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World Rose News



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Editor's Message



Shireen Deoraj

Spring has sprung in the Southern Hemisphere, and with it comes a wonderful sense of renewal and rejuvenation. We are welcoming warmer days, longer sunlight hours and gardens bursting back into life.

Here in tropical Durban, we had a mild winter, and I had roses flowering until the end of July. Some spring rain has fallen, giving a much-needed lift to the garden.

The world rose fraternity suffered two great losses in July, with the deaths of Dr Gwen Fagan (South Africa) and David J. C. Austin (England). Gwen was a medical doctor who became a leading expert on historic roses, and she wrote a comprehensive history of old roses at the Cape. She was 101 years old. David J.C. Austin was the son of the famous rose breeder David C.H.

Austin. He died aged 67, and for more than three decades he led the business of David Austin Roses, driving its growth and transformation into the global brand it is today. Their legacy will live on in the millions of beautiful roses and many rose gardens designed for our enjoyment.

This edition is packed with pictures of beautiful roses from the rose trials, the rose convention and rose shows from various parts of the world. Enjoy!



President's Message



Sushil Prakash

The Rose Season in Europe is coming to an end, as the summer fades away making way for Autumn and then Winter. It was a hectic time in June and July as various Rose Trials were held in Europe, and the Rose gardens were in full bloom.

I was lucky to be in Baden-Baden, Germany on 15th and 16th June, to again be a part of this wonderful Trial and the meticulous planning and hospitality of Mr. Markus Brunsing and his team.

The new Mayor, Mr. Thomas Jung, was also fully involved in the Green Initiative of the city where this was the seventh year of trials without spraying. Mr. Matjaž Mastnak, Director of Arboretum Volčji Potok was the chief of jury. The Golden Rose of Baden-Baden was won by Rose Candy Cloud of Dräger Rosen, a beautiful disease resistant introduction.

The next day we were in Saverne (France) and this was their 100th year of Concours International de Roses Nouvelles de Saverne. This city and its people involved in Roses have impressed me by their warmth and dedication to the garden and Rose Trials.

Saverne, June 2026



Golden Rose of Baden-Baden award to Jannik Dräger

Hillview, Fernhill Road, Kodaikanal with Mrs. Girija Viraraghavan





(Rosa clinophylla & Rosa bracteata) used by Mr. Viru Viraraghavan in his hybridising

It was followed on 18th June by Rose Trials in Bagatelle (Paris). It was their 119th Rose Trial. It was another amazing day with lunch at the racecourse. The day was very warm. Mr. Jean-Pierre Lelivre did an excellent job with his dedicated team and as we were in Paris, the high fashion was clearly visible in the jury team.

The next day was Kortrijk (Belgium), and overnight there was a thunderstorm bringing the temperature down. The Roses were in a pristine condition, and their digital judging went well without any hitches. A precise and very well executed trial.

In other parts of the world, it was a different weather. In India a prolonged summer followed by heavy rains caused Rose lovers to protect their plants. But in the northern side or Himalayan mountain range the specie Roses and Old Garden Roses bloomed in Kashmir and Leh.

The climate change is now a reality. An unprecedented hot summer with dry weather in Europe where temperatures crossed 40°C played havoc with Roses. In these changing

weather patterns, the Rose Hybridisers in future have to look for more adaptable varieties which can also withstand high temperatures. A new line of crossing /hybridisation has to be established.

The San Diego Regional Convention takes place next year and my appeal is that more and more of us should register for this fantastic symposium celebrating the 100th year of the San Diego Rose Society. The programme along with pre and post tours looks very interesting. The local team with ARS is working strongly to make it a resounding success.

The preparations for the 21st World Rose Convention in Bhopal, India are also going well. The plan is to open the registrations in January 2027, one year in advance. It will be the chance of a lifetime to see the Roses in India, meet Rose friends, look at the heritage sites and enjoy Indian cuisine and hospitality.

At the end of July 2026, I took the opportunity to travel to the Kodaikanal home of Mrs. Girija and

Viru Viraraghavan. It was a rose pilgrimage (holy journey) for me. I should have done it earlier but nevertheless I was with Mrs. Girija Viraraghavan in her Hillview cottage. It was an amazing discovery for me, as I went up the slope into the rambling greenery, dense and with a lot of specie Roses collected by them from all over the world. I could see Mr. Viraraghavan's work on 'Rosa gigantea' and 'Rosa clinophylla' (perhaps the world's only tropical rose species) in his hybridising programme, collection of Rhododendrons and many other plants, climbers and trees.

Having a typical South Indian lunch in their 120-year-old home and then enjoying a cup of coffee with Mrs. Girija Viraraghavan in their courtyard was the other highlight. I also went with her to the natural habitat of 'Rosa leschenaultiana', a native of the Western Ghats. In all, a very unique and amazing experience.

Rosa leschenaultiana (Nilgiri Climber) in natural habitat



Executive Director's Message



Marga Verwer

It started raining. After a very hot and dry summer, a few months without rain, we at last have the normal rainy weather. Although the grass is back green immediately, the rain will not bring back the water level with the same speed. We need months of rainy weather. And we will know the damage this hot and dry period caused only in a few years. Visible damage is obvious in the black areas, beautiful forests and other precious green spaces destroyed by the fires. One can plant new trees, but it will take many years to have a new forest, and old nature is lost forever.

I do love trees, but I do love roses as well, of course. The roses love the sun, but they also need water. The difference in gardens with water supply and those without was visible. However, we had a good rose year. At the trials we noticed beautiful new varieties, also from breeders quite new to the job. A young generation is showing itself with knowl-

edge and love for the rose. Not only young new breeders do well, lovely to see that also new breeders of my age had good results, can go home with the highest award.

2026 is a year for jubilees. The ones I remember of this year are the Alsacienne (Alsatian) and Lorraine Rose Friends Society of Saverne who organised their centennial trial. A 100-year jubilee, that is really something. In Madrid they celebrated their 70th year of International Rose Trial, and the Dutch Rose Society is celebrating their 60-year jubilee this week.

It was interesting to hear of the new developments from the Trial committee and the Breeders' Club at the combined meeting in Le Roeulx. At this meeting 35 participants from 10 countries were present. The trial committee is checking for new rules to be added to the Guidelines, and announced new trials to come, starting from next year. The Breeders' Club, who is now also responsible for the classification, discussed new classification classes with exact definitions per rose class for international rose trials in Europe. This will make it easier for breeders to check the class their roses should be classified

to, before sending in their rose varieties to the trial organisers. It will also make the trials more uniform by using the same system.

Living in Europe, the rose season is coming to its end. We can start our planning for next year. My rose season 2027 will start with the WFRS Regional Convention in San Diego, combined with the San Diego World Rose Symposium, with which the Rose Society of San Diego celebrates their 100th anniversary. You can find the link to their website at the WFRS website. The registration is open, and I hope to see many of you rose friends there.

I added a photo of a lovely moment this year, photo taken by Frans Thomas, at the day of the Hradec Králové trial in a nearby garden.





VP Report North America (Canada)

Brenda Viney

From coast to coast, Canada's rose societies celebrate a vibrant season of blooms, bringing together passionate growers, inspiring exhibitions and a shared love of roses.

While watching a recent “Nature of Things” show on a private broadcast TV channel, they remarked that Canada is among the coldest countries in the world. Fortunately for us rosarians throughout the country, Canada offers much more than frigid temperatures further down south!

June and July are the months for Rose Shows in Canada and here are reports of several of them, starting on the West Coast in British Columbia, then moving east as we cross the country. Many thanks to the various people across the country who have provided me with articles about their shows – I could not have done it without them!

For 54% of the attendees, this was their first rose show.

VANCOUVER ROSE SOCIETY, Vancouver, BC

my club holds rose shows every two years; the next one is in June 2027.

FRASER PACIFIC ROSE SOCIETY, Coquitlam, BC

Article & Photos by Rose Show Chair, Theresa Krause

The Fraser Pacific Rose Society is in a close suburb to Vancouver, in Coquitlam. We put on a wonderful two day rose show starting on 20 June, 2026. Even though we scheduled the date a week earlier than our normal date, we were still two weeks after the peak this year due to our mild winter. Despite that, we were able to fill the room with many blooms with the floribundas, shrubs and climbers displaying the most entries. A total of 678 people attended our free show. The novice division doubled the number of entries from last year. This shows that all the new members are getting into growing and showing their roses. We also surveyed 100 random attendees at our rose show. For 54% of the attendees, this was their first rose show. Of the rest, 14% were returning



Floral Art Design won by R. Moskel



FPRS - Best GR - South Africa



FPRS - table view

attendees for 2 or 3 years. This suggests that the free admission, which started three years ago, draws the public to the show. Floral art is always the attendee's favourite division with teacups and saucers a close second. Our overall entries to the rose show were up 8% over last year (251 versus 232). We had 49 participants who signed up to display in our show; last year we had 32. We welcome the public to put entries in our show; they do not need to be a member. We have a novice helper on hand to help them enter and stage their entries. We gained 5 new members who joined our rose society at the show. A floral art demonstration and an explanation of what judges look for when evaluating different types were also provided.

COQUITLAM CENTENNIAL ROSE GARDEN, Coquitlam, BC

Writing by Brenda Viney, photos by Theresa Krause

To expand on Theresa's comments, I thought I would mention that one of the highlights for this club is that the show takes place next door to the Coquitlam Centennial Rose Garden. The garden was created to celebrate Coquitlam's centenary in 1991 and has thrived all these years in a relatively small space. This garden is free and open to the public to wander through at any time of day. Situated next to a bowling green, a seniors' centre, a major sports hub and a weekend farmers' market, it is enjoyed by young and old alike. FPRS members maintain this beautiful rose garden in conjunction with the City of Coquitlam and it contains 531 roses in both the 'modern' and 'heritage' areas of the

garden. In 2023, 28 members spent 384 hours, in 2024, 66 members spent 689 hours and in 2025, 29 members, 2 students, 38 Park Sparks and 4 city workers spent 733 hours maintaining the garden. The FPRS members are affectionately known as the 'Garden Gnomes,' who are always happy to offer help and advice to the many visitors who drop by. The public is encouraged to visit the gardens on Saturday mornings during the growing season (March to November) when rose members perform clean-up, pruning and deadheading while teaching interested visitors how to care for roses. The garden starts to come alive in May with climbers, shrubs, floribundas, hybrid teas, miniatures, old garden and rambling roses. In 2013 the club created "The Canadian Hybridized Rose Garden" with 119 roses growing along the side of the garden next to the lawn bowling green. These roses were hybridised to survive harsh Canadian winters down to -30 degrees Celsius with many growing around the world in more northern countries where winters can be an issue.

***The FPRS members are
affectionately known as
the 'Garden Gnomes'.***



FPRS room view



Floral Art design



Best in Show - Gemini won by Sunhee Chang



FPRS 2026 - different classes

CALGARY ROSE SOCIETY, Calgary, Alberta, founded 1960

Article & Photos submitted by Jenny Hart, a Past President and long-time member

The Calgary Rose Society held their 53rd Annual Rose Show on Saturday, 18 July, 2026.

Gardening in Calgary can be challenging. The city sits at an elevation of approximately 1,045 metres, with the Rocky Mountains just 150 kilometres away. We have an average of only 117 frost-free days each year and receive around 450 millimetres of rain annually.

This summer brought an additional challenge, with above-average temperatures causing roses to bloom and fade more quickly than usual. On the day of our Rose Show, the temperature reached 32°C. The Scandinavian Centre, our venue for the event, does not have air conditioning, although ceiling fans provided some relief. I have to say that the roses seemed to cope with the heat better than some of the volunteers, myself included!

By the time judging began, the tables were filled with an impressive and colourful selection of roses. In fact more than we had expected given the weather conditions the previous week. The Show Committee was particularly pleased to welcome a number of new exhibitors this year.

With over 100 classes to choose from, there was something for every rose grower, including hybrid teas, floribundas, grandifloras, shrubs, English roses and miniatures. Our fun classes, including My Aching Back for exhibitors over 65 and the Children's Section, add a lighter touch to the competition. There are also classes for floral arrangements, which can feature either garden or florist roses.

The **Queen of the Show** was awarded to Brian Rottenfusser for his Hybrid Tea 'In the Mood'. Sheila Cheyne was Runner-up to Queen of the Show with a bloom of 'Chicago Peace'. The **Mini Queen of the Show** was awarded to Dean Robert for a single bloom of 'Coffee Bean'.

Shrub roses are particularly popular with Calgary gardeners, and this year Beverly Sheridan won the **Shrub Rose Award** with a spray of 'Foxy Pavement'.

In the afternoon, the show opened to the public, free of charge. We were delighted to welcome approximately 200 visitors who came to admire the roses and explore our educational displays. Information about Canadian-bred, winter-hardy roses is always popular and generated plenty of questions and conversation. A number of visitors also purchased our book, *Growing Roses in Calgary*, which draws on the experience and knowledge of Calgary Rose Society members accumulated over many years.

The Annual Rose Show is an opportunity to celebrate our members, showcase the diversity of roses that can be grown in Calgary, and introduce the public to the enjoyment of rose growing. Despite the heat, this year's show was an enjoyable and successful event. The Show Committee is already making a list of ideas for 2027. There is always something new to consider, and we are looking forward to doing it all again next year!





*1st Place - Oh Canada-Collection of Canadian Introductions
Edna C*



*Best Design - Never Promised You a Rose Garden
Dale L*

We now head to the eastern side of Canada where we have two very active rose societies, The Hamilton and Burlington RS and the Huronia Rose Show.

Hamilton and Burlington Rose Society – Ontario

*Article & Photos submitted by Elizabeth Schleicher,
President and Show Co-Chair*

Our 69th Annual Rose Show was held at the Royal Botanical Gardens from 20th to 21st June 2026. Although we are a small group of rose enthusiasts, we host a wonderful rose show, the largest in Southern Ontario. With a dedicated volunteer group to help with staging the show on Friday night the venue was set to receive both horticultural entries and floral design. A total of 252 cut rose stems were entered by 23 exhibitors the following day. In our Design Section 16 different floral artists entered the six Design Classes. The overall theme of the show was Exploration of Space, an ode to the recent trip NASA and CSA astronauts made around the Moon earlier this year.

Offering our second group of newly accredited Canadian Rose Society judges a chance to judge the show was a welcome challenge. Under the supervision of two of our seasoned judges the assignments progressed seamlessly. Last year we offered the same opportunity to our first

group of new judges who did just as well with their tasks of judging. The floral design section was judged by an accredited Garden Clubs of Ontario judge.

Show results included 252 entries by 23 exhibitors. Best in Show: 'South Africa' exhibited by Elizabeth Schleicher; Queen of the Show: 'All My Loving' by Saba Sabanadesan. In our section dedicated to the Canadian Rose Society we had 6 classes with 16 entries overall. The Best



Best in Show-'Oscar Petersen' - Margaret I

Canadian Entry was 'Chinook Sunrise' exhibited by Elizabeth Schleicher. In Design, we had 22 entries by 16 exhibitors with the Best in Show entry titled 'Stage Separation,' won by Helene Selemidis-Hill. Judge's Choice in Design went to Connie Bijl for her entry in 'Molten Surface'.

The show was open to the public with paid admission to the Royal Botanical Gardens (RBG) with the added attraction of a visit to the RBG Rose Garden in Hendrie Park, (just one part of the RBG lands), which now bears the title of WFRS Award of Garden Excellence designated in 2025 at the WFRS Convention in Fukuyama, Japan.

During our rose show we offered the hundreds of guests who attended a chance to learn more about the culture and care of roses through brief talks given by our Co-Chair of the Show, Marie Decker. On Sunday, two of our experienced designers, Mary Cameron and Elizabeth Matheson, assisted by Loretta Czernis, guided participants through the fine art of floral design to create a small design to take home with them. This was our ever popular 'Make and Take' feature which we have offered for numerous years. There was also a chance for the beginner rose lover to purchase miniature potted roses which served as a fundraiser for the Society.



Best Miniature-'Jeanne La Joie' Climbing - Edna C



Best Red Rose-'Winnipeg Parks' - Edna C



Judges' Choice - 'Julia Child' spray



Judges' Choice Design-Roses in Rhythm - Dale L

Huronia Rose Society – Barrie, Ontario

Article & Photos submitted by Michelle Lynch, Show Chair

The Huronia Rose Society is a group of garden lovers who especially love their roses. Each year we hold a Rose Show in Barrie, Ontario that is open to the public. The show was held at the Dorian Parker Centre in Barrie on Saturday 27th June, 2026.

Due to a cold spring and early summer, the roses were holding back a bit, resulting in a smaller show on the tables this year. However, we still had 13 exhibitors place 85 roses on the show tables, along with 13 designs entered by very talented designers.

We were especially pleased to welcome a number of novice exhibitors. Our experienced members happily coached them on identifying their roses, displaying them to their best advantage, and filling out entry tags. Notably, there were several show winners among these

novices. We were also pleased to have two experienced Canadian Rose Society judges to judge the show.

Show winners included: Best in Show – ‘Oscar Petersen’ by Margaret Ivor; Judges’ Choice Award – ‘Julia Child’ spray by Margaret Ivor; Judge’s Choice Award Design – Roses in Rhythm by Dale Lovering and Canadian Rose Society 1st Place – “Oh Canada” by Edna Caldwell.

Once judging was completed, the show opened to the public. It was wonderful to welcome visitors who were out for a stroll in the park to see the beauty on the tables.

While the weather presented challenges this year, there is always next year, and we look forward to an even better show!

ROSEXPO 2026 - SOCIÉTÉ DES ROSES DU QUÉBEC ROSE SOCIETY – Québec

Article & Photos submitted by Diane Vigneault

I am writing to share an update on our rose society’s annual exhibition. Established in 1990, our society consists of about 50 members from various regions of Québec, and is the only rose society in the province.

Our annual exhibition, which has run continuously since 1991, took place over two days (Saturday and Sunday) at the Daniel A. Séguin garden in St-Hyacinthe, located just 45 minutes from Montréal. The garden is located at the Institut de technologie agroalimentaire du Québec, a college for future horticulturists. Despite a challenging winter with early, intense cold in late November with no initial snow cover, we were thrilled to feature many beautiful entries across all rose categories. The event attracted about 200 visitors, who enjoyed the displays free of charge if they were members of the garden, or via the garden’s standard admission for non-members.

During the rose show, we offered a very popular question and answer session that included an explanation of the different types of roses along



Colette - arrangement workshop teacher



The winners' table and the show committee

with examples picked from the tables of the exhibition. We also showed photographs of different roses that described the type of rose and where they came from. At the entrance to the building and the main display room plus in the main rose room, we played a PowerPoint presentation of roses with names and music to get people in the mood for what lay ahead for them. A sales table of silver and pearl jewelry, all related to roses and nature, was of interest to many visitors. Something many people enjoyed was the chance to vote for the best bouquet and cup and saucer displays.

Finally, in the flower arrangement workshop, all the extra flowers that weren't used in the show were available for guests to create their own arrangement to take home, free of charge. The society provides everything needed including teachers, oasis, roses, flowers and fillers.

Highlights of this year's exhibition included:

- **Educational Sessions:** A popular question-and-answer period explaining different rose types with live examples from the show tables, complemented by educational photographs displaying the origins and types of various roses.
- **Multimedia Experience:** A PowerPoint presentation featuring rose names and music played at the entrances to the building and the display room as well as inside the show room.
- **Marketplace:** A successful sales table featuring silver and pearl jewelry inspired by roses and nature.
- **Visitor Participation:** An interactive voting segment where guests chose their favorite bouquet and cup-and-saucer displays.



Queen of Show, hybrid tea - 'Buxom Beauty'



Queen of Show - Canadian Rose - 'Bill Reid'

- Flower Arrangement Workshop: A complimentary workshop where guests used surplus show flowers and greenery to create their own arrangements to take home. The society provided all necessary materials, including flowers, oasis foam, fillers, and instruction.

Some of the winners in the show included:

- Queen of Show, hybrid tea/grandiflora: Buxom Beauty Eleganza'
- Queen of Show, all other rose varieties: 'Bill Reid' (Cdn. Explorer Series)
- Best Old Garden Rose: 'Ispahan'
- Best Floribunda spray: 'Golden Border'
- Best Climbing rose: 'Illusion'
- Best Miniature rose: 'Jeanne Lajoie'

We thank everyone who participated and supported this year's event. Our society is very active during the year, with 4 conference evenings, a rose pruning workshop, a ROSEXPO rose exhibition, and a photography contest during our last evening of the year with Wine & Cheese as the finale.



Room View



Show chair, Diane - Best OGR winner, Johanne with 'Ispahan'



VP Report

Europe

Angela Bokor

A year of international rose events, garden visits and collaboration across Central and Eastern Europe, with a special focus on preserving historic rose collections and the legacy of important rose breeders.



In March 2026

the Romanian Rose Society organised a pruning demonstration in a rosarium owned by a nursery. It was a good opportunity for me to present and use the Felco tools.



with Helga Brichet at the rose trial in Faenza



silver medal- floribunda bred by Lukasz Rojewski

At the end of May

I was invited, for the first time, to attend the rose trial in Faenza, Italy. It was already very hot so some of the roses had already finished their first flush. However, others were in their prime and among them a white floribunda bred by the successful breeder of our region, Lukasz Rojewski of Polonia, which was awarded the silver medal

At the end of June,

the Rose Festival took place in Ciombrud, Romania, a village renowned for its rose production. This year was special as a bust of Stefan Wagner was unveiled. Stefan Wagner (1932–2017) was Romania's leading rose breeder for the last 50 years. He created 45 rose varieties, founded the Romanian Rose Society and served as its first President, as well as serving as Vice-President of the WFRS. He was also an adviser to the owners of rose nurseries, who felt that a bust of their mentor would be a fitting addition to their village.

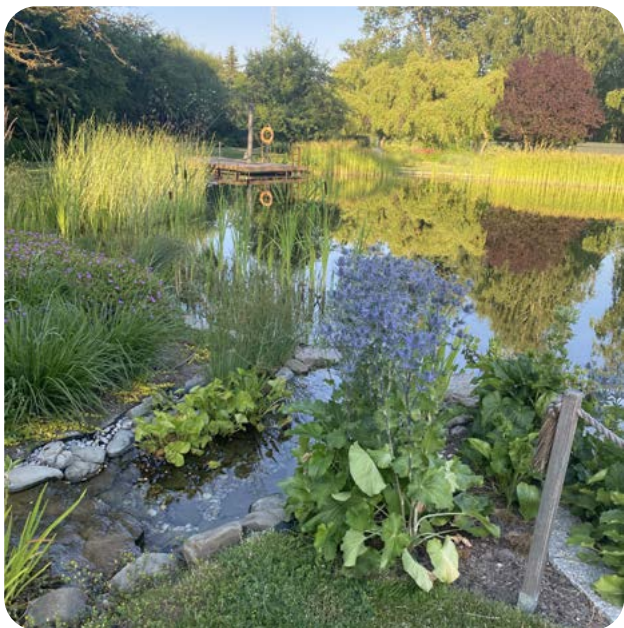


At last year's World Rose Convention in Fukuyama,

two rosariums in our region were bestowed with the prestigious Garden of Excellence Award: the Rosarium in Olomouc in the Czech Republic, and Aflopark in Poland.

The unveiling ceremony in Olomouc was attended by members of the Czech, Slovak and Polish Rose Societies. The rosarium has a large collection of both historic and modern roses and also many of the roses bred by national breeders. In spring this year, I sent them 20 varieties bred in Romania.

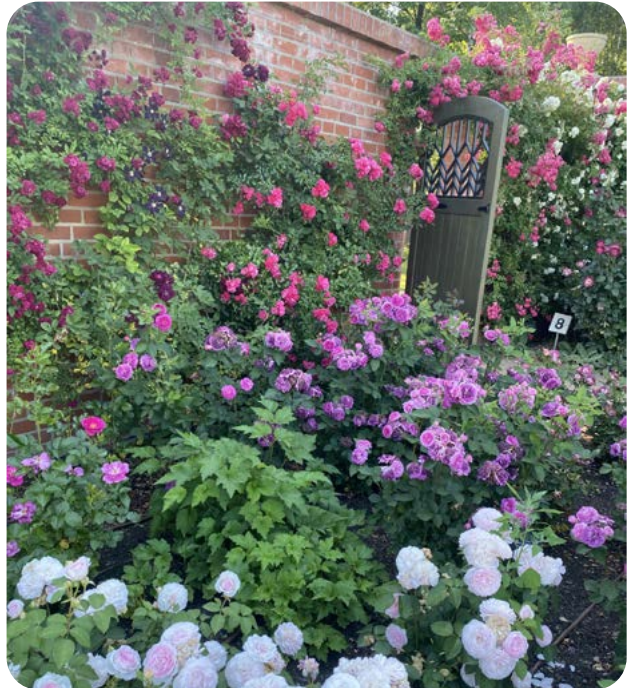




I attended the ceremony in Poland at Aflopark,

the private garden owned by Andrzej and Grazyna Furman. Daniel and Aline Boulens also came, and we spent a special time with our hosts. Everything was perfect, the garden, the roses, the people, the food. And the highlight was the Victorian garden where one can admire the roses bred by Lukasz Rojewski and also the young breeder Mateusz Sobieszek. I had a wonderful time walking in the park, while listening at the concert.





At the beginning of June, the Slovenian Rose Society organised an international meeting at the Arboretum Volcji Potok. About 30 people from India, Poland, Romania, Italy and Germany attended and visited the well maintained and rich rose collection in the Arboretum.



As you know, I am editing a regional newsletter which you can read here:

<https://regionalnewsletter.wordpress.com/>

In the latest issue, I wrote about the Fineschi Rosarium in Italy. Unfortunately, the collection of roses created by Dr Fineschi is in danger of extinction. His daughters can no longer maintain the garden and have asked for help to propagate the varieties. In my opinion, the WFRS should do more to preserve these roses.

It seems that the private collectors are doing a better job than state institutions. In my region

there are two private rose collections which I know well: Rosenkultivarium in Baden, Austria managed by Erich Unmuth and Mark Rosarium in Acsad, Hungary managed by Margit Pocs. Two people who devote all their time and energy to roses. Apart from many other cultivars, Rosenkultivarium has a complete collection of Rudolf Geschwind roses, while Mark Rosarium has all the roses created by Hungarian breeder Mark Gergely, as well as roses created in the region. What will happen to these collections in the future? We should start thinking about it now, before it is too late!



世界バラ会連合「優秀庭園賞」

ながおか香りのばら園は、2025年5月に開かれた第20回世界バラ会議福山大会において、「優秀庭園賞（WFRS Award of Garden Excellence）」を受賞しました。

世界バラ会議は、ロンドンに本部を置き世界40カ国のバラ会が加盟する「世界バラ会連合（World Federation of Rose Societies 略称：WFRS）」が、3年に一度世界各国のバラの専門家を集めて開かれています。

ながおか香りのばら園は、庭園の美しさ、毎年開催される「国際香りのばら新品種コンクール」、雪深い地域での高品質な維持管理などが評価され受賞しました。

***Nagaoka Fragrant
Rose Garden unveiling
ceremony of the Excellent
Garden Award plaque***



Datetime:

Friday, May 1, 2026, at 1 p.m.

Venue:

Nagaoka Fragrant Rose Garden, Echigo Hillside National Park

Organizer: Echigo Hillside National Park Office

Participants :

Diane vom Berg, *Immediate Past President, World Federation of Rose Societies*

Masashi Seida, *Director General, Department of Public Works*

Tatsunobu Isoda, *Mayor of Nagaoka*

Satoshi Takamatsu, *Director-General, Hokuriku Regional Development Bureau*

and more.

Ceremony program

1. Opening remarks
2. Commemorative address
3. Congratulatory remarks by guests
4. Introduction of guests
5. Nameplate unveiling
6. Closing remarks
7. Commemorative photo



Good afternoon, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen. It is an honor to be present today at the unveiling of the World Federation of Rose Societies' Award of Garden Excellence to the Nagaoka Fragrant Rose Garden.

When I first visited this spectacular rose garden, I was informed of the 8 areas dedicated to the rose and the challenges of the region with cold and snowy conditions requiring extra maintenance and care to protect the rose plants.

These consist of a Fragrance Garden, a Rose Trial, a garden of prize-winning roses, Wild Roses from Japan, Species and Old Roses, a Colour Garden, Rose and Flower Garden, and a garden of the WFRS Hall of Fame roses.

Volunteers work with park staff to ensure the gardens are presented in such a high standard.

Fragrance is a main focus in the garden and the public appreciate being able to smell the roses.

Overall, the garden is a delight to walk and wander in. Gardens are the most special places for us to enjoy with family and friends. The garden provides education by holding workshops for the public and also includes some specific for children to encourage the growing of roses from a young age.

We enjoy sharing our knowledge of the rose and also the friendship and peace the rose brings to us all. It is wonderful to return to this garden and I extend my congratulations to you on receiving this award. Thank You.



Commemorative address, Diane vom Berg, World Federation of Rose Societies, Immediate Past President



Distinguished guests, your Excellency Mayor, honorable representatives of the government, dear friends of roses. It is a great honour for me to be here today, in my capacity as Vice President for the Far East Asia Region of the World Federation of Rose Societies.

It is especially meaningful for me to be to stand here as this garden has long held a close connection with the World Federation.

For many years, the WFRS International Rose Trials have been held here with the dedication and involvement of many colleagues and friends from the International Rose Community.

On behalf of the World Federation of Rose Societies, I extend my sincere congratulations on the occasion of this garden receiving the WFRS Award of Garden Excellence 2025.

This award represents one of the highest distinctions for a rose garden in the world, recognising excellence in care, public value, and cultural contribution.

This garden offers a distinctive experience through the fragrance of roses. The scent of roses touches the heart and creates lasting memories. It is a place where visitors may enjoy roses with all their senses.

Roses bring people together. They are a symbol of beauty, friendship, and peace. I believe this garden will continue to inspire and enrich many lives for years to come. Once again, my heartfelt congratulations.

Thank you very much.





Join us to witness the largest rose show in INDIA

It is our pleasure and privilege to invite you all to the 21st World Rose Convention to be held in Bhopal from 7th to 13th January, 2028.

We are planning a wonderful convention for all of you in our beautiful city of Bhopal. The city known for its lakes and gardens has two UNESCO World Heritage sites in its periphery. Apart from the interesting sites in the city and the sites nearby, enjoy the largest Rose show in India organized by M.P.Rose Society.

We already have a detailed programme prepared and the 7 days promise to be exciting. So, make up your minds to explore the mysteries, tales, cultures, traditions, heritage, food, flora and fauna of India through the Pre-Tours and Post Tour. We are excited and look forward to hosting you during the convention and making your stay comfortable and memorable.

Dipa Prakash

President - Organising Committee
World Rose Convention 2028, Bhopal, India



WORLD FEDERATION OF ROSE SOCIETIES



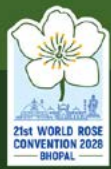
**21ST WORLD ROSE
CONVENTION**

January 7-13, 2028
Bhopal, INDIA

Hosted by
**MADHYA PRADESH ROSE
SOCIETY BHOPAL, INDIA**



Under the aegis of
**THE INDIAN ROSE
FEDERATION**





Save the Date
April 30th-May 4th, 2027

*San Diego
World Rose
Symposium*

California Dreamin'
Bahia Resort Hotel

Convention information:
sandiegorosesociety.com

*World Federation of Rose Societies &
American Rose Society Conventions*



We look forward to welcoming you to San Diego to celebrate, refresh and renew your love of roses at the

San Diego World Rose Symposium!!

You will enjoy the company of other enthusiastic rosarians as we explore the wide range of rose growing choices we all have. Exciting speakers will be covering 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. There will be opportunities to bond with exhibitors, rose conservationists and prominent rose mentors of the present and past, too.

The 5-day Symposium will be both the 2027 WFRS Regional Convention and the 2027 ARS 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 30 years. Attendees will have an opportunity to attain or renew their ARS Consulting Rosarian designation. There will be a full day of garden exploration including some of San Diego's best private rose gardens and the WFRS Garden of Excellence in Balboa Park, and attendees will join in the Grand Dinner-Dance Celebration of the San Diego Rose Society's 100th Anniversary!

Whether you come for just the Symposium or incorporate the adjoining Pre- and Post-Tours to enjoy more gardens and cultural highlights of California, we are confident the event will be a dynamic, not-to-be-missed experience!



Our venue, an extension of the city's relaxed and inclusive atmosphere, will be the world-renowned Bahia Resort Hotel, located on a sandy Mission Bay beach, three blocks from the Pacific Ocean.

Registration at the discounted Symposium hotel rate opens June 15, 2026.
<https://www.bahiahotel.com/>



Join us as the love of roses is our universal language to help us transcend borders and preconceived notions for an amazing learning experience!

Symposium Program

Friday, April 30, A Learning Day

Morning and afternoon lectures cover rose history, soil and water, pests and diseases, Integrated Pest Management, heritage roses and the benefits of rose care for rose growers. Enjoy a *Welcome Lunch* with fellow attendees on the Palm Terrace.

Saturday, May 1, A Rose Show Day

Dynamic learning sessions built around the mid-day opening of the National Rose Show will include Rose Judging, Showing Roses, Photography and Arrangement Tips, Tool Care, Helping Others Grow Good Roses, and Making Optimum Fertilizing Choices. Mingle with Judges, Exhibitors and other rosarians at a *Hosted Lunch*.

Sunday, May 2, A Celebration Day

Hybridizers, including Tom Carruth and Ping Lim, and Rose Growers including Tyler Francis will talk about the past, present and future of our beloved flower. Other topics will include chemical safety as part the core rose care curriculum. A longer lunch break will be featured to allow attendees to explore local dining options, and the evening's 1927-themed SDRS Centennial Anniversary and ARS Awards *Dinner Celebration* promises to be magical.

Monday, May 3, A Garden Tour Day

Local Rosarians' garden tours will be featured surrounding our tour of the Balboa Park Rose Garden with a *Catered Lunch* and free time in the park. *Breakfast snacks* will be provided, and the day's events will wrap up with a *Cocktail Reception* back at the hotel featuring a presentation by noted garden designer Paul Zimmerman.

Tuesday, May 4, A Gala Closing Day

Morning lectures will cover chemical-free rose growing choices and the latest innovations in biological pest controls as attendees enjoy a *Gala Brunch*, rare rose auction, and the WFRS Closing Ceremony to wrap-up the event.

Registration for the Symposium and Pre- and Post-Tours
opens June 15, 2026.

Look for more information at sandiegorosesociety.com/2027





Pre-Tours

Three 1-day Pre-Tours are scheduled, all in the San Diego area so you can enjoy the sights without too much time on the road. You can sign up for each tour separately to pick and choose the activities that most appeal to you.

Tuesday, April 27, Sights of San Diego Bay and Coronado

You will visit the Cabrillo National Monument and the Old Point Loma Lighthouse with their sweeping views of the city, the bay and the Pacific Ocean. A visit to the San Diego Maritime Museum is also planned, along with *Hosted Lunch* near the historic Hotel Del Coronado. Visits to the home gardens of two or more of San Diego's best rosarians are also planned. The tour will include *breakfast snacks* and *afternoon snacks*, and of course we will take the scenic route!

Wednesday, April 28, San Diego Botanic Garden and Coastal Sights

The San Diego Botanic Garden in the San Diego area's Northern Coastal region displays more than 5,000 plant varieties and has 15 gardens that represent different areas of the world. The tour will include *Hosted Lunch* at a waterfront restaurant in nearby Del Mar and a scenic ride between those attractions and visits to two or more of our best rosarians' home gardens. *Breakfast snacks* and *afternoon tea snacks* will be provided.

Thursday, April 29, San Diego Zoo Visit, Including a Botanical Tour

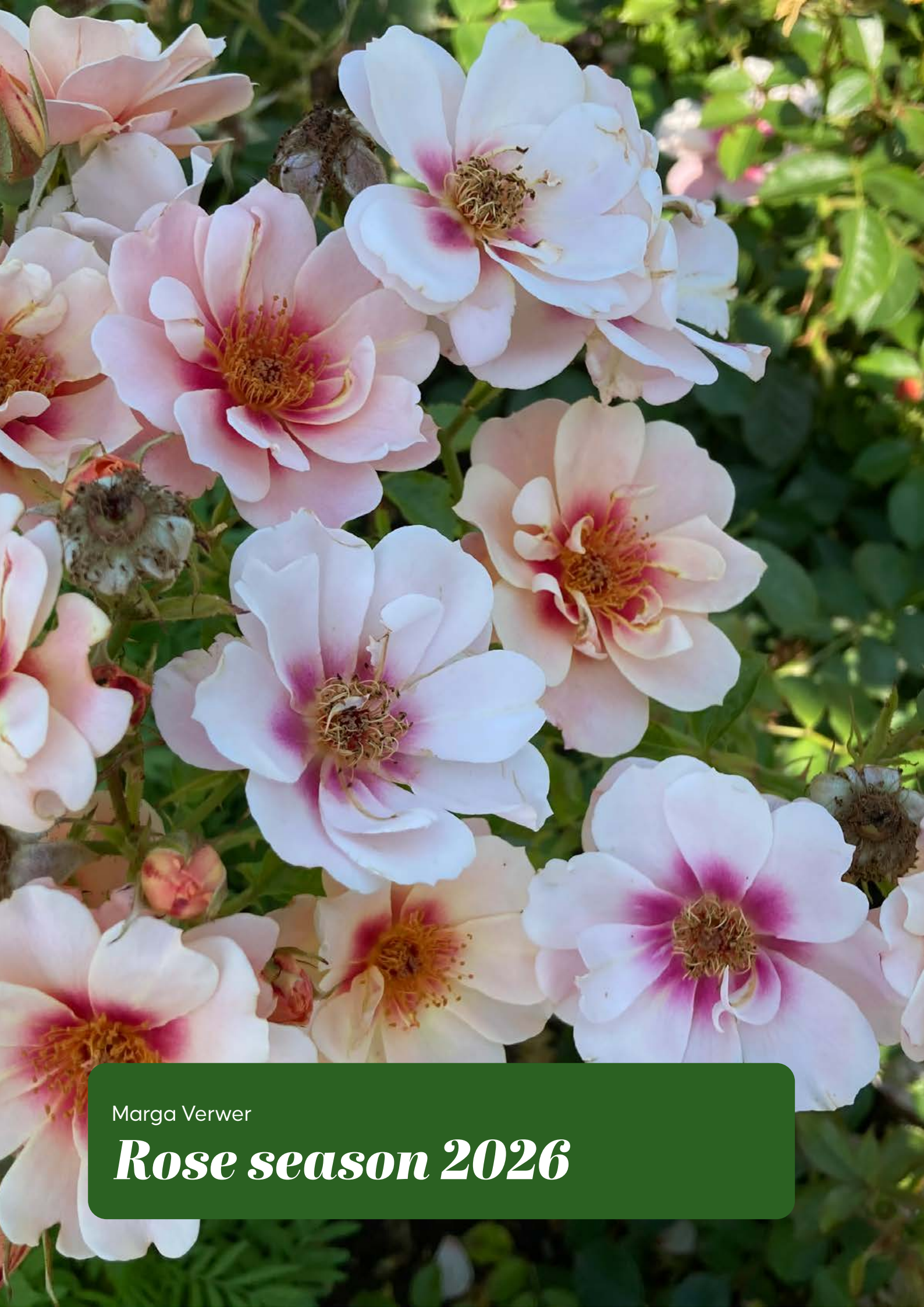
The "World Famous San Diego Zoo" is celebrated for both its fauna and flora. Our visit will include a 90-Minute Botanical Bus Tour as well as a *Catered Lunch* and free time to enjoy more of the zoo on your own. *Breakfast snacks* will be provided, and on the way back to the hotel you'll enjoy a stop at yet another lovely home garden, where you can enjoy a side of *wine and cheese* with the roses.

Post-Tour

We are fortunate to have renowned rose expert and tour planner Paul Zimmerman leading our comfortably-paced 8-day post tour. Throughout the tour he will share insights on rose growing, garden design and sustainable practices while guiding participants through some of Southern California's most beautiful and interesting gardens and landscapes and other unique destinations.

The **Wednesday, May 5 through Wednesday, May 12** itinerary will include a visit and garden tour with Hybridizer Ping Lim, a visit to the legendary Huntington Library, Art Museum and Botanical Gardens, an excursion to Hollywood with a stop at the TCL (formerly Grauman's) Chinese Theater, a tour of the Getty Center Gardens, and a visit to the historic Virginia Robinson Gardens. The Central Coast portion of the trip will include visits to Otto & Sons Nursery, Rose Story Farm, and Neuhaus Farms, all major producers of roses in the US, each with unique charms. Iconic Hearst Castle and Warner Brothers Studios will round out your adventure. Lodging at the Langham Hotel in Pasadena and the Cambria Pines Lodge will be included in the tour, and dining opportunities will be a combination of hosted and on-your-own meals with recommendations to guide you. The tour will leave from and return to the Bahia Resort Hotel, with a hosted farewell dinner with your fellow garden enthusiasts and a comfy room for the final night included in the tour.

Tour size will be limited to ensure a quality experience.



Marga Verwer

Rose season 2026

Not much has been changed since last year, at least not regarding the travelling part for rose trials. I do love travelling, visiting other countries, the international contacts and of course the roses. It keeps me up to date with what is happening in the rose world, at all levels.

Besides the rose trials I need to consider the necessity to also attend the WFRS conventions and conferences. That meant that this year started in Nanyang China.

One thing the Chinese excel in, is to receive the delegates already at an airport or station, in general to give the attendees a warm welcome everywhere. A red line through the Heritage and Conservation conference were the children, and a lot of dancing and magic performances. The quality of the lectures was excellent, and they had organised a few lovely surprises. Of course we did see enough rose gardens to keep a balance.

A conference has less attendees than a World Rose Conventions, but this means one has better personal contacts. It makes it easier to make new rose friends.

I will give you just a few personal impressions.

The first is a rose in the form of a heart. In the middle, just visible, are Mr. and Mrs. Gadre from Bhopal, India. The pot roses with several varieties on one stem are amazing. The pots are beautiful too. A picture of the children at the school we visited. The surprise was the visit to a health centre, where we could try the different treatments like acupuncture and massage. Almost all of us went for it, and at the pictures is Yuki Mikanagi from Japan. A picture of musicians in between the roses. And last picture is of the rose found all over Nanyang along the road, pink and red flowers mixed, picture made from the bus.





For the trials I will give you pictures if I have them (not of every trial, and not always the winning rose) and only when I think the picture does credit to the rose. I tried to include as many breeders as possible. Not all trials are mentioned, as I need to make a choice every year which are possible to attend.

The first trial this year was **Madrid**. It is of course a pity I do not speak Spanish, but I nevertheless can enjoy the trial. The first picture gives an afternoon impression of the beautiful garden, but of course all gardens are beautiful. Three of the winning roses: MRO-217 of Mooren Netherlands (57) – VISTramel of Viva International (Martin Vissers), Belgium- (76) and FE-15030 of Ferrer Spain (34). After the judging the organisers need time to calculate the results. In Madrid they keep us happy with a complete concert of the Swing Machine Orchestra, very Spanish, a real treat. The photo is from 2023.





After Madrid we went to **Bologna, in fact Faenza**. This is too far for one day's driving, so we went via Switzerland, with a stop in a mountain village near a lake. The travelling can be an adventure, sometimes a challenge too. And I do not speak Italian either, but we managed anyhow. First one overview of the garden, and the gathering after the judging. Of the winning roses I can show you MR-434-HT of Richardier, France (13), RT 20522 of Tantau, Germany (46), RO-Verida3sinop of Lukasz Rojewski, Poland (white) and KO-14 of Kordes, Germany (54).





In June we started the often-combined series of trials in **Hradec Kralove in the Czech Republic**. This smaller but lovely, well-maintained garden is only open to the public a few weeks in the season.



The winners are presented in vases, visible are in front 'Charade' of David Kenny, Ireland and behind 'Simsalabim' of Kordes. It was impossible to take photos of the garden because of the rain. But in the af-

ternoon, we were very lucky to visit a beautiful private garden in sunny conditions.



This was followed by the **Baden-Baden** trial. The quality of the floribunda roses was very high this year, but also a climbing rose with a gold medal was in points very close to the winner of the golden rose. In the end it was Jannik Dräger, Germany with the rose 'Candy Cloud' who went home with the Golden Rose of Baden-Baden. Some of the Honorary Awards this year

were: the Zweibrücken Award for the rose 'Luna' of Tantau (61), the Casino Award for the rose BO399-18 of Interplant, Netherlands (close-up), and the Ministry of Rural Areas, Agriculture and Home Affairs Award for 'Simple Simon' of David Kenny (58). The last picture is for the rose 'Sugercane' of Noack, Germany (25).



For **Saverne** I can give you only one picture for the rose MR-434-HT of Richardier, France for the audience award, and an overview picture of this beautiful garden. This was a very special trial as it was celebrating its 100-year jubilee. Especially for the occasion they had organised a performance of a choir, for which we had just enough time to listen before heading to Paris.



Paris is the oldest rose trial in the world. Of this trial I am happy that I can share you 3 beautiful pictures of the roses VISLibdia of Vissers (24), 'Julie' of Kordes (22) and FEson of Ferrer (5). The Golden Rose was for the rose 'Royal Victoria' of Roses Forever (Danmark). The picture shows day-president Mireille Steil during the prize-giving of this Golden Rose, with the happy winner Rosa Eskelund. Mireille was beautiful in orange, which made me a little bit jealous being Dutch.



Last trial in this June series is **Kortrijk**. Pictured is Sushil Prakash in front of the Castle 't Hooghe. He noticed the Indian flag immediately. The winning rose was 'See you in apricot' (close-up) and a golden medal was won by KO 11/8556-01 (33), both from Kordes.



In July we started in **The Hague**. The Westbroek garden is quite large, and the number of roses to judge isn't small. We finished just in time, which meant no time left for taking pictures. After lunch we went for a boat trip, so a photo from the water. Next year I will skip the afternoon trip, so that I will have time to make my rose pictures. The prize giving is always a spectacle in The Hague. One picture of pianist and presenter Gregor Bak and the lord Mayor of the Hague Jan van Zanen. Plus, to end with, Thomas Proll of Kordes roses with the Golden Rose of The Hague for rosa 'Simsalabim'.



I am always happy to cross the Channel, to go to the **Belfast** trial. The garden Sir Thomas and Lady Dixon park is a great place to be, so one overview picture of one of the rose gardens (floribunda) in this enormous park. The roses were beautiful this year. The winner

was the rose 'Here comes the Sun' (yellow) of Kordes. Other winning roses were 'See you in Apricot' (apricot) of Kordes, now the full plant, and 'Me and You' (red) of David Kenny.

All results can be found at the WFRS website: worldrose.org





Barry Slabbert

The Ancient Contract
Heritage Roses and the Resilience
We Forgot

It is early morning and the mist hangs low along the road toward Van Reenen. I am driving through to Johannesburg for a landscape project and stop for coffee. Next to the entrance of the small café stands a Cécile Brünner rose, roughly two and a half metres tall, freestanding, never pruned and clearly never particularly loved. It is March - almost autumn - and the rose still carries a good number of its soft pink sprays. The distinct tea scent of Cécile Brünner drifts gently on the mist. A few metres away an old Hybrid Tea is covered in rust and blackspot. A little further on, a *Rosa chinensis* 'Mutabilis' stands quietly with its single petals shifting through colour. Underneath it the ground is soft with years of its own fallen leaves and twigs - a self-made compost layer that has shaded and fed its roots without any human help.

Sights like these take root in the subconscious. These roses are not surviving despite the climate. They are still living by a contract we largely abandoned.

I have always had a particular romance with the old China roses. There is the one from Lisbon Farm where 'Old Blush' used to grow near the blue gums. There is *Rosa chinensis* 'Viridiflora', lovingly propagated by my aunt Lettie from an abandoned sandstone ruin. And on our own property 'Fortune's Double Yellow' has stood unbothered since it was planted in 1897. These plants carry a different kind of memory.

In the KwaZulu-Natal Midlands the climate does not allow pretence. Summer rainfall is often sporadic: two or three days of steady rain followed by high humidity and warm nights. We live in a hail belt. By nine in the morning temperatures can already sit at 25 °C; between October and February they sometimes climb to 42 °C. Black frost is no stranger either. The extremes are real.

Under these conditions many modern Hybrid Teas and Floribundas demand constant intervention. A large number of grafted roses struggle to produce enough foliage to shade their own roots. The early heritage types that travelled inland generations ago behave differently. They create their own canopy, drop their own mulch, and keep going with far less interference.

The roses I have found surviving on old farms and in forgotten corners tell the same story:

'Albertine', 'Crépuscule', 'Rosa laevigata' and 'Dorothy Perkins'. Many of them have persisted for decades with almost no human care. They still operate under an older agreement with soil, season and the living systems around them.

That agreement is simple. Soil is treated as a living community rather than a sterile medium. Continuous organic cover is the norm. Seasonal rhythm is respected. Biodiversity becomes the first line of defence. Water is held in the soil instead of applied only when the plant is already in crisis. Many of these older roses were selected, or simply endured, under conditions far closer to this system - long before synthetic fungicides and soluble feeds became ordinary practice.

When I reduced and then largely stopped spraying, the balance began to shift. Beneficial insects returned. Ladybirds dealt with aphids. Birds scratched under the bushes. The garden started to regulate itself more than I had expected.

The real change, however, came from how I began feeding the soil. Two years ago, when I started the rose garden in earnest, I befriended the local tree feller. I asked what happened to the branches and wood they could not sell for firewood. He told me they chipped it and took it to the dump. The dump lies far out of town, so a simple arrangement followed: he began leaving the shredded foliage and chips on my property



Rosa laevigata



Crown eagle in my garden in Ladysmith

instead. An almost continuous supply of mulch arrived.

Around the same time. I approached a few horse farmers and offered them Canna lilies - which I hybridise and grow as another part of my garden work - in exchange for manure. They agreed. Four times a year generous loads arrive and are mixed into the mulch and compost piles. Everything is local.

I spread this combination thickly under the roses. Earthworms appeared where I had never seen them before. A resident owl took up residence. A crowned eagle nested in one of the blue gums. Over the last eight or nine months the garden has shifted noticeably. I water far less often. I have not used any chemical sprays for fourteen months. Beneficial insects have multiplied, and the simple insect hotels I built now function like a small boarding house for the creatures that help keep balance.

Problems have not disappeared. Blackspot still appears from time to time. Powdery mildew still visits. Yet the roses look stronger and more inclined to push through rather than collapse. This season I am experimenting with placing diseased rose foliage into the hot compost heaps, hoping the heat will deal with the spores. The garden feels more like a living laboratory than a polished showpiece, and I find myself enjoying the process.

These are not dramatic secrets. They are practical observations that travel well: choose plants that can shade their own roots, keep the soil covered,

disturb it as little as possible, and make space for the small lives that maintain balance. The returns are quieter but real - deeper roots, cleaner foliage over time, more bird and insect life, and a beauty that feels less forced.

What we learn here in the Midlands reaches further than our own climate. As disease pressure rises and weather patterns become less predictable in many traditional rose-growing regions, and as chemical tools become more restricted, the genetic and cultural memory held in these older roses grows more valuable. They are not exotic curiosities. They are evidence that resilience is still available if we are willing to meet the plants halfway.

Through the Midlands Rose Society we have begun sharing these same principles - in newsletters, at practical demonstrations, and in ordinary conversations between members. The shift does not have to be absolute or sudden. Even partial restoration of the older ways allows the roses to show more of what they already know how to do.

I think again of that freestanding 'Cécile Brunner' beside the café near Van Reenen, flowering quietly in the March mist while the Hybrid Tea nearby struggled. The roses never broke the contract. We simply stopped honouring it.

When we begin again - even imperfectly - the oldest ones are still ready to keep their side of the agreement.



Barry Slabbert

WFRS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

30 April - 4 May 2027

WFRS Regional Convention, San Diego, CA, USA

7-13 January 2028

WFRS 21st World Rose Convention, Bhopal, India



*Alaska,
Kordes Rosen 2005
©Marga Verwer*

FRIENDS OF THE FEDERATION

Since its introduction in 2010, over 100 individuals from around the globe have donated funds towards the work of the World Federation of Rose Societies. These donors have received invitations to exclusive “Friends Only” functions at WFRS events.

Become a Friend of the World Federation of Rose Societies and join a group of generous financial donors supporting the work of the Federation.

Benefits include:

- Exclusive invitations to “Friends Only” activities;
- Individual electronic copy of World Rose News;
- Friends Dinners at each convention will give you the opportunity to participate with other Friends to exchange rose growing knowledge, information on rose gardens, accommodation and other points of interest relative to their region;
- Donations, with the exception of Friends for Life, cover the period until the conclusion of the 2028 World Rose Convention in India.

Friends donor forms can be downloaded from the WFRS website www.worldrose.org

WFRS International Rose Trials

Trial	Country	2026
Monaco	Principauté de Monaco	April 30
Shreveport	USA	May 03
Barcelona	Spain	May 08
Rome	Italy	May 16
Madrid	Spain	May 22
Bologna	Italy	May 30
Gifu	Japan	May/October
Tokyo	Japan	May/October
Nagaoka	Japan	May/October
Lyon	France	June 05
Hradec Králové	Czech Republic	June 13
Baden-Baden	Germany	June 16
Saverne	France	June 17
Paris Bagatelle	France	June 18
Kortrijk	Belgium	June 19
The Hague	Netherlands	July 02
Belfast	Northern Ireland	July 06
Warsaw	Poland	CANCELLED
Le Roeulx	Belgium	September 04
Hertfordshire	Great Britain	September 08
Orléans	France	September 11
Adelaide	Australia	October 21
Hamilton	New Zealand	November 15
Palmerston North	New Zealand	December 06

WORLD FEDERATION OF ROSE SOCIETES

Patron	Yves Piaget
President Emeritus	Helga Brichet

MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (2025 - 2028)

OFFICERS

President	Sushil Prakash	India
Executive Director	Marga Verwer	Netherlands
Treasurer	Claudia Hacker	Germany
Immediate Past President	Diane vom Berg	Australia
Executive Advisor	Derek Lawrence	United Kingdom

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AUSTRALASIA	Gavin Woods	Australia
AUSTRALASIA	Hayden Foulds	New Zealand
CENTRAL, SOUTH & SOUTH EAST ASIA	Dr. Narendra Kumar Dadlani	India
EUROPE	Mireille Steil	Luxembourg
EUROPE	Angela Bokor	Romania
EUROPE	Maria Hjort	Sweden
FAR EAST	Wook-Kyun Kim	South Korea
NORTH AMERICA	Brenda Viney	Canada
NORTH AMERICA	Diane Sommers	USA
SOUTH AMERICA	Inés Díaz de Licandro	Uruguay

STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN (2025 - 2028)

Council	Sushil Prakash	<i>India</i>
Honours	Sushil Prakash	<i>India</i>
Executive Committee	Sushil Prakash	<i>India</i>
Convention Liaison	Henrienne de Briey	<i>Belgium</i>
Promotions	Diane vom Berg	<i>Australia</i>
International Rose Trials	Jean-Pierre Lelièvre	<i>France</i>
Publications	Angelika Throll-Keller	<i>Germany</i>
Breeders Club	Markus Brunsing	<i>Germany</i>
Awards	Daniel Boulens	<i>France</i>
International Judges	Pauline Martin	<i>United Kingdom</i>
Conservation & Heritage Roses	Inés Díaz de Licandro	<i>Uruguay</i>
Editor	Shireen Deoraj	<i>South Africa</i>





MEMBER COUNTRIES

The World Federation of Rose Societies - WFRS (founded 1968) is comprised at this moment of 39 national rose societies from all around the world, in following order of country. The list below also annotates their year of joining the WFRS.

Argentina	1977	<i>Asociación Argentina de Rosicultura</i>
Australia	1968	<i>National Rose Society of Australia Inc</i>
Austria	2001	<i>Österreichische Rosenfreunde in der Österreichischen Gartenbau-Gesellschaft</i>
Belgium	1968	<i>Société Royale Nationale Les Amis de la Rose' - Koninklijke Nationale Maatschappij 'De Vrienden van de Roos'</i>
Bermuda	1981	<i>Bermuda Rose Society</i>
Canada	1968	<i>Canadian Rose Society</i>
Chile	2000	<i>Asociación Chilena de la Rosa</i>
China	1997	<i>Chinese Rose Society</i>
Czech Republic	1994	<i>Czech Rosa Club</i>
Finland	1997	<i>Suomen Ruususeura r.y. - Finska Rosensällskapet r.f.</i>
France	1979	<i>Société Française des Roses</i>
Germany	1968	<i>Deutschen Rosengesellschaft e.V.</i>

Great Britain	2018	<i>Rose Society UK</i>
Greece	1997	<i>The Hellenic Rose Society</i>
Hungary	2008	<i>Hungarian Rose Friends Society</i>
Iceland	2007	<i>Icelandic Rose Society</i>
India	1968, 1982	<i>Indian Rose Federation</i>
Israel	1975	<i>The Jerusalem Foundation – The Wohl Rose Park of Jerusalem</i>
Italy	1968	<i>Associazione Italiana della Rosa</i>
Japan	1968	<i>The Japan Rose Society</i>
Luxembourg	1981	<i>Luxembourg Rose Society – Lëtzebuerger Rousefrënn Association Grand-Ducale des Amis de la Rose</i>
Monaco	2012	<i>Société des Roses de Monaco</i>
Netherlands	1976	<i>Nederlandse Rozenvereniging</i>
New Zealand	1968	<i>New Zealand Rose Society</i>
Northern Ireland	1982	<i>The Rose Society of Northern Ireland</i>
Norway	1988	<i>The Norwegian Rose Society</i>
Poland	1981, 2017	<i>Polskie Towarzystwo Rozane – Polish Rose Society</i>
Romania	1992	<i>Asociatia Amicii Rozelor din Romania</i>
Russia	2007	<i>Russian Association of Rosarians</i>
Slovakia	2023	<i>Rose Society Maria Henrieta Chotek</i>
Slovenia	2000	<i>Društvo Ljubiteljev Vrtnic Slovenije – Slovenian Rose Society</i>
South Africa	1968	<i>Federation of Rose Societies of South Africa</i>
South Korea	2018	<i>South Korea Rose Society</i>
Spain	1992	<i>Asociación Española de la Rosa</i>
Sweden	1994	<i>Svenska Rosensällskapet – The Swedish Rose Society</i>
Switzerland	1976	<i>Gesellschaft Schweizerischer Rosenfreunde</i>
United States	1968	<i>American Rose Society</i>
Uruguay	1985	<i>Asociación Uruguaya de la Rosa</i>

WFRS ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

In following order of country.

Sociedad Argentina de Horticultural	Argentina
Vrijbroek Park Rose Garden	Belgium
The Butchart Gardens	Canada
Geografisk Have	Denmark
Les Amis de la Roseraie du Val de Marne à L'Haÿ-les-Roses	France
Roses Anciennes en France	France
Société Nationale d'Horticulture de France	France
Piccolo Roseto Giovanni Chilanti	Italy
Associazione 'La Compagnia delle Rose'	Italy
Fondazione Roseto Botanico "Carla Fineschi" di Caviglia	Italy
Gifu World Rose Garden	Japan
The Rose Culture Institute	Japan
Liga Gaart An Heem ASBL	Luxembourg
Patrimoine Roses pour le Luxembourg ASBL	Luxembourg
Heritage Roses New Zealand Inc.	New Zealand
Amics de les Roses de Sant Feliu de Llobregat	Spain
Rosenlunds Rosarium	Sweden
Société Romande des Amis des Roses et de l'Horticulture	Switzerland
Historic Roses Group of Great Britain	United Kingdom
Huntington Library, Art Museum & Botanical Gardens	United States of America
Columbus Park of Roses	United States of America
Heritage Rose Foundation	United States of America

For more information regarding the Executive Committee, the Standing Committee Chairmen, the Member Countries, the WFRS Associate Members and the WFRS Breeders' Club Members please go to the WFRS website.

BREEDERS CLUB

David Austin Roses	United Kingdom	Emma Weaver	www.davidaustinroses.com
Rose Barni s.s.	Italy	Beatrice Barni	www.rosebarni.it
Alain Tschanz SA	Switzerland	Gisèle & Alain Tschanz	www.rosiers.ch
Roseraies Paul Croix	France	Dominique Croix et Jacques Ranchon	pepinieres-paul-croix.fr
Jean-Pierre Guillot	Tunisie	Jean Pierre Guillot	www.roses-guillot.com
Rosen Tantau KG	Germany	Jens Krüger	www.rosen-tantau.com
Roze Sobieszek	Poland	Mateusz Sobieszek	www.roza-sobieszek.pl
Keisei Rose Nurseries Inc	Japan	Yasuyuki Hisada	www.keiseirose.co.jp
Kenny Rose Breeding Ltd	Ireland	David Kenny	
Kern Select	Netherlands	Emiel Keiren	
Noack Rosen	Germany	Reinhard Noack	www.noack-rosen.de
Lens Roses	Belgium		www.lens-roses.com
Meilland International S.A.	France	Matthias Meilland	www.meilland.com
NIRP International SA	France	Deborah Ghione	www.nirpinternational.com
R.O.S.E. Roses Orard Sélection Edition	France	Pierre Orard	www.roses-orard.com
Roses Forever ApS	Denmark	Rosa Eskelund	www.roses-forever.com
Rose Innovations	U.S.A.	William J. Radler	
Viva International BVBA	Belgium	Martin Vissers	
Viveros Francisco Ferrer	Spain	Matilde Ferrer	www.rosalesferrer.com
David Zlesak	U.S.A.	David Zlesak	
Bolar Roses	U.S.A.	Dr. Suni Bolar	
My Roses Rojewski	Poland	Lukasz Rojewski	
W.KORDES' SÖHNE Rosenschulen GmbH & Co KG	Germany		www.Rosen.de
Roses André Eve	France	Rateau Jérôme	www.roses-andre-eve.com
The Huntington E.L. and Ruth B. Shannon Curator of the Rose Garden	U.S.A.	Tom Carruth	www.huntington.org/
Mooren Roses BV	Netherlands	Geert Mooren	
Pheno Geno Roses B.V.	Netherlands	Biljana Božanić Tanjga	www.phenogenoroses.com
H.& G. Dräger	Germany	Jannik Dräger	draeger-rosen.de



Celebrating 80 Years of Cutting Excellence with FELCO

Innovative tools designed for rose enthusiasts and professionals alike

2025 marks a major milestone for FELCO: 80 years of Swiss-made excellence in pruning innovation. Founded in 1945 by visionary engineer Félix Flisch, FELCO has revolutionized the way we care for plants, from

vineyards to rose gardens, with tools that combine precision, durability, and sustainability.

To celebrate this anniversary, FELCO proudly unveils a special edition of its most iconic tool – the FELCO 2 – 80th Anniversary Edition. This legendary pruning shear, known globally

for its ergonomic design and clean, precise cut, is now available in a unique version featuring a commemorative engraving, gold-cobalt F-GOLD blade coating, and a numbered series — honouring both heritage and excellence.

For rose growers and gardening enthusiasts, FELCO offers a wide array of tools tailored to the delicate art of rose care:



FELCO Ergonomic Pruning Shears:

Whether you're a hobby gardener or a professional rosarian, FELCO's range of pruning shears meets every need. From compact models for fine cuts to the industry's widest ergonomic selection, each tool is designed to deliver precision, comfort, and long-lasting performance.

Not sure which model suits you best? FELCO offers a quick and easy online test to help you find your perfect fit, based on your hand size, cutting habits, and preferred ergonomics.

FELCO 602 Pull-stroke Saw:

Ideal for thicker canes and deadwood, the FELCO 602 combines power with finesse. Its sharp teeth and non-slip handle make it perfect for maintaining healthy rose structures.



FELCO 705 Gloves:

Protect your hands from thorns without sacrificing comfort or dexterity. The FELCO 705 gloves are made from high-quality, breathable leather — your best ally when handling roses.



NEW: FELCO 482 & FELCO 483 Gardening Bags:

Designed for professional and stylish gardeners, these robust yet lightweight bags keep your essential tools within easy reach, whether in the field or the backyard. Available in two sizes.

FELCO 490 Apron:

Crafted with durable, water-resistant materials, the FELCO 490 apron brings functionality and elegance together. Multiple pockets and reinforced zones make it the ideal companion for demanding gardening sessions.

