

## ROSES

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compost, but don't skimp on water.

## CARE

She says people will drive 10 miles to bring her a rose and ask what's wrong and what they should do.

"I tell them it's just a bug. The trouble is, they want perfection. You're in the bug's world - you get the rose, the bugs get food. You have to share with Mother Nature."

Pick explains the consequences of chemicals to those considering their use: They're toxic to you and to the environment; the more you use, the

more you need.

There are a lot of organic remedies, but if customers insist on chemical solutions, Pick makes them aware of the information on the side of the boxes, describing possible negative effects.

"Most people don't even know it's there," she said.

## RESTORING ROSES

The restoration of the Meadow Brook Hall rose garden, which once held 1,800 hybrid tea roses, is being overseen by Gerald Carney, an American Rose Society consulting rosarian.

In addition to consulting, Carney worked side by side with a troop of volunteers who have amended the soil and are

adding plants to the extensive garden.

Matilda Dodge Wilson, Meadow Brook Hall's original owner, could have 1,800 tea roses because she could afford a staff of gardeners to care for them," said Carney, a Clarkson resident.

"So far, we've put in 72 polyanthus and 30-40 shrub roses, of different varieties and colors. Eventually, we plan on having 400-500 roses in the garden. These roses are all grown on their own roots; they're hearty roses not requiring special winter care, and not a great deal of summer care."

(Strictly speaking, all roses are shrubs, but to a rosarian, "shrub" means roses that aren't climbers, ramblers, miniatures, nor cluster-flowered or hybrid teas. Polyanthus are cluster-flowered roses.)

"Luckily, the underground sprinkler system from Wilson's day still seems to have survived. It will no doubt require some work, but it was made with

copper pipe, so we're optimistic that it will prove functional once again."

## ROSY OUTLOOK

When Diane and Tom Schrifft bought their Birmingham house a few years ago, there were exactly two rose bushes, and they were in the backyard herb garden. Today, the Schriffts are the proud caretakers of 220 hybrid roses!

"It's a myth that roses are so much trouble," said Diane Schrifft, American Rose Society coordinator for the Great Lakes District Year of the Rose. "They're simply perennials, and you treat them like perennials: Put them in the ground in full sun, give them enough water, and they'll grow."

Most of the Schriffts' roses are in large, kidney-shaped beds, where each bush has its own identifying marker.

The plants are watered via an overhead sprinkler system



Winter Sunset is an example of a rose Griffith Buck of Iowa State University produced by crossing hybrid teas with heartier stock.

every morning during the growing season, and again around 1 p.m. on very warm days.

Tom, a Detroit Rose Society trustee, sprays every bush with a fungicide every two weeks, because, said Diane, "with so many bushes, if one gets a disease, they all get the same disease."

Recently, the Schriffts planted 27 coral ground cover roses called "Mystic," replacing sod on their front lawn. The majority of the 220 bushes are one of a kind, although there are some duplicates and triplicate of

roses intended for the twice-yearly shows in which Diane Schrifft participates.

The Schriffts get many of their roses from Canada. "We can buy roses there that we can't get in the United States: From Ireland, Germany, South Africa and other countries."

"You only have a problem with the United States Department of Agriculture if you bring in soil. We either bring back bare root plants, or we pre-arrange for the nurseryman to provide us a certificate of sterilization."

## YEAR

FROM PAGE C1

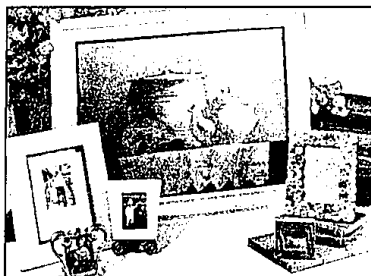
grow the rose, the world's favorite flower, on the occasion of the society's 110th anniversary.

"During the Year of the Rose, let the citizens of our Great Lakes State be involved in activities and events in celebration of the rose."

The rose has been honored before. For example, President Reagan signed legislation in

1986 to designate the rose as America's National Floral Emblem.

Rose organizations include:  
American Rose Society  
P.O. Box 30000  
Shreveport, LA 71130  
(318) 588-5402  
www.ARS.org  
Roses-West Rose Society  
call Pat at (248) 449-4626  
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## AD CORRECTION

To The Customers of  
**Lizut Heating and Cooling, Inc.:**  
In the publications of July 4th and July 11th, 2002, the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers published incorrect information regarding the length of the warranty included in the ad. The air conditioner special priced at \$1,595.00 includes a 2-year warranty on parts and labor. The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers apologizes for any confusion that this may have caused.

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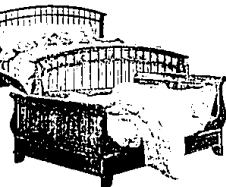
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