



ROSE HERALD

Feeding Roses for Best Bloom

Hear Alan Wicks at Sandberg Center on January 28, 7:30 p.m.



Alan Wicks will present our first program of the year at the Sandberg Event Center in West Richland, WA. Be there by 7:30 p.m. to hear Alan talk about "Feeding Roses for Best Bloom and Foliage." Learn how to get healthy, dark green foliage and vibrant blooms filled with personality. If

you have questions, be sure to ask them, and Alan will try his best to give you answers that you can understand and use.

This is the perfect, relaxed time to bring friends who are interested in roses. They will see our friendly group in action. Invite them to join!

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

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Across, below and on Pages 3 and 4 are five of Rich Baer's remarkable rose photos, shared with his permission. We have admired Rich's photographs in the American Rose magazine for many years.



CO-PRESIDENTS DON & JOANN SAYLER SHARE SNOWBIRD NEWS FROM SUNNY ARIZONA

Happy New Year from Arizona! We have thoroughly enjoyed our first two months down here with mostly great weather, and everyone is making the most of it. However, around Christmas the temps suddenly dropped. I had to cover the 'Betty Boop' rose we brought down and planted. I felt it was too tender yet for the few nights we have where temperatures dip into the 30's, and we



want to keep it blooming.

Our beautiful rose garden has been in continual bloom since we arrived November 1, and the cool weather now is preserving the show. Don and I work only an hour a week along with other volunteers keeping up the garden—really a labor of love. The park gladly supplies everything that we request.

Continued on Page 2



MEETING TIME, PLACE, AND DRIVING DIRECTIONS

January 28, 2013 at 7:30 p.m. **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. Park in either of two convenient lots.

CO-PRES' MESSAGE, Cont.

The latest additions are ground string lights lighting the curved path. Another wedding took place in the garden on December 1.

We're sorry to have to miss your January meeting covering the topic of Feeding Roses for Best Bloom and Foliage. Someone please save me any handouts from the speaker.

In the pottery studio I made a three feet tall "hobbit house" for our garden in Kennewick. It has a high pointed turret roof with leaves and vines. I expect it will shrink to two and a half feet after drying and firing.

Our thoughts are with the TCRS, and we know Jim and Harlow are doing their usual fine job of planning and programming to make your meetings informative and enjoyable.

We're smelling the roses down here and feeling blessed.

'Til next time, *Don and Joann Saylor*

TCRS MINUTES, October 22, 2012

The October 22, 2012 Annual Dinner Meeting of the Tri-City Rose Society was held at the Sandberg Event Center in West Richland, WA, which also catered the event. After dinner the meeting was called to order at 7:45 p.m. by Co-President Joann Saylor.

Minutes from the September 24 TCRS meeting were approved as printed in the *Rose Herald*.

Membership reported 71-72 current members. Membership renewal notices will be mailed out in time for each of us to renew our membership on its expiration month, January 2013.

Richard Kerkof reported on TCRS participation at the Fall Home & Garden Show at TRAC in Pasco, WA. TCRS members Richard Kerkof and Helen Newman gave talks at the event. It was noted the attendance at the talks was less than 20 for Richard and less than 10 for Helen.

Tom Miles thanked those who volunteered their time and skills caring for the rose beds in the Honor Garden at Lawrence Scott Park. He introduced the organic fertilizer experts –John, Ray and Delores – with whom he worked this year improving the soil in the beds. The results were

almost continuous bloom, and much improved soil composition. Tom reported the cost of caring for the rose garden this year was \$299.00. Tom also cared for the roses of a friend and was paid \$300.00, which he donated to the TCRS.

Linda Kerkof asked for monetary donations to put together TCRS's donations for the Pacific Northwest District's Fall Conference in Vancouver.

New Business: Norma Boswell installed the TCRS officers for 2013: Joann & Don Saylor, Co-Presidents; Harlow Young and Jim Campbell, Co-Vice-Presidents; Kathy Weber, Secretary; Bob Louie, Treasurer; and Linda & Richard Kerkof, Membership Co-Chairs.

Feature Presentation: The Rose in History, Literature, Art and Religion.

Louise Clements and Cheryl Malone of Heirloom Roses provided our featured event of the evening – a slide show giving an informative and enlightening view of the importance of roses worldwide.

Following the presentation, a drawing was held to award door prizes. Rebecca Schmidt received an Heirloom rose start, 'Hope for Humanity.' Lisa Day won a pair of garden gloves, and Delores Beyersdorf won hand pruners.

– *Rebecca Schmidt, Secretary*



Welcome Back, TCRS Family and Friends

Your Co-Editors received a lovely renewal card and letter from Membership Co-Chair Linda Kerkof. Believe it or not, everyone is due for January renewal. (We're not like some organizations who ask for a renewal in the exact month you joined. We try our best to enlist your continued support in January of every year.)

In case your renewal letter did not arrive, or if you're a newcomer thinking of joining our rose family, here are some important points to consider, as well as a Membership Form you can cut out, or copy.

You are a vital and precious part of our society. We couldn't do without you, and we hope you feel the same about us. It would be so wonderful if you would bring a guest to our January meeting and encourage them to join our friendly group. Our New Year's Resolution is not to lose weight, but to gain muscle strength – and grow.



Membership Form

Please circle correct choice:

- Single Membership \$17
- Family Membership \$22

Are you a current American Rose Society member?

Yes No

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____

Email Address

This is very important. We use this information to send you your monthly newsletter, and we do not share it with others.

Program Idea(s)/Request(s) _____

Just one reminder: send the Membership Form along with your dues to Rich and Linda Kerkof, Membership Co-Chairs, at 5306 Cleveland Lane, Pasco, WA 99301-8434. For questions about membership, you can call 851-2110 (Linda's cell) or 547-1860 (the Kerkofs' home phone).

ARS Trial Membership

The American Rose Society is offering a four-month trial membership for only \$10 to anyone who is interested in becoming a member of our national organization. Most ARS members are home gardeners who enjoy growing roses and want to expand their knowledge of rose culture.

Four-Month Trial Members receive: (1) **Free advice from Consulting Rosarians.** The ARS Consulting Rosarian program connects members with expert rosarians who provide free assistance with your rose questions. (2) **Free or reduced garden admissions, a \$25 value after just three uses.** With the ARS Reciprocal Garden Admission program, members enjoy free or reduced admission to, and discounts at,

hundreds of gardens, conservatories and arboreta nationwide. (3) **Free online access to four quarterly bulletins, a \$45 value.** Previously available by subscription only, the *Mini/Miniflora Bulletin*, *Old Garden Rose & Shrub Gazette*, *Rose Arrangers' Bulletin*, and *Rose Exhibitors' Forum* are all now available online free to all ARS members. (4) **Two issues of American Rose magazine, a \$16 value.** The only magazine devoted exclusively to roses and rose culture, these bi-monthly, 84-page issues feature informative articles and beautiful color photography for beginners and experienced rose growers alike. View a free issue online at www.ars.org. (5) **Discounts of up to 30% at merchant partners.** The ARS Member Benefit Partner program offers discounts at various merchants, with new partners being added continuously.



(6) **A four-month trial membership is valued at \$86 for only \$10!** To join, telephone the ARS at 1-800-637-6534, or use the form on their website shown above.

Winter Rose Care Tips

Before the ground freezes, water roses, and mulch the canes up several inches. This is most important for first-year roses, tender roses, or roses you can't bear to live without. You can also construct newspaper collars or buy commercial plastic collars and fill them to the top with mulch. (Continued on Page 4)



Winter Rose Care Tips

Pay particular attention to plants in pots in the garage, and water them several times a week. Don't fool yourself by poking frosty fingers into dark potting soil. Use a moisture probe. Cold soil is too easy to misinterpret as damp soil.

Any time the weather warms up and your desire to work in the garden grabs you, go ahead and free the beds from their dropped leaves and multiplying weeds. Your body will benefit from the exercise, and ambitious weed seeds will sprout harmlessly in the trash can.



Some tall rose plants may not already be trimmed. It's a good idea on these occasional warm days to prune off at least the top third of growth. Canes will be less vulnerable to wild winter winds. Occasional 30-40 MPH blasts can rip canes off a bush at soil level, and cause them to gouge each other with their thorns – making all-too-ready homes for fungi.

If you have trouble turning a round knob outdoor faucet on and off (where a hose is attached

for water delivery), here's a tip from Janet Sklar (a California resident), as reported to Jim Delahanty in *The Ventura Rose*, January 2013. Install lever action faucets. Arthritic gardeners can manage an up and down motion far better than wrenching wrist and thumb trying to manipulate round knob faucets. A plumber can do the installation for you.

Strengthen wrists and thumbs by doing wrist curls. Hold one 2-5 pound weight in each hand. Hang the weights straight down on both sides of your body, with the insides of your wrists pointing toward the back of your body. Keep your arms relaxed, with no tension in your elbows. Then snap your wrists up and down 100 times. When you feel a strain down the outside edge of each forearm, you've done the exercise right. Repeat every day before doing garden work. This exercise was recommended by my physical therapist. I believe it keeps my carpal tunnel area less pinched and painful.

When working in the garden, keep wrists and thumbs straight in-line rather than twisting. Choose light weight, long-handled tools that allow you to weed while you stand. Picture yourself doing less stooping and crawling under large, thorny bushes and making more standing moves. Feel your knees being saved, and your neck and back happier, as well as your wrists

and thumbs. Voila! You and I can feel better as we keep our roses looking better in 2013 – *Norma Boswell, Master Rosarian*

Fragrant Roses for You

If you're like most rose growers, you want roses in your garden to smell fragrant.

Kordes Roses have achieved remarkable disease resistance during the past 25 years. Now their hybridizers are adding outstanding fragrance. Only the allergic will shy away from a healthy, delicious-smelling rose.

Several Kordes' roses already have fragrance. Chris Pellett of *Newflora* describes three of them in the November/December 2012 *American Rose* magazine. In 'Golden Gate' he detects "an extraordinary and thrilling fragrance. The head note reminds one of lime with lemon also present. This develops quickly to a tangy note of freshly cut lemon grass. The heart note is an exotic, tropical scent of green banana. There is a strong nuance of tropical flowers. In the base notes is the impression of ripe banana and the humid tropical rain forest floor....This rose is at its most fragrant at noon and again as the sun sets."

Check Page 3 and become an ARS trial member. You'll learn where to find fragrant roses – and much more. – *N. B.*

The Rose Whisperer, January 2013 – Skippers and Roses

This month's Rose Whisperer article looks back to an event last season. It started with a chance encounter last October in the Master Gardeners Demonstration Garden behind the Kennewick library. As I often do, I was walking the paths through the various themed gardens, particularly the rose gardens. I always make a point to take my camera with me. This particular mid-October evening, a unique insect invited me to photo it as it fed on the nectar of the roses.

This insect appeared to be a small moth or butterfly, one that I did not recall having seen before. I took some pictures of it before it flitted away, and continued my walk through the roses, pausing now and then to smell their fragrance, and photograph a few of them.

A few weeks later as I was reviewing the photographs, I once again paused to look at the photos of this unfamiliar insect. I was intrigued by the fact that it appeared to be some type of unusual butterfly. Or, could it be a moth? It seemed to have characteristics of both. The photo included in this article is one of four that I took.

My curiosity aroused, I decided to e-mail the photos to a friend, Mr. Zane Gray, Senior Corporate Account Manager for Ecolab. He forwarded them to Terry Elichuk, a coworker in the entomology department, to identify the insect in the photos.

Here's an abbreviated version of Terry's identification: *"The insect is a species of skipper of the family 'Hesperiidae.' The skipper in the photographs is believed to be a Woodland Skipper, 'Ochlodes sylvanoides,' one of about 29 skipper species known to live in Benton County."*

The following information is extracted from Terry's further comments and some of the web sites that he attached to his summary. The name "skipper" is derived from their rapid, direct, and erratic or bouncing flight. They differ from true butterflies in that they often rest with their fore (front) wings open at about a 45 degree angle and hind wings horizontal and have a hooked or curved end to their antenna. Proportionately, their bodies are larger with smaller wings than [butterflies](#). They are similar to moths in that they have stocky, hairy bodies. Technically, they're not a butterfly or a moth; they're a skipper. I guess we could say that skippers are close cousins to both butterflies and moths.



I was fortunate to get this particular skipper to be still long enough for me to take its picture, since they rarely stay put in one spot for more than a few moments. [And, they will often "weathervane" the human observer by moving to face them, rather than provide a side-view profile.](#) Thanks, skipper, for cooperating with me for a few brief moments.

Our area apparently has a habitat that [is very hospitable to skippers](#). The caterpillar of this species is known to live among and feed on Bermuda grass ([one of its favorites](#)), which is abundant in our region. The adult habitat [in our area](#) is among sagebrush and gardens, [both of which are common here](#). Adults feed mostly on nectar of many types of flowers. The Master Gardeners Demonstration Garden provides a good smorgasbord for them.

Skippers are known by some as "alarm clock" insects, since they emerge and are seen about the same time each year. So, next September or October, be ready to observe [and enjoy](#) these interesting creatures darting and feeding among the roses and other flowers of your garden.

The Rose Whisperer, aka Harlow Young
threegkids@frontier.com

PNW District Fall Conference – October 2012

*By Linda Kerkof – Newly appointed Pacific Northwest District Arrangement Co-Chair,
Arrangement and Horticulture Judge*

At our October Dinner Meeting a collection was taken up to purchase items for Raffle and Silent Auction time at the Pacific Northwest District Conference. Our society was very generous, allowing us to contribute three items for auction. Members' cash donations, and wine donations by Don and Linda Mercer and Jean Bookwalter, allowed us to offer six bottles of Shining Hour Wine from Columbia Crest Winery, six bottles of white wine from the Bookwalters, and a beautiful vine designed wine rack purchased from Columbia Crest. Linda & Ken Rowe bought the winning ticket for the Bookwalter wines, and Charold Baer won both the Columbia Crest wines and the wine rack. Rosarians on the West side always appreciate the great wine from our side of the state and were quite pleased to have the opportunity to bid on the fruits of harvest from Eastern Washington.



the Bookwalters, and a beautiful vine designed wine rack purchased from Columbia Crest. Linda & Ken Rowe bought the winning ticket for the Bookwalter wines, and Charold Baer won both the Columbia Crest wines and the wine rack. Rosarians on the West side always appreciate the great wine from our side of the state and were quite pleased to have the opportunity to bid on the fruits of harvest from Eastern Washington.

On Friday night we had a wonderful arrangement seminar headed by Char Mutschler, outgoing PNWD Chair, assisted by Jo Martin, past PNWD Arrangement Chair, and Judy Fleck. Char focused on Tray and Tabletop Designs, Jo Martin focused on Hanging Designs, and Judy Fleck's emphasis was on Miniature Designs and containers used in creating them.



On Saturday we heard hybridizer Jim Sproul, who hybridized the Eyeconic Series of Roses, also known as the Hulthemia Roses. Updates on the use of chemicals available to rose growers was presented by John Moe. For those of you who get the *American Rose* magazine from the American Rose Society, the name Gary Ritchie may be familiar. Gary is one of our great speakers from right here in our District, and his scientific presentation on growing roses was very informative. If you have a chance to attend one of these District Conferences, you would indeed get a wealth of knowledge about the rose and touch base with many wonderful rose lovers.

Snow Laden Branches

By Jo Angelos

Our recent Christmas travels took us through the mountain passes of western Montana. The majestic beauty of the snow covered evergreens started out as inspiring, then as they towered over us from every direction they became awesome, and ultimately the picture-perfect serenity left us in a state of humble reverence. Of all the brightly decorated Christmas trees we saw in weeks before this, none could compare to those perfect mountain top beauties.



“Snow laden branches”- the phrase came to mind over and over. The snow on the limbs seemed so heavy, so burdensome! How long would they have to endure? A strong wind may provide some relief or the hope of some warmer temperatures. With some of the lower branches so heavy with snow, it seemed they could snap at any moment from all the weight and pressure. As my gaze turned toward the upper branches, I realized each one of them had just the amount of snow it could carry. The lower branches were recipients of their over flow. Maybe the larger and stronger branches on the bottom became larger and stronger by continually accepting this added responsibility.

My extended time in the car allowed me to pause and ponder. Where might I be in relation to those branches? Am I one of the top branches, allowing my excess load to fall to the lower branches? Do I avoid or ignore my responsibilities and cause others unnecessary burdens? Are there times I am closer to the bottom, and do I accept the load without complaint? Maybe I need to be more aware of my position and the location of those around me; there are many times I need to lighten the loads of others. The strength and beauty of the dense lower branches make me wonder if others see the bearing of that “load” as admirable. (I don’t see the load as admirable when I am in the self-pity mode.) Regardless of my position and feelings, I need to realize I can endure until the wind or the warm weather comes. While I may feel the pressures, guilt and burdens from outside forces, I can find comfort in the fact it is “only for a season,” and while some experiences may feel like a longer season than others - change will come.



The picture (left) shows us the graft of two trees. The bottom part is six years old and the top is from a 25 year old cone bearing tree. By grafting the two together, the seed bearing cones can be harvested at ground level, much easier than having to use a lift to get 20 feet or higher to obtain the precious cones. We might be able to compare the cones to our mentors in the rose society, the bottom section to the newer members in our group and the precious seeds to future members – offspring full of promise. The health of our group needs the robust enthusiasm and energy provided by the younger section, and the mature segment ensures the continuation of the group by providing the protection and environment for the formation of the seeds.

Our mentors are highly qualified and our new recruits will have easy access to their expert advice, every month at meetings and anytime by phone or email. The American Rose Society provides online information and education as well as the bi-monthly *American Rose* publication. It is time to invite a friend or neighbor to join our Tri-City Rose Society and what better time - a New Year - and very soon a new beginning in all our gardens. These new members (precious seeds) would create fresh growth and increased vitality to our membership.



All it would take is for each member to invite one person to join – and our society would immediately double in size! Let’s get growing!



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Mark Your Calendar

January 28, 2013

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February 22-24, 2013

TCRS participates in the Home and Garden Show at TRAC. Our Educational entry in Blue Mountain Garden Clubs' Standard Garden Show is called "Hocus Pocus Focus on Roses." Consulting Rosarians will give talks on rose care.

February 25, 2013

Second monthly meeting of 2013. (Mark your calendar for the fourth Monday of every month – and watch for info about programs, pruning demonstrations, etc.)

TRI-CITY ROSE SOCIETY

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