

## Looking Forward to Renewal

Without a doubt 2020 has been a challenge for all of us. Quite unexpectedly, it presented an opportunity to understand more deeply the value of having a rose garden as a sanctuary to escape to. This aspect reveals a deeper appreciation of our home, friends, family and our garden. How fortunate we all are to have the roses as a garden retreat. Many others have been trapped in their apartment without the option of visiting the garden for emotional relief. My wife and I have always walked into our garden with anticipation of escape from the daily rigors. Tables and chairs around the garden allows us to just sit, read and relax while viewing the roses.. Suzanne and I are looking forward to opening our garden to BHRS members when the time is right.

In the rose garden the first recognition is the various color. Approaching each bloom the artistic beauty of its symmetry and form comes into sharp focus. Inhaling its fragrance is a must. There can be no doubt that "The Rose" has justifiably captured the title of "The Queen of Flowers".

Yet another unexpected occurrence in 2020 was that garden centers experienced a welcome resurgence in roses, herbs, vegetables and house plants. For instance the Green Thumb Nursery in Canoga Park easily tripled their weekly delivery of roses from Otto and Sons. Full racks of vegetables and herbs disappeared from the shelves in one day. In 2021, so far, my business has planted many many roses. Reflecting the time to gain new society members is with CR Tables adorned with large rose bouquets. It is my hope that libraries, schools, etc. will be able to restart their lecturing programs. Keen interest in roses is evident, but we need to offer sound advice and gather the this new interest into our local rose societies.

Consulting Rosarian events at the Green Thumb: Mark your calendars! The next two Consulting Rosarian tables will be held on March 28th and April 11th. The Green Thumb is located at 21812 Sherman Way in Canoga Park. The official hours are 10:00 am until noon. However: the last several CR Tables ran from 10:00 am until 2:00 or so pm. One day the event ran until 3:30. Yes there is renewed interest in correct information about roses. Everyone is welcome to participate in a socially distant and masked group for 1/2 hour or more.

Summer time is around the corner! Longer days than nights. Expect our gardens to react with accelerated growth. Be on the lookout for various insects and diseases to reoccur with accelerated growth. My preference is to use a preventive approach before such pests get a foothold. Always read and follow package instructions. Suzanne's and my roses have been fed. Their bloom cycle is just beginning at our home. Buds are

everywhere and we've enjoying two beautiful blooms. Of course the sprinkler system has been checked, mulch added. Now it's the game of anticipation and wait.

Photo 1: Rosa Tamora growing in Beverly Glen. It's a hybrid tea, being trained as a small climber. It's a narrow walkway without ample light and the fragrant flowers are a delight to the homeowners.



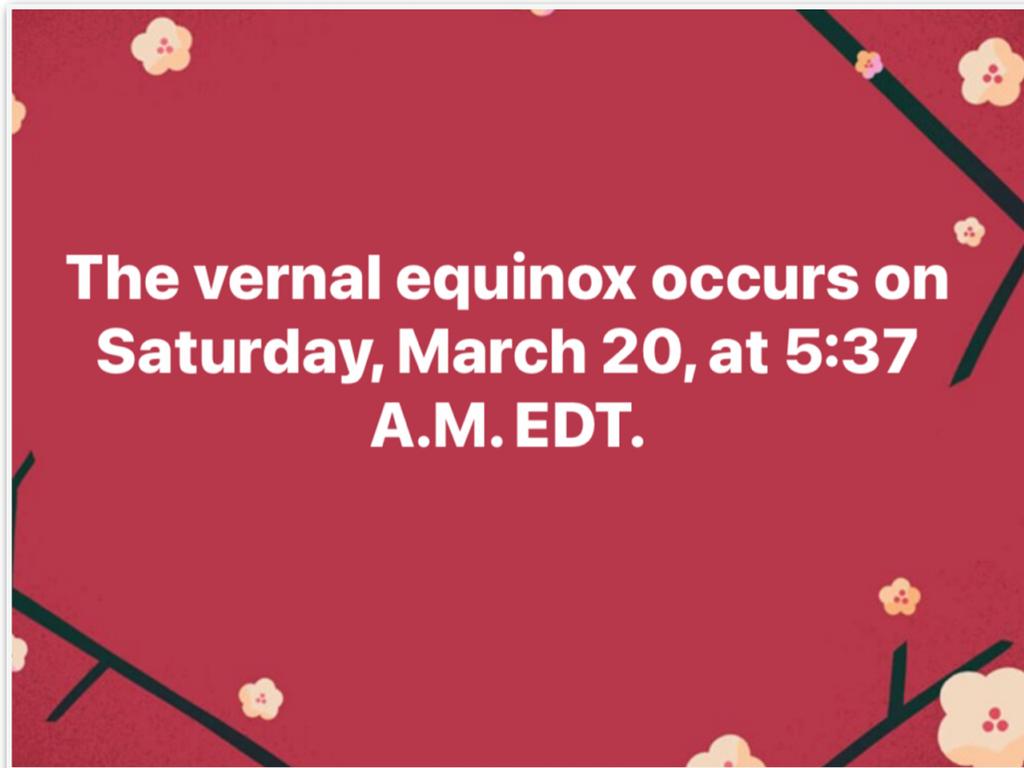
Photo 2: Rosa Firefighter being grown in Canoga Park with full sun year round. Rather than have this rose grow into a walk area the decision was to train it to grow against a hot garage wall in a brick planter. This roses has been thriving.



Photo 3: The Green Thumb wholesale yard on 3-10-21 in Canoga Park.



Photo 4: The upcoming time change is on the horizon. I do have to pay attention to resetting the various devices to the adjusted time. This gardener thinks that the real news is the celestial event on Saturday March 20th.



Happy Gardening,

David L. Bassani  
2021 President BHRS