



ROSE HERALD

Dried and Fresh Designs

Easy Techniques Taught at the Sandberg Center April 23, 7:30 p.m.



Dorothy Campbell and JoAnn Brehm will present "The Perfect Flower Design for Your Table" and show how to dry flowers. You will be inspired to convert a bit of your garden bounty into a lovely table arrangement, and to preserve a bit more to brighten winter months

next year. *(Above is a dried wreath done by Dorothy in 2011. On the right is a fresh design completed by JoAnn in 2008.)*

Bring a friend to our design program. Catch the creative fever and let your ideas germinate and grow. Have fun!

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

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CO-PRESIDENTS DON & JOANN SAYLER IN TRI-CITIES, RETURNED FROM ARIZONA

Happy Spring to all...

It was good to be home, see the kids and dogs again, and get out the rose clippers. It was a nice trip home going through beautiful Utah.

Was sorry to leave our AZ rose garden which was coming into full bloom as we left. It was two weeks early due to



three months of great weather. A wedding took place in the garden, which pleased our Garden Club. However, one thing they didn't anticipate was the automatic lawn sprinklers! (The chairs got soaking wet, but were moved in time.)

What a difference we saw at home!

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**MEETING TIME & PLACE**

Monday, April. 23, 2012 at 7:30 p.m. **Sandberg Event Center**, 331 S. 41st St., West Richland.

Driving Directions: 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, you will see a sign on your left for the Sandberg Event Center, a converted church set back slightly from Van Giesen. There is plenty of parking in two convenient lots before you reach the building itself.

CO-PRES.' MESSAGE, Cont.

Last year every plant looked dead. This year everything in the yard was green and growing, with no need for severe pruning. We just cleaned up the bushes and pruned to shape. One garbage can full of clippings instead of three!

One sad note on the pond. No fish in sight. Big mystery until Don happened to take off the cover of the skimmer which ran all winter. There we saw twenty fish which, while sleeping, were sucked up into the skimmer cavity. The protective screen had fallen away. A shock, of course, as one Koi we'd had for eight years. Do I even need to mention the smell? The pond is now drained.

We look forward to April 23 and seeing you again. —*Don & Joann*

TCRS MINUTES,**MARCH 26, 2012**

Rebecca Schmidt, Secretary

The March meeting of the Tri-City Rose Society was held March

26, 2012 at 7:30 p.m. at Sandberg Event Center in West Richland.

Old Business—Harlow Young advised that 255 miniature roses will arrive on or about April 15, in time for the Master Gardeners' Spring Garden Sale.

The name plaque for Tom Miles is now permanently mounted on the Honor Roll stone in our Lawrence Scott Park Rose Garden.

New Business—Members voted to sell miniature roses for \$7.00 per plant.

JoAnn Brehm circulated two sign-up sheets for the June Rose Show, one for members interested in being clerks and one for committee leaders. JoAnn will send email requests if she doesn't get volunteers.

Feature Presentation: Mike and Cheryl Bush, "Pest Management for Roses." Mike holds a PhD in Entomology, and is the WSU Extension Entomologist and Pest Management Director for Yakima County. He is also the Yakima area manager for the Master Gardener program.

We all enjoyed the very informative, and often humorous, presentation on IPM (Integrated Pest management) methods for control of pests in the rose garden. Mike stressed the use of multiple strategies: biological, mechanical, or physical (such as smashing pests between two bricks rather than spraying with chemicals), cultural, behavioral, selecting resistant rose varieties, and (last resort) using chemical pesticides. He talked about "soft" pesticides (those that wipe out target pests, but do not affect beneficial organisms and do not have lingering detrimental

effects on the environment) as well as judicial use of conventional pesticides. He defined a pest as "any organism in the wrong place at the wrong time." Entomologists believe that only 1% of all known insects cause harm to the world's horticultural crops.

An important concept of IPM is learning to "tolerate" certain pests, such as aphids, because their damage to the plants is not permanent, just superficial. We should "tolerate" a certain number of aphids, because they support a population of beneficial insects and really don't harm the flowers. Several rose exhibitors questioned Dr. Mike's definition of harm. Any blemish on the bloom or stem lowers the score of a rose show exhibit. Therefore, sucking aphids do have a detrimental effect. Dr. Mike added that special detriment to his broad storehouse of entomological knowledge.

Our speaker also said that we should learn to recognize beneficial insects, and use "soft" pesticides that spare beneficials while targeting those that damage our roses—and plan the use of pesticides to be preventive more than reactive.

Dr. Mike showed photos of common insect pests on roses in Eastern Washington: Mossy Rose Gall (not many were acquainted with this, or knew the insect that caused it); rose aphids, leaf hoppers, thrips, spider mites, root weevils, leaf cutter bees, and earwigs. Dr. Mike showed us ways to control these pests, including their natural predators: lady beetles, green lacewings, and small wasps. Given opportunities, they can control the aphid population.

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When needed, the judicious use of in-ground systemic pesticides controls sap-sucking pests, and is not known to have detrimental effects on other parts of the environment, soil organisms, or beneficial insects.

As a final reminder, Dr. Mike encouraged us to a) check our roses regularly so we know when a specific insect pest arrives, b) observe and promote beneficial insects to control pests, c) use multiple strategies to control pests, d) use commercial or conventional pesticides sparingly, and e) most importantly—relax and have fun with roses!

The group was very appreciative of Dr. Mike's presentation. We all learned better ways to prevent or control pests in our rose gardens. Thanks, Dr. Mike, for your excellent program.

The meeting concluded about 9:15 p.m.

HERE'S A BIG THANK YOU TO JIM CAMPBELL



The Tri-City Rose Society owes a **big** debt of gratitude to Jim Campbell, who single-handedly pruned roses in four local gardens and received fund raiser donations from homeowners totaling \$340. Thanks to his efforts, our society is better able to afford the most expensive event we give to the

public each year—our June Rose Show at the Shilo Inn.

MINI ROSE PLANT SALE

Volunteers will sell mini roses



at the Master Gardener Plant Sale behind the Kennewick Library on Union St. on Saturday, April 28. Shifts are 8-11, 11-1, and 1 until closing and take down. This is a much-anticipated fundraiser.

Chairman Helen Newman purchased a permit from the City of Kennewick for the Rose Society to hold this one-day sale. Master Gardeners gave permission for us to join them in this endeavor.

The table, poster, and money box will be opened around 7 a.m. on April 28. That way we will be sure to be ready.

Any volunteers to man the sale will be appreciated. Just call Helen Newman at 521-3166 or email hnewman@owt.com the times that you can be there.

Roses will arrive the week before, so if you want some minis before they are sold to the public, let me know.—*Helen Newman*

SINCERE SYMPATHY to Pat

Moore, Walla Walla, WA on the death of her husband Hugh. We will offer support in person to our long-time friend when Pat judges the Rose Show here on June 10.

BLUE MOUNTAIN DISTRICT OFFERS A GARDENING STUDY SCHOOL MAY 17-18

The Blue Mountain District of Garden Clubs invites members of the Tri-City Rose Society to attend Gardening Study School at Columbia Basin College May 17-18.

Classes on Basic Botany, Soils, House Plant Basics, Plant Propagation and Micro-Environments start at 8:15 a.m. on Thursday and dismiss at 4:15 p.m. (8:15-2:15 on Friday). Fee is \$45 for both days or \$30 for a single day. Registration after May 6 costs an extra \$10.

Editor Norma Boswell will email a registration form with full details if you call 375-0567 or email rosybos@owt.com.

THE ROSE WHISPERER: FEEDING YOUR ROSES

Fertilizing roses is a topic that one could discuss for hours. As in any good debate, there are pros and cons for using organic or conventional, liquid or granular, manures, and composts. When all is said and done, the use of strictly organic fertilizers, or only commercial, or whether you use a blend that has organic mixed with conventional fertilizers is your choice. I've used both with good results. As a Consulting Rosarian, I am willing (and encouraged) to try new products in order to be able to make recommendations to the local society and community as a whole.

Here are a few fertilizer basics to consider when feeding roses this spring.

SOIL: What shall I feed?

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Check the type of soil in your garden. As a rule, roses prefer a rich clay loam, and one that is well drained. Roses will thrive in many



types of soils, though, from sandy to clay. They prefer a pH that is slightly acidic, an ideal pH range being 5.5 to 6.8. Higher pH levels (closer to or over 7) means the soil is neutral to alkaline, which can cause many nutrients to be "tied up" or unavailable for the root system to use. Roses can suffer if planted in high pH (alkaline) soil. In alkaline soil the leaves may look pale yellow, or chlorotic. We recommend that each rose gardener's soil be tested to make sure that the pH is within the desired range.

SPRING FEEDING: Wait until the ground warms before you feed. For the Tri-Cities area, this could be late March to early mid-April. Sunshine, warm soil, and longer day length determine the time of spring growth, not the fertilizer we have applied. Fertilizer is useful only if it is available when the plant starts its spring growth spurt. Always remember—The soil must be watered before fertilizer is applied so nutrients can dissolve and reach the level of the feeder roots, and be available to be taken up by the plant.

If granular rose food is being applied, use it at the labeled rate. Often, that rate is about ½ cup, or

one handful per established rose bush. Use a bit more for larger rose plants like climbers and large shrubs, and less for smaller bushes and miniature roses. Granular fertilizers are usually designed to dissolve slowly and should be sprinkled around the root zone of the bush and gently raked and watered in. It is important not to over fertilize, especially with high nitrogen fertilizers. Fertilizing needs to be a balanced approach, and consistent with the soil deficiencies indicated by the results of soil test analysis.

SUMMER FEEDING:



Early summer, just after the first flush of blooms in late May or early June, is the time to give your roses their second feeding. To keep things simple, you can use the same all-purpose rose food that you used in spring.

After you rake in the summer rose food, water thoroughly. Roses are surprisingly drought resistant, but they will perform better and flower more if you water them regularly, especially during hot, dry periods. If soil is bone dry, plants will not benefit from any feeding. Feeding should follow each bloom cycle up to the end of August or early September. At that time feeding should stop, because roses react to colder soil and shorter day length by preparing themselves for winter.

LIQUID FEEDING: Using a liquid fertilizer between bloom cycles is a really good way to maintain your rose's health and flowering all season long. There are too many of these products on the market to even begin to comment on them. Again, those that you use will depend on your "organic" or "conventional" gardening preference.

MULCHES: There are loads of great mulches you can add to your rose bed. They are very beneficial for keeping the rose's root systems cool and the soil moist. Also, over time, mulch provides nutrients and improves soil structure. (I am not a fan of rock mulch in a rose bed.) Home compost is great. You can also buy aged or composted manures, aged bark mulch, and a vast assortment of prepared bagged mulches. If you wish to study more about mulches and manures, do a web search and have fun!

ASK FOR HELP: Don't be afraid to ask questions of our



Consulting Rosarians with respect to feeding roses. Tell them your preferred gardening style (organic or conventional) and the specific problems you are experiencing or goals for your garden.—*The Rose Whisperer, aka Harlow Young*

Support Our Supporters

Dorothy Campbell graciously accepted the offer to help me seek the advertisers for this year's Rose Show Schedule. Each year the economic situation plays a big part in an advertiser's decision to support us. We ask all of you to:

Please consider these fine businesses each time you need home and/or garden supplies.

Please tell them "Thank You" on behalf of our Rose Society as you make personal purchases (and if you don't visit their stores, send them a personal note).

Please consider using them when making purchases for others...such as wedding gifts, shower gifts, baby gifts, birthday gifts, anniversary gifts and "just because" gifts! If you don't have ideas for that special gift, consider giving a gift certificate from one of these fine sponsors. Let them know we appreciate them all year long! Thank you,
Jo Angelos

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'Yabba Dabba Do'

A Special Thanks to:

Sandburg Event Center

*We appreciate the use of your beautiful
facility for our monthly meetings.*

2012 Rose Society Membership List

(as of April 5, 2012)

Atkins, Janice & Gary	509-585-1427	Miller, Sue	509-542-1877
Angelos, Jolene	509-586-0857	Mills, Radine	509-783-6375
Baalman, Elizabeth & Ray	509-545-1081	Morris, Cindy, Tom & Tyler	509-545-5995
Bookwalter, Jean & Jerry	509-627-4495	Muggli, Anne	509-586-0060
Boswell, Norma	509-375-0567	Newman, Helen	509-627-0880
Bourouh, Chaoura	509-396-9054	Niebuhr, Lynn	509-783-6374
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Brendel, Judy & Dennis	509 545-6890	Palmer, Linda & Mark	509-375-3590
Campbell, Dorothy & Jim	509-967-2606	Powell, Julie	509-545-8167
Cavanaugh, Toni	509-521-9151	Rector, June	509-375-1569
Daer, Ivadell & Frank	509-946-0208	Reynolds, Bill	530-343-9707
Daugherty, Jane	509-582-0780	Roberts, Ann	509-539-0168
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Gant, Charles	509-375-0567	Schultz, Judy	509-943-3065
Grosso, Debra & Vince	803-634-1267	Sevcik, Rita	509-734-4119
Hulse, Loretto & Blaine	509-547-4805	Sharer, Cyndy	509-943-3927
Isley, Mary	509-783-6097	Skaer, Roger	509-736-1104
Jenks, Rhonda	509-269-4988	Smith, Jeanette & Bob	509-547-4302
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Kerkof, Linda & Rich	590-547-1860	Staringer, Judy	509-946-6744
Kerkow, Carol	509-783-1634	Tinseth, Elaine	509-588-8398
Knowlton, Nancy	509-967-5585	Van Buren, Shirley	509-282-3327
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Louie, Bridget & Bob	509-531-5727	Watson, Carolyn & David	509-735-7201
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Mercer, Linda & Don	509-894-4598	Burleigh, Pat & Douglas	509-546-2488
Miles, Tom & Marlyn	509-627-7003		



'Bull's Eye'

If you have received this Rose Herald, you have renewed your membership for the 2012 season. If you see a name missing, please reach out to that person and encourage him/her to rejoin and help us keep our rose family growing. Each and every member is like a unique bloom waiting to be enjoyed by all; if you know someone you would like to become a member of our society, invite them to our next meeting. It takes each and every one to keep our society growing and blooming. A single membership is \$17 and a family membership is \$22.

Memberships should be sent to Linda Kerkof, 5306 Cleveland Lane, Pasco, WA 99301-8434. Please make sure to include your name, address, phone number and email address.

Everyone Needs a Mini Rose!

By Jo Angelos



Our annual mini-rose sale is just around the corner. Every year I have helped with this sale many of the same questions are asked. People truly want their rose to survive, and it is my hope to provide some solid answers to those of you who shy away from growing mini roses. You can be ready and eager to support our Rose Society and purchase mini roses in just a few weeks! I challenge you to take the first step, purchase some of these little beauties, use any of this information and be prepared to be enchanted as your garden comes alive with color.

Mini roses offer a variety of sizes and colors and can be enjoyed as container plants or blooming favorites among garden companions. As potted plants they can easily become the centerpiece of a summer get-together and provide mobile color options. People with limited mobility can enjoy these beauties at the level that works best for them. (No more stooping to the ground, when planters can be placed at the necessary level.) Children will enjoy the small blooms at their levels and learn about “prickles” without the severe pain of the large varieties of roses.



Some recommend a 6” pot for a mini rose, but since many of the varieties grow up to 18” high and wide, using a 12” pot on the larger varieties will save you from repotting the plant as it begins its second growing season. Most specimens grow between 4 and 18 inches in height so it is important to read the label; this tiny plant you purchase with just a couple of stems WILL grow to the indicated size! Use equal amounts of potting soil, compost and perlite for the container planting; this creates a rich, well-draining soil. Fill the bottom of the planter with about an inch of rocks or Styrofoam peanuts to allow for good drainage and to prevent the soil in the bottom from becoming too compressed. Soil direct from the garden is not suitable to use in containers. The soil may contain weeds, pests and diseases. Garden soil also compacts down with repeated watering.

Roses in containers tend to deplete the soil of its nutrients more rapidly than if they were in the ground. When replacing these nutrients, refer to the fertilizer label for feeding. The pot you choose for your mini rose may be plastic or clay. Plastic fares better in cold climates where freezing may crack clay containers, although clay does provide a cooler condition for the roots during hot weather. If choosing plastic, it is better to obtain the lighter terra-cotta color rather than the darker plastics, which heat up faster.

Once you have your container in the place you want your mini rose to grow, try not to move it to an area that receives more direct sun; sudden changes in sunlight and temperatures may adversely affect the growth and development of the plant. If you would like to move the inside potted mini rose to the outside, harden off the indoor potted miniature rose before taking it outdoors to prevent it from going into shock. Start by placing the plant in the outdoor environment for a few hours and leave it a little longer every day. For a patio plant make sure it gets the necessary sunshine and adequate water. With the midsummer intense heat and hot winds, container plants will dry quickly and may require daily watering.

If planting in a garden spot, make sure it will receive plenty of sunshine – at least 4-6 hours. Morning and early afternoon sun areas are preferred to hot afternoon sunny spots. Mini roses are very happy at the base of the larger sister varieties of roses; they create color and interest where bare stems make their way to the foliage and blooms of the larger rose. (The mini roses also enjoy a little of the shade provided by this larger companion; it is a win/win situation for both plants.)

Cover the plants in fall to protect them from winter freeze. Pile soil or organic mulch around the base of each plant, along with a thick layer of dried leaves on top. This not only protects them from the cold but allows the ground to retain vital moisture from drying winter winds. Remove the covering in early spring. Bury potted roses in the soil up to the lip, or move to a sheltered spot such as a cool basement or garage. I’ve found in particularly dry winters, mini roses tend to suffer the most. I lightly water all my potted plants whether on my covered patio or in my garage at least once a month during the winter. Since mini roses are own root roses, they are considered more hardy than grafted roses. Springtime pruning allows the rose to be cut back, thinned out and ready for another summer. Inspect mini roses just as you would any rose; remove any dead, diseased or damaged stems as they appear. Keep the plant’s foliage from becoming too compact to allow adequate air movement.

The mini rose is native to China (*Rosa chinensis* “*Minima*”) and is a true rose: smaller in size but equal in color choices, abundant varieties and petal formations. Just as the little lady on the right shows the determination to be a “mini-ma” of our own kind, our mini-roses want to do everything the big roses do, and they can. The climbing ‘*Rainbows End*’ on the left is in its third year of providing valiant color all season. Several mini roses can be planted in the garden space of one regular rose and your color palette is instantly expanded. The grower can easily maintain a compact form and desired look by trimming and deadheading throughout the summer. Minis are easy, they are fun and they will provide a delight you’ve never known before – Yes, EVERYONE needs a mini rose.





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Mark Your Calendar

April 23, 2012

Dorothy Campbell and JoAnn Brehm will
present "The Perfect Flower Design for
Your Table" and how to dry flowers.

April 28, 2012

Mini Rose Sale with Master Gardeners.
(See details on Page 3.)

May 17-18

Gardening Study School (Details Page 3.)

May 21, 2012

Helen Newman will demonstrate
techniques she uses to prepare her
roses for our annual spring show.

June 3, 2012 - Spring Rose Show

Shilo Inn, Richland, WA. Check Minutes
on Pages 2-3. Watch for more details
next month.

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