



# ROSE HERALD

## Your Roses Make our Show!

See them all at Sandberg Center on September 24, 7:30 p.m.



Our In-house Fall Rose Show, chaired by Linda Kerkof, is at the Sandberg Event Center at 7:30 p.m. Monday, September 24. Bring your best roses at 7:00 p.m. and add them to the “Kaleidoscope of Colors,” which features both horticulture and arrangements (see Page 4).

Yes, do bring **something**, even if only a few garden roses catch your eye. Linda will supply entry tags – you bring your own containers and the names of your roses.

Why not bring a neighbor along and introduce them to our friendly rose family. Bring their roses too!

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

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Below is an arrangement using ‘Red Minimo.’ On the left are three blooms of “Marilyn Monroe.”



### CO-PRESIDENTS DON & JOANN SAYLER ADMIRE MASTER GARDENERS’ INSPIRED WORK

Suzan Smith, Chair of the Master Gardeners Demonstration Gardens, told us about the gardens’ inspiration, growth and progress over the years – then gave us a wonderful tour of several gardens: the Formal, Serenity, Ornamental Grasses, Conifers (new), Children’s, Rock Park, and the Memorial Garden with its rectangular



pool lined with David Austin roses. More plans are in the works, but what has already been accomplished (all by volunteers in just a few years) is truly remarkable.

Suzan said everything needed has been donated, with no company recognition allowed. *Continued on Page 2*

**MEETING TIME, PLACE, AND HOW TO GET THERE**

September 24, 2012 at 7:30 p.m. – 7:00 if you have roses to enter. **Sandberg Event Center, 331 S. 41st St., West Richland.** At the intersection of Richland Bypass Highway and Van Giesen, go west on Van Giesen to West Richland. Just past Road 38, the Public Library and City Hall, there's a sign on your left for the Sandberg Event Center, a short distance from Van Giesen. There is plenty of parking in two convenient lots before you reach the former church building itself.

**CO-PRES' MESSAGE, *Cont.***

Bricks on a main walkway with your name or business inscribed are available to help the Master Gardeners' dream continue.

Joyce McDonald, Chair of the Test Garden for roses, gave us info to bring us up to date. Since AARS (All-America Rose Selections) went out of business, all AARS test roses had to be dug out and burned. It was quite a loss for the Master Gardeners, as Kennewick had been one of the few test gardens in the USA. However, a new testing entity called A.R.T has been formed to replace AARS. The Kennewick site was again chosen as a test site, and A.R.T will provide up to 50 cultivars a year (with 4 plants per variety = 200), So, good news!

The 48 roses now occupying test garden space are from Star Roses – their own program. TCRS Rose Horticulture Judges Norma Boswell, Helen Newman and Harlow Young are evaluating Star's roses during the 2012-2013 season.

We look forward to the September 24 meeting and In-house Fall Rose Show at the Sandberg Event Center. While our judges select the winning roses, we will look at prices and vote on our menu for the October banquet. We will also present a slate of officers for 2013 and take a vote of members present. Installation will be at the October banquet. — 'Til then, *Joann & Don Sayler*

**TCRS MINUTES, August 27, 2012**

The August 27, 2012 meeting of the Tri-City Rose Society was called to order by Co-president Joann Sayler at 6:35 p.m. in the Master Gardeners Demonstration Gardens gazebo on Union Street in Kennewick, WA. Fourteen members attended, and a guest, Marjorie Meimberg.

Minutes from the July TCRS meeting were approved as printed in the *Rose Herald*.

There are still mini roses to sell – 32 pots!

Tom Miles reported that the roses at our Lawrence Scott Park Honor Garden are looking good.

Joann reminded our Fall In-house Rose Show will be held at our September meeting, with Linda Kerkof as Chair. So, bring your fall roses!

Joann announced Rebecca Schmidt is stepping down as Secretary. So, please consider this opportunity to serve the Rose Society as Secretary.

Joann also has a request from Joyce Johnson for a speaker at

the Novella Club in Sunnyside. Please consider this opportunity.

**Feature Presentation:  
Master Gardeners Suzan Smith and Joyce McDonald**

Suzan announced the Master Gardeners State Conference (open to the public) will be held at TRAC in the Tri-Cities, September 13-15, 2012. Registration is September 12 at TRAC. For more information, contact the County Extension Office.

Suzan provided a wonderful history of the Demonstration Gardens, and she told her story of becoming a Master Gardener.

Joyce McDonald is responsible for the test beds just beyond the Demonstration Gardens. The AARS is no more, so their test plants in the beds had to be destroyed. Star Rose Company now has a few roses in the test beds. A new testing group has been formed, American Rose Trials (A.R.T.). The Union Street test beds will once again be a premier location for rose trials.

If you were not in attendance at this meeting, you really missed a special evening. The weather was perfect, and the company grand! The evening ended with Suzan Smith providing a guided tour of all the garden beds in the Demonstration Gardens. It was a very enjoyable evening, and we didn't want it to end. Alas, the light faded into darkness.

Remember, bring your roses to the Fall In-house Show at our next meeting on September 24! – *Rebecca Schmidt, Secretary*



## LAST CALL FOR ROSES IN REVIEW REPORTS!

September 26 is the deadline for submitting your 2012 Roses in Review. Consulting Rosarians are required to participate.



Results of the yearly reports are published in the Jan/Feb issue of the *American Rose* magazine and are used to create the *Handbook for Selecting Roses* (included in your American Rose Society membership). District results are shared at the PNW District Fall Conference.

Go online at [www.ars.org](http://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 July/August *American Rose* magazine.

## 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, will assess the garden of any rose society member. They will do a soil test, give their organic recommendations and discuss prices. Then you make your own decision about treatment. There is no obligation. Call 1-509-477-9688 to schedule a free assessment.

## I Play SISYPHUS

Sisyphus was a mythological Greek king condemned in Hades to push a heavy stone up a steep hill, only to have it always roll down again when he approached the top.

My "stone" is a maze of grass and weed roots deep within clay soil that is packed with rocks, pebbles and small boulders. These ingredients form a berm heaped up by the home builder 39 years ago. My home is several blocks away from the Columbia River, but the whole area was once a river bed. The weed-ridden berm contains clay soil originally pre-planted with junipers and evergreens (which I removed 35 years ago, along with a ton of rocks, when I became smitten with roses). Here are key factors: the berm is bordered with weedy grass that separates my house from a near neighbor's, and neighborhood covenants restrict changes.

Sisyphus endured eternal punishment in Hades for his sins on earth. My earthly punishment

is for the crime of neglecting my rose bed. I must bend and toil every day in weed and rock-packed soil 12-24 inches below ground. On my knees, with salty sweat stinging my eyes ... wet-gloved hands prying out and stacking rocks ... I try not to break roots, but dig them out whole. Inevitably, root fragments escape my labor and multiply into new underground invaders. If by some miracle I rout out every invasive root in the 10-foot section separated from grass by a brick border, new grass simply sneaks back under the bricks.

Before my self-imposed punishment began, grasses had smothered five mini roses and overwhelmed a David Austin plus three hybrid teas. (In my own defense, I had been nursing minor illnesses and encouraging carpal tunnel wrists to heal without surgery.) I hired a worker to remove the grasses, and he yanked the roses too. I gave away a yucca plant whose roots had broken out of its plastic pot and plunged into the berm. I mistakenly kept an impressive stand of *Arum Italicum*, whose large, exotic leaves enchant me in spring and fall but die and disappear between appearances, leaving spiky spathes topped with bright red seeds. Arum is a no-no in a small rose garden, as are other lovely plant sale purchases with invasive roots.

My rose journey could fill a volume with trial and error. Sisyphus says it's high time to make things right. — *N.E.*



## “KALEIDOSCOPE OF COLORS”

### In-house Fall Rose Show— September 24, 2012

Dear Rose Society Family,

As you know, our September meeting is also a fall rose show. In order to have a show, we need members to look into your gardens and find roses you can share with us at the meeting. Each year we see many beautiful roses that have survived late summer conditions and are great roses, so **please bring what you have** so we have something to enjoy at the meeting. This is a good chance for those of you who are just getting into exhibiting to try your hand at picking good blooms for show. For all you current and future arrangers, this is a chance to practice and show off your arranging skills. Look over the schedule, and please bring your roses to share with all. If you have any questions about the fall rose show, 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 single mini, ‘Live Wire,’ a 2010 winner taken from our website.*



**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 big middle bloom is floppy and fading, while the surrounding blooms look fresh and perfect. If you remove the dying 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. Rub off water spots 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



## Earwigs

EEK! There I was, relaxing while reading a recent copy of American Rose, when it happened. As I turned a page, a little creature dropped into my lap! It gave me such a start that I jumped out of my chair. After I realized it was just an earwig, I properly (humanely) disposed of it.



Not too many days previously, I had brought in a spray of roses from the garden and placed them near the recliner where I was reading. The roses had served their purpose well, but had wilted and were discarded not too long before this event. In retrospect, my wife had also noticed several earwigs in the general area of this particular spray. I hadn't told her that I saw earwigs from other roses that I had brought in ... I just quietly got rid of them.

I don't know if this year's weather (record rainfall in June and early July with a little cooler than normal temps) had any effect on it, but I have NEVER seen so many earwigs in my rose blooms as this year. My earwig experiences this spring and early summer prompted me to do a little investigation into these critters to see what I could learn about them: what they eat, if they're harmful to roses, if they're harmful to people, and how to control them. I was surprised and relieved by the facts.

I first contacted Rich Baer, Master Rosarian and instructor of the entomology section in the Consulting Rosarian School for the Pacific Northwest District, and Baldo Villegas, Master Rosarian and well-known entomologist. Rich reported that earwigs were brought into California many years back to control insects in orange trees. People often consider them predatory because of their ugly appearance and their aggressive attitudes when exposed. Usually, he said, they feed on organic material in the soil; but keeping gardens clean of weeds and other unnecessary plant material will force them to find other food, which sometimes is ... you guessed it, FLOWERS. Baldo characterized them as a nuisance and "pain in the butt," not a hazard. I learned from these two experts that my habits of keeping weeds and undergrowth controlled in my gardens, as well as layering organic mulch on the beds (in conjunction with perfect weather) has encouraged a large population of earwigs. Sigh.

I also consulted two local PhD entomologists with the extension agencies of Benton and Yakima counties, Drs. Jim Hyde and Michael Bush. They both indicated that many people are complaining about earwigs this season. They are convinced that the milder-than-usual winter and the mild spring and early summer have all contributed to the "bloom" in numbers of these insects.

There are some chemical and organic controls that gardeners can use to reduce the earwig numbers, but none are 100% effective. Some of the best controls are to clean up weeds around the gardens and against and behind buildings. To prevent the number of earwigs that crawl up the rose bushes, it was suggested that bushes be properly pruned to allow lots of air movement beneath the canopy. Unfortunately, the cultural practices which are beneficial to roses (i.e. mulching with bark and/or straw and proper watering) also promote harborage and multiplication of earwigs. It was also suggested to back off on the amount of water so that the conditions for earwigs are not so ideal. This, however, might contribute to greater stress on the rose bushes during hot summer days. Earwigs are attracted to certain smells, so placing small tuna-sized cans with about ½" (a half inch) of water with a few drops of bacon grease or fish oil will "get" them by drowning (I guess they're not good swimmers). Another suggested way to get rid of them is to roll up dampened newspapers and place the roll in the garden to be retrieved the next morning. Often, earwigs will seek the spaces in the paper roll for hiding and comfort, probably not to catch up on the latest news. The creatures can then be dumped into a prepared container of soapy water.

I learned that earwigs are omnivores. They will munch on small soft-bodied insects, like aphids. However, aphids multiply a lot faster than earwigs can eat them. Earwigs also like soft plant tissues such as rose petals, stamens and pistils, particularly if they can hide in the base of the bud or bloom while munching. Earwig damage to the rose bloom is not severe or long-lasting ... unless your intent is to exhibit the roses. In that case, you would probably want to wish a bumper crop of earwigs on your competitors (or go shake out your newspaper rolls in their rose garden a day or two before the rose show). Oh, wow! Did I really mean that? Probably not. Sorry, Jim Campbell, please forgive that passing malicious thought.

Earwigs are not harmful to humans, in spite of the ancient rumors that these insects crawled into sleepers' ears and "drilled" into their brains. What a thought! It's comforting to know that this is not true. Earwigs can pinch with their rear "forceps," but not hard enough to break the skin. Finally, they are not known to be poisonous or to carry any harmful diseases.

There are chemical controls for these insects, but these could kill other beneficial insects. So, the best advice I received is to tolerate earwigs, and shake them out of cut roses before taking the blooms inside. Now the hottest days of summer are past, and so is the "bloom" of earwigs in my garden. After the rose show, I vow to tolerate earwigs for the rest of the season.

Happy gardening to all. – The Rose Whisperer, **AKA Harlow Young**

Appreciated resources for this article:

1. Baldo Villegas, Entomologist and ARS Master Rosarian; email: [sactorose@yahoo.com](mailto:sactorose@yahoo.com)
2. Rich Baer, Master Rosarian, Portland Rose Society; email: [rosesxrich@aol.com](mailto:rosesxrich@aol.com)
3. Dr. Jim Hyde, Entomologist, Benton-Franklin County Extension, WSU
4. Dr. Michael Bush, Entomologist, Yakima County Extension, WSU



Co-Editor Jo Angelos adds a "Thank You" to Harlow for allowing her to insert some pictures and additional tidbits of information on our featured "*Forficula Auricularia*." The visual of you jumping out of your chair is great, but we really could have used a photo of the event – just something to keep in mind for future writings! ☺

The male and female picture at the beginning of the article also makes us wonder if Harlow's intruder was male or female. Since it has been long "disposed of," we will never know. Photos and facts, Harlow – keep 'em coming!



A mother earwig carefully tends to her eggs – keeping them clean and moving them to keep them at the perfect temperature. The eggs will generally die if not properly cared for. Once they hatch, she continues to tend to them during their first stages of life. She can raise several batches of eggs.



Earwigs are not a popular snack among predators; not only are they excellent at hiding, they produce chemicals called quinones, which are highly repellent. These quinones are a group of molecules related to benzene and naphthalene, which is the main ingredient in mothballs.

*Only One...* but still...  
By Jo Angelos

I am only one,  
But still I am one.  
I cannot do everything,  
But still I can do *something*;  
And because I cannot do everything  
I will not refuse to do the *something* that I can do.  
*Edward Everett Hale*



While in the garden with my two year old granddaughter Ava Rose, I was plucking off the old blooms on my mini roses. Not realizing I was being carefully watched, I ventured here and there, snatching up the old faded petals to make room for the new blooms to flaunt their fresh, vibrant colors. After a while, I turned to find her clutching the blooms on my asters and pulling with all her might – yes, she was helping me deadhead, and why stop at mini roses – we had a whole garden to tend to!

We start learning at a very young age that we “cannot do everything.” The number of times a two year old hears “No, you can’t” would surprise and possibly sadden us. They are not physically able to do so

many things in their little worlds, but their unwavering desire and willful determination causes them to think they can.



Grandparents certainly look at these learning situations in a far more relaxed way. I can still remember my Grandmother saying to my parents, “They are fine, they can’t hurt that.” Did that mean we never broke anything? No, but it did mean she knew we were curious, and she was

ready to give us an opportunity for a “hands on” look. She would give us a moment to learn how “that” felt and show us how it would need to be cared for. I love being the Grammie who says “They can’t hurt that” – although they do have to learn some of my roses can hurt them.

Granted, sometimes our circumstances influence what we can or cannot do, but that is when we must celebrate our achievements and begin working our hands on new projects. We must **never** sit idle and allow life to pass us by (especially by refusing to do the *something* we can do). Several years ago when I moved to the Tri-Cities, I was highly limited and uneducated in my rose growing efforts. My participation in the Tri-City Rose Society gave me tools and instruction, connections, guidance and family – making it a *something* I can do. ‘Alchymist’ and ‘White Lightening’ in the pictures above attest to the success of working with this group.



I find my bees have the same tenacity and focus I mentioned in a two year old. I wish we could all be as happy to “do our part” as these girls are – even when a lifetime of work only creates **one-twelfth of a teaspoon of honey!** Pictured in the bucket is the 4+ gallons of honey I extracted in July. This amazing process of honey production happens as each bee works as “only one”... but still....





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## Mark Your Calendar

### September 24

In-house Fall Rose Show at Sandberg  
Event Center in West Richland. We want  
your roses! Set up entries at 7:00 p.m.  
The show and meeting start at 7:30.

### September 26

Roses in Review report for this season is  
due. See how to report on page 3.

### October 22

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

### October 26-28

PNW District Fall Conference is held in  
Vancouver, WA at the rustic and beautiful  
Heathman Lodge. CRs, Horticulture and  
Arrangement Judges update credentials.  
Call Norma Boswell for more info.

## TRI-CITY ROSE SOCIETY

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