

Queen's Herald



Seattle Sunrise



Crown Princess



Baronne Prevost



Julia Child

UPCOMING EVENTS

May Meeting

Wednesday,
May 21, 7pm

Pt. Defiance/Ruston
Senior Center

Pt Defiance Flower & Garden Show

June 6 & 7

TRS Rose Show

UPS Rotunda
June 13

Car Boot Sale

Saturday July 11
Pt. Defiance/Ruston
Senior Center
9am

TRS Picnic August 15

Justin & Brent's Home



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/Ruston Senior Center
(see last page for driving directions)**

MAY MEETING - GETTING READY FOR THE ROSE SHOW

The May TRS meeting on Wednesday May 21st will be our last chance to work together to make sure we are all prepared to do what we can to make sure our 116th TRS Rose Show is a great success! Be sure to attend so you can take part in all of the activities described in Justin's President's message.

Zoom invitations for the May 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 May Meeting

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

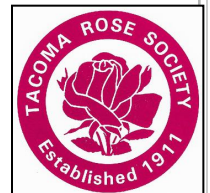
Door Prizes for the May Meeting

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**

I think we've made it! It's officially time for those "May Flowers" that the old poem mentions. I don't know about you all, but I already feel behind on weeding, but I'm getting as many as I can before they go to seed. On the bright side, this gorgeous weather has already brought a couple of roses into bloom in my garden, and the rest are surely not too far behind.

*This May is also a month of getting-ready for much of our group – We will be having a meeting on May 20 (it's a Wednesday) that will focus on getting ready for the rose show we will be holding in June. Let me use this time to encourage you to snip a couple of blooms and bring them to the meeting. We plan to have a *friendly* practice run for the show so that experienced folks can dust off the cobwebs, and newer folks can get some feedback so they know what to expect on the big day. We will be*



featuring photographs (so be sure to print them on 5x7 or 8x10 photo stock) and single stems at our meeting, so there is no need to worry about arrangements, challenge classes, or mechanics. Aside from that – all roses are fair game!

We are also getting ready for the Point Defiance Flower and Garden Festival – this is one of the events that gets the most eyes on our group and the work we do at the Point Defiance Rose Garden. We would absolutely love it if you would be able to offer any assistance that weekend – we will have a booth and will have folks stationed in the rose gardens to act as ambassadors for TRS. Our primary purpose is to put on a happy face and be a friendly introduction to the roses and the rose garden – no need for expertise for this event (If you're new or nervous, we are happy to try and pair you with someone who has already experienced the festival. We will be there all day on both June 6 and 7; however, we have multiple short shifts available for your convenience.

Lastly, we are preparing for more chances to see our friends – If you're looking for rose shows, we have: Fort Vancouver on May 30, Tri-Cities on May 30; Portland on June 4; Tacoma on June 13, and Seattle on June 20.

CELEBRATING 250 YEARS!! JO MARTIN, MASTER ROSARIAN

Our 2026 TRS rose show schedule is completed now and we are using the theme of celebrating 250 years in America with roses. I hope you are as excited as we are! Time to get your schedule and plan some arrangements for the June 13 show!

The Division III – ROSE ARRANGEMENTS will be a historical view of how our beloved roses have been involved throughout this time period. This opportunity does not come around often, so we are so fortunate to be a part of this history.

In years prior to the beginning of our country, the Indigenous peoples were very familiar with how native roses were very useful to them in food, medicine and spiritual rituals. In the PNW particularly, the *Rosa nutkana* rose and the *Rosa gymnocarpa* were particularly useful. Roses, being high in vitamin C, A and E were a boon for their healthful boost.

Be sure to read all parts of Division III. The **Rose Arrangement Rules** are very helpful.

CLASS TITLES – I would like to stress that the class titles are arranged in chronological order and are for informational purposes only. When selecting a class to enter, the exhibitor should read the class requirements and follow them. While it might seem like this is a patriotic show, it is not. It is a record of how roses impacted these years.

NO USE OF AMERICAN OR ANY COUNTRY'S FLAGS IS PERMITTED. This is an ARS rule and is listed on page 9 under Rose Arrangement Rules. Penalty for infringement in this area could take an entry out of the first- place category.

One will find opportunities for entering traditional rose arrangements (line, line-mass, mass); Special ARS awards of Duchess and Duke entries; East Asian Arrangements (water showing and modern free style); Artist (modern styles); Novice class; Personal Adornment. This year it will be a Circlet, a halo of fresh roses to be worn on the head; six classes for Miniature & Miniflora roses and two classes for youth.

I would like to thank the following for their input in this year's schedule: Keith Ripley, Debbie Jackson, Elena Williams, Sally Eastman, Leandra Thorne. I hope you will enter an arrangement or two or three. It is a lot of fun and the viewing public really enjoys this Division. Let's CELEBRATE 250 YEARS OF ROSES!



Some great roses for sale at Raft Island Roses



Ain't She Sweet
Hybrid tea, orange red



All Dressed Up
Grandiflora, med pink



Crimson Cascade
Climber, deep red



Enchanted Peace
Hybrid tea, yellow blend



**Eustacia Vye
Austin, pink blend**



**Francis Meiland
Hybrid tea, light pink**



**Gingersnap
Floribunda, orange blend**



**Golden Opportunity
Climber, deep yellow**

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



Q – It has been a few years since I had my soil tested and added lime to my rose beds so I'm sure that it is quite acidic and really needs lime! Being more of the 'lazy' gardener type can I do both lime and fertilizer at the same time?

A – Before I answer your question directly, let's take a moment and review why we do those tasks. Simply stated, we are fertilizing to enhance or replace the chemical elements taken from the soil and used by the rose. But as for lime, that is a tad different. Lime is usually added to acid soils to increase soil pH, but if we don't know what the pH of our soil is, how do we know if we should add lime, and if so, how much? This is why it is always good to have our soil tested! Our normal pH in this area is about 5.2, which is quite acidic, but if you have done some liming, your soil might be closer to the desired range of 6.0 to 6.5, which is just slightly acidic. If the pH drops back down to the mid 5's, your roses can't adequately absorb well the nutrients, including those provided by your fertilizer -- such as nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium. Lime raises your soil's pH, so those nutrients are available for the plant and not locked up in the soil. Now to answer your question - you can apply both on the same day but I believe it's best to stagger the applications if you can. If you know, or a soil test shows that the pH is too low, go ahead and lime a week or so before fertilizing. If your pH levels regularly stay between 6.0 and 6.5, you don't need to apply lime every spring and fall. My last soil test indicated a pH of 6.4, so I will wait till fall and let it work its way down to the root zone over the winter.

Q – As for the soil test – not only you but others have asked about a good source to have one done. Can you give us the name and place a good source to have one done?

A – Sure can! A very good source is Simply Soil Testing in Burlington, WA. Their website is at <http://www.simplysoiltesting.com/>. At their website you can print out the Soil Submission form that provides the directions for collecting your soil samples and sending them to them. They have a number of soil test options from the basic test at \$24 up to the complete test at \$48 that includes organics and the micronutrients. The basic test includes pH, lime requirement, nitrate nitrogen, potassium, phosphorus, calcium, magnesium, soluble salts and fertilizer recommendations. They mention a 5 business-day turnaround. I have used them and have been very satisfied with their performance.

Q – I know that aphids are often the first pest that we see in the rose bed, and I am wondering what damage do they do, and if I see them how should I get rid of them?

A – The tip of a cane can be totally covered with them, so they are easy to see! They congregate on the new tender growth and flower buds, and suck plant juices from these tender parts, causing leaves and stems to become distorted. As they feed, they excrete a sweet sticky residue (aphid honeydew) that attracts ants. Adult females give live birth to their offspring, up to 15 a day and all female and pregnant so you can see how there can be so many in such a short time! They are fairly easy to control as you can knock them off with a strong jet of water from a hose and, as they cannot fly, they cannot return. If you can, avoid the use of insecticides as it also destroys the predators of the aphid. A few of them include Lady Bugs and their larvae, Lacewing and its larvae, the Hover Fly larvae as well as the Praying Mantis. Get to know them and create a diverse garden with many different kinds of plants that gives the beneficials places to hide and reproduce.

**POINT DEFIANCE ROSE GARDEN NEWS
KEITH RIPLEY, ARS MASTER ROSARIAN**

What a fantastic spring we are having. All the warmth and bright sunlight has caused much of the leaves on the roses at the park to achieve their regular size with darker greens coming out and a plethora of buds everywhere one turns. Several Pope John Paul II buds have already been showing a bit of white. So, we may have an early first flush of blooms in the rose garden.

Once the rose blooms are “spent”—meaning they are no longer pleasant to look at as the petals have turned brownish, start curling and falling off of their peduncles—they need to be removed from the bush. Removing the spent blooms is called “Deadheading”. This is done to help promote more rose buds to form – to promote more visitors’ enjoyment.

The first “Deadheading Session” of the Point Defiance Rose Garden is planned for Wednesday June 3, 2026 from 9:00 AM to about 11:00 AM. This date was chosen to freshen up the Rose Garden three days before the Pt. Defiance Flower and Garden Festival, which is on June 6 and 7, 2026.

After the above Deadheading Session, we will return to our **REGULAR SESSIONS, all of which are on Thursdays throughout the summer months. There are 13 regular Deadheading dates scheduled for 2026, which are: June 18, 25; July 2, 9, 16, 23, & 30; August 6, 13, 20 & 27; Sept 3 & 10. Please highlight these dates on your calendar.**

What follows is a little “Deadheading Refresher” or how the process works if you are new to this community event. Please prepare for success by sharpening your prunes and loppers at home and putting a little machine oil on them. Then, pack up your old garden shoes or boots, a light-weight coat, a wide brimmed hat, a couple bottles of water, a can of Lysol spray, a good creamy sun-blocker, two 5-gallon buckets one for your tools and such and the other to hold rose clippings. Oh, and do not forget a pair of sturdy gloves. Place all of these items in the car.

Then, on Thursdays, plan to arrive at the Rose Garden a little before 4:00 PM and stay until about 6:00 P.M. or until finished. On the days it is expected to be 80 degrees or more we will meet at the Rose Garden by 9:00 A.M. and work until about noon. You will be expected to spray your pruners and loppers with Lysol before starting to work and between sections of rose bushes. This is done to help mitigate the spread of Crown Gall, a bacterial disease that is found in the soil. For anyone not familiar with how to make the cuts for deadheading roses you can be paired with an experienced TRS member volunteer who will teach you what you need to know and you will become an expert by the end of the session. If you need more information or have any questions, please contact Keith Ripley by TEXT with your full name and contact information to 253-224-6755 and I will respond to your message. However, no message no response. Please come and spend a pleasurable morning or afternoon with us and help beautify our community. **We Need You!**

Rose Sale 2.0!

July 11th!

Our remaining “beauties” will be for sale at the
Pt. Defiance-Ruston Senior Center from 9am-2pm!

Hopefully many of these will be in bloom or that we have captured their latest bloom so that you can decide which one you **MUST** have in your garden!

There are a lot of beautiful roses left...

MARK your calendar!!!



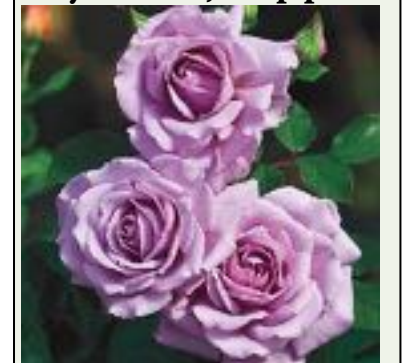
**Heart O Gold
Grandiflora, yellow**



**James L Austin
English, deep pink**



**Lady Aberdeen
Hybrid tea, deep pink**



**Love Song
Floribunda, mauve**

We Are Having A Car Boot Sale!!!
July 11th- from 9am-2pm!
4716 No. Baltimore
(Pt. Defiance-Ruston Senior Center!)

What's a Car Boot Sale???? Well, across the pond, a car boot is the trunk of the car! Our sale will allow 17 TRS members/friends or family members to park their car and sell out of their trunk, back seat or truck bed. ALL FUNDS are to benefit the Tacom Rose Society's Rental fee of the UPS Rotunda for our BEAUTIFUL Annual TRS Rose Show!

We plan a day of "fun"draising, fellowship, and FUN!!!

Here is what YOU need to do if you are interested in those 3 things!

- Email Debbie Jackson or Ava Brock that you want one of 17 parking spots to sell items for the benefit of TRS. (abajackson@outlook.com or abrock8831@gmail.com)

- Price ALL your items with a sticker....from 50c and ABOVE!

- You need to be parked NO LATER than 8:45 as the sale starts at 9am SHARP!

- You can bring a table for your "parking spot" and a pop-up tent...hopefully it is SUNNY and you will just need an umbrella or sunhat!

- You will be provided with sales slips so you can write down what your customer is purchasing...you just need to direct them to the ONE and ONLY Cashier's Tent so that they can pay for their purchases! Just jot your initials or name on the slip if there are ???s!

- You are FREE to bargain with any customer...every little bit HELPS the TRS and it helps you to get rid of your items!

- We will provide 1 empty car for anyone who wants to donate to the cause but doesn't have enough to take one of the 17 spots!

- If you SELL OUT before 2pm...you are FREE to leave...we just need to get you out of there safely!

- At 2pm...everyone packs up their treasures and we all LEAVE!

- We will notify everyone later about the Potluck!

- We are advertising on FB/Instagram/TRS website and FB Garage Sale sites. We will have signs on Ruston Way, near the Center and in local stores. PLEASE spread the word amongst your friends and family members!

- We do have 2 Volunteer time slots if you could come and help with the shoppers... 9:00-11:30 and 11:30-2:00.

- If you have bags, boxes or carts we could use for our shoppers we'd love you to bring them by the sale! See you there!!!!



Nothing But Class
Hybrid tea, pink



Perfume Factory
Hybrid tea, mauve



Purple Aura
Floribunda, mauve



Queen of Elegance
Floribunda, pink blend

Trophy Donation for TRS Rose Show 2026

The Tacoma Rose Society is proud to send every winner home with a trophy. We are seeking suitable prizes for all horticulture and arrangement categories. What makes a good trophy? An elegant crystal vase. A pretty silver dish. A beautiful book on classic garden roses. Or get creative – a gift basket with a vintage teacup and tea bags, or a terracotta pot stuffed with gloves and seed packets. Anything pretty, sparkly, elegant, or rose or garden related will make a fine trophy! We just ask that it be in good presentable condition and clean! It is helpful if trophy donations are securely boxed, and a label with the donor's name and address is included. A label with "Donated by Tacoma Rose Society is appropriate if you wish to be an anonymous donor.

Bring your trophy donations to Tacoma Rose Society monthly meeting on May 20. Or contact Ron Bryan 206-200-6821 (text messages preferred) to make alternative arrangements. Monetary donations to the trophy fund are also welcome and can be given to TRS Treasurer Barbara Lind.

Thank you for your trophy donations – let's have a great show!

OUR ROSE SHOW COUNTDOWN - T MINUS 1 Bruce Lind - ARS Master Rosarian

The 2026 TRS ROSE SHOW is just a bit more than a month away (June 13, 2026). We hope that every TRS member will find the time to support our show. It will be great to feel that you are playing an important role in one of our rose year's main events and WE NEED YOU! Jo Martin, Keith Ripley and several others have proposed "250 Years of Roses in America" as the theme for this year's show. They have created titles for the 20 Classes that comprise the Arrangements Division of our rose show that are very interesting and that teach us many amazing aspects of the use of roses in America since earliest of times. All areas of the show schedule; Horticulture, Arrangements and Photography will be in the rose show schedules we will distribute at our May meeting.

Here are a few suggestions of things that we can do to make sure we, and our roses, are ready for our show.

- 1) Volunteer to help with the show. We will be circulating clip boards for the various jobs that need to be done on Friday, June 12 and Saturday, June 13, so please sign up early as a volunteer for one or more of these vital jobs.
- 2) We had a great time pruning the Pt. Defiance Rose Garden at the Garden Sale. Let's replicate that great sense of accomplishment by continuing to volunteer as we get ready for our 2026 Rose Show.
- 3) Read Jo Martin's articles in this and earlier issues of the Queen's Herald, to learn the life-skill of creating Floral Designs to share with others. Learn from Jo about all the styles of arrangements and to see examples of containers that you have (or might find at a thrift store) for a Traditional, Modern, or East Asian Arrangement (all these styles of arrangements will be in our 2026 rose show schedule).
- 4) While you are out searching for rose arrangement containers keep an eye out for something that might make a good trophy (award) and let Ron Bryan know you have something to contribute. If you prefer, a monetary donation is also great.
- 5) Plan to save any "garage sale" items you have and donate them for the July "Bootsale" Fundraiser for our 2026 rose show will be held on July 11 at the Point Defiance/Ruston Senior Center. Ava Brock and Debbie Jackson are organizing this event and have shared information in **this issue of the Queen's Herald**.

THANK YOU TO RAFT ISLAND ROSES

Barbara and I just made a trip to Raft Island Roses to buy some hanging baskets and tomato plants. Mike Gatto showed us around and we were amazed at the impressive variety of plants available at the RIR Nursery. The huge number of great rose plants of all the best varieties available for our climate are a sight to behold. His hanging baskets are incredible! Please make a trip to RIR to buy some plants and to



Rosemary Harkness
Hybrid tea, orange pink



South Africa
Grandiflora, deep yellow



Summer Romance
Floribunda, med pink

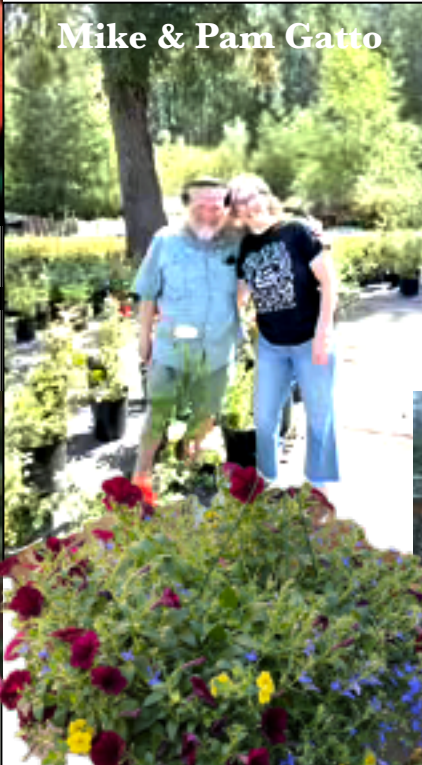


The Alnwick Rose
English, pink blend

say **THANK YOU** to Mike for all he has done to keep the Tacoma Rose Society financially healthy. RIR is a great friend to TRS and deserves the support of each one of us! BnB (The hanging basket we bought is pictured just beneath Mike & Pam's photo. It is gorgeous!)



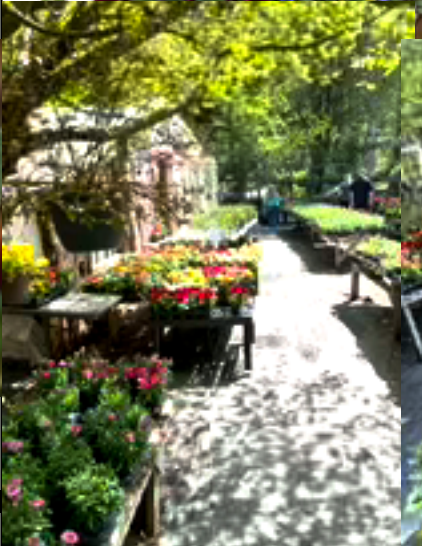
Voodoo
Hybrid tea, orange blend



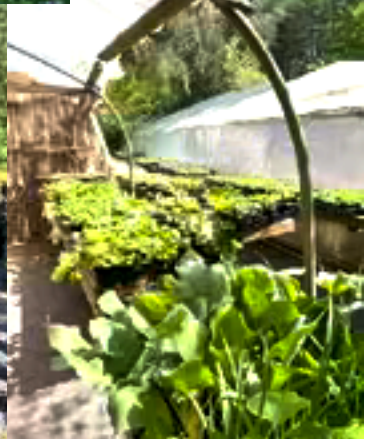
Chicago Peace
Hybrid tea, pink blend



Sheila's Perfume
Floribunda, yellow blend



Gemini
Hybrid tea, pink blend



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 **Wednesday** 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
Parking on both sides of the building

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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(* = Master Rosarian)

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University Place

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