

Friends of the San Jose Rose Garden

"America's Best Rose Garden"

Issue 21

July 2013

Rose Garden Hall of Fame Award

(From the City of San José's
Press Release)

The San José
Municipal Rose
Garden received the
"Great Rosarians of
the World" (GROW)
Hall of Fame Award on Saturday, June 1, in New
York City.



The prestigious award is given annually during GROW's Lecture Series to promote a wider public knowledge and appreciation of treasured botanical gardens. The San José Rose Garden was recognized for its outstanding design, impressive collection, broad display of roses, the promotion of rose growing, and its volunteer and educational outreach program.

San José joins an illustrious list of GROW Hall of Fame Awardees that include the Peggy Rockefeller Rose Garden at the New York Botanical Garden; Mottisfont Abbey Rose Garden in Hampshire, UK; David Austin Rose Garden in Albrighton, UK; and the San José Heritage Rose Garden.

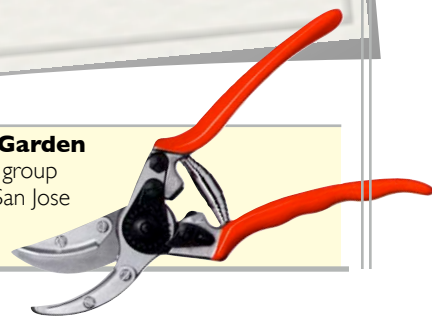


SAVE THE DATE!!
Summer Rose Care Seminar
July 20, 8:00AM
(note earlier time)
Ice Cream provided after the event!



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



100 Hour Volunteer



Jorja Kelsey became a Master Volunteer less than a year ago, and has already racked up up 153 hours volunteering (as of press time) at the Rose Garden. Known for her “sunny” disposition, she is seen here with Mike Will from the City of San José’s Parks, Recreation, and Neighborhood Services receiving her 100 Hour commendation, presented by Councilmember Pierluigi Oliverio.

What’s in a Name?

While many would say the late Julia Child is an internationally known chef and author, she might not be famous enough in Australia or the UK to have a rose named after her. One of the most spectacular beds in the Rose Garden contains about sixty bushes of Julia Child. The first bloom of this bed has been featured in many stunning photographs.

The rose, hybridized by Tom Carruth (seen here), was introduced to the US market as “Julia Child” in 2006. But it is sold in the UK as “Absolutely Fabulous” and Australia as “Soul Mate”. While it may have a different name, there is no denying this is one great rose.



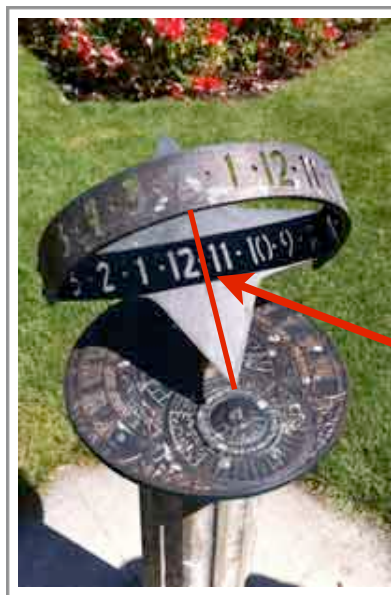
Tom Carruth, standing in his creation “Julia Child”, or “Absolutely fabulous”, or “Soul Mate”

Sundial Replacement

A couple years ago, the Sundial was replaced by the Friends of the San Jose Rose Garden. It had been absent for many years. Though the new one lasted more than a year, it was ultimately vandalized. The cast aluminum is just too easy to break, and there are some weak points in the mounting.

To replace it, we turned to Brian’s Welding, for guidance. Brian’s Welding re-furbished our trash receptacles and have

a long history in San Jose. They designed a new mounting platform that will use high strength iron. Brian’s also made some cosmetic improvements to match the overall design of the garden. If you have a chance, stop on by, see the new sundial, and look at some of the new improvement projects, which were funded by donations to Friends of the San Jose Municipal Rose Garden.



How to tell the time with the sundial - look for where the line intersects the SHADOW - It’s 11:30!

SUMMER ROSE CARE HANDS-ON SEMINAR



Sat., July 20th - 8:00 AM!
@ the SJ Muni Rose Garden



Friends of the
San Jose



Rose Garden

Are your roses in the "Summer Slump"?

Learn Summer Rose Care from the Experts at
"America's Best Rose Garden" with Hands-on Tutorials
Ice Cream, donated by the Central YMCA, will be served after the event!

Bring clipping shears, wear long sleeves & gloves.
Go to www.FriendsSJRoseGarden.org for more info



Sat. July 20th 8:00 AM., Naglee and Dana Ave.

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

Food Truck Festival

The FSJRG scheduled a Food Truck Festival on the same day as our Volunteer Day on May 11th. Moveable Feast arranged to have five gourmet food trucks pull up and serve food from 11am - 2pm. Many volunteers, people enjoying the Garden the day before Mother's Day, neighbors, plus followers of the gourmet food trucks came by to enjoy nice lunch. Many patrons were surprised at the quality and selection of the gourmet fare.

To find out where you can find these food trucks on a regular basis, go to <http://mvblfeast.com/>

Conservation Corps

Thanks to the City of San Jose's Parks, Recreation, and Neighborhood Services for bringing out the California Conservation Corps to help with the weeding of the rose beds. A group of a dozen or so young men and women spent a full week in the garden, helping to remove the weeds that tend to grow quickly during the summer. This is one of the toughest jobs to keep up on. After the weeding, our volunteers will spread mulch down to help keep the weeds away!



Fountain is just "Ducky"



One of the biggest attractions in the Rose Garden lately has been the yearly arrival of Mr. & Mrs. Duck and their ducklings. Once the ducklings are born, Mom and Pop Duck teach them how to swim in the fountain. It is quite a sight. But when they are small, they cannot get out of the fountain. Thanks to City of San Jose employee James, he built a little ramp that would allow the ducklings' easy access in and out of the fountain, until they are big enough to jump/fly out of the fountain. People of all ages loved watching this family, as they waddled

through the garden. It was amazing to see Mommy duck shake a rose bush with her beak, watch the snails drop to the ground, and the baby ducks would gobble them up. They eat a lot of snails!

But things are not always "ducky". During the time they are here, the fountain tends to be a bit messier, with duck droppings and snail remains in and around the fountain. But it is worth it. These ducklings grow quickly, and soon will leave the Garden to be on their own, leaving us to wait for the arrival of Mom and Pop next year.

Vandalism in the Garden

The garden is not immune to the problem of vandalism, but we are fortunate it is pretty rare. That's why it was a surprise when head gardener Lance Loveday noticed one of the teak benches had been ripped from its foundation, and moved up to the stage area. This is not the first time it has happened. Back in 1952, news reports of vandals taking a bench and placing it in the fountain area.

The recent removal of the bench prompted Lance to spend some time repairing and refinishing the teak to brand new. It is now replaced and now looks great! Thanks Lance!



Vandals Raid Rose Garden

Police search was under way yesterday for vandals who invaded Municipal Rose Garden at Dana and Naglee Aves. Monday night causing damages estimated in excess of \$200.

City Engineer Harold J. Flannery, expressing conviction that the destruction was the work of adults, said the vandals apparently concentrated their efforts on prying heavy rest benches from their concrete bases.

When Park Supt. Oscar Sebellus visited the Rose Garden early yesterday he found 24 benches overturned. One of the benches had been toppled into the reflection pool, one of the garden's main attractions.

Vandals Raid Rose Garden

June 18, 1952 - Police search was under way yesterday for vandals who invaded Municipal Rose Garden at Dana and Naglee Aves. Monday night causing damages estimated in excess of \$200. City Engineer Harold J. Flannery, expressing conviction that the destruction was the work of adults, said the vandals apparently concentrated their efforts on prying heavy rest benches from their concrete bases. When Park Supt. Oscar Sebellus visited the Rose Garden early yesterday, he found 24 benches over-turned. One of the Benches had been toppled into the reflection pool, one of the garden's main attractions.

2013 “Roses in Bloom” Tour Drew Huge Crowds

Stunning private gardens in the famed Rose Garden neighborhood played host to a large number of garden enthusiasts on June 8th for the 2013 Roses In Bloom Garden Tour. Beginning at the award winning San Jose Municipal Rose Garden, tourists were met by Master Volunteers who provided informative personal tours of the historic Rose Garden. Guests were amazed at the in-depth knowledge of the volunteers who led them on the informative tours through the colorful and fragrant rose gardens.

The tour was a huge success and helped to raise several thousand dollars, which will be used by the Friends of the San Jose Rose Garden to purchase tools and supplies to maintain the Rose Garden.

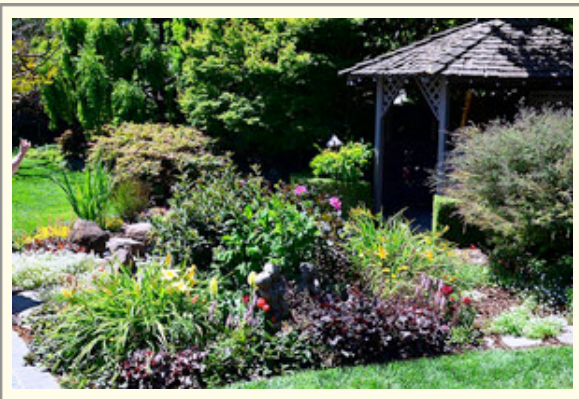
Six private gardens in the Rose Garden Neighborhood were open to the public and complimented the Municipal Rose Garden tour. Each of the six unique gardens provided a variety of garden styles, from whimsical to formal elegance, from rich green shade gardens to bright sunny arroyo-style design – all gardens the tour attendees with a myriad of ideas they could take home and incorporate into their own gardens.

One tour attendee wrote, “I thought the event was just splendid! I think that six private gardens was just the right number to tour in addition to the lovely Municipal Rose Garden. I really appreciated the write ups for each home; it was fun to read up on each home and learn more about what motivated the owners to do what they did. Clearly, a lot of thought and planning went into this event and from my point of view, it was very user friendly and flowed quite smoothly. I am so happy that this event supports the San Jose Rose Garden - it is a treasure we all enjoy!”

The 2013 Roses In Bloom Garden Tour was coordinated by Ron Ketelsen, who also opened his private garden on Bel Air Avenue for the tour. Ketelsen who is a Master Gardener acquired the home in 2011 and completely redesigned the landscape to include a new gazebo and a 3,000 gallon koi pond. Ketelsen also built a very unique 10-sided garden house - complete with shutters and window boxes with flowers. The garden is a botanic bounty with over 200 perennials in constant bloom from



early spring to late fall and over 80 rose bushes provide a vibrant display of color.



Lisa and Greg Stein did considerable renovation and reimagining on their University Avenue home -with a primary focus on outdoor living retreat in the truest sense. An elegant swimming pool, vegetable gardens and flowers throughout are verdant proof that a garden can both be elegant and meet the needs of an active family. Rustic statuary adorns the garden and it is placed strategically throughout. A corner gazebo was built to provide ample seating and dining space in the back of the gardens.

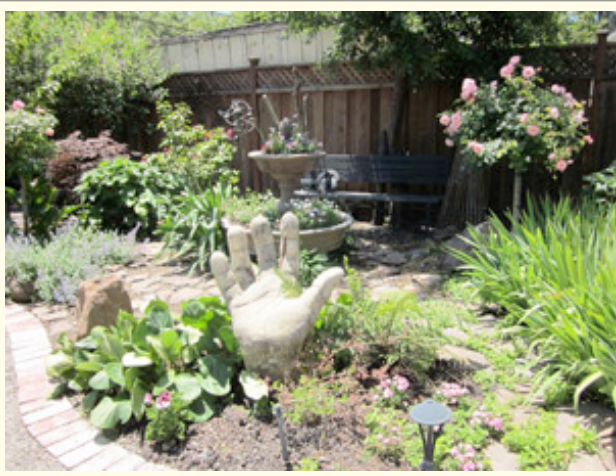
Roses in Bloom Tour (continued)

A 1906 Craftsman 2-story home provides a unique setting for the gardens of Grace and Jeannot Vatus on Yosemite Avenue. They describe their home as “East meets West”. A teak-curved Thai statue welcomes guest into this hidden backyard garden. Huge 9 feet, 6 inch red Chinese gates flank each side of the Thai statue. Curving paths in the backyard represent good feng-shui - with a koi pond serving as the main water feature.



John and Melinda Heinlein’s colorful gardens on Trace Avenue truly demonstrate how to landscape with roses! Pedestrians frequently stop to admire this corner garden, which so richly enhances the neighborhood. The gardens feature approximately 180 rose bushes, nearly every style of rose, positioned in groups that show off the different types, colors and habits in the ideal setting for each, that naturally complements the home.

Low maintenance is an important part of the design for Doug and Ruby Lyons’ garden on Morse Street. Xeriscape is the New Mexico arroyo-style garden theme that runs through both the front and back of this home - including dry stream beds with drought resistant vegetation clumping at the edges. Fruit trees and vines which include - fig, plums, grapes, lemons, blackberries, apricot, peach, apple, pear and orange trees, are abundant in this garden. The owner raises bees and his bee hive can be viewed safely from his garden office window.



Popped with color and garden art, the picturesque backyard garden of Suzanne Comaroto exudes grace and charm. As you stroll down the garden path, a larger-than-life sculptured hand rises alongside the garden path as though bidding you welcome to the gardens! There are a number of decorative, wrought iron screen doors frames, which serve as trellises for flowering vines; and a full-length mirror gives the illusion of a garden stretching into infinity.

A special thanks to the many Master Volunteers, private garden docents and private garden participants for making this year’s tour such a success! If you or someone you know would be interested in featuring their private garden on the

2014 tour, please contact Ron Ketelsen, Tour Coordinator, at 408-489-9844 or at ronketelsen@gmail.com.

Test Bed Expansion

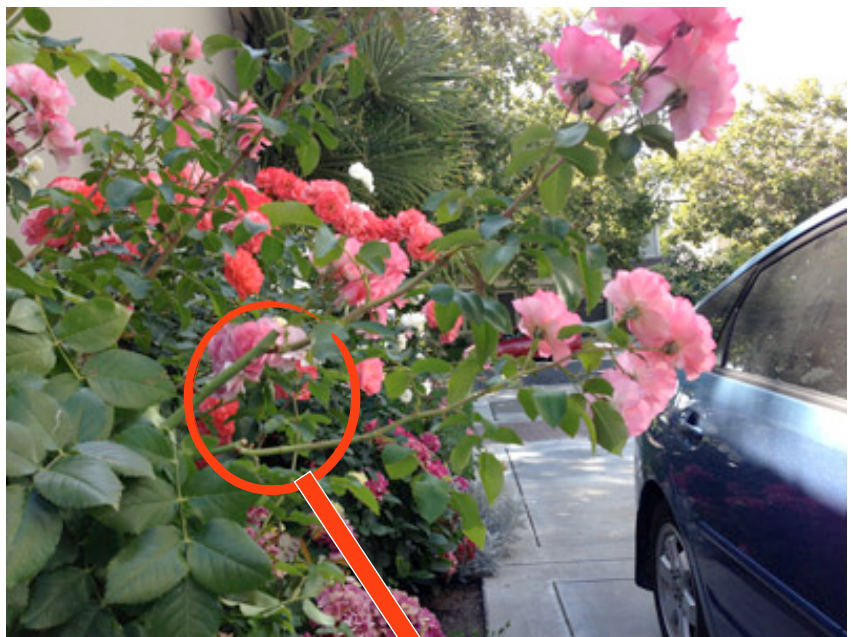
One of the most exciting features of the garden are the test beds. The San José Municipal Rose Garden is just one of a few gardens across the nation that has been selected to grow “the roses of the future”. These roses have taken up to 10 years to get to this stage. We typically get 30 or more new varieties a year. We don’t know what they look like; we only know the type of rose - hybrid Tea, Grandiflora, Floribunda, Landscape or Climber. So when they produce their first blooms, it’s like Christmas in May!

This year, we expanded the test rose area, to handle more varieties. We are currently testing roses for Weeks, Star, and AGRS. We grow the roses for two years, giving the plants a chance to get established, and really see their characteristics. Only about 30% of the varieties ultimately are introduced to the public and may happen take several years later.

For example, roses that were introduced this year could have been “born” in 2001! It can take 12 years or more to develop a new rose and get it to market.

The next time you are in the garden, make sure to visit the test roses.

When not to cut to an outward facing bud

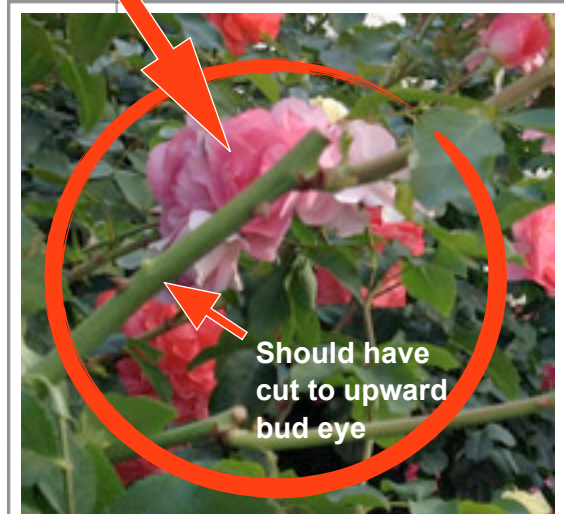


We train our volunteers to cut to an outside bud. This will help shape the bush, and give it a more pleasant look. The growth on the outside buds creates a ladder of new growth, pushing out from the center.

There are times when you DON’T want to cut to an outside bud, but rather an inside bud. As mentioned, where you cut shapes the new growth.

An example of when I should have cut to an inside bud is shown on this tree rose, which grows next to my driveway. By instinct, a spent bloom was cut to an outside bud. Can you see how the new growth goes outward, towards the driveway?

Every time I pass the bush, I have to push the branch away, lest I get caught by its thorns. This is quite



bothersome when I’m carrying groceries out of my car and up the driveway, or when a car is parked next to the branch, and I have to squeeze through. Had I thought more about it, I would have cut the bud to force the growth UPWARD, rather than outward.

It’s a good reminder on how to choose the best bud to cut near, and not always the outward facing bud.

Master Volunteer Training

For those of you that have wanted to become Master Volunteers - **now is your chance!** We have four training days for you to choose from. **You just need to attend ONE session.** No need to pre-register, but you can at www.friendssjrosegarden.org/master-volunteers/ **or just show up!** After training, you will certainly have enough time for you to earn your Master Volunteer Vest during the growing season!

Wednesday, July 18th @ 11:00am - Meet at the Fountain

Wednesday, July 18th @ 6:00pm - Meet at the Fountain

Wednesday, July 24th @ 11:00am - Meet at the Fountain

Wednesday, July 24th @ 6:00pm - Meet at the Fountain

*All you need to bring is gloves and garden shears.
See you in the Garden!*



American Rose Society

In the six plus years that the Friends of the San Jose Rose Garden has been in existence, we have focused on improving the garden, getting our hands dirty to bring the garden back to life. As a San Jose Landmark, its severe decline was troubling.



The Rose Garden was born in part by the encouragement of the Santa Clara County Rose Society. The President of the American Rose Society was present during the public opening of the garden in 1937.

Though the Santa Clara County Rose Society is still in existence, it has largely neglected the San Jose Municipal Rose Garden over the past decade.

It seems the Friends of the San José Rose Garden are the new, 21st Century style Rose Society. Our group's mission is to care for the San Jose Municipal Rose Garden, and share the love of roses. We do this by providing education on roses and rose growing, training of proven techniques, community events, and opportunities to get your hands dirty. It is a successful formula.

But there is one society that our supporters and rose lovers should consider

joining. That is the American Rose Society. Founded in 1892, the ARS has been instrumental in encouraging the "love of roses" across America.

They have a special deal for supporters of the Friends of the San Jose Rose Garden - a "Trial Membership" for only \$10. With this 4 month "Trial Membership", you will receive 2 issues of the American Rose magazine, online access to four quarterly bulletins among other items. It is certainly worth considering trying it for just ten bucks. You can learn more about this special deal, and the American Rose Society by going to www.ARS.org (OK, truth time, the special trial membership is offered to everyone!)

May 11th, Volunteer Day

It was a cool morning as the crowd came to the Rose Garden for the May 11 Pre-Mother's Day deadheading and clean-up. Fueled by coffee generously donated by Crema Coffee Roasting Company, about 235 volunteers learned how deadhead, and prepare the Garden for the busiest day of the year - Mother's Day.

With the early bloom this year, due to the unseasonably hot weather, there was plenty of deadheading needed, and the volunteers certainly made their mark. About half the volunteers had never been to the Garden before. The renewed emphasis in bringing in new people and volunteers is certainly working.

The group went to work after an in-depth tutorial on the why deadheading is needed, and how to do it. By 11:30am, the bulk of deadheading had been completed and the Garden was looking great! The new volunteers felt a great sense of satisfaction knowing they contributed to this City Landmark. Several inquired about how to continue their volunteer activities, and have now become Master Volunteers. We look forward to another successful community day on July 20th at 8:00am (note earlier time). Please join us, and bring a friend.



Mother's Day 2013

Mother's Day has been the busiest day of the year for the Rose Garden for decades. We scheduled a volunteer day to spruce up the garden the day before. In addition, we arranged to have a tent set-up and Docents available to answer questions about the Garden, rose growing, and our volunteer program.

It was such a joy to see so many people enjoying the Garden. There were several generations represented in many groups. Many families spread picnic blankets throughout the park to enjoy their time together, as they have at the Garden for decades.

An informal survey showed visitors from 20 different cities around the region, as well as visitors from Italy, Spain, Japan, India, and Korea!

Rose White & Blue Parade

Once again, the Friends of the San Jose Rose Garden had a nice viewing area for our Master Volunteers. Located just outside the Dana Street entrance, our Master Volunteers had a prime spot for the Parade!



UPCOMING EVENTS!

EVENT	DATE
Summer Rose Care Seminar	July 20
Master Volunteer Training	July 18
Master Volunteer Training	July 24
Fall Rose Care Seminar	Sept. 28

Prom Night 2013



The Rose Garden has been a popular location for "pre-Prom" pictures for decades!