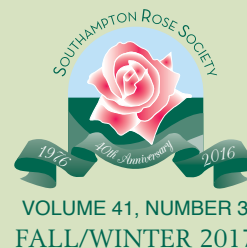


# Dune Rose®



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

## President's Letter



Jim Berkrot

Dear Members,

Thanks to our newest Rose Garden Angels, each of whom stepped up at our Annual Luncheon/Lecture: Nancy Stone and Audrey Gruss. We appreciate your exceptional generosity in helping to support the maintenance of our gardens.

As a result of their generous donations, the care of our 5 public gardens will be covered for 2018. The SRS's mission is to beautify the village with gardens everyone can enjoy. We need 5 garden angels every year to cover the cost of maintaining our gardens, each contributing \$2,500. We are looking for additional benefactors, so if you would like to help, please contact me directly. Signs in each of our gardens will be installed Spring 2018, with all 5 names of the Rose Garden Angels displayed for one year, from April to April.

Our final event of the year was the Annual Members Meeting followed by the Luncheon/Lecture on October 7th at The Meadow Club. Several awards were presented. My most sincere thanks to each of the winners for all of their efforts on behalf of our organization. Cornelia Bostwick, our Treasurer, has done and continues to do outstanding work, even beyond her duties as Treasurer for the SRS. Cornelia won the President's Trophy. Liz Kearns won the Directors Award for her dedication and contribution at our events in this past year. Carol Kroupa won the ROTY (Rosarian of the Year) award for her long-standing service and continued dedication to the SRS. The Board and I count on each of these dedicated individuals to keep our organization together and moving forward. Thank you for your great work and we could not do it without you!

This year's speaker at our Luncheon/Lecture was Edwina von Gal, founder/President of the PRFCT (Perfect) Earth Project. An internationally renowned landscape designer and principal of her eponymous landscape design firm since 1984, Edwina von Gal creates landscapes with a focus on simplicity and sustainability for many high profile public and private clients around the world. At our luncheon/lecture she spoke about her life's work, the PRFCT Earth Project, an organization dedicated to raising consciousness about the dangers of toxic lawn and garden chemicals to protect the health of people, their pets and the planet. She gave a fascinating and most timely talk, with much for all of us to think about and act on in our gardens and landscapes. You can find out more on page 3 of this issue.

In 2017 we've seen growth and change. We are excited to welcome a new Board Member, Elisabet Lillywhite. We are so happy to have you as part of our leadership

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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.

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## Rose Garden Angels

### Thank you to our first Rose Garden Angels!

*Our sincere thanks to our first Rose Garden Angels for 2018:*

Lois Fowkes, Hal Goldberg (in Memoriam),

Laura Devinney, Nancy Stone, and Audrey Gruss

A plaque will be placed for each of you in our five gardens, in acknowledgment of your generosity.

### Rose Garden Angels Are Still Needed!

We are looking for Rose Garden Angels to sponsor for a year or more the four SRS "off campus" gardens, located at the Southampton Cultural Center, alongside Shippy's restaurant, next to Town & country Real Estate and at Little Red Each of those gardens costs an average of approximately \$2,500 per year to maintain. We are asking for Garden Angels to help support these gardens by sponsoring one or more of them for a year. In return, a sign will be placed in each garden to acknowledge the godparent who sponsored that

garden for the year. Please remember that the Society pays for the upkeep of these beautiful gardens as our gift to the Village of Southampton; we receive no taxpayer dollars or other support to maintain these gardens that beautify our village. The gardens are completely funded by the Southampton Rose Society, an expression of our appreciation of and wish to help maintain the beauty of our historic village. *If you can help in this worthy cause, please email [president@southamptonrose.org](mailto:president@southamptonrose.org)*



## Edwina von Gal and the PRFCT Earth Project



**E**dwina von Gal is a world-renowned landscape designer; the hallmark of her work is simplicity and sustainability. She has worked with many big names in the United States and around the world. She has found her life's work in the PRFCT (Perfect) Earth Project, through which she and her team work to educate about the dangers of toxic lawn and garden products. That work is especially important here in the Hamptons, where the runoff from whatever we put on our lawns and gardens—herbicides, pesticides, fungicides, insecticides, non-organic fertilizers—ends up in our waterways. Edwina's mission is to educate residents, homeowners and landscape professionals, and it is of paramount importance. She noted that parts of Accabonac Harbor, Lake Agawam and Georgica Pond have been closed to the public in summer due to toxic algae blooms, caused by nitrogen pollution from runoff from lawns and gardens. This is not an issue for the future, it is here now.

The PRFCT Earth Project aims to inspire each of us to make a personal commitment not to use chemicals in our landscapes. Switching to organics is not hard to do, and it is not more expensive than chemical care. In addition to infiltrating our waterways, chemicals used on lawns and gardens can harm us directly. They are absorbed through the skin, with exposure

being especially dangerous for children and pets who love to play on the lawn. The landscape industry, she believes, is afraid to change their ways because customers demand perfect green lawns that require chemical inputs and will take their business elsewhere if they don't see the immediate results they expect. But this issue is so critical, especially for our area—remember, our drinking water comes from underground aquifers—that we homeowners need to be the change. Her message is that we need to educate our landscapers and be willing to take steps to move in a chemical-free direction.

It is important to note that there is no loss of green or lush in a PRFCT lawn. Landscapers and homeowners have nothing to be afraid of! That is a big part of the PRFCT Earth Project message. The product can be the same, or better. The challenge is learning a new way to do it. Just like drugs, it is easy to become dependent on the magic pill of landscape chemicals. The right way is more like diet and exercise.

Perception and mindset is the biggest challenge in avoiding chemical use. But when you take the leap, nature will step up. When the chemicals aren't present to kill pests, nature will begin to rebalance, beneficial insects will go to work, and birds will also arrive to help out.

Here are some things to do:

1. *Have a smaller lawn.* Did you know that lawns use 2 to 4 times more chemicals than agriculture? Instead of having a huge lawn, have a smaller lawn and fill the empty space with native plants, roses, pollen plants (to support bees and other pollinators, which are essential to most of our vegetable and fruit crops, and which are endangered now due to overuse of chemicals). Have some clover in your smaller, organic, lawn.
2. *Test your soil.* Every tablespoon of soil contains billions of helpful organisms. Chemical fertilizers and pesticides kill them. Feed the soil biome to encourage the helpful organisms. Soil is a system; when it's healthy your plants will be healthy too. Use organic fertilizers, make compost, or use compost tea, which you can buy.

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# Member's Garden Party



TOP. From left to right: Peter Bertrand and Saki Mitchell; Cornelia Bostwick and Nancy Rollins; Party guest, Helga Dawn, and Saki Mitchell  
 CENTER. Sandy Raynor, Suzanne Murphy, Jim Berkrot, and Bill Murphy; Amanda Holmen, Annamae Freedman, Philip Freedman, and Jim Berkrot; Kurt Wolfgruber,  
 Kim White, and Greg D'Elia  
 BOTTOM. Neill Slaughter and Saki Mitchell; Carol Kroupa and Suzanne Murphy; Saki Mitchell and Lyn Hamer

# Annual Luncheon/Lecture



TOP. From left to right: Liz Battle, Laura Danforth, Lyn Hamer, Pat Munn, Elisabet Lillywhite, and Betty Cramer; Carol Kroupa, Peter Bertrand, and Nancy Rollins; Maureen Riggio, Dorothy Nigro, Nancy Stone, Linda Fraser, and guest  
 CENTER. Guests at the Luncheon; Elisabet Lillywhite, Helga Dawn, Linda Fraser, Lyn Hamer, and Lynn Weiden  
 BOTTOM. Audrey Gruss, Edwina von Gal, and Jim Berkrot; Linda Fraser and Harvey Feinstein

# My Favorite Rose

**MY FAVORITE ROSE** will, we hope, return in 2018. If you have a favorite rose (or several) won't you share it with our members? You don't have to write anything, just have a conversation about a rose (or roses) you love.

Please contact Anne Halpin White at:  
ahalpinwhite@gmail.com or 631-728-7716  
(please leave a message).



**EDWINA VON GAL**, *continued from page 3*

3. *Don't water a little bit very often (e.g. with sprinklers set to run every night or early morning for a short time).* Frequent shallow waterings encourage plants to grow shallow roots which make them susceptible to drought. Deep roots are better; to encourage them, water less often and more deeply. A good rule of thumb is to water until the soil is moist 5 to 6 inches deep. Your landscaper can test to see how long this takes, and set timers accordingly. After watering deeply, make sure to let the soil dry out to 4 or 5 inches. Being constantly wet promotes fungal diseases.
4. *Mow your grass high and leave the clippings in place.* They will nourish the lawn, and as they dry out they won't be noticeable. Keep lawnmower blades sharp (make sure your landscaper does this) for a clean cut.
5. *Leave the leaves.* In fall, don't have your landscaper blow all the leaves off the lawn. Allow at least some to remain, and work toward increasing that amount each year. Use a mulch mowing blade to chop up grass

clippings and leaves so they disappear quickly. Extra leaves should be used as mulch. Leaves create biomass as they decompose. Nothing that creates biomass leaves Edwina's property.

In the end, the message of the PRFCT Earth Project is: embrace diversity, let nature happen, and never, ever stop learning. Edwina urges everyone to make a pledge to be PRFCT and not use another chemical on their property. Work with your landscaper to make a change, and contact the Perfect Earth Project for information that can help. Email [expert@PRFCTEarth.org](mailto:expert@PRFCTEarth.org) or call them at (631) 907-9040.

You can also purchase the PRFCT Yard Handbook (Edwina sold out at our luncheon, but you can order a copy, as well as signs or stickers proudly declaring your organic lawn, at: <https://perfectearthproject.org/products>. Or, email [info@perfectearthproject.org](mailto:info@perfectearthproject.org), or call them at (631) 907-9040. 🌱

# 2018 Events Calendar

## Southampton Rose Society Events

*Dates are not yet determined for 2018 events, but we are planning the following events. Please attend as many as you can!*

### APRIL

**Pruning and Planting Workshop  
with Peter Bertrand**

### MAY

**Children's Mini Rose and Art Workshop  
with Peter Bertrand**

### MAY/JUNE

**Preparing Roses for the Rose Show  
Contestants, with Helga Dawn**

### SATURDAY, JUNE 17

#### 42nd Annual Rose Show

*Location:* Roger's Memorial Library  
Morris Room (lower level)  
91 Coopers Farm Road  
Southampton, NY 11968

### JULY 4

**Southampton Fourth of July Parade**

### AUGUST

**Annual Cocktail Party Fundraiser**

### DATE TO BE DETERMINED:

**Annual Members Meeting and  
Luncheon/Lecture**

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

*All lectures start at 2 pm in the main hall of the  
Bridgehampton Community House. Free for members,  
\$10 per person for nonmembers.*

### DECEMBER 10

Jan Johnsen, *Serenity By Design*

### JANUARY 14, 2018

Joseph Tychonievich, *Rock Gardening:  
Reimagining a Classic Style*

### FEBRUARY 11

Rick Bogusch, *Herb Blends & Spice Mixes:  
How to Make Them & How to Use Them*

### MARCH 11

Bill Noble, *Imaginary Gardens with  
Real Toads in Them*

### APRIL 8

Thomas Mickey, *America's Romance  
with the English Garden*

### MAY 6

Diane Barthel-Bouchier, *Botanical Art:  
A Continuing Tradition*

## Long Island Rose Society Events

*Meetings are held at the Old Bethpage/Plainview Library, 996 Old Country Road, Plainview on the second Friday of each month from March to December, at 7 pm. Meetings are downstairs. Membership is \$25 per household, per year. Members receive monthly newsletters with information on gardening tips, upcoming meetings, garden tours, garden parties and rose shows. Their president is Louis Arce, who has kindly served as a judge for the SRS rose show on numerous occasions. The Long Island Rose Show is held each June at Planting Fields Arboretum. For more information, visit their website, [www.longislandroses.org](http://www.longislandroses.org).*

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



**PRESIDENT'S LETTER**, *continued from page 1*

team! There is more great work to be done and our finances are now on a sound footing. We are ready to continue our growth, for the benefit of our community. We are grateful for the support of our members and urge you all to attend our events and support our work with your presence. Please bring your friends and expose them to the joy of our mission and organization. Not everyone grows roses, but all you need to do is love them to support our Rose Society and the work we do—sharing our love of roses and helping to make Southampton an even more beautiful place to be.

My best wishes to you all for healthy, happy holidays and I look forward to seeing you at our events in 2018!

*Jim*

Jim Berkrot  
PRESIDENT, Southampton Rose Society

