



TARS NOTES

From the Tallahassee Area Rose Society (TARS)

Affiliated with the American Rose Society

August, 2026

Membership is still only \$15 for an individual, or \$20 for a Joint Membership. To get a copy of the newsletter mailed to you via the US Postal Service, please include an extra \$10 with your new or renewing membership to help with printing and postage costs. Dues are for each calendar year and can be paid at the meetings or mailed to the address on the Membership Form within this newsletter. Dues paid after August 1 will cover 2027.

NEXT MEETING OF TARS – THURSDAY, AUGUST 6, 2026, STARTING AT 5:30 PM

MAIN LEON COUNTY LIBRARY – Meeting Room A on the First Floor

The library is located at 200 West Park Avenue
and is accessed from the library parking lot at Call Street and Duval.

PROGRAM FOR THE AUGUST 6TH MEETING

**Title: From Garden to Gallery: The Art of Rose Photography
Presented by LeAnna Willison**

Background for LeAnna's presentation:

Every rose garden has a story to tell, and photography is a wonderful way to preserve its beauty through every season. This talk shares techniques for taking stunning rose photographs with practical tips on capturing natural light, highlighting flowers and foliage, and ways to showcase the character of every bloom. Through an inspiring collection of photographs and easy-to-follow guidance, participants will gain a deeper appreciation for floral photography while learning simple techniques to create striking, expressive images. Whether you're new to photography, an experienced gardener, or simply love roses, you'll leave with the inspiration to showcase your garden at its very best.

Do you have a truly ugly rose in your garden? If so, bring it to our August 6th meeting for a contest to see which one is the ugliest!

TARS MEETING THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2026, STARTING AT 5:30 PM

Eastside Leon County Public Library, Program Room

located at 1583 Pedrick Road in Tallahassee

**Vice President Cheryl Gifford will lead this meeting,
which will focus on plans for the September 26th show.**

TALLAHASSEE AREA ROSE SOCIETY SHOW

AUTUMN ROSES

American Legion Hall located at 1085 S. Water Street in Monticello, Florida

Saturday, September 26, 2026

A FEW OTHER UPCOMING ROSE-RELATED EVENTS

October 1, 2026 – Tallahassee Area Rose Society Meeting, Eastside Public Library Program Room, located at 1583 Pedrick Road, Tallahassee, starting at 5:30 pm.

October 2-5, 2026 – American Rose Society National Convention and Rose Show – Nashville TN. For more information about this National Convention, visit rose.org.

October 23-25, 2026 – Deep South District Fall Convention and Rose Show – Gainesville FL. For more information about the Deep South District Fall Convention, visit deepsouthdistrictrosesociety.org.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I am thrilled to announce that we have two brand new consulting rosarians—Cheryl Gifford and LeAnna Willison. Cheryl and LeAnna attended the Consulting Rosarian School that was held in June and, at the end of the day, passed the test! They are the first members of the Tallahassee Area Rose Society to become American Rose Society Consulting Rosarians since I became one four years ago.



Cheryl Gifford

TARS Vice President

New Consulting Rosarian



LeAnna Willison

TARS Board Member

New Consulting Rosarian

And just what is a Consulting Rosarian, or CR for short, and what does it take to become one? The CR program was established several years ago by the American Rose Society, whose mission is primarily educational. The American Rose Society set up a system of schools and exams that are run by the various districts to ensure the availability of well-trained volunteers who are very knowledgeable about roses and who are ready, willing, and able to share that knowledge freely with anyone who desires it. We are part of the Deep South District, which includes Florida, Georgia, and Alabama. The recent CR School was for all of the Deep South District. Individuals from other districts also were welcome to attend.

Becoming a CR is an honor that recognizes the person's expertise in roses and, as noted above, demonstrates their willingness to share that knowledge with others. Along with the honor and responsibility is a commitment to continue to learn more about roses and their cultivation.

Individuals seeking to become CRs need to meet basic qualifications, among which are: to be at least 18 years old; to be a current member of the American Rose Society for at least 2 years; to be an active member of a local rose society; to grow a variety of roses for at least 5 years; and to be willing to share their knowledge and enthusiasm about roses and their cultivation. Individuals who meet the basic qualifications and who wish to be considered for the CR program need to send a completed CR Candidate Form to the District CR Chair at least 30 days before planning to attend a CR School. At the CR

School, they spend the day brushing up on, and expanding, their knowledge of rose cultivation. At the end of the day, they take an open-book test to evaluate their rose-growing knowledge. They need to pass that test with a score of at least 75 percent.

I am so pleased that Cheryl and LeAnna are now CRs, and I hope that other TARS members will seek to become CRs. Additional CR schools may be offered in 2027. For those interested in becoming a CR, the CR Candidate Form can be found on Rose.org and on DeepSouthDistrict.org.

SUMMER ROSE CARE

Although we have had some recent spotty rain, our area continues to be experiencing drought conditions. Between the lack of enough rain and the high temperatures, it is still important to make sure your roses are well watered. It's best to water your garden early in the day or in such a manner that leaves, stems, and blossoms are able to dry out before nightfall to minimize problems with fungal diseases, such as black spot or botrytis. On really hot days, I have been doing a little overhead watering in the early afternoon to try to cool down the plants from the hot sun but, again, this needs to be done early enough in the day so that leaves, stems, and blossoms dry before nighttime. Applying plenty of mulch around your roses really helps to conserve soil moisture. The best way to check the soil for moisture is simply to stick your fingers into it!

At least in my garden, this time of year, weeds are loving the heat and what moisture they get, be it from rain or irrigation, and they are growing like crazy! Those weeds grab a lot of moisture from the soil. Many weeds have incredible, well-adapted root masses, so they compete very effectively against our cultivated plants. Along with stealing soil moisture, those pesky weeds can block light to our flowers, hindering their ability to make sugars. They also can limit air circulation, thereby enhancing fungal growth.

So how do we best care for our roses and other plants we love this time of year? It's not a whole lot of fun pulling weeds on these hot days, but I try to get out there for a while early each morning, particularly if I can follow the shade. Abundant mulch not only conserves soil water but also deters weeds. Organic mulching materials, such as shredded wood products, pine straw, or chopped-up leaves, do triple duty by enriching the soil as they decay.

Another thing you can do to keep your beautiful roses blooming through the season is to deadhead regularly—removing spent blossoms and cutting the stems back to at least the first set of five leaflets. It is particularly important to remove spent blossoms that retain their petals, because they can become heavily infected with fungi such as botrytis. Those spent blossoms need to be removed from the garden and put into the trash, NOT in the compost pile!

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 Article Submissions

Rose Photo Submissions

Refreshment Coordinator

Outreach Coordinator

PLEASE VISIT THE TARS WEBSITE

(TallahasseeAreaRoseSociety.org) and Follow and “like” our

FACEBOOK PAGE ([Tallahassee Area Rose Society](https://www.facebook.com/TallahasseeAreaRoseSociety))

You can also communicate with the TARS by Email -

TallahasseeAreaRoseSociety@gmail.com

or TallahasseeRose@hotmail.com

And send us your photos for posting.

For questions, please call 240-281-4352.

Disclaimer: While the information and recommendations herein are believed to be correct and accurate, neither the authors, editor nor the Tallahassee Area Rose Society can accept responsibility for errors or omissions that may be made. The Society makes no warranty expressed or implied with respect to the material herein.



Tallahassee Area Rose Society 2027 Membership

Member Name _____

Joint Member Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code +4 _____

Telephone _____

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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	\$55.00	_____
Annual Senior, Digital Copy	\$45.00	_____

Tallahassee Area Rose Society

American Rose Society

2645 Antietam Trail
Tallahassee, FL 32312

P. O. Box 30,000
Shreveport, LA 71130-0030

The Tallahassee Area Rose Society and the American Rose Society are 501c(3) nonprofit organizations.
Your donation may be tax deductible under the law.

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.