



A Publication of the Bowling Green Rose Society, Bowling Green, KY

# Rosebuds

August 2014

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

**Garden Meeting**  
**August 1**  
**6 p.m.**  
**Matus Home**  
**Light Supper**  
**Provided**

## The Winter of Ought 13-14 by Ben Matus

Widely acknowledged as one of the worst winters in recent memory around here, last winter did its damage to our landscaping. We lost all of our butterfly bushes, only one rose, have stunted hydrangeas and have a three foot crape myrtle that used to be an eight footer. We sustained damage to a holly tree and have azaleas we thought were lost but recovered without blooming.

After our terrible winter, Bobby and I began to prune in the second week of April. Beginning as always, by cutting back to an outside facing node approximately where we wished to start new growth. As expected, there was a brown center in the cane. Continuing to cut looking for clear white wood, we wound up at the bud union on the first several plants.

Noticing that the brown center got larger and larger the further we cut down, we decided "the heck with it, cut them all off". So, ultimately a lot of time was saved. And we had a rose garden of stumps. I was sure we had lost a lot of plants. As it turns out, only one was dead—a spindly 'Ketchup & Mustard'. Having pruned the plants, we fertilized as usual with Mill's Magic Mix and sprayed with Mancozeb.

The spring flush of blooms was surprisingly good, though the plants and blooms were small. Following that first flush, blooming has not been as prolific as years past. Nor are the blooms as large as usual. The plants are smaller and seem less vigorous, though they appear to be healthy. For instance a 'Julia Child' that in years past wouldn't quit blooming has one spray as this is written. The canes are small. Plants that had canes as



big as my thumb now have canes the size of a pencil. On the other hand, some plants that had been puny in the past are bigger than ever. But, for the most part, our roses are much smaller than before our harsh winter.

We've fed with Mill's Easy Feed twice to this point and just last week gave them all a light dose of triple phosphate. Much as I don't like doing it, looks like a treatment of alfalfa tea may be in order. And perhaps some additional Epsom salts and or Manganese Sulfate. At any rate, after last winter, our roses are smaller than in the past and are blooming less. Comments anyone?

## President's Corner by Mary Ann Hext, CR



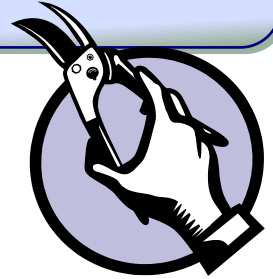
The hot humid weather of July is finally upon us; although we did enjoy a few pleasant days recently. What few Japanese beetles I had, have departed and most stayed on the Cleveland pear trees rather than the roses probably because I had very few blooms on my bushes for them to devour.

We had a great time at the Dodson home for our last meeting. We got to see her roses, day lilies and enjoy homemade ice cream and other treats. We discussed the 2015 rose show date and will decide on that at the August meeting. Information was also provided for completing the 2014 Roses in Review. Information was in the last issue of the American Rose and also on page 3 of this newsletter. Be sure to check the list to see if you have any of your roses on it and provide the information which helps to determine the ratings of the roses.

If you are planning to attend the Tenarky Fall Convention, the date has been changed to October 10-12. It will be in Memphis and information will be on the Tenarky District website soon.

Our August garden meeting is at the Matus home. A light supper will be provided and spouses are welcome.

## Pruning for Fall Rose Shows *by Mary Ann Hext, CR*



If you are planning to attend any of the fall rose shows or just want to have gorgeous fall roses for special events, August is the time to start thinking about when to prune. Even if you don't plan to attend the ARS National Convention in Tyler, Texas, we have several rose shows then that are within driving distance starting the first weekend in September: Buckeye District Rose Show near Dayton, Louisville Rose Show, Huntsville Rose Show and Tenarky District Convention and Rose Show in Memphis. Dates for these shows are on page 4.

Pruning roses is not an exact science as there are too many variables such as temperature, rainfall, amount of sun, the variety of rose, and where to cut. But with all these rose shows, you are bound to have roses for at least one or two of them. Even though we have had sufficient rainfall this summer and much cooler temperatures than last year, some of my roses are still having issues with blackspot and downy mildew and I am spraying those bushes at least once or twice per week. In early June, I was gone for a week and a few plants were severely damaged by spider mites when I returned. Those had to be pruned back to just a few inches from the ground and are just now starting to get new buds. So trying to time blooms for a specific date is partly just luck.

Some exhibitors suggest pruning half of the bush one week and then the rest the next week, but this has not seemed to work well for me. Some exhibitors have more than one bush of their favorite exhibition roses and are able to prune the bushes a week apart so they will have roses for each show. I have two or three of some of my favorite roses, so I normally use this method. The experts tell us that the average bloom cycle for our hybrid teas, grandifloras, and floribundas is 42-54 days. Some can even tell you which roses are at the high or low end of this range of days. Our minis and minifloras have a shorter cycle which is normally 35 to 42 days. I have a few roses with single petals and they repeat a little quicker than this. It seems the more petals the rose has, the more days it takes to repeat bloom. Also, the further down the cut on the stem, the longer it will take to re-bloom. OGR's just need to have their tips pruned as they don't require severe pruning to promote blooms.

So plan now as we are approaching the time when you should determine which fall rose shows you will attend and exhibit and mark your calendars for the best prune dates.

## More of the Matus' Roses



Photos by Ben Matus



## Help Wanted: Rose Evaluators Needed Now!

### It's Roses in Review Time!

The 2014 Roses in Review Survey (RIR) marks the 89th time members of the American Rose Society evaluate new rose introductions. A broad base of participation is needed to make this project worthwhile. We need your evaluations, whether you grow one of the varieties on the survey list or dozens of them. We welcome evaluations from you whether you are a new rose grower, a "garden" rose-grower or a seasoned veteran grower; whether you grow roses for your landscape and garden or if you also grow them to exhibit. We are happy to get reports from non-ARS members as well, so

pass the news along to all your rose-growing friends (and encourage them to try an ARS Trial Membership as well.)

Results of the survey will be included in the January/February 2015 issue of *American Rose* and will determine ratings in the *ARS Handbook for Selecting Roses* as well. For these results to be meaningful, we need everyone to participate. So please, take a few minutes of your time to evaluate your new roses.

Instructions are on the ARS website and the survey may be printed out and mailed to Jeff Garrett, our district RIR Coordinator; or you may

submit your evaluations online at [this link](#). The deadline for participating is September 26.

Please note that while participation in RIR is a voluntary activity for many rosarians, Consulting Rosarians are now required to participate as one of their CR activities.

Our district evaluation report is compiled by Jeff Garrett and the results are posted on the Tenarky website for review of rosarians in our area of the country.

Please take time to participate in the survey as your input benefits all roses growers! [Click here to visit the official RIR website.](#)

## August Rose Tips from Noah Wilson, Holstein Rose Society

Things I am doing to my roses in August

1. Hot and dry means, WATER, AND WATER. With a well mulched bed I want one inch of rain, or water a week. If well drained rose bed, even 2 inches if extremely hot.
2. I will continue using my favorite fungicide to help prevent black spot. Water the day before and I spray to prevent foliage burn. Don't spray after temperatures hit 90%. Don't spray if foliage is wet from rain or dew. This will reduce the strength of the chemical below the desired amount. I like to spray early morning just as the dew is dried.
3. I will continue my regular fertilize program. Roses are a lot like babies, they are always hungry, but don't need an adult dose each day, so I give a little on a monthly basis, plus my regular fertilizer of Bloomkote.
4. If I see evidence of spider mites, I will either wash them off by spraying under the leaves with a strong water wand, or use a good miticide, like florimite or avid.
5. Of course I will deadhead all old blooms and remove any old, unwanted growth trying to keep my bushes open for air circulation, being sure to seal all cuts with a good exterior glue.
6. If, I see a bush that needs bottom leaves removed to allow air circulation or allow basal breaks to come out I will remove leaves up to about 12 inches high.
7. Of course, I will share my roses with others and encourage them to try growing and enjoy rose growing hobby as I do.

## MONTHLY IN-CLUB COMPETITION—JUNE - NOVEMBER

The competition shall consist of **ONE entry in each** of the following classes: One bloom per stem, except for sprays. Groom and fill in tags as if entering a regular rose show. Judges will comment on 1st, 2nd, and 3rd choice. The top scorer in horticulture and arrangements will be recognized at the December meeting.

- Class 1—1 Single Bloom Hybrid Tea/Grandiflora
- Class 2—Single Bloom Miniature
- Class 3—1 Single Bloom Floribunda
- Class 4—1 Floribunda or Miniature Spray
- Class 5—Specimen, Any Other Type
- Class 6—Rose in a Bowl—any type of rose at any state
- Class 7—Arrangements—*Modern (choice of style—large or small roses)*



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## Bowling Green Rose Society

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*We're on the Web!!*

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

### Directions to the Matus Home

Drive south on Scottsville Rd. 5.3 miles from where the new Natcher Parkway extension meets Scottsville Road. (It's marked #20 next to the signal lights.) Make a left at Boyce-Fairview. At the stop sign you'll see a little church to your right. Keep it on your right. At that point the street name will have changed to Claypool-Boyce. Go 2.1 miles from Scottsville Road to W.G. Talley, then make a right turn. We are down the hill 0.3 miles. We are on the right across from the black horse fence. There is a street light and a sign reading "2552" in the flower bed beside the driveway. Three cars can park in front of the garage doors, nose in. The rest may park in the lawn on the right side of the driveway. PH: 745-9935.

### IMPORTANT DATES - 2014

- Sept. 20: Louisville Rose Show
- Sept. 21: Buckeye District Rose Show
- October 10-12: Tenarky District Conv. & Rose Show
- October 11: Huntsville Rose Show
- Oct. 15-19: ARS National Convention & Rose Show, Tyler TX

### 2014 BGRS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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