

THE

# ROSE ELLE



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Number 8

Patsy Williams, Editor

August 2012

## This Month's Meeting

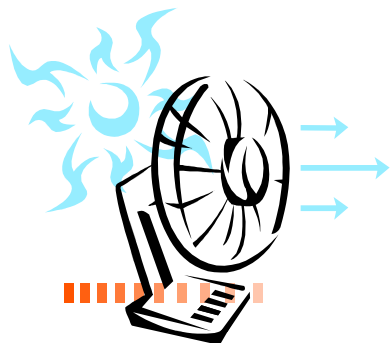
Thursday  
August 9, 2012

### Disease-Free Roses Tyler Francis

7:30 pm  
Garden Center  
Hermann Park

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**Keep Cool**

## Disease-Free Roses

We are privileged this month to hear **Tyler Francis** discuss the latest developments in the production of disease-free rose varieties. Tyler Francis is the owner of Francis Roses and is currently the youngest professional rose grower in the United States. In 1989, Michael Francis founded Francis Roses on a 10 acre plot in the West Valley of Phoenix, AZ, yielding 200,000 plants in his first crop. Today, Francis Roses farms a 2,000 acre ranch and produces over 4.5 million bare root rose bushes annually in addition to alfalfa, cotton, barley, potatoes, sorghum.

Tyler earned a Bachelor of Science from the University of Arizona and a Masters of Applied Economics from Southern Methodist University. In Dallas, Tyler taught Financial Economics at SMU and worked as a consultant for Watson & Wyatt, one of the World's largest financial consultants.

In his third year as a grower, Tyler has utilized his business background to imprint major changes to the Arizona rose industry. He has designed the first ever underground drip irrigation system for roses in Arizona and has implemented more sustainable precision farming techniques in moves to make his farm "green". Over the last two years, Tyler enthusiastically sought out breeders, curators and rose enthusiasts in a quest to find rose varieties that are no-spray, disease resistant, beautiful, and easy to grow, in order to achieve his goal of bringing the rose back to American gardens. Tyler lives in Phoenix with his wife, Meredith, and their two sons, Jake (2) and Andrew (3 months).

**Grand Prix Continues:** Bring your blooms to enter into the competition.

**Consulting Rosarian for August is Donald Burger.** Bring your rose growing questions.

**Feature of the Month: Arrangement:** A Standard or Miniature arrangement. Names of roses and type of arrangement (Line, Mass, Abstract, Moribana, etc.) must be on entry tag.

**Roses on Parade** - Bring roses to share.

# What Good Rosarians Are Doing in August

What a difference a couple of weeks make. We were having triple digit temperatures when the weather changed and the rain came our way. Granted, some got much more than they needed while others have really enjoyed the rains.

Note: If you were in one of the flooded areas or just got too much rain, and plants are showing signs of wilt, it might be time to get out your spading fork or anything that will polk holes in the bed and poke a number of holes around each plant. Plants need oxygen, and too much water can waterlog the bed to the point that the plants can't "breathe" any more.

Also, soil gets compacted when humus is used up and becomes sticky. When this happens, the oxygen in the soil is easily blocked.

Don't get a false sense of security. We will have to begin to water again. The soils will dry out fast.

**Spray.** We have had a week of rain. Constant moisture on foliage has been perfect conditions for blackspot. Spray now for blackspot. With blackspot present, it will be necessary to spray with your preventive spray and combine it with Mancozeb. Mancozeb will help to kill the blackspot while your preventive spray will protect the new growth. Spray every 5 to 7 days until there is no more blackspot. When plants are clean, drop the Mancozeb and only spray with your preventive spray. Keep your plants healthy.

## Smaller Blooms

Blooms are smaller at this time of year through no fault of your own. When temperatures are high, blooms will open prematurely and do not have time to develop into larger blooms. They will get larger in the fall when temperatures are lower.

## Spider Mites

Watch your plants for spider mites during hot weather. If they are present, get out a high pressure sprayer and spray the undersides of the leaves every other day for a week. The life cycle should be interrupted by then. They have to be on the plant to reproduce. Plants can be

defoliated almost over night. Watch your plants.

## Keep Your Garden Clean

A clean garden has fewer problems than a garden full of weeds. Weeds and dead leaves are places for insects to hide and multiply.

## Fall Pruning

Fall pruning is different from spring pruning. You do not cut canes as far back as you do in the spring. The time for fall pruning is the last week in August through the first week in September. Your last granular fertilizer application will also be at that time. More about this next month.

## Spray Insects Only When Necessary

If they are not doing a lot of damage, why not leave them alone? More good bugs will appear and they will take care of some of the bad bugs.

## Product sale coming - plan ahead!

Reminder: Check products that you have on hand to see what you will be needing for next year. You can save money by buying ahead. The order will be in next month's newsletter.



## Kroger Neighbor to Neighbor Program

Please take this barcode the next time that you go to Kroger and ask the cashier to scan it along with your Kroger card. We must re-enroll each year. We thank you for helping the Houston Rose Society, and hope that you will again connect your card to HRS. Only one organization can be linked to a card. Yes, we have to sign up every year. Their program runs from July 1, 2012 to April 30, 2013.

More information can be found on our website [www.houstonrose.org](http://www.houstonrose.org).

HOUSTON ROSE SOCIETY





## President's Corner

Liz Duhon  
[elisabethduhon@yahoo.com](mailto:elisabethduhon@yahoo.com)

On behalf of the Board and members, I want to give a special thanks to RCW Nursery, Nature's Way Resources, The Arbor Gate, Wabash Antiques and Feed, Nitro-Phos, Enchanted Gardens, and our HRS Librarian, Denise, for presenting at our July Ice Cream Social. Our members appreciate the numerous donations for door prizes. We had a great time, even with the low turnout due to Houston's heavy rain that day. I also want to thank Steve Graham and Dan Lawlor for bringing blooms from their garden to share with us.

August is a good time to keep our plants healthy to produce beautiful Fall blooms. Even with all of the rain Houston has received this year, two to three inches of water each week is important for new growth. Also, feeding your roses with organics such as alfalfa tea can be a big boost, as well as grooming your roses to remove spent blooms and twiggy growth.

I recently learned that the Houston Federation of Garden Clubs (HFGC) will be hosting two meetings at the Garden Center on August 15<sup>th</sup> to discuss plans for our new building. These meetings will be open to all members of the twenty-three organizations that comprise HFGC. Please watch the HRS website and your email for more details regarding these meetings.

We hope to see you at the August HRS and/or HGFC Meetings!

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## Rose of the Month

### 'Sun Flare'

by Robin Hough

The rose for August is a beautiful lemon-yellow floribunda called 'Sun Flare.' Hybridized by the great William Warriner and introduced by Jackson & Perkins in 1981, 'Sun Flare' is a cross of 'Sunsprite' (another wonderful yellow floribunda) and an unnamed seedling, and has the high rating of 8.3 in the ARS Handbook for Selecting Roses.



This rose has glossy, dark green foliage with good disease resistance and grows to 3 or 4 feet tall by 3 feet wide. Our summer heat doesn't seem to bother it. The fully double blooms (20 to 25 petals) come in small clusters and have a light licorice fragrance. And the blooms come and come all during the growing season. This 1983 AARS winner also won the Portland Gold Medal in 1985. I first began growing it shortly thereafter and have mine planted next to its parent, 'Sunsprite.' The family that grows together shows together!

If you're looking for a good yellow rose to brighten up your garden, give 'Sun Flare' a try. I bet you'll be glad you did.





## HRS Library Corner

by Denise Mallett

If you had the opportunity to design and create a new garden or extend your present one, what would you like it be. . . a seaside garden with salt tolerant roses, ornamental grasses and flowers . . . a cottage garden in an informal English style . . . a garden designed to attract hummingbirds and butterflies? All these ideas and many more are discussed in *Gardening with Roses: Designing with Easy-Care Climbers, Ramblers & Shrubs* by Judith C. McKeon.

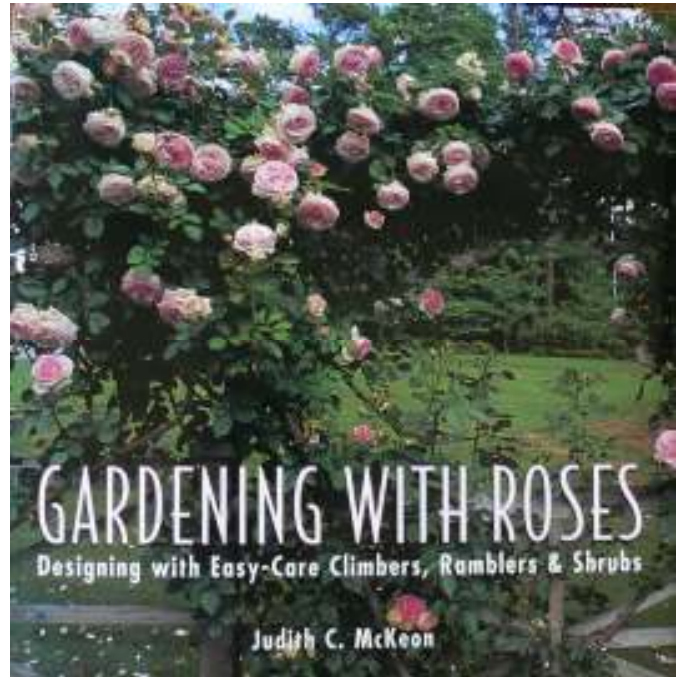
The author leads the reader from rose selection according to their specific location (including advice about roses for light shade) to planting and caring for the roses and companion plants. A focus on care-free roses is presented. Some EarthKind cultivars are mentioned, but many more are not. There's even a list of 'Disease-Resistant Large-Flowered Hybrid Tea Roses.' However, with the exception of miniature roses, Ms. McKeon strikes me as spending a lot more time discussing old garden roses than modern roses regarding carefree gardening. She also gives quite concise, yet thorough, directions about propagating and hybridizing roses. The author even offers a recipe for homemade fertilizer.

I found Ms. McKeon's suggestions on companion plants very interesting. She uses the elements of form, color and blooming cycles to design landscapes. Not only are the companion plants those that 'get along' with roses, but also their color and blooming cycles complement them in a sometimes striking and other times elegant or subtle way.

The 15 garden landscaping designs are very imaginative and can be used step-by-step or by simply incorporating ideas to your own tastes and needs. Some plans are as practical as a kitchen garden with herbs, 'Thai hot' peppers and scarlet runner beans or an entry or doorway garden. Other plans are for specific locations, including the city garden, finding beauty in tight spaces; a patio garden where planters can be moved according to which plants are in bloom; and a rock wall garden, set off by cascades of roses and perennials. Other gardens that may inspire the soul are the children's garden with miniature roses and fuzzy, bright and scented plants, and an 18<sup>th</sup> century country garden.



Each design concept includes an illustration, plant list and 'design basics' to help place and select plants. The 150 photographs are amazing (in one photo taken in the children's garden, a climbing miniature rose planted around a bird bath appears as if Tinker Bell just flew by). The book is a delight to read and help you discover how you can make your garden dreams come to life.



# What a Great Meeting!

by Baxter Williams, Program Chairman

Even with weather forecasters telling us about what happened and what *could happen*, water already on the ground didn't deter either our vendors or our members, who already knew that we don't cancel membership meetings, **especially the ones with ice cream!** And those who braved the lousy weather predictions by the predictors of impending doom (when I hear someone saying "There is a 30-percent chance for showers", I think "There is a 70-percent chance that we will have bright sunshine!") were treated to great presentations and wonderful door prizes. **Thank you to all our vendors for their generosity!**



**The Arbor Gate**, Beverly Welch and Kennan Williamson, provided gift bags including a Tyler Candle and a \$25-dollar Gift Certificate, won by Margit Buchman, Denise Henry and Patsy Williams.



**Nature's Way Resources**, John Ferguson, donated 3/8-inch Compost won by Kate Kelly and Denise Mallett, Rose Soil won by Bertha Goode and Mary Fulgham, and an "Organic Management for Professionals" book (written by NWR Owner John Ferguson) won by Emma Stratton.



**Enchanted Gardens**, Denise Henry and Oscar Lopez, provided \$25-dollar Gift Certificates won by Sara Diaz and Victor Murillo.



**Nitro-Phos**, Ed McKinley, donated a 2-lb Rose Fertilizer won by Elizabeth Ruthven, Barnel Pruners won by Addie Smith, Green Light Rose Defense won by Ivy Keen, Bonide Rose RX won by Steve Graham, Carl Pool Instant Rose Food won by Randy Keen, and Bionic Gloves won by Archie Buchman.





**R-C-W Nurseries**, Patty Banzhof, Mary and Keleigh Cummings, donated Thinning Shears won by Mary Bahn, a \$25-dollar Gift Certificate won by Gaye Hammond, a Reed Diffuser (mosquito repellent on a stick) won by Ralph Twiss, a Problem Solver book won by Doug Holley, a Davis Hill Weather Stick (weather predictor) won by Penny Pressler, and a Butterfly Guide won by Manel Perera.



**Wabash Antiques & Feed Store**, Emma Stratton, donated a 1-lb jar of Garden Oaks Honey won by Al Renfro, a 4-lb Rabbit Hill Rose Food won by Maria Trevino, and a 3-qt Rabbit Hill Seed Starter Mix won by Geneva Fulgham.

(Note: You can see these photos in full color on our website.)

## HRS Ice Cream Social



**HRS Ice Cream table**, Donald Burger



Some of the goodies



**HRS Library Book Sale**, Maria Trevino

# Society Potpourri

## LAST MONTH'S MEETING

There is nothing like a threat of a flood. We are thankful for those who braved the weather to attend the meeting..

Thanks to the following members, in alphabetical order, who helped on Thursday evening: Mary Bahn, Donald Burger, Rene'e Cummins, Elisabeth Duhon, Gaye Hammond, Doug Holley, Susan Kelly, Dan Lawlor, Denise Mallett, Addie Smith, and Maria Trevino. A special thank you to our vendors. See pictures and write-ups on vendors on pages 5-6.

## Roses In Review

Take this opportunity to fill out the Roses In Review forms in the July/August issue of the *American Rose* magazine, or go online to [www.ars.org](http://www.ars.org), look under News and click on the first item, 2012 Roses in Review, or to our website [www.houstonrose.org](http://www.houstonrose.org) and look for a hot button to the ARS web site. Your input is greatly needed, but only on the roses on the list which you currently grow. It is fast and easy on the ARS website. Won't you please take the time to evaluate those that you currently grow on the list? The roses are listed on the website. Robin Hough is our RIR Coordinator. His phone number is 281-482-8944.

## HRS Events Calendar

Mark your calendar - updates made monthly

- Aug 9**     **■HRS Meeting - Tyler Francis - Disease Resistant Varieties**
- Aug 15     **■HFGC meeting with Presidents and interested members at Houston Garden Center 2pm**
- Sep 13     **■HRS Meeting - Jeffrey Ware - Your Own Rose Society, ARS, ARC**
- Sep 27-30 **■ARS Fall Convention and Rose Show. San Ramon, CA**
- Oct 11     **■HRS Meeting - James Laperouse - Big and Tall: Hybrid Teas**
- Oct 12-13 **■South Central District Convention, Oklahoma City, OK**
- Nov 8     **■HRS Meeting - Tommy Hebert - A rash of Color: Floribundas**

For more information on any of these events, call Patsy or Baxter at 713-944-3437.

## 2013 Nominating Committee

It's that time of year again. The Nominating Committee has been appointed and are hard at work to fill the slate of officers for 2013. If you have an interest in serving as an officer or on a committee, please call the Chair and discuss the possibilities.

Donald Burger, Chairman 713-861-5412  
Renee Cummins 281-409-2466  
Gaye Hammond 281-458-6116  
Denise Mallott 832-289-9565  
Ralph Twiss 281-242-8613

**NOTICE:** The Hermann Park Conservancy has raised funds "to re-do the gardens" of the Houston Garden Center, and now wishes to raise funds (estimated to be approx. \$5 million) to rebuild the actual Garden Center building. Deana Roberts, President of the Houston Federation of Garden Clubs, has put together a "meeting to form a grass roots planning session" at two times on Wednesday, August 15 -- 2:00 pm, and again at 7:00 pm -- and is asking for your attendance and participation. We have held our regular membership meetings at the HGC for approximately 50 years and certainly have an interest in this property, so it makes good sense for us to become knowledgeable about its future. Make plans to attend one meeting or the other.

## 2012 HRS Officers

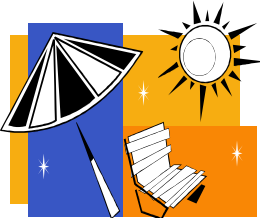
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Mailed July 25, 2012

HRS web address: <http://www.houstonrose.org>

SCD web address: <http://www.arsscd.org>

♥ ♥ Editor - **THE ROSE-ETTE** ♥ ♥  
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**THE HOUSTON ROSE SOCIETY** is a non-profit educational organization affiliated with The American Rose Society and dedicated to the cultivation of roses in the Houston area.

**MEMBERSHIP is \$15.00 per calendar year, Electronic only \$12.00**

January thru December. Mail membership dues to:

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**NOTE:**

**Send address changes to this address.**  
HRS mails bulk-rate and **it is NOT forwarded.**

### Call a Consulting Rosarian

These Rosarians welcome your rose questions.

Donald Burger / Maria Trevino	Heights	713-861-5412
Denise Cope	SW	713-771-4841
Manning Correia	Wdlns	281-465-0180
Elisabeth Duhon	N	713-855-8447
♦ Mary Fulgham / Randy Keen	Bel	713-668-4054
William Groth	SW	713-728-1854
Gaye Hammond	NE	281-458-6116
♦ Robin Hough	SE	281-482-8944
John Jons	SE	281-794-2998
♦ Earl / ♦ Deanna Krause	SE	281-487-3347
James Laperouse	NW	281-746-2842
Shirley Morgan	W	713-463-6719
John Patterson	Bry/CS	979-690-9630
♦ Baxter / ♦ Patsy Williams	S	713-944-3437

♦ Master Rosarians

Randall's Remarkable Card for HRS, # 5928



this month" during the month that we are in currently | English contemporary dictionary. Good This Month - GTM " A limit order to buy or sell a security that remains in effect until the end of the month in which it was issued. Beijing This Month" (BTM) is a free monthly English language magazine, published in Beijing by the Beijing Foreign Cultural Exchanges Centre in association with the Beijing City Government. HistoryThe magazine s first issue appeared in 1994.CirculationNon audited, | Wikipedia. Public static bool IsCurrentWeek(this DateTime dt) { var f = DateTimeFormatInfo.CurrentInfo; var c = f.Calendar; var givenWeek = c.GetWeekOfYear(dt, f.CalendarWeekRule, f.FirstDayOfWeek); var givenYear = c.GetYear(dt); var thisWeek = c.GetWeekOfYear(DateTime.Now, f.CalendarWeekRule, f.FirstDayOfWeek); var thisYear = c.GetYear(DateTime.Now); return thisWeek == givenWeek && thisYear == givenYear; }. It answers the question "When is it?" with "It is this month.". I might also think of it as "It is occurring (or happening) this month.". The choice of "in" for the blank would be understood, but it sounds strange. It might answer a question like "What holiday is in this month?", but that's a less common question to be asked.