

ABOUT THE PATRON PROGRAM

We hope you feel, as many American Rose Society members do, that growing roses is a major part of who we are. Our families, our neighbors, and sometimes the communities where we live, recognize our dedication to our hobby of gardening with roses. Even more importantly, our children and grandchildren observe the pleasure we gain from our love of roses, and we all hope they will find the same enjoyment as they develop their own homes and gardens in the future. The American Rose Society has been around for 116 years, and we are working hard to insure the Society will always be here, to preserve and protect America's National Flower, and to be a major source of education and information for all who love and grow roses.

Serving and supporting the American Rose Society is a natural extension of our dedication to our hobby. For 34 years, generous members have helped ARS "balance the budget" with their donations to the Patron Program. Revenue from membership dues represents only about 36% of our total operating budget. Patron funds have become increasingly important to the society's future, and have often made the difference in our being able to provide basic services to local societies and members.

We are now in the midst of the 2008 Patron Fundraising Drive, and we have been challenged to exceed our best effort. We hope you will join the growing roster of rosarians who are CHAMPIONS of the American Rose Society as Patron donors. You may direct your Patron contribution to support the American Rose Society, its publications and educational programs and services; or you may choose to direct your Patron contribution to support the American Rose Center headquarters and gardens, for property and garden enhancement and preservation.

All Patrons – individuals or local societies - who donate \$100 or more will receive the 2008 Patron pin that will distinguish the donor as a major supporter of the American Rose Society. Even if you cannot give this specific amount, a gift of any amount will help us promote the love of the rose and will be greatly appreciated. All donors will be acknowledged by name in an upcoming issue of the *American Rose* magazine.

Thank you for considering this prestigious 34-year-old program of annual giving, and for being a CHAMPION of the American Rose Society.

Sincerely,



ARS Patron Chairman

The ARS is exempt from federal income taxation under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code, and contributions are tax deductible to donors as provided by law. All Patron donations to the Society are acknowledged in American Rose.