

We are off and running...

Time has flown by quickly and I wanted to take a moment to report to you, our members, about the many projects and accomplishments that have been achieved during my first 150 days in office as your President.

Along with our talented Executive Director, Laura Seabaugh, and the hardworking staff at the ARS, we have been diligently working on starting and completing projects to improve services to our members and the community. We are working to become more tech savvy, to develop new materials to further fulfill our mission to promote the culture and appreciation of roses, and to grow our membership.

I'd like to thank our Executive Committee and the ARS Board of Directors, along with all of you, our members, for your tireless work to promote the Rose!

Sincerely,
Pat Shanley
President
American Rose Society



ARS President Pat Shanley (l) &
ARS Executive Director Laura
Seabaugh (r)



New Programs, New Partnerships and a Record-Breaking Holiday Season

Over the past 150 days, the Gardens of the American Rose Center, located at the ARS Headquarters in Shreveport, Louisiana, has several new accomplishments to report.



In December, the Gardens had their first **Elementary Science Curriculum Field Trip**.

Students explored the garden, smelled the roses and learned about how roses are grown.

This curriculum will be offered to all elementary schools in the Shreveport area.



Christmas in Roseland lights up the gardens with festive displays, entertainment and Santa.

Families in the local area come by the carload to visit and celebrate the holidays.

This year's season was our most financially successful ever with more than \$50,000 raised.



The Garden has a new sister garden! The Zijing Park of Changzhou, China and the American Rose Society and American Rose Center created an International Sister Garden Relationship.

Zijing Park contains 1,200 varieties of roses and 25,000 plants.



The American Rose Society received a grant from the The Northwest Louisiana Master Gardeners for our Green Thumb Seminar series.

The first workshop on Preparing for Spring will feature Mark Walton, Garrison's Greenwood Gardens; Dr. Allen Owings, Louisiana Department of Agriculture, Hammond Research Station, and Stephen Scanniello, Curator of The Rockefeller Rose Garden at the New York Botanical Garden.



New Projects and a New Look for Communications

Refreshing our communications and adding new projects has been our focus over the past 150 days. Here is what has been completed and what is in the works.

American Rose Magazine Refresh



American Rose Magazine has undergone a refresh. New departments have been created with our Contributing Editors, Curtis Aumiller, Gaye Hammond, John Mattia, Jeff Wyckoff and Paul Zimmerman.

Roses in Your Zone features regional information that is presented by local societies from across the country.

The design refresh has been well received.

Our free newsletter gets a new design



The Fragrant Rose is the free monthly newsletter that is made available to the public from the American Rose Society.

The newsletter is edited by Chris VanCleave, the Redneck Rosarian.

The Fragrant Rose has received a design refresh. Most of our new memberships come from the ARS website and newsletters. You can sign up for the *Fragrant Rose* [here](#).

Members have their own Facebook page and newsletter



Roses & You is the ARS Members monthly newsletter. Teresa Byington, rose gardening blogger and cohost of the Rose Chat Podcast with Chris VanCleave, is the editor of *Roses & You*.

ARS Members also now have their own Facebook page so they can get the latest news and updates from the ARS.

Join in the fun by liking the page at facebook.com/rosesandyou.

A New Photo Contest for Middle School and High School Students



To encourage people to get involved with roses and rose photography when they are young, the ARS now has a photography contest for middle and high school students.

Cash prizes will be given out and contest entrants do not need to be ARS members to participate.

The deadline is June 30, 2016. See the details [here](#).

Our thanks to Curtis Aumiller, ARS Photography Chair, and the ARS Photography Committee for making this into a reality.

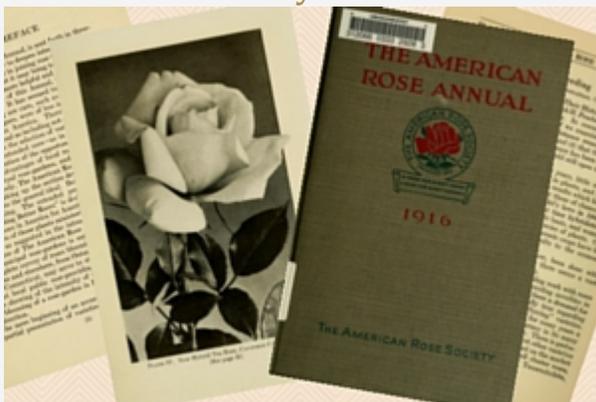
Still to come: Webinars and a New Website



Look for an announcement soon about our upcoming webinars that will be available to you live on your computer. The webinars will also be archived and available if you miss the live stream.

Planning is underway for a new website for rose.org. This will take some time to accomplish and is expected to be done in 2016.

100th Anniversary of the *American Rose Annual*



The first *American Rose Annual*, edited by Horace McFarland, was printed in February 1916. The 2016 *Annual* will commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the *American Rose Annual*.

Gene Waering is the editor for this special edition that will celebrate the history and tradition of 100 years of *American Rose Annual*.



THANK YOU FOR BEING A MEMBER OF THE AMERICAN ROSE SOCIETY

[RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP BY CLICKING HERE](#)

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AMERICAN ROSE SOCIETY

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