



A SPECIAL INVITATION TO THE 2008 AMERICAN ROSE SOCIETY SPRING NATIONAL CONVENTION AND ROSE SHOW IN DENVER, JUNE 26TH THROUGH JUNE 30TH

Hillary and Barack aren't the only visitors coming to Denver, Colorado, next summer! The Denver Rose Society is pleased to host the 2008 Spring National Convention of the American Rose Society. Consistent with the Democratic National Convention, we have the lofty goal of attempting to gain representation of not only all 50 states but establishing the tremendous precedent of having each and every one of our 330 local societies represented. Please consider coming to the Mile High City and vacation with us in the beautiful and unforgettable Rocky Mountains. Breathtaking views, wildflower splendor, sunshine, snow covered peaks, and the grandeur of an ARS convention await you. The convention features roses from around the country, great speakers, tours and the camaraderie of hundreds of other rosarians.

Enjoy this unique opportunity to see how we garden in the wild west. Tour the private garden of water thrifty, author/garden writer Marcia Tatroe, visit the world renowned Denver Botanic Gardens that spans 23 acres in a historic residential section of Denver (near the home of the unsinkable Molly Brown of Titanic fame). The pre-convention tour is a trip to Colorado Springs with stops at the Garden of the Gods, Air Force Academy (its chapel will leave you spell bound), and the private garden of ARS national director Carol Macon where we'll sip a glass of wine and marvel at her 400 exhibition quality rose bushes.

For those that favor quilting as much as gardening we are pleased to include an accompanying quilt show for you. (did everyone see the gorgeous rose themed quilts in this years American Annual?). Visit our website for details on entering the quilt show.

The obvious highlight of the convention is the Saturday rose show. Check out Bob Martin's book "*Showing Good Roses*" for a variety of methods to transport your roses to Denver. Most importantly, come witness the amazing beauty of the competitive challenge and arrangements classes. Both the horticulture and the arrangement schedule will be available on our website.

Our featured guest speakers will entertain and educate you with diverse topics such as hardy rose culture, the evolution of the rose and how to scale the rose garden back. You need not be a Consulting Rosarian to attend the CR Seminar by Baldo Villegas (our National CR) and Whitney Cranshaw, Professor of Entomology at Colorado State University. (most of you have seen his seminal publications on pest identification and control and probably have an edition of at least one of his books in your home gardening library). And speaking of libraries, the scope of our book sale will necessitate you bringing an empty suitcase or two along to bring home these treasured finds. What is a vacation without shopping! In addition to the traditional offerings available in a city the size of Denver we feature a wide variety of sculptor and Western art galleries. Of course, we will feature rosarian specialty merchants with rose oriented products spanning everything from tools to jewelry, clothing and artwork. And don't forget the ARS store, a great place to buy books, pins, shirts and hats.

As a special treat, all first time convention participants are invited to attend a private reception hosted by ARS President Steve Jones.

We promise to make things as easy and convenient as possible for you to attend the convention and take a pre or post (or both!) vacation after it. The Four Points Sheraton Hotel is centrally located providing easy access to Denver's light rail system, the airport and downtown. Take advantage of your visit and extend your stay after the convention. Visit Red Rocks, our world famous outdoor amphitheatre. Make day trips to Rocky Mountain National Park, visit Estes Park where Stephen King authored *The Shining*, visit Vail or Aspen and do some sight seeing (including celebrities who frequent the high country year round). Please come enjoy our hospitality!

For details visit our website at www.2008ARSDenver.com. For additional information feel free to email me at p.williams@2008arsdenver.com or give me a call at 303-691-2790. I hope to see you all in Denver!

Yours in Roses,

Bill Horner, Publicity Chair

Peggy Williams, Convention Chair