

Queen's Herald



Seattle Sunrise



Crown Princess



Baronne Prevost



Julia Child

UPCOMING EVENTS

February Meeting

Thurs. Feb. 18 7pm
Pt. Defiance/Ruston
Senior Center

Pruning at

Pt. Defiance Rose Garden
Saturday, March 7

Garden Sale

Pt Defiance Pagoda
Setup March 20
Sale March 21

Spring Sale

Pt. Defiance/Rustin
Senior Center
April 11

Pt Defiance Flower & Garden Show

June 6 & 7

TRS Rose Show

June 13 UPS Rotunda



President
Justin Williams-Ruth



Tacoma Rose Society

An Affiliate of the American Rose Society

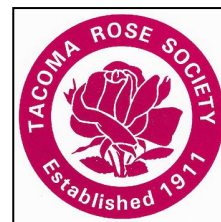
Celebrating 100+ Years of Roses

Recipient of a City of Destiny Award for

Volunteer Work at the Pt. Defiance Rose Garden

**Reminder!!! Our meeting day is now
Wednesday!!! at the
Pt. Defiance/Rustin Senior Center
(see last page for driving directions)**

**FEBRUARY MEETING - Wednesday, Feb 18, 7pm
SPRING PRUNING & PLANTING**



In our February meeting we will be looking forward to spring! After our chance to chat at 6:30, we will start the meeting at 7PM with a Q&A led by Bruce Lind about what to do in your garden this month. Please bring your questions and ideas to share.

Bruce will then share a powerpoint program about spring pruning and planting roses. It is probably too soon to start pruning right now. This program will get us ready for the "hands on" pruning that will take place at the Pt. Defiance Rose Garden on March 7th. And it will get you ready to prune you own roses.

We look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

Zoom invitations for the February meeting

If you would like a Zoom Invitation, please let us know by responding to this email. The success of the Zoom session is entirely dependent on the strength and steadiness of the wi-fi signal at the Pt. Defiance/Ruston Senior Center.

Treats for the February Meeting

If you can, please bring treats for our February Meeting.

Door Prizes for the February Meeting

Teresa Berg is our door prize chair again this year. Please think about something you could bring for the door prize table at the next meeting.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE JUSTIN-WILLIAMS RUTH

Hello friends, and Happy New Year! I'm finally feeling settled into January 2026, and I'm realizing that it will be February by the time you get this message. I'm taking that as a sign that I need to get my calendar in order for the year as soon as I can. Before that, though, I still want to take a quick moment to look back.

I want to give my deepest gratitude to the members of the 2025 TRS Board, with an extra special cheer for Debbie Jackson (our president for the past two years). These folks are some of the most supportive people I've had the pleasure of learning from, whether in the dirt or at our desks. Even in the relatively short time that I have been involved, The Tacoma Rose Society has had to adapt many times and in many ways. The continued flexibility of the board and their drive to ensure that TRS continues to thrive is part of a long history that has led to being oldest continuously running Rose Society in the state of Washington. More importantly – the way they have helped to lead and shape this group over the years has helped to create a beautiful group of friends who I count myself lucky to know.

Now to the present and beyond – 2026 is already up and running! We had a fantastic banquet in January, christening our new meeting location, and announcing our new monthly meeting schedule. **Please be sure to mark your calendars for the Third Wednesday of each month (with a break in July, August, and December) for our monthly member meetings** (don't worry, we'll publish a schedule). Please spread the news far and wide – we have a wonderful new home at the Point Defiance – Ruston Senior Center and are so excited for a bright year in Roses ahead.

We will have plenty more opportunities to get together in the near future, (a sale in March, our annual Spring Pruning at Pt. Defiance, and our monthly meetings) but I want to finish with a direct invitation to come back to the roses. The past few years have seen so many shifts in so many areas. While more gardeners than ever have taken to growing their own beauty, so many of our own Rosarians had to make the responsible decision to step back from attending the regular meetings; life took on a new schedule; priorities shifted as was necessary. The roses have been ready and waiting, looking forward to the day when they can shine, and (if you ask me) they make the perfect backdrop for a day out with friends.

As always – I may be a little slow to respond, but I'm always happy to help. Please don't hesitate to reach out at or in between events. **Cheers to a great new year for the Tacoma Rose Society!**

**ARS BRONZE MEDAL RECIPIENT
TERESA BERG**

Our TRS Annual Banquet was the first event of our Rose Year. It is an afternoon of fun, fellowship, food, and conversation. Starting with some time for socializing, we moved on to food – always a TRS Potluck and an Awards Ceremony, conducted by Jo Martin and Keith Ripley, where we honor and thank a member who has shared their time and talent to provide special service to TRS, its members, and the broader community of Rose Lovers.

This year's recipient of the ARS Bronze Medal for TRS is Teresa Berg.

The things that we thank her for are many. She prunes and deadheads weekly at the Pt. Defiance Rose garden, serves as the TRS liaison to the Pt. Defiance Flower and Garden Festival works at the March Garden Sale at the Pagoda, attends the TRS meetings and arrives early



Some roses, donated by Raft Island Roses, fostered for our Spring Sale.



**Beautiful Day
Hybrid tea, apricot blend**



**Bolero
Floribunda, white**



**ARS Bronze Medal
Teresa & Keith**



Chicago Peace
Hybrid tea, pink blend



Cinco de Mayo
Floribunda, russet



Colorific
Floribunda, orange blend



Crazy Love
Shrub, orange blend

to help set up and stays to help put everything away,
serves in all areas of the TRS Rose Show - setup, entry of roses, clerk/runners,
tear down,

serves on the Pt. Defiance Rose Garden Advisory Committee,
has served as a TRS Board Member and is currently serving as 2nd VP and
Program Chair,

works on the Home and Garden show: booth setup and teardown as well as
multiple shifts in the booth in 2026,

Everything else that benefits the TRS.

Jo always starts the ceremony by reflecting on previous recipients of the
Bronze Medal. **It has become a tradition to share some of the roses given to
each person with John Moe who shares them with members of the TRS
family who have passed on and lay at rest in the Tahoma National Cemetery.**



POINT DEFIANCE ROSE GARDEN NEWS **Keith Ripley, ARS Master Rosarian**

As I write this article, the Pacific Northwest is just coming out of a cold 15 day rainless period. Yet, the temperatures have remained rather mild as compared to the deep freezing snows of the Eastern United States. At this point we are more than half-way through winter and spring is quickly approaching with its warmer weather, which will be just right for our **Annual Spring Pruning Party at the Point Defiance Rose Gardens**. This year the date has been set for **Saturday, March 7th** from 9: AM to noon, come rain or shine.



In this very important TRS event our members work in partnership with Metro Parks and members of the community, so your help is necessary to make this a successful event. Since many of our newest members have not had the opportunity to participate in the annual pruning yet and we all could use a few reminders of how the process goes – I have included some points herein to assist us in our preparation and performance.

First, let us gather and prepare our clothing and tools for success. Plan to dress in layers of warm clothing and perhaps even rain gear. It is far better to have on more clothing than is necessary as you can always adjust your body's temperature by taking off what you have, but you can't put on warmer clothes if they were not brought to the event. The grass is almost always wet to some degree, so please wear boots or old shoes. It is essential to wear good sturdy gloves to protect against sharp rose thorns, which can infect you with bacterial/fungal diseases. Please bring a 5 gallon bucket to gather the clippings. These can be purchased for about \$5.00 at a local big box store. Sharpen and bring a pair of pruners and loppers and perhaps a small garden hand saw. A spray can of Lysol would be helpful, but we will supply orange cans of it so that your instruments can be dipped frequently into the Lysol solution, which will help prevent the spread of Crown Gall – a bacterial disease found in soil.

Next, there is free parking everywhere in the park. Please arrive at the rose garden about 8:45 AM and be ready to receive instructions from Lead Park Horticulturist Steve Herbig. Then Bruce Lind, Master Rosarian will also instruct inexperienced pruners and those needing a refreshing talk on the procedures of pruning roses, which he will demonstrate on some of the roses in a small group. If you are not a member of the TRS or have little rose pruning experience, please let us know and we will pair you with a partner who will be experienced and you can learn together.

When the pruning of each row of rose bushes is completed, a bright piece of colored plastic ribbon will be tied to the bushes at the end of the row so as not to duplicate the pruning.

Lastly, if you have questions about growing roses write them down and bring them with you and the TRS will help you find the right answers. At the end of this event ----you will be surprised at how much you have learned about various aspects of growing and pruning roses.

Experience joy every day. Keith



John Moe presents Keith Ripley with his Master Consulting Rosarian Certificate

**Ask the Consulting Rosarian
John Moe, ARS Master Rosarian**

Q – One of the questions that we received and I'm sure that others at the TRS booth at the Tacoma Home and Garden show did as well was rosarians were concerned about the drastic weather changes we have had recently and the new growth on their bushes. One lady said there was some nice new growth on a few bushes but then we had temperatures in the 20's a couple of weeks ago, in the 40's a week or so later and now with temps in the 50's, she asked "What is this doing to my roses? Will I lose any? Can I start pruning on some of them?"



**'Dee Lish'
Hybrid tea, med pink
Very fragrant**



**'Desmund Tutu
Shrub, medium red**



**'First Prize'
Hybrid Tea, pink blend**



**'Gold Medal'
Grandiflora, med**



'Gourmet Popcorn'
Miniature, white



'Opening Night'
Hybrid Tea, dark red



'Popcorn Drift'
Shrub, light yellow



'Radiant Perfume'
Grandiflora, medium yellow

A – This nice “new growth” you see is from the nutrients that were stored in the canes and with the temperatures we have had the new growth appears, and you also know that we have had a number of nights with freezing temperatures (my coldest has been 21° F). We can have some more very cold weather yet before Spring! Remember – it is still winter for a couple of months! Your rose bushes could be covered with a foot of snow in the next few weeks – only Mother Nature knows! We also know those temperatures damaged this new growth, so just consider this new growth gone and prune like you normally do when it is time. How to tell? Watch a Forsythia bush in your area – once it blooms, the danger of a hard freeze is generally over. Ours typically blooms about the second week of March so I know we have to wait quite a bit! And yes, you might lose a rose or two like many of us. But then it gives you an opportunity to get a new one. Want to know more about pruning? Come to the meeting on the 18th and get ready for the ‘hands on’ portion on March 7th at Pt. Defiance.

Q – Last month you wrote about how to do some winter protection for the roses that I brought home from the auction in November. I did put some mulch on them when I did the rest of my roses so I just moved them to a more sheltered area until I can plant them. I really want to get them into the ground as soon as I can, but you mentioned in your answer to another question that we should not be in such a hurry as we still can have some very cold nights. How long should I wait?

A – And I will say it again - don't be in too much of a hurry! Can't you wait a tad more? We have often said that you could plant a rose if you can dig the hole, but we could still have some harsh winter weather in February. The old groundhog Punxsutawney Phil saw his shadow this morning, so we are due for 6 more weeks of winter even though it doesn't seem like it as I write this. Bruce probably will include some planting tips in his “early bird” talk at our next meeting on the 18th.

Q - When I visited one of our nurseries last year, I noticed that the potted roses had the shank with the bud union situated well above the rim of the container. I didn't need any at the time but will go back there when the new crop is available as I lost a couple last year and the quality of their roses was very good. But when I get around to planting a rose, should I just take it out of the container and, without disturbing the roots, set it in the hole with the bud union at that same height above ground?

A – Thanks for the good question. I'm sure that others have been faced with the same dilemma. Some nurseries pot up their bare root roses so that they don't dry out and die. The shank and bud union are high as they didn't cut the roots to fit it into the container. What I have done when purchasing one of these potted roses early in the season is to take it out of the container and bare root it. I know that some don't do this, but I like to do a good root check and an overnight soak to ensure that all the roots are well hydrated. Cut off any broken pieces and trim off a bit on the tip of each root to stimulate root growth once planted. If the canes are long, reduce them to about 6 to 8 inches so the roots can support the top growth. We are in USDA zone 8 and, when planting, have the bud union at ground level and not several inches above like it was in the temporary container. Then mulch it up around the canes to help prevent drying as more roses die from drying out than poor planting!

**WRITING ROSE ARRANGEMENT
SCHEDULES
FOR ROSE SHOWS**
Jo Martin, ARS Master Consulting Rosarian

The rose arrangement division is frequently the main attraction of a rose show. Its clever theme and resulting





arrangements will intrigue visitors. Writing the schedule is often done by knowledgeable and experienced rose arrangers and judges. The American Rose Society lists several requirements that must be considered by the individual or committee when writing the arrangement schedule. Rules pertinent to entries and space as well as the Scale of Points used by judged must be included. The show schedule should be sent to the District Chairman of Arrangements for approval before printing.

All classes in a rose arrangements division must have a title that fits the theme chosen. The theme should be consistent throughout the division and be broad enough to allow exhibitors to create designs that project the theme while following other class requirements. Tacoma shows have had themes that illustrated Mountains, Oceans, Precious Gems, Holidays, Local Attractions and more. Most shows also have classes for Traditional, Modern, East Asian, Novice and Miniature designs. Some classes have specific requirements while some classes like the Duchess and Duke classes have requirements set by National.

A hard and fast rule is that roses used in the arrangement division must be out-door garden grown roses. Exhibitors who use their own roses may win additional awards. Roses may be borrowed from other rosarians, but roses may not be purchased. The reason for this last rule is that rose shows are educational events that allow the viewing public to learn which roses do well in the local area. This year a committee of 5-6 experienced arrangers and rose judges will make the rose arrangement schedule. Their choice will be presented to the local Board for their approval. Keep tuned for the next Queen's Herald for the 2026 Tacoma Rose Show theme and schedule. Think about entering! It is fun!

Ready, Set, Go!
TRS is Having a Rose Show
Bruce Lind, ARS Master Rosarian

Mark June 13, 2026 on your calendars as the date of the Tacoma Rose Society Rose Show. If it helps you remember, think of the tune "We're Havin' a Heat Wave" and sing (softly or they will think you are crazy!) "We're Havin' a Rose Show, a so-special Rose Show, it isn't Surprising, Excitement is rising, We're Havin' a Rose Show!"

When saving the date, add that the location will once again be the Rotunda on the University of Puget Sound campus in North Tacoma. Thanks to the generous cooperation of the other rose societies with Spring shows, and to Ava Brock we were able to secure Saturday, June 13 on the Puget Sound calendar. There will not be any other PNW District rose shows on June 13, so we hope to draw exhibitors from North of Seattle to South of Portland and



'Rock & Roll'
Grandiflora, red blend



'Sierra Lady'
Floribunda, orange red



'Sky's the Limit'
Climber, med yellow



'Sunsprite'
Floribunda, deep yellow



'Thomas a Becket'
Shrub, med red



'True Inspiration'
Hybrid tea, pink blend



'True Passion'
Hybrid tea, orange red



'Winning Streak'
Floribunda, red blend

perhaps from even farther away.

Apart from 1918, the Tacoma Rose Society has hosted at least one rose show each year since its founding in 1911. 1918 was different because of World War I and the Influenza pandemic. TRS members donated and sold roses in downtown Tacoma to benefit the American Red Cross, supporting an organization that was involved in supporting those in service to our country and also those who provided aid to people who contracted influenza. In 2020 and 2021, also pandemic years, TRS held virtual "Rose Show and Tell" displays that provided the opportunity for members and others to share photos of their roses with visitors to our website. TRS resumed in-person rose shows at the Rotunda at Puget Sound in 2022 - 2025. This makes 2026 the 115th year for a TRS sponsored rose show!

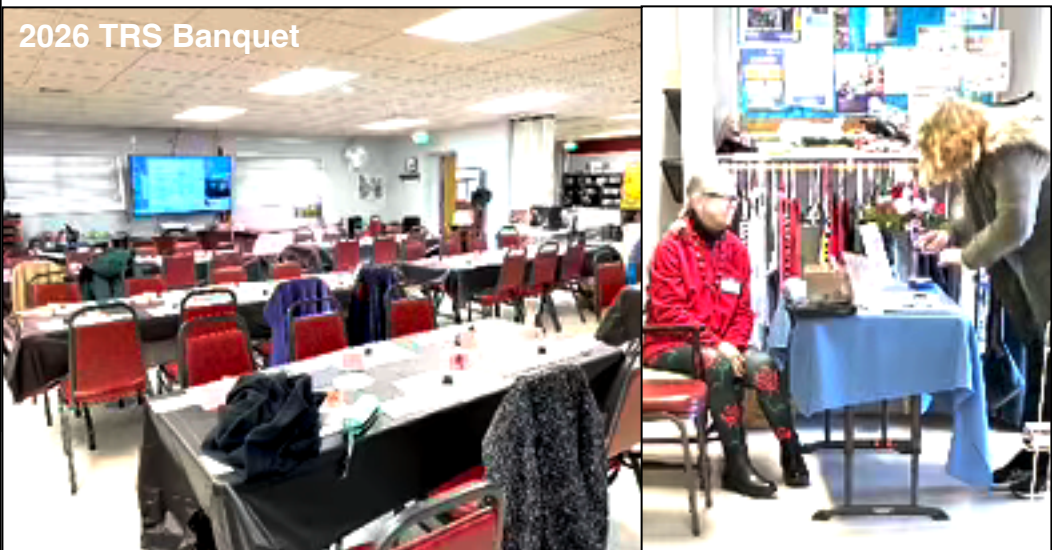
We look forward to another great show in the Rotunda this year. Making this dream come true will be easier if **all of us** commit to helping with the 2026 show in one-way or another (ideally in several ways). **Volunteering** to help with our show is the first step - being a part of the "many hands" group that will make it "light work" for all. The 2026 TRS Rose Show Chair is **1st VP Malcolm Davis, Ava Brock, and Bruce Lind** will work to facilitate the early tasks. Please reach out to any of us to offer your help.

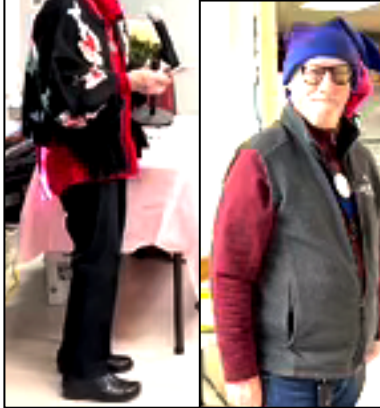
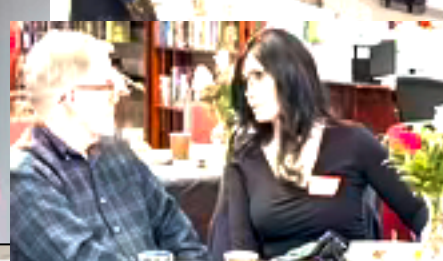
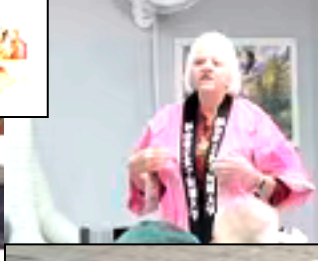
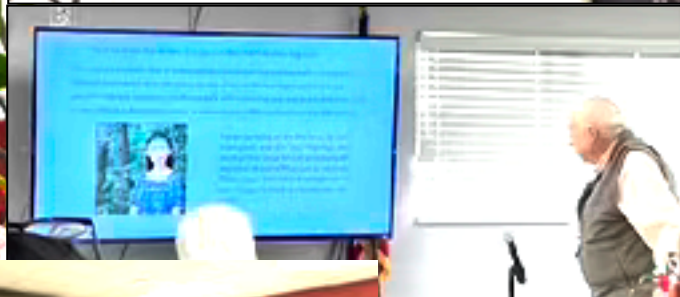
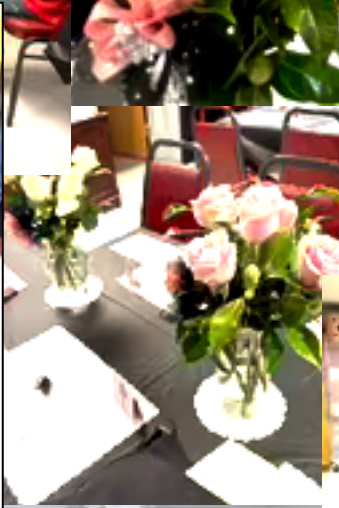
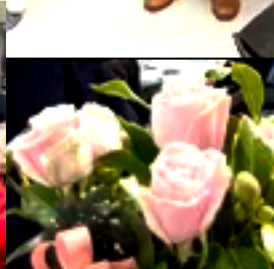
An important next step is following through on a promise to yourself to **share your beautiful roses with all who attend our show**. As always, we will have a "Small Garden" division and also a "Novice" division in the show. These are places for people who have yet to go head-over-heels into growing lots of roses. We can get great pleasure from a small garden (which might be a few roses growing in pots on a patio).

A third step is to **respond to requests for donations to our "trophy fund" and/or to our "rose show venue fund"**. We will discuss these funds at our February TRS meeting. This is the first in a "count-down" series of articles (T minus 5) that will be appearing monthly in the QH. To be sure our roses are ready to grow well and to produce quality blooms to share at the rose show (and for garden beauty all summer!), we need to continue with our extra-special care. Get your garden cleaned up and your pruning gear sharp so you will be ready to take part in the **Spring Pruning of the Pt. Defiance Rose Garden** and your own home garden. We suggest that you wait until the forsythia blooms before pruning at home. If you see any evidence of fungal disease think about starting your regular disease control program right after pruning.

If we all follow the steps mentioned in monthly articles in the Queen's Herald our roses will be ready for the show on June 13.

If you plan to add some new roses to your garden the selection will never be better than it is right now. As John Moe suggests, **buy Number 1 grade rose plants and watch them in a quarantine area for a while before planting**. Some planting tips will be a part of "clinics" at our February and March TRS meetings. **ASK QUESTIONS! Please!**





2026 TACOMA HOME & GARDEN SHOW



Booth Setup Team



TACOMA ROSE SOCIETY - YEAR 2026 DUES

\$20 per member/family/calendar year

Make checks payable to the **Tacoma Rose Society**

Please send to Barbara Lind, 2132 Bridgeport Way, University Place, WA 98466

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Telephone _____ Email address _____

I prefer my newsletter by e-mail (in color!) _____ hard copy _____

Membership in the Tacoma Rose Society is open to all. TRS is a non-profit educational organization affiliated with the American Rose Society.

Meetings: the third Thursday of the months of Feb – June and Sept. – Nov. Annual banquet is in January with a picnic in July/August.

Dues: \$20 per household per calendar year. Check payable to the Tacoma Rose Society.

Website:

www.tacomarosesociety.org

Website Manager: Steve Mitchell
253-459-4116

Social Media

Justin Williams-Ruth
Anna Marie Tallariti
Lori Bier

Meetings are held at
Pt. Defiance/Ruston Senior Center
4716 N. Baltimore Street
Tacoma, WA

Park and enter in the back!

Driving Directions

From Northbound or Southbound I-5
take the Highway 16W Exit (132).
Continue Westbound to Pearl St./Hwy 163
Exit and travel Northbound (right) on Pearl
St (like you were headed to Pt. Defiance
Park). Turn right onto N 46 St. and
then left on N. Baltimore. The Ruston
Senior Center is three blocks (N) on your
left side.

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