



OUR VISION

A WORLD CLASS ROSE GARDEN WHERE THE COMMUNITY CAN ENJOY AND LEARN ABOUT ROSES.

Save these Dates!

Reading in the Roses

July 8: 2-3:30 pm (Garden Center Rose Room) Come hear **Pat Lawson**, writer of both fiction and poetry, **Robert Stewart**, winner of the Thorpe Menn Award for Literary Excellence and a National Magazine Award for Editorial Excellence, and award-winning poet and actress **Annette Billings**.

Children's Storytime

Aug. 5: 10 am (Garden Center Patio)

Jazz in the Roses

Sept. 10: 5-7 pm (Rose Garden)

Wine and Roses Fundraiser

Sept. 14: 5:30-7:30 pm (Rose Garden) Ticketed event.

Central District Rose Show

Sept. 22-24 (Overland Park/Lenexa Radisson Hotel) See page 7 for details.

Garden Groomers Luncheon

Sept. 28: 11:30-1:30 pm (East Pavilion) To honor and thank our Groomers!

Children's Storytime

Sept. 30: 10 am (Garden Center Patio)

Reading in the Roses

Oct. 21: 2-3:30 pm (Garden Center Rose Room)

Annual Luncheon

Nov. 1: 11 am-2 pm (Carriage Club) American Rose Society President **Diane Sommers** will be our guest speaker.



Painting winner **Catherine Klose** with artist **Wes Benson**



Ann Greene and Julia Spaeth

Tea & Cocktails

What a Concept!

Our Annual Spring Tea brought more than 65 members together to welcome rose season. And this year Co-Chairs Vicki Riffle and Margie Paxton introduced a raffle (Taylor Smith's idea!) that raised almost \$2,400 for the Rose Garden. Many thanks to our generous raffle donors: Artist **Wes Benson's** beautiful oil painting of the rose garden was won by Catherine Klose, who was pretty darn happy about it! **J'Adore**, **Lydia's**, **Noodles & Company**, and **Taylor Smith** also generously contributed raffle items.

Lidia's Executive Chef created a custom menu for the event. We're thankful for their partnership and for a wonderful start to Summer '23!



John Riley, Devan Hartnett, and Karen Sexton



Barbara McCanse and Martha Hogerty



Mark McCasland and Wesley Browning



Greeters **Laura Jaber and Isabel Paxton** with **Taylor Smith**



Betsy Beasley

The word that best describes KCRS Board member **Betsy Beasley** is Volunteer. She has spent much of her life helping community organizations grow and improve, and that includes the Kansas City Rose Society.

Betsy was born in Enid, Oklahoma and grew up in St. Joseph, Mo. She attended Park University, and three years later married writer Conger Beasley in 1966. She taught fifth grade for almost five years before they bought a home in Kansas City in 1972. But adventure called. They spent a year in the Suffolk area of England where Conger wrote his first novel before returning to Kansas City.

Once their two children were in school, Betsy “volunteered constantly,” focusing on the arts and education. She served on the **Pembroke Hill** board and was Parents Association President the year of the PemDay/Sunset merger.

She soon became a board member of **Literacy KC, Planned Parenthood, The Writers Place, the Albrecht-Kemper Museum of Art**, where she is still a Fellow, and the **University of Kansas City Emeritus College**.

She also served as Administrative Associate of **UMKC’s New Letters** magazine, a 100-page journal published four times a year, and their **KCUR 89.3** Sunday morning radio program. In that position, she managed subscriptions and the database. She has spent the last 18 years as the **UMKC Cockefair Advisory Chair**.

In 2012 Betsy’s neighbor Monique Elfman, a KCRS Board member at the time, invited her to join the Rose Society. In 2016, she accepted Joann Stultz and Sandy Campuzano’s invitation to become Treasurer. Now in her eighth year on the board, she currently chairs our *Reading in the Roses* programs that bring wonderful authors and both seasoned and budding poets to the garden. After losing her husband, two brothers and parents, Betsy has become a strong advocate of the *Love is a Rose* program. “Roses are my favorite flowers. And the gift of their beauty in the garden gives me comfort.”

We’re so lucky to have Betsy on our Board!

Get To Know Our Board

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



Ann Greene

Some people quietly make significant contributions behind the scenes. **Ann Greene** is one of those people. Always accountable and almost always there!

A south Kansas City native, Ann attended Creighton University, where she earned a BA in Journalism. She was a KC Royals usherette for three years during her school years. “We wore these awful polyester overalls. It was great!”

After graduation, she worked for several small papers before serving as Media Relations Specialist for the **Olathe School District**. In that job she handled everything from press releases to the Annual Report and crisis management communication.

Ann and her husband have been married seven years. They met through the **KC Running Club** where she was a Board member.

They now volunteer with **Global Ties KC**, a non-profit organization that works with the State Department to link prominent international leaders to the Kansas City community. And they also sponsor a foreign military officer each year during his/her assignment at **Fort Leavenworth’s Command and General Staff College**. Last year they helped host an officer from Macedonia; this year, one from the Czech Republic. “Most rise in rank when they go home, and many go on to be a prominent member of their nation’s military,” she adds.

Ann has also been a big sister to Riya in the **Big Brothers Big Sisters KC** for three years. And she prepares food for **Free Hot Soup KC** once a week through All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church.

She became a **KC Rose Society** groomer in 2020. When she joined the Board that year, she initially helped Julie Spaeth with the Children’s programs (she still does!), and she now also serves on the Garden Committee.

You’ll see Ann at most KCRS events helping make them a success. What an asset she is to the Rose Society and to Kansas City!



Laura Dickinson, Barbara McCanse and Kandi McCasland



Julie Spaeth and Ann Greene in the Children's Art display area

Rose Show and Rose Day

By Barbara McCanse

Rose Show 2023 included 329 gorgeous roses entered by exhibitors and more than 70 photographs.

Special thanks to Co-Chairs **Barbara McCanse** and **Laura Dickinson**, and to the KCRS Board members who helped. **Kandi McCasland** and **Joan Sherman** served as clerks. **Ann Greene** helped with set up and take down. **Vicki Riffle** picked up the Judges' lunch, which was held on the lovely Garden Center patio this year. The show was well organized and ran smoothly due to our 20+ excellent KCRS volunteers.

Our committee is currently meeting to plan the **Central District Rose Show**, which will be held here September 23 and 24, 2023 at the Overland Park/Lenexa Radisson Hotel. We'll soon begin looking for volunteers to help with this show too.

Several hundred people come to see the Rose Show roses on Rose Day and vote on the Most Fragrant Rose. The youngest was 3 weeks old; the oldest, 92!

Special thanks to Chair **Taylor Smith**, who skillfully handled a wedding booking scheduled for the same time, and to the KCRS members who helped make the day a success.



9-year-old Olive Hutson's Graham Thomas, Photography Queen



Tabulating the results: John Riley and Jerry Dreyer



Sunsprite, Photography King and Gold Medal. Glenn Hodges



Solar Flair, Photography Bronze Medal, Glenn Hodges



Joan Sherman and her granddaughter.



Meghan Craig shared unique ways to use your imagination and be fun and creative with words. She read her books *I Will Always Love You* and *Writing is Gross*.

Reading in the Roses

By Betsy Beasley

KCRS is celebrating its ninth-year hosting Reading in the Roses in partnership with The Writers Place. Poet **Alarie Tennille** always selects incredible literary talents for these events.

After the readings, writers mingle with the audience, and everyone enjoys the refreshments.

Don't miss the next **Reading in the Roses** on Saturday, **October 21, 2-3:30 pm** at the **Garden Center**.



Lisa D. Stewart spoke and read from her memoir, *The Big Quiet: One Women's Horseback Ride Home* about her solo 500-mile trip on her high-strung horse, *Chief*.

Children's Programs

By Julie Spaeth



L-R Poetry prize winners **Sadie Thedinger** (4th grade), **Lelah Branchley** (6th grade), and **Gracie Goforth** (8th grade), with Honorable Mentions to **Arjun Singh** (4th grade) and **Lenox Watson** (3rd grade)

Rose Prose Poetry Contest

The 2023 Rose Prose Poetry Contest was a grand success! 149 poems were submitted by 3rd through 8th grade students from **Gordan Parks School, Homeschools, Notre Dame de Sion, and Pembroke Hill**. Three young poets won the contest, and each received a certificate and \$50. They read their poems, which are now posted on the KCRS website, to family and friends at the May Reading in the Roses. Their presentation was wonderful!



Storytime in the Garden

"Storytime in the Garden" is a new program this year. The KCRS is partnering with **Lead to Read** to bring local children book authors to the Rose Garden to read their books to children. **Nikiyah Crosdale** was the first presenter! She read her book *The Thought Jar*. Then everyone made a thought jar of their own. The next Storytime in the Garden will be held on August 5 (10-11 am at the Garden Center) with **Tony** and **Stori Temple** presenting *Animal Movements*. Come by and have a great time.



Rose Day Art Show

The Art Show on Rose Day was a great success! Children made tissue paper flowers, decorated visors donated by **Kaleidoscope**, and became artists in the garden!

Our Wonderful Groomers

By Lauren English

The 2023 Garden Grooming season kicked off with our annual weekly Groomer Training on May 18. It included 10 new groomers and several of our 60+ experienced groomers from past seasons. And the Rosebuds met on June 10 to start their third season.

Many thanks for the success of the May training go to Garden Committee members **Martha Negley**, for providing and donating delicious treats, **Ann Greene** for organizing the check-in table, and **JJ Jensen** for recruiting volunteers for the Teatime list. Consulting Rosarians **Laura Dickinson** and **JJ Jensen** led a refresher course for the experienced groomers, while Garden Chair **Lauren English** taught Garden Grooming 101 to the newbies.

Several lucky door prize winners received potted rose bushes donated by **Suburban Lawn and Garden, Family Tree** and **Moffet's Nursery** in St. Joseph, Missouri. Others were thrilled to win individual bottles of **Earth Right**, donated by **Janmarie Hornack**, owner and manufacturer of the **Earth Right** products that KC Parks uses in the Rose Garden. Janmarie is a valued consultant to the Garden Committee as well.

We deeply feel the loss of fellow groomers **Jim Holswade** and **Wayne Rose** on their passing. They added so much to the garden, and we miss them.



New Groomers (L-R) Front row: **Wynne Begun, Gretchen Huebert, Shirly Roets, LeAnne Beaumont**. Back row: **Jerry Dreyer, Caren Luke, Loretta Burns**



Rosebuds **Ten Grant** and **Shannon Dougherty**



Chris Barker, Linda Rostenberg, and Stephen Bumgarner

Consulting Rosarians Report

By Laura Dickinson

The Consulting Rosarians have been busy this year providing talks and Rose Garden tours. At the end of June, we have spoken to 8 groups and over 200 people. We were especially honored to be included in the June 19 **International Extension Master Gardener Conference's** offering of bus tours to special gardens in the KC area and eastern Kansas. CRs **John Riley** and **LeAnne Beaumont** spent a lovely morning on May 13 at **Suburban Lawn and Garden** answering rose questions and assisting customers in selecting roses for their garden.

The Consulting Rosarians provide a monthly Rose Report article to the Kansas City Gardener magazine. It is available free in print form at garden centers, libraries, and many other KC locations. It is also available online. Here's the link to past issues in 2023: <https://kcgmag.com/magazine/> Look for the Rose Report in the table of contents of each issue. The CRs who contribute articles are **Laura Dickinson, Jerry Dreyer, Lauren English, Glenn Hodges, Judy Penner** and **John Riley**.



JJ Jensen demonstrating rose pruning.

The Ask a Rosarian email hotline is available to answer your rose questions at kcroshehelp@gmail.com. You can find fact sheets on rose care on our website under the Rose Info tab. www.kansascityrosesociety.org



Michael Wathan has won awards for his rose photography at the local, district, and national level since 2019. In the American Rose Digital Photo Contest, Michael's rose garden photographs won first place in the Novice class in 2020, first, second, and third places in the Experienced class in 2021, and first place in the 2022 Experienced class with the stunning view above of the Laura Conyers Smith Municipal Rose Garden in Kansas City's Loose Park.



Glenn Hodges has won awards at local and district competitions since he began photographing roses with his iPhone in 2016. He entered the 2022 American Rose Digital Photo Contest as a Novice exhibitor. His exhibition form entry of 'Moonstone' won Best of Class and Best Novice Entry.

FOUR KANSAS CITY ROSE PHOTOGRAPHERS WIN NATIONAL AWARDS

By Glenn Hodges



Fourteen-year-old **Madeline Male**'s interest in photography has focused on roses because of their beauty, especially their color and form, during last two and a half years. She uses a Canon Rebel or an iPhone for her photography. Madeline entered the 2022 American Rose Digital Photo contest as a Junior exhibitor. Her photographs of 'Pink Peace' (left) and 'Distant Drums' (center) were the second and third place winners respectively.



Jerry Dreyer's photograph of a 'Maroon Eight' spray won Best in Class for one spray of a hybrid tea, grandiflora, floribunda, miniature, or miniflora and Princess of the Show at the 2023 ARS National Convention and Rose Show. Jerry relies on his iPhone for his photography.

Plan Now to Attend The Central District Rose Show in September

By John Riley

We all know it. Rose people are great people! Friendly. Accessible. Knowledgeable. Fun.

Here's a chance to meet some of them from American Rose Society's Central District, which includes the Rose Societies of Missouri, Kansas, Iowa, and Nebraska.

This year it's our turn to host the:

**Annual Central District Conference and Rose Show
September 22-24 - Radisson Hotel, Lenexa, KS.**

All KCRS members are invited to register for the conference, which will include an Opening Reception Friday evening, Rose Show and Banquet on Saturday, and business and education sessions on Sunday. (There's a charge for attending, and it's worth it!)

Volunteer to help!

We need volunteers to staff the Welcome Table, help during the Rose Show, and provide other support and preparation tasks. If you would like to be involved,



please contact **Barbara McCanse** at bmcconse@gmail.com or 816-914-8529.

Look for the registration information and the Rose Show schedule on our KCRS [website](#) in early August.

*Come meet and talk with rose experts
from our District and the ARS!*



Michael Sull



Sandy Campuzano

A Gift That Lives On

The *Love is a Rose* program, under the capable guidance of **Sandy Campuzano**, raises money to support the Loose Park Rose Garden. Her committee also includes **Linda Rostenberg, Taylor Smith, Devan Hartnett, Joan Sherman, Nancy Bramlett** and **Greg German**.

In the last two years this highly successful program received 500 donations for Memory Roses and nearly 75 more for Friendship Roses. And many are from repeat donors. Why? Because they are a very affordable way to give a living tribute to someone dear.

"When people ask how they will know which rose they donated, I explain 'The Parks Dept. does not permit signs, so pick out the most beautiful rose bush and consider it the one you gave,'" says Sandy. "Think of the person it represents each time you visit the garden."

If you've sent flowers recently, you know what they cost. In comparison, your \$30 donation underwrites a rose bush that lives on in the garden. And there's more. If it's a Memory Rose, the name of the person being honored is inscribed in the KCRS Memory Book by **Michael Sull**, an expert in Spencerian calligraphy. Both Friendship and Memory Rose recipients receive a packet of information about the gift, the Garden, and its international recognition. "Every communication is of highest quality – from the paper selection to the printing, handwriting and even the stamp," says Sandy. "And families appreciate them so much. It's a community service that creates lasting, living memories."

[Click here](#) to learn more about *Love is a Rose* or to place an order.



The Kansas City Rose Society is FUN!



Shannon Dougherty and Amy Embry



Liz Walters



Nancy Bramlett, Laura Dickinson, Tristan Bramlett



Martha Negley



Pauline Freeman



Vicki Riffle



Glenn Hodges



Arlyn Silvey

2023 KCRS Board

Kandi McCasland – President
 Laura Dickinson – Vice President
 Joan Sherman – Secretary
 Nancy Bramlett – Treasurer

Betsy Beasley
 Amy Embry
 Lauren English
 Ann Greene
 Barbara McCanse
 Betsy Parker

Margie Paxton
 Vicki Riffle
 Linda Rostenberg
 Taylor Smith
 Julie Spaeth
 Marylou Turner

Please Help Welcome Our Newest Members!

By Marylou Turner

Be a KCRS ambassador! When you meet a new member, tell them about the KCRS activities you're involved in, and invite them to join you in one if they show interest.

Jen Beck	Caren Luke
Brad Bloom	Madeline Male
Susann and Gene Briseno	Craig Paddock
Grace Coleman	Shirly Roets
Tom Crawford	Cindy Salvatore
Rebecca Houglund	Corinda Stallbaumer
Gretchen Huebert	Susan Walton
Patrick Jacquinet	Diane and Michael Wilds
Rachel Kortkamp	



Four Who Are Missed

Our deepest sympathy goes to the families of members **Courtney Earnest, Jim Holswade, Georgette Page, and Wayne Rose** on their passing. Kansas City Rose Society was honored to have them as members.

Have questions about roses?

Ask A Rosarian

Email us at:
kcrosehelp@gmail.com