi went home quickly and is doing just great with therapy. Continue to keep Darien Kirby in your prayers as she continues treatments. Also, Claire & Kent as he has some health issues. If I have missed anyone with health problems, please give me a call.

The program on November 5<sup>th</sup> will be presented by Mary Ann. Kathy will provide refreshments.

## The First Meeting *by Claude Rose, Charter Member (from 1982 Yearbook & Show Schedule)*

"The Bowling Green Rose Society first organized on November 28, 1960. Nineteen persons signified their intentions of joining. Of these, five still remain in the club: Mrs. W. G. Thomas, Mrs. Zack Nusz, Mr. Frank Quisenberry, Mr. Paris Pillion, and Mr. Claude Rose

Mr. and Mrs. Haywood Brown had enjoyed the Louisville Club and wished Bowling Green to have a chapter. Dr. Luther Baxter, Head of Western's Agricultural Department, lent his support and classroom for the first meeting. The two local garden clubs sponsored the Rose Club at the January 1961 meeting. Twenty-one people were enrolled. Haywood Brown was elected first president, Dr. T. O. Hall became editor of "Rosebuds", a monthly publication. In the early years of the chapter, the big events were the Spring Garden Tours, The Fall Rose Show, and the November Banquet.

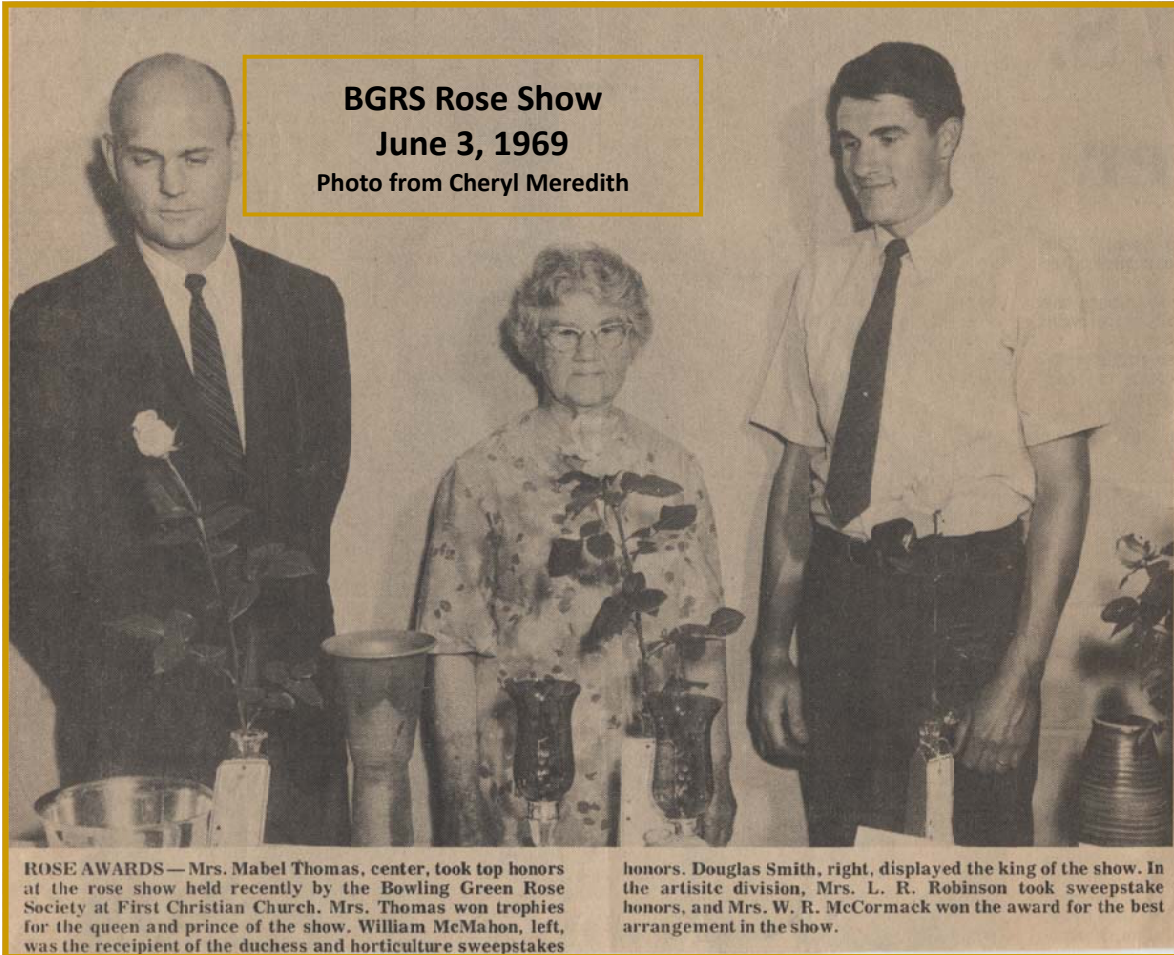
The first gardens visited were those of Mr. and Mrs. George Collett, Ros Jones, Frank Quisenberry and Mr. and Mrs. Paris Pillion. The first show was held on September 30, 1961, at the Christian Church. The show was a beautiful one.

To conclude the first year, thirty-six members and guests enjoyed a banquet. Charles Dawson and Harry Bergers again spoke to the group as they did at the organizational meeting. They represented the American Rose Society which presented our charter at that meeting. *(Ed. Note: This also appeared in the October 1997 Rosebuds courtesy of Tom Poole.)*

## News from Members

- Congratulations to Kathy Dodson who recently passed the ARS Horticulture Judging test.
- Bob and Ann Jacobs went to the ARS National Fall Rose Show in Atlanta.
- Vi Hudson is having a great recovery with her knee replacement.
- Our sympathy to Gary and Mary Ann Hext and family on the loss of her mother recently.

## From the Past *from Cheryl Meredith, daughter of Claude E. Rose*



ROSE AWARDS—Mrs. Mabel Thomas, center, took top honors at the rose show held recently by the Bowling Green Rose Society at First Christian Church. Mrs. Thomas won trophies for the queen and prince of the show. William McMahon, left, was the recipient of the duchess and horticulture sweepstakes

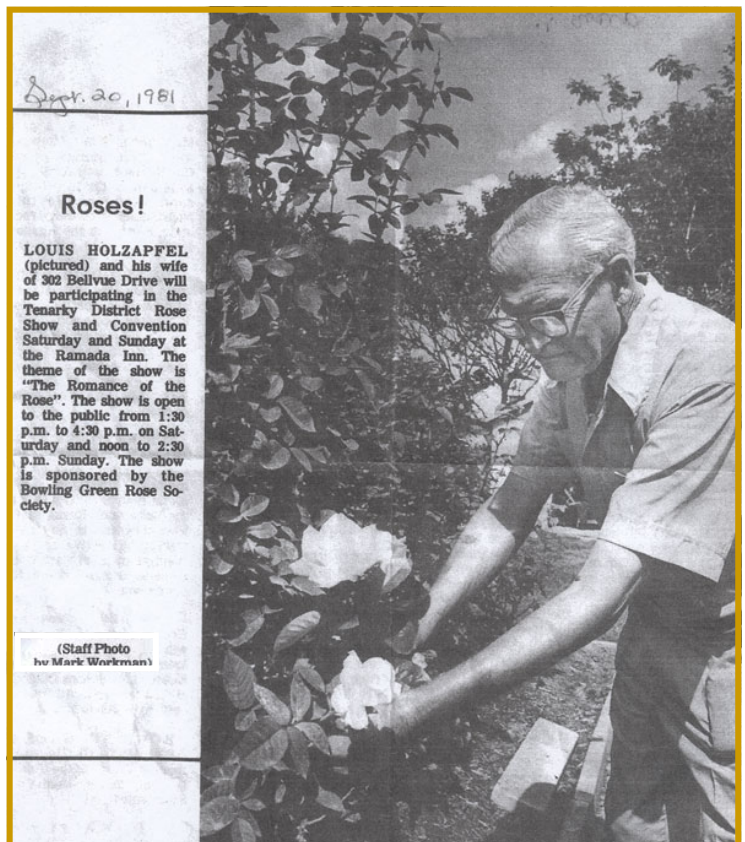
honors. Douglas Smith, right, displayed the king of the show. In the artistic division, Mrs. L. R. Robinson took sweepstake honors, and Mrs. W. R. McCormack won the award for the best arrangement in the show.

### THE PRESIDENT SPEAKS—Hayward Brown

From the November 1961 issue of *Rosebuds* (Volume 1, Number 10)

The November meeting of the Chapter takes on an added meaning since this date marks its first birthday. Just as events during the first year of an individual are recounted with fond memories, likewise, does the president review the highlights of the year with a sense of satisfaction. Many significant events have transpired that we can view with pride. This is particularly true if the chapter is regarded as a "baby" organization.

Topics of culture and exhibiting roses have been surpassed interest only by an increased appreciation for the rose itself. Having survived the perils and dangers of the first year, it is reasonable to expect that the Chapter should continue to grow in a healthful manner and give added pleasure and satisfaction to those charged with its nurture. I, therefore, take great delight in saying "Happy Birthday!"



Sept. 20, 1981

**Roses!**

LOUIS HOLZAPFEL (pictured) and his wife of 302 Bellvue Drive will be participating in the Tenarky District Rose Show and Convention Saturday and Sunday at the Ramada Inn. The theme of the show is "The Romance of the Rose". The show is open to the public from 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Saturday and noon to 2:30 p.m. Sunday. The show is sponsored by the Bowling Green Rose Society.

(Staff Photo  
by Mark Weikman)



## Kent's Column *by Dr. Kent Campbell, Master Rosarian*

### November Maintenance

You have heard this before, but read on! Each year I preach the Gospel of clean rose beds. Fungi not only winter over on the ground, they seem to gather strength. Don't begin this process until after at least two hard freezes. By this, we mean mid-20's not 31 or 32 degrees!! These types of nights usually come in mid-to-late November here. This is the sequence.

1. Cut the bushes back rather severely. The rule of thumb is to cut about one-third off the small bushes and one-half from the large bushes. (Polyantha and species, such as Chinas, do not like this much cutting. Just trim them up nicely, about like a dead-head.) Discard all cuttings.
2. Strip all the bushes of their remaining leaves. They should have begun to fall on their own after the freezes. Discard the leaves you pull off and any you can pick up.
3. If you have the type of mulch you can discard and renew, rake it off down to the dirt. After raking thoroughly we use a leaf-blower to finish the job, so to speak.
4. Spray the bushes and the dirt, or mulch if it is the type you don't wish to exchange such as wood chips. However, I would "stir the mulch up some" and spray it thoroughly along with the bushes. I recommend **Hi-Yield brand, Lime-Sulfur Spray**, mixed according to the instructions. It is available in our area at Leichhardts. Fungi hate sulfur sprays and greenhouse growers swear by it!
5. Finally, give your plants some protection from the winter tem-

peratures. Gently hill up the dirt around each plant. You must be careful not to scrape too deeply for the dirt, disturbing the feeder roots of the plant which tend to be near the surface. You may need to purchase a few bags of top soil or potting dirt and provide a fresh shovel-full for each plant. (Most beds can use the replenishing on occasion.)

6. I may go one step further this year and make a collar for at least some of my youngest plants. Collars should be about four to six inches deep, circling around the plant, out from it at about the circumference of the bush. Newspaper folded lengthwise with a few staples to hold it and fasten it together at the ends after placing around the bush will, surprisingly, last all

winter. Fill the collar with pine needles, compost, alfalfa hay, horse manure, or more soil. Avoid anything with seeds such as grass clippings, plain hay, wheat straw, etc. If you have a lot of roses, you will probably find it easier to protect entire beds than rose-by-rose with collars. I do recall that I lost more roses to winter-kill last year than ever before, so I do intend to go all-out with winter protection this year.

7. One last note: roses, even if dormant and/or in tubs in the garage, need occasional water during the winter. Keep the roots from drying out!

It's too early to wish you Merry Christmas so I'll say "Have a great fall!"

## 1979 Tennessee-Kentucky District Rose Show



**ROSE SHOW WINNERS** — Mrs. L. R. Robinson stands beside her "Queen of the Show" arrangement which won honors during the recent meeting of the Tennessee-Kentucky District of the American Rose Society which was held in the Kelly Thompson Science Complex at Western Kentucky University. With her is Von Weddle, New Albany, Ind., who is holding his award winning specimen "Paramount." Shown below on the left is Dr. Claude A. Rose who is holding his hummingbird print award for "Princess of the Show" award. Winner of the Blend Challenge award is Dan Howell who is shown with his bird print. More than one thousand roses were entered from Kentucky and Tennessee.

**ARS Tennessee-Kentucky District Meeting & Rose Show**

**September 19-20, 1970  
Thompson Science Complex  
Western Kentucky University**

**Rose Show  
Saturday, September 19  
7-9 p.m.**

E-mail: [bgrs@insightbb.com](mailto:bgrs@insightbb.com)

## Bowling Green Rose Society

c/o Mary Hext  
1997 Browning Road  
Rockfield, KY 42274



*We're on the Web!!*

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

LABEL

### BGRS Presidents

1961: Heywood Brown	1993: Jack Scott
1962: Claude E. Rose	1994: Jack Scott
1963: O. L. Kirk	1995: Robert Toohey
1964: O. L. Kirk	1996: Robert Toohey
1965: Paris Pillion	1997: Kent Campbell
1966-1970: Unknown	1998: Kent Campbell
1971: Zach Nusz	1999: Jim Bennett
1973: Louis Holzapfel	2000: Bill McMahan
1974: Louis Holzapfel	2001: Ann Jacobs
1975-1978: Unknown	2002: Ann Jacobs
1979: James Hicks	2003: Bob Jacobs
1980-1981: Unknown	2004: Bob Jacobs
1982: Roy Almond	2005: Kathy Dodson
1983: Gladys Holzapfel	2006: Kathy Dodson
1984: Gladys Holzapfel	2007: Georgia Snyder
1985: Roy Almond	2008: Georgia Snyder
1986: Bill McMahan	2009: Bob Jacobs
1987: Claire Russell	2010: Bob Jacobs
1988-1990: Tom Poole	
1991: Robert Toohey	<i>(some years President</i>
1992: Roy Almond	<i>was called Exec. Sec.)</i>

### IMPORTANT DATES—2011

- **February 18-20: Tenarky Winter Workshop, Franklin, TN**
- **March 3-6: Nashville Lawn & Garden Show**
- **May 21: BGRS Rose Show**
- **June 24-26: National Miniature Rose Show & Conference, Syracuse, NY**
- **September 23-24: Tenarky District Rose Show & Convention, Knoxville, TN**
- **October 13-16: Fall National Convention & Rose Show, Universal City, CA**

### 2010 BGRS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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