The Bulletin

Of the Deep South District Of the American Rose Society





By Cindy Dale, Master Rosarian

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District Director's Report

Happy Fall, everyone! This is my last District Director's Message because I have stepped down after leading the District for 6 years. Karen Prevatt of the Tampa RS has been installed as your new District Director (DD) and the DSD is in good hands since she did a great job in this position 12 years ago! The ARS Bylaws set a term limit of 6 years for DDs and this is a good thing to bring in new people and fresh ideas. David and I attended the ARS National Conference and Rose Show in Warwick, RI on September 9-13th and it was a blast! If you haven't attended one yet, you need to take the opportunity. The vendors were great. The speakers were the best of the best to include Matthias Meilland of Meilland Roses in France. The competition roses and photos were stunning, and the chance to network with fellow rose lovers from across the country was wonderful. The new ARS officers and Board of Directors was installed to include our new President, Craig Dorschel, who will be our DSD banquet keynote speaker, and Vice President, Carrie Bergs, along with Karen.

As I look back, it is a bittersweet time for me since we have accomplished so much together and I have enjoyed working with the ARS Board of Directors and our DSD Executive Board to set new policies and break ground in certain areas. I'm proud of our District

accomplishments such as holding the first virtual Mid-Winter Meeting in 2021 during Covid, putting together a committee made up of volunteers from 9 local societies across the District to host the 2023 Fall Conference and Rose Show when no local society host could be found, updating the Guidelines for District Meetings and Rose Shows, and being recognized by ARS in 2021 as donating the most funds of any District to the Great Garden Restoration project. By donating over \$13,000 we secured the naming rights for our DSD Garden at the ARC! Thank you, members, for all the support you've given me and our Board.

It is not possible to give enough thanks to the officers that have been with me the entire 6 years and helped me steer the ship. They are: Vice Director, Ray Guillebeau; Secretary, Sara Coleman; Treasurer, Kay Harrell; and Awards & Prizes Chair, Jean Stream. Ralph Stream was the Region Director during this time and was invaluable in mentoring me in this position. Finally, a huge thanks goes to all my committee chairs, most of whom worked during my first term and stayed on to provide continuity during my second term. There is so much work going on behind the scenes that the members are not aware of but it was the work of these people that got everything done and I am forever grateful.

I encourage everyone to attend our DSD Fall Conference and Rose Show in Gainesville, Florida October 11-13th hosted by the Gainesville and Marion County Rose Societies. Make your reservations and send in your registration now. Registration forms, schedule of events, and show schedules can be found at our District website. At this time, we have no one signed up to host future Fall Conferences so this could be the last opportunity you will have to attend one which is a darn shame! Please encourage your society to consider hosting future Conferences and Mid-Winter Meetings. We have people and guidelines in place to help and you get to keep the majority of the profits! Don't let our traditions die!

Kim Wendt of the Gr. Palm Beach RS is our new DSD Webmaster and has hit the ground running! In just a few short weeks on the job she has refreshed the site, adding new graphics, easier navigation, articles, and updating lists of CRs, MRs and judges, as well as local society contact information. She has even more plans to improve it in the future. Make sure you go to Deep South District of the American Rose Society – For rose enthusiasts in Alabama, Florida and Georgia and check it out soon! Please keep Kim updated about your events and I know she'd love to have photos and articles. She can be reached at

kwendt.palmbeach@gmail.com

"Roses in Review" (RIR) is underway for this year and needs input from all of us on the roses we grow to make the ARS Handbook for Selecting Roses the invaluable resource that it has been for many years. Please go to www.rose.org to do your online reviews before September 26th. Instructions and paper forms were also in the July/ August American Rose magazine and you can send the forms to our RIR Chair, Joseph

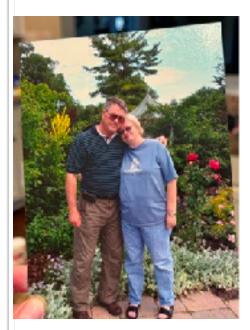
Wood, but the online method is much more efficient and saves Joseph from having to enter your reviews. You do NOT have to be an ARS member to do this. As always, I remind all CRs and MRs that it is your duty to do this even if you just go online, register, and check the block that states you have no roses to review this year.

Important news from the August ARS Board of Directors' meeting:

- I. The new ARS Forum is online to receive and answer rose questions from anyone (not just ARS members). It can be found at www.forum.rose.org.
- 2. The ARS website redesign for <u>www.rose.org</u> has been completed and has received many compliments. Please visit and enjoy the refreshed look and ease of navigation. The next phase is ongoing strategy of the site for marketing and education purposes.
- 3. Budget The new Events Coordinator, Lani Bailey, has booked \$27,500 in special events like weddings just in the 2 months she's been on the job. The Fourth of July celebration was hosted for the first time this year at the ARC Gardens, receiving incredible media coverage. Next year we will be looking for a corporate sponsor for the cost of the fireworks. Annual Fund contributions are down and dues income is down due to decreased membership. Editorial revenues are above forecasted budget amounts due to increased paper and ink costs. Overall, we are forecasted to be way below the budgeted amount of income for the year. The Board is exploring ways to cut costs and boost income. Please give to the Annual Fund and ask your society to give too. Contributions are badly needed.
- 4. ARS hosted 4 virtual programs (webinars) and a hybrid horticulture judges' school with a total of 833 participants so far this year. November 5th is the deadline for entering your digital photos in the ARS Photography Contest. December 7th is the next Local Society Committee online meeting for all local society Presidents or their representatives for exchange of ideas and support.
- 5. The online voting went smoothly this summer and all ARS Bylaws changes were passed by membership vote.

Thanks again for all your help and support while I was DD! I look forward to seeing you there at our Conference!

In Memoriam - Lyndy Myers November 21, 1943 —June 26, 2024



Sadly, we share that JRS Life Member **Lyndy Myers** passed away on June 26, 2024, after a long illness.

Lyndy led and worked for our JRS for many decades. Even this year, increasingly debilitated by severe illness, she kept busy on our behalf.

After their early years of service, she and **Wayne** served as Co-Presidents 2006-2008. For more than 20 years, she served on our board, managing our present challenges and shaping our future. She was our treasurer and secretary for several terms and served on the financial review team for many years.

Although she was not an exhibitor, **Lyndy** was a major force in producing and sustaining our annual rose shows, even chairing one year. She was the "permanent" co-editor of *Buds & Blooms*, finding the articles that Shirley Teerlink patched together to make our newsletter so interesting and educational.

By 2007 her service had been so extraordinary that we gave her our annual ARS Bronze Medal, the highest service award that a local rose society can present. Beyond recognition of her society leadership, the medal was well-earned recognition that she had hosted many annual picnics, planned many Christmas parties, and organized raffles, fund-raisers, and field trips.

She was also active in our Deep South District, even hosting the garden tour and lunch for an annual district convention. Always the gracious and innovative hostess—that year a heavy rain shower started pouring just as the buses of conventioneers arrived—but we all en-joyed a crowded but joyful HOUSEFUL with only a few brave enough to venture under umbrellas into Wayne's half-acre garden. She also represented our society at district meetings and attended national conventions. We will all miss **Lyndy**

Rooting Roses for Fun, Membership and Profit

By Glenn Schulman, MR Pensacola Rose Society



Like most rose societies, the Pensacola Rose Society

(PRS) struggles for membership and revenue. One method we have developed to counter this trend, is to sell rose bushes at an annual plant festival sponsored by the local community college every

spring and almost every community has such a similar event.





Since the Spring Festival of Flowers occurs in early April, it requires some advance preparation and pre-planning in the form of propagating non-patented roses for sale during the previous spring and summer as rooting in Zone 9 is limited by daylight and temperature as well as the

salvaging of shovel-pruned roses for future sale. To propagate on a large scale, a mister is required. I have a mist box constructed of twin-wall polycarbonate and a sophisticated timer system, but a more elemental approach can be employed for about a \$100 involving a battery timer with a mist cycle and a fabricated PVC mister unit with equally auspicious results.

I take spent roses which have the hardest wood, remove the bloom or hip, and reduce the





remaining foliage by 75%, then split the bottom of the stem to encourage auxin production for root formation. I then pack them in one-half-gallon containers with potting soil amended with additional perlite and pine bark mulch, then place inside the mist box. Within a month or two they have usually rooted, so I remove the ½-gallon pots laden with rooted roses, invert and crack open to extricate the individual rooted roses. I affectionately call this process, "pack and crack." I place the individual rooted roses in small cup-size containers and back into the mist box for a week or two to prevent shock-loss. Once I feel assured the separated rooted roses are growing e.g., roots emanating from weep holes, new buds, new foliage, I feel pretty confident in removing them from the protection of the mist box. I will then place them in a shaded area and water them several times a day. After a few weeks in the outside environment, I will bring some of them to our local PRS monthly meetings, in the hopes that members will accept, nurture and upsize them into larger pots until the next year's Spring Festival of Flowers. This is the rate-limiting or weakest link in the process, as many members are unwilling to adopt them, so this task invariably falls upon a willing few.

The actual sale attracts hundreds of like-minded men and women-of-the-soil to its 3-day run with PRS members taking turns manning the booth over the succeeding Friday, Saturday and Sunday.







I provide a large vaseful of roses, which serves as an olfactory and visual attractant, as you have to entice the crowd in order to engage them. We have the rose bushes identified by variety with a color-coded pricing system according to size for sale. The roses which sell the quickest are fragrant and or colorful. We also provide pamphlets on rose growing and publicizing the PRS. In addition to the literal information, we were also there to answer questions verbally and to promote the PRS in an effort to glean additional members. We typically pick up a handful of new recruits there every year.

This past spring (2024), the plant sale generated \$3,700 for the PRS, which was an almost 75% increase over the previous year's \$2,150. Since we are producing or growing plant material for sale or distribution, we register annually with the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) to obtain a Certificate of Stock Dealer Registration, a \$25 yearly fee. We are also subject to local and state sales tax regulations. It is far easier to sell rose bushes to the public vs an ad in a rose show program booklet, as the roses generally sell themselves. We could have sold even far greater if we had more of the right varieties, which emphasizes the need for more PRS member involvement in propagation and temporary adoption, but fostering participation is something almost all rose societies continue to wrestle7

DSD 2024 FALL SHOW AND CONVENTION

By: Bet Sobon 770-561-6846 bet.sobon@outlook.com

It was debatable if the DSD Fall Show and Convention would take place. A week before, Hurricane Helene had come through and hit Florida, Georgia and North Carolina. Then, two days before Hurricane Milton came through. We received word that the Convention would still go on and Gainesville was not affected!

Driving down from Georgia, we saw some of the damage from Helene, which hit Valdosta hard. Many pine trees along the highway were snapped off and the Live Oaks had lost many branches. But the roads were clear, even though they were full of Utility Trucks and other disaster relief vehicles, and we were able to get gas.

After we arrived safely, we had dinner in the restaurant at the Hotel. We were talking about the Convention and the show, and the couple at the next table asked 'are you here for the rose show?' I noticed they had British accents. It was Ray and Pauline Martin. Who came all the way from the UK to do a presentation at the show! They were so lovely!

The next day was the Photography Class, which was excellent. Bobbie Reed went over the technical parts of Photography, while Stephen Hoy went over the more artistic aspects of photographing roses. It was very interesting and I learned a lot.

The next day was the show. I did not have any roses to bring, so I spent my time at the vendors, picking up roses I bought from Rose Petals Nursery and also bought one from Nelsons. Later, I also bought a necklace and a key chain from an artist that takes nature photos of Florida wildlife and makes jewelry out of them! It was very unique.

The lectures that day were interesting. More on pests, especially Chili Thrips from Cynthia Nazario-Leary, PhD. After that, Melissa Bader, from the Greater Atlanta Rose Society did an excellent presentation on Building Software Communications for Rose Societies. Very informative and will be useful for all Rose societies.

After Lunch, Stephen Hoy did another



Ray Martin giving his presentation

presentation on Will Radler's, concentrating on the lesser-known ones that Radler has hybridized. Ray Martin then did his presentation on British Hobby Hybridizers. Ray could be a stand-up comedian he was so entertaining.

After that we toured the Rose Show winners and went to the Rose Raffle, which is always great fun, The Banquet was then held and there were many awards given



Silver Medalist Wayne Myers



Outgoing Director Cindy Dale Passing the Gavel to Incoming Director Karen Prevatt



From L-R David and Cindy Dale, Craig Dorschel, Jean Stream, Karen Prevatt and Ray Martin

Then off to the Hospitality Area where many were there late into the night talking and sharing ideas. A great time was had by all!



Our next District Even will be held in Late February of 2025. Please see below for a special message regarding this meeting.

MID-WINTER MEETING NEEDS A NEW NAME

Our Mid-Winter meeting has been changed from the traditional third weekend in January to the first weekend in March. This year the meeting will fall on the last day of February and the first and second days of March. The change was decided by the prior board of directors to give more time between the Fall conventions, usually in October, and the Mid-Winter meetings in January. Moving the meeting to March also gives everyone time to recover from the busy winter holidays. The first hint of Spring in most Deep South District gardens begins to appear in early March. It is a fitting time to rename our meeting to fit the Spring season.

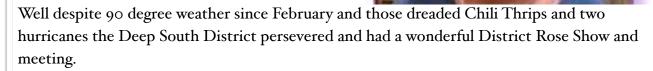
We have instituted a contest to rename our Mid-Winter Meeting. You can help us name the meeting by submitting on or before February 15, 2025 a suggestion for a new name to our District Newsletter Editor Bet Sobon at bet.sobon@outlook.com or to Karen Prevatt at kjprevatt@gmail.com . The competition is open to all local rose society members in the Deep South District. The winning name will be selected at the 2025 meeting by a vote of the members attending the meeting. You do not have to be present to win.

A \$25 cash award will be won by the party submitting the winning entry. If the winning name is submitted by more than one person, the one submitted first will receive the award.

DSD Horticulture Judges

By: Joanne Maxheimer 229-403-1419 iamjomax42@gmail.com

Hi everyone:



Those that were able brought beautiful roses and made some wonderful arrangements. Because of the hurricane Milton our own Eleanor Ramage was unable to attend. We honored her this year with a new District trophy which consisted of three shrubs or OGR's in a single vase. Ken Wilkinson won the class and was so honored as he stated that Eleanor had been a mentor to him when he first started to show roses. We also want to wish Eleanor a happy birthday as she celebrates her 100th.

Finally and I say finally the cooler weather has arrived and we can start to get our gardens ready for the winter months ahead. The thrips have finally gone away in my garden and the roses are starting to look a lot better. Although, the weather has turned cooler we are now faced with much drier weather, and that means we need to water more frequently.

There was a question about the new option that ARS has just come out about regarding entering more than one of the same variety of roses in the same class. Although this has been approved by ARS it is still an option. Each society can add that to their schedule or choose not to. Our DSD this year decided not to allow it. We at our Thomasville show did and it increased our amount of entries a great deal. The reason ARS made this decision is that are shows are getting smaller each year with less people growing and showing roses. So please read the schedule for the show that you're participating in and make sure they have added this to their schedule before you enter more than one rose of the same variety in any of the classes.

Sandy and I will be having a judging school in May of 2025. The school will be held in Thomasville, Ga., and many of our judges need to attend. We have lost several judges this past year because they did not take advantage of the online course that was given by ARS. Judges you must re-certify every four years. So please plan to attend the school in May and the tentative date is May 30th and 31st.

Wishing you all a blessed holiday season!!!! Joanne

DSD Arrangement Judges

Between Helene and Milton, our district has been challenged enough! Those of you who have missed out on our DSD events but regained somewhat of a normal existence, please contact me. Let us know you are OK. We have been keeping you in our thoughts and prayers.

Since we last communicated, the American Rose Society's National Convention and Rose Show was held in Warwick, Rhode Island. Incoming President, Craig Dorschel, from



By Sandy Dixon sandyfdixon@comcast.net

Massachusetts, took the reins from Diane Sommers, who resides in Wisconsin. Our new National Chair of Arrangement Judges is Bruce Barr, another Wisconsinite, who is the embodiment of joy with expertise abounding. We are in great hands!

The national was a fun event with good speakers and old and new friends. I am truly sorry if you missed the side trip to Newport... where I ate my weight in lobster! The Breakers, a Vanderbilt mansion, a truly breathtaking tour topper was the cherry. Did I mention that the weather was perfect?

Our Deep South District Convention and Rose Show, this month, was held in the usual spot in Gainesville. Congratulations to three of our DSD arrangement exhibitors. The ARS National Challenge was won by Joanne Maxheimer. The Deep South District Challenge was won by Jean Stream. And, the DSD District Director Trophy was won by Ray Guillebeau. Thank you to all who entered arrangements in the show. It rivaled the national show.

The new DSD Director, Karen Prevatt, has green-lighted Joanne Maxheimer and I to hold an ARS Judging School for both Horticulture and Arrangements this coming May 30 and 31. Mark your calendars. It will be held at the same church in Thomasville as the last time. More information will be forthcoming.

If you need to send me questions or information (photos, etc.), please send me a text (904-521-6274), alerting me to your email. Otherwise, it may not be read in a time-sensitive manner. I hope I see all of you at some rose show in the near future.

My contact information is: Sandy Dixon, *sandyfdixon@comcast.net*, 6181 Deepwood Dr. E., Jacksonville, FL 32244, 904-521-6274 or 904-778-2887.

CONSULTING ROSARIAN REPORT

By Janet Newburgh/ Consulting Rosarian

240-281-4352 jannewburgh@gmail.com

I hope that Helene has left you with some beautiful roses to enjoy. In any case, we Consulting Rosarians still have plenty of work to do beyond yard cleanup and tending our own gardens.



I hope that everyone completed and submitted your Roses In Review report that was due at the end of September. This very important report provides guidance to others about roses that do well in our area, as well as about those that are not so happy here in the Deep South District.

Consulting Rosarians constitute the main outreach program of the American Rose Society. The main goal of this program is to promote the cultivation and appreciation of roses, and to assist others in this endeavor. If you are not yet a Consulting Rosarian (CR), we hope that you will consider becoming one. Everyone aspiring to become a CR needs to attend a CR school and then to pass an open-book exam. We aim to have a CR school some time in the next few months, and we'll try to make information available to you about that opportunity.

For those who are already CRs, in order to continue as an American Rose Society CR, it's essential to maintain membership in the American Rose Society (ARS). We can't always depend on someone to remind us if our ARS membership is about to expire, so each of us needs to log on to the ARS website on a regular basis to check our individual status. To do this, go to Rose.org, then click on ARS LogIn in the upper right. If you don't yet have an account, you will need to create a Username and Password. If you already have a Username and Password, you can simply log in and then go to Manage My Account to see the key information that ARS has for you, including the expiration date for your ARS membership, your next CR audit date, and, if you are a Horticulture or Arrangement Judge, the next audit dates for these activities.

To continue as a CR, in addition to maintaining ARS membership, each current CR needs to take at least four recognized Continuing Education Units (CEUs) every four years, and one of these CEUs needs to be on Chemical Safety. Finding an opportunity to take the Chemical Safety course has sometimes been difficult for some CRs, and we are working on making it easier to take this course. The first step in this direction will be a Chemical Safety course offered on Friday evening, October 11, 2024, at 6:00 pm at the fall DSD Convention.

An item that needs CRs' attention soon is the Annual Consulting Rosarian Report. Each CR in our district needs to complete and send this form to the District Consulting Rosarian Coordinator, which currently is yours truly. We hope to have the report form available on the Deep South District Website, so watch for it there, under Resources, and then under Consulting Rosarian Information. I also plan to have report forms available at the upcoming Deep South District Convention, and I would gladly send you a copy of the form upon request. Your Annual Consulting Rosarian Report should list all your major rose-related activities of 2024, and especially those activities that you perform in your role as a CR. Your completed report can be sent to me by email or by regular mail, and it should reach me by the end of January, 2025. I read all the reports, and I always find helpful gems that are good to share with others in their roles as CRs. I plan to include an overall summary report in the Deep South District Bulletin in early 2025.

Many thanks to each of you for what you do to promote enjoyment of our favorite flower.



Roses In Review



Hi Rose Friends,

I had planned to share the complete roses in review results for our district for 2024. However, those numbers are still being compiled as this newsletter goes to press. Thank you to all to completed the survey online this year. We did EXCELLENT as a district on our participation!

I wish each of you a joyous and safe holiday season and a most prosperous new year!

Joseph Wood
RIR Chairman
Deep South District

By Joseph Woods fosephwood1@mac.com



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UPCOMING EVENTS

Feb 28 - Mar 2 2025

DSD 'Mid Winter' Convention

Gainesville, Florida

More Info to come

May 2025

Judging School, Tallahassee Florida

More Info to come

More information on Local and District Events can be found here:

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https://deepsouthdistrict.org/upcoming-events/

To ensure that your event is listed in the next issue's Upcoming Events, please send the information to Bet Sobon, Editor, 770-561-6846, betsobon@gmail.com,

Visit the DSD Website at http://deepsouthdistrict.org

https://fb.me/DeepSouthDistrictAmericanRoseSociety

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