

CELEBRATING THE END OF AN EVENT

It is never easy to embrace change, but intervening factors often require that we do so. Such is the case with the very stimulating, interesting and well attended Portland Rose Society's annual Vendor/Information Fair. This popular event was the brain child of Past President Bradley Wanamaker. Brad envisioned an event at which local rose companies, nurseries, garden artists and selected other individuals could bring their treasures, as well as their knowledge, to share with the community.

The event has been held at the March meeting for the last ten years and during that time it has undergone subtle but meaningful changes. As the number of local rose companies dwindled, the event began including more vendors with rose related items. Then as the participation of local nurseries also waned, a broader selection of vendors were invited to share in the event. Thus, the event altered appropriately from the original intent, but was still valued by the PRS members.

However, the cost of hosting the event also changed over the years. The event now costs almost three times the cost of a general PRS meeting. Thus, the PRS Board decided that we could not justify the extra expense and elected to end the decade of Vendor/Information Fairs. Instead, there will be a general PRS meeting in March, complete with all of the great stuff that usually accompanies a general meeting. Such as words of wisdom from the President and Board, a scintillating speaker with great information, raffle baskets, garden gold door prizes, refreshments and great friendship among the rose loving participants. So, please join us to help celebrate the end of an event and the beginning of a new rosey great year.