



The Rose Petal

The Greater Palm Beach Rose Society

Founded 1970



Visit our website: www.gpbrs.org

Promoting Rose Growing in South Florida for Over 40 Years

October 2023

Member of



Calendar:

- ▶ Nov 27 2023 7:30pm
Nate Fisher Presents
Rose Hips and
Hybridizing Roses
- ▶ December 10, 2023 4 pm
Holiday Party
- ▶ January 6, 2024 10:30am
Field Trip to White Trail
Flower Farm
- ▶ February 26, 2024, 7:30pm
The Rose Geek,
Kimberley Dean Presents
- ▶ April 13, 2024 10 am
Rose Garden Tour,
Wellington Fl
- ▶ April 27, 2024 All day
Mounts Botanical
Gardens Spring Plant Sale

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President's Message

by Debbie & Geoff Coolidge

There is a hint of fall in the air and we have begun to feed and prune our gardens now for a holiday flush of roses! The year is just flying by! I would like to give Karen Sullivan a big THANK YOU for donating her time and energy on the Board as our Secretary. Karen has stepped down and we are very lucky to have Kim Wendt back and, without any reservation, Kim stepped up to fill the open position of Secretary. The Board also unanimously voted our dear friend and colleague Victor Lazzari as a Director. We have such a great group of volunteers! I have two requests of our members:

1. Please try your best to attend the meeting in person. The Board works very hard.
2. Apple/cherry pie!!! I now know who will be making this for the holiday party – with home made, from scratch, crust! Yummy!

PLEASE JOIN US: November 27, 2023 Mounts Auditorium

Our next program the Greater Palm Beach Rose Society and the Tropical Rose Society are excited to have Nate Fisher from Garden Roses LLC present Rose Hybridization and Seeds at our November 27, 2023 meeting at 7:30 pm at Mounts Botanical Gardens. Nate founded The Lehigh Valley Rose Society, and as of September 2022, it accounts for roughly 20% of all ARS members in Pennsylvania & New Jersey combined. In September 2021, Nate received the American Rose Society's "Rising Star" award at the ARS National Rose Show & Convention in Milwaukee, WI. He has given presentations to various gardening clubs and ARS affiliates/chapters on rose care, soil science, running a successful ARS chapter, disease/pest identification & management, etc. He was featured in the January/February 2022 "American Rose" magazine, and he's been a guest on "Rose Chat." With nearly 100 of his own roses, in 2022, Nate and his family decided to start exhibiting in rose shows. In 2022, the Fishers received 7 trophies, 7 best-in-class, 29 firsts, 1 gold certificate, 2 bronze certificates, 1 Queen, 1 King, 1 Princess, 1 Duchess, 32 seconds, 21 thirds, and 59 honorable mentions. Nate attended Oregon State University and majored in Botany & Plant Pathology.

In addition to his many talents, Nate formulated and registered with the PA Dept of Agriculture an all-natural, organic rose fertilizer with a blend of mycorrhizal fungi, which serves as an ongoing fundraiser for the organization's operating expenses. It's received rave reviews and has been used at the Malcolm W. Gross Memorial Rose Garden in Allentown, PA, for the past 2 years. In 2020 and 2021, Lehigh Valley Rose Society members led revitalization efforts at the Bethlehem Rose Garden, which was neglected by the city for several years and had a

Editor's Corner

Welcome to *The Rose Petal*. Sorry for this month's delay as I had an emergency out of state! But I'm back now and I hope you enjoy this issue!

I cannot stress enough the benefits of joining your local rose society and becoming an active member. I have met so many new and interesting friends. The presentations I have attended have given me a wealth of information and new techniques to try for my roses. And I must say that my roses are better for it! Please join us at our meetings. We would love to have you become one of our new friends. Any suggestions, please contact me at foxviewroses@gmail.com I hope to see you all our next meeting.

Denise Abruzzese
Editor

*"But friendship is
the breathing rose,
with sweets
in every fold"*

Oliver Wendell Holmes

severe outbreak of RRD (Rose Rosette Disease). In the summer of 2021, with the garden now under control, volunteer efforts were handed over to the local neighborhood association. Desiring a new project, Nate reached out to local municipalities to ask if they'd be interested in a public rose garden. Upper Saucon Township responded right away, and Nate designed a rose garden featuring 672 roses and 576 bulbs/annuals/perennials for their new Hopewell Park. A year later, close to \$100,000 has been raised and the project is about halfway complete. Nate is overseeing the logistics and construction as "Project Manager."

Nate's interest in rose hybridizing was sparked by meeting and talking with Will Radler (hybridizer of the "Knockout" family of roses), Steve Singer, Steven Roussell, Dr. Jim Sproul, Dave Bang, & David Clemons. He joined the Rose Hybridizers Association, and with the 672 Hopewell Park roses and his 97 roses at home, started to cross roses. Nate formed Garden Roses LLC to hybridize roses with a focus on disease resistance, strong fragrance, vivid colors, and unique bloom form. In Nate's first harvest, he collected 288 rose hips containing a total of 2,464 seeds. He also sells rose bands on own root for non-patented roses.

We are excited that he will be sharing his rose hybridization process with us. This will be "hands on" experience. If you have a rose hip you want to work on, please feel free to bring it along with a sharp knife! Nate has also graciously offered to send rose hips to us for the experience. Thank you Nate! Please join us for this Free presentation!

GPBRS ROSE CHATTER:

- * *Here ye! Here ye! Those interested in Consulting Rosarian School!!!! ONLINE CONSULTING ROSARIAN SCHOOL! Coming February 3, 2024 and February 10, 2024. So if you want to become a Consulting Rosarian, now would be the time! There will also be in-person classes Sunday, January 21, 2024 in Gainesville.*
- * *The Deep South District will be holding it's mid-winter meeting January 19 through 21, 2024 in Gainesville, hosted by The Tampa Rose Society.*
- * *Bring your rose entries to each meeting and our own Consulting Rosarian and Rose Show Judge, Bill Langford, will give you pointers and tips for what the judges are looking for!*
- * *Just a reminder we need your help at the monthly meeting refreshment table. Please let Dave Byron (email: dabyron@gmail.com) know what you are volunteering to bring. Thank you!!!*

Companion Planting for Roses and Landscape Design

This month's presentation by Master Gardener, Landscape Designer and Author, Victor Lazzari was spectacular! Victor presented us with pictures that depicted before and after color combinations and designs. He explained how to use the color wheel for companion plantings and which companions work well in South Florida. After the presentation, I grumbled that I had to now dig up 375 roses and move them around so I had gardens that looked like the pictures Victor presented to us. If you have the chance to see him present (I believe Gainesville at the mid-winter Deep South District meeting), please do not miss it. He makes it "all make sense". So as a result, I have ordered more seeds of companion plants than I can possibly use.....stay tuned.



The 12 Best Old Roses for South Florida

Part I of a two-part series on roses

Author: Victor Lazzari

10/29/2023

“Pfft- nope.” “They’re way too much trouble.” “They never did well for me.” “I just can’t friggin’ grow them!”



MRS BR CANT
Photo: Heather Norton-Daniel

These are just a few of the replies when I ask the average South Florida gardener if they grow roses. Actually, these are just the G-rated responses; public decency prevents me from repeating the more colorful ones. Regardless, the general mind set is that growing roses in South Florida is about as easy as building a functioning nuclear reactor out of Jolly Ranchers.

If I ask these gardeners to then delve a little deeper, I usually find out that they were from northern areas originally – as I was, once upon a time. They tried growing the same roses they had in their colder-climate gardens, met with rapid failure in one way or another, and this led them to dismiss *all* roses in South Florida as a fruitless endeavor.

Here's the thing: It is, in fact, pretty easy to grow roses in South Florida! What's more, our frost-free climate allows us to enjoy these incredible flowers every month of the year, instead of only in summertime as per cold-climate gardens.

In the first of a two-part series on roses, we're going to examine one method for having fantastic roses in your South Florida garden: Growing heat-tolerant “old roses.”

Old roses (sometimes called antique roses or heritage roses) are simply any variety of rose introduced prior to 1867. As their somewhat ageist title implies, these are historic plants; some date back to the very dawn of rose cultivation circa 2000 BCE.

Thankfully, we need not be historians to grow these beauties. But to understand why they generally perform better in South Florida than many of the modern roses more common in American gardens, we'll take a quick glance back at the genetic history of roses.

Strictly speaking, all species of *Rosa* (the rose genus) evolved in the northern hemisphere. In this very broad sense, roses can be thought of as “northern” plants rather than tropical plants. Disappointing for us here in South Florida, right?

Not exactly. Two rose species — the giant rose, *Rosa gigantea*, and the Chinese rose, *Rosa chinensis* — originated in the humid subtropics of Southeast Asia. *R. gigantea* hails from northern India and Myanmar, and *R. chinensis* is from southwest China. So, while these two roses are technically from the northern hemisphere, they are subtropical plants best suited to warm, humid, frost-free climates. Warm, humid, frost-free... sound familiar, South Florida?

Moreover — and this is the fun part! — when these two species were brought to Europe in the late 1700s, Western gardeners immediately used them to breed exotic new rose varieties. Like some sort of botanical fairy godmother, these two roses were able to bestow beautiful, previously unseen traits onto their offspring. From *R.*

gigantea came long, chiseled flower buds and soft pastel tones of apricot and buff – colors not seen in European roses up until then.

But from *R. chinensis* came an even better trait: Remontancy, the fancy-schmancy botanical term for “reblooming.” Previously, roses only flowered for a few weeks in early summer, with nothing more to show for the rest of the year. *R. chinensis*, on the other hand, would rebloom on any new growth produced during the growing season – and this trait could be passed on to its offspring. And if the growing season lasted all year long, as it does in South Florida, then – *bippity boppity boo!* – you not only had a remontant (everblooming) rose on your hands, but one that thrived in humid heat as well. More bloom power? Yes please!



Rosette Delizy Photo: Victor Lazzari

Four classes of old roses emerged in the early 1800s using *R. gigantea* and *R. chinensis* genes. The China, Bourbon, Noisette, and tea roses (not to be confused with *hybrid* tea roses – more on them later) soon became famous for thriving in steamy subtropical climates like South Florida; they were tough, heat-loving, disease resistant plants that rebloomed endlessly all year long.

The Chinas, Bourbons, Noisettes, and teas enjoyed a heyday in the first half of the 1800s. Unfortunately – cue sad music – that all changed when the hybrid tea class was created in 1867.



Duchesse de Brabant PHOTO: Victor Lazzari

Hybrid tea roses were able to produce gigantic flowers that included vivid shades of orange, yellow, copper, and even lavender. The novelty of these new colors and oversized blossoms caused gardeners everywhere to quickly forget about the old roses and their “limited” color range of white, pink, and red. Never mind that old roses were far healthier, more heat-tolerant, and generally easier to grow. As with many fads throughout history, style trumped substance – something we gardeners are especially prone to whenever the hottest new flower comes along.

Over the course of the 1900s, hybrid tea roses dominated American gardens. By the dawn of the 21st century, however, their disease susceptibility and general fussiness has led gardeners to come full circle and re-embrace the old roses and their easier culture.

Nowhere is that embrace more apropos than in South Florida: Our challenging climate and expanding eco-mindedness makes these

vintage beauties valuable garden assets. Having grown many old roses in South Florida since moving here in 2007, I can say with confidence that these are fantastic garden plants for our sweltering corner of America.

Romantic flowers, powerful perfumes, easy culture – what more could you ask for?

Gardeners new to old roses should consider one of the following 12 superb varieties to start; they serve Old World beauty with 21st century appeal. For online retailers, check out Rose Petals Nursery

(www.rosepetalsnursery.com) in Florida, Rogue Valley Roses (www.roguevalleyroses.com) in Oregon, and the Antique Rose Emporium (www.antiqueroseemporium.com) in Texas.

‘Archduke Charles’. **China**. Lilac-pink flowers take on increasing red tones as they age. Light, sweet perfume. Grows 5-8’ tall.

‘Carnation’. **China**. The name perfectly describes the shape of the dark pink, fringe-tipped petals. Grows 4-6’ tall.

‘Ducher’. **China**. The only white China rose currently in commerce. Deeply cupped flowers with a delightful honeysuckle scent. Grows 3-4’ tall.

‘Duchesse de Brabant’. **Tea**. Soft pink, semidouble flowers with a unique apricot-and-allspice perfume. ‘Madame Joseph Schwartz’ is a pale blush mutation. Grows 5-7’ tall.

‘Etoile de Lyon.’ **Tea**. The name means ‘Star of Lyon’ in French. Full, pointed petals are done up in softest buttercream yellow. Flawlessly handsome, healthy foliage. Grows 4-5’ tall.

‘G. Nabonnand’. **Tea**. Chalice-shaped flowers in a watercolor of buff, apricot, and pale pink. Light, sweet scent; thornless stems. Grows 4-6’ tall.

‘Haywood Hall’. **Noisette**. Immense clusters of small, blush white, pompon-shaped blossoms with an intense, spicy fragrance. Can be used as a climber. Grows 6-10’ tall.

‘Le Vésuve’. **China**. Large, full flowers done up in carnation pink; blooms often nod on their slender stalks. Thorny canes; good for hedges. Grows 4-6’ tall.

‘Maggie’. **Bourbon**. Also called ‘Kakinada Red’ and ‘Madame Eugene Marlitt’. Rich cerise, peonylike blooms with a sharp peppery scent. Grows 6-10’ tall.

‘Mrs. B.R. Cant’. **Tea**. Exquisite, fragrant, antique-shaped blooms of rich pink highlighted with brick red and magenta. Grows 6-9’ tall.

‘Rosette Delizy’. **Tea**. Full, ruffled flowers are bicolored creamy yellow and warm pink. Attractive reddish-brown stems. Grows 4-6’ tall.

‘Souvenir de St. Anne’s’. **Bourbon**. Flat, open blooms of ethereal blush pink. Intense, spicy perfume. Grows 3-4’ tall.

Be sure to tune in next month for Part II of our discussion on roses, where we review the specifics of cultivating roses in South Florida, and examine twelve modern roses (yes, those!) that perform especially well here.

VICTOR LAZZARI, is a Master Gardener, landscape designer, published author, garden writer, lecturer and horticulturist. He holds a BA in Landscape Design, an MA in Landscape Architecture and a Masters Certificate in Agro-ecology. He has been growing and evaluating roses for 25 years and frequently includes them in his landscape design work for clients. He is a Director of The Greater Palm Beach Rose Society and an active participant in the Tropical Rose Society. You can find Victor on facebook under Victor Anthony.

Deep South District Fall Convention and Rose Show, by William Langford

I recently returned from the 2023 DSD Fall Convention and Rose Show. (For our newer members, "DSD" stands for the Deep South District of the American Rose Society, and is comprised of local rose societies in Alabama, Florida and Georgia). It was held in Gainesville, Florida. Normally these District events are hosted by one or two local rose societies, but this year the hosting duties were shared among many people throughout the district. The Gainesville Rose Society hosted the rose show portion of the event and did a great job. The show was very competitive. There were a large number of hybrid tea, miniflora and miniature roses entered. I was one of the judges and choosing the top roses in each of these categories was not an easy task. There were also many beautiful floribunda, shrub and old garden roses entered. The Best in Show award went to 'Celestial Night,' a floribunda entered by the Deep South District's Director, Cindy Dale.



Several rose-related programs were presented. One of the programs was given by Mark Windham, professor emeritus of plant pathology with the University of Tennessee. He spoke about diseases that affect roses, starting with the one we are most familiar with, blackspot, and ending with one that can be quite devastating, rose rosette disease. The good news for rosarians in Florida is that rose rosette disease is rarely found here and when it

was identified in north central Florida, it did not spread to other bushes. The tried-and-true controls for blackspot are still the best. That is, spacing bushes far enough apart to allow adequate air flow and not allowing water to sit on the leaves for more than 6 hours. The space between the bushes allows the breeze to dry the bushes faster. Planting the bushes where they get morning sun to help dry the dew off is also beneficial.



At the Saturday night banquet, Cindy Dale received the Silver Medal Award. It is the highest honor award given at the District level. The event concluded with the attendees playing a few rounds of "rose bingo." The usual numbers on the bingo card were replaced by names of roses, rose diseases, names of hybridizers, etc. It was quite a challenging bingo

game! The event ended with a gathering of attendees in the hospitality suite. It was a well-planned and fun weekend.

The DSD Rose Show occurs about this time every fall. Consider making plans to attend next year's event.





JOIN THE AMERICAN ROSE SOCIETY

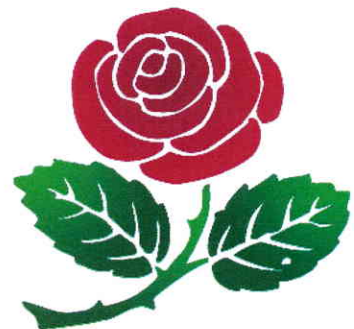
www.rose.org or (800) 637-6534

Which Membership should I choose?

- Individual Membership is for one person younger than 65 years of age.
- Joint Membership is for two members of the same household. All the benefits of membership are enjoyed by both, but only one magazine is delivered to the household.
- Senior Membership is for one person over the age of 65.

Senior Joint Membership is for two members of the same household, one of whom is over the age of 65. All the benefits of membership are enjoyed by both, but only one magazine is delivered to the household.

- Canadian Membership is for one person residing in Canada.
- Canadian Joint is for two members of the same household residing in Canada. All the benefits of membership are enjoyed by both, but only one magazine is delivered to the household.
- International Membership is for one person residing outside the United States or Canada.
- International Joint is for two members of the same household residing outside the United States or Canada. All the benefits of membership are enjoyed by both, but only one magazine is delivered to the household.
- Associate Membership if the main member of the household is a Lifetime Member; or if you have more than two adults in your household who wish to belong to the ARS, please choose this category of membership.
- Youth Membership is for one person under the age of 16. Youth members enjoy all* the benefits of membership, including a special quarterly e-newsletter, but do not receive the magazine. (*Youth members are not eligible to vote.)
- Lifetime Membership is for one person under the age of 65 who wants to enjoy the benefits of membership in the ARS for their lifetime.
- Senior Lifetime Membership is for one person over the age of 65 who wants to enjoy the benefits of membership in the ARS for their lifetime.



Trial membership in the ARS! An \$86 value for just \$10! You will receive two issues of the beautiful American Rose magazine, your member ID card; allowing you discounts with our Member Benefit Partners, along with free or discounted admission to more than 200 gardens and arboreta across the country.



Greater Palm Beach Rose Society
New Member Enrollment Form

If you wish to join online, visit
<http://www.gpbs.org/new-join/>

Today's date _____

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Are you a **Consulting Rosarian**? ()Y ()N

Are you a **Master Rosarian**? ()Y ()N

How did you hear about the Greater Palm Beach
Rose Society? _____

Annual Dues: \$25.00

Paid via:

() cash, or

() check (# _____) and made payable to
"Greater Palm Beach Rose Society"

Send to: Denise Abruzzese
4680 Foxview Place
Lake Worth, Fl. 33467
FoxviewRoses@gmail.com

For more information, visit www.gpbs.org

For questions, contact Membership Chair
Larry Auton <roses@winux.com>

Greater Palm Beach Rose Society projects span
several areas of service. Please check below to
indicate your willingness to support:

_____ **Civic/Community Outreach**

Rose Garden Maintenance at Mounts Botanical
Garden

_____ **Communications**

Membership, registration, mentors, new member
receptions, website, social media, yearbook,
publicity, promotions, photography, artwork

_____ **Adult Education**

"Around & About", awards, workshops in floral
design, garden art, environment/conservation

_____ **Youth Education**

College scholarships, youth contests, youth garden
clubs, youth rose gardens

_____ **Gardening**

Horticulture, plant raffles, plant sales, plant
propagation, plant craft classes, birds, bees &
butterflies

_____ **Hospitality**

Organize the refreshments for monthly meetings,
Holiday and Spring luncheons

*Greater Palm Beach Rose Society is a 501(c) (3)
organization.*

Revised May 2023

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2023

Co-Presidents: Debbie Coolidge
561-313-0077
Geoff Coolidge
561-310-8508
Coolidge38@gmail.com

Past Presidents: Bill Langford
561-309-8736
Whl2@prodigy.net

Kathy Rose
561-665-0535

Fred Frappier
561-951-8232

1st Vice President: Maria Wolfe
561-386-4903

2nd Vice President,
Membership: Larry Auton
908-625-4795
Roses@winux.com

Secretary: Kim Wendt
561-436-8555
Kwendt.palmbeach@gmail.com

Treasurer: Denise Abruzzese
631-988-5244
Foxviewroses@gmail.com

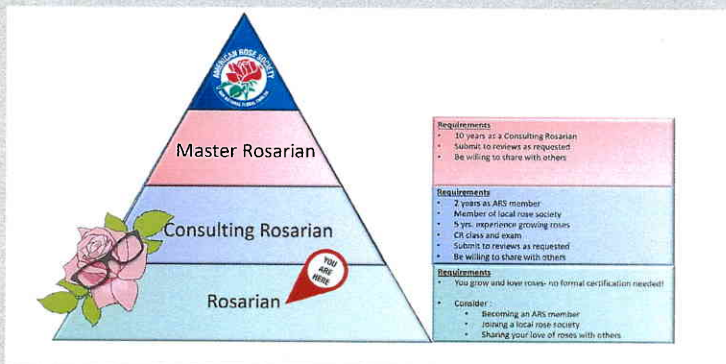
Hospitality: David Byron
314-422-8762
dabyron@gmail.com

Directors:
Mike Becker 817-522-2970
Maria Wolfe 561-386-4903
Fred Frappier 561-951-8232
Frank Sullivan 561-596-8071
Victor Lazzari 305-905-5904

Newsletter Editor: Denise Abruzzese
631-988-5244
Foxviewroses@gmail.com

Website: Larry Auton
Roses@winux.com

Greater Palm Beach Rose Society needs CONSULTING ROSARIANS! Please consider making an application. Please email Janet Newburgh at the Consulting Rosarian program at the American Rose Society for further information janneburgh@gmail.com



Our Consulting Rosarians

Debbie Coolidge 561-313-0077
Geoff Coolidge 561-310-8508
Coolidge38@gmail.com

Bill Langford 561-309-8736
Whl2@prodigy.net

Mike Becker, Master Rosarian 817-522-2970
becker.mike@att.net

ONLINE SCHOOL COMING Feb 2024!

EVERY ROSE HAS ITS THORN

Sometimes great grandma's methods work best!

Add a cup of cornmeal around the drip line of your rose. Water in. It works! Why?????

Because cornmeal contains a fungus called **Trichoderma** which destroys the fungus that causes black spot. It will also clear algae from your pond!

