

KATnips



Publication of the Tenarky District

Summer 2026

Volume 32, Issue 1

Contents

Medley of Roses.....	p. 1
Director's Message.....	p. 2
CR Corner	p. 3
ARS Convention/Rose Show p. 4	
Convention Speakers	p. 5-7
ARS News	8
Local Society News	p. 9-14
Convention Vendors.....	15
Announcements.....	p. 16-17

Register Now!

2026
ARS Convention
&
Rose Show
September 8
Deadline!

[https://
medleyofroses.org/](https://medleyofroses.org/)

ARS Links

Visit these sites and add to
your Favorites or Bookmarks

- ★ [American Rose Society](#)
- ★ [ARS on Facebook](#)
- ★ [ARS on Twitter](#)
- ★ [ARS on Pinterest](#)
- ★ [ARS on Instagram](#)

If you want even more
great information about
roses, join the [ARS](#)!

Tenarky District
of the
American Rose Society
www.tenarky.org

Medley of Roses Convention and Rose Show

By Barbara Taube, Convention Committee

The next American Rose Society Medley Of Roses national convention is now less than two months away. It will be held at the Music City Sheraton in Nashville, October 2-5, 2026. I have been to quite a few ARS conventions and have enjoyed every one of them. But I can honestly say, I think we have an extra special one planned!

It is sad but, traditionally, many 'locals' tend not to attend national conventions. Although convention costs are often cited as a major factor in someone deciding not to attend, the huge advantage to a local convention is that you can bypass the hotel fees by traveling from home or staying with friends or relatives. Obviously the hotel is the biggest single expense associated with a convention.

Although the Nashville convention is not inexpensive, we do feel it is a great value! We are offering two registration packages. Full registration for all events on Saturday and Sunday is \$375. This allows registrants to show in the rose show, enjoy lunch and banquet (the Friday evening welcome reception is an add on) and programs, receive the convention gift bag and be a part of *all* the fun!!!! Saturday only registration, only \$195, allows the registrants to show in the rose show and attend all programs on that day, and also includes the box lunch, the Saturday evening banquet and the convention gift bag. Both packages also allow you the opportunity to volunteer and work in areas you may be particularly interested in if you are so inclined (which is always a lot of fun!!!).

Many of you may ask why you should be a part of this convention? I can give you several reasons! One is that your Tenarky district and the Nashville Rose Society has worked very hard to make this an exciting and outstanding convention and, honestly, we need you! We need you to come, participate, show your roses and be involved. Although people are often intimidated at the thought of showing in a NATIONAL show, this show schedule is basically the Nashville Rose Society show schedule with a few national and our regular district classes added in. We have all been to shows and thought, 'Gosh, I had something that looked as good as many of these in the yard'. And our local folks don't have to travel cross country with their roses! We have some fantastic rose growers and exhibitors in our area and we want others to see that! And we need your roses to fill the tables and make it a beautiful show!

An ARS convention is a great way to learn about resources that are available to you. You can meet and chat with ARS officers as well as district and local officers and members. You have the opportunity to learn about programs, techniques, pests and diseases, hybridizing, showing, arranging, photography and many more facets of growing roses—and to make new friends who also share those interests.

cont. p.2





Tenarky District Director's Message *by Howard Carman*

Wow, this year has gone by quickly. My roses have done very good this year with all this rain, and I have not had to water as often. This should make for some beautiful fall blooms.

As most of you know, the Nashville Rose Society will host the American Rose Society's Convention & Rose Show on October 2-5. I would encourage all our members to attend since we have not had a national event this close for some time. You will be able to meet rose people from all different parts of the United States, and you will see various blooms that look perfect. You may get rose growing advice from some professional rose growers.

Be sure to save the date of February 26-27, 2027. The TENARKY winter workshop will be in Bowling Green again. This location has been changed and both days will be at the Warren County Extension office at 5162 Russellville Road. We have some great speakers, as well as potted roses and some of my seedlings for sale. Along with our 'Plinko', we will have a 'Wheel of Roses' game. On Friday night we will have refreshments while we play 'Rose Bingo'. Hotels will be on your own so you have a choice of where to stay. More details will follow soon.

I look forward to seeing everyone at both events.



Medley of Roses Convention *(continued from p. 1)*

Even if there is not a program on the schedule that specifically addresses your interest(s), I promise if you ask a couple of people, they will have you connected to others in no time.

But the very best reason for you to join us is-it is FUN!!!! After more than 30 years of attending ARS conventions, I can honestly say that rose people are some of the nicest, friendliest and most helpful people I have ever met. If you are exhibiting, there will be people who will be happy to offer suggestions on how to improve a display, what class to enter a specimen in, etc. Talking with and getting to know other rose growers from different parts of the country (and world!) is exciting as is getting sneak peeks at what may be coming out in the rose world in the near future and getting insight into growing trends.

We encourage you not to let this opportunity to be a part of this exciting weekend pass by. Information, show schedule, registration, speakers, sponsors, activities, can be found at:

<https://medleyofroses.org/>

**The last day to register for the
Medley of Roses**

ARS Convention & Rose Show is

September 8, 2026. Sign up soon!

You will receive a copy of Volume 3,

The Rose Atlas: 20th Century Hybridizers!

Medley of Roses
Hosted by the
NASHVILLE ROSE SOCIETY

2026 AMERICAN ROSE SOCIETY
National Convention & Rose Show
OCTOBER 2-5
Sheraton Music City Nashville Airport Hotel | Nashville, TN

Bloom with us!

Roses are thriving, and momentum is building nationwide for Medley of Roses — the 2026 American Rose Society National Convention & Rose Show.

Complimentary registrant gift:
Receive a copy of Vol. 3, The Rose Atlas: 20th Century Hybridizers.

REGISTER TODAY >

MEDLEYOFROSES.ORG | DEADLINE SEP 8TH



Consulting Rosarian Corner *by Cindy Worch, District CR Chair*



Greetings fellow CR's.!

I sure hope everyone is staying out of this heat. My roses need a little tending to but this heat is terrible. We've had a lot of rain so I haven't had to use my irrigation system too much.

Tom Cooney has done an excellent job keeping up with CR credits on the webinars. I'll try and have them updated in my system soon.

Be sure and attend the "Medley of Roses Convention and Rose Show." All of the speakers, except one will be eligible for CR credit. Be sure and sign up with me at each session to receive credit.

Our next CR School will be in February. Tentative dates are February 13 and February 20 with the test being on February 27. If anything changes I'll let you know.

I'm so excited that I have four candidates for the school. I think Renee has more from the Memphis society too. If you are interested in becoming a CR, make sure that you have been a member of the ARS for two consecutive years. Get your application submitted to me as soon as you can. It is on the Tenarky website on the CR page or click this link: [CR Candidate Form](#). It's also handy to have a copy of the CR Handbook too. They can be purchased from ARS. It's all digital now.

On a different subject I'm always looking for interesting things about roses. I googled "What countries are famous for their roses?" I have to admit I was very surprised by the answer. Not one of these would have been on my list. So I've learned something new. I hope you enjoy and learn something !

Top Rose-Famous Countries



Ecuador: The Rose Powerhouse—Famous for high-altitude Andean growing conditions that produce huge flower heads, thick stems, and vivid colors.

- ▶ Located near the equator with year-round sunlight
- ▶ High-altitude Andean landscape creates perfect growing conditions
- ▶ Roses grow up to 6 feet tall
- ▶ Produces thicker, more resilient blooms
- ▶ Exports over 4 billion roses annually



Bulgaria: Home to the famous "Rose Valley," it is the world's top producer of precious rose oil (attar of roses) used in high-end fragrances.



The Netherlands:

- ▶ The global flower trading hub
- ▶ Handles 40% of worldwide flower sales
- ▶ Perfect temperate maritime climate
- ▶ Long summer days = bigger blooms
- ▶ Advanced greenhouse technology



France: The town of Grasse is legendary as the perfume capital of the world, specifically growing prized Centifolia roses for luxury scents.



Turkey: Renowned for the Isparta region, a historic center for harvesting Damascene roses for rose water and essential oils.



Kenya

- ▶ Supplies almost 40% of Europe's cut roses
- ▶ Lake Naivasha region is perfect for growing
- ▶ Amazing infrastructure for rose export
- ▶ Growing market share in China and India



Planning the 2026 ARS National Convention & Rose Show! *By Liz Louie, Co-chair*



Getting Ready for the Medley of Roses 2026 ARS National Convention and Rose Show! Planning a great convention takes a village (and a lot of coffee). Here is a quick look at what goes on behind the scenes to make the magic happen.



Locking Down the Basics

We started over a year out by securing the perfect venue, Sheraton Music City Airport Hotel, and mapping out our budget. Teams were formed early to tackle everything from registration to vendors. We selected and invited speakers, solicited live and silent auction items, secured sponsors and donors, and the list goes on.



Setting the Rules & Recruiting Judges

Months before the first bloom arrives, Mary Ann Hext nearly single handedly published the official show schedule and entry classes. Accredited ARS judges are being finalized, clerks and volunteer lists are being made.



Final Countdown Logistics

As the event gets closer, October 2-5, registration will close Sept 8th and the number of meals will be finalized with the hotel chef. Spread the word to local garden clubs that the rose show is open Saturday, October 3, 1-4 pm and Sunday, October 4, 9-1 pm to the public and parking is \$10, so bring friends.



The Team

Behind the scenes, we have been planning this spectacular event. Thanks to our fabulous and talented team of volunteers:

Janie Hagan & Liz Louie - Convention Co-chairs
 Diane Coleman - Treasurer and Registrar
 Mary Ann Hext - Rose Show Chair
 Lori Emery - Publicity and Fundraising Chair
 Lani Rossman - Merchandise Chair
 Martha Garman - Silent Auction Chair
 Barb Taube - Speakers and Vendors
 Lisa Sutton - Entertainment and Bus Tour



Register today and join us for a fun convention and rose show! You will get to listen to fabulous speakers, see beautiful roses, meet rosarians from all over the country, and exhibit your roses. Saturday and Sunday lunch and dinner included. All registrants will receive a swag bag and you will receive a complimentary copy of *Rose Atlas Vol 3: Hybridizers of the 20th Century*.



Visit medleyofroses.org for more information!



Got questions? Contact us at the email below.

Janie Hagan and Liz Louie
 Nashville Rose Society Co-President
 Medley of Roses Convention Co-Chair
2026ARSConvention@gmail.com





Medley of Roses Convention Speakers



Dr. Mark Windham, "Holistic Rose Care"

A rosarian must be a nutritionist, soil scientist, pathologist, entomologist, and expert of many other professions to successfully grow healthy, vibrant roses. Often actions we take to solve one problem leads to other challenges. In this presentation, we will explore a holistic approach to rose care to maximize rose health and vigor without breaking the bank or robbing us of our most valued commodity: time. Mark Windham was a Distinguished Professor of Ornamental Plant Pathology at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. For the last 14 years of his career, Mark worked toward developing management plans for Rose Rosette Disease (RRD), studying the virus's mite vector, and searching for disease resistance. He was part of a multistate team that discovered genes for resistance to RRD in roses. Upon retirement in 2023, Mark was appointed as Professor Emeritus by the UT Institute of Agriculture. He and his brother Alan, wrote an award-winning extension publication titled *Rose Diseases and Their Management*.

Mark is a member of the American Rose Society (ARS) and a recipient of the ARS Klima Award. He is a past-president of the Knoxville Holston Rose Society. Mark has published articles on rose diseases in *American Rose* magazine and has written publications for the ARS online library. Currently, he writes a monthly column call "Mark's Mayhems and Maladies" for ARS society newsletters. He also serves as an advisor to [American Rose Garden Selections \(AGRS\)](#)



Thomas Proll, "30 Years of Creating New Roses for KORDES"

Thomas Proll has created some of the most exceptional roses you will ever grow. He is the Chief Hybridizer for [Kordes Roses](#). They have been producing some of the healthiest, award winning roses in the world for decades, and they continue to lead the industry in breeding for disease resistance. Thomas Proll was born in Barmstedt, Germany, not far from the W. Kordes & Sons headquarters that would, in time, become the home base of his illustrious career. He completed his studies at the University of Hannover, where he qualified in Horticultural Sciences, producing his thesis on Resistance and Susceptibility of Rosa Species and Hybrids to Powdery Mildew. Thomas has worked with Kordes Roses for nearly 30 years and is now in charge of their world renown breeding department. Thomas will take us down memory lane of his involvement in creating these beautiful roses for 30 years.



Pam Powers, "Photo Fun!"

Pam Powers is an accredited American Rose Society Horticulture Judge, active Master Consulting Rosarian, avid exhibitor, District Silver Medal winner and President of the Arlington Rose Foundation. Under her leadership, the membership of the Foundation, serving the Washington, DC metro area has grown from 110 to 270 members. Her focus is community outreach and interactive skills-based training. She was appointed as ARS National Photography Chair in 2021. Through encouragement and recognition of the talents of exhibitors and judges across the country, participation in the National Digital Photography has doubled. Pam grows a diversity of over 130 roses at her home in Fairfax, Virginia, and serves as curator for unique rose gardens at private estates. Pam will give us ideas on how to have Photo Fun! in our rose gardens!



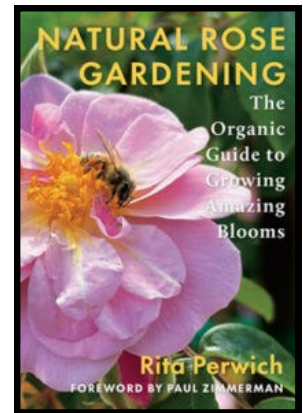
Medley of Roses Speakers



Rita Perwich – “Natural Rose Gardening”

Rita Perwich, an American Rose Society Consulting Rosarian and UC Cooperative Extension Master Gardener, is known for her dedication to sustainable and organic rose gardening. As the author of the monthly column “The Sustainable Rose Garden” for the San Diego Union Tribune, and a contributor to “Rose Ramblings” and the “American Rose,” she educates readers on cultivating roses organically, emphasizing healthy soil and the protection of beneficial garden life. Her leadership as editor of “Roses & You,” the American Rose Society’s e-newsletter from 2019 to 2021, earned her a Presidential Citation for outstanding service in 2021, followed by recognition as Outstanding Consulting Rosarian for the Pacific Southwest District in 2022. A retired attorney, Rita shares her expertise by teaching the annual pruning workshop in Coronado and chairing the

Rose Section of the Coronado Flower Show for over 25 years. Her own garden, certified as Earth Friendly and home to over 100 roses and a diverse array of plants, has been repeatedly honored in the Top Ten Gardens in Coronado and also as the Best Coronado Garden. Rita’s commitment to organic practices—and her avoidance of pesticides and fungicides—reflects her belief in nurturing both plants and the environment. For her, the true joy of gardening lies in being immersed in nature and inspiring others to grow sustainably and with passion. Rita’s book *Natural Rose Gardening: An Organic Guide to Amazing Blooms* will be on sale at the *Medley of Roses Convention* for \$30. Profit on the books sold at the *Convention* will be shared with the Nashville Rose Society, host of the *Medley of Roses–2026 ARS Convention & Rose Show*. Her book will be released in the UK by Chelsea Green Publishing on October 6, 2026. It is available to [pre-order](#).



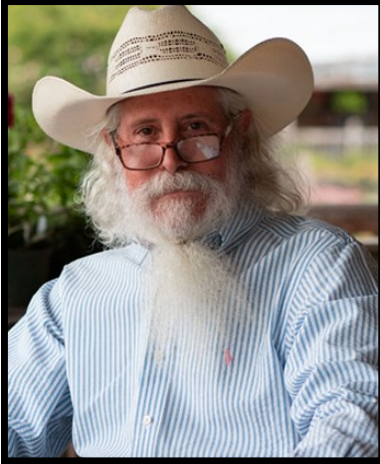
Brad Jalbert, “A Lifetime of Creating Brad Jalbert Style Roses.”

Brad Jalbert, Founder and Owner at [Select Roses](#), will present the roses that Brad has created over the years. Brad has been growing and breeding roses in the Fraser Valley of British Columbia Canada since 1990, when he founded Select Roses on his family farm. He planted his first roses as a teen. Roses and gardening became his life. Over the last 36 years, he has set a Canadian record as a hybridizer, bringing more than 160 rose varieties to market and being the first to win international awards for his creations. His roses are known for exceptional disease resistance, reliable hardiness, and Brad’s signature full, expressive blooms. They are also instantly recognizable for their “Jal Foliage,” the lush, full, glossy green leaves that are almost as beautiful as the blooms themselves. Among his most beloved introductions are *Dylan Rose*, *Caramel Kiss*, *Double Ambre*, and *Our Anniversary*.

What began as a small family operation has grown into an international presence, with Select Roses varieties now cultivated and sold on four continents. Brad’s reputation for artistry and precision has also led to several high-profile commissioned roses. He has created custom varieties for Canadian philanthropist William P. J. McCarthy, for country music legend Loretta Lynn, and for *Vogue Magazine*’s 125th anniversary celebration. Today, Brad is proud to partner with Heirloom Roses to expand access to his varieties throughout North America. This collaboration includes the introduction of his new rose, *Rockets’ Red Glare*, which was selected for planting at the Smithsonian in Washington, D.C., in celebration of America’s 250th birthday. Select Roses continues Brad’s Canadian breeding legacy through the mentorship of new hybridizers, a growing collection of new introductions, each approved by his mother who is affectionately known as “Momma,” and Brad’s enduring passion for spending every possible moment in the garden with his dogs.



Medley of Roses Speakers



Jim Keeter, “Deep Roots, Lasting Blooms: Old Garden Roses, Companion Planting and Sustainability”

What if growing better roses started with the soil beneath your feet? This presentation blends the timeless beauty of Old Garden Roses with modern principles of sustainability and companion planting in a practical, easy-to-understand way. We'll cover essential rose care fundamentals while exploring how healthy soil and beneficial plant relationships reduce maintenance and create stronger, more resilient gardens. Designed for gardeners at all levels, this session focuses on working with nature rather than against it. The goal is simple: healthier gardens, stronger plants, and roses that truly last. Jim Keeter Jr. has dedicated more than 40 years to horticulture, land stewardship, and sustainable landscape design, with a career rooted in soil health, plant ecology, and long-term landscape resilience. He earned a Bachelor of Science in Rangeland

Ecology and Management from Texas A&M University in 1983. Throughout his career, Jim has advocated for landscapes built on healthy soils, native plants, and plants that perform like natives, including roses. His work emphasizes integrating roses into biodiverse systems, pairing them with native companion plants to improve soil biology, reduce inputs, support pollinators, and create sustainable landscapes that mature gracefully over time. In 2022, Jim and his wife, Kim, became owners of the [Antique Rose Emporium](#) in Independence, Texas, an internationally recognized destination Nursery and Display Garden and E-Commerce operation known for its collection of roses and naturally balanced landscapes. In addition to the display gardens, the Rose Emporium operates a large-scale rose production facility, where tens of thousands of roses are propagated annually using practices that emphasize soil health, plant longevity, and sustainability. The Rose Emporium also maintains an active rose breeding program focused on developing resilient cultivars with strong disease resistance, heat tolerance, and adaptability to biodiverse landscapes.



Kimberley Dean – “A New Tool to Help You Maintain Your Rose Garden”

Do you dream of an organized inventory of your roses? Notes in one place? Rose photos in labeled albums? Finding roses online with discounts at your fingertips? In short, do you just want to click, snap, and be done? Kimberley Dean, ARS Consulting Rosarian and Master Gardener, St. Mary's County, University of MD, has been growing roses for over 30 years now. She grows 1600 roses in Maryland zone 8. You may know Kim as **The Rose Geek** on social media. This presentation shares a new tool, [My Rose Tracker](#), designed to help you maintain your garden like a “Rose Geek.” Kimberley Dean is a passionate consulting rosarian with more than 1,100 roses in her extensive garden. She is known for sharing garden tours, spotlights, and vendor unboxing videos through her

YouTube channel, The Rose Geek, giving viewers the opportunity to discover new varieties and see roses growing in a real-world garden setting. Like many rose gardeners, Kimberley found herself using multiple places to keep track of her roses, notes, photos, and wish lists. She also wanted an easier way to find where roses were available to buy. That led her to create My Rose Tracker, bringing these resources together in one place. The website allows gardeners to build a personal rose inventory, explore a comprehensive Rose Library, map their garden, compare varieties, maintain wish lists, record notes and observations, organize rose photo albums, and connect with participating nurseries offering roses and exclusive discounts. Kimberley is passionate about helping gardeners move beyond simply growing roses to building a more organized relationship with their gardens. Her presentation will showcase **My Rose Tracker** and show how an organized garden is possible!



ARS News

American Rose Society 2026 Webinars

- ▶ **September 11, 5:30-8:30 p.m.:** Making History of Roses! with Ping Lim Director of Ornamental Plant Research, Altman Plants
- ▶ **September 26, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.:** The 2026 edition of New Horizon Roses by Suzanne Horn
- ▶ **October 10, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.:** E.B. Stone Soil Health & Fertilization; Gardening Relieves Stress
- ▶ **October 24, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.:** Honoring the Rose with Ruth Tiffany
- ▶ **November 7, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.:** My 60 Years in Roses and Beyond with Tom Carruth
- ▶ **November 14, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.:** Roundtable Discussion Seasonal Care of Roses, Preparing for Winter, Winter and Transition for the Next Season with Acclaimed Master Rosarians Bill Kozemchak, Ken Borrmann, Paula Grabowski and Steve Jones
- November 21, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.:** Roundtable Discussion Seasonal Care of Roses, Preparing for Fall, Fall and Transition for the Next Season with Acclaimed Master Rosarians Dr. Satish Prabhu, Ray Guilebeau, Lou Pavlovich and Linda Clark

Programs are available free of charge for everyone but pre-registration is required. More details and registration links are available at: <https://rose.org/webinars/>.



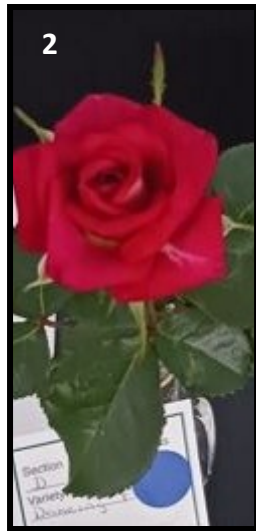
Suzanne M. Horn - National Editor, New Horizon Roses 2025 New Horizon Roses 2025 is now available for purchase in a few different formats from ARS and Amazon. All proceeds from New Horizon Roses 2025 are generously donated to the American Rose Society by the editor, Suzanne Horn. Now in its 43rd year, the 2025 edition contains 1,633 reports by 111 reporters from 28 different states. The reports comment on the exhibition potential of 300 roses introduced in the last five years including hybrid teas, grandifloras, floribundas, polyanthas, minifloras, miniatures, shrubs, and climbers along with photos and basic information from hybridizers on varieties for which we have not yet received reports. Supplementing the comments are color photographs of 300 roses. The reports are set forth alphabetically and include information on known sources for the reviewed varieties. Also, this edition contains a section on 50 Sneak Peeks of Coming Attractions from some of our top hybridizers. A downloadable PDF is available on the ARS website at the following link: <https://9abbbf-90.myshopify.com/products/2025-new-horizon-roses>. A large glossy paperback book edition is available on Amazon for \$45 by typing "New Horizon Roses 2025" into the search bar or by [clicking here](#). A Kindle edition is also available on Amazon for \$9.99 by typing "New Horizon Roses 2025" into the search bar. You won't want to buy any roses this fall without consulting the findings of our trusty New Horizon Roses national reporters.



Tenarky Rose Shows

Bowling Green Rose Society Rose Show—May 23 “Celebrate America 250!”

1. HT Queen—‘Marilyn Monroe’ exhibited by Lynn and Jim Schmidt
2. Miniature Queen: ‘Dancing Flame’ exhibited by Lynn Schmidt
3. Miniflora Queen: ‘Mango Blush’ exhibited by Marty Reich
4. Novice: ‘Golden Opportunity’ exhibited by Angela Amrozowicz
5. Best in Show, Gold, Royalty Arrangement: exhibited by Connie Baird
6. Mini Gold, Royalty: exhibited by Connie Baird
7. Queen Photography: Nicole Dickerson



Kentucky State Fair Rose Show—August 22



1. Arrangement Queen: exhibited Paula Williams
2. HT Queen: ‘Dolly Parton’ exhibited by Tom Lehmann
3. Miniature Queen: ‘Bold Ruler’ exhibited by Howard Carman



Tenarky District News

Holston Rose Society Disbands

Sallie Blazer, President of Holston Rose Society, announced that after much consideration, the membership decided to disband and ceased operation June 30, 2026. Chris Thompson, HRS member, shared this information: Mr. and Mrs. U.S. Cate held the first meeting at their home with others who were interested in growing roses. The meeting was held on January 27, 1949. Mr. U.S. Cate was elected as the first president of the Holston Rose Society. The Society then joined the American Rose Society and created the constitution according to ARS guidelines.

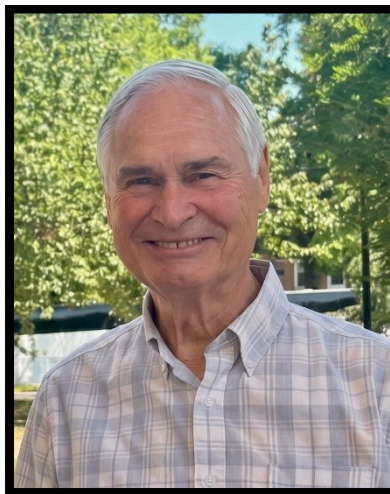
Over the years the Society co-hosted several TENARKY District Rose Show and Conventions with the Tennessee Rose Society, 1991 (Knoxville Rose Society also); 1997; 2006; 2011; and 2015. Also, Society Rose Shows were held at the Museum of Atomic Energy in Oak Ridge, Oak Ridge Mall, and other places. The Society has enjoyed many great speakers who spoke about all aspects of rose care and fellowship with other rosarians at their monthly meetings generally held at a restaurant in the Knoxville area.

Sadly, the Holston Rose Society dissolved on May 28, 2026, due to small attendance at meetings due to members' age and/or health issues

Please remember the families of these Tenarky Rosarians in your prayers!



Ralph Stream, an ARS Master Rosarian, member of Gainesville Rose Society, an avid exhibitor, and winner of many awards, passed away March 3, 2026. Ralph was Deep South District Director serving on the ARS Board of Directors and also served Southeast Region Director of which Tenarky District is a member. He and his wife, Jean who survives, were a rosarian exhibiting team winning many awards.



Jim Schmidt, member of the Louisville Rose Society, passed away July 29, 2026. He and Lynn have held numerous offices and made many contributions to LRS and the Tenarky District. They won several awards at the Bowling Green Rose Society rose show in May including Queen of Show with 'Marilyn Monroe'.



Mary Frances Carlson passed away August 8, 2026. She and her husband, Tom, were very active long-time members of Tennessee Rose Society. Both held offices including society president and were always willing to help when needed. She was the proofreader for *KATnips* for many years for three of our editors.



Tenarky Local Society News—Thanks to those who sent news!

Memphis Rose Society by Renee Stuart, President

The Memphis Rose Society celebrated its 80th Anniversary at the Dixon Gallery & Gardens. We enjoyed a guided tour through the rose garden led by greenhouse and cutting garden manager, Adam Queen. During the tour, our members had the opportunity to explore the rose garden and cutting gardens, while learning about the art and process of rose propagation. Adam shared his knowledge and expertise, offering an inside look at how roses are propagated, cultivated, and cared for at the Dixon Gallery and Gardens. As a special treat, our members propagated some cuttings from the gardens to take home with them.



Nashville Rose Society by Marty Reich, Master Rosarian

NRS has been hard at work on the convention coming up in October. We had a great picnic at John Wendler's garden in Burns, TN, for our June meeting. What a treat! Mother Nature even held off on the rain.

District Director, Howard Carman, gave a demonstration of how he does cuttings for our July meeting. Many of us are eager to give it a try.



In August, Dr. Nar Ranabhat, who has taken Dr. Mark Windham's place as the go-to person for Rose Rosette Disease research, was our speaker. His talk at the Winter Workshop a few years ago was quite interesting.



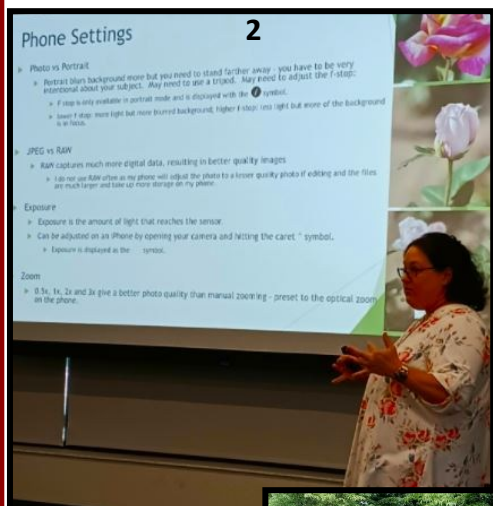
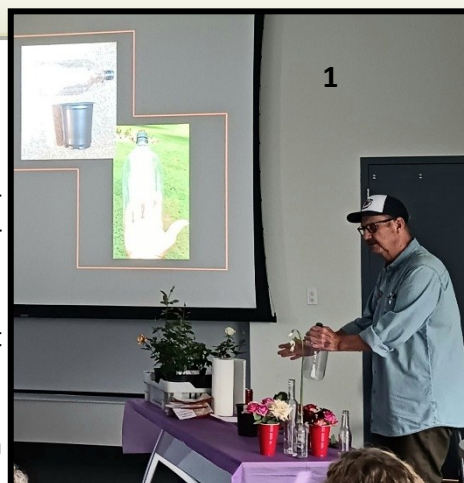
Tenarky District News

Louisville Rose Society by Paula Williams, President

Louisville was thankful that we did not have any "in person" meetings until March since there was some pretty brutal cold at times in our area. We were joined virtually by Suzanne Horn in February, and she gave a colorful and informative presentation on the latest New Horizon Roses publication.

March (photo 1) was Howard Carman demonstrating his propagation technique. In April (photo 2), Nicole Dickinson helped us understand about photography for shows and shooting photos with your I-phone.

Janet Miller (photo 3) hosted our first garden tour in May with some instructions for spring care, and June (photos 4) was a garden tour at Tom and Kathy Lehmann's home which has a view of the Ohio river as well as great roses. July (photos 5) was looking at our own members' roses and critiquing blooms with discussion on exhibiting.





Tenarky Local Society News—Thanks to those who sent news!

Tri-State Rose Society of Chattanooga by Jeff Garrett, Newsletter Editor

The Tri-State Rose Society of Chattanooga has been busy this spring and early summer. In April, we had a booth at the Hamilton County Master Gardener's Expo. The Expo is always well attended and, as always, presented us with a great opportunity to share information about growing roses and our club. We were also able to recruit several new members.

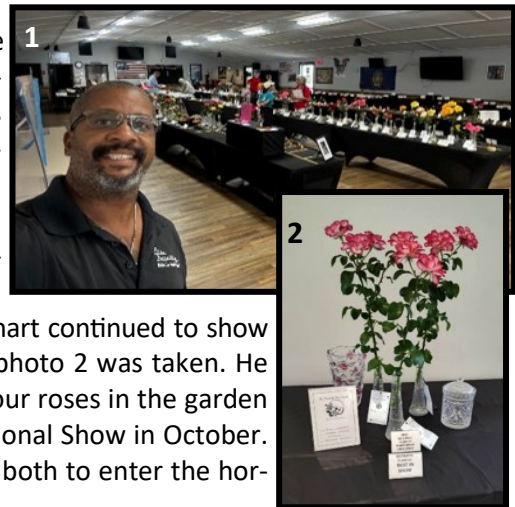
We had our annual picnic on May 17 at Veterans Park in Soddy Daisy. Our club maintains the rose garden at the park. We have 'Beverly,' 'Easy Spirit' and 'Top Gun' in the garden and all were in full bloom. We had a large turnout and everyone enjoyed some great food and fellowship. We also had an auction of plants and other garden related items.

Ron Daniels, from Nashville, was the guest speaker at our July 19 meeting. Ron gave a great program on a variety of topics relative to growing good roses. Kathy Brennan came from Knoxville and spoke at our August 16. Her topic was companion plants for a cottage garden.

We are looking forward to the National Convention in Nashville.

Bowling Green Rose Society by Linda Ford, President

The Bowling Green group finds itself still struggling to increase membership, but we've nonetheless managed to have a very successful annual rose show in May. Photo 1 shows Osei Thomas with tables of beautiful roses from that show. We had participants from our society and also from Louisville and Nashville. In March, we discussed rose care with Mary Ann Hext providing information on where to find insecticides, fungicides, fertilizers online and locally. The April program was on the history and beauty of single petal roses. In June, we watched a video Fraser Valley Farms on summer pruning. Ricky Lockhart continued to show his beautiful roses, both at our show and the Nashville show where photo 2 was taken. He also presented a very informative program in August on how to get your roses in the garden ready for the fall show. I'm sure he'll be bringing a bounty to the National Show in October. A number of our members are looking forward to the National Show, both to enter the horticulture and photography classes.



Tennessee Rose Society by Lori Emery, President

Greetings from Knoxville! We had a zoom meeting with Matt Douglas from High Country Roses earlier this year. He gave a great presentation with beautiful pictures of his roses and featured hybridizers. In April, we headed to Cookeville for a field trip where owner, Sarah Johnson, discussed her irresistible gorgeous roses. She and Chuck always have a huge selection of lush, healthy roses as well as a huge selection of annuals, perennials, houseplants, tropical plants and ferns, planters, home decor, and more. It is a wonderful destination for a society field trip! We went to Kay and John Rodgers meticulously kept garden in May. The Rodgers' garden is always a treat to visit. The leaves are always spotless, insect free, and the blooms are unbelievable! Every rose I saw was a Queen! (continued p. 14)



What a view of the Rodgers' garden!



Kathy Brennan &
Andrea Sabala



'Call Me Beautiful'
'Hey Jack'



Nancy Brown &
Kay Rodgers



Tenarky Local Society News—Thanks to those who sent news!

Tennessee Rose Society (continued from p. 11)

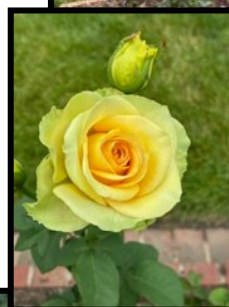
We had two garden tours at our June meeting. The first one was at our Beall Rose Garden where Dr. Mark Windham gave a summary of the history of the Beall garden. He had a special surprise for Kathy Brennan! Kathy has led her team of volunteers at the Beall garden for many years. Dr. Windham has offered to buy roses selected by Kathy for the Beall garden for the next several years! The roses would be selected from the American Grown Rose Selections (AGRS) which features disease resistance, tons of blooms, and good performance.

After the U.T. Beall Rose Garden, we headed over to Sharon Pryse's exquisitely manicured garden on the river for a private tour. Like the Rodgers' garden, Sharon's is terraced down to the river. The design of the garden is formal with its marble structures and boxwood knot seen below. The roses are the showcase of the garden, arranged in symmetrical rectangular formal beds. There roses are over 120 roses, each one a Queen! What a wonderful treat this garden is!

In August, temperatures approached 100 degrees. Dr. Mark Windham gave a timely talk on helping roses survive—and even thrive—in extreme heat. He emphasized watering deeply and avoiding fertilizer during hot weather. He also shared research on seaweed's benefits for roses. In particular, *Ascophyllum nodosum* can improve soil biology, stimulate new growth, and promote better flowering. Seaweed is not a fertilizer; it is a biostimulant. It can be applied to the soil every two to four weeks and may also be used on foliage.



Dr. Windham, Kathy, and Karen Windham (left)
Beth Carver and Smokey (right) at Beall Rose Garden



Heather and Adam, roses and views of Sharon's beautiful garden.

In September, we will have our annual picnic at the University of Tennessee campus pavilion, near the Beall rose garden. No meeting in October due to the ARS National Convention in Nashville. In November we will have Sarah Johnson, from Johnson's Nursery come and do holiday floral arrangements. In December, we will wrap up the year with our annual Christmas luncheon.



Exciting Vendors at ARS Medley of Roses Convention!

- ◆ **Nelson's Southern Roses** – nelsonssouthernroses.com: “We offer a selection of roses grafted onto Fortuniana rootstock, allowing you to enjoy the benefits of this exceptional rootstock in your own garden.”
- ◆ **Dirt Dawg Nursery (Jeff and Jennifer Harvey)** – dirtdawgnursery.com: “The tools we sell we also use in the nursery and in our yard. We put many hours in the garden every week and use our tools hard so if we like them and they perform well for us they will for you too.”
- ◆ **Crows Three Studios (Linda Crossan)** – www.crowsthreestudio.com: As a fine artist, Linda's focus has been on painting, sculpture, and ceramics with some time spent creating Liturgical Art for worship. Her work has appeared in galleries around the country and was chosen for inclusion in the International Ceramics Art Network 2023 calendar.
- ◆ **Antique Rose Emporium** – www.antiqueroseemporium.com: The Antique Rose Emporium was founded in 1983 in the historic town of Independence. It was founded on the idea of preserving the Old Garden Roses. We now offer over 300 different and unique varieties of roses, there is definitely a rose for everyone!
- ◆ **Thorton Metals (Susan Thorton)** – www.thorntonmetals.com: Every piece Susan creates is inspired by the symphony of nature, architecture, history, culture, fashion, and emotion. The world is filled with patterns and structures that inform my designs, and she channels this beauty into each creation. To wear one of her pieces is to wear a small fragment of this inspiration.
- ◆ **Restoration Roses (Susan Lyell Young)** – restorationrosefarm.com: Susan Lyell Young has been a gardener for over 30 years, specializing in antique and heirloom roses. However, the rose season only lasts for 8 months of the year in Nashville, Tennessee. What to do for the four months of dreary winter gloom? Susan has found coaxing bulbs into bloom for the indoors an emotionally satisfying experience.
- ◆ **The Art of Susie Campion** – susiecampion.com: Susie Campion is a Nashville-based contemporary painter and graphic designer whose work bridges the natural and built environment. She creates primarily in watercolor, ink, and gouache, often adding stains, textures, and layered details. Known for her botanical watercolors, patterned compositions, and luminous streetscapes, Campion approaches each painting with a balance of form and design.
- ◆ **Microbe Remedy** – microbialsciencelaboratories.com: Microbial Science Laboratories Scientists have been growing, blending and drying microbes for over 30 years. A normal square inch of soil contains around one billion microbes, our formulas increase the amount of microbes in that square inch to over 20 billion. They increase nutrition availability to the roots, pull Nitrogen out of the atmosphere to feed the plants, increase plant growth hormones, reduce heat and drought stress, increase root mass, increase budding and flowering, solubilizes locked up Phosphorous, Magnesium, Iron, Boron, Calcium and others minerals, and much more. Our number one seller, Microbe Remedy, is used by many of the top rosarians in the country. Click the following for more information on [Micro Remedy Features and Benefits](#), [Product Information](#), and [a testimonial from an Arlington Rose Society member](#).
- ◆ **The Rose Doctor's Clinic – Dr. Nar Ranabhat, Assistant Professor and Extension Plant Pathologist, University of Tennessee**: The Rose Doctor's Clinic is an Extension and Outreach booth where we will answer questions about rose rosette disease and other common rose diseases. We will have printed copies of our publications on rose rosette disease available for visitors. Participants are welcome to bring diseased photos or plant samples to discuss with your “Rose Doctor”, Dr. Nar Ranabhat, Assistant Professor and Extension Plant Pathologist, University of Tennessee. Stop by to share your experiences, including strengths, challenges, opportunities and threats facing your rose garden or the rose industry with Dr. Ranabhat.
- ◆ **Cindy David of Cindy David Designs** — is a Nashville artisan who creates beautiful and unique (one of a kind pieces) jewelry for men and women. She uses natural gemstones, semi-precious stones, Swarovski crystals, freshwater pearls, silver and gold and combines these components to create timeless designs. “I create jewelry rich in color, texture and meaning.” cindydavid.com.

**SAVE THE DATE!****TENARKY DISTRICT WINTER WORKSHOP****February 26-27, 2027****Warren County Extension Office, Bowling Green, KY****Friday Evening Social & Saturday Seminars****Information at <https://tenarky.org>!****[Tenarky District](#)****On Facebook****Follow/Like us!****Invitation to Join the American Rose Society****Member Benefits**

- **American Rose:** six issues of the nationally acclaimed magazine featuring rose information and beautiful photography.
- **Handbook for Selecting Roses:** provides evaluations on over 3,000 roses.
- **Educational Webinars and Schools:** available for free to ARS members.
- **Access to the ARS website members only section** containing *American Rose* magazines, handbooks and other ARS literature.
- **www.forum.rose.org:** where members can ask and answer rose related questions.
- **Discounts:** up to 20% at merchant partners with new partners being added continuously. Plus, free or reduced admission to botanical gardens through the Reciprocal Garden program.
- **World Federation:** access to online publications featuring old garden roses and their history.

**American Rose Society Membership Options:**

- **Annual Individual Membership** is \$55 with a digital magazine (*Currently the printed magazine is not available.*)
- **Annual Senior Membership** is \$45 with a digital magazine available at <https://rose.org/>
- **Annual Associate Membership** is \$20. When a husband and wife are both members of the ARS one pays the full membership while the other pays only \$20. **Two separate membership forms must be filled out with different names and different email addresses.** One requires payment of full membership while the other pays \$20.

Click [here](https://rose.org/) to renew on line at rose.org.**[2027 Symposium — San Diego Rose Society](#)****Registration is now open!**

The 5-day Symposium will be both the 2027 World Federation of Rose Societies Regional Convention and the 2027 American Rose Society Convention, and it will include America's 2027 National Rose Show. It will be the first WFRS Convention to be held in the United States in over 25 years. In addition to great presentations and the rose show, attendees will join in the Gala Dinner-Dance Celebration of the San Diego Rose Society's 100th Anniversary! Optional garden tours will be available to enhance your experience—the main garden tour is a full day of exploration including some of San Diego's best private rose gardens and the WFRS Garden of Excellence in beautiful Balboa Park. Stimulating speakers will cover a variety of other topics as well, including hybridizing and garden design to ensure diverse rose culture, the health-giving properties of rose growing, and even some rose history and lore. There will be opportunities to connect with exhibitors, rose conservationists and prominent rose mentors.



**2024-2027 District Officers****District Director**

Howard Carman
Vine Grove, KY
502.378.2043

howardr711@outlook.com

Vice Director

Paula Williams
Ekron, KY
270.863.1778

model55@bbtel.com

Secretary

Marty Reich
Nashville, TN
615.833.0791

marty615@bellsouth.net

Co-Treasurers

Paula Williams & Mary Ann Hext
Ekron, KY
270.863.1778

model55@bbtel.com

District Committee Appointments**Consulting Rosarians Chair**

Cindy Worch
Murfreesboro, TN
615.584.1377

cindykworch@gmail.com

Horticulture & Arrangement Judges Chair

Barbara Taube
Michie, TN
901.493.3200

taubebbarbara0@gmail.com

Membership Chair

Lori Emery
Knoxville, TN
615.948.7672

laemery20@hotmail.com

KATnips is the quarterly newsletter of the TENARKY District of the American Rose Society. TENARKY encompasses members of the American Rose Society residing in the states of Tennessee, Eastern Arkansas and Kentucky. The newsletter is provided free in electronic format. The opinions expressed here are those of the author(s) and/or editor and do not necessarily represent those of the American Rose Society or the officers of the TENARKY District.

While the advice and information in this newsletter is believed to be true and accurate at the time of publication, neither the authors nor editor can accept any legal responsibility for any errors or omissions that may have been made. The TENARKY District makes no warranty, expressed or implied, with respect to the material contained within.

Photo Credits

Photos p. 1 Medley of Roses Website
Photo p. 2 Paula Williams
Photo p. 3 Cindy Worch
Photos p. 4 Medley of Roses Website
Photos p. 5-7 Medley of Roses Website
Photos p. 9 Mary Ann Hext, Paula Williams
Photos p. 10 Horizon Roses, Paula Williams, VanderwallFH.com
Photos p. 11-14 Renee Stuart, NRS Facebook, Paula Williams
Linda Ford, Lori Emery
Photo corners 'Marilyn Monroe' HT Queen, BGRS Rose exhibited by
Jim & Lynn Schmidt, Photo by Paula Williams

Nominations/Awards Chair

Kathy Brennan
Knoxville, TN
865.556.2175

brenrose9267@gmail.com

Old Garden Roses Chair

Gene Meyer
Brentwood, TN 37027
615.373.0303

eugenemeyer@yahoo.com

Roses in Review

Jeff Garrett
Soddy Daisy, TN 37379-3189
423.332.6979

rirjeff@aol.com

Exhibitors Chair

Joanna Deck
Sheridan, AK
870.484.1813

joanna8deck@icloud.com

Photography Chair & Media

Mary Ann Hext
Rockfield, KY
270.781.8171

mhext@outlook.com

**2026 Tenarky District
Local Society Presidents****Bowling Green Rose Society**

Linda Ford, President
520.820.8632

lkpford01@gmail.com

Cookeville Area Rose Society

Sarah Johnson, President

Holston Rose Society

Sallie Blazer, President
865.982.4941

sallieblazer@gmail.com

Disbanded June 30, 2026

Louisville Rose Society

Paula Williams President
270.863.1778

model55@bbtel.com

Memphis Rose Society

Renee Stuart President
901.355.6683

rstuart1776@gmail.com

Nashville Rose Society

Janie Hagan, Co-President
615.210.1148

janielippshagan@gmail.com

Liz Louie, Co-President

lizalouie@gmail.com

Tennessee Rose Society

Lori Emery, President
615.948.7672

laemery20@hotmail.com

Tri-State Rose Society of Chattanooga

Sandee Jenkins, President
423.700.4442

sandeejenk@aol.com