

# Dune Rose®



VOLUME 39, NUMBER 2  
MAY 2015

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



## Social Media

**A** new initiative for the Southampton Rose Society this year is our entry into online social media. In the capable hands of our publicity co-chair and social media maven, Catherine Townsend, the SRS now has a page on Facebook and on Twitter, and we are planning a presence on Instagram as well. Why are we doing this? If the SRS is to survive and grow and remain a vibrant part of the Southampton community, we need to attract some younger members. Here in the 21st century, communities are built online. We all now have home computers connected to the internet, and tablets and smart phones. This is how we find kindred spirits who share our interests.

The Southampton Rose Society has had a website for some years, and now you can also find us in the more informal world of social media. Here's how:

**Facebook.** Our Facebook page is located at <http://www.facebook.com/southamptonrose>. We are just getting started, but if you "Like" our page, information and photos Catherine posts there will show up on your personal page (which you can create when you go to the Facebook website; just follow the directions).

**Twitter.** Twitter is devoted to short bits of information, and photos can be shared there as well. Each post on Twitter can be no longer than 140 characters. To count characters, you count both the letters in a message you compose as well as the spaces between the letters and all punctuation. Twitter helpfully displays a counter so you know how many characters you have used. The SRS Twitter page is located at: <http://www.twitter.com/southamptonrose>. When you join Twitter by creating an account, you can "Follow" our posts.

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Anne Halpin White  
*Designer*  
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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.

Southampton Rose Society  
PO Box 1022  
Southampton, NY 11969-1022  
631-740-4732

[www.southamptonrose.org](http://www.southamptonrose.org)

## ARS District Elections are Coming Up

All members who also belong to the American Rose Society (ARS) please be advised that Lois Fowkes, one of our longtime members and a judge of our show this year, is running for Regional Director of the ARS for our region. All ARS members are eligible to vote. Voting information will be in the May/June issue of American Rose magazine. 🌹

## Attention 2014 Rose Show Winners:

Please return your trophies, cleaned and polished, to Diane Vahradian's home by June 1! Contact Diane to make arrangements: [divah63@yahoo.com](mailto:divah63@yahoo.com), 631-283-0399. 🌹



### Social Media, *continued from first page*

If you haven't used either of these websites before, you find them by searching for them on the internet, using whichever search engine you have on your computer. The best known ones are Google, Yahoo, Bing and msn.com. In the search window, enter the Facebook or Twitter address given above. To access these sites you will be asked to register a user name and password and to give your email address.

Catherine invites all members to please Like and Follow our pages, and to encourage your friends to like them as well. Feel free to post rose photos and updates as well. These are both places we can share information and connect with one another wherever we are. If you'd like to have something listed or added to the page, you can email the information or the photo to Catherine and she will post it for you. You can reach her at [Catherine@lovedetective.com](mailto:Catherine@lovedetective.com). 🌹

# Pruning and Planting Workshop 2015

The annual Pruning and Planting workshop was held on April 18 in the Rogers Library garden, under the expert leadership of Peter Bertrand. If you have never attended this workshop, you owe it to your roses to be there next year. Peter is a fount of knowledge and all of us learned a great deal. His hands-on demonstrations illustrated better than any class or video how and where to prune, and the best way to plant bare-root and container roses. A little background: Peter has been a member of the Southampton Rose Society since 1980, and learned much about rose culture from David Dawn, who was among the foremost rosarians in the country. Peter maintains all five SRS gardens in Southampton Village, and he has won the American Rose Society's Bronze Award, as well as the Southampton Rose Society's Outstanding Service Award, the President's Trophy.

Peter shared informative handouts to take home and use. Here are just a few highlights from this most enlightening workshop.

This winter, as those of us who experienced it in Southampton know, brought us severe cold and continuous deep snow cover for much of the season. Peter noted that despite the bitter cold, the roses in library garden seem to have fared well. There was some blackening of the outer surfaces of canes, but many proved to be green and healthy inside. The snow seems to have served as insulation.

Peter times spring pruning to the weather conditions. This year the cold lingered, and mid-April was the perfect time to prune. The roses showed blackening in March, but in April when we finally got some warmer weather, they looked better. He pointed out, however, that roses can be pruned even when they are leafing out. It is always better to prune later than too early. If you prune early and we get a late freeze roses, especially hybrid teas, can suffer damage. David Austin roses are hardier, and it's Ok to prune them a bit before hybrid teas.

Prune according to the rose's type and habit. The library garden is formal, so it is pruned to keep the plants under control. Hybrid teas are pruned harder than floribundas, which are bigger, bushier plants. For all types of roses, prune to remove dead or diseased canes, and canes that cross over one another. For hybrid teas, also remove any canes growing in toward the center of the plant.

Whether you are a novice or an expert, you will pick up valuable tips from the Pruning and Planting workshop, so do attend next year. 🌿



Peter Bertrand demonstrates good planting technique, adding compost and organic fertilizer to the planting hole.



Peter shows where and how to cut the stem when pruning a hybrid tea. Photos by Diane Vahradian

# Judging the Tournament of Roses

Photos by Randal T. Ward, courtesy of American Rose Society



The Tournament of Roses parade in Pasadena, California has been a delighting audiences for 125 years, and many of us watch the televised broadcast each New Year's Day and marvel at the elaborate floats. Those floats compete for awards in a number of categories, and the winners are determined by a panel of judges. Have you ever wondered how they choose?

One of our judges for this year's Rose Show and a longtime member of SRS, Lois Fowkes, was a judge for the 2012 Tournament of Roses, and graciously shared a behind-the-scenes look at judging one of the biggest shows of the year.

There are three judges each year, and a judge may serve only once in their lifetime. You do not apply for the position; you are chosen. Lois received a phone call out of the blue from the president of the Tournament of Roses, who said they felt her resume qualified her and invited her. The judges come from all over the U.S. It

was an eye-opening experience for Lois. She shared with us a peek behind the scenes.

The judging process is very regimented and has been perfected over the years. It's hard work. "We had to judge 48 floats in two 12-hour days," Lois reports. Judges work 24 hours to prepare, and they get just five minutes to judge each float. No one may speak to the judges. Each judge has an assistant who handles all communication. "If you have a question, you tell the assistant, and they go and get the answer and bring it back to you. If you need a cup of coffee or a bottle of water, they get it for you," explains Lois.

Lois learned that most of the large floats are created by commercial float designers. They are built in huge barns like airplane hangars, located in and around Pasadena. Smaller floats entered by municipalities and organizations are built in high-ceilinged warehouses.

Lois describes walking into one of these big barns and seeing 4 to 6 huge floats, built on steel or aluminum

Individual flowers are placed in water picks and placed on the float one by one, into the foam-covered forms.. Photo courtesy of Randal T. Ward



To create the large roses on the floats, individual petals are glued to these forms. Note the trays of roses in water picks ready to be applied. Photo courtesy of Randal T. Ward



frames that were covered with mesh, and then sprayed-on foam to create the shapes of each float's features. On her first day, all the floats were covered by scaffolding and there were hundreds of people on the scaffolding gluing on the flowers and plant materials, one by one.

An example: one float had a seascape theme and the base was to look like an ocean, 58 feet long. There were 1-foot-wide bands of three colors—green, orange and yellow—making up the “sea.” These colors were created with split peas applied individually, by hand, with tweezers, to the foam surface which had been sprayed with adhesive. Lois watched as workers applied “12 green, then 12 orange, then 12 yellow, and they were all vertically aligned perfectly. The attention to detail was phenomenal.” On floats depicting larger-than-life roses, each rose is built of individual petals glued on one at a time.

The judges don't assess individual flowers. They critique

the overall concept of the float. Lois' job was to judge the use of flowers and plant material in the overall design, using a point system. Judges consider things like: does the plant material fit the title of the float? Does it flow well? Are roses predominant?

It was exciting and fun, she says, and it moved FAST. The judges saw all 48 floats the first day, beginning at 7AM. On the second day the scaffolding was down and the floats had to be 99% covered, and all mechanical elements in working order. The judges had to see all the moving parts in action (one category of judging is motion).

Judging the Tournament of Roses is very different from judging a rose show. “It's fluid, conceptual judging,” explains Lois. “It's how it hits you when you see them.” Her judging duties for our show will be very different, and based on our schedule. We thank her for sharing an inside look at one of the best known rose “shows” around. 🌹

## Don't Miss Our Upcoming Workshops!

**W**e have two terrific workshops coming up soon, both at Bridge Gardens in Bridgehampton. In addition to spending an enjoyable time with some of your fellow rose lovers, you will learn how to take terrific photos of your favorite roses and get in the competitive spirit and sharpen your skills to grow your own Queen of Show rose. Here's a preview:

### LEARN THE ART OF GARDEN PHOTOGRAPHY

On Saturday, May 23, noted photographer Dency Kane, who has been photographing gardens professionally for over 25 years and whose work has been published in more than 100 books and magazines, will share her insights into *The Art of Garden Photography*. Dency came to garden photography from a fine arts background, and she has given talks on photography at venues including the Boston Museum of Fine Arts, Winterthur, the New York Horticultural Society and Planting Fields Arboretum. Now she is sharing her knowledge with us. This can be your year to enter our annual photography competition!

Maybe you'd like to learn how to take better portraits that capture the essence of your roses, or keep a visual diary of your garden. Whatever your photographic inclinations, you will sharpen your skills at this workshop.

You don't need to bring your camera, but do bring your notebook or tablet computer. Dency will teach us how to look, and see, in the garden. She will talk about being mindful of the scene before us, how our senses can influence our vision. A big challenge for photographers is how to sort through all the visual clutter in the garden and zero in on the most important element to compose a great photograph. Dency will also share information on camera gear—what different lenses do and how to use them, how aperture and shutter speed influence what's in focus. Join Dency on May 23!

### GROW A QUEEN OF SHOW

Ok rose show veterans and novices, next month is our annual rose show. Do you want to get your game on? Come to Peter Bertrand's June 6 workshop and learn the secrets of growing a Queen of Show hybrid tea rose. Yes, there are strategies and tricks of the trade for



Lyn Hamer won Queen of Show in 2014.

growing a best-of-show rose, and here is your chance to learn from a master. Peter has cared for some of the most dazzling rose gardens around, and he learned first-hand from one of the world's great rosarians, David Dawn.

Any rose show is, at its heart, all about the Queen of Show. Peter will tell us how to select, grow and care for potential Queen of Show candidates. He will share his techniques for growing a strong plant with good soil care, cultural techniques and pruning, which are critical to success. And he will share some inside information, too. Did you know that the American Rose Society keeps a list of what they call "banker roses," the top 20 exhibition roses that are most consistently on the trophy table? You will get a copy of this list if you come to the workshop (no, we will not be publishing the list in *Dune Rose*—you have to be there to get it). Adding several of these roses to your garden, and caring for them as Peter advises, will increase your odds of winning.

So are you ready to take your roses, and your ability to capture them in photographs, to the next level? Come to these workshops. 🌹

# 2015 Events Calendar

## SOUTHAMPTON ROSE SOCIETY EVENTS

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**Saturday, May 23, 10 AM–12PM**

### **Photography Lecture/Workshop**

Guest Speaker: Dency Kane

Location: Bridge Gardens

36 Mitchell Lane, Bridgehampton, NY 11932

**Saturday, June 6, 10AM**

### **Secrets of Growing a “Queen of Show” Hybrid Tea (Fundamentals of Rose Gardening— A Workshop Series)**

Guest Speaker: Peter Bertrand

Location: Bridge Gardens

36 Mitchell Lane, Bridgehampton, NY 11932

**Saturday, June 20, 7AM–4PM**

### **39th Annual Rose Show**

Location: Rogers Memorial Library

91 Coopers Farm Road, Southampton, NY 11968

**Saturday, June 20**

### **Village of Southampton**

#### **375th Anniversary Celebration**

Events occurring throughout the day at various locations

**Saturday, June 27, 10:30AM–3:30 PM**

### **Garden Tour**

Locations to be announced.

**Saturday, July 4, 10AM**

### **Southampton Fourth of July Parade**

Location: Village of Southampton, beginning at the train station

**Sunday, September 20, 4PM**

### **Members Garden Party**

Location: Garden of Carole Guest

Rain Date is September 27

**Friday, October 2,**

### **Annual Members Meeting**

Location: Home of Miriam Goldberg

**Saturday, October 3, 12PM**

### **Annual Luncheon & Lecture**

Guest Speaker: TBD

Location: The Meadow Club

555 First Neck Lane, Southampton, NY 11968

## HORTICULTURAL ALLIANCE OF THE HAMPTONS LECTURES

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*Lectures are monthly, Sundays at 2:00 PM, in the Bridgehampton Community House*

### **May 3, Native Plants for a New American Cottage Garden**

Speaker: Thomas Rainier

### **June 14, Year-Round Appeal— Plants with Pizzazz All Year Long**

Speaker: Andy Brand

### **September 13, The High Line: Lessons for Our Gardens**

Speaker: Roxanne Zimmer

### **October 18, Rock Garden Plants— At Their Homes and Yours**

Speaker: Anne Spiegel

### **November 8, City Parks: Public Places, Private Thoughts**

Speaker: Catie Marron

### **December 13, Unusual Geophytes and Cyclamen**

Speaker: John Lonsdale, PhD

## AMERICAN ROSE SOCIETY, EVENTS OF INTEREST

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### **June 11–14, ARS Spring National Convention and National Mini Rose Show**

Columbus, OH

### **September 10–13, ARS National Convention, Syracuse, NY**

Pat Shanley (one of our rose show judges last year) will be sworn in as the new ARS president.

See [www.newyorkroses.com](http://www.newyorkroses.com) for more information in the coming months, or contact Ann and Joe Gibson ([ambuhse@yahoo.com](mailto:ambuhse@yahoo.com)) or Rosemarie Murphy ([rmenterprises1105@gmail.com](mailto:rmenterprises1105@gmail.com)).

ARS is creating a website that will provide details of the convention with its seminars, displays, etc.

## OTHER UPCOMING SHOWS:

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**June 14, Long Island Rose Society**

**June 20, Manhattan Rose Society**

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



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