

Queen's Herald



Seattle Sunrise



Crown Princess Margareta



Baronne Prevost



Julia Child

UPCOMING EVENTS

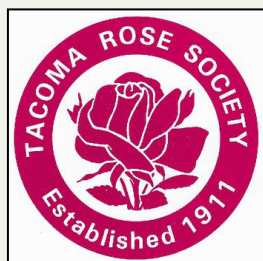
October TRS Meeting
Wednesday, Oct. 21

TRS Board Meeting
Monday, October 26

PNWD Fall Conference
Friday October 23
6pm - 10:30 pm
Saturday, October 24
8:30 am - 5pm



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



OCTOBER MEETING, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 7PM

"Winterizing Your Roses"

John Moe, ARS Master Rosarian

With our cooler weather and rain, it really feels like fall. It is time for us to think about getting our roses ready for winter. John Moe will take us through the things we can do to give our roses the best chance to be ready to perform again next year. John is a great speaker who is ready to answer all your rose related questions.

Bruce Lind's early clinic will talk about the timing, reasons and techniques used in fall pruning. Who knows, maybe a video of the proper (or improper) use of a hedge pruner for fall rose pruning may make an appearance.

We look forward to seeing YOU at the meeting.

Zoom invitations for the October 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. We will do the best with what we have..

Treats for the October Meeting

Please bring something to share at the meeting.

Pay your 2026 dues if you have forgotten to do so.

Consider donating any roses you have propagated or roses that you have decided you can live without (so you can make room for new ones!) to the **Annual TRS Rose Auction**...our main fundraiser. Funds raised during this Auction will help us to secure the beautiful University of Puget Sound Rotunda building for our June Rose Show.

The date of the Auction is November 18th! More information will be on the website, Facebook, Instagram and in the November QH!

Consider volunteering to assist during the set-up or tear down or during the Auction.....the more hands we have the faster and easier the Auction will go for everyone.

Consider COMING to the Annual TRS Rose Auction and bidding on a rose (or more) that you want/need in your rose garden!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Justin Williams-Ruth

"I'm so glad we live in a place where there are Octobers."

We have finally entered into the shoulder season – the time when we are at that lovely transition between Summer Sun on full blast, and Autumn's wet chill urging us inside to where it's cozy. We're also at that time where I start puttering around the garden after finally feeling caught-up on the big tasks. For the first time in forever, I feel like I can get on top of the chores whenever I have a little bit of time. I won't say I'm asking for more to do, but I'm just on the edge of antsy as I think how fun another big project would be.

We're also at the time when it feels like we can finally catch-up with the people we've missed over Summer. After a great September meeting where I got to see faces I hadn't seen for what felt like months, and a few very successful shows at the Washington State Fair, life seems to be settling in to the calm of Fall (that is... until the Winter Holidays come up and whip everything into a frenzy again).

Our October meeting will be focused on reminding us all what is prudent to prepare our garden for the freeze and thaw cycles that will come our way. John Moe and Bruce Lind have helped me in more ways than I can name, and they will be sharing best practices for winterizing and the reasons behind them. I just said how fun another big project would be, but now that I'm thinking about a light fall pruning, I think I might be ready to procrastinate again.

Later – in November we will be holding our annual Rose Auction. This is a great opportunity to nab hard-to-find roses, bulk up your collection, try something new, and have a little competitive fun. As always, we strongly welcome folks who are not yet officially part of TRS – bring your family, bring your friends, and make sure they bring their wallets. We always have a great array of snacks to keep folks' blood sugar up for the excitement – feel free to bring some goodies to share if you are so inclined.

Finally – as I'm getting a chance to reflect on Summer now that it has passed, I just want to give a quick thank you to every person reading this. You are what makes the Tacoma Rose Society special, and I cannot imagine a better group of people. Thank you for helping to support and grow the group through the years, and for helping me to continue to grow as a Rosarian. See you soon!

Ask the Consulting Rosarian

John Moe, ARS Master Rosarian

Q – I remember hearing you say that, when discussing fall pruning, you have used a hedge trimmer to cut them down. Really? Were you serious or just joking? If you were serious and used a hedge trimmer, wouldn't it do some damage to the canes?

A – Yes, I was serious and not joking! If you come to the meeting, Bruce will show us his video of pruning roses with a hedge trimmer so you can see how easy it is. If there were just a small number of roses, our pruners and a lopper would do the job quickly but when there are a couple hundred or more in the ground, using a hedge trimmer is a time saver. Just take a moment and think about what we are doing at this time of year when we cut our roses down a third or so. Basically we want to shorten



**Blackspot resistant
roses**



**Baby Love
Miniature
Dark yellow**



**Brite Eyes
Climber
Pink blend**



**Carefree Beauty
Shrub
Medium pink**



George Vancouver
Shrub
Medium red



Hansa
Hybrid Rugosa
Medium red



Honeybee
Miniflora
Orange blend

them some so that the winter winds do not rock them back and forth and break some of the tender feeding roots that are near the surface. We are not deadheading, just whacking them down! And no, we are not damaging the canes – they will grow back nicely. In the spring is when we get down on our knees and get them ready for the new growing season. We will be discussing winterizing at the meeting, so hope to see you there with your questions.

Q – The last soil pH test I had indicated a very acidic soil, 5.4 or so as I recall. It was suggested then that I apply some lime at the time, which I did, and again in the fall last year. Now that it is fall and we are supposed to have some nice weather coming, can I do that liming now or do I need to wait and do it later when I do my fall pruning and mulching?

A – Sounds like you are looking for something to do now! You can lime any time, and with a soil pH that low it will take a few applications to get it up into a more desirable range. What you might consider if you really want to work, is to get a head start on digging any weeds out before you lime, thus making the beds a lot cleaner when it comes time to mulch. The lime that we add to reduce the acidity moves rather slowly, so adding it now will let it break down over the winter and help adjust the pH closer to the 6.0 – 6.5 in the root zone before next season's growth. So to answer your question, if you have the time and want to lime now go ahead and then have another pH check in the spring and see where you are. Fall and winter rains tend to leach nutrients out of the soil leaving us a more acidic soil. This leaching occurs all winter.

Q – Fall pruning is one task that I really don't look forward to! There is a lot of nice healthy top growth that I hope will make it thru the winter. Do I really need to prune this much now, as I know that I am going to prune in the spring? Is this really necessary, as it looks like a lot of work?

A – I agree, it is a lot of work, but all this new top growth will be lost anyway to winter dieback. We had a long growing season this year, and a lot of bushes grew quite tall, so what we should do now is to cut those bushes down by at least one third. I have some that are well over six feet! Don't worry about the five-leaflet leaf or an outward eye – just whack them down! The main objective is to shorten them so they will not rock back and forth with the winter winds that can loosen the soil around the base and break roots. We have used a hedge trimmer like I mentioned above, which really cuts down on the time and effort. There will be some dieback regardless of what we do, which we take care of in the spring when we cut down to good wood and are concerned about the bud eyes, etc. We will write about this and have a spring pruning program probably next February.

FUN MAKING EBONY ROSE PETAL BEADS - Jo Martin, ARS Master Rosarian

Thought you might like to try this recipe to make your own necklace. Rose beads last a very long time. Pictures show my last necklace made in 1988 with rose petals from our garden. Still has a slight fragrance of roses. I store it in a metal container.

Ebony rose beads were popular in Victorian times. Some stories circulate that brides sent their wedding bouquets to convents where the roses were made into beaded rosaries. In that way, the bridal roses became a part of her daily devotion and life. A true story tells about one woman who



made beads, using an old hatpin, and put as many beads as the pin would hold. Her granddaughter is now wearing those beads, more than 65 years later and they still have a faint rose fragrance and a memory of Grandma.

With time and patience, ebony rose beads can be made at home. There are a number of recipes and the following is the one that works for me. For a necklace that slips over the head without need of a clasp, about 40-45 medium-sized rose blooms are needed. The more fragrant the roses are the better. I use a manual food grinder and a cast iron pot or skillet. This will turn the pulp black, after repeated grindings. The rose pulp will become a black putty and will smell quite fruity and pungent. The pulp putty can be stored in refrigerator between grindings.

When ready to form the beads, assemble the following: several layers of newspaper for the workspace, paper toweling to remove excess moisture, heavy green florist wire (#18-20) cut into 3-4" lengths, a block of Styrofoam, a melon baller and a pair of latex gloves to protect hands from black stain.

Use the melon baller to get uniform quantities for the beads. Press excess moisture using the paper toweling. Roll into balls in the palm of your hand. Carefully insert a wire into the center of each bead. Set to dry on a piece of Styrofoam for about a week in a warm place. Turn beads occasionally so the hole remains open. When dried, the beads will shrink by ½.

To string the ebony rose beads, use button, carpet thread or monofilament fishline to string the beads. Elasticized thread might work, too. Pearl, silver or gold beads interspersed work well. Secure knots carefully. A touch of rose oil (Casswell-Massey is nice) to each bead will add a lasting fragrance. Best stored in a lidded metal container. What a lovely gift for a rosarian to give a friend as a lasting memory from your rose garden!

Jo Martin, ARS Master Rosarian



**Knock Out
Shrub
Red blend**



**Lemon Fizz
Shrub
Medium yellow**



**Love and Peace
Hybrid tea
Yellow blend**

September Meeting Highlights - Bruce Lind, ARS Master Rosarian

In my opinion, the September TRS Meeting was amazing! Many of you stepped up and brought roses to share with us. Others described how their roses did this year and suggested some of their favorites that we should think about fitting into our rose gardens. There were a lot of laughs, some great commentary by our



Ramblin' Red
Climber
Medium red



Sexy REXY
Floribunda
Medium pink



Surrey
Shrub
Light pink



Sunsprite
Floribunda
Deep Yellow

rose "road show" panel of experts (all those in attendance), and some discussions about what everyone would like to have as a program for October.

The subjects most often mentioned were prepping the rose garden for the coming winter and fall pruning. Our featured speaker in October will be John Moe. John's program will, in the main, focus on what needs to be done in our gardens to make them as ready as possible for winter. The early clinic will devote time to the timing of and the reasons for and techniques used in fall pruning. Who knows, maybe a video of the proper (or improper) use of a hedge pruner for fall rose pruning may make an appearance.

The September meeting was so much fun. Let's all do what we can to see if the October meeting can be even better!

I hope to see all of you at the Pt. Defiance Ruston Senior Center on Wednesday, October 21st. I know that together we can rise to the challenge!



TRS
September
Meeting





2026 FAIR ROSE SHOWS	First Show	Second Show	Third Show
AWARDS	9/6/26	9/13/26	9/20/26
Best in Show - Hybrid Tea	Karen Madsen	Karen Madsen	Brian Fredette
	Marilyn Monroe	Sheila Magic	Paradise
2nd Best Hybrid Tea	Karen Madsen	Karen Madsen	Caroline Fredette
	Savoy Hotel	Savoy Hotel	New Zealand
Best in Show - Floribunda	Brian Fredette	Karen Madsen	Brian Fredette
	Easy Living	Lavender Veranda	Livin' Easy
2nd Best Floribunda	Karen Madsen	Teresa Berg	Not Awarded
	Dick Clark	Chihuly	
Best in Show - Shrub,	Elena Williams	Ava Brock	Karen Madsen
Polyantha,OGR	China Doll	Crystal Fairy	Emma G
2nd Best Shrub,	Elena Williams	Karen Madsen	Not Awarded
Polyantha,OGR	Sceptered Isle	Green Rose	
Best in Show - Miniature	Caroline Fredette	Jerry Kaija	Caroline Fredette
	Irresistible	Pierine	Alysheba
2nd Best Miniature	Karen Madsen	Jerry Kaija	Caroline Fredette
	Sweet Revenge	Memphis King	Baby Love
Best in Show - 3 Minis	John Moe	Jerry Kaija	Angela Taylor
	Seattle Sunrise	Kristin	Rainbow Blaze
2nd Best 3 Minis	Angela Taylor	Karen Madsen	Not Awarded
	Rainbow Sunblaze	Sweet Revenge	
Best in Show - Miniflora	Karen & Greg Madsen	Caroline Fredette	Karen Madsen
	Brenna Bosch	Maroon Eight	Amy Grant
2nd Best Miniflora	Elena Williams	Caroline Fredette	Caroline Fredette
	Mango Blush	Lynn	Seattle Sunrise
Best in Show - Novice	Karen Crane	Beverly Payne	Paul Wulfestieg
	Love Song	Crescendo	Tuscan Sun

2026 Third Fair Rose Show



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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Jo Martin 253-752-5857

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