

# Friends of the San Jose Rose Garden

*"A Historic Landmark"*

Issue 20

April 2013

## Summer Rose Care Seminar and Hands- On Tutorial, Saturday, May 11th 9:00am + Food Truck Festival!

Join us, May 11th, 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.



As a special treat, we are partnering with San Jose Movable Feasts which has organized a Food Truck Festival after the event and will be located on Dana Ave. Some of the proceeds will benefit the Friends of the San Jose Rose Garden. The Food Trucks will arrive just as we are completing our work, so everyone can enjoy a nice, gourmet lunch from some of the most innovative chefs around. For more information, visit our web site closer to the event. We will have information on which food trucks will be participating! I'm getting hungry already!

### Fight Stroke Walk

May 5th  
9am to 12:30pm

Info:  
[www.strokeinfo.org](http://www.strokeinfo.org)

### Volunteer Day & Food Truck Festival

May 11th  
9am

### Home Garden Tour

June 8th  
Check Web Site  
for More Details



[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





# May 5th

The Friends of the San Jose Rose Garden is partnering with the **Stroke Awareness Foundation** for their 2nd 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 May 5th, 2013. So far 483 people have signed up for the event. This will be a great opportunity to promote our Spring volunteer event the following weekend. Volunteering in the Rose Garden can be part of a healthy lifestyle, promoted by the Stroke Awareness Foundation. For more information about the Stroke Awareness Foundation and the upcoming walk, visit [www.StrokeInfo.org](http://www.StrokeInfo.org)

## New Roses 2013

The City of San Jose has identified 6 rose beds which they would like removed, and replaced with newer varieties. These roses have not grown well, or were prone to disease. Weeks and Star Roses have offered the Garden some **new “pre-release” varieties that will be introduced in**

**2014.** A couple that caught everyone’s eye is Good as Gold from Weeks Roses and Dee-Lish from Star Roses.

Good as Gold had been grown in our test garden for two years as 10R206. It’s a tall, classic hybrid tea with long stems, which opens to about 5” in diameter. Legendary hybridizer Tom Carruth created this rose with a cross of Golden Beauty and About Face. Dee-Lish is another hybrid tea, pink in color with a more informal bloom. Bred by Meilland International and introduced by Star Roses, the fragrance is said to be very strong. Look for them in the Garden this spring.







# Walk *THIS* way to help *END STROKE*

Join us for the second annual  
SAF Fight Stroke Walk!

## Date

Sunday, May 5, 2013

## Time

Check-in: 9am

Walk: 10am

## Place

San Jose Municipal  
Rose Garden

## Celebrate

Catered hot lunch,  
live music, & private  
tours of the Rose  
Garden after walk



## We walk...

- for those who cannot walk beside us
- because stroke is preventable & treatable
- to further stroke education & awareness in Santa Clara County

Register today!

[strokeinfo.org/fightstrokewalk](http://strokeinfo.org/fightstrokewalk) or 408.961.9815

STROKE AWARENESS FOUNDATION  
**FIGHT STROKE  
WALK**  
2013

**STROKE**  
AWARENESS  
FOUNDATION

**Genentech**  
IN BUSINESS FOR LIFE

**O'Connor  
Hospital**  
It's The Way We Care



All funds stay local to improve stroke education for emergency services and the SCC community.

# Volunteer and GET FREE STUFF!

People volunteer for many reasons. Some want to give back to the community, some want to learn new skills, and others like a sense of belonging to a community. Most do not volunteer to get a free cup of coffee, or t-shirt, or other nice things.

The logo for GoVoluntr, with "Go" in blue and "Voluntr" in green.

The FSJRG has been fortunate to have a strong and consistent volunteer base. Nevertheless, we'd like to provide you that free cup of coffee, or how about some lift tickets to Squaw Valley?

The FSJRG has recently partnered with GoVoluntr, a new social network that connects volunteers, non-profits, and businesses together into an engaging community of "Do Goodrs". It works like this: You register with GoVoluntr. The FSJRG lists a volunteer activity on GoVoluntr and you sign-up for it. After you volunteer, you input your hours into GoVoluntr and you begin to earn VPins (volunteer pins) and points. These points can be exchanged for REWARDS from local merchants, like Starbucks cards, movie tickets, etc. The rewards change often so you never know what you will find! Your activity can be posted on your Facebook page to encourage others to join in.

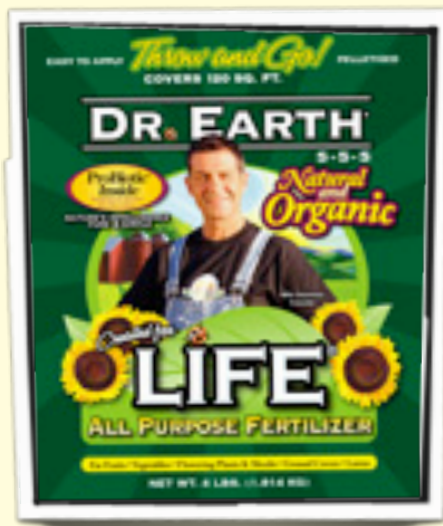
To register, go to [www.GoVoluntr.com](http://www.GoVoluntr.com) and "follow" the Friends of the San Jose Rose Garden. And while we would love to have you spend all your volunteer time at the Rose Garden, you may find other volunteer activities on GoVoluntr that you may be of interest to you.

The FSJRG is excited to partner with GoVoluntr and believe you will too.

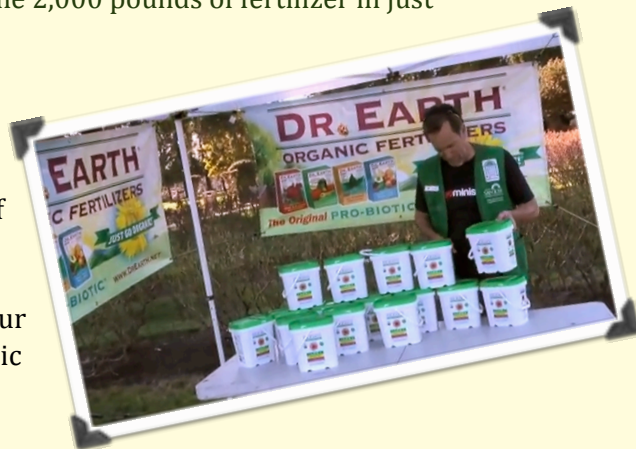
## Dr. Earth Organics continues Partnership

This year, [Dr. Earth Co.](http://Dr.EarthCo.com) donated 2,000lbs of their organic fertilizer to the Garden in our effort to move the garden to all organic. The garden has never looked better.

Milo Shammas, founder and formulator of Dr. Earth, suggested we use their "[LIFE](#)" product in the Rose Garden. With the blend of cottonseed meal, fish bone meal, Fish meal, alfalfa meal, kelp meal, mined potassium sulfate, soft rock phosphate, seaweed extract and PRO-BIOTIC™ seven champion strains of beneficial soil microbes plus Ecto and Endo Mycorrhizae, the roses *and* soil were never happier. This product is pelletized and was easy to broadcast by volunteers. The volunteer distributed the 2,000 pounds of fertilizer in just two hours.



You can now purchase Dr. Earth's Life Fertilizer at Orchard Supply Hardware. So if you want your roses to look like "America's Best", you now know our secret: Dr. Earth Organic Fertilizer.





# ROSE CARE SEMINAR



& Food Truck Festival  
@ the SJ Muni Rose Garden

Sat., May 11th - 9:00 a.m.!

Friends of the  
San Jose



Rose Garden



Arrives @ 11am!

Learn Summer Rose Care from the Experts at  
"America's Best Rose Garden" with Hands-on Tutorials  
Enjoy the Food Truck Festival from Moveable Feast -  
with proceeds benefiting the FSJRG.



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



Sat. May 11th 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



# Master Volunteer Vest Embroidery

If you are a Master Volunteer and would like your vest embroidered with your name, you can get this done at Graphi-X-Stitch, located at 74 Race Street. The embroidery **IS FREE**. All you have to do is drop off your vest, ask for “Francisco” and let him know “Terry sent you”. Graphi-X-Stitch is a family run business and big supporter of our efforts. They have helped us since the beginning by designing and screening our shirts, making our banners, and embroidering our sweatshirts. We highly recommend them for these types of services.



## OurVolts Volunteer Logging System

If you are a Master Volunteer, you are probably familiar with the OurVolts Volunteer Tracking System. This system enables you to keep track of your volunteer time and provides a valuable service for the City and leadership of FSJRG. The total volunteer hours are reported to the city to show the impact they are making. The Independent Sector calculates the value of a Volunteer hour in California at \$24.18 ([www.independentsector.org/volunteer\\_time](http://www.independentsector.org/volunteer_time)). That's how the City calculates the impact of volunteers, and how they arrived at the over \$1,000,000 that the FSJRG has contributed to the City.

What happens when you log your hours? First off, it sends an e-mail message to us which allows us to know what is happening in the Garden. If you made a comment, it is read. If you noticed a broken sprinkler, we take that information and send it to the city.

OurVolts also provides a graphical interface that allows the tracking of your hours, and the hours of other volunteers. Developed by TechScouts and Tech Liminal, based in part by the FSJRG's first volunteer tracking system (which was kludged together with google docs, and manual input of graphing), it is available to any volunteer organization that may want to track its volunteers. It's easy to set-up and easy to use. It is free, though they have upgraded packages. If your group wants to track volunteers, OurVolts is a great system to use.

## Master Volunteer Recognition

We provide our Master Volunteers with green vests to make them more visible in the Garden. In addition, we award Master Volunteers with a “gold star” for every 10 hours they log on the OurVolts volunteer tracking system. If you are a Master Volunteer, and need to catch up on your stars, please check in with Harry, Herb, or Warren at the Garden, and they will provide you with stars for your vest. These three are not hard to find, and are there usually every day. So catch up on your stars!



## Board Meeting

On Feb. 4, 2013, the Friends of the San Jose Rose Garden's Board of Directors met to review the planned events and the goals for 2013. As a volunteer organization, it is important to use our resources to be as efficiently as possible.

Along with our 4 planned community events, a focus will be put on expanding the Master Volunteer program and branching out with new events. These include a partnership with the Stroke Awareness Foundation's Stroke Walk, a community Garden Tour Fundraiser, and the introduction of food trucks at our volunteer events.

In addition, we reviewed possible improvements that could be spearheaded by the FSJRG. This included the renovation of the Trash Receptacles, which has since been completed.

All were in agreement that we were on the right track, and 2013 will be a banner year.

## Free Shakespeare in the Park?!!

Wouldn't that be cool? Well, it's a reality! It's just not in the Rose Garden Park - it's in the Willow Street / Frank Bramhall Park. Councilmember Oliverio and the City of San Jose has partnered with the Shady Shakespeare Company to put on 11 free performances in July. Check out Councilmember Oliverio's newsletter for more details. [www.SJDistrict6.com](http://www.SJDistrict6.com) - look for the Summer Newsletter under the DISTRICT 6 INFO tab.

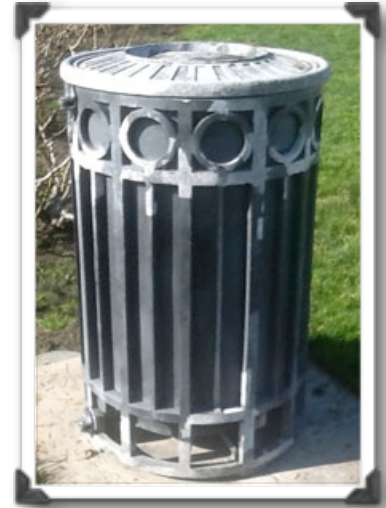
## Refurbished Trash Receptacles

Over 18 years ago, I worked on a fundraising effort to purchase much needed improvements in the Rose Garden. This effort included a charity event with SummerHill Homes, a matching donation from then Councilmember Frank Fiscalini, and donations from many community members. The funds raised were used to purchase the teak benches seen throughout the Rose Garden, the water fountains, and the historic style trash receptacles.

While the benches and water fountains have lasted all this time, the trash receptacles were starting to peel, and show their age. I still have the paperwork from when these were purchased and contacted the company which manufactures them, inquiring what new ones would cost if we wanted to replace them. They were happy to provide me with a quote for thousands of dollars. Needless to say, we had to find another solution.

A local company was consulted on what could be done to renovate the receptacle. Brian's Welding suggested that a deep sandblasting and new powder coating was just what was needed. Brian's Welding, a modern day blacksmith shop, located at 197 Ryland Street, has a history of providing high quality work and has been featured in Sunset Magazine. Its clients have included the DeAnza Hotel, Santana Row, The San Jose Arena, the Historic Fox and Town Theaters in San Jose. In addition, they do a lot of residential work for custom builders like DeMattei and Swenson Builders. We knew we were in good hands.

Brian's Welding provided an exceptional quote for the work. In one week, receptacles were removed, renovated and re-installed. The FSJRG split the cost with the City, and a special fundraising appeal brought in the necessary funds. As you can see, they look brand new. Special thanks to Brian's Welding, our partners at the City of San Jose, and those of your that donated to this effort. - Terry



Before



After



# “Sister” Rose Gardens

When the Friends of the San Jose Rose Garden was formed, no one knew what to expect. The first order of business was to get the Rose Garden off probation with the All-America Rose Selections (AARS), the organization that accredits rose gardens. The AARS put the Rose Garden on probation due to “declining conditions” in 2005. By partnering with the City of San Jose, and encouraged by Councilmember Pierluigi Oliverio, the FSJRG developed a plan to revive the garden with the help of volunteers. Within a year, the garden was taken off probation. The reversal was so dramatic that the AARS wrote a Case Study on our techniques and distributed it to the over 130 rose gardens in the US to provide them with a framework if they wanted to emulate the success of the San Jose Municipal Rose Garden. You can view the case study at [www.FriendsSJRoseGarden.org/aars-case-study/](http://www.FriendsSJRoseGarden.org/aars-case-study/). Encouraged by the Case Study, several other rose gardens have adopted our techniques.

For many years, Walnut Hill Park, located in New Britain, Connecticut, had a rose garden that was enjoyed by generations. Unfortunately, due to budget cuts, the rose garden was defunded many years ago. Kate McCue recalls enjoying the garden as a kid, going there with her family and felt it was a shame the rose garden was gone. She decided enough was enough and spearheaded the effort to recreate the rose garden, to bring the beauty back that she knew as a kid. She formed the “Friends of Walnut Hill Rose Garden”, got architects to donate their services, and started recruiting people that shared her vision. The proposal, even though it was using NO TAX DOLLARS, was accepted, somewhat reluctantly, by the City. During this process, Kate found out about the Friends of the San Jose Rose Garden and reached out to us. Before the first rose was planted, we provided her guidance on what to expect in dealing with cities, how to overcome the roadblocks, and techniques to build a core volunteer base. Terry Reilly, visited their first season to meet with Kate, their volunteers, and representatives from the City. The visit by Terry even made the newspaper! Kate has also visited the San Jose Municipal Rose Garden for a tour and discussion about our techniques. While we have our “Master Volunteers” in a green vest, they have adopted the moniker of “Bloom Buddies”. You can visit their web site at [www.FriendsoftheRoseGarden.org](http://www.FriendsoftheRoseGarden.org)



*Speaking with the “Bloom Buddies” of Walnut Hill Park Rose Garden in New Britain, CT*



*With Kate McCue, Founder of Walnut Hill Park Rose Garden in New Britain, CT*



## “Sister” Rose Gardens - continued

Morcom Rose Garden in Oakland was built in the 1930's just like the San Jose Municipal Rose Garden. And like the SJ Muni, it had its ups and downs throughout the years. When the AARS Case Study came out, it landed on the desk of Victoria Rocha, a long time Oakland City Parks employee with boundless energy. After reading it, she felt that was just the thing Morcom needed and decided to make it a reality. The proximity of the two gardens helped the effort, and she became a good friend and supporter of the FSJRG. We have taken field trips to the Morcom Rose Garden, and they have come to ours, each helping one another on the respective volunteer days. There is another “road trip” to Morcom this year. “Tora” as she is called, and her merry band of volunteers have adopted the most creative name of “Dedicated Deadheaders”, with creative tie-dye vests and a Grateful Dead style logo. You can find the Friends of the Morcom Rose Garden at [FriendsOfTheOaklandRose.org](http://FriendsOfTheOaklandRose.org) and on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/friendsofmorcom>



*Volunteers at Morcom Rose Garden: Oakland, CA*

Finally, the Friends of the San Jose Rose Garden have had some influence on the Rose Garden at Victory Park in Stockton, California. We have helped them organize their volunteer pruning two years in a row, showing them new techniques, which have dramatically improved the health of the garden. The group heading this effort is “Stockton Beautiful” and has been responsible for many civic activities. While their garden is quite a bit smaller than our other “Sister Gardens”, it has become a popular spot for the residents to “stop and smell the roses”. We are proud to have partnered with such energetic organizations, and if you find yourself in New London, Oakland, or Stockton, try to make time to visit these exceptional rose gardens.



*Leading the Volunteers at Victory Rose Garden*



*The Rose Garden at Victory Park: Stockton, CA*



# Unique Private Garden Tour benefiting the Friends of the San Jose Rose Garden

On June 8th, there will be a Tour of Unique Gardens in the Rose Garden and Willow Glen Neighborhoods that will benefit the Friends of the San Jose Rose Garden.

Ron Ketelsen, Tour Organizer, is putting together a fabulous day that will feature some spectacular gardens. In addition, there will be a "insider's tour" of the Rose Garden, featuring the "Roses of the Future". You will see roses not available to the public yet, and find out how they are selected to be released.

Stay tuned to the web site for more details as the date get closer.

*You are Invited  
Private Garden Tour  
June 8th, 2013*

## Aphids and Ladybugs

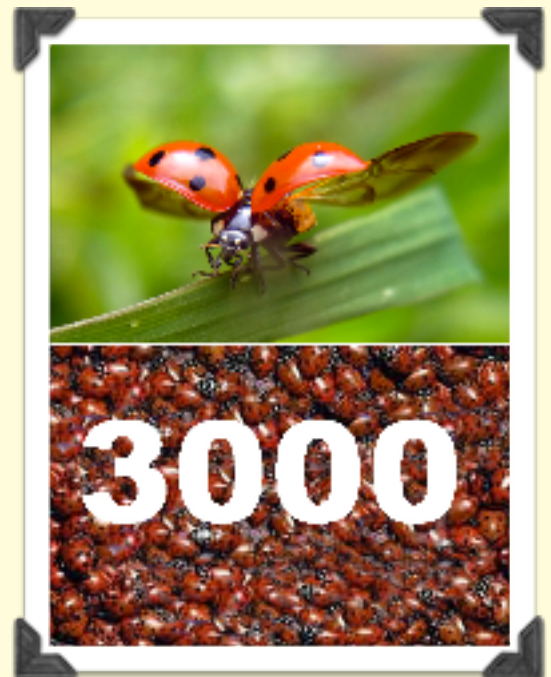
Right now you should see a lot of healthy, new growth on your roses. It is possible you may also find some critters feasting on this new growth. Usually these little green insects will be aphids and can do a great deal of damage.

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 \$25 - 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. ;-)



**Only \$25!!!**





# Company Volunteer Days

**Google, Microsoft, Recology, Ernst & Young, Price Waterhouse.** What do they all have in common? They have all organized massive volunteer events in the Rose Garden. Many companies see value in giving back to their community and plan these types of events. Imagine working in a cubicle all day long, 60 hours a week, staring at a computer screen. When your company offers an opportunity to go outside, get some fresh air, help the community, and get paid, you jump at the chance. All across San Jose, parks, trails, schools and other non-profits have benefitted from these company volunteer events. That wasn't

always the case. A few years ago, Companies were prohibited from organizing these events on city property. City policy prevented companies from organizing park and trail clean-ups. It had to do with paying your employees while they were volunteering on City property. All this changed after the FSJRG was formed. A new Volunteer Policy was created, spearheaded by Councilmember Oliverio, which allowed companies to give back to their communities. If you work in a company that would like to organize a work day in the Garden, please contact us!



PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS 





# A Beautiful Day

It's a "Beautiful Day" in the Rose Garden. On Saturday, Nov. 17th, 2012 over 90 volunteers of all ages participated in WestGate Church's Beautiful Day project. This is not the first time WestGate Church has organized an event in the Rose Garden. When we heard they wanted to come back, we jumped at the chance. Beautiful Day is part of a growing group of government agencies, community organizations and people from all walks of life who serve others by addressing needs across Santa Clara County. This recent event included pulling out dozens of roses and preparing the soil to make way for the new varieties. In addition, plenty of weeds were pulled, beds raked, and mulched. After 3 hours, Beautiful Day made a significant impact. Their shirts were great, and a testament to what they believe; "SERVING IS HOW I ROLL." If you would like to know more about this organization, visit <http://beautifulday.org/>

