



**Cathyanne Nonini's
winning fair bouquet**

Rose Ramblings

<http://spokanerosesociety.com>

Newsletter of Spokane Rose Society
Affiliated with the American Rose Society

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September 25, 2019 "Six-Pack Rose Show"

I think this name was taken from one had in Houston many years ago, but the idea is we want ALL our members...and even guests if you want to bring some... to bring roses to our meeting. **You need to provide your containers**, and yes, you can use beer or wine bottles for your 'vase.' We only ask that you take them home with you, as Manito has a no-alcohol policy, and a few years back when someone dropped a bottle in the trash we were questioned about it! ☺

The whole idea is, this is an enjoyable, relaxing time to share your rose(s) in display. If you want to make an arrangement with them, bring that. We have people in our club who both show and arrange roses, and they will give you tips to help you in the future if you want to improve. (don't we all?)

Just to sweeten the pot a little, we will have prizes for winning roses in all categories. Even if you aren't the winner, though, you can rest assured your roses will be appreciated and admired.

There will be entry tags for your use, so keep in mind (or on paper if you are like me and your mind goes blank when you try to remember the name) the names of the roses. There will also be a class for most fragrant rose, so keep that in mind, too.

There of course will be refreshments, so y'all come! We want you there.



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Andrew Smith, President

Hello everyone, and happy September, aka (at least it's not January!) I know fall is closing in on us, but if you take a walk around, you will see a lot of beautiful roses still in bloom all around town. And actually, now is a great time to be planting roses while it's not too hot or too cold. They get a really good opportunity to set roots before the first frost. That being said, I am quite the curmudgeon when it comes to winter, so I am happy to have people like you all, and family and friends that keep the spirit of life through the cold months of winter. Kind of like the pine needles keeping the little rose graft from freezing to death! (Please excuse my attempt at a simile ha-ha).

Anyway, this month's SRS meeting should prove to be a fun one. In fact, it will be my first time attending the in-house rose show, and I'm really excited! I only have one rose bush at the house I am renting, believe it or not... But you bet your bottom dollar, if there is a single bloom on that rose, thrips-infested or not, I will be entering it! And I hope to see you there with your season finisher roses at Manito. (Cont. on page 2)

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President's Message (Cont. from page 1)

Bring your roses in some container. We call this the "six-pack rose show" but since the meeting room is alcohol free, it raises suspicion if you leave empty beer or wine bottles in the trash. Either take them home or use another vase or container. And don't forget, the meetings start at 6:30 pm! See you there.

Andrew Smith
SRS President



SPOKANE ROSE SOCIETY 2019 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

October – this is the one official meeting we have each year. We allow the board to take care of business the rest of the time to allow for you to just get to enjoy the program without the lengthy readings of minutes, reports, etc. We want our members to feel their time is well spent coming to the meetings, but we do have to conduct official business at times, such as election of officers and approval of the budget. So don't neglect to do your part. Your vote is important, but we need you to come to the meeting to provide this.

November – is the one month we deviate from our "4th Wednesday" meetings. Because the 4th Wednesday comes very close to Thanksgiving, we move the date to earlier in November and have either a potluck or a gathering at a local restaurant. In recent years people have preferred a potluck, but here again, you can voice your opinion to any of your officers or board members if you'd rather meet at a restaurant. This closes out our year of roses, so we hope you will take advantage of as many of these programs as possible. This year our potluck will be on November 20.

As you can see, our year is quickly winding down. Just where it went, I'm not certain, but we hope you will take advantage of the few meetings we have left. September is our casual in-house show. We hope you will bring your roses, even if you have never shown a rose in your life. You bring them in your own containers, we provide a slip to give the name of your rose. There is no frantic prep work, and the fun part is **everyone** is a judge. We won't be judging like they do in the regular shows, but we want you to get a taste of how to present your rose in the best light. We will be giving tips after the judging is done, and there are no losers. We do plan to have some prizes for the winners, however.

Rose Logic

Lynn Schafer
Master Rosarian



Ah! Fall is in the air. How do I know? Because it is not shirtsleeve weather when I go out in the early morning to walk the dog. And this week has been cooler than normal, as well. I am willing to bet that we will be back in the 80s again before fall is over. The school children need to suffer in the classrooms a little, don't they?

It truly has been a grand and glorious rose year. Enjoy your roses as long as the weather holds. They will bloom until the hard frost, and you are not going to do any damage by cutting those blooms for your house or for sharing with others. When it freezes, the roses know enough to stop putting out new growth, and the growth that has begun will just freeze. Cutting off dead or dying blooms keeps the roses looking much better, too and if they are high-petaled blooms you may see botrytis in the fading blooms as the weather cools and rains begin. It isn't a fatal disease but very unsightly.

Watch for signs of powdery mildew. In judging at the Interstate Fair last week I saw some leaves on the entries that were beginning to succumb. The healthier your roses are when winter hits, the better their chances for a healthy and hearty start next spring. Powdery mildew will not kill your bushes, but it doesn't go away on its own and continues to spread through the bush and any others nearby that are susceptible. You can pick off leaves, use an organic product or any fungicide. You know the safety rules with chemicals – wear protective gloves and clothing, don't spray downwind, masks or respirators are advised for most chemicals, and follow the instructions on the container.

Rose Logic (Cont. from page 2)

WATER deeply and continue until fall rains begin in earnest or until the hard freeze shuts growth down. You are doing your roses a big favor by keeping them hydrated as they move into cool (or cold) weather. All your garden plants like water, and roses like more than many annuals.

WEED! Yes, that is a task we really don't like, but if you leave those weeds over winter, believe me, they will continue to set seed and be ready with a vengeance to begin the new growing season, not to mention they ALSO get a firm footing (roots) in the soil so it is much more work to take them out when they are small. Mulch always helps with the weed issue, but it isn't the total answer, so be on the lookout and go to battle while you have a clear chance of winning...at least for this season. This year seems to have brought out some weeds that were not a problem in the past. Living in a rural area I get a lot of weeds you probably never see...or never WANT to see. Bindweed will grow anywhere and through anything. I have seen it sneaking up around foundations, through pavement, anywhere there is the slightest crack. Its roots go long distances, so pulling or hoeing it just gives it some encouragement. Weed killer slows it down, but you won't get rid of it, and I'm certainly not going to pasture a herd of pigs to root it all out! **Purslane** may be one you have seen causing an issue. I believe that is what it is, and it is a spreading red-leafed plant. Spreading, meaning it lays flat but also it increases rapidly, looking like an innocent tiny plant. Weeding with a hoe only encourages it, I believe. The best method is pulling it by hand and removing it from the rose bed, as it will just root down again and enjoy the water and nutrients you give it.



CRITTERS



Yes, it's a fact that as civilization moves in, the critters don't necessarily move out. Deer are a problem for a number of you, particularly on the edges of the city. I read in Portland Rose Chatter edited by Rich and Charold Baer that someone told Rich the bucks go on ahead to scout out the good feeding areas. Hmmm. I have never seen the bucks in my area, and I don't have a problem with the does and fawns in my roses. Do we have something here?

I do know that coyotes have adapted themselves to city life very well, finding smaller domestic or feral cats a good addition to their diets, as well as the rabbits who have either been turned loose by people who no longer wished to take care of domestic rabbits or the occasional cottontail that wanders in. Of course the rabbits are a problem in some gardens – **Harry Rendle** could tell you stories about his war against the little darlings when they lived out in the Valley, as they do like tender growth not to mention any lettuce and other delicacies you may have in your vegetable garden.

HILLING is a task to take up after the roses are not actively growing, ...HOWEVER, my mentor from many years ago (and I'm not telling how many) spent your winters in the south, and she depended on her son to take her there. As he was still employed, he needed to plan the trip when he could take time off work, so Sylvia needed to hill her roses before she left. She often hilled them in September, because that was when her son could take her south.

Let's face it. Some nurseries recommend if you are planting a grafted rose you should plant it with the bud graft 4 to 6 inches below the surface, as they don't want you to leave it unprotected and have it freeze, causing them to have to replace it at their expense. So your roses are already technically hilled up. Here I am speaking of grafted roses, not the own root ones you get at Northland Rosarium or other outlets offering them. Because our climate in Spokane is colder than many other rose-growing areas, people have found the own root to be a pleasant relief from the task of hilling.

Probably half of my roses are grafted roses, and over the years I have used compost as my hilling medium. Then in the spring I spread it over the rose beds, improving the soil and, yes, adding more hilling material around the roses. So if any grafted roses you grow have been handled in this manner, they are probably already set for winter. "Back in the day" when I first joined the rose society, the "rule" was to have the bud graft open to the sunlight, as it was assumed that more new basal breaks would occur if the bud graft was exposed. Well...if you plant it 4 to 6 inches below the ground level, that isn't going to happen, yet roses seem to ignore that fact and grow just fine if they are watered and fertilized properly. And if you are nearing the time when you are classified as a senior citizen (we won't go there, will we?) any task we can eliminate is encouraged. Even if you are still able to handle all the gardening on your own, if there is a better way, why not?



Here's a good reminder from the Northern California Nevada Hawaii District. You still have a little time left, and your opinions DO matter:

2019 ROSES IN REVIEW

JERRY GEORGETTE, NCNH DISTRICT COORDINATOR

Hopefully you received an email from ARS or seen in the recent American Rose magazine information about this year's Roses in Review.

DUE DATE

September 26, 2019 5:00 p.m. (PST)

WEBSITE: <http://www.rose.org>

Your help is needed to evaluate new roses! Please participate in Roses in Review 2019.

Go to www.rose.org and click on the pink box in the upper right hand corner labeled Roses in Review 2019 to begin! The process for 2019 has been greatly simplified. Please watch the video below or download the instructions. Please read the directions carefully to learn how the system works.

Hot tip: Copy and paste your email name, as this is needed for each rose reviewed.

The online survey at www.rose.org will close at 5:00 PM (PST), September 26, 2019. Any paper forms submitted must also be in the hands of your district coordinator (me) by that date. We urge you to use the online system - it's easy and it saves from having to transcribe written forms. Please take the time to report on all the varieties you grow on the **Roses in Review** survey list.

Below you will find links to:

- ♦ Watch the instructional video
- ♦ Download the instructions
- ♦ Begin reviewing roses
- ♦ Download the Roses in Review form
- ♦ Download the Roses in Review magazine insert (it will be in the July/August issue of *American Rose*)
- ♦ View/download the list of 2019 roses

A broad base of participation is needed to make this project worthwhile. We need your evaluations, whether you grow one of the varieties on the survey list, or dozens of them. We welcome evaluations from you whether you are a new rose-grower, a "garden" rose-grower or a seasoned veteran grower, whether you grow roses for your landscape and garden, or if you also grow them to exhibit or arrange. **We are happy to get reports from non-ARS members as well**, so please forward a copy of this email along to all of your rose-growing friends (and encourage them to try an ARS Trial Membership as well).

Results of the survey will be included in the January/February 2020 issue of *American Rose* magazine and will determine ratings in the **ARS Handbook for Selecting Roses** as well. For these results to be meaningful, we need everyone to participate. So please, take a few minutes of your time to evaluate your new roses.

AND it's not too late to register if you want to attend a very reasonably-priced conference with a lot of great speakers, a full day packed with information you can use in your own garden, lots of things to bid on in the silent auction, and schools and audits the following day. If you have filled out paperwork and done the necessary prep work for becoming a Consulting Rosarian, or if you just would like more information on either judging or consulting rosarians, these classes are very full of information and open to everyone.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST DISTRICT FALL CONFERENCE Caroline Fredette, PNW District Director
(Reprinted from the Fall issue of the Northwest Rosarian)

Our Annual Fall Conference is only two months away on October 25 - 27, 2019. Due to popular demand, we are returning to the Heathman Lodge located in Vancouver, Washington and also back to our "normal" weekend. We have a special

room rate of \$134. Call the **Heathman Lodge 360-254-3100** and ask for the Pacific Northwest District or the American Rose Society group rate, and you will be set. I have some wonderful speakers lined up:

American Rose Society Past-President **Marilyn Wellan**, from Louisiana, is our keynote speaker on Saturday. She will update us about the Great Garden Restoration Project and the progress that has been made at America's Rose Garden in Shreveport, Louisiana.

Mike Peterson will speak about Chemical Safety.

Dr. Gary Ritchie, our resident scientist, will speak about "Dormancy: In Roses?" He will also have copies of his most recent book "The Rose Doctor: A Key for Diagnosing Problems in the Rose Garden". You will have ample opportunity to purchase an autographed copy.

Rich Baer will present "50 Ways to Love Your Cover". He has had 50 of his photographs on the cover of the "American Rose", the magazine of the American Rose Society. This is a huge accomplishment.

John & Caroline Fredette will tell us about their tour of "The Gardens of Nashville".

A **Rose Arrangement Seminar** is scheduled for Friday evening.

On Sunday there will be a **Consulting Rosarian audit and school** for those who want to become CRs. There will be a **Horticulture Judging audit** on Sunday as well.

Our Fall Conference isn't just for American Rose Society members but for anyone who loves roses! I would like to meet more of you. Why not attend a wonderful Weekend of Roses and stay at the beautiful Heathman Lodge?

The Registration form will be included in the email for this newsletter.

There are always baskets at this conference donated by the various rose societies which include a wide variety of items. They are raffled off at the end of the Saturday meeting. And the silent auction has everything from framed rose photos to LOTS of handwork done by Charold Baer. That lady is amazing! And Rich Baer brings *large* pots of roses included in the silent auction. He grows these in his driveway through the summer, and some are highly sought after, so the bidding gets downright wild.

If you have something you would like to donate to the silent auction, that would be welcome, too, but don't let this be seen as a *requirement*. We just enjoy the time there with other rose friends, and if you don't know them now, you will know them by the end of the day.



I've had this in my file a long time, and I am not printing it in total, but a few good thoughts to carry you through until our next rose meeting:

FROM ONE FRIEND TO ANOTHER

Written by Andy Rooney, a man who had the gift of saying so much with so few words. Rooney has passed away but used to be on CBS's 60 Minutes TV show.

I've learned...

That the best classroom in the world is at the feet of an elderly person.

I've learned....

That life is like a roll of toilet paper. The closer it gets to the end, the faster it goes.

I've learned....

That being kind is more important than being right.

I've learned....

That to ignore the facts does not change the facts.

I've learned....

That I wish I could have told my Mom that I love her one more time before she passed away.

SPOKANE ROSE SOCIETY OFFICERS - 2019

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MEMBERSHIP in Spokane Rose Society is open to anyone. We meet on the **fourth Wednesday** of each month, February through November, 6:00 p.m. at **the meeting room by the conservatory at Manito Park** in Spokane, Washington, (unless otherwise noted) with a special program each month and refreshments following hosted by members. Guests are always welcome. Our rose library has rose-related books and videos you can check out. Workshops may be held at pre-announced times throughout the year on meeting nights.

DUES are as follows: If you receive the newsletter by Email it is \$10 a year. For those wishing to receive the newsletter by postal service it is \$15 per year. Mail your check, made payable to SPOKANE ROSE SOCIETY to Lynn Schafer, 42108 S. Bourne Rd., Latah, WA 99018-9508. THIS NEWSLETTER, one of the benefits of membership, is published 10 times a year, to coincide with our monthly meetings.

If you wish to join the American Rose Society, you can test first with a trial four-month membership for \$10, which gives you four issues of *Roses and You*, two issues of American Rose magazine, discounts at merchant partners, and free or reduced garden admissions if you travel a lot. This is an \$86 value for \$10.

Spokane Rose Society

www.spokanerosesociety.com

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