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Foreword

I have to state that this report is a first for me. I was given responsibility for it only this spring. I had to learn how to do and then do it, and on a Mac- another first for me. I am a PC guy.

Any errors or omissions are mine alone. I make no apology for them.

The national submissions were variably PDF or documents, but I even had to deal with video clips!. In lay terms the first is a photograph and unalterable, the second is alterable. Thus the variance in Font (size of lettering) , which in the latter I could not change. And the number of photographs utilised in the report has brought it perilously close to the 700 MB, the maximum allowable on one CD-ROM. Therefore material available on the WFRS website had to be sacrificed.

I included the list of member nations as a guideline to the national reports that were submitted to me. The reader will find not all nations represented by reports. I thank the gods ---there would not have been enough disk space without limiting the length of reports.I worked with what was submitted to the WFRS.

Dr Patrick White
Vice-President Canadian Rose Society
President’s Message

“A life with love will have some thorns but a life without love will have no roses”
Author unknown

The World Federation of Rose Societies was established in 1968 by a group of rose enthusiasts, who elected Baroness Lily de Gerlache de Gomery as their first president. At the present time the Federation is made up of 41 national societies, 16 associate members and 13 members of the Breeders’ Club, representing approximately 100,000 passionate and enthusiastic lovers of this unique flower – THE ROSE.

Over the past 40 years, thanks to the vitality, dedication, willpower and initiative of the various key figures which have run our Federation, the latter has succeeded in putting into practice the objectives as laid down in its constitution:

To encourage and facilitate the interchange of information about and knowledge of the rose between national rose societies.
To coordinate the holding of international conventions and exhibitions.
To encourage, and where appropriate, sponsor research into problems concerning the rose.
To establish common standards for judging new rose seedlings.
To assist in coordinating the registration of new rose names.
To establish a uniform system of rose classification.

To grant international honours and/or awards.

To encourage and advance international cooperation on all other matters concerning the rose

This issue of the Triennial Report includes information relating activities and events, which took place between 2006 and 2009. We have attempted to follow the tradition set down in the year 2000 in Houston of presenting a global view with respect to our different activities in the world of roses.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank most sincerely all those who have made a contribution to this issue, and in particular Dr Patrick White, Vice-president of the Canadian Rose Society and WFRS Triennial Report Editor in Chief, who accomplished a tremendous amount of work, thus enabling this important report to come about in a computerised form.

Dr Gérald Meylan
President WFRS
REPORT
OF
WORLD FEDERATION OF ROSE SOCIETIES
PRESIDENCY

June 2006 – June 2009

“The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams”.

Chinese proverb
Foreword
On May 16, 2006 I had the great honour of being elected president of the World Federation of Rose Societies. The task is a very stimulating one entailing a great deal of responsibility and a huge amount of work, which I share in a team spirit with Jill Bennell (finances), Malcolm Watson (administration) and my wife, Christina (translations).

I have now come to the end of my term of office and therefore wish to share with you my observations, comments and suggestions. This document recapitulates some of the items already mentioned in my intermediary report published in February 2008, whilst bringing them up-to-date with the present situation and including new ones.

This report reflects solely my personal opinion and has only one aim: to arouse suggestions or proposals from all the different readers, members of the Executive Committee, Past Presidents, Chairmen of Standing Committees, Presidents of National Societies and Associate Members.

Your remarks and comments will be examined and discussed with members of Council at the forthcoming World Convention in Vancouver.

MEMBERSHIP

In June 2006 the WFRS was represented by 36 countries. Over the past three years, we have welcomed Iceland, Russia, Hungary, Mongolia and Serbia into our Federation, which now numbers 41 member countries at the end of May 2009 (+ 5).

In 2006, 10 Associate Members belonged to the WFRS. Since then we have welcomed Rose Culture Institute, Sakura-City, Chiba Prefecture, Japan, La Tacita Rose Garden, Italy, Shanghai Botanical Garden, Taicang Rose Society and Shenzhen Remin Park in China, Royal Society for Agriculture and Botany, Belgium. Our Federation now numbers 16 Associate Members at the end of May 2009 (+ 6).
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Five Executive Committee meetings have been held since June 2006: Orleans (France) in September 2006; Luxembourg and Paris in June 2007, Santiago (Chile) in October 2007, Baden-Baden in June 2008 and Adelaide in October 2008. The minutes of these meetings have been published in World Rose News. I would like to thank my colleagues for their different remarks, advice, suggestions and proposals, which have always been offered in a positive manner for the good of our Federation.

In order to improve the role and functioning of the EC, I would like to suggest that in the future, each vice-president pays a visit, at least once in the three year period, to all the countries figuring in his region and writes an annual report of the various activities undertaken. This report would then be published in WRN thus ensuring a much better circulation of information. In addition, thanks to the technical means at our disposal at the present time, I encourage the new President to establish two video conferences per year with his or her Executive Committee. After my 3-year experience, I regret, and it is my own fault in spite of email correspondence, that I did not have sufficient contact with certain members of the Executive Committee. Finally, some vice-presidents receive an allowance from the countries within their region, and others do not. It may be advisable to find a common agreement in this respect. I propose these items figure on the agenda of the next Executive Committee and are discussed at Council meetings.

FINANCIAL SITUATION

Our financial situation is under control, thanks to the excellent work of our treasurer, Jill Bennell, who will inform us of the financial situation in her report. However, I have realized that during the entire three year period, when we would like to spend a little money, our treasurer has very little at her disposal. Yet, our Federation bears the title of a “world federation”. We must therefore admit our finances do not prove equal to our ambitions. Fortunately our commitment is voluntary, but for how much longer? In Europe, volunteers are becoming extremely rare, and I am really beginning to wonder how our Federation will continue to function, if one day we have to give an allowance to the webmaster, treasurer, editor, a vice president or the president! I might mention for the record that over the past three years I have assumed the responsibility of paying the majority of my travelling expenses, as well as postal charges, telephone, fax, etc.
Therefore, I propose that members of Council should study with the greatest care the possibility of making an increase in the annual subscription of National Societies and Associate Members. It does not seem to me excessive in the 21st century, even taking into consideration the present serious economic situation in the world, to ask for an annual subscription of £100 from each national society and £75 from each associate member. These additional takings, along with others we could examine during the convention meetings, would enable us to consider our financial situation in the future with more optimism. I propose this subject should be discussed in Vancouver.

STANDING COMMITTEES

The Chairmen’s reports are included in the present WFRS Triennial Report. I would like to take this opportunity to thank each Chairman for his work and contribution. Personally, I would like to make a few constructive remarks as regards the activities of these committees.

Awards Committee: I would like to point out that several National Societies have not given a reply to the Chairman and Executive Director regarding the results of the Hall of Fame and Old Hall of Fame. If the WFRS does not want to lose its credibility as a World Federation, we must all make an effort to send in a reply, so that the results reflect our Federation. I request National Presidents to do their utmost for the consultation linked to the 2012 World Convention.

Heritage Roses Committee: David Ruston and his committee have undertaken a huge amount of work of reconciliation. I feel convinced that we have almost reached the point where rosarians, who are members of the Heritage Rose, will also become fully-qualified members of the WFRS, whilst keeping privileges linked to their own activities. A decision, which I hope will be positive, will be taken during the Vancouver Convention.

Registration Committee: The registration of varieties and the classification follow-up are extremely important for finding particularly “the history and parents of a variety.” In this respect, and in order to achieve better results, I propose that the Registration Committee should collaborate with the Breeders’ Club and that this proposal should be examined in Vancouver.
Conservation Committee: The Rose Conservation Database is on our website. It is a valuable contribution in the field of conservation and a very useful tool when trying to locate those roses we have an interest in. I wish to thank most sincerely the people concerned who gathered together all the information, and in particular Helga Brichet, Marily Young and Ethel Freeman.

In order to improve this working tool, it is necessary to keep the database up-to-date by communicating regularly any changes to gardens already mentioned and sending information regarding public or private rose gardens which are not already on the database. I request Presidents of National Societies to send to our Executive Director any new information concerning the maintenance of the Rose Conservation Database.

Similarly we could do likewise with all publications dealing with roses. A catalogue mentioning all books and publications throughout the world, managed by a WFRS Committee, would certainly be a valuable tool for scientists, botanists, growers and amateurs. I propose this item should be discussed in Vancouver.

Convention Committee: Over the past 9 years, we have had the chance of benefiting from the experience and sound advice of Lois Tabb and as she now reaches the end of her term of office, I would like to thank her most sincerely for her commitment. During the last Executive Committee in Adelaide, a proposal was made regarding strengthening contacts in the form of a direct liaison between the organizing committee of Regional and World Conventions and the Executive Committee. In this respect, the Executive Committee is very much in favour of giving the responsibility to a member of its Committee. The proposal will be discussed in Vancouver.

Rose Breeders: The Breeders’ Club commenced its activities on 15 September 2007 under the Chairmanship of Pierre Orard, a rose breeder from the region of Lyons (France). In my previous report, I had hoped 20 breeders would have joined us by 2009. Although the figure is only 13, I am very pleased these breeders have shown confidence in our Federation. It is an excellent achievement that ties between professional and amateur gardeners will now be strengthened and we are continuing to take the necessary steps to enrol others with the support of those who are already part of the Breeders’ Club.
Rose Trials: All international rose trials are not based on 100 points for judging. In the opinion of the breeders, it has become an urgent matter to decide on the harmonization of the methods of judging, so that they compare the behaviour and results of their varieties between the different trials. I would like this item to be discussed in Vancouver during the meeting of the Rose Trials Committee.

In addition, the evolution of the modern rose is such that it would be wise to reconsider the different categories of roses, floribunda, hybrid tea, climbers, landscape, miniatures, etc. and verify if their categories are still appropriate with the reality in the field.

We now have two trials reserved exclusively to fragrant roses: one in Nantes (France), which celebrated its 9th edition in 2007 and the other in Japan at Echigo Hillside Park, Nagaoka, which presented its first awards in October 2007. I am particularly pleased that these two specialized trials have come about, since fragrance is an extremely important criterion among amateurs, and breeders are doing their utmost to develop this point.

Several cities have shown interest in organizing rose trials. However, breeders do not wish to increase the number of trials for new roses, mainly for financial reasons. This explains why two new rose trials have been set up, testing the behaviour of varieties which have been commercialized for at least 5 years at the time of planting on the site of the trials. They include La Tacita, Italy with the first awards being presented in 2009 and Huis Ten Bosch in Japan in 2011.

Publications: World Rose News, the official bulletin of the World Federation of Rose Societies, is issued twice a year. Under the responsibility of an editor, it is the written link between the different components of our Federation (National Societies, Associate Members, Breeders’ Club, and members of different Standing Committees). The present editor, Dr Tommy Cairns, has asked to be replaced at the Vancouver Convention, after 12 years of loyal service. I will have the opportunity in Vancouver to thank him most sincerely for the tremendous amount of work undertaken with seriousness, talent and professionalism over the many years, but here and now I would like to thank Tommy on behalf of all the members of the WFRS.
On the recommendation of the Executive Committee, members of Council will elect a new editor. In this respect, I encourage you to take this opportunity to re-examine the organization of WRN. We have been very lucky to have been able to rely on Tommy’s commitment over this long period and have not experienced any problems with regards to the publication of our bulletin. However, the work is of such importance that we should consider sharing the responsibility, as is often the case in the scientific world. I propose the Publications Committee be made up of an Editorial Committee under the leadership of an editor. The 5 members of the committee, in close relation with WFRS vice-presidents, would assume the responsibility of finding articles and collaborating with the editor. At the same time we should also look into the possibility of setting up an electronic version of the bulletin for our website, whilst keeping a paper version for those members who are not equipped with a recent computer. Our Federation will gain in visibility with an electronic version, as many more members will have access to our bulletin and maybe this will facilitate recruiting new members. The idea of introducing paid advertising should also be examined, which would be a welcome additional income. Finally, in my opinion, any activity linked to World Rose News should be undertaken in collaboration with the web master, Ethel Freeman, so that the competences of each person can be maintained and developed. I propose discussing all these items in Vancouver.

Website: The WFRS website has been completely overhauled and I would like to thank Ethel Freeman most sincerely for her excellent work. It is very easy to use and the different sections are well indicated. From June 2006 until the end of April 2009, our website was consulted 184,658 times by 133,087 internet users. In spite of this impressive figure, I realize, when speaking with rosarians around the world, that too many members of National Societies do not use this system often enough. It is our job therefore to inform our members of the existence of this means of communication and encourage everyone to click regularly on www.worldrose.org in order to keep up-to-date with our activities throughout the world. In addition, it is very important for National Societies and rose trials to send in regular news concerning their activities and the dates on which they will take place. The more often a website is upgraded, the more frequently rosarians will consult it, but without new information, it is difficult to present it.
Show Judges: I was very pleased to discover the passion of amateur growers during the organization of Rose Shows. It is a well known fact that they are not very popular in Western Europe. I think it is high time to introduce this type of competition in countries, which do not yet hold this type of show. In order to do this, the Show Judges Committee would have a very important mission: training new judges. This item could be put on the agenda of the Committee’s meeting.

ADMINISTRATION

We are very lucky to have an excellent Executive Director, Malcolm Watson, who is devoted to his task. After succeeding to Jill Bennell, the undertaking was not an easy one, as Jill had accomplished this work for 16 years. Malcolm immediately adjusted to the running of the WFRS and everything is going extremely well.

In order to facilitate his task, I request you to send your replies to questionnaires within the allotted time. Unfortunately too often several reminders need to be sent out, before receiving an answer. I would also appreciate, if you would inform our Executive Director as soon as possible of any information which might be of interest to the WFRS. I am sorry if I have to repeat myself, but the circulation of information is certainly one of the most important points needing improvement.

REGIONAL CONVENTIONS

Four regional conventions were organized from 2006-2009:

Orleans, France, organized by the French Rose Society from 6-9 September 2006. 89 participants.
Luxembourg, organized by the Rose Society of Luxembourg from 5-9 June 2007. 80 participants.
Santiago, Chile, organized by the Chilean Rose Association from 24-29 October 2007. 115 participants.
Adelaide, Australia, organized by the Rose Society of South Australia from 23 October until 1 November 2008. 350 participants.
You will find the reports of the minutes of these conventions in WRN. Delegates attending the conventions were extremely interested and satisfied with the lectures and excursions proposed. Our different National Societies did a great job in organizing the above mentioned conventions. In celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Rose Society of South Australia at the same time as the Regional Convention, a great event took place in the Southern Hemisphere.

The next Regional Convention « Peace and Harmony » organized by the Chinese Rose Society will be held in Changzhou, China from 27 April – 1 May 2010.

WORLD CONVENTIONS

Over the past three years, I had great pleasure in collaborating fully with the Vancouver team in an excellent spirit for the organization of the 15th World Rose Convention. Everything has been prepared to enable participants to return home from Canada with fantastic memories filled with newly made or renewed friendships. I sincerely hope that during Executive Committee, Council and Standing Committee meetings, the many lectures, excursions and evening activities, “THE SPIRIT OF THE ROSE” will be fully present and there will be an atmosphere of serenity, friendship and joyfulness amongst all the participants.

The Executive Committee’s dream to have all National Societies represented in Vancouver has not come about. It was certainly a rather ambitious one. However, my thanks go to all the delegations which have made the effort to take part in the Vancouver Convention. 477 delegates were registered on 30 April 2009. This number is a great success, taking into consideration the financial situation in the world today and demonstrates once again that the rose is more than a passion for us.

The 2012 World Convention will take place in Johannesburg, South Africa from 12-18 October. The organizing committee, led by Sheenagh Harris Vice-President for Africa, and Ludwig Taschner are already working hard on the program and I feel sure that many of you will travel to South Africa in three years’ time.
For the World Convention in 2015, only The French Rose Society has applied. Maurice Jay, Vice-President for Europe and Daniel Boulens, Head of the Parks and Gardens of the City of Lyons, have prepared a bid with the support of the City, which will be presented in Vancouver. If it is accepted by Council, the 2015 World Convention will be held in Lyons, birthplace of old and modern roses.

NATIONAL SOCIETIES’ MEMBERSHIP

During my three years as president, I had the great pleasure of meeting, at least once, rosarian friends from 31 National Societies. I would really have enjoyed meeting all the societies but unfortunately, it did not prove possible. I regret this most sincerely and wish to extend my apologies to all those societies, which I did not visit.

Throughout my visits, I received an extremely warm welcome. Everywhere I experienced kindness, friendship and a deep interest in the activities of the WFRS. I realized how much enthusiasm is put into all the activities undertaken for and in the name of the rose – exhibitions, rose trials, rose and flower shows, practical demonstrations, lectures, etc. However, I did notice that, unfortunately, it is almost always the same people who are involved and this worries me, as in order to perpetuate all these activities, it is important for others to take over, otherwise one day we will find ourselves in great difficulty. I also realized that it may be a good idea to collaborate even more so with breeders, growers, florists, etc. so that amateurs will have the possibility of being in direct contact with the professionals of horticulture and they in their turn will have the opportunity to explain the many interesting and wonderful sides of their profession.

Our relations with the media, newspapers, radio and television could be improved, in order for the general public to get to know our national and local societies much better. The media often lead the way in helping the number of members to increase. Every occasion should be seized to inform people of our aims. I have noticed that almost everywhere our numbers are dropping and not only our Presidents are extremely preoccupied with this problem but I am also.

In my message at the end of 2006, I asked every member of national societies to find a new member. Unfortunately, I have to admit that I have not reached my aim. However, we have no choice and a particularly special effort must be made to interest others to join us and cultivate our passion for roses.
OFFICIAL VISITS

When I had both the honour and great pleasure of being elected at the head of our Federation and you granted me your confidence for the three year period, I committed myself to go out in the field and meet members of the WFRS. The following is a list of the countries I visited – 69 trips totalling 187 days.

May 2006
18 May: visit to Gifu Rose Park and naming of the new rose, “André Le Nôtre” Japan
19 May: naming of the new rose “Petit Trianon” at Jardin de Bagatelle, Kawazu, Japan
26 May: presentation of the “Garden Excellence” award to the Ramon Ortis Rose Garden in Madrid and participation in the International Rose Trials of Spain (president of judging panel)

June 2006
9 June: presentation of the “Garden Excellence” award to the Rose Garden of Parc de la Tête D’Or, Lyons and participation in the International Rose Trials of France
10 June: participation in the AGM of the Swiss Rose Society (French speaking section), Estavayer-Le-Lac, Switzerland
15 June: International Rose Trials of Paris, France
17 June: International Rose Trials of Geneva, Switzerland
19 June: International Rose Trials of Saverne, France (president of judging panel)
20 June: International Rose Trials of Baden-Baden, Germany

July 2006
6 July: International Rose Trials of The Hague and presentation of the “Garden Excellence” award to the Westerbroekpark of The Hague, Netherlands

August 2006
19 August: AGM of the Swiss Rose Society (German speaking section), St Gall, Switzerland

September 2006
1 September: International Rose Trials of Le Roeulx, Belgium (president of judging panel)
6-9 September: speaker at the Regional Convention in Orleans, France on “The evolution and progress of rose breeding”.
October 2006
5-8 October: official visit to the Federation of Rose Societies of South Africa and participation in the 13th National Rose Convention, Pietermaritzburg, South Africa

November 2006
18 November: autumn meeting of the Swiss Rose Society (French speaking section), Geneva, Switzerland

February 2007
20-22 February: participation in the “Salon du Végétal”, Angers, France and speaker “The WFRS – a Federation to the glory of the rose”
27 February-2 March: visit to Moscow to lay down the foundations of The Russian Association of Rosarians

March 2007
9 March: AGM of the French Rose Society, Lyons, France and speaker on “Progress in the evolution of roses”
10 March: AGM of the French Old Rose Society, Lyons, France and speaker on “Old roses, new Roses – a love match or a marriage of convenience?”

April 2007
10-13 April: visit to the organizing committee of the World Rose Convention, Vancouver, Canada
29 April-1 May: official visit to the Rose Society of Belgium with Maurice Jay, Vice President for Europe

May 2007
18-20 May: International Rose Trials of Rome, Italy
25 May: International Rose Trials of Monza, Italy (president of judging panel)
26-29 May: official visit to the Slovenia Rose Society on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the Valdotra Rose Collection and discussions with Mr Zoran Jankovic, Mayor of Ljubljana
June 2007
1 June: International Rose Trials of Lyons, France
5-9 June: Regional Convention of Luxembourg
12-13 June: 11th International Heritage Rose Conference, Chaalis, France
14 June: 100th International Rose Trials of Paris and presentation of the “Garden Excellence” award to the Rose Garden of Bagatelle, Paris
15-16 June: 9th Biannual Rose Trials for Fragrant Roses, Nantes, France
18-19 June: International Rose Trials of Baden-Baden, Germany
22 June: 60th International Rose Trials of Geneva and presentation of the “Garden Excellence” award to the Rose Garden of Parc de la Grange, Geneva, Switzerland
27-28 June: presentation of the “Garden Excellence” award to the Rose Garden of Coughton Court and visit to the new rose garden of the RNRS, St Albans, England

August 2007
23-24 August: International Rose Trials of Glasgow, Scotland, UK

September 2007
1 September: AGM of the Swiss Rose Society (German speaking section) Zoug, Switzerland
15 September: 1st informal meeting of the Breeders’ Club, under the chairmanship of Pierre Orard, Lyons, France,

October 2007
11-16 October: official visit to meet the committee of the Rose Society of Japan, Tokyo and participation in the 1st International Fragrant Rose Trials Awards Ceremony, Echigo Hillside Park, Nagaoka
19 October: official visit to the Rose Society of Uruguay, Montevideo and speaker on “Roses and rose gardens around the world”
22-23 October: Annual Spring Rose Show, Buenos Aires and International Rose Trials of Buenos Aires, Argentina (president of judging panel)
24-29 October: 4th South American Regional Convention and speaker on “Old roses, modern roses – a love match or a marriage of convenience”, Santiago, Chile

November 2007
13 November: inauguration of Rose Display, Ellerslie International Flower Show, Auckland, New Zealand
14-18 November: Pacific Rose Bowl Festival, Hamilton, New Zealand
23-25 November: 75th anniversary of the New Zealand Rose Society, Palmerston North, New Zealand
March 2008
7 March: AGM of French Rose Society, Lyons (France)
29 March: naming of the rose “Prince Albert de Monaco”, Monaco

April 2008
26 April-4 May: official visit to the Bermuda Rose Society and participation in the AGM with a lecture on the activities of the WFRS.

May 2008
8-10 May: International Rose Trials of Barcelona, Spain (president of judging panel)
18 May-2 June: official visit to the Chinese Rose Society. Exhibition of roses in Tiantan Park, Rose Festival of Beijing, naming of the rose “Madam Entian”, lectures on the WFRS and roses, visit to the site of the future “Madam Entian” Rose Garden in Taicang, visit to Changzhou to start preparations for the Regional Convention in 2010 and visit to the Rose Garden of Shenzhen Remin Park, Shenzhen.

June 2008
6 June: International Rose Trials of Lyons, France
16 June: International Rose Trials of Geneva, Switzerland
18-22 June: International Rose Trials of Baden-Baden, Germany and 125th anniversary of the German Rose Society

July 2008
11-13 July: Nordic Rose Weekend, Lillehammer, Norway and discussions with members of the Rose Societies of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden.

16-17 July: official visit to the Rose Society of Northern Ireland and participation in the International Rose Trials of Belfast, Northern Ireland
18 July: International Rose Trials of Dublin, Ireland

August 2008
19-21 August: official visit to the Hungarian Rose Society and participation in the 2nd Rose Festival of Kecskemét, Hungary
22-24 August: official visit to the Rose Society of Romania, Cluj-Napoca, Romania and discussions with Romanian rose growers
30 August-8 September: 1st Rose Forum, Taicang and continuation of discussions concerning the Regional Convention in Changzhou, China.
September 2008
17-18 September: discussions concerning International Rose Trials in Europe, the Vancouver World Convention and the French Rose Society’s bid for 2015, Paris, France

October 2008
10-11 October: 7ème International Rose Trials, Rose Hill Memorial Park, California, USA and contact with the president of the ARS
23-28 October: WFRS Regional Convention (speaker), The Rose Society of South Australia’s Centenary Show, National Rose Trial Garden of Australia International Judging Panel, Adelaide, Australia

January 2009
16-25 January: visit to the site of the new rose garden and preparations for the Regional Convention in 2010, Changzhou; visit to the site of the new “Madam Entian” Rose Garden and preparations for the 2nd Rose Forum, Taicang; visit of the Flower Show in Remin Park, Shenzhen, China

February 2009
6-7 February: official visit to the Rose Society of Luxembourg, Luxembourg
18-20 February: official visit to the Rose Society of Spain, Barcelona, Spain

March 2009
1-4 March: visit to the organizing committee of the 15th World Convention to put the finishing touches to the convention, Vancouver, Canada
9 March: AGM of the French Rose Society, Lyons, France
27-30 March: official visit to the Rose Society of Austria, Vienna, Austria

April 2009
23-30 April: inauguration of the « Madam Entian » Rose Garden and participation in the 2nd Rose Forum, Taicang, China
May 2009
15-18 May: International Rose Trials of Rome and 1st Rose Trials of La Tacita (president of judging panel), Italy

June 2009
5 June: International Rose Trials of Lyons, France
11 June: International Rose Trials of Paris, France
13 June: International Rose Trials of Geneva, Switzerland

CONCLUSION AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Words cannot describe how difficult it is for me to reach an adequate conclusion after experiencing such a fabulous adventure with the WFRS over the past three years. So many feelings of happiness and joy fill my mind as I recall the numerous encounters, contacts, visits, sharing of new friendships and renewing old ones. How can I relate the long hours spent in front of my computer sharing my passion of roses with you all, as I answer emails around the world, prepare lectures, imagine further developments for our future activities, write new messages for the website and find solutions to put more dynamism into our Federation? How can I express the excitement of taking so many flights (a total of 116 in 3 years), trains, car rides to travel out into the field and meet rosarian friends in order to share with them a mutual passion for our favourite flower – THE ROSE? Indeed, this is largely what has made up my life and also Christina’s over the last 36 months.

When I stood for the position of President in Osaka, I committed myself, if I was elected, to go out into the field, develop relations and lend a sympathetic ear to members of our Federation. I have tried to keep my promise, although there are certainly imperfections, which I ask you to forgive me for. Only too well do I realize that I was a little ambitious, since I did not reach my target of meeting members of all our national societies.

It would be wrong not to admit that during my three years’ presidency a few black clouds appeared on the horizon. Fortunately these soon lifted. I hasten to add that it is perfectly normal for a president in office to have to settle problems, develop actions and take decisions which not everyone agrees with. However, when the dialogue remains courteous and each person is respected as an individual, a solution to the problem will always be found. In this respect, I have tried to do my best, so that our enthusiasm and passion for roses continues to flourish both in our minds and in our gardens.
Our Federation has reached a turning point. Decisions must be taken during the Vancouver Convention concerning our financial situation, our future ambitions, our means of communication, our will to share our passion for roses, our concern to preserve and improve our environment, our desire to unite under the same banner both old and modern rose enthusiasts, as well as professionals and amateur gardeners. At Council and Standing Committee meetings, we will discuss our ideas and exchange different points of view which will finally result in our taking adequate decisions. I ardently desire that during our rose week in Vancouver, delegates will work in a serene manner and that our decisions will help to contribute to the opening out and the timelessness of the WFRS.

As my Triennial Report comes to an end, I wish to extend my sincere thanks to you all – members of the Executive Committee, Standing Committees, National Societies, Breeders Club and Associate Members. From the bottom of my heart, thank you for your unconditional support and encouragement.

My thanks also go to all the National Societies, who extended to me such a warm welcome when I visited their country; each contact was filled with friendship and a passion for roses. I was particularly touched to receive the title of Honorary Member of the Chinese Rose Society, Romanian Rose Society and the Swiss Rose Society (French speaking section), the title of President Emeritus of the International Rose Trials of Geneva, the Rudolf Geschwind Medal from the Hungarian Rose Society, the statue of St Fiacre, patron saint of gardeners, from the South American Rose Societies, The Golden Rose from the Dutch Rose Society and the Souvenir Rose from the Department of Agronomy, University of Bari (Italy). I am not sure I deserve these many honours, but the diplomas, medals and souvenirs already have a special place in my office and will be fond memories of my time as president.

My gratitude goes especially to my close team made up of Jill Bennell, Malcolm Watson and his wife, Ruth, and finally my wife Christina. You all did a marvellous job and your unconditional support certainly helped to facilitate my task. I will forever be grateful to you.
Our wonderful Federation deserves our commitment for its future development and I am firmly convinced that those delegates, who will be elected in Vancouver, will carry out their task with the same enthusiasm which guided me and my team over the past three years. I sincerely hope my successor will experience as much joy and happiness as President of the WFRS.

I am about to close the book of my activities and open that of my memories, whilst still remaining at the disposal of the WFRS in my modest position as Immediate Past President. I will continue along the same lines which I imposed on myself since 2006, namely when one follows a passion, there is never a problem. There are only solutions to be found and when one serves others, one can only find true happiness.

Thank you for the wonderful moments you gave me. Thank you for everything!

Dr Gérald Meylan
P r e s i d e n t W F R S 2 0 0 6 - 2 0 0 9

Aire-La-Ville, Geneva, Switzerland, Mai 2009
VICE-PRESIDENTIAL REPORTS
Preamble –
The Rose continues to maintain its position as most favoured flower in Australia in spite of severe prolonged drought conditions in Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia. Stringent water restrictions in these states have reduced watering of home gardens to once or twice weekly but the results of these restrictions have surprised us with beautiful roses being produced in abundance. Thus, the rose has proved its ability to adapt to dry conditions with the result that gardeners are now keen to include roses in their water-wise gardens.

Society Membership.
All state societies continue to maintain steady membership numbers in spite of the fact that so much information on rose culture is now available electronically. Societies are actively seeking members of a younger age since many current members are no longer able to contribute physically to the activities associated with the management of a society. We need to encourage the interest of younger generations in creating gardens and including roses so that they too may experience the joy and pleasure we all derive from this remarkable and beautiful flower.

Events.
The NRSA has hosted National Conventions annually which always include the Australian Rose Championships. The conventions were held in Perth(WA) in 2006, Melbourne(VIC) in 2007 and Adelaide(SA) in 2008.
At the Annual General Meetings held during these conventions I have presented a report on WFRS activities in my capacity as WFRS Vice-president for the region. Rose Adelaide. –

Easily the most outstanding event in Australia was the WFRS Regional Convention held in Adelaide in October 2008 to celebrate the Centenary of the Rose Society of South Australia. More than 300 registrants both National and International joined members of the RSSA to celebrate this milestone birthday. Those who attended lavished praise on the planning committee for providing the most enjoyable and superbly organised event ever held in Australia. Wonderful conventions such as Rose Adelaide do not just happen overnight and full credit and accolades belong to the society members whose enthusiasm and passion to make the Centenary celebrations a most memorable event was evident in every aspect of the week-long convention. The excellence of this regional convention has set new standards for all future events.

The National Tea Rose Collection.
This collection assembled by David Ruston at his Renmark(SA) nursery was dedicated by WFRS President Dr.Gerald Meylan during the post convention tour following Rose Adelaide. The establishment of this collection ensures the preservation of these historic roses for the future and is further evidence of David’s abiding passion for The Rose.

The Ruston Sculpture.
At the NRSA Annual Meeting held in Adelaide during the convention the President of the RSSA, Mr Kelvin Trimper announced the establishment of a fund to commission a sculpture depicting the life and times of David Ruston,OAM.,DHM. The sculpture when completed would be erected in Renmark SA, David has lived his entire life in Renmark and has contributed greatly to the life of the community
as well as his Worldwide contribution to The Rose which has made David a legend in his time. It is appropriate that Renmark should be the home of the sculpture.

This is an exciting but expensive project and we are hoping to attract sponsorship dollars from WFRS Member Societies as well as corporate donations. David’s lifework is The Rose and he is esteemed and admired by rose lovers throughout the World. It is fitting that David should be honoured in this way in his lifetime.

My three terms as Vice-President for Australasia are now at an end and I will retire at the Vancouver Convention so this will be my final report. My successor has already been chosen by the NRSA and is Mr. Kelvin Trimper, President of the RSSA. Kelvin is a passionate and innovative rosarian and has impeccable corporate credentials. I am sure that the WFRS will benefit greatly from Kelvin’s appointment to the Executive which will be confirmed at Council 2 in Vancouver.

To be chosen to represent one’s country in any field of endeavour is a great honour and I have cherished my time as VP for Australia. The WFRS is a unique organisation and it has been a privilege to participate in the management on behalf of the rose lovers of Australia. I shall be watching the fortunes of the Federation from the sidelines with great interest.

My passion for The Rose and the WFRS remains as bright as ever and I send my best wishes to all.

Margaret Macgregor ARA
May 11th~17th 2006
The 14th World Rose Convention in Osaka Japan
Participants were approximately 750 rosarians including
400 from overseas.
Pre-Tour ; 9th~11th western part of Japan including
Hiroshima.
Post-Tour ; 18th~22nd eastern part of Japan including
Tokyo.

October 24th~26th 2006
A visit to the China Rose Society at Beijing Botanical Gardens in China.
Meeting with Mr. Zhang Zuoshuang, Director of Beijing Botanical Gardens, the
Chairman of China Rose Society.
Mr. Zhao Shiwei Ph.D, Vice Director of the Beijing Botanical Gardens.
Ms. Zhu Xiuzhen, Honourable Chairman of China Rose Society.
Mr. Jiang Hongtao, Vice Chairman of China Rose Society.
The purpose of the visit to promote mutual relationship between China Rose
Society and WFRS. Until then, China Rose Society seemed to be isolated from the
activities of the WFRS.
We discussed their positive involvement with WFRS.
After that, I realized they are full of enthusiasm about rose and wish to devote their
effort to the international activities.
And being a membership, I suggested them to observe the rules and regulations of
WFRS.

October 2006~March 2007
“A Core Collection of Roses for Their Preservations”
In collaboration with Conservation Committee we organized Japanese National
Committee for the Preservations.
The members were as follows.
Members ; Mr. Tsuneo Kaneko (Japan Rose Society)
Mr. Akira Ogawa (Japan Rose Society)
Mr. Kazuhiko Maebara (Rose Culture Institute)
Ms. Kazuko Nomura (Rose Culture Institute)
Ms. Yuki Mikanagi Ph.D (Natural History Museum and Institute in Chiba)
Mr. Mitomi Hironobu (Rose researcher)
Advisor : Dr. Yoshihoro Ueda (Prof. Gifu International Academy of Horticulture)
Chairman : Mr. Takamasa Tsuge (Vice President of WFRS)

The committee has decided 51 varieties for our Preservation in 8 rose gardens in Japan.
The list was sent to the Chairman of the Special Committee of the Conservation Committee.

June 2007
At the Heritage Rose Committee in Chaalis in France chaired by Mr. David Ruston, chairman of the Committee.
Mr. Kazuhiko Maebara, the President of the Rose Culture Institute (Later, joined WFRS as an Associate Member) proposed to hold an International Heritage Rose Conference at the Kusabue-no-Oka Rose Gardens in Sakura city in Chiba Pref. in Japan in 2011.

The Rose Culture Institute became an Associate Member.

August 2007
A meeting with the China Rose Society.
Mr. Zhang Zuo-shuang, Director of the Beijing Botanical Gardens Chairman of China Rose Society
Mr. Zhao Shiwei Vice Director of the Beijing Botanical Gardens
Mr. Dean Chen Advisor to China Rose Society,

Agenda
Chinese National Rose Festival would be held on 22nd~23rd in May in 2008 at the Rose Garden in Beijing Botanical Gardens.
A project to hold a world class Rose Convention in China within a few years.

Mr. Dean Chen, an Advisor to the Society, was very enthusiastic about promoting rose in China and also holding a world class rose Convention in the near future. So I introduced him to the President, Dr. Gerald Meylan.

October 2007
The President, Dr. Gerald Meylan, made an official visit to Japan.
Members of Japan Rose Society were very pleased to welcome him
and we had a meeting and a Dinner Party at Akasaka Prince Hotel in Tokyo. The President also attended the First Awarding Ceremony of the International New Rose Trial at the Echigo Hill Side Rose Park in Niigata. Dr. Gerald Meylan delivered a speech about the fragrance of rose since this new rose trial puts emphasis on the fragrance.

May 2008
The 10th Anniversary of International Rose and Gardening Show at Seibu Dome in Tokorozawa in Saitama Pref. in Japan. Mr. Peter Beales and Mr. David Austin Junior came over from England to celebrate the event.

May 2008
The 3rd Chinese National Rose Exhibition at the Beijing Botanical Gardens. The President, Dr. Gerald Meylan delivered a opening speech and the ceremony was followed by the naming of new rose ‘Mme EnTian’ dedicated to late Mrs. Jiang EnTian who was called “the Mother of the Rose” in China. Several distinguished guests were there, among them, Ms. Jiang Zehui, Chairwoman of the China Flower Association and Mr. Zheng Bingjun, Director of Beijing Park Management Centre. President and I had a talk with floricultural reporters about rose activities in overseas countries. We felt that was really inspiring.

August 2008
President and Vice President along with Mr. Chen, and Alain Meilland and visited the Rose Gardens in Shenzhen Renmin Park in Shenzhen-city. We were honoured to meet Mr. Lu Ruifeng, Vice Mayor and Mr. Wu Zi Jun, Director General of the Urban Management Bureau. We also had a meeting with Mr. Wang Hui, Director of the Park Management and the other officers about their an ambitious future plan.

The Shenzhen Renmin Park has become an Associate Member.

September, 2008
The First Summit Forum of Chinese Rose Industry
This is really an epoch making event for China Rose Society. Until then, China Rose Society has not hold a nation-wide meeting for a long time. The City of Taicang, the birth place of Mrs. Jiang EnTian (called Mrs. China Rose) initiated the Forum in order to team up the integration of all over the county from Beijing to Shenzhen, Shanghai, Taicang, Changzhou.
“The future of the Rose in China” was the main theme.
The participants of the Forum were,
  Mr. Xie Ming, Mayor of Taicang City
  Mr. Zhang Zuoshuang, Chairman of China Rose Society
  Dr. Hu YongHong, Director of Shanghai Botanical Gardens.
  Dr. Gerald Meylan President of WFRS
  Mr. Takamasa Tsuge Vice President for Far East
  Mr. Alain Meilland
  Mr. Dean Chen, Advisor to China Rose Society

The Shanghai Botanical Gardens has become an Associate Member.

September, 2008
A Meeting of Organising Committee for The 4th China Rose Exhibition and
WFRS’s Chinese Regional Convention 27th April ~5th May in 2010 in the City of
Changzhou, Jiangsu.
Lecture Programme ; 12 lectures 3 from China, 3 from Japan, 6 from the other
world.
Tours ; Beijing, Shanghai(Exspo) the other countryside etc
Persons present
  Dr. Gerald Meylan, President
  Mr. Takamasa Tsuge, Vice President for Far East
  Mr. Alain, Meilland
  Mr. Dean Chen, Advisor to China Rose Society
  Mr. Zhang Zuoshuang Chairman China Rose Society
  Mr. Zhu Weiping, Director of Changzhou Municipal Management Bureau
  Mr. Liu Jianping,Deputy Director
  Ms. Wu Jie, Deputy Director

September 2008
A Visit to South Korea
The purpose of the visit is to inquire if the South Korea could become a member of
WFRS.
I had contacted with the South Korean Embassy in Tokyo and have been
introduced to Mr. Kim Young Jin Ph.D , Director of Floriculture Research Division
of the National Horticultural Research Institute in South Korea.
Unfortunately until now, I have learned, there is no a sort of “rose “society” in this
country. Although, cutting rose production, including breeding new roses, is very
active.
However, incoming Director Dr. Son of the Institute told me that garden roses have started selling these days and this might be some clues about increasing number of amateur rosarians.
In the vicinity of the City of Seoul, there are two full-scale rose gardens. One is managed by the City of Seoul, and the other is located in Samsung Everland (a huge resort park) moderate-size, well-maintained and beautifully arranged. I would say it is a world class rose garden.

November 2008
Thanks to Mr. Dean Chen, Advisor to the China Rose Society.
Kusabue-no-Oka Rose Garden in Sakura city in Japan and EnTian Rose Park in Taicang city in China has entered into the Friendship Agreement.
In commemoration of the Friendship between two cities, the Sakura city has presented seventy roses which were bred by Mr. Seizo Suzuki, “Mr. Rose” to the EnTian RosePark.

Takamasa Tsuge
Vice-presidential report for North America 2006-2009

When I started my second term as Vice-President of North-America little did I know that it would almost lead me around the world.

The Fall of 2006 a Regional Conference of the WFRS was planned in the lovely city of Orleans by Prof Joyaux. I enjoyed the visit to the city, the interesting display of rose related items, the lectures and the many visits to gardens. Of course we also worked and served as judges for the local rose trials and had a number of meetings.

In 2007 I missed the Regional Conference in France as we were in Yunnan, China on a rose hunting trip organized by Mr. Piet Bakker, a member of the Conservation Committee of WFRS for the Netherlands.

In 2007 the Regional Conference of the WFRS in Chile organized by Isa Maria Bozzoli was very interesting. I enjoyed seeing the roses, the talks and meetings with the many rosarians.

In 2008 we were so lucky to receive a visit from our President and his wife in Bermuda. We had many talks on the future of WFRS and how we could make it better. We met again at the rose trials in Baden-Baden, where we also celebrated the 125th birthday of the German Rose Society. In the Fall we travelled to the Regional Conference of the WFRS in Adelaide, Australia for talks and celebrations as the Australian Rose Society was celebrating its 100th birthday. Also here we were overwhelmed by the warmth of the people, the beauty of the landscape and roses.

Marijke
Bermuda
I feel great pleasure to send this message to the Nilgiris Rose Society and the Indian Rose Federation as it celebrates the 27th Indian Rose Convention in the beautiful city of Ooty, The Queen of hill stations Tamilnadu India. I extend my warm felicitations to the members of the Society and Rose Federation on this occasion. I appreciate the contribution that the society has made over the years in promoting goodwill through roses. I would have been much pleased to attend this Convention. I really miss this scenario and the pleasure to meet the Indian rosarians and renew the friendship. My association with the Indian Rose Federation is since 1990 when I first visited Mumbai and Pune in connection with SAARC Rose Conference and then the pleasure of attending the First Regional Indian Rose conference at Jaipure and again the 25th Rose Convention held at Pune on 13th January 2007 when I also had the honor to present the award of Garden of Excellence to the Centenary Rose Garden Tamilnadu. I always enjoyed the visit but this time I could not make it. I once again thanks for the hospitality made to me on this occasion. However I pray that we may continue to succeed in our efforts.

In the end I wish the Nilgiris Rose Society and the Indian Rose Federation every success in future. I also wish both the countries unity, stability, prosperity and well being of their people.

Long live Pakistan- India friendship through roses.

Mian Zafar Iqbal
Patron –in- Chief PNRS
Vice presidential report for Africa

It has been a pleasure and privilege to be closely involved with the World Federation of Rose Societies as Vice President for Africa and I am sorry to have to relinquish this position after only three years.

I believe it is an important duty of a VP to report to the rest of the Federation on the development taking place in Africa. This has been accomplished through regular reports published in the World Rose News.

It has also been part of my mission to keep the Rose Societies in South Africa informed on WFRS affairs. This has been achieved by reporting on WFRS affairs in our ROSA newsletter as well as in our ROSA Annual.

For me it would have been most satisfying to have introduced a new member from Africa. I followed up old leads for Zimbabwe (Rhodesia) which used to be a member but with present day circumstances this is no longer possible for them. Correspondence was entered into with Ghana, Tanzania and Nigeria but with no positive results. I also did my best to contact delegates to Osaka who had registered from Africa, but was not successful here.

The main problem, as I see it is there are no rose societies in Africa north of the Rep. of South Africa and therefore there is no infrastructure on which to build.
The incoming VP for Africa assures me he has contacts in Africa so I am hoping he will be more successful than I have been. I am also hoping it will be possible to travel via Ethiopia to the East next year and hope to pioneer the way in this region.

I believe very strongly that all Member countries should have representatives at Regional Conventions and a team at World Conventions. This fosters closer links, and friendships are formed which continue on an ongoing basis.

I personally organised South African attendance at the 13th WFRS convention in Glasgow, the 14th WFRS convention in Osaka, the 11th International Heritage Rose Society Convention in France and recently at the Rose Adelaide Convention in South Australia and can therefore, from personal knowledge vouch for the benefit and enjoyment all our delegates received. I have a small group traveling to Vancouver for the 15th World Convention.

I very much hope that sometime in the future I will have an opportunity to complete the allowed 9 year term of office for a VP.

Sheenagh Harris
Vice presidential report for the Nordic Countries 2006-2009

Roses and rose cultivation in the Nordic countries

This report from northern Europe is focused on activities in the Nordic countries, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden.

The Rose Societies in these countries have been very active in offering attractive programmes for the members. All activities in the countries are open to all members in all the Nordic countries and often to the public, too.

Many local groups have offered lectures, days of practical work in rose gardens, rose exhibitions and public rose days where the members inform of what is needed to create a beautiful rose garden. This includes the choice of roses for specific purposes, how to plant and prune, how to handle diseases and how to give the roses a good winter protection etc.

In July 2008 a Nordic Rose Weekend was organized by the Norwegian Rose Society in Lillehammer. The WFRS President Dr Gérald Meylan honoured the weekend with his presence.

On the agenda has also been a discussion on arranging a WFRS Regional Conference in Scandinavia. Another task has been the attempts to involve the Baltic countries in the WFRS’s family.

At the moment there is an ongoing discussion in the Nordic countries of what WFRS means to the Nordic Rose Society, the umbrella organisation for the
national rose societies in the Nordic countries. Personally I gave a lot of lectures in Sweden as well in Denmark and Norway on subjects concerning different aspects of rose cultivation, including information about WFRS.

National programmes for plant genetic resources
A special issue of great importance, in which all Nordic countries participate, conserve and utilise the cultivated plants, including roses.

On the Nordic level some workshops on National Plant Genetic resources have been arranged, the last one in Oslo last March. Topics according to the presentation below have been on the agenda.

Sweden and Norway established national programmes a few years ago. Finland has just decided on their programme. Denmark and Iceland are working for their programmes at the moment.

In many years, before the Finnish national programme was established, some members of the Finnish Rose Society was involved in collecting Finnish foundlings, especially roses belonging to the Spinosissima-Group. Some of the foundlings have been introduced on the market. One of them is ‘Papula’.

Sweden and Norway collaborates closely within their national programmes. The works in both countries are carried our more or less parallel with more or less the same ambitions, though the techniques differ to some degree.

To give you a detailed information of how this work has been carried on, I will continue to focus only on the Swedish programme.

A brief background
In 1992 the United Nations, in The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), declared that all plants and animals, their genes and the ecosystems where they live are to be conserved.

As a result of the convention, the UN’s Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) later investigated the current situation for the world’s cultural plants. As a result, an ambitious plan was created to deal with these plants. A fundamental part of the plan is the creation of national programmes for domesticated diversity, which proclaim the goals and strategies of each nation to conserve and sustainably utilise their cultivated diversity.
POM - Sweden’s national programme

To insure the long-term survival and sustainable use of cultivated plant resources, the Swedish programme, abbreviated POM, was established. The programme was initiated 1998 by the Ministry of Agriculture in consultation with national authorities, the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, the Nordic Gene Bank (NordGen), some NGOs, botanical gardens, open-air museums, grower’s associations as the Swedish Rose Society, and many others. The Swedish Biodiversity Centre has the responsibility to co-ordinate POM’s various activities.

POM’s main tasks and area of activities include the following:

- Inventory, collection of plants, evaluation, description and conservation in gene banks
- Increasing the use of cultivated plants, including cultivation and breeding
- Research on species relationship and genetic variation
- Education and information
- International collaboration

Most of the plants cultivated in Sweden today have their origins in other countries. Sweden’s climate places special requirements on our cultivated plants. They need to be very hardy to survive the cold winters and short, often cool summers. Species and varieties adapted to our climate are, generally speaking, a result of a long period of cultivation and selection.

POM not only intends to save the plants for the future but also their history and all kind of knowledge surrounding them.

Surveying

POM’s nation wide survey for cultivated biodiversity proceeds until the year of 2011. The task is to find, collect and conserve unique plants that can be of value for Sweden in the future. The high diversity of garden plants continues to be the main focus. The survey work is organised in “Calls for plants”. Currently there are seven different national inventories in process. One of them is “The call for roses”.

The call for roses

Swedes have a special relationship to roses. That is why POM since 2005 has a special project working with cultural roses. To be recognized, each rose must have
a documented history from before 1950. POM is inventorying in cooperation with the Swedish Rose Society and many local interest groups. 115 trained surveyors, most of them members of the Swedish Rose Society, are active across all of Sweden.

An important activity, being of great public interest, is the “Come and Show Days”. We arrange them in some 50 places around the country every year. At these days growers come and show their own old roses for POM’s experts.

Sometimes it is possible to identify the roses by name, sometimes the rose are unknown and of great interest for further study according to POM’s criteria.

Conservation for the future

All recognized roses are selected on the basis of a number of criteria:

Primarily roses with a Swedish origin, without time limit, shall be a part of the Swedish genebank.

Identified roses with a foreign origin might also be a part of the genebank when they, since long, are a part of the history of Sweden and are well adapted to Swedish climates and cultivation conditions, especially if they today are not in cultivation in the countries where they originated.
Unidentified roses with a documented history before 1950 shall be a part of our genebank when they have an actual or potential genetic and/or breeding value. Roses, independent on origin and age, might become a part of the genebank when they have a particularly interesting and unique history.

All collected roses that meet the above mentioned criteria are placed for the first few years in temporary storage where they are evaluated and compared with known varieties and other collected varieties. Today some 700 unidentified roses, “Mystery Roses”, are cultivated in this temporary storage. Here we try to screen out the unique and eliminate duplicates. To accomplish this we use both physical characteristics and genetic analysis, in collaboration with the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences at Balsgård. Modern DNA techniques provide effective tools to see if two similar type of plants are the same or different.

The most valuable and unique of what is growing in our country is finally to be conserved for the future. In a few years beautiful and hardy roses will be preserved in the national genebank. It will consist of both a central collection and some local collections, or clone archives, spread around the country and housing duplicates of the local material for added security. The national genebank will be completed in 2015. We estimate that 250–400 roses will be included in the Swedish genebank.

Distribution of material from the genebank

All the roses in the national genebank will be available for everyone. The general public as well as scientists and breeders can request vegetative material in the future. Nurseries will have the possibility to propagate and sell plants from the gene bank. This will allow unique Swedish roses to be grown in many places around the country.

The Swedish heritage of cultivated roses

Many roses have been lovingly cultivated over long periods of time in older Swedish gardens. Sometimes they have been spread – mainly by rootsuckers – to neighbours, friends and relatives, some to whole villages or widely around a district. Many roses have been in cultivation within families for generations. In some cases they have survived in old abandoned gardens or as naturalised plants in a cultural landscape, on roadsides and sometimes in a cemetery. Today many of them are threatened. Such roses have both a rich cultural history to tell and a valuable genetic diversity to protect. They are long-lived, often undemanding and easy to grow.
One of the oldest rose document from Sweden is the botanical garden of Olof Rudbeck the Elder in Uppsala where at least 25 roses were cultivated between 1655 and 1702. His plant lists describe wild species as well as cultivars in the Gallica-Group, Alba-Group and Centifolia-Group. Among the roses are Rosa foetida, R. gallica, R. rubiginosa, R. sempervirens, R. spinosissima, R. villosa, ‘Officinalis’ and ‘Rosa Mundi’.

Most roses growing in Sweden today have their origin in foreign countries. Most of them are well-known varieties, cultivated in many countries, but we also have a lot of roses we can’t identify. Some of them can probably get their original name after comparative studies in international rose collections and as a result of discussions with international experts of specific variety groups. Relatively few roses have originated in Sweden, by breeding, as spontaneous seedlings or through mutations.

Despite all possible efforts to identify our foundlings, a number of them will still remain unidentified. When they meet at least one of the criteria mentioned above and we find them attractive, we intend to take them into the Swedish genebank. Some of the very best roses will certainly be introduced on the market.

Most of the foundlings are shrub roses, with a few exceptions they are once-flowering. Very few of the roses we have found are ramblers, climbers or roses in the Polyantha-Group, Floribunda-Group or Hybrid Tea-Group.

To get knowledge of the historical Swedish Rose assortment we create a database with information of roses from the literature, including price-lists from Swedish nurseries.

Roses we have found

Rosa majalis ‘Foecundissima’ and R. spinosissima ‘Plena’ are extremely hardy and widely distributed and cultivated throughout Scandinavia, including low subalpine areas. Their horticultural value is considerable in Scandinavia. A special taxonomic study of these taxa shows us that the genetic diversity is much wider than expected. So far 26 clones of ‘Foecundissima’ have been identified by DNA analysis. Only one of them, ‘Tornedal’ with a northern Nordic origin, has previously been given a variety name. See Photo.

The genetic and morphological variation of Rosa spinosissima ‘Plena’ is even much wider. No one of the 32 recognized clones has been given a variety name.
Two examples of unidentified foundlings among Rosa spinosissima ‘Plena’ are shown on photos.

The Spinosissima-Group in its entirety is very variable in Scandinavia. A lot of plants with small pink flowers, similar to ‘Double Blush’ and ‘Double Pink’, have been found from the south to the north. So far 8 clones have been identified by DNA studies.

Even if the roses mentioned above are very interesting and of great value for the national inventory we put most attention to roses in the Gallica-Group. Very few of the Gallica foundlings have so far been possible to identify. Most are unknown for us! So far the genetic studies have revealed some 30 clones. But there are many more to study! See photos of two unidentified roses in the Gallica-Group. Unidentified variety of the Gallica-Group. Photographer Lars-Åke Gustavsson.
We also find a lot of roses with other origin. Among them I especially want to mention roses in the Damascena-Group, Centifolia-Group, Centifolia Muscosa-Group, Francofurtana-Group, Foetida-Group and the Bourbon-Group.

Lars-Åke Gustavsson  
Vice President, Northern Europe  
Project leader of the Swedish Call for Roses

For further information visit POM’s website www.pom.info where an English version is available.

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Last Modified: February 26, 2009
The National Rose Society of Australia Inc (NRSA) was formed in 1972 following a meeting of representatives of state societies. Until that time, the states had operated separately. The first state society was formed in Victoria in 1899 and celebrated its centenary in 1999, followed by South Australia in 1908, with its centenary celebration last year, New South Wales in 1913, Queensland in 1930, Western Australia in 1932 and Tasmania in 1960. The latter has since ceased operating.

The NRSA was formed specifically to allow Australians to be part of the newly formed World Federation of Rose Societies which would only admit national societies to its membership. It is an organisation that meets annually in one of the five member states, usually on a rotational basis for an annual general meeting and competitive rose show. Other activities include garden visits, lectures and social functions. It supports state societies by providing a website, with state linked pages, publishing the Australian Rose Annual for all members, providing uniform judging standards and dealing with any other issues which arise from time to time.

The five member states operate independently, but efforts are being made to support states and create some uniformity through the National Rose Society at its annual general meeting. Decisions are made by democratic vote of the two delegates representing each state. The officer bearers of the NRSA do not have a vote and the president’s position is appointed annually, usually by nomination of the host state. All other rose activities and functions are carried out at state level or regional level within states.

ROSE SOCIETY OF VICTORIA INC.

The past three years have been a very strong period of maintaining the membership and momentum of the Society under the presidency of Mr. Ian Spriggs. Our membership is currently approximately 800 and our main focus is, of course, the promotion of the rose and to promote how drought-tolerant roses are, always focusing on membership. We are in a very solid financial situation.

Our main activities are our monthly meetings, pruning demonstrations (which provide revenue for the Society), Spring and Autumn shows, an outstanding quality quarterly magazine in colour, updated website, and six consulting rosarians representing Melbourne and country Victoria. We also participated in the ABC Gardening Australia exhibition 2006-2007 and we have a comprehensive library available to members.

Mrs. Margaret Macgregor was awarded the WFRS Silver Medal in 2006 and Life Membership of the RSV Inc. in 2007;
Mr. Max Marriner and Dr. Bruce Chapman were awarded the T.A. Stewart Memorial Award in 2006 and 2007 respectively;
Dr. Bruce Chapman and Mrs. Margaret Macgregor were awarded the ARA in 2006 and 2007 respectively;
Mr. Ian Spriggs was awarded the National Rose Society of Australia Service Award in 2007.

The national annual general meeting Australian rose championships 2007 was held in Melbourne in not ideal growing and showing conditions for roses but was a great success anyway. Highlights of the conference were visits to the Victorian State Rose Garden at Werribee Park, Morwell Centenary Rose Garden and a large country garden at Toongabbie owned by Mrs. Joy McWatters. Dr. Yuki Mikanagi from Japan gave a very informative lecture at the conference dinner entitled Rose Colours when East meets West.
THE ROSE SOCIETY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA INC.
2008 – A Centenary of Roses

The Rose Society of South Australia continues to flourish after pioneering sponsorship with Neutrog with their fertiliser, Sudden Impact for Roses. Meetings are held in Adelaide and at the regional branches of Roses on Eyre, Chaffey Rose Club, South East Branch and Top End Roses centred on the tropics in Darwin. Members in this driest state of Australia have discovered that roses thrive in hot, dry conditions.

With approval being given for the hosting of a WFRS Regional Convention in Adelaide to coincide with the Society’s Centenary Celebrations, a committee was formed at the end of 2005 to organise this mammoth event. The heading says it all; “Rose Adelaide 2008 – Centenary of Roses”.

Under the leadership of Chairman, Malcolm Watson, the group were “split up” to head their own areas of the convention: Malcolm and Ruth Watson – administration; Graham and Christine Douglass – accommodation and entertainment; Peter and Brenda Burton – tours; Dean Stringer – lectures; Ian and Mary Frick – history book and administration assistance. Wendy Trimper came in to assist Dean Stringer in 2008.

Criteria for the rose to be selected by The Rose Society of South Australia Inc as its Centenary Rose, cited that it must be Australian Bred (no sports), must have been planted in the National Rose Trial Gardens of Australia and to have received at least a Certificate of Merit at the end of the trial period. This rose did better. It was awarded a Bronze Medal as well as the Best Australian Bred Rose in the Trial.

Let’s Celebrate has excellent disease resistance in drought conditions with a “knock-out” fragrance. The name was a unanimous decision between the breeder, Trevor Grant, from New South Wales, his agent (Treloar Roses), and the Society.

At the 2006 Christmas Dinner, Mrs N.F. (Joan) Hopkins was presented with the inaugural 50 year continuous Membership Medallion, having been throughout this period an active and generous member.

Mr Walter Duncan was the recipient of The National Rose Society of Australia’s highest award, the Australian Rose Award, at the Society’s 2007 Christmas Dinner. Walter joined the Rose Society in 1959 and from that time has been constantly involved in promoting the Society and the Rose to the public for their enjoyment. In 1971, at the age of 32, Walter became the Society’s youngest President. Walter was the recipient of the 2008 T.A. Stewart Memorial Award for outstanding service to the Rose in Australia or in New Zealand.

The Society continues to nurture children with programmes such as Adopt-A-School.
Primary Schools are “adopted” by a society member and are taught how to grow and show roses. Each participant in the programme is given his or her own miniature rose and is responsible for the well being of that plant, which will end up on the show bench at the autumn and spring rose shows. There is keen competition between Golden Grove Lutheran School and West Lakes Shore Primary School. A third school, Rynella East Primary, has entered into the fore and has exhibited for the first time at the Centenary Spring Rose Show. The look of pride and achievement on these young faces as they collect their prizes is reward enough.

With the discovery of the date of the inaugural meeting, and as the unknown beginnings of the society began to emerge, it brought with it the names of the National Rose Society of South Australia Presidents. An Honour Roll banner has been made depicting all the Society Presidents. Although Mr David Ruston has not been a President of the Society, he has been President of the World Federation of Rose Societies, which in itself is a great honour.

In depth research led to the RSSA History Book, The Rose Society of South Australia Inc 1908-2008. Readers are able to imagine (or recall) the passion past members had for the Rose, the strong will and determination to keep the society a priority through times that could have led to its end.

Mr Michael Harbison, The Right Honourable Lord Mayor of Adelaide and Society Vice Patron, launched the Society’s History Book on 7th May 2008. Two hundred members and invited guests attended the function to witness this memorable event.

The WFRS 2008 Regional Convention was a huge success with 350 registered participants from 14 countries, interstate and local members. All events and tours were well attended and filled to capacity.

Three well deserving members of the RSSA, Messrs Malcolm Watson, Dean Stringer and Jim Cane, were the recipients of the National Rose Society of Australia’s Service Award which were announced and presented at the National Dinner. This award is bestowed on those who have given outstanding and meritorious service for more than ten years to the NRSA Inc.
ROSE SOCIETY OF NSW INC.

Without a “Volunteer Force” no organization can be sustained and for that the Rose Society of NSW is proud of all its members. In NSW there are five regionals which are the engine rooms of the state body. These sub-committees activities include monthly meetings, newsletters, pruning demonstrations, workshops for members, outings to various places along with spring and autumn shows. Members who make outstanding contributions to the rose are honoured with Life Memberships and the special Bert Mulley Award.

Over the last four years the society has been working closely with the Royal Agricultural Society and we now conduct the NSW Rose Championships at the Royal Easter Show. Neutrog is the major sponsor for this NSW Championships and the society appreciates the support given to the society by Angus Irwin. The society has a royalty contract with Neutrog, the makers of Sudden Impact for endorsement of the product and this has given the society an important source of revenue.

The success of the Rose Society of NSW is reflected in the twenty per cent growth of membership over the last four years and it now stands at just over the five hundred mark. A recent review of membership found the society has a number of members who have had continuous membership in excess of 50 years with Mr Ted Annabel having the longest continuous membership of 56 years.

Certainly one must recognise that gardening is taking a backward seat in many households and this can be attributed to smaller blocks, busy lifestyles and older generations downsizing to units or retirement villages. This certainly puts pressure on rose societies for survival in the long term not only in NSW but right across Australia. In NSW the society is in the process of encouraging more members to plant at least one Australian bred rose and make the general public more aware of the many beautiful roses that have been bred by Australian hybridisers. As a matter of interest the last two champion units in regional shows have been Australian bred roses these being Imp (George Dawson) and Flemington Racecourse (Dr Bruce Chapman). With recent rainfalls some water restrictions have been eased and gardens again are starting to flourish and this has reinvigorated rose enthusiasts throughout NSW after a number of years of frustration.

New South Wales will host the 2009 National Conference and Australian Rose Championships in Kiama and are also well underway with preparation for its Centenary Celebration to take place in 2013.

1. Budding Night – Don Campton (budded first Peace rose in Australia, November 1946 demonstrating budding to Sydney Regional members)
2. Max Ryan – Max Ryan a senior judge.

THE QUEENSLAND ROSE SOCIETY, INCORPORATED

Queensland has been under the worst possible drought conditions, which have been alleviated in part in some areas more recently. Monthly meetings are held either on Saturdays during the day or on Wednesday evenings. An annual “Judge and Exhibitors Workshop” as well as pruning demonstrations
at New Farm Park are a feature of our society. Members gardens are also regularly open for inspection. Activities are well attended by members and generate significant interest from the general public.

Spring and autumn shows are held at the Botanical Gardens at Mt Coot-tha. Although growing conditions have been extreme for the exhibitors, excellent shows have been held with slightly reduced numbers of entries when the drought conditions were worst. These have picked up following drought-breaking rains since then. Members from Brisbane, Darling Downs and Gold Coast support one another’s shows. An aging population limits participation in social and showing activities.

The QRS was represented at Gardening Australia in 2007 with a great stand full of excellent blooms. With the events attended by the public attracting greater numbers, many are choosing to join the QRS, and this includes many younger members. This is reflected in greater participation in shows, with Sue Stallwood, the chief steward, claiming the 2008 autumn show “the best in years”. In 2008, the first coloured insert in *The Queensland Rose* was a winner for the membership. A large contingent of members from the 3 Queensland societies attended the WRFS Regional Rose Conference and celebrations in Adelaide in 2008.

Paul Hains, one of the members, was the Qld winner in the Gardening Australia – Gardener of the Year Competition this year. He even managed to give a plug to the society in his printed interview in the magazine. It has been decided by the committee that more activities for non-exhibitors and more social activities need to be added to our calendar for 2009 in order to maintain and hopefully increase the membership. There were many new enthusiastic members who joined the society in 2008 and the society looks forward to promoting the rose in Queensland well into the future.

**ROSE SOCIETY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA INC**

Over the past year the Rose Society of Western Australia has been actively promoting the rose throughout the state, and our South West Rose Group is gaining members from many country towns in our beautiful south-west. The R.S.W.A has had a change of venue and is gaining more through the doors each meeting.

Our shows are excellent events put on by all our members and they help promote this beautiful flower we all grow. They are held in the suburb of Floreat, a traditional rose growing area, and the roses hold up well inside this classy, modern venue. The South-West Rose Group holds its rose show in the country town of Bunbury over a three-day period in one of Bunbury’s largest shopping centres; many members of the public use this centre as their choice for shopping. Both our rose societies are going well in spite of some issues which the rose has come up against, eg: water restrictions, smaller housing, and even the internet.

Hopefully we can continue to promote the rose in a hands-on approach, which we do through our monthly meetings and spring and autumn rose shows.
Participation in WFRS Conventions
Over the past three years our organisation took part in the following conventions:
The WFRS International Rose Convention in Osaka (Japan)
The WFRS Regional Conventions in
  Orleans (F)
  Luxemburg (Lux.)
  Chili,
  Baden-Baden (G)
  Adelaide (Aus).

The reports of these participations have been published in our journal ‘Rosa Belgica’.

-Participation in Symposia, Rose Events, Festivals, Salons:

We took part in symposia a.o. Melle (B) June 2006 organised by Genrosa and a Symposium organised by the Royal Society for Agriculture and Botany (Ghent B.) organized as part of the celebrations of the bicentennial of the Ghent Flower Show (Floralies Gantoises).

We visited the Rose Festival in Lottum (NL) in August 2006 and August 2008.

Our board member Mrs Ingrid Verdegem gave talks at various venues, a.o. the WFRS Regional Rose Convention in Luxemburg.
At the behest of the city of Tielt (B) we organised an International Rose Salon in July 2006.

We are present at several venues and rose events every year, a.o. at Hex Castle and Celles Plant Fair, a Rose Event at the Rosarium of the Provincial Park ‘Rivierenhof’ Deurne (B) and at Enghien (B) and the city of Saint Hubert (B).

-Participation in International Rose Trials:
Our board members take an active part in rose trials as members of the international juries throughout Europe: a.o. Geneva (CH) Baden-Baden (G) Monza (It) Barcelona (E).

On April 30th and May 1st (2007) we had the infinite pleasure of welcoming Dr and Mrs Gerald Meylan (Ch) President of the WFRS and Prof and Mrs Maurice Jay (F) Vice-President for Southern Europe. They were invited to a private tour of the Royal greenhouses and conservatories, and a visit of the magnificent Chateau de Beloeil, where we were received by their Serene Highnesses Prince and Princess Wauthier de Ligne. His Highness did us the honour of accompanying us on a tour of the chateau, the park and the grounds.

The following Belgian roses received various prizes at international rose trials:

Roses by Anne Velle Boudolf (formerly the Louis Lens Nursery)

‘Y578’ 2006 Prize for the Most Outstanding Rose Barcelona(E) and award in the category ‘Landscape Roses’
’Jean Stephenne’ 2006 Lyon (F) First Award in the Shrub Rose category.
’Dinky’ Rose d’Or Orleans.
’Y652’ 2006 Certificate of Merit Hradec Králové (CZ).
‘Y773’ 2007 Hradec Králové (CZ) honorable mention.
‘Dinky’ Gouden Roos (Golden Rose) of Kortrijk (Kortrijk B.) and 2006 Rose d’Or at Orleans (F)
’Y464’ 2008 Honorable Mention Hradec Králové (CZ).
‘Y905’ 2008 Baden-Baden (G) Prize of the city of Zweibrucken.
’Fil des Saisons’ 2008 Golden Medal Kortrijk (B).
’Heidi Grimm’ 2008 Certificate of Merit Orleans (F).
Roses by hybridiser Delforge

‘SD731’ 2006 te Monza (I) Award of the City of Monza and Certificate of Merit at Saverne (F)
‘SD006/05’ 2008 Gouden Roos van Kortrijk (B) (Kortrijk B.).

Roses by ILVO (DVP) Melle (B)

‘Jacky’s Favorite’ 2006 Prize of the Public Kortrijk (B)
‘Cera’ 2006 Gouden Roos van Den Haag (Golden Rose of The Hague)(NL)
‘Cicero’ 2006 Honorable Mention Hradec Králové (CZ)
‘DVP0029’ 2007 Honorable Mention Hradec Králové (CZ)

Hybridiser Mr Martin Vissers

‘VMX2055’ 2006 Gold Medal (amateurs) Orleans (F) ‘VMX2040’ 2006 Certificate of Merit professionals Orleans (F).
‘VMX4010’ 2008 Saverne (F) Prix du Parfum (Prize for Fragrance)

Non-professionals

Mr G. Heubrecq

‘Papa Emile’ 2006 Silver Medal Orleans (F).

Mr Prignon.

‘Like Yesterday’ 2006 Orleans (F) Certificate of Merit.
‘Cantabile’ 2007 Silver Medal Le Roeulx (B).

De roos 'Jacky's Favorite' 2006 Publieksprijs te Kortrijk en 'Cera' 2006 gouden roos van Den Haag
A very exciting event for us was the inclusion of the 'Bermuda Yellow Mutabilis' in Modern Roses 12. In 1999 Ronica Watlington took cuttings from a stem of Mutabilis bearing yellow blooms. Continuous propagation from these cuttings was successful and subsequently this sport was registered with The American Rose Society.

We are sometimes called upon to decorate the Royal Suite at Government House and over this period we did it for the visits of HRH Princess Anne and Queen Noor. Some of our members go armed with roses of all kinds with greens and vases and ground sheets and leave again enjoying the smiles on appreciative faces. We have also been asked by the Garden Club of Bermuda to decorate one house per year for their Open House and Gardens in May.

In our calendar for the year we like to include a luncheon with a visit to members’ gardens or, as last year, a guided walk around the town of St Georges.

Our annual tea party is usually our April meeting when all of the members are invited to decorate hats. This one was held in the gardens of the Bermuda National Trust.

We had another successful workshop with Jean Motyer instructing members on the joys of arranging roses.

Many of our members enjoyed a trip to Charleston, South Carolina.

The WFRS Convention in Osaka was a highlight for a few of us lucky enough to attend. It was an exciting experience to see the Rose World come together and to see our flag flying with the rest. Susan Swift and Sally Madden were able to give a 40 minute power point presentation for our members at the first meeting of the season in October.

The WFRS Bronze award was presented to Liesbeth Cooper by Marijke for her dedication to roses at this meeting as she could not attend The Convention.

Clare Russell has injected a new enthusiasm into our Society with her delightful way of making so many want to be more involved and to participate in meetings. The bench and arrangements were as beautiful as nature will allow.

The rest of our Executive work together to make each meeting interesting and enjoyable. We either have a speaker, an event or someone to give a demonstration.
Here is an example of some of the efforts.

Overseas rosarian visitors have included Jim Anderson, Shirley Morgan, Rev Doug Seidle and Kent Krugh, Claire Laberge and Gérard and Christine Meylan.

As a result of a visit from a former member, Shirley Morgan, now living in America, we were introduced to Earthkind roses from the Texas Agricultural University and this year started our own experimental garden. The roses have done extremely well and are now so big that they don’t show well in a photo so these were taken when planting and at the young stage.

To learn more, look up www.earthkindroses@tamu.edu

Rev. Doug Seidle and Kent Krugh visited us and Doug gave a most interesting talk on “The China Syndrome”. He was quick to point out how this affected Bermuda and it’s china roses. They were also helpful with our questions on identification of some of our Mysteries.

Jim Anderson was our invited rose judge for the Annual Exhibition in 2006 and 2007. It is run by the Government of Bermuda for its people and open for the public, including schools, to compete in all events. Many rose growers give the BRS members a run for their money in the competitions. There is a lot of work involved by the Rose Society in making sure that the classifications are correct, setting up our event, providing volunteers to sit with the roses for three days and to then clear up. This Agricultural event is very popular and well worth a visit.

Claire Laberge from Montreal, judged in 2008 and gave a very interesting lecture on her work at the Montreal Botanical Gardens.

While all of these events are going on we keep busy trying to improve our organization. We have re written the constitution which is now more streamlined and keeps financial decisions up with the economy.

Peter Carpenter conducted a review on the Judges course which Jim Anderson gave us in 2005. Peter had a wonderful idea to write a Bermuda Guideline and Judging
Rules booklet. This was completed by a committee of local judges. It should be a great help to our visiting judges as our rules concerning our Mysteries are a little different.

We conducted a survey among the members to find out who grows what roses. This is a useful tool when hunting down slips. Again, correct identification is important.

Propagation at Tulo Valley is still our most important project as it is our main source of raising much needed funds. When the Society was founded in 1954, one of its main aims was “To encourage the cultivation and love of roses in Bermuda” Now, many people are propagating their own with great success. Some of the difficulty here is that the identification of these roses is often lost for the sake of a lovely flower. The BRS is producing an average of only 250 roses for sale in the spring and are struggling a little with problems of slips dying off even after they root. Gérard Meylan showed us his method of slipping in perlite which was not very successful but this year we are trying it again plus two other mixtures, hoping for better results.

Our Repository Garden situated at the Bermuda National Trust is still flourishing but showing signs of age. Many of the roses in the four beds need to be replaced and it is our intention to do this, one bed at a time. We have found it impossible to find enough help from the members, so once a month professional gardeners do the back breaking weeding and any heavy work. In October most of the companion planting is removed and the soil dug over, fertilized and a mulch or compost put on the top. By December, the beds are ready for the replenishment of companions which are low growing herbs, flowers and plants with coloured leaves. In 2006 we were awarded a prize in the Best of Bermuda awards, organized by the Bermudian Magazine.

The Meylan’s visit
THE CANADIAN ROSE SOCIETY     2006-2009

A Non-Profit Organization dedicated to furthering the study of roses and to promoting their cultivation throughout Canada

Current thrust---expanding from coast to coast board meetings conducted by teleconferencing, board members British Columbia on the Pacific Ocean to Prince Edward Island on the Atlantic coast.
Canada a vast country of 8 climatic/plant hardiness zones (1-8)

producing some of the world’s truly great hardy sub-zero roses
The Annual features

“The Clearing House”

An ongoing annual critique of the performance of newer cultivars experienced by members across the country
Examples of the CRS “Family’ communiques

“The Greater Toronto Rose and Garden Society has members across southern Ontario, some with large roses gardens, some with small city gardens or balconies but all with a love of roses. In 2008 we welcomed Wilhelm Kordes III of Kordes Roses in Germany as a guest speaker. We offer a garden tour and have organised bus trips to visit rose fields. We are very pleased to have been awarded the Ontario Horticultural Society District 5 award for having the most increase in membership in 2008.”
an audio-visual library
containing videotapes, powerpoint presentations, rose lectures

training of rose judges to maintain a national standard for rose competitions

Vancouver April 2007

EarthKind™ project Victoria B.C., funded by CRS in 2007, seen here in 2009
Gifting of Canadian Explorer roses
to Khabarovsk, The Russian Far East 2008

Encouraging rose competitions

Vancouver, 2007
Hamilton, Royal Botanical Gardens, 2007
The Canadian Rose Society
welcomes the rose world to Vancouver in 2009.

We of the Society hope to achieve better communication with our own members and those of the World Federation members by major upgrades in our website through cloud technology.

www.canadianrosesociety.org/
Canadian Roses and Rosarians

© Alexander Globe

Accomplished herbalists, gardeners, botanists, nursery people, and hybridizers have worked with roses in Canada for the past four centuries. Only a few individuals and roses can be mentioned here. Their contribution is impressive.

The country is huge—almost ten million square kilometres (3.8 million square miles). Brutal winters challenge most gardeners in Canada, where temperatures can dip below -20 or -30 Celsius. The southern British Columbia coast usually escapes the worst (as zone 7b or 8a), but last winter a month of snow sent the thermometer under -15 Celsius in December (zone 5 in some areas).
Canada's Species Roses

A dozen wild roses have adapted to habitats as extreme as ocean shores, bogs, dim forests, semi-deserts, rocky mountain heights, and Arctic cold. They are *Rosa acicularis*, *arkansana*, *blanda*, *carolina*, *gymnocarpa*, *nitida*, *nuttana*, *palustris*, *pisocarpa*, *setigera*, *virginiana*, and *woodsii*. Several make handsome garden plants and have been used to breed winter hardy hybrids. From 1817 to 1824, Pierre-Joseph Redouté painted five of these species for his work *Les Roses*. They were growing in French gardens during the time of the Empress Josephine.

The current authority on North American species roses is Prof. Walter H. Lewis. Born near Ottawa, he completed graduate theses on wild roses at the University of British Columbia and the University of Virginia. He will soon publish *Rosa* in the new *Flora of North America* after a distinguished career at the Missouri Botanical Garden and St. Louis’s Washington University.

Some of the most innovative scientific work on species roses achieved anywhere in the world has emerged from the University of Montreal botanical laboratory of Prof. Anne Bruneau. She is the phylogenetics consultant for *Rosa* in the *Flora of North America*. Dr. Simon Joly, her student, has produced genetic evidence from extensive field work that three North American rose species (*R. arkansana*, *carolina*, and *virginiana*) are ancient wild hybrids of older species (*R. blandia*, *foliolosa*, *nitida*, *palustris*, and *woodsii*).


**Early Gardening in Canada**

Early settlers from Europe took years to carve farms out of dense forests. Eventually they traded log cabins for houses and planted flower gardens. Hardy plants supplied a “family rose” for many Quebec homesteads. Nineteenth-century nurseries in Toronto, Montreal, and Victoria featured rose imports. Similar old roses survive winter at the Montreal Botanical Garden and in recreated gardens at Montreal, Upper Canada Village near Cornwall Ontario, Pioneer Village in Toronto, and Point Ellice House in Victoria.

An 1860s garden with a few Gallica roses by the fence, Upper Canada Village. The Hybrid Perpetual ‘John Hopper’ (1862), sold by 1880s Canadian nurseries. Mrs Aikins’s prize show basket: *Annual of the Rose Society of Ontario*, 1918.

**Canadian Rose Societies.**

In 1913, a group of well connected Torontonians founded the Ontario Rose Society on British and American models. The Governor General agreed to be patron, and Gertrude Jekyll sent congratulations from England. The Ontario Rose Society published an *Annual or Year Book* from 1914 until 1955, when the renamed Canadian Rose Society took it over. Large and small rose clubs dot the country. The Canadian Rose Society supplies links to a number of them online. The biggest splash of the Vancouver Rose Society (founded in 1949) is its hosting of the 2009 World Federation of Rose Societies convention. Past president Brenda Viney and Darlene Sanders initiated this project eight years ago and have kept VRS members busy ever since.

Shari-Lyn Safir, President of the CRS. Dale Akerstrom, President of the VRS. Brenda Viney and Darlene Sanders, organizers of the 2009 WFRS conference and World Rose Festival in Vancouver. (Photos © the subjects.)

Public Rose Gardens in Canada

Botanical gardens in Europe and the USA have nurtured outstanding new plants for over two centuries. Canada was the only sizeable colony where the British did not establish such a garden in the 1800s. The Central Experimental Farm was founded at Ottawa in 1887 to develop food crops. Some hardy ornamentals were also hybridized there, including roses.


Many public plantings have suffered recently from staff cutbacks and spray bans. To find low maintenance roses that grow without spray or watering, Patrick White (Vice-President of the CRS) has spearheaded a project for “Earth Kind” roses at Glendale Gardens near Victoria.

Above, the Rideau Hall colonnade, plaques commemorating the roses, and trellis work. Earth Kind roses near Victoria. Below, roses at Butchart Gardens, Victoria.

Private ownership helps maintain quality. Butchart Gardens near Victoria features a breathtaking roserie manicured by dozens of gardeners. In a graceful Edwardian design, current varieties spiral diagonally around an oval lawn that backgrounds their splashes of colour. Wrought iron, rustic wood, and delphiniums create points of vertical visual interest. Every June, the 1929 plantings of once-blooming American Pillar, Chevy Chase, and Excelsa ramble over pergolas, trellises, umbrellas, and swags, recalling less hurried times.
The Montreal Botanical Garden maintains the most extensive and unrivalled rose garden in Canada. It ranks high worldwide. 10,000 groomed bushes grow over 2.5 hectares (6.2 acres). Experiments with disease and pest control place it as a ecological leader. Thousands of hybrid teas and floribundas are supplemented by close to 200 old garden roses from the nineteenth century and earlier. The 160 species roses have been designated as the North American reference collection by the plant conservancy of the American Association of Botanical Gardens and Arboreta. Montreal also has the largest public collection of Canadian bred roses – around 150 of them. Claire Laberge has tended the garden since 1989, laying the foundation for its World Federation of Rose Societies Award of Garden Excellence in 2004.

The Montreal Botanical Garden, honoured by the 2004 World Federation of Rose Societies award. ‘Erin Fleming’ bred in Ontario by Joyce Fleming. Claire Laberge, the rose garden horticulturalist at Montreal (photograph courtesy of Michel Tremblay, Jardin botanique de Montréal).

**The Canadian Rose Growing Industry**

Canada has been well served by rose growers since the late 1800s. Some current ones appear in the annual Combined Rose List, the US publication with over 14,000 varieties for sale. When energy and labour were inexpensive enough to maintain 1.5 million square feet of greenhouses, Dale nurseries (in Brampton, near Toronto) was the largest North American grower of florist roses. In its heyday, over twenty million quality stems were shipped every year. For over half a century, Pickering Nurseries and Hortico near Toronto have provided Canadians with thousands of different field-grown rose varieties every year. Smaller nurseries serve local clients. It may be challenging for these companies to compete with inexpensive mass-produced material from the US, but the varieties and budding understock withstand Canadian winters.
Canadian Rose Hybridizing

The breeding of roses in Canada can be traced in the Year Book and Annual of the Ontario Rose Society, the Canadian Rose Annual after 1955, and some articles in the American Rose Annual. Roscoe Fillmore preserved early history in his 1959 book, Roses for Canadian Gardens. Since 1995, new research has appeared in The Rosebank Letter, continued by Roses-Canada. “National-Roses-Canada” has an online list of Canadian bred roses without pictures. David Elliot of Victoria, BC, and Arnold Pittao of Lloydminster, Alberta, have uploaded similar data with photos online at Help Me Find Roses. Search “country of origin”. Here just a dozen efforts are singled out.

In 1900, Dr. William Saunders, founding director of the Central Experimental Farm in Ottawa, scored a major success. Once-blooming ‘Agnes’ is one of the few yellow Hybrid Rugosas, bred from R. rugosa and R. foetida persiana. It won the Dr. Van Fleet Gold Medal of the American Rose Society in 1926. It is still widely available in North America and Europe.


Isabella Preston was born in England, in 1881, and came to Canada in 1912 to study at the Ontario Agricultural College in Guelph. Within eight years she became a hybridist at the Central Experimental Farm despite the director’s desire to find a man for the position. She won three international medals for her 200 hardy roses, lilies, lilacs, and crabapples. You can still buy her once-blooming climber ‘Patricia Macoun’ (a seedling of R. helenei) and large shrub ‘Carmenetta’ (a cross of R. glauca and R. rugosa). Anyone interested in Canada’s horticultural heritage weeps at the decision to plough under the rest of her roses at the farm in Ottawa.

By contrast, Oswald Shalm and the citizens of Brooks, Alberta, have work hard for years preserving the collection of early roses at the Alberta Agriculture Centre there. From the 1920s on, the prairie provinces of Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba have seen a creative outpouring of roses for zones 4, 3, and 2. During the 1920s to the 1960s, Dr. Frank Skinner produced once-blooming shrubs from local species, R. acicularis and blanda, as well as imported R. spinosissima altaica, rugosa, beggeriana and laxa. Others often used his heavily flowering ‘Betty Bland’ and ‘Suzanne’. From the 1930s into the 1960s, Percy H. Wright extended the Canadian
gene pool to R. macounii (a form of R. woodsii) and R. nitida. He generously supported the hybridizing efforts of others. Robert Simonet and Robert Erskine followed in their footsteps.

Above, Frank Skinner’s ‘Mrs John McNabb’ (1941) and ‘Butterball’ (1950). ‘Skinner’s Red’ at the Forestry Park Farm (© Margit Schowalter). Below, Percy Wright’s ‘Yellow Altai’ (1950) and ‘Musician’ (1953, both © Arnold Pittao). ‘Seager Wheeler’ (bred by Wheeler, introduced by Wright 1947).

Georges Bugnet came to northern Alberta from France in 1904. ‘Thérèse Bugnet’ was bred in 1941, then introduced by Percy Wright in 1950. This hardy hybrid Rugosa repeat flowers. Its early, delicate pink blooms, lined with white, have the quality of rice paper. Yellow stamens offer punchy contrast. Spicy fragrance and red canes also make this one of the most frequently grown Canadian roses, at home, in the USA, and in Europe. Also charming are his whites – ‘Lac Majeau’, ‘Louise Bugnet’, ‘Marie Bugnet’, and ‘Rita Bugnet’.

George Bugnet’s ‘Thérèse Bugnet’ (1941, introduced by Wright, 1950) and ‘Rita Bugnet’ (1960, photo © M. Schowalter). Robert Erskine’s ‘Prairie Peace’ (1975).

A final beautiful, healthy, hardy, widely grown rose from Saskatchewan deserves mention. Stanley Zubrowski’s ‘Louis Riel’ (1996) sports classic white blooms with a fine boss of golden stamens. The steel green foliage provides a stunning background.


British Columbia hybridizers face the challenge of fungus diseases. Henry M. Eddie (1881-1953) immigrated from Scotland in 1910. By the 1930s he was the largest grower of rose bushes marketed in Canada. Three of his two dozen hybrids earned international awards. His healthy, creamy white Hybrid Tea ‘Burnaby’ won the British National Rose Society Gold Medal in 1954 and the Portland, Oregon Gold Medal in 1957. His son, J. Henry Eddie (1909-2007) hybridized the disease-free, once-blooming red Moyesii hybrid ‘Eddie’s Crimson’ (ARS 9.1).
Magna Aliquam

George Mander is the son of a former head gardener at Park Willhelmshohe near Kassel in Germany. Since moving to British Columbia, he has been hybridizing roses. His miniature ‘Glowing Amber’ (ARS 8.0) often wins ribbons at shows across North America. Another British Columbian, Brad Jalbert of Select Roses, has moved from miniatures to disease resistant shrubs.


In 1985 in Ontario, Joyce Fleming started selecting hybrids for superior disease resistance and hardiness. A good selection can be found online at www.roseroyce.ca. These roses grow beautifully at the Botanical Garden of Montreal in their own bed without winter protection in zone 5. She has been unusually successful in producing a rainbow of colours—not just the expected pinks (including ‘Claire Laberge’), but also yellows (the superior climber ‘Roberta Bondar’), reds, red blends, oranges, orange-reds, and a white. Other prolific Ontario rose breeders include Bruce Rennie, and Keith Laver, of miniature fame.

Joyce Fleming, ‘Clarion Call’ (both © Joyce Fleming), ‘Michael LeeK’, and ‘Roberta Bondar’.

Dr. Felicitas Svejda is Canada’s preeminent rose hybridizer. An impressive seven of her two dozen introductions are rated 8.3 or higher in the ARS Handbook for 2009. Eleven, or almost half, are rated 7.9 and above. Dr. Svejda was born at Vienna in 1920 and received a Ph.D. from the Vienna State University for Agriculture in 1948. She joined the Central Experimental farm in 1953, then was assigned to roses in 1961. Her recent book, The Canadian Explorer Roses, traces her fascinating search for excellence. It can be purchased on line at www.rosescanada.ca.

[Images of roses]

Above, Dr. Felicitas Svejda (© Dr. Svejda). ‘John Davis’, ‘John Cabot’ (in Portland), and ‘Henry Kelsey’. Below, ‘Jens Munk’, ‘J.P. Connell’, and Explorer roses growing at the Central Experimental Farm.

Dr. Svejda’s roses now have a permanent home at Ottawa’s Central Experimental Farm, close to Isabella Preston’s lilacs. Their success in Canadian gardens has increased interest in collecting hardy historic roses. Perhaps this fascination will lead to another project advocated by Dr. Svejda – rose test gardens from coast to coast. There all Canadians will be able to share more of the new and historical productions of their widely dispersed compatriots.

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The Chilean Rose Society was created in 1999 and with full legal status number 917 in November 11, 1999.

Most of its founders were members of the Club de Jardines de Chile, in which headquarters they worked during the first years. It was created after the suggestion and under the protection and guidance of Mercedes Drever, Past President of the Asociación Uruguaya de la Rosa.

In the year 2000 and by the initiative of its first President, Verónica Lira and its secretary Isa María Bozzolo who had traveled to Houston to the “12th World Rose Convention”, the first Rose Festival was created with the authorization of the Las Condes Mayor Carlos Larraín, a lover of roses, to carry it on in the Parque Araucano’s Rose Garden. From then on the Rose Festival takes place every year adding hundreds of new roses’ varieties and becoming a beautiful meeting point for all lovers of this flower.

Even though the Chilean Rose Society is the W.F.R.S. “with the smallest number of members”, it is a very active association (as our President, Mr. Gerald Meylan has pointed out) that has many admirers who participate in our activities and that has improved a lot.

In the last years a very good and fruitful communication with the Coyhaique’s Rose Society (far south of the country) and with the 5th Region’s Gardens Clubs’ members has been achieved, which makes possible a new Rose Society in that province.

In the year 2005 the creation of a garden in a deserted place of the Jardín de Casa lo Matta was approved to stimulate disabled children to participate in its maintenance. Today, with the collaboration of all members, this wild piece of land has become a beautiful and voluptuous garden, a
weekly meeting point of all children and teenagers. Their creators, Nora Fuenzalida and Soledad Sánchez have named it “Monet’s Garden”.

The Association’s activities begin by the end of March, the end of summer vacations.

In April the Autumn Roses Exhibition takes place.

Every second Thursday of each month, until December, meetings to which we invite specialists in several topics (pruning, reproduction and maintenance, disinfection, etc.) take place. In November this year, Rosario Algorta de Carrau from the Montevideo’s Rose Association visited us and delighted us with a speech called “The Rose’s ABC”.
Before the end of the year all members visit some nursery or important rose garden, preferably in provinces.
As WFRS Vice President for South America, my activities were the following:

- **In 2006** I traveled to the WFRS Regional Rose Conference: “Orléans Célèbre les Roses” in the city of Orléans to my nomination and to agree on the steps to take for the “4th South American Rose Convention in Santiago de Chile”.

- **In Junio 2007** I attended the “11th International Heritage Rose Conference”, “Conference Sur les Roses Anciennes” – Chaalis.
  - “The 100º Concours International de Roses Nouvelles 2007” – Bagatelle.
  - and the “Concorso Internazionale- Rose Nuove Cittá di Roma” in which I have been International Jury since the year 2000.
  - “60ème Concours International de Roses Nouvelles de Genève”

- **In October 2007** we carried out the “4th SOUTH AMERICAN ROSE CONVENTION” in Santiago, in which exhibitors from 9 countries and 120 participants took part.
This Convention gave us the chance to make ourselves definitely known, notoriously increasing the amount of attendants to the monthly conferences.
Many schools have visited our Rose Garden, like the Santiago’s Scuola Italiana.

- **In April 2008** I gave a lecture on CLIMBING ROSES to the members of the Chilean Society (on their different behaviors, pruning, disinfection and maintenance).

- **In May 2008** I attended the Buenos Aires’ “Autumn Roses Exhibition” with a seven member delegation.
We enjoyed a very interesting lecture from former President Nilda Crivelli and a stroll in Micaela Bastidas Park, in the center of Puerto Madero. This is a huge green lung full of hundreds of roses of many varieties located among the city’s skyscrapers.
We were gently guided by its designer and executor, the landscape gardener Valentina Casucci.

- **In May, 2008** – “66º Concorso Internazionale-Rose Nuove Città di Roma”

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In September 2008 I gave a course to three members (Gloria Narbona, Carmen Botteselle and Eliana Flores) who were interested in Roses evaluation in cut flowers and Roses ornaments exhibitions.

I have contacted the “Floralias” group’s friends in Lima, Peru to visit them next March for a conference on climbing roses and on New Roses Contests and to inform them on how to be members of the W.F.R.S’s fascinating rose family.

Finally my best regards to all of you, especially those who have taught me and guided me to satisfactorily fulfill the beautiful mission of being the W.F.R.S Vice President for South America.

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Isa María Bozzolo
Vice President WFRS for South America.
The Finnish Rose Society

Our activities take place in local Clubs in many places in Finland. The names of Clubs: Turku, Helsinki, Tampere, Lahti, Kuopio, Oulu, Jyväskylä, Länsirannikko, Etelä-Pohjanmaa, Pohjanmaa (10). They have private Rose Evenings and Rose Journeys in Finland.

The Rose Society publish a very beautiful, nice and with plenty of Information about Roses The Rose-publication “Ruusunlehti-Rosenbladet” 4 number per Year. Our information is in www.ruususeura.fi <http://www.ruususeura.fi/> and we have there a big Collection of Roses and Information.
This Year we published Second Edition of an Publication The names of roses with Pictures (2Ruusujen nimet-Rosornas namn” by Pentti Alanko & Henry Väre, 40 s.).

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28.3.2009 the Finnish Rose Society has its 20 Year anniversary in Turku!
Our society was founded in 1896, so we are more than hundred-year-old. Actually, we have about six hundred members. Our activity is only around roses. As many societies, with have problems to recruit more members, every year if we win some new, we loose about the same quantity because age. Our members are amateurs and also professionnals.

TRIALS and EXIBITIONS

In France, we organize every year LYON’s trial for new roses and each two year Biennial of scented roses in NANTES with the municipality and perfumers.

Five years ago, we have imagined ALTERA ROSA in AVIGNON inside of «Palais des Papes», castle built on 14eme century. It’s an exposition with a new concept, french and european breeders or editors of new roses could show her new varieties never sold before and only on market at following autumn.

Now, ALTERA ROSA is an annual meeting place in May, during 4 days. Each year about 25.000 people are visiting that show. During 4 days some videoconferences are given by us on different rose subjects.

Several peoples from our society are judges in european roses trials.
PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITY

We take part in many roses shows and baptisms of new roses. Our sister society ROSES ANCIENNES en France has also a great activity, especially around of old roses, more and more popular in France.

PUBLICATIONS

Each year we publish our magazine LES AMIS DES ROSES (Roses’s Friends). Inside, activity of the society, new roses in the year, europeans trials’s results, texts and photos specific for amators etc… In different opportunities we distribute some leaflets with photos, to general public.

CONGRATULATIONS

We are very happy to congratulate our World President Gerald MEYLAN for his fantastic activity during 3 years, he was positively near from us in many occasions. Thank you very much Gerald.

Robert CATTERINI President
The Hellenic Rose Society
On the 11th of June, 2006 the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Cyprus Mr. George Iakovou visited the Historic Rosegarden and the Centre for Hellenism Damianos Foundation and revealed the statues of King Evagoras A of Ancient Salamina in Cyprus and General Kimona of Athens.

Among the distinguished guests were: Mr. Eugene Rossides president of the American Hellenic Institute, vice-prefect of Corinth Mr. George Petritis, the Mayor of Nicosia Mr. Michael Zampellas, the Mayor of Loutraki Mr. Pavlos Pavlou, the Mayor of Penteli Mr. Costas Kossovitsas, the Ambassador of Cyprus Mr. George Georgis.
On the 30th of May, 2007 His Beautitude the Archbishop of Athens and all Greece Mr. Christodoulos visited the Historic Rose Garden and the Centre for Hellenism Damianos Foundation.

He was very impressed by the different varieties of roses and especially by the green rose R. Chinensis Viridiflora of China. He also revealed the statue of Constantinos Palaiologos.

Among the distinguished guests were: ex-Prime Minister Mr. Ioannis Grivas, Prefect of Corinth Mr. Nikos Tagaras, the Metropolitan of Corinth Mr. Dionisios, the Mayor of Loutraki Mr. George Gionis, the Mayor of Megara Mr. Dimitrios Stratiotis, the Mayor of Papagou Mr. Vasilis Xidis, the Mayor of Asso-Lehaio Mr. Charalabos Kabouris, the Mayor of Voha Mr. George Liountris.
Roses in Iceland! There is something of a contradiction of terms in the notion of growing roses in Iceland. Yet, that is exactly what we are doing - or at least trying to. And trying it is - both with success and some failures. Our Club was founded in April 2002 with the objective of gathering knowledge and experience in the growing of roses and spreading information among the members and to the public. The Club currently has some 210 members, which probably makes it the largest rose society in the World on per capita basis! The Board is elected at the annual meeting. (See the list of current board members and e-mails below)

About roses in Iceland
The variable climate and unstable weather conditions prevailing in Iceland provide a major challenge to rose-growing in Iceland. The weather is characterised by frequent high winds, high rainfall summer and winter, especially in the South; relatively low summer temperatures, and relatively mild winters with frequent variations between frost and thaw – in short, conditions generally hated by roses! The situation is however not hopeless and with knowledge about requirements of the different varieties and increasing emphasis and success by some propagators in developing hardy varieties the hopes for Icelandic rose enthusiasts are rising.

There are two species of roses occurring naturally in six widely dispersed locations in Iceland, the Burnet rose, *Rosa pimpinellifolia*, (Photo 1) and the Glaucous Dog Rose, *Rosa dumalis*, (in one location only - Photo 2.).
There are interesting speculations on the possible means by which these roses arrived at their very few and widely separated locations. Were they brought by the early Irish Christians among the first settlers? These limited natural occurrences have not led to proper genetic adaptation of these species to the climatic conditions. Their flowering is sparse and they are not fully hardy and therefore not widely used in gardening until now. Surprisingly, imported and/or genetically mixed varieties of these same species seem to perform better as garden plants in Iceland.

![Photo 3 'Hurdalsrosen' from Norway does well in Iceland. Photo: Vilhjálmur Lúðviksson.](image)

There are records of some 930 species and varieties of roses having been imported to Iceland and presumably tried, mostly in private gardening (Photo 3). Unfortunately, there are limited written records of the outcomes of these trials, a situation that needs to be addressed.

In recent years a number of dedicated gardeners have become successful at growing roses and identifying varieties that perform well, given proper care and choice of suitable location (Photo 4, 5 and 6).

![Photo 4 'Bonica 82' and 'Hansaland' happily flowering until late fall. Photo: Vilhjálmur Lúðviksson.](image)
This success has been helped by a warming climate and a more sheltered environment with the rapid expansion of arboriculture both in gardening and large scale forestry. Most recently attempts have been started at hybridisation of roses starting from the most promising and attractive of the imported varieties (Photo 7). This effort is likely to increase in the future.

**The Rose list – Rose trials**

The Club has already established a list of 100 recommended varieties and species roses based on the experience of veteran members. (See [www.gardurinn.is/Files/Skra_0014042.PDF](http://www.gardurinn.is/Files/Skra_0014042.PDF)

The list of roses classifies the varieties in 3 categories of hardiness as related to relevant Icelandic growing conditions.
2006

On June 24, the Luxembourg Rose Society celebrated the 150th anniversary of the first roses “Tour Malakoff” and “La Noblesse” of Soupert & Notting, rose growing pioneers in Luxembourg since 1856. For that occasion, we organised a rose launch in the gardens of the Luxembourg University, the former home of the Soupert-Notting family.

The new rose ‘Hommage à Soupert & Notting’ has been created by Fabien Ducher, a young rose grower established near of Lyons who carries on the tradition of his ancestors Pernet and Ducher. These growers had been friends of the Luxembourgers and had dedicated the roses ‘Soupert et Notting’ and ‘Mme Melanie Soupert’ to them.

In 1927, a rose of Soupert & Notting has been chosen to celebrate the 6th birthday of the heir to the throne of Luxembourg. The rose was named ‘Prince Jean de Luxembourg’. In memory of that, HRH the Grand Duke agreed to be patron of the new anniversary rose

At His arrival, His Royal Highness was greeted by the Rector of the University of Luxembourg, the Mayor of the Capital and the Secretary of Public Works. Baroness Antoine de Schorlemer, Luxembourg president of the Luxembourg Rose Society introduced the guests of honour to His Royal Highness: Mr. Jean-Loup Soupert, great-grand-son of Jean Soupert and his spouse, Mrs. Margot Harig of the Notting family, as well as the creator of the new rose, Mr. Fabien Ducher and his wife.

The Mayor inaugurated a new theme walk, RosaLi. It is a walk through Limpertsberg, the suburb of the former rose growers; this walk was thought of and planned by Claude Vion.

It is now one of the official guided tours of the Luxembourg City Tourist Office.

Among the official guests was the Honorary President of the Luxembourg Chamber of Deputies, as well as members of the City Hall, other officials and the Friends of the Rose.
2007

"Luxembourg and the larger Region – European Capital of Culture 2007" served as the framework for a great rose celebration. The project of the Luxembourg Rose Society was granted the High Patronage of Their Royal Highnesses the Grand Duke and the Grand Duchess of Luxembourg, as well as of the Government of the Grand Duchy.

During the winter months, conferences were held on the subject of the former Luxembourg rose growers, their lost and found roses and their replanting project in the ‘Gaard um Titzebierg’ the Luxembourg Rose Conservation Garden.

According to the agreement with the 2006 World Rose Convention in Osaka, we organised the European Convention WFRS Luxembourg 2007. It was to be the largest international happening organised by our small association, since the 1997 World Convention BENELUX of which one day’s activities took place in the Grand Duchy.

Our secretary’s office elaborated the programs of the lectures and visits, loggings, meals and transportation. Heartfelt thanks go to Dr. Gérald Meylan and to Malcolm Watson for supporting our efforts. Annette Block worked ceaselessly to fulfil the expectations of the delegates. She was everywhere taking care of every minute detail.

The number of participant inscriptions to the Convention was below the number needed to cover the expenditures; therefore volunteers were recruited to serve as guides and translators. Many thanks go to the private and public sponsors for their contributions, which allowed us to manage the Convention successfully. When the grand Day had arrived, everything was ready and the roses were in bloom.

As an introduction to the European Convention, Luxembourg succeeded in inviting the most important rose growers of Continental Europe for a conference on the theme of durable and economic rose planting in large green spaces: Mr. Alain Meilland (France), the CEO of Meilland International, and Mr. Thomas Proll (Germany), the Head of the Research Department of Kordes Sons; the Swiss landscaper, Mr. Gilbert Henchoz contributed his expertise on the subject of space management. Chairman: Dr. Gérald Meylan President of WFRS. A welcome dinner brought together all the present delegates.
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A welcome dinner brought together all the present delegates.
The Convention took place at the Victor Hugo Centre, in the very midst of the former rose growing suburb. The exhibition “Rosa rosarum” showed objects belonging to the Soupert and Notting families, as well as of the Ketten Brothers. Our friends from ‘Roses Anciennes en France’ Association had brought exhibition material from the Luxembourg rose growers and their French colleagues. The Rose Friends from Trier showed copies of the “Rosenzeitung” and drawings by Lina Schmidt-Michel showing Soupert and other roses.

A lecture on the golden age of the Luxemburg roses revealed their imprint in the world of the queen of flowers. A guided walk through the Limpertsberg showed the urbanization in the former rose fields.

The official opening ceremony took place in the presence of descendants and members of the families of our famous rose growers, of the State Secretary of Culture and Agriculture and the alderwoman for cultural affairs of City Hall, representing the Mayor. The German friends who were to receive the Convention delegates later in Trier, home of Peter Lambert, were in attendance, as well as official representatives of the Luxembourg horticulture associations.

The Luxembourg president, Baroness Antoine de Schorlemer greeted the delegations of rose societies from Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Canada, China, France, Germany, Japan, The Netherlands, Romania and Switzerland.

The president of WFRS, Dr. Gérald Meylan congratulated our association for having succeeded in assembling delegates from four continents.

A hearty luncheon concluded the ceremonies.
During the afternoon, the members of the Convention and the staff drove to the ‘Gaard um Titzebierg’ in Calmus. His Excellency the Ambassador of Japan and Mrs. Tatebe, as well as the Town Council and members of the Commune Council of Saelul and the Landscape architect Dorothy Rossert who created the Titzebierg garden were among the invited guests.

Her Royal Highness Grand Duchess Maria Teresa of Luxembourg was greeted with the hymn of the Grand-ducal House. The owners of the garden, Mrs. Block and Mr. Vion welcomed Her Royal Highness and presented the guests to Her.

During the visit of the garden which had been decorated for this occasion with sculptures of wood and metal, gnomes enlivened the scene.

Of tradition Luxemburgers dedicate roses to her sovereigns and the members of the grand ducal family.

Ann Velle-Boudolf, creating a new rose in Her attention, presented it to Grand Duchess Maria Teresa. Apparently delighted. Under continued applause and under the clicking of the cameras of the international press, Her Royal Highness christened the rose bearing Her name.

Them continues, Mr. Jean-Loup Soupert and the President of WFRS paid homage to HRH and to the welfare of the new rose ‘Grande-Duchesse Maria Teresa’ and so did each delegation in their mother-tongue, since the language of flowers is universal.

Wine and refreshments were served at the end of this event of which each participant will cherish its exquisite memory.
In Luxembourg, Prof. Joyaux gave a lecture on the days of Redouté entitled “Painters’ Roses and Garden Roses” within the framework of the exhibition Rosa rosarum.

The following day at the Victor Hugo Centre, Annette Block lectured on the names of roses. A projection of rose photographs by Marianne Majerus, the talented Luxembourg photographer living in London followed. Its exquisite literary and musical presentation by Claude Wiltgen charmed the audience.

After the luncheon in the former rose fields, we were received at the residence of H.E. the Ambassador of Japan to celebrate the return to Luxembourg of the rose “Mme Mélanie Soupert” which had been preserved in the Land of the Rising Sun and its return was owed to Mrs. Sukurako Nagira.

Then followed the visit of a marvellous garden created by Piet Oudolf.

On Saturday, the Rose Friends of Trier received the Convention in Nells Park.

The first famous German rose breeder, Peter Lambert from Trier, had met his future wife, Leonie Lamesch, when he specialized in the culture of roses in the Spouert & Notting nursery in Luxembourg.

Thomas Heuer talked about the Queen of flowers in his court of perennials and Herbert Muller spoke on the breeder Peter Lambert whose family tree of rose creations is planted in the park.

After lunch, a heavy rain dimmed the visit of the most ancient town in Germany.

The visit in the company of a “Roman” guide however was most interesting.
The last dinner at the Convention hotel brought back together the delegates in the best of moods. We walked the old city ramparts illuminated by night with a tour guide.

On Sunday Neumunster Abbey welcomed us to the lectures given by the Belgian speaker on the last morning of the Convention. Ingrid Verdegem explained that the Belgian roses were over 175 years old and Rudy Velle of Lens Roses praised the merits of Hybrid musks and budding on Rosa rubiginosa. The Luxembourg historian Marc Schoellen explained the modern cloister garden amidst the ancient walls to us.

Everybody agreed after the gourmet farewell meal with rose petals, under the arcades of the cloister, that the quality of the organization and services rendered had been superb.

During the afternoon, a hailstorm cooled the atmosphere, but the newly launched rose bush auction was quite successful. The proceeds went to the Grand-duke Henri and Grand-duchess Maria Teresa Foundation.

Monday morning we bid farewell to our new friends who joined the Heritage Rose Convention in Reims.

It had been a most extraordinary experience and a deep feeling of satisfaction to have succeeded.

In summer the association renewed its executive committee. Several founder members did not present any more a candidacy. After the elections, the executive appears as follows:

President: Annette Block; Vice-President: Jean Neiertz; Secretary: Claude Vion; Tresorer: Jean Tesch; Members: Hely Heldenstein; Irène May; Marie-Christine Wictor; Mariette Schank, Jos. Schmit.
2008

After having welcomed the foreign Rose friends in our beautiful small country, the Luxembourg Rose society travelled to see the roses abroad.

We met up with Guy André in St. Jean de Beauregard and with Rudy and Ann Velle in Beervelde.

In May, a study trip upon the invitation of Madeleine and Marcel Mathiot, took place in the Lyons region. With the Rose Friends from Trier, we admired the roses from Lyons and others in the “Parc de la Tête d’Or” under the guidance of Christophe Ferry and Corvey Biron. We enjoyed the gastronomy of Lyons in the company of Fabien Ducher, visited the Silk Museum and magnificent gardens. Odile Masquelier received us at the “Bonne Maison” and even a sprinkle of rain could not have broken the enchantment there.

After having participated as jury in the new Bagatelle roses trial, Baden-Baden and The Hague, a delegation of the committee went to meet up with Martin Weingart at Bad Langensalza and with Thomas Havel and Jurgen Matern at the Europe-Rosarium Sangerhausen.

At The Roeulx rose trial, we met with the Belgian Friends as it has become a tradition by now.

The Luxembourg Rose Society participated in the parade of the bicentenary of the Gardeners Brotherhood Saint Fiacre in Luxembourg.
In December in Paris, the Luxembourgers attended the awarding of the first grand prize of the SNHF Rose. On that occasion, Claude Vion drew the attention of the audience to the fact that the medal of the SNHF had been awarded in 1908 at the Bagatelle rose trial to the rose “Madame Segond-Weber” created by Soupert & Notting. Miss G. Kinsley wrote in the Guardian, October 30, 1907. ‘Probably, it is the most perfect rose as to size, shape, colour and scent which exists at present.’

This centennial merits our attention as this very same rose was awarded the first gold medal for foreigners at the international Bagatelle rose trial in 1909.

Soupert & Notting dedicated one of their new creations to that prestigious rose garden: ‘Bagatelle’. This climbing rose had disappeared in France, but we found it in Sangerhausen. We would like to replant it in the garden whose name it bears. This project found the support of the City of Paris and of numerous rose lovers.

2009

Our rose calendar has become trilingual since 2008. It contains in addition to photos of the roses from the collection of the Conservatory of the Luxembourg Heritage Roses, information on “Madame Segond-Weber” (the tragedian and the rose), the “Bagatelle” Centennial and on the painter of roses, Pierre-Joseph Redouté, whose 250th anniversary will be celebrated by the horticultural and art world in 2009.

This famous artist born in the Duchy of Luxembourg, has widely contributed to the cultural radiation of France. ‘The Roses’ are appreciated all over the world.

Half a century after Empress Josephine demanded more new roses from French gardeners, Soupert & Notting began rose breeding in Luxembourg. They reached world fame rapidly, harvesting the esteem of their foreign conferees and made Luxembourg the largest World exporter of roses, thanks to the former apprentices Ketten Brothers and Gemen &Bourg. Roses always seduce. People will gain to rediscover those of Luxembourg.

We prepare a publication on P.J. Redouté and great Luxembourg rose breeders.-

Dr. Gerald Meylan, WFRS President, is expected to pay an official visit in February 2009 to the Luxembourg Rose Society.

In 2009, Princess Alexandra, the daughter of Grand-Duke Henri and Grand-Duchess Maria Teresa, will celebrate Her 18th birthday. A new rose created by Wilhelm Kordes Sons will be named “Alexandra, Princesse de Luxembourg”.

The Luxembourg Rose Society will be represented in Vancouver by her Executive Member Mrs. Hely Heldenstein.
Activities Dutch Rose Society between June 2006 and December 2008

2006

June

Many members of our Rose Society have visited Park Rivierenhof in the city of Deurne, Belgium. Rivierenhof has a very large collection of Belgian roses. Also many members have made a visit to Vrijbroekpark in the city of Mechelen, Belgium. Vrijbroekpark has very much historical roses.

June and July

Organized trips in two different provinces of The Netherlands, many members of our Rose Society have visited gardens with beautiful roses.

July

46th International Rose Competition in the Westbroekpark in the city of The Hague. At this Rose Competition distribution and unveiling of the WFRS Award of Garden Excellence 2005 by Mrs. Komachi, wife of the Japanese Ambassador in The Netherlands in presence of Dr. Gérald Meylan, President of the WFRS.

August

40 years Dutch Rose Society
Two days celebration in Rose Village Lottum in the south of The Netherlands. Also another two days visiting gardens with many very beautiful roses in Limburg, the south of The Netherlands and visiting gardens and a wine castle in Belgium. Very many members were present at the two days celebration and two days visiting gardens in our own country and abroad.

September

Organized trip to the city of Boskoop, the city of roses and trees.

A member of our Society has represented the Dutch Rose Society at the International Rose Trials in Le Roeulx, Belgium.

October

End-of-seasons meeting in ´s-Hertogenbosch, capital of the province Noord-Brabant and European Fortress City 2005.

From March – November rose information and help at exhibitions and demonstrations at rose gardens in all provinces of The Netherlands.

From June – September the vice-president and three members of our Society have represented the Dutch Rose Society as a member of the jury of the Top Rose examinations in rose gardens and parks in all provinces of The Netherlands.

The whole year information and help by the website.

Four times a full colour Rose Magazine.
2007

January

New Year meeting in the historical city of Naarden.

March

Annual meeting.

June

Organized four days trip to Germany and visiting Rosary Sangerhausen, Westfalenpark in Dortmund and Park Herrenhausen in Hannover.

The vice-president, the secretary, the past treasurer and a member of our Society have represented the Dutch Rose Society at the WFRS Luxemburg European Rose Convention.

July

47th International Rose Competition in the Westbroekpark in the city of The Hague.

The vice-president, the secretary and a member of our Society have represented the Dutch Rose Society at the International Rose Trials in Dublin and Belfast, Ireland.

July, August and September

Organized trips to very beautiful rose gardens in three different provinces of The Netherlands.

August

The vice-president, the secretary and a member of our Society have represented the Dutch Rose Society at the International Rose Trials in the city of Glasgow, Scotland.

October

End-of- seasons meeting at the estate Twickel in the city of Delden.

From March – November rose information and help at exhibitions and demonstrations at rose gardens in all provinces of The Netherlands.

From June – September the vice-president and three members of our Society have represented the Dutch Rose Society as a member of the jury of the Top Rose examinations in rose gardens and parks in all provinces of The Netherlands.

The whole year information and help by the website.

Four times a full colour Rose Magazine.
2008

January
New Year meeting in Delft, the city of our House of Orange. Our queen and her forefathers are all members of the House of Orange.

March
Annual meeting.

June
Organized five days trip to the dominion of the Loire in France.

June, July and August
Organized trips to very beautiful rose gardens in three different provinces of The Netherlands.

June
The secretary, the past treasurer and a member of our Society have represented the Dutch Rose Society at the International Rose Trials in Geneva, Switzerland and at the International Rose Trials in Baden-Baden, Germany. They also have represented the Dutch Rose Society at the 125 years German Rose Society.

July
48th International Rose Competition in the Westbroekpark in the city of The Hague.

The secretary and a member of our Society have represented the Dutch Rose Society at the International Rose Trials in Belfast and Dublin, Ireland.

September
End-of seasons meeting at estate House Doorn. The castle where the German Emperor was in exile from 1920 until his dead in 1941.

The past treasurer and two members of our Society have represented the Dutch Rose Society at the International Rose Trials of Le Roeulx, Belgium.

From March – November rose information and help at exhibitions and demonstrations at rose gardens in all provinces of The Netherlands.

From June – September the vice-president and three members of our Society have represented the Dutch Rose Society as a member of the jury of the Top Rose examinations in rose gardens and parks in all provinces of The Netherlands.

The whole year information and help by the website.

Four times a full colour Rose Magazine.
Tri-ennial Rose Report from New Zealand 2006-2009

Where possible, two National Rose Shows and Conventions are held each year – Spring & Autumn. The National Autumn Rose Show for 2006 was held in the pretty town of Timaru, on the coast at Caroline Bay, a few hours drive south of Christchurch. The National Spring Rose Show for 2006 was held in Blenheim at the top of the South Island. Both of these towns acquitted themselves extremely well to cater for these events which were well supported by the townsfolk, businesses and, particularly, by South Island rosarians.

The “Kiwi tour group” had a marvelous time in Japan in May 2006 enjoying the Japanese roses, Osaka Convention and festivities followed by an 8 day tour. The
group still talks about the amazing cultural exchange. If only the Gifu roses had been out as many would just love to return at the height of the flowering season. The vista from the tower would be amazing.

The National Autumn Rose Show for 2007 was held in North Harbour, a suburb of Auckland over the harbour bridge. Very nice roses were on display considering a severe storm had passed through the area just 48 hours before.

At the Annual Meeting of the NZRS April 2007, a new Patron was appointed. The much loved and respected Nola Simpson (President Emeritus) graciously accepted the position. She is known by rosarians the length and breadth of the country and has done so much for roses so many years. She gives inspiration to us all.

In Auckland, the Ellerslie Flower Show is New Zealand’s answer to Chelsea. Thanks to co-ordinators Doug Grant and Norma Manuel rosarians from Auckland and surrounding districts have staged a rose display which has been very much admired. In November 2007 Norma was thrilled to receive a Bronze Award for the rose display.

The main highlight on the rose calendar was the 75th anniversary of the New Zealand Rose Society (NZRS) and the National Spring Rose Show held in Palmerston North in November 2007, ably hosted by the Manawatu Rose Society. Very favourable weather for the week leading up to the show saw a huge number of entries – in excess of 800 - making for a fabulous spectacle. One of the best shows ever, according to many. The show was opened by The Queen’s Official Representative in New Zealand, The Governor General, His Excellency Anand Satyanand and his wife Susan. Being former residents of the city they were well aware of the beautiful roses grown in the Manawatu province. The centre piece in the exhibition hall featured a 1930 Chrysler 77 Roadster, one of only 5 in the country and owned by local members Ingrid & Bruce Lambie. The theme of the show was Romantic Roses and many of the competitive classes had titles relating to romance. There were some wonderful creative entries for the public to drool over. The air conditioned hall kept the roses beautifully fresh for the two day show.

How nice it was to welcome the “WFRS Presidential couple” – Gerald & Christina Meylan to their first visit, and hopefully not their last, to Palmerston North and our country. The so enjoyed it and met many dedicated rosarians as well as seeing the wonderful scenery of both islands.
There are two locations where new roses are under trial in New Zealand. Firstly, the NZRS International Rose Trials in Palmerston North. Sadly, hormone spray damage to the roses in spring 2007 meant trial 38 had to be abandoned and so the next awards ceremony will not be held until November 2009. Recent entries scoring highest points on trial were:
2008 No award; 2007 SOMwarmag HT Somerfield NZ 2006 SOMlinone Fl Somerfield NZ; Rob Somerfield is fast becoming a breeder of note and has produced some very nice roses with more in the pipeline yet.

The second trial is conducted at the Rogers Rose Garden in Hamilton under the auspices of the Pacific Rose Bowl Trust. Recent entries judged Rose of the Year are: 2008 Lancome DELboip Fl Delbard France; 2007 Glorious HT Ilsink Holland; and 2006 Gold Dust Fl Benny NZ.

Other category winners of both trials are shown on the NZRS website www.nzroses.org and also published in the NZ Rose Annual.

At the NZRS Annual meeting, held in Christchurch in May 2008, I had the pleasure as outgoing President for the last 4 years, of installing the incoming President, Mrs Dawn Eagle, known to many international rosarians for her interest in miniature roses and her former business Southern Cross Nursery. Dawn is a very committed rosarian and is also Editor of The NZ Rose Annual – a busy lady.

Also honoured over the last few years with Life Membership of the NZRS were members who are known internationally. Norma Manuel (Auckland), Peter Bamber (Christchurch) and John Paviour-Smith (Hamilton). It is with sadness that we noted the death of Betty Norman, a past Editor for many years of the NZ Rose Annual. Past President, Doug Grant was awarded the T.A.Stewart Memorial Award for services to the rose in Australasia and joins a select group of New Zealanders to have won this award.

A good number of New Zealanders attended the WFRS Regional Convention and the centenary of the Rose Society of South Australia in Adelaide, October 2008. This was a very well attended and organised event featured outstanding speakers, garden tours, gala dinners and bonza Australian hospitality.

The National Spring Show for 2008 was held very recently in Whangarei, a two hour car drive north of Auckland. Here reside some of the country’s most ardent exhibitors – typically, 1,000 bushes growing on a city section of about one quarter
acre. A sight to behold both in the garden and on the show bench. A great weekend was enjoyed by all.

In conclusion, I would like to acknowledge the excellent PR work in the promotion of the rose around the world carried out by Gerald Meylan during his term of office, especially in visiting so many WFRS member countries. I am very much looking forward to visiting Vancouver and would like to extend best wishes to everyone in the WFRS and may you extend your love of roses by embracing the motto of the NZRS “to implant roses into the hearts and gardens of the people”

Peter Elliott
Vice President WFRS (NZ), December 2008
By Craig Wallace, President.

The Rose Society of Northern Ireland continues to function with energy and enthusiasm with an annual programme covering the twelve months. Membership hovers in the region of 130/135 with some 50 or so who could be described as active, attending meetings and events. Much of the thinking of the Executive Committee is engaged in the problem of attracting younger members – not an easy task.

A close liaison continues to exist between Belfast City Council and the Society, particularly in relation to the organising of the City of Belfast International Rose Trials and the judging by both the International and the Society’s panel of judges. The assistance given by the Belfast Parks Department staff in the running of the Summer and Autumn shows is gratefully acknowledged. The move of the Summer Show from indoors in Wilmont House to a spacious marquee in Sir Thomas and Lady Dixon Park during Belfast ‘Rose Week’ in July 2008 proved an outstanding success, with a greatly enhanced attendance by the public.

The book “And lovely is the Rose”, chronicling the history of the Society since 1964 and the early formative meetings and discussions, was launched during 2008 ‘Rose Week’. Proceeds of the sale are being donated to the Society; to date over £1000 has been raised. (Members £8.00; non members£10.00; postage £2.00 extra.)

Despite the fact that an annual dinner was first mooted in the early years of the Society, it was only on 4th March 2008 that the first, and highly successful, Society dinner took place. At the time of writing a second dinner is being organised for 4th March 2009 (The Society was formed on 4th March 1964). The first dinner was honoured by the presence of the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor of Belfast, Councillor Jim Rodgers, a keen advocate and supporter of the Rose Trials and Belfast Parks in general.
A number of overseas and local parties have visited the International Rose Garden on several occasions, with members of the Society being involved as escorts and guides. Two extremely dull and wet summers in 2007 and 2008 have proved difficult both for the roses and the maintenance staff. Despite this, the rose displays have come in for much praise. The Society is grateful for the many rose breeders who continue to send their new roses for trial.

The Society was greatly honoured to have Dr. Gerald Meylan, President of the World Federation, attending the International Judging Event in July 2008. Dr. Meylan spoke at the “Rose Dinner” in Belfast Castle in glowing terms of the standards achieved by the Parks staff among the roses. The Society was also extremely pleased to welcome Malcolm Watson, Chief Executive of the World Federation, and his wife Ruth, in May 2007.

Over the past few years the Society has been saddened by the loss of several long-time and loyal members – we miss their presence and comradeship. The list includes the Society’s first President, Lady O’Neill of the Maine, plantswoman and rosarian, who died in August 2008 at her home in England.
Activities of Pakistan National Rose Society

Pakistan Rose Society (PNRS) is dedicated to the cause of promoting rose cultivation and rose culture in the Country. As a non-political, non-profit NGO, was raised two decades back in 1988 with the aim to generate interest and awareness about rose growth among the people. Having 560 life members and 782 annual members, is now successfully striding towards its goal. It is especially heartening that 2008 marked the completion of twenty years of PNRS. During the last two decades, Society has successfully been able to achieve virtually most of the objectives that it had set forth for itself in the very inception.

A brief account of the important activities undertaken during the year June 2006 to Nov 2008 are as under:

Training / Education and Visits to Rose Gardens

Training and education of new members continued as usual. Active sources of this aspect are the lectures and newsletters as standard features that are sent to the rosarians regularly. The newsletters incorporate the significant activities of the Society as well as the major happenings in the Rose World. These also include Technical Instructions about care and maintenance of rose plants every month. Visits of the rose gardens after the Spring Rose Festivals are arranged every year to show our members the winning gardens. Trips to rose growing areas were also undertaken to apprise them about the new varieties introduced by the nurserymen during the year. A lecture every two months was arranged during the period mentioned above on roses in Pakistan and about techniques of pruning and planting roses during the months of November/December so that the new members could learn about growing roses in their homes and gardens. In order to review the pace of progress meetings of the Executive Council were held regularly, throughout the years. These meetings also enabled the Society members to remain well connected, to devise ways and means for continuous progress of the Society.

Rose Festivals
Annual Spring Rose Festivals of PNRS are the most awaited event that has become an important part of the cultural calendar of the Federal Capital Islamabad and its twin city Rawalpindi. Over the years, this Festival has gained immense popularity not only among the local population of twin cities but it has also achieved a great significance for the people living in the other parts of the country. Residents of these twin cities keenly await and participate, both as contestants and visitors to become a part of this Festival. Every year it is organized in the most befitting manner, attended by a large number of people from different walks of life with great enthusiasm.

The main feature of the Festival is based on two distinct sections vis-à-vis cut rose section and flower arrangement section. The amateur and the professional rosarians along with the nurserymen regulate both the sections. They arrange flowers to keep them on display in an attractive manner that shows the exuberance of their skill and craftsmanship. Sometimes the variety of roses exceed two hundred in such exposition thus inspiring the people invariably to hold in their gardens and nurseries and create more innovation in the art of nature.

Rose Festival 2006 was termed as double delight because the festival was more innovative in terms of beauty and knowledge. Festival was a great success as a matter of fact by and large it served as a double delight to rose lovers as it provided them an opportunity to seek as much information as possible about numerous species of wild and indigenous roses in Pakistan through the prestigious publication of Dr. Mahmooda Hashmi entitled "indigenous and wild roses of Pakistan". This publication was launched in a graceful ceremony during this Festival, for which the book was highly acclaimed by the eminent scholars and rosarians all over the country. As the first ever publication written on the subject in Pakistan it reveals some valuable facts about the natural treasure of our country that remained undiscovered for a very long time.

Spring Festival 2007 was held in the Rose garden of PNRS called “Gulab Bagh”. This was organized for two days so that visitors can relish the true taste of spring in an environment that is close to the nature. Senior members of the Society expressed the hope that by changing its venue this year, PNRS would be able to bring the people closer to nature so that they can learn more from the splendor of the rose and spread friendship through roses!

The Rose Festival 2008 was held at Islamabad club. An Important feature of the Festival was announcement of about 20 new sports of roses by Changa Nursery Pattoki. (the main rose growing area of Pakistan) The roses have been named af-
ter the most prolific Pakistani rosarians. These roses are currently under observation and will be available at local nurseries after a few years of extensive trials.

*Rose Annual*

Rose Annual is the main and vital source to disseminate information and knowledge about roses among the rose lovers. Eminent scholars from within the country and abroad contribute articles that provide interesting information for the readers. Keeping up with its tradition, PNRS on the occasion of its annual Rose Festival also publishes Pakistan Rose Annual. Rose Annuals of 2006, 2007 and 2008 like always consisted of a variety of articles written by the renowned national and international rosarians. These were distributed to the members, on the day of the Rose Festival, free of cost. Copies were also sent to member societies of the World Federation of Rose Societies as well as all those rosarians who had contributed articles.

*Newsletters*

Quarterly Newsletters are standard feature of PNRS. This includes significant activities of the Society and the major happening in the Rose World. These are regularly sent to all the rosarians. Instructions about care and maintenance of rose plants are also incorporated in these letters.

*Gulab Bagh (Rose Garden of PNRS)*

This is the largest rose garden in the Capital City Islamabad that consists of over 15000 rose plants of more than 200 varieties. The care and maintenance of the plants continued as usual. More rose beds were made and about thousand roses planted. This year’s significance is major development works are being carried out to beautify the landscaping and create facilities for the visitors. The project will be completed next year (2009).

*International Linkage*

Pakistan National Rose Society made its presence felt in the international rose arena by maintaining close ties with all the important rose societies of the World. Some of our members have been attending the World Rose Conventions regularly for the past fifteen years. In recognition of the services rendered to the Rose
World Lt.Col(retd) S. A Shakoor Presidet PNRS, was awarded Silver Medal by WFRS during Osaka Convention. This was indeed a great honour for Pakistan National Rose Society. Mian Zafar Iqbal Patron-in-Chief PNRS and Vice President WFRS for C. Asia introduced Della Gold Medal which will be presented during every world rose convention to an eminent rosarian of the world. Selection will be made by the Executive Council of PNRS. During the Osaka Convention it was presented to Mr. Belfaur, Past President of the World Federation. In January 2007 Mian Zaffar Iqbal visited India to attend the 25th Indian Rose Convention held at Pune to present Shield of WFRS to the Centenary Rose Garden Tamil Nadu India. He also awarded five gold medals on behalf of PNRS to the distinguished rosarians of India including Nawab Shah Alam Khan past president of IRF.

Advisory Services were extended to different agencies of Islamabad, Rawalpindi, Lahore and Multan cities regarding establishment of new rose gardens and care and maintenance of rose plants.
REPORT OF ACTIVITIES

( June 2006 – January 2009)

During my term, beginning in 2006 I had many and various preoccupations concerning the contacts with the seven Rose Societies which were under my zone of influence: Slovenia, Austria, Czech Republic, Poland, Slovakia, Romania, Greece, and Israel. Lately, the Director Executive gave me other countries: Russia, Mongolia.

In the first time I contacted all of them by e-mail, but answers came always with a great lateness or not at all. Exceptions were Slovenia and Austria, from where I’ve got always quick answers. Very late or no responses I had from Poland, Israel. From Israel I did not get any answer, in three years, to my questions.

Contacts to establishing of new rose societies in the zone

In July 2006, being requested, I made a visit in the Moldavian Republic, to the Botanical Gardens at Kishinew. They asked me help to establish a rose society. I gave some advises, giving them our constitution and explaining how to act. I hold a lecture about the WFRS, his goals and activities around the rose-world and I showed the Osaka Convention in pictures. We created a good atmosphere for further cooperation, sealed with a short protocol. In the same year they sent
two delegates to Romania and I helped them to contact with people working rose breeding and micropropagation. Unfortunately, after this events, I could not continue the contact because in despite of very many e-mails, faxes or letters I’ve sent there was and is a deep silence. Don’t knowing why, I gave finally up.

Another try I made to establish a rose society was in Bulgaria. I had a contact person there and I visited him in September 2007. After a short visit we were discussing about how to found a rose society and how to join the WFRS. I came back with a lot of hopes, but after that I lost the contact, the person never responded to my letters. It seems that it is not so easy to found a rose society, this needs much work and passion!

I was more successful in Hungary. There was a rose society but not too active and was only for the producers. I could convince them to reactivate the society and transform it in a new one, in which both professionals and amateurs are present. This new society is working now under the name of Hungarian Rose Society; in short time, being advised by myself, it joined the WFRS and now they are member of the Federation.

From Serbia came a request, asking for assistance help to join the Federation. Mr. Petrovic founded the Serbian Royal Rose Society and with the help of the Executive Director and myself, the society joined the Federation.

I have to express my gratitude to the Executive Director, Malcolm Watson and the treasurer, Mrs. Jill Bennell, helping me in the arrangements of joining the Federation of the two rose societies.

**Visiting rose societies of my zone**

In August 2006, being invited by the Czech Rose Society, I participated at Rajhrad, on a meeting having the aim to found new rose garden with varieties of Czech breeders and from all over the world. In a short speech in which I presented a few Romanian varieties I expressed my congratulations about the idea and offered my contribution to give some Romanian varieties for the new collection of roses, which I did in 2007, giving budwood to a nursery which propagates material for the new garden. With this occasion I was talking with the leadership of Czech and Slovakian Rose Societies being informed about the problems they are facing with.

In June 2008 I visited the Austrian Rose Society at Baden n. Vienna. At this moment they organized a very nice rose show with cut-rose varieties which was visited by many people. In despite of the fact that the society has not more than 50-60 members, they organize each year many meetings and exhibitions, having a good activity.

In August 2008 I visited the Hungarian Rose Society which organized an international conference in the memory of the famous breeder R. Geschwind. Beside the WFRS President, there were present delegates from Austria, Czechia, Slovakia, Romania. Myself, I held a lecture about the rose breeding in Romania. With this occasion I was talking with delegates from Slovakia, insisting to solve the problem of the leadership, because at time nobody knew who is the president.

**Other international presences**

In June 2007 I take part, with other 4 members of ours on the Luxembourg Regional Conference. We had a good changes of ideas and experiences.
In June 2007 I visited the Meilland company in France, having a change of ideas about breeding with Mr. Mouchotte, the research director of the company. After that I participated at Paris-Bagatelle at the Rose trials, having the 100th anniversary of this event. With this occasion I was present on a meeting of the Executive Committee. In October-November 2007 I organized a trip of 30 members of ours in South Africa, where we have seen very many rose nurseries and gardens, being assisted and helped generously by Mr. L. Taschner and Mrs. Sheenagh Harris, members of the SA Rose Association’s leadership. Being invited, I took part, in June 2008, on the rose trial at Baden-Baden, Germany, where, on behalf of the Romanian Rose Society, I left a greeting letter addressed to the German Rose Society with the occasion of its 125 years of existence. After the trials I was present on an Executive Committee meeting. In October–November 2008 I organized a trip to Australia, being invited by the South-Australian Rose Society which celebrated the anniversary of 100 years of existence. From Romania there were present 25 members, being one of the most numerous delegations from abroad. Momentarily I am organizing the participation of a group of 22 attendees to the Vancouver Convention and at this time we have arranged all necessary reservations (convention, tours, accommodation etc).

Contacts to the Federation

During my term I was in continuous contact with the Director Executive, Mr. Malcolm Watson, having useful and numerous contacts, getting good advises from him. It was pleasant to work with him. The same were the contacts, although not so often, with the President. With the Treasurer, Mrs. Jill Bennell, I was in permanent contact about the fee payments of the societies of my zone and I urged, in some cases, several societies to pay their debts to the Federation and sometimes I was successful in this respect.

Conclusions

I consider that this function of being vice-president of the Federation is not an easy job. There are no funds for visiting societies and see in situ how they work. All my visits were self-financed or by a few sponsors and members of ours. I feel that some national rose societies do not have sufficient discipline in answering questions put by the vice-president. I could work well with Slovenia, Austria, Hungary and Czechia from where I could get easily responses. From Poland and Israel I never got answers, from Greece sometimes. With the new member, Mongolia, I could not establish any contact. I propose that the Executive Committee should ask each Rose Society to make an Annual Report about their activities, mentioning the number of members and the kind of activities they performed in their branches. This report should be sent to the Director Executive. In this manner the writing of a triennial report will be easier.
I think that there is no discipline in paying the annual fee by the societies and there is necessary to take some measures in this respect.

For me it was nice and useful to work for the WFRS as a vice-president, even if this was not always without problems, but for the cause of the Rose it was worth-while and only to meet so many specialists in roses merited the tiredness.

December 2008

Dr. eng. Stefan WAGNER,
President Romanian Rose Society
WFRS’s V-P for Europe 2
Russia

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Email: Ukolov_aleksandr@list.ru
Website: http://www.rusroza.ru
President - Alexander Ukolov

Calendar of Rose Events - 2009

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<td>Rose nursery establishment</td>
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<td>Garden of the Russian Academy of Sciences</td>
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<td>International Exhibition Centre CROCUS EXPO 7th International Specialized exhibition Release of the 1st issue of our own journal about roses</td>
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Russian Association of Rosarians took part in the 16th International Flower Show - a show of flowers and equipment and materials for the landscape gardening and flower industry "FLOWERS 2007".

**The Russian Association of Rosarians** was established under the auspices of the World Federation of Rose Societies led by the President Gerald Meylan.

On May 5, 2007 Russia represented by «The Russian Association of Rosarians» has joined the World Federation of Rose Societies and became its 37th member.

**Main objectives of establishment** of the association are to broaden the use of rose culture in Russia, to provide contacts among professionals in rose cultivation and rosarians-amateurs, to enlarge the stream of information about roses.

**Kinds of activities of the Russian Association of Rosarians – amateurs and professionals**
- Perfection and every possible advancement of rose culture in Russia
- Registration of all cultivars of roses cultivated in Russia
- Organization of annual exhibitions and competitions (trials of cultivars) of roses
- Assessment of rose planting stock market in Russia, planting stock quality
- Getting information of world rose novelties and providing information about rose novelties to the all members
- Organization of meetings of amateurs and professionals
- Printing of the annual Bulletin and other printing materials (catalogues, articles, magazines and so on)
- Holding on symposiums (questionnaires of popularity of the cultivar) in different classes of roses
- Carrying out of selection work and introduction of the best foreign cultivars on the territory of Russia
- Development of contacts with foreign associations of roses
- Holding on seminars, training programs, lessons and consultations concerning all question of rose cultivation in Russia
- Rendering of help in buying of planting material
- Establishment of their own rose garden

The Russian Association of Rosarians was established as a non-commercial organization. The Russian Association of Rosarians has its own rose orchard.

The organization of competition of roses is planned to be held in Russian in the nearest future.

The majority «The Russian Association of Rosarians» is enthusiastic amateurs-rosarians who begin or have been cultivating roses for a long time, those who want to broaden their knowledge of roses and to know of rose novelties in the world. Membership in «The Russian Association of Rosarians» is established for a civil year from the entrance date. Everyone can enter «The Russian Association of Rosarians» every working day a year.

Members of «The Russian Association of Rosarians» pay an annual initiation fee at the rate of 2000 Rubles. An application is being discussed during 10 days, after that the future member of «The Russian Association of Rosarians» is invited to the office, he receives membership card, catalogue of «The Russian Association of Rosarians» and he becomes legal member of «The Russian Association of Rosarians». During a year every member of «The Russian Association of Rosarians» receives the bulletin of the association, informational materials, brochures, articles, he is invited to the exhibitions, takes part in trials, seminars, training programs and he is given consultations connected with all rose questions.

The Russian Association of Rosarians has about 100 members at present.

President’s letter
Now we have joined the World Federation of Rose Societies: members of the World Federation of Rose Societies have been carrying out research connected with rose cultivation for 130 years. Russia have received an opportunity to use great amount of information and world
experience in solution of problems, connected with rose culture: from the definition of rose cultivar to providing every general or specialized advice on cultivation or taking care of plants. The World Federation of Rose Societies has all-side library about roses in the world from 1990 years. An opportunity to use world knowledge is a useful resource for also the Russian Association of Rosariens. Plant breeders of different countries with the help of hybridization and cross breeding created a large amount of forms and cultivars of roses.

In Russia a rose appeared in the middle of the XVII century in the gardens of the tsar Mikhail Fedorovitch and till XIX century it was grown only in farms of nobility. A rose became widespread in XX century, first orchards were established; they specialized on industrial rose cultivation. Large collections of roses were created in the Main botanic garden of the Russian Academy of Sciences in Moscow and in Nikitskiy botanic garden in the period of USSR. New cultivars were created, technologies of cultivation of roses for advancement of rose culture to north regions were developed in the institutes of scientific research. Unfortunately in the context of low financing of scientific work Russian selection is in arrearages of contemporary world rose selection, which is developing rapidly and dynamically.

Use of sorts cultivated in Russia and established sorts can give an opportunity to establish blooming rose garden for only a season. Rose gardens can be established in Russia as if there are in France, England, Holland.

Now by virtue of world selection rose begins to bloom regardless of sun activity and temperature. Bloom period begins in May and continues until late autumn, cultivars of roses are genetically winterhard, there can be more than 150 flowers on a plant.

We created the Russian Association of Rosarians and we would like to do our best to give people an opportunity to enjoy watching wonderful rose gardens and newest cultivars of world selection in them.

President of the Russian Association of Rosarians
A Rosarium for Serbia

Radoslav Petrović

There is no serious tradition in Serbia where roses are concerned; everything dates for the most part to the 1950s. At that time, realizing that roses could be a lucrative business, some people decided to grow varieties that were then commercially popular. Naturally, Hybrid Teas were most sought after, so they were represented in great numbers in the nurseries established during the period. The situation remained unchanged until today. I, however, have been trying for a long time to acquaint others with the glorious beauty and graciousness of old garden roses. And I am happy to say that as time goes by, more and more people visit my garden and sincerely admire my roses.

My garden is located 23 kilometers from Belgrade, the capital of Serbia, in a small town called Vrčin, at the foot of Mt. Avala. Surrounded by beautiful landscape with many forests and fields, the area practically begged for a vast rose garden. My collection of 1,200 varieties of mostly old garden roses covers a very limited space. This means that most varieties are represented by a single plant. The space is small, but the love invested is immeasurable. And the collection is growing: a 2-acre piece of land nearby will be able to hold additional old rose varieties in the future. It all started in 1994 when I moved from the city of Belgrade to try to realize my dream. I finally had a chance to live surrounded by nature, breathe clean
air, and have vast spaces around me. My love for roses dated as far back as I can remember, but my discovery of old garden roses was something entirely new and overwhelming. Little by little, they kept arriving in my garden. First came Louise Odier, unbelievably rich in blooms and in our climate, extremely vigorous. She was followed by Ferdinand Pichard, Camaieux, Baron Girod de L’Ain, Climbing Souvenir de la Malmaison, and Bourbon Queen. In the beginning, I used to find roses with many petals much more interesting than others until Single Cherry swept me off my feet with her magical presence, color, and fragrance. In my opinion, the bloom form is the most important aspect of the rose, then comes fragrance, and finally, color. Of course, the form of the bush is equally significant. My quest for roses did not go smoothly. Bringing rare and valuable plants into the country was always (and still is) hard work. Bureaucracy never stops to take a breath, so every time a rose was to enter Serbia, I encountered numerous problems. Most often, the customs employees expressed lack of understanding: “Why do you need these roses?” or “You are planning to sell them!” This, of course, was not true. From the very beginning, my intent was to simply enjoy the endless beauty of the plants. Each time I would lay my eyes on a variety I did not know, my excitement would rise. “Oh, God,” I would think, “You must have had such fun making this one. You created something so thoroughly refined and exceptional in every aspect, and then you wove in the threads of fragrances so beautiful that they linger in the air, enchanting anyone lucky enough to be near.” Border inspectors, stern and serious, would shatter my daydreaming: “You will introduce diseases from all over the world into the country; you’ll infect our entire local plant life!” This battle continues. The law says one thing, then another; sometimes the authorities fail to read the paragraphs all the way through and my parcels end up “returned to sender” and I feel like Sisyphus, always on the brink of obtaining something new when things fall through at the last moment and I have to start over. At one point I realized that I should start selling roses. The money I made would enable me to keep collecting new varieties, while at the same time I could show others what made me so happy about the roses. I try to explain the superior beauty of an old rose, even though her bloom period is short compared to that of a Hybrid Tea. Fragrance is another issue. People must understand that if their roses have no fragrance, they are robbed of many beautiful moments. I often wonder, “Do people realize what jewels I am bringing to them?” Our time on this planet is short, but the majestic rose will remain much, much longer. In one hundred or two hundred years, someone else will be enjoying nature’s never-ending play and blooms that make us sigh, drunk with their fragrance. If old garden roses survived this long, for what must be just a fraction of eternity, I am certain that they will go on forever. When I return to my imaginative world, the eternal dilemmas come back to haunt me: where to create a rosarium, and when to stop? As with so many complex ideas, this one too re-
quires serious funds. Should I build it on 2 or 5 hectares of land, or maybe even more? How big should the collection be? And is there ever going to be an end? I always seem to be finding interesting plants. Wherever I go, I observe roses and ask myself if very old varieties can be found here in Serbia, how old might they be? One day, something caught my attention. In an old part of Belgrade, I saw a plant that reminded me of a Gallica rose. I asked the old lady who lived in the building if she knew the name of the rose. She replied that she did not, but remembered that the rose had been there since she was a little girl at least sixty years ago. Naturally, I took cuttings and propagated the rose immediately. I now have three, named “Old Fair,” in my garden. Rare roses always display a special delicacy. I fail to find enjoyment in the purchase of newer varieties, current hit roses, roses of the year, and the like. It is too easy: you can buy them in any nursery and have as many as you wish. There is no better feeling than to discover a rose that is almost extinct, knowing that you are the person who will do everything possible to keep it from disappearing from the face of the Earth. On the contrary, you are trying to multiply it and spread it around so that others may enjoy its charms. Many old roses disappeared during the last one hundred years, some due to human negligence, some because of climate changes. Serbia’s climate is very unusual. Even though summers can be extremely hot and winters unexpectedly cold, the fact remains that roses seem to withstand these perils with commendable success. Having observed them in different parts of the country, I have concluded that they are usually quite strong and healthy. I kept all this in mind when I decided one day to create a rosarium in Serbia, a place where the roses of yesteryear could intermingle with the roses of today, where times past are remembered and older values are never to be forgotten. When I finally fully realize my dream, planet Earth shall have another beautiful spot where everyone will be able to find their proper place. People shall walk in the company of roses, and roses, like a true family, will live in harmony together.

Radoslav Petrović is the owner of Petrović Roses, the only nursery in Serbia and Montenegro that grows and sells rare old roses. Next year his nursery will offer 7,000 bare-root and about 4,000 own-root roses to customers in Canada, Germany, Austria, Italy, Belgium, and other countries. Born on November 2, 1960 in Belgrade, Serbia, Radoslav has always loved roses but has devoted his life to them since the age of 34. Photographing roses and creating new moments in his garden are two of his passions. The progressive and melodic rock of his youth as well as classical music are also an integral part of his life. Radoslav, who is married and has two daughters, is hoping to create a beautiful new rose one day.

captions (see Rosa Mundi for placement)
Slovakia’s

Arborétum Borová hora

Vladimír Ježovič

Arborétum Borová hora was founded in 1965 at the Wood and Forest University (now the Technical University) in Zvolen, Slovakia, by the renowned dendrologist and ecologist Professor Pravdomil Svoboda (1908 to 1978). In addition to being an educational example of applied dendrology, the Arborétum’s role was to house a collection of native central European trees, displaying their range of forms, varieties, and cultivars.

The Rosarium of the Arborétum was developed under the guidance of Viera Višňovská. By 1970 the collection of roses had grown to approximately 14,000 bushes of 1,000 varieties (Svoboda, 1971). Some of the Arborétum’s roses came from the former Arborétum Peklov near Kostelec nad Černými Lesy; others were collected by Professor Svoboda from the Kunratice, Dáblíce, Litomyšl, Žehušice, Velim, and Blatná rose nurseries in the Czech Republic. The collection was supplemented with old roses from Sangerhausen, Budapest, Lvoř, Moscow, and other cities, and further augmented by purchases of other old roses. Viera Višňovská was responsible for all of the planting, maintenance, recordkeeping, and rose
Roses were originally planted with coniferous species in two locations in the Arborétum:

- Borová—terraces on the southern and southwestern slope planted with newer landscape roses.
- Čertolín—informal plantings of old roses around a cottage and terraces on the northern slope. These beds receive less maintenance because the setting makes the work arduous.

Reorganization of the garden was begun in 1981. The roses were planted in groups by breeder, with the roses of each breeder in chronological order for each rose class. The collection now specializes in roses grown in the historical area of the former Czechoslovakia (now the Czech Republic and Slovakia), for which the Rosarium might be declared a national rose collection. Viera Višňovská left in 1983, and several skilled workers took over care of the garden. Juraj Labanc became the Arborétum’s director in 1990. He developed a detailed method for describing and evaluating the garden’s roses. Under this method, both old roses and new cultivars are studied for a period of five years. The new method supplements the previous system, which consisted of collecting and verifying data about individual varieties—the breeder, year of breeding, classification, and origins—and researching literary sources. The Internet is now used as an additional, valuable source of information, especially www.helpmefind.com. By coincidence, the most important breeder from the area that is now Slovakia, Rudolf Geschwind (1829 to 1910), worked only 18 miles from the Arborétum, in the town of Krupina. His roses can be said to have sparked the renaissance of interest in old roses worldwide, and they occupy an important place in the Arborétum’s Rosarium. Their popularity is also connected to their hardiness and relatively modest maintenance requirements, a plus in today’s fast-paced world. It is thanks to Erich Unmuth of Vienna that the Rosarium was able to obtain many “Geschwindroses,” and to his colleagues at the Vienna Rosarium, the Rosarium “Carla Fineschi,” the Rosarium of the Botanical Garden Průhonice near Prague, the Rosarium in Olomouc, and elsewhere. Today the cultivars generally grow in one area in the Arborétum’s Rosarium. Czechoslovakian, German, French, and a few Russian roses are arranged by breeder in seven terraces. Nine terraces were built originally, but the expense of maintenance and difficulties at the Arboretum have prevented planting of the English and American ones. Creeping roses grow above the terraces, and shrub roses grow around in the grass outside of the other beds. Approximately 35 European species roses are spread out in various places throughout the Arborétum. Currently the Arborétum has more than 600 varieties of roses, 213 varieties of which are from 27 Czechoslovakian rose breeders (including 70 by Böhm, 45 by Geschwind, 30 by Urban,
13 by Brada, and 9 each by Večereľa and Chorvát). A complete list of the roses at Arborétum Borová hora is posted on the Arborétum’s website (www.arboretum.sk). The Rosarium plans to plant new varieties of Slovakian breeders Silvester Gyory (Miniatures) and František Glváč (Hybrid Teas). The Rosarium has an expansive view of the town of Zvolen, surrounded by forested hills and the silhouette of Zvolen Castle. It is open to the public on the third weekend of June each year at the peak of the roses’ bloom for the Days of Roses. This year the “Rosa klub” in Zvolen put on its third annual exhibition in the pavilion. Children compete to draw the most beautiful rose, and there is a competition for the most beautiful flower arrangement. The garden is open to the public on weekdays from 7:00 am to 3:30 pm from April 1 to October 31.

Vladimír Ježovič, who is 52 years old, was born and still lives in Zvolen, Central Slovakia, with his wife Silvia, son Jakub, and daughter Eva. He studied at the Faculty of Forestry at the Technical University in Zvolen, and today heads the nursery, rose and cacti collection in the Arborétum Borová hora. Besides plants, he loves bird watching and bluegrass music.
captions (see Rosa Mundi for placement)
top: Aenchen von Tharau
below: Arborétum Borová hora above the town of Zvolen, Slovakia.
Photos by Vladimír Ježovič.
top left: Eurydice. middle left: Ovid. Photos by Étienne Bouret.bottom left: Nym-phe Tepla.
Photo by Vladimír Ježovič.

Rosa Klub Zvolen

Originally founded in 1973 in the mountain pine arboretum Technical
University of Zvolen. It is a member of the World Federation of ružiarstvá SR. Pools of candidates from throughout the Czech Republic, make information and knowledge in the field of roses, to promote all-round development in ružiarstva SR. Published by Member magazine for the exhibit "Beauty and the shapes of roses", organized exhibitions, courses on arranging flowers, cultivation, propagation of roses, excursions to rozárii for exhibitions, lectures and so on. Building the library and so foreign. literature.
The Slovenian Rose Society (DLVS) 2008 Work Report

The Slovenian Rose Society was founded in 2003 with the aim of bringing together rose lovers and encouraging the development of rose gardens and the dissemination of knowledge on roses, helping the protection of natural and cultural heritage, providing training and offering professional assistance in the creation and reconstruction of rose gardens.

The 2008 programme of work has been fully implemented, and a series of additional activities have been carried out.

The work is progressing along nicely, the Managing Board does its work, yet it seems less united and enthusiastic than last year. The meetings are held in the premises of the Botanical Garden in Ljubljana. Unfortunately, it is difficult to attain the quorum as some members simply fail to attend. Last year, the Management Board held 6 meetings where the quorum was attained.

Society's activities seem to have suffered from the fact that some members have to travel some distance to the place where meetings or events are being held.
The Society’s activities cover the whole territory of Slovenia, unfortunately membership is not evenly distributed and this is reflected in the work carried out in some regions. However, sections in some of the regions are doing a really good job.

Membership and membership fees

Presently, the Society has 155 members, of which 52 from Ljubljana region, 13 from Gorenjska, 3 from Dolenjska, 17 from Koroška and 70 from Primorska and Notranjska. Last year 18 new members joined the Society. Payment of membership fees continues to be a problem. We hope that members will pay the outstanding fees during the annual general assembly.

The 2008 Programme of was fully implemented:

1. A new rose variety:

We are proud to announce a new rose called Prešeren. The Day of roses, held in June at the Arboretum Volčji potok near Ljubljana, was the most important event in the whole 2008, as the first Slovenian rose, named Prešeren after the Slovenian greatest poet, was presented to members and other lovers of roses. The rose was created by Dr. Matjaž Kmecel, an amateur rose breeder. The rose will be registered with the Plant Variety protection and Registration Office. It will be the mission of the Society to see to it that this rose is planted in members’ and other rose lovers’ gardens.

2. Books:

Two important events must be recorded:

first, the publication of the book Vrtnice (Roses) by Matjaž Mastnak, member of our Management Board. What is noteworthy is that the book is not yet another translation, but a most readable and practical handbook on growing and selecting roses intended for Slovenian readers.

The second book, Sveti Lenart, vrtnice in gamsov skret (Saint Lenart, the Roses and the Gams Hill) by Dr. Matjaž Kmecel, is certainly not a manual, but a book on roses and their stories that will be savoured like a delicacy by literature lovers.
3. Slovenian Rose Society library:
The Society has acquired an important number of publications on roses. A library has not yet been set up, but he members may consult these books during meetings of the management board and other events. Information on these books will shortly be available on the Society's web page.

4. Workshops:
All plannes training workshops for members have been carried out: trimming practical work was done in Kostanjevica (Northern Primorska), in Valdoltra (Southern Primorska), and in Arboretum Volčji potok near Ljubljana. The work carried out in the Botanical Gardens in Maribor has to be pointed out, where under the supervision of two of our members, Jelena and Simon Škorjanc, workshops are regularly being carried out. As a result, the number of members from Štajerska and Koroška is steadily increasing.

5. Lectures:
Lectures are very popular with our members and other lovers of roses. In 2008, several lectures were given: one in November in Nova Gorica and another in December in Strunjan (on the coast), which is becoming, along with Valdoltra, a meeting centre for members and rose lovers from Primorska.

6. Rose shows:
- In June 2008 a very successful event was organized, called Walking among roses, in the Valdoltra rosarium. The Valdoltra rosarium is Society’s first roses collection and a training ground for all lovers of roses. The rosarium has been planted within the perimeter of the Orthopaedic Hospital of Valdoltra, whose management offers hospitality and sponsorship to our Society’s events.
- The Nova Gorica section has successfully organized and carried out a Rose Show in their town.
- The Day of roses in the Arboretum Volčji potok has already become a traditional event, held in early summer. This year's event was organized in the evening, and this was warmly welcomed by the members.
The Ljubljana section is more and more active, meeting in the rosarium of the central city park Tivoli. In September the members organized a tour of the rosarium and discussed further activities necessary for the extension of the rosarium. In parallel, activities for the presentation of the extension project of the rosarium to the Ljubljana administration were carried out.

In June 2008 a four-day excursion to Germany rose gardens was organized for the members of Society.

7. International activity of DLVS:
Our Society participates in the World Federation of Rose Societies activities and keeps regular contacts with its members and its president. Preparations are under way for the participation to the World Rose Conference to be held in June 2009 in Vancouver, Canada.

8. Rose shows jury:
Slovenian representatives are rarely members of international juries judging roses in European rosaria, mostly because of lack of time.

However, our member Edi Prošt represented the Slovenian Rose Society at the Roses Show in Baden Baden. He will give a lecture on this Show and the visit to the Sangerhausen Rosarium at the next general assembly.

Prepared by Ms Breda Čopi, President of the Slovenian Rose Society
Valdoltra, 21 February 2009
ACTIVITIES OF THE FEDERATION OF ROSE SOCIETIES OF SOUTH AFRICA 2006-2009

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS

14th WORLD ROSE CONVENTION - MELODY OF ORIENTAL ROSES- OSAKA, JAPAN- May 2006
24 delegates from South Africa, organised by Sheenagh Harris, attended the convention plus the pre and post convention tours. It was rated as one of the best Conventions to date.

11th INTERNATIONAL HERITAGE ROSE CONVENTION - ROSA GALLICA – PARIS, FRANCE - June 2007
Sheenagh Harris led an exciting pre convention tour of ROSA members to Italy and France. It included visits to various villas and rose gardens in both Countries and the breeders establishments of Barni in Italy and Meilland in France. Members attended the presentation of the Award of Excellence to the Bagatelle Rose Garden, Paris on the occasion of the 100th Anniversary.

4th SOUTH AMERICAN REGIONAL ROSE CONVENTION – SANTIAGO, CHILE-
October 2007
Ludwig Taschner attended and delivered a lecture on “Cultivating Roses is easy and exciting”. Delegates were enthusiastic about coming to the 2012 WFRS Convention to be hosted by South Africa.

ROSE ADELAIDE 2008 – ADELAIDE, SOUTH AUSTRALIA October/November 2008
Sheenagh Harris attended as Vice President for Africa of the World Federation of Rose Societies. Here again, with the exception of a few, delegates were keen to attend the WFRS convention that is to be hosted by South Africa in 2012.

LOCAL CONVENTIONS

A ROSE AFFAIR - 13th Biennial Federation of Rose Societies of South Africa National Convention, Pietermaritzburg, Kwa-Zulu Natal – October 2006.

This convention was hosted by the Midlands Rose Society and took place at the same time as The Sunday Tribune Garden and Leisure Show, the premier garden show in Kwa-Zulu Natal. The guests of honour were WFRS President, Dr Gerald Meylan and Christina Meylan and Dr. Beatrice Barni, rose breeder from Italy. Visits to the actual garden show as well as private gardens formed most of the activities at this convention.


This was held in the “City of Roses” but attendance was not as good as expected probably because of the difficult financial circumstances prevailing. Those who attended enjoyed the rose filled gardens as well as the rose show with approximately 400 exhibits that was staged at a shopping mall.

ROSAFRICA – 2012

Ludwig Taschner and Sheenagh Harris as members of the Federation of Rose Societies of South Africa are leading the planning and organisation of 16th World Federation of Rose Societies Convention to be held in South Africa in October, 2012.

INDIVIDUAL SOCIETY ACTIVITIES

BENEDE ORANJE ROSE SOCIETY

This Society never had a large membership and operated in an extremely hot and arid part of the Country. Growing roses was a challenge at the best of times and interest waned to the extent that it finally wound down.

BOLAND ROSE SOCIETY

Despite efforts to collect arrears from this Society and in fact to keep it going, it has finally closed down through lack of support.

FREE STATE ROSE SOCIETY

The main activities of this Society are centred around Bloemfontein which is often referred to as the “City of Roses”. One of the highlights of each year is the spring rose show that is staged at Mimosa Mall, a shopping Centre in the middle of Bloemfontein. Entries are normally between 400-600. The Society receives finan-
cial and other support from the centre and the rose shows are well publicised, thus increasing rose awareness. The Society hosted the national convention in October, 2008 and the City's Parks and Gardens sponsored a garden competition in which roses had to feature as part of the festivities. Visiting the winning gardens was a pleasure for delegates.

Newspaper articles written from time to time as well as radio talks are presented to heighten further interest in roses. Growing roses organically is gaining momentum in the City and this is being led by an enthusiastic professor who is based at the University of the Free State.

GOLD REEF ROSE SOCIETY

This Society is the largest in South Africa and caters for rose gardeners in and around Johannesburg. It’s activities are many and varied, from garden visits, presentations by professionals, pruning demonstrations, slide shows and visits from touring rosarians. The Society has twice combined with the Northern Rose Society to organise and run the garden rose show held at Gardenex, the major garden and flower show in the province of Gauteng. This society staged a large exhibition together with a local Flower Club entitled Rose Spectacular.

KNYSNA ROSE SOCIETY

This Society was formed in February 2006. The membership is now 95. Members supported the Knysna Garden Club's spring rose show in April 2006 and in April 2007 they staged their first ever Autumn Rose Show that took place at a newly opened shopping mall. Their Autumn show has now become an annual event with about 300 entries and has the full support of the tenants who are also invited to enter the competition to highlight the rose. In between, various garden visits have taken place as well as pruning demonstrations. This newly formed society are to host the next national convention to take place in October, 2010.

HERITAGE ROSE SOCIETY

This Society was formed to cater for “Old Rose” enthusiasts and draws membership from the whole of South Africa. It is enthusiastically led by Barbara Long and membership now stands at 105. One of the highlights was the rose tour in June 2007 to Italy and France culminating in attendance at the 11th International Heritage Rose Convention at Chaalis. Other activities that year included attendance at the Bedford Garden Club special day entitled “An invitation to an English Garden Party”.

Gwen Fagan gave a lecture on “Landscaping with Old roses” at the Grahamstown festival in June 2007 and between October and November 2007 Heather Leppan gave talks in Grahamstown, Kroomie, Port Elizabeth and Ladybrand in the Free State.
40 heritage roses were planted at the Yellowwoods Pre-Primary School between Fort Beaufort and Adelaide. Each child was sponsored by a parent or grandparent for a heritage rose. The name of the rose, year it was bred and the child’s name appears on the name tag.

KAROO ROSE SOCIETY

This Society closed down in 2007 because of diminished interest but the remaining few members joined the Heritage Rose Society.

MIDLANDS ROSE SOCIETY

This Society's membership remains at about 200. They frequently arrange functions such as lunches in various gardens where roses are grown and many members consider it part of their social calendar. Apart from that they hold pruning demonstrations and the highlight of their activities is undoubtedly the rose bedecked stand they create each year as part of the Sunday Tribune Garden Show, the premier event in the Kwa-Zulu Natal gardening calendar. Members are recruited at this event and it serves to highlight rose growing to the general public. This year the Society was awarded its 7th Gold medal in 10 years of exhibiting. Small rose shows are held each year in spring at one of the plant nurseries in Pietermaritzburg.

NATAL ROSE SOCIETY

Membership has shrunk to about 25 and the Society is battling to keep going. The last spring rose show staged by the Society was in 2006 at the Sunday Tribune garden show and was held in conjunction with the national convention “A Rose Affair” hosted by The Midlands Rose Society. Since then efforts to stage further shows have fallen by the wayside because of a lack of support by members and financial implications. Nevertheless garden visits are arranged about once every three months as well as a pruning demonstration and an AGM in July each year.

NORTHERN NATAL ROSE SOCIETY

This is a small Society of never more than 20 members that works in conjunction with the Vryheid Garden Club. Their activity is mainly a spring show that is held together with the Garden Club in the town. Drought conditions have not made gardening very easy in this part of Kwa-Zulu Natal.

NORTHERN ROSE SOCIETY

This Society works closely with Ludwig’s Roses situated some distance outside Pretoria and uses its premises as a base. The winter and summer pruning demonstrations are held at Ludwigs Rose Farm each year as well as its outlets at Linbro Park near Johannesburg. The Northern Rose Society worked in conjunction with the Gold Reef Rose Society to stage rose shows two years running at the Gardenex show that is held at the Dome in Johannesburg each year. In 2008 they were given
a stand at Gardenex and with the help of Ludwig’s Roses staged an excellent ex-
hibit of roses with the theme “Proudly South African” . This won them a silver
medal.

SOUTHERN CAPE ROSE SOCIETY

Founded in 2006, membership stands at approximately 40. Pruning demonstra-
tions, a Spring Rose Show and visits to various gardens have been enjoyed by
members. They work closely and are very supportive of the Knysna Rose Society.

WESTERN CAPE ROSE SOCIETY

This Society is regularly stages Spring and Autumn Rose Shows but it seems that
the number of exhibitors attracted to this pursuit has deminished. Their headquar-
ters is the Durbanville Rose Garden which suffered damage to the gardens in 2006
due to the injudicious use of herbicide by a municipal worker. This had the effect
of killing about 500 rose plants. Fortunately a generous donation of new rose
plants by Ludwig’s Roses has helped to bring the gardens back to their former
state. The members with the help of Municipal workers maintain this garden
which is the only rose trial ground in South Africa. Rose pruning demonstrations
and get togethers at the Durbanville Rose Garden is a feature of their activities.

BOLAND ROSE SOCIETY

Despite efforts to collect arrears from this Society and in fact to keep it going, it
has finally closed down through lack of support.

BENEDE ORANJE ROSE SOCIETY

This Society never had a large membership and operated in an extremely hot and
arid part of the Country. Growing roses was a challenge at the best of times and in-
terest waned to the extent that it finally wound down.

Des Wright – ROSA President 2006 - 2008
The Association of Swiss Friends of Roses (GSRF) has 3400 members, divided into 16 different groups which are mainly spread over the German, Rhaeto-Romanic and Italian speaking parts of Switzerland. The association also enjoys friendly relations with the independently-organized Friends of Roses in the French-speaking part of Switzerland. A new group in the GSRF was founded only last year - “Vuilly”, which lies in a border area between French and German-speaking Switzerland.
In addition, various cultural-historic subjects relating to roses and rose gardens are reviewed. In general at these meetings and events great importance is attached to the different regional characteristics as well as to social contact.

This year the “Gesellschaft Schweizerischer Rosenfreunde” is celebrating its 50th anniversary. Prof. Dr. Gottlieb Boesch, a historian and Dietrich Woessner, a teacher and rosarian who has published many books on the subject of the treatment of roses, were the initiators of the society. Lotte Günthard, a wonderful painter of roses, and Willy Suter a well-known florist, are two of the group of rosarians who influenced the society in its infancy. The first AGM (Annual General Meeting) took place in 1959 in Berne, the capital of Switzerland.

The jubilee celebrations will consist of two parts. On 21 June the annual conference in Bischofszell, a small medieval town in Eastern Switzerland, and on 18 and 19 September the International Rose Seminar in Lucerne and at Schloss Heidegg, the “cradle” of the GSRF.

The founders would have been proud of the results of their initiative. The number of members has remained stable over five decades and the philosophy behind the undertaking has hardly changed at all. Even the “Rosenblatt”, with its monthly tips on rose-care and information on the various working groups is still going strong – even though it has been criticized for not keeping up with the times. Thank goodness it doesn’t! However, when the eminent painter of roses, Lotte Günthard, retired from the committee, it was the annual publication that was more likely to be exposed to change! But for years now it has been published in a new lay-out and under a new name “Rosa Helvetica”. The articles, which are based mainly on lectures and talks given at annual international rose seminars, have retained their high standard.
During the jubilee festivities the 25 years of office of the highly-esteemed President of the GSRF, Prof. Dr. Theo Zwygart, will be celebrated. He took over from the founder generation exactly 25 years ago and since then has masterfully guided the fate of the GSRF, with great ability and personal commitment. The ‘bitter pill’ of the jubilee celebrations will be that we have to accept the resignation of our President at this year. The GSRF has so much to thank him for and deeply regrets his departure. The rose groups hope that he will continue to make his extensive knowledge available to members as a rosarian with a scientific background. With the President another long-standing and very active member of the committee will also be leaving: Diana Frei. As daughter of the highly-esteemed Richard Huber, one of the very few rose-breeders in Switzerland, Diana has specifically upheld the points of view of the professional rose cultivators in committee. Together with her father, she made sure that their Dottikon nursery, which specializes in roses, offered a large assortment of historic and rare varieties over many, many years.

Both committee and members of the GSRF will be called upon to tackle a new era with courage, vision and confidence!

Zug, 5 May 2009
Gret Sutter-Suter
Gesellschaft Schweizerischer Rosenfreunde
GSRF Rosengruppenleiterin, Zug

SRAR

The SRAR is the Rose Society of the French speaking part of Switzerland and consists of about 170 members. There are 8 persons on the board, which meets on a regular basis. The board organizes various activities which attract a very good attendance. The main activity is the general meeting held in June. An annual visit abroad and the social gatherings are sometimes complemented with a trip within Switzerland. During the 40 years of the society's existence, which we celebrated in 2007, the society has generated and contributed to several projects to enhance the value of the rose. The aim of the society is to oversee the continuance of these different projects, advising or intervening where necessary and where possible.

The society is also present at the different horticultural events of the region, promoting an interest in and an understanding for the society, as well as organizing the sale of a number of specific articles and maintaining direct contact with the public.

The society sends its delegates to the rose trials, to the principal events of the Swiss Rose Society (GSRF) and contributes from time to time to the official annual publication "Rosa Helvetica".

Geneva, 5 May 2009
Raymond Tripod
President SRAR
AMERICAN ROSE SOCIETY

The American Rose Society has been the premier organization devoted exclusively to the cultivation of roses in the United States for more than 115 years. With approximately 14,000 members internationally as well as nationwide, the ARS supports 330 local societies offering rose-related activities and information at the community level.

Contact ARS by writing: American Rose Society, PO Box 30,000, Shreveport, Louisiana 71130-0030 USA or phone: 1-800-637-6534 or 1-318-938-5402; email: ars@ars-hq.org or visit the website to learn more about the ARS: http://www.ars.org

One of the major undertakings for the American Rose Society during the last three years was publication of the 12th edition of Modern Roses.

Modern Roses has always been the most prestigious book published by the American Rose Society. We are happy to announce the availability of the new 12th edition! For this edition:
• More than 5,000 cultivar entries have been added, with more than half of those being old garden roses which were never before included; • More than 15,000 updates and corrections have been made; • Parentage information has been added to more than 3,000 entries; • Includes all cultivars
Another undertaking was the Educational Endowment Trust underwriting of the book ‘Sean McCann ‘Rose For Today’ book. This latest addition to the rose world is extolled by world-renowned author and rosarian Sean McCann. Follow the creation of the rose class, Mini-Flora™, from inception to reality — and consider its future. Features 128 pages with 176 color photos.

Visit Shop ARS! for ordering information on these publications!

WFRS Triennial Report Article, update

AMERICAN ROSE SOCIETY
AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

The Award of Excellence, a designation of merit given to new miniature and mini-flora rose varieties of superior quality and marked distinction, was established by the American Rose Society Board of Directors in 1973. Since the inception of the Award, beginning with 1975, there have been 106 AOE winners.

Unnamed seedlings or sports of miniature or Mini-Flora varieties are submitted by commercial and amateur hybridizers for evaluation for two years in ten AOE public test gardens, spaced geographically across the United States. Each public garden has an AOE supervisor and five evaluators. Those test gardens are:

- American Rose Center, Shreveport, LA
- Fernbank Science Center, Atlanta, GA
- Hershey Gardens, Hershey, PA
- Toledo Botanical Gardens, Toledo, OH
- Rose Hills Memorial Park, Whittier, CA
- International Rose Test Garden, Portland, OR
- Mesa Community College, Mesa, AZ
- Ringling Gardens, Sarasota, FL
- Edisto Memorial Gardens, Orangeburg, SC
- Virginia Clemens Rose Garden, St. Cloud, MN

Entries are scored on eleven criteria (novelty, bud form, flower form, color opening, color finishing, substance, habit, quantity of flowers, vigor/renewal, foliage and disease/insect resistance) four times during each growing season. At the end of the trial period, Awards of Excellence are given to deserving seed-
lings, with a maximum of five per year. Learn more about the ARS Award of Excellence at: http://www.ars.org

The first edition of the "WFRS Triennial Report - 2000" included winners from inception (1975) through 1999. This report continues to update the list of winners by providing the varieties winning this award from 2000 through 2008.

This report carries on with the list of those varieties designated as Award of Excellence winners:

![ARS Award Logo]

**AWARD OF EXCELLENCE WINNERS**

**2000**

- **Ralph Moore** (‘Savaralph’), Miniature, medium red, 20-24 petals, Saville
- **Applause** (‘Savapple’), Miniature, apricot & apricot blend, double, Saville
- **Lemon Gems** (‘Jacmiryl’), Miniature, medium yellow, full, Walden

**WFRS Triennial Report Article, updated 2009**

**2001**

- **Ruby** (‘Benmjul’, Berry Patch), Miniature, dark red, double, Benardella
- **Sun Sprinkles** (‘Jachal’), Miniature, deep yellow, 25-30 petals, Walden
- **Michel Cholet** (‘Foumich’), Miniature, apricot & apricot blend, double to full, Jolly

**2002**

- **Merlot** (‘Benfebu’, Sparkle Berry), Miniature, red blend, double, Benardella
- **Best Friends** (‘Brifriends’), Miniature, orange & orange blend, double, Bridges
- **Sweet Diana** (‘Savadiana’), Miniature, deep yellow, 20 petals, Saville

**2003**

- **Baby Boomer** (‘Benminn’), Miniature, medium pink, double, Benardella
- **Doris Morgan** (‘Brimorgan’), Miniature, deep pink, double, Bridges
- **This is the Day** (‘Sproday’), Miniature, russet, double, Sproul

**2004**

- ‘**Andie MacDowell**’ (Micandie), Mini-Flora, orange red & orange red blend, double, Williams
- **Picotee** (‘Benpico’), Miniature, red blend, 20-25 petals, Benardella
- **Salute** (‘Savasalute’), Miniature, dark red, double, White

**2005**

- **Harm Saville** (‘Wekclauni’), Mini-Flora, dark red, double, Carruth & Bedard
- **Chattooga** (‘Mictooga’), Miniature, deep pink, double, Williams
- **Life Lines** (‘Sprolife’), Climbing Miniature, orange red & orange red blend, semi-double, Sproul

**2006**

- **Caliente** (‘Bendiez’, My Sweetie), Miniature, dark red, full, Benardella
ARS MINIATURE ROSE HALL OF FAME

The ARS Miniature Rose Hall of Fame honors those miniatures that have stood the test of time in commerce for at least 20 years. Criteria for the Hall of Fame can be summarized as follows:

The variety must have been introduced at least 20 years prior to the year the award is given. Introduction date will verified by the latest edition of Modern Roses. There can be multiple winners in any year.

Varieties for consideration are solicited from the general membership through an announcement in the American Rose magazine, on the ARS web-site, in the Miniature Rose Bulletin and in district and local bulletins.

The Chairman of the Miniature/Mini-Flora Rose Committee will prepare the tabulations for selection by the full Committee by ballot.

Formal announcement of the winner(s) will take place at the ARS National Miniature Rose Conference.

Check the ARS website: www.ars.org for more information. A list of previous winners is included below:

**2007**

- **Iced Raspberry™** (‘Savaras’), Miniature, red blend, very full, White
- **Baby Bloomer™** (‘Jacseboy’), Miniature, medium pink, semi-double, Zary

**2008**

- **Leading Lady™** (‘Benuno’), Mini-Flora, white, near white & white blend, double, Benardella
- **Bonfire™** (‘Bencincuenta’), Miniature, red blend, full, Benardella
- **Saluda** (‘Micsaluda’), Miniature, orange & orange blend, double, Williams

**2009**

- **Edisto** (‘Micedi’), Mini-Flora, red blend, full, Williams
- **Show Stopper** (‘Benseah’, Showstopper™), Mini-Flora, apricot & apricot blend, very full, Benardella
- **Power Point™** (‘Bennovecientos’), Mini-Flora, medium red, very full, Benardella

**PICS: Dejá Blu™, Ambiance™, Warm & Fuzzy™**
ARS MINIATURE ROSE HALL OF FAME WINNERS

1999
Beauty Secret, Miniature, medium red, 1965, Moore
Magic Carrousel, Miniature, red blend, 1973, Moore
Party Girl, Miniature, yellow blend, 1979, Saville
Rise ‘n’ Shine, Miniature, medium yellow, 1977, Moore
Starina, Miniature, orange red & orange red blend, 1965, Meilland

2000
Cinderella, Miniature, white, near white or white blend, 1953, de Vink
Mary Marshall, Miniature, orange and orange blend, 1971, Moore

2001
Green Ice, Miniature, white, near white or white blend, 1971, Moore
Jeanne Lajoie, Climbing Miniature, medium pink, 1976, Sima

2002
Cupcake, Miniature, medium pink, 1981, Spies

2003
Little Jackie, Miniature, orange and orange blend, 1982, Saville
Snow Bride, Miniature, white, near white or white blend, 1982, Jolly

2004
Minnie Pearl, Miniature, pink blend, 1983, Saville

Red Cascade, Climbing Miniature, dark red, 1976, Moore

2005
Jean Kenneally, Miniature, apricot and apricot blend, 1984, Bennett
Rainbow’s End, Miniature, yellow blend, 1984, Saville

2006
Black Jade, Miniature, dark red, 1985, Benardella
Giggles, Miniature, medium pink, 1987, King

2007
Pierrine, Miniature, orange pink and orange pink blend, 1988, Williams

2008
Fairhope, Miniature, light yellow, 1989, Taylor
Irresistible, Miniature, white, near white or white blend, 1990 Bennett
AMERICAN ROSE SOCIETY MEMBERS' CHOICE

The Members’ Choice Award honors the rose introduced within the past five years with the highest garden rating score in Roses in Review, a survey open to participation by all members of the American Rose Society and the public.

ARS MEMBERS’ CHOICE WINNERS

2004
Knock Out™, Shrub, red blend, 1999, Radler

2005
Gemini™, Hybrid Tea, pink blend, 1999, Zary

2006
Bees Knees™, Miniature, yellow blend, 1998, Zary

2007
Hot Cocoa™, Floribunda, russet, 2001, Carruth

2009
Julia Child™, Floribunda, medium yellow, 2005, Carruth

PIC: Julia Child
DAVID FUERSTENBERG AWARD

The David Fuerstenberg Award is given for outstanding new rose introductions. It can be awarded annually or periodically on the recommendation of the Prizes & Awards Committee to the originator of any new rose of American origin suitable to the American climate which may deserve honor.

DAVID FUERSTENBERG WINNERS

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<th>Winner</th>
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<td>J. H. Nicolas</td>
<td>Leonard Barron</td>
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<td>1934</td>
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<td>1945</td>
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<td>1950</td>
<td>Eugene S. Boerner</td>
<td>Fashion</td>
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<td>1951</td>
<td>Herbert Swim</td>
<td>Tallyho</td>
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<td>1957</td>
<td>Robert V. Lindquist</td>
<td>Tiffany</td>
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<td>1957</td>
<td>Eugene S. Boerner</td>
<td>Spartan</td>
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<td>1964</td>
<td>Carl Deuhersen</td>
<td>Little Darling</td>
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<td>1964</td>
<td>H. C. Swim &amp; O. L. Weeks</td>
<td>Royal Highness</td>
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<td>1968</td>
<td>William Kemple</td>
<td>Winifred Coulter</td>
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<td>1968</td>
<td>William Zombory</td>
<td>Coralita</td>
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<td>1968</td>
<td>Ernest Schwartz</td>
<td>Sea Foam</td>
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<td>1969</td>
<td>Jack D. Lissemore</td>
<td>Rhonda</td>
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<td>1972</td>
<td>Carl Meyer</td>
<td>Portrait</td>
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<td>1990</td>
<td>Dee Bennett (posthumous)</td>
<td>Jean Kenneally</td>
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<td>2001</td>
<td>Frank Strickland</td>
<td>St. Patrick</td>
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<td>2002</td>
<td>Pete &amp; Kay Taylor</td>
<td>Fairhope</td>
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<td>2003</td>
<td>Wm. Radler</td>
<td>Knockout</td>
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<td>2004</td>
<td>Tom Carruth</td>
<td>Fourth of July</td>
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<td>2005</td>
<td>Keith Zary</td>
<td>Gemini</td>
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<td>2007</td>
<td>Tom Carruth</td>
<td>Moonstone</td>
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<td>2008</td>
<td>Frank Benardella</td>
<td>Kristin</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
JAMES ALEXANDER GAMBLE AWARD

The James Alexander Gamble Fragrance Medal is awarded to outstanding new, very fragrant roses. The selection is made by the ARS Prizes and Awards Committee for the rose considered the most fragrant in municipal and private gardens throughout the United States over a five-year period. The rose must be registered and must be rated at least 7.5. It is not mandatory that a rose be selected yearly for this medal. Awards are only to be made when an outstanding new fragrant variety is available. The medal is to be awarded to the hybridizer of the named rose at the Fall Annual Meeting of the American Rose Society.

JAMES ALEXANDER GAMBLE AWARD WINNERS

1961  Wilhelm Kordes   for Crimson Glory
1962  Robert Lindquist   for Tiffany
1965  Dr. Walter E. Lammerts  or Chrysler Imperial
1966  Herbert C. Swim   for Sutter’s Gold
1968  Robert Lindquist   for Granada
1970  Mathias Tantau  or Fragrant Cloud
1974  Alain Meilland   or Papa Meilland
1979  Wilhelm Kordes   for Sunsprite
1986  Herbert C. Swim & Arnold W. Ellis  for Double Delight
1997  Sam McGredy IV   for Fragrant Hour
2001  Herbert C. Swim & O.L. Weeks  for Angel Face
2002  Daniel Tracey   for Secret
2003  Herbert C. Swim & O.L. Weeks  for Mister Lincoln
2005  John Sheridan   for Sheila’s Perfume
2007  Jack E. Christensen   for Fragrant Plum
2008  Ralph S. Moore   for Sweet Chariot
AMERICAN ROSE SOCIETY
AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

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- Ringling Gardens, Sarasota, FL
- Edisto Memorial Gardens, Orangeburg, SC
- Virginia Clemens Rose Garden, St. Cloud, MN

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This report carries on with the list of those varieties designated as Award of Excellence winners:

AWARD OF EXCELLENCE WINNERS

2000
Ralph Moore (‘Savaralph’), Miniature, medium red, 20-24 petals, Saville
Applause (‘Savapple’), Miniature, apricot & apricot blend, double, Saville
Lemon Gems™ (‘Jacmiryl’), Miniature, medium yellow, full, Walden

2001
Ruby (‘Benmjul’, Berry Patch), Miniature, dark red, double, Benardella
Sun Sprinkles™ (‘Jachal’), Miniature, deep yellow, 25-30 petals, Walden
Michel Cholet (‘Foumich’), Miniature, apricot & apricot blend, double to full, Jolly

2002
Merlot (‘Benfebu’, Sparkle Berry), Miniature, red blend, double, Benardella
Best Friends (‘Brifriends’), Miniature, orange & orange blend, double, Bridges
Sweet Diana (‘Savadiana’), Miniature, deep yellow, 20 petals, Saville

2003
Baby Boomer (‘Benminn’), Miniature, medium pink, double, Benardella
Doris Morgan (‘Brimorgan’), Miniature, deep pink, double, Bridges
This is the Day™ (‘Sproday’), Miniature, russet, double, Sproul
2004
‘Andie MacDowell’ (Micandie), Mini-Flora, orange red & orange red blend, double,
Williams
Picotee (‘Benpico’), Miniature, red blend, 20-25 petals, Benardella
Salute (‘Savasalute’), Miniature, dark red, double, White

2005
Harm Saville (‘Wekclauni’), Mini-Flora, dark red, double, Carruth & Bedard
Chattooga (‘Mictooga’), Miniature, deep pink, double, Williams
Life Lines (‘Sprolife’), Climbing Miniature, orange red & orange red blend,
semi-double, Sproul

2006
Caliente™ (‘Bendiez’, My Sweetie), Miniature, dark red, full, Benardella
Iced Raspberry™ (‘Savaras’), Miniature, red blend, very full, White
Baby Bloomer™ (‘Jacseboy’), Miniature, medium pink, semi-double, Zary

2007
Leading Lady™ (‘Benuno’), Mini-Flora, white, near white & white blend,
double,
Benardella
Bonfire™ (‘Bencincuenta’), Miniature, red blend, full, Benardella
Saluda (‘Micsaluda’), Miniature, orange & orange blend, double, Williams

2008
Edisto (‘Micedi’), Mini-Flora, red blend, full, Williams
Show Stopper (‘Benseah’, Showstopper™), Mini-Flora, apricot & apricot
blend,
very full, Benardella
Power Point™ (‘Bennovecientos’), Mini-Flora, medium red, very full, Ben-
ardella

2009
Dejá Blu™ (‘Benswise’), Mini-Flora, mauve & mauve blend, double, Be-
ardella
Ambiance™ (‘Bensiete’), Mini-Flora, apricot & apricot blend, very full, Be-
ardella
Warm & Fuzzy™ (‘Wekhasamiro’), Miniature, medium red, double, Carrut
ALL-AMERICA ROSE SELECTIONS

The All-American Rose Selections is a non-profit association of rose growers and introducers. AARS Winners are top performers in our 23 test gardens located throughout the country representing all climate zones. Each AARS winning rose excelled in an extensive two-year trial program where it is judged on novelty, form, color, aging quality, flowering effect, fragrance, stem/cluster form, plant habit, vigor, foliage, disease resistance and repeat bloom quality. Tests are conducted in 23 gardens nationwide to represent all climate zones. Learn more about All-America Rose Selections at: http://www.rose.org

The first edition of the "WFRS Triennial Report - 2000" included winners from inception (1940) through 2000; the second edition of the "WFRS Triennial Report – 2006" included winners through 2007. This report now continues to update the list of winners by providing the additional 2008 and 2009 varieties winning this award. A total of 196 varieties have been given this distinguished award.

ALL-AMERICA ROSE SELECTIONS WINNERS

2008
Dream Come True™
(‘Wekdocpot’), grandiflora, yellow blend, Pottschmidt, 2006
(Touch of Class x unknown) x unknown, 40 petals, slight, tea fragrance

Mardi Gras™
(‘Jacfrain’; Vulcanic), floribunda, pink blend, Zary, 2007
Arofres x Singin’ in the Rain, double petals, slight fragrance

2009
Carefree Spirit
(Meizmea, Red Carefree Delight), shrub, red blend, Meilland, 2006
(Red Max Graf x seedling) x (Pink Meidiland x Immensee), single petals, slight fragrance

Cinco de Mayo™
(‘Wekcobeju’), floribunda, russet, Carruth, 2007
Topsy Turvy x Julia Child, double petals, slight fragrance

‘Pink Promise ‘
hybrid tea, pink blend, Coiner, 2007
seedling x seedling, 34 petals, no fragrance
Uruguayan Rose Society’s Triennial Report 2006-2009

After our recent Third South American Regional Rose Conference held in Montevideo last November 2005, our Society continues to incorporate new members due to its intense activity in spreading the interest and the love of the rose throughout Uruguay.

In May 2006 an enthusiastic delegation of twenty members from our Society attended the 14th World Rose Convention in Osaka, Japan.

In October 2007 a numerous delegation of our members attended the Fourth South American Regional Rose Conference held in Santiago, Chile.

Throughout the year 2008 we have been celebrating our Society’s Silver Anniversary – 25 years in which our Society has developed on a national, regional and international level.

Herewith our current activities:
- Monthly meetings from April to December with lectures on all aspects of growing roses and their integration in the landscape.
- Spring Rose Show
- Garden Competition
- Annual bulletin in Spanish and English which is sent to all W.F.R.S. member societies.
- Outings and visits to private gardens within the region.
- Rose market.
- Specialized Library
- Welcome gift for new members
Web-page updated monthly:

www.asociacionuruguayadelarosa.com
<http://www.asociacionuruguayadelarosa.com/>

We look forward to a successful World Rose Convention in Vancouver 2009 and meeting our delightful rose friends from all over the globe.
Committee reports
REPORT FROM DAVID RUSTON, CHAIRMAN
HERITAGE ROSE COMMITTEE

Since the last W.F.R.S. Conference in Osaka in May 2006, it has been a busy time for our W.F.R.S. Heritage Rose Group. Firstly the wonderful conference in Chaalis in June 2007, so ably managed by Professor Francois Joyaux. Thanks you to our Editor, Fiona Hyland, for writing about the conference so brilliantly in “je suis tombée amoureuse de la France.”

We were all disappointed that the Madeira conference for 2009 had to be postponed. We hope that convener, Mayor Miguel Alberqueque, will put forward a nomination in the future.

In late October 2008, the Rose Society of South Australia held a regional conference to celebrate our centenary. With 250 attending from 17 countries, it was a great success and was followed by the opening of the Tea, China and Noisette collection at the Ruston Visitor Centre in Renmark. The collection also contains 400 pre 1960 Hybrid Teas and Floribundas. We need to make sure that these early roses that are part of our national heritage are not lost as many of them out-flower the more modern varieties.

At the meeting of our newly formed committee in Chaalis, with 27 countries attending, I asked for articles on old roses as well as articles on group activities. I had great replies from the U.S.A., France, Italy, South Africa, New Zealand, Japan, India, Bermuda, Madeira Serbia and Slovenia and Australia. Other countries that are part of the committee did not send articles.

In November 2008, the biennial Australian Heritage Rose Convention was held at Morning Star Estate at Mt Eliza, on the Mornington Peninsula in a superb old Victorian mansion with 250 attending from all over Australia and New Zealand. The Keynote speaker was Helga Brichet from Italy discussing her large collection of Teas, Chinas, and Hybrid Gigantias. A brilliant performance.

I have just conducted a plebiscite on the world’s favourite Tea Roses. 91 contributors responded to my request from the warmer areas of the world. New Zealand, Australia, Japan, India, South Africa, France, Maderia, USA, and Bermuda. An enormous number of the varieties were mentioned with winners in order of preference, Monsieur Tillier, closely followed by Comtesse de Labarthe and Lady Hillingdon, General Gallieni and G. Nabonnand. I must thank Australia’s commit-
tee member Di Durston for all her work in typing out all my lists. Thanks go also to those who helped with the plebiscite.

I look forward to meeting you all in Vancouver or failing that in Sakura in 2011. Our Japanese enthusiasts have great plans for us, including a visit to glorious Gargantuan Gifu! If you cannot attend Vancouver could you please send a nominated delegate.

Sincerely
David Ruston
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Possibly one of the most important tasks of the rose enthusiast is to make a collection, whether it be Tea Roses or China Roses or an entirely different group altogether. Few succeed as well as David Ruston with his Tea Rose Repository opened on 31st October 2008.

Recent news from Sakura, Japan
by Dr Yuki Mikanagi, Japan ...................................... 3
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San Jose Heritage Rose Garden
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Congratulations to Jill Perry and the team of volunteers who created the San Jose Heritage Rose Garden, which on May 18th 2009 will be presented with the inaugural Great Rosarians of the World, Rose Garden Hall of Fame Award from the sponsor of the Great Rosarians Award, the Huntingdon Library.

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Opening of the Tea Rose Repository, Renmark, South Australia, 2008
by Di Durston, Australia

Those of us who are acquainted with David Ruston will know of his enthusiasm and generosity, as well as his absolute desire for preserving the old roses of the past. Heritage Roses Australia works diligently to rescue old bushes of found roses from their demise in abandoned gardens. However, a garden was needed for them to grow in so they could then be studied with the hope of possible identification and even returned to commerce. David, along with his niece Annie Ruston, allocated a site from the land reclaimed from a disused irrigation channel at the back of Ruston’s Roses for the Tea Rose Repository.

The evening of the opening on 31st October, was warm and barmy as we gathered at the top end of the long lines of newly planted roses. It was apparent that this was going to be a memorable occasion. Eighteen countries were represented at the opening, and I felt very fortunate to be included in this group.

David introduced Gerald Meylan, President of the WFRS, who was given the honour of opening the repository. Gerald then read a citation prepared for the occasion:

On the occasion of my visit to Renmark, I have much pleasure in presenting, on behalf of the forty-one countries of the WFRS and in my own name, our sincere congratulations to David Ruston.

The collection in the Rose Repository contains as many Teas, Noisettes, and Chinas as possible, including foundlings, and is a reference in the world of botanical roses. It is a dream come true for David and all the rose enthusiasts.

It is an honour for the WFRS to count David Ruston as one of its members, and the creation of this new garden is a great initiative on his behalf. I sincerely hope this garden will be an inspiration for all rose lovers.

As the light faded, small groups of rosarians wondered amongst the roses admiring the work of David’s energetic and enthusiastic working party.

People to be thanked for their invaluable assistance are: Pat Toolan, and members of the Barossa and Beyond HRJA region; John Nieuwesteeg of Nieuwesteeg Rose nursery for supplying roses; Margaret Furness and Jane Zanmit for their propagating skills; Val Davies and Colleen and David Houston from the Riverina HRJA region; and Sue and John Zwar. For the countless others who so generously gave their time: a thank you to all.

I would also like to take this opportunity to especially thank Dr Yuki Mikanagi from Japan, and David and Crenagh Elliott from Canada, for their enthusiastic support at this important event, as they are foundation members of the newly-formed WFRS Heritage Rose Committee.
Recent news from Sakura, Japan

by Yuki Mikanagi, Japan

As was introduced in the latest issue of World Rose News, the WFRS newsletter, we are very happy to host the 12th International Heritage Rose Conference in Sakura city, Japan, from May 28th to June 3rd, 2011. The city is located 40 km (25 miles) east of Tokyo, near Narita International Airport, and its rose garden was opened in the municipal woods on April 29th, 2006.

For the last three years we have bent our efforts to make a unique rose garden reflecting the Japanese sense of beauty, and harmonizing with the surrounding landscape. Now the bush roses there have fully grown and give a lot of blooms, and climbers cover nearly 80% of the high arches and pillars in the garden. The garden itself has also been expanded to 13,000 square metres (3.2 acres), and two new sections, named “Santa Maria Valley” and “Dream of India”, are currently under construction.

Some of the 1,100 varieties in our collection are roses which have been grown for centuries in private gardens in different Asian countries, and have been imported directly from there. Though many of them are anonymous, they are too fascinating to be neglected.

I would like to give an example, a rose from Laos. Mr. Katsuhiko Maebara, the Director of our garden, and Prof. Yoshihiro Ueda in Gifu International Academy of Horticulture, made a field trip to a plateau area of southern Laos in March, 2002. They found a Tea rose in the garden of a farmer of the Mong people. The rose hedge was about 2.5m high, and its flowers had a close affinity to Hume’s Blush Tea-scented China.

The conference in 2011 will be a great opportunity for rose enthusiasts in Japan to exchange ideas and information with friends from overseas. We are looking forward to welcoming many heritage rose lovers to Sakura, and discussing roses with them, particularly those mysterious Asian roses in our garden.
**Rosa mandonii** Rose de Madère

by Miguel Albuquerque - Madeira

**L'Archipel de Madère**

L'archipel de Madère est situé dans l'Océan Atlantique, au sud-ouest du Portugal Continental.

L'île de Madère, la plus grande, avec 737km², l'origine volcanique, présente une cordillère montagneuse centrale où se trouvent les points les plus hautes de l'île: le Pic Ruivo (1861m d'altitude) et le Pic do Areeiro (1810m d'Altitude).

Le relief de cette ile est très accentué, avec des vallées profondes, de nombreux précipices et de hautes falaises. Le climat de Madère est influencé par les vents alizés de N et NE et par l'orographie. La température moyenne sur la côte sud, qui est de 18°C, varie cependant en fonction de l'altitude: en montant, elle baisse L'environ 1°C tout les 150m. Sur la côte sud les précipitations annuelles sont de 400 – 1000mm.

Sur la côte nord elle sont de 1000 a 2000mm.

L'humidité atmosphérique relative peut atteindre 75% a 90%.

A Madère, il se forme des brouillards, généralement entre 400 et 1200m d'altitude où les précipitations sont élevées. C'est dans cette zone de condensation des brouillards que croît la «laurissilva», forêt l'aurière de Madère.

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**Laurissilva maderienne**

La forêt indigène de Madère, Patrimoine Natural Mondial, depuis 1999, est une formation «lauriligneuse», avec des arbres et arbustes à feuillage persistant, aux feuilles planes, de nombreuses plantes épiphytes et grimpantes, qui poussent dans les conditions de précipitations élevées et d'humidité relative. (Au-Lessus de 85%) et de températures moyennes douces.

La forêt indigène de Madère, occupe une superficie L'environ 15.000 hectares et est considérée une relique du tertiaire car elle possède des espèces qui existaient dans les flores primitives du sud de Europe et de l'Afrique du Nord d’ où elles ont disparu en raison des changements climatiques (les glaciations en Europe et le désertification au Sahara).

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**Flore et végétation**

La flore vasculaire (pértidophytes et spermatophytes) de Madère (Archips de Madère et des Sauvages) est exubérante et diversifiée. Elle est composée de 1226 espèces (Press & Short, 1994) comprenant des plantes indigènes et naturalisées. Parmi ces espèces, 123 (10%) sont endémiques de ces archipels, c'est-à-dire qu'elles croissent exclusivement dans ces îles et ne surgissent spontanément dans aucune autre région du monde.

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**Biographie**

Old roses in Natal

by Fay Clayton, South Africa

I live in the Midlands of Kwa Zulu Natal, about 20km inland from Pietermaritzburg, and roses do very well here. Of course, we have black spot and powdery mildew like everyone else, and balding of flowers in our hot humid summers, but on the whole the roses thrive. I have been collecting old roses for about 20 years now and have established a nice collection, many of which come from old homesteads and farms in the area.

The first rose to flower is usually Beauty of Glazenwood, which grows up a tree and tumbles down, and also through a hedge on the road verge. I have roses all along the road as a security fence, which is much prettier than concrete walls or razor wire.

Close on the heels of Beauty of Glazenwood comes Souvenir de Madame Leonie Viennot, which hangs over the front gate from the hedge, mingled with Goldfinch, which blooms when Leonie’s first flush is over. On the other side of the entrance, on the fence along the road, we have Albertine, Rosa rochburghii Plena, and Archimedes, together with a very dark red, single small-flowered climber with a white eye, which I nicked as a cutting from somewhere in Stellenbosch many years ago – I would never find it again! The red climber is very early, as is Archimedes, and like so many of the Teas, it doesn’t know when to stop flowering. Albertine comes into its own towards the middle of October into November.

The first roses are usually in flower towards the end of September, and then the rush starts. François Juranville soon bursts into bloom, with its lovely apple scent, and is on the same fence as Russeliana and Étoile de Lyon, and a little later on this same fence we have New Dawn, Félicité Perpétue, and Lamarque. The last has long since considered the fence too humble, and has climbed right up to the top of a large auracaria (Monkey Puzzle) tree, from where it cascades down in bursts of flowers – I call it my Christmas tree! Félicité Perpétue has decided not to be left behind here, and is now chasing Lamarque up the tree, so when they flower together it should look very pretty.

Next to this particular fence there is an ‘Old Rose & English Rose Garden’ – more of a collection really than a planned garden – and at the bottom of this is a rose which my husband and I found near Cedara, the agricultural college nearby, so we call it the “Cedara Rose”. It is, I think, Great Western, but like many of my roses, it has not been positively identified. I find identification quite tricky; you can stand with the book in one hand and the rose bush right in front of you, and having made a decision, you then turn the pages and find another six which look as though they could be the rose in front of you as well. Anyway, this rose blooms on long, arching canes for about six weeks, and is a lovely deep red, reflexing as it gets older and going a lovely purplish shade. Souvenir de la Malmaison is a slave to powdery mildew, but it is so lovely, I have to keep it – the scent is like talcum powder, and, when it has a good bloom, it is stunning. Fritz Nobis is here too, and gives a marvellous display in the early spring.

Madame Isaac Pereire is determined to take over the whole area, so she will need a lot of attention this winter, however, those fat, pink, fragrant flowers are in a class of their own. There is also Rosa rochburghii normalis here, which I hope will flower this year. It was grown from seed and I have not come across it in South Africa before.

Amongst my personal favourites are Général Gallieni and another non-stop bloomer we found at an abandoned farmhouse, in what is now Golden Gate Highland Park. I tried to identify it and even sent cuttings to Peter Beales in the U.K. but with no definite success. I think it may be Général Schablikine, but who knows? Anyway, it is a most rewarding rose. After sending several cuttings to Peter Beales I have had definite identifications on Captain W R Smith and Madame Lombard. Quite close by are Cramoisi Supérieur and Fabvier; it took me ages to decide whether they were really two different roses or not – it was really with the help of Lynn Kepler that we finally made the decision.

Souvenir de Madame Leonie Viennot
photographed by Jocelen Janon, New Zealand
Coming round the side of the house and across the lawn path are some unidentified roses – one a lovely, full, pink Tea rose, which comes from the old memorial in Bulwer, another from an old garden in Eshowe. The Bulwer rose is a proper rose-pink; the Eshowe one, which we call “Martha” because it is thornless (but I don’t think it really is Martha) is a loose double, with the typical tea colour mix of cream, buff and salmon – it is a most beautiful rose and constantly in flower. I did not get an ID from Peter Beales on this one either, unfortunately. Also from Bulwer, taken from cuttings on old graves, are Marie van Houtte and a pale pink rambler – a sort of Dorothy Perkins relative. Albéric Barbier, grown from a cutting taken in the pouring rain from a cemetery in Knysna, grows up and tumbles through a Halleria tree, and is a sight to behold in full flush.

Sharing the tree is another unidentified rose – looks to me like the pictures of Alchemist, but how does one tell? When they get their act together, they are spectacular. Phyllis Bide, flowering much later, is behind Frau Karl Druschki, and a little further on, is another of my favourites, Sachsenruss. Our climate here is dry enough for Sachsenruss to flower without balling, which is not the case closer to Pietermaritzburg and the coast. If it had a scent, Sachsenruss would be perfect. Madame Plantier bursts into full flower about four to five weeks after the earliest roses; Schoeners Nutkana flowers round about the same time, but of course repeats. Cécile Brunner flowers happily at the foot of an arch supporting Rosa banksiae banksiae and yet another unidentified Tea.

In other parts of the garden, we have Lorraine Lee, one kept as a shrub, and one shooting up through the branches of a white, double flowering peach. Sophie’s Perpetual is another constant flowerer, and came from an old farm in the Boston area, where it was well over a 100 years old. I have a path where I grow several more anonymous Teas – all collected from old houses and farms, not all in Natal. Silver Moon, growing on a fence, came from a very old cottage in the Transvaal (now Gauteng).

My Général Schablinik was found in an old garden in Eshowe, as well as where the original plant came from in the Free State.

There is a rose, very cupped and a terrible baller, which is pale, creamy pink – friends and I call it “Willie Alborough” – found on the grave of a small boy in the Boston Cemetery, and this was also found in Eshowe where “Martha” came from. I find it amazing that so many of these roses which look so delicate are obviously as tough as old boots, and seem to survive despite the worst neglect.

Other roses in the garden, all of which are loved as much as each other and because of their different flowering times, ensure that we have roses almost year round. Life with my roses is fascinating and a constant joy, and whilst it would be nice to have every one properly named, it doesn’t really matter, as they are all beautiful and deserving of presentation.

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To a Tea Rose

by Wendy Langton

These well-bred young women of impeccable taste
Aristocratic bearing and languid grace
Have flawless complexions enhanced it would seem
By soft subtle blendings of peaches and cream
Highlighted at times with a delicate blush
Of ruby and biscuit, or russet and buff.

Into the ivory silk of their exquisite gowns
Lustrous pearls from Orient sea-beds are sewn
And from shoulder to bosom all caught-up and ruched
Gathered ribbons with bullioned silk roses are couched
In pale apricot shades with amber infused
Cherry reds through pink and cream washes suffused
Or old gold and cerise picked up to imbue
A muted, romantic parchment-like hue.

Braided and twisted to anchor them there
Complementary old roses wind through their hair
Either small and shapely or starry-eyed
Fulsome and floppy or saucer-sized
Single or clustered or quite tightly cupped
Quartered and crowded or all loosely ruffled
Causing a low-keyed murmur of unconfessed admiration
Followed by a hushed pause of rapt expectation
As the orchestra strikes up a three four refrain
White gloved hands raise a long courtly train
Swan-necked heads turn in the same direction
Over a patinated image of like reflection
Then bow to their partners with rehearsed elegance
And take to the floor at their coming out dance.
Oh, and the spiced perfume of tea dried in the sun
Fills up the senses as the young dancers swirl on
Till it permeates the ballroom and takes control
Like the chests in a tea clipper’s cargo hold
While the shapes, forms and colours between them combine
To fill in the last brush strokes of a vision sublime.

Then a strange enchantment o’er the concourse is cast
Calling up from the memory a strong sense of the past
But neither music, nor moonlight, nor heady champagne
Can unlock the key or even help to explain
The welling up with insistence again and again
Of a strongly compelling déjá vu claim
Until late into the night as the music plays on
And the debutantes now waltz to a tune remnant
A strange inkling we had all the time becomes clear –
Why, the dancers themselves are the tea roses they wear.
The Zoë Gilbert Merit Award is awarded by the Federation of Rose Societies of South Africa to honour notable rosarians. In 2007 Dr Gwen Fagan received the award for her enthusiastic, painstaking research; in 2008 Sheenagh was the recipient.

The following article, written by Leonore Van Der Walt of the Cape Town Tygerburger newspaper, appeared on 16 January 2008. It was kindly forwarded by John Coleman-Dossacs of Western Australia, who received a copy of the article from his daughter.

One of this country’s rose divas, Dr Gwen Fagan, was awarded the Zoë Gilbert Award for her amazing research on historic rose varieties. She received the award at a function of the Western Cape Rose Society, recently held at the Durbanville Rose Garden.

In gracefully accepting the award, Dr Fagan, this well-known rose expert – who is married to well-known architect Gavie Fagan – proceeded to entertain distinguished guests with amusing anecdotes from her past and how her love for roses was born.

The Western Cape Rose Society nominated Fagan to the Federation of Rose Societies of South Africa (ROSA) for the award. ROSA accepted the nomination and described Fagan’s research in glowing terms:

“The Federation of Rose Societies of South Africa wishes to pay tribute to you for your outstanding contribution to the rose and this federation. It was your enthusiastic and painstaking work in researching, collecting, and identifying historic rose varieties, which were growing on farms, wine estates, homesteads and grave yards in the Western Cape that lead to the re-popularisation of these almost forgotten roses and the establishing of the Heritage Rose Society of South Africa. Through your beautiful and erudite book Roses at the Cape of Good Hope and lecturing on the subject worldwide, you were instrumental in positive publicity for South Africa in many countries. By being responsible for re-establishing gardens and parks open to the public with these old rose types and varieties, you have advanced tourist attractions and ensured that these roses remain available for posterity.”

Other rose dignitaries who have received the award include Ludwig Taschner, Duncan Henderson, Esther Geldenhuys, Dick Lindner and Des Wright.

The 2008 recipient of the Zoë Gilbert Merit Award, Sheenagh Harris, was fortunate enough to know Zoë Gilbert well. As a young newly-wed in the 1960’s Sheenagh attended her lectures at the Horticultural Society meetings in the City Hall and often went to her rose pruning demonstrations in her garden. Zoë had a real collector’s garden and Sheenagh remembers on one occasion somebody asking Zoë to prune a particular rose in her garden and she had to admit it had already been done: Zoë pruned very lightly!!! Zoë was an absolute fund of knowledge and wrote some excellent gardening books.

The Zoë Gilbert Merit Award was awarded to Sheenagh Harris at the National Convention in Bloemfontein, Rose Celebrations, in October 2008, with the following citation:

The Federation of Rose Societies of South Africa wishes to pay tribute to your excellent service.

Your unceasing devotion over the year as President and subsequently Secretary of the Federation as well as your initial involvement and later leadership of the Gold Reef Rose Society deserves recognition. Your untiring effort to represent this Federation as Vice President for Africa on the Council of The World Federation of Rose Societies is much appreciated.

It is your love of the rose that has led to your enthusiastic and untiring promotion of the queen of flowers locally and through tours and visits to places all over the World.

Please accept this award as token of our sincere appreciation and gratitude for your superb contribution to ROSA and the rose.

On returning to Australia Sheenagh Harris learned that she was to receive the Presidents Award, and has also been nominated for the World President of the WFRS this year.
San Jose Heritage Rose Garden

by Jill Perry, USA

When the City of San Jose was planning the Guadalupe River Parks and Gardens (GRP&G), a group of Heritage Rose lovers in the South Bay Heritage Rose Group planned the Heritage Rose Garden as a part of it. The plan was to show and preserve roses of all periods in rose history. Budwood was imported from many gardens in the US and Europe. Cemeteries around California were also searched for old roses, and found roses make up about 15% of our varieties.

You can’t spend very long in the garden without having planes flying overhead just before landing. The location of GRP&G is just south of the runway for San Jose’s Mineta International Airport. There used to be a housing development here, but when the airport expanded, the houses were torn down. In digging to plant roses, we often come across remnants of the housing tract – bits of pavement or concrete, or pieces of brick or metal.

The garden comprises six sections laid out in a circle. The first rings by the center of the circle contain our Minis and Polyanthas. Behind these two rows, the six sections each contain different types of roses. The first section (O) has Species roses, Hybrid Species such as Eglantines and Spinossissimas, and OGRs – Albas, Gallicas, Centifolias, Damasks and Mosses. The next section (P) contains classes influenced by the Chinese imports – Bourbons, Portlands, Hybrid Perpetuals, and Hybrid Rugosas. Next come the Tea and China roses in Section K. I would like to collect every Tea rose in existence. Section L contains Hybrid Polyanthas and older Floribundas in the front part, and older Hybrid Teas and Pernetianas in the back part. More recent Floribundas and modern Hybrid Teas are in Section M. Shrub roses are in Section N – Lambertianas, Hybrid Musks, and Austins, among others. Adjacent to the pathways in the garden, the end rose in each row is a climber, and most of our Noisettes are found along these row ends. Some of the bush Noisettes are at the back of section K. There are also a few Hybrid Giganteas there as well. There are not enough locations for all the great Ramblers and large Climbers, and the airport will not allow us to build large structures for them, so an arrangement was made with Santa Clara University for us to cover a half mile of fence there with climbing and rambling roses – about 250 of them.

The garden was planted in January, 1995. In the years since, we have learned much about growing these roses. First, we have come to realize that the initial spacing was often too close: many roses were much more vigorous than expected, and crowded out the adjacent plants. We’ve had to designate a large number of locations as ‘Not Available’.

Another realization is that planting a young rose out among the mature plants led to high losses of new plants. A nursery was added to grow out young plants till they are big enough to survive in the garden.

The most serious problem we’ve had took a long time to figure out. Roses started dying at a high rate: several hundred a year. We had no idea if the symptoms we were seeing were caused by a disease, by contaminated pruners spreading disease, bad soil, fungi, poor soils,
wrong fertilizer, or the use of reclaimed water. This led to a lot of discussion, thoughts of experimenting in different parts of the garden with fungicide, more fertilizer, and so forth, but it was finally decided to get some good soil testing done before doing anything else. Brian Debasitis stepped in as a volunteer at this point, and discovered that our soil had a lot of nitrogen, but lacked the soil fungi needed to make it available to the rose roots. Brian inoculated our compost and mulch with fungi from rotting mulch nearby. We also plant new roses with mycorrhizae sprinkled on their roots. Aerated compost tea was sprayed on the roses. Sunflowers were also planted so their taproot could help break up compacted soil and improve drainage in some areas. The results have been good: fewer plants dying, most new plants surviving, and spring bloom being overwhelming again. Last year’s soil tests showed noticeable improvement in soil life, including fewer bacteria, more fungi and protozoans, and even some worms, but there is still a long way to go.

I can’t complete an article on the Heritage Rose Garden without mentioning the volunteers. This garden is entirely maintained by volunteers – all 3,500+ roses of more than 2,500 varieties have been planted and are pruned and weeded by volunteers. There is a small group that comes out every Wednesday and/or Saturday morning, weather permitting. In addition, we often get groups of volunteers from the various companies located in the San Jose area. Without volunteers, the Heritage Rose Garden would not be able to exist – even the Garden Director and the Curator (me) are volunteers. ☺

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**Poppylands: home of Wendy Langton**

by Sue Zwar, Australia

A necessary part of any Tasmanian rose garden trip would have to be a visit to Wendy Langton’s delightful cottage garden nestled on a corner block in the northern Tasmanian town of Latrobe. I have been an interested reader of Wendy’s Northern Tasmanian notes in the [Australian] Journal over the past couple of years, and I really appreciated finally meeting this charming and hospitable woman with a vast knowledge of garden plants.

**Poppylands** is a delightful deep blue weatherboard cottage, set close to the road with roses intertwining with shrubs and spilling over the wooden paling fence running along the length of the side road – roses such as *Rosa multiflora*, *Dupontii*, *Francois Juranville*, and *Albertine*. Irises encroaching onto the footpath blend in with their canopy.

The back yard is large and is crammed full with plants, beds divided by narrow paved pathways. There is not enough space left to waste on lawned areas! Despite this massed planting, the garden – and Wendy – coped admirably with the 90+ enthusiastic mainland Australian rosarians who descended upon it. There was also room for a display of old rose specimens, a watercolour exhibition, light refreshments, and a group of Tasmanian heritage rose folk.

Archways leading towards the back garden housed such favourites as *Lady Hillingdon*, *Leontine Gervais*, and *Reve d’Or*, while *Adelaide d’Orleans* and *Albertine* successfully hid the neighbour’s Besser-block garage. Nearby was Wendy’s garden shed with two *Laburnum* trees in full flower forming an archway over it.

The highlight of the garden, for me, was the old Hill’s Hoist (rotary clothes line) with *Veilchenblau*, *Violette*, *Amethyste*, and *Rose Marie Vlaud*, all shades of purple, growing on each corner. Underneath was a profusion of lovely old Mosses such as *James Veitch*, and *William Lobb*. Damasks such as *Quatre Saisons* and Portlands such as *Rosa de Rescht* and *Jacques Cartier* all combining to perfection with old fashioned perennials – dianthus, aquilegias, lupins and species geraniums. What a picture!

A division in the garden was made with *Rosa brunonii* and *Lamarque* cascading down out of a tree underplanted with a small white garden of daisies, erigeron, white watsonias, lychnis, *Iceberg* and *Madame Plantier*. Nearby, the beautiful thornless Boursalt, *Amadis*, was twining its way up a pear tree with *Rhapsody in Blue* at its feet. What a stunning combination! I feel it’s a shame that the Boursalts are such an underused class of roses with their beautiful pink flowers, attractive thornless foliage, and magnificent autumn tonings.

Beyond this division was a new extension, a “dry garden” dramatically different in style and colouring. A circular design of pebbles led to perennial plantings in vibrant oranges and pinks with geums, Californian and oriental poppies being softened with purple sage, bronze fennel, an attractive smoke bush and grasses. Here a narrow grassed pathway led to the tidiest compost pile I’ve ever seen. Here also species roses were planted, *Highdownensis*, a seedling from *Rosa moyesi*, *Rosa woodsii fendleri* and the Chestnut rose, *Rosa roxburghii plena*.

As I wended my way out of this beautiful garden I discovered the grassed rectangular area on the northern side of the house with perennial borders softening a variety of shrub roses, many of them Austins. How well the Austins do in Tasmania, with their abundance of flowers having an extra rich colour and their foliage so healthy and glossy. And what a fascinating collection of plants in *Poppylands* combined in such a tasteful way to make a magnificent total picture. ☻

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Newsletter of the World Federation of Rose Societies Heritage Rose Group

vol. 2, no 1, page 9
Maurice Lévêque de Vilmorin's forgotten roses.

by Jocelyn Janon. New Zealand

At the end of the 19th century and beginning of the 20th century, a group of people around Jules Gravereaux and the Societe Nationale d'Horticulture de France (the French Horticultural Society), were collecting and breeding roses. At this time the members were trying to cross the relatively new roses coming from China, Japan, and America with the old European roses. If the work of Jules Gravereaux on Rosa rugosa, with the aim of creating a better rose for the perfume industry, is relatively well known, this is not the case of Auguste Louis Maurice Lévêque de Vilmorin, then President of the Society.

Vilmorin was born the 26th February 1849 at Verrieres-le-Buisson, not far from Paris. He was the descendant of a family with a long horticultural history. The family history began in 1743, when Claude Geoffroy Maîtresse Grainière (Seed Mistress) of the King opens a shop, the Coq de la Bonne Foy, on the Megisserie quay in Paris. She married Pierre d’Andrieux (or Andrieux), botanist of the King Louis XV. Their daughter, Adelaide, married a Vilmorin. Together they took over the shop and named it Vilmorin-Andrieux, later renamed it Vilmorin-Andrieux et Cie. The shop is still at the same place today.

In 1862, Vilmorin received, on his father’s death, part of the Des Barres domain. He created a new park around the castle and systematically collected shrubs from all around the world. For twenty years Vilmorin was part of a vast network of plant collectors, in particular with the French missionaries in China: Armand David, Paul Farges etc.

Jean Marie Delavay sent seeds of Rosa sericea pictanthe (syn. Rosa omeiensis pictanthe, the ‘Winged Rose’) to Les Barres where it grew for the first time in France. The collection was described in detail in a catalogue listing more than five thousands varieties, the Fruticetum Vilmorinianum of 1904.

Rosa vilmorinii Bean

Around 1905 William Jackson Bean (1863-1947), orchids specialist and curator of the Kew gardens for 46 years, described a rose created by Vilmorin and named it after him. This rose, a cross between Rosa roxburghii and Rosa rugosa, is still growing today in L’Haj-les-Roses. Unfortunately for Vilmorin his rose was forgotten.

Then a rose was “discovered as a volunteer plant at the Strasbourg Botanical Institute.” This rose was named Rosa x Hirculus, widely available as Microurga. There is a possibility that this rose is no other than Rosa vilmorinii Bean.

Rosa x Hirculus, also known as Microurga.

Vilmorin, a precursor.

Maurice de Vilmorin probably enjoyed breeding with new and unusual species, like the Rosa rugosa x Duc d’Edimburgh still in cultivation in de L’Haj-les-Roses. Another Hybrid Rugosa named Margheriteae (Rosa rugosa x Rosa lucida), for which we have no information, is also found in L’Haj-les-Roses.
Vilmorin was also very interested in *Rosa foliolosa*.

**Rosa foliolosa**

Between 1836 and 1841, while working for the Academy of Natural Sciences in Philadelphia, Thomas Nuttall contributed to the *Flora of North America* by Asa Gray and John Torrey. Nuttall described the **White Prairie Rose** (syn. the **Leafy Rose**), which will become *Rosa foliolosa* Nutt. Ex. Torr. and Gray. Found in central and north-central Texas, Arkansas, and Kansas, *Rosa foliolosa* has 'stems less than a foot high, from a creeping rootstock. Flower very fragrant.' It grows along roads and fences, flowers white, sometimes tinged with pink. It has ferny foliage and is almost without a prickle ('thornless').

More recently (1999) *Rosa foliolosa* (syn. *Rosa ignota* Shinniers, 1958) has been described as follows²:

*Rosa foliolosa* Nutt. ex Torr. & A. Gray, (full of leaves, profusely-leaved), **WHITE PRAIRIE ROSE, LEAFY ROSE**. Dwarf, rhizomatous shrub to 05 m tall; prickles few, very small, slender, straight or nearly so; leaflets glabrous or pubescent on veins beneath, 7 - 11; stipules glandular-ciliate; flowers usually solitary, short-pedicelled, ca. 4 cm across; petals white or rarely light pink. Prairies and open thickets or roadsides, calcareous clay or less often sandy soils; Blackland Prairie to Grand Prairie; mainly oc TX s to Edwards Plateau. Mid-May-early Jul. [R. Ignota Shinniers]

*Rosa foliolosa* had been used in Vilmorin’s breeding experimentations. Before 1912 "M. Maurice de Vilmorin obtained, with R. Rugosa, an interesting hybrid, very "remontant". Maurice de Vilmorin described **Rosa foliolosa** "with bright rosy-white flowers". This was more than 50 years before Percy Wright's works on *Rosa foliolosa*; 75 years before the introduction of **Ann Endt** by Ken Nobbs, and Dr Robert E. Basye’s **Basye’s Purple Rose** (*Rosa foliolosa* x *Rosa rugosa* Rubra – 1980).

Unfortunately, Vilmorin's hybrid seems extinct, unless **Ann Endt** proves to be its re-incarnation.

In 1971, Percy H. Wright says³:

The "Fernleaf" rose (as I call it now) has flowers with a tone of true pink, not rose-pink, but rich pink with no blue tones which delight the eye.

It is interesting to note that **Rosa foliolosa** in the wild is white, whereas in commerce and literature it has a bright pink colour. Only Peter Beales and Graham Thomas mention a white form. It seems preferable to consider the white form of **Rosa foliolosa** the type and the pink form as the variation.

**Notes**
2. This is 'Duke of Edinburgh' a hybrid perpetual by William Paul (1888).
5. I kept the term "remontant" rather than translate it in "perpetual" which I find inaccurate. [U]

**Credits**
- Photo of Margherita, copyright © 2005, Etienne Bourret.
- Other photos copyright © 2006, Jocelen Janon; text © Jocelen Janon

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"Rosa foliolosa Nutt."

"Rosa foliolosa x Rosa rugosa, De Vilmorin, before 1912."
The Memorial Roses of the Dunedin Northern Cemetery

By Fran Rawling & Fiona Hyland, New Zealand

For our Millennium Project Heritage Roses Otago (HRO) planted *Rosa moyesii, Complicata, Jacques Cartier*, and *Martin Frobisher* roses in front of New Zealand’s most photographed building, the Dunedin Railway Station. It is a planting that continues to impress tourists and locals alike.

Flushed with the success of this Millennium planting, HRO began to cast about for a new project, and mention of old roses spotted growing in Dunedin’s Northern Cemetery quickly lead to our greatest conservation and planting project, which many of you will have visited during the course of the 10th International Heritage Rose Conference held in Dunedin in December 2005.

Dunedin was established in Victorian times, with grand dreams and architecture financed by the Otago Gold Rush. The lavish Victorian garden cemetery layout recommended by John Claudius Loudon in his 1843 *On the Laying Out of Cemeteries* was adopted for each of Dunedin’s first three planned cemeteries:

Cemeteries should be conspicuous from a distance because their buildings and tombs would make them as ‘ornament’ to the surrounding country, and an ‘impressive monument of our mortality’.

A general cemetery, properly laid out, ornamented with tombs, planted with trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants, all named, and the whole properly kept, might become a school of instruction in architecture, sculpture, landscape gardening, arbicolture, botany, and those important points of general gardening, neatness, order, and high keeping.

The Northern Cemetery was established on 20 acres of native forest in the Town Belt in 1872, with 15 acres devoted to grave plots and five acres for landscaping, driveways, and paths. The site lies on a gentle south-facing slope overlooking the magnificent Otago Harbour, and shares a boundary with the internationally acclaimed Dunedin Botanic Garden. Nearly 18,000 people were buried in the Cemetery before the Cemetery was judged full and closed. The growth of the city has not enclosed the Northern Cemetery, and its relatively isolation has somewhat protected it from vandalism.

In late 2000 HRO members met with the Dunedin City Council to propose a planting project that would contribute to the beautification of Dunedin and meet the goals of Heritage Roses New Zealand. An agreement was drawn up with the Dunedin City Council to allow HRO to conserve the existing roses, and to add and care for further roses up to a total of 1,000, while establishing and keeping accurate records of all roses in the cemetery. Soil preparation, planting, and documentation began in 2001.

Currently there are 1,001 heritage roses from families that thrive in a temperate climate are cared for in the Northern Cemetery. Additional roses were chosen that were in existence, or have the character of roses that were in existence, at much the same time as the Cemetery was active. Significant collections of Albas, Bourbons, Centifolias, Chinas, Damasks, Portlandis, Gallicas, Mosses, Pimpinellifolias, Rugosas, Hybrid Musks, and Species roses have now been established. Gradually the gigantic wilding roses such as the prolific *Rosa longicuspis* (muliganii), *Rosa canina* and *Rosa eglandulosa* are being culled and replaced.

Through regular working bees on the first Monday of the month, supplemented by three annual Sunday working bees, HRO members prune, fertilise (ironically, with blood and bone, and occasionally Nitrophoska), weed, mulch, and generally care for this collection. None of the roses receive water other than when it rains, on average 812mm annually, and no sprays are used on the roses.

Increasingly members have been called upon to lead guided tours. This has required us to become familiar with not only roses, but with the history of the Cemetery, memorial planting practises, the Cemetery ‘residents’, and the symbolism displayed on the headstones.

[Image: The layout of the Dunedin Northern Cemetery.]

[Image: Mary Ann Harris’ Double Cream Pimpinellifolia]
Introducing the public to the delights of old rose fragrance and hips and to the idea that roses need not be ‘high maintenance’ is very rewarding. The income earned from these tours is becoming significant, and is being channelled towards permanent labels for our most significant roses.

Our most important goal is to conserve the roses planted by family members, some of which are well over a century old. Over a hundred of these “Memorial Roses” have been identified. Many were found in a very sorry state, having being neglected, sprayed with herbicide or razed by over-eager ignorant do-gooders and subsequently ravaged by rabbits and opossums. Of these fates, neglect is by far the least harmful to a rose. Through being tagged and cared for, most of the Memorial Roses are now thriving, and all but a few have been identified. The identification task has been aided to a very great extent by the additional planting of heritage roses within the Cemetery. The advantage of being able to pick blooms and foliage from a rose grown in the same location and soil as an unknown Memorial Rose for comparative purposes cannot be overstated.

Typically memorial roses were planted at the head of the plot, and often in pairs either side of the headstone, or where the headstone would eventually be. It was quite a common practise to wait until a senior member of the family died before erecting a headstone.

A special feature of the Dunedin Northern Cemetery are the roses that cascade down from evergreen trees. In Great Britain, where the majority of our early settlers came from, there only five native evergreen tree species, and these, most notably yew, have been associated with ideas of regeneration and resurrection, and hence with burial grounds, from ancient times. This association was brought with them from their land of only five native evergreen tree species, and practised here in our evergreen country. The most popular evergreens planted in the Northern cemetery were holly, particularly variegated varieties, yew, buxus, cypress, viburnum, and New Zealand native species. In many instances trees and roses were planted together, and both have survived, although we know of one case in which the rose has outlasted the tree.

As with any collection of Memorial Roses, we have a good number of what are probably rootstock remnants: **Indica Major**, found only on Class 1 plots, **de la Grifferaie**, and some of our huge **Rosa canina**. While these roses have gained their place in the Cemetery but underhand (underrose?) means, and we will never know the identity of the chosen Memorial rose grafted onto them, we are nevertheless quite attached to the arching sprays of **Indica Major** and the petal carpets they create from early spring.

We keep two sets of rose records: a complete mapped list of roses which we sell as **The Roses of the Dunedin Northern Cemetery**, and a set of conservation plans for each Memorial Rose.

Included on the conservation plan are details of the ‘inhabitants’ of the plot on which the rose was planted. Consideration of the Memorial Roses in conjunction with the burial records has lead to the following insights: a white rose, while considered to be most suitable for a young child or unmarried woman, can be found planted on the grave of any individual, reminding us that while black is the primary colour of mourning, white is the second colour of mourning. The favoured white Memorial Roses in the Northern Cemetery is **Félicité Perpétue**, often in a paired with yew or holly. **Madame Plantier**, known colonially throughout New Zealand as “the Brides Rose”, **Alba Maxima**, a double Cream pimpernelfolia, the White Lady Bank’s rose, and **Blanc Double de Coubert** were also planted as Memorial Roses.

In contrast, strongly coloured Memorial roses: **William Lobb**, the **Bishop**, and **Tuscany**, have been found only on the graves of men. Of these **William Lobb** was by far the most popular rose, and again is often found planted with yew or holly.

![Richard Gage's William Lobb](image)

Other memorial roses include several instance of Old Blush, and single examples of **Comte de Chambord**, **Lady Hillingdon**, Mrs W.H.Cutbush, Anaïs Segales, and **Souvenir de la Malmaison**.

Our greatest mystery rose in the Cemetery is a repeat flowering dark pink rose with China or Bourbon ancestry we call the “James Daly rose” after the first example found in the cemetery. There are three examples of this Memorial Rose in the Northern Cemetery, arguing for it having once enjoyed great popularity. In each instance this rose was planted on the grave of a man, and teamed with evergreens – a yew, a viburnum, and a now extant yew or holly. While this rose has attained the great height of 4-5m in the yew tree, this is perhaps the result of long
cultivation rather than an indication of climbing genes, as unsupported this rose makes a large healthy and spectacular bush. The gentlemen for whom this rose was planted entered the cemetery in 1880, 1886, and 1886/1888 (father and son). We were at one time struck with the idea that this rose might be the elusive American Beauty rose, and are currently sourcing this rose to plant within the cemetery for comparison purposes.

Another mystery rose in the Northern Cemetery is a very shy flowerer, only sporting two or three blooms a year in early summer. This red rose shares a cypress tree (and bloom size) with a vigorous Memorial Félicité Perpétue, and encouraging one rose while discouraging the other and trying to maintain the health of an aging tree is quite tricky.

While the days of the Victorian Garden Cemetery may be over, their renaissance is well underway. Our roses have made the Northern Cemetery a more beautiful and more accessible (less scary) space.
Tea Scented Roses have become wonderfully popular again, and with this in mind we needed to know which of them perform well in all locations. Primarily, a warm climate is required to grow them successfully and as they crave a little heat in winter, they cannot tolerate frost as it may cut them to the ground. For myself, I found that the most interesting aspect of the study was that the roses chosen in the top ten are those very roses that are readily available commercially across the world. Many other Tea Scented Roses where also included in the plebiscite but given less importance of rank by those who participated with their votes. This has been a most enjoyable exercise for David Ruston and has added a further dimension to the Tea Scented Rose Collection found growing in the gardens of Ruston Roses at Renmark, South Australia. David proudly declares that 2009 is the year of the Tea Scented Rose, and for myself I could not wish for anything better than a huge bunch of the lovely soft apricot roses of Lady Hillingdon and Anna Olivier.

With the Tea Rose Top Ten selections we received some very interesting comments and have included some of them here for your enjoyment. Marie Van Houtte has been included, as it was almost in the top ten, with many fans that sing its praises.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all who kindly gave there time to complete this plebiscite, the experience has been very rewarding and enjoyable.

### The World's favourite Tea Roses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Rose</th>
<th>Breeder</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>196</td>
<td>Monsieur Tillier also grown as Archiduc Joseph</td>
<td>Bernaix, France, 1891</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>168</td>
<td>Comtesse de Labarthe syn. Duchesse de Brabant</td>
<td>Bernède, France, 1857</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>153</td>
<td>Lady Hillingdon</td>
<td>Lowe &amp; Shawyer, UK, 1910</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>G. Nabonnand also grown as Jean Ducher</td>
<td>G. Nabonnd, France, 1888</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>Général Galléni</td>
<td>G. Nabonnd, France, 1899</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>Sombreuil 1</td>
<td>Introduced</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>Souvenir de Mme Léonie Viennot</td>
<td>Bernaix, France, 1897</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>Francis Dubreuil</td>
<td>- the rose available today is not the original bred by Dubreuil, France, 1894</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>Safrano</td>
<td>Beauregard, France, 1839</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>Anna Olivier</td>
<td>Ducher, France, 1872</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>Baronne Henriette Sny</td>
<td>Bernaix, France, 1897</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>Mrs. B.R. Cant</td>
<td>B.R. Cant, UK, 1901</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>Mrs Dudley Cross</td>
<td>W. Paul, UK, 1907</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>Marie Van Houtte</td>
<td>Ducher, France, 1871</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>Maman Cochet</td>
<td>Scipion Cochit, France, 1892</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 Sombreuil: this refers to the climbing rose said to be a founding and introduced in the United States in the 1940s; not the shrub rose Mlle de Sombreuil.
1. Monsieur Tillier
also known as Archiduc Joseph

Noelene Drage, Australia: Very Prolific, continuous bearer: warm rich colour combinations. Strong big bush, very heat tolerant – a valuable rose

Nancy Jordan, New Zealand: Always a prolific flowering, strong grower.

Maureen Ross, Australia: One of the most consistently formed blooms of perfectly circular cupped blooms, which are regularly quilled to the centre. The changing colours in our Australian climate are from carmine-red, shaded brick-red with a violet haze, or sometimes shaded buff to the centre. Stunning.

Jean Reid, Australia: Flowers so well with its coppery pink shades and perfume. Always a favorite with the public.

Miguel Albuquerque, Madiera: Its bright colours catches everyone’s attention, the way the petals often curl and form points and the colour’s transformation along its period of bloom.

2. Comtesse de Labarthe
syn. Duchesse de Brabant

Walter Duncan, Australia: We grow the pink and the white cultivars. The nodding cupped flowers in either pearly pink or soft white, tinged with the palest pink, are strongly tea scented. These plants need no pruning except for removal of dead wood. Comtesse de Labarthe produces its best exquisite flowers in early October when the weather is cool. If pruned in winter, then the flowering will be later in spring and the flowers will not be as well formed. Grows to about 1.5 m high and wide.

Billy West, Australia: Healthy and vigorous, with lovely nodding, globular flowers and a shapely habit. Attractive, healthy foliage and continuous bloom make it an excellent garden shrub. Fragrant. No faults. The climbing sport is equally good.

Hillary Merrifield, Australia: So generous with its almost perpetual cascade of nodding shell-pink bells.

Lynne Chapman, Australia: Never without flowers in my garden, even in the hottest weather.

Jocelyn Janson, New Zealand: She flowers in my peach tree and the contrast with the flowers is very beautiful. Also her beautiful cupped flowers are secretly used by the garden fairies, mostly at tea time.

3. Lady Hillingdon

Sally Allison, New Zealand: Unsurpassed in this colour, and fragrant as well.

Di Darston, Australia: Has the most lovely, loosely double, apricot to old gold coloured blooms and deservedly popular since its introduction in 1910. Both wood and foliage are of remarkable beauty, very clean and disease resistant. The colour of the new wood and new shoots is purple. The scent is a fruity apricot.

Kate and Peter Cox, Australia: The only true yellow Tea rose, although it can fade to white in very hot weather; both the bush and the climber are well worth growing for the red flush in new foliage to contrast the yellow gold of the opening flowers.

Miguel Albuquerque, Madiera: The rich warm yellow and beautiful fragrance gives this flower an incredible beauty.

Pat Toolan, Australia: A survivor which withstood being moved when old with little root system. Flowers continuously on a healthy bush with nodding gold goblets.
4. Général Galliéni

Gwen Fagan, South Africa: Every garden should have a Général Galliéni growing at the approach to the front door where passers-by or visitors can enjoy its spectacular red/orange blooms. I plant Rosa Chinensis mutabilis with it as both have the same yellow to maroon flowers and the heavy flowers of the General are very effectively offset against the delicate bunches of the smaller China roses, which can grow up to 4 meters tall. These two will never tire of producing new flowers and can be especially useful as end vistas to paths or to blot out unsightly views. I like to plant a ceanothus close behind them and Canterbury Bells at their feet, to offset the vibrant mass of colour with a softer contrasting blue.

Hillary Merrifield, Australia: The different combinations of strong unusual colours and rough-hewn flowers continually surprise me.

Wendy Langton, Tasmania: Resplendently complex, quartered and crowded with innumerable petals of cream and buff and coppery red and crimson which burst out of the constraints of the bud like fluttering tricorne plumes.

5. G. Nabonnand
also known as Jean Ducher

Di Durston, Australia: Flowers saffron to apricot in the bud stage then changing to pale buff with age. Very prolific and repeats quickly, is hardy and drought tolerant. Safrano is a very early tea 1839 and has remained popular since its introduction. Sets many hips.

Jenny Jones, Australia: High on my list. Magnificent when doubling occurs in spring and autumn. Lovely apricot to buff colour. Good healthy bush.

Sally Allison, New Zealand: Purity of this delightful rose is irresistible. With me will climb with encouragement or very happy as a bush.

Billy West, Australia: Exquisitely lovely form and colour. Rarely without a flower. Winter blooms are especially beautiful. Thornless stems. An excellent cut flower. Slow to establish but worth the wait. Can be troubled by mildew when plant is young. Warm fruity fragrance.

Fay Clayton, South Africa: This is definitely one of my all time favourite roses – I just love the loosely double flowers with their soft pinky apricot flowers – and of course repeat tendencies. This again was found in Eshowe, and for a long time we called it Martha because it is so thornless.

9. Safrano
**10. Anna Olivier**

*Di Durston, Australia:* Shaded salmon with the petal base of terracotta and may also be buff. Very clean foliage and growing to a large bush. A distinct lovely variety, beautiful in a bowl. Flowers large, full and well made.

*Noelene Droge, Australia:* Few thorns; their colour enhances the terra-cotta of the mud brick used in my house

*Billy West, Australia:* Has wonderful foliage that makes a perfect foil for the beautiful blooms that come in shades from palest yellow to deep terracotta. Fragrant and healthy. Quick to repeat.

---

**12. Mrs B.R. Cant**

*Chris Batch, Australia:* A lovely pink dense petalled flower and a plant that rewards with continuous flowers

*Lynne Chapman, Australia:* Pretty rose pink flowers, vigorous and very fragrant.

---

**Rosette Delizy**

*Hillary Meersfield, Australia:* Flourishes in my warm garden where it produces wave after wave of red and yellow flowers.

*Sally Allison, New Zealand:* Charming, always in flower. Was not available in NZ but a chance discovery in an unexpected place, I grew it from a cutting.

---

**Devoniensis**

*Maureen Ross, Australia:* Quite charming large fragrant flowers of creamy-apricot to blush pink, paling to ivory, open flat and ruffled. Although the bush is rather shorter than most Teas the climber is vigorous and a sheer delight when dribbling out of trees or over pergolas.

*Billy West Australia:* For its tenacity, its healthy foliage and the beauty and fragrance of its blooms. Flowers all year round. Shrub is slow to establish but very long lived. Like most Teas it just gets better with age. Climbing sport grows strongly and gets very large but produces those gorgeous flowers as continuously as the shrub

*Gillian Batchen, Australia:* I grow this rose as a shrub from a cutting from my husband’s grandparents’ grave in Rookwood Cemetery — so for sentimental reasons, and after a slow start it now flowers well for me though I’m told the climbing form does better.
The final results from around the World

Australia
– 71 varieties mentioned by 43 contributors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>198</td>
<td>Monsieur Tiller</td>
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<td>Comtesse de Labarthe</td>
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<td>Devoniensis</td>
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<td>Anna Olivier</td>
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<td>Saffiano</td>
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Rosarians
The 43 Australian rosarians are listed in their State-by-State results – see pp XX-XX.

France
– 40 Varieties mentioned by 7 contributors

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<td>Noëlla Nabonnand</td>
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<td>8+</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Mme la Comtesse de Caserta</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Mme Brave</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Mme Caroline Testout</td>
</tr>
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Rosarians
Lucie Deschandol, Lyon
Fabien Ducher, Châteauneuf
John Hook, Aignan
Marielle Jourdan, Isère
Odile Masquelier, Lyon
Dominique Massad, Marseille
Simone Rinaudo, Sud France

Gwen Fagan, South Africa: I never cease to be astonished at the way rose plants thrive and blossom in the most neglected of situations. Marie Van Houtte caught my eye one day in a derelict garden in the small town of Riversdale. The shrub was about two meters high, overgrown with weeds, but with bright green leaves, and covered in flowers varying from cream to crimson, it made a brave show. I took a few slips which thrived, and were soon distributed to various heritage gardens. When well cared for and loved, these plants surpassed themselves, producing even in the cold Cape winters, masses of blooms right through the year. I plant it with Heliotrope, adding the cool blue to set off the warm colours and to blend two outstanding fragrances.

Trevor Nottle, Australia: Marie Van Houtte is the largest spreading Tea rose in my garden. No higher than 2m it is over 3m + wide in maturity. The dense twiggy growth, well clothed in pendant leaves is sun-proof despite its somewhat soft appearance. The production of flowers is prodigious. Each flower is soft creamy yellow with delicate pink shadings on the edges of the outermost petals, and can be borne individually or in clusters all over the shrub. Growing among the cut-leaf Afghan lilac and backed by Viburnum fudii, with intense root competition it thrives fully exposed to the western afternoon sun.

Kathie Mills, Australia: Free flowering on a tall sprawling bush, this rose possesses exquisite buds, cream but flushed with cherry which open yielding the most perfect flower. Opening cream the centre is lemon while the outside petals retain their cherry colour. This double flower has the sweetest tea fragrance of all.
Bermuda
– 19 varieties mentioned by 5 contributors

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<td>Rosette Delizy</td>
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<td>Mrs Dudley Cross</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>Anna Olivier</td>
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<tr>
<td>9=</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Mme Joseph Schwartz</td>
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Rosarians
Liesbeth Cooper
Sally Madden
Betsey Mowbray
Marijke Peterich
Clare Russell

Italy
– 40 Varieties mentioned by 6 contributors

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Rosarians
Helga Brichet, Umbria
Maria Giulia Cimarelli, Giardino
Paola Lunaroni, Orvieto
Dr Stefano Marzullo, Rome
Dr Paolo Parigi, Ligura
Dr Melissa Pejano, Genova

India
– 10 Varieties mentioned by 1 contributor

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Madiera
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Rosarian
Viru Viraraghavan, Tamilnadu

Rosarian
Miguel Albuquerque
Japan
– 34 Varieties mentioned by 7 contributors

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Rosarians
Mrs Midori Goto, Yamanashi
Dr Yuki Mikanagi, Chiba
Mr Hironobu Mitomi, Yamanashi
Mrs Kazuko Nomura, Chiba
Mr Jiro Ogawa, Shimane
Mr Ken Osanai, Osaka
Mrs Ayako Takagi, Tokyo

South Africa
– 27 Varieties mentioned by 5 contributors

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Rosarians
Fay Clayton, Pietermaritzburg
Gwen Fagan, Cape Town
Heather Leppan, Somerset East
Barbara Long, Fort Beaufort
Vernon Marais, Grahamstown

New Zealand
– 39 Varieties mentioned by 12 contributions

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Rosarians
Sally Allison, Christchurch
Lloyd Chapman, Otaki
Patricia Dungan, Auckland
Jill Henderson, Auckland
Jocelen Janon, Auckland
Elysse Jones, Whakatane
Nancy Jordan, Auckland
Joanne Knight, Katikati
George Pratt, Tasman Bay
Taranaki, Hawkes’ Bay, and Wellington Regions

U.S.A.
– 46 varieties mentioned by 8 contributors

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Rosarians
Claude Graves, Texas
Virginia Kean, California
Ruth Knopf, Charleston
Greg Lowery, California
Malcolm Manners, Florida
Jill Perry, California
Ron Robertson, California
Gene Waering, Florida

Newsletter of the World Federation of Rose Societies Heritage Rose Group vol 2 no 1 page 21
**Final Results - Australia**

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1 Sombreuil: this refers to the climbing rose said to be a founding and introduced in the United States in the 1940s; not the shrub rose Mlle de Sombreuil.

**The final results of the Australian States**

**South Australia**
- 47 varieties mentioned by 8 contributors

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**Western Australia**
- 30 varieties mentioned by 6 contributors

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**Rosarians**
Christine Butcher, Murray Bridge
Walter Duncan, Clare
Margaret Furness, Mount Barker
Trevor Nottle, Stirling
Jean Reid, Albert Park
Maureen Ross, Willunga
David Ruston, Renmark
Pat Toolan, Angaston

**Rosarians**
Lynene Chapman, Pinjarra
Noelene Drage, Northampton
Dr Durston, Mt Nasura
Jenny Jones, Como
Hillary Merrifield, Rockingham
Billy West, Wattle Grove
Victoria
– 31 varieties mentioned by 8 contributors

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Rosarians
Sophie Adamson, Frankston
Geoff Crouhurst, Thornbury
Di Fickling, Mt Waverley
Ailsa Hemphill, Main Ridge
Wal Johnson, Wrenbee
John Nieuwesteeg, Coldstream
Elizabeth Pontifex, Mornington
Shirley Yates, Mt Martha

New South Wales
– 36 varieties mentioned by 9 contributors

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Rosarians
Gillian Batchen, Bayview
Steve Beck, Fitzroy Falls
Peter Cox, Mittagong
Kate Cox, Mittagong
Heather Hastie, Leura
Coleen Houston, Hay
Sue Kingsford, Fitzroy Falls
Barbara May, Engadine
Kathie Mills, Orange

Queensland
– 40 varieties mentioned by 8 contributors

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Rosarians
Barbara Beerling, Alderley
Bonita Cattell, Highfields
Julie Lack, Southbrook
Robert Lassig, Buderberg
Penny McKinley, Pittsworth
Jenny O’Brien-Lutton, Annerley
Dr Michael Simpson, Mountville
Ron Treloar, Cooroy

Tasmania
– 23 varieties mentioned by 4 contributors

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<td>Souvenir de Léonie Viennot</td>
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<td>G. Nabonnard</td>
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<td>Papa Gontier</td>
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<td>10</td>
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<td>Lorraine Lee</td>
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Rosarians
Susan Irvine, Deloraine
Wendy Langton, Latrobe
Lilia Weatherly, Austins Ferry
Diana Ward, Kingston

Newsletter of the World Federation of Rose Societies Heritage Rose Group

vol 2 no 1 page 23
Special Report on the WFRS meeting in Osaka

May 2006
Activities of the Classification and Registration Committee
undertaken between Osaka - May 2006 and November 2008

Following my appointment as Chairman of this Committee in Osaka, I formed a committee of eight members, as specified in the recommendations of the WFRS. There had during the previous six years been no committee members, only the Chairman. The committee was later ratified by the Executive Committee.

I decide to invite one member from each major continent, where possible, to work on the Committee. The members all agreed and the committee comprises of the following:
Ian Findlay, S Africa; Ken Grapes, UK; Ed Griffith, USA; Maria Lindner, S America; Helene Pizzi, Continental Europe; Kelvin Trimper, Australia; Tommy Cairns, Chairman- Publications Committee; Francois Joyaux, Chairman- Conservation Committee.

April 2006 until publication of MR12.

I was frequently contacted by ARS to verify, clarify and check many UK Rose Registrations which had been queried, prior to their inclusion in the publication.

This I did and managed to contact the breeders concerned, resolving all queries posed
–Total number: 23 rose queries

May 2007
Meeting of the Classification & Registration Committee held in Monza, after the rose trials in May 2007

A short, informal meeting of the committee was held in Monza in May 2007 and I now enclose the minutes of that meeting.

Committee members attending: Ken Grapes, Ed Griffith, Chairman Gerta Roberts.
In attendance: President Gerald Meylan, Helga Brichet

Apologies received from: Helene Pizzi, Francois Joyaux, Maria Lindner, Dr Tommy Cairns

Purpose of informal meeting:
To discuss four topics of interest to the committee:
1 Title of the rose authority
2 Code Names
3 Publication of a list of professional & amateur rose breeders
4 Change to a rose name

1 Title of rose authority
The first item was to inform the committee that the name of the IRAR was, in fact, changed to ICRA-R. It is now known as the International Cultivar Registration Authority – Roses. This was recommended by Dr Alan Leslie, who at the time was Chairperson of the Commission of Nomenclature Registration, of the International Society for Horticultural Sciences. (He has now been succeeded by Dr Janet Cubey, of the RHS). This will bring us into line with all other genus.

2 Code Names
The Chairman had been informed by Marily Young, Co-Chair, ARS Registration Committee, of the changes to the typography of Code Names used in ARS publications.

As we are all aware, Code Names have always been shown with three capital letters at the start of the name to denote the breeder, e.g. HAR, MEI, EVE, WEB, etc. The ARS Registration Committee were been told (by Dr Leslie) that this contravenes the rules, in as much that it is wrong to have three capital letters together, unless it is for ‘proper’ names e.g. TV Times. Therefore Code Names will be shown with the first letter capitalised, followed by two lower case letters (Har, Mei, Eve, Web, etc.). As we (WFRS) feel that this could lead to confusion unless followed by the Fancy Name, we are writing to the ICRA-R to ask for guidelines. For example Harbinger (‘Julie Y’), to differentiate from ‘Harbinger’ which was a LCl bred in 1923! We have been told by Marily that Modern Roses 12 and all ARS publications will show this change.

I agreed to write to Steve Jones, President of ARS for clarification on this matter.

3 Publication of a list of rose breeders worldwide
This was suggested at the Convention in Osaka as being a useful aid to indexing and identifying rose breeders world-wide.

However, on reflection since that meeting and following detailed discussion during our meeting in Monza, certain points have become clear. It would be a major undertaking, relying on volunteer representatives in each country/continent to collect data.
It would not be economically viable to present and publish the data in a printed format.

Who would the data be aimed at – do we expect professional and amateur breeders to buy the publication? (Most are aware of each other).

Would it be better to just add any known breeders (in addition to those already listed) to the WFRS web-site?

Further discussion is required on this item, when more views can be expressed.

4 Change to a rose name

We have also been informed by Marily Young of a change to the spelling of a rose name, made by the Nomenclature Committee, who have ruled that the correct spelling is R. wichurana. They stated that “‘wichuraiana’ contradicted rules for derivation from proper names and that as it was an error, it must be corrected”. There is still controversy about this ruling, which was made by Dr Alan Leslie. However, as the ‘bible’ of rose registrations – Modern Roses 12 is due to be printed shortly, the ARS are sticking to R. wichurana for that and other publications.

I have had a meeting with Dr Janet Cubey at the Royal Horticultural Society in London to introduce myself and discuss all the above points at source and as the RHS Nomenclature Committee are the world authority, it is suggested that we abide by their directives.

The Chairman thanked the members present for attending and our President for sparing the time to join us. The meeting was then closed.

Post Script: Since this meeting, I have received a copy of a letter (via WFRS) from Steve Jones regarding Modern Roses 12, which, in fact, will not include any Code Names. I understand that a separate book will be published listing Code /Fancy Names. I rather feel that MR12 will lose its unique reputation, if it fails to be fully comprehensive and will no longer remain the ‘bible’ of the rose world.

Update on work following this meeting:

October 2007

At the Rose Hills Trials in Los Angeles, I was able to have a short conversation with Steve Jones, President, ARS. As we had received no reply to my letter, sent in
August, I felt obliged to raise our world concerns with him about the format of MR12.

He did not seem to appreciate the need for Code Names in the publication and assured me that “Modern Roses is produced primarily for members of the American Rose Society and they only wanted real (sic. Fancy) names in order to exhibit their roses”. He did again say that Code Names will eventually be shown in a separate publication.

He also told me that he would be replying to my letter in writing but so far (October 2008) nothing has been forthcoming.

**July 2007**

I wrote a short article for the 2007 Amateur Rose Breeders Annual (of Great Britain) outlining the changes discussed at the Monza meeting, as follows:

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**News from the World Federation of Rose Societies**

Gerta Roberts

Chairman, WFRS Classification & Registration Committee

A short, informal meeting of the committee was held in Monza in May this year, and here are a few points which will be of interest to you, on some recent changes which have been made by the IRAR (International Registration Authority for Roses) in America.

The first is that the name of the IRAR was, in fact, changed to ICRA-R! It is now known as the International Cultivar Registration Authority – Roses. This will bring us into line with all other genus, so it does make sense.

There is also change to the spelling of a rose name, made by the Nomenclature Committee, who have ruled that the correct spelling is R.wichurana. They stated that “‘wichuraiana’ contradicted rules for derivation from proper names and that as it was an error, it must be corrected”. There is still controversy about this ruling, which was made by the then Chairman of the RHS Nomenclature Committee, Dr Alan Leslie. However, as the ‘bible’ of rose registrations – Modern Roses XII is
due to be printed shortly, they are sticking to R. wichurana for that and other public- 
cations. Therefore, it makes sense for us to do the same.

The other change that members should be aware of is a change to the typography 
of Code Names. As we are all aware, Code Names have always been shown with 
three capital letters at the start of the name to denote the breeder, e.g. HAR, MEI, 
EVE, WEB, etc. We have now been told that this also contravenes the rules, in as 
much that it is wrong to have three capital letters together, unless it is for ‘proper’ 
names e.g. TV Times. Therefore Code Names will be shown with the first letter 
capitalised, followed by two lower case letters (Har, Mei, Eve, Web, etc.). As we 
(WFRS) feel that this could lead to confusion unless followed by the Fancy Name, 
we are writing to the ICRA-R to ask for guidelines. For example Harbinger (‘Julie 
Y’), to differentiate from ‘Harbinger’ which was a LCl bred in 1923! Modern 
Roses XII will show this change.

I hope this report will be of interest to you and will explain (in advance!) changes 
that you will come across in future publications.

October 2008

A meeting of the committee has been arranged for Friday 24 October 2008 at the 
Regional Convention to be held in Adelaide. I will submit the minutes of this meet-
ing following the convention, so that they may be added to this report.
The Breeders Club was set up in 2007 on the initiative of Dr Gérald Meylan, president of the WFRS in order to strengthen ties between amateur rosarians and professional rose breeders. Dr Meylan asked me if I would be willing to act as Chairman for the period 2006-2009. I accepted his proposal straightaway, as I was of the opinion that it was essential to have both amateur gardeners and professional breeders officially represented on the WFRS board.

From the outset, the members who showed an interest in the Breeders Club were from France. Therefore it was quite logical that the first informal meeting should take place in Lyon, the European birthplace of both old and modern roses. All the participants were from the professional field and everyone agreed that it was an excellent idea to set up the Breeders Club, since it was deemed necessary to have an official structure to host professionals within the WFRS and leave the door open to amateur breeders.

However, if the general concept was extremely appealing, it quickly appeared that finding the main objectives, taking into consideration mutual interests of all members, was quite a difficult challenge to take on. It was agreed that one of the most important items to be dealt with was the harmonization of the regulations concerning International Rose Trials. Reflection regarding this matter has still to be deepened.

Unfortunately, I gradually realized that it had become a difficult task for me to remain Chairman of the Breeders Club. The rose industry in France has had to face tremendous problems, especially over the past year, and in this particularly difficult economic context, I urgently need to focus on my own rose nursery.

Under these circumstances, I propose, Dr Meylan to act as the next Chairman of the Breeders Club for the period 2009-2012 and hereby give him my unconditional support for this position. Dr Meylan has many years of experience in the world of roses and will certainly be the ideal person to ensure the continuation and success of the Breeders Club.

Pierre Orard  
Jun 2009
Report of the Awards Committee—December, 2008

As I was only elected to this position at the WFRS World Rose Convention in Osaka, Japan, this report will only cover the period from the 2006 Convention until December 2008.

I was deeply honoured to be asked to fill this challenging role, and somewhat unprepared for the challenges that were to lay ahead of me. With limited computer knowledge, I was to set forth on a path which has given me an enormous challenge, and as I know now, great personal satisfaction. Whatever the end result, I will have done my best.

Early in 2007, I was asked to consider a nomination of the La Roseraie De Bagatelle, Paris for the WFRS Award of Garden Excellence. As a very special matter, I agreed to the request. It was to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Garden, and it is clearly one of the World’s great rose gardens. However, such requests should be extremely rare and only considered favourably in exceptional circumstances.

The standing orders of the Federation are very clear and will be followed closely. However, under my Chairmanship, I will not be so inflexible that it cannot reach a compromise position when it is of clear benefit to the Federation. This will be a Committee decision, and not influenced by any one individual.

In terms of the standing orders, all letters have gone out on time requesting nominations for the Award of Garden Excellence, the Literary Awards and the Hall of Fame nominations and voting. Follow up letters have also been sent in some cases. This is an enormous amount of work for the Executive Director Mr Malcolm Watson and I would like to thank him so much for the very professional way in which he approaches his tasks.

Perhaps my greatest disappointment has been the lack of responses to the Hall of Fame voting by Member Countries. This makes it very hard for Malcolm and myself to collate the results, and give due recognition to roses, which in the eye of the public, deserve legend status.
I will have more to say on this in Vancouver, and put forward some ideas which I hope will bring even better recognition to our beloved flower, The Rose.

Ian Spriggs,
Chairman
WFRS Awards Committee
14th World Rose Convention - A Fantastic Success

Outstanding Osaka!

Delegates arriving in Osaka had no idea of the marvelous seven days ahead of them starting off with a spectacular “WFRS Opening Ceremonies” held in the main auditorium of Osaka International House and attended by Her Imperial Highness The Princess Yohko of Mikasa, the 23 year old daughter of the beloved Princess Nobuko, Patron of the Japan Rose Society. The atmosphere in the hall was filled with excitement as the Mayor Junichi Seki conducted the Princess Yohko to her special podium on stage amid a roar of loud applause with hundreds of cameras lights flashing.

Immediately Mayor Seki addressed the assembled delegates with a wonderful speech in English followed by Dr. Nagata on behalf of the Japan Rose Society who also delivered a short address in Japanese inviting the Princess Yohko to welcome the delegates with a message from the Princess Nobuko.

Then the WFRS President, Dr. Tommy Cairns, delivered his message to the delegates with a brief account of the rich history of the City of Osaka quickly followed by a number of award presentations. As is customary, the announcement of the roses elected to the WFRS Hall of Fame were declared, ‘Pierre de Ronsard’ and ‘Elina’, with commissioned watercolors presented to both the hybridizers. In addition watercolors were also given to Mayor Seki and Dr. Nagata as mementos of this historical occasion. Then in a surprise break with tradition the WFRS President proceeded to award honours to key members of the Osaka Convention Organizing Committee: Mayor Seki and Mrs. Marufuku both received the World Rose Award, Prof. Akira Ogawa the Silver Medal and Dr. Takeo Nagata the Gold Medal. Dr. Cairns then read an additional honours citation bestowing upon Peter Beales the WFRS Gold Medal. The final medal to be awarded, the Della Balfour International Rose Friendship Medal” was conferred upon a delighted Richard Balfour. At this point in the proceedings the pomp and circumstance has risen to all time high with an appreciative audience clamoring for more. And little did they realize that more was yet to come!

As a large draped object was rolled onto center stage, Dr. Cairns then began to relate a brief life history of a painter named Vangelis Andriotakis, born in 1953 in Greece, on the island of Crete.

“Vangelis was the first son into a family consisting of four siblings, 40 cousins and a multitude of aunts and uncles. Since 1972, Vangelis now resides and works in the United States. However, beginning in 1995 he started to create what is destined to be the most prolific collection of floral works of art on canvas the art world has ever seen. Vangelis, when told of the beautiful hybrid tea rose named for HH Princess Nobuko in Glasgow three years ago, eagerly wished to capture its beauty on canvas for formal presentation here today in Osaka. The members of the WFRS have the greatest affection for the Patron of Japan Rose Society, HH Princess Nobuko.

On behalf of the WFRS, it is my high honor and distinct pleasure to present to your HH Princess Yohko this oil painting by Vangelis of the Scottish bred rose ‘Princess Nobuko’. Please convey to your mother our appreciation of her patronage of the rose in Japan and the rest of the world.”

This presentation brought the crowd to its feet with applause and the enthralled audience retired for lunch in the foyer.
Opening Remarks

Your Imperial Highness Princess Yohko of Misaka
Mayor Seki, WFRS President Emeritus Richard Balfour, Past WFRS Presidents,
Distinguished Guests, Delegates, Ladies & Gentlemen

Good Morning and Welcome to the 14th World Rose Convention!

I am delighted to see so many different countries represented here today. This is truly a magnificent gathering of rosarians from around the world and in the name of the World Federation of Rose Societies and our hosts, the Japan Rose Society, the Osaka City Government, and the Osaka Parks Department, I bid you all a warm Welcome!

In particular, I should like to accord a special recognition to the large delegations from Romania, South Africa, Uruguay, New Zealand, Australia, as well the many members of the Japan Rose Society here in attendance. Thank you all for attending this unique and very special rose event. Greetings to all convention delegates and visitors from over 25 different Nations, particularly those of you who have traveled a long way to be here. I am sure any travel fatigue you may experience will be completely washed away by the warm welcome here in Osaka City.

Let me tell you about this marvelous city of Osaka! In 645 AD, Osaka was the stage for an event of great historical significance. The Emperor Kotoku left Asuka, until then the traditional capital-city of ancient Japan and moved the capital to now modern-day Osaka (called Naniwa in those days), in order to oppose the huge pressure of the Sui and Tang Empires. He quickly consolidated power and built the ancient capital city of Osaka. The feudal castle town of Osaka flourished in commerce. However, it was burned to the ground in the Osaka Winter and Summer Battles of 1614 and 1615 but was quickly reborn from the ashes of war into an economic hub and became known as the “Kitchen of Japan”. Osaka was destined to become the largest economic city in Japan.

During the late 19th century, Osaka was to go through a transformation from a trade and financial economic base to rapid development as a mainly industrial region. At the end of the 19th century, so much smoke spewed from factory smokestacks into the sky that Osaka was then called the “Smoky City”. Osaka was nicknamed the “Manchester of the Orient”. In the 21st century, Osaka has once again come to an age when it has taken its next leap forward as “a city of people contributing to the world”- truly an “Osakan Renaissance” becoming the gateway to trade with Japan. In the words of Mayor Seki, “to help Osaka City become a city full of vitality and energy, a city that brings creative people together”. Osaka is a most beautiful part of this lovely country and the citizens are very proud of their wonderful city. I am also sure that by the time you leave here, you too will wish to return as often as possible.

It is of Japan that I now wish to speak about today as we create yet another historical and significant landmark in the rose world. Throughout history the Japanese people have always recognized the need for a close harmony with Nature. Indeed Japan and Nature are synonymous. Since the earliest times, the creative artists of Japan have manifested a keen interest in the beauty of flowers and is has played an important role in their daily lives and their religious beliefs.

Therefore, it was natural that this 14th World Rose Convention take place here in Osaka to celebrate this unique mantle of Nature encompassing not only their love of roses but their gardens, their design and most of all providing a public expression of their deep seated beliefs of the sacredness of Nature and its enjoyment. This rose journey to Osaka has been a long and difficult one, and the route taken was not the shortest! But we all are attending the first ever World Rose Convention in Japan! I am very impressed with the dedication and planning of the members of the Organizing Committee, under the capable leadership of Dr. Takeo Nagata, who has worked so long and hard to bring this historic event to Japan. They are to be congratulated on their success on opening a rose window on Japan to the world.

I hope that every delegate can take with them from this World Rose Convention many great memories to recollect what a great event this was and relive many times over the pleasant days we have ahead of us. To Mayor Seki, Dr. Nagata, Prof. Ogawa and Mrs. Marufuku of the Organizing Committee, may I offer our sincere thanks.

May your days ahead of this 14th World Rose Convention be filled with the wonders of this beautiful and magical country.

DR. TOMMY CAIRNS
Letter of thanks received from Major Seki of Osaka:

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THE CITY OF OSAKA
CITY HALL
OSAKA, JAPAN

June 19, 2006

Dr. Tommy Cairns
Former President
World Federation of Rose Societies

Dear Dr. Cairns,

Thank you very much for your kind letter. It was indeed a great privilege for us in Osaka to be able to host the World Rose Convention 2006, which concluded on May 17. It would not have been such a success were it not for the generous support and guidance we received from you and many others.

Memories of the convention are still vivid in my mind, particularly the moment when I received, unexpectedly, an award at the Closing Ceremony. How did you find the Welcome Reception and Farewell Dinner? I hope you enjoyed them. I also wish to thank you for taking time out of your busy schedule to share your rich knowledge of the rose with the citizens on May 16. Official duties prevented me from attending your lecture — it was most disappointing, but I am confident that your lecture helped foster the love of the rose in the heart of those fortunate to participate. It was a pity that we did not have more time to talk with each other.

Please accept my personal congratulations for concluding your term as WFRS President with great success. You demonstrated outstanding leadership in organizing the 2006 Convention, and we are grateful for all the personal support and assistance you gave us in the preparations for the convention and during it. I appreciate your friendship very much and hope that there will be an opportunity for us to meet again.

I would like to extend to you my sincerest wishes for the further success of the World Federation of Rose Societies, and for your personal good health, happiness, and prosperity.

Sincerely yours,

Junichi Seki, MD, PhD
Mayor

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WFRS Honours List Citations at Osaka 2006

Dr. Junichi SEKI (Japan)
Your total commitment as Mayor of Osaka in hosting the first ever World Rose Convention in the Orient has been outstanding. Throughout the long planning process, you have demonstrated strong dedication and patronage for showcasing your wonderful city to rose growers from all over the world. With a true spirit of hospitality, you have ensured that the City of Osaka has welcomed the rose world with open arms. Your particular attention to the horticultural excellence of the many rose gardens that surround the city is exceptional. The rose gardens of Osaka have become legends in their own time. Your efforts to create a “people-friendly and dynamic New Osaka” have been heralded as the mark of true leadership as you progress towards a new vision of city reform.

Mrs. Atsuko MARUFUKU (Japan)
You are most deserving of our appreciation for assuming perhaps the most difficult and demanding task any member of the Osaka Parks Department is asked to perform, that of planning, organizing and implementing a World Rose Convention. With the myriad of difficult tasks and decisions involved, you along with your team members exhibited the essential leadership attributes in administering the convention with absolute precision and passionate dedication. In this international undertaking, you have excelled with brilliance and dignity worthy of our praise and recognition.

Prof. Akira OGAWA (Japan)
Without your personal assistance and diligent perseverance in promoting Osaka as the host city for a World Rose Convention, we would not be here today celebrating the first ever convention in the Orient. You have frequently traveled far and wide to all WFRS regional conventions to quietly inform people about the wonders of Japan and the roses growing throughout the country. Throughout this promotional campaign you have exercised both modesty and humility, qualities rarely found in the modern world.

Dr. Meena PIMPALAPURE (India)
Your sustained service to the Indian Rose Federation at its President and later as a Patron is renowned. Moreover, your personal commitment to the World Federation of Rose Societies was reflected in serving several terms as WFRS Vice President for the Near East with honor and dignity. You were responsible for holding the first Asian WFRS Regional Convention in Jaipur and have attended many international rose meetings in the last 10 years.

M.S. VIRARAGHAVAN (India)
As a founding member of the Indian Rose Federation, you began breeding roses in 1966 specifically for cold resistance and for hot climates which has culminated in commercial success. Along with your wife, Girija, you have edited the Indian Rose Annual for the past 20 years and traveled the world speaking on your life’s work in rose breeding. Recently you were honored by the Huntington Botanical Gardens in California in their “Great Rosarians Lecture Series”.

Luis DESAMERU (USA)
You are most deserving of our appreciation for assuming perhaps the most difficult and demanding volunteer task any member of your distinguished society is asked to perform, that of planning, organizing and implementing the first World Rose Forum. With the myriad of difficult tasks and decisions involved, you exhibited the essential leadership attributes in administering this unique event with passionate dedication. In this WFRS international undertaking, you have excelled with brilliance and dignity worthy of our praise and recognition.

Dr. Meena UPIMPALAPURE (India)
Your sustained service to the Indian Rose Federation at its President and later as a Patron is renowned. Moreover, your personal commitment to the World Federation of Rose Societies was reflected in serving several terms as WFRS Vice President for the Near East with honor and dignity. You were responsible for holding the first Asian WFRS Regional Convention in Jaipur and have attended many international rose meetings in the last 10 years.
Jill BENNETT (UK)
Without your help and assistance as WFRS Secretary for the past 12 years, the Federation could not have operated as smoothly and efficiently as it has. Your dedication to upholding the principles of the Federation has been exemplary. On many occasions you have exercised diplomatic skills to remind both Member Countries and Officers alike of the limits of their authorities keeping them well within the guidelines. Instilling such assurances in Member countries and fellow elected officers is no easy task and you have excelled with honor.

Hella BRUMME (Germany)
The Europa-Rosarium at Sangerhausen must rate as the most important rose garden in the world. Under your curatorship the garden has an inventory of almost 7000 cultivars spanning the complete history of the evolution of the rose. Thanks to the initiative of rose breeder Peter Lambert, many old garden roses and species in danger of extinction were gathered together to form a valuable collection and the City of Sangerhausen had just the right plot of land to accommodate this unique collection.

Col. SHAKOOR (Pakistan)
Your leadership role over the past two decades to the founding principles of the Pakistan Rose Society have brought your national rose society into prominence within the World Federation of Rose Societies. Under your guardianship there have been two WFRS Regional Conferences held in recent years and with great success, proof positive that the rose grows well in all parts of the world. Additionally, the hospitality received by visiting delegates has been admired and is worthy of our recognition.

Damianos CONTANTINOU (Greece)
In executing your duties as WFRS Treasurer for the past six years, you have provided invaluable service while capably managing the finances of the Federation in a timely and highly professional manner. Gaining the confidence of Member countries and fellow elected officers is no easy task and you have excelled with honor. Moreover, your depth of personal commitment to the Hellenic Rose Society and its role in the world of roses is highly commendable.

Hella BRUMME (Germany)
The Europa-Rosarium at Sangerhausen must rate as the most important rose garden in the world. Under your curatorship the garden has an inventory of almost 7000 cultivars spanning the complete history of the evolution of the rose. Thanks to the initiative of rose breeder Peter Lambert, many old garden roses and species in danger of extinction were gathered together to form a valuable collection and the City of Sangerhausen had just the right plot of land to accommodate this unique collection.

Prof. Josef THOMAS (Czech)
Your service as a WFRS Vice President for Europe for the past six years has been carried out with dignity becoming the office and conducted with a high degree of personal commitment. As representative for several central Europe countries within the Federation, your service has been a model of support and cooperation. Moreover, your depth of personal commitment to the Czech Rosa Club and its role in the world of roses is highly commendable.

Bernd WEIGEL (Germany)
Your sustained service to the German Rose Society at its President for the last ten years is known worldwide. Moreover, your personal commitment to the International Rose Trials at Baden-Baden and their achievement of a high level of excellence are a hallmark of your leadership. You have also served several terms as WFRS Vice President for Europe with honor and dignity.

Margaret MACGREGOR (Australia)
As Convenor of the Victorian Rose Society Centenary Conference in 2000, you illustrated your leadership qualities and volunteer spirit by organizing a very successful event that will be recorded in history. In Houston, Texas in 2000 you were elected as WFRS Vice-President for Australasia subsequently serving a second term from 2003-2006. In 2002 where you qualified as the first Australian to become an ARS judge. You are an able lecturer on all aspects of rose culture, pruning and exhibiting for the RSA.

Honours bestowed later in the year to:

**WORLD ROSE AWARD**
Marily YOUNG (USA)
Egmont BEHRENS (South Africa)
Liesbeth COOPER (Bermuda)
Agnes GORSKA (Poland)
Robert LAPERRIERRE (France)
Luciana Lupi TIMINI (Italy) [see Monza Report]

**WFRS SILVER HONOUR MEDAL**
Jean-Pierre HOUNIE (Uruguay)
Esther FUMAGALI (Italy) [see Monza Report]

**WFRS GOLD MEDAL**
Peter HARKNESS, D.H.M (England)
Dr. Takeo NAGATA (Japan)

You have spent virtually all your life with roses and are recognised as one of the world’s leading experts with a special passion for old roses, or as you like to call them “Classic Roses”; career in horticulture. As an enthusiastic believer in growing roses with companion plants as featured both in your lectures and best-selling books, you have consistently encouraged people to look upon the rose as a shrub which is part of the landscape and not to be grown in isolation. In discussing roses, you often call your association with roses “a lifelong love affair”. But the mark of a truly great rosarian is best recognized by your modesty about your achievements and dedication to share that knowledge in your many book titles.

Your willingness to assume the significant leadership role as Chairman on behalf of the Japan Rose Society in planning and directing the 14th World Rose Convention 2006 in the fair city of Osaka, Japan deserves both our praise and honor. While many of the tasks were difficult and complex, you have excelled in each and every one with absolute precision and passionate dedication. In this international undertaking, you succeeded with intellect and dignity worthy of our compliments and admiration. You have raised the hearts and spirits of delegates in attendance from all over the world, not to mention the many thousands who subsequently read in their respective national magazines and newsletters of the marvelous events that happened right here in Osaka, Japan.

WFRS Gold Medal

Dr. Thomas Cairns, KM, DHM

Awarded WFRS Gold Medal

Dear Tommy:

Born and educated in Scotland with both PhD and DSc degrees, you immigrated to America in 1968 to pursue a successful professional career. However, as your hobby for almost four decades, you have pursued your burning passion for roses becoming known throughout the world for your knowledge and skill in both growing and showing roses on an international level.

Your volunteer service to the American Rose Society is best described as herculean culminating as its 50th President from 2000-2003. Perhaps most notable among your achievements was your editorship of the definite reference works Modern Roses 10 and Modern Roses XI. In the literary field, your educational rose books such as All About Roses, All About the Easiest Roses to Grow, The Complete Guide to Roses, and Botanica’a Roses have all been best sellers in the USA. Today, you edit World Rose News having brought this publication into the 21st century as a vital communication link to the various WFRS Member Countries.

In the realm of speaker, you are gifted in the cultivation, exhibiting and preservation of the rose. Your eloquent lectures are always well researched and often guaranteed to include a liberal dose of Scottish wit. Indeed a lecture by Dr. Tommy, as you are most commonly known, on the program of an event ensures a sellout audience.

In 2000 during the 12th World Rose Convention you were honored by the American Rose Society by receiving the first ever Klima Medal for excellence in rose education. In 2005 the Royal National Rose Society awarded you its highest honor, the Dean Hole Medal for service to the rose and support for the RNRS.

During your presidential term you have worked tirelessly and selflessly for the Federation as a skilled administrator working closely with the Japan Rose Society on plans for Osaka 2006. Your recent presence in Gifu Prefecture helped facilitate the “Pacific Accords of Rose Friendship” cementing bonds between International Rose Trials in Japan, New Zealand, Australia and Hamilton.

Tommy, to recognize your devotion, dedication and outstanding service to the world of roses, I am pleased and privileged to award you the “WFRS Gold Medal”. I offer my personal congratulations and know that you will wear this medal with honor knowing it came from the graceful 37 Member Countries of the World Federation of Rose Societies.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Gerald Meylan, WFRS President 2006-2009

Peter BEALES, MBE, VMH, DHM (UK)

WFRS Gold Medal

You have spent virtually all your life with roses and are recognised as one of the world’s leading experts with a special passion for old roses, or as you like to call them “Classic Roses”; career in horticulture. As an enthusiastic believer in growing roses with companion plants as featured both in your lectures and best-selling books, you have consistently encouraged people to look upon the rose as a shrub which is part of the landscape and not to be grown in isolation. In discussing roses, you often call your association with roses “a lifelong love affair”. But the mark of a truly great rosarian is best recognized by your modesty about your achievements and dedication to share that knowledge in your many book titles.

WFRS Gold Medal

Dr. Takeo NAGATA (Japan)
Awards of Garden Excellence

In furtherance of the objectives of the Federation and, in particular, to improve the public’s knowledge on all matters concerning the rose, the “Award of Garden Excellence” recognises the highest levels of attainment in the field of rose garden development, maintenance and display.

One year before each World Rose Convention, the Secretary circulates to Member Countries and members of the Executive Committee, asking for nominations for the “Award of Garden Excellence”. Evaluation by two independent referees are included. At its meeting during a World Rose Convention, such nominations are evaluated by the WFRS Awards Committee including a short presentation by the individual who nominated the garden or a representative. Gardens, which are granted the award, require the approval of Council. The award consists of an appropriate customized bronze plaque. Furthermore, gardens so honored are encouraged and permitted to use the special logo. In Osaka, the WFRS Awards Committee recommended that eleven gardens be awarded and the Council approved.

Coughton Court, Alcester, England, UK
Estate of the Throckmorton family for over 300 years. Over 140 cultivars of roses.

Bara Koen, Fukuyama, Japan
In 1946, a plan was drawn up to rebuild the garden. In 1956, citizens planted 1,000 rose bushes in the park. In 2006 there are over 280 cultivars of roses; 5,500 plants.

Rose Hills, Whittier, California, USA
Established in 1972. AARS accredited public garden for over 25 years, showcasing award-winning AARS roses. Over 300 cultivars of roses; 10,000 plants.

Centenary Rose Garden, Tamil Nadu, India
This garden was planned in 1996 to commemorate the centenary of the Flower Festival. Over 2,800 cultivars of roses; 20,000 plants.

Parc le La Grange, Geneva, Switzerland
The rose garden was built in 1944. In 1947, the first international rose trials took place. Over 360 cultivars of roses; 12,000 plants.
**Parc de la Tete d’Or, Lyon, France**  
Park was created in 1857. In 1931, first international rose trials. The rose garden was inaugurated in 1964. Over 400 cultivars of roses; 35,000 plants.

**Ramon Ortiz Rosaleda, Madrid, Spain**  
The rosaleda de Ramon Ortiz was built and planted in 1956. Over 500 cultivars of roses; 15,000 plants.

**Roger’s Rose Garden, Hamilton, New Zealand**  
In 1969, 500 rose bushes were donated for a joint project. The rose garden was completed in 1971. Over 190 cultivars of roses; 4,200 plants.

**Utsubo Koen, Osaka, Japan**  
In 1946 the City planned the rebuilding of the gardens. In 1956, 1,200 rose seedlings were planted by citizens in the rose garden. Over 151 cultivars of roses; 3,200 plants.

**Washington Park International Rose Test Garden**  
Portland, USA
The oldest public garden of its kind in the USA, officially designated in 1916. Over 550 cultivars of roses; 7,500 plants.

**Westbroekpark, The Hague, Netherlands**  
The park was created in 1948. The rose garden was created in 1961. Over 325 cultivars of roses; 22,000 plants.
WFRS Literary Awards to Six Outstanding Books

Six books were honored for their outstanding contribution to the world of roses in Osaka, Japan. These works were the first to be recognized by the new WFRS award.

By Tony Lord
Trafalgar Square Publishing
192 pages, English
ISBN: 1570761485
10.2 x 10.2 x 0.9 inches

By Ivo Pauwels
ISBN : 90-209-6507-7
Formaat : 250 x 250
Aantal pagina's : 160

By Charles Quest Ritson
ISBN: 0881925632
Size: 10.6 x 7.7 x 1.2 inches

By David Lloyd and Annie Beagent
pp 168, 11.5" x 11.5", 200 color
Published by Spirit of The Rose Ltd., 37 Woodlands, Witney, Oxfordshire OX28 2DR, England, UK
ISBN No. 09543939-0-2

By Francois Joyaux
La Rose De France: Rosa Gallica Et Sa Descendance Imprimerie nationale, France
ISBN 2-7433-0251-8 / 2743302518

By James Young & David Ruston
pp 168, 9.5" x 12.5,
4CPublishers Pty Ltd,
154 Upper Washington Drive,
Bonner Bay NSW 2226,
Australia.
ISBN No. 09752-3400-5
The following voting representatives were present to represent their National Societies:

Australia: Mrs Margaret Macgregor (voting) & Mr Robert Melville
Belgium: Mr Frans Thomas (voting) & Baroness Marie-Louise Velge
Bermuda: Mrs Marijke Peterich
Canada: Mrs Rachel Flood (voting) & Mrs Ethel Freeman
Czech Republic: Dr Josef Thomas
France: Professor Maurice Jay
Germany: Mr Bernd Weigel (voting) & Ms Carla Erck
Great Britain: Mrs Ann Bird (voting) & Mr Richard Balfour
Greece: Mr Damianno Constantinou
India: Mr Ramnath Jagtap
Italy: Mrs Helga Brichet
Japan: Professor Akira Ogawa (voting) & Mr Takamasa Tsuge
Netherlands: Mrs Henk Verschuur
New Zealand: Mrs Heather Macdonell (voting) & Mr Peter Elliott
Northern Ireland: Mr Eugene Trainor
Pakistan: Mian Zafer Iqbal (voting), Dr Mahmooda Hashmi & Lt. Col. Shakoor
Romania: Dr Stefan Wagner
Slovakia: Mr Juraj Kuba
South Africa: Mr Desmond Wright (voting) & Mrs Sheenagh Harris
Spain: Mrs Matilde Ferrer
Sweden: Mr Lars-Ake Gustavsson
Switzerland: Mrs Milly Weyermann (voting) & Mr Gérald Meylan
Uruguay: Mrs Mercedes Villar (voting) & Mrs Rosario Carrav
U.S.A: Mrs Jolene Adams (voting) & Mr Ed Griffith

Also present the Immediate Past President, Lt Col Ken Grapes, Past President Mr David Ruston, Chairman Convention Committee Mrs Lois Tabb, Chairman Classification & Registration Committee Mrs Gerta Roberts.

In attendance The Secretary, Mrs Jill Bennell and the Secretary Elect Mr Malcolm Watson.

Item 1. The President asked for a roll call of delegates and the above responded as voting delegates to Council. It was agreed that Dr Cairns would write to HH The Princess Nobuko wishing her well and a full recovery to good health.

Item 2. Minutes 23 July 2003 Glasgow were adopted, Proposed Dr Hashmi, seconded Mrs MacDonell.

Item 3. Report of the Executive Committee

3a. Review of Stewardship
Document ‘Standing Committees – Composition & Procedures’ revised and re-issued November 2004

Framed watercolours of the two HOF roses were painted for presentation to the respective breeders and also as mementos of the convention to Mayor Seki and Dr. Nagata (Japan Rose Society). The artist was Louise Estes of Alabama, USA.

A portrait of the ‘Princess Nobuko’ rose was offered for presentation to Her Royal Highness The Princess Nobuko at the Opening Ceremonies. The artist, Vangelis Andriotakis, was born in Greece on the island of Crete and has lived and worked in the United States of America since 1972. In the absence of Her Imperial Highness The Princess Nobuko, her daughter Her Imperial Highness The Princess Yoko accepted the painting on her mother’s behalf.

A new medal struck at the request of the Pakistan National Rose Society entitled “The Della Balfour International Rose Friendship Medal”. This medal to be awarded every three years with the awardee selected by the Pakistan National Rose Society and to be presented by the WFRS President. The first recipient was Mr Richard Balfour. The Executive agreed that this first presentation on this occasion would be made by the Vice President for Central Asia.

A new WFRS Standing Committee to recognize the Historic Roses Groups in Member Countries. Mr David Ruston reported that in response to this concept, 14 Member Countries had replied in favor of such a committee.

The President referred to the plaques for the “WFRS Award of Garden Excellence”. There had been eleven gardens honored in 2003 and each had received a superior plaque cast in bronze. The President explained that he had willingly paid for the bronze plaques, but the Executive Committee at its meeting in Auckland, New Zealand in November 2004 was not in favor of the cost being borne by an individual. He was reimbursed for the cost of the plaques and postage in the amount of $3,000.00.

3b. Chairmen of Standing Committees
The Executive Committee appointed the following persons:

Awards Committee: Mr Ian Spriggs
Classification and Registration: Mrs Gerta Roberts
Publications: Dr Thomas Cairns
Convention: Mrs Lois Tabb
Conservation: Professor François Joyaux
Heritage: Mr David Ruston

3c. Structure of Honours Committee
The President asked for approval of the following persons to serve on the Honours Committee for the next three years to June 2009:

The President, The Immediate Past President, Mrs Margaret Macgregor (Australia), Mrs Sheenagh Harris (South Africa) and Baroness Marie-Louise Velge (Belgium). Council agreed. Proposed Mr Constantinou, seconded Mrs MacDonell.

3d. Revision of Articles of Association
The President reminded members that the proposed revised document had been sent to all Member Countries in advance of this Council meeting. He had received objections to some of the revised Articles from the Canadian Rose Society, and asked Mrs Freeman (Canada) to present Canada’s proposed corrections/ additions. Mrs Freeman made the following proposals on behalf of the Canadian Rose Society:

ARTICLE I
After the sentence “The registered office of the Federation shall be in England and Wales and the principal business office shall be the address of the current Executive Director,” insert the sentence The Executive Committee are also the Board of Directors.

Explanation – We have to have a Board of Directors to sign the form for Companies House, and these names also go to the Charities Commission as our Trustees. Seconded Baroness Marie-Louise Velge, all in favour and agreed.
ARTICLE IV – Section 1
Change the first sentence to read "The honorary title of President Emeritus may be bestowed by the Federation on a proposal of its Executive Committee and with the approval of Council upon any Past President the Federation thus chooses to honour. Seconded Mrs Mercedes Villar, all in favour and agreed.

ARTICLE VI – Section 1
Change the first sentence to read, "The Council of the Federation shall consist of the delegates named by the member countries, but each member country shall have only one vote."
Explanation – The members of the Executive should NOT be voting members of Council. Council is our Annual General Meeting (although normally held every three years) and an Annual General Meeting is held to ratify the actions of the Executive and the Council. The members of the Executive should not have a vote unless they are acting as the official delegate for their countries. Seconded Mrs Marijke Peterich, all in favour and agreed.

ARTICLE VI – Section 4
Should read “The President or in his absence any Vice President” Explanation – Proper procedure according to Robert’s Rules of Order, Congressional rules, etc. Seconded Baroness Marie-Louise Velge, all in favour and agreed.

ARTICLE VI – Section 8
Reinstate that all Past President are non-voting members of the Executive.
Explanation – This is eliminating a valuable source of experience and past knowledge from the Executive. Seconded Mrs Milly Weyermann, all in favour and agreed.

ARTICLE VI – Section 8 (should be Section 9)
There is an unintentional error in that the last line should read, "Each Region shall elect the allotted number of Vice-Presidents to serve a three-year term.

ARTICLE VIII
Change United States (one Vice President), North America (Canada and Bermuda) (one Vice President) to North America (two Vice Presidents) and Australia (one Vice President) and New Zealand (one Vice President) to Australasia (two Vice Presidents).
Explanation – Vice Presidents should NOT be named for specific countries. It makes all the other countries look like second-class members. Do as is done for Europe. Seconded Mrs Mercedes Villar, all in favour and agreed.

The entire section on Council meetings has been eliminated - who can call a meeting, notification, quorum, procedures, etc. This has to be put back in, with changes if necessary. Otherwise there is no guarantee that a Council meeting is a necessity and could, in effect, be eliminated and the entire operation of the WFRS would then be run by the Executive Committee only.

Council agreed that the Articles of Association as distributed to Member Countries may not be presented to Companies House until all the proposed amendments and additions from the Canadian Rose Society had been carried out. Proposed Dr Hashmi, Seconded Baroness Marie-Louise Velge and carried unanimously.

3e. Membership Dues. The Executive sought Council’s approval to increase the WFRS Membership Subscription from £30 to £50 per annum as from 1 January 2007. Council acknowledged the need for this step and agreed to the increase. Proposed Baroness Marie-Louise Velge, seconded Mr Bernd Weigel.

Item 4. Report of the Hon. Treasurer
4a. Accounts 2004-2005. Mr Constantinou presented the full accounts for the years 2004 and 2005 and the financial statement 1 January to 30 April 2006. Each representative had copies and were asked to ensure that they were taken back and handed to the person responsible for archiving such material for their societies. The Secretary said that copies would be mailed to those Member Societies not represented at Council.

Mr Constantinou considered that the accounts showed sufficient funds to administer the Federation and its activities comfortably to the end of 2008 without having taken into account the income to come from the Osaka Convention, which would boost the funds considerably. The accounts as presented were adopted.

4b. Budget.
The Hon Treasurer presented the budget and comparison through July 2003 to June 2006 and the budget forecast July 2006 to June 2009. Considerable discussion ensued on the various projected expenses. The President pointed out that the combined expenditure on the honorarium for the Executive Director and printing and postage on World Rose News amounted to some £5,000 per year. The continued health of the Federation’s finances rests with each triennial World Rose Convention. Dr Cairns acknowledged that thanks to the support for this Convention the projected income was in the region of £9,000. However, if the income from future Conventions drops again to £5,000 to £6,000 leaving the next and future Presidents to make the WFRS financially sound. The President pointed out that in the interest of saving money there were some expenses that could not be avoided, for instance the honorarium to the Executive Director and the fee to the auditor. A suggestion that there was no need for the accounts to be fully audited was rejected on the advice of the Hon.Treasurer. The meeting then discussed the budgeted costs of the following:

World Rose News: The Editor (Dr Cairns) said that there was a saving to be made on the printing and postage if WRN was reduced in size to say 16-18 pages. Also sea rather than air post and the possibility of putting it on the WFRS Website. It was generally agreed that sea mail took far too long and that not all Member Countries had computer technology to down load the publication. After further discussion the motion to Council was to continue the publication at 36 pages, proposed Mrs Brichet, seconded Mr Constantinou. The President called for a vote and on a show of hands 15 Members were for the motion, which was carried by a majority.

WFRS Levy from World Rose Conventions: Lt Col Grapes suggested an increase in the contribution to the Federation from Member countries hosting a Triennial World Rose Convention. Mrs Macdonell proposed an increase from £15 to £30, but this did not meet with any response. Mrs Macdonell then withdrew her first proposal and proposed an increase from £15 to £20 per registered delegate as from 2012. This was seconded Mrs Peterich and carried unanimously.

WFRS Levy on Regional Conventions. Mrs Adams moved that the levy from Regional Conventions be increased from £3 to £10 per registered delegate. Seconded by Mrs Flood. It was noted that the increase would not apply to those Regional events already approved e.g. Orleans, Sept.2006, Luxembourg June 2007 and Adelaide October 2008. The motion was put to the meeting and carried on a show of hands.

Award of Garden Excellence Plaques: Some members felt that there were too many awards. Mrs Macdonell proposed that no more than six awards be made at any one triennial Convention; seconded Mrs Villar. However, Mrs Freeman, Mrs Macgregor and Lt Col Grapes were not in favour of putting a restriction on the number of applications and subsequent awards. The President called for a vote on the motion that the Award be restricted to six at future triennial conventions. On a show of hands 11 members were for and 13 against. On the majority vote the President declared no change to the rules and number of awards made. Dr Meylan mentioned that three of the plaques awarded at this Convention would be funded privately at no cost to the Federation.

Honours – Gold, Silver and World Rose Award Medals: Mrs Freeman felt that there had been too many awards since the last Convention in Glasgow 2003. Lt Col Grapes replied that it was appropriate for a world organisation to honour worthy recipients from time to time and did not agree that any restrictions be placed upon the honours committee. The President again called for a show of hands on the motion that the awarding of honours be left to the judgment of the members of the honours committee, including some awards made between triennial Conventions. A majority vote of 14 carried the motion.
Expenses for Officers (extract from Executive Committee J Osaka)
The decision in Los Angeles that the Vice Presidents’ expenses of £100 a year cease as from January 2006 was reappraised. After some discussion for and against, it was finally agreed that the decision should stand. Although it had been agreed in Los Angeles that the £500 a year for the President should remain, this decision was rescinded in favour of no expenses for the President.

4c. Appointment of Auditor: Messrs R. Sutton & Co., 25 Park Street, Macclesfield, Cheshire SK11 6SS, United Kingdom were re-appointed Auditors for the ensuing three years up to the World Rose Convention in Vancouver June 2009. Proposed Mrs Macgregor, seconded Mrs Flood.

Item 5. Reports of Standing Committees:

5a. Awards: Dr Meylan reported that all candidates for the Award of garden Excellence and the Literary Award had been successful in the ballot at the Awards Committee and recommended the following awards:

Garden Excellence Plaques to:
Barlow Park, Takamatsu, Japan
Centenary Rose Garden, Tamil Nadu, India
Coughton Court, Alcester, England
Pageant of Roses Garden, Whittier, USA
Parc de la Grange, Geneva, Switzerland
Parc de la Tête d’Or, Lyon, France
Ramon Ortiz Rosaleda, Madrid, Spain
Roger’s Rose Garden, Hamilton, New Zealand
Utsubo Koen, Osaka, Japan
Washington Park International Rose Test Garden, Portland, USA
Westbroekpark, The Hague, Netherlands

Literary Awards to:
Climbing Roses of the World, Charles Quest-Ritson
De Elegante en de Ros, Ivo Pauwels
Designing with Roses, Tony Lord
The Joy of Roses, James Young and David Ruston
La Rose de France, François Joyaux
Spirit of The Rose, David Lloyd and Annie Beagnt

Regarding the Literary Award, the President said that each publisher would be at liberty to use the WFRS logo in any advertising for the book. A suitable certificate would be produced. Rose Hall of Fame. Dr Meylan reported that 33 Member countries had responded to his appeal for their Societies top three roses. The results were then placed according to the number of votes, resulting in six varieties in contention. There had been a clear division between the second placed and the remaining contenders, but the margin between the first and second was very narrow and it had been agreed between the Chairman and the President that there be no awards for the Hall of Fame – ‘Pierre de Ronsard’ from the house of Meilland, France and ‘Elina’ from Dickson’s of Northern Ireland. Members were already aware of these awards and the majority of ‘Pierre de Ronsard’ had been presented to Alain Meilland at the Opening Ceremony. The portrait of ‘Elina’ would be taken back to the UK for presentation to the breeder.

Old Rose Hall of Fame: ‘Mme Hardy’
Chairman 2006-2009: Mr Ian Spriggs, Australia

5b. Conservation: The Chairman, Mrs Brichet, reported on the five meetings of the Specialised Conservation Committee (SCC) held in the UK, the Czech Republic, Switzerland, France and New Zealand since the World Convention in Glasgow 2003 and the continued flow of garden inventories being received from around the world. She suggested that, in exceptional cases, monies from the committee’s restricted fund might be used to offer transport to Directors of Botanic Gardens (e.g. St Petersburg) who were financially limited. The Chairman also reported on the establishment of National Collections, be they of specific breeders or classes and types of roses. She spoke of the progress of the ‘Core Collection of Roses for Preservation’, which is on going under the administration of Professor François Joyaux (Vice Chair of the Committee). There was the possibility of a new project in Budapest, Hungary to restore the rose garden on the city’s Margit Island and preserve the varieties of the Hungarian breeder, Gregor Marchk, helped by assistance of western rose breeders. As it’s meeting, the Conservation Committee was given a demonstration of the Roses Locations Database, the sum of all the information received by the SCC over nine years. The database is to be included on the Federation’s website (www.worldrose.org) and will be available to the general public. It is free to all, in conformity with the Federation’s status as a registered charity, and may be considered complementary to ‘Help Me Find’. The Chairman’s special thanks went to its database manager, Mrs Marilyn Young (USA) whom the committee has requested to continue her work. Chairman 2006-2009: Professor François Joyaux.

5c. Convention: The Chairman, Mrs Lois Tabb, reported that at the meeting of the Committee Biennal Venue and Darlene Stenders from the Vancouver Rose Society gave an informative presentation on the progress towards the 2009 Convention in Vancouver. They touched on sponsorship, rose show, registration, hotels etc. She would keep in close contact with the organising committee up to the event in June 2009 Mrs Tabb confirmed the following WFRS Regional Conference had been approved: Orleans, France 5-10 September 2006
Luxembourg, 7-10 June 2007
Adelaide, Australia, October 2008
A Heritage Rose Conference would be held in Chaalis, France in 2007 immediately following the Luxembourg WFRS Regional. The 16th World Rose Convention: The Chairman explained that there had been no applications to host the 2012 Convention; therefore, the Executive Committee felt it necessary to come up with an alternative solution to ensure a World event in 2012. The Immediate Past President, Lt Col Ken Grapes presented the Executive Committee’s proposal for a World Rose Convention aboard a liner cruising the Mediterranean. Ports of call could take in rose gardens and places of interest and meetings and lectures held in the early evenings. After the meeting Mrs Tabb, The President and The Secretary had all received an official letter from Mrs Sheenagh Harris, the President of The Federation of Rose Societies of South Africa stating that her Society wished to host the 2012 World Rose Convention. Some discussion ensued and Mrs Harris agreed to complete the official application form and send copies to the President (to be elected at this meeting), the Chairman of the Convention Committee and the Executive Director. The application then be considered by the newly appointed Executive Committee and thereto to the membership. Mrs Brichet proposed that the application be circulated to the Member Countries along with the alternative ‘cruise’ proposal and a postal vote requested; seconded Mrs Peterich. The President asked for a show of hands to give the motion that the 2012 venue for the 16th World Rose Convention be decided by postal vote. Nineteen Members were for the postal vote and the motion was carried. Chairman 2006-2009: Mrs Lois Tabb

5d. Heritage Roses: The Chairman, Mr David Ruston, reported that the Executive Committee at its meeting in Los Angeles in October 2005 agreed that there be a WFRS standing committee representing the interests of the Heritage Roses around the World. Mr Ruston had written to all the WFRS Members, and had received positive replies from 14. It was agreed that the committee should be expanded and the majority of Cornhill had been presented to Alain Meilland at the Opening Ceremony. The portrait of ‘Elina’ would be taken back to the UK for presentation to the breeder.

Old Rose Hall of Fame: ‘Mme Hardy’
Chairman 2006-2009: Mr Ian Spriggs, Australia

5e. Publications: Mrs Freeman reported that 5 issues of World Rose News and 3 up-dates to the Rose Directory have been published since the 2003 Glasgow Convention. She had received replies from 33 Member countries and the up-date for the Directory would be ready in June. Mrs Freeman would include all information on the Federation’s Officers, Committee Chairs, Awards, Honours etc. All this information would be supplied to Member Countries on a CDROM. Once again she asked to be notified of any errors or omissions on the information supplied. The Directory would also be published on the Federation’s website.

Appointments:
Editor World Rose News – Dr Thomas Cairns
Editor Rose Directory – Mrs Ethel Freeman
Webmaster/mistress – Mrs Ethel Freeman
BUDGETS:
World Rose News - £2,500 per year
Rose Directory - £250 per year
Website - £175 per year

MRS FREEMAN made special mention of the splendid publication, triennial Report of the WFRS, produced for this Convention’s delegates by the Japan Rose Society. She expressed her committee’s congratulations to the Japan Rose Society.

CHAIRMAN 2006-2009: D. THOMAS CAIRNS

5f. SHOWS STANDARDISATION (JUDGING) COMMITTEE: The Chairman, Mr Ed Griffith reported that at its meeting in Auckland, New Zealand the document ‘Guidelines for Judging Roses’ was completed and approved and includes a schedule of 7 WFRS International Challenge Classes which may be included in Members’ shows. Award of Excellence Certificates for successful exhibits in these classes had also been approved and would be available to Members at cost plus postage. Mr Griffith said that the budget of £250 total for the three years 2003 to 2006 agreed in Glasgow had remained untouched and asked for a similar budget for the next three years. Council agreed to a budget of £250 total for 2006-2009, proposed Mrs MacGregor, seconded by Mrs Flood.

CREDENTIALS FOR WFRS INTERNATIONAL JUDGES: Mr Griffith reported that his committee had agreed that Member countries accredited judges would be acceptable for inclusion in the WFRS list and that Members be asked to provide a list of their judges. These people would form the basis of the ‘WFRS International Judges Register’.

Mr Griffith acknowledged that not all member countries held competitive rose shows, he urged them to do so for the general public and suggested that an article might be included in World Rose News to inform such members that assistance is available to get them started.

CHAIRMAN 2006-2009: D. THOMAS CAIRNS

5g. INTERNATIONAL ROSE TRIALS COMMITTEE: The Chairman, Mr Bernd Weigel reported the following. From the responses received, the following proposal (based on the Australian criteria) was recommended to the meeting:

POINTS
1. General impression (habit, attraction, flowers) 30
2. Health (Health and Disease) 30
3. Bloom (colour, bud, withering, fragrance etc) 30
4. Novelty 10

TOTAL 100

PROPOSAL
63 - 67 points Bronze Medal
68 - 72 points Silver Medal
73+ points Gold Medal.

It was agreed that due to the different emphasis placed on cultivation throughout the world, it was unlikely that we would ever be able to agree on uniform judging criteria and this was left to the discretion of the individual trial gardens. It was resolved however, that we recommend to Council, International judging Panels use an assessment schedule totaling 100 points and that these assessments be used for 1/3rd of the total points, and 2/3rd of the value to come from the permanent jury’s assessments. Mr Weigel requested that these guidelines be distributed to all Rose Trial gardens throughout the world.

5h. CLASSIFICATION AND REGISTRATION: The Chairman, Mrs Gerta Roberts opened the meeting by asking the President, Dr Cairns to outline the remit of the committee which had not been active since Houston 2000. Dr Cairns outlined the work ahead:

REGISTRATION:
To encourage breeders to declare the parentage of their new roses when registering with the International Registration Authority.

ACTION: A letter be sent to all rose breeders throughout the world urging them to provide all the information listed on the registration form including parentages. A letter would be drafted by the Chairman and submitted to the Executive Committee prior to being signed by The President and distributed. A directory of who is responsible for registration of new roses within each geographical zone would be compiled.

CLASSIFICATION:
Considerable progress was achieved in the classification of roses internationally when Modern Roses XI was published. Whether classification should be looked at again in the light of evolving breeding programmes in an endeavour to help future publications of Modern Roses would be considered.

A DIRECTORY OF BREEDERS:
A Directory of Breeders to include both large and small companies and amateur rose breeders will be compiled and eventually included on the WFRS website. The first step to obtain as much information on breeders through their national organisations.

The Chairman reported that she would be contacting the Chairman of the Conservation Committee to establish co-operation between the two committees. She also reported that she would be forming a working committee of eight five of whom had already been appointed. As soon as the remainder had been appointed the full committee would be included in the document ‘Standing Committees – Composition and Procedures’.

CHAIRMAN 2006-2009: MRS GERTA ROBERTS

ITEM 6. ELECTIONS OF OFFICERS:
Ballot papers were distributed to the 25 voting representatives. The President asked the voting delegates to mark each ballot paper with a cross against their Society’s choice.

6a. TREASURER:
The members were reminded that Mr Damianos Constantinou was standing down at this Convention. There were two candidates: 1. Mrs Jill Bennell, UK (the retiring Secretary) and 2. Mrs Heather MacDonell, New Zealand. The result of the ballot: Mrs Jill Bennell to fill the post of Treasurer for the next three years.

6b. VICE PRESIDENTS:
Europe Regions 1, 2 & 3. There were three candidates for three vacancies. A secret ballot was not necessary and the following were elected on a show of hands:

Professor Maurice Jay (France)
Mr Lars-Åke Gustafsson (Sweden)
Dr Stefan Wagner (Romania)

For the following Regions there was only one candidate for each. A ballot was not necessary and the following were elected on a show of hands:

North American Region: Mrs Marijke Peterich
Australasia: Mrs Margaret MacGregor
Central Asia: Mian Zafar Iqbal
Far East: Mr Takamasa Tsuge
Africa: Mrs Sheenagh Harris

South America. There were two candidates: 1. Mrs Isa Maria Bozolo (Chile) and 2. Mrs Susan Roberts (Argentina). The deciding vote rested with the Uruguayan Rose Society and its delegate, Mrs Mercedes Villar declared her Society’s choice for Mrs Bozolo.

6c. PRESIDENT:
There were two candidates: 1. Dr Gérard Meylan (Switzerland) and Lt. Col. Shakoor (Pakistan). There were also 5 postal votes received by the Secretary and handed to the scrutineers, these votes were from the following member countries: Argentina, Austria, Chile, Luxembourg and Israel making a total of 30 possible votes. The scrutineers handed the result of the secret ballot to the President who asked both candidates to stand and join him. The outgoing President Dr Thomas Cairns declared Dr Gérard Meylan to be the new President of The World Federation of Rose Societies for the ensuing three years and up to the end of the 15th World Rose Convention in Vancouver in June 2009. Dr Meylan would be ceremoniously installed as WFRS President at the end of Closing Ceremonies the next evening and would attend his first meeting as President at Executive Committee Meeting 2.

At the end of the elections the President suggested that the ballot papers be destroyed. This was agreed on the proposal of Mrs MacGregor, seconded by Mrs Peterich.

ITEM 7. TRIBUTE TO THE RETIRING SECRETARY:
Dr Cairns reminded the members that Jill Bennell was retiring from this position although not from the Federation entirely. He then presented Mrs Bennell with a handsome gold watch from the Federation in appreciation of her work and particularly her support of five Presidents over 15 years. Members gave Jill and rousing ‘send-off’ with much applause.

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JAPAN REFLECTIONS

We came to Japan with an open mind
Not quite sure what we would find
It was in May of two thousand and six
As a convention of roses they’d managed to fix.

The roses at first were not out in bloom
We thought ‘oh goodness we are two weeks too soon’
A private garden we went to one day
The sight just took our breath away.

All their roses were out in bloom –
They had a gardener to spray and groom.
The public gardens were so well maintained
At many tea ceremonies we were entertained.

To several places we have been –
Wonderful sights that we have seen.
The lunch boxes were a delight to see
On peering in – what could it all be?

The contents not always to our taste
Sadly quite a lot did waste
Chopsticks at first posed quite a problem
But after some practice we mastered them.

To ride a bike must be quite a feat
With umbrella in one hand and three kids on the seat.
Netted golf ranges we have seen so many
Up until March in Bermuda weren’t any.

Maybe the first thing that came to mind
Wherever we go the toilet to find.
To fathom it out is quite an art
Not quite sure where we should start,

So many buttons we have never seen
Which one to push when we have been?
Press the green and you get a spray
Try another and to flush it may

To push the red you must not do
The bell will bring some help to you!
The disabled ones are the very best.
In some you can even take a rest

As large as my kitchen where I live
To have a warmed seat what would I give?
To travel by train is easy to do
Just find the station you want to get to

Written in English beneath Japanese
You find your way with relative ease
Our spirits have not been dampened by rain
We just put up our umbrellas again.

The sun was often hidden by fog
As we tramped on through the sog.
You all work so hard, your country so clean
An inspiration it certainly has been.

A long time the memories will stay with us
But we will not miss hours spent in the bus
The welcome and graciousness we have received in Japan
To thank you enough – we don’t think we can

So many more things we would like to say
Should bring us back another day.
editor’s note

Just as Toscanini put down the baton at the premiere performance of Turandot—at the point where Puccini “got to” before he died, so must I put down my “pen”. There will be no more room on this CD-ROM for any more material.

Patrick White

10th of June 2009