Speakers for the Convention

First Speaker ( 11:00 am) Dr. Ping Lim "Roses for Home Owners"

**Dr. Ping Lim** will speak on rose varieties that he has created and are being marketed, and will discuss new varieties that he has recently hybridized. His roses are designed for the casual gardener.

Ping Lim was raised in Laos and educated in Taiwan, and got his first American job in San Francisco. After years of study and training in every aspect of rose breeding, marketing and production, he became the Rose Research Director for Bailey Nurseries, leading an award winning Oregon-based rose breeding program.

Due to the downturn in the economy, his plans changed and he decided to launch his own business, Roses by Ping. He works with Oregon Pride to continue to focus on producing beautiful, disease-resistant, easy care, fragrant roses. He also sells cut flowers through a partnership with a Portland warehouse, along with bare root stock. Research to bring a rose to production status takes minimum of five years, but Lim thinks it's worth every minute. When he’s working with roses, he said, he is stress free and feels like he’s on vacation. “I’m really lucky,” he said. “I hope to create something really beautiful for Oregon and the world.”

In 2002 Bailey Nurseries introduced ‘Love and Peace’™, the result of work by Ping and his mentor, Jerry Twomey. The rose was a success, winning the prestigious All America Rose Selections award. In 2005, Ping Lim won the same award for ‘DayDream’™ and for ‘Rainbow Sorbet’ in 2006, in additional to the award of Northern Ireland, Japan and Belfast Rose competition and received 11 Portland Best Roses Awards since 2004. He has also produced Easy Elegance®, a line of twenty-five new, own root roses designed for modern gardens and gardeners. The hardy, floriferous shrubs combine vigor, disease resistance and hardiness with traditional rose virtues including beauty and fragrance.

Second Speaker (1:30 pm) Robert B. Martin, Jr. "Roses Anyone Can Show"

**Dr. Bob Martin** speaks on those varieties which are favorites on show tables around the nation, the ones that are proven winners.

Robert B. ("Bob") Martin Jr. has been growing roses for more than 40 years. He and his wife Dona live in Escondido, California, where they have a rose garden of more than 460 roses of all types. He is an ARS Master Rosarian, an Accredited Horticultural Judge and an Accredited Arrangements Judge.

In 2015, Bob was elected and installed as the Vice President of the American Rose Society, in which role he will serve for three years. Thereafter, he will automatically become President of the American Rose Society for an additional three year term.

Bob is the Chairman of the American Rose Society Horticultural Exhibitor's Committee, and Editor of the American Rose Society quarterly publication. *Rose Exhibitors' Forum*. He maintains a website covering U.S. rose shows at [www.roseshow.com](http://www.roseshow.com/) as well as a facebook site for *Rose Exhibitors' Forum*. Bob has also been an Editor of Horizon Roses for 21 years and the National Editor for ten years. He is the author of the book "Showing Good Roses" and was honored for his lifetime contribution to rose education as a 2009 recipient of the ARS Klima Medal.

Bob is an active rose exhibitor at all levels and the 2007 recipient of the ARS Guy Blake Hedrick Jr. Award for lifetime achievement in rose exhibiting. During his 30 year exhibiting career, he has shown roses in more than 220 shows, winning more than 1,400 trophies in every exhibiting class, including 13 national trophies. Bob has also judged an additional 84 shows and is a frequent lecturer at judging schools throughout the country.

Bob is also a hybridizer with 14 registered varieties, including the show roses  'Butter Cream', 'Peter Cottontail'  and' Pasadena Star' as well as his the most reviewed rose in *Horizon Roses*, 'Dona Martin', a sport of the extraordinary exhibition hybrid tea, 'Randy Scott'.

Third Speaker (2:30 pm) Dr. Larry Unruh: "Chemicals That Do the Trick"

**Dr. Larry Unruh** discusses products that not only grow big roses, but might be taken off the market in the future. He will talk about trends in the industry, and what we can expect in the future.

Larry Unruh grew up in the Oklahoma Panhandle and now resides in Bryan/College Station. He has BS and MS Degrees in Soil Fertility at Oklahoma State University. He obtained his Ph.D. in Soil Chemistry at Kansas State University, while managing the Kansas State Soil Testing Laboratory.

Larry served as the Texas State Soil Chemist and Director of Texas A&M Soil, Water and Forage Laboratory 1988-1996.

Currently he is the Technical Director of American Plant Food Corporation, Galena Park, Texas. He is also responsible for Soil Fertility Recommendations at APF’s 11 Fertilizer Blending Plants in Texas, and develops markets and uses for Ammonium Sulfate throughout North and South America: Fertilizer products include Herbicide Adjuvants, Ruminant Nutrition, Municipal Drinking Water, and Fire Inhibitors-Insulation and Epoxy Coatings.

Fourth Speaker (3:30 pm) Dr. Alan Henn: "Research that Has Solved Key Issues"

**Dr. Alan Henn** talks about recent research that has benefited rose production by solving a dieback problem, and other milestones.

Alan Henn was born of a Colorado father and a Newton County, Mississippi, mother. He likes sorghum molasses, biscuits, grits, Kudzu (because it is an interesting place to find soybean rust) and yes, mountaineer skiing, technical climbing and hash browns. He loves taking pictures of cool plant diseases, and lives for finding plant diseases in grower operations and helping them overcome their scourge.

He has a diverse education in southwest history and general biology from Fort Lewis College in Durango, Colorado; a Master Degree in Integrated Pest Management from Iowa State University; and a PhD in bugs and worms, with minors in plant physiology and ecology, from the University of Florida.

Alan Henn is currently Extension Plant Pathologist with the Mississippi State University Extension Service. He works with diverse crops and with nematode problems in many additional crops.