

Ring Around The Roses



**FORT VANCOUVER ROSE SOCIETY
VANCOUVER, WASHINGTON**

www.fortvancouverrosesociety.org

Affiliated Member of the American Rose Society

Est. July 1953

November 2025

LEADERSHIP REMARKS

Looking out at my yard, I am daunted by the work to be done. Just thinking about putting everything to bed for the winter makes me tired. I am sure I am not the only one. We are due a break from summer's hard work and should be slowing down. But no! My yard is demanding one more burst of effort. And, in the middle of it all stands rose *South Africa*, loudly defiant, holding her bloom for more than seven days now. She appears to love the cooler weather, oblivious to the impending rain and darker days.



Sorry! Enough of my pining away and let me change gears to tell you of my most enjoyable Friday evening and Saturday on October 24 and 25. I and many other FVRS members attended the PNW District-ARS Fall Conference the last weekend of October (*see the in-depth articles on pages 4-6*).

Opening the Saturday session, PNW District Director Michael Humphrey gave his report on happenings around the district as well as updates on the American Rose Society.

Of concern were Michael's remarks on the current, difficult financial status of the American Rose Society. If you have had trouble contacting anyone at the ARS or have been unsuccessful obtaining needed information, it is largely due to the "bare bones" staffing and budget shortfalls at the ARS. However, Michael explained there are plans in place to address the problem that include selling ARS property; namely, The American Rose Center in Shreveport, Louisiana. The financial gain from the sale of this property will put greatly needed revenue back into the ARS.

Should the property sale successfully go through, those of us who are members of the American Rose Society will again start receiving the bi-monthly ARS magazine American Rose. I know FVRS members all love the ARS magazine, which provides a wealth of rose-growing knowledge as well as information about webinars and forums -- invaluable to rose experts and rose enthusiasts, alike.

In the meantime, what can you do? If you have are not currently a member of the ARS, then join (*an ARS membership form is on page 13*). If you are up for renewal, then re-up. If you can make a donation, do it. Your support of the ARS will make a difference and help the rose-centered institution turn the corner toward increased membership and a financially healthy 2026. *It takes a village!*

--Submitted by Kathy Fry, President

Special Note: Thank you to all the FVRS members who assisted with this year's conference. Of special note is our own Kim Erion who was the Saturday afternoon's featured speaker. Kudos also go to Carol Adams who assembled the beautiful product basket that was donated to the Silent Auction (a fundraiser for the PNW District held each year at the conference). In addition, Carol assisted me with staffing the conference registration table both Friday and Saturday. We volunteered to do so after learning the registration table was unexpectedly in need of staffing. It was last minute but, in the long run, gave us the marvelous opportunity to meet and greet all the conference goers! --Kathy Fry, President

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Thursday, November 6, 7 p.m. **General Membership Meeting**

St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 426 E. Fourth Plain Blvd.

Speakers: Julie Goggin and Sally Rossetto –

“What's That Rose in Your Garden?”

Normal Schell – “Emergency Preparedness”

AND...Bring Your Pruners or Loppers
to be sharpened
(one tool per person, please!)

Tuesday, November 11, 9:00 a.m. **Workday**

Start at Esther Short Park Rose Garden then on to Covington House Rose Garden. We will prune down the roses (to about waist high), weed and mulch to “close” both gardens for the winter.

Bring pruners, rakes, and a wheelbarrow (if convenient). Knee pads and gloves can also be very helpful.

Mulch will be provided by

THANK YOU, ROB!!!

ROB ZIMMERMAN
of SOIL BUILDERS
in RIDGEFIELD



Thursday, December 4, 6:00 p.m. **Annual Holiday Dinner Meeting**

The Old Spaghetti Factory, 730 SE 160th Avenue in Vancouver.

The annual meeting includes the installation of 2026 FVRS Board Officers and Members-at-Large (see page 7)

SNACK/REFRESHMENTS SCHEDULE

A - F February and June

G - J March and September

K - R April and October

S - Z May and November



2025 PNW District-ARS Conference

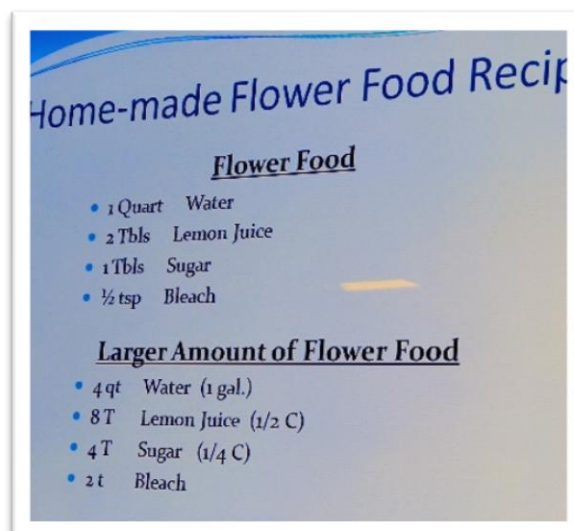
On Friday, October 24, as part of the PNW District-ARS Conference, an evening Arrangements Workshop was presented by Judy Fleck and Julie Goggin.

Discussed were the basics: line, form, space, texture and color. Also, discussed were arrangement essentials such as balance, proportion, rhythm, dominance, and a new one for those of us who have been participating in the arrangement workshops at FVRS: UNITY.

A container, floral foam, and materials were supplied to the 28 plus participants. With pretty much the same materials, everyone produced a different arrangement.

Also covered were entering an arrangement in a show, judging, and a home-made flower food recipe.

--Submitted by
Kathy Fry



2025 PNW District-ARS Conference

Sixteen members of the Fort Vancouver Rose Society attended the 2025 Pacific Northwest District-ARS Fall Conference on Saturday, October 25. The conference, held at The Heathman Lodge in Vancouver, drew members from at least 10 rose societies around the district.

PNW District Director Michael Humphrey chaired the conference, which included the Keynote Speaker Kristin Ohlson, author of *Sweet in Tooth and Claw* and *The Soil Will Save Us*. Kristin shared her insights from both her books, explaining her findings that there exist mutually beneficial relationships among living things which shape and sustain the natural world. Through regenerative agriculture, scientists, farmers and “foodies” are healing the soil to save the planet.

The second speaker in the morning session was Robin Jennings, manager of Strategic Partnerships at Heirloom Roses in St. Paul, Oregon. Robin proudly shared that Heirloom Roses, which recently celebrated 50 years of selling own-root, virus free roses, is family-owned and operated. Robin spoke of the ever-expanding floral business and other products now sold by Heirloom Roses. Her love of roses and passion to educate growers was infectious.

Delighting everyone with her humor and energetic delivery, our own Fort Vancouver Rose Society member Kim Erion spoke in the afternoon. She told the “Rehoming Margaret’s Roses” story with delightful good humor and candid explanations of how she obtained the myriad materials to



Conference room during one of the breaks
... good time to head to the raffle table!



Charold Baer sold hundreds of raffle tickets (amongst other good stuff!).



Kathy Fry participated “big time” in the raffle. Good for you, Kathy!



Kim Erion tells the story of
“Rehoming Margaret’s Roses”

July 2025 – PNW District Director
Mike Humphrey listens to Kim in her
beautiful rose garden labyrinth.

2025 PNW District-ARS Conference

construct the Erion rose garden edifice. Similar to Robin Jennings' talk, Kim personified the word "rosarian" and admonished the young among audience to ask questions and the older ones to share their wealth of rose knowledge and experience.

PNW District Photography Chair Jolene Angelos next presented a slide presentation of the 2025 PNW District-ARS Photo Contest (see photos) winners. ***Congratulations to FVRS member Rich Baer on his 2nd place finish with photo of "Lyda Rose"!*** Jolene encourages continued as well as new participation next year in each of the contest divisions: First-time Junior, Junior, Amateur and Master.

The district awards followed with our own Carl Finch presented with the **Outstanding Judge of 2025. So proud of you, Carl!**

Last, winners of the Silent Auction were announced. Joann Brehm of the Tri-City Rose Society won the large, beautifully assembled basket donated by the Fort Vancouver Rose Society. Thank you, FVRS First VP and Membership Chair Carol Adams, for its assembly and all those who donated items.

With each speaker heard, photo winner and district award presentations given, the Silent Auction raffle completed and all the official business conducted, the conference was adjourned just before 3 p.m. The earlier dismissal hour was most welcomed to those who had far to travel to get home.

This writer will definitely (and hopefully YOU too!) attend the conference next year!

--submitted by Jan DeWeese

1st Place "Dainty Bess"
by Harlow Young



2nd Place "Lyda Rose"
by Rich Baer



3rd Place "Dragon Fly"
by Harlow Young



2025 PNW District-ARS Photo Contest
Master Class Best of Show Winners)



Mike Zerwer (on left) is presented
Outstanding Consulting Rosarian Award
(presenter John Moe)



Carl Finch (on left) is presented
Outstanding Judge Award
(presenter Bruce Lind)



Barbara Lind (on right) is presented
Life Time Achievement Award
(presenter Caroline Fredette)



Harlow Young (on left) is presented
Silver Honor Medal
(presenter Caroline Fredette)



Carol Adams assembled the Silent Auction basket
(contents value \$185)
donated by Fort Vancouver Rose Society.



December Holiday Dinner

General Membership Meeting

Thursday, December 4, 6:00 p.m.

Our Thursday, December 4, meeting and installation of 2026 Board officers and members-at-large will be held at 6:00 p.m. at the Old Spaghetti Factory, 730 SE 160th Ave in Vancouver.

MENU CHOICES

Baked Lasagna

Mizithra Cheese & Brown Butter

Italian Sausage

Chicken Caesar Salad

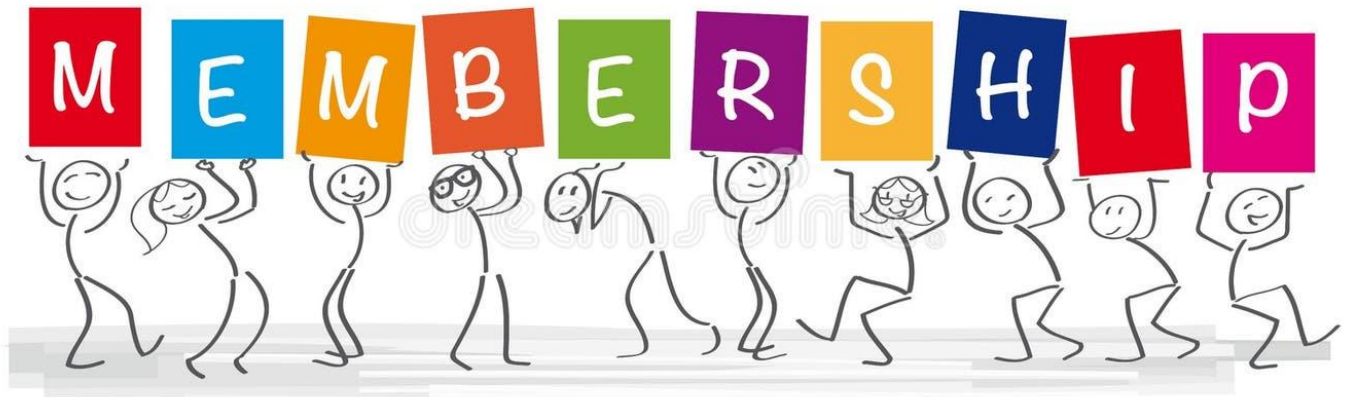
All dinner entrées come with salad, bread, and dessert of spumoni ice cream. The cost is \$30 per person. Please make your choice of entrée when you sign up and pay. If you are on a gluten-free diet, please let us know. Beverages (coffee, tea, milk, and soft drinks) are included with your meal. Alcoholic beverages are not included (you can order at the bar or ask your wait person).

Please sign up and pay at the November 6 General Membership meeting or send your check and entrée choice to our postal box:

**Fort Vancouver Rose Society
6400 NE Highway 99, Suite G, #457
Vancouver, WA 98665**

Your check and entrée choice must be received by December 1 as the order is sent in on December 2. If you do not drive after dark and would like to attend, transportation can be arranged for you.

--Submitted by Margaret Snitzler



2026 FVRS Annual Dues Reminder

The September 15 annual dues reminder letter mailed to each FVRS member from FVRS President Kathy Fry made a big impact. On behalf of Kathy and all the Board, I extend thanks to those of you who have since paid your \$25 membership for 2026 ... and so quickly!

Our goal is to have every member make timely payment of next year's dues, ideally before **December 31, 2025**, for all the reasons stated in Kathy's letter (*reprinted on page 9 in this November newsletter*). Paying your dues places your name on the FVRS membership roster which is required by the ARS at the time FVRS renews its liability insurance.

The annual \$25 membership dues can be paid with a check or cash at a FVRS meeting or event or a check can be sent to our postal box:

**Fort Vancouver Rose Society
6400 NE Highway 99, Suite G, #457
Vancouver, WA 98665**

Thank You!

Carol Adams, First Vice President & Membership Chair

Fort Vancouver Rose Society
6400 NE Highway 99, Suite G, #457
Vancouver, WA 98665
September 15, 2025



Dear Society Members,

Greetings, I hope this finds everyone well. I am writing to communicate the financial state of our Society. Our Treasurer, Maggie Mikalatos, reports that we are in good shape. The move to OnPoint Community Credit Union offers high interest rates on the monies we have there. And, with interest in our MoneyMarket account, our money is working for us.

Looking forward to 2026, we do not see any need to increase dues. At a time when everything seems to be going up, that is good news.

Why Should You Pay Your 2026 Dues Before This End Of The Year?

Fort Vancouver Rose Society is a member of the American Rose Society. ARS membership is paid annually and due for renewal in January of each year. ARS offers member societies liability insurance. This insurance must be purchased when the annual membership is renewed. The cost of insurance is based on the number of members in the society, and a roster of names has to be provided. FVRS purchases this insurance each year.

Current members of FVRS should pay their dues for the coming year by the end of December 2025. When they do this, they are included in the insurance coverage.

For this reason, we are requesting our members pay their \$25 dues beginning at the October meeting or have them paid by end of the year. Dues can be paid with a check or cash at a meeting or event or send a check to our PO Box.

Fort Vancouver Rose Society
6400 NE Highway 99, Suite G, #457
Vancouver, WA 98665

Yours sincerely,

Katherine Fry, President

Note: Ryan Tilley is still in “moving-the-household” mode. So, I found this edition of Weather Whiskers by Ryan from last year. It pretty much works for this year. –Kathy Fry, Editor



Weather Word
by Ryan Tilley, Meteorologist Supreme

Now that summer is gone, how the NWS do on their long-range forecasts. Well, sort of okay, but not great. Summer was supposed to be very hot and very dry. But the really hot spells were infrequent and short-lived, only a few days at a time. We topped 100 degrees only once and there might have been a dozen or so 90-degree days. Rainfall was scarce as has been the case the last 5 years.

So how will the rest of the year shake out. Well, October begins the cool rainy season and that is what is being forecasted. A La Nina event is being forecasted by most of the statistical computer models to develop and continue through the winter. As we have seen in the past, this has resulted in a wet winter that is colder than normal. Our recent heavy snowfall events have all occurred with a La Nina in progress. Given this, that is exactly what the NWS is forecasting, and I tend to agree with it.

Also, given all the hype for the current hurricane season, it has been disappointing from a meteorologist viewpoint. But October is still a month that can produce a lot of hurricanes, so there is still time for more strong hurricanes to develop.

October	Avg High	Avg Low	Avg Precip
Vancouver	63	41	3.39
Portland	64	46	3.00
Seattle	59	47	3.27
Seaside, OR	60	45	6.54
Spokane	60	37	0.41
Tacoma	61	46	3.70
Salem	64	42	3.03



2025 MEMBERSHIP FORM

Return this completed form with payment to:

Fort Vancouver Rose Society
6400 NE Hwy 99, Suite G, #457
Vancouver, WA 98665

_____ I wish to join the Fort Vancouver Rose Society

ANNUAL DUES

\$25.00 Fort Vancouver Rose Society (per household)

The Fort Vancouver Rose Society is affiliated with the American Rose Society

The American Rose Society exists to promote the culture, preservation and appreciation of the Rose, and to improve its standard of excellence for all people, through education and research.

If you wish to join the American Rose Society, please go directly to their website: www.rose.org

NAME: _____
(please print)

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

Amount enclosed \$ _____

(Please make checks payable to Fort Vancouver Rose Society)

Join the American Rose Society

Invitation to Join the American Rose Society



Benefits

Member of the American Rose Society receive the following benefits:

- Six issues of the award-winning *American Rose* magazine. This bi-monthly publication features informative articles and beautiful photography.
- *The Handbook for Selecting Roses*. This publication provides evaluations on over 3,000 roses.
- Educational Webinar programming available free of charge to ARS members.
- Access to the online bookshelf containing archival magazines, handbooks and other valuable ARS literature and educational material.
- Free or reduced admission to over 350 botanical gardens throughout the US through the Reciprocal Garden program.
- An updated website including our Rose Forum where members can find information, ask questions, access publications and more.
- Discounts of up to 20% at merchant partners. ARS Membership Benefit Partner program offers discounts at a number of merchants with new partners being added continuously.
- Online access to World Federation publications featuring rose history and gardens around the world.
- Free Advice from Consulting Rosarians. ARS Consulting Rosarian program connects members with expert rosarians that provide free assistance with your rose questions.

American Rose Society Membership:

- **Annual Individual Membership** is \$55 with a digital magazine or \$75 with a printed magazine
- **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. Only one magazine per household.
- **Lifetime Membership** is a membership for one person for their lifetime: \$1,900 or \$950 for seniors 65+.

Join or Renew:

- **Join on line at** rose.org/join-renew Fill in the on line form and provide credit card information.
- **By Mail:** Print and fill in the form below; enclose a check or provide credit information.

Name: _____ Local rose society _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Preferred Phone: _____

Annual Membership: \$55 Digital magazine _____ \$75 printed magazine _____ \$20 Associate with spouse _____

Check Enclosed: \$ _____ Make check payable to American Rose Society

Mail to: American Rose Society, P.O. Box 30,000, Shreveport, LA 71130

Or use: Mastercard _____ Visa _____ Discover _____ Amex _____ Card # _____

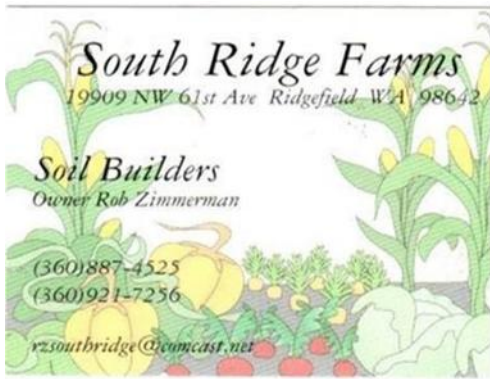
Expiration Date: _____ / _____ Verification Code: _____

Signature: _____

South Ridge Farms
 19909 NW 61st Ave Ridgefield, WA 98642

Soil Builders
 Owner Rob Zimmerman

(360) 887-4525
 (360) 921-7256
 rzsouthridge@comcast.net



Benefits:

- * suppresses weeds
- * retains water
- * provides micronutrients
- * pastuerized -- no weed seeds!
- * nearly neutral pH (8.0)
- * supplies humic & fulvic acids
- * builds healthy soil
- * low in salts

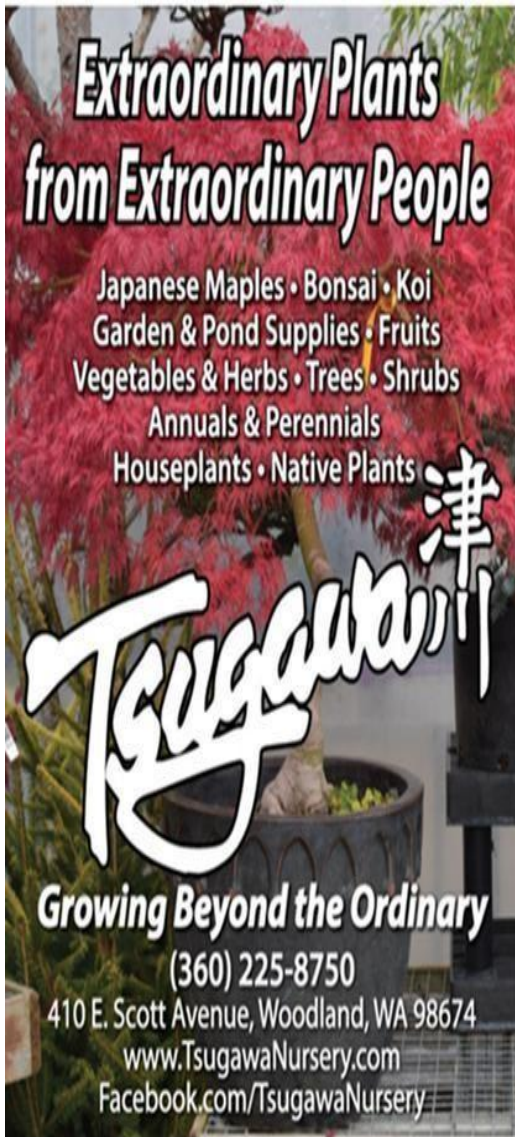
Mighty Microbe Mulch is a registered trademark of :
 Soil Builders, Inc., P.O. Box 956, Ridgefield, WA 98642.

**Extraordinary Plants
 from Extraordinary People**

Japanese Maples • Bonsai • Koi
 Garden & Pond Supplies • Fruits
 Vegetables & Herbs • Trees • Shrubs
 Annuals & Perennials
 Houseplants • Native Plants

Tsugawa 津

Growing Beyond the Ordinary
 (360) 225-8750
 410 E. Scott Avenue, Woodland, WA 98674
 www.TsugawaNursery.com
 Facebook.com/TsugawaNursery



YARD 'N GARDEN LAND
 Clark County's Most Complete Nursery
 And Florist

Gift Shop

1501 N.E. 102nd Street
 Vancouver, WA 98665
 3 Blocks North of Old Location

(360) 573-7172
 (360) 573-7411



**503
 Additional
 Self Storage**

9006 NE 117th Ave. Vancouver, WA 98662

Anthony Brown - Manager
 503@additionalselfstorage.com
 (360) 256-9857 • U-Haul (360) 254-4101 • Fax (360) 256-5244

I Li Hsiao AIFD EMC
 Floral artist + educator

@ilihisiao hsiaofae@gmail.com

YOU MOVE ME #BESTMOVEEVER

BEST RUNNER-UP CLARK COUNTY 2014

360.777.6991 YouMoveMe.com

USDOT2388358, MC820850 - 7620 NE 47th Ave Vancouver, WA 98661



**Thank you to our
 supporters!**