

# Friends of the San Jose Rose Garden

*"America's Best Rose Garden"*

Issue 31

April 2016

## Deadheading Seminar and Volunteer Day May 7th, 9am

Join us, May 7th, the day before Mother's Day, as we show you how to get the most out of your roses. We will demonstrate the proper techniques to deadhead roses, and keep them blooming throughout the season. We will use these techniques to get the Garden in tip-top shape for the busiest day of the year - **Mother's Day.**



Since the mid-1930's, the San Jose Municipal Rose Garden was the place to take Mom on her special day. We want to make sure the Garden is looking in "tip-top" shape for all the "Mom's" that come out. In addition, there will be a food truck available for after the event, so you can relax and have a nice lunch in the Garden!



[www.facebook.com/FriendsoftheSanJoseRoseGarden](http://www.facebook.com/FriendsoftheSanJoseRoseGarden)

**Friends of the San Jose Rose Garden** is a non-profit 501(c)(3) all volunteer group dedicated to preserving the Historic San Jose Municipal Rose Garden





# We Set A Record!

Every year we work very hard to get as many people out to the Rose Garden Annual Pruning. Seems a lot of people like to get training on how to properly prune their roses. Of course, it helps bring people out when Star Roses gives a free bare root rose to every volunteer that arrived! In the past, we've had several hundred and have pruned the Garden typically in a little over 90 minutes.

This year we had over 600 volunteers attend this year and we pruned the Garden in just 70 minutes! A new record! It was so fast, we were finished before the food trucks arrives. If you'd like to see a video of the event you can go to:  
<https://youtu.be/YytiDLxgtmY>





# ROSE CARE SEMINAR

& Volunteer Day  
@ the Rose Garden  
Sat, May 7th - 9:00 a.m.!



## LET'S GET THE GARDEN IN SHAPE FOR MOTHER'S DAY!

Learn Rose Care from the Experts at  
"America's Best Rose Garden" with Hands-on Tutorials

Bring clipping shears, wear long sleeves & gloves.  
Go to [www.FriendsSJRosegarden.org](http://www.FriendsSJRosegarden.org) for more info



Sat. May 7th 9:00 a.m., Naglee and Dana Ave.

Sponsored by the Friends of the San Jose Rose Garden and the City of San Jose's PRNS





STROKE AWARENESS FOUNDATION  
**FIGHT STROKE  
WALK**  
2016

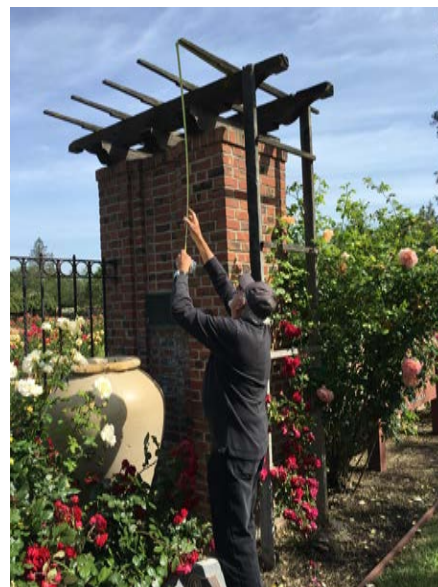
The Friends of the San Jose Rose Garden is once again partnering with the **Stroke Awareness Foundation** for their 5th Annual Fight Stroke Walk to celebrate Stroke Awareness Month. This 5K walk at the San Jose Municipal Rose Garden will be a fun and inspiring event that spans generations and brings together friends, family, caregivers and stroke survivors. It will take place on Sunday, May 15th from 9-12:30pm. So far hundreds have signed up for the event. There will be a band playing on the stage to entertain the guests. SO even if you are not participating, stop by to learn more about The Stroke Awareness Foundation, how to spot signs of a stroke, and enjoy the Garden! For more information about the Stroke Awareness Foundation and the upcoming walk, visit [www.StrokeInfo.org](http://www.StrokeInfo.org)



## Trellis Renovation Project

Councilmember Pierluigi Oliverio recognizes the value of the Rose Garden to the City of San Jose. It's been a focal point for San Jose since the mid 1930's and has had its ups and downs. Much of the trellis work has deteriorated and work has begun to replace it with new material.

Plans are being drawn up to take care of "refreshing" these features. Stay tuned, we hope to get everything done before the end of this year!





# Aphids and Ladybugs

Right now you should see a lot of healthy, new growth on your roses. It is possible you may also find some critters feasting on this new growth. Usually these little green insects will be aphids and can do a great deal of damage.

One of the easiest methods of getting rid of aphids is just taking a hose and carefully spraying them off. It's good enough to knock them to the ground. Aphids are poor climbers. You can also just squish them between your fingers, or flick them off. I can imagine hearing their screams as they fly through the air!

We haven't had much aphid infestation in the Garden over the years. We are quite fortunate. Just a block away, I've seen roses in front yards covered with the little buggers.

It may be because we are proactive in our methods. We tend to release lady bugs every month during the growing season. It's a great organic way to control aphids. There is nothing ladybugs like more than a gourmet dinner of aphids! YUM! These beneficial insects have an inexhaustible appetite. We get our ladybugs from High Sierra Ladybugs ([www.highsierraladybugs.com/](http://www.highsierraladybugs.com/)). You can easily purchase some for your Garden at a very reasonable price - 3000 for \$27 - shipping included! That's less than a penny a ladybug!

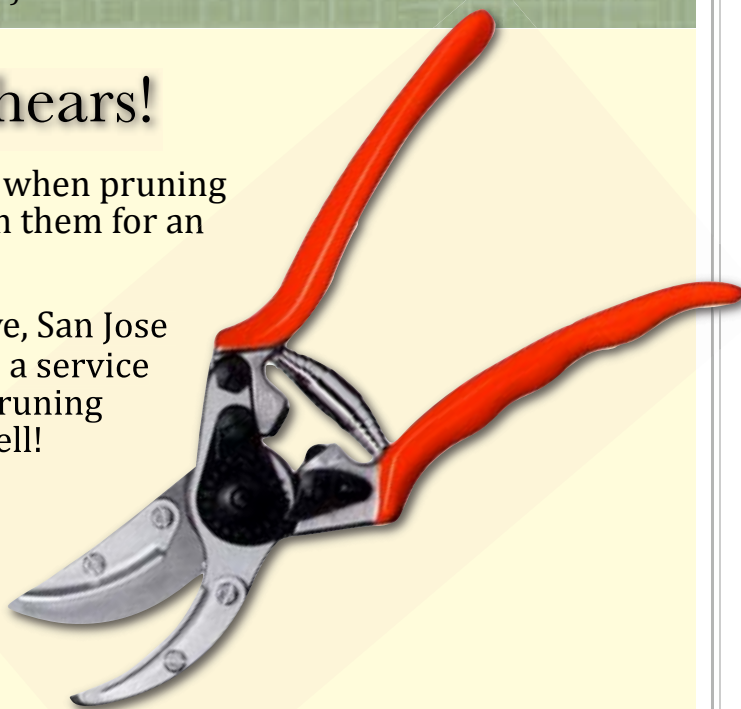
So do what we do, and get some ladybugs, and let them know the Friends of the San Jose Rose Garden sent you - they might throw in a few extra ladybugs. ;-)



## Sharpen your Pruning Shears!

Having **SHARP** clippers are very important when pruning roses. Here is a local place that will sharpen them for an unbelievable price!

**Orchard Supply Hardware:** - 377 Royal Ave, San Jose  
Phone: 408-297-7173 As you enter, there is a service area on the right. They will sharpen your pruning shears in a flash! And for a great price as well!





# Pizza is the Key to our Master Volunteer Program



Along with the 4 large, well attended community volunteer days, our Master Volunteer Program is vital to the success of the Rose Garden. After Councilmember Pierluigi Oliverio got the union rules changed to allow “public/private” partnerships in the City Parks, the Master Volunteer Program became a reality. Our Master Volunteers are trained in our special techniques, and have the ability to come into the Garden and volunteer on their own time. On any given day, you will see these green vested champions. Not only do they help keep the roses blooming, they serve as ambassadors, answering many questions visitors may have, and receiving oodles of gratitude from the visitors. Each year, we train dozens of new Master Volunteers. It usually takes about 1.5 hours for the training. After the training, they are free to come and volunteer on their own time. After 5 hours, they become “vested”. But what’s the deal about pizza? Well, in my years, I have learned that pizza is a great unifier. So 9 years ago, I approached Bryan Garrett, owner of Cafe Rosalena and Rosie’s New York Pizza, among other ventures. Bryan is a longtime friend and lives just one block from the Garden. He certainly remembers when the Garden was in bad shape. Bryan let me know that he would support our efforts, and the **Pizza Work Party** concept was born. As a Master Volunteer, you will get emails letting you know to come out on a specific night for a work party, or rose care seminar, and celebrate with some of Rosie’s New York Pizza and their famous salads. It’s not unusual to have 20 Master Volunteers show up. If you have the chance, stop by Rosie’s and let them know you appreciate their support of “America’s Best Rose Garden”.



Before implementing the Pizza Work Parties



After implementing the Pizza Work Parties



Pizza Work Party!



# A New “Name this Rose”!

Last year, we introduced the “Name this Rose” competition. We planted a bed of 70 bushes of a variety hybridized by Christian Bédard, of Weeks Roses, and allowed visitors to the Garden to suggest names. The name decided upon was “Violet’s Pride”, which was revealed in the last newsletter.

The “Name this Rose” competition was so popular, Christian Bédard and Weeks Roses have provided us another new rose, to be introduced in 2018, for our visitors to suggest names. The new bed is located near the front of the main gates of the Garden. We grew this rose in the test beds, so we know it’s a real beauty.

I put the sign up promoting the “Name this Rose” competition well before the rose even bloomed. Which led me to this fun story: The same day I put up the sign, my iPhone buzzed letting me know I had an email entry with a suggested name. I thought to myself, how on earth could someone suggest a name on a rose that had not even bloomed yet? Since it asks why they have suggested the name, I was quite interested to see what they had to say. Often, they tie in the color, or style of the rose in suggesting a name, so I was quite curious. So I quickly looked at the email and you know what name they suggested? “Robin Williams”.

That stuck me as quite odd, until I read the answer to the question “Why have you chosen this name?”. Here’s his answer, “I loved him as a performer. And since you never knew what you were going to get from him, I think the rose we cannot see yet fits that mold.” I smiled so big when I read this. I called the person who suggested this name, and let him know what a hoot it was.

While I’m not sure that name will be selected, I hope you will come and take a close look at this new rose to be introduced in 2018, and suggest a name. Special thanks to Christian Bédard, and Weeks Roses for offering us this wonderful opportunity.



Jean and Harry



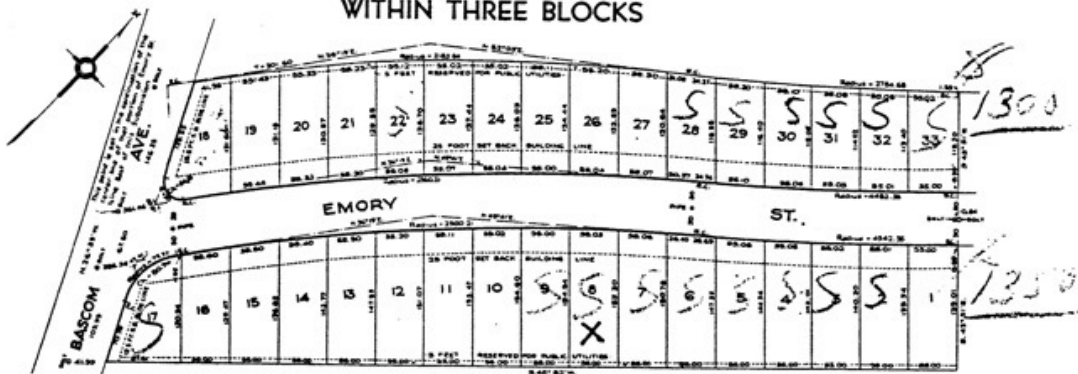
# Do **YOU** live in "The Rose Garden"?

This advertisement is said to be from the late 1930's. It offers lots one block from the then, "new" Rose Garden for \$1,300 - \$1,350, an ungodly amount of money back then! Even back then, the Rose Garden Neighborhood was "the" place to live.

## The Popular *New* Residential District **ROSE PARK**

UNIT NUMBER ONE

Educational Facilities from Kindergarten through High School  
WITHIN THREE BLOCKS



ALL IMPROVEMENTS INCLUDED IN PURCHASE PRICE.

The tract is permanently restricted but open to the average citizen who wants a moderate price home. All home sites have a frontage of 55 feet. Everything for a new start in life . . . for a home of your own . . . for real happiness . . . for profits that go to you . . . for unbelievable values and terms.

**RABING REALTY**  
DEVELOPERS

1235 THE ALAMEDA

BALLARD 517







A Rose Garden supporter sent this photo taken of the Garden mid April. What a wonderful shot of such a wonderful Rose Garden. There is no doubt this is "America's Best Rose Garden". Special thanks to Rich F. who sent this photo to our Facebook account. "Like" us on Facebook at: [www.facebook.com/FriendsoftheSanJoseRoseGarden](https://www.facebook.com/FriendsoftheSanJoseRoseGarden)

## Master Volunteer Training

If you would like to be part of the Master Volunteer Team, please let us know! We have trainings throughout the season, and if you would like to come and volunteer at the Garden on your own time, and participate in our "special events" (did I mention Pizza?), please sign up at: [www.friendssjrosegarden.org/master-volunteers/](http://www.friendssjrosegarden.org/master-volunteers/) We often have other special events, like tickets to Sharks Games, and Concert Tickets! This is your opportunity to give back to the community that you love!

Here's a few people from our most recent training session!

