



TARS NOTES

From the Tallahassee Area Rose Society (TARS)

Affiliated with the American Rose Society

November, 2025

ANNUAL DUES FOR 2026 FOR THE TALLAHASSEE AREA ROSE SOCIETY ARE DUE NOW!

Still only \$15 for an individual membership (\$20 for a Joint Membership)

To get a copy of the newsletter mailed to you via the US Postal Service, you need to be up to date on paying your TARS Membership and to include an extra \$10 to help with printing and postage costs.

Dues can be paid at the meetings or mailed to the address
on the Membership Form (Found at the end of this newsletter)

MEETINGS AND EVENTS

NOVEMBER MEETING – THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2025, STARTING AT 5:30 PM

LEON COUNTY MAIN LIBRARY

NEW MEETING ROOM A ON THE SECOND FLOOR INSIDE THE LIBRARY

The Main Entrance to the library can be accessed

from the library parking lot at Call Street and Duval Street.

take steps, ramp, or elevator up one floor and then enter the main library (where the books are)

Once inside the library, go up to Floor 2 via either the stairs or the elevator to Meeting Room A

Near the Career Corner

NOTE THIS CHANGE IN MEETING LOCATION FROM OUR REGULAR PLACE!!!

Main Program to be presented by Dr. LeAnna Willison on – ROSE FRAGRANCES –

What they are, Various Types, and Some Fragrant Roses that Grow well in our area

There also will be a Mini Rose Show

Refreshments provided by Mary Lou Chenevert

HOLIDAY PARTY!!

The Tallahassee Area Rose Society will be at the beautiful new home of Marion and Gerard Nimis

On December 7, 2025, starting at 3 pm

This will be a pot luck affair, so mark your calendar, plan to come,
and to bring your favorite dish to share.

ROSE FRAGRANCES – Program for our November 6th Meeting

By Dr. LeAnna Willison

Roses enhance our gardens by attracting pollinators, providing color with their beautiful blooms, and providing scentsational fragrance. These fragrances can reduce anxiety, improve mood, and promote relaxation. Every rose produces a unique scent which can vary based on the age of the bloom, time of day, and weather. We will discuss the volatile compounds that contribute to fragrance, the various fragrance types, and some fragrant roses that grow well in our area.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

At our October meeting, we enjoyed a very interesting presentation by Renee White about many of our older rose friends, complete with beautiful photos, and how they came to be named. This was particularly interesting because many of us grow some of the roses that Renee discussed, and it was fun to hear the background about how they were named.

The November 6th meeting also should be fascinating. Not all roses smell the same, and unfortunately some modern roses don't have any fragrance at all. Throughout history, people have treasured roses for their fragrance, but in the process of developing different visually beautiful roses, their valued fragrance often gets lost. LeAnna's presentation on this topic promises to be very informative, and to help to open our minds (and our noses!) to the beautiful rose aromas that can be found among different rose varieties.

For the November 6th meeting, we also hope to hold a mini rose show. You bring some roses from your garden, and I'll provide vases and Styrofoam wedges, just like you see at regular rose shows.

I just received a boxful of beautiful colored catalogs from Heirloom Roses, located in Saint Paul, Oregon. These will be available free to meeting attendees, as long as supply lasts!

Be sure to note the **new** location for the November 6th meeting. It will, like the October meeting, be in the main Leon County Library, but in brand, new Meeting Room A. To get to Meeting Room A, you enter the main library, where the books are, take the stairs or elevator up one level to Floor 2, and then look for Meeting Room A near the Career Corner. Our January 8th, 2026, meeting is planned for this same room.

Meanwhile, the holiday season is rapidly approaching, and the date for the annual TARS holiday party has been set for Sunday, December 7, starting at 3 pm, in Marion and Gerard's lovely new home, at the address noted below in the minutes for the October 2nd meeting. This is always a pleasant time to relax a bit and to get to know each other better. I hope you'll plan to attend and to bring a favorite dish to share. We will provide plates, utensils, cups, etc., as well as iced tea and coffee, and you are welcome to bring other beverages, alcoholic or non.

And finally, it is time to pay your 2026 dues! Please complete the form at the end of this newsletter and either send it with your payment to the Tallahassee address given on the form or, better yet, bring it to the next TARS meeting. See you soon!

Janet

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF OCTOBER 2, 2025

Prepared by Mary Lou Chenevert

Place: Leroy Collins Main Library

Social Time started at 5:30 P.M.

Refreshments were provided by Mary Lou

Attendance: 5 members

Names were put in a basket for a drawing to win door prizes.

Meeting was called to order by President Janet Newburgh at 6:03 p.m.

Announcements:

There was to be an ARS Webinar the next Saturday at noon on "Designing a Rose Garden for Rose Collectors" by Paul Zimmerman.

The Deep South District Fall Meeting organized by the Thomasville Rose Society will be held at the Gainesville, FL Best Western on Nov 1 – 2.

A discussion for the December Holiday party to be held at the Nimis' residence on 2645 Antietam Trail in lieu of the monthly meeting led to the selection of the Sunday, December 7 date at 3:00 p.m.

The November 6 meeting will be held again at the Leon County Leroy Collins Main Library downtown, this time in Meeting Room A on the 2nd floor in the newly renovated area upstairs in the library. LeAnna Willison will speak about Fragrant Roses. Also, there will be a mini rose show: bring your roses to arrange in a vase and Janet will provide the vases and wedges for the roses.

Program:

Renee White's presentation titled "A Rose by Any Other Name", based on the book "Pink Ladies and Crimson Gents", was very interesting and informative with pictures of the named roses from the 18th and 19th centuries where roses were named mostly for characters of prominence, such as historical figures, artists, or plantsmen. She gave a brief description of the person the rose was named for, the hybridizer or developer (if known), along with the date the rose first appeared. Jean Pierre Vibert was the first hybridizer with one of his first roses named "Grand Napoleon". Several of the roses she described, among others we might know today, are "Martha Gonzalez", a found rose, "Cardinal de Richelieu", assistant to King Louis XIII, and "Duchess de Brabant", a rose worn by Teddy Roosevelt every day. Many of these roses are sold by The Antique Rose Emporium in Texas.

Other business was that the TARS 2026 membership dues may be paid immediately.

Also, a reminder to take flyers to share with others interested in roses or post in public spaces.

Three door prizes of gift cards were won by Renee, Loretta, and Mary Lou

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

THE CULINARY USES OF ROSES

A Special Report by Dr. LeAnna Willison

We all enjoy the visual appeal of our rose gardens. They provide stunning blooms and aromatic scents to stimulate our senses from the spring to the fall seasons. Personally, the combination of color and scent are the key features for how I select the roses for my garden. However, roses often have additional benefits that we overlook. One of these being their contribution to food! It is believed that the use of roses in foods occurred thousands of years ago with the Romans and Persians in the middle east. Roses were used to flavor foods, add coloring to dishes, enhance mood, and help with digestive discomfort. In modern times, we have only continued to expand upon the uses of roses in the culinary world.

The most obvious way roses are incorporated into foods is through the use of their petals. The petals make stunning decorations and garnishes to wedding cakes, pastries, and even cocktails. All one has to do is google “wedding cakes with rose petals” to find a stunning array of cascading petals, decorative toppers, or eye-catching focal points. These petals can be eaten directly or simply used as a garnish.

Jams are added to a variety of food items and rose hip jam is no exception. Rose hips provide a subtle rose flavor and are an overlooked part of the plant. The rose hips are the seeded “fruits” that form after the flower fades and are packed with Vitamin C, E, B, and K and antioxidants. They are most often produced on wild roses, shrub roses, and some types of old garden roses. These hips can be collected after the first hard freeze when the hip has a dark red color. Making rose hips jam can be easily done by following the recipe: 1 lb rose hips, sugar to taste, 1 tablespoon lemon juice, and a splash of water. Simply bring the mixture to a low boil for 40 to 60 minutes and then strain. Additional spices or sugar can be added for sweetness or to enhance the flavor.

Rose water is another way one can consume roses and one that I personally gravitate towards. I enjoy a splash of rosewater in tea or in shortbread cookies, but it can also be used in cocktails and skin care products. Rose water is simply the fragrant liquid left after the petals have been steeped in water. Any petals can be used to make rose water, but scent should guide your way. Roses with stronger scents like Rosa Rugosa, New Dawn, Double Delight, or Claire Austin, will have a more potent floral taste for making rose water. Another important point to note is that to produce a more colorful rose water, one must use deep red, crimson, or fuchsia pink petals. Here is a simple recipe to make water; collect rose petals (be sure they are pesticide free and safe for consumption), clean the petals, add them to a saucepan and cover the flower petals with filtered water. The mixture should simmer for at least 30 minutes, then cool and strain the liquid for use.

As we have continued to incorporate roses into the culinary world, chefs have noted that certain flavors pair with roses. For example, cardamom and pistachios are excellent combinations with rose flavors and are found in Persian foods like pistachio rose cake, Bastani (ice cream made with Persian rose water, saffron and pistachio), or rose and cardamom chia pudding. Another excellent pairing is roses with almonds or lemons. The buttery taste of almonds or the bright acidity of lemons will balance the sweet, floral notes of roses. French and British recipes for lemon rose bundt cakes, rose lemonade, or rose water cake with almonds are especially tasty.

As you continue your gardening journey, I hope that you begin to consider the incorporation of roses into your culinary experiences!

Sources:

<https://yardandgarden.extension.iastate.edu/how-to/brief-history-rose>

<https://www.ediblemontereybay.com/online-magazine/summer-2024/eat-your-roses-an-edible-journey-of-delectable-flower-foods/>

<https://ourgabledhome.com/rosehip-jam/>

<https://www.petalrepublic.com/types-of-edible-roses/>

NOVEMBER IN YOUR GARDEN

I hear from many of you that your roses are perking up after the summer heat has moderated, and that's great! Please share some of your beautiful blooms by bringing them to the mini rose show on November 6th.

We seem to be getting occasional rains now, but not really enough, or often enough, so supplemental watering is still very helpful and quite possibly life-saving for your roses. But when, and how much, to water is always a balancing act, especially when the weather is changing. I had been doing some afternoon overhead watering to cool the plants on the hottest summer days, but now that it's cooler, I'm having to watch out for black spot, which thrives on roses that remain moist for six hours or so.

At the same time, there is a nasty downside to not watering. I seem to be having an epic invasion of thrips—tiny cigar-shaped insects that seem to be particularly fond of light-colored roses. Thrips come in a variety of colors (black, brown, gray), but the nymphs tend to be green, which is what I am seeing right now. Thrips often can be found inside the flowers. If you get close to them, they often leap or fly away. They use their piercing, sucking mouthparts to feed on pollen and on other tissues of your roses and can be very damaging.

There are a lot of suggested ways of controlling thrips, but the usual insecticides actually can make the problem worse because they destroy insects and other critters that dine on thrips. Keeping the soil moist is supposed to be helpful, because thrips are said to prefer dry conditions. Spraying your plants with a stream of water is supposed to knock them down, although they are also said to be able to overwinter in mulch. Other measures that are said to be helpful are to keep your rose bushes well pruned, to deadhead spent blooms and remove all damaged flowers and buds frequently, disposing of them in a sealed plastic bag in the trash, and not to allow grass or weeds to come in contact with the base or lower branches of your roses.

If you find that you have thrips in your rose garden, do share your experiences so that we all can learn together the best way to deal with them.

TARS BOARD AND OFFICERS

President – Janet Newburgh – JanNewburgh@gmail.com

Vice-President – Cheryl Gifford

Treasurer and Website Coordinator – Gerard Nimis

Secretary – Mary Lou Chenevert

Board Member – Marion Nimis

Board Member – LeAnna Willison

Board Member – Vacant

HELP WANTED

Newsletter Editor

Newsletter Articles

Rose Photos

Refreshment Coordinator

Outreach Coordinator

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Tallahassee Area Rose Society 2026 Membership

Member Name _____

Joint Member Name _____

Address _____

City

State

Zip Code +4

Telephone

Home

Cell

Work

E-Mail

Member

Joint Member

Tallahassee Area Rose Society Membership

Annual Individual (\$15.00) _____

Annual Joint (\$20.00) _____

Postal Mail Copy of Newsletter (\$10.00) _____

Donation to TARS (Optional) _____

American Rose Society

Annual Individual, Digital Copy \$57.50 _____

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American Rose Society
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Shreveport, LA 71130-0030

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You may write one check for membership to both to the Tallahassee Area Rose Society
and for your American Rose Society Membership.

The amount for your American Rose Society membership will be forwarded.

If you have questions, please call 240-281-4352.