I grew up with roses, so they have been part of my life for nearly 62 years. My grandfather, who was a florist, loved them; and I did, too – but no more than peonies, or lilies, or hydrangeas, or those lovely, blue delphiniums. I probably took roses for granted and did not recognize the significance they hold in life - as they were always there. I was a lucky child!

I do recall the first time I “really” thought about roses and the intricate importance they have woven into my life. Clever plants are roses! It was in the early 70’s, when I was part of the fund-raising and development team at Carnegie Hall. My secretary, a former ballerina named Mina, wore an enormous amount of rose oil. You could say she doused in it! Everyone in the office joked about it, and her, and said how they were overwhelmed by both the aroma and Mina’s dramatic style (she was always seeking an audience – lust like roses). The fragrance didn’t bother me – and I loved Mina and her exuberance! She was nearly 80 then, and now long gone; but I remember her over time because of rose oil. I do not smell a rose or rose-scented perfume that I do not think of Mina, and see her in my mind – fondly.

(Continued on page 7)
Dear SRS Members:

It is truly a pleasure to welcome new member Aimee Martin. Aimee is a freelance writer, and we are excited that she has accepted our invitation to become our new Dune Rose Editor.

The traditional, end-of-summer September Garden Party and Photography Competition was held at the home of Program Chair, Mimi Goldberg. The lovely party was attended by forty-five members, the weather was perfect and the refreshments delicious! Everyone had a fun time, which is captured in the photos that are featured in this issue.

Far from slowing down in October, the SRS continued along at its usual fast pace. Our Annual Meeting was followed by a wonderful luncheon and informative lecture at the Plaza Café. Stephen Scanniello, President of the Heritage Rose Foundation and the recipient of the 2009 Great Rosarian of the World (GROW) Award was our very entertaining guest speaker.

As President, the highlight of the year for me was the honor of recognizing our outstanding members. The awards were presented to the following individuals:

Dorothy Nigro – President’s Trophy
Helga Dawn-Frohling – ROTY Award
Nancy Rollins – Director’s Trophy
Lyn Hamer – Outstanding Service Award
Gloria Kaye – ARS 2008 Bronze Medal of Honor
Adeline Christie – ARS 2009 Bronze Medal of Honor

In response to requests by members, next year, on Saturday, June 12th, we will include a new program “Bringing Home the Silver”. It is slated for early June and will be taught by the pros on how to “groom” your roses for the Annual Rose Show.

The SRS website is YOUR website and provides interesting, timely articles on rose culture, which you can find on the Articles Page; a Reference Page for linking you to rose nurseries and suppliers of hard-to-find roses and products and most recently an updated Contact Page. We now have four people you can direct your questions to on rose culture, comments about the website and any questions you might have about the Society.

Membership participation plays an important role in the future success of the SRS. Please continue to support the SRS by your attendance at all our 2010 programs.

Much love to all who continue to make the SRS the great success story that it is!

Carol Kroupa, President

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**NEW SLATE OF SRS OFFICERS AND BOARD ELECTED!!!**

**President** – Carol Kroupa  
**First Vice President** – Nancy Rollins  
**Second Vice President** – Gloria Kaye  
**Financial Vice President/Treasurer** – Cornelia Bostwick  
**Secretary** – Elizabeth Kearns  
**SRS Rose Garden Chair** – Helga Dawn-Frohling  
**Program Chair** – Mimi Goldberg  
**Publicity Chair** – Gary Lawrance  
**DUNE ROSE Chair** – Aimee Fitzpatrick Martin

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**DONATE A BRICK**

There is always something special about honoring a friend, relative or your favorite pet with an engraved brick in the SRS Rose Garden! It makes a wonderful present for any occasion and supports the ongoing maintenance of the SRS Rose Garden. Visit the SRS website “About Us” page and click “On-going SRS Rose Garden Personalized Brick Project” and follow the instructions.

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**MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL!!!**

Please remember to renew your membership to SRS. This year we are mailing the renewal forms early so as to catch everyone before they leave for warmer lands for the winter months.
If you have not put your garden to bed, you better hurry up. Refer to the article last month for reference. Days are getting shorter every day and pretty soon, Old Man Winter will be here in no time. With the holidays coming up so fast, it’s going to be hectic. But after all the presents are unwrapped and all the dishes put away, you won’t have much to do or do you?

What do rosarians do during the off season when the garden is shut down. There are plenty of things that come to mind. There are plenty of rose books to catch up on reading, and catalogs to browse and order the roses for next season. You can also go to museums and check out some paintings with roses by the Old Masters. Edouard Manet painted a series of still life with flowers, approximately 32 of them and most of them with roses.

For beginners and even expert rosarians, here are two good reference books:

*All About Roses – Ortho Books*
This is an all-around book on roses. Topics include how to buy and plant roses, their maintenance, pests and diseases, how to integrate roses in your landscapes and insights on easy care shrub roses. There are lots of pictures of all kinds of roses and all sorts of illustrations.

*The Graham Stuart Thomas Rose Book*
For the inveterate rosarian, this is a good reference book. This is not light reading. It’s an in-depth treatise I might say on roses. It’s more of an encyclopedia of roses. I love it because you can really go into the history of different kinds of roses. It’s substantially revised with lots of information on Old Garden Roses. Besides the usual photograph of roses, there are also some black and white drawings of roses that are really beautiful.

Since I’ll be moving to Charleston pretty soon, I would like to share with you this tiny book by the late Emily Whaley called *Mrs. Whaley and Her Charleston Garden*. In this charming pocket-sized book, Mrs. Whaley lets us into her garden and her life. She led a full life, very involved in her garden and the preservation activities in Charleston. This book is full of wit and wisdom and you’ll fall in love with her as you read on. The book ends with an Appendix of Garden’s Do’s and Don’t’s beginning with “Early to bed, Early to rise, Work like hell and fertilize” and ending with “Enjoy your garden. Play it by ear.” This book is an easy read, and you can curl up by the fireside and read on.

Now, if you still have roses in the garden, you can use them to decorate your home for the holidays. If your garden has gone to bed by the holidays, greenhouse-cultivated or florist roses can be used instead. Two or three pots of red minis grouped together make a bold statement in any room. An arrangement of red roses amongst different shades of pines on a low container; red tapers with white roses on a bed of pine boughs; blue tapers surrounded by blue-green spruce with yellow roses are all sensational centerpieces. Here is a decorating idea for your stairway:

**Material needed:**
- Fresh or synthetic garland
- Red or gold ribbons
- Various berries, herb and greens
- Fresh red roses
- Floral vials and floral tape

Drape the garland around the railing. Tie the garland with a ribbon. Bunch a small cluster of berries, herb and greens to the garland until it looks full. Clusters of aucuba leaves are great because of the gold specks on them. Trim each rose stem to the length of the vial. Slip it into the tightly capped water-filled floral vial. Secure with floral tape. Slip the vials of roses into the garland, wedging them in place. Add fresh water to the vials daily.

I love this time of the year when we are all anticipating the coming holidays – Thanksgiving, Christmas and Hanukkah. To enjoy the holiday season more fully, once in a while find a quiet place in the house and browse through the garden catalogs or catch up on your readings and just let the world go by. Get recharged! It will do you good and get you ready for the next growing season.
For those of you, who were unable to attend the 33rd Annual Meeting/Lecture/Luncheon, you missed that rare opportunity to commiserate with old friends, meet new members and share your common experiences as rosarians.

This special day not only presented a newly-elected Board of Directors, but also a guest speaker Stephen Scanniello, who shared anecdotes on his newly-released book, “A Rose by Any Name.” Carol Kroupa, President, who has done an outstanding job herself as President since taking over the office in January, awarded distinguished members for their ongoing, exceptional service to the SRS and the ARS.
Mimi Goldberg – Special Recognition Award

Dozie Sheahan – Special Recognition Award

SRS ANNUAL GARDEN PARTY
For the first time ever, one Photography Competition entrant won first place Blue Ribbons in all classes – Single Rose, Rose Garden and Freestyle – and Best in Show trophy as well! Congratulations to Nicholas Kirkbride for this stellar achievement!

More congratulations to other ribbon winners: Richard Friedenberg, a former Best in Show winner and Caren Nederlander for their good efforts!
Reflections on Roses

(continued)

Cleopatra, it is said, cleverly filled her living quarters with rose petals so Marc Antony would long remember her and be reminded of her every time he smelt a rose. Her scheme, apparently, worked if history is correct. I wonder if this was Mina’s plan, too.

I like the fact that roses have been around for a long, long time. Fossil records suggest they have existed for at least 35 million years in the northern hemisphere. They are survivors, like me. I like that about them. The first known paintings of roses were on frescoes discovered in Crete that were painted about 1600 BC. In Germany, they say there is a rose bush more than 1,000 years old. It continues to bloom on the walls of the Hildesheim Cathedral. Erstaunlich!

I suspect thorns have helped roses to survive so long. I reflect that I, too, have such thorns. They have helped me survive the onslaught of competition and harshness in the world. My office has roses, and thorns, each week to remind me of the fragility of life and the need to insulate my spirit. Long-term survival has its benefits, and for the rose, it has resulted in a biochemistry that has resulted in one of the most complex of aromatic oils.

It is known that the apothecary rose, R. Gallica Officinalis, first recorded in the 13th century, supported an industry just outside of Provins, France. There, the rose was turned into jellies, powders and perfumed oils, and also used as a soothing unguent for a multitude of illnesses.

Many Indian maharishi regard the rose as the pinnacle of the flower kingdom. In India, roses have been used for generations as a healing flower to cure depression, anxiety, insomnia, and memory loss. In the Middle East, Europe, and Africa roses are used since antiquity to enhance beauty, as a sedative, and for food.

Who would not like skin like rose petals – full of a wonderful, plump starch – so soft and supple. Personally, life would seem less enjoyable without that delicious Turkish locum that delights the senses with its rose taste and fragrance.

In a world where we are constantly checking cell phones, where communications has become one of social networking and texting, where we watch the clock because we are over-scheduled, taking the time to smell the roses can be important alternative to sleep deprivation and the irrational thinking that seems to have taken over our vulnerable world. Taking the time to smell the roses can enable us to reminisce about the importance of feeling the wind through the trees and the sun on our brows. I am glad roses are there!

The AMERICAN ROSE SOCIETY is offering a special Four Month Trial Membership for just $10!

♦ You’ll receive: Free Advice from Consulting Rosarians;
♦ Free or reduced Garden Admissions;
♦ Free online access to four quarterly bulletins;
♦ 2 issues of AMERICAN ROSE magazine;
♦ Discounts of up to 30% at merchant partners.

Contact Laura Pfender at laura@ars-hq.org
SRS 2010 PRELIMINARY CALENDAR

APRIL 17 — PRUNING/ROSE CARE SESSION
Rogers Memorial Library/SRS Rose Garden

MAY 8 — MEMBERS’ BREAKFAST FORUM
Guest Speaker To Be Announced

MAY 22 — CHILDREN’S EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM
Rogers Memorial Library/SRS Rose Garden

JUNE 12 — “BRING HOME THE SILVER” WORKSHOP

JUNE 19 — ANNUAL ROSE SHOW/ROSE ART COMPETITION
Rogers Memorial Library

TBA — MEMBERS’ GARDEN TOUR
Southampton, NY

JULY 17 — SRS COCKTAIL PARTY FUND RAISER

SEPTEMBER 12 — SRS ANNUAL GARDEN PARTY & PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION AWARDS

OCTOBER 9 — ANNUAL MEETING/LECTURE LUNCHEON