Plan Ahead—Order Your New Roses Now

The temperature is dropping and our roses are entering their winter dormancy. This year’s mild weather allowed many roses to continue blooming well into autumn, but now the season is truly over. Later in this issue you’ll find suggestions for some things to do in the garden in winter. But winter is, above all, a time for gardeners to dream about the roses we’d love to grow.

If you’re planning some new additions to your garden, now is a great time to order from online and mail-order nurseries for delivery in spring. Own root, bare root roses are the best way to start. Grafted roses are more prone to rose mosaic disease.

Our website (www.southamptonrose.org) contains an annotated listing of rose nurseries, some of which offer a discount to members of the American Rose Society (ARS). On page six of this newsletter you will also find the nursery listings, but they’re always available on the website.

Speaking of our website, if you haven’t visited it lately, take some time to check it out this winter. It has been newly updated and is better than ever. The website chairs are Curtis Eaves and Michael Staples.
Becoming a Consulting Rosarian

Consulting Rosarians are trained and certified by the American Rose Society to serve as resources for local members. What does a Consulting Rosarian do? SRS member Dorothy Nigro, an Emeritus Consulting Rosarian, explained that CRs answer calls and questions from people needing help in their gardens. A Consulting Rosarian can help you find the right roses for your garden, teach you how to prepare a planting hole, provide advice on how often to water and help you to diagnose disease and tell you how best to treat it. Several SRS members are Consulting Rosarians—they are so designated in our annual membership Green Book.

If you are interested in learning more about rose growing and would like to be able to provide this valuable service to fellow members, consider becoming a Consulting Rosarian.

Anyone wishing to become an American Rose Society Consulting Rosarian must satisfy the following criteria:

— Must be a member, either regular or associate, of the American Rose Society for three consecutive years.

— Must be an active member of a local rose society.

— Must have grown roses of various types for at least five years and should be knowledgeable in all equipment and materials related to rose culture.

— Must provide three letters of recommendation by any three Consulting Rosarians on the form provided by the District Consulting Rosarian Chairman.


— Must know and be willing to live up to the Consulting Rosarian Guide.

— Must be willing to attend no less than one Consulting Rosarian School/Seminar in every four years.

— Must submit a completed individual report form to the District Chairman of Consulting Rosarians by the date designated by the District Director.

— Must exhibit a continuing willingness to share knowledge and an enthusiasm for the rose and the American Rose Society.
A LOOK AT 2014

2014 Calendar of Events

Watch for more events to be added in spring.

**FUNDAMENTALS OF ROSE GARDENING—A WORKSHOP SERIES**

- Saturday April 19, 10 a.m. Pruning and Planting Session
- Saturday May 31, 10 a.m. Competitive Rose Arranging Workshop
- Saturday June 7, 10 a.m. Showing Award Winning Roses
- Saturday October 18, 10:30 a.m. Preparing Your Garden for Winter

**OTHER EVENTS**

- Friday May 9, 4–4:45 pm Children’s Mini-Rose and Art Program
- Saturday June 14, 7 a.m.–4 p.m. Rose Show
- Friday June 20, 6 p.m. Endowment Fund Dinner
- Saturday July 26, 6 p.m.–9 p.m. Biennial Cocktail Fundraiser
- Sunday September 7, 4 p.m. Members Garden Party and Photo Competition
- Saturday September 27, 11 a.m. Annual Meeting Luncheon and Lecture (tentative date)

**HORTICULTURAL ALLIANCE OF THE HAMPTONS EVENTS**

*(Bridgehampton Community House, 2 pm)*

- January 12
  Rick Darke, “The Accidental Landscape: Celebrating the Collision of Culture and Ecology”

- February 9
  Suzanne Ruggles, “The Tyranny of Landscaping”

- March 9
  Tatiana Holway, “The Flower of Empire: An Amazonian Water Lily, the Quest to Make It Bloom, and the World It Created”

- April 13
  Ethne Clarke, “An Infinity of Graces: The Italian Villa and Gardens of Cecil Pinsent”

*Photo by Michael Shoup*

*Rosa ‘Crepuscule’ in a mixed border*
The Rose Garden in Winter

WINTER PROTECTION FOR YOUR ROSES
Winter protection is most critical during the first three years the rose is in your garden. Alternate freezing and thawing can heave plants and expose roots, where cold air can desiccate them. Grafted roses are most at risk; if the graft union is above the soil line it is most vulnerable (another reason to always buy own-root roses.)

The time-honored way to protect rose bushes over winter is to mound up soil or compost 8 to 10 inches high around the base of each plant. It takes planning—you have to arrange for extra soil to be brought into the garden in fall, then taken away in spring. But a mound of soil is an effective insulator, and it won’t blow away (as loose mulch can do).

The best time to provide winter protection is right after plants go into dormancy. Ideally, temperatures will drop gradually to 20 degrees F, the canes will harden off and the plant will be able to survive cold temperatures. But a sudden cold snap can cause damage.

If you opt for winter mulch, the best time to apply it is when the ground freezes. The goal is to keep the soil frozen and prevent thawing and refreezing during spells of warmer and colder weather. Remove the mulch in early spring.

PRUNING TIPS
Early spring is the time to prune bush roses. When making any pruning cuts, cut back to healthy green tissue. Make the cut at a 45-degree angle, about ¼ inch above a dormant bud. During the growing season you can find these buds in the leaf axils where leaves join stems. If you prune before your plants leaf out, look for points on the cane where leaves used to be. Dormant buds will be small swellings or bumps on the stem.

A structural goal of pruning is to keep the center of the plant open so air can circulate freely among the canes (and thus help prevent powdery mildew). Remove any canes that cross or crowd each other. Also remove spindly, weak canes and twiggy growth. Remove dead and winter-damaged growth.

If your roses are grafted, remove any suckers that grow from the rootstock.

For the best instruction, sign up for the Pruning and Planting Workshop with Peter Bertrand on April 19 (see the Schedule of Events on page 3).

OTHER WINTER CARE
After the second frost, prune bush roses down to hip or knee height to prevent them from tossing in the wind and opening the planting hole (exposed roots could freeze). Do not prune climbers (that is done in June after the first bloom).

Walk the garden once in a while, especially after a storm, to check that no plants are heaved out of the ground by alternate freezing and thawing, that mulches/protection are in place, that all canes are secured.

Get your tools sharpened
Sustainable Roses—What Are They?

Roses have traditionally needed plenty of care, including the use of chemicals to control pests and diseases and to fertilize plants. A growing movement toward organic rose growing is taking shape, along with breeding efforts to produce tougher, lower maintenance plants. If you’re interested in using fewer chemicals in your garden (a good idea in our area, where materials we use in our gardens will end up in our waterways), and you find the idea of organics a bit intimidating, consider growing your roses sustainably.

Sustainable growing isn’t exactly organic (in which no synthetic chemical products are used), but it is a step in the right direction. In gardening sustainably you aim to nurture healthy soil by adding compost and other organic amendments to boost fertility and support the beneficial microbial life in the soil, and by eliminating the use of synthetic chemical fertilizers.

Instead of employing a regular program of spraying for pests and diseases, you spray only when you see a problem. Or, you try gentler measures first, such as dislodging aphids from plants with a strong spray of water from a hose, or applying a preventive baking soda spray to guard against black spot. A sustainable garden is a healthy ecosystem.

The other key to a sustainable rose garden is to seek out sustainable rose varieties. What are they? Sustainable roses are, in short, resilient and undemanding. They are naturally resistant to diseases, they require less watering and, generally, pampering. To have a sustainable rose garden, you need to experiment to find varieties that will thrive with less care. Finding them may sound like searching for the Holy Grail, but breeders have been working on developing these traits in roses. You will lose some plants in the process, and may have to part with some of your favorites, but undemanding roses do exist, and you won’t end up with a garden full of Knock Out roses (though they, too, have their place).

TOP TEN SUSTAINABLE ROSES

The ARS American Rose Annual for 2013 provides a list of the Top Ten Sustainable Roses, by Mike and Angelina Chute, along with their experiences growing them. Here’s the list:

Dortmund: shrub, medium red, single (Kordes, 1955)
Rhode Island Red: large-flowered climber, dark red, double (Brownell, 1957)
Clair Matin: large-flowered climber, medium pink, double (Meilland, 1960)
Earth Song: grandiflora, deep pink, semidouble (Buck, 1975)
Heritage: shrub, light pink, very double (Austin, 1985)
Pretty Lady: floribunda, light pink, semidouble (Scrivens, 1996)
Lady Elsie May: shrub, orange-pink, semidouble (Noack, 2002)
Blushing Knock Out: shrub, light pink, single (Radler, 2004)
Home Run: shrub, medium red, single (Carruth, 2006)
All the Rage: shrub, apricot blend, semidouble (Lim, 2008)
List of Rose Nurseries

ANTIQUE ROSE EMPORIUM  
www.antiqueroseemporium.com  
Own root, EarthKind and Antique Roses. The owner, Michael Shoup, was our speaker for the Annual Meeting/Luncheon/Lecture in 2013.

DAVID AUSTIN ROSES  
www.davidaustinroses.com/american  
Bare root, Grafted, English, Antique and Modern. They also sell some classic hybrid teas from other breeders. Will sell own root roses if you ask for them. 15% discount

CHAMBLEE’S ROSE NURSERY  
www.chambleeroses.com  
Own root, EarthKind, Austin & Modern. Good source for EarthKind roses. Don’t ship bare root plants and tend to ship small plants.

EDMUNDS’ ROSES  
www.edmundsroses.com  
Grafted, Modern, Antique

GARDEN VALLEY RANCH  
www.gardenvalley.com  
Bare root, Antique, English and Modern 10% discount

HEIRLOOM ROSES  
www.heirloomroses.com  
Own root, Antique, English, Rare, Modern, Miniatures and Minifloras. Huge catalog; big selection.

K & M NURSERY  
www.kandmroses.com  
Fortuniana grafted roses, hybrid teas, floribundas & climbers, miniatures and minifloras; old, new and exhibition varieties. Specialize in hard-to-find exhibition hybrid teas.

KORDES ROSES  
www.gartenrosen.de  
www.newflora.net  
“The most beautiful roses of the world” (and one of our sponsors). Available from Roses Unlimited, and some varieties available at Lynch’s Garden Center in summer. Their two websites are useful for reference and information.

PALATINE ROSES  
www.palatineroses.com/roses  
Grafted, Modern, Antique. Large selection.

PICKERING NURSERIES, INC.  
www.pickeringnurseries.com  
Bare root, Grafted, Modern, Antique and Hardy. Also carry Kordes. An amazing Canadian nursery.

REGAN NURSERY  
www.regannursery.com  
Bare root, Grafted, Modern

ROGUE VALLEY ROSES  
www.roguevalleyroses.com  
Own root, Antique, Modern and Rare 10% discount

ROSEMANIA  
www.rosemania.com  
Bare root, own root and Multiflora roses

ROSES UNLIMITED  
www.rosesunlimitedownroot.com  

ROSES OF YESTERDAY AND TODAY  
www.rosesofyesterday.com  
Own-root/Grafted, Bare root and potted, Antique and Modern

LOOKING FOR IDEAS?  
Roses in the Southampton Cultural Center Organic Garden:

Cinderella Pink Fairy Tale • Pink Martini • Toscana Veranda • Kashmir
Climbing Jasmina • Climbing Hella • Climbing Florentina • Sally Holmes • Beverly
Grande Amore • Miracle on the Hudson • Party Dress • Eliza
2014 SRS Membership Form

Your 2014 Renewal Notice is on its way to you. Please help us by responding quickly with your renewal decision. It will save our hard working Membership Chairs the effort in tracking you down.

Use this form to renew, if you like, or pass it along to friends and family. And please consider making an end-of-the-year donation to the SRS Endowment Fund.

The Southampton Rose Society is Affiliated with the American Rose Society and is a not-for profit 501(c)(3) educational organization. All memberships include admission to members-only events, a copy of the SRS Green Book and our newsletter, DUNE ROSE. Special memberships to the American Rose Society are available to SRS members. Membership is for the calendar year, January 1–December 31, 2014.

Name ____________________________________________
Address ____________________________
Address ____________________________
Phone ____________________________
Email ____________________________

Please enclose a check payable to "Southampton Rose Society" or enter your credit card information below. (Visa or Mastercard only, please.)

Credit Card Number ____________________________
Signature ____________________________
Expiration ____________________________ CVC (on back of card) ____________

Completed forms should be mailed to:
Nancy Rollins, Membership Chair
131 Herrick Road
Southampton NY 11968

The Southampton Rose Society is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) educational organization. All contributions are deductible to the full extent of the law.
NOTICES

www.southamptonrose.org
631-740-4732

For more information, email
events@southamptonrose.org
press@southamptonrose.org
membership@southamptonrose.org
info@southamptonrose.org

PHOTO BY ANNE HALPIN