



# Rose Reflections...

Produced for members of Sacramento & Sierra Foothill Rose Societies

January 2024

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Volume 18 Issue 1

**Raffle Rick Asks  
Bring a Raffle Items  
Plants, AND  
other garden stuff**

**PRUNE!  
BABY  
PRUNE!**

**RENEW your Membership for 2024.  
DO IT NOW!  
Bring \$20 Check or CASH to the next meeting.**

**<<< This will be your last reminder >>>**

The time from Thanksgiving to New Year is the time to spend time with your family and friends. Don't know about you but I had a great time at the Holiday parties that Sacramento and Sierra Foothills sponsored which were well attended and lots of fun.

There is one conundrum at the end of the year. There is so much good food around. It is virtually impossible to not gain a few pounds. However, since January is THE month to do most of your rose pruning in our area; we have the opportunity to work off those extra pounds pruning! Didn't think I was going to go there did you?

Gardening is so good for you! Check out the many reasons below:

1. Stress Relief: Gardening's mindful tasks alleviate stress and anxiety, providing a mental sanctuary.
2. Physical Exercise: From planting to harvesting, it naturally incorporates physical activity, promoting fitness.
3. Nutritional Rewards: Homegrown fruits and vegetables enrich your diet, fortifying your immune system.
4. Connection with Nature: Time spent in a garden nurtures a bond with nature, boosting mood and Vitamin D intake.
5. Sense of Accomplishment: Witnessing growth instills confidence, fostering a positive mindset.
6. Social Interaction: Community gardens and gardening clubs foster social bonds, creating a supportive network.
7. Mind-Body Harmony: Balancing planning and presence enhances cognitive health and mindfulness.
8. Therapeutic Benefits: Recognized horticultural therapy leverages gardening for mental and physical well-being.

*Happy Pruning, Charlotte Owendyk, Master Rosarian*

**SFRS does not have a meeting on Thursday, January 4th. Instead we will have a Winter Care Workshop Saturday, January 13th. See page 2 for more details.**

If you have a family favorite chili, bring a slow cooker filled with your chili and see how ranks.

**2024 Sierra Foothills Rose Society**  
**WINTER CARE WORKSHOP FOR ROSES**  
**Saturday, January 13th from 9 am to 1:30 pm**

**ORANGEVALE GRANGE AUDITORIUM**  
**5807 Walnut Avenue Orangevale, CA 95662**



Baldo Villegas, Linda Knowles, Charlotte Owendyk  
Master Rosarians

**Watch Baldo prune a rose in  
3 minutes or less.**

**EASY TO LEARN TECHNIQUES**

Practice under the watchful eye  
of experienced rosarians  
who prune hundreds of their own roses.

**LEARN THE BASICS**  
**OR, REFRESH YOUR SKILLS.**

**COME AND HAVE SOME FUN!**

**TASTE & VOTE FOR BEST CHILI**

***ASK AS MANY QUESTIONS AS YOU WANT!***

**AGENDA**

- 8:30 AM – Doors Open/Registration
- 9:00 AM – Pruning Tools and their care
- 9:15 AM – Pruning Principles & Tips by Rose Types
- 10:00-10:45 AM – Hands On Pruning by Type
  - Hybrid Teas & Floribundas....
  - Old Garden Roses & Polyanthas....
  - Shrubs & Climbing Roses....
  - Miniatures and Minifloras.....
- 10:45-11:45 AM – Roses in the Landscape
- 11:45 AM -12:30 PM Controlling Pests & Diseases in the Garden ( Q & A)
- 12:30-1:30-Q&A and Chili Cook-off (Vote for BEST Chili)



**WHEN YOU LEAVE YOU WILL CONFIDENTLY PRUNE YOUR ROSES!**

## SRS PROGRAM INFORMATION

### Grab your shovel; it's time to dig in!

There comes a time in every rose gardener's life: Where are you going to plant another bush?

Often, the answer may be: Take one out.

It's called "shovel pruning" – the hard choice to dig up a bush that, no matter your efforts, just isn't performing as expected.

Or maybe this problematic bush is just in the wrong place. Then it needs one more chance – in a better location. How do you transplant a bush that's already been growing in the ground?

For that matter, what's the best way to transplant any rose bush – from those that come packed in plastic to others rooted in a supposedly biodegradable pot?

Here's your chance to find out! Our rosarians will tackle transplanting, shovel pruning and other timely tasks during the January meeting of the Sacramento Rose Society. Moderator Debbie Arrington will lead a panel discussion on the different ways to approach these jobs.

January is the best month to transplant roses in our area. The soil is soft from rain, yet still warm enough for root development. Put in the ground now, these new bushes will likely produce roses this spring – in time for our April rose show!

Our meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 11, at Shepard Garden and Arts Center, 3330 McKinley Blvd., Sacramento, in McKinley Park. Parking and admission are free.

As always, our meetings are open to the public. Bring a friend!

*~Debbie Arrington*

### SRS REFRESHMENT CORNER

A very Happy New Year to all! Please come and enjoy of some delicious refreshments at our January meeting, courtesy of our board members! Our board members generously provide the refreshments in January and February!

Our December holiday lasagna dinner was a great success! Our sincere thanks to everyone who helped with the setup, the serving, and the cleanup! We couldn't have done it without you!

See you at our January meeting!

Janice Lauinger (Jlauinger@softcom.net , (916) 993-9221

Cherilyn Duncan (cherilynduncan@gmail.com , (916) 408-3455

***Sierra Foothills January Meeting is the Winter Workshop for Roses  
on Saturday, January 13th .***

***See attachment or page 2 for additional details.***

***Any gardening enthusiast or rose society member is welcome to come. Please let your friends and neighbors who have roses know about this "well worth the time" workshop.***

# MONTH BY MONTH ROSE CARE

By *Linda Knowles, Master Rosarian*

For California, Zone 9b

## JANUARY

Prune roses to ½ to 2/3 the size. Tie up climbing roses after pruning. Clear away soil from the crown or bud union to expose. **Attend the Winter Care Workshop & Chili Cook-Off presented by Sierra Foothills Rose Society on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday in January to learn the basics of pruning.** After pruning, rake up all leaves and debris and put 1 to 2 cups of alfalfa pellets around each bush. Add mulch if needed.

## FEBRUARY

Finish pruning by Valentine's Day. Water if needed. According to Baldo Villegas, Master Rosarian, no Epsom Salts are needed in California—NOT RECOMMENDED.

## MARCH

Weed if needed. By mid-March, add organic fertilizer. I use a mix of EB Stone Rose (available at Green Acres) and Rose-tone (available at ACE Hardware, Home Depot). Both of these are dry meal/pellets. Add a cup or so to each bush, or broadcast over the area. This is a good time to apply a top dressing of horse manure. See if there is a barn nearby for free manure.

## APRIL

By the 1<sup>st</sup> of April or the end of March, use a hose-end sprayer and mix about 1" of dry Maxi-crop seaweed (available at Peaceful Valley, online), plus about a ¼ cup of liquid fish emulsion and drench the whole bush and area. May need to mix a second batch. A week later, apply the mix of Rose-tone and EB Stone again. You can apply another application of Maxi-crop and liquid fish later in the month. Make sure roses are getting water. Start deadheading blooms as they get old. The sooner you deadhead, the sooner they re-bloom. Do NOT use any insecticides—you want the birds and other beneficials to do their job on aphids. You may use a sharp spray of water to knock the aphids off and keep spider mites from coming.

## MAY

Increase watering as temperatures increase. Continue blasting aphids and spider mites with the hose. Continue deadheading and weeding. When deadheading, cut back about 4 to 6 leaflets. The farther you cut back, the longer stems on your roses! Apply another application of the organic fertilizer followed by another application of the Maxi-crop and fish emulsion a week later. This is the last month for heavy bloom until October.

## JUNE

There is still good bloom in June, just not as much. Deadhead and weed. Increase watering according to temperature and your soil. You can apply fertilizer and Maxi-crop, but not necessary, unless you have an event and want more bloom. You may see powdery mildew and/or black spot start to appear. This is caused by low temperatures overnight. You can blast off yellow leaves with the hose, and, maybe remove some mildewed leaves, but it will clear up as temperature rise.

## JULY

Increase watering as temperatures rise. May need to water twice a day. Do overhead watering often to hydrate the plants and keep spider mites from forming. No need for fertilizing because of the heat. You could do a spray of maxi-crop and fish emulsion. Deadhead and weed. This could be a time to use mulch. A light application of crushed bark, such as Pathway Bark (available at Home Depot).



# JOY IN ROSES...

## AUGUST

Keep roses watered and hydrated by lots of overhead watering with the hose. Use strong spray with the hose to knock off yellow leaves. No need to fertilize. This month or next is a good time to add a top dressing of horse manure. Celebrate new basal breaks from the bud union. Do not think they are unwanted suckers. If you aren't sure, let it grow. If it becomes taller than the rest of the plant and has different leaves and no bloom, then it is a sucker. Cut or tear it off at the base, which is a few inches from the bud union.

## SEPTEMBER

Continue with watering and deadheading. Continue overhead watering with the hose. Use strong spray to knock off yellow leaves. Mid-September is a good time to cut back your bush by 1/3 to 1/2 for increased fall bloom. After cutting back, use the Rosetone and EB Stone organic fertilizer dressing. A week later, follow with Maxi-crop/fish emulsion spray.

## OCTOBER

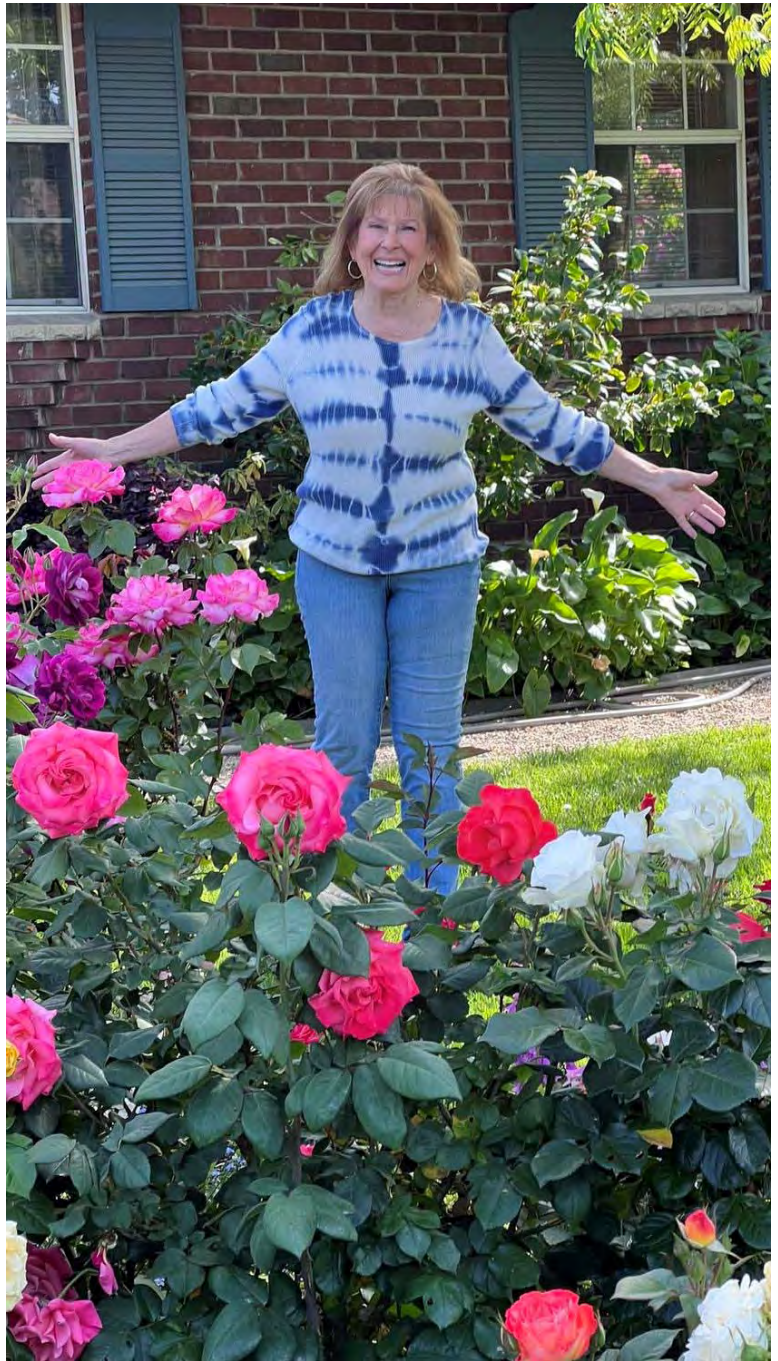
Enjoy all the bloom in the garden! Can cut back on watering unless there is no rain. Could do one more Maxi-crop/fish emulsion, but no need. This is a good time to plant or move roses. You can plant roses anytime, but cooler temperatures are better.

## NOVEMBER

Enjoy the blooms. Leaves will yellow and show black spot as they age. It's normal as they slow down. No more fertilizer until March! A good time to move plants or plan which roses should be in a different location. If a lot of rain, you will see Botrytis on the blooms. This is a fungus which starts out with speckles on the petals, then they turn brown, and finally gray. Get rid of these when it starts so it doesn't spread to others. Keep the area clean.

## DECEMBER

Cut blooms for the house! Start pruning. Zone 9 window for pruning is Christmas to Valentine's day. This is a big job, but we have 9 months of bloom! When you prune, take off ALL the leaves so new ones can come.



## ESSENTIAL ROSE TOOLS

**Good pair of Clippers, Rose Society membership, Rose Friends, Patience, Ability to spot a WEED, and Love of Good Food!**

# WINTER HEALTH IN THE ROSE GARDEN FOR HUMANS

~Kay Jelten, Health Officer & Consulting Rosarian, Sierra Foothills Rose Society

Just as our roses and gardens do better with focused care targeted for each season, as the caretaker of our gardens, we too benefit from some focused attention on our own health needs for each season. Since winter is top of mind now, let's start with the things we humans should do for ourselves during this season.

Winter is pruning time – the thorny business of cutting out old, dead/diseased & non-productive rose canes. No matter how careful we are, I doubt there is any rose gardener who has NOT ended up with some scratches, tears or skin punctures from a few wicked prickles!

I hope you have a good pair of rose pruning gloves which are long gauntlet style made with a thorn-resistant leather or other material. That nasty cane nails us anyway: We holler "Ouch!" (perhaps other choice words...) quickly inspect the damage & maybe go right on with our pruning work.

I encourage you to STOP immediately, remove your gloves, grab a tissue or clean paper-towel & some disinfectant from your cart (tool disinfectant spray such as Lysol or similar brand; or 70% to 90% rubbing alcohol). Spray the wound to remove any garden debris & sanitize it. Use the clean tissue or paper-towel to dry & stop any bleeding. Better yet, go inside immediately to cleanse the area with soap & water, dry it & use a bit of pressure if there's any bleeding, then apply a clean bandage to keep the area clean if you're going back out into the garden. If there is a lot of bleeding, I suggest you seek additional medical assistance!



With this scenario in mind, please **check your medical record for the date of your last tetanus vaccination**. Most physicians will recommend this shot every 10 years, and often you have to ask them for it. Active gardeners should never be without a "current" tetanus shot within that timeframe.

Humans who are in frequent contact with dirt or work with livestock animal manure are at high risk of exposure to the **tetanus bacteria that lives in the soil** and is concentrated in livestock manure. Since rose canes within 2 feet of the ground get splashed with mud with watering or rain, those prickles can become contaminated with the bacteria. When scratched or punctured with a contaminated prickle, the bacteria can gain access to your body. As this bacteria grows, it produces a toxin that can cause muscles to seize tightly – known as "tetany", or "lockjaw" and it especially affects muscles of the face and neck. If it reaches this state, it can be fatal.



Luckily, there is the vaccine that teaches the body to recognize the bacteria & prevent the disease. The vaccine can be given singly – just to prevent **tetanus**, but it is often combined with 1 or 2 other vaccines: **diphtheria** (TD vaccine) and/or **pertussis** (whooping cough) (Tdap vaccine). Both of these contagious diseases, once quite rare in the US, are now being seen more often, especially in children, and some adults, and can also be fatal, so many physicians recommend the combined vaccine.

**Q: What is RSV?** The Mayo Clinic website is a good source for information about RSV, RSV vs the common cold, and RSV vs COVID-19. "**Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV)** causes infections of the lungs and respiratory tract. It's so common that most children have been infected with the virus by age 2. Respiratory syncytial (sin-SISH-ul) virus can also infect adults.

In adults and older, healthy children, respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) symptoms are mild and **typically mimic the common cold**. Self-care measures are usually all that's needed to relieve any discomfort.

**RSV can cause severe infection in some people**, including babies 12 months and younger (infants). . . older adults, people with heart and lung disease, or anyone with a weak immune system (immunocompromised). Severe or life-threatening infection requiring a hospital stay may occur in premature infants or in anyone who has chronic heart or lung problems.

**RSV and COVID-19:** Because RSV and coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) are both types of respiratory

## HEALTHY GARDENERS

viruses, some symptoms of RSV and coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) can be similar. In children, COVID-19 often results in mild symptoms such as fever, runny nose and cough.

For adults with COVID-19, symptoms may be more severe and may include trouble breathing. Having RSV may lower immunity and increase the risk of getting COVID-19, and these infections may occur together, which can worsen the severity of COVID-19 illness. If you have symptoms of a respiratory illness, your doctor may recommend testing for COVID-19. (Source www.mayoclinic.org website download 12/30/23)

Q: Who should get the RSV Vaccine? Dr. Paul Offit, of Philadelphia Children's Hospital, recommends that older adults, especially 80 years & older, because they are at highest risk from pulmonary complications of RSV, should get the RSV vaccine. He says there is also a risk in those age 70 to 80, especially those with underlying medical conditions such as chronic lung disease, chronic heart disease and diabetes that put them at high risk. A healthy 65 to 75 year old could reasonably choose not to get the RSV vaccine. (Source: Dr. Paul Offit, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, 9/18/2023, Youtube video.)

Q: I know the COVID-19 mRNA vaccine booster is available, but it does not seem to be as mandatory as the last two years. Why is that?

The current booster is for the one most recent variant of the omicron COVID virus. It is NOT recommended for everybody. It is recommended only for elderly over the age of 75, or those who have chronic medical conditions who are at high risk for complications from COVID. People who are generally healthy under the age of 75, those previously infected with COVID-19, or those that have been previously vaccinated are highly likely to be protected and may choose to not obtain the current booster. (Source: Dr. Paul Offit, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, 9/18/2023, Youtube video.)

Q: Does the annual Influenza vaccine (flu vaccine) also help prevent COVID-19 or its variants? The annual flu vaccine helps your immune system recognize & develop antibodies to fight up to 4 strains of influenza currently circulating in the world that are most likely to infect people in the winter months. The regular flu vaccine is recommended for everyone over the age of 6 months. While it does not offer protection from the COVID-19 virus & variants, it would help reduce the risk of you getting BOTH at the same time!

**So now you are armed with the latest information. May you be healthy! Go celebrate the New Year by pruning a rose!**

(all photos, Bing free photo clipart)



### **American Rose Society Digital Photo Contest Results Reveal Live on GoToWebinar**

**Saturday, January 20th, 2023, 11AM CST / 1 pm PST**

Click on this [link](#) to register to attend the Ceremony live!

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

Join us as we honor and celebrate this year's winners of the  
American Rose Society National Digital Photo Contest!

It is time to reveal which photos have taken the top honors. See all of the award-winning photos and photographers in all categories. The ceremony is hosted by American Rose Society Photography Chair, Pam Powers. If you aren't able to join us live, the ceremony will be archived on the American Rose Society website for your viewing pleasure.

**For more ARS WEBinars go to page 10**



# Sierra Foothills Rose Society

*Good Roses, Good Friends!*

## President's Message



Instead of working in the garden at the end of December, I decided to visit my friend Jacqui Nye in Creston, Rhode Island during the holidays. I was curious of how rosarians in New England deal with the cold and celebrate Christmas and New Year.

Everywhere I went I had to bundle up to 3-4 layers of clothes as it was very cold especially in the evenings near the sea! I was hoping it would snow, but so far it has not so no snow angels for me!

I will be starting my winter chores once I get back to home in Orangevale. My main garden has about 1500 roses and will be taking me to the end of February to get it all weeded, pruned and cleaned up.

Last year it rained so much it took me for ever to finish pruning the main garden much less the potted roses. I am praying for dry days so I can get the garden done.

We will be having the 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Rose Winter pruning Workshop .... And Chili Cook-off again at the Orangevale Grange (5807 Walnut Avenue, Orangevale, CA 95662) on Saturday, January 13, 2024. The event will start at 9:00 am and it will continue to about 1:30 pm. The doors will open at 7:30 am as we need to time to set up the room. Volunteers to help set up are welcome.

The emphasis of the workshop will be on basic horticulture principles in regards to rose pruning, planting, and care. I am hoping that all of our Society's Consulting Rosarians will be available to help put this event together. Paula Agostini has sent invitations to all the local garden clubs and our sister rose societies to join us. Our editor, Charlotte Owendyk has prepared a poster listing all the activities for the event.

Linda Knowles has volunteered her garden for a pruning demonstration on Climbing Roses. Linda will demonstrate her pruning techniques for pruning roses on her amazing rose allée comprised of about a dozen trellises. The event will be the following Saturday, January 20 the from 9:00 am to Noon.

I will be pruning the roses in my main garden all of January, society members are welcomed to stop by and either help or get individual one-to-one pruning classes from me. I hope that you can join us at any of the above events.

*Baldo*



### 2024 Sierra Foothills Board of Directors

May Chen, Linda Knowles, Ramon Lopez, Garry Chin, Rick Sydor, Sue Magill,  
Paula Agostini, Kay Jelten, Cindy Phipps, and Baldo Villegas



# Sacramento Rose Society

*Take time to Smell the Roses!*

## President Message



President's Message from Kay Jelten

We said "bye" to 2023 with a lively and fun holiday dinner on December 14<sup>th</sup>. The members who attended helped in the presentation of awards and in the installation of our Officers and Board Members for 2024.

Everyone who was present deserves a big Thank You, as we all contributed to the fun evening filled with good food and friends. I was most honored to present the 2023 Bronze Medal for outstanding service to Rick Sydor. Rick has generously served as a Director and our Parliamentarian, provided ongoing support for Society activities and has served as Raffle Rick to manage the monthly donation table at our meetings!

Past President Debbie Arrington awarded the Bronze Medal and Certificate for 2021 during the 2021 year to Linda Knowles, in a long overdue presentation ceremony, for her service on the board and preparing & presenting some fabulous educational programs!

We welcome in 2024 with something available for you every week! Mark your calendar for this month's dates: **January 11 is our regular Thursday 7:30 pm** evening program at the Shepard Garden & Art Center, 3330 McKinley Blvd, Sacramento. We have a team of Consulting & Master Rosarians presenting "When to Shovel Prune" & "How to Transplant Roses". It will be some GOOD information, and timely too! With the recent winter rains, now is the time to delete, move, or acquire & plant roses. The ground is as soft as it gets in our Sacramento area, without flooding so far!

January 13, Saturday, is the annual Winter Workshop and Pruning Clinic sponsored by Sierra Foothills Rose Society. We encourage everyone to join them (and us!) at the Orangevale Grange in Citrus Heights, 5807 Walnut Ave. Bring your rose gloves & pruners for some hands-on practice with different types of roses. Registration opens at 830 am, and the workshop runs 9 am-1230. A free chili cook-off follows. Everyone is invited to participate in the chili cook-off with their favorite chili recipe, cornbread and/or cheeses to go with chili. Dress in warm layers, as the big building may be a bit "chilly".

January 20th and January 27th, Saturdays, 8:30 am will be rose pruning at the McKinley Park Rose Garden, hosted by Sacramento Parks & Rec. Check in at the "Rose Garden Room" located behind the rose garden, toward the tennis courts. They are happy for any helpers that know a little bit about roses!

If that isn't enough for you, and you are hankering for more roses to prune, a lot of us have really big rose gardens, and we'll always take some free help (happy to teach as we go!), so you're welcome to give us a call!

Rosy Cheers & Happy  
New Year! Kay



**SRS 2024 Board of Directors:** Cherilyn Duncan, Linda Larsen, Janice Lauinger, Kay Jelten, Debbie Arrington, Sue Magill, Rick Sydor, and Cindy Nalepa Nelson

# TRANSPLANTING A ROSE

~Charlotte Owendyk, Master Rosarian

Almost every gardener has a time where they look at a plant and think “you belong somewhere else” Well, it’s a good thing that roses are adaptable to being moved to a new home.

I have transplanted some roses; it isn’t the easiest thing to do and roses take time to settle into their new location. There are different reasons for moving: The rose is not thriving. It is too big for its spot, too much shade, and competition with tree roots, a new rose bed.

The ideal time is when they are dormant; the second best time is fall. So, if it is a big rose or a tree rose, wait until after the roses have been pruned. Miniatures and minifloras with their smaller plant and root ball are easy to transplant so moving in fall generally works well.

Be aware that if you move an established rose, expect it to lag a little the next year since the roots have been disturbed. It has to send out new roots and link with the soil microbes that feed it nutrients.

**The best time is to do it right after pruning, when the soil is damp and before new leaves emerge.**

I prune the roses I plan to move harder. This is generally about 2.5-3’ for a HT and 1/3 of the growth for a shrub). I cut the rose canes back to about one foot and remove the remaining leaves. This makes it easier to move the rose and there are less prickles to catch on my clothing.

**Dig** the new hole generally about **15 to 18 inches deep** by 18 to 24 inches wide. You may have to adjust depending on the size of the root ball of the rose you are moving. I prefer to do this first, that way the roses roots have less exposure to sunlight and the potential for drying out. Having a hole wider than the plant you are moving filled with lovely amended soil encourages quicker recovery.

**Add** plenty of amendments/compost to the backfill soil to insure that the rose succeeds in its new location.

**Remove the rose** by digging one foot straight down around rose. (Generally this is about a two foot diameter at the outside. The shovel will cut through the anchor roots rotating out from the plant. If you have a large plant consider expanding the size somewhat knowing the more that you cut away the root ball the longer time it will take to recover. On the other hand, small miniature root ball can be the size of a one gallon.

Once you have gone down about 18-24’, gently shovel under the plant taking my time. After you have done a full circle around the plant, gently lift up using your shovel. This is when you will discover if there are large anchor roots under the plant. Use your loppers or clippers to cut the anchor roots underneath the bush.

Do not dig or pull on the bush before it is adequately loosened. Do try to keep enough soil to cover the roots in soil. The goal is to try to get as many of the roots with you as possible in the attached root ball. If it is too large to carry, place it on a tarp or wheelbarrow to move the root ball to new location.

Set the root ball in the new hole. Adjust the placement of the rose so the crown is just above the level of the nearby soil. If there is a lot of backfill soil under the root ball, it may settle so take that into account by raising the crown a bit higher. Trim any canes that were damaged in the move. If the soil is dry, water the new rose and check every week to make sure the soil is damp if we don’t get any rain.

## ARS WEBinars

**Members Meeting:** January 17, 2024 4:00pm - 5:00pm PST

**National Consulting Rosarian School:**

- February 03rd 9:00am - 11:00am PST CR Mission & Ethics, Soil & Water and Chemical Safety
- February 10th 9:00am - 11:00am PST Fertilizer and Insects & Diseases -

Missed an ARS webinar or want to see what other interesting webinars are available go to: <https://www.rose.org/webinars>

# JANUARY 2024 GARDEN NOTES

Why are Sacramento roses still blooming? Looking at my photos in past year I have some pictures of roses around Thanksgiving, but none in mid to late December. Last year I had a bouquet of roses for Christmas—the first time in 35 plus years of growing roses. This year on New Year's Day, I cut two blooms of Veterans Honor before I pruned the bush. Unless you have frost or rain, roses will continue to produce blooms.

Sacramento winters getting warmer and less foggy (need moisture/rain to get fog). I was talking to someone who moved to our area in the early 1990's. He doesn't remember weeks of tule fog which forms when ground moisture, usually after a heavy rain, is present and the air begins to cool, saturating the moisture and creating fog from the ground up. Overnight, you see the air cool, saturate and form fog which hugs the ground.

I personally remember driving up to Auburn to get out of the fog and sit in the sunshine eating an ice cream cone. Since we have had years of drought and warmer temperatures, tule fog has essentially disappeared. If the sun shines and there is no wind, the temperatures can be in the low to mid 60's.

According to a new report released November 9, 2023 by the nonprofit research group Climate Central, the greater Sacramento area is on average 2.3 degrees warmer in winter than we were in 1970. Does a couple of degrees make that much difference? Well, in my humble opinion, my roses are bloom are blooming earlier too. When I first started exhibiting, I usually had a few roses to take to the April rose show. Now, I have significantly more. Granted it was touch and go for the April rose show, but we got a warming spell that made our roses open the week before the show.

It officially is time to begin to prune. The goal is to finish by Valentines Day. Pruning is crucial for healthy rose bushes. It's a chance to rid the plant of fungal-bearing foliage and eliminate diseased canes. It improves air flow in and around the bush (another way to cut down on fungal disease).

Another reason to prune is to manage the size of your rose bush. Last year, I never managed to prune the three Cinco de Mayo roses by the sidewalk. They were at least a foot larger all around than usual which was ok with me since they did not impede the sidewalk or driveway. But they will be pruned this year.

Normal pruning season in Sacramento runs from early- to mid-December through early February. By late February early March, bushes will be pushing out new growth. (And with this warmth, bushes already are sprouting new growth.). I already have seen a few new canes emerging on the miniatures I pruned.

After pruning it is important to get rid of as much debris from under the rose bush. I will be using a blower to move the leaves onto the grass so the mower will pick them up.

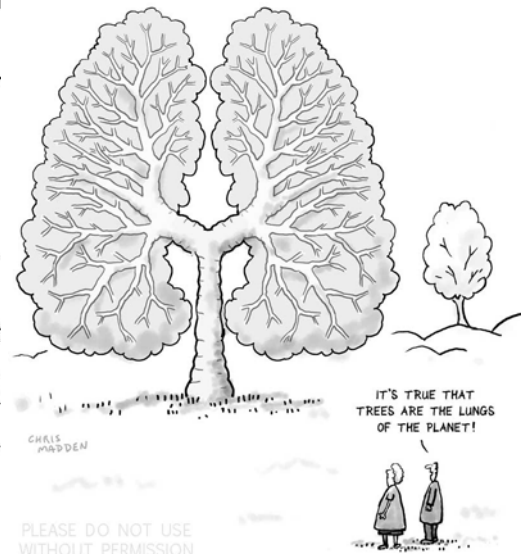
This is also a great time to evaluate your roses. I already have two roses that will be shovel pruned since they are declining.

Lastly, as you go through the garden, eliminate weeds. I have been going after oxalis which is sending out new growth just under the soil level. So you think the plant is small, but when lift it out, there is a 3" stem underground.



Veterans Honor picked 12/1/24,  
Marilyn Monroe picked 12/1/23, and  
Olympic Gold picked 12/12/23

I'll never forget the look on the cashier's face, when she scanned the package of bird seed and I asked her, "How long does it take for the birds to grow once I plant them?"



## Rose Society Membership INFO

**SACRAMENTO ROSE SOCIETY:** Dues are \$30 for paper newsletter or \$20 for email recipients of the newsletter. Make the check payable to the Sacramento Rose Society and send to Cheryl Duncan 2460 Hidden Hills Ln Lincoln Hills, CA 95648.

**SIERRA FOOTHILLS ROSE SOCIETY:** Annual dues are \$20 per household. Members will receive issues of this newsletter by email or snail mail. For more information contact .Cindy Phipps 4977 Chicago Avenue, Fair Oaks, CA 95628

**AMERICAN ROSE SOCIETY (ARS):** membership entitles you to five issues of their bi-monthly magazine The American Rose plus Handbook for Selecting Roses, and the American Rose Annual. All this for \$49 and \$46 for seniors. **Trial Membership Available!!!** Contact ARS at (800) 637-6534 or [www.rose.org](http://www.rose.org).

When you become a member of ARS via a rose society, you will receive an American Rose Society Handbook for Selecting Roses when you present your ARS membership form and a check for payment.



Sacramento Rose Society

[sacramentorosesociety.org](http://sacramentorosesociety.org)

Meetings are at 7:30 p.m. on the 2nd Thursday of each month except July and August in the Shepard Garden & Arts Center at McKinley Park located at 3330 McKinley Blvd. Sacramento. Room opens at 6:45 pm.

Take E Street (southbound) or H Street (northbound) exit off business I-80; go east past the park. (E Street turns into McKinley Boulevard.) Enter parking lot off 34th Street and Parkway.

### Rose Reflections...

Charlotte Owendyk, Editor  
204 Park Meadow Court  
Roseville, CA 95661



Sierra Foothills Rose Society

[SierraFoothillsRoseSociety.org](http://SierraFoothillsRoseSociety.org)

Meeting are at 7:00 p.m. on the first Thursday of each month except for January, July and August unless announced otherwise room opens at 6:30 p.m.

Meeting location is in the **Crafts Room at the Maidu Community Center in Roseville**. The address is: 1550 Maidu Drive Roseville