It’s Spring: It’s Show Time!

Come to our meeting one week early to learn how the experts “play.”

This month you’ll see Helen Newman playing with Hybrid Teas and Grandifloras. She’ll demonstrate tools, proper balance and scale, wedging and other great show tips.

Anne Muggli will show us how to prepare ribbon-worthy minis.

Harlow Young and other senior members will talk about tags, how to label and attach, etc.

Turn in your polished trophies and prizes. Pick up all the containers and entry tags you need. Bring a friend!

PRESIDENT RICHARD KERKOF

Our 61st annual Rose Show will be on Sunday, May 24, at the Shilo Inn in Richland, so our May meeting will be held on the third Monday, May 18.

As an educational society we will explain how to select and stage a rose entry.

Unfortunately, some who would like to

SHARING NEWS AND VIEWS

enter may not be able to attend. Rose Society members should encourage everyone to show off the roses they have grown. Share what you have learned with your friends and neighbors. We want to see a lot of roses at the show. You might offer to bring in an entry for someone

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MEETING TIME
Monday, April 27, 7:30 p.m.

HOW TO GET THERE
On Interstate 182, take Queensgate Exit 3B. Stay on Queensgate, passing WalMart on your left. Immediately after the first traffic light on Duportail, turn right toward the one-story Richland City Shop Complex, 2700 Duportail. (Almost hidden behind a new fast food place).

Minutes, April 27, 2009
by Cyndy Sharer, Secretary

The April meeting of the Tri-City Rose Society was convened at 7:30 p.m. by President Richard Kerkof. He welcomed new members Nancy Knowton and Ann Roberts from West Richland. He mentioned that Jim Campbell was honored by the ARS for a series of articles he wrote about the legacy of our society. Joan Monteith was also honored for her article about growing roses from seeds.

March minutes were approved as printed in the Rose Herald.

The upcoming Rose Show was discussed, including choosing the lunch menu.

Cyndy Sharer reported that all 108 mini roses were sold at last Saturday's spring plant sale at the Master Gardener Demo Garden in Kennewick. A profit of about $270 was realized. Actually, one plant was left over and that was purchased by Jolene Angelos, who donated it as a door prize that evening. JoAnn Sayler won the rose and Cyndy Sharer won a small bottle of liquid fertilizer donated by Heritage Nursery, Kennewick.

Discussion centered upon our second mini rose sale. We normally sell mini roses at two Albertson's stores in Kennewick, and last year we added Yoke's Fresh Market in West Richland; however, the planned date of May 16 had to be abandoned for lack of roses at NorEast Roses in California. May 18 is the earliest we could have roses shipped, so we now plan to sell mini roses at our May 24 Rose Show at the Shilo Inn in Richland.

Norma Boswell suggested another small fund raiser at the Rose Show using clean, attractive vases donated by members. These vases will be bought by Show attendees for a set price, depending on the vase, and filled by the buyer with discarded roses after the Show closes at 6 p.m. and members have picked up any of their own roses that they want to take home. The fund raiser was approved. Norma Boswell and Anne Muggli will oversee.

A signup sheet for clerking at the show was sent around, and all 12 slots were quickly filled.

Janet Bryant discussed the electronic newsletter and requested that people send her their updated email addresses. She stated that trophies from last year must be returned, polished and ready to go. (You will be charged if trophy needs polishing.)

Tom Miles reported that the Honor Garden in Lawrence Scott Park is in great condition.

It was mentioned that the Seattle Times online version has an excellent short video provided by the Seattle Rose Society for anyone interested.

Harlow Young introduced the evening's speaker—Alan Wicks, a plant physiologist from NW Ag Products. Alan spoke to our club three years ago, and we were happy to have him back. His talk was full of information on plant nutrition, elemental macro-nutrients N-P-K and micronutrients Cu, Mn, Fe, Zn. He talked about factors such as soil pH affecting availability of the elements. One of the helpful handouts included in the discussion was Nutrient Deficiency Symptoms for Roses. Dr. Wicks prefaced his lecture with the statement that he didn't expect us to remember everything he would present, but hoped we would each take away a new piece of information about plants.

President's Message, cont...
who otherwise wouldn't be able to get it there. The grower “need not be present to win.” We can expand rose interest in the community.

Thanks go to our April guest speaker Alan Wicks, who supplied an abundance of information.

Nutrient availability varies at different pH levels. The desired range is 6.3 to 7.0. For reference we will try to post on the Tri-City Rose Society website Dr. Wicks' information on “Nutrient Deficiency Symptoms for Roses.” Remember, nutrients move into and through plants by means of solutions, so keep up the watering.

We hope to see you on May 18 so you can learn to get ready for the show. Bring a smile and a friend, and let’s get ready to celebrate the beauty of the rose at our show on May 24.

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Why Buy? (False Advertising?)
by Norma Boswell, 5/3/09

The picture shows a whacker. To annihilate each weed.
The headline reads “weekwacker”—Time felled at lightning speed.

Why should I buy weed whacker
When all it does for me
Turns pale next to “weekwacker”
I’ve owned for years for free?
**MAY IN THE ROSE GARDEN**

*by Norma Boswell, Consulting Rosarian*

Buds and blooms on my mini roses make me think about creating flower designs. I went to our TCRS web site ([www.owt.com/rosesociety](http://www.owt.com/rosesociety)) and found a miniature mass arrangement I made in 2004 (pictured above, photographed by Janet Bryant and archived on the website by Nancy Foster-Mills).

Lacking enough roses to make a mass design, we can do other types that call for fewer blooms.

Take a look at JoAnn Brehm’s marvelous rose show schedule for inspiration. Seeing the montage of Leona Mattison’s life on the cover and remembering the accomplishments of our great friend should encourage us to do our best work.

**Go World/ARS/District**

Besides exhibiting in our local show May 24, you can exhibit roses in the World Rose Show June 19–21 at the Vancouver, B.C., Convention and Exhibition Center. You do not have to be registered for the World Rose Convention. However, there are restrictions concerning the American Rose Society and Pacific NW District Challenge classes. To participate in the ARS National Challenge section, you must be a current member of the ARS and register for the rose show. To participate in the Pacific NW District Challenge classes, you must be an ARS member living in the Pacific Northwest District and register for the show. To enter either or both the ARS and PNW Challenge sections in Vancouver, the registration fee is $49. There is no fee to enter roses in the Vancouver Rose Society section of the show. However, an exhibitor number is required to enter blooms into any section of the rose show. Register and receive an exhibitor number at [www.worldrosevancouver2009.com](http://www.worldrosevancouver2009.com). Your exhibitor number will be provided to you closer to the rose show date. Staging of rose show blooms takes place from 4 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. on Friday, June 19. The web site above also has information on extra options, such as speakers and tours.

**“Two Februaries” Require Fungicide**

Because we’ve had the weather equivalent of two Februaries, mildew and aphids (along with flower buds) were slow to appear. Now they’re here.

Before spraying fungicide or other pest control, water first and let physiological processes pull water into canes and leaves to protect them from spray burn.

Strobilurins work on all three major classes of fungal disease, causing fungi to starve to death, but fungi are becoming resistant earlier than expected. Therefore, if you use *Heritage* or *Compass*, it is a good idea to alternate with a non-strobilurin, such as *Banner Maxx*. Our goal is to prevent mildew.
Rose Show Luncheon

from JoAnn Brehm, Luncheon Chair

Sunday, May 24, you are invited to come to lunch after the rose show judging is complete, about 12:30 p.m., in the ballroom adjacent to the rose show. Judges will be introduced and comment on the show, and awards will be announced. A sheet will be sent around during the May meeting to sign up and pay for the luncheon. Make your check payable to “Tri-City Rose Society,” and you can include “luncheon” in the Memo line. It’s a great time to get acquainted with others in the Pacific Northwest District and enjoy a delicious homestyle lunch.

Homestyle Comfort, $15.00 per person, including tax and tip
Mom's Meatloaf, Old Fashioned Fried Chicken, Homemade Macaroni & Cheese; Honey Corn Muffins with Honey Butter; Mashed Potatoes with Country Gravy; Three Cabbage Salad, Fresh Fruit Salad; Coffee, Decaf Coffee, Selection of Teas, Apple Pie and Devil's Food Cake.

A lot of valuable material will be covered by the experts. I’ll have the final sign up sheet for attendees at the May meeting. Hope to see you there!

Award of Merit Goes to Joan Monteith

The American Rose Society has singled out Joan Monteith's article, How To Grow Roses from Seed, to receive an Award of Merit. This well-written article shares Joan’s expertise as a hybridizer. Both Joan and Jim Campbell received Awards of Merit for articles published in the Rose Herald in 2008. Congratulations!

Pacific Northwest District Doings

by Jack Kiley, District Director

July 11 Shrub Workshop. Yes another reminder to mark your calendar for the July 11 PNW District Shrub Workshop. This is the second in a planned series of District workshops on important rose culture subjects. This full-day event covers all horticultural aspects of growing shrubs, and is open to everyone. We have some of the best and most knowledgeable rosarians in the Northwest lined up as speakers, headed by Gretchen Humphrey, Chair, from the Portland Rose Society. The cost will be $35 and includes lunch. For more details call me at 360-754-4937, or email me at jack.kiley@comcast.net.

Spring and Summer Rose Show and Display Dates.

May 24 Tri-City Rose Society
June 4-5 Portland Rose Society
June 6-7 Rogue Valley Rose Society
Salem Rose Society
June 13 Ft. Vancouver Rose Society
June 13-14 Corvallis Rose Society
Puyallup Rose Society (Display)
Seattle Rose Society
June 19-21 Vancouver, B.C. Rose Society (District Rose Show)
June 27-28 Frasier Pacific RS
Rainy Rose Society (Display)
June 27 Olympia Rose Society
Spokane Rose Society
July 4    Tacoma Rose Society

Filing Form 990-N. The ARS is reminding Local Society Treasurers that the Internal Revenue Service requires local societies to file Form 990-N by May 15 in order to protect and retain their tax-exempt status. Check the White Book, Section II, pages 5-6 at the ARS web site (www.ars.org) under the Members Only icon for information.

Free Rose Bulletins. As of January 1, 2009 all of the specialty bulletins produced by the ARS are available free in the Members Only section of the ARS web site (www.ars.org)—another good reason to be a member of the ARS). The four free bulletins are:

• The Rose Exhibitor’s Forum
• The Rose Arranger’s Bulletin
• Miniature/Mini-Flora Bulletin
• The OGR & Shrub Journal

The password for the Members Only section appears on page 5 of the American Rose magazine.

District Web Site. Our PNW District web site contains an immense amount of local and District info.
According to Tom…

We are honored again this month with insight and information from our friend and Master of the Honor Garden at Lawrence Scott Park, Tom Miles. I can’t help but feel a little threatened by the overshadowing of Tom and his valuable writings for two months in a row. I can envision a future “Tom and Jo Show” that soon advances to just “Tom”…hmmmm. Could this be something I should be aware of and monitor accordingly? All kidding aside, Tom’s hours of work and dedication to healthy roses provide pleasure to hundreds of people throughout the summer. Through these articles we are granted access to the same techniques and realize those same pleasures in our own yards.

One very important part in the following article is the mixing and storing of the Rose Tea Solution. Quoting Tom’s words, where the “Lid is handy to retain agricultural odor as the rose tea ages and brews.” I feel it is my duty to insert a possible interpretation, “Lid is of the utmost value to retain stench, maintain friendships in the neighborhood and obtain an aged rose tea brew. A minor part of the article; a major part in the whole process!

**OBJECTIVE:**

Modify alkaline soil to grow healthy rose plants that are more resistant to fungus and insect damage and require fewer toxic sprays and systemic fertilizers. This fertilizer program is for rose plants grown in an elevated arid desert region in southeastern Washington State with a weather classification of Zone 5 winter and Zone 7 summer. A yearly soil sample evaluation performed in early March will be the basis for applying macro and micro soil nutrients and adjusting pH level with fertilizer applications that enhance healthy growth of plants. The two types of fertilizers to be used are granulated triple sixteen (NPK plus six % sulfur) commercial product and a home formulated rose tea solution. These fertilizers will amend soil deficient in nutrients initially or lost from pruning, deadheading-harvesting of flowers, and weeding debris that is removed from rose beds. The nutrient loss in the one ton of debris removed annually from Lawrence Scott Park rose garden (300 roses) in Kennewick, Washington is significant and needs to be replaced regularly for healthy growth of plants.

The present soil pH level of 7.3 needs to be lowered into a range of 6.5 - 6.8; this will enable the rose plants to more efficiently utilize soil nutrients. Soil pH can be lowered by adding the acidity and salt leaching ability of sulfur to the soil. The garden beds are surface coated with a minimum of 3 to 5 inches of fine bark mulch to deter weed growth and insulate soil from overheating by 300 plus days of desert sun. The mulch also retains moisture in the soil by providing protection from the arid winds common to desert areas. The bark mulch composts into organics that improve soil permeability and aeration, but in the process uses extra amounts of nitrogen. It is necessary to add extra nitrogen in the fertilization program when using fine bark mulch.

Trace elements are most important to grow healthy plants and are furnished by Miracle Grow and fish emulsion in this fertilization program. Boron, which is lacking in the local soil, will be furnished by using Twenty Mule Team Borax Cleanser.
ROSE TEA SOLUTION

32 gallons of water
12 cups of alfalfa pellets
2 cups of bone meal
2 cups of blood meal
5 cups of cottonseed meal
½ cup of Epsom salt

1/3 cup of chelated iron (soil sample shows sufficient iron in local soil)
2 2/3 cups of Miracle Grow or Expert Gardener
2 cups of Alaska Fish Fertilizer Emulsion
½ cup of 20 Mule Team Borax Cleanser
2 quarts of Apple Cider Vinegar (5% acidity)

FERTILIZER PREP INSTRUCTIONS FOR ROSE TEA

Mix the ingredients in a thirty two gallon plastic garbage can with a flat bottom and lid. Brew for a seven day period, stirring once a day to mix settling solids with fluid. Lid is handy to retain agricultural odor as the rose tea ages and brews.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS FOR ROSE TEA

Apply once per month from May (after new leaf growth) to September (stop after first frost).
Apply rose tea to the surrounding soil in the amount of 1/2 gallon for miniatures, 1 gallon for polyanthas and floribundas, 1 gallon for grandifloras and hybrid teas, and 2 gallons for shrubs and climbing roses. Recommend diluting the concentrated rose tea into five gallon plastic buckets in one or two gallon amounts at a time, topping off the buckets with water, and splashing the soil around the total bed area around each plant. The solution is not strong enough to harm the foliage and needs to be evenly distributed in each bed area.
It takes about five garbage cans of rose tea to cover the rose garden in Lawrence Scott Park, and one garbage can for 15 roses, flowers and shrubs in my home yard.

COMMERCIAL FERTILIZER

Fifty pounds of granulated triple sixteen (NPK) plus six % sulfur

Apply in spring (early April after pruning) and in fall (late November after hard frosts but before ground freezes). Spread triple sixteen at rate of 1 1/2 pounds per 100 square feet. Amount rate is based on soil sample test results and recommendations donated by Northwest Agricultural Consultants. Total amount required: 2585 sq' total garden bed area/100 sq' X 1.5 lbs = 40 lbs. Amount per bed: area of bed/total garden area 2585 sq' X 40 lbs. = pounds per bed.

BED # | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14
---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---
BED AREA sq' | 205 | 186 | 163 | 184 | 163 | 163 | 168 | 171 | 99 | 79 | 187 | 144 | 409 | 269
Pounds | 3.5 | 2.9 | 2.5 | 2.9 | 2.5 | 2.5 | 2.7 | 1.5 | 1.2 | 2.9 | 2.2 | 6.3 | 4.2

Hand cast evenly over each bed so that roots are encouraged to grow and seek nutrients and moisture throughout total volume of bed. Till into soil and water after.

Thank you, Tom for the educational material and the detailed workings of the beautiful Lawrence Scott Park Honor Rose Garden. You make it sound so easy! I do have one last question for you, the master of masters, “Do you do windows?”
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Mark Your Calendar

May 18, 2009 (one week early)
“Get Ready for Rose Show” Meeting
May 23, 2009 (See p. 4.)
Consulting Rosarian School/Audit, Shilo Inn
May 24, 2009 (See Minutes, p. 2.)
Rose Show at the Shilo Inn, Richland. Mini Rose Sale. After the show, Sale of Roses not picked up from show tables.

Jun 18-24 ARS/World/District Convention/Show, Vancouver, B.C.

June 22, 2009
Garden Mtg, Norm & Claudia Ferguson’s

July 27, 2009
Garden Mtg at Lawrence Scott Park

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