



Rose Petals



Short Rose-Related Info-Bits to Stay Connected

January 15, 2022 Edition

Non-UGC Rose Spotlight: *Gemini*



Photo by Marsha Yokomichi

By Cathy Matsuzaki

Gemini is a gorgeous Hybrid Tea rose bred by Dr. Keith W. Zary of Jackson & Perkins in 1991. It was introduced to the market in the U.S.

in 1999 by Bear Creek Gardens, Inc.

Gemini won the All-America Rose Selections (AARS) award for 2000. The annual AARS award was considered to be one of the most prestigious rose awards in the U.S. from 1940 to 2013. The award was given by the American rose industry to an outstanding new rose variety.

The name ***Gemini*** (the Twins of the Zodiac), reflects the “twin” colors of this enchanting rose. ***Gemini*** was created by crossing *Anne Morrow Lindbergh* (which was bred by Bill Warriner, Dr. Zary’s predecessor at Jackson & Perkins) whose coloration closely resembles ***Gemini***, with the New Zealand rose

called *New Year*, which pulls more of a stronger orange tint.

Typical of exhibition-form Hybrid Tea roses, ***Gemini*** features a high-centered double bloom form. Each bud gracefully unfurls into a near perfect symmetrical form, featuring large blossoms averaging five-inches in diameter with a 25 to 30-petal count. ***Gemini*** exudes a delicate sweet fragrance, but it’s simply the striking beauty of this rose that makes one stop to take notice of it.

The coloration of ***Gemini*** is exquisite from a rich rosy coral at the edges through all shades of pink and blended with a creamy white in

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UGC Rose Spotlight: *Dona Martin*

By Cathy Matsuzaki

Although it may have been some time since you last visited the UGC Rose Garden, you may recall seeing beautiful light-pink roses in bloom in the Terraced Beds gracing the entrance near our Rose Garden sign.

This beautiful rose resembling porcelain is ***Dona Martin*** a delicate Hybrid Tea rose discovered by the late Bob Martin, Jr. Some of you may have heard that Robert “Bob” Brooks Martin, Jr., Master Consulting Rosarian and Immediate Past President of the American Rose Society (2018-2021) passed away suddenly on November 26, 2021.

Bob authored more than 700 published articles in numerous rose magazines but he was probably best known for his book, “Showing Good Roses” which was published in 2001. His book served as a



Photo by Cathy Matsuzaki

guidebook for many veteran HRS members who wished to grow and show the best roses that we could at rose shows.

Bob also introduced 15 rose varieties of which ***Dona Martin*** was one. The rose is actually a “sport”

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Just FYI...

2022 HRS Rose School Cancelled

Because of rising COVID-19 case numbers due to the Omicron variant, we have decided to cancel plans for an in-person HRS Rose School this year. Instead, we will be continuing with our Zoom virtual workshops with the first one being scheduled for the third week in February. Please stay-tuned for more details.

No February Rose Sale This Year

As a result of the high demand for rose plants, rose nurseries such as Weeks Roses and Star Roses were left with very little to no inventory for Fall 2021. Consequently, these two national HRS supporters were not able to provide us with any bareroot rose donations for the first time ever. Therefore, due to the unfortunate lack of bareroot donations from Weeks and Star

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Non-UGC Rose: *Gemini*



A cluster of **Gemini** at The Pageant of Roses Garden at Rose Hills Memorial Park, Whittier, CA. Photo by Marsha Yokomichi

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the center. Sources say that the color of this rose intensifies in cooler weather. Each bloom is borne singly on a straight long

stem, making it an excellent rose to display in a vase. It also has long vase life.

Gemini is a vigorous well-branched rose plant which tends to grow upright with a slight spreading habit to heights of 4 to 6 feet, and widths of 3 feet at maturity. The bush is dressed in glossy dark green foliage, making it not only ideal to accentuate these beautiful blooms but also resistant to Black Spot and Powdery Mildew. As with all roses, **Gemini** does best growing in full sunlight.

Sources: <https://www.helpmefind.com/rose/1.php?l=2.24917.1;>

[https://www.jacksonandperkins.com/gemini-hybrid-tea-rose/p/v2208/;](https://www.jacksonandperkins.com/gemini-hybrid-tea-rose/p/v2208/)

<https://www.weeksroses.com/product/gemini/roses;>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/All-America_Rose_Selections;and

<https://www.nurseriesonline.com.au/plant-index/roses/gemini-rose/>

UGC Rose: *Dona Martin*

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or genetic mutation of the rose *Randy Scott*, a white Hybrid Tea rose. Bob discovered this “sport” in 2011 and registered it as **Dona Martin** after his lovely wife. The *Randy Scott* rose is an offspring of Hybrid Tea roses *Moonstone* (white with pink edges) and *Crystalline* (white). Some of the characteristics of the **Dona Martin** rose are definitely attributable to these fine classic Hybrid Tea roses.

The HRS was grateful to receive a generous donation of three **Dona Martin** rose plants on Fortuniana root stock from veteran HRS member and Consulting Rosarian Emeritus **Thomas Mui** in January 2018. **Dona Martin** has proven to be a prolific bloomer in our Hawaii climate with roses almost always in bloom.

The blossoms are large and full with an average diameter of five-inches.



Dona and Bob Martin, Jr. in their Escondido, CA rose garden. Photo Source: The San Diego Union-Tribune, October 2018.

Each bloom has a 26 to 40-petal count with a moderate fragrance.

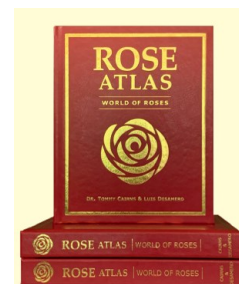
Dona Martin is considered to have an “exhibition bloom form”, meaning that this particular type of rose has a high or pointed center with a swirl in the center of each bloom that sits higher than the rest of the petals. This variety grows on straight stems making it an ideal cut flower to display in a vase.

FYI...

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Roses, we will not be holding a Rose Plant Sale in February.

Free-Offer for Those Joining as New Members of the National American Rose Society



Receive a complimentary copy of the new hardcover rose book, “Rose Atlas” by Dr. Tommy Cairns and Mr. Luis Desamero for anyone joining as a new Individual Member of the American Rose Society! First-come first-served until supplies last! The books will be mailed to you free of charge courtesy of the Beverly Hills Rose Society.

The “Rose Atlas” will be available in retail stores starting in February 2022 and will sell for \$65 each. This makes the \$49 for Individual Membership for the American Rose Society a great deal with this free book! The book will be mailed to you as soon as your new membership is processed. [Click here](#) to sign up for an ARS Individual Membership.

Dona Martin is flourishing nicely and is currently growing at a height of about three-feet. The bushes grow upright with a slight spreading tendency. Its semi-glossy medium green foliage is a perfect accent for these lovely smoky-pink roses.

Source: <https://www.helpmefind.com/gardening/1.php?l=2.66202>

Rose Care Info: Powdery Mildew

By Marsha Yokomichi
HRS Master Rosarian

Powdery Mildew is probably one of the most common diseases that appear not only in our local rose gardens but also in rose gardens all over the world. What's worse for us is that Hawaii's warm days, cool nights, high-humidity, and gusty trade-winds are optimal conditions for the onset and rapid spread of this fungal disease. This is especially true at this time of the year.



Early infection of rose plants may appear as puckerred or blistered leaves that progresses to a white or grayish fuzzy powder that clings to the leaves, stems, and buds of rose bushes and other plants.

Unlike Black Spot, **Powdery Mildew** grows on dry plant surfaces. The development of this disease is reduced significantly when leaves are wet because its spores do not germinate well in water. They are, however, spread by the wind and feed by imbedding its root-like structures in to the epidermal of a plant's surface.

Infected rose bushes start to decline as the disease robs plants of nutrients and energy. New shoots and leaves may be distorted and deformed while proper bud-development may also be affected. If left unchecked, **Powdery Mildew** can also hamper the photosynthesis-process when leaves become covered with the grayish powder.



Powdery Mildew on the leaves and stems of a rose. All photos by Myrna Cariaga

Conditions for Development

- Often occurs when rainfall is minimal or nonexistent
- When nighttime temperatures are in the mid-60s—low 70's F and daytime temperatures are in the mid—high 80's F
- When there is low daytime and high nighttime humidity

Cultural Controls

- Follow good pruning techniques where the middle of your plant maintains good air-circulation. Plants with overcrowded middle stems harbor moisture which then promote high-humidity levels, which then develop into ideal conditions for the disease.
- Avoid overhead watering to lessen chances of retaining moisture in the middle of rose plants and the ensuing high-humidity levels which are necessary for the disease to develop.
- It's important to note that the disease can overwinter on leaves and stems so leaves/stems infected with the disease should not be composted.

Disease-Control

- There is no treatment, whether chemical or organic, to completely eradicate **Powdery Mildew** once it has infected your rose garden. The best you can try to do is to get the disease under control and then

protect new emerging leaves preventively before the **Powdery Mildew** spores can latch on to their surfaces.

- The use of Neem Oil has been effective in trying to control the disease. However, since it is oil-based, it may cause damage to your plants if sprayed during the hottest times of the day. Use care and apply on overcast days and/or morning-hours to keep damage to a minimum.
- It's important to note, like Black Spot, **Powdery Mildew** is much easier to "prevent" rather than to "cure" once it develops. Therefore, a regular spray maintenance program works best to prevent the initial onset of the disease. Use of Cultural Controls such as Baking Soda-based spray alternatives may also prove to be effective. Diligence is the key however, since this type of spray does not last as long as chemical sprays.

Sources:

www.ext.colostate.edu/pubs/garden/02902.html.)

www.govlink.org/hazwaste/house/yard/problems/chemical.cfm?entityID=114&modelID=631&grp=chemrem

Ortho - Complete Guide to Roses; 2004
The Scotts Company; Meredith Publishing Group; pg. 123.





Armchair Traveler: *The Pageant of Roses Garden in Rose Hills Memorial Park, Whittier, CA*

By Marsha Yokomichi
HRS Master Rosarian

The **Pageant of Roses Garden** situated at the entrance of Rose Hills Memorial Park in Whittier, CA is certainly a site to behold. The beautiful garden is fitting as a centerpiece and namesake for Rose Hills Memorial Park which is not only the largest cemetery in North America, it is also one of the most beautiful in the nation.

Here, roses are planted in mass and the result is just breath-taking. Multiple ideal vantage-points in the rose garden fill one's scope of vision with literally hundreds, if not thousands, of blooms in a wide range of colors on any given day.



A panoramic view of a portion of the Pageant of Roses Garden doesn't do it justice. All photos by Marsha Yokomichi, 10/30/21.

only one of the largest rose gardens that I have been to, it is one of the best kept that I've seen anywhere in the world. It is simply amazing!

The **Pageant of Roses Garden** is located at 3888 Workman Mill Road, Whittier, CA 90601 and it is open all year long from 8am until dusk. Free admission.

While you are there, drive up the hill past the rose garden to see a beautiful view of the San Gabriel valley. The 1,400 acre memorial park is also home to the largest Buddhist pagoda in the United States and lush Japanese gardens.



A bed full of *Sparkle & Shine* roses.



awards over the years. Most notable were the All-America Rose Selections *Public Rose Garden Achievement Award* recognizing it as the most outstanding public rose garden in the nation in 1984 and the World Federation of Rose Societies *Award of Garden Excellence* in 2006.



The **Pageant of Roses Garden** was established in April 1959. It has gone through several stages of development over the years and today the garden sits on 3.5 acres and is filled with approximately 7,000 bushes in over 600 varieties. Source: https://www.waymarking.com/waymarks/wm6K80_Rose_Hills_Pageant_of_Roses_Garden_Whittier_CA.

Our dear friend and loyal supporter, **Dr. Tommy Cairns**, former American Rose Society and World Federation of Rose Societies President, renown rose exhibitor, and rose-care expert serves as curator for the garden. The garden is the site of the prestigious *Rose Hills International Rose Trials*.

The garden has won numerous

It is definitely worth a visit if you're in the Los Angeles area. It is not

The HRS Rose Petals newsletter is published on a monthly basis. If you would like to submit an article and or photos, please email to:

myokomichi@hawaii.rr.com for possible inclusion in a future edition.

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