

VOILA!

THE 17TH WORLD ROSE CONVENTION

A NEW PRESIDENT

AND

A NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



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EDITORIAL

It is over two months since the close of the much looked forward to WFRS World Rose Convention in Lyon. Six hundred and fifteen delegates from thirty-two member countries gathered in Lyon, France for a very hectic few days of lectures, rose nursery and garden visits and a large variety of functions. It was the largest number of delegates at a World Convention since Osaka in 2006 when there were 850 delegates from 26 member countries. For those who were unable to attend, a number of attendees have kindly written about the various sections of the convention in the pages that follow for your enjoyment, and for those who were there it is a reminder of magnificent roses, delicious meals, the generous flow of wine and a wonderful opportunity to meet with rose friends from around the world.

In seeking contributors for this publication, I tried to choose delegates who haven't written for WRN before and from as many different countries as possible. I hope you enjoy the descriptions and the delightful and colourful pictures.

During the convention, thirteen WFRS meetings were held during which a number of new office bearers were appointed. In this issue we welcome a new President, new Executive Director and we have a new Publication's Chairman. Our new Publications' Chairman is Jolene Adams from the United States and she comes with years of experience in this field. We are fortunate to be able to harness all this technical knowledge in our amateur society. Read about them in the pages ahead and give them your support in the years ahead. Due to lack of space in this WRN, there will be information about the new Vice Presidents and Standing Committee Chairmen in the next issue of World Rose News. The next issue will also contain a précis of the minutes of WFRS meetings held in Lyon and the WFRS Award of Garden Excellence and Literary Award details.

Sheenagh Harris
Past President
and *World Rose News* Editor



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

July, 2015



**PRESIDENT
2015 - 2018**

The rose is the most popular flower in the world. It is therefore no surprise that thousands of individuals throughout the world adore roses and I am one of them.

It is also logical that those of us who grow, show, hybridise and use the flowers in floral arrangements should gather together in groups around the world to share information on our favourite flower. These groups, often called Rose Societies, also come together nationally and internationally to further their knowledge of this splendid flower.

The International body is called The World Federation of Rose Societies (WFRS) and it has been in existence since 1968. It currently has 39 member countries, numerous associate members and members of the Breeders' Club.

At our recent WFRS World Rose Convention held in Lyon, France, I was elected as President. I must congratulate those involved in the organisation of the Lyon Convention. In particular, I thank Maurice Jay, Alain Meilland and Gerald Meylan for their efforts and I know they were supported by great teams.

I also thank past President Steve Jones and retiring Executive Director Malcolm Watson for their outstanding contributions which were acknowledged by their peers deservedly awarding them WFRS Gold Medals. Their service will never be forgotten.

Being President is a privilege and great honour for a boy who enjoyed his youth in the small rural South Australian town of Renmark. My late parents, Eric and Myrtle Trimper, loved gardening and all plants, including roses. As Renmark was and still is the home of legendary WFRS President Emeritus David Ruston, it was not surprising that their interest in roses grew as did their very close friendship with David. My parents and David held a strong belief in sharing their knowledge of roses and other plants. They formed a local garden club in Renmark and joined other clubs specialising in particular plants, including Rose Societies.

At a young age I was able to understand the knowledge and considerable pleasure they gained through these clubs. They also made new friends who were to become trusted colleagues over the years. They travelled to Rose conventions and visited gardens all over the world. Above all else, they propagated, grew and exhibited flowers in shows throughout their lives.

Some of this passion was passed onto me, and eventually I left Renmark to study Botany and Zoology and work in the Education Department and, subsequently, as a Manager in Property Development. However, I always loved plants and I, too, enjoy growing all plants but particularly roses.

My wife Melanie and I have a garden of 2,200 roses and many other plants including fruit trees, vegetables, camellias, orchids and bulbs. I, like my parents, am involved in garden groups, including

The Rose Society of South Australia. I have also propagated, grown and exhibited roses, but I have gained the most enjoyment out of my friendships with rosarians locally, nationally and internationally. I have also had the honour of being President of The Rose Society of South Australia and The National Rose Society of Australia and have enjoyed these roles.

Time will tell whether I can be successful as President of the WFRS which is a daunting task. However, I have the pleasure of knowing past Presidents David Ruston, Ken Grapes, Ethel Freeman, Helga Brichet, Tommy Cairns, Gerald Meylan, Sheenagh Harris and Steve Jones. Their collective knowledge and experience is inspiring and whilst they have left huge shoes to fill, I am confident that with their support and that of the WFRS Vice Presidents, Executive Director, Treasurer and Committee Chairmen I will do my best to fulfil our objectives.

As I stated in my acceptance speech in Lyon, I would like to ask each rosarian around the world to consider what you could do to further our knowledge of the rose and spread the rose message to others across the world, especially those in our local communities. If you want to help or participate in the various activities of the WFRS, then please let us know.

I do hope I can visit you in your countries during my tenure as President. However, being from Australia the tyranny of distance and cost of travel may prevent me from visiting every member country. If I don't get to your country, then I hope I will see you at the Regional and Heritage Convention in Beijing in 2016 or Regional Conventions in either Uruguay (November 2016) or Slovenia (June 2017) or at the next World Rose Convention to celebrate our 50th Anniversary in Copenhagen, Denmark, in June 2018.

If you want to remain informed, I recommend that you read each edition of World Rose News and also regularly check the WFRS website which is constantly updated with new information concerning future events and roses from around the world.

In the meantime, I wish you all happy rose growing and enjoyment.

Kelvin Trimper (Australia)
WFRS President

KELVIN TRIMPER – WFRS PRESIDENT 2015 -2018

Kelvin Trimper was born and raised in Renmark, Australia (home of David Ruston) and is the son of the late Eric and Myrtle Trimper. He grew up in a rose loving family, for his parents were well known rosarians, both internationally and in Australia. Kelvin is a Past President of the Rose Society of South Australia Inc. (RSSA) and has been a member for 37 years. He was President of The National Rose Society of Australia (NRSA) in 2014 and WFRS Vice-President, Australasia from 2009 to 2015.

After completing a Science Degree at The University of Adelaide, majoring in Botany, Kelvin worked for the Education Department prior to joining Property Group Delfin in 1987 where his career as a Project Manager and Regional General Manager spanned 24 years.

In 2000, Kelvin served as Chairman of the Adelaide International Rose Garden Advisory Committee to help develop a significant city garden with over 7,000 roses at the Adelaide Botanical Gardens.

In the late 1990s Kelvin played a major role in establishing a partnership with Neutrog Fertilisers. He, together with a group of Rose Society Members was instrumental in the development of Sudden Impact for Roses. This partnership has subsequently resulted in a very generous sponsorship agreement which now provides funding for all five State Rose Societies and the National Rose Society of Australia Inc.

Kelvin has been a National Rose Trial Garden of Australia Inc. Board Member since its inception in 1995 and Chairman for the past 13 years. He was the recipient of The National Rose Trial Garden of Australia Service Award in 2005.

Kelvin was a Guest Speaker at the WFRS World Convention in Osaka, Japan in 2006 and at Regional Conventions - 1999 in Melbourne, Australia; 2004 in Auckland, New Zealand; 2008 in Adelaide, Australia; 2013 in Palmerston North, New Zealand; 2014 in Barcelona, Spain and in Lyon in 2015. Apart from the conventions mentioned above, he also attended the WFRS World Convention in Vancouver, Canada in 2009, WFRS Regional Convention in China in 2010; the International Heritage Rose Conference in Sakura, Japan in 2012 and the WFRS World Rose convention in South Africa in 2012.

Since 2009 Kelvin has been a very active and hardworking WFRS Vice President representing Australasia. Over the past six years Kelvin has promoted Australian attendance at all WFRS events and coordinated Australian Group Tours to WFRS Conventions held in Changzhou, China in 2010; Sandton, South Africa in 2012, Sangerhausen, Germany in 2013 and Lyon, France in 2015.

Over the years Kelvin has become one of Australia's leading guest speakers on the Rose and Rose culture. This includes a monthly radio session to promote a 'Rose of the Month'. He has also written many articles on rose culture, recommended roses and WFRS events for Rose Society publications, The Australian Rose Annual, World Rose News and gardening magazines. He also gives his time to demonstrate rose pruning at Rose Pruning Demonstrations each year and is one of this State's leading Rose Exhibitors.

At his residence in Salisbury Heights, Kelvin's garden (planted with approximately 2,000 roses) is recognized as one of the best privately owned rose gardens in Australia and has been open to the public on many occasions.

Over the past six years as WFRS Vice-President, Kelvin instigated and coordinated the visit of Past Presidents Sheenagh Harris, in 2010, and Steve Jones, in 2013, to travel around Australia and to be guest speakers promoting WFRS activities and Conventions at each of the five State Rose Societies' meetings.

Kelvin has been awarded the highest honours in Australia for service to the Rose, receiving Life Membership of the Rose Society of South Australia Inc. and the Australian Rose Award in 2012 and the T.A. Stewart Memorial Award in 2013.

Kelvin has a most supportive wife in Melanie and in both his grown up children, Kirsty and Adam. We wish him every success as he takes up his presidency and leads the WFRS during the next triennial leading to the 50th anniversary of our Federation.



Kelvin and Melanie Trimper – taken at the Closing Ceremony

MESSAGE FROM THE WFRS IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Steve Jones (USA)

It is with mixed feelings to see the 2015 Lyon World Rose Convention come and go. I went in as your President and left as Immediate Past President. My congratulations to the new President, Kelvin Trimper of Australia who will do a great job along with our new Executive Director, Derek Lawrence of England.

Much of the convention is covered throughout World Rose News, so I will not repeat it here, but rather concentrate on a few events that occurred during the week. The first is to thank all of the members of the Executive Committee who served almost three years with me and were invaluable in the running of our organization. We had excellent Standing Committee, Executive Committee and Member Council meetings in Lyon, the latter one of the quickest in history. It was great to visit with our friends from all over the world again, and to meet new friends. Our Friends of the Federation luncheon had 64 members attending including our first Patron of the Federation, Yves Piaget, as he is a true champion of the rose. It was the largest Friends event to date.

One of the fun events was my initiation into the Order des Compagnons du Beaujolais at Lacenas Cellars in Beaujolais outside of Villefranche-Sur-Saone, France. Also initiated were Katsuhiko Maebara, Gerald Meylan, Ludwig Taschner and Malcolm Watson, covering all points of the earth. The Ordre is made up of winemakers and producers to spread the word on Beaujolais wines. Most people know Beaujolais Nouveau, a young gamay more akin to grape juice. Beaujolais Cru is barrel aged and can range from fruity, spicy to very spicy. I did not find a Cru I did not like, and we tasted many of them and met several of the winemakers. Once we drank the offered wine, we took the oath which includes the motto Vuidons les Tonneaux! (Let's empty the barrels!). We were given a chapter membership and a tastevin with the Ordre's seal. For a wine geek like me, this was very special.

The opening of the wonderful art and rose displays for the Festival of Roses in the Parc de la Tete d'Or was amazing. The banners and artwork worked well with the roses which were in near full bloom. I participated in the raising of the WFRS flag in the park along with other dignitaries. I knew of the event, but had no idea how grandiose it would be. The City of Lyon should be proud.

On a more serious note, I participated in the dedication of the Drakkar rose from Meilland. The ceremony took place on Ile de Souvenir at the Parc de la Tete d'Or. This island contains a large statue honoring the French military who died in the wars. On 18 April, 1983 in Beirut, Lebanon, 58 French soldiers died from a truck bomb that rammed the Drakkar barracks just five minutes after another truck bomb killed 241 American soldiers. Several soldiers who survived the bombing were present, along with widows of the dead. There were top government officials, military, and a United Nations force in attendance. Representing the Americans, I picked up a Drakkar rose, marched around the fountain, placed it at the foot of the monument, stepped back, saluted, and returned. I must have done well as the General in charge gave me a wink when I walked by.

During our visit to St Galmier and Chamboeuf, we had four mayors present. The Mayors of St Galmier and Chamboeuf are Jean Yves Charbonnier and Andie Charbonnier who are brothers. We also had Hazuo Warabi, Mayor of Sakura who won a WFRS Award of Garden Excellence for their rose garden, and Tan Xuxiang, Mayor of Daxing, host of the 2016 Beijing Regional Convention in China.

The real highlight was awarding our outgoing Executive Director Malcolm Watson the WFRS Gold Medal. It took a lot of effort keep this a secret from Malcolm who is in charge of the medals. Thanks to his wife Ruth, we were able to surprise him in Lyon. Since the original request came from Lily de Gerlache, it was fitting that she present the award. She could not attend, but wrote a letter that her daughter Henrienne de Brie read. She wrote:

Dear Malcolm:

Since your nomination nine years ago in 2006 as Executive Director you have done incredible work. Thanks to your professional mindset, your pro-activity, great knowledge of the rules, and the spirit of our Federation, but also thanks to your

unfailing courtesy; in order to facilitate everyone's work in the spirit of teamwork and rose friendship, you contributed a lot to structure and improve the administrative work and bring up to date the rules of the World Federation

Therefore I wanted to warmly thank you, and I am really pleased that today the Gold Medal is awarded to you in recognition of all these years of work.

Congratulations Malcolm with all my kind rose regards.

Lily
(Lily de Gerlache de Gomery)

Thanks again for letting me serve as your President for the last three years; it has been my honour to serve you.

Sincerely:

Steve Jones
WFRS Immediate Past President



Drakkar ceremony in Lyon



'Drakkar'

NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Derek Lawrence

The Lyon Convention was a remarkable event, with the meeting of such diverse and interesting rosarians from all corners of the globe. The friendship was given generously, with a deep passion for the Queen of all flowers. The Parc de la Tete d'Or was looking glorious, with such wealth of bloom and intensity of colour. For me personally, those wonderful memories of the event will remain exceptional, due to the honour of becoming the new Executive Director of the World Federation of Rose Societies.

I have adored roses for many years, they are my greatest passion in life. It all began in 1976, when I was a seventeen year old apprentice gardener. One glorious summer's afternoon I was bowled-over by the magnificent sight of a large bed of vibrant yellow roses, that commanded my attention. As I stooped down to admire the blooms; my nostrils were overwhelmed by the deep, delectable fragrances. Shortly afterwards, I discovered the variety was



named, 'Arthur Bell', a floribunda raised by Sam McGredy in 1965. On reflection, I realise that I was attracted to the mass of flowers that floribunda roses produce in generous measures. In many ways, this species fired my desire to learn more about how the rose evolved so masterfully to create such captivation. From that moment, I fell in love with the rose and joined Britain's Royal National Rose Society, which inspired me further on my quest to learn more about this captivating flower.

Over the years, I have met some notable rosarians through the RNRS who have been eager in sharing their knowledge. The Society's showpiece gardens located at St. Albans in Hertfordshire is a truly inspirational place to visit for any rose lover. The RNRS will always have a special place in my heart.

In many ways, I have the 'Friends of the World Federation of Rose Societies' to thank for becoming involved with the WFRS. I became a Life Member in 2011, and this has become a new journey to come acquainted with the rose on global terms.

It is a privilege and honour to serve the WFRS. I am conscious of becoming the successor to Malcolm Watson, who has done such sterling work and is a consummate professional. I will endeavour to maintain the high standard that Malcolm and his dear wife, Ruth have installed.

I am looking forward to working alongside our New President, Kelvin Trimper.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank you for the immense warmth I've experienced in welcoming me to my new post. For those who have yet to meet me, I look forward to developing new friendships with a shared passion for the most endearing flower in the world - the rose.

Derek Lawrence
WFRS Executive Director

NEW CHAIRMAN FOR THE PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE

Jolene Adams



I have worked in publications for most of my life. I wrote and edited for my High School yearbooks. I also wrote and edited for various publications during my College years. Once my children were all in school for the largest part of each day I began working as the Coordinator for a word-processing centre owned by a large pharmaceutical company in the Western United States. I was responsible for the work flow through the centre and helped with the editing and proofreading of the regulatory papers, research reports and annual reports of the company.

My husband and I moved to the San Francisco Bay area of California in the early 1980's and I took a job as Supervisor for the word processing group in the College of Chemistry at the University of California, Berkeley. From there I went on to Supervising the Computer Operations in the Department of Chemistry and then on to Computing Services Coordinator for the College of Chemistry (comprised of the Departments of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering).

During the time I worked for UCB I wrote newsletters for the Staff and the Academics - usually on technical issues related to the computing environment. I also taught the basics of using several of the computer programmes that the Staff and Graduate Students used. While managing the Undergraduate Computer Labs, I also taught classes for the Staff and the Academics on Computer Safety (security) and the issues involved in integrating the various computer systems in use in the College (Apple, IBM, Amiga, Unix, CMS, VMS, Compaq, etc.).

After retiring I began working with the publications of the many local rose societies, garden clubs and horticulture groups in my state. I became the webmaster for the American Rose Society in 1995 when my work group developed and brought the ARS website on line. I relinquished that task in 2009 when I became Vice President of the American Rose Society. I also established websites for the District and Local Rose Societies and taught classes in graphic design, coding logic and basic html which covered most of what was needed by the part-timer webmasters of these smaller sites.

I have been the Editor of the 2013 American Rose Society Annual and helped several of my friends to self-publish their books. I also was the publisher of the *ARS & You* electronic newsletter from 2006-2012.

I welcome this chance to work with our Editor, Sheenagh Harris, our Webmistress, Ethel Freeman, Heritage newsletter editor Nimit Gilbert and our Social Media Manager, Paul Hains - along with the rest of the publications committee. Together we can bring you the best newsletters, websites, social media outreaches and a book to be presented in Copenhagen at the 18th World Federation of Rose Societies Convention!

Jolene Adams (USA)
Chairman, Publications Committee



THE 17TH WORLD ROSE CONVENTION LYON - FRANCE

PRE-CONVENTION TOURS

Provence - 25th – 26th May

Claudia Hacker – Germany – photos and text

Provence is a landscape in the South-East of France between the Rhone Valley and Italy. On our tour through the countryside we passed green lavender fields, wheat fields, also vineyards and olive trees. We learned that the little stony lodges are for storing the equipment as there can be a strong wind, called Mistral.

The first visit was the village of **Grignan**. This village owes its notability to the history of its magnificent Renaissance castle and the famous letters, which Madame de Sévigné wrote to her daughter Madame de Grignan in the 18th century. The modernisation of the village in the 19th and 20th centuries was parallel with its economic development. The botanical trail in the village includes 450 rose bushes, some of them quite rare and was created by the willingness of the Council and the action of an association. We found mainly climbing roses, climbing up the houses in the streets, its ramparts and also the walls of the castle which made a fairytale castle of it.



Grignan



Grignan (photo – Sheenagh Harris)

Then we visited the historical city **Avignon** with lots of churches, chapels and splendid medieval buildings. The most impressive is the gothic Palais des Papes with an area of 15,000 square metres - one of the largest medieval buildings in Europe, with its towers rising up to 50m high. Avignon is also called City of the Popes, because from 1309 until 1423 Avignon was the residence of popes.



Palais des Papes

All over the world the Saint Bénézet bridge, called Pont d'Avignon, is well known and all of us sang the famous song *Sur le pont d'Avignon*. Its ramparts are an outstanding monumental ensemble classified as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.



Pont d'Avignon

Our next visit was at **Simiane-la-Rotonde**, surrounded by the regional park reserve of the Luberon, the Plateau of Albion and the region of Forcalquier. At an altitude of 600m we found the Abbey of Valsaintes, built by the Cistercian monks before the French Revolution.



Jean-Yves Meignen

Jean-Yves Meignen, gardener of the Abbey of Valsaintes explained the philosophy of the garden. The creation of the ATHRE association in 1997 aimed at preserving the architectural heritage and the memory and biodiversity of a place which had witnessed so much history.

The garden of the Abbey of Valsaintes combines the symbol of the Rose, the mineral world and the men who work this soil with respect for life. The garden received the "Jardin Remarquable" designation in 2011. Historical remains are the celtic solar calendar which witnesses the presence of all these people, who left their mark on this exceptional place.



Abbey of Valsaintes garden

The last stop was the garden of **Dominique Croix** at Bourg Argental in the heart of Pays du Pilat regional park which lies in a mountain range between 1400 and 1432 meters altitude. Here the Mediterranean, continental and oceanic climates alternate and compete and give an incredible diversity of natural resources.

In the garden there is the remains of a Lebanese Cedar, which was planted in 1830, once 48m high and one of the most beautiful cedars in France. Unfortunately the tree was attacked by an aggressive wood eating mushroom so it had to be chopped down in 2011.



Dominique Croix with the stump of the Lebanese Cedar



Dominique and two helpers in Edwardian costume



'Sourire d'Orchid'

The Alps - 25th – 26th May

Peter Boyd – United Kingdom – photos and text

The Alps pre-convention tour was a two-day coach tour to the French Alps, including, principally, the areas around Annecy and Chamonix with an overnight stay at the latter. Although it was an interesting tour, it did not seem to have been planned with rosarians in mind and those who had hoped to see rose gardens or the habitats of early-flowering wild roses were disappointed.

The coach left the Centre of Congress in Lyon at about 7.15am but many participants in outlying hotels had been required to assemble near their hotels at 6.15am. An early start was said to be necessary to get out of Lyon before the city 'rush-hour'!

After an hour's driving, a brief 15 minute stop at a service station for refreshments and 'loos' was very welcome! Many members of the party had left their hotels too early to be able to get breakfast. Almost the only roses seen in flower on the tour were seen during the drive from Lyon to Annecy - wild roses (apparently *Rosa canina* agg.) and some *Rosa rugosa* planted by the motorway. However, even these were absent as the altitude of the road increased and snow-topped mountains became evident in the distance.



We arrived in **Annecy** at about 9.30am. Annecy (in France) is about 146km from Lyon and about 20km from Geneva (Switzerland). We parked by the Imperial Palace Hotel by the **Lac d'Annecy**.

The Imperial Palace Hotel at Annecy with the rose garden in the foreground

There was a comparatively recently planted garden of modern roses on the lake side of the hotel. The Superintendent of Parks in Annecy told us that roses for the rose garden and other plantings in Annecy were not ordered by name from nurseries. They were ordered on the basis of colour, height and disease-resistance to fit the particular colour schemes chosen for plantings that year! However, we were shown a plan of the planting scheme with photographs and names of the roses actually planted indicated on it. It had been a late spring, so roses were blooming late. A few individual rose bushes including the Meilland polyantha rose 'Louis Blériot' and the Climbing rose 'Grand Huit' had a few flowers but most of the roses were only in bud and many only in leaf. However, the sun was shining and it was warm during our visit.

We were then led through the **Parc Charles Bosson** and the general town park along the lake-side towards the quay and centre of Annecy. Unfortunately, the view of mountains was hazy and the so-called botanic garden now consists mainly of closely-cut grass with only some interesting conifers (e.g. *Sequoia* *Sequoiadendron giganteum*) and other trees surviving from the original nineteenth century plantings. The hope of rose species or old roses surviving for discovery by the party was not fulfilled.

The highlights of the long walk along the lake-side were not plants but various water-birds including Goosander (*Merganser merganser*), Great Crested Grebe (*Podiceps cristatus*) and Coots (*Fulica atra*).



However, 'the star' was a small terrier dog on a 5 metre long lead that apparently swam along the lake margin (about 5 metres from the shore) every morning – much to the irritation of the waterfowl!

The small dog on its daily swim in the lake

In the park close to the town, the 50th International Volleyball Tournament was taking place with what seemed to be dozens of volleyball games taking place at the same time. We crossed a footbridge over the canal which contributes to the Annecy's nick-name '**Venice of the Alps**', eventually reaching the **Quai Napoléon III** where the restaurant boat '**Libellule**' (meaning 'Dragonfly') was moored. We boarded the boat and took our seats in the restaurant for lunch. As we ate, the boat sailed the length of the main part of the lake but some of us felt the need to leave the table at intervals to view the lake and mountain views that we passed from the top deck. It was a tasty lunch but it can be rather frustrating to be expected to concentrate on eating while passing through dramatic scenery that you cannot see properly from the restaurant! Many will have missed a view of the romantic 'fairy-tale' castle, **Château de Menthon-Saint-Bernard**, dwarfed by the nearby mountain escarpment. I chose to sit on the top deck for the whole return trip.



The boat 'Libellule' moored at the Quay Napoléon III



The 'fairy-tale' castle, Château de Menthon-Saint-Bernard



After we returned to the quay, we explored part of the old and very picturesque **Annecy le Vieux**. The **Palais de l'Isle**, originated in the 13th century. An old Wisteria was trained up a nearby four-floor building and its balconies. Unfortunately, the flowers were still in bud. This venerable climber must be a spectacular sight in full bloom. We boarded the coach again in a car park (where some *Rosa rugosa* were flowering) near the quay.

The medieval Palais de l'Isle in Annecy le Vieux



A venerable Wisteria in Annecy le Vieux

We left Annecy at about 15.30 and took the road to Chamonix. As we approached Chamonix, we passed the spectacular **Glacier des Bossons**, arriving in the town just after 17.00, in light rain. Chamonix is about 224km from Lyon.

We stayed overnight at the **Mercure Hotel Chamonix**; a modern hotel but employing wood on the exterior (including balconies) and room interiors to give a quasi-chalet-like appearance. It was comfortable, the meals were good and every balcony had an interesting view. However, **Mont Blanc** and the other mountain peaks were shrouded in mist.

The next day **Mont Blanc** [4,810 m. (15,781 ft)] was still hidden by mist as we walked from the hotel to the nearby railway station (at 1042 metres) to take the mountain rack-and-pinion railway to **Montenvers** by the '**Mer de Glace**' glacier. The slow ascent up the mountain-side gave good views of the valley and the changing vegetation. It was snowing rather wet snow when we reached the end of the line at **Gare Montenvers** at 1913 metres (6276 feet). It stopped snowing quite quickly and the sky gradually brightened. However, mists constantly moved around the nearby mountain peaks – exposing them for a few seconds and then hiding them again.



The '**Mer de Glace**' is the longest French glacier (7km long and 200m thick in places). However, the name is misleading. The thickness of ice and length of the glacier has reduced greatly due to global warming. The "Sea of Ice" seen from Montenvers in the early 19th century is now a relatively thin layer of dirty ice from the base of the retreated glacier - patterned with stripes of moronic material and bare rock on the valley sides showing the original thickness of ice. The crevassed front of the glacier has retreated higher up the valley - out of sight of viewing points by the Montenvers railway terminus. However, it was very interesting as a

geomorphological feature and a striking example of the retreat of European glaciers over the last 200 years.

By comparison, the **Glacier des Bossons** visible from road level at Chamonix and the **Glacier d'Argentière** above Argentière still show the spectacular crevassed ice front of each glacier – particularly when viewed with binoculars or telephoto camera lens.

The '**Glaciorium**' building at Montenvers provided displays about the history of the Mer de Glace glacier – particularly its period as the major tourist attraction that it was in the 19th century before climate change led to the shrinking of the glaciers in Europe.

The '**Galerie des Cristaux**' exhibited large crystal masses (behind glass) in a system of tunnels near the railway terminus. Most of the specimens were forms of quartz including clear Rock Crystal and Amethyst that had been discovered in the local mountains.

Only a few alpine flowers were in bloom near the station, including a small *Primula* species (possibly *P. hirsuta*) with bright pink flowers but other plants such as *Alchemilla alpina* and various fern species were coming into active growth. No wild roses were evident in the vicinity but there were wide expanses of "Alpen Rose" (*Rhododendron ferrugineum*) that would flower about a month after our visit, in late June or early July.



Primula sp. (possibly *P. hirsuta*) flowering in a rock crevice at Montenvers

Montenvers would clearly be a good place from which to commence walks to explore the vegetation of the area – particularly a few weeks later than the date of our visit. The train journey down the mountain passed through the vegetation zones again with a miscellany of intriguing plants emerging or unfurling – including orchids and different fern species to those seen at higher altitude – but again no rose species apparent! The Glacier des Bossons with its crevassed ice front was visible during the descent.

The coach was waiting for us near the station in Chamonix. We travelled about 7km to the village of **Argentière** for lunch at **Le Bistrot du Dahu** - including tasty but fattening traditional charcuterie (sausage etc.) of the region.

The **Glacier d'Argentière** high above Argentière could be seen clearly as we left the restaurant. It still shows the spectacular crevassed ice front and the bare rock exposed in front of it as the glacier has retreated due to global warming.



The Glacier d'Argentière photographed with a telephoto lens from Argentière. The bare rock shows the original thickness and extent of the glacier

We started our return to Lyon via Chamonix. On the way, we diverted to the village of Vongnes in the historic Bugey Region where we visited **Le Caveau Bugiste**, watched a film about wine production in the area and visited the museum of tools and equipment used in the vineyards and wine making. The museum included an attractive collection of walking sticks carved with grapevines. A wine tasting in the cellars followed, after which some members of the group purchased bottles or cases of wine!



The museum and other buildings at Le Caveau Bugiste in Vongnes



Part of the collection of walking canes carved with grapevines in the museum

After a tiring day with an afternoon wine tasting, many people slept on the journey back to Lyon (about 116km).

The two-day tour included interesting tourism experiences but it would have been improved by shorter visits to some of the locations (particularly on the first day) and, considering the interests of the rosarian participants, enriched by the inclusion of one or two visits to mature rose gardens or the habitats of early-flowering wild roses!

The Alps - 25th – 26th May

Dianne Herbert – Australia – text. Gisela A Solari - Chile - photos

This tour can best be described as “50 shades of green – and not a rose to be seen” – well not quite, but nearly. A pick-up time of 06.30 at the Best Western and then a circuitous route to the Congress wasn't a bright start, but then we were off driving along the promenade alongside the Rhone on a glorious sunny morning, admiring the beautiful wrought-iron balconies of the apartments.



Interesting balconies seen from the bus along the way

The first stop was a garden of modern roses behind a lovely old 1920's hotel at Annecy the "Venice of the Alps." Situated beside the lake, the garden was below the water table so there was a constant watch on the water level in the lake to ensure that the rose roots were not flooded. M. Ferlin, Director of Parks & Gardens, luxuriated in a budget of €7,500p.a. AND 90 workers! The village plants are replaced each year with a central colour scheme, pink this year. The rose garden consisted of several 4 metre squares each containing approx. 60 modern bushes (unfortunately mainly not in bloom). The roses were supplied by companies with the criteria of 1 metre high, remontant and disease resistant. There is no spraying AT ALL either of the roses or in the village – if a plant looks sick – it goes to heaven. They have their own conservatories for a constant supply of annuals.



Walking around Annecy, nicknamed "Venice of the Alps"

We walked through the Botanic Garden which consisted of various rooms – Japanese, Renaissance, and Jurassic Park etc. toward the boat "Dragon Fly" where lunch was served whilst cruising around the lake.



The Medieval Garden with its traditional willow walls

Back on the bus to Chamonix in Haute-Savoie where there was time to saunter and admire this "belle époque" village with its "art deco" facades before dinner at the hotel. The next morning, waking up and looking from the bedroom through the window to the snow covered mountains was "food for the soul"; whereas we had been getting "food for the body" in abundance at every possible meal time.

Today was the day of Mont Blanc and *La Mer de Glace*, the biggest French glacier - 7k long and 200m wide – but definitely showing signs of retreat compared to the 1930's photographs. Onto the train and up we went - the "50 shades of green" of the forest was awe inspiring – every mountain pine I could remember – huge deodars, majestic even in death, lying prone, up-rooted after the recent fierce storms, their limbs lying dismembered and scattered on the slopes. One could almost hear the sounds of Peer Gynt "*The Hall of the Mountain Kings*" insidiously creeping through the floorboards of the train carriage.



The railway station at Monteverve where some hot coffee was welcome

The glacier is reached by the rack railway of Monteverve, a veritable wonder of engineering, and as we arrived there was a light fall of snow - how is that for someone who "loves a sunburnt country"? Then the sun came out - we walked around the glacier, into the crystal cave, looked through the museum showing early explorers and the workers building the railway and watched a short film. Back onto the bus – and the drive back down the mountain was not for the faint-hearted.



Beautiful views of The Alps

On to the Caveau Bugiste for wine-tasting with more food, and whilst the historic collection of stone tools, cork screws and liqueur glasses was riveting – and yes, there were some roses in bloom – the grandeur of those giant trees would have to be the ever-lasting memory of this Pre-Convention Tour.



**Anxious for flowers –
geraniums at the Caveau Bugiste**

Thanks must go to our Guide, Emmanuelle and Driver, Christian for our safe-keeping and arranging such great weather.

Roseraie Parc Charles Basson – Annecy – 25th May.

Susan Wade – Australia – photos and text

The Roseraie Parc Basson was named for Charles Basson (1903-2001) who was a French politician and Mayor of Annecy. Annecy is a picturesque city 160 km NE of Lyon. Roseraie Parc Charles Bosson is behind the Hotel Imperial Palace which was built in 1913. This grand belle epoque casino and conference hotel overlooks Lac d'Annecy. There were very few roses in bloom due to Annecy's cooler climate. Here roses commence their spring flush a few weeks later in comparison to Lyon. 'Louis Blériot' bred by Michèle Meilland Richardier, (France), one of the few roses in bloom, was named after the French aviator, inventor and engineer - Louis Blériot (1872-1936).



Hotel Imperial Palace



Note the chunks of limestone in the rose garden beds - the soil is quite alkaline



'Louis Blériot' AEN 'Lavender Meidiland' (2009)

WFRS WORLD ROSE CONVENTION IN LYON - FRANCE

27th – 28th May

OPENING CEREMONY

Photos Melanie Trimper (Australia), Yuki Mikanagi (Japan), Susan Wade (Australia), Matthias Meilland (France), Dale Akerstrom (Canada) and Sheenagh Harris (South Africa)

The Opening Ceremony took place on Wednesday 27 May in the Centre de Congres at 15.30. Malcolm Watson on behalf of the WFRS welcomed the delegates to the 17th World Rose Convention in Lyon.



Malcolm Watson

In the absence of the Presidents Emeritus, Malcolm Watson read letters from our founding President, Baroness Lily de Gerlache de Gomery and David Ruston –

Dear Friends,

I am sure you will enjoy this 17th Convention. France is a wonderful country with so many great breeders and rose friends. I would like to thank those who were so much involved to make this convention possible in France and specially to the French Rose Society of course. You can imagine that I would have been so happy to be with you in Lyon, but be sure that all my thoughts are with you over these coming days.

I take this opportunity also to give you my best encouragement for the preparation of the 2018 Denmark Convention where I am sure you will joyfully celebrate the 50th anniversary of our Federation.

Last but not least, congratulations and many, many thanks to all of you for your commitment within the World Federation.

I give you all my kind regards,

Lily

And David Ruston –

Dear Rose Friends,

I am very disappointed not to be with you celebrating the rose in Lyon, but the tyranny of advancing years and long distance has caught up on me. The French Rose Society, the Heritage Rose Society of France and the Horticultural Society of Lyon, in collaboration with the City of Lyon have worked so very hard these past few years to ensure that you have a wonderful time together.

As you deliberate at the meetings, view the beautiful City of Lyon and surrounding countryside, and socialise at the various functions, I hope you will make the most of what has been planned. Enjoy the roses and the renewing of friendships during the Convention.

With my best wishes,

David

President Steve Jones welcomed those present –

“Ladies and Gentlemen,

Susie and I are delighted to be back in Lyon for this 17th World Rose Convention. I am very pleased to welcome Past Presidents, Members of the Executive Committee, Standing Committees, representatives of Member Countries, Members of the Breeders' Club and Members of the French Rose Society – our host for this convention.

The City is renowned for its long association with the rose, dating back many years to the introduction of the first Hybrid Tea “La France”. Its rose breeding families of Pernet-Ducher, Guillot, Laperrière and Meilland have contributed much to the world rose family. Through their ingenuity they have bred and released many new and exciting cultivars that have captivated the rose world.

When France was awarded the 2015 World Rose Convention during the Vancouver Convention in 2009 it was anticipated that a large number of rose lovers would attend. This expectation has been realised with in excess of 600 registrants. I am extremely pleased with this result.

We anticipate that the Meetings of the Federation will enable Member Country representatives to express their views and following robust debate, agree to an outcome that will support the further promotion of the rose and the aims of the Federation. The tours and social events included in the programme provide us with the opportunity to sample something of the City and the region. The lecture programme co-ordinator has assembled an impressive array of speakers, who should provide stimulating awareness of their particular area of expertise. We look forward to their lectures.

I would like to particularly thank the organising committee and everyone else that has been involved in the planning of this event – it has been a monumental task. The involvement of the City of Lyon is appreciated as they showcase their City and in particular the Rose Garden at Parc de la Tête d'Or. This magnificent rose garden, that contains over 35000 rose plants, received the Federation's Garden of Excellence Award during the World Convention in Japan during 2006. We look forward to visiting the garden again, as we participate in the International Rose Trials on Friday morning.

We congratulate the City on staging a two day Festival of Roses to coincide with this World Rose Convention. It is hoped that this event will enable your local residents to discover more about the rose - the history of the past and the promise of the future, gardening techniques, fashion and perfume. The dressing of some buildings has been innovative and impressive. Your decision to create other events in the Museums and Libraries, and the involvement of numerous volunteers is also highly commended.

We look forward to the next six exciting days, experiencing what the City of Lyon has to offer. Share your passion for the Rose in the World Capital of the Rose. Thank you. “

Convention Convenor, Maurice Jay welcomed the delegates and this was followed with a speech by the Mayor of Lyon.

Malcolm Watson as MC for the function explained the mechanism of the Friends of the Federation -

"During 2010 the Federation commenced a fund raising initiative, one whereby individuals could contribute financially, to assist the implementation of the Federation's aims.

Since its commencement, almost 80 rosarians from around the globe have become involved with our Friends of the Federation scheme. Depending on the size of the donation, two categories were used to acknowledge the donors - Friends and Friends for Life. Recently, the Executive Committee decided to add a new category, so that we could acknowledge donations of a more substantial nature – those in excess of ten thousand pounds.

This new classification has been titled – Patron of the Federation, and I am extremely pleased to announce its first inductee is Mr Yves Piaget of Monaco. Yves Piaget has been an enthusiastic rose lover since 1977. He has participated in the development of the International Rose Trials in Geneva and the establishment of the trials in Monaco and also the Rose Society of Monaco.

Mr Piaget has generously gifted a superb piece of jewellery, crafted in the workshops of Maison Piaget, to the International Rose Trials in Geneva and also Monaco. He has participated in many rose trials around the globe including, France, Spain, Italy, Argentina, Switzerland and Monaco.

Appreciating the mission and work of the WFRS, he has contributed financially to the restoration of three important rose gardens –

1. Empress Josephine's Rose Garden at Malmaison
2. The Princess Grace Rose Garden in Monaco,
3. Funding the replacement of old roses in the Geneva Botanical Garden.

He has shown great interest in research and development, and has generously donated twenty thousand pounds to the World Federation, in order that scientific research can be developed in the field of roses. "

Steve Jones then made a presentation to Yves G. Piaget, Chairman of Piaget, SA for his generous contribution to the WFRS and Mr. Piaget responded in both English and French.



Steve Jones inducts Yves Piaget as Patron of the Federation

WFRS HONOURS MEDALS PRESENTED BY THE PRESIDENT DURING THE OPENING CEREMONY

WFRS SILVER MEDAL

in recognition of outstanding service to the Federation



Peter Elliott from New Zealand



Takamasa Tsuge from Japan

WFRS WORLD ROSE AWARD

in recognition of dedicated service to The Rose by officers of
The Federation and in particular officers of our National Member Societies



Lois Fowkes from the USA



Doug Grant from New Zealand

HONOURS MEDALS WERE ANNOUNCED DURING THE OPENING CEREMONY in the absence of the recipients

SILVER - Ann Bird (UK),

WORLD ROSE AWARD - Sally Allison (NZ) and Ian Spriggs (Australia)



WFRS Commemorative Medals were presented to Ahmed Alam Khan (Silver) and Vijay Kant (Bronze) for the work involved in convening the WFRS Regional Rose Convention in Hyderabad – Rose Eternal in December 2014, on behalf of the Indian Rose Society.



Monique de Clarens, Chairman of the Awards Committee had the honour of announcing the exciting news that 'Cocktail' (MEImick) was voted the World's Favourite Rose for the 2015 WFRS Hall of Fame. Congratulations to the House of Meilland for their 5th rose to enter The Hall of Fame, the others being 'Peace' (1976), 'Papa Meilland' (1988), 'Bonica '82' (2003) and 'Pierre de Ronsard' (2006). She then announced 'Charles de Mills' was voted the world's favourite for the Old Rose Hall of Fame.



Painting of 'Cocktail'



'Cocktail' (MEImick)



'Charles de Mills' (1790)

**A FASHION PARADE DURING THE OPENING CEREMONY FEATURED DRESSES
BASED ON A ROSE THEME DESIGNED BY 58 STUDENTS AT THE ESMOD SCHOOL
IN LYON**

All photos Melanie Trimper (Aus.) (except where otherwise stated)



(photo - Yuki Mikanagi - Japan)



Maurice Jay invited the Lyon Rosieristes to come on stage.



Philippe and Richard Laperrière - Roseaie Laperrière, Franck and Régis Reuter - Roseaie Reuter, Pierre Orard - Roseaie Orard, François Felix - Roseaie Felix, Olivier Mathis - Roseaie Guillot, Matthias Meilland - Roseaie Meilland, Dominique Croix et Jacques Ranchon - Roseaie Croix, Fabien Ducher - Roseaie Ducher, Françoise Dorieux - Roseaie Dorieux



Helga Brichtet from Italy, Kelvin Trimper from Australia and Sheenagh Harris from South Africa meet at the Opening Ceremony in Lyon



Steve Jones from USA, Angelika Throll from Germany and Kelvin Trimper from Australia prior to the Opening Ceremony in Lyon



A display of roses at the entrance to the Centre de Congres

**UNVEILING (CUTTING THE RIBBON) OF THE EXHIBITION *LA ROSE AND LE VENT*
(*THE ROSE AND THE WIND*) AS PART OF THE CITY OF LYON'S ROSE FESTIVAL
AT THE ENTRANCE TO THE PARC DE LA TETE D'OR**
(all photos except where otherwise stated – Susan Wade – Australia)



Sheenagh Harris cuts the ribbon to open the Art Exhibition
(photo Dale Akerstrom – Canada)



(photo – Dale Akerstrom – Canada)



Beautifully arranged roses at the entrance to the Finger Buffet
function, which took place on the evening of Wednesday 27th May.
Original foods and wines from the Rhone-Alpes region were served.

INTERNATIONAL ROSE TRIALS - LYON 2015

Markus Brunsing – Germany - text and photos



The Rose Trial Garden - Parc de la Tête d'Or

In 2015 the 85th International Rose Trials in Lyon was part of the programme of the World Rose Convention. Over the whole morning of Friday, May 29th the judges were carried in groups by a small train to the rose novelty garden which is located at the southern side of the big lake in the wonderful Parc de la Tête d'Or. The Rose Novelty Garden in Lyon presents a good display of successful roses from former trials in an architectural garden which is based on a semi-circle structure with wonderful columns and climbers.

The conditions were perfect for trials. Nearly all the new roses were in bloom and in very good condition; the weather was fine and the atmosphere relaxed. The jury had to judge 101 rose novelties which were sent to the trials by 29 breeders from 10 different countries.

The judging was done by 100 convention members and 25 rose experts who have been members of the jury in Lyon for many years. Altogether 125 rose lovers and rose experts did the judging in 19 groups which was really exceptional. Thanks to the very good organization by Monique Laperrière and her team. Unfortunately the new WFRS Standard Criteria for rose judging was not used in Lyon this year. Hopefully the organizers of the Lyon trials will join the group of the 13 International rose trials where the judging is done by using the new standard scorecard.



Monique Laperrière - organiser of the Rose Trials



International Jury at Parc de la Tête d'Or



Marta Blanco, Rosario Algorta de Carrau (Uruguay) -, Henrianne de Briey (Belgium)



Doug Grant (NZ) Sheenagh Harris, (South Africa) -, Jack Fitzgerald (USA) and Peter Elliott (NZ)



Frans Thomas (Belgium), Angelika Throll (Germany), Diane Steps (USA), Lukasz Rojewski, - .

In Lyon the judging is done by a permanent jury which consists of 25 members and an International jury. The results of both juries are not added together but used for different award groups.

Four special prizes were awarded which were based on the judging of the international jury:



**No. 126
Prix "Armand Zinsch – Prestige de la
Rose" - for the best Hybrid Tea Rose
Chateau Barbeyrolles® Lapbar
Breeder: Laperrière, France**



No. 140
"La Palme du Rosier á Massif" - for the best Floribunda
Prague ® Castle ® Poulcas 043
Breeder: Poulsen, Denmark



No. 523
"La Palme du Rosier Paysager" – for the best shrub or
grandcover rose
Y 1247
Breeder: Lens, Belgium

Some other outstanding rose novelties were awarded a medal by the members of the permanent jury and have to be mentioned:



No. 107
First Prize Hybrid Tea
ADAloriat
Breeder: Michel Adam, France



No. 166
First Prize Floribunda
CHEWbulseye
Breeder: Chris Warner, England



No. 154
First Prize Floribunda
MR 107
Breeder: Michèle Richardier, France

International Lyon Rose Trials Prize Giving

Sheenagh Harris – South Africa – text and photos

After judging the roses in the morning at the trials so ably organised by Monique Laperrière, the official results and Prize Giving function was held at the Hotel de Ville in the evening.



Markus Brunsing (Germany) and Merv Trimper (Australia) waiting for the doors of the Hotel de Ville to open!



Hotel de Ville



The regal interior of the Hotel de Ville



Wendy Trimper (Aus), Mireille Stiel (Luxembourg) and Beatrice Halter (Switzerland)



An interesting and innovative rose arrangement exhibition was enjoyed by the delegates

CONVENTION LECTURES

HISTORY OF THE ROSE IN LYON

Jolene Adams – USA

Friday 29th May - Moderators – Helga Brichet and Henrienne de Briey

FROM ROMANS TO ROSES – SOME REFLECTIONS DURING A WALK ROUND THE CITY OFF THE BEATEN TRACK – GERALD BETTRIDGE - England and France



Gerald Bettridge took us on a visual (slides) walk around the old city to illustrate his presentation of The History of the Rose in Lyon. From 2000 years ago the city was explored and roses were found everywhere. From the ancient Roman fortifications at Fourvière, high on a hill overlooking the modern city, down through the many winding streets to the old town with its passages going through buildings (traboules) to allow people to pass from one street to the next, exploring the small and charming courtyards of the old town, and on through the cemetery of Loyasse, to the banks of the Rhône and on to the Parc de la Tête d'Or. The emphasis here was that Lyon has always been known for roses, for the rose breeders and the rose industry.

IS LYON A FINE CANDIDATE FOR THE TITLE OF WORLD CAPITAL CITY OF ROSES? – STÉPHEN CROZAT - France



Stéphane Crozat presented photos showing that Lyon had been a major centre for the breeding of roses during the 19th Century. The fever of activity during those times provided the beginning of many of the major rose hybridizing families of which we are so familiar. Lyon's rose breeding families provided over 60% of all new roses during this time.

CLAUDE DUCHER, JOSEPH PERNET-DUCHER, TWO EMBLEMATIC ROSE BREEDERS – FABIEN DUCHER AND ETIENNE BOURET - France



Etienne Bouret in his lecture established that Lyon was the capital of roses at the end of the 19th Century. Claude Ducher organised the first exhibition of roses in Lyon and then went on to establish his famous nursery in Lyon. From here he introduced famous and influential varieties such as 'Rêve d'Or', 'Mlle Cécile Brunner' and 'Gloire de Ducher'. His son-in-law, Joseph Pernet Ducher then began creating the first yellow and orange-coloured roses.

TWO CENTURIES OF ROSES: THE GUILLOT CREATIONS – JEAN-PIERRE GUILLOT - France



Jean-Pierre Guillot presented the history of the Guillot family in Lyon from 1829 to the present. Jean Baptiste Guillot (Father) developed the technique of budding on to wild rose rootstock. Jean Baptiste Guillot (Son) crossed seedlings grown from seeds from Japan with his own roses and created the first Polyantha, 'Paquerette'.

MALLERIN THE PRINCE OF COLOUR - ROBERT LAPERRIÈRE AND GRANDDAUGHTER MARION LAPERRIÈRE – France



Marion Laperrière presented the story of Charles Mallerin who was a rose breeder near Grenoble. His roses were very colourful and his creations influenced many other breeders in Lyon. In 1929 his rose, 'Mme Pierre S. du Pont' won the Gold Medal at Bagatelle Rose Trials. He left his occupation as an Engineer and began hybridizing in earnest, concentrating his efforts on form and colour. He had a great influence on the other rose breeders, launching the careers of several of his pupils, including Maurice Combe and François Dorieux. At one time, Charles Mallerin served as the Vice President of the French Rose Soc..

AN OVERVIEW ON THE CURRENT LYONNAISE ROSE-BREEDERS – PIERRE ORARD - France



Pierre Orard spoke of the top rose breeders from Lyon. He also related the criteria used in selecting a seedling to propagate further. He presented photos of the work being done by Croix, Dorieux, Ducher, Félix, Gaujard, Guillot, Laperrière, Meilland, Orard, Reuter, Heirs – and mentioned some of their innovations and continuing explorations in the art of breeding roses.

ROSE GARDENS

Helga Brichet – Italy

Saturday 30th May - Moderators – Rosario Algorta de Carrau and Sheenagh Harris

REMARKABLE ROSE GARDENS IN AUSTRALIA – KELVIN TRIMPER - Australia



The first speaker on the second day of lectures was the, soon to be, WFRS President, Kelvin Trimper, who took the audience on a tour of some of the best and most beautiful rose gardens in his country, Australia. Although not native to the country, roses have been brought to that large land ever since the first settlers started arriving over 200 years ago. Kelvin delighted those present with photographs of rose gardens, both private and public, some formal and others modern, a few planted exclusively with roses and again others featuring companion plants, in each of Australia's states.

ROSE GARDENS IN GERMANY – HANS-PETER MÜHLBACH - Germany



Hans Peter Mühlbach has recently been elected president of the German Rose Society and is thus well-placed to guide the audience through a number of the rose gardens of his country. Of the 135 rose gardens to choose from, he selected those with important collections or with historical and interesting architectural design. First and foremost amongst these is, of course the Europa-Rosarium Sangerhausen, which hosted the WFRS International Heritage Roses Conference in 2013. This was followed by the gardens in Mainau, Baden-Baden, Zweibrücken, Dortmund and Uetersen. The lecture was enthusiastically received by many who are now eager to discover these beautiful grounds for themselves.

A ROSE GARDEN IN HAUTE PROVENCE – JEAN-YVES MEIGNEN - France



In 1996 a group of young friends, including Jean-Yves Meignen, decided to buy and restore the abandoned abbey Valsaintes in Haute Provence and transform its surrounding dry stone terraces into a garden. This was not an easy task at an altitude of 600 metres with hot, dry summers and freezing winters. Over the years much was learnt of methods of cultivation and plants adapted to the area, particularly the so-called wild plants. Slowly some 500 varieties of roses were included and a small nursery reproduces the plants present in the garden. This was a fascinating lecture which conveyed the passion of amateur gardening.

THE HERITAGE ROSE DISTRICT OF NEW YORK CITY – STEPHEN SCANNIELLO - USA



Stephen Scianniello is president of the Heritage Rose Foundation, which inaugurated the above-mentioned rose district in 2009. Since then more than 1500 Heritage roses, all pre-dating 1920, have been planted in the Harlem community gardens, parks, universities, church yards and historical sites. All the roses were donated by private citizens or public institutions. These varieties are today to be found in over 32 locations in the area. Annually the Heritage Rose Foundation sponsors workshops instructing children on pruning, planting and propagation of roses for their area of the city.

THE IMPACT OF PLANT COLLECTIONS ON URBAN DEVELOPMENT – LAURE GUILLEMETTE France



The city of Nantes has long been historically connected with botany, and principally as the port of importation of “exotics” from around the globe. Its citizens are justly proud of its horticultural reputation, particularly its national collection of magnolias, its rose garden in the Parc Floral de la Beaujoire as well as the innumerable public gardens and squares throughout the City. Laure Guillemette illustrated the challenges which confront the public administration of a large city today in which cultural, educational and social events in public gardens, aided by increased tourist influx, are ever-more in demand.

THE EARTH-KIND ROSE RESEARCH AND OUTREACH PROGRAMME: AN INTERNATIONAL MODEL FOR THE IDENTIFICATION AND PROMOTION OF REGIONALLY-ADAPTED LANDSCAPE ROSES – DAVID ZLESAC, MARIA EVA GIORGIONI, ALLISON WATKINS - USA.



The above international research team has conducted earth-kind regional rose trials under low input conditions in order to be able to certify to the public that specific rose varieties, which have been tested, can be successfully grown with only basic plant care. The plants in question are evaluated on a monthly basis for a period of three to four years on a ten point horticultural scale and the final results are published in scientific literature in order to promote genetically superior varieties not only to the general public, but also professional nurserymen, landscapers and rose breeders.

ROSES AND IMAGES: A TOOL FOR IMAGE-BASED ROSE RECOGNITION – MIHAELA SCUTURICI - France



Mihaela Scuturici presented the absorbing research work within the “rosam project” currently being conducted at the Université Lumière Lyon 2, which explores the advantages of rose identification via images connected to a computer. The images are segmented, features of colour, texture and shape are extracted, classified and labeled. This process could be useful in the context of rose variety protection, but also in comparing new varieties to older ones as well as helping to identify unknown rose varieties.

ROSE RESEARCH IN FRANCE Hans-Peter Mühlbach – Germany

Sunday 31st May - Moderators – Hans-Peter Mühlbach, David Ziesak and Pascal Heitzler

The lectures presented on Sunday morning, 31st of May, were certainly one of the many highlights of this exceptional Rose Convention. Researchers of high renown in the field of rose research gave us a clear and deep insight into their highly sophisticated approaches in order to unravel the enigmatic genetics of roses. All lecturers explained their studies in such a brilliant way that even allowed those participants in the audience, who were neither familiar with the details of molecular genetics nor with the appropriate techniques used in modern science to be highly fascinated.

GENETIC MODEL AND PATRIMONIAL REDUNDANCY – PASCAL HEITZLER - France



As an introductory lecture, Pascal Heitzler, researcher of the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS) in France, gave a brief *Overview - Rose Research in France*, in which he underlined the importance of rose research in the country. He introduced the speakers and mentioned that in 2016 the complete sequence of the rose genome is expected.

In his following lecture, Pascal Heitzler explained his approach to build up a genetic model for rose research, which will allow a closer view on the complex organisation of rose genes. *Rosa arvensis*, widely distributed in Europe, was used as a model plant. It is a wild rose species with a diploid genome, having two sets of chromosomes, one from the “mother” carrying the hips and one from the “father” which provides the pollen. Diploid species are more suitable for understanding genetics in roses, while the polyploid genomes of many roses hinder genetic analyses. By collecting naturally occurring mutants of *Rosa arvensis* and using them for genetic analyses, he was able to identify more than 80 distinct traits such as growing habitat and size, flower colour and shape, leaf colour and shape, variations of fragrance, and many more. This work will provide an index list of genes useful for both breeders and scientists.

ROSE GENOMICS AND PERSPECTIVES – MOHAMMED BENDAHDANE – France



The next lecture was delivered by Mohammed Bendahmane, group leader of the laboratory labelled ‘Morphogénèse florale’ in the CNRS Institute of Plant Reproduction and Development in Lyon. In his very impressive lecture on “*Rose genomics and perspectives*” he mentioned first the high commercial value of roses, based on floral quality, plant architecture and disease resistance. However, the genetic basis of these important traits is far from being understood. His group was able to develop several helpful tools for the genetic investigation of roses, including the genetic transformation of a diploid *Rosa chinensis* (‘Old Blush’) and the establishment of a transcriptomic database. Such databases represent the sequences of all transcribed genes and allow the annotation of unknown gene sequences by comparison with genes from other Rosaceae species such as *Fragaria vesca* or *Prunus persica* and even with the completely sequenced genome of the model plant *Arabidopsis thaliana*. He also made the audience familiar with the great advances in analysing genes

by techniques of 'Next Generation Sequencing', which together with the rapid development of bioinformatics tools allows the analysis of complete genomes within a much shorter time than before. He said that decoding the rose genome can help discover novel biological processes and pathways that generate important traits of ornamental horticulture and also of agronomic, biomedical and pharmaceutical purposes. These studies will also help to understand rose domestication and will generate molecular DNA markers that allow the development of specific breeding programmes by screening for individual seedlings with strong probability to have a desired trait, such as specific scent character, flower form, recurrent flowering or disease resistance.

MECHANISMS OF POLYPLOIDIZATION – BENJAMIN GOVETTO, MANUEL LE BRIS - France



This lecture by Benjamin Govetto and Manuel Le Bris was presented by Benjamin Govetto from the University of Aix-Marseille. He took the audience deep into the secrets of fertilization and chromosome mechanics in the genus *Rosa*. Rose has an especially high rate of polyploidy species with a wide diversity of ploidy levels. He explained how the basic number of $n = 7$ chromosomes of the haploid genome of rose can be multiplied to the somatic diploid $2n = 14$ chromosomes and up to the decaploid status of $10n = 70$ chromosomes in each single cell of *Rosa praelucens*. He also stressed the fact that among 30,000 – 35,000 varieties of modern roses only a dozen of the 200 wild rose species have participated in the rose domestication process. Aiming to broaden this relatively narrow genetic background, breeders often encounter difficulties due to differences in ploidy levels between rose cultivars (mostly tetraploid, 28 chromosomes) and wild species (often diploid, 14 chromosomes). Such crosses frequently lead to a triploid (21 chromosomes) offspring, which is sterile or with a very low fertility. In order to overcome these difficulties in rose breeding, the use of 'diplogametes' with unreduced $2n$ (somatic) chromosome numbers would be a promising tool. The team around Benjamin Govetto could find that production of $2n$ pollen grains was induced by a short exposure of the flower bud to elevated temperatures from 30°C up to 36°C. The talk was illustrated with brilliant microscopic pictures and clear graphics explaining the complex cytological processes in gamete production and fertilization.

EXPLORING FLOWER SHAPE AND ARCHITECTURE – ANNICK DUBOIS - France



Annick Dubois from the group of Mohammed Bendahmane had studied the development of floral meristems in roses using various microscopic techniques such as cross-sections, scanning electron microscopy and confocal microscopy. These techniques allow for following the very first steps of development in rose flowers. Since the physiological regulators involved in flower development were identified in *Arabidopsis thaliana*, molecular studies on the quantification of the level of expression of homologous genes in the various stages of floral development of roses became possible. These techniques then allowed comparison gene expression between single and double flower roses of different origins. By comparing gene expression between 'Souvenir de la Malmaison' (110 petals) and its bud sport 'Souvenir de Saint Anne's' (10 petals), it was found that expression of the floral regulator gene AGAMOUS domain was shifted towards the centre of the flower. It is thought that AGAMOUS is involved in setting up the identity of sexual organs (stamens and carpels). The shift of AGAMOUS expression towards the centre of the flower might be interpreted by triggering the transformation of stamens into petals. This was found in many double flowers of either old European or Asian cultivars, which indicates that these cultivars were probably selected independently.

DECIPHERING RECURRENT BLOOMING – FABRICE FOUCHER – France



Fabrice Foucher told us the highly interesting story of "*Deciphering recurrent blooming*". He is the head of the Research Institute on Horticulture and Seeds at the INRA (Institut National de Recherches Agronomiques) of Angers. Recurrent blooming has played an important role in the success of roses. While the majority of wild roses flower only once a year in spring, many modern cultivated roses have the ability of recurrent blooming. These cultivars were selected during the process of rose domestication. A group of Japanese scientists had found that in once-flowering

roses (such as *Rosa wichurana*) a floral repressor called RoKSN inhibits recurrent blooming. The production of this floral repressor is seasonally regulated: it is not produced in spring so allowing blooming to take place. After the blooming period, new emerging shoots produce the repressor and are unable to bloom until next spring. The researchers in Angers could show that the gene *RoKSN* is mutated in continuous-flowering (recurrent) rose plants. A large DNA-element, called *copia*, of 9,000 base pairs in length, is inserted into the *RoKSN* gene, which encodes the floral repressor. Due to the insertion of the *copia* element, accumulation of the floral repressor is no longer possible and the roses flower continuously! The recurrent roses are in fact mutants, while the once-flowering rose is the wild form. This mutation is reversible: in the climbing mutants ('Old Blush Climbing') the *copia* element is replaced by a shorter piece of DNA. The climbing roses can accumulate the repressor, but in a differently regulated manner, so that they are able to rebloom once after the first flowering in spring.

Fabrice Foucher also showed that the plant growth hormone gibberellin (GA) is probably involved in the seasonal regulation of the floral repressor, but further studies are necessary to support this hypothesis.

GENOTYPE X ENVIRONMENT INTERACTION ON THE PLANT ARCHITECTURE IN ROSE BUSH – CAMILLE LI-MARCHETTI - France



The last speaker of this scientific session was Camille Li-Marchetti from the INRA Research Institute on Horticulture and Seeds in Beaucouzé. The shape of a plant determines the visual quality of a potted ornamental plant. Its architecture depends on genetic and environmental factors. In order to study the effects of genetic versus environmental factors on the architecture of a rose bush the influence of water restriction on the architecture of eight rose bush cultivars was investigated. The young scientist outlined how the architecture of a plant is the result of growth and branching, which can be characterized by breaking down the stem organs into elementary objects: axes and metamers (formed by an internode, node, its axillary bud and a leaf). For the experiment she used five rose bushes with contrasting shapes ranging from spreading to upright and three intermediate hybrids. Water restriction led to a decrease in growth and branching and, as a consequence, to more compact plants. The most interesting part of this study was clearly in the methods, which showed in a highly sophisticated manner how growth patterns of rose bushes can be digitalized.

In summary, the combination of "high end research" on roses and the perfect presentation of all aspects of rose science, from the influence of water restriction on growth parameters, the unravelled enigma of the recurrent blooming, the complex genetics of roses and the decoding of the rose genome, provided a fascinating collection of knowledge about roses. But, those who were ever afraid that too much science would reduce the fascination of roses, could learn from these fantastic lectures that all our detailed knowledge just serves to increase our admiration of the queen of flowers.

PRESERVATION, CONSERVATION, AUTHENTICATION AND FRAGRANCE Rae Gilbert, South Africa

Monday, 1st June - Moderators – Yuki Mikanagi and Merv Trimper

The final day of the convention saw the entire body of delegates being bussed to the village of St Galmier. We were treated to a French breakfast in the gardens of the local equestrian centre and then attended lectures in their function hall. This guaranteed 100% attendance (except for the WFRS officials attending the Council meeting) and the presentations of the day certainly didn't disappoint.

MANAGING A CENTENARY ROSE GARDEN, L'HAY les ROSES – MARC STASZEWSKI – France



After briefly sketching the history of this magnificent 'rosarium', the lecture focused on the problems faced by the custodians of the garden. In the first instance, the high turnover of staff in the modern era has presented problems with respect to adequate skills in both the management and horticultural aspects of maintaining the garden. To this end a comprehensive document, the 'Collection Policy' which details every aspect of running the garden has been developed. All personnel have access to the Policy.

Since one of the primary purposes of the garden is the collection and conservation of French roses (mainly Noisettes) and the horticultural challenges of ensuring the survival of rare and representative roses are extensive, the Management have further established a 'Key Collection' list. The varieties on this list form the backbone of the identification, protection and propagation projects run in the garden. The challenges include soil depletion, disease management and the integrity of the plant material used for propagation purposes. A comprehensive web-based database serves to educate the public and assists in identification of roses.

THE NOISETTE ROSE PROJECT IN FRANCE – BERNARD MANDO and MATHILDE LIORZOU - France



Following on from Lecture 1, this research team (the bulk of the lecture was given by Mathilde Liorzou) reported on their methodology and findings in the ground breaking historical, physical and genetic analysis of the development of Noisette roses. Their research has not only shown how current identification systems are far from perfect, but has elucidated some interesting errors in prior knowledge with special reference to the well-known 'Blush Noisette'. Their model shows definite promise in respect of understanding rose parentage, identification and

predicting traits expressed in new varieties.

FRAGRANCE, FROM THE SCIENTIFIC POINT OF VIEW – SYLVIE BAUDINO - France



A truly fascinating topic – this in-depth lecture covered the biological purpose of scent production, the organs responsible for production as well the possible genes involved in producing scent. The researchers have isolated the chemicals contributing to, *inter alia*, the typical tea scent in our most sort-after garden roses. The lecture included historical and modern scent extraction technology.

THE MAGICAL WORLD OF ROSE FRAGRANCES – JACQUES MOUCHET - France



Coming from a rose-breeding background, Jacques Mouchotte took the audience into the rose garden – full of wonderful fragrances and how they have inspired the great perfumers of the world. Though the lecture was more anecdotal, he also covered the scientific aspects of the perception, composition (the various 'notes' that comprise an holistic experience of fragrance) and the production of perfume.

HOW TO CREATE A ROSE PERFUME – MARTIN GRAS – France



The delicate balance between entertainment and education in this lecture mirrored the delicate balance of science and art in the creation of a new perfume. Martin Gras expertly took the audience from the imitation of naturally occurring scents, through variations on fragrances, to the creation of a unique perfume. He expertly guided us through the process of deciding which 'notes' would predominate and which characteristics the vast array of chemicals, both natural and synthetic, would be used to convey the required 'message' hidden in a perfume according to a client 'brief'. All of this without even taking a sniff! A fitting final lecture in an impressive array of topics.

For the lectures in more detail with pictures, go to <http://www.lyon-roses-2015.org/proceedings>. This site will be available until the end of December, 2015.

GARDEN VISITS IN AND AROUND LYON DURING THE CONVENTION WEEK

Susan Wade – Australia – text and photos

LA BONNE MAISON - home and garden of Odile and George Masquelier.

Odile founded the *Association Roses Anciennes en France (Heritage Roses in France)*. She commenced work on this garden in 1966 when she returned to the garden of her childhood. This 2 ½ acre garden was first opened to the public in 1987 and in 1989 became the *Association des Roses Anciennes de La Bonne Maison* with the object of preserving and researching Old Roses. In July 2006 the garden celebrated its 40th anniversary and received 2 stars in the *Guide Vert Michelin Lyon Drôme Ardèche* for its Rose Collection and in 2010 the garden was awarded the label Jardin Remarquable.



'Raubritter' (Kordes 1936), 1 of more than 800 varieties labelled in this garden, clipped Cypress trees in the lawn and white irises.



'Venusta Pendula' reintroduced in 1928 by Kordes



Rear of the house – La Bonne Maison

GRANDE ROSERAIE DU PARC DE LA TÊTE D'OR (PARK OF THE GOLDEN HEAD)

The park is less than 5 minutes walk from the Centre de Congrès in Lyon - the venue for the World Rose Convention. It was part of The City of Lyon's Rose Festival to raise awareness of The Rose and their history. The entire Parc de la Tête d'Or is an area of approximately 117 hectares (290 acres) and within it, is The International Rose Garden of Lyon, inaugurated in 1964, which covers 40,000 sq.m. and has some 30,000 roses of 350 varieties. There are two other rose gardens: within the park - the Rose Garden of the Botanical Garden which traces the history of the rose; and the Rose Trial Garden where the International New Roses Contest takes place each year.



PARC DE LA TETE D'OR



Seen at the Rose Festival in the park



Part of the art exhibition in Parc de la Tête d'Or

LA CLÉ DE LA ROSE (THE KEY OF THE ROSE) GARDEN in Cluny

Cluny is the centre for Romanesque Architecture in France and is approximately 90 km north of Lyon. The garden was opened in June 2010 and has more than 300 roses and 54 varieties and also contains many perennials and irises. In bloom at Cluny and with several plaques about its significance, was 'Resurrection', a deep pink HT rose, bred in 1976 by Michel Kriloff (France) in memory of 22 women from Cluny who were deported to Ravensbrück concentration camp in 1944.



'Monique Laperrière' seen in La Clé de la Rose



A section of the garden



'Nanjing N-92', Chinensis, introduced by Helga Brichet in 2007

ROSE GARDEN IN LE CHÂTEAU DE LA CHAIZE

The Château is a beautiful example of French classic architecture with its landscaped gardens and was built between 1674 and 1676. Château de La Chaize is one of the very few last important privately-owned estates which has remained in the same family until today. In 1967 the present owner, the Marquise de Roussy de Sales succeeded her aunt, the Marquise de Montaigu. Together with her husband she immediately restored the buildings, starting with the houses of the 14 families living on the estate. Then came the Castle and the Gardens, redesigned from the old plans. In 1972 their efforts were rewarded by the Ministry for Culture who gave the Castle, the Gardens and the Cellars the status of "Monuments Historiques".



Château De La Chaize

FRESCOES - a TRIBUTE to the ROSE GROWERS of CHAMPAGNE AU MONT D'OR



Fresco of roses – a tribute to the rose growers Champagne au Mont d'Or



Fresco depicting the four generations of the Laperrière family

GARDEN OF BERNARD TUAILLON IN LIMONEST – now named 'Le Jardin de Anne Ponti-Tuaillon' after Bernard's wife who died in 2010.



Bernard Tuaillon's Garden



'Banksia Alba Plena' 1807



Colourful Irises among the roses

CHÂTEAU SAINT BERNARD is a 13th century castle, located on the banks of the Saône River approximately 20 km north of Lyon, The castle's restoration commenced in 1996 and in 1997 it was classified as an Historical Monument. The Gardens of Saint Bernard Castle are composed of three parts: the main garden consisting of twelve small theme gardens, including more than 600 apple and pear trees; the rose garden which connects the two main parts of the garden; and the nearly 500,000 daffodils in spring;



Rear view of Château St. Bernard



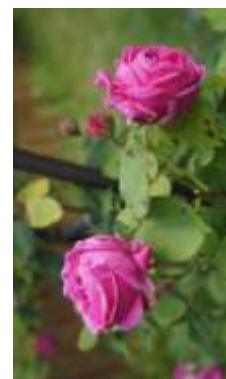
Château St. Bernard hedged rose garden and arched pear trees



Château St. Bernard Rose Garden



'Souvenir de la Malmaison' 1893



'Mme Isaac Pereire' 1881

On Saturday 30 May following the morning's lectures, convention delegates again went on various local visits, enjoying a 'lunch tray' on the bus, en-route. Many Breeders were visited but here 2 Breeder visits are described.

ROSERAIE REUTER - Reuters staff members welcomed all with refreshing drinks, gave a guided tour and demonstrated T-grafting and hybridising roses – using the pollen from one rose to fertilise the seeds of another rose.



Outdoor Area



Green Houses

ROSERAIE MEILLAND RICHARDIER where delegates were offered refreshing cool drinks before an orientation from a member of the Meilland Richardier family followed by a guided tour of the various green houses and propagation areas.



Welcome table with refreshing drinks



Growing area for Landscape Roses



'Peace'

ROSE GARDEN OF THE CHÂTEAU BIONNAY

Sheenagh Harris – South Africa – text and photos

The Bionnay Gardens and Château are situated within the Beaujolais region and date back to the early 1900's. In 2011 the garden was listed as 'Jardin Remarquable' by the French Ministry of Culture. This 5 hectare garden comprises a number of smaller gardens of different themes.



Delicate shades of irises and peonies adorn this tranquil garden



Old established trees form a backdrop to this section of the garden



Matthias Meilland beside 'Peace' – the rose bred by his Grandfather



The yellow stone mansion surrounded by beautiful gardens

SOIRÉE BEAUJOLAISE

Melanie Trimper – Australia – text and photo

On Thursday 28th May the delegates visited the famous wine district of Beaujolais, which is an area with 38 villages, stretching 55 km from north to south and 25 km wide. The buses set off for various destinations, some were lucky enough to visit the grand Chateau de Bionnay with its classic rose garden.

At the end of the afternoon everyone met at Lacenas Cellar for refreshments, dinner and a special ceremony conducted by the '*Compagnons de Beaujolais*' a respected brotherhood originating from the middle ages. Five distinguished Rosarians were described as 'newcomers' and inducted into the brotherhood.



Malcolm Watson, Ludwig Taschner, Gérald Meylan, Steve Jones and Katsuhiko Maebara



(photo – Dale Akerstrom)

A delicious dinner with well-known wines, and typical French food was served in the Lacenas Cellar and enjoyed by all delegates.

EXCURSIONS AND FUNCTIONS DURING THE CONVENTION WEEK

Jens Otto Pedersen – Denmark – photos and text except where otherwise stated

Friday 29th May - After a morning of lectures we went on one of four visits to a local rose breeder and a local private garden. After half an hour's drive we arrived at Roseraie Laperrière's test garden in Chamagnieu. We were warmly welcomed by Philippe Laperrière, one of the two brothers now managing the nursery. Philippe enthusiastically told us about the breeding programme and we had an instructive walk in the field seeing lots of roses that in a few years might be award winning plants. Philippe eagerly cut roses for us to smell and explained details about selected roses. The company also tests roses from other breeders, so we saw several roses from Rosen Tantau that did very well in French soil.



'Pink Bells' (Poulsen – 1983) in Monique and Roger Roux' garden

After the visit to Laperrière's we drove for another half hour to the next nursery. For a Dane it is obvious to mention two things. Firstly, along the roadside the Elder trees were in full bloom. In Denmark we say that when the Elder is blooming and fills the air with its sweet smell – then it is really summer and that will be in three weeks time – and secondly, although they were far, far away – coming from flat, flat Denmark, it was exciting to see the snow covered Alps in the distance.

Arriving at the rose garden of Monique and Roger Roux in Trept, we again received a very warm welcome. Monique and Roger bought their place in 1992, but it was not until retirement in 2002 that Roger seriously started laying out the rose garden. Next to the house and terrace there was a swimming pool and behind that the garden consisting of a small vegetable garden, a fruit garden and roses in between and everywhere. We noticed with great joy that the Danish breeder Poulsen was represented in the garden with the spectacular climber 'Pink Bells'. Other eye-catching climbers were the noisettes 'Ornement des Bosquets' growing up a pole and climbing along chains and 'Crépuscule' growing next to the pool. The impressive Wichurana climber 'Albertine' filled most of the roof of a garden shed and the lovely multiflora rambler 'Marietta Silva Tarouca' was in the act of conquering a plum tree.



'Ornement des Bosquets' (Jamain, 1860)



'Crépuscule' (Dubreuil, 1904)



'Albertine' (Barbier, 1921)

What we had not expected was two Canadian rugosas: 'Martin Frobisher' and 'David Thompson'. They are appreciated roses in Iceland, Norway, Sweden and Finland with their somewhat colder climate, but here in France they looked splendid and thrived well. More noisettes, moschatas and old roses filled this beautiful and very varied garden, a garden with a nice, and cozy straightforward atmosphere.



'Martin Frobisher' (Svejda, 1961)



'David Thompson' (Svejda, 1970)

Saturday, 30th May - This afternoon the theme was *Rose Gardens and Parks*. We were taken by bus to *Roserie de Saint-Clair* in Caluire et Cuire which was on the other side of the Rhône just opposite the Centre de Congrès. Tables and chairs had been set up in the shade of some trees: Lunchtime. And what lunch-boxes the French can come up with! Super!!!



Lunchtime in the Roserie de Saint-Clair

Roserie de Saint-Clair was laid out in 2011 in co-operation with the city of Caluire et Cuire and the French Rose Society. Along both sides of a path of 400 meters are planted 100 species of wild roses. That is really something! How often do you see so many species roses in one place? Some of them had finished blooming and some had not yet started, but the walk along the path was nevertheless a spectacular one. Although just a small single, white rose, *Rosa tomentosa* has a pure, innocent charm; the umbels of *Rosa filipes* are almost unbelievable; *Rosa moschata* must be honoured – an important rose in the developing of roses and *Rosa nutkana* – with its very special colour.

Next stop on the tour was at the southeastern corner of Parc de la Tête d'Or. A short walk from the entrance you are at the Botanical Garden with glasshouses, tropical plants in huge pots, long beds with numerous signs in front of numerous plants – and a rose garden. Not the best maintained I have

seen, but with a wide selection of old roses, some of them not very well-known in Denmark. The centifolia 'Le Rire niais' was new to us and so was the polyantha 'Merveille des Rouges', and in Denmark we never saw such healthy specimens of the Hybrid Perpetuals 'Ulrich Brünner fils' and 'Archiduchesse Elisabeth d'Autriche'.



Rosa tomentosa



Rosa nutkana



'Merveille des Rouges' (Dubreuil, 1911)

We decided to walk back to the Centre de Congrès through the lovely park. We used the opportunity to walk by the Rose Trial Garden to see some of the (perhaps) "roses of tomorrow". A lovely day, but with more to come: At 22.30 all hell broke loose – but in the good way. For more than 20 minutes the most fantastic fireworks, offered by the municipality of Caluire et Cuire, filled the sky over Lyon. From "our" side of the Rhône we had the best view of these spectacular fireworks which had brought lots of locals in the street. Fireworks cannot be described – they must be seen and experienced. I have never seen or experienced anything as exceptional as this.



Fantastic fireworks display (photos – Dale Akerstrom)

Sunday, 31st May - After lectures and presentations of future conventions the afternoon was free to enjoy the Rose Festival in Parc de la Tête d'Or. Lots of people and lots of activities were in the rose garden. Local rose breeders, different rose societies, cities, rose parks and gardens and private people had stands exhibiting their roses, organizations, parks, products and other excellences. The city of Orleans' stand was outstandingly tasteful and from the city of Nantes there was quite an exhibition of pots in all shapes and sizes. A walk along the breeders' stands was a show window for new varieties. Eye catchers for me were, among others 'Black Baccara', 'Chateau de Pupetières' and 'Souvenir de Josephine'.



'Black Baccara' (Meilland, 2000)



'Chateau de Pupetières' (Felix, 2014)

Walking around watching all the roses and shows I suddenly heard the sound of a street organ. I went after the sound and soon stood in front of a covered stage where five couples dressed in the style of 1890 performed dances from the period. I felt as if I was looking at a Toulouse-Lautrec picture and could not help feeling very lighthearted and happy.

In the centre of Lyon – wonderful city! In the basin in Place de Republique carpets of roses were floating and even the blue lion had been decorated with a necklace of roses, but the most spectacular view was definitely the fountain at Place des Jacobins.



Place de Jacobins

Monday, 1st June - At 7 o'clock ten buses with all delegates left for the twin villages Saint Galmier and Chamboeuf, 80 km south west of Lyon. On arriving we were warmly welcomed and had a lovely buffet breakfast. At 9 o'clock we were seated in a lecture hall and were greeted by the mayors (2 brothers) of both Saint Galmier and Chamboeuf. After five lectures on preservation, conservation, authentication and fragrance, we were served a delicious "lunch in the grass".



Picnic lunch “on the grass”

At 1.30 five buses left for Chamboeuf – the village in which Antoine Meilland was born on 17th July 1884. We were welcomed by 100 schoolchildren waving flags from all WFRS member countries. From a small stage decorated with the ‘Papa Meilland Jubilee Rose’ the mayor made a short welcome and Alain Meilland gave a talk about his family and the connection to Chamboeuf that brought a small tear to many eyes.



The Mayor, Alain Meilland and his grandson welcome the delegates to St. Galmier (photo – Dale Akerstrom)



Since 2009 the Chamboeuf village council has been devoted to transforming Chamboeuf into a garden village, designed a footpath edged with roses – mostly Meilland roses of course – and opened the *Maison de la Rose* with a permanent exhibition about Antoine Meilland and the Meilland roses.

We had a very fine walk along the footpath and were presented to both well-known and not so well-known roses. Next to the childhood home of Antoine Meilland was a bed with one of my favourites: 'Astronomia'. At the Heritage Convention in Sangerhausen in 2013 it was for sale at the Europa Rosarium under the name 'Sweet Pretty' and I decided to buy it the last day we were there. But – you may already have guessed – on the last day of the convention it was sold out. Different names to the same rose are a bit confusing when you travel around. In *La Bonne Maison* – Odile Masquelier's exceptional garden in Lyon we saw a lovely Poulsen rose 'The Faun'. It seemed somewhat familiar to me, but it was not until I got back home and checked Help Me Find that I realised that it was 'My Granny' – a very popular rose we saw in almost each and every garden during ROSAFRICA in 2012. Again two different names (and both roses mentioned have according to Help Me Find even more names). A rose should be able to sell itself by its uniqueness – not by its name! Well, sorry – that was just my little hobbyhorse. I will stop my ride here.



'Astronomia'



Inger Schiarning studying the pictures along the foot path

As I said: we had a very fine walk along the footpath. 'Cesar' reminded me a bit of 'My Granny'; 'Yann Arthus Bertrand' was a fine new acquaintance, 'Eureka' a sparkling light to dark green leaves and on the north side of the village church was a small bed of 'Peace'. On a fence along the route you could see a most instructive photo series of the establishing of the footpath. At the end of the path the buses were waiting, Mathias Meilland waved goodbye and we drove the short distance back to La Roseraie de Saint Galmier.

This 7000 m² big rosarium housing 300-400 old and modern roses was laid out in 2004 and is kept purely organic. Lots of different perennials are mixed with the roses. All the old roses and once blooming ramblers were in full bloom and a sight to behold. If you have not yet got 'Francis E. Lester'

in your garden, get out and get it! It is simply stunning. The same goes for the modern, continuously flowering 'Sourire d'Orchidée'. We have it in our garden and love it! A new acquaintance was 'Suzon' reminding a bit of the Lens-rose 'Plaisanterie' with its shimmering colours. Often confused with 'Erinnerung an Brod' (Geschwind, 1884) it was exciting to see the velvet-like 'Souvenir d'Alphonse Lavallée'. 'Roville' – certainly an eye catcher – was one of the last impressions before leaving this wonderful, scent-intoxicating collection of roses.



De Roseraie de St. Galmier



'Suzon'



'Rovill'



'Eureka'

Back in Lyon we only had a few hours before the Closing Ceremony and Farewell Dinner. Beautiful tables, delicious food, excellent wines and efficient service. Bravo!!! During dinner the Awards of Garden Excellence and Literary Awards were presented and I had the privilege of receiving the diploma for the first Danish Award of Garden Excellence and a handshake from WFRS President Steve Jones – what more can you wish for! Representatives from WFRS, The French Rose Society and the City of Lyon then presented awards and honours – a bit too much and too many to my taste, but in this connection one person must be mentioned: Executive Director Malcolm Watson was thanked and honoured for his 9 years of service. Malcolm has done a very fine job in a very difficult position. He deserves all the thanks and recognition he can get – and good luck and all the best to Derek Lawrence – the new man in the chair. A fine evening ended when the President of the Danish Rose Society, Inger Shierning and I were called on stage for the handing over of the WFRS flag. The responsibility for the 18th World Rose Convention in Copenhagen - 2018 is ours and we welcome each and every one of you to come and take part in "A Fairytale of Roses".



A table set for the Closing Dinner

THE CLOSING CEREMONY

(photos – Melanie Trimper – Aus.)

The Closing Ceremony and Farewell Dinner which took place on Monday 1st June at the Centre de Congrès was a grand affair with beautifully decorated tables, a band and a meal prepared by a Michelin-rated chef. The evening was interspersed with the presentations of various awards and the important induction of the new President. Monique de Clarens announced the recipients of the Awards of Garden Excellence and the Literary Awards. In true tradition the WFRS flag was passed from the French Rose Society to the Danish representatives who accepted on behalf of the Danish Rose Society for the next World Federation of Rose Societies Convention in 2018.



Maurice Jay and Josianne Pierre-Bissley receive Silver Commemorative Medals from President Steve Jones for the contribution they made in convening the 17th World Rose convention in Lyon



Daniel Boulens and Monique Laperrière receive Bronze Commemorative Medals from President Steve Jones for the contribution they made to the 17th World Rose convention in Lyon



Steve Jones with the WFRS Gold Medal, presented by Kelvin Trimper



Malcolm Watson and Steve Jones confer the WFRS President's chain to incoming President Kelvin Trimper



Malcolm Watson with the WFRS Gold Medal on his retirement as Executive Director after 9 years in office

The Flore Divinity Medal was a presentation from the Société Française des Roses, for members of the World Federation of Rose Societies and for some important Members of the French Organising Committee. This prestigious medal was presented during the Closing Ceremony to:

Steve Jones, Malcolm Watson, Ethel Freeman, Gérard Meylan, Sheenagh Harris, Diane vom Berg, Henrienne de Briey and Lily De Gerlache de Gomery (in absentia).

Gérard Colloimb, Chantal Merieux, Alain Giordano, Gille Buna, Alain Meilland, Maurice Jay, Josiane Pierre Bissey and Michel Javaux.



Maurice Jay, Steve Jones, Malcolm Watson, Diane vom Berg, Henrienne de Briey, Ethel Freeman, Sheenagh Harris and Gérard Meylan



Alain Giordano, Chantal Merieux, Gille Buna, Alain Meilland



Newly inducted President Kelvin Trimper with Inger Schierning and Jens Otto Pedersen from Denmark with the WFRS flag in readiness for the WRC in Denmark in 2018 (photo – Ernst Jensen)

POST CONVENTION TOURS

Paris - 2nd – 5th June

Jeff Wyckoff – USA – photos and text

To see the rose gardens of Paris for the first time is to be presented with a number of thoughts and emotions, sometimes conflicting ones. The initial impact and awe at all the beauty often leads to thoughts of “I wish my garden looked like that”, followed by the realization of how much work, not to mention money, it would take to achieve that goal. Appreciation of all the beautiful rose varieties that you have never seen before is tempered by thoughts that you will never be able to grow them in your garden. The temptation to sneakily cut some bud wood is high, but I know that all honourable rosarians would never do that...would they?!

The first garden visited was the Roseraie de l'Hay du Val de Marne, located slightly south of the city of Paris. Founded by Jules Gravereaux and opened and dedicated in 1910, its exceptional feature for me was its rose *allées* (literally “alleys”, but more like paths or aisles) of ramblers, hybrid wichurianas and multifloras,



Jules Gravereaux

grown over rows of large arches. Roseraie de l'Hay has the distinction of being the first European garden dedicated entirely to roses, and its 13 areas tell the story of the rose from its Asian beginnings to the present, including sections such as The Garden of Gallic Roses, The Garden of Modern French Roses, and the Garden of Modern Roses.



Roseraie de l'Hay du Val de Marne



Roseraie de l'Hay du Val de Marne

On the second day we traveled to the Parc de Bagatelle, part of the Bois du Boulogne, a park on the west side of Paris that is 2½ times the size of New York's Central Park. While the park and its palace date to 1775, the rose garden itself originated in 1906 through the efforts of landscape architect Jean-Claude Nicholas Forestier and the ubiquitous Jules Gravereaux, who also donated plants for the revival of the garden at Malmaison. The formal garden is laid out in classic style with rose standards, pillars, and arches, and contains a very large test garden, reportedly the first one in Europe. Additionally, there is a second test garden located on the west side of the park with a much more informal setting. Camera bugs delighted in the number of peacocks that strolled the grounds and seemed to preen on demand.



Bagatelle - Paris



'Tout Feux Tout Flamme' (Chris Warner)



Bagatelle

Few places in France are more steeped in history than is Malmaison. The building and occupation of its chateau and gardens by Napoleon and Josephine are documented in any number of books and websites. Following Josephine's death in 1814, the property went through various ups and downs for almost a century until its restoration began. Today it is, along with Mottisfont Abbey, one of the world's most famous gardens of old roses.

The garden is laid out in eight "wedges" around a central core. Although there is some grouping of varieties by family, this is not strictly carried out. We found the signage to be excellent, although somewhat obscured by the foliage. Although somewhat past its peak, almost every plant was in bloom. The garden has been expanded considerably over the 197 original varieties that were to be found in Josephine's garden. As for the chateau itself, many of us who were there for the roses skipped it entirely so we could spend more time in the garden.



The new Rose Garden at Malmaison



'Imperatrice Josephine'



'Fleurs de Pelletier'

After three days of reveling in the beauty of the roses and admiration for the dedication and efforts of the people who made these wonderful gardens possible, our trip to Versailles was the low point of the post tour for me. Although it is one of the "must-see" venues for any visit to Paris and an architectural marvel, it struck me as a monument to royal privilege and excess, a culture which led inevitably to the French Revolution. Elbowing our way through the Hall of Mirrors with thousands of other tourists was a far cry from wandering through the rose gardens of previous days.

All of us on the tour had nothing but praise for the tour guides who herded us to and through the various venues, including an evening trip to Sacre Coeur, with great skill and patience. The Paris post tour was for many of us the highlight of the entire Lyon Roses 2015 Convention.

Pays de Loire - 2nd – 5th June

Linda Kimmel - USA – text and photos

Our trip through Pays de Loire, sometimes called 'the garden of France,' was a once in a life-time, spectacular experience. I will share a few of the highlights with you. There were 79 people, a culturally diverse group from South Africa to the United States and every country in between, brought together by our love of roses. Our group had two buses with two guides. Our guides, together with the bus drivers, made up the 'dream team', delivering dreams of stunning roses, gorgeous gardens, elegant parks, delectable meals, flowing wine, kind companionship and marvellous memories.

We departed early Tuesday morning and headed northwest toward Orléans, travelling through the Beaujolais (wine) country. The region is filled with vineyards and buildings of local golden stones that are distinctive of the area.



Acres of vineyards



Local golden stone buildings

One of our most memorable stops was André Eve's garden. André is known in France as "the artisan of the rediscovery of old roses." Since 1958 he has specialised in saving old roses that have fallen into obscurity, while creating new roses with old garden rose characteristics. In 1990, André moved to Morailles in the south of Pithiviers and over the next few years developed a new garden, showcasing over 600 varieties of roses. Roses were meticulously labelled and simply gorgeous!



André Eve



Arbour of climbing roses

We were greeted by a long arbour, simply composed of birch wood that supports climbing roses and clematis. Here we saw some of the most beautiful Old Garden Roses. Andre's garden is a lovely mix of old garden roses, modern roses, perennials and annuals. This must be what heaven looks like.



'Celine' - 1826



'Baronne Prévost' - 1842



'Paul Lede' - 1913



'Léda' - 1826



**Lunch in the garden
of André Eve**

Food and wine flowed from the kitchen – tray after tray of delicious hors-d'oeuvre, entrees and desserts - enough to satisfy any appetite.

With such mixed emotions, we were reluctant to leave this beautiful garden of André Eve, but eager for the next amazing adventure. Of course, it was delightful at Parc Floral de la Source, Orléans - Loiret. The Loiret River meanders through the park. Beautiful walking trails follow along the river's edge, where you see remarkable trees, rhododendrons, iris, water landscapes, pink flamingos, ducks and wild birds. The walk took us through the beautiful butterfly house with orchids, passed exotic bird sanctuaries, vegetable garden and the rose garden. The rose garden is wrapped around the mirror pool accentuated by pergolas smothered in roses and clematis.



Butterflies and Orchids in the Butterfly House



Vegetable garden



Walking trail through the park



Loiret River meanders through the park



Pergola smothered in roses and clematis

The mayor of Orléans, Mme Aude de Quatrebarbe, welcomed us with a superb reception of champagne and finger foods at the Grosloot Hotel (city hall). Walking through the beautiful city of Orléans, we ended our day with a delightful dinner at the “Le Lift” restaurant.

Day two - we started our morning at Roseaie DuPont. The garden was created in 1995 by Marcel Turbat, son of the famous rose grower Eugene Turbat, with the purpose of collecting and saving the roses of Orléans and bringing public awareness to the French rose breeders, such as Corboeuf, Barbier, Turbat, Hemeray-Aubert, Levavasserur and recently André Eve. Meticulously groomed roses that were fastidiously identified with markers and maps made the garden a pure delight to visit.



La Roseaie Jean Dupont



'Source d'Or'



'Panachee d' Orléans'

Next stop - Château de Chambord is the largest of the Loire castles. In 1516, Francois I, King of France, came back from Italy with Leonardo da Vinci with a desire to create a large pleasure palace, symbolic of his power. Since Leonardo da Vinci died in 1519, mystery still swirls about the extent of his involvement in the castle design. But some of the unique architecture, such as the positions of the double helix staircase, openings are included to provide a flow through the building and the presence of vaulted ceilings on the second story are many touches that appear to be da Vinci's.



Château de Chambord



Judy Barrett, Sheenagh Harris, Veronica O'Brien, Penelope Schulz - lunch at the Castle



Terry Martinich, Elizabeth and Helmut Schleicher Miene Skarba – lunch at the Castle

There is much to see in France, so we had to keep moving. Next stop was Château de Villandry. It is known for its six gardens: the water garden, vegetable garden, ornamental garden, sun garden, herb garden and the labyrinth of hedges. Only nine, yes only nine, gardeners take care of this massive garden estate.



Two of the six gardens of Château de Villandry



'Villandry'



The rose garden – Villandry

Following a busy day of being tourists, we enjoyed another wonderful meal and wine in Nantes. After a good night's rest and breakfast at the Ibis hotel, we departed for Le Parc Floral de la Beaujoire in Nantes. This park offers beautiful views of the Erdre River and, is home to nearly 20,000 landscape roses, 1600 different varieties, along with iris, magnolias, heather and many other perennials. The city of Nantes and the French Society of Roses organise the "La Biennale Internationale de la rose parfumée" in this park. Every other year, the park hosts the only competition of fragrant roses that exists in the world. The jury consists of two panels. A technical jury evaluates the health, vigour and growth of the roses and the second, composed of perfumers, make up the international jury of Great Noses.



Parc de la Beaujoire - Nantes

Moving along, we visited the Jardin des Plantes accompanied by our guide, Mme. Laura Guillemette. Beginning as a medicinal garden during the reign of Louis XIV, it has historical significance and is filled with ancient plants, flowers, topiaries, incredible trees, and statuaries - there were surprises around every corner. Our guides, volunteers and bus drivers took a minute for a photo at Salines, where we stopped for lunch.



Davy Tournade (driver), Quentin Chapeaux (tour guide), Jean Renayd (volunteer), Birgit Wallborn (tour guide), Annick Richard (volunteer), Joaquim DA Rocha (driver).

When people love their work, it shows. These six wonderful people made our trip absolutely fabulous. On behalf of our tour group, we sincerely thank you!

After lunch, we are given “time to waste” or some might say, a free afternoon to explore on our own. Some went back to the hotel for a rest, others went shopping; as for our small group, we went to the “La Machine.” We met up the grand elephant, who is a magnificent 48.4 tons, 12 metres high, 8 metres wide, 21 metres long and carries 50 passengers. As it saunters by, the children enjoy a light water misting from its trunk.



La



Machine – the Grand Elephant spraying water and an elephant foot

We enjoyed dinner at Maison Baron Lefèvre where the salmon was the best. On our last day of the tour, we visited the Roseraie Loubert. A conservatory of antique roses and botanically significant plants. Their roses and plant collection are listed in the national CCVS (Conservatory Collection of Specialized Plants). The purpose of CCVS is to help preserve and prevent the loss of antique plants, maintaining biodiversity.



'Mme Plantier Alba'



'Albertine'



'Hugo Maweroff'



The Loubert Family

One last stop before returning to Lyon, Le Mystère de Faluns We were greeted by the Rosiers and Fruiteurs Doué-La-Fontaine, the number one marketer of roses and fruit plants in France, producing 3.5 million roses per year. Lunch was served under a tent by "des Perrières" and we were allowed some time to explore the historic quarry dating back to 500 B.C.



Le Mystère des Faluns lunch tent at Quarry - Rosiers and Fruiteurs Doué La

Pays de Loire, the WFRS post-convention tour, was a class act, made up of great places to visit and proficient- knowledgeable guides, volunteers and bus drivers. There was an abundance of delicious food and wine! We had perfect weather, perfect roses and perfect friends to share the joy.

Alsace and Baden-Baden - 2nd – 5th June

Sanda Simic – Canada - text and photos except where otherwise stated

Our travels began with the journey from Lyon in France to Geneva in Switzerland driving through beautiful countryside and at times snow capped mountains. In Geneva the water jet on Lake Léman amazed me with its spiral of water rising 140 metres into the air. Geneva is the most famous historic city of Switzerland with it's old city overlooked by the Cathédrale St Pierre. The Palais des Nations is a symbol of Geneva. We visited the WFRS Award winning Garden of Excellence, Parc de La Grange (2006) and Roseraie d'Estafvayer where Marlise Fertig welcomed us on behalf of the Swiss Rose Society. We then travelled to Saverne where we spent 3 nights.



Château de Chenaux à Estafvayer from
Roseraie d'Estafvayer

From Saverne we travelled to Baden Baden. It is a most elegant spa in Germany with two beautiful rose gardens - Gonneranlage and Beutig which received the WFRS Award of Garden Excellence in 2003 and where the Annual International Rose Trials take place. Unfortunately the tour was too early for the roses to be in bloom in the rose gardens of Beutig and Gonneranlage. The photos of Beutig below were taken later in the season. Baden Baden is also known for it's Casino.



The Casino – Baden Baden



Gönneranlage Rose Garden - Baden Baden (photo Yuki Mikanagi)



Canal near the hotel Chez Jean on the way to Saverne



In Saverne we visited Roseraie de Saverne which dates back to 1898. This is a WFRS Award winning Garden of Excellence (2002). Here we were welcomed by the President of the Rose society and entertained with traditional dancing and supper in the rose garden which was a most enjoyable and fun evening.



Roseraie de Saverne – France (photos – Yuki Mikanagi)

On the third day we visited and had lunch at the fortified Château du Haut-Koenigsbourg, built on a sandstone rock about 800 metres high. It's appearance in the morning mist was truly magical. Dinner was enjoyed at the very elegant Château de Rohan.



Chateau du Haut-Koenigsbourg - Strasbourg



Dinner at the Château de Rohan



**Ioan and Magdolna Belicciu -
(photo Masako Takeuchi)**



**Geoff and Jill Eckermann and Sheryl Shaylor
(photo Masako Takeuchi)**

On the last day we travelled to Strasbourg where we had a 1 hour cruise on the Third River. Strasbourg is the seat of the European Parliament.



Delegates waiting for the boat in Strasbourg



Delegates on the cruise (photos Inés Díaz Rial)



15th and 16th century buildings as seen from the boat on the Third River



Storks on a nest in Strasbourg (photos Masako Takeuchi)

On the last day of the Post Convention Tour a very enjoyable day was spent at the Rosheim Garden where rose society volunteers gave the delegates a delicious meal.



Rosheim Garden (photos Inés Díaz Rial)



WFRS AWARDS OF GARDEN EXCELLENCE

Twenty gardens received the WFRS Award of Excellence at the WFRS World Rose Convention in Lyon. At the time of publishing there were no photographs available. They will appear in the next issue of World Rose News. The following gardens received this honour –

Akao Herb and Rose Garden - Japan
Beijing Botanical Rose Garden – China
Biltmore Rose Garden – USA
Bosky Dell – South Africa
City of Sakura Rose Garden - Japan
David Austin Rose Garden – England
Geografisk Have – Denmark
Green Valley Rose Garden – India
Keisei Rose Garden – Japan
Lady Norwood Rose Garden – New Zealand
Mornington Rose Garden – Australia
Roseninsel Park – Germany
Rosaie Amargos – Jardin del Teatre Grec - Spain
Rosaie et Diable Vert – Switzerland
Rosaie Princess Grace de Monaco - Monaco
Rose Garden of the Lidice Memorial “Garden of Peace and Friendship” – Czech Republic
Roseto di San Giovanni – Italy
Rudolf W van der Goot Rose Garden – USA
Sacramento Historic Rose Garden – USA
Woodland Library Rose Club Public Garden - USA



WFRS LITERARY AWARDS

Seven books received the WFRS Literary Award at the WFRS World Rose Convention in Lyon. At the time of publishing all the photographs were not available. They will appear in the next issue of World Rose News. The following books received this honour –

A Life with Roses – David Ruston
Annuarioi Della Rosa 2014 – Associazione Italiana Delta Rosa
Der Rosen Flüsterer - Kasimir M. Magyar
Everyday Roses – Paul Zimmerman
Old Roses, Survival and Revival in South Africa – Jacqueline Kalley
Rosen - Die Besten sorten Europäischer Züchter - Angelika Throll
Roses in Bermuda Revisited – Bermuda Rose Society Book Committee





www.worldrose.org

DIARY OF EVENTS

18 – 24 May, 2016

WFRS Regional Rose Convention – Beijing, China
WFRS 14th International Heritage Rose Conference –
Beijing, China

9 – 12 November, 2016

WFRS Regional Rose Convention - Punta del Este, Uruguay

12 – 14 June, 2017

WFRS Regional Rose Convention – Ljubljana, Slovenia

28 June – 4 July, 2018

WFRS 18th World Rose Convention – Copenhagen,
Denmark

Disclaimer

**The opinions expressed in this publication
are not necessarily those of the
World Federation of Rose Societies**

THE NEXT ISSUE OF WORLD ROSE NEWS

will be in JANUARY, 2016 and will include reports from the

Vice Presidents and Standing Committee Chairmen

Closing date for contributions is 30th November, 2015.

Font - Aerial 10, high resolution pictures no PDF please

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2012 – 2015

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MEMBER SOCIETIES

The World Federation of Rose Societies, also known as the WFRS, is the umbrella organisation for 39 national rose societies around the world. Taken together, these member societies have about 100,000 members, all of whom share a love of the rose.

Argentina	Rose Society of Argentina
Australia	National Rose Society of Australia
Austria	Österreichische Rosenfreunde in der Gartenbau-Gesellschaft
Belgium	Société Royale Nationale 'Les Amis de la Rose'
Bermuda	Bermuda Rose Society
Canada	Canadian Rose Society
Chile	Asociación Chilena de la Rosa
China	Chinese Rose Society
Czech Republic	Czech Rosa Club
Denmark	The Danish Rose Society
Finland	Finnish Rose Society
France	Société Française des Roses
Germany	Gesellschaft Deutscher Rosenfreunde
Great Britain	Royal National Rose Society
Greece	The Hellenic Rose Society
Hungary	Hungarian Rose Friends Society
Iceland	Icelandic Rose Society
India	Indian Rose Federation
Israel	The Jerusalem Foundation
Italy	Italian Rose Society
Japan	Japan Rose Society
Luxembourg	Luxembourg Rose Society
Monaco	Société des Roses de Monaco
Netherlands	Nederlandse Rozenvereniging
New Zealand	New Zealand Rose Society
Northern Ireland	Rose Society of Northern Ireland
Norway	Norwegian Rose Society
Pakistan	Pakistan National Rose Society
Romania	Asociatia Amicii Rozelor din Romania
Russia	Russian Association of Rosarians
Serbia	Royal Serbian Rose Society
Slovakia	Slovakia Rose Club
Slovenia	Slovenian Rose Society
South Africa	Federation of Rose Societies of South Africa
Spain	Asociación Española de la Rosa
Sweden	The Swedish Rose Society
Switzerland	Gesellschaft Schweizerischer Rosenfreunde SA
USA	American Rose Society
Uruguay	Asociación Uruguaya de la Rosa
Switzerland	Gesellschaft Schweizerischer Rosenfreunde SA

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 Heritage Roses Australia Inc. Australia
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 Montreal Botanical Gardens - Canada
 Association de la Rosa de Coyhaique, Chile
 Changzhou Gardening and Greening Management Bureau, China
 Laizhou Chinese Rose Garden, China
 Shanghai Botanical Garden, China
 Shenzhen Remin Park and Shenzhen Rose Centre, China
 Taicang Rose Society, China
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 Fondazione Roseto Botanico "Carla Fineschi" di Cavriglia, Italy
 La Tacita S.R.L., Italy
 "Hana no Miyako Gifu" - Flower Festival Commemorative Park, Japan
 The Rose Culture Institute, Japan
 Quinta do Arco Rose Garden, Portugal
 Heritage Roses New Zealand Inc., New Zealand
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 Rosas Antiguas en Argentina, Argentina.

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REGISTRATION NOW OPEN FOR CHINA CONVENTION

WFRS REGIONAL ROSE CONVENTION AND 14th INTERNATIONAL HERITAGE ROSE CONFERENCE BEIJING, CHINA – 18th to 23rd MAY 2016



Rose Garden at the Beijing Botanical Garden

The 2016 WFRS Rose Convention in Beijing promises to be most exciting, with lectures, daily tours to historic sites and rose gardens, special performances and dinners. There are two pre-convention and three post-convention tours to choose from. The sixteen lectures cover history, breeding, culture and science of modern and old roses. Some of the speakers are:

Pat Toolan, (Australia) - The Challenge of Identifying and Preserving Old Rose varieties
Charles Quest-Ritson (UK) - The Evolution of Climbing Roses in the 19th Century
Lars Ake Gustavsson (Sweden) - Old Rediscovered Roses in Sweden.
William A. McNamara (USA) - Wild Roses in Asia and Quarryhill Botanical Garden.
Girija and Viru Viraraghavan (India) - The Rose Heritage of Asia – One Way forward.
Nobuo Shirasuna (Japan) - The Designing of Rose Gardens
Gregg Lowery (USA) - Chinese-American roses. How Chinese species roses and ancient Chinese cultivars transformed wild roses of America.
Pascal Heitzler (France) - Solving problems of species classification and old rose pedigrees using molecular approaches - an overview.
Thomas Hawel (Germany) - Europa-Rosarium Sangerhausen - Collecting and Maintaining Heritage Roses - Concept of a Genetic Rose Bank - the status quo in 2015"

Pre-Convention Tours:

The tour of Wild Roses In Yunnan - China's wild roses in their native environment
The tour of Wild roses in Chengde – Exploration of China's Wild Roses.

Post Convention Tours:

The Chinese Culture Tour – visiting Xian, Guilin and Shanghai
The Chinese Classic Gardens Tour - a five day tour in Eastern China
The Tour of Beijing - including temples, museums and the Great Wall

The convention website is now open and Rosarians are encouraged to make reservations as soon as possible as numbers are limited: www.rosebeijing2016.org The early bird registration has been extended to the end of September, 2015.

During the Convention an inauguration ceremony will take place to open the newly-constructed Rose Museum which displays extraordinary architecture with exhibits ranging from roses in history to roses of the future and one section devoted to the WFRS, it's past and present. The Museum curators are making a special call for exhibit items, as donations or loans. Refer to the website where detailed information is available.

All queries to: info_chinarose2016@126.com or 2668587780@qq.com



Friends of the Federation

Since its introduction in 2010 almost 80 individuals from around the globe have donated funds, totalling in excess of £4000, toward the work of the World Federation of Rose Societies.

These donors have received invitations to exclusive “Friends Only” functions at WFRS events. The most recent was in Lyon as part of the French Rose Society’s World Convention when a lunch was held in the Crowne Plaza Hotel.

Since the Hyderabad and Lyon convention, we were pleased to welcome the following new Friends of the WFRS :

Meena Pimpalpure - India
George Peterich - Bermuda
Ian Dobson - Great Britain
Nimet Monasterly-Gilbert - France
Alan Gilbert - France
Jolene Adams - USA
Mireille Steil - Luxembourg
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Paul Hains - Australia
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Dipa Prakash - India
Prerna Prakash - India
Doug Grant - New Zealand
Ines Diaz de Licandro - Uruguay
Irma Bosc Berreuta - Uruguay

Vijay Kant – India - New Friend for Life
Ahmed Alam Khan - India - New Friend for Life
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**Become a Friend of the
World Federation of Rose Societies
and join a group of generous financial donors
supporting the work of the Federation.**

**Benefits include –
Exclusive invitation to ‘Friends Only’ activities;
Individual electronic copy of World Rose News;
Opportunity to correspond with ‘Friends’ to exchange
rose growing knowledge, information on rose gardens,
accommodation and other points of interest relative to their region.**

**Donor forms can be downloaded from the Federation’s website.
Donations, with the exception of “Friends for Life”, cover the period until the conclusion of the
World Rose Convention in 2018.**