President’s Letter

Dear Members,

Our 40th Anniversary year is in full swing and our biggest event of the season is coming up! This year, the Annual Rose Show will take place on June 11th at the Southampton Arts Center on Jobs Lane (the former Parrish Art Museum location). Our judges are two highly respected and decorated rosarians, Lois Fowkes (a founding SRS member, ARS Master Rosarian, World Federated Rose Societies International Trial Judge, and much more) and Louis Arce (American Rose Society Consulting Rosarian and New York District Judge), both of whom have served as judges for our show in previous years. Rose Show rules and schedule are available on our website, www.southamptonrose.org, and can be downloaded for your convenience. You will find the Rose Show Rules under the “Articles” heading; the rules and schedules have not changed since last year’s show in 2015. A new feature at this year’s show is a boutique with six vendors offering beautiful, exclusive wares for the summer months.

Our Annual Cocktail Party Fundraiser—Rose & Rosé—is being postponed until 2017, to enable us to plan a really great and successful event. Details will be forthcoming.

The Rose Society will again be participating in the annual July 4th parade in the village, so please feel free to join us as we walk through our beautiful village in this community celebration! The parade steps off from the train station at 10:00am, and you will find SRS in the line of march.

This year’s annual luncheon/lecture at the Meadow Club promises to be another don’t-miss event. Our speaker will be Peter Krask of PMK floral Arts in New York (www.pmkfloralarts.com). Peter has been the resident floral designer of NBC’s Today Show for 15 years, and he has created floral designs for many high-profile events. Watch for details in the next issue of Dune Rose. But mark your calendar for this exciting event!

I look forward to seeing you this summer at our events!

Best regards,

Jim Berkrot
PRESIDENT, Southampton Rose Society
Pruning and Planting Workshop

1. Overwintered rose pre-pruning; 2. Pruned and ready to plant; 3. Peter Bertrand demonstrates pruning a too-long root before planting; 4. Plant atop a mound of soil
Children’s Mini Rose and Art Program

Led by Peter Bertrand, the children learn how to fill the pot with soil mix and prepare for planting, gently remove the rose from its container and inspect it, then plant in the prepared soil mix.
During my annual trip to Hawaii this past winter, I was invited by Myrna Cariaga, the President of their society, to visit the Honolulu Rose Garden. Thanks to Lois Fowkes, a charter member of the SRS who arranged it for me. Pat Shanley, President of the American Rose Society and a member of the SRS, is also a lifetime member of the HRS.

The garden was holding its annual Valentine’s Day opening and plant sale. The weather was a balmy 78 degrees, with sunshine and a light breeze wafting in from the Pacific Ocean seen in the distance. I was met at the entrance by Myrna, Ron Matsuzakr, Consulting Rosarian, and Bob Speer, their Master Gardener.

The garden sits on 30 acres of land owned by the University of Hawaii at Oahu, which is also part of the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources. Though the rose society was started 30 years ago, the garden is still in its infancy at just 5 years old, but it already features 215 rose bushes with over 70 varieties growing in seven adjacent beds. Most of the shrubs in the garden are Weeks roses and Star roses, similar to those we use on Long Island. The advantage the HRS has is that their neighbor is a friendly supermarket which helps them obtain their bushes. The paths leading through and around the beds is lined with tropical trees and native plants, and under construction is a hexagonal gazebo that will feature climbing roses. I asked how their planting techniques vary from ours, where we have to take in mind climate changes. Ron told me they plant their bushes 20 inches deep, then cover them with 50% compost and soil. There’s an individual sprinkler system for the plants and then earthworms take over from there. I was taken aback by the mention of earthworms, since I don’t recall anyone ever taking them into consideration, or thinking about the important work they do for us.

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My Favorite Rose

By Anne Halpin

This issue we welcome Nancy Rollins to My Favorite Rose. A member of the SRS for 20-plus years, and a current member of the SRS Board of Directors, Nancy joined the SRS at the suggestion of then-president Harvey Feinstein. “This was not only good for my roses, “she says, “but for making new friends.”

In Nancy’s garden, roses grow alongside other flowers, some perennials and some shrubs, currently including peonies, hydrangeas, viburnum and lilacs. There are bee attractors, too, including butterfly bush, lavender, milkweed (Asclepias) Russian sage, Japanese anemone and clethra, or summersweet. She also relies on artemisia, daffodils, dusty miller, lavender and perovskia to help repel deer. Nancy gardens organically, and she does sometimes lose roses, but the resilient ones survive and thrive.

One of Nancy’s favorite roses is Zephirine Drouhin, which she loves because of its old-fashioned, wonderful sweet fragrance. “What I treasure most in a rose,” she says, “is a strong fragrance. Beauty is the other necessity.” Zephirine Drouhin is an Old Garden Bourbon Rose. It was introduced in 1868, one year too late to be eligible for the Dowager Queen trophy at our annual rose show, but it does fulfill the criteria for the Victorian trophy, which it has won several times for Nancy. “Zephirine Drouhin makes a lovely spray,” she says, “but I wish the flowers lasted longer after cutting!” Still, they are delightful while they last.

Zephirine is almost thornless and therefore easy to prune—a decided plus—and it grows well in semi-shade, another attraction for those of us whose garden does not enjoy full sun. Nancy planted her first Zephirines in 1994, “four very free-flowering 10- to 12-foot climbers on the north wall of my home.” The plants, trained on white wooden trellises (which, Nancy says, she made “in my more energetic years”) thrived, and 20-plus years on, Nancy is still growing those original plants. The first flush of bloom, which occurs in June (hopefully in time for our show), is usually spectacular, she says, and then continues, though in a quieter, less profuse way. Nancy prunes about a foot off the plants for winter, so they don’t blow around excessively, since she leaves the plants in place. In April she cuts each cane back to healthy tissue.

Another favorite rose of Nancy’s is Bonica, a shrub rose that won Best of Show and King of Combined Shrubs at the SRS show in 2015. For a short time the plant is

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One of the most compelling motives for the homeowner to grow roses is to have a continual parade of blooms from spring until fall. Not only do they keep the garden colorful, but they lend cheer indoors when cut for bouquets.

A side benefit of cutting flowers is that the practice is an important part of the rose care program. Sharp tools are the most important part of cutting flowers. In this manner clean cuts replace broken or twisted stems that invite disease.

Flowers should be left on the bushes in their first season of blooming. This lets the plant develop into a larger bush. If flowers are cut during the first season, cut them with very short stems. Cutting long-stemmed flowers removes foliage that is essential to the plant’s ability to make food. This slows growth and future flowering.

Even on older healthy plants, cutting flowers with excessively long stems should be avoided. At least two leaves between the cut and the main stem should remain. Life of flowers cut for indoor use can be maximized if the following steps are taken:

1. Cut blooms in the late afternoon or very early morning. This is the time when sugar content is highest.
2. Cut on an angle with a sharp knife or pruning shears, just when the outside petals first start to unfold.
3. Place cut blooms immediately in warm water (deep enough to cover 2/3 of the stem) preferably with a floral preservative added.
4. “Condition” or “harden” them by leaving them in a cool dark place without drafts for 3–4 hours—or even overnight. If you can put them in a refrigerator for this period, so much the better.
5. Before arranging, remove the leaves which will be below water level in the vase.
6. Use a floral preservative in the vase water. Display them away from drafts and add fresh water every day. When the blooms begin to wilt, they can be revived. Cut them again, on an angle, and place them in hot water—as hot as your hand can tolerate.

If flowers are not cut for inside display, remove them when their petals fall. Cut them just above the top leaf on the stem. Removing withered flowers within a cluster gives the remaining flowers more room to develop.
## 2015 Events Calendar

### Southampton Rose Society Events

**SATURDAY, JUNE 11, 7:30 AM–4 PM**  
*40th Annual Rose Show*  
*Location*: Southampton Arts Center  
25 Jobs Lane,  
Southampton, NY 11968

**MONDAY, JULY 4, 10 AM**  
*Southampton Fourth of July Parade*

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11 (RAIN DATE SEPT. 18), 4 PM**  
*Annual Members Garden Party*  
*Location*: TO BE DETERMINED  
Southampton, NY 11968

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 11 AM**  
*Annual Members Meeting*  
*Location*: In the garden of Christl Meszkat

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 12 PM,**  
*Annual Luncheon/Lecture*  
*Guest Speaker*: Peter Krask  
PMK Floral Arts, NYC  
www.pmkfloralarts.com  
*Location*: The Meadow Club  
555 First Neck Lane  
Southampton, NY 11968

### Horticultural Alliance of the Hamptons (HAH) Monthly Lectures

The HAH lectures take place on Sunday afternoons at 2pm in the Bridgehampton Community Center on Montauk Highway in Bridgehampton

### American Rose Society Events

**JUNE 12**  
Stephen Orr, *The New American Herbal*

**SEPTEMBER 11**  
Scott Howe, *Geology, Natural History and the Art: The Parrish Museum’s Landscape*

**OCTOBER 16**  
Marta McDowell, *All the Presidents’ Gardens*

**NOVEMBER 13**  
Bruce Crawford, *Small Trees for the Home Landscape*

**DECEMBER 11**  
Dennis Schrader, *Tropical Immersion: The Costa Rica Garden Designed by Dennis Schrader*

### Long Island Rose Society Events

The Long Island Rose Society holds monthly meetings on the second Friday of each month at 7:00 pm from March to December. Meetings are held at the Plainview/Old Bethpage Public Library, 999 Old Country Road, Plainview. The annual Rose Show takes place in June at the Planting Fields Arboretum.  
For information visit: longislandroses.org.

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**A Visit to the Honolulu Rose Society, continued from page 4**

The garden is maintained by volunteers. They have “collaborative” workers from the local Rotary Club with “at risk youths” who work on a five-month paid program. To quote my guide, “many of the young people they hired have been turned around, and many have gone into landscaping as a career while others joined the military." A happy solution for everyone.

While making the rounds of the garden I came upon Myrna pulling damaged leaves off one of the bushes. I asked her if they, too, have a problem with Japanese beetles. She smiled coyly at me and said, “we don’t call them Japanese beetles in Hawaii...and sometimes (looking over her shoulder) she whispered . . . we call them Asian beetles.” 🌿
literally covered in medium pink flowers, Nancy explains. But Bonica will never supplant Zephirine Drouhin for Nancy because, she says, “there is not enough fragrance for me.”

Nancy says she isn’t as careful as she used to be with her gardening, and she does not use any toxic materials in her garden. That means after the first big flush of roses she has to battle black spot and mildew. Having the roses in a more open, sunnier location would probably curb the mildew issues, she surmises.

Yet, we gardeners play the garden hand we are dealt, and Zephirine and Bonica continue to reward Nancy with lots of flowers. Deer tend to like Nancy’s unfenced yard, so she defends her plants with Liquid Fence. Another trick she uses is to hide emerging lilies (yes, she grows them despite the deer) under half-dead daffodil—something the deer avoid. With experience, gardeners get creative.