

APRIL, 2010

# QUEEN'S HERALD

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

APRIL MEETING  
THURSDAY,  
APR 15  
7:30PM - LIFE  
MANOR ACTIVITY  
ROOM

BOARD MEETING  
MONDAY, APR 26  
7PM AT JO  
MARTIN'S HOME

MAY MEETING  
THURSDAY,  
MAY 20

CONSULTING  
ROSARIAN  
SCHOOL/AUDIT  
MAY 15, JACKSON  
HALL, TACOMA

TRS ROSE SHOW  
SATURDAY,  
JULY 3  
JACKSON HALL  
MULTICARE  
CAMPUS

PNW SUMMER  
WORKSHOP:  
MINIS &  
MINIFLORAS  
JULY 31  
VANCOUVER, WA

PICNIC:  
AUGUST 8  
LODGE AT PT.  
DEFIANCE

MAY NEWSLETTER  
DEADLINE:  
APR 28

**THE TACOMA ROSE SOCIETY**  
AN AFFILIATE OF THE AMERICAN  
ROSE SOCIETY  
[WWW.TACOMAROSSESOCIETY.ORG](http://WWW.TACOMAROSSESOCIETY.ORG)



## **APRIL PROGRAM - FERTILIZERS** *by John & Mitchie Moe*

*Our program this month is very timely as many of you will be picking up your fertilizer at the meeting. John will discuss the ingredients as mentioned on the label of your bag, what they do to help your roses grow well this season, and what happens when they are lacking.*

*Fertilization is synonymous with production. Roses must be fed if they are to be healthy and produce good blooms. You must return to the soil quantities of nutrients equal to those being consumed by the bush. Mitchie will discuss how and when to do the fertilizing of your roses.*

## **PUYALLUP ROSE FERTILIZER PICKUP**

*The fertilizer and alfalfa that you reserved will be ready to pick up at 7PM. Our program will start at 7:30. If weather permits I will have a table outside so you can pay (checks made out to the Puyallup Rose Society) **first** and then show your receipt to the fertilizer guys. That way they will know what to load into your car/truck. If you have already paid, please pick up your receipt before loading.*

*If you haven't reserved your fertilizer yet, there is still time. Puyallup Rose Fertilizer is \$20 for a 50 pound bag and alfalfa is \$11 for a 50 pound bag. What a great deal! Call or email the editors ([barbaralind@mac.com](mailto:barbaralind@mac.com) or 253-565-0246).*

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE – CLIFF MARTIN**

*CONGRATULATIONS to all who helped with the rose, miscellaneous plant and white elephant sale March 20 at the Point Defiance Pagoda. It was a great success! We had a sell out of the roses – the first ever. We had it cleaned up and were out by 4 p.m. Thanks, everyone, with special thanks to Steve Herbig, Metro Parks, for all his hard work in setting up, selling, and cleanup.*

*A note that we have finished pruning and weeding the Life Manor rose garden. Yes, we did have to shovel-prune a few. We will be purchasing a bag of fertilizer for that garden – and will be out there fertilizing it on April 20 at 11 a.m. If you would like to help, please call, in case we have to change the time between now and then. (Cliff – 752-5857)*

*I got our watering system up and running today. It was easier this year because I took Bruce Lind's advice and left the batteries in all winter. This meant that I didn't have to reprogram each unit. Thanks, Bruce.*

*Before I close, I have a bit of advice from a professional gardener. He says that the time to prune is when you have a clipper in your hand. Not so sure, but take it for what its worth!*

*See you at our next meeting.*

## **ROSE SHOW TROPHIES**

*If you would like to donate a trophy or money for a trophy for our Rose Show on July 3, please contact Jane Re' (253-884-9419), Gracie Baker (253-851-5154 or [grayfilly@harbornet.com](mailto:grayfilly@harbornet.com)) or Barbara Lind (253-565-0246 or [barbaralind@mac.com](mailto:barbaralind@mac.com)).*

WE SEND OUR  
CONDOLENCES  
TO CLIFF  
MARTIN AND HIS  
FAMILY ON THE  
LOSS OF HIS  
BROTHER.



THIS IS  
GLENDA ON  
HER 80<sup>TH</sup>  
BIRTHDAY AT  
THE HULDA  
KLAGER LILAC  
GARDENS IN  
WOODLAND,  
WASHINGTON

**IN MEMORY OF GLENDA E. MYERS**  
*by Jo Martin*

*Glenda Myers passed away Tuesday, March 2, 2010 at the Hearthside Manor in University Place with her family by her side at the age of 83. Glenda was a past president of Tacoma Rose Society and its longest-term living member having joined in the 60s. She was an American Rose Society judge and an ARS Consulting Rosarian. Glenda was awarded the Bronze Medal for outstanding service in 2002. During her many years of exhibiting, she won many top awards for both horticulture and artistic design. Glenda gave generously of her time with the Junior Rose Club headed by the late Betty Gutoski as well as assisting novices at rose shows.*

*Glenda was an accomplished flower arranger winning numerous blue ribbons and awards at the Gardener's Paradise Days held at Point Defiance Park in the 60s as well as the many flower shows Westgate Garden Club sponsored. She served three times as president of Westgate.*

*She arranged flowers for many weddings and other affairs forming a home-based floral company named "Fleur-de-lis" with her sister Marie Cayton and friends Billie Craig and Jo Martin. The girls gained a great deal of practice in making corsages, boutonnieres, centerpieces and all attendant bouquets needed for weddings under Glenda's expert tutelage. Her mass bouquets were truly works of art.*

*In addition, Glenda was a very knowledgeable horticulturist in all areas with special interests in roses, orchids and dahlias and held memberships in several plant societies. She was an amateur hybridizer of orchids where she started her seedlings in her extensive greenhouse. She was generous with her knowledge and time. Glenda was a consummate gardener as well as an amateur photographer with her late husband, Roy Myers. Her daughter, Terry Rickey of Gig Harbor, is a current member of Westgate Garden Club. Her sister, Marie Cayton, is a member of Tacoma Rose Society.*



'COLORIFIC'  
FLORIBUNDA

**MARCH'S PROGRAM BY FRANK GATTO**

*Frank's program was a treat for our eyes and our ears. It is always fun to see pictures of new or recent roses, and it is important to hear about a knowledgeable person's methods for growing roses with little or no spraying. Frank made it clear that if we first select varieties with good disease resistance and then give them plenty of sunshine and ample spacing (4 ft. between plants), we can expect to have only minimal problems with fungus diseases. Another key point in his message is the need to take proper safety measures. This means wearing chemical proof gloves, clothes that protect our arms and legs, a hat, full eye protection, and a chemical proof mask. All this was a great and timely message. THANKS FRANK!*

**ASK THE CONSULTING ROSARIAN****by Mitchie & John Moe****Master Rosarians***(Ed. Note: TRS members John & Mitchie chair the Pacific Northwest District Consulting Rosarian Program.)*

**Q:** I see that there is a group of numbers on a bag of fertilizer. What are they and what do they represent?

**A:** Regardless of its type (boxed, bagged or bottled), any fertilizer you buy will come with information on the label about the nutrients it contains. Prominently featured will be the N-P-K ratio, the percentage of nitrogen (chemical symbol N), phosphorus (P), and potassium (K). A 16-16-16 fertilizer, for example, contains 16% nitrogen, 16% phosphorus, and 16% potassium. All fertilizers contain at least one of these components, and they will always be shown in the order of N-P-K; if any is missing, the ratio will show a zero for that nutrient (i.e., a 12-0-0 fertilizer contains nitrogen, but no phosphorus or potassium).

**Q:** When is it a good time to fertilize?

**A:** Start fertilizing established bushes once a month the first part of April. Use an all around fertilizer like the 15-15-10 Puyallup Rose fertilizer. Always water before and after application. Wait until after the first bloom cycle to fertilize a newly planted bush.

**Q:** I have heard that I should prune if I want to grow roses. Why do I have to and won't they grow without going to all that work?

**A:** Yes, roses will grow without doing much of anything, but if you want good roses then pruning is a must. Roses are tough plants, and even if you make every mistake in the book, your roses will be better off than if you hadn't pruned them at all. Now for the why;

To improve flowering – an unpruned bush will generally produce small blooms. Proper pruning results in more and bigger blooms.

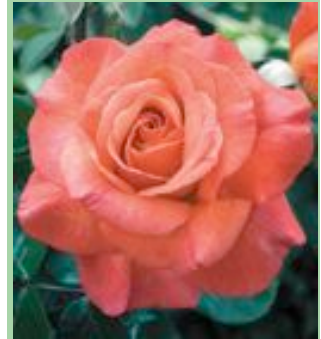
To keep plants healthy – pruning removes diseased or damaged parts of the plant. It also keeps the plant more open in the center, increasing air circulation and reducing pest problems.

To keep plants in bounds – without pruning, many plants get huge with tangled branches that are a perfect haven for insects and diseases. Pruning leaves strong, healthy canes that will support new growth and thus blooms.

To direct growth – pruning can direct growth to a spot you pick. An example of this is pruning a climbing rose to grow on a trellis or an arbor.

**Q:** After I pruned my roses, we have had some very cold nights. But they have all this nice new growth. Why can't I just leave it alone?

**A:** Yes, we did have some cold nights where the temperature dropped below freezing, so the new growth will have some damage, so when re-pruning, prune down to the next healthy eye growing towards the outside. Remember that nature has generously given each bud three eyes, so to have strong growth remove the two outer eyes. And to keep the center of the bush open for better air circulation, use a sharp knife and flip off any buds growing toward the center of the bush.



**'SEDONA'  
HYBRID TEA**



**'WHITE  
LICORICE'  
FLORIBUNDA**

## **A DESIGNER'S DRESS REHEARSAL- An Underwater Design by Designing Woman**



### **AN UNDERWATER DESIGN BY BETSY REZBA**

The theme of this year's arrangements schedule is "A DRESS REHEARSAL". That title was presented by Bruce Lind with the thought that the Tacoma Rose Society will be preparing for next year's BIG Centennial Celebration – 2011. By way of preparing for the District Rose Show and our hundredth year, Margaret Leisner made an outline of how a rose show comes together. From this springboard, our schedule is taking form. More about that later.

One of the classes Margaret thought would interest both exhibitor and the public alike is a modern design called an Underwater. This class that will be eligible for the ARS Artist's Award will be entitled "Vases and Water, Please". In the Guidelines for Judging Rose Arrangements, Chapter 6, pages 29-30 it gives this definition: "Underwater Designs must have a focal area of the design placed under water in a clear or transparent container. Approximately 1/3 of the design should be under water." Page 32 has a black and white line drawing of an Underwater design.

A unique aspect of an Underwater design is that part of the materials that are under water appear to be magnified or larger. What a fine way to showcase a beautiful rose! Making an Underwater takes some practice and patience. Finding a method of securing the underwater components is not an easy task. If the glass container is large, then a greater quantity of water is needed to fill it. Some use distilled water to avoid bubbles in the water. Care must be taken to avoid floating debris. The container is best filled partially before placing on show table and then filled completely. Care must be taken to avoid spilling water on the show table. It is best to fill the container completely to avoid a waterline that is distracting and could be a slight penalty.

Time to be looking for the perfect glass container. Advice is to practice this design a couple of times before show day.

## **ROSE SHOW COUNTDOWN – T MINUS 3 by Bruce Lind**

Our 2010 TRS Rose Show will be on Saturday, July 3. The show theme calls attention to the fact that this year's show is the **Dress Rehearsal** for the big 2011 event. If we all follow the steps from these "Countdown Articles" our roses will be ready for the show on July 3. To be sure our roses are ready to grow well and to produce quality blooms for the rose show (and for garden beauty all summer!), we need to continue with our extra-special care. The new QH feature Ask a Consulting Rosarian (by Mltchie & John Moe) will be an ongoing source of topical and relevant advice on the "hows and whys" of growing quality roses. If we all take their advice to heart we will know what to do in our rose garden each month and how our roses will benefit from our actions.

By now we have cleaned up our gardens and pruned our roses, but if your garden is like ours you will still have more pruning to do. This past winter was tougher on our roses than I realized. Quite a few roses have shown evidence of additional cold damage. Time to cut a little farther down the bush! This month we will be able to pick up our Puyallup Rose Fertilizer and schedule the first feeding of our roses. Because of the time the distribution of the fertilizer takes we will not have an "early clinic" this month. Don't worry; there will be plenty of time to get all questions answered after the Moe's program on fertilizers and fertilizing.

On the TRS history front we have, this month, reprinted an article from the 1920 American Rose Society Annual. The author was one of the founders of TRS and an early President of the society. I hope you enjoy "hearing from" one of the early rose fanciers in Tacoma.



### **'BELOVED' HYBRID TEA**

**POINT DEFIANCE ROSE GARDEN NEWS.**  
*by Margaret Leisner*

Here we are in the month of April already and that means we are well into the rose year. Tacoma Rose Society members have accomplished much so far in 2010, including the March 6th pruning at the Point Defiance Rose Garden and the annual Garden Sale at the Pagoda in the park. Both were in cooperation with Metro Parks/Tacoma and both were very successful. Many thanks are due to all who volunteered at these events.

The Point Defiance Advisory committee members have been busy too. Using funds from previous garden sales, in February they purchased 62 rose bushes for the Point Defiance Rose Garden from local nurseries and then personally delivered them to the park. Many of these were replacement roses for those already in the garden. This was the case where the plants were weak or diseased, or just worn out having been in the garden for many years.

Several new releases were purchased as well and it will be interesting to see how they do in our Northwest climate. The following are brief descriptions of the new roses we will be able to enjoy in a couple of months: "Colorific" an orange blend floribunda, "Sedona" an orange hybrid tea, "White Licorice" a light yellow and white floribunda, "Beloved" a dark red hybrid tea, "Change of Heart" an orange hybrid tea, "Monkey Business" a light yellow hybrid tea, "Drop Dead Red" a dark red floribunda and "Helen Naude" a creamy white and pink hybrid tea. In addition, the park received ten pink "Home Run" shrubs, a sport of the red Home Runs already in the garden. All of the above have been planted and protected with a layer of mulch.

NOTE: To those who have been asking about the summer deadheading schedule, it will begin on Thursday, June 24th and continue each Thursday afternoon through and including September 9th.

**6TH ANNUAL FREE PLANT EXCHANGE**

**Immanuel Presbyterian Church**  
**May 1, 2010 Saturday**  
**9:30am-1pm**

**Immanuel Presbyterian Church parking lot**  
**Corner of North 9th and I streets**  
**Tacoma, WA 98406**  
**Information: 253-759-9348**

By now the annual FREE Plant Exchange is becoming a familiar name in the Tacoma area and outskirts. It was created in 2005 to save unwanted plants that often found themselves in yard waste containers or the dump. This part day event offers plants, of all kinds, to anyone looking for something to add to their yard and gardens. Whether you bring plants that are no longer wanted, or you just want to find something to take home, here is an opportunity that requires no money, helps keep the oxygen cycle alive in the air we breath, and keeps plants alive for another day.

Do you have questions? Master Gardeners will be on hand to try to provide answers. There will be FREE grocery size bags of Tagro to take home for new plantings and new posters from the Tacoma Conservation Dept.

Other groups exhibiting at the Plant Exchange:

Puget Creek Restoration  
 PNW Neighborhood Guilds

All leftover plants will go to the L'Arche Community.



**'CHANGE OF HEART'**  
**HYBRID TEA**



**'MONKEY BUSINESS'**  
**FLORIBUNDA**

## AN AMATEUR'S ROSE-GARDEN ON PUGET SOUND by James A. Hays, 1920-21 President Tacoma Rose Society

ARS Ed. Note. —Marechal Niel blooming in the open in the northwestern corner of the continental United States! Roses in April and May! We have long heard of the great rose occasions of these favored Pacific Coast cities, but this is the first intimate home-yard story of how a business man and his folks have "rest for the weary and constant delight in a plot of roses." Mr. Hays is the energetic executive of a very live and active rose society. It is to the liberality of the Tacoma Rose Society that the readers of this Annual owe the beautiful Frontispiece showing an average Tacoma rose-garden.

Whether the legendary pruning of his father's cherry tree by little George Washington had anything to do with the selection of February 22 as our annual pruning day, is not certain at this late date. Our garden is not a large one, and therefore each plant is to us an individual; we know what we want from each bush, whether show blooms or quantities of blossoms, and prune accordingly. Large branches that the wind might whip and so injure the whole bush are removed in the fall, but this Washington's Birthday event is the final trimming. When we have finished, the garden doesn't look much like a professional gardener's job—every bush the same height — but it is our garden, and we know it is in the shape that it will give us and our friends the most pleasure.

Although we are so far north, we are not likely to have heavy frosts after February, and the United States Department of Agriculture gives the planting date for all gardens in this region as March 21. Roses, however, can be planted all winter, for the ground is seldom frozen. The roses require no covering or any other preparation for winter; only once in the fifteen years of our garden's existence have the bushes been seriously injured by a freeze, and that came early, while the sap was still up. Frequently, for eighteen or twenty months in succession, and once for thirty-three months in succession, we were able to find roses in bloom every month; not many, nor as wonderful as they are in June, but still roses. In spite of the shading in the Rose Map for only Hybrid Teas, we have proved that every variety will grow here except the Cherokee. Not all do equally well. Marechal Niel needs a protected corner and some coddling, but there are some old and handsome plants hereabout. We do not have heat enough for the American Beauty to reach perfection, but Ulrich Brunner grows gloriously and compensates for that loss. After the roses are pruned and the beds weeded, spaded, and fertilized, we begin to watch for the first blossom. It is apt to surprise us after all our watching, but we usually find it on some of the climbers with which the front of the house is covered, sometimes as early as March 26, but more often early in April. In ordinary seasons, by June 1 the garden is at its loveliest.

Our garden is like the majority of rose-gardens in the Puget Sound cities. We have an ordinary-sized building lot, and the beds are on all sides of the house. In the front yard and in the parking strip in the street, where the house shelters it from the north wind and there is a southern exposure, we have our choicest varieties. "What! Choice roses on your parking strip! Aren't all the blossoms stolen?" Strange as it may seem, the blossoms seldom and the bushes never disappear. Indeed, most of the bushes are so large that anyone would have difficulty in carrying them off. Who would care to struggle with a six-, eight-, or ten-foot high Testout; and even the Teas are too big to carry and conceal. The biggest bush in the yard is a Conrad Ferdinand Meyer, which sends its twenty-foot barbed shoots all over the back porch, but it is almost equaled in size on the opposite side of the house by a Climbing Cecile Brunner with its delicate blossoms and lovely foliage. The growth of both can be characterized by a single word: it is simply riotous!

Tacoma has few large rose-gardens, but it does have thousands of small ones, and hardly a home but has at least a few bushes. In 1911, the Tacoma Rose Society was organized. In the early nineties there had been a few rose carnivals but no show was held until June, 1911, after this organization was formed. That year there were



'DROP DEAD  
RED'  
FLORIBUNDA



'HELEN  
NAUDE'  
HYBRID TEA

thousands of exhibits of Testouts, Druschkis, "Jacks," and La Frances, and it was wonderful to see. The character of the show has gradually changed, and now the annual displays are largely quality shows, although there are still hundreds of exhibits of the old faithfuls. The last exhibition was held in the rose-arbors of Point Defiance Park, and with the rose-gardens in full bloom between them, it attracted thousands of visitors. The show was especially lovely at night, when it was all electrically illuminated. The programs of all these shows have included a few blank pages with the heading "List of roses I want," and the notes made at the shows have done much toward improving the little gardens of the city, because people have learned that it is just as easy to raise good roses as poor ones.

Roses do grow easily here, but there is nevertheless work to be done in a garden. Some years we have to spray for aphids. At other times, the cold water from the garden hose is sufficient to finish our commonest enemy. We have leaf-hoppers. Some bushes will mildew. There are worms which only "hand-picking" will eradicate, but the time spent in fighting pests is compensated for by the perfection of the abundant blossoms. If we were to make a rose-garden calendar it would be something like this. In February we prune; in March we prepare the beds by weeding, spading, and fertilizing; in April we begin to see the results of our labors; and in May and June their full fruition. In July the bushes are pruned slightly after their first blooming and fed, and they continue to reward us always until October and frequently until Thanksgiving and Christmas. All the winter months we read the rose catalogues and decide what we must try the next season. Thus we have, not once but often, completed a full year, wherefore we add our testimony to that of other garden-lovers, that there is rest for the weary and constant delight in a plot of roses, even if it is a very humble one.

Members of the American Rose Society are referred to the interesting announcement of a rose pilgrimage to the Puget Sound Country in the bloomtime of 1922, with opportunity "on the side" for visits to several national parks.

*Ed. Note: The article above first appeared in the 1921 ARS Annual. The article also contained a table listing some roses grown in the Hays' garden along with figures giving bloom production. Most of these varieties are no longer widely grown, but some, like La France, Mme. Caroline Testout, Mme. Melanie Soupert, and Ophelia can still be found when Old Garden Roses are featured.*



**'PINK HOME RUN' SHRUB**

**2010 DUES ARE PAST DUE!  
TACOMA ROSE SOCIETY**

\$15 per member/family/calendar year  
Please send to Barbara Lind, 2132 Bridgeport Way, Tacoma, WA 98466

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**Membership** in the Tacoma Rose Society is open to all. The TRS is a non-profit educational organization affiliated with the American Rose Society. Meetings are the third Thursday of the months of Feb – June and Sept. – Nov. Annual banquet in January with a picnic in August.

**Dues** are \$15 per household per calendar year. Make check payable to the Tacoma Rose Society and send it to the treasurer.

**Website:**

www.tacomarosesociety.org

**Meetings** are held at the Life Manor Activity Center, 1601 S. Union.

To get there from S. Union turn onto S. 15<sup>th</sup> St and go one block east. Turn right onto Puget Sound and go one block. Make a left turn the sign for Life Manor Assisted Living. At the end of the building, turn right, go up the hill and turn left to find visitors' parking. The meeting is in the brick building that faces the parking lot. Open the glass door on the right. Overflow parking is NW of the building.

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