



# Rose Ramblings

Website: <http://www.sdrosesociety.org>

VOL. LXXXI NO. 7

JOURNAL OF THE SAN DIEGO ROSE SOCIETY

AUGUST 2008

## What A Nice Fair

By Dick Streeper, [streeper@cox.net](mailto:streeper@cox.net)

**D**ON'T WE HAVE FUN!

The San Diego County Fair has come and gone and it created some memories that will stay with us for as long as we live. First, there was our club garden display filled with new rose varieties for 2008 from Star Roses. That project involved dozens of our members who grew the rose plants for two years, designed the garden, planted them in the largest rose garden ever built at the fair,

watered and groomed the exhibit each of the twenty-three days from opening until close of the fair, manned the exhibit throughout most of the daylight hours that the fair was open to the public to answer rose culture questions by the general public and to sign onboard anyone interested in learning more about roses. The garden was placed close by the entry gate through which 1.2 million persons passed through during the twenty-three day run of the fair.

Then there were the fair's rose shows, ten in number that attracted twelve members of our rose society, some exhibiting on all ten of the cut-flower exhibit days that continued over a twenty-three day period.

Total cash purse for all winning entries in the cut-rose section of the 2008 Fair was \$7,000 and Linda Clark won the title of highest cash award, as she has in three of the past four years at the fair. Gary and Sonia Bulman were second, and Ruth Tiffany took third place with lots of nice roses.



Lana and Al Heck relax at the fair garden after early-morning grooming of the plants. This garden is the fourth (and last) one engineered by Al.

Photo by Dick Streeper.

All things considered, this was one of the best cut-rose shows as well as rose garden exhibits ever by San Diego Rose Society. Our rose garden covered two exhibit spaces, first space on the left as the public entered that garden section of the fair. Although this year's fair missed setting an attendance record by a few thousand persons due to the calendar that trimmed one day from a normal twenty-four

day run, the daily attendance through the gate was a record and the daily average was 55,545. Persons who passed through the admission gate had three choices upon entry: to turn right into the animal barns, walk straight ahead onto the midway, or turn to the left past our beautiful rose garden into the garden exhibits. Many chose the inviting left turn.

Special thanks are extended to Al and Lana Heck who lived for two years with the fine new rose varieties donated by Star Roses, to A-1 Soils division of Hanson Aggregates who donated the considerable amount of soils used in the display at the fair, to Loren Saxton for use of his pickup truck and trailer for the last three years, and finally to Richard Stickler, who designed the extensive garden layout.

More thanks go to Backyard X-Scapes for the water feature, to Lowe's for the fountain, to Maria Elena O'Hara for the use of her truck, to Mike's Foreign Auto for the hauling trailer, and to San Diego

# Murder by Roundup

by Maryjane Roe, [mjroezes@cox.net](mailto:mjroezes@cox.net)

“It takes very little spray drift to affect any plant and since Roundup is a nonspecific poison, it will damage or kill anything it comes in contact with.”

--Jack Shoultz, SDRS Consulting Rosarian

**Y**ou may not be aware of the dangers of using the commonly-applied weed killer Roundup® anywhere near your rose garden. This article is to alert everyone to the potential damage that you can inadvertently cause to your rose bushes with just one squirt of the deadly weed killer.

In Victoria Paris's rose garden in San Diego, the roses are precious, gifts from friends and family, some transported from a former home. Last year's season produced spectacular growth and beautiful blooms. But this spring something changed. After the first bloom, which was magnificent, she noticed that the new growth (leaves and shoots) became stunted and weak. The red leaves turned pale and yellowish; the rose buds were tiny and discolored. They had installed a new irrigation system so her first thought was that she had been over watering. Next, she noticed that the buds that did open were malformed and of a different color. The Ronald Reagan rose, usually a deep velvety red on a long stem, was opening up miniature in size, pinkish and on a very short stem. Veterans' Honor was losing its leaves, the roses weren't opening and the leaves, once green, were now very dirty yellow. Horrified when all the new growth was stunted, leaves were yellowish and curled, and the new blooms were either not opening or opening small and discolored, she decided a call of distress was in order. She wrote to the San Diego Rose Society.

When Jack Shoultz, SDRS consulting rosarian, arrived to have a look, Victoria told him that her gardener had sprayed the grass but had assured her



The photo clearly shows the spiky foliage resulting from use of Roundup. Photo by Jack Kelly Clark, courtesy UC Statewide IPM Program. Photo came from the publication "Diseases and Disorders of Outdoor Roses."

that there would not be any danger of damage to the roses. Jack saw the characteristic spiky needlelike growth of the new leaves and produced the disheartening diagnosis: murder by Roundup. The poison had apparently worked its way into the soil or drifted onto the roses. Because the consensus was to try to save the roses rather than to replace them, Jack recommended an organic approach that would push the roses to develop

their own defenses. This entailed removing all the affected leaves and new growth, then treating the soil with EnviroGrow™, mixing in 2 cups of Biosol organic fertilizer, and spraying the bushes with WORMagic® tea.

Victoria wasn't the first to experience the horror of losing roses to Roundup. SDRS Consulting Rosarian Sue Streeper reports that the rose society receives many calls of distress from people who have unintentionally destroyed or damaged their roses by using herbicides.

Victor and Janet Lipp had been exhibiting roses for two or three years and were well aware of the dangers of getting Roundup on any living plant. Janet had a backpack sprayer that she had previously filled with a solution of Roundup to kill some weeds. Thinking that if she cleaned the sprayer carefully, she could still use it to spray the roses so she vigorously scrubbed it with soap and water. Janet told *Rose Ramblings*, "I couldn't have cleaned it more carefully...I re-washed and re-rinsed. I poured scalding water in the sprayer. I let it dry completely in the sun, hoping all traces of the poison would be made inert. When I was finally satisfied that all was OK, I mixed my spray solution, filled the tank

See MURDER BY ROUNDUP page 4

# Rose Ramblings

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August 2008

Vol. LXXXI No. 7

www.sdrosesociety.org

Rose Ramblings is published monthly, except July, by the San Diego Rose Society. Subscription is included with membership.

The San Diego Rose Society is classified as a charitable corporation under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and section 23701(d) of the California Revenue & Taxation Code. It serves the needs of San Diego County rose growers through this publication, membership meetings, an annual rose show, and support of the Inez Grant Parker Memorial Rose Garden in Balboa Park. It is affiliated with the American Rose Society, Inc. which may be contacted at P. O. Box 30000, Shreveport LA 71130-0030.

Monthly meetings of the San Diego Rose Society are held on the third Monday of each month at 7:00 PM in room 101 of the Casa del Prado in Balboa Park, excepting in July and August, or as otherwise announced in the Rose Ramblings or the Sunday Homescape Datebook of the San Diego Union-Tribune.

Membership dues are \$25 per calendar year per person or household. Send dues with name(s), address, including zip + 4, and telephone number to San Diego Rose Society Membership, P O Box 86124, San Diego CA 92138-6124.

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Printed by Golden Ink Litho & Design

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WHAT A NICE FAIR continued from page 1

Great Gardens ([www.sdgreatgardens.com](http://www.sdgreatgardens.com)) for companion plants and placement. Extra-special thanks to Steve Dillard, Steve Berry, Bob Kolb, and Terry Harris for, in Al Heck's words, "heroic participation at odd hours, muscle power, and overall willingness to do 'whatever it takes.'" Also from Al, special mention of gratitude to wife Lana for "her support, cheerful attitude, hardscape design ideas, and sacrificing her body on the altar of rose thorns, garden dirt, garden walls, and early morning hours."

And can you believe the support from well over one hundred rose society members? Seventy-one served as docents and signed up forty-five new households representing seventy-two new members. Ten did the grooming and watering during the course of the fair. Eleven served as foster parents who cared for the canned roses in 2007. Forty were involved in moving roses to the fair and installing and mulching the roses. Fifteen were there for the tear-down and returning the roses to Tierrasanta where they were given to new members and to those who worked on the exhibit.

It comes as no surprise, then, that the garden earned prizes including \$2,000 in Awards of Merit, \$100 Dee Bennett Award for best use of roses in a garden setting, and \$100 Good Maintenance Award. Kudos to Chief Rose Wrangler Al Heck for a superb and successful effort.

## WELCOME—NEW MEMBERS

The San Diego Rose Society welcomes the following new members who joined our society at the San Diego County Fair. These new members are also included on the American Rose Society membership rolls for ninety days as trial members.

Verna Albright  
Penny & Paul Arenson  
Susan Baker  
Lesley Bunnell  
Barbara Callahan  
Dan Conaway  
Marcie Dana  
Carol Elliott, Alan & Zoe  
Kathleen & David Fares  
Roger Farmer  
Patricia S. Frinell  
Anna & Dennis Good  
Cherie & Scott Graves  
Mona Hoadley  
Monika & Sean Howard  
Sheryl Huffman  
Irene & Gary Keehner  
Shirley & Henry Keener  
Nancy & Dale Klamer  
Sharon J. Laduke  
Adrian & Sharon Larson  
Cheryl Leedom  
Marijo & Timothy Luranc  
Thomas W. Mallow

Sara Mattero  
Margaret McCann & Jagath  
Ashirwad  
Yvonne & Robert Muzzy  
Kathy & Jeff Noblet  
Janice & Rodney Owlett  
JoAnn Padgett, Ken & Kelly  
Ann Pease  
Katherine Pietrczak  
Linda & Michael Pollard  
Jewel M. Poole  
Christine Powers & Mindy  
Andrea & Daryl Skorepa  
Debi & Gregg Seiveno  
Beth Sullivan & Eileen Storey  
W. Gary Thomson  
Shirley Ann & Richard  
Virissimo  
Glenna & Brett Winslow  
Adolfo Yee & John Rasmussen  
Marilyn Zeljeznjak  
Carla M. Nelson  
Thomas & Sally Miller

# Rozluvr's Report

By Roger English, President, rozluvr@cox.net

**F**all is coming. As I write this it is mid-July and it is hot and surely will be even hotter in August. For those of you on the coast this can be a good time for hybrid tea rose blooms. For the rest of us, we are looking forward to mid-October. For me, this is usually the second best bloom cycle of the year. The general recommendation is to cut back the hybrid tea stems about one third the latter part of August. In the past I have routinely done this with good results. Even if the stem had a bud that might open in a week or two it was cut back. Last year we had a severe heat wave shortly after the summer pruning. The roses received plenty of water but the direct scorching effects of the sun badly damaged the new growth and the established leaves. I live about twelve miles inland. The hybrid teas in the backyard face west and get full late morning and all afternoon unprotected sun.

This year my plan is to cut each stem after it has bloomed. This should help in two ways. If there is another severe heat wave the pruning will be staggered so not all of the new growth will be damaged at the same time. Also, those stems that have not been cut may provide shade for those that have. During the summer I usually cut fairly short stems underneath the bloom since the flower is small and I like to leave longer stems on the bush to help shade it and nearby roses from the sun. When preparing for fall

blooms the stem is cut much lower so it will be sturdy enough to support a large long stemmed flower in a vase.

During the summer my roses are fed less often because, in my opinion, they do not respond as well to the feeding. By late August regular feeding is resumed. Powdery mildew is only a minor problem during the summer and usually no fungicides are used. Compass and Banner Maxx are alternated every two weeks beginning in late August. If the weather begins to cool, particularly at night, then these fungicides are alternated weekly. Spinosad is used once every two weeks to keep rose slugs and caterpillars under control. Budworms, which are a type of caterpillar, can be quite a problem leading up to the fall bloom. Because of this I make sure to thoroughly spray all buds with the spinosad. Light colored hybrid tea roses can suffer major damage from thrips. Since I plan to enter the ECRS Rose Show on October 11, Orthene is applied three times a week via a small hand sprayer to all buds well before they start to show any color between the sepals.

Enjoy your fall roses!

*MURDER BY ROUNDUP continued from page 2*

and went to work.” The eagerly awaited first bloom of the year was less than spectacular. The blooms appeared split and feathery, more like a chrysanthemum than a velvety petaled rose, and the leaves had yellowed.

I too had Roundup damage in my garden a couple of years ago. It was my own doing. I was spraying liberally for weeds among the rocks that were in the nearby landscaping and there was often a slight wind. I didn't know that the spray, even the smallest droplet, could travel. I did lose one rose that year and I didn't immediately realize what the problem was but I began to suspect that Roundup had been the cause when another bush nearby developed the same symptoms and was barely surviving.

Roundup (active ingredient glyphosate) can drift off-site during applications and, studies show, from 14-78% of it can go as far as 1300 feet downwind. Research of articles discloses that although Roundup may remain in

the soil for up to a year, it is bound to soil particles and is not picked up by the roots. Therefore, no special soil treatment is needed. A recent article in *American Rose* suggested that symptoms of damage from Roundup may not even appear during the season of application and, furthermore, a few droplets drifting onto mulch can even cause green canes to be exposed when the mulch is brushed against them.

Roses are amazingly hardy, as I have written before in “Roe's Ramblings.” This spring, even after surviving the firestorm in October, my own bush that had been damaged by Roundup was back blooming and relatively healthy again. After taking to heart Jack Shoultz's advice, Victoria Paris's roses are mostly coming back, and the second new growth is looking better. She may still, however, lose one or two bushes. Says Victoria, “I have been

*See MURDER BY ROUNDUP page 5*

**MEETINGS  
AND  
PROGRAMS**

**NO MONDAY EVENING  
MEETING**

**IN THE CASA DEL PRADO IN  
AUGUST. INSTEAD YOU ARE  
ENCOURAGED TO COME TO  
THE AUGUST 16 TOUR OF THE  
BALBOA PARK ROSE GARDEN  
AS DESCRIBED ON THIS PAGE.**

**FUTURE MEETINGS IN ROOM 101  
OF THE CASA DEL PRADO:**

**SEPT. 15-** OF SPECIAL INTEREST  
TO OUR NEW MEMBERS, ROSE CARE  
ESSENTIALS BY A PANEL OF EXPERTS.  
ALSO A LITTLE ROSE SHOW.

**OCT.20-**POTLUCK AND  
PROPAGATION FOR DUMMIES. LEARN  
HOW TO MAKE A NEW PLANT FROM  
CUTTINGS. ALL ATTENDEES WILL  
GET THEIR HANDS IN THE DIRT  
AND TAKE HOME A POTENTIAL NEW  
PLANT. LAST LITTLE ROSE SHOW OF  
2008.

**NOV. 17:** TOM CARRUTH OF WEEKS  
ROSES WILL GIVE AN ENTERTAINING  
RUNDOWN ON THE NEWEST ROSE  
INTRODUCTIONS.

**DEC. 7:** NOT IN THE CASA DEL  
PRADO, BUT A NOONTIME HOLIDAY  
BRUNCH AT THE BEAUTIFUL HOLIDAY  
INN BAYSIDE. SAVE THE DATE.

**Tour the Balboa Park Rose Garden**

The annual Balboa Park Rose Garden tour led by SDRS ARS consulting rosarians will be held in the Inez Grant Parker Memorial Rose Garden on Saturday, August 16, from 10:00 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. This is one of two group outreach programs of our local consulting rosarians each year. All SDRS members and their gardening friends are invited to attend. CRs are urged to attend a training and garden evaluation session on Saturday, August 9, from 10:30 to 11:30 in the rose garden.

**ARS Convention News from Denver**

Jim Price, Joan Sieber, and Dick and Sue Streeper enjoyed the friendly hospitality of the Denver Rose Society at the American Rose Society convention in Denver June 27 to 29. The trade show and quilt show were especially well done, with many participants and 45 beautiful rose-themed quilts.

From the membership meeting, the following news items should be of interest. The ARS has a new program in which local societies can submit the names of their new members, and ARS will include those new members in a 90-day trial membership in the national organization. Our newest members from the fair will benefit from this. Also, starting in 2009, paper copies of the special interest ARS publications such as the miniature rose quarterly will be discontinued. Members can access those quarterly publications on the internet using the password found in the ARS magazine. ARS has received a \$300,000 bequest which is helping greatly to balance the books.

Jeff Ware, the well-liked executive director of the ARS, has agreed to stay on in his position for at least the next two years. He emphasizes customer service; if you do not receive a response to emails or phone calls within 24 hours, contact him and you will be heard. All ARS members are requested to go to the ARS website and fill out the Roses in Review (RIR) forms. Those reports are needed for the accuracy of the ratings of roses in the ARS Handbook. Also, check out the ARS website for travel deals. Travelocity powers this site, and ARS receives 60% of the commission.

*MURDER BY ROUNDUP continued from page 4*

kicking myself...I listened to the gardener and in retrospect, shouldn't have. I understand my garden better than anyone." Fortunately, the Lipps didn't lose any bushes and by the second or third bloom, the roses were back on track. "We all learn from our mistakes," Janet told *Rose Ramblings*. "I hope I can save someone from making the same mistake that I made."

**Beware of Roundup!**

- If you have a gardener working in your rose garden, clarify with that person that Roundup is NEVER to be used on or near the roses.
- Be aware that drifting spray of Roundup used elsewhere in the garden is lethal to roses. If it must be used somewhere, the wind must be totally still (early in the morning is best, and it still is not a great idea).
- Figure out a method of benign weed control. Prepare the soil well in a large area around the roses. Mulch deeply at least once a year. Pull or dig weeds when they are tiny.
- If you must use an herbicide, dedicate one sprayer for that use only.
- Use a pre-emergent seed control on top of the soil in a clean bed before weeds come up. The pre-emergents will not hurt the roses and they prevent weed seeds from germinating.

# About Basic Care

## Summer Rust, Feeding and Pest Control

by ARS consulting rosarians—  
Gary Bulman, gossbulman@cox.net  
Doug Kalal, kalal5@sbcglobal.net,  
www.sdgreatgardens.com  
Roger English, rozluvr@cox.net

**Rose Ramblings:** *This is the time of year that rust starts to show up in some roses. How to you control this disease?*

**Gary:** Rust is easy to spot. Look for orange spots to develop on the underside of leaves close to the bottom area of the rose. This usually happens when we have very hot days followed by cool nights. Some varieties are more susceptible than others. The fungus is airborne and usually settles in plants with thick foliage and little space for air circulation. Some control may be realized by cleaning out unwanted growth that occurs during the growing season. Should a plant in your garden become infected, the diseased leaves must be carefully removed from the plant and disposed of separately from other garden waste as these spores of rust are easily transported to other rose bushes. Since spraying my garden every two weeks alternating Banner Maxx and Compass I have experienced no rust on my roses. Should I have an invasion of rust I believe the fungicide of choice is Immunox.

**Roger:** In my area near San Diego State University no spraying is usually required for mildew or rust during the hot summer months of July, August and often the first two weeks of September. After this I will alternate Compass with Banner Maxx. As long as the weather is still quite warm the spraying will be every two weeks but if it becomes cooler the intervals are weekly.

**Doug:** Rust is an annoying disease that tends to occur in the bottom part of roses and slowly works its way up the bush. I tend to use as few chemicals as possible in my garden. So my method is to try to keep the bush's center clear of any growth that can block air flow. Rust tends to happen in areas with poor airflow. If the rust appears, then I immediately remove the infected leaf. Once a leaf is infected with rust, the leaf cannot be "cured."

**Rose Ramblings:** *During the summer, some roses tend to have smaller and poorer quality blooms. Why is this and what can be done about it?*

**Gary:** I believe that heat and humidity during July and August suppress the growth ability of roses to produce the number and quality of blooms we expect during the spring and fall times of the year. Patience is power during this growing cycle so my answer is to provide ample water and fertilizer to my plants and not to expect superb quality blooms. I continue to spray fungicides and watch for pests especially spider mites and be ready to administer controls if necessary. My goal is to keep the roses healthy and free of disease so they will be able to provide quality blooms in the fall. I think most rosarians share this philosophy as I note there are few summer rose shows.

**Roger:** Rose leaves have stomata or minute openings on the bottoms of leaves. These stomata take in carbon dioxide and release water. The carbon dioxide is used in the manufacture of sugar. The release of water pulls water from the roots to the part of the rose above ground. At a temperature around 86 degrees Fahrenheit the leaves lose water faster than it can be transported from the roots. The stomata then close down to preserve water. This shuts off the intake of carbon dioxide so sugar production is stopped. Sugar is needed for energy production. Without adequate energy there is less bloom production. Almost all hybrid tea blooms become significantly smaller. Veterans' Honor and Moonstone retain their bloom size better than most. This is the time of the year when floribundas really shine compared to hybrid teas. Smaller hybrid tea blooms, in my opinion, lose considerable appeal compared to the larger ones in the spring and fall. Even though floribundas may produce fewer and smaller sprays in the hot weather they still provide lots of color. Adequate mulch and water can help somewhat. Also, if your roses are protected from the full effect of the hot afternoon sun by surrounding trees or another source of shade this can be very helpful.

**Doug:** In hot areas of the county, the warm dry, summers can stress out roses. The roses respond to stress by producing less foliage and blooms. The best way to overcome this is to increase watering and bump up the food a bit as well; Ada Perry is the best for that.

# Rose Garden Tour

By Sue Streeper, [streeper@cox.net](mailto:streeper@cox.net)

**F**our gardens were featured at the July 12 tour of the rose society. About 100 members enjoyed the roses and other plantings at the homes of Al and Lana Heck, Frances Tamayo, Tim Trieu, and John and Barbara Lester. All of the gardens were in close proximity in the Tierrasanta area.

One could not miss the home of the Hecks where about 120 canned roses were gracing the driveway.

In particular, the Passionate Kisses roses that had been such a highlight at the fair were still in glorious bloom. By the time this issue of *Rose Ramblings* reaches you, those roses will have been given away to new members who joined at the fair and also to people who worked on the fair garden. Passing through the canned roses, one could not miss the riot of color from the bed of Livin' Easy, Easy Going, Day Breaker, and Chihuly. Other standouts in the garden included massive plants of Double Delight, Duet, and Melodie Parfumee. Al Heck says that his roses respond to preparing the soil before planting with plenty of sand and organic matter and fertilizing heavily with Milorganite, Ada Perry's, and Osmocote after pruning in January.

The Hecks' close neighbor, Frances Tamayo, also

opened her garden to the tour. She had some miniature tree roses in the front yard as well as beautiful agapanthus. The hardscape was outstanding, featuring expert brickwork particularly on the front entry.

Tim Trieu was most hospitable in his garden, personally escorting visitors around his plantings of tropical fruit trees. He proudly grows citrus trees and tomatoes along with mangos, guavas, lychees, and other

tropical varieties which he used to know in his native Vietnam.

The home of John and Barbara Lester was easy to locate from the street with about four terraces of roses composing the front yard. This is a comparatively new garden, having been built in the last two years. One feature that works well in this planting is an irrigation system that has a bubbler at the base of each rose. One of the outstanding plants was a red floribunda by the name of

Preference. The petals are velvety dark red, and they are thick enough to withstand the heat of a summer day in the east county.

Thanks to all the gardeners involved in the above gardens for sharing their beauty with rose society visitors.



Ruth Tiffany and Linda Clark enjoy the front yard full of roses at the home of John and Barbara Lester. The Lester garden was one of four on the tour on July 12. Photo by Dick Streeper.

## Rose Show News 2009

**S**ave April 25 and 26, prime first-bloom dates, for the San Diego Rose Society's show in 2009. Linda Clark, rose show chairman, is pleased to announce that the show will be held in the convention center at the Barona Valley Resort. The show room is comparable in size to the ballroom in the Balboa Park Club, and there is parking for thousands of cars. The management at Barona has demonstrated great interest and support for holding the show in this new venue. Exhibitors and judges may want to stay the entire weekend at the resort, with hotel, restaurants, pool, golf course, casino, and rose garden as attractions.

Dick Streeper, 2008 rose show chairman, requests that this year's committee chairmen return the show books to him as soon as possible to facilitate planning for 2009.

# Rose of the Month: Shadow Dancer

By Frank Hastings, frankierose @cox.net

**S**hadow Dancer is my favorite of the three large-flowered climbers grown in my garden. Altissimo and Climbing Winifred Coulter are also vigorous continuous bloomers in our El Cajon climate. All three are heat and fungus resistant. Shadow Dancer and Winifred Coulter have beautiful dark, shiny green foliage that is a show in itself. I pick Shadow Dancer as my favorite because of the beautiful blending of dark pink and light pink colored petals and form of

the bloom and the inflorescence of the many sprays on the climbing rose bush. It took about three years to get two plants on one side of the double arch and one on the other side to completely cover the eight-foot arches.

Shadow Dancer was hybridized by Ralph Moore. Its parentage is Dortmund x Seedling of Dortmund. Fragrance is mild; ARS Color is pink blend (striped dark and light pink), ruffled double blossoms, 15 to 25 petals.



Shadow Dancer shows off covering an arch in the Hastings garden. Photo by Frank Hastings.



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