Vol. XLV, No. 4

Patsy Williams, Editor

April 2008

# This Month's Meeting

Thursday April 10, 2008

# Rose Genetics Matthew Orwat

7:30 pm Garden Center Hermann Park

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**Queen of Flowers** 

## **Rose Genetics**

How does ancestry affect today's roses? **Matthew J. Orwat** (Texas A&M University) has just completed a study of the vast genetic diversity that exists in the genus Rosa. We are used to hearing about human genes that are responsible for blue eyes or susceptibility to certain cancers. The same thing is true of roses. There is a rose gene responsible for susceptibility to blackspot. Matt Orwat, our speaker at the April meeting, will explain the results of the Rose Genetics Study and how this knowledge is being used to breed beautiful, carefree roses that gardeners in all climates can enjoy.

**Consulting Rosarian for April is Robin Hough.** This time of year always brings many questions. Bring yours to the meeting.

**Grand Prix begins:** Bring your best blooms and enter them in the Grand Prix. Remember that we have a special class for novices. The best Novice entry for the evening wins a monetary prize.

**Feature of the Month: Old Garden Rose Bouquet,** 5 or more stems of one bloom or multiple blooms, in a container furnished by the exhibitor.

**SPECIAL: 7:00pm, Beginner's Corner by Mary Fulgham.** She will give us the how-to on amateur hybridizing. Join Mary for this informative topic.

Join us at George R. Brown Convention Center
April 4-6
Arrangement Extravaganza
And
Rose Educational Exhibit

# What Good Rosarians Are Doing in April

What an unusual month of March. The temperatures were at extremes for the month. Rain and wind did a number on the plants and the rosarians.

FYI: If you ended the year with blackspot and began your spray program immediately after pruning, your roses might still have blackspot. At least the first two sets of leaves will develop blackspot even though the other leaves may be spray protected; this can be very upsetting. Remove the infected leaves and continue to spray; the new growth should be okay if you keep a regular spray program. Blackspot does not go away over winter, only the evidence.

Spray. Oh no, not that again!

Fungus protection should be foremost in our minds. A rose bush can be weakened by both blackspot and mildew. Prevention is by far the easier way to go. Trying to cure fungus after it occurs takes a little more effort. Roses, in the Gulf Coast area, should be sprayed every 7 days (time for most fungicides). When fungus is already present, spray every 5 days until the blackspot is under control, and then go back to your 7 day routine. Funginex is probably the most popular fungicide that is used for prevention. Add Mancozeb to Funginex to cure existing black spot.

Aphids can manifest themselves in an overwhelming abundance. They bear live young, and sometimes it looks as though we haven't killed any of them. Any good insecticide will kill aphids. Keep ahead of them; they destroy your blooms and new foliage. Safer's Insecticidal Soap can be used, if you do not like the idea of spraying with an insecticide. Some rosarians keep aphids under control with a high pressure spray of water. And many rosarians opt for allowing beneficial insects to control aphids.

Beneficial Insects. The Ladybird Beetles (Lady Bugs) are also present at this time. Use good judgment when spraying an insecticide; both beneficials

and bad guys will be killed. There is no aphidselective spray.

Spider Mites. These little devils always seem to be around. If you had them last year, there is no reason to believe that they went away. Watch for them! Lower leaves will look dry, lose color and begin to fall off. Spider mites work very fast. They can defoliate miniature roses in a few days. CONTROL: Washing the undersides of the leaves with a high-pressure spray of water is the safest practice. A Water-Wand (NOT a water breaker) with a long handle and high-pressure water is the safest for you and the environment. A pistol-grip spray nozzle on the end of the water hose is also effective: the user just gets a little wetter. Wash the undersides of the leaves every other day for a week, and the life cycle of the mite will be disturbed so much that it cannot reproduce. Mites have to be on the plant to reproduce. NOTE: For larger yards or a severe infestation. a miticide can be used. AVID is very expensive, but it has proven to be the most effective.

**Thrips** never go away; they are always in my yard. Surely there must be some beneficial insect that can do a number on them. Until I find something that will work, my buds and blooms will be sprayed to insure clean blooms. Thrips are sandy-colored insects (very small) that bruise and discolor the petals of roses, causing the blooms to turn brown. Thrips can also cause the petals to stick together, preventing bloom opening. Pull a petal back, and look for these little pests scurrying around in the bloom. Remember: spray buds and blooms (thrips are only in the buds and blooms) with Orthene. Mix only what you anticipate using: do not save for later use. A hand sprayer (a spritzer bottle) may be used for selective spraying. A pump-up sprayer can also be used effectively; spray with less pressure, so that your spray can be directed more effectively. Don't lose those beautiful blooms to thrips; they bloomed for you! Add a fungicide to your insecticide to help prevent the red specking on lighter colored blooms.

Fertilizing and Water. The amount of rainfall so far this year has fallen way behind. Water is very essential for healthy plants. Two inches of water per week will provide sufficient water for your roses. Roses need a regular diet of fertilizer to keep them happy and growing to their fullest capabilities. A granular feeding should be applied every 4-6 weeks during the growing season. (It is the opinion of this writer that a granular fertilizer should be used at least in the spring and fall. Use your own choice of fertilizer in between granular feedings.) Alfalfa pellets @ 1 cup per bush and Epsom salt @ 1/4 cup per bush, applied both in early spring and early fall, give roses a much-needed boost. A soluble fertilizer is used by many rosarians every two weeks. The choice is up to you, the rosarian, as to the type of fertilizer to use.

**Spring Tonic.** Many rosarians like to give their roses a "Spring tonic" or "dessert" in addition to the fertilizer which they have already applied. This tonic would be a soluble fertilizer such as—

- Carl Pool, Peters, Miracle-Gro, Maxibloom or Rapid-Gro (to name a few)
- And fish oil emulsion
- And chelated iron (Sprint 330)
- And Epsom salt (magnesium sulfate)
- Mixed with water and poured around each bush.

You can mix a gallon at the time, or mix larger quantities; the results will be the same. The roses love it.

For those who want to give your roses even more, consider the alfalfa tea recipe below. You should use one or the other. Both are probably not needed (Spring Tonic or Alfalfa Tea).

#### "ALFALFA TEA"

10-12 Cups alfalfa pellets, or meal, in 32 gallons of water.

#### Optional additives:

- 1 cup Epsom salt
- 2 cups fish emulsion
- 2 cups iron (Sprint 330, iron chelate)

Combine water and alfalfa in a 32-gallon trash can. Cover, and let steep (like tea) for 3 days or longer, stirring occasionally. Before applying the solution to roses, add any or all of the optional

items and stir. "Serve" 1 gallon of tea per large bush, or 1/3 gallon per mini. Follow the application with a little water. Refill the trash can with water, and use the same alfalfa to brew another batch. After the second batch of tea is "served," pour the solid into your compost pile. **Beware** - it has a "barnyard" odor!

#### Growing a New Bush.

It is important to achieve good bush size during the first year. This does not mean that you should remove all the buds. Cut shorter stems with the flowers which you cut from a new bush to encourage the bush to achieve larger size.

Blind Shoots. The fluctuation of temperatures during the development of new growth is probably the greatest cause of blind shoots. We had plenty of such fluctuation during March, thus many blind shoots. These are short growths terminating without a bloom at the end. Removal of these allows vigor of the bush to go more toward real production. They can be identified by the stem tapering to a point, with no sign of a bud in the center, and by much shorter stems with closely-spaced leaves. If the stem grew to 6 to 8 inches in length before it became blind, cut the stem back to a five-leaflet leaf, and it will begin to grow again. Remove the whole stem if it is only 2-4 inches long.

Continue to **finger prune** to remove the unwanted growth from your plants. Multiple bud-eyes may emerge from one leaf axil. Only one should be allowed to mature. Remove, also, the eyes that are aimed in the wrong direction (toward the center of the plant, or on collision courses with other canes). This is very important especially if you are exhibiting roses or want long stems to take in the house. If growing for garden color, omit finger pruning.

Making blooms last. Bring your blooms into the house, and recut them <u>under</u> water to prevent an air bubble in the vascular system. Use warm water in the vase; this aids in the conditioning process of the bloom. Changing the water every day or so also helps to keep the roses fresh. A little of the original yellow Listerine will disinfect as well as feed the blooms. It helps to prevent algae in the vase.

Cutting spent blooms, or "deadheading."
After a flower has bloomed, the stem should be cut back above the second five-leaflet to encourage stronger stems. NOTE: A longer stem may be cut if you are bringing the bloom into the house or sharing with a friend. A good rule of thumb is: "Leave at least two sets of leaves on a stem, or else cut the stem back to the main cane." A cane with less than two sets of leaves will not produce for you. The removal of spent blooms encourages new growth.

#### Protect yourself from the sun's rays.

The ozone layer is very thin, and folks are getting more and more skin cancers; please use a sun block with a SPF 15 or higher. Rosarians are in the sun a lot, and you should really protect your skin. Any uncovered portion of your body is a target.

#### Grow your roses to the fullest.

You are in control of how your roses grow and produce. See to it that they have every opportunity to perform their very best for you. Feed, water, spray, cut spent-blooms and the bushes will do the rest. Enjoy your roses.

#### Share your knowledge with a friend.

The best way to share your knowledge with a friend is to introduce them to the Houston Rose Society. Bring them with you to a meeting. Show them what the newsletter is all about. Maybe you could even give them a gift membership.

#### What are your favorite new roses?

Each year the rose growers flood the market with new roses. Are you trying any of them? Let us know how they are growing for you and what you like best about the different varieties. Email to Patsy Williams ptzwms@att.net.

#### **Grand Prix Begins this Month**

Bring your best blooms.

- Grand Prix runs April through November, except July, unless notified otherwise.
- Select your blooms for freshness; choose roses one-half or more open for non-spray specimens (no buds). If in doubt, bring them anyway.

- Cut your stems as long as possible; leave the foliage on the stems.
- Label each variety correctly (to avoid disqualification, and to assure only one variety is entered per class).
- Transport your stems in a container with a little water, or wrap a wet paper towel around base of the stem. Get them here whatever way is convenient for you.
- Assistants will be available to help you with the prep and the paper work.
- Your roses have to be entered by 7:30 pm. Doors will be open at 6:30 pm. Please don't show up just 5 or 10 minutes before meeting time and then expect to enter. Be sure to arrive in plenty of time to get help with the procedures.
- Novices enter roses in a special class. You will not be competing against seasoned exhibitors. A special prize (\$20) will be given to the best novice winning entry each month.

Select, cut, label, transport, and show up! We look forward to seeing you all.

#### Visit the gardens on tour on April 19th.

One of the highlights of being in the HRS is the Spring garden tour. Plan to visit as many of the gardens as you can. Bring a friend and enjoy the roses. This year the gardens are also open to the general public. Invite your friends. Tour information may be found on our web site <a href="https://www.houstonrose.org">www.houstonrose.org</a>, as well as in this newsletter.

#### Additional Gardens to See At Your Leisure.

- The Cleaves T. James Centennial Rose Garden
  - 10<sup>th</sup> Street at Market St, Galveston, TX
- The John M Stroud Rose Garden at the Houston Garden Center in Hermann Park 1500 Hermann Drive
- The River Oaks Garden Club's Rose Garden

In the median of Lazy Lane Blvd on the eastern edge of River Oaks just off Kirby at Inwood.

# **Houston Rose Society 2008 Garden Tours**

Robin Hough, Tour Chairman
Saturday, April 19<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 am to 5:00 pm

#### Harvey and Nell Shimek 3122 Nelson Rd Alvin 77511 281-331-4395

The acre around Harvey & Nell Shimek's home is landscaped, and daylily borders are used when there are enough plants to make a border. Having grown roses for a number of years, they have about 90 bushes of Hybrid Teas, OGRs and Miniatures. The side garden is filled with eight *hemerocallis* (daylily) beds; older daylilies and their seedlings are grown in this area. They grow about 800 different cultivars, along with thousands of their seedlings. They collect unusual plants and grow a collection of *jatrophas*, *bauhinias*, *gingers*, *plumerias* and many other unusual plants. The hibiscus as well. Harvey will be glad to dig a daylily for you, so bring your checkbook!

**Directions:** Take Hwy 35 south to Hwy 6; right to 2<sup>nd</sup> Street; left to end; right on Sealy (becomes Davis Bend) to County Road 283; right to CR 237; left to house on right.

#### Robin Hough 915 Oak Vista Ct Friendswood 77546 281-482-8944

A beautiful garden in a small town setting. See what a top-grade rose grower can do with the Queen of Flowers. Blue ribbon winners seem to just flow out of Robin's rose beds. It is easy to see how well-grown roses produce not only show quality blooms but also great yard color. Hybrid Teas, Floribundas, Polyanthas, Shrubs, OGRs, Miniatures, MiniFloras, and over 15 Climbers wait for you here. There really is something for everyone. Look for the award-winning MiniFlora "Camden," which was hybridized by Robin.

**Directions:** Key Map: 616 U South on I-45 to Dixie Farm Rd; right to FM 518; left to Winding Rd; left to Oak Vista Ct; left to house in cul-de-sac.

**From Shimek:** Return north on Hwy 35 to Dixie Farm Road; right to FM 518; right to Winding Rd.; left to Oak Vista Ct; left to house in cul-de-sac.

#### Baxter and Patsy Williams 2502 Leprechaun Ln Houston 77017 713-944-3437

After years of saying they needed to downsize, rest assured that the Williams haven't! This large garden has as many gorgeous roses as ever. As in most gardens, there have also been some changes. Several new varieties are to be found. The Fortuniana climbing into the top of the tree over the greenhouse provides rootstock for about 80 percent of Patsy's roses. The vegetable garden behind the gazebo furnishes good food to the Williams' table.

**Directions:** Key Map 536 T Travel south on I-45 to the Monroe Rd exit; left under the freeway to Winkler (one block); bear right across the railroad tracks onto S. Richey St; right on Queens Rd; right at the condos on Valley Forge to Skylark; right to end of street; left to first house on right.

From Hough: Back to FM 518; right to Dixie Farm Rd; right to I-45; left to Monroe Rd exit; right on Monroe, then see above.

#### Donald Burger, Maria Trevino 702 Mosby Cir Houston 77007 713-861-5412

Where else could one go to see a working (garden scale) railroad and over one hundred beautiful roses of all types just five minutes from downtown Houston? The rose gardens feature winding beds with rock borders, with mulched paths. Roses include hybrid teas, floribundas, miniatures, climbers and OGRs. Their yard also features a goldfish pond and two bee hives. Native Texas plants are featured throughout. Donald and Maria can stand on their back porch and cast their views across a sea of Old Garden Roses. At the end of busy days in court (Donald) and directing the business of a national sewing guild (Maria), relaxing in this garden keeps life in good perspective.

**Directions:** Key Map 493 A IH-10 westbound to Exit 766 (Heights/Yale); make a U-turn under the freeway and travel the frontage road (eastbound) to Studemont, left 0.6 miles to 7-1/2th Street, left (west) to Mosby Circle, left to house in the cul-de-sac.

**From Williams:** Return to IH-45, and travel northbound past downtown Houston to IH-10 W; west bound to Heights-Yale Exit; see above.

#### Debra and Dennis Stephens 1307 Glenhilshire Houston 77055 713-467-9141

The same drive that gives Debra White-Stephens' financial planning business its success is also used to beautify this delightful garden. Having a mix of many types of roses provides continuous color. You'll see full-color shrubs in the front yard, large climbers along the driveway, leading to a mix of varieties in the back. See if you can tell which is Debra's favorite.

**Directions:** Key Map 451 W Take I-10 W to Wirt Rd; right (north) to Westview; left to Glenhilshire (across from Pine Chase on the right); left to house at end of cul-de-sac.

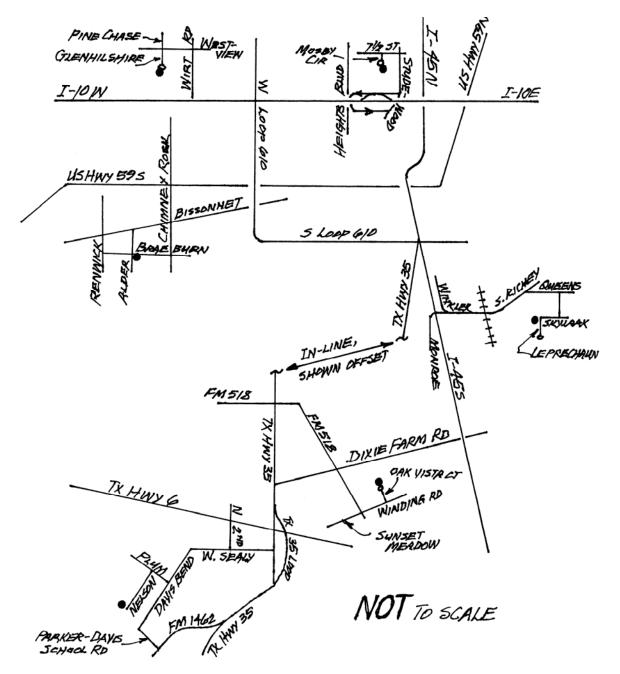
From Burger-Trevino: Travel west on I-10 to Wirt Rd; then see above.

#### Mary Fulgham, Randy Keen 5335 Braeburn Bellaire 77401 713-668-4054

A highlight garden on many of our past Garden Tours, Mary and Randy and Ivy have all made this garden shine. You'll want to pay close attention to varieties recently hybridized by Mary and Ivy, and get them to tell you their hybridizing secrets. This garden is on a large corner lot, which allows neighbors and casual passersby to fill their eyes and cameras with living color. And who says roses and large trees can't co-exist?

**Directions:** Kay Map 531 K Take US Hwy 59 South to Chimney Rock; south past Bissonnet to Braeburn; left (west) to house on left at corner of Alder.

**From Stephens:** Back to I-10; left (east) to Loop 610; south to Bellaire exit; continue on access road to Braeburn; right to house on left at corner of Alder.





# **Arrangers' Corner**

By Robin Hough

I hope several of you readers are planning to enter at least one

arrangement in the HRS Arrangement Competition at the George R. Brown Convention Center on April 5. We want the public to have lots of beautiful rose arrangements to look at and vote on! Although some arrangers construct their designs at the show site, many of us like to do the arrangements at home (where you have all your materials) and then only do finishing touches when placing the arrangement at the rose show. This takes some of the pressure off and is really the way to go if you are also bringing specimens for the horticulture display. However, this creates the necessity of transporting the arrangement(s) from your home to the show without destroying all your hard work in the process.

- Most miniature containers can be pressed into a dry block of floral foam, often two or three arrangements held by one block. Then place the foam in a box (or small ice chest) to protect them.
- Tall containers often will fit into the opening of a concrete block. Secure the container (and protect it from scratches) by stuffing newspaper around it in the block.
- You can brace a container by cutting slits in the top of a cardboard box and wedging the container into the slits.
- Lower containers are less likely to tip over, but brace them with something weighty so they don't slide around and knock the roses into the side of your car, etc.
- Arrangements that are constructed well travel well. Make certain the floral foam is secure in or on the container. A wooden pick with wire attached to the bottom of a rose stem (or line material) means that stem isn't round any more and won't turn in the floral foam.
- Allow extra driving time! You'll have to go easy on all those ramps, turns, and speed bumps. Don't let impatient drivers make you hurry!
- See you at George R. Brown Convention Center on April 5<sup>th</sup>!

**TIP:** If you're doing an Oriental design in a low container, use just enough water to cover the stems; you don't want it splashing everywhere. You can add more water after the arrangement is in place at the show.

**TIP:** If you're planning to use a backdrop, make sure it is free-standing and doesn't need to lean against a wall. If covering the backdrop with fabric, make sure the fabric is ironed well; wrinkles can be very distracting!

## **HRS Library Book**

By Maria Trevino



Ortho Books has published a series of inexpensive gardening books including one on roses. *All about Roses* is a very useful book for the novice to experienced rose grower. It is an easy-to-use book that

covers the essentials for growing roses. This compact book is full of pictures and explains what you need to do to care for your roses.

The first couple of chapters give you a history of the rose and explanations of the different rose varieties. Then come the good part – a detailed discussion of every major rose variety, the soil they need, how to choose the right roses for your landscape, how and when to fertilize and prune, and which pests and diseases afflict roses. Included are pictures of what the various rose diseases look like and their symptoms. The book provides some of the solutions available for combating the diseases. Photographs of over 300 varieties are included as well as recommendations of the most fragrant roses, roses for containers, and companion plants for roses.

Keep in mind this book in written for the entire country, so it is best to also ask local rosarians questions about what does best in the Houston area.

This book is endorsed by the American Rose Society and was written by Dr. Thomas Cairns, One of the country's top rosarians. Your roses will thank you for reading this book.



## Oak Leaf Roller

By Patsy Williams

Have you walked through your garden recently and encountered a single silk thread, thinking that you have run into a spider web? Well, think again. Look a little closer, and see what is on the end of that silk thread.

As our roses begin to grow, so do the oak trees. When the oak blooms begin to fall, so does the oak leaf roller, *Archips semiferana*. This species spin silken threads from which

they hang dislodged from leaves and branches. They dangle in the wind and hope to land on something delicious to eat. What is more delicious than the lush new growth on



our roses? They crawl up to the new growth at the top of the canes, attach to a leaf, spin a thread to roll the leaf, hide there from their prey, and tunnel into the bud and have a feast. They eat and grow and destroy.

Walk your garden and pay special attention to the new growth at the top of the bushes. Should you see a folded leaf, put your hand under the leaf and open it carefully. The caterpillar will wiggle out and drop by a silken thread to find another part of the bush. Some rosarians squish the caterpillar between their fingers, while others carry a container of soapy water, holding it under the leaf that is being opened so that the caterpillar drops into it, there from causing its demise.



Other caterpillars that dangle from silk threads include spring and fall cankerworms (often called "inchworms").

Cankerworm

#### Life Cycle

The adult moth of the oak leaf

roller, *Archips semiferana*, is about 1/2 inch long. Its wings are mottled brown with dark brown markings.

They undergo one generation each year. In May, moths lay their eggs on the twig tips and leaf buds of several different tree species. The eggs remain on the buds or twigs for about 10 months and begin to hatch in mid-March.

Once they hatch, the caterpillars (larvae) feed on the tender new spring growth of the trees from mid-March until mid-April. The larvae are creamy white to greenish and have dark black or brown head capsules. They develop through several stages, or instars, as they mature to about 3/4 inch long.

In late April the fully grown caterpillars form the pupa stage on twig tips, in bark crevices, or on weeds that are growing near infested trees.

About the first of May, moths begin to emerge from the pupal stage (cocoon) and fly onto the twigs of oak, hackberry, pecan and walnut trees to lay their eggs. These eggs will again remain dormant until the following



Oak leaf roller moth

March, thus completing the 1-year life cycle.

Oak leaf rollers can be very devastating to our trees. There are areas in Texas where they defoliate the trees, causing them great damage.

Natural enemies of leaf roller caterpillars include birds, particularly mockingbirds, and parasitic wasps. If significant feeding damage is occurring, insecticidal sprays containing carbaryl (Sevin®), malathion, or the biological caterpillar sprays that contain *Bacillus thuringiensis*, can be used. The ideal time for applying an insecticide is when the insects begin their last week of voracious feeding, or around mid-April. (The above information is mostly for trees.) Personally, I pick them off my bushes one at the time and squish them, avoiding spraying beneficial insects.



# **Society Potpourri**

#### LAST MONTH'S MEETING

We had a great program in March. Thanks to Ray Ponton for sharing with us how he got started in hybridizing. The program was enjoyed by all.

Thanks to Patti Lawlor, Maria Sabin, Gaye Hammond and Susan Kelly for the delicious refreshments.

#### **Congratulations**

We have a new Consulting Rosarian, James Laperouse. He went to Conway, AR to the CR School and took and passed the test. He is now our newest CR. Congratulations, James.

#### **HRS Events Calendar**

Mark your calendar - updates made monthly

Apr 4-6 •Home & Garden Show

Geo. R. Brown Convention Center.

Apr 10 •HRS Meeting - Matthew Orwat

Apr 19 ■Garden Tour

Apr 19 • ARS Spring Bloom,

American Rose Center, Shreveport, LA

#### 2008 HRS Officers

President	Donald Burger	713-861-5412
VP Show	Dan Lawlor	281-343-9422
<b>VP Programs</b>	Mary Bahn	713-623-0200
VP Member.	James Laperouse	281-469-4056
Secretary	Shirley Morgan	713-463-6719
Treasurer	Galt Morgan	713-463-6719
Editor	Patsy Williams	713-944-3437
Parliament.	Elisabeth Duhon	713-855-8447
Past Pres.	Gaye Hammond	281-458-6116
Director	Robin Hough	281-482-8944
Director	Baxter Williams	713-944-3437

#### Garden tour volunteers

This year our Tour will be open to the general public, and Robin Hough, Tour Chairman, has asked that we have a least one volunteer for each of the gardens on tour. Please check to see if one is near you, one in which you might assist on tour day.

# Volunteer opportunities still open for April Home & Garden Show

By Patti Lawlor

We are still in need of volunteers to help at the Texas Home and Garden Show April 4, 5, 6, 2008 at the George R. Brown Convention Center. Volunteers receive <u>free</u> admission to the show and can browse the other vendors before and after their shift with HRS! You don't have to be a rose expert, just enjoy meeting people and talking about our favorite flower!

We need at least a 2 hour consecutive time commitment from you, but more would be wonderful! You can also help 1, 2, or 3 days. There are still slots open for: Friday April 4 from 8:00 am-noon for set-up, and 2 pm to 8:00 pm to work the show; Saturday April 5 from 10 am to 8:00 pm, especially from 10:00 am to noon, 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm, and 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm; and Sunday April 6 from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm, and 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm (show closes at 6:00 pm- tear down from 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm).

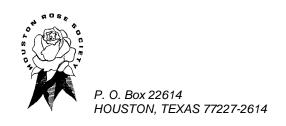
If you can volunteer any of these times, (or any other time as well) please email Patti Lawlor at <a href="mailto:dplawlor@pdq.net">dplawlor@pdq.net</a> as soon as possible, so you don't lose out on your spot!

#### Arrangements and roses are needed:

Bring arrangements to enter in the competition, or bring roses to demonstrate different varieties. The roses do not have to be show quality or perfect. Short stems are acceptable. We are adding color and interest to our booth.

#### **American Rose Center**

The Gardens at the American Rose Center is open. The Spring Bloom Event will be April 19<sup>th</sup>. This is always a big event with programs and the gardens are always gorgeous. If you cannot visit on this date, make plans to visit in late April or May. The gardens are really worth the trip. Visit the ARS website at <a href="http://www.ars.org">http://www.ars.org</a> for more information. They would love for you to become a member, and you can do so through our society.



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Mailed March 29, 2008

HRS web address: <a href="http://www.houstonrose.org">http://www.houstonrose.org</a>

#### ♥ ♥ Editor - THE ROSE-ETTE ♥ ♥

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**THE HOUSTON ROSE SOCIETY** is a non-profit educational organization affiliated with The American Rose Society and dedicated to the cultivation of roses in the Houston area.

# **MEMBERSHIP** is \$15.00 per calendar year, January thru December. Mail membership dues to:

Baxter Williams 2502 Leprechaun Lane Houston, TX 77017-7320 Phone 713-944-3437 bxtwms@att.net

NOTE:

Send address changes to this address.

HRS mails bulk-rate and it is NOT forwarded.

# Call a Consulting Rosarian

These Rosarians welcome your rose questions.

Donald Burger / Maria Trevino	Heights	713-861-5412
Denise Cope	SW	713-771-4841
•	•	
David Eoff	Con	936-760-4081
♦ Mary Fulgham / Randy Keen	Bel	713-668-4054
William Groth	SW	713-728-1854
Gaye Hammond	NE	281-458-6116
♦ Robin Hough	SE	281-482-8944
John Jons	SE	281-486-7659
Robin Kohler	W	713-935-0329
♦Earl / ♦ Deanna Krause	SE	281-487-3347
James Laperouse	NW	281-469-4056
Jeniver Lauran	S	713-433-2524
Doug Mitchell	S	281-992-9167
John Patterson	Bry/CS	979-852-9630
Gale Pierce	NW	281-890-7341
Mary Walker	Bel	713-665-5073
<ul><li>◆ Baxter / ◆ Patsy Williams</li></ul>	S	713-944-3437

♦ Master Rosarians

Randall's Remarkable Card for HRS, # 5928