



MARK NOLEN: HORTICULTURE JUDGES CHAIRMAN

Recently I became a member of the Board of the IL-IN District of the American Rose Society. Teresa Byington, the new District Director, requested me to join her staff to be the Chairman of the Horticulture Judges. **Generally, my duties require me to assist the District Director in matters pertaining to rose shows and judging roses, and to coordinate with the American Rose Society in matters pertaining to rose shows, seminars, and judges who reside in our district.**

I have been an accredited horticulture judges since 2004 and have judged many local and district rose shows in the Midwest and Mid-South areas. I have been privileged to have been invited to judge at 15 ARS National Rose Shows in many locations around the country. I received the District's Outstanding Judge Award in 2008. I enjoy judging rose shows because you have the opportunity to see some truly beautiful roses, and just as importantly, you meet some truly wonderful people.

The American Rose Society is an educational organization and its purpose is to teach the public on how to grow and appreciate roses. One of the ways we have to teach the public about roses is to have a rose show where we can display the different kinds of roses and their beauty. Each year many rose shows are held at the local, district and national levels.

GUIDELINES:

As stated before, the purpose of having a rose show is to invite the public to see the different types of roses and to answer any questions with regard to acquiring and growing them. At the show, we hope to generate an interest in growing roses and perhaps in joining our rose society. In order to recognize the efforts of our members who participate in bringing roses to the show, the American Rose Society has established guidelines for exhibiting roses whereby roses are objectively judged on certain criteria. The roses that closely meet those criteria are given awards of recognition. Overall the competition between members is friendly, and this competition ensures that the most beautiful roses are brought to the show.

THE JOB:

A horticulture judge's duty is to fairly evaluate the characteristics of each rose brought to the show and recommend an appropriate award. All judges are required to have a history of growing many types of roses and exhibiting in rose shows. To become a horticulture judge the following requirements must be met. An Apprentice Rose Judge must have attended and accredited judging school and passed a written and practical examination; must have grown a variety of roses for a least five years; must have been a member of the American Rose Society for at least two years; must have exhibited in five accredited rose shows over a three year period winning a least 5 blue ribbons and two ARS horticulture certificates; have worked in at least three roses shows as a clerk or have rose show responsibilities; and pay the application fee as established by ARS.

Every four years an accredited horticulture judge must attend a judging seminar. Five of the IL-IN judges must have a judging seminar this year.

IL IN JUDGES:

Currently, there are eleven horticulture judges residing in the IL-IN District.

CURRENT JUDGES:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
William Carlson	Pendelton, IN
Mark Nolen	Indianapolis, IN
Linda Kimmel	Indianapolis, IN
Andrew Plasz	Libertyville, IL
Cheryl Petus	Champaign, IL
Larry Jones	Sullivan, IL
Edward Yesan,	Collinsville, IL
Barbara Stauch	Avon, IN
Renee Lafollette	Plainfield, IN

RETIRING JUDGES

Tony Liberta and Lou Little who are currently on the American Rose Society list of judges for our district are retiring and they have requested me to place them on emeritus status. John Hefner has also ask me to place him on emeritus status.