



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

President's Letter

Dear Members and Friends,

We are looking forward to a fruitful and glorious spring as we kick off the 2025 season!

Our first event will take place on Saturday, April 5th at 10 a.m. with Peter Bertrand's hands-on Pruning and Planting Session in the Southampton Rose Society Rose Garden behind the Rogers Memorial Library. Many of you have joined us year after year—rain or shine—because there is always something new to learn from our expert rosarian, Peter. We look forward to seeing you there!

The popular **Children's Mini Rose and Art Workshop** will follow on Friday, May 9 nurturing a new generation of rose enthusiasts. Judging from last year's incredible turnout, we can confidently say the future of rose cultivation is in good little hands!

The season's highlight, our **48th Annual Rose Show and Fifth Annual Rose Day** in Southampton Village, is scheduled for Saturday, June 17th. Mark your calendars for this rewarding event, which brings the community together to celebrate the beauty of roses. Be sure to check southamptonrose.org for updates on event locations and details for the Members Garden Party and Annual Luncheon Lecture later this summer.

Our Annual Cocktail Party Fundraiser is set for Saturday, August 16th, from 5:30–8:30 p.m., featuring a silent auction. This special event offers a rare opportunity to enjoy an extraordinary private rose garden nestled within a stunning Southampton estate. Funds raised help maintain the five public rose gardens in Southampton Village and support our educational programs.

I am thrilled to welcome Maureen Brady-Curzio and Elaine Bodtman as our new Fundraising Committee Co-chairs. With their leadership, we aim to expand our development efforts and continue to grow. As always, the Southampton Rose Society thrives thanks to your generous support. A little-known fact: the SRS Library Rose Garden is the largest public rose garden on Long Island. Your ongoing support ensures that the rose—our National Flower, New York State Flower, and the official flower of Southampton Village—will continue to flourish for generations to come.

Thank you for being part of this vibrant community. I look forward to enjoying your company at this season's events and sharing our love for roses.

Warm regards,

JIM BERKROT
President, Southampton Rose Society

President's Letter

2-3

Board of Directors
2025 Guardian Angels

Rose Garden Brick Program

Events Calendar

4–5Helga Dawn Feature

6–7
Helga Dawn Feature
(cont'd)
Spring Growing and

Showing Tips

Dune Rose Editor
Wendy Serkin
Newsletter Committee
Jim Berkrot
Cornelia Bostwick
Lisa Vahradian
Designer
Suki Boynton

SOUTHAMPTON ROSE SOCIETY

2024 SRS BOARD MEMBERS

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Peter Bertrand

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(Pres. Emer. 1992–1997)

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Christl Meszkat Nancy Rollins

Jane Rose Diane Vahradian

Kim White (*Pres. Emer.* 2018–2019)

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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Southampton Rose Society News

2025 ROSE GUARDIAN ANGELS

WE ARE delighted to report that all of the available SRS rose gardens in the Village have their Guardian Angels for this year. Our sixth rose garden is generously maintained by Peter Marino of the Peter Marino Art Foundation on Jobs Lane. Note, the garden by Bamboo Restaurant is under renovation for the season.

Sincere thanks to this year's Rose Guardian Angels!

Rose Trellis Garden off Hampton Road

Alixandra Baker

Rose Garden at The Cultural Center on Pond Lane

Carole Guest

Rose Garden at The Rogers Memorial Library

Barbara Baldwin

Garden next to Shippy's

Audrey Gruss

Rose Garden next to Bamboo

under renovation

ROSE GARDEN BRICK PROGRAM

IN 2003, the Southampton Rose Society designed, built and dedicated the magnificent SRS Rose Garden at the Rogers Memorial Library to the Village and people of Southampton. Each year, people from all over the world visit the garden to enjoy its visual and fragrant beauty. Many of the bricks in the paths around the garden are inscribed as tributes to a loved one's birthday, anniversary, to honor their memory. The cost of inscribing a brick is \$250. As we prepare for the 22nd anniversary of the SRS Rose Garden this year, we encourage all to dedicate a brick in 2025! Order forms can be found on our website. https://Southamptonrose.org/brick-order-form/



2 Dune Rose





Southampton Rose Society Events Calendar

Planting and Pruning Workshop with Peter Bertrand SATURDAY, APRIL 5,2025 • 10 AM-12 PM

Location: SRS Rose Garden at the Rogers Memorial Library, Southampton

Children's Mini Rose and Art Workshop FRIDAY, MAY 9, 2025 • 4 PM-5 PM Rain date: SATURDAY MAY 10 • 11 AM-12 PM

Location: Rose Garden (outside) at the Rogers Memorial Library,

Annual Rose Show & Rose Day
SATURDAY, JUNE 14, 2025
SETUP: 7:30 AM-9:30 AM
MORNING JUDGING: 1 PM; Open for viewing
TROPHY PRESENTATION: 3 PM

Location: Morris Room at the Rogers Memorial Library

SRS Cocktail Party & Fundraiser

SATURDAY, AUGUST 16, 2025 • **5:30 PM–8:00 PM** *Location:* At a beautiful estate in Southampton Village

Members Garden Party
DATE & LOCATION: TBD

Luncheon Lecture & Annual Members Meeting
DATE & LOCATION: TBD



Helga Dawn Wins American Rose Society Honors

Photography by Helga Dawn: Rosa Marilyn Monroe and Rosa Hot Cocoa WINNERS: 2025 ARS Photography Competition Photos, Novice Class



Martha Stewart with David Dawn

HILE IT existed, Helga and David Dawn's rose garden in Southampton was celebrated worldwide. It was La Roseraie, two and a half enchanted acres filled with hundreds of roses.

Floribundas, old garden roses, polyanthas and teas; they merged antique varieties with the latest hybrids. Borders, garlands, pillars and covered walkways composed a living masterpiece made up of our national flower, the rose.

La Roseraie was known far and wide, due in no small part to the Dawn's hospitality and their eagerness to share their creation with so many people. Kindred gardener Martha Stewart was one of them. She filmed a video tour that was lost until Helga provided *Dune Rose* with the only known link to it.



La Roseraie



To access the linked video on YouTube, please visit this issue of *Dune Rose* at:

Southamptonrose.org

for a rare tour through La Roseraie. Savor wisdom from internationally distinguished Rosarian to the American Rose Society David Dawn.

David offers casual advice to viewers (and an awestruck Martha) about his 'easy essentials' for realizing an abundant, magnificent rose garden.

In 1988, Helga and David were awarded the prestigious Jane Righter Rose Medal by the Garden Club of America for "their outstanding devotion to rose culture, as demonstrated by their magnificent rose garden which they generously share, along with their experience and knowledge, with novices and experts alike." Pursuing her passion, Helga was instrumental in the creation of SRS Rose Garden at the Roger' Memorial Library. Harvey Feinstein's initial suggestion was made to the SRS Board.





Helga Dawn in her home rose garden

Dune RoseNEWSLETTER OF THE SOUTHAMPTON ROSE SOCIETY

Members began to grow a vision of the Garden by putting ideas on paper. The Library agreed to pursue the project. Then, Helga enlisted land-scape architect Peter Ernst to draw the design. The nascent concept of a public rose garden in Southampton immediately brought donations and before long ground was broken. Ernst's design indicated four separate quadrant beds surrounding a central gazebo. Helga and SRS Member Adeline Christie determined that each would be filled with all pink, red, yellow and white. They chose these roses plus every other rose variety to fit the rose garden's larger scheme.

Helga went to Lynch's to make this enormous purchase of roses. Jim Lynch, however, would not hear it. Instead, he insisted on donating them all, and Lynch's delivered them too!

The result is today's public rose garden which is unique on the East End.

After that enormous project, Helga continuously participated in every annual SRS rose show, working at the check-in desk with SRS Member

Lyn Hamer, and mentoring countless rose exhibitors and gardeners along the way.

"I've shown roses and won many trophies for them," Helga said. "I've been taking photos for a long time, since the 1980's. But this is the first time I've ever entered a contest."

Little did Helga know, just recently, upon opening a message that her precious roses held a new surprise for her.

The message came from the American Rose Society and said:

"Congratulations on your winning photos! Many photographers have commented how professional the Novice level photos were and I wholeheartedly agree! Next year, you advance (1st, 2nd, 3rd and HM) to the Experienced level!"

"After taking hundreds of rose pictures," Helga said, "I finally entered my first contest and won."

Congratulations to our All-Star Helga Dawn!



Trophy Winning Methods to Grow & Show

Top rose show exhibitors SRS Members Brad Bender and John Doherty share pointers

BRAD BENDER Selected Awards

Southampton Rose Society *King of Show*Queen of Combined Shrub Trophy

David and Helga Dawn Trophy

JOHN DOHERTY Selected Awards

Long Island Rose Society Best in Show New York State McFarland Memorial Award National Show *Most Fragrant* Southampton Rose Society Sweepstakes Trophy

GROWING Brad Bender

Know your rose garden!

Create a map complete with markers for each plant. Identification is always the slow down at the entry table on Show day, so it's helpful to save any tags that came with your plants for future reference. Now the hard part!

Five categories of rose care that are essential to success in rose growing:

Sun, water, soil, insect and disease control. Keep a journal of what works for your garden to grow the best roses!



Some of Brad Bender's trophy winning roses

SHOWING John Doherty

Once you have chosen your roses, cut at a 45 degree angle and put in water immediately. Clean rose leaves with a solution of Dawn and warm water. Then use a paper towel to gently dry them. If you see damage on a leaf, use decoupage scissors to cut away damage and try to maintain the shape of a leaf.

Use Q-Tips to wedge between petals to widen the rose. I also manipulate the petals gently to form a better looking rose.

Make sure labels are written in advance with rubber bands attached to tag. That's how to save time the morning of the show!

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