Greetings to all,

We love summertime but must admit that it goes a little overboard sometimes. When the temp is over 95 we suffer and so do the roses, no matter how much water we indulge them.

However, our barrel of minis grew large and plentiful when we covered them with cheesecloth during the hot, hot days. Bushes do better with the filtered light in extreme heat, and it avoids the dried up buds and blooms. Discovered it too late for our geraniums, but they’re coming back.

We hope those who attended the July meeting in our yard enjoyed the evening with root beer floats and good fellowship. We were honored to have John Moe from Federal Way drop in to join us. He’s on our PNW District Board of Directors. John talked to our group regarding the ARS Roses in Review program and other up-to-date district information. Several of us have a mini-rose in our gardens called 'Mighty Moe,' which is just one that Mitchie Moe hybridized and the two of them marketed.

We look forward to meeting in the lovely yard of Bob and Bridget Louie on August 26 at 7:00 p.m.

As ever,

Joann and Don Sayler

“There are about eighty roses scattered about the backyard; most are tea roses and floribundas. Bloom will be minimal this time of year, but our collection of trees and Koi Pond will provide additional points of interest. The trees include Japanese maples, beech, dogwoods, pines, a Dawn Redwood, a Bald Cypress and a larch.”

Bob Louie
The meeting was called to order by Joann Sayler in her and Don’s rose garden near the fish pond on a warm July evening. There were 15 members and friends in attendance. Special guest John Moe from Federal Way, our PNW District Consulting Rosarians Chair, was introduced.

Minutes from the June meeting were approved as written in the July Rose Herald. No treasurer’s report was given. An email will be sent to members by Linda Kerkof regarding 35-40 roses in a Meadow Springs garden which will be available for the digging to make way for new landscaping. Joann said she has many containers that could be used to transport roses that are to be moved.

Linda shared that the Missoula Rose Society in Missoula, MT continues to show outstanding appreciation of members of our society who judge and attend their show, and we truly appreciate their support of ours. We have a very special relationship. Several good contacts were made with potential future judges for our rose shows.

Harlow Young delivered the new metal rose bush labels for use in our own gardens as well as the Lawrence Scott Park Honor Garden. They will sell for $5.00/10 labels. Tom Miles and Harlow will place the names of the roses on the labels for the Honor Garden. Richard Kerkof offered free seedlings of Butterfly Bush and a Japanese Maple plant.

Birthday songs were sung to both Don Sayler and Anna Brehm (Anna being our youngest rose lover at 8 years of age). The next meeting will be at the home of Bob and Bridget Louie. The door prizes were won by John Thom and Kathy Weber. Each received a Hybrid Rugosa rose named ‘William Baffin.’ Meeting adjourned at 8:15.

John Moe, our guest, agreed to share district activities and upcoming events of interest to society members. Of particular interest is a Consulting Rosarian School with classes being offered in Vancouver in October for those inquiring. He encouraged us to participate in the “Roses in Review” program open to members and non-members. Go to <http://www.ars.org> and see whether you grow any of the roses being reviewed.

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**Bouquets In Your Rose Garden**

By Norma Boswell, Co-Editor

Whether you are able to enter roses in the next show or not, you can take positive action to make them showier in the garden. Most floribundas, grandifloras and miniatures can be coaxed to pop with vibrant color. Here’s how to build a beautiful bouquet (1), and here’s what happens when you let nature take its course (2).

1. **Find four or more green buds growing in a cluster, and pinch off the largest bud.** The remaining three (or more) buds will continue to develop, and then open “in concert” – giving you and your neighbors a big splash of saturated color.

2. **If you remove no buds from a cluster, in due time you will observe an off-color, floppy, past-prime blossom surrounded by smaller, brighter blooms.** Look around the garden and you’ll probably notice at least one cluster (spray) with a center blossom that is clearly past its prime. Carefully cut off that unattractive center blossom and notice two things: there’s now a gaping hole, and the remaining blooms are sitting uncomfortably. They tend to tip over or angle narrowly outward – after all, they were pushed aside by the dominant central bud for most of their growing days. Judges dislike seeing a “hole in the center” of a late-groomed spray. Even your neighbor is less impressed by small dabs of color than the bold, vivid splashes of a well-trained spray.

The suggestions in July in the Garden still apply for August. In addition, stop adding fertilizer granules containing nitrogen by the end of the month. Nitrogen’s job is to stimulate green growth. As we approach fall, we’re looking for beautiful blooms, not tall bushes that may never bear flowers before the first heavy frost. A liquid application including nitrogen should be fine now, but during September use a granular formula with zero nitrogen – and enjoy the beautiful blooms!
The first Walkway was donated in 1974 by the Ayres (Leona and John), Huckleberrys, Pucketts, families and friends. The second Walkway was donated in 1977 by the Mattisons (Leona and John). The garden includes a center rose garden of two concentric rings, housing standard size roses and gardens of miniatures around the Four Apostles statuary. At a later date, Leona Ayres Mattison donated an Armillary sundial for the center of the larger garden.

At the June society meeting, thanks to the resourcefulness of Helen Newman, the TCRS donated the leftover miniatures from our sale to plant in this garden, in particular in bare spots around the Apostles. My hubby John and I went out to the garden to plant these minis, with our gardening tools, fertilizer mixing bucket, and a watering hose supplied by the gardening crew.

Placement of the minis was finalized and half of them were in the ground when we could no longer ignore the storm brewing south behind Badger Mountain. By this time, not only was the thunder reminiscent of the Ancient Greek Gods indulging in one of their sky battles with thunder clashes and lightning bolts being thrown around, we could actually see cloud to cloud lightning strikes and hear the time between the claps of thunder...1000 1, 1000 2, 1000 3...suggested the storm was less than a mile away (1000 7). Noticing that we and our post-hole digger were the tallest structures in the immediate vicinity (I gladly noticed I was the shortest of the three), and along with our electrically conductive water hose, we decided to drop everything and sprint to the safety of the car. Before we arrived it was pouring rain, and we could see cloud to mountain (Badger) lightning strikes. The storm blew north just as fast as it had come, the rain cleared, and walking back the short distance to the garden, we saw smoke arising from Badger Mountain on the north slope by the trail. Ah, the smell of freshly dug soil, a hint of roses, clean after-the-storm air, and lastly, a faint hint of burning sagebrush and grasses from the mountain. By the time we finished, we had heard the multitude of fire truck sirens on their way to attack the many fires started by the storm, and hoped they would be able to stop them soon, on this hot and dry day in July.

More recently, Dorothy Campbell has added a second stone at north side of the garden to commemorate Leona’s passing. This new stone mirrors the first one that lists John Ayres, Leona’s first husband, at the top, along with other past members of the rose society. How appropriate this new stone is with Leona’s name and “Our Earth Angel” inscribed at the top.

After we finished, we left the quiet of the garden, turned around, and saw that it was looking good in spite of the smoky backdrop of Badger Mountain.

The members thank you, JoAnn and John, for your work in the Memorial Garden!
Fall roses in our gardens can be very beautiful, as colors are often intensified by the cooler temperatures. Who knows what this year will bring with the very warm summer we have had? Our roses may be very different than in past years. We would like to use this color as the background for our September meeting, our In-house Fall Rose Show. This is a nice way to enjoy the last roses of the season as we begin to prepare our gardens for winter and take a well deserved rest. Plan now for what you might enjoy sharing with your society family. This show will be back at our usual meeting place, the Sandberg Center in West Richland.

Please note you will use your own containers to display your roses. Entry tags will be available for you to use for your entries. Please remember each rose will need to be correctly identified. For any questions about the show you can contact Linda Kerkof at 547-1860 or 851-2110.

“Autumn’s Dance” Entries

Class 1A – Single rose, no side buds — Grandiflora or Hybrid Tea
Class 1B – Single rose, no side buds — Floribunda
Class 1C – Single rose, no side buds — David Austin or Shrub rose
Class 1D – Single rose, no side buds — Mini or Miniflora
Class 2A – Spray of roses — Hybrid Tea or Grandiflora
Class 2B – Spray of roses — Floribunda
Class 2C – Spray of David Austin or Shrub roses
Class 2D – Spray of roses — Mini or Miniflora

Class 3A – A Collection of Roses: Hybrid Tea, Grandiflora and/or Floribunda, David Austin, Shrub Roses, Polyanthas displayed in one container. Keeping in mind the theme “Autumn’s Dance,” use a variety of colors!
Class 3B – A Collection of Mini or Miniflora Roses displayed in one container. Keeping in mind the theme “Autumn’s Dance,” use a variety of colors!
Class 4A – “Autumn’s Dance” Arrangement using standard roses - Designer’s Choice. Please specify design style. Examples: line, abstract, modern creative, mass or Oriental style.
Class 4B – “Autumn’s Dance” Arrangement using mini or miniflora roses – Designer’s Choice. Please specify design style. Example: line, abstract, modern creative, mass or Oriental style

Bring District and Nationals to Us

In this issue of the Rose Herald the talk of rose shows and conventions have given me reasons to ask why we can’t utilize available technologies and allow the national and district rose activities to reach beyond the rooms of the actual venue! I would LOVE to be a mouse in the corner for all the speakers at the ARS National Miniature Rose Show (extended information on page 6) and our District Convention in Vancouver (more information in next month’s issue).

And with the help of a little “mouse” at someone’s fingertips, we could be a part of those teachings! Web conferencing for a live experience or creating CD’s for us to purchase or view with payment on the ARS website or through our local society would be very do-able. Not to mention the money making feature for the ARS and/or districts. This is our opportunity to connect with the generation of young adults who may be missing from our societies and who might provide the future innovative ideas needed to ensure our societies’ continued growth and health.

As I skim through the pages of the scrapbooks from our local society, I see the names and pictures of some of the past members JoAnn Brehm refers to on page 3. Sixty years ago those members wanted modern and up-to-date instruction readily available to the public. They provided society meetings, newsletter mailings and hands-on garden work days. They utilized what was available—and now we have the same opportunity! Please reach out to national, district and local societies and ask them to work toward sharing the educational experiences at national and district events with us through some of the marvels of current technology.

Time and money will keep many of us from attending far away shows and conferences, but convenient and affordable education is literally at our fingertips if we can enjoy these adventures on our personal computers.
FRIABILITY. I first encountered this word while reading the collection of articles that Howard Walters wrote for the American Rose magazine in the book Rosarian Ramblings, Howard Walters: Through the Years. Mr. Walters directly referenced this term in several of his articles.

The word caused me to do some research to understand the meaning of the word and its importance to our hobby of growing roses. The word comes to us from “friabilis” or “friare,” words of French and Latin origin, which mean “to crumble.” From this it is understood that the word “friability,” when used to define soil structure, refers to “the state of aggregation of the soil (its texture) that gives it the ability to properly support plant growth.” Simply, it describes the ease with which the soil can be crumbled or pulverized. Friable soils have enough space between soil particles to allow drainage, hold nutrients in suspension for roots to pick them up and translocate them to the plant, and provide air pockets between the soil particles. While researching information for this article, I was surprised that there was no mention of this term in the American Rose Society Consulting Rosarian Manual, though many of the aspects of the mechanics and chemistry of the soil are well described.

Relative to soil, gardeners are aware it consists of three major components of soil: clay, silt, and sand. Proper mixes of these create a friable soil, or healthy soil tilth. Following is a brief description of each of these components and how they interact.

CLAY: Too much clay, the finest of soil particles, traps nutrients and also a lot of water which can actually drown the plants. Soils with too much clay can actually drown the plants. At best, plants growing in this soil will have to work very hard to penetrate the heavy clay and may suffer from stunted growth because of it.

SILT: Too much silt and sediment, medium sized particles, can become easily compacted and cause poor drainage in a similar fashion to very heavy clay soils.

SAND: Too much sand causes soils to drain too quickly, which is the opposite of heavy clay soils. Water readily passes through sandy soil, taking the soluble nutrients with it before the plant can use them.

SANDY LOAM: The ideal mix of the three soil components is called “sandy loam.” It is made up of approximately 40% silt, 40% sand and 20% clay. There is a graphical tool called the “Soil Texture Triangle” that helps us understand the relationships between each of the soil components, and how they interact. There are many examples on the internet, but one that I found particularly useful is: http://soils.usda.gov/education/resources/lessons/texture/.
Adding organic matter as soil amendments can improve every soil type because it breaks apart silt and clay particles while binding sandy soil particles so that they collectively do a better job of retaining moisture and nutrients. Over time, these organic amendments can greatly improve the chances of ending up with friable soil.

One final aspect of soils that have the optimum level of friability is that there must be a balance of air and water in the soil. Friability is affected by the level of soil moisture: too little, and the soil could be very hard, not crumbly; too high and it is very soggy. With the proper balance of soil components, water can move through the soil at a controlled rate, and air can occupy the spaces in the soil. The aspects of soil moisture and air as they relate to soil friability are those directly referenced by Howard Walters in his articles.

There is a simple way to test the friability of the soil in your rose garden. Dig up a bit of the soil from about six inches deep. The soil should have a little moisture in it, but not be soggy wet. Take the soil in your hands and lightly squeeze it into a ball of about two to three inches diameter. If the ball of soil stays intact but easily falls apart with moderate pressure, it probably has the proper friability characteristics. Good friable soil will clump together, but upon light pressure will readily fall apart. This means that the soil has the proper mix of clay, silt, sand, and organic materials. If the ball of soil does not easily crumble, then follow the flow chart and “decision tree” on the web site mentioned above to determine the type of soil you have. You can then decide how to amend the soil to make it more friable like the characteristics of sandy loam.

Friability is only one measure of good soil conditions. An annual soil test is recommended to assure that your garden has the proper pH and the correct levels of both macro- and micro-nutrients for optimal success with your roses.

If you have questions on this article, please consult one of our Consulting (CR) or Master (MR) Rosarians listed on page 8 or me at threegkids@frontier.com.

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The Mini/Miniflora "Mini Magic" Conference will be in Winston-Salem, NC on September 20-22.

Even if you cannot attend this event—check out the link which provides all the information for the show...and beyond. (If you do attend—make sure you are back for our local meeting on the 23rd with a complete report for us!) This guide includes event highlights of the show along with local venues and points of interest. The speakers, agenda, class listings, Award of Excellence and Hall of Fame winners for Mini and Miniflora roses.

Check It Out!


Some of the “Hall of Fame Honorees” include ‘Kristin,’ Hot Tamale,’ ‘Irresistible,’ ‘Black Jade’ and ‘Rainbow’s End.’ I’m happy to report all of these outstanding beauties in my own backyard – which allows me to put a face with the name. And ALL of these lovely minis were purchased at mini rose sales events put on by our own Tri-City Rose Society! This publication will inspire you...minis are amazing and you can never have too many!
I just want to thank everyone who’s helped promote the Tri-City Rose Society Facebook fan page! There has been a lot more activity and interest in the fan page because of your help. But there is still more you can do to help promote the fan page. Listed below are directions on how to tag the Tri-City Rose Society Facebook fan page in your pictures. This will create a link on your picture that goes directly to the Tri-City Rose Society fan page. This is an easy way to promote the Facebook fan page. Oh, when you take pictures of your gardens and roses, make sure to tag the Tri-City Rose Society Facebook fan page!

How to tag the Tri-City Rose Society Fan Page in your picture on Facebook:

1. Click on the picture you want to tag.

2. The picture will then pop up on your screen (pictured right).

3. “Tag Photo” is at the bottom of the picture and also towards the top right next to the picture. Click on one of the “Tag Photo” buttons (it doesn’t matter which one you click).

4. After you click the “Tag Photo” button, your cursor should become a +. Click anywhere on the picture.

5. A drop down box will appear where you can type. Start typing Tri-City Rose Society. Once the Tri-City Rose Society fan page appears on the list below, click it (pictured below)

6. After you click the Tri-City Rose Society fan page, click one of the two “Done Tagging” buttons, either at the bottom of the picture or toward the top right next to the picture (it doesn’t matter which one you click).

7. Now you have tagged the Tri-City Rose Society Fan Page in your picture. The picture will now show up in the Tri-City Rose Society fan page pictures which fans will be able to look at. This will also create a link in the picture that goes directly to the Tri-City Rose Society fan page, which allows your friends and family to learn more about the Tri-City Rose Society.

To check out the Tri-City Rose Society Facebook fan page, go to www.facebook.com/TriCityRoseSociety.

The American Rose Society (ARS) also has a Facebook webpage. Check out the photos, facts and interesting rose “talk” at www.facebook.com/roosesociety.
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2013 Calendar

Aug. 26
Bob & Bridget Louie
20 N Jefferson
Kennewick, WA

Sept. 23
Sandberg Events Center
W Richland, WA

Oct. 25 & 26
PNW District Conference
Vancouver, WA

Oct. 28
Banquet
Sandberg Events Center

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