



Rose Reflections...

Produced for members of Sacramento & Sierra Foothill Rose Societies

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

**SRS ROSE AUCTION MARCH 13TH—MANY
ROSES NOT COMMERCIALY AVAILABLE!**

Each year, the rose societies have a rose auction. Sacramento Rose Society is hosting the first one at their general meeting Thursday, March 13th held at Shepard Garden & Arts Center.

This year SRS has a stellar selection of rose varieties from climbers to OGRs, Shrubs, miniatures, polyanthas to Hybrid Teas! These roses, grown by our club's green-thumbed propagators, are mostly from cuttings from roses grown by our members. These bushes have been babied for many months if not years. The results: Healthy plants that will produce beautiful roses for years to come.

Come early, get an auction paddle, bid and pay by check or cash.

March is the month to:

WEED, Weed, weed!!!

CHANGES ARE A FOOT!

Save the date: Sacramento Rose Show moves to Sunday and new location!

For our 77th Sacramento Rose Show, we're shaking things up! Instead of our traditional Saturday date and McKinley Park location, our venerable celebration is moving to a different time and place.

**Show is now on the last Sunday in April – April 27 – and a new venue,
Gibbons Community Center in Carmichael.**

Gibbons Center is a beautiful facility with ample free parking. Located at 4701 Gibbons Drive, the center is on the south edge of Gibbons Community Park and will introduce the rose show to a new Sacramento County audience.

Having our one-day show on a Sunday allows for Saturday set-up and more participation. This year's theme: "Wine & Roses."

We need volunteers! If you'd like to help, please contact our show chairs, Debbie Arrington (debarrington17@gmail.com) and Sue Magill (rosemtn@surewest.net).

March 2025

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Volume 19 Issue 3

SFhRS PROGRAM INFO—MARCH 6TH

"Learn about new rose introductions for 2025

What will you be planting in 2025? If you're like most rose growers, the beginning of the year is the time for re-evaluation. As we prune, we judge our plants – which did well, which need help, which must be replaced. And where or where can we squeeze in more?

Rose breeders have some suggestions (at least on what to plant) – "New Rose Introductions for 2025."

At the SFhRS March meeting, longtime plant tester Debbie Arrington shares highlights of the Class of '25 just in time for bare-root season. She'll cover recent trends and what to expect from the latest hybrid teas, floribundas, shrubs and more. Everyone wants to be in the "KNOW" about new rose introductions.

We'll gather at 7 p.m. Thursday, March 6, at the Maidu Community Center Roseville. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. As always, our meetings are open to the public – bring a friend!



SRS PROGRAM FOR MARCH 13TH: ROSE AUCTION

Going, going, go -- to the Sacramento Rose Auction!

Who doesn't want more roses? Here's your chance to add to your collection while helping your rose society!

It's the annual Sacramento Rose Society auction, featuring plants propagated from members' own gardens.

Among the 55 bushes we'll have for sale are many varieties unavailable in commerce. These are special little plants, all growing on their own roots.

And most of them will stay compact, too. We have an excellent selection of miniatures, minifloras and polyanthas – perfect for smaller spaces or growing in containers. (Yes, you do have more room for roses!)

This live auction will be held at our March meeting, Thursday, March 13, at Shepard Garden and Arts Center in McKinley Park, 3330 McKinley Blvd., Sacramento. As always, the public is welcome; admission is free. Scott Becker will serve as auctioneer.

Doors open at 6:30 p.m. with the first rose up for bid promptly at 7 p.m. Bring cash or check (we can't do cards). Proceeds will support the club's activities including our upcoming rose show.

What's for sale? You can see our auction catalog sent with this month's newsletter. Find a new rose to love!

Good luck, bidders! We'll see you March 13!

~Debbie Arrington

FACT Most fragrant roses release their scent from tiny glands at the base of the petals. The fragrance is the result of mixing many chemicals. The number and quality of petals on a bloom affect the amount of fragrance. Usually many petaled blooms are more fragrant than single petaled ones. Musk fragrance however, is released by the stamens. Fragrance varies over time as different chemicals change and disappear. All sorts of factors contribute to the fragrance of roses: soil pH, water and humidity, time of day, season of the year.

Sacramento Rose Society presents

Spring Tea

In a Rose Garden



Hats & Floral Attire Encouraged

WHEN: May 17, 2025 (Rain or Shine)

TIME: Garden opens @ 10 am, Tea @11:30 am

WHERE: Dave & Ruth Coop

8336 Bianchi Road Roseville

**Reserve EARLY!!! Limited Seating, \$35 per person,
Advance Pre-Paid Reservations Only**

Name: _____

Number in Party _____ @\$35 each\$ _____

Contact email _____

Phone _____

Reservation DUE MAY 1

Make Check payable to Sacramento Rose Society

Mail form with payment to:

Rick Sydor 1092 Salmon Drive, Roseville, CA 95661

SACRAMENTO FACILITY RENTAL UPDATE

~Kay Jelten

Situation: I want to give you an update on the room rental cost issues that all clubs are having with the Sacramento Garden and Arts Center (SGAC). Last July, the City of Sacramento announced substantial 2025 rate increases for clubs/societies renting meeting space at Sacramento Garden & Arts Center (SGAC).

This was in addition to a small increase that had already been put in place for 2024. While clubs were not happy about the increase, clubs that had historically met at SGAC did continue to receive a 50% discount off their rental fees, which helped keep costs reasonable and affordable.

The rates were again increased as of January 2025, with the City announcing it would eliminate the 50% rental rate discount at the end of June 2025. Damage deposit amounts were also increased and non-refundable flat fees have been applied for use of additional spaces, such as the foyer and the kitchen. This means that **meeting room rent is set to more than double as of July 1 of this year.**

Discussion/Negotiation: Many clubs submitted letters to City management, urging them to reconsider the increase in rates, elimination of discounts and mandatory onsite security requirement for events (also paid for by each club). There is a collective with a Board of Directors who represent the clubs/societies that utilize the Sacramento Garden and Arts Center. This Board created a special lobby group to meet and negotiate with City management to seek a resolution that would enable clubs to pay an affordable rate for this meeting space.

Three options were proposed for discussion with the membership who attended each club's February meeting. So far, all clubs and societies, including Sacramento Rose Society, have selected the first option as the preferred solution. That option is: "We will accept the city's offer of the 2023-2024 rental fees AND the 50% discount, but a volunteer(s) step in to be the "Primary Point of Contact." [for the scheduling/reservation/fee payment process] They maintain the SGAC calendar, receive and process reservations from the clubs, coordinate with the City representative, handle billing and payments via the website*. [website/program to be selected and developed by the Clubs' Board]

*Note that the Clubs' Board has authorized up to \$2,000 to investigate, integrate and implement a program/website for scheduling events. This might decrease the amount of time needed for a volunteer to manage the scheduling and billing. This cost will need to be shared by the clubs that utilize SGAC. It will also take a bit of time to select and get it up and running. We hope this is by June, so we can continue to utilize SGAC for a meeting venue location.

The SGAC Board and Lobbying Committee continues to meet weekly to determine next action steps during this critical period. Stay tuned for my next monthly update!

Please read the article above with the care and attention it deserves. Garden clubs in Sacramento have been fortunate to have a dedicated center for garden clubs to meet. (It is my understanding that the local garden community helped fund this building through donations.)

The ramifications of significant increase in rent and expense will impact all the garden clubs that meet in this facility. To help defer some of the additional costs, the SRS board has been doing a lot of leg work to find a location that was reasonably priced and convenient for the rose show. (Gibbons Center has great parking and is close to I 80.)

Know that Kay Jelten and members of the board are doing their best to keep you informed. If you have any questions email or call a member of the SRS board.

I strongly urge you to come enter the rose show or if not come to the rose show to see what another meeting location may have to offer SRS and its members.

~Charlotte Owendyk

Ecuador is one of the world's largest suppliers of roses, with an astonishing 54% of the land filled with roses. There is natural light all year round providing the perfect climate for flowers to thrive with longer growing cycles.

GOPHERS: TAKE TWO

~Ramon Lopez

It was turning out to be a sunny Saturday morning after several days of rainy weather. I was sitting on my comfy stuffed chair, with my freshly poured cup of coffee, staring out the glass slider and thinking that it was too wet and muddy for yard work.

WRONG!!! Paula, who hates to see me sitting doing nothing, asked me to move a rose bush from a large pot and replant it in a spot she had picked out.

The pot was up against a tree stump. I could only get at it from one direction. Due to the water saturated soil in the pot, it was way too heavy to move. And the pot opening was too small to get a shovel into the pot. So with a small garden spade and a hand trowel, I went to work. So much for my kick-back Saturday morning.

I finally got enough dirt out so that the bush was fairly loose in the pot. I tugged as gently as I could but the bush would not come out. I dug a bit more and tugged again, nothing. So I looked around to see if Paula was watching. She wasn't. So I tugged and jerked and twisted and directed evil thoughts at the bush. Nothing.

Finally, in desperation, knowing my Manly Man Club membership was at stake, I grabbed the rose bush and with a tremendous jerking tug, I ripped it out of the pot. As I stood there, gasping for air, sweat pouring down my face, I saw why the rose bush would not come out. There was a large part of a big, thick root threaded through the largest drain hole in the pot. The rest of the root was dangling from the bottom of the root ball. OOPS!!

I carried the bush to where Paula wanted me to plant it. Right in the middle of prime gopher territory!! I didn't see any gopher signs close to the spot and started to dig. On the bright side, if the bush died after losing half of its tap root, I could blame it on a gopher. I was just about finished digging the hole when I decided it needed to be a tad bit wider. It took me a couple of shovel scoops as I widened the hole, before I realized I was digging up a gopher tunnel. There was no way to tell if it was an active tunnel or an old abandoned one, but I decided the hole was wide enough. I was having nasty visions of a gopher jumping out of the tunnel and running up the inside of my pant leg.

I had piled up the soil I took out of the hole into a neat pile next to the rose bush I was going to plant. I placed the bush in the hole and saw that I had dug a wee bit too deep. I placed the bush next to the dirt pile and shoved the shovel into the pile to scoop up some soil. As I raised up the shovel, a gopher goes charging out of the dirt pile and under the rose bush's root ball. Those little buck-toothed varmints can scoot!! And I found out that I can jump and run at the same time. Really, really high and really, really fast.

I was about to tell Paula to hire someone to finish planting that rose bush but my tattered pride and battered ego told me that no matter how big that gopher was or how sharp its teeth were, I was a legendary gopher hunter (at least in my own mind) and I needed to risk life and limb and finish planting the rose bush.

With the shovel raised and ready to strike, I gingerly lifted the rose bush. No gopher. There was still quite a bit of soil attached to the root ball and I started to scrape it off with the shovel. Soon the soil was mostly gone and still no gopher. It must have dug itself underground without leaving a trace on the surface.

I was able to plant the rose bush without ever taking my eyes off of the tunnel openings. And because you never know about gophers, it might decide to come for the fresh rose roots I had just planted next to its tunnel. I got a couple of gopher traps and placed one in each opening. Very, very carefully, ready to jump and run. Usually I dig into a tunnel from the top and can easily cover the hole. In this case I had to block each end of the

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Meet Me in the Rose Garden

It was a cold, overcast February day as I meandered down country roads to Kay Jelten's home in Wilton. Arriving at my destination, I drove through a gate, passed a pasture and parked my car. Sweet chirping sounds filled the air from too many birds to count. How wonderful it was to hear the melody of finches, red-winged blackbirds and song sparrows on a gloomy day. While you may be familiar with Kay as the esteemed President of the Sacramento Rose Society for 2025, and her achievements in the area rose shows, my curiosity was with her personally and her prolific gardens that bring that success.

Kay, along with her husband Al, have lived on the five-acre property for almost 40 years. The land began as a bare pasture, and they built their home and lovingly raised sheep and horses. Roses were not on her radar in the early years growing up in the often-foggy Salinas Valley. Though roses were her mother's favorite flower, the rust and black spot common to the area failed to inspire Kay. A high school band trip to Sacramento introduced her to the heat and trees of our area and when the time came for college, those attributes beckoned Kay and she attended Sacramento State University, receiving a degree in Nursing.

While a nurse at Sutter Memorial Hospital, Kay's interest in roses was sparked. The hospital administrator's secretary brought a single rose into the office every Monday and while most nurses avoided the Administration Office, Kay couldn't resist a visit, not to see the Administrator, but to visit the rose. The fragrance of the Double Delight rose couldn't keep her away. In 2002 the first bed of four Double Delight roses were planted along with a few other roses whose label indicated "fragrant" with the dual purpose of hiding the sheep fence.

In 2008, Kay was formally introduced to rose care through a long-time mutual friend. Kay's husband, Al, had attended graduate school with Charlotte Owendyk, the editor of this newsletter, and they become good friends. Charlotte even helped them move from Sacramento into their new home in Wilton! Kay asked Charlotte if she would come show her how to prune roses correctly, as Kay had not a clue! Charlotte instructed Kay on which loppers and pruners to purchase and during the first pruning demonstration, much to Kay's surprise, Charlotte shockingly lopped her precious Double Delights down to half their size, and quickly cut out entire old canes & crossing growth. Then it was Kay's turn, under Charlotte's watchful eye.. As Kay tentatively tried her hand at pruning, Charlotte kept urging her to go faster and faster. Needless to say, Kay was hooked.

Charlotte invited Kay to the Sierra Foothills Rose Society (SFRS) that year and she became an avid member. Kay's retirement eight years ago provided more time for roses, and she joined the SFRS Board in 2017 and was elected President in 2018. Additionally, she joined the Sacramento Rose Society, and was invited to join the Board there in 2020, becoming President in 2022.

I was blessed with a tour of her garden, and an introduction to her 100 rose bushes. A peaceful labyrinth resides in the center of the garden, with three large beds circling around it, and another six smaller beds angled away from the labyrinth.. The soil is solid clay over hardpan, so to create the beds, Kay and Al laboriously used a tractor with a drill auger and crowbars to break up the clumps. Their amendments have been successful



**Kay in vegetable garden
filled with poppies**



Pruning time with battery saw

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ROSE HAPPINESS: MACRO VERSUS MICRO CLIMATE

May Chen – Consultant Rosarian

We all knew that gardening is regional, same as rose planting. The way you grow healthy roses in Sacramento area may not be the same in East Coast area, and it is caused by the macroclimate. Furthermore, you grow roses on the east side of your house may have different results as if you grow the same roses on the west side of your house, and it is caused by the microclimate.

To make your roses happy, it is important to know your macroclimate, your microclimate, and your roses.

Macroclimate:

We are so fortunate to live in the USDA zone 9B where the roses are much easier to grow than zone 5 and lower, because we have abundant sunlight, milder winter, and long growing season. I used to live in Chicago where I grew roses as annual, and my neighbor there used cones to cover her roses in winters and sometimes her roses did not survive through the winter. I do not know anyone in Chicago who has more than 10 roses in their gardens, but our Master Rosarians (Charlotte Owendyk, Linda Knowles, Baldo Villegas, Sue Magill, and Cindy Phipps) in Sierra Foothill Rose Society grow more than 300 roses in each of their gardens!!!

Due to the macroclimate differences, some of recommendations made by East Coast rosarians do not work here. For example, East Coast rosarians recommend 45 degree cut on the rose stem when pruning to ensure water drains away and prevent potential fungal infection, but we don't need to because our climate is much dryer. Another example is that East Coast rosarians suggest no overhead watering, but we can during most seasons because the water evaporated very quickly in this area.

Microclimate:

We have been told that roses need at least 6 hours full sun in order to grow well and flower more, and we were also told that the afternoon sun in Sacramento area is too much for roses, which one is correct? The answer is "it depends!". You might experience that one of your roses is wilting on the west site of your house, and another one is flourishing. Linda Knowles once told me that she had to move her Strike It Rich 4 times to a different location in her garden until the Strike It Rich found it's right spot and then happily grew and bloomed. You might just need to move your favorite rose a few times in your garden until you find the perfect spot for it.

I moved into my current house a few years ago and really started my rose garden at the end of 2023. My garden has limited space to grow plants, and even more limited space with greater than 6 hours of full sun to grow roses, so I must utilize planters and pots to grow roses wherever I can. I have spent hours sitting in my garden to record the hours of sunlight in each possible rose planting location so that I can better plan which roses should be planted where. I also realize that with limited sunlight, I may have much less blooms. Well, I made the decision to grow roses, so I will take care of them and then accept the result even if that means my blooms will be much less than those who have enough full sun in their gardens.

Roses:

When I select a rose for my garden, I often look for higher ARS score (any ARS member would receive a free annual booklet of "Selecting Roses - A rose-buying guide to more than 3,000 varieties" where lists the ARS score of each rose) which means it has been surveyed/tested in different regions and the average perfor-

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GOPHERS: TAKE TWO

(Continued from page 5)

tunnel but still had to be able to check the traps without digging up the area around the tunnel openings.

I didn't hold out much hope of getting the gopher. But you never know. I didn't check the traps that afternoon. I didn't check them the next day either. Finally on Monday, I decided to retrieve my traps. I uncovered the trap farthest from where I thought the gopher went underground. It was empty. Just like I expected.

The second trap was closer to where the gopher might have gone underground. I would be very surprised if the gopher had found its way back into its tunnel system. And into my trap. Nevertheless, I very carefully, very gingerly, ever so ready to scoot, uncovered the second trap. And saw that it had been tripped. I got it!!

Without realizing it, I had stood up and beat my chest like a big, bad silver backed gorilla while jumping up and down. Well, I think I at least got my heels off the ground. It took a couple of weeks for the bruising on my chest to disappear.

Meet Me in the Rose Garden

(Continued from page 6)

as the rose bushes are the some of the largest, I have seen.

Several of her bushes, such as Sally Holmes and The Charlatans) are the size of mini-vans and ramble down the slope towards a pond filled with koi fish. The beds are a mix of rose types, with one bed dedicated to fragrant Austin roses. Almost all were pruned by the day of my visit. Daffodils and paperwhites decorated the beds with California poppies and other wildflowers meandering in between. We ended our visit near her prolific winter garden raised beds (built by Al) of broccoli and rose cuttings. Kay also is tending many of the rose bushes awaiting the SRS rose auction in March.

Double Delight, a hybrid tea, still holds the honor as Kay's favorite rose with Doris Day, a floribunda, a close second. She calls them her two DDs! My visit ended and as I drove past the pasture and through the gate, I was already planning my return visit this spring to see the garden in all its glory.



Darcey Bussell rose

Ann Marie Becker

POTTED ROSES CAPTURE SUNLIGHT

(Continued from page 7)

mance is good across the country, and I might also take an extra step to double check other members in the Society for their growing experience in this area.

It is best to grow roses in the ground if it's possible; otherwise, you need big enough pots for your roses. I was told to use terracotta or other porous pots, but those are too heavy for me, so I use lighter weight pots made by plastic or fiber composite. To better mimic the environment of porous pots, I always add larger sized bark in the bottom of the pot before I add potting soil and I always create extra drainage holes, and I always include perlite when mixing the potting soil.

If we better understand the macroclimate, microclimate, and roses we are intending to grow, we should be able to make our roses happy so we are happy. Enjoy your rose journey!

MARCH IN THE GARDEN

It's last week of February, and the high temperatures are definitely spring like from 65 to-74 degrees. The garden is full of blooming daffodils and the roses are pushing out new leaves.

Garden Checklist

ATTACK WEEDS. This is the best time to hand weed, the weeds are small and the soil is soft. I used 6 month duration pre-emergent last fall so I have fewer weeds. So I will be putting down pre-emergent again after I weed. Disturbing the soil in anyway will invite the weeds that were just under the surface to sprout.

FYI, Roses are very sensitive to Round-up. Even drift will impact and distort the leaves. Use sparingly if at all.

Check watering system to make sure that all roses will have adequate water.

If you haven't already done so, add organic material e.g. fertilizer, earthworm castings to feed the soil organisms that transfer building block nutrients to the plants in our garden.

Top dress with manure or compost to provide long term food for the soil. Top dressing also provides soil conditioning, smothers weeds, keeps the soil cooler and helps retain moisture. Green mulch, e.g. ground cover does the trick as well.

Check for snails and slugs. Eliminate. If you use bait, use pet friendly type, e. g. sluggo.

Check for aphids on new growth. Knock them off with a strong spray of water or a squirt of insecticidal soap if you have an infestation or let the beneficial insects and birds feast.

If you have trees near your roses, monitor for fruit-tree leaf rollers descending from the fruit and shade trees into the rose garden by means of silken strands. Do this from late March through late April. Apply *Bacillus thuringiensis* on the roses at the first sign of the leafrollers or contact a commercial pest control company if the trees are too high.

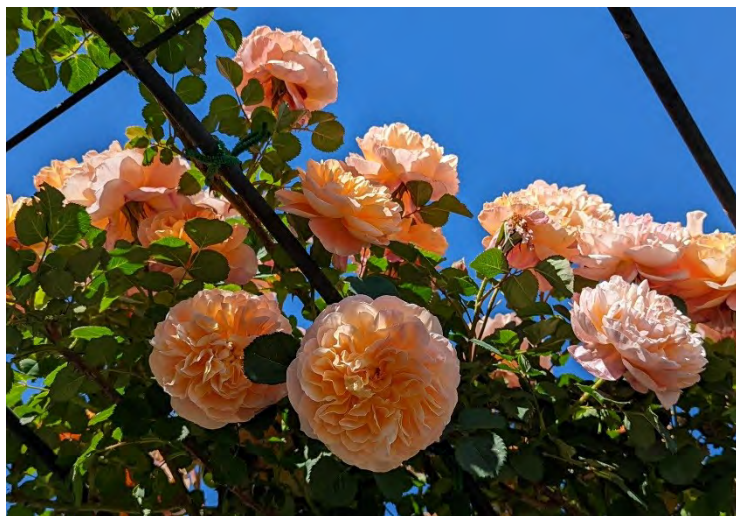
Plant companion plant seeds and plants. Split and transplant perennials. Plant summer bulbs.

This is a good time to move your roses before they leaf out too much further. Make sure to keep a portion of the root ball intact to minimize the amount of stress the rose will experience from the move.

Shovel Prune Non-Performers.

TWO OF MY FAVORITE ROSES ARE AVAILABLE IN THE SRS AUCTION.

The picture below is of *The Impressionist*, a climber. It's main bloom is in the spring. It is outstanding! The picture at right is of *Olympic Gold*. This deserves it's name because it is a non stop bloomer. This bouquet was picked in January of 2024.



ARS: "SAVE THE RAMBLERS INITIATIVE"

by Garry Chin, ARS Member and Volunteer

On April 26, 2024 during the evening portion of the ARS International Rose Trial Celebrity Judging at the American Rose Center in Shreveport, Louisiana, Claude Graves announced the kickoff of the American Rose Society initiative to preserve rare & extremely limited Rambler Roses through the "Save the Ramblers Initiative". The initiative had been approved by their Board of Directors with the ultimate goal of restoring ramblers to gardens in America.

The ARS is currently growing about 350 Rambler varieties in two newly constructed "nurseries" on the grounds of the American Rose Center in Shreveport LA. The nurseries were constructed through private donations from the Heritage Rose Foundation and Claude and Pamela Graves. Most of the plants in the nursery came from cuttings from the collection of Anne Belovich's Ramblers that were duplicated at the Chambersville Tree Farm in McKinney, Texas.

Anne Belovich was an author, teacher, builder and adventurer who began her journey in the world of roses when her sister gave her a book on rose gardens and the Elina Hybrid Tea rose.

Anne's love of roses grew to a point where they were a reminder of the beauty of life.

Anne had "The Garland" rose that grew into the higher branches of Japanese ornamental cherries. This would evolve into her love of Rambler roses.



Aurelia Liffa will be carried by Heirloom Roses Hybrid Setigera Large Bloom borne solitary or in small clusters. Mild scent. Vigorous. Height 10 -13'.



Anne would search around the world and assembled one of the world's greatest collections of giant rambling roses that are non-imported. Anne's desire was bring home many hybrids long lost to commerce in the US.

Anne's ultimate goal was to make all rare Rambler roses as common as possible to assure their survival.

Rambler roses are known for their vigorous growth (sometimes up to 60 feet), arching stems that require strong support, such as trellis, pergolas or large trees. They produce large clusters of small, often fragrant blooms with some varieties having larger, double blooms.

With the "Save the Ramblers Initiative" the American Rose Society is partnering with own-root nurseries to re-establish Ramblers back into in American public and private gardens. The American Rose Society has developed partnerships with six own-root nurseries as of the time of this article, including Heirloom Roses, High Country Roses and Jackson & Perkins.

This will continue the American Rose Society on its mission of rose education, rose preservation and the promotion of roses for America's gardens.

Debutante will be carried by High Country Roses. Hybrid Wichurana Strong Scent. Double blooms in medium sized clusters. Height 12-20' width up to 10'. Vigorous. Very Disease Resistant.

"Save the Ramblers Initiative" responsibilities.

RESPONSIBILITIES

ARS:

Maintains a collection of 350 varieties of ramblers from the Anne Belovich collection at the American Rose Center.

All income and donations from the initiative will be restricted and applied only to maintaining the rambler nurseries, promoting and advertising the initiative and administering the "Save the Ramblers Initiative".

Volunteers at the American Rose Center make cuttings of the Anne Belovich Ramblers available to own-root nurseries. The goal is to then create a registration process of plants sold to document the locations of these rare plants. In some cases, the plants at the Rose Center are not available anywhere in the US with limited availability throughout the world.

Plants in the nursery become large after three years and must be removed. The ARS will offer public gardens free large ramblers for display in their gardens, for the cost of shipping. These large ramblers will provide the gardens instant gratifications and introduce garden visitors to this special class of roses.

A Rambler Committee at ARS has been established with volunteers responsible for every facet of this project, including managing the nurseries, building partnerships with nurseries and gardens, and providing educational content to interested gardeners.

Own-Root Nurseries:

Receive different varieties of ramblers to introduce as many of the 350 varieties possible to the market.

Propagate mother plants for roses to be sold to the public either in person or through their catalog. It takes two to three years to ready plants for retail sale. Heirloom will have a few varieties for sale in 2025.

A donation of \$5.00 for the "Save the Ramblers Initiative" will be contributed by the nurseries for each rambler variety that is part of this program. These funds will be used for ongoing support of the Rambler initiative.

Promote the virtues of ramblers to the public using materials obtained from the ARS.

The American Rose Society, Heritage rose organizations, Historic gardens, and Historic plant preservation societies:

Re-educate gardeners both Amateurs and Professionals on the many attributes of ramblers as magnificent specimen plants. This includes the fact that these ramblers are easy to care for with many requiring minimal maintenance that includes pruning, training and are very disease resistant with many not needing to be sprayed they are also adaptable to any soil condition and above all are beautiful plants year round.

With the assistance of own-root nurseries, heritage rose organizations, public gardens, historic gardens and historic plant preservation societies rare & extremely limited Ramblers will once again be back in frequent use in America public and private gardens.

Thus the preservation of rare & extremely limited Ramblers by the American Rose Society's "Save the Ramblers Initiative" and Anne's desire to make all rare Rambler roses as common as possible to assure their survival will meet their Ultimate Goals for the Ramblers being readily available from commerce in the US.

This project is completely self-funded through donations and plant sales. The American Rose Society is a recent recipient of a \$5,000 grant from the World Rose Federation and the Piaget Foundation, specifically for this project. Oversight of this project comes from an ARS Committee, chaired by Claude Graves, that is focused on the Rambler Initiative.



Breeze Hill will be carried by Jackson & Perkins. Hybrid Wichurana Mild scent. Height 12-20' Width 12'. Shade tolerant, Very Disease resistant.

AMARYLLIS, A WINTER DELIGHT

~Bobbie McCaffrey

The amaryllis is becoming increasingly popular as a holiday flower, challenging even the ubiquitous poinsettia. It blooms in wintertime, so its spectacular flowers help to brighten the coldest, darkest winter months. Have you received any as gifts? Do you know much about these bulbs and how to care for them?

Like mistletoe and holly, amaryllis is shrouded in ancient legend. In Greek mythology, the maiden, Amaryllis, fell in love with a shepherd, Alteo, who had a passion for flowers. To win his love, she pierced her heart with a golden arrow and visited his cottage daily, shedding drops of her blood along the way. On the thirtieth day, scarlet flowers bloomed along the path. Alteo was enamored, Amaryllis's heart healed, and the flowers took her name.



The plant we commonly call amaryllis is in the genus *Hippeastrum*, which is its proper scientific name. It is native to South and Central America and belongs to the *Amaryllidaceae* family, whose members are related to daffodils.

Everything about amaryllis is superlative. The bulbs are huge—as big as a fist. The larger the bulb, the more likely it is to flower. The trumpet-shaped flowers are also huge, from six to ten inches across. Their petals can range in color from velvety red to pink, salmon, white, bi-colored, and even green.

Amaryllises are widely available this time of year and are sold already in bloom, as bare-root bulbs, or in kits that include a bulb, a pot, and a potting medium. They are surprisingly easy to nurture from bulb to bloom. Unlike most bulbs, which must be buried beneath the soil, amaryllis bulbs like to have their “necks” exposed. They should be planted with the top half of the bulb above the surface. Use a container just two inches wider on all sides than the bulb; they like to be slightly pot-bound. Use a well-draining potting mix, keep the soil barely moist, and place the pot in a sunny spot indoors. Easy!

The bulb should produce a flower six to eight weeks after planting. As a flower begins to fade, remove the dying petals. When the entire flower stalk turns yellow, cut it off a few inches above the neck of the bulb.

Amaryllises are meant to re-bloom. In fact, if cared for properly, they can outlive their caretakers. But many people who don't know how easy it is to keep an amaryllis alive fail to save the bulbs after the holidays.

Once the flower stalks are cut, allow the strap-like leaves to continue to grow indoors until it is warm outside. Then put the pot out on the patio or deck and water and feed it regularly throughout the summer. Continued growth allows the plants to develop a stronger root system and to store nutrients for their dormancy.

For the plant to re-bloom, it needs a period of dormancy. Sometime in the early fall, bring it inside and place it in a dark, cool (55 degrees) place without water for eight to ten weeks. Then return it to a well-lit place, resume watering, and it should bloom in another six to eight weeks.

The dramatic blooms of the amaryllis herald the holidays with a natural beauty that only a living plant can bring. Anyone can easily grow and enjoy this holiday showstopper.

Bobbie, thank you for such an informative article. I learned recently that Amaryllis plants can be grown outdoors in regions with mild climates, Zones 8-11. When grown outdoors, amaryllis plants can become naturalized in the landscape and bloom every year. You can plant them in the ground or in pots. In the spring, you can expect a display of flowers. You can cut the stems and bring the flowers indoors. They need full to partial sun and have average water needs. I had planted some outdoors thinking they needed a very shady spot and I had no blooms. I moved them last fall so time will tell. *Charlotte*

TOM CARRUTH UPDATE & LA TIMES ARTICLE

"It's going to be a very long journey to fire recovery. Each day we realize small miracles, but still mourn newly found losses. Your generous help so far is greatly appreciated, but we need continued support to try to regain some normalcy. Please share this update and appeal with your friends and family.

Four weeks ago today, our lives went suddenly topsy turvy. Our beautiful home and garden of 37 years was completely destroyed in a disastrous fire that wiped out most of beautiful Altadena. My garden was as much of a collection as my home. Yes, there were some roses. But there lots of other plants, too...most of them very rare.

We had two beautiful water features: a three-tiered fountain in the front and a pond, stream and waterfall in the back. We kept water lilies and goldfish in them both. Those water features provided for lots of wildlife in our mountain community.

Yesterday, we got some wonderful news. Jon of The Pond Company, who designed, built and maintained our two 'wetlands', had visited our burned-out ruins. He reported that all the fish and the water lilies were alive and well. He's going to rescue them all, adding them to his personal collection at home. Fantastic!

Thank you all for your kindness. The community response has been overwhelming."

Supporters may also be interested to know the LA Times recently published "What Trees Survived in our Terrible Fires?" which featured interview with Tom Carruth and photos of his burnt home. <https://www.latimes.com/lifestyle/newsletter/2025-02-01/what-trees-survived-in-our-terrible-fires-and-why-didnt-they-burn-lat-plants>

Please continue to share the news regarding Tom Carruth, the fire, and how people can help thru this GoFundMe. Your assistance is greatly appreciated. <https://gofund.me/b50f10be>





Sierra Foothills Rose Society

Good Roses, Good Friends!

President's Message



I am going to be away the whole month of March and returning by the 2nd of April from the Rhode Island. I just attended the Carolina District Winter Meeting in Winston Salem, NC where I have a program on "Beneficial Organisms and Major Pests of the Rose Garden". The program was well taken and enjoyed by everyone.

During their auction I bid for two new roses and I was outbid for the first one but got the second one which was a striped climbing rose from Weeks. I had to take the rose out of the pot and like a bareroot rose transport it on my onboard bag to Rhode Island where I will be planted back in a pot, store it in a cold garage, and plant it at the end of March in "Baldo's East Rose Garden".

I am sure that our March speaker, Debbie Arrington will be talking about these two roses that I bid. They appeared to have exhibition form and I can't wait to see how they do in our gardens.

I was able to prune most of my garden before I left on February 20th. I am going to have a lot of work cleaning catching up in the garden when I get back in early April. Hopefully, I will have roses for the Sacramento Rose Show towards the end of April.

I hope to tell you all about my "Cruise of the Nile in Egypt" when I get back for the April

Baldo

ARS 2025 WEBINAR LINE-UP

These webinars are provided **FREE** of charge for all American Rose Society members. There is a \$5 fee for all others interested in attending a webinar. Questions about registering for webinars should be directed to Tanya Cole at Tanya@rose.org or 318-938-5402, ext.108.

- March 22, 2025 · 11:00am – 2:00pm: "Special Roses!" Speaker: Christian Bedard, Research & Licensing Director, Weeks Roses <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/3991848876343001941>

SAVE THE DATE FOR THESE FUTURE PROGRAMS: Registration info will be issued at a later date.

- April 26, 2025 · 11:00am – 2:00pm: "American Garden Rose Selections™ Regional Rose Trials – Bringing You Roses You Can Grow where You Live!" Speaker: Chris VanCleave, the Redneck Rosarian, RoseChat Podcast; Marketing & Publicity Director, American Garden Rose Selections™
- May 17, 2025 · 11:00am – 2:00pm: "Coming Up Roses – The High Country Roses Story" Speaker: Matt Douglas, Owner, High Country Roses
- June 28, 2025 · 11:00am – 2:00pm: "Rose Selection in Different Soil and Climate Conditions" Speaker: Matthias Meilland, Sixth Generation Rose Breeder, House of Meilland
- July 26, 2025 · 11:00am – 2:00pm: "An Update on Breeding Roses for Black Spot Resistance" Speaker: Dr. David Zlesak, Professor of Horticulture, University of Wisconsin River Falls
- August 23, 2025 · 11:00am – 2:00pm: "Rethinking Late Summer & Fall Rose Health Strategies" Speaker: Dr. Mark Windham, Professor Emeritus of Plant Pathology, The University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture
- September 27, 2025 · 11:00am – 2:00pm: "Designing a Garden for Rose Collectors. The Normal Rules Don't Apply!" Speaker: Paul Zimmerman, Owner, Paul Zimmerman Roses Consulting and Design
- October 25, 2025 · 11:00am – 2:00pm: "What's New with Jackson & Perkins" Speaker: Wes Harvell, Rose Category Manager & Rosarian for Jackson Perkins Park Acquisitions Inc.
- November 22, 2025 · 11:00am – 2:00pm: Topic TBA Speaker: Thomas Proll, Chief Hybridizer, Kordes Roses



Sacramento Rose Society

Take time to Smell the Roses!

President Message



Thank you to Scott and Ann Marie Becker, our presenters for our February program on planting, moving and; transplanting roses. Scott has much more experience than I realized in relocating rare or favorite roses from a former home to a new home and; garden! He and Ann Marie recently consolidated from two homes into one, and completely transformed their front yard, side yard and; much of the backyard garden beds for a main emphasis on roses. Scott shared his learnings and some great tips for transplanting success. I can't wait to see their roses all in bloom later this spring!

Thank you also to the Board members and a few others too who brought snacks and; goodies for the refreshment table. YUM! Many thanks to several of you who donated items to the raffle fund raising table, where Marilyn Chin promoted the raffle tickets and organized the items on the tables with the help of a brand new member, Debbie Bray. Thank you Marilyn and Debbie for stepping in so fast and efficiently! They raised \$60 in donations!

At the first of this month, I am finally done pruning my roses, just as its time to start at the beginning again to work in the spring dose of organic fertilizer and compost layer! Time to head to the nursery for more bags of fir compost.

Our March 13th meeting is our annual rose auction, at the Shepard Garden and; Art Center, 3330 McKinley Blvd. These own-root potted roses are ready to go in the ground and should bloom this first year! Doors will be open by 6:30 pm for bidder registration and previewing of the roses. Announcements start at 6:50 pm with the first rose on the list in this newsletter goes on the auction block at 7:00 pm. Please bring your checkbook or cash for payment. (Sorry, no access to electronic payment.) I am excited about the wide variety roses, most are 1 gallon size plants, many of which are suited to grow well in medium or large size patio pots.

Mark your April calendar and bring a friend or two or more: Sunday April 27, from 1:30 to 5 pm is our 77 th Annual Rose Show. Location is the lovely Gibbons Community Center, located in the Mission Oaks Park/Gibbons Park at 4701 Gibbons Drive, in Carmichael. Plenty of parking and easy access.

Next, mark your May calendar for Saturday, May 17 th and send in your pre-paid reservation for the special English Tea in the Rose Garden. The garden tour and tea will be held in Dave and Ruth Coop's gorgeous garden, featuring around 300 roses! See the registration form in this newsletter. Space is limited and these tea events always sell out (so don't wait too long or you will have a long wait until maybe next year!)

~Kay

WHITE GRUBS....

Been digging in the soil planting annuals and roses the last few weeks and found a white grub or two. Grubs are a larval stage of beetles. They generally eat decaying vegetation and small feeder roots.

Common ones found in our gardens are Masked Chafers (White Grubs) which feed on roots of turf grass plants. Last fall I had a part of the lawn that was upended by nocturnal visitors e.g. racoons, skunks. Another beetle that we have in the central valley is the Hoplia Beetle. It emerges from the soil in late March to May. There is no effective control for this beetle which has one generation each year. It loves light colored roses. It's Hoplia grub shown at right is ALSO white.

Recommended control is squish the beetle, knock it off into a container of soapy water, or cut off the affected rose and dispose of it. Regular handpicking can be an important way of reducing future beetle populations in the immediate area. I also toss the occasional white grubs that I uncover while digging in the dirt.

Charlotte Owendyk, Master Gardener



Hoplia beetle and larva



Spring
is
HERE!



Rose Society Membership INFORMATION

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 Rick Sydor 1092 Salmon Drive Roseville, CA 95661.

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 Ramon Lopez 5837 Eureka Road, Granite Bay CA 95746

AMERICAN ROSE SOCIETY (ARS): membership entitles you to six issues of the award winning magazine, The American Rose plus annual Handbook for Selecting Roses which rates over 3,000 roses, and much more. . Contact ARS at (800) 637-6534 or <https://rose.org/join-renew/>



Sacramento Rose Society

sacramentorosesociety.org

Meetings are at 7:00 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 6:30 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

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 **Roseville Maidu Community Center unless otherwise noted in program info.**

Located at 1550 Maidu Drive Roseville