

Bloom & Thorn

News you can use from the Auburn Rose Society

In This Issue

A message from our President

Join us!

Next Meeting:
September 14, 2 pm
At the Lee County Extension Office 600 S 7th St, Suite 4
Opelika, AL 36832

Membership :

2025 annual membership dues are *only* \$25 for individuals for a limited time.

Individual membership dues will go up to \$30 on January 1, 2026.

Families are \$40 for 2025 and 2026

Click here to join...

Visit AuburnRoseSociety.org

✉ AUBURNROSESOCIETY@GMAIL.COM

🌐 AUBURNROSESOCIETY.ORG

Welcome to the Auburn Rose Society!



Dear Members,

As we approach the final quarter of 2025, the Auburn Rose Society is **blooming with gratitude** for your continued support and enthusiasm. With autumn's arrival, we reflect on a vibrant year and prepare for a season of renewal, learning, and connection.

Highlights from the Year So Far

- **Annual Strategic Planning Session Recap:**
 - Held on July 11th, our executive committee gathered to chart the course for 2026 and beyond. As a result of this strategic planning session, we are proud to share our mission and vision:
 - *The Auburn Rose Society is dedicated to the promotion, appreciation, and cultivation of roses in Auburn and the surrounding communities. Through education, outreach, and community engagement, we strive to inspire a love for roses, support gardeners of all levels, and foster a vibrant community of rose enthusiasts. Our mission is to preserve the beauty and heritage of the rose while encouraging sustainable gardening practices and lifelong learning.*
- **Two of our key initiatives for the coming year include:**
 - Increasing membership to grow our community of rose lovers
 - Hosting rose shows to celebrate and showcase the beauty of our gardens by 2027

We are excited for the future and we thank you for your support!

Yours in the garden,
Jami Johnson



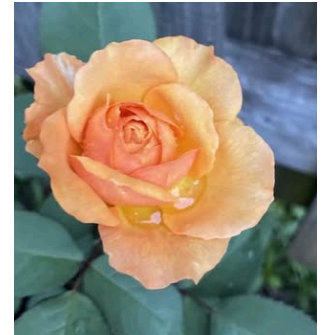
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Summer Break Reflections

Though we paused meetings in July and August, many members continued tending their gardens and sharing blooms on our social media. Thank you for keeping the spirit of the Auburn Rose Society alive and blooming! 🌹

Curious what all the fuss is about? Check us out on social media to see the stunning roses and vibrant community that make our society so special!



Important Upcoming Dates

Next Auburn Rose Society meeting:

Sunday, September 14 at 2:00pm
[Lee County Extension Office](#)

Upcoming Events

Monthly Membership Meetings Resume in September

Join us as Jill Haisten presents "Roses 101"—a perfect introduction (or refresher!) for rose lovers of all levels.

Bring a rose from your garden in a cup—we'll discuss your blooms and explore others together in a hands-on, interactive session.



About Jill: American Rose Society Consulting Rosarian & Auburn Rose Society Vice President

Jill, a highly respected figure in the world of rose cultivation, has dedicated 45 years to mastering the art and science of growing roses. Based in Montgomery, she is a seasoned rosarian, known for her deep expertise and unwavering passion for these favored blooms.

As a Consulting Rosarian for the American Rose Society (ARS), Jill plays a crucial role in educating, mentoring, and advising fellow rose enthusiasts on proper care, disease prevention, and garden design. Her credentials extend beyond consulting—she is also an ARS-accredited judge, recognized for her keen eye in evaluating rose quality, form, and health at prestigious competitions.

Additionally, she serves as an ARS instructor, sharing her knowledge through workshops, lectures, and training programs that inspire both novice and experienced rosarians alike.

We are lucky to have Jill on our team!!

Mark your calendars!

October 12th @ 2 PM

November 9th @ 2 PM

*Check website for up-to-date meeting location.

Holiday Social & Awards Ceremony

Date: Sunday, December 6th

Location: TBD

Join us for an afternoon of celebration, member recognition, and festive cheer.

RSVP details will be sent in November.



Member Contributions

Jill Haisten...Southern Garden Favorites: Roses That Thrive:

People often ask me, "If you could only grow one rose, what would it be?" Well, that depends on what you're looking for.

If you want a "plant it and let it grow" kind of rose, it would have to be the climber Peggy Martin, also known as the rose that survived Katrina. She's beautiful, hardy, and thrives on her own roots.

If you're looking for a low-maintenance rose that produces gorgeous cut flowers, I'd recommend one of the fabulous Kordes roses. My two favorites are Beverly and Savannah, but Wedding Bells is a close third. These varieties produce stunning long-stem roses on massive bushes. Both K&M Nursery and Nelson's carry these roses grafted on Fortuniana rootstock, which performs best in our region.

Yes, I grow many of the more finicky varieties, but these are perfect for low-maintenance rose gardens here in the South.

-Jill Haisten



Want to help?

We're seeking submissions for our
Winter 2026 Newsletter!

Share:

- Garden photos
- Rose care tips
- Reflections or stories
- Recipes featuring rose petals or rosewater

Send your contributions to
auburnrosesociety@gmail.com by December 1st.

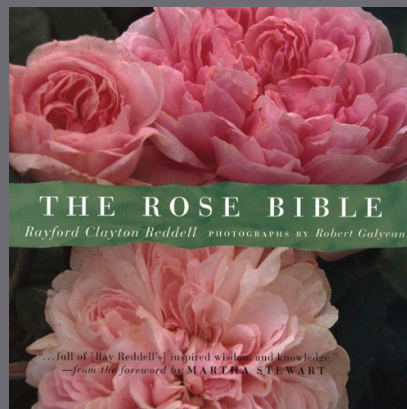


Quarterly Tip: Fall Fertilization

Apply a low-nitrogen fertilizer in early fall to strengthen roots and prepare your roses for winter.

Avoid high-nitrogen blends that encourage late-season growth.

Educational Corner



Recommended Reading:

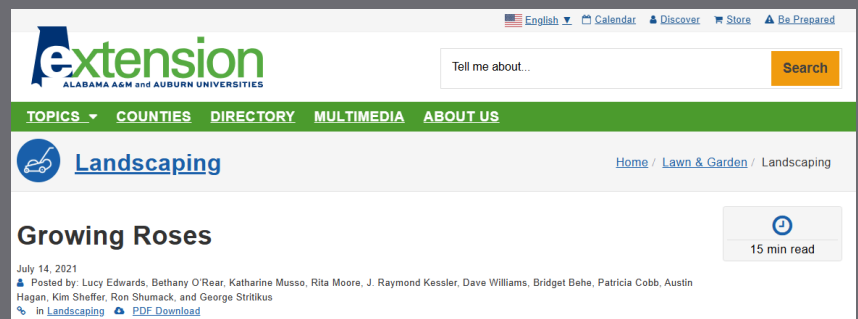
"The Rose Bible"
by Rayford Clayton Reddell - A timeless guide for rose lovers of all levels.

Looking for more
trustworthy rose
care advice?

Click HERE



The Alabama Cooperative Extension Service is a fantastic resource for reliable, research-based information on growing and caring for roses in our region. Whether you're a beginner or a seasoned gardener, their guidance is rooted in science and tailored to Alabama's unique climate.



Discover the American Rose Society

Looking for more expert guidance on all things roses?
The American Rose Society is a trusted resource for rose enthusiasts of all levels. We encourage all members to explore their website and take advantage of the wealth of information available: Home - American Rose Society

Auburn Rose Society Featured in *American Rose*

We're honored to share that the Auburn Rose Society was officially recognized and featured in the latest issue of *American Rose*, the publication of the American Rose Society!

Michael Myrick, Judge, CR, Contributing Editor, and Chairman of the ARS Resource Committee, announced our official affiliation, celebrating Auburn as a vibrant new hub for rose culture. He highlighted our society's role in enriching the local horticultural scene and advancing ARS's mission to inspire appreciation, preservation, and cultivation of roses everywhere. We're proud to be part of this national community and excited for what's ahead!



ARS Resource Committee

By Michael Myrick, Judge, CR, Contributing Editor
Myrickmd@yahoo.com, @BayAreaRosarian

Mike is the Chairman of the ARS Resource Committee and believes that his late Grandma Martina is the best rosarian who ever lived.

Announcing the Auburn Rose Society: The Newest Affiliate of the ARS

A blooming addition to Alabama's gardening community

I am delighted to announce the official affiliation of the Auburn Rose Society, our newest local rose society dedicated to the art and joy of rose culture. Located in the heart of Auburn, Alabama, this vibrant new society is poised to enrich the local horticultural scene and offer fresh opportunities for rose enthusiasts throughout the region.



At its helm is Jami Johnson, serving as the inaugural president. Jami brings a wealth of dedication and expertise to this role, not only as a passionate rosarian but also as one of two American Rose Society Resource Committee Representatives for the Deep South District. Jami shares this honor with Melissa Bader of Atlanta, together providing vital support, guidance, and resources to rose society leaders across the Deep South.

The Auburn Rose Society seeks to cultivate not only beautiful roses but also a strong sense of community. Members can look forward to engaging programs, hands-on cultivation workshops, expert guest speakers, and plenty of opportunities for sharing advice and experiences. They aspire to establish a community rose garden.

The inaugural charter was held Sunday, June 8 with a fabulous ceremony filled with pomp, candlelight and choreography! The local mayor spoke, and I was honored to welcome them on behalf of the ARS.

This local society's establishment reflects both Auburn's blossoming gardening community and the broader mission of the ARS to educate by inspiring the appreciation, preservation, and cultivation of roses everywhere. Under Jami Johnson's thoughtful leadership, and with the collaborative spirit of her talented peers, the Auburn Rose Society is set to become a beacon for rose lovers across Alabama and the Deep South.

The Auburn Rose Society offers open arms and abundant opportunities to dig in, grow, and celebrate the beauty of roses together. Welcome, Auburn Rose Society!

The Lodi Woodbridge Rose Society Carnival: A Blooming Success How a Carnival-Themed Rose Event Made Roses Bloom for All Ages

When the Lodi Woodbridge Rose Society set out to host their annual event, the vision was clear: create a vibrant, family-friendly carnival that would draw in people from all walks of life—not just the usual rose enthusiasts. In the end, the event turned out to be much more than a gathering for flower aficionados; it became a celebration that filled the community with laughter, color, and the sweet scent of possibility.

The event was organized and run by society members and their families, who poured both creativity and energy into transforming the venue in Clements into a festive haven. Under the direction



From the President
"As the seasons shift,
so do our gardens
and our goals. Let's
continue nurturing
both with care and
community spirit.
Thank you for being
part of the Auburn
Rose Society family."
— Jami Johnson

Jami Johnson, President of the Auburn Rose Society, pictured with Mayor Ron Anders Jr. at our inaugural charter event held on Sunday, June 8. A proud moment celebrating community, roses, and a blooming future for Auburn!

Closing Thoughts

As the summer season comes to a close and cooler days begin to arrive, we're looking forward to gathering again and sharing our love of roses. Whether your garden thrived or rested during the break, we're excited to reconnect and start a fresh season together.

-  **Reminder:** Our first membership meeting of the season is coming up!
-  **Date:** Sunday, September 14
-  **Time:** 2:00 PM CT
-  **Location:** Lee County Extension Office

Come join us for an afternoon of fellowship, updates, and rose-filled inspiration. We can't wait to see you there! 🌸

— The Auburn Rose Society Executive Committee