

Friends of the San Jose Rose Garden

Issue 9

"A Historic Landmark"

August 2009

Donations Needed - Rose Garden Street Signs

In the late 1930's the local San Jose paper wrote an editorial lamenting the lack of advertising for the San Jose Municipal Rose Garden and suggesting road signs pointing out the route to the civic beauty spot (see inset right).

A 70 year old goal has recently come to fruition through a partnership with the City of San Jose's Department of Transportation (DOT), Park's Department (PNRS) and the Friends of the San Jose Rose Garden (FSJRG)—an agreement has been reached to install signs directing visitors to this historic landmark.

Isn't this fantastic?! The signs could be up in less than a month.

We have come up with several designs which you can vote on at our volunteer day, Sept. 5th. Shown is one of the designs.

As part of the agreement, we need to pay for the printing of the signs. Initial estimates are



\$200 a piece and we are looking at getting about 12 of them. The DOT will provide the blank aluminum and installation, PNRS will provide the upkeep, and we will pay for the design and printing of the signs.

I am confident our supporters and volunteers will rise to the occasion and honor the newspaper's request from 70+ years ago by going to our website and donating to this worthy cause. Any additional funds above the cost will be used to further the good work of the FSJRG. - Terry Reilly

to donate go to:

www.FriendsSJRoseGarden.org/donate.htm

Editorial Analysis

By A. M. M. 9/30/33

SHOW 'EM WAY TO ROSE GARDEN

San Jose, remarked a visitor who came to our office yesterday, is overlooking a splendid opportunity for interesting tourists and possible residents in our city in not "advertising" our municipal rose garden.

* * *

It was only by chance that she drove past the rose garden, and, intrigued by the colorful beauty, stopped to admire the fragrant beds of velvety blooms.

Many strangers, she said, would enjoy the gorgeous display if only it were brought to their attention. Why doesn't the city place markers along the highway, she suggested, pointing out the route to this beauty spot?

* * *

We pass the lady's suggestion on to the city officials with our approval. The small amount needed for markers would be more than repaid in the advertising the municipal rose garden would receive, and the good impression this civic beauty spot would make on possible new residents.

* * *

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

facebook

Fan Page

The FSJRG has its own Facebook Fan page. If you are one of the 50 million that have a facebook account, you can become a FSJRG Facebook Fan at www.tinyurl.com/RoseGardenFan.

Becoming a Facebook fan allows you another opportunity to find out what is happening at the garden. We post events such as pizza parties and Master Volunteer Trainings.

So if you have a FaceBook account, there is no reason not to be a fan!

In addition, the All-America Rose Selections has a FaceBook Fan page. By becoming a fan, you can get all the latest AARS information. Check them out here at www.tinyurl.comAARSfan

FJSRG & St. Martin of Tours Home Tour



Tour some of the most unique homes in San Jose!

Save the Date:
October 17th & 18th

Tickets go on sale soon!

Best of the Silicon Valley - 2009 Readers' Choice Awards

The results are in, and the San Jose Municipal Rose Garden was voted "The Best Public Park" and "The Best Place to Get Married" by the readers of the Mercury News! Over 3,300 responded to the polling. This garden has become one of the premier destinations for residents and visitors of San Jose. Thanks go to the Volunteers for their dedication and PRNS for making this happen.

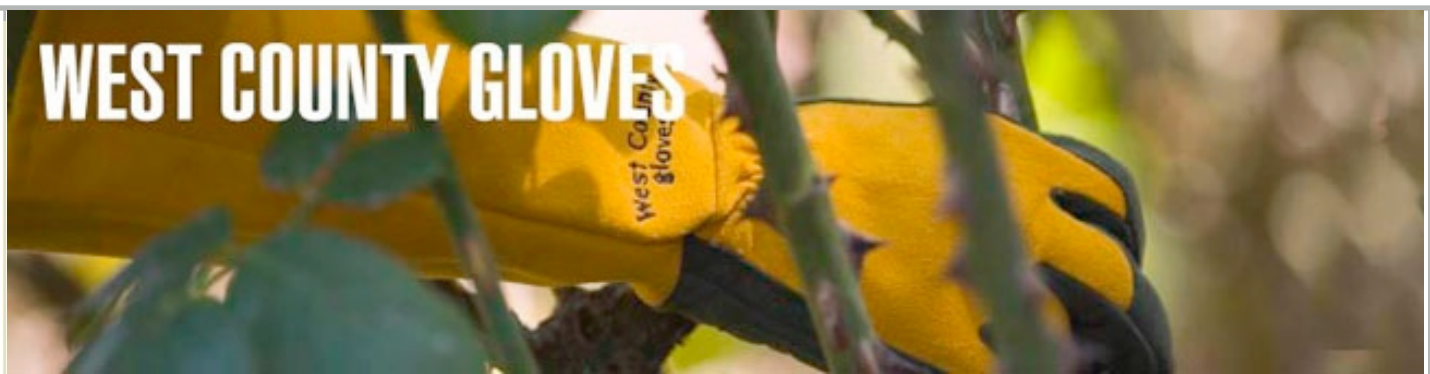


Spider Mites

We are quite fortunate to not have spider mites in the Muni Rose Garden. But you may not be so lucky in your own rose garden. You can tell if you have a spider mite infestation by having dry leaves, little salt and pepper or light red looking speckles and webbing on the undersides of leaves.



Spider mites tend to suck the juices out of the leaves and defoliate the plant. A great way to get rid of them is to just spray underneath the foliage with water and knock them off. Keep doing this every couple days or so until you get the infestation under control.



Battle scars on the arms are often the mark of a rose gardener, as one cannot tend to their garden without coming away with a nice bloody scratch. That's not the case if you wear the **correct gloves**. These "Gauntlet Gloves" protect the arms so you can really get in to the roses without fear of thorns. The **West County Glove** seems to be the most popular in the garden with its fashionable colors (www.WestCountyGardener.com).



One of the most often asked questions to our Master Volunteers relates to the gauntlet gloves many wear. "*Where do you get them?*" they often ask, since many have been bit by their roses. Just this past weekend a visitor asked me again, complaining that she couldn't find them at Orchard, Home Depot, Lowes or Target.

She's correct, these gloves can only be purchased at **Yamagami's, Almaden Valley** or **Regan's** nurseries. Since they are quite popular, you should call beforehand as stock is sometimes limited. You can also purchase them online. We often have a pair or two as freebie give-a-ways at our massive events.

Looking at the West Country Glove website, I noticed that their classic & work gloves (*seen above and really great for weeding and general gardening*) are now made out of a fabric that comes from recycled water bottles! Each pair of work gloves will remove one 8 oz. water bottle from landfills. A great glove, a great company and eco-friendly too. What more could you ask for? - *Terry Reilly*

Nursery News

For those of you who found that special rose in the garden and need to have it now, you are in luck.

The major nurseries usually have sales or other events this time of year. As of press time, Almaden Valley Nursery has roses at 30% off, Yamagami's will

have their Fall Garden Fair on Sept. 19th & 20th with a visit from a Star Roses Rep. Steve Bening at 10am on the 19th.



Finally, Regan Nursery has roses at 30% off until the end of August, moving to 50% on Labor Day weekend.

But wait, there's more....

Regan Nursery in Fremont now has a "Blow-Out" sale on some varieties of roses for just **\$10 each** while supplies last! The include the following varieties:

Betty Boop
Betty Prior
California Dreaming
Double Delight
Iceberg Climber
John F. Kennedy
L. D. Braithwaite
Mardi Gras
Pink Promise (2009 AARS Winner)

ROSE GARDEN

★ Volunteer Day

Sat. Sept. 5th - 9:00am!



Come see the
New Rose Garden
Street Signs!



Come Join the FUN!!!!
Learn rose care from the experts!
Master Volunteer Training will be available

Friends of the
San Jose



Rose Garden

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

September 5th 9:00 am - 12:00am, Naglee and Dana Ave.

For more information, go to www.FriendsSJRoseGarden.org

Spotted!

AARS Judge Visits the Rose Garden

As you may know, the AARS Judges visit the garden several times a season to report on the condition of the garden. It was just less than a year ago that the garden had been taken off of probation.

They are supposed to visit anonymously, but our astute volunteers noticed a visitor with a clipboard, walking through the garden.



He mentioned the **great turnaround** the garden has made over the past two years. He remembers when the weeds were taller than the roses, and noticed each time he comes out, the volunteers working in the garden.

Thanks to each and every volunteer who has been part of our success!

Rose Garden Goes Organic!

In the past newsletters, we have mentioned the benefits of using organics in your garden.

Organic fertilizers are slow releasing, and do not burn your plants. It promotes firm cell growth that is much better for the overall health of the roses and adds living organism to the soil. Some chemical

fertilizers contain poisons you may not be aware of. Going organic is just the **right thing to do**.

At the San Jose Muni Rose Garden, we are happy to announce a partnership with **Dr. Earth Co.** Dr. Earth Co. will be supplying the garden with **Dr. Earth Organic 3 Rose and Flower Fertilizer**. We will be using this fertilizer exclusively. This fertilizer has it all. It contains a blend of cotton seed meal, fish bone meal, fish meal, alfalfa meal, kelp meal, soft rock phosphate, seaweed extract and PRO-BIONIC™ seven champion strains of beneficial soil microbes plus Ecto and Endo Mycorrhizae. **WHew!** Those beneficial soil microbes will be like our **new little volunteers**, breaking up the clay soil and making it better for our roses!



Dr. Earth Co. has already delivered **one ton** of this fertilizer to the garden. If you were at the recent volunteer event, you may have helped spread it around.

I would suggest you take a look at Dr. Earth's extensive web site www.DrEarth.com. Here you will find a ton of information about going organic in your home garden whether it's roses, fruit trees or vegetables. They have articles on projects like making compost tea (great for roses!) and have a very informative magazine which you can download.



Dr. Earth Co. products can be found at Yamagami's Nursery in Cupertino and other fine nurseries.

We appreciate the support from Dr. Earth and look forward to a long relationship. -
Terry Reilly

2010 AARS Winner

Since the San Jose Municipal Rose Garden is an official AARS Display Garden and Test Garden, we receive the AARS winners a year in advance, so when the AARS announce this years' winning rose(s), the public can view them in our garden prior to being on sale to the public. As you walk through the garden, you will see roses marked as prior AARS winners.

Each AARS winning rose completes an extensive two-year trial program in test gardens such as the San Jose Municipal representing all climate zones. New rose varieties in the AARS trials receive only as much care as would be given in the average home garden. This extensive evaluation process results in a new crop of AARS winning roses each year, guaranteeing that only the best make it into your garden. They are evaluated on vigor, fragrance, disease resistance, foliage, flower production, growth habit, bud and flower form, opening and finishing color, stem and overall value. In the San Jose Municipal garden, the winners are planted in winter, but only in the late summer are the rose beds identified with the names and winning labels.



2010 has only one winner, a testament to the rigors of the testing process. Easy Does It has a delectable colors of mango orange, peach pink & ripe apricot that bounce off the mirrored glossy green leaves, providing a flamboyant fruit salad for the landscape. Her free-flowing swirling shades of sunset show up in fragrant

large colorful

clusters atop

a rounded bushy plant. So disease resistant, vigorous, flowerful and fabulous, you just can't say 'no' to this seductress of the garden. Hybridized by Harkness New Roses of the United Kingdom, Easy Does It was introduced by Weeks Roses of Wasco, California and will be available to the public for bare-root planting this winter.

You can view it growing in the garden at the end of cement path, south of the fountain.

(Photo from Week's 2010 catalog. To download their 2010 catalog and see the newest rose varieties, go to www.tinyurl.com/Weeks2010)



FSJRG Banner

Many of you will notice the new banners we have on the outside of the gardens during our volunteer events. Visibility is a key in letting people know about our events. Graphi X Stitch at 74 Race Street (298-2828) came up with a great design which draws people into our events.

If you see these banners, you know we have an event going on! They also made our stylish green vests. If you have a shirt or banner job, large or small, I'd recommend seeing what they can do for you