

Dune Rose®



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NEWSLETTER OF THE SOUTHAMPTON ROSE SOCIETY—AN AMERICAN ROSE SOCIETY AFFILIATE

The Perfect Holiday Gift



HELGA'S CALENDAR 2015

If you attend any SRS events, you know Helga Dawn. She's one of the charter members of our organization, a member of the Advisory Board, and a very active grower and supporter of all things roses. What you may not know is that Helga is also an accomplished photographer.

Each year Helga publishes a lovely calendar illustrated with her spectacular photographs of roses, flowers and Hamptons landscapes. She gives the calendar as a gift to family and friends. For 2015 she has graciously consented to make her beautiful calendar available to SRS members as a fundraiser.

We are now taking orders for Helga's 2015 calendar. The price is \$45 (remember, this is a fundraiser for SRS). The spiral-bound wall calendar is printed on heavy stock, in full, glorious color, and measures 13 by 10½ inches. It includes December 2014 in addition to all of 2015. This gorgeous calendar will make the perfect holiday gift, and your purchase will help support our educational activities at the same time.

To order your copies, please fill out and send in the form on the last page of this newsletter. And here's another great gift idea for a rose-loving friend: why not get them a gift membership in SRS? Contact Nancy Rollins at (631) 287-4881. 🌹

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The Southampton Rose Society, established in 1976, is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization affiliated with the American Rose Society.

Dune Rose is the newsletter of the Southampton Rose Society, which is published March through December.

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Highlights from Recent Events

Our annual Members' Meeting was held on September 26 at the home of Miriam Goldberg in Southampton. President Hal Goldberg opened the meeting with a Q & A session that generated some suggestions for ways to increase our publicity efforts, especially in East Hampton, in order to attract more members and attendees for our workshops. To address a perception in the community that SRS is intimidating, suggestions for community outreach were offered. SRS is, above all, an educational organization. One idea is to make a stronger effort to promote our workshops in East Hampton. In a month or two planning for next year's events and workshops will begin.

One focus of the Board of Directors in 2015 will be to increase the SRS Endowment Fund. This fund was established to pay for the ongoing maintenance of the five public gardens SRS has established in Southampton Village. Since there will not be a Cocktail Party and Silent Auction next year, plans are being made to hold an Endowment Fund Dinner in a private home.

The meeting ended with the presentation of two awards by Hal Goldberg. The President's Trophy is awarded to a member who has made a significant contribution or extraordinary effort for SRS. This year's recipient is Jim Berkrot, who recently joined the Board of Directors as Rose Show Co-chair, for his outstanding work on the Silent Auction (which was agreed by all to have been our best one ever).

The Rosarian of the Year award is given to a past or present Board member who has belonged to SRS for at least 10 years. Liz Kearns received this year's award, in recognition of her extraordinary service to the organization. Our First Vice President and Events co-chair, Liz gives countless hours of her time and is an invaluable resource to SRS.

Our sincere thanks to both recipients for their dedication and hard work on behalf of SRS.

ANNUAL LUNCHEON/LECTURE

This year for the first time our Luncheon/Lecture at the Meadow Club was jointly organized with Southampton Garden Club. The weather could not have been more perfect. The food, as always, was delicious, and the lovely table centerpieces were all created by Helga Dawn, Christl Meszkat and Patricia Nadosy with flowers from members' gardens.

Our speaker this year was Fabien Ducher, who with his wife, Florence, is the proprietor of Roses Fabien Ducher, the internationally renowned nursery in Lyon, France. Fabien is the 6th generation of his family to grow and breed roses. The Duchers have introduced some of the world's most famous roses, including Mille Cecile Brunner and Soleil d'Or.

Fabien's enlightening talk took us through the history of roses, from the earliest species—gallica, damascena, canina, alba, centifolia—to today. All roses bloomed just once a year in spring, he explained, until the first reblooming rose was brought to Europe from China in the 17th century. Rose breeding was revolutionized. Since 1845 the Ducher family has been involved in rose breeding.

Their newer varieties are unfortunately not currently available to gardeners in the U.S. without a special import license. Broadview Nurseries, owned by one of our members, is planning to organize imports of Ducher roses. If you are interested in ordering some, please contact Hal at hg@halgoldberg.com or (917)748-9735. Some of the older Ducher varieties are available from U.S. sources, and three—Reve d’Or, Mlle Cecile Brunner and Ducher—are part of the Earth-Kind program at the University of Texas. 🌿



Fabien Ducher



Traudi Geraghty and
Christl Meszkat



Lyn Hamer, Pat Munn and Eileen Powers



Lillian Traynor Niemeth, Michael Staples,
Liz Kearns, Jim Berkrot and Anne Halpin



Jane Rose, Dorie Coleman and Eleanor Silverman



Elizabeth Jahnake, Carole Guest and Audrey Gruss



Fabien Ducher, Florence Ducher and Hal Goldberg
(Photo by Anne Halpin; all others by Diane Vahradian)

And the Winners Are!

Sincere thanks to Carole and Frederick Guest for hosting the delightful Members' Annual Garden Party and Photo Competition. The photographs were excellent, the food was delectable, and Carole's homemade sorbets were heavenly.

Congratulations to the winning photographers! Here are the categories, the winners, and some of the winning photographs. Thanks also to our judges, Diane Vahradian and Lyn Hamer. Beautiful job by all!

2014 PHOTO COMPETITION WINNERS

- Best in Show: Elise Bennett
- Single Rose: First Place, Helga Dawn;
Second Place, Maureen Riggio;
Third Place, Elise Bennett
- Rose Garden: First Place, Danielle Leef;
Second Place, Helga Dawn
- Free Style: First Place, Elise Bennett;
Second Place, Helga Dawn;
Third Place, Danielle Leef



▲ Free style,
Elise Bennett,
best in show



▼ Single rose, Helga Dawn, 1st
Single rose, Danielle Leef, 3rd



GARDEN PARTY (Photos by Diane Vahradian)



Michael Staples, Liz Kearns
and Jim Berkrot



Jane Rose and host Fred Guest



Lyn Hamer awards best of show
to Elise Bennett



Single rose, Maureen Riggio, Folklore, 2nd ▲
Single rose, Elise Bennett, 3rd
Single rose, Maureen Riggio, Mary Rose, 3rd



◀ Free style,
Danielle Leef, 3rd

Rose garden,
Danielle Leef, 1st
▼



BRIDGE GARDENS
(Photo by Elise Bennett)



Rick Bogusch,
Bridge Gardens Director



Elery Gordon and host
Carole Guest

My Favorite Rose

ANNE HALPIN WHITE

This month we welcome Lyn Hamer to My Favorite Rose. Lyn is one of our two Membership Chairpersons. If you'd like to share your favorite rose with your fellow rose lovers, please contact Anne at ahalpinwhite@yahoo.com, or 631-728-7716. She's happy to interview you if you're not ready to write your own piece. This feature was suggested by members, so please share your favorite with all of us!



Lyn Hamer won Best of Show at our annual rose show this year with Mme Hardy, but her all-time favorite rose is Queen Elizabeth. Created by the American hybridizer Dr. Walter E. Lammerts and introduced in 1954, Queen Elizabeth was the first rose to be classified as a grandiflora. It was an All-America Rose Selection in 1955 and was among the most popular roses of the twentieth century. The 2015 edition of the American Rose Society Handbook for Selecting Roses gives Queen Elizabeth a rating of 7.9, “a solid to very good rose, well above average.”

A tall, stately plant, Queen Elizabeth bears clusters of large, full, medium pink flowers on long, straight stems. The flowers are held upright, with no floppiness or drooping. Lyn loves its elegant form. “It just stands up so tall” in the garden, she explains. Each flower contains up to 38 petals. Although only slightly fragrant, those big flowers are terrific for cutting, produced atop stems that can be 3 feet long. And, says, Lyn, they last long in the vase.

So why has Lyn never entered Queen Elizabeth in the SRS show? “It’s never ready in time,” she explains, with a note of regret in her voice. The plant doesn’t begin to bloom until it reaches its full height, which doesn’t happen until late June in her partly shaded garden. Queen Elizabeth may take a while to bloom, but when it starts it flowers repeatedly through October, almost until frost.

Lyn has been growing Queen Elizabeth for a long time, and this year it’s done especially well. “This year was really good for roses,” she says. Queen Elizabeth has been part of Lyn’s rose garden since it was designed 22 years ago by the legendary Alice Recknagel Ireys. Lyn chose it for her garden because, she explained, she has always liked pink (and Queen Elizabeth is a particularly lovely shade of her favorite color). In addition, Ms. Ireys strongly recommended it, and Lyn highly valued her opinion. “I loved Alice,” she said fondly, “she was terrific.” Ms. Ireys designed several gardens in the Hamptons, and she was well into her 80s when she designed the Hamers’ garden. She no longer drove herself out here by that time, explained Lyn, but her driver would bring her out from her Brooklyn home on the weekend.

Along with Queen Elizabeth, Lyn’s garden still has several of the original roses planted there: Mme Hardy, Jacques Cartier, Old Blush and Baroness Rothschild are all still going strong.

Lyn cuts back Queen Elizabeth in the spring. “Pruning and thinning are important,” she says. Then “they do beautifully.” Fertilization is also necessary. She alternates between two different products: RoseTone and a fertilizer based on chicken manure. Switching off works better for her than using the same fertilizer every time. There have been problems with deer in the past but now, Lyn says, the garden is pretty well protected. Whenever the deer do manage to invade, though, “they eat the whole thing . . . particularly before the rose show,” she remarks. This year, though, she and Warren had great success with Sweeney’s Deer Repellent in the front yard—the liriopie that were devoured by deer last year have gone untouched all season.

In his book, *The Rose Bible*, Rayford Reddell calls Queen Elizabeth “the best grandiflora ever.” No doubt Lyn Hamer would agree. 🌹

Rose Care Calendar

HARVEY FEINSTEIN
SRS PRESIDENT EMERITUS, 1992-97

LATE OCTOBER. We have been lucky this year, and autumn has provided a full bounty of roses. At this time in the season, delay any major pruning until next March. If we are lucky and the weather holds you will have roses up to Thanksgiving. If the weather is dry, keep watering the garden; the best time in early morning. I like to give my plants one more feeding in fall. I use Alfalfa pellets because they break down all winter, during rain and snow. Next spring your plants will have a head start. Use 1 cup of pellets per bush and ½ cup for miniatures. It will look like green “baby-poo” next year but the roses love it. A nice mulch will cover up the green mush. You can find alfalfa pellets at Agway or anyplace that sells horse feed, or from online sources. (Editor’s note: Now that we are in late October, feeding may be best postponed until spring, to avoid stimulating new growth that may not harden before cold weather sets in, and lead to winterkill. Alfalfa pellets and RoseTone or another all-purpose fertilizer can be applied in spring. At this year’s Pruning and Planting Workshop, Peter Bertrand also advised us to tie in the canes of climbers to prevent them from whipping in the winter winds. Also, he suggested mounding soil or compost around the base of grafted roses to protect them over winter.)

NOVEMBER. Keep the rose beds free of leaves that have disease and fungus. DON’T toss them into your compost. The diseased material will contaminate your compost with insects and disease that winter over, so try to avoid causing problems for your garden next year. You’ll want nice, clean compost for your roses. Cleanliness is the best route to healthy roses.

Fall is a great time to do some planting. Roses planted in autumn get a head start on setting their roots, because the roots continue to develop in winter when the topgrowth is dormant. By next spring the plants are ready to grow. If you plant roses in spring you may get greenhouse-grown roses that will take time to settle into your garden. They won’t really put on a good display until the following season. So plant now for a better garden. 🌿



Eureka. Photo by Ann Halpin White.

HORTICULTURAL ALLIANCE OF THE HAMPTONS EVENTS

Lectures are held at the Bridgehampton Community House

Sunday, November 9, 2 PM

Attracting Beneficial Bugs to Your Garden

Speaker: Jessica Walter

Sunday, December 11, 2 PM

Gardening for Birds: Food, Shelter, Nesting Sites & Sources of Water

Speaker: Nancy Gilbert

**DON'T FORGET TO
RENEW YOUR SRS
MEMBERSHIP!**

Memberships expire
December 31st. Renewal
notices will go out after
Thanksgiving, so please
renew promptly. New
members are always
welcome.

Southampton Rose Society
P.O. Box 1022
Southampton, NY 11969-1022



Helga's Calendar Order Form

Price per calendar \$45. Please make check payable to Southampton Rose Society. Mail check and completed order form to Southampton Rose Society P.O. Box 1022, Southampton NY 11969



HELGA'S CALENDAR 2015

Name _____

Address _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Number of calendars: _____

Amount enclosed: _____

Thank you for your support!