

Friends of the San Jose Rose Garden

Issue 17



"America's Best Rose Garden"

Sept. 2011



"WEED" NEED YOU!

The weekend of Sept. 11th is designated as National Day of Service and Remembrance. The Friends of the San Jose Rose Garden is recognizing this with a day devoted to bringing the Rose Garden back to life!

As fall arrives, the roses need to be deadheaded and weeds need to be pulled. We will begin the day with a fall rose tutorial, showing you how to get the most out of your roses and you can practice at the Garden. But we are desperately in need of help weeding and mulching the beds. WEED NEED YOU to help out.

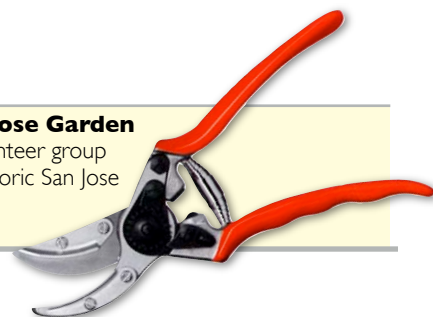
These are not your Mother's weeds, the ones I recall pulling as a kid. They were tough, and you would have to dig them up with a tool. OUR weeds are easy to pull up, by hand, thanks to the generous amount of mulch in the beds. You will see the benefits of mulch! So join us at 9:00 a.m. Sept. 10 at the Garden. Bring gloves and pruning shears if you have them.

**SAVE THE DATE:
SEPT. 10TH
9:00 A.M.**

Founders Beverly Rose
Hopper & Terry Reilly



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



New Sundial

For years, the sundial on the Emory Side of the Garden had been broken. The original sundial and pedestal was donated in memory of Mrs. George Carson. Though the pedestal remained, the sundial had been replaced several times since its installation in the '30's.

The city recently replaced the sundial, and within a week, the gnomon was broken off. The gnomon is the piece that sticks up and provides the shadow (learned something huh?).

Not giving up, we've put in a new style sundial, that is well, more vandal proof, and some would say, more stylish. The sun shines through the numbers, and the number in the center is the time.

The next time you are in the Garden, stop by and see the new sundial!



Doggie Waste Bags

The city of San Jose eliminated dog waste bags in parks for the 2011/2012 budget year to help balance the 115 million dollar budget deficit. The city was paying approximately \$60,000 citywide.

The receptacles had been empty since July 1st, and people were noticing an increase

in, well, dog poop. I received an e-mail from a local resident and dog enthusiasts, Betty and Jack Rosa who wanted to donate some funds to stock the bags. With this initial \$200 donation, the FSJRG contacted several suppliers and formed a relationship with EcoGreen™ Pet Pouch Bags (www.ecogreennow.com/petpouch.html) which provided bulk pricing and donated new receptacles.

Councilmember Pierluigi Oliverio, recognizing that many other parks are in the need of bags, and that local residents would be willing to donate to receive them provided an additional \$1,000 so we could stock bags and provide them to these groups. No need to reinvent the wheel.

In addition, we are working with the San Jose Parks Foundation for them to roll out and facilitate the program citywide.

Garden in 3rd Bloom Cycle

Bloom Cycles - what are they? Well everyone knows how beautiful the first flush of blooms are in April and May. The roses have stored up lot of energy over the winter and push out new growth in the spring. What results is the best blooms of the season. But at the Rose Garden, we try hard to keep the garden in constant bloom.

As you know, after a bloom is finished, we deadhead.

This causes a new growth and new blooms to emerge. In about 45 days a new bloom will emerge (your mileage may vary, refer to your rose owners manual!). Then, after that bloom is finished, it is deadheaded again, and so on.

In the Rose Garden, it is not unusual for us to get 5 bloom cycles before winter pruning. You can see the "cycles" by looking at some of the stems. They look like

steps. As you know, we like to cut to an outside leaf, to direct the growth in an organized manner.

In this picture, you will see where the January cut was, the 1st deadheading, and the second deadheading, and now it is ready for its third bloom cycle. So take a look at your roses at home, or those in the Garden and see if you can see how many bloom cycles have been produced. - Terry Reilly



Meet the Volunteers:

By Myles Tobin

Director of Friends of the San Jose Rose Garden

On almost any day of the week you will find four or more of the over 200 Master Volunteers of the Friends of the San Jose Rose Garden working in the Garden. They will be weeding, mulching and raking, as well as deadheading.

Planting bed maintenance is crucial for the creation of the abundance of blooms you see in this Garden today. Ninety percent of what happens on the top (blooms) is what is done at the ground level.

Volunteers are not just pulling weeds they are removing the competition that will take water and nutrients from the rose plants. They aren't just throwing dirt on the beds they are adding

a nutrient rich environment for the plants to feed from throughout the season.

Raking leaves removes hiding places for insects and snails while combating molds and bad bacteria. Oh, it makes it look so good after it is done too.

Then when the blooms come, deadheading is needed. It's a lot of hard work but the outcome is that volunteers are saving the Garden every day they come to work in it.

Thanks to you the Garden is looking so wonderful. I would like you to meet two such volunteers and read their stories of what led them to be Master Volunteers. See you in the Garden! - *Myles Tobin*

Sherry Baham Master Volunteer

I am currently on a leave of absence from my job as a sixth grade history teacher in order to pursue my interest in horticulture. I have been a teacher for twelve years. I am pursuing my interest in horticulture by paying attention to my own Garden at home, volunteering at the San Jose Municipal Rose Garden, and attending classes at Foothill Community College through their Horticulture and Environmental Design program.

Why the Rose Garden?

I have always loved roses, so when I had the opportunity to redesign a portion of our yard at home I knew I wanted to include roses. I've stumbled my way through the first few years of the care for my roses, but have reached a point where I felt I needed more guidance in order to become more effective. What better place to start learning more information than America's Best Rose Garden?

In January 2011 my birthday request was to participate in the January Pruning Event at the Rose Garden. My husband and I left wanting more! My next step was to attend the Master Volunteer training with Myles. While attending my first horticulture class at Foothill, I was informed that one of the requirements was experience outside of the classroom setting within the horticulture community. The Rose Garden seemed a perfect fit! I'd already been trained and had earned my green vest, it provided flexibility in scheduling, a beautiful setting, and friendly co-volunteers. I can earn the hours required by my class and have a great time doing it. I also knew that there would be volunteers available to answer my questions and help me learn more about rose care.



Master Volunteer Sherry Baham

David Larson, Master Volunteer

I have always found the Garden a great place to work and recharge. I learned the importance of tending to plants in the Garden from my Mom. She always encouraged me to be ready to weed and prune so that plants in our yard were healthy and vibrant. My mother-in-law was the one that taught me to do the work needed in season so that the flowers could flourish. Planting, weeding, fertilizing, and pruning were all done with great care and passion because of the expectation of great beauty when the flowers bloomed. We lived close to one another and spent time in each other's gardens tending the roses, dahlias, iris, and other flowers.

My wife Felicia and I first volunteered at the Municipal Rose Garden in November 2009 through an organization called Beautiful Day, which encourages people in faith community to seek ways to serve in their neighborhoods. We enjoyed the passion and vision that the Friends of the San Jose Rose Garden had for the Rose Garden and the ease with which they engaged hundreds of volunteers. We had such a good time we came back in January for the pruning event and then we decided to go through the Master Volunteer training.



Master Volunteer David Larson

Volunteering in the Rose Garden has been a great way to build closeness into our marriage. We have some of our best conversations while we are working on opposite sides of a rose bed, weeding or deadheading. It's a time for us when life slows down and we get to spend it together. At the end of the day we also get to look back with a sense of accomplishment, knowing that our efforts make a difference.

I like working in the Rose Garden because it allows me to be more reflective. As a pastor at a church in West San Jose, I tend to talk to people all week long. My time in the Rose Garden gives me a quiet space in a busy world. While I enjoy all aspects of gardening, I spend most of my time weeding. I know that a healthy rose will produce beautiful flowers so I try to keep after those pesky weeds.

In a garden the size of the Municipal Rose Garden, there is no way that one person can do it all. I love that caring for the Rose Garden is a collaboration between the City and the volunteers. We all bring our different gifts and talents to the Garden. Some of us weed, others deadhead, some talk to visitors, while others train volunteers. It's 200 plus volunteers following their passions, and the end result is a Rose Garden that is a jewel for our city. I'm blessed to be a part of it.

Rose, White and Blue Parade



On July 4th, several Master Volunteers participated in the annual "Rose, White and Blue" parade. Fifteen of us came in force with our shovels, wheel barrels, rakes, and roses. Many parade watchers cheered and let us know how much they appreciate the efforts of our group.

After the parade, we had a booth which provided information about our group, signed up new volunteers and sold some roses. There were many questions on rose care, and many people just stopped by to thank us for our efforts. Special thanks to Rizalino Sevilla for his assistance in staffing the booth till the very end.

Queen Elizabeth Dethroned!

Every year, we evaluate the roses growing in the Garden for disease resistance, health, and bloom production. We do this to identify those beds that should be pulled and replaced with more hearty varieties. There is no reason to keep poor performing roses when the same amount of love, care and water can produce beds filled with healthy roses and hundreds of blooms.

As an example, Queen Elizabeth is being dethroned (ripped up) and replaced with something new. Queen Elizabeth, introduced in 1954 was a popular rose in its time, though it hasn't been in the Garden since that time. It was planted about a decade or so ago. Queen Elizabeth is very prone to disease, and usually filled with mildew. Not a fitting sight for a Queen.

Fountain Update



Councilmember Pierluigi Oliverio with new sign

Signs recognizing the generous donations from Google Employees, Kaiser Foundation & Councilmember Pierluigi Oliverio have been placed on the fountain. Their donations will continue to fund the fountain for a little over a year.

Master Volunteer Road Trip

On August 4th, 25 Master Volunteers had a tour of Tom Liggett's Rose Nursery and Propagation facility, located in Willow Glen. Tom is the "founder" of the Heritage Rose Garden, located just down the street from the Municipal Rose Garden. Our Master Volunteers were shown how roses are budded onto root stock. They also were able to see Tom's extensive collection of miniature roses, which he is growing to put into the Heritage Rose Garden. There

were also some impressive 10" pillars roses. Tom is also active in helping to restore the Morcom Rose Garden in Oakland. The Master Volunteers all had a great time, and learned quite a bit. Many thanks to Tom for his hospitality.



2012 AARS Winner!

The great thing about being an All-America Rose Selections (AARS) accredited Garden is the ability to grow the AARS winners prior to official announcement. By doing so, the roses will be in bloom when the official announcement has been made. Although you cannot purchase them until 2012, this gives you a chance to see how they perform in San Jose.

This year, one variety was selected as worthy of the coveted AARS award. Topping the charts with fantastic bloom production and great vigor, the 2012 winner is sure to brighten any Garden. A Grandiflora, Sunshine Daydream embodies both great flower color and foliage – with light yellow flowers finishing cream yellow. Its cuplike petals offer the perfect backdrop to its dark green, glossy foliage. Featuring great disease resistance, Sunshine Daydream will appeal to all Gardeners and rose enthusiasts. Round, bushy and blooming continuously from spring to early frost. The rose was bred by Meiland International and introduced by Conard Pyle/Star Roses.

Sunshine Daydream is located in a large bed on the East side of the walkway, near the main entrance. Come take a look the next time you are in the Garden.



Volunteer T-Shirts

We have just a few of our stylish T-Shirts left. Designed and made by Francisco Cervantes, owner of GraphiXStitch, located at 74 Race Street, to help us celebrate winning "America's Best Rose Garden", designed a T-shirt for the Friends of the San Jose Rose Garden.

You can order a shirt by going to:

www.FriendsSJRoseGarden.org/Order_tshirt.htm

GraphiXStitch has taken care of all our banners, signs, vests, and printing needs. They can be reached at (408) 298-2828 or on the website, www.graphixstitch.com



"WEED" NEED YOU!

@ THE ROSE GARDEN

Sept. 10th, 9:00 a.m.



**JOIN US FOR A
NATIONAL DAY
OF SERVICE AND
REMEMBRANCE.**

**GET TIPS ON HOW
TO KEEP YOUR
ROSES LOOKING
BEAUTIFUL
THROUGH FALL,
AND HELP KEEP
THE GARDEN**

"WEED" NEED YOU! "AMERICA'S BEST!"

**BRING GLOVES
AND GARDEN
CLIPPERS!
SEPT. 10,
9A.M.**



*Friends of the
San Jose*



Rose Garden



**SPONSORED BY THE FRIENDS OF THE SAN JOSE ROSE
GARDEN AND THE CITY OF SAN JOSE'S PARKS, RECREATION
& N'HOOD SERVICES**

FOR MORE INFORMATION, GO TO WWW.FRIENDSSJROSEGARDEN.ORG

