Exploring Fragrance

Our annual luncheon/lecture is coming up October 3rd and you will not want to miss this one. This year we delve into the world of fragrance and perfumery with our guest speaker, Kellie Como, Vice President, Fragrance and Product Development for Inter Parfums USA LLC. Kellie is an award winning fragrance creator with over 20 years’ experience in the fashion and fine fragrance industry. She has created perfumes for Chloe, Karl Lagerfeld, Calvin Klein, BCBG, Marc Jacobs and many more. She worked with Vera Wang on her first bridal fragrance, and last year she worked with Oscar de la Renta to create his last perfume, Oscar de la Renta Extraordinary, which launched this year. Her talk promises to be fascinating indeed.

A bit about Kellie’s background: a chemistry major in college, upon graduation she got a job with Chesebrough-Ponds as a research chemist, where she developed creams and moisturizers. She met the person in charge of fragrance, who decided what a cream or lotion should smell like, and was inspired to pay attention to scent when creating a cream. Kellie next worked for Gryphon Development and was moved into marketing, where she trained to become a perfumer. That very demanding training, she explains, involved learning all the basic notes in a scent. Scents are organized into families, from heavy to light. Woods and resins are the heaviest and citrus the lightest. When she had learned the scent families, she began to delve into the nuances of fragrances. Getting into flowers, she says, has been the most interesting.

Today Kellie is the general manager of the Oscar de la Renta and Brooks Brothers brands at Inter Parfums, as well as serving as house “nose” for other brand such as Agent Provocateur, Banana Republic, Anthropologie, Betsey Johnson and more. Her work has won numerous awards.

In her talk for us, Kellie will focus on the scents of roses. The rose, she says, is a very emotional flower which can have profound effects on us. She will explore what

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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

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**The 2015 Rose Show**

At Peter Bertrand’s Secrets of Growing a Queen of Show workshop on June 6 at Bridge Gardens, lucky attendees had a chance to learn from a master rosarian. Peter Bertrand cares for all five SRS gardens around town, and also maintains a number of world class rose gardens in the area.

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**Growing a Queen of Show**

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Rick Bogusch and Peter Bertrand
And the Winners Are!

Here are the trophy winners from our 2015 rose show. Congratulations to all!

SECTION I: SPECIMEN CLASS

Queen of Show, John Doherty, Olympiad
King of Show, Christl Meszkat, Opening Night
Princess of Show, Christl Meszkat, Sunstruck
Floribunda 1 bloom, Helga Dawn, Nicole
Prince of Show, Christl Meszkat, Nicole
Climber, Helga Dawn, Rosarium Uetersen
Dowager Queen, Lyn Hamer, Mme Hardy
Victorian, Lyn Hamer, Rose de Rescht
Modern Shrub, Brad Bender, Oranges ‘n’ Lemons
Queen Combined Shrubs, Brad Bender, Oranges ‘n’ Lemons
King Combined Shrubs, Nancy Rollins, Bonica
Best of Show, Nancy Rollins, Bonica
Sweepstakes, Christl Meszkat

SECTION II: SPECIAL SPECIMEN CLASS

Fragrant Rose, Huguette Hersch, Gertrude Jekyll
Showmans, Maureen Riggio, Drop Dead Red
Rose in a Bowl, Nancy Rollins, Floral Fairy Tale
Open Rose, Christl Meszkat, Sugar Moon

SECTION III: COLLECTION CLASSES

David & Helga Dawn, Christl Meszkat, Chicago Peace
Peter Haring, Christl Meszkat, Dick Clark
Pauline Gerli Sullivan, Christl Meszkat, Mr Lincoln & Olympiad
Mr & Mrs Martin Richards, Christl Meszkat, Sally Holmes
Dorothy Nigro, Brad Bender, Hot Princess
SRS Garden Tour

1. The garden of Maryann Tighe Hidalgo
2. Roses in Jim Berkrot and Michael Staples’ garden.
3. The garden of Beatty Cramer
4. The garden of Carole and Frederick Guest
5. The garden of Christl and Kenneth Meszkat
6. The garden of Kurt Basnight and Elizabeth Funk

Look for more photos next month.
My Favorite Rose
By Anne Halpin White

This month we welcome Huguette Hersch to My Favorite Rose. A longtime member of the Southampton Rose Society, Huguette is a passionate lover of roses and has entered many of her favorites in our annual shows.

This month’s column would be better titled My Favorite Roses, for Huguette Hersch has many of them. Huguette has been growing roses in her Water Mill garden for 35 years, and her garden, designed and still cared for by Johnette de Freitas, today is a breathtaking combination of hybrid teas, grandifloras, climbers, shrub roses and some of the newer landscape roses such as the Knock Out series. They are all repeat flowering through summer, and most of them are fragrant.

Her pride and joy, if she had to choose just one, which she admits she really cannot, is Gertrude Jekyll. Classified as a shrub rose, in Huguette’s garden it is trained along a fence (she remarked that Peter Bertrand was surprised upon a visit at how high this rose climbs in her garden). The very full, deep pink flowers have a powerful fragrance that is distinct but never heavy. Huguette describes it simply as “pure rose.” What’s even better, the plant reblooms repeatedly from summer to early fall, at least four times. Some of Huguette’s other favorite show roses bloomed too early for this year’s show after a brief spell of warm weather after a cool spring jolted many roses into bloom. But Gertrude Jekyll won the day.

Huguette’s second favorite, if she had to rank them, would probably be Tropicana, formerly known as Super Star. A slightly fragrant hybrid tea, its large blossoms, carmine pink with an overlay of orange, have, as she explains, a very classic hybrid tea form. Huguette has shown Tropicana several times, including this year.

A veteran of her garden that never fails to delight is Carefree Wonder, which she first planted 25 years ago. The vigorous plants grow on either side of the pool house doors. Carefree Wonder is classified as a floribunda shrub rose and it has been a great success in her garden. “They own the place,” she says with a smile. Huguette has won ribbons and trophies for Carefree Wonder and has twice won Queen of Shrubs in the SRS show. A portrait of a winning spray of Carefree Wonder, painted by Lyn Hamer, hangs in a place of honor on a wall in the Herschs’ home.

Tequila, a floribunda shrub rose, changes its color as the blossoms develop. It starts out orangey pink, Huguette explains, and gradually turns yellow. But in hot weather and later in the season the flowers open pale yellow and turn even paler with age. Scentimental is another favorite, a shrub rose whose fragrant flowers are white streaked with red. Alas, it seems to bloom always at the wrong time for the annual rose show. Other favorites include Yves Piaget, Princess Alexandra of Kent, Dream Come True, Pierre de Ronsard and Don Juan.

Huguette keeps all of the ribbons she has won over the years, and laid out on her dining table it is an impressive collection.

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2015 Events Calendar

Southampton Rose Society Events

Sunday, September 20, 4 PM
Members Garden Party
   Location: Home of Carole Guest
   Rain date is September 27

Friday, October 2
Annual Members Meeting
   Location: Home of Miriam Goldberg

Saturday, October 3, 12 PM
Annual Luncheon & Lecture
   Guest Speaker: Kellie Como, VP Fragrance and Product Development, Interparfums, Inc.
   Location: The Meadow Club
               555 First Neck Lane,
               Southampton, NY 11968
   Members may bring a guest for $70.

Horticultural Alliance of the Hamptons Lectures

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

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

Bridge Gardens Events (garden related)

36 Mitchell Lane, Bridgehampton (631) 537-7440. To make a reservation or for more information, call them at 631.283.3195 ext. 19 or email events@peconiclandtrust.org

Fridays in August, Watercolor at the Gardens with Lois Bender at Bridge Gardens
   Artist/educator Lois Bender returns to Bridge Gardens with her series of watercolor classes all summer long. For more information and to register, visit Lois’ website at www.GardenSpiritsNY.com

Lawn Expert Wednesdays, 2:00–5:00 PM, Wednesdays in summer
   Paul Wagner of Treewise Organics and Soil FoodWeb New York will be at Bridge Gardens offering homeowners free expert advice on sustainable lawn care. Stop in to visit him with your questions, or email him at LawnExpert@peconiclandtrust.org

American Rose Society, Events of Interest

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 for more information in the coming months, or contact Ann and Joe Gibson (ambuhse@yahoo.com) or Rosemarie Murphy (rmenterprises1105@gmail.com) with any questions you have. ARS is creating a website that will provide details of the convention with its seminars, displays, etc.
American Rose Society News

Fall National Convention

The American Rose Society’s Fall National Convention is in Syracuse this year, a great opportunity for our members to attend. In addition to a national rose show, vendors, tours and the chance to meet rosarians from across the country and around the world, there are notable speakers.

This year’s speakers include:

- Dr. Dave Byrne
  Texas A & M AgriLife Research
  Horticulturist
- Steve Hutton
  President/CEO Star Roses and Plants/
  Conard Pyle
- Michael Marriot
  Senior Rosarian,
  David Austin Roses
- Alain Meilland
  Meilland International
- Thomas Proll
  Lead Breeder, Kordes Roses
- Will Radler
  CEO and Chief Tinkerer, Rose Innovations
- Dr. Jim Sproll
  General Director,
  Rose Hybridizers Association

Attending the convention is a great opportunity to enter your roses and rose photographs in the rose show. You can win national awards and trophies. There will be vendors selling their products, a raffle and a silent auction. And it’s right here in New York.

For further information and a complete listing of events visit the website: www.newyorkroses.org

My Favorite Rose, continued from page 5

Huguette’s love affair with roses began when she put a few into a mixed border of shrubs and perennials at her home in Water Mill. “I knew nothing,” she claims. “I don’t have a green thumb.” But her grandmother did, she remembers fondly. Her husband, at first, was not interested in the garden at all. Huguette watered those first few roses by hand on weekends when she and her husband came to Water Mill. But her husband, too, discovered the joys of the garden. He joined the Horticultural Society of New York and subscribed to Horticulture magazine which, she says, he read cover to cover. “Suddenly there was a watering system” installed in Water Mill and, says Huguette, “the garden took off.” They haven’t looked back.

Today the area around the Herschs’ pool is filled with roses, and roses are a big part of Huguette’s life. In our rose show this year she entered several of her roses, and she won the fragrance trophy in the Special Specimen class for Gertrude Jekyll. She loves arranging flowers to bring the beauty of the garden indoors. And she takes photographs of her lovely garden and enters the best ones in shows.
Exploring Fragrance, continued from page 1

scent does to people, as particular scents are often linked to memorable events, people or places in our lives. Those scent-based memories stay with us forever. Kellie plans to explain how oils are extracted from plants and how the flowers are processed. Rose oil is so precious because it takes barrels of rose petals to fill a small vial the size of a nail polish bottle with the precious oil. She’ll also share what inspires her. She often visits the Rockefeller Rose Garden to find inspiration. She recalls a rose she found there that smelled like champagne and went on to use it to create a perfume for Vera Wang.

Kellie also plans to show us what the true essence of rose smells like. It may surprise us. She says she always knows when she is smelling a rose because she smells artichokes in it. Tuberose, she says, contains the scents of unripe bananas and wintergreen.

Kellie’s work, she says, is an interesting way to experience flowers...from the inside out. Please join us for a most enlightening experience at our annual luncheon/lecture, October 3 at the Meadow Club in Southampton. Tickets are $75. To reserve your seat, please order online at our website, southamptonrose.org, or send a check to the Southampton Rose Society, P.O. Box 1022, Southampton, NY 11969.