



ROSE HERALD

Come to the Rose Gazebo

Suzan Smith will speak on August 27, 2012, at 6:30 p.m.



Master Gardener and Rose Chair Suzan Smith will speak at the Union Street Demonstration Garden **Rose Gazebo**. (Her scheduled partner Arlan Gadeken is in India.) Suzan will tell the history of the Demonstration Garden and AARS Test Garden,

and provide a tour for all who want one. She will brief us on the Master Gardener State Conference being held in the Tri-Cities September 13-15. The rose garden will be cleaned up and new curbing installed, so both gardens will look great for you.

[www.owt.com/
rosesociety](http://www.owt.com/rosesociety)

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CO-PRESIDENTS DON & JOANN SAYLER ENJOYED OUR TCRS VISIT TO JOB'S NURSERY

Ah, the lazy "daze" of summer! Our roses are well into their second bloom and although smaller in size still color up the yard nicely. We know you are experiencing the same.

We enjoyed the last meeting held at Job's Nursery. After we adjourned, Alex Job led us on a trek throughout the large



nursery grounds, explaining as he went. Very interesting. We had fun picking up beautiful peacock feathers on the way. Alex presented each of us a 42.5 liter bag of Rose & Flower Planting Mix with composted ingredients. We were very appreciative.

In our yard we are still fighting Bermuda grass. *(Continued on Page 2)*



MEETING TIME, PLACE, AND HOW TO GET THERE

August 27, 2012 at 6:30 p.m.
—Go to the Master Gardeners Demonstration Garden on Union Street in Kennewick, next to the Mid-Columbia Library. Park in the parking lot off Union Street and walk to the Gazebo. Another parking lot is available next to the former AARS Test Garden. To park there, drive past the library, enter the roundabout and turn left. When you reach Arthur Street, turn right and drive straight to the second parking lot.

CO-PRES.' MESSAGE, Cont.

We know it's a losing battle, but we're trying the latest poison product called Turflon Ester. So far the stuff is working amazingly well since the Bermuda grass is very dead-looking and the good grass is still green. Now we'll see if the process seriously slows Bermuda grass growth, or (praise the Lord) kills the roots. We can dream, can't we?

I'm having fun drying mini-roses in Silica Gel as Dorothy Campbell demonstrated at our April meeting. I hope to arrange them into something worth looking at, but that will be another story.

See you at the Demonstration Garden on Union Street at 6:30 p.m. on August 27.

Your fellow rose lovers,
—*Joann & Don Saylor*

TCRS MINUTES, JULY 23

The July 23, 2012, meeting of the Tri-City Rose Society was held at Job's Nursery in Pasco. The meeting was called to order at 6:40 p.m. by CO-president Joann Saylor, with 12 members in attendance.

Minutes from the June TCRS meeting were approved as printed.

Joann advised there are still mini roses to sell (12 bushes).

Treasurer Bob Louie reported the current account balance is \$5,106.00. Expenses from our June Rose Show were \$1,545.

Bob reported a \$70 check has been written for our ARS dues. It will be mailed on 7/24/2012. He confirmed TCRS has been affiliated with ARS since August 1971.

No membership report was given at this meeting.

No publicity report was given at this meeting.

Lawrence Scott Park: Tom Miles reported he has seen some mildew on the roses. Harlow Young and Tom have been weeding the beds. Due to the prolific blooms, some bushes need deadheading. Tom has continued working with Biological Farm Management, using organic techniques requiring less fertilizer and less spraying. Tom also reported two recent visitors on bicycles to the rose garden at Lawrence Scott Park, one of them the grandson of Jane Melville.

New Business: Joann raised the topic of TCRS participation at GrapeFest this year. Following discussion, Harlow Young moved that TCRS not participate this year. The motion was seconded by Ann Roberts, and was passed by the membership present.

Harlow Young has rose markers for sale: 10 markers for \$4.00.

Feature Presentation: Alex Job and a walking tour of the nursery.

Alex provided a lovely walking tour of Job's Nursery, providing many interesting stories, history, and knowledge of many types of plants and trees. He recommended rhododendron fertilizer on roses – about 2 tablespoons per bush. This is a 12-10-5 fertilizer. Alex was very generous with the membership present, treating each one to a free bag of Gardener & Bloom Organic Rose and Flower Planting Mix – a \$6.95 value! Thank you, Alex, for a wonderful tour, and treating us so royally!

The meeting concluded at 8:00 p.m.

Our next meeting will be August 27, 2012, at the Master Gardeners Demonstration Garden on Union in Kennewick – next to the Mid-Columbia Library.

—*Rebecca Schmidt, Secretary*



ARS ELECTION RESULTS

Pat Shanley, current New York District Director and ARS Membership Chair, has been elected as ARS Vice President. Pat will be installed in September at the ARS Fall National Convention in San Ramon, California, September 27-30. She will move to the position of President in three years.

YOUR HELP NEEDED FOR ROSES IN REVIEW

Every year at this time rose growers are invited to rate the newer roses on the market. These ratings are then compiled by district and for the USA. The



national ratings are published in the January/February issue of the *American Rose* magazine and are used to create the *Handbook for Selecting Roses* (which is included in your American Rose Society membership). District results are available at the PNW District Fall Conference.

The Roses in Review program has for many years provided rose growers with the information they need to help in rose buying decisions.

There are two ways to participate in the review. The preferred way is to go online at www.ars.org. Click on the Roses in Review banner at the top of the page. Register as a new reviewer and begin rating roses. Clicking on the “refresh” line allows you to move from floribundas to hybrid teas to miniatures, etc. The other way to participate is to use the paper form in the *American Rose* magazine.

Reviews must be completed by September 26 to be included in the results. Consulting Rosarians are required to participate in the review.

FREE ORGANIC ASSESSMENT

Delores Beyersdorf and Ray Gorbett of Biological Farm Management, the generous and knowledgeable people who are helping Tom Miles upgrade the performance and beauty of our public Honor Garden without the use of chemical poisons, have offered to assess the garden of any rose society member. After receiving a soil test, you would hear their organic recommendations, discuss prices, and make your own decision about treatment. There is no obligation. Call 1-509-477-9688 to schedule a free assessment.

MISSOULA SHOW REPORT

The 66th Annual Missoula Rose Show on July 14 produced a Queen that out-of-town judges had seen only a few times

previously—Ray Hoffman’s ‘Paradise Found.’ King was John Hoar’s ‘Marilyn Monroe,’ followed by Patricia Waylett’s Princess, ‘Sunstruck.’ Prince was John Hoar’s ‘Chris Evert.’ Duchess was Ray Hoffman’s ‘Black Magic.’ Duke was Ray Waylett’s ‘Falling in Love.’

The three out-of-town judges had a unique experience: being sole judges of the entire court! (Local judges’ entries became the court royalty.)

On the mini/miniflora court were Patricia Waylett’s little Queen, ‘Magic Show,’ followed by John Hoar’s King, ‘Autumn Splendor.’ Ray Hoffman’s Princess was ‘Pierine.’ Glenda Elliott’s Prince was ‘Irresistible.’ Ray Hoffman’s Duchess was ‘Marie Jeannette,’ and his Duke was ‘Soroptimist International.’

Jim Sadler, Arrangements Chair, won the ARS Royalty Award and ARS Gold Medal Award using ‘Crescendo.’ He also won the Princess of Arrangements, using *R. woodsii* and ‘Lilian Austin.’ He took the ARS Artist’s Award and the Bronze Medal Award using ‘Love and Peace.’

Donna Dowell won the ARS Oriental Award and the Duchess of Arrangements. Two of the roses she used were ‘Crescendo’ and ‘Sunstruck.’

Two nearly perfect floribunda sprays shown together, ‘Sexy Remy’ and ‘Ebbtide,’ won Best Exhibit at this small, classy rose show.— *N.B.*



“KALEIDOSCOPE OF COLORS”

In-house Fall Rose Show— September 24, 2012

Fall roses in our gardens can be very beautiful, as colors are often intensified by the cooler temperatures. Bring your blooms and we'll have a rosy atmosphere at our September meeting. Our In-house show gives you a chance to enter roses using tips you picked up at our spring show to practice for next year's spring show. Arrangers, this is a chance to practice creating arrangements so you will be ready for next spring. Notice there is a class for dried roses. We hope you have tried drying roses using tips from Dorothy Campbell, and will dazzle us with what you learned.

Please note that you will use your own containers to display your roses. Entry tags will be available at the meeting for you to identify your entries. Each rose needs to be correctly named. For any questions about the show, please contact **Linda Kerkof** at 547-1860 or 851-2110.

Class 1A—Single rose, no side buds—grandiflora or hybrid tea

Class 1B—Single rose, no side buds—floribunda

Class 1C—Single rose, no side buds—David Austin or shrub rose

Class 1D—Single rose, no side buds—mini or miniflora

Class 2A—Spray of roses—hybrid tea or grandiflora

Class 2B—Spray of roses—floribunda

Class 2C—Spray of David Austin or shrub roses

Class 2D—Spray of roses—mini or miniflora. *Here's a handsome mini spray, photographed by Portland's Rich Baer.*



Class 3A—Collection of roses—hybrid teas, grandifloras, floribundas, David Austins, shrub roses, and/or polyanthas displayed in one container. Keep in mind the theme “Kaleidoscope of Colors.”

Class 3B—Collection of mini or miniflora roses. Keep in mind the theme “Kaleidoscope of Colors.”

Class 4A—“Kaleidoscope of Colors” – Arrangement using standard-sized roses. Designer's Choice. Please specify your design style: line, line-mass, mass, abstract, modern creative, Oriental style.

Class 4B—“Kaleidoscope of Colors” – Arrangement using mini or miniflora roses. Designer's Choice. Please specify your design style: line, line-mass, mass, abstract, modern creative, Oriental style.

Class 4C—“Kaleidoscope of Colors” – Arrangement, wreath, or picture using dried roses.

TIPS TO HELP YOU WIN

Disbud (remove all growth at every node—where the leaf meets the cane) to produce just one bloom on a long cane.

For a winning spray, remove the large center bud early in its development. If you disbud it early enough, the remaining buds will space themselves gracefully. Don't wait until the central bloom is wide open and fading, while the surrounding blooms are just right. If you remove the big bloom too late, it will leave an unattractive hole.

Some sprays need extra work to achieve symmetry. Remove any growth that extends far above or far below the geometrical shape of the spray.

Leaves should remain on the cane, except below the water line in the vase. Leaves and blooms may be trimmed to remove blemishes. Carefully twist off puckered, browned and streaked outer petals unless they are needed for symmetry.

Check how your entry fits the vase. If it doesn't stand straight and tall by itself, wedge it. Wrap the stem with folded saran wrap, keeping the wedging material below the rim of the vase.

Remove webbing, debris and insects. Bugs add an “ick” factor that will subtract points from your entry. Remove water spotting and dust with a piece of nylon stocking. Good grooming is one of the “plus” factors that can turn a blue ribbon entry into the Queen of Show.—*N. B.*

The Rose Whisperer

A Tribute to Tom Miles

Earlier this year the Tri-City Rose Society honored Tom Miles for his years of dedicated volunteer work in the “Vina Hudson and Leona Mattison Honor Roll Rose Garden” in Lawrence Scott Park by placing a plaque with his name on the honor roll stone at the west end of the Garden. Tom’s name is now added to those of Vina Hudson, Leona Mattison, Jane Melville, Don and Lorraine Doyle, Bill Bequette, and Roscoe Teats, all of whom significantly contributed to the success of that garden.

I’ll long remember my first encounter with Tom. He sat at the perimeter of a group of attendees of the Tri-City Rose Society meeting in the former AARS test garden beside the Master Gardeners’ Demonstration Garden in Kennewick. Tom had recently accepted the responsibility of being the caretaker-in-charge of our Lawrence Scott Park public garden. He had just made a plea for volunteers to help care for the roses in what was to become the Honor Roll Garden. I was interested in working with him to care for the roses, but I had precious little experience or knowledge.



With his head tilted down a bit, looking up at me over the brim of his wire-rimmed glasses, he asked what I knew about taking care of roses. My intimidated response was, “Not much, Sir, but I’m wanting to learn. I have a few roses in my garden at home and I want to learn how to take care of them.” “OK,” he responded ... not too enthusiastically as I remember, “meet me in the Lawrence Scott Park rose garden Saturday at 10 a.m. and I’ll teach you what I can about taking care of roses. If it works out, I’ll assign one of the beds to you to take care of.” Deep down I knew what he meant. If he likes me and thinks I have what it takes to work with him, he’ll let me have one of HIS beds.



We met that Saturday morning, and I began to learn rose care from an expert. That was it, the beginning of our collective understanding of how to care for roses, and more importantly, a friendship that continues to this day.

I learned much more from Tom than caring for roses.

Behind a sometimes gruff and rough exterior, he is a gentle, kind and generous man with a great sense of humor. That Saturday morning I learned about Tom, his family and employment history, and his experiences in the garden with volunteer rosarians, many of whom were no longer living. Perhaps more memorable, I learned that his wife Marlyn bakes GREAT cookies, and that she makes sure that Tom has a lunch with an ample supply of homemade cookies (enough to share!) for his long days of work in the garden.

I also learned that Tom, when accepting a task, is a focused individual. Almost single-handedly, Tom has led a transformation of the garden from too many bushes of too few varieties to a showcase of 195 different varieties among 300 plants. He studies each new addition to the garden to make sure that its size, conformation, color and hardiness will complement other roses in the same bed. He also studies each potential new rose to make sure that it will survive a Zone 5 winter and that it is rated high enough by the ARS to be a worthy addition to the garden. If you were to suggest a rose for the garden that is rated for zone 6 or received less than a 7.8 in the ARS Handbook for Selecting Roses, he’d likely scratch his head in his characteristic manner, and respond with a somewhat drawn out, “Well, I don’t know,” or “I’ll check it out.”

Tom, the rosarian, learned under the tutelage of Vina Hudson, one of our recent Matriarchs of the Tri-City Rose Society. Tom joined the TCRS to learn how to care for the roses in the yard of a home that he and Marlyn had recently purchased. Tom commented that it took him only a year to kill nearly all the roses at their new home. He joined the Tri-City Rose Society to find out what he was doing wrong, and to find a hobby to keep him busy (probably at the prompting of his wife). Neither he nor Marlyn are certain of when Tom started attending rose society meetings, but it was probably the early 1990's. After a couple years of regular attendance, Vina challenged him to help care for the roses in the society's public rose garden at Lawrence Scott Park. There, under Vina's tutelage, Tom received informal rosarian degrees in listening, watching and doing – skills that he teaches to all of us today. Both Tom and Marlyn agree that in those days of Tom's involvement with Vina in the garden, he was the brawn and Vina was the brains.

Surviving several threats to quit in the first three or four years of working in the garden, and Vina's insistence that he continue, Tom ascended to the throne as the King of the garden with Vina's blessing. He has capably managed the volunteer workers and carefully prepared budgets for all the materials and additions to the garden for the past several years. During any spring or summer week, you will probably find Tom at the garden supervising other volunteers, pulling weeds, deadheading roses, talking to people who walk the paths next to the garden, talking with neighbors whose homes border the garden, talking to the city of Kennewick's caretakers of the park, or preparing a spot in one of the beds for a new rose. Marlyn laughs when she says that she is a Lawrence Scott Park widow because of the many hours Tom works there each week. She laughs because she secretly enjoys the quietness at home. (She doesn't really want Tom to know, so please keep this to yourself.)

Being an engineer by trade, Tom has put his analytical skills to work in his continued understanding of how to best care for roses. He reads, listens and thinks through how he plants, fertilizes, mulches, prunes, deadheads and otherwise cares for roses. The condition of the garden today is a testimony to Tom's hours of planning and hard work. All of us who have worked in or visited the garden are aware that the quality of the blooms and health of the plants have steadily improved every year under Tom's leadership. Those who have visited the garden this year agree the display of color is unmatched.

Every local society needs someone like Tom to be their public spokesperson. I have watched Tom at many different venues happily and enthusiastically talking to the public about the local society, inviting them to meetings, encouraging them to join and take part in the local activities of the Tri-City Rose Society. He is an invaluable member of our group. It has been my pleasure to teach classes with Tom on various aspects of rose care at different events. While I'm teaching, Tom is promoting the TCRS and the American Rose Society. When Tom teaches, he promotes not only the love and care of roses, but the importance of being an active member of the local and national rose societies.

There are many milestones marking our friendship, but one of the most memorable is being certified as Consulting Rosarians by graduating from the ARS/Pacific Northwest District CR school on the same day. I appreciate Tom's insistence that I take the school with him and his encouraging me to stick with it.

Well done, my friend. Congratulations on your Honor Roll membership! It is well deserved. Thank you for your hundreds of hours of volunteer work at the Lawrence Scott Park Honor Garden, your loyal support of the Tri-City Rose Society, the Pacific Northwest District and the ARS, and sharing your wife's delicious cookies with all of us.

The Rose Whisperer AKA Harlow Young





A Bad Hair Day by Jo Angelos



As I found myself in my garden, knee deep in spring-planted mini roses, I wondered how many rose lovers may be in this same position. (You know how I encouraged you to purchase mini roses in a previous issue of the *Rose Herald*.) After a few more clips and snips, soon my topic for this month's writing was obvious...deadheading mini roses. My spring pruning was harsh - even the tiny mini roses from our society's sale were clipped back to the strongest canes. While the roses can't personally relate to a bad hair day, I feel I can compare my unsightly hair days to some unkempt, straggly mini roses in some of my flower beds, since both require some drastic cutting procedures.

After a long, dreary winter, it is that first haircut that prepares me for the upcoming summer heat. This new look actually makes me hold my head a little higher and walk a little lighter. I am refreshed and ready to boldly meet what lies ahead. My roses show signs of instant renewal after the initial yearly pruning, and their spring growth is fast and fabulous! It has been a marvelous summer; our cooler than normal temps have created nice blooms and healthy foliage. It is amazing how much better off we are without the intense heat day after day. It seems everyone and everything has a reduced stress level with our tolerable temps and limited windy days. With all the growth, it is easy to clip here or there or trim a few spots a little deeper...until...it is time for a carefully analyzed **thin** and a **trim**.



I liken this to the time of year when my "do" needs a "re-do" (you've been there, where no amount of hair spray or gel creates the look I so loved). "Bad hair day" takes on a whole new meaning. Even though this condition is not harmful to my physical health, it can cause undesirable mental trauma and an unnecessary hair product bill. However, the vitality of my mini roses can certainly be affected. As you can see, 'Dancing Flame' to the left lacks the needed air circulation and could easily break off with the right wind.

Once an appointment is made, my beautician examines the task at hand and determines the method which will be utilized to re-create my initial hairdo.

With a few carefully guided **trimming** clips on the outer edges and possibly some deep **thinning**, I am quickly back to the desired shape. The process for mini rose grooming requires this same evaluation. Does the mini rose just need some general shaping around the edges? Or do the old blooms need to be snipped farther down the cane to remove some stem-on-stem canes that have grown too long? I look for the Y-shapes (stem on stem) and try to trim to the strongest part of the Y. Any cane that cannot support a healthy bloom needs to be trimmed - before the wind gets a hold and does it for us.

We may need to get serious about thinning out some of the growth in the middle of the plant to allow vital air circulation. Mini roses can become very compact little bushes, and without some thinning right down the center of the plant, we are creating the perfect conditions for diseases such as powdery mildew (which eagerly waits for the night time temps to drop so it can perform its mischief in our gardens). Some of the mini roses deadhead themselves and we ask ourselves, what could be easier than that? Even though self-cleaning is a very welcome event in our garden, we must take a closer look. It may require a trim down farther on the stem or quite possibly a major hair cut, trimming out the whole stem that just sloughed off the bloom.



When you read this, it will be just a few weeks before we are told to stop the "trimming of the deadheads" and let the rose hips have their time in the spotlight. Until then, put on the gloves, pick up your shears, gather the waste container and keep your mini from suffering a bad hair day!



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Mark Your Calendar

August 27

Meet at the Gazebo in the Union Street
Demonstration Garden near the former
AARS Test Garden in Kennewick. Master
Gardener Suzan Smith will comment
upon recent developments and projects
at the site.

September 24

Our In-house Fall Rose Show will be
chaired by Linda Kerkof.

September 26

Roses in Review must be finished. See
story on page 3.

October 22

Louise Clements of Heirloom Roses in
St. Paul, Oregon, will be our guest
speaker at the annual banquet/potluck.

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