



April 2025

## FROM THE EDITOR



### Spring Has Arrived

Spring has arrived, and with it, the promise of new beginnings! As the saying goes, April showers bring May flowers, and here at The Fragrant Rose, we embrace this season of growth with open arms. The cool, damp days of April prepare the soil, nourishing our beloved roses and setting the stage for a spectacular flush of blooms in the months ahead.

To our loyal readers and the many new subscribers joining us this season—welcome! You’ve found a place where the love of roses blooms year-round. Whether you are a seasoned gardener or just beginning your journey into the enchanting world of roses, The Fragrant Rose is here to inspire, educate, and celebrate the beauty of these timeless flowers.

Spring is the perfect time to dig in—literally! Now is the season to prune, plant, and prepare your garden for a show of color and fragrance. Our upcoming issues will be filled with expert tips on selecting the best rose varieties, caring for your plants through the seasons, and even creating stunning floral arrangements to bring the beauty of the garden indoors.

As we welcome the longer days and warmer breezes, embrace the joy of growing. Each bud that unfurls is a reminder of patience rewarded and nature's artistry at its finest. So grab your gardening gloves, sharpen your pruners, and let's make this a season to remember.

Happy growing, and may your May be filled with roses in full bloom!

**Chris VanCleave**

*Editor*

*BELOW: 'Veterans' Honor', photo by Tom Mayhew*





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## THIS MONTH'S FRAGRANT ROSE



### 'Madame Isaac Pereire'

Madame Isaac Pereire is one of the most intensely fragrant roses in the world, often described as having a strong, sweet raspberry scent. It belongs to the Bourbon rose class, it originated in the early 19th century from a natural cross between China and Damask roses. These old roses tend to be early to bloom in the garden and helps to welcome in the gardening season. What's your favorite fragrant rose? e-mail me at [chris.vancleave@icloud.com](mailto:chris.vancleave@icloud.com) and you might see your favorite featured in an upcoming issue.

#### **What's your favorite fragrant rose?**

E-mail yours to [chris.vancleave@icloud.com](mailto:chris.vancleave@icloud.com) to be featured in an upcoming issue of The Fragrant Rose.

*ABOVE: Comments and hybridization notes provided by the Editor.*

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## LIFE & ROSES OF ANNE BELOVICH

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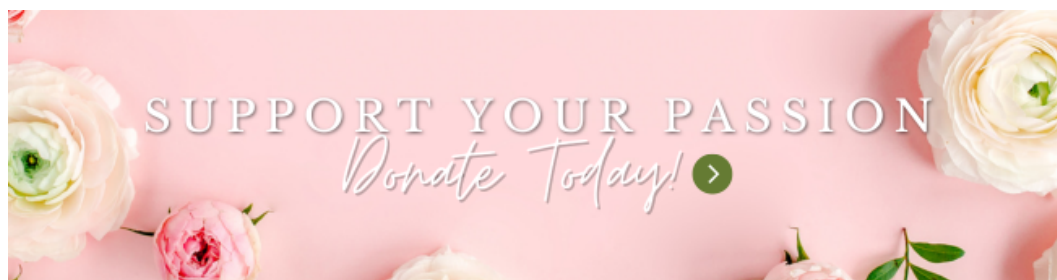
## The Life & Roses of Anne Belovich

### RoseChat Podcast

**With Teddie Mower,  
Caretaker of Anne's Garden**

On today's podcast, host Teresa Byington chats with Teddie Mower, Anne Belovich's Daughter-in-Law and the Caretaker of Anne's rose garden which includes over 1,000 mostly heritage roses. Anne was a rose collector Rock Star and Teddie's main focus is to ensure that her rare and imported roses are conserved through propagation efforts for future generations to enjoy. Don't miss this opportunity to hear some of the fascinating stories about this remarkable woman who was the author of 6 books - all written when she was in her 90s. And, that's just a small part of her story!

**READ MORE** [➤](#)





## The Knock Out® Rose Day

### Beth Smiley, ARS Executive Director

How fun and exciting is this? The Knock Out® Rose now has an official holiday! It will be celebrated every year on the Friday before Mother's Day. This year the celebration is on May 9.

According to a Star Rose and Plants press release, "The decision to create a national day was made as part of the celebrations surrounding the 25th anniversary of Knock Out®. From nearly 30,000 annual submissions, only about 20 are chosen by National Day Calendar. National Knock Out® Rose Day will be recognized every year going forward.

"The Knock Out® rose has become so recognizable over the last 25 years, we knew we wanted to try to get it nationally recognized with its own day, and we're thrilled that it was selected," said Susan Bacus Morgan, Marketing Manager for Star® Roses and Plants.

Here are a few easy ways to join in the fun!

- Plant a few Knock Out® Roses in your garden
- Gift a Knock Out® rose bouquet to a loved one
- See how many Knock Out® shrubs you can find in your neighborhood
- Share photos of your Knock Out® garden using #NationalKnockOutRoseDay and #AmericanRoseSociety.

Join in the fun, share your Knock Out® blooms, post your photos and tell people how easy it is to grow roses with the help of the American Rose Society.

### Beth Smiley

Interim Executive Director  
& Publications Director  
American Rose Society  
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*BELOW: 'Knock Out' by Emily Hamann*



**ROSE ATLAS**  
CREATORS OF ROSES  
DR. TOMMY CAIRNS & LUIS DESAMERO

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100th NATIONAL FLORAL EXHIBIT

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## Dear Rose Friends

### Craig Dorschel, ARS President

Spring is truly here, even where I live in New England. Time for planting, fertilizing, and awaiting glorious blooms. Or already enjoying them in the warmer climates. The title of this publication is The Fragrant Rose for a very good reason. Fragrance is a highly appreciated and desired characteristic of roses. So often the first thing a person does seeing a rose bush in bloom is to sniff the blossoms in the hope of being treated to the reward of glorious fragrance. Carolyn Elgar's article linked in this issue explores the topic of fragrance in depth, including why some roses are fragrant and why some, alas, are not.

One of the missions of the American Rose Society is the preservation of rose varieties. Over the years, many thousands of rose varieties have been created but, alas again, many of these have become extinct. Besides losing some beautiful examples, these extinctions are losses to the genetic diversity of roses. A major effort of the ARS is the preservation of rare rambler roses, the giant mostly once-blooming plants popular in the earlier years of the twentieth century. Ann Belovich amassed a large collection of these roses, most of which are now under cultivation at the American Rose Center. You can learn more about Ann and her roses in the podcast linked in this issue.

One of the many benefits of ARS membership is access to the member's digital bookshelf, where you will find Ann's book which features pictures of the roses in her collection. Please join us to be part of our mission to share the love of roses, America's Floral Emblem, with all.

### Craig Dorschel

President, American Rose Society





**AMERICAN ROSE SOCIETY** **Forum**

**ASK A *Rose* QUESTION**

**JOIN THE CHAT**

ASK QUESTIONS & SHARE KNOWLEDGE

The banner features a green background with a blurred rose garden. On the right, a computer monitor displays the American Rose Society Forum website interface, showing a list of topics and a sidebar with navigation options.

## ARS MEMBERSHIPS



### So much more than just a magazine subscription!

For many, growing roses is a passion. A membership in the American Rose Society can help you create the rose garden of your dreams in your own back yard.

Enjoy the camaraderie and support of a network of rose growers who are eager to share, learn and grow together.

Learn more about membership in the ARS [CLICK HERE](#).





## ROSE EVENTS



**May 3rd** | NCNH District and North Bay Rose Society show "Stardust and Petals" ([contact](#))

**May 5th** | Peninsula RS Annual Rose Show ([contact](#))

**May 8th** |  
Zoom Seminar: "It's 110 Degrees. . .Now What Do I Do?" ([register](#))

**May 8th** | Northeast Mississippi Rose Society Annual Rose Show ([contact](#))

**May 10th** | Tampa RS Rose Show, "Queen of Flowers" ([contact](#))

**May 12th** | San Francisco RS 74th Annual Mother's Day Rose Show ([contact](#))

**May 17th-18th** | 38th Annual South Metro RS Rose Show ([contact](#))

**May 17th** | Webinar: "Coming Up Roses – The High Country Roses Story" (TBD)

**May 18th-24th** | World Federation of Rose Societies World Rose Convention ([register](#))

**May 18th** | S38th Annual South Metro RS Rose Show ([contact](#))

**For a complete list of events, or to submit your own, visit [rose.org/events](https://rose.org/events)**





**AMERICAN ROSE SOCIETY**

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