

# Friends of the San Jose Rose Garden

Issue 35

*"America's Best Rose Garden"*

April 2017

## Rose Care Seminar and Volunteer Day May 6th, 9:00am

We are very excited that we will have a Garden in full bloom on Mother's Day! Help us make sure the Garden is looking its best on our busiest day! We will concentrate on deadheading the spent blooms, and general clean-up. You will learn why it is important to cut the old, dead blooms off so there will continue to be an abundance of color throughout the season. Please bring gloves and garden clippers and a friend. Hope to see you there!



## Three Cheers for Park Station Hashery



Every since Park Station Hashery opened one block from the Rose Garden (corner of Park and Naglee), the owners and management have continued to come up with innovative ways to become part of the Rose Garden community. They have proven to be a real neighborhood eatery!

The owners recently reached out to the **Friends of the San Jose Rose Garden** to find out how they can partner with us to keep the volunteers of "America's Best Rose Garden" happy and *came up with a winner of an idea!* They have offered our Master Volunteers deeply discounted meals to be enjoyed *after* they have put in some volunteer time at the Garden. In addition, a big supporter of the Friends of the San Jose has set up an account so these meals are FREE to the Master Volunteers! Everyone knows that happy volunteers are energetic volunteers and we certainly appreciate the owners and management of PSH in stepping up to make that happen.

So if you see a Master Volunteer having a meal there, know that they have earned it!



[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



## Test Roses

Once again, the Rose Garden is participating in the "American Garden Rose Selection" testing program. This extensive testing program for roses is used to determine the best roses for a growing region. They are evaluated on many different attributes with a big emphasis on disease resistance. You can learn more about the AGRS program and research past winners at [www.americangardenroseselections.com](http://www.americangardenroseselections.com)



In addition, we have over 45 test roses from Weeks Roses and Star Roses. If you see a great rose in the test area, you should know that it is still upwards to 4 years away from being introduced to the public. We are very fortunate to be growing "the roses of the future!"

## Where to order ladybugs for YOUR Garden!!



Many of you may have seen the small containers of ladybugs sitting at the counter of Orchard Supply Hardware. They charge quite a bit for such a small number and these ladybugs may not been cared for very well.

We get our ladybugs right from the source - the Sierra Foothills. A-1 Unique Insect Control's ladybug collectors live in the mountains and share their concerns with protecting the environment. A-1 Unique Insect

Control has been in business since 1980 and each year the demand for beneficial insects has increased.

You can find them on the internet at [www.a-1unique.com](http://www.a-1unique.com) or by calling

916-961-7945. Shipping to our area is fast, so they arrive in the best condition. A-1 Unique Insect Control also has other products such as Praying Mantis Egg Cases,

Lacewing Eggs, and Beneficial Nematodes. Beneficial Nematodes do wonders for your lawn by killing the many grubs that can destroy your lawn. If you order from A-1 Unique Insect Control, let them know "The Rose Garden" sent you!





# American Rose Society Magazine

The Friends of the San Jose Rose Garden was recently contacted by the American Rose Society. They heard about our wonderfully successful pruning events and wanted to share our techniques. Here's the article from the January/February 2017 American Rose Magazine.



## American Rose Society

The perfect place to experience the world of roses.



# From Our Members

## Making Pruning Easy from the San Jose Rose Garden

*All photos courtesy of the Friends of the San Jose Rose Garden*

Every January, the Friends of the San Jose Rose Garden hosts a Community Pruning Day to invite volunteers to help prune the award-winning San Jose Rose Garden. Last year, 551 volunteers, after a 15 minute demonstration, pruned the 4,000 rose bushes in 70 minutes! In 2017, we are sure to beat that record!

If you have a lot of rose bushes to prune, particularly if they are beds of the same variety, here are some tips on how to get your rose pruning done quickly. The San Jose Municipal Rose Garden has been honored as America's Best Rose Garden and is in the Rose Garden Hall of Fame so the results of their pruning method have yielded an abundance of rose blooms that are enjoyed for most of the year!

- Set a height for how tall the finished rose bush should be after pruning. To make the rose pruning consistent, mark stakes with the desired height, and place them around the rose bushes as a guide.
- Cut about a half-inch above a bud eye.
- You may have heard that you need to cut at a 45 degree angle, it isn't necessary, just cut the dang stem straight across.

- Don't worry about crossing canes, let them battle it out. You may get blooms from both. If one loses the battle and dies, cut it out WHEN IT DIES.
- Rake and clean the bed. Strip off all old leaves, cuttings and stems from the rose bed.
- Enjoy the extra time you have with this easy pruning method!

Visitors always thank us for the opportunity to visit and I thank them for coming, because all the work that goes into the garden is too much for just us to enjoy. Think about sharing your beautiful garden with others, you won't be disappointed!



volunteers work to make the cuts above the orange line on stake



# The “Great Ladybug Release”!

Over 250 kids lined up at the Rose Garden to participate in the “Great Ladybug Release” on March 23rd! There was such a large turnout that I wondered why don't we have them engage in a little community service the next time to “earn” their ladybugs. Fact is, with over 300 people at the Garden, if each person raked a bed, or pulled a weed, the Garden would look at all that much better!

So with the “Great Ladybug Release 2.0” on April 22nd, we asked each person to pull at least one weed, and deposit it into the wheelbarrow to get a cup of ladybugs! The response was fantastic! There were many positive comments such as “I think the idea of a weed for a cup of ladybugs (that cost money and time to maintain and acquire) is more than fair. Kids learn about earning their share, why weeds aren't healthy for the garden, and why ladybugs are helpful.....they also get to enjoy a hands on event that actually requires them to be a tad active!” and “Small children can learn to take pride in earning their way!”

This was such a great event, I plan on making it a regular event.



Ladybugs are an integral part of any Rose Garden. Some fun facts about ladybugs:

- \*They are PREDATORS! Each ladybug may consume about 5,000 aphids in its lifetime.

- \*A ladybug can lay up to 1000 eggs in a lifetime.

- \*Ladybugs smell with their feet and antennae

- \*Not all ladybugs have spots.

- \*Ladybugs make a chemical that smells and tastes bad so other predators don't eat them.

- \*Ladybugs are actually beetles, so sometimes they are called ladybeetles.

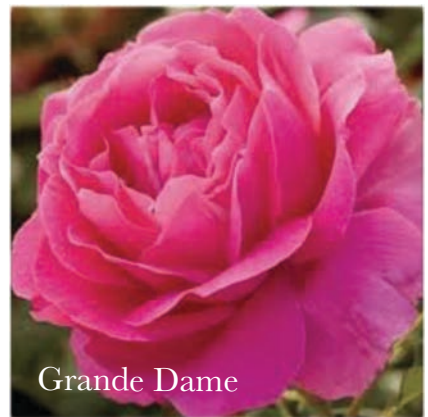
- \*Over 300 types of ladybugs live in North America.

- \*The spots of ladybugs fade as they get older.

- \*The ladybug is used as a logo for the Swedish People's Party of Finland!

# Plantings for 2017

In 2016, we focused on planting roses that were fragrant. For 2017, we looked through the Garden to find some of the best performers and tried to find areas where an additional bed may be appropriate. Our feeling was happy roses require less care, and we want to have spectacular rose beds. Here's what





# 2017 PRUNING EVENT

They predicted it would be the storm of the century, describing it as an “atmospheric river” coming from the heavens. But someone had a different plan.... For 10 years, our annual January pruning event has been blessed with wonderful weather, allowing hundreds of civic minded volunteers to prune the roses, and give back to their community. People continued to insist that the event be postponed, or cancelled. Yes, I knew that the predicted storm would put a damper on turnout, but I knew the resolve of the many volunteers that would not let a little (or a lot) of rain stop them from the traditional winter pruning at the Rose Garden. I had faith there would still be plenty of volunteers to get it done.

The event was to begin at 9am, but people began to show up at 8:15am. To take advantage of this, we began the pruning right away. If a volunteer showed up early, they were provided a tutorial by a Master Volunteer, and was able to begin pruning. It was sprinkling ever-so-lightly, but not enough to stop the volunteers. We figured we may have just a few hours before the storm came. Former Councilmember Pierluigi Oliverio was there early, as did Councilmember Dev Davis. Mayor Sam Liccardo spent a couple hours pruning a bed of roses along with a few staff members. Everyone got to take home a free bare root rose donated by Star Roses.

And just as I had expected, we were able to get the Garden pruned, well before the rain began. I knew someone had a different plan.....





# 2017 PRUNING EVENT





# ROSE GARDEN

## Rose Care Seminar & Volunteer Day

Sat., May 6th -  
8:30am Registration  
9:00am Start



Friends of the  
San Jose



Rose Garden



Be part of the Rose Garden's Success!

Learn rose care from the experts

Bring garden clippers & gloves.

Go to [www.FriendsSJRoseGarden.org](http://www.FriendsSJRoseGarden.org) for more info

Sat. May 6th 8:30 a.m. Registration, Naglee and Dana Ave., SJ

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