



Seated: *Marylou Turner, Wine and Roses Chair Amy Embry, Kandi McCasland, Barbara McCanse.* Standing: *Lauren English, Taylor Smith, Laura Dickinson, Linda Rostenberg, Joan Sherman, Ann Greene, Nancy Bramlett, Betsy Beasley, Margie Paxton, Julie Spaeth.*



*Tom and Loren Whittaker, Jack and Karen Holland, Trish and Mike Mayer*

## Wine & Roses

*By Amy Embry*

*Photos By David Riffel*

The Kansas City Rose Society held its annual Wine and Roses fundraiser on September 14. More than 200 guests enjoyed delicious hors d'oeuvres from **Olive Events Catering** and six wonderful wines from **Top Shelf Bartending**. The **UMKC Conservatory Graduate String Quartet** serenaded guests as they enjoyed the beauty of

the Laura Conyers Smith Rose Garden. **Bergamot and Ivy** provided stunning floral arrangements.

Special thanks go to **Amy Embry**, Wine and Roses Chair, Honorary Chairs **Erin and Steve Mos**, and all the KCRS members who helped make the event a success.



*Wine and Roses Committee: Nancy Schall, Anna Schall, Max McLiney, Anya Brandmeyer, Mandy Burditt, Wine and Roses Chair Amy Embry, Adrianna Gautreaux, Taylor Smith, Frances Baszta, and George Embry*



*Carol Crowe, Patty Hummel, Debbie Yantis, Carrie McLiney, Shelly Maloney, and Katie McCune*



*Jenny Chapin and Walker Woods*



*Blythe Roberson, Luci Powell, Adam Teel, Morgan Kilgore*



*Martha Negley, Fausto and Sandy Campuzano*



Thank You to Our Generous Sponsors & Donors.

# Wine & Roses

## PLATINUM

Erin & Stephen Mos, *Honorary Chairmen*

## GOLD

The DeBruce Foundation ~ Paul & Linda DeBruce  
The Francis Family Foundation ~ Scott Francis & Susan Gordon  
Janna & Pat Stueve  
Carrie & Casey McLiney / Debbie & Brett Yantis

## UMKC CONSERVATORY GRADUATE STRING QUARTET

Caroline Beckman,  
*violin*  
Laura Herrera,  
*violin*  
Chung-Wen Lee,  
*viola*  
Seungchan Song,  
*cello*

## 2023 COMMITTEE

Erin & Steve Mos  
*Honorary Chairmen*  
Amy Embry  
*Chairman*  
Nancy Schall  
Taylor Smith  
Mandy Burditt  
Anna Schall  
Anya Brandmeyer  
George Embry  
Adrianna Gautreaux  
Max McLiney  
Frances Baszta  
*Graphic Design*  
David Riffel  
*Event Photographer*  
Bergamot & Ivy  
*Floral Design*  
Olive Events Catering  
Top Shelf Bartending

## SILVER

Muriel McBrien Kauffman  
Family Foundation  
Jeff Anthony  
Atterbury Family Foundation  
David H. Aull  
Don Blackman  
Dan & Ellen Bolen  
Dr. Stephen & Susan Bubb  
Kelly & Bill Brandmeyer  
Martha Comment



Amy & David Embry  
Marlys & Mike Haverty  
Shirley & Barnett C. Helzberg, Jr  
Karen & Jack Holland  
Julie & Mike Kirk  
Sue & Britton Hunter  
Julia & Greg Malter  
Trish & Mike Mayer  
Kandi & Mark McCasland  
Jim Nutter  
Kevin & Janet Pistilli



Jean & Don Wagner  
Julie & Joe Zwillenberg



## BRONZE

Jason & Tennille Adkins  
Doug Anning & Kirk Isenhour  
Mandy & Scott Burditt  
Sandy & Fausto Campuzano  
Dr. Mark & Gaye Cohen



Deanna & Tim Diebolt  
Lauren & Richard English  
Jenny & Warren Erdman  
Melanie & Mike Fenske  
Christy & Bill Gautreaux  
Carolyn & Glenn Hodges  
Amy & Paul Holewinski  
Nancy Lee & Jonathan Kemper  
Tracy & David Lockton  
Don Loncasty  
Steve & Susan Miller  
Heather & Tim Pluard  
Susan & Charles Porter  
Jeanette & Kevin Prenger  
Cyndy Price  
Kelly & Joe Privitera  
Rowland Family Fund  
of the Douglas County  
Community Foundation  
Dr. Nelson & Rachael Sabates  
Nancy & Bruce Schall  
John Rensenhouse &  
Darren Sextro  
Joan & Steve Sherman  
Susan & Tuck Spaulding  
Ursula Terrasi & Jim Miller  
Marylou Turner  
Bridget & Richard Wagstaff  
Loren & Tom Whittaker

## 2023 KANSAS CITY ROSE SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Kandi Murphy  
McCasland  
President  
Laura Dickinson  
Vice-President  
Joan Taylor Sher-  
man Secretary  
Nancy Bralett  
Treasurer  
Betsy Beasley  
Amy Embry  
Lauren English  
Ann Greene  
Barbara McCasland  
Betsy Parker  
Margie Paxton  
Vicki Riffel  
Linda Rostenberg  
Taylor Smith  
Julie Spaeth  
Marylou Turner

WWW.  
KANSAS  
CITY  
ROSE  
SOCIETY.  
ORG





Linda Rostenberg

Communications Chair Linda Rostenberg grew up in Miami Beach, where one of her summer jobs was selling gold lamé bikinis and bathing caps at the Fontainebleau Hotel. "I didn't realize then that seeing stars like Frank Sinatra walking the halls and ushering at the Jackie Gleason Show were unusual," she remembers. "The pay for being an usher was in points that could be converted for tickets to see the Beach Boys, Herman's Hermits and more."

Linda was the girl you knew growing up who was a really good writer. She attended the Northwestern University Summer Journalism program in high school and majored in Journalism at MU. "It was the only college that published a metro daily paper," and it was also where she met the man who became "my boyfriend (husband) of the last 51 years!"

"We both discovered we love the Midwest," she says. So after graduation, they moved to Kansas City. She worked in advertising and wrote for local magazines, then in association management for Beta Sigma Phi International, the world's largest women's social, service and cultural organization. In her 23 years there, she produced their magazine and became VP of Membership, PR and Communications. She and her husband Richie also opened the city's first video store, Hollywood at Home, which led to their becoming very active in anti-censorship activities.

Linda volunteered for years for the Nelson-Atkins Museum, Alvin Ailey, Harvesters, Lead to Read and other charitable institutions. Right now, she impatiently awaits the opening of Kansas City's new national children's reading museum, The Rabbit Hole. She loves being a groomer in the Rose Garden and considers herself "a roving ambassador" for the KCRS. "Not many associations can stay the course this long," she points out, adding, "You can't join and not make friends. If you reach out, there are so many great members in the Rose Society."

Linda Rostenberg is certainly one of them!

## Get To Know Our Board

These Board Member profiles are designed to help you know - and maybe join - them!



Marylou Turner

Membership Chair Marylou Turner is that math genius you knew in school! She grew up on a farm near Great Bend Kansas, where her favorite 4-H project was sewing (dresses, suits, coats while the rest of us made aprons!) She earned a degree in Education at KU as a Math and Language Arts major and then taught in the Shawnee Mission School district for seven years before earning a Masters in Math and Education at UMKC. "I told my husband I wanted to take a year off after that," which led her to becoming a private math tutor.

"I promised my students 'Math is really not hard.' It was wonderful to see those kids bloom!" But her students didn't arrive until after school, so she filled her free time with volunteering. She worked on the first Junior Women's Philharmonic Designer Showhouse and sold cheese crocks to help support the organization in both the Brookside area and at Halls on the Plaza at Christmas. She also served as National Treasurer of her college sorority, Sigma Kappa, for eight years, then on its Foundation Board, and now is on the Finance Committee. She's active in the Friends of the Conservatory, was board President of the Women's Committee for the UMKC Conservatory for six years and more recently served as Scholarship Funding Chair. She also served as both Symphony Ball Chairman and President of the Symphony League and was on the Naming Committee of the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts, where she gave hard hat building tours before it officially opened.

When she lost her husband in 2016, Marylou donated a perpetual rose bed in his memory, and she joined the KCRS a year later. Her love of the garden led to becoming Membership Chair in 2020. "The garden is so important to our community," she says. "That's why Wine and Roses, Jazz in the Roses, the Rose Show and the Children's events are so important. They help people get to know us and bring in new members."

Thank you, Marylou, for your many contributions to Kansas City and the Kansas City Rose Society!





An art table added to the children's enjoyment of Jazz!

## Jazz in the Roses

By Betsy Parker



Are these four cute or what?

Jazz in the Roses, chaired by **Betsy Parker** and **Amy Hiles**, was held Sunday, September 10. And we are very grateful to the **Fisher-Hiles Team** who again sponsored the event.

Sunny warm weather complimented the roses, which were in full bloom. **Havilah Bruders**, accompanied by 3 veteran Kansas City jazz musicians, performed jazz standards for the crowd. **Chuck Haddix** was once again Master of Ceremonies, and he generously promoted the Rose Society each time he spoke!

Attendees brought chairs, blankets and snacks, and the Rose Society provided more than 200 bottles of ice water in tubs placed around the Garden.

Two tables set up in the back of the Garden provided information and kid's fun. Consulting Rosarians **Laura Dickinson, John Riley, LeAnne Beaumont** and **Jerry Dreyer**

dispensed advice on roses and gardening, and also gave out information about the Rose Society, its activities and membership. **Julie Spaeth, Ann Greene** and another volunteer manned the second table, which held art supplies for children who might not appreciate the jazz quite as much as their parents.

**Dana Flemming** was on hand early and throughout the event to set up the tents, tables, chairs and water containers and help with cleanup.

Signs were placed around the park and in Brookside early in the week and "Free Event Today" signage was posted in the park on event day. Jazz in the Roses was also promoted on the KCRS website, in several e-blasts, in the newsletter and on social media. All in all, it was another enjoyable day to celebrate the Garden.

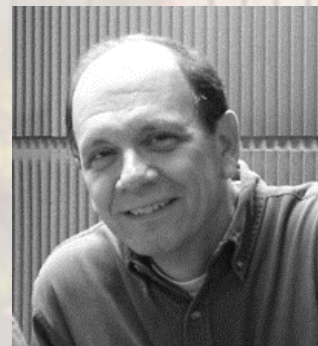
## Reading in the Roses

By Betsy Beasley

"What you all will be is / fodder for a background shot / in some Chevy Chase movie . . ." a line from **Patricia Lawson** poem *Mid-life Me;* and **Robert Stewart** reading from *KANSAS: ARS POETICA* "Wind off the prairie makes me want to punch back at something."

These were two of the six talented authors who read from their works for the Rose Society audience this fall. Others included **Annette Hope Billings, Tina Hacker, Shawn Pavey** and **Rick Christiansen** who all write about poignant places in life, some with sorrow, joy, and happiness. Wry, witty and many times laugh-out-loud funny, the readers entertained us with their extraordinary talents.

The Rose Society hosts these readings in partnership with **The Writers Place** three times a year. This was the ninth year we've held our readings – all free to the public - at the Loose Park Garden Center, where the audience enjoyed refreshments and camaraderie as they mingled with the writers.



Robert Stewart



Patricia Lawson



# Always Noteworthy!

By Linda Rostenberg

For almost a century now, thousands of Kansas Citians have walked our world class rose garden, appreciating the beauty, financial support and hard work that creates it. You have stopped to smell the roses, take photos, and share special moments there with your circle of friends.

Thanks for all that powerful word-of-mouth praise, friends. It works!

Still, so many people have no idea that our Rose Society is the driving force behind this top city attraction. We need to remind the thousands of visitors strolling Loose Park's Garden that it requires their support.

Our new QR code garden signs allow visitors to read all about the roses they like, and their histories. And our [website](#) and social media platforms ([Facebook](#), [YouTube](#), [Instagram](#)) have helped us share our amazing history, awards, parties, beautiful videos of the garden, mini-classes in rose care, future plans and the option to join KCRS, make wonderful friends, and help groom the garden.

Many also participate in our successful *Love Is a Rose* program, which funds our efforts and allows everyone to purchase rose bushes to celebrate those you love.

*The Kansas City Gardener*, a free local magazine, regularly features KCRS stories by our consulting Rosarians – **Laura Dickinson, Jerry Dreyer, Lauren English, Glenn Hodges, Judy Penner** and **John Riley**. **Laura Dickinson**, who has been teaching us all about roses for years, explains “Every



month, we talk about what to do now in the garden, and then about roses and our upcoming KCRS events. We are so grateful to *The Kansas City Gardener* for giving us this opportunity.”

**Lauren English** adds “As garden chair, I want to encourage the public to visit the Laura Conyers Smith Municipal Rose Garden. I always include photos of the roses in the Rose Garden or my own garden with my columns for the magazine.”

*The Kansas City Independent* has also been generous in its coverage, regularly featuring our parties, public events, and photos of the garden. And people love our [Ask A Rosarian](#) hotline.

But you are our best publicists. When you tell people about the Rose Society, they listen ... and visit. Tell someone about us today, and thanks for spreading the word!

## Please Help Welcome Our Newest Members



By Marylou Turner

Think of yourself as a KCRS ambassador when you meet a new member. Tell them about your KCRS activities and invite them to join you in one if they show interest. Our newest members include:

- |                       |                 |                          |                  |
|-----------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|------------------|
| Connie and Mark Ayers | Lorece Chanelle | Jenny Chapin             | Deanna Diebolt   |
| George Embry          | Abby Holland    | Kevin Holland            | Gretchen Huebert |
| Ward Holmquist        | Susan Lindahl   | Shannon Lostutter        | Mary Marshall    |
| Dayna Martin          | Cheryl Meyer    | Cindy Moreland           | Isabel Paxton    |
| Joy Payne             | Cynthia Savage  | Susan Spencer            | Allan Stever     |
| Steven Tinsley        | Jim Wanser      | Karen and John Yungmeyer |                  |

And Welcome Back Darryl Ashley!

New members are contacted by the chairman of the area(s) they have expressed interest in. And all new members are immediately added to our database so they will receive the newsletter, invitations, and updates.





*New Board member **Liz Walters***



***Kandi McCasland** handing the leadership gavel to incoming President **Laura Dickinson***



***Sandy Campuzano** with her engraved Waterford Crystal vase*



***Amy Embry**, American Rose Society President **Diane Sommers** and **Julie Spaeth***



***Lori Judd**, **Betsy Beasley**, **John Riley** (wearing his ARS Bronze Medal and a rose from his garden) and **Julie Trotter***

## ARS President Speaks At Annual Members Luncheon

This year's Annual Members Meeting and Luncheon featured wine, roses and a wonderful guest presentation by American Rose Society President **Diane Sommers**.

We elected our 2023-24 officers and welcomed new Board member **Liz Walters**. And after two years as President, **Kandi McCasland** handed her gavel to incoming President **Laura Dickinson**.

There were awards! **Joan Sherman** received the **ARS Bronze**

**Award** for her many contributions over the years to the Kansas City Rose Society. **Taylor Smith** received a national **ARS Rising Star Award**, presented to him by ARS President Diane Sommers. This award recognizes outstanding young professionals who are active in their local rose society.

**Sandy Campuzano** received an engraved Waterford crystal vase in recognition of and thanks for her many years of service to KCRS.

And we all had a GREAT time!



***Ann Greene** helped Luncheon Co-Chair **Vicki Riffle** welcome guests.*



***Scott and Joyce Blakesley***



*Two who have given so much to KCRS! **Taylor Smith** and **Joan Sherman***





For us, 2023 was the **Year of the Rabbit!**



Young Friends of KCRS (L-R) **Dr. Rachel Gabriel, Mike Gabriel, Shannon Dougherty, Alison Guthrie, Liz Walters, and Laura Jaber**

## Garden Groomers Celebrate 23rd Season!

By *Lauren English*

Seventy-Five groomers, including nine weekly newbies and Young Friends of KCRS, logged 1,410 hours of grooming this season!

Those who received their green aprons after at least 15 hours of service were **LeAnne Beaumont, Loretta Burns, Grace Coleman, Jerry Dreyer, Greg Gruss, Gretchen Huebert, Caren Luke, and Diane Wilds. Liz Walters**, Young Friend of the KCRS, earned her green apron this season with 8 hours of service.

After a tough, rabbit-infested beginning, the Garden Committee chose a whimsical “Chinese Year of the Rabbit” red and gold pin for the 2023 season. And groomers received a record-breaking 41 pins!

Those with a minimum of 15 hours were **Elaine Adams, Martha Almond, Chris Barker, Stephen Bumgarner, Sandy Campuzano, Lisa Cella, Alicia Coleman, Martha Comment, Diane Condeni, Laura Dickinson, Lauren English, Carol Foret, Pauline Freeman, Helga Friess, Ann Greene, Gary Groening, Tom Hogan, Patricia Hornbeck, Kathy Hughes, Teri James, Jennifer “JJ” Jensen, Lori Judd, Cathy Klose, Terry Mann, Barbara McCanse, Heather Mellor, Linda Miller, Carol Mosher, Martha Negley, Cyndy Price, Doug Polson, Gina Pulliam, Vicki Riffle, Linda Rostenberg, Beverly South, Julie Spaeth, Stephanie Tatum, Betty Whitcomb, Melissa Windju and Rita Witt.** Past President **Martha Comment** received her 10-year pin. **Shannon Dougherty,**

Young Friend of the KCRS, earned her first pin this season with 8 hours of service.

We celebrated the Tuesday-Thursday groomers at the annual Groomer Appreciation Luncheon under the Loose Park East Pavilion on September 28. Many groomers dressed in creative or stylish rose wear. Siblings **Tom Hogan** and **Cathy Hughes** won the most creative award. Tom fashioned a chicken wire fence around himself with stuffed rabbits and silk roses. His sister Cathy wore a trash bag with the words, “I Have Rose Rosette!” The most stylish award went to **Pauline Freeman.** And **Diane Wilds** got the “Nice Try” award for her colorful rose wear. All winners received a \$20 gift certificate from **Suburban Lawn and Garden.**

In recognition of 12 years of outstanding service to the Garden Committee, retiring member **Martha Negley** received our deep thanks and an all-white bouquet of roses (her favorite!)

Garden Committee members at the Luncheon were new member **Jerry Dreyer**, Garden Chair **Lauren English, Ann Greene, and Jennifer “JJ” Jensen.** KC Parks Head Rosarian **Dana Flemming** and staff members **Owen** and **Sarah** received many thanks for their hard work this season. Dana gifted each groomer with a KC Parks coffee mug. **Janmarie Hornack**, (owner of **Earth Right** natural and organic products used in the Rose Garden and special consultant to the Garden Committee) generously donated her products for door prizes.



**Lauren English and Martha Comment**



“Creative Rose Wear” (L-R) **Patricia Hornbeck, Kathy Hughes, Martha Negley, Diane Wilds, Tom Hogan, Gretchen Huebert, Terry Mann, Ann Greene, Lauren English, and Sandy Campuzano**



**Martha Negley** with her white roses



# Central District Rose Show and Conference

## Laura Dickinson Honored at Conference

By Glenn Hodges

The prestigious **American Rose Society (ARS) Silver Honor Medal** is given by the district to an individual who “has provided meritorious service to the rose and its culture, for efforts expended in support of the American Rose Society and its objectives within the District.”

At the Conference, Central District Director **John Riley** presented this year’s ARS Central District Silver Honor Medal to **Laura Dickinson**.

Laura served the Johnson County, Kansas Rose Society in many capacities before it disbanded in 2016. In the Kansas City Rose Society (KCRS), she has served as the Consulting Rosarian (CR) Coordinator. She has also spearheaded writing about rose care for the Society’s website and *The Kansas City Gardener* with several other CRs, and she oversees CR replies to inquiries to [kcrosehelp@gmail.com](mailto:kcrosehelp@gmail.com).

Laura is an active garden groomer in the Laura Conyers Smith Municipal Rose Garden. She was Vice-President of the KCRS Board of Directors before assuming the role of President in November. In the Central District, Laura has been Chair of Prizes and Awards Committee, CR Chair, and Co-chair of the Central District Rose Show and Conference in 2011, 2019, and 2023. Laura says, “Roses are easier than tomatoes!”

Congratulations Laura!



ARS Central District Director, **John Riley** presented the **ARS Silver Honor Medal** to **Laura Dickinson**, member of the Kansas City Rose Society.

## Jerry Dreyer Won Best of Show!

Congratulations also to **Jerry Dreyer**, who took **Best in Class** and **Best of Show** with his Green Rose!

“Originally known as “rosa chinesis viridiflora”, ‘Green Rose’ is a “love it or hate it” kind of a rose whose uniqueness stems from its lack of true petals. Whether or not you love it, this plant arouses genuine interest in people because it is uncommon, a novelty. The ‘flowers’ of ‘Green Rose’ are in fact a genetic anomaly, and that is presumed to be the key to this plant’s existence. In this case, the ‘flower’ consists of the sepals and a leafy middle. It is classified as a Hybrid China.

For those unfamiliar with “sepals,” if you cut any rose flower in your garden and flip it upside down, those pointy green “leaves” just below the bloom are the sepals. Every rose has them. In this case, basically, the petals (corolla), androecium (male portion) and gynoecium (female portion) have become vegetative. This results in a green mutation of a flower on a most unusual looking rose that arouses much interest and is highly sought after.”

Excerpted from an article by Suzanne M. Horn. See <https://www.rose.org/single-post/green-rose-is-that-really-a-rose> for the full article.



A very happy **Jerry Dreyer** holding his **Green Rose**.





*French Lace (Glenn Hodges)*



*Tahitian Sunset (Jerry Dreyer)*



*Gizmo (Glenn Hodges)*



*Green Rose (Jerry Dreyer)*

## KCRS Rose Photographers Excelled at the Rose Show

Five of the rose photographs entered in the ARS Central District Rose Show by three members of the Kansas City Rose Society were judged to be Best in Class. **Glenn Hodges** entered the best photograph of an exhibition form rose, the floribunda 'French Lace,' which was also chosen to be the King, the second-best entry among the 52 rose photographs entered in the show. 'French Lace' also received the Silver Medal Certificate, the second-best exhibitor grown rose in the show. He also entered a photograph of the best spray, the floribunda 'Sunsprite,' which was chosen Princess and awarded the Bronze Metal Certificate, and the best single form bloom, the miniature 'Gizmo.'

**Jerry Dreyer** entered a photograph of the best fully open bloom, the hybrid tea 'Tahitian Sunset' and a photograph of the best old garden rose, the China 'Green Rose.' A photograph of the hybrid tea 'Granada' was judged to be the best in the potpourri class, a photograph of a rose that did not meet the definition of any of the other classes, by **Madeline Male**.



*Sunsprite (Glenn Hodges)*



*Granada (Madeline Male)*

Have questions about roses?  
We have answers!

**Ask A  
Rosarian**

Email us at:  
[kcrosehelp@gmail.com](mailto:kcrosehelp@gmail.com)





## We've Come a Long Way Baby!

### A Brief Recent History of the Kansas City Rose Society

It's hard to imagine now, but 25 years ago, the Kansas City Rose Society faced major challenges. "Our membership was stagnant, our finances, minimal. We only had 10 board members and six groomers. And the Laura Conyers Smith Municipal Rose Garden in Jacob L. Loose Memorial Park was in trouble," remembers **Sandy Campuzano**. Every aspect of the garden was in decline. Something had to be done.

When Sandy joined the Rose Society in 1999, one of her early contributions was to spearhead a new Strategic Planning Committee. "Our first priority was to assess what needed to be done to restore the garden to the original Hare and Hare design and make it world class." Board members were added and once the 15-year strategic plan was finalized, they went to KC Parks and Recreation, explained the long-term plans, and asked for - and were granted - complete authority over the renovation, provided KCRS agreed to raise all funding. "Top quality was assured - from the roof, pillars, stone columns and teak benches to the granite pathways, cement, wooden timbers, trellises, lighting and water system."

The next step was to ask community leaders for support. "**Jonathon Kemper** was behind us from the beginning," Sandy recalls. "He helped lead the capital campaign that raised \$800,000 in the first three months. That was used to purchase the beautiful pietra dura stone fountain made for us in Carrara, Italy." It was dedicated in 2002. Jonathan was very active in planning and decision-making throughout the renovation. Then others came forward. "**Martha Jane Starr** called and invited us to tea to ask about the project. She told us that garden founder Laura Conyers Smith had been a close friend and asked if she could make a 'small contribution.' We left with a check for \$300,000." And each time she invited us to tea, an additional contribution was included."

Principal benefactors also included the **Jacob L. and Ella C. Loose Foundation, William T. Kemper Foundation,**

**Geraldine and R.A. Barrows Foundation and UMB N.A. Trustee.** Kansas Citians and businesses also contributed. "Truly, they helped us stand on the shoulders of the society's founders."

Total donations and costs exceeded \$2.2 million. All work was completed a year ahead of schedule, and the garden became beautiful again. "Rosarian **Judy Penner** was a guiding light in the project," Sandy adds. Judy introduced composting and more natural gardening methods and products (without harsh chemicals.)

The *Memory Rose* program introduced in 1983 and re-envisioned in 2010 as *Love is a Rose* continues to flourish, now funding all aspects of rose care in the garden. And over the years, events have been introduced to promote the garden to the community: Rose Day, a regional rose show, Jazz in the Roses, the Children's programs, Wine and Roses, and more. "We reached our goal of becoming a world class garden when the garden received the **World Federation of Roses Societies Award of Garden Excellence** in 2018."

As for the health of the Kansas City Rose Society, its membership has doubled in size with financial stability and a full board of directors. There are now 75 garden groomers giving more than 1400 volunteer hours annually to the care of the garden.

And today there's an explosion of interest in the garden. It's a place to enjoy beautiful flowers and meet others. "Many people have a special memory of the garden. From engagements and weddings to picnics and rose grooming, from sharing rose knowledge to carrying on past traditions, it has a special place in Kansas City hearts and history."



# Consulting Rosarians

By *Laura Dickinson*

The Consulting Rosarians had another successful year of sharing rose gardening expertise with Kansas City gardeners. Our activities included:

- 11 presentations to local garden clubs reaching over 275 gardeners
- 8 rose garden tours to more than 150 visitors
- Monthly Rose Report in [The Kansas City Gardener](#) magazine
- 28 requests for rose garden advice on the *Ask a Rosarian* email hotline
- Hosting *Ask a Rosarian* tables at Rose Day, Jazz in the Roses and Suburban Lawn & Garden Rose Day.
- YouTube Videos on Judy Penner's personal channel, viewed by thousands of gardeners worldwide.
- Meeting never-ending informal requests for rose advice from friends, neighbors, rose garden groomers, and others in the CR's social orbit.

Thank you to CRs **LeAnne Beaumont, Laura Dickinson, Jerry Dreyer, Lauren English, JJ Jensen, Glenn Hodges, Judy Penner, John Riley, and Corinda Stallbaumer** for their dedication to encouraging rose gardening and serving as the rose "experts" for KCRS events and in their communities.



Board members **Betsy Beasley** and new KCRS President and CR Chair **Laura Dickinson** at *Jazz in the Roses*.

Photo credit: *Lauren English*

# Childrens Programs

By *Julia Spaeth*

Our new program *Storytime in the Garden* has been a great success. **Lead to Read** and **Yogurtini** partnered with us in creating this program for children to hear local authors read their books, do an activity and enjoy frozen yogurt!

When father-daughter author team **Tony and Stori Temple** read their book ***Animal Movements*** in August, they had the audience up and moving like the animals in their books. All children attending received a copy of the book, and **Sadie Johnson** from **Brookside Ceramics** donated two bisque animals as prizes.

In September, our featured author **Vladimir Sainte**, shared his story ***Just Like a Hero***, which is one of his four published books.

## Save These 2024 Dates!

- April 12    Rose Prose Poetry Contest Deadline (Grades 3-8)
- May 17     Rose Show Deadline (Grades PK-8)



Our thanks to the wonderful authors who gave kids a very active reading experience this summer!



**Brooke Robinson**, Yogurtini; **Julie Spaeth**, KCRS; **Tony and Stori Temple**-authors of ***Animal Movements***; **Linda Hughes**, Lead to Read





My Dutch carrier

# Cut Flower Cup Caddy

## A Simple Solution

By Jerry Dreyer



Amazon's version folds flat for storage

My handy cup holder receives much interest when I bring roses to shows. Convenience store drink cups fit great and allow for several stems per cup. If I need to identify the rose, I stick masking tape on each cup and write on that.

I bought this years ago at a Dutch antique store where I was told it was a milk bottle carrier used to deliver milk to homes in the city. Never able to find these in the U.S., I once checked out the cost of a mold and was quickly humbled by the price, my ideas of having them made, crushed.

When I shared this story with **Richard English** at the **Kansas City Rose Show**, he pointed out that injection molding hasn't been around forever, and we wondered how long the Dutch enjoyed home milk delivery! Later that day KCRS Board member **Ann Greene** was wishing she could get one,

and her husband **Jim** commented that Gatorade carriers would do the job perfectly.

I rushed home to Amazon and sure enough, found a couple of options to buy and try. (Don't we love their return policy?) There are many models available, but most are made for slimmer sport drink bottles. This black version has holes that are the right size for the large drink cups, with a nice tall handle.

Search Amazon for "Foldable Drink Carrier for Large Cups, Grande, Venti, Trenta Drinks Carrier for Uber eats, DoorDash Postmates, Grubhub Drivers." This version folds up flat for easy storage when not in use and costs about \$18.

In the interest of full disclosure, there are no commissions being earned by this endorsement, just happy rose friends!



Quietness (Glenn Hodges)

## Two KCRS Members' Photos Chosen for 2024 ARS Calendar



Sea Foam (Madeline Male)

Each year, the American Rose Society (ARS) sponsors a rose photography competition for the annual ARS calendar, which has 61 places for rose photographs. Photographers may submit up to five photographs of roses that are in commerce. A photographer is limited to no more than one photograph on a calendar. And a rose variety can appear no more often than every several years.

Two KCRS members have had rose photographs selected

for the 2024 ARS calendar. 15 year-old **Madeline Male's** photograph of the white shrub rose, 'Sea Foam,' was chosen. This was her first time entering the competition.

**Glenn Hodges'** photograph of the light pink shrub rose, 'Quietness,' was also selected. This is the fourth time in the last five years that he has had a rose photograph selected for the ARS annual calendar. Both photographs will appear in the May 2024 calendar section.