

FEBRUARY
SALES!

VINTAGE GARDENS



Spong, Jeannie Deans, Mrs. Jennie Deverman, Kathleen Ferrier—forgotten beauties

February 16, 2009

Our thanks to Cliff Orent for his photos of Mrs. Jennie Deverman & Kathleen Ferrier

Unpruned Roses—A New Update

Martine Ligouri sent us an eye-opening report on the benefits of minimal pruning to almond trees. An article in *California Trees & Vines*, published by the California Farm Bureau Federation January 28, 2009, indicates that four trials in recent years have shown that pruning almond trees as little as possible results in greatly increased yields of fruit. UC Cooperative Extension farm advisors are recommending this approach to growers.

‘Pruning is dwarfing; we tend to forget that,’ said John Edstrom, UCCE farm advisor, ‘...my motto these days is to fill the canopy fast.’ The studies have suggested a ‘correlation between the amount of sunlight intercepted by the trees in the orchard and the almond yield.’

Sound familiar? Almonds, varieties of *Prunus dulcis*, are in the rose family. Even young trees are traditionally thinned and pruned, resulting in a slower growth to maturity, and requiring longer to yield good crops. The canopy of foliage in unpruned trees generates more energy, which feeds the trees.

This gives us more reason to argue for leaving young roses unpruned, at least until they reach maturity and exceed the limits of space allotted to them. Now if only I could convince the gophers that live in my garden to quit root-pruning the roses!

For those of you considering converting your rose garden to an orchard, there’s good news. A recent Norwegian study showed that rose hips contain the highest amounts of antioxidants among all fruits and vegetables. While you’re out there *not* pruning, why not harvest the hips and make a heart-healthy conserve?

What’s Inside

Double Discounts in February!

Our super sale for February; we’ll double all of your discounts on orders placed by February 28. *See page 4.*

Our Aesthetic Stimulus Package

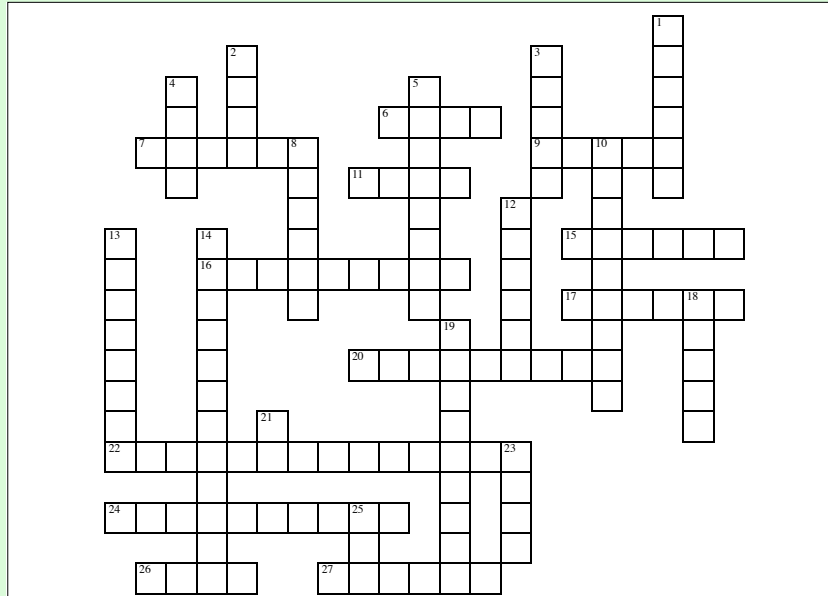
We send FREE ROSES to your friends in need this month—cheer them up, better times are ahead! *See page 4.*

A Rosy Crossword Puzzle

A Knot of Roses is our first attempt to test your rose knowledge and research skills! Try your hand on *page 2.*

Thank You for Being a Friend!

The Friends of Vintage Gardens are at it again; helping us to make the garden beautiful for you to visit this May. Potlucks and group work parties are in the works for March and April. Why not join us? *See page 2-3.*



ACROSS

- 6 Cluster-flowered gp.
- 7 Aimee's creator
- 9 Bud cover
- 11 Like some oxen
- 15 Pollen receptors
- 16 Rose gardener, in Paris
- 17 Cash crop rose at Paestum
- 20 Two-toned
- 22 Rosa foetida sport
- 24 Hedgerow inhabitant
- 26 Glandular green grown
- 27 Rosy opera heroine

DOWN

- 1 Old Roses for Country Gardens author
- 2 Famous leaflet count for pruner
- 3 Maiden's response
- 4 Tres fashionable Floribunda
- 5 Charleston's gift to the world
- 8 Rose garden garland; Christmas tree decor
- 10 Damask Perpetuals
- 12 Blue like Jeans
- 13 Panhandle state red
- 14 Jeri Jennings' favorite Hat (HP)
- 18 Airborn oils
- 19 Imperial rose collector
- 21 Single micro-Miniature
- 23 Most common color poetically
- 25 Blood red Floribunda

A Knot of Roses

The Vintage Crossword Puzzle

Download solution from our website: www.vintagegardens.com

Test your rose knowledge on our new crossword puzzle!

We offer you a fun challenge in the way of a rose crossword puzzle. Some of the clues may be difficult, but we think you can get this. You might want to use *HelpMeFindRoses.com* to do some of the research. There you'll find you can search by breeder, look up the authors of rose books, see lists of rose classes or groups (gps.), look up partial names of roses, or names that sound like the two letters you've worked out in the name!

While you're there, you'll discover what an amazing place HelpMeFind is for roses. Like me, you may become an addict and find it is an indispensable tool for the world of roses. You'll see that HMF is in desperate need of support, both through donations and volunteer time. This great database of information is free to all, and we hope you'll support it!

-Gregg Lowery

Thank you for being a Friend!

The maintenance of a two-acre rose garden and more than 4000 plants is a daunting task, especially for one person. But I have been blessed with a group of friends who lighten my load in many ways. The Friends of Vintage Gardens organized in about

2003 in response to the obvious needs of our garden for more care. They arrive en masse now twice a year, and sometimes one by one throughout the year to weed, mulch, plant, label, and to enjoy the roses. Sharing the workload with others renews my resolve to keep this garden alive, but sharing the roses makes every moment of the work worthwhile!

Friends come through many doors, and not all of them work the soil with me. Some take photographs

Continued on Page 3

Thank you for being a friend! (continued from page 2)

and help me to continue to improve the quality of our website and catalogue. Some send roses; varieties that they know we've lost, or never grown, in the hopes that the collection of roses remains as full and complete as possible. Others offer their expertise, sharing their talents for marketing, keeping me up to date on problems with our website, suggesting ways that we can improve both our garden and our nursery.

In April of 2008 the Friends' 'Dirt Day' gathered a remarkable group to help dig holes for the replanting of our modern Hybrid Teas and Floribundas; nearly 700 plants were taken from pot ghetto to a life in the soil. This spring Luanne Wilson, our fearless leader of the Friends, has announced two dirt days to help with weeding, mulching, labeling and more planting. These will take place on March 14th and April 11th, from about 9 or 10 am until mid-afternoon. Everyone

brings a dish for a grand pot-luck lunch. The Friends always welcome anyone who wants to join in; just email to Luanne for details.

Meanwhile some of the Friends have already appeared this winter to weed and mulch, and the progress has been impressive. One brave soul, who requests anonymity, has been here once a week or more to learn pruning and to help with that endless task. (Yes, I prune, and it takes extra time to be light-handed!)

I count myself very fortunate to have had such support in keeping the roses going. They do this for the enjoyment of all, and if you come to my garden in May you'll see the hands of many in each rosy corner. Thank you all for being such kind and generous friends!



Garden & Collection

Our garden was built to be shared; its collection of nearly 4000 rose varieties explodes in May with color and perfume, inspiring all who see it with the beauty of old roses. Without the chance to be shared, the roses would go unseen, the fragrance unsmelled, and the spectacle unappreciated. One

person cannot take in all in, even over many weeks.

The enjoyment takes many, and without the assistance of so many lovers of old roses working at our sides, we would not open our garden—chaos would overwhelm the beauty.

Thank you, Friends of Vintage Gardens, for giving it life!

Our Aesthetic Stimulus Package— Free Roses & Double Discounts!

Better Times Ahead—Send a *FREE* rose to a friend in need!

Times are tough and getting tougher. Lots of us know friends who've lost their jobs or had hours reduced, who are struggling to pay for healthcare or unable to pay their hospital bills. We always wish there was something we could do to brighten their lives. That's something a rose can do—reminding them that the world is full of beauty. At Vintage Gardens, as we struggle to keep our business alive, we know what others are going through.

That's why we've decided to help you to cheer up your friends with an offer of a free rose to send to someone who'd be cheered by a rose, blooming in their lives!

If you know someone who is facing hardship from a lost job, or a loss of hours in their job, or is challenged by a health crisis, someone you'd like us to send a rose to, let us know. Place an order on our website for one rose to be shipped to them from

Vintage Gardens. We'll pay for the rose; we ask only that you pay \$10 for the shipping cost, and that you choose their rose from the list of beautiful roses priced at \$7.50 on our website. Your order acknowledgement will indicate the normal price for the order, and you'll see how far that \$10 is going. We'll confirm the order with just a \$10 cost for shipping, nothing for the rose.

We can't ship free roses forever, but we'd like to do our part. Place your order by the last day of February, 2009 on our website. And, please give us an alternate choice for the plant, so that we can complete the order should your first request be recently sold out. Be sure to provide the name and address of your friend in the SHIP TO spaces, and yours in the billing address. Give us a date to ship the plant, and any personal note you'd like to send to them in the 'Instructions & Comments' box on the last page of the order system. We'll send them planting instructions with their rose and our contact information for any questions they may have. We ask you to share this wealth; we can only accept one

DOUBLE DISCOUNTS FOR FEBRUARY —ONLINE SALE

We've revived our most popular sale for the rest of February. We are DOUBLING your discounts on all orders through February 28th, 2009. Just place your order online, and chose the discount of your preference. Orders of 4 band plants receive a \$1 discount per plant; we'll make that \$2 per plant! Orders of 8 band plants receive a FREE plant; we'll make that TWO FREE PLANTS! Just place your orders online as usual, and we'll double that discount when we receive your order.

Burnaby, HT

