

THE PHOENIX





About this publication

The Phoenix is published by the Greater Atlanta Rose Society, a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization affiliated with the American Rose Society. Each issue includes articles written by our members on a range of topics related to the cultivation and enjoyment of roses. Comments or questions? Contact us at hello@atlantarose.org.

Editorial board

Editor: Christopher Huffer, [@ChristopherHuffer_Living](#)

Art director: Matthew Hensler, [@Matthew_Hensler](#)

Do you have rose questions?

Our membership includes Consulting and Master Rosarians who are certified by the American Rose Society. They are delighted to answer your rose questions, so please check the list at the end of this issue if you are in need of advice or rose guidance in your garden.

Follow us

Website: atlantarose.org

Instagram and Facebook: [@GreaterAtlantaRoseSociety](#)

JEWEL GRACE



Jewel Grace is a Hybrid Tea known for its hints of yellow that paint the underside of the interior petals. This rose is ideal for cutting and exhibition due to its predisposition to last long in a vase.

All photos in this issue by Christopher Huffer unless otherwise stated.

BECOME A MEMBER

Join the Greater Atlanta Rose Society

Founded in 1957, the Greater Atlanta Rose Society is the oldest plant association in the Atlanta area. Our mission is to encourage, enjoy, and share the cultivation of our national flower — *the rose* — in all its many varieties for generations to come.

Member benefits

- ☒ Receive *The Phoenix*, our bimonthly newsletter about rose care written by our members
- ☒ Enjoy mentorship from a Consulting Rosarian during your first year of membership
- ☒ Volunteer in the Presidential Rose Garden at the Carter Center, an organization with which GARS is affiliated
- ☒ Attend GARS meetings where we host guest speakers on a wide range of gardening topics
- ☒ Get discounts on rose-related products
- ☒ Receive a 4 month trial subscription to the American Rose Society, including their magazine, *American Rose*

Membership per household is \$30 / year.

Information on how to complete and submit membership payment is forthcoming. Stay tuned, please!

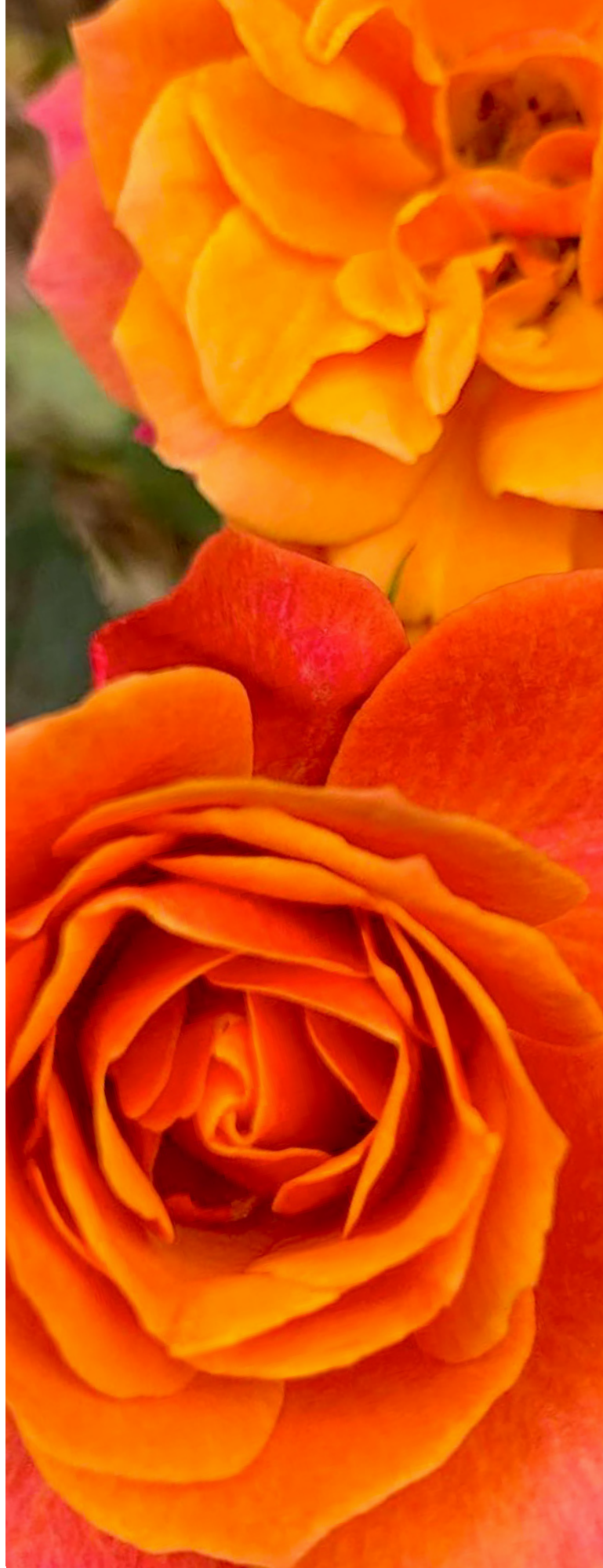


Photo: Arizona



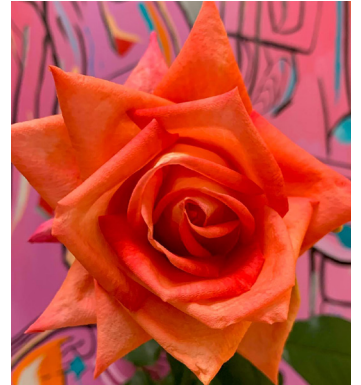
Photo: Snowbelt



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Christopher Huffer



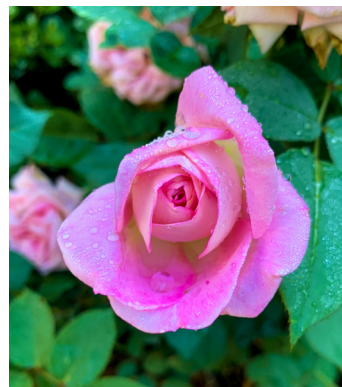
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PRESIDENT'S NOTE

CHEERS TO A ROSY 2023

by Barry J. McCasland, M.D., President & Consulting Rosarian



Photo: Europeana

As many of you know, I am the 2023 GARS President, and I promise to execute my duties to the best of my ability. As the disruptiveness of the COVID-19 pandemic continues to contract, we will be able to enjoy a more interactive and collegial Rose Society.

We have already met with our first challenge, the bitter cold weather that took place at the end of December, and I hope everyone's roses fare well. It may be April before an accurate casualty count can be taken, but we will remain optimistic. I'd like to start this year in a very traditional way—by making New Year's Resolutions. I make these on behalf of the entire Society.

Please note, none of this would be possible without the other officers: Chris Woods (VP/Programs), Jessica Jordan (VP/Membership), Melissa Bader (Treasurer), and Bobbie Reed (CR Coordinator). This is especially true of the technology issues—Jessica and Melissa will lead the way for us. As many of you know, I can barely boil water in a microwave.

Anyway, enjoy the last few weeks of your winter rest. Figure out which new roses you'll purchase and then think about where you'll put them. And I look forward to a ROSY 2023.

BARRY

New Year's Resolutions

ONE

To cultivate our knowledge about growing GREAT roses.

TWO

To share our knowledge with other members, friends, and society at large.

THREE

To hold five in-person meetings over the course of the year, in addition to a picnic and a Holiday Party.

FOUR

To put on a successful Rose Show where members who have never exhibited roses before decide to "jump in" and give it a try.

FIVE

To utilize technology to maintain an up-to-date membership roll accessible to members, and to streamline communication.

SIX

To modernize the way we collect dues and donations, including accepting electronic payments.

SEVEN

To read our fabulous newsletter, *The Phoenix*, cover-to-cover, and to think about contributing material to it.

EIGHT

To incorporate an awareness of climate change and its effects on rose horticulture into our thinking and our practice.

THANK YOU

by Christopher Huffer, Editor & Consulting Rosarian

Hello and Happy New Year! I want to thank everyone for their support during my time as President of GARS over the last few years. I'm so proud of our accomplishments during my tenure. We rebranded the rose society with a new logo and color palette, redesigned *The Phoenix*, and relaunched the society's website. Our online presence grew due to the content we shared on social media, and we have more followers than ever before. Our rose shows were a smash thanks to our collective effort, and we even broke new ground during the pandemic lockdown with the virtual rose show, one of the first of its kind in the world.

Most importantly, we persevered as we navigated a slow return to meeting in person, and grew our membership and the society's funds. And last, we remained

dedicated to philanthropy as our consulting and master rosarians shared rose knowledge with the many gardeners in our area who asked for help. What a great reminder that our purpose isn't all about winning at the rose shows, and more so about staying true to the society's purpose—to encourage, enjoy, and share the cultivation of roses.

I am confident Barry and the new board members will continue our success. I'm happy to continue as editor of *The Phoenix*, and steer our website and social media content. Meanwhile, I'm planning my spring garden as I bet many of you are, and am trying to find places for the new roses that I have on the way.

With compliments,

Christopher



Photo: R.B.G.

FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM

@GreaterAtlantaRoseSociety



Share your photos with *The Phoenix*

When you post your rose photos on Instagram, tag us [@GreaterAtlantaRoseSociety](https://www.instagram.com/GreaterAtlantaRoseSociety) and we'll consider using your image in an issue of *The Phoenix*. We will be sure to credit your contributions and share the names of your beautiful blooms!

EXECUTIVE MEETING

January 14, 2023 by Barry J. McCasland, M.D., President & Consulting Rosarian

MEMBERS PRESENT

Chris Woods, Henry Everett, Lourie Croft, Jessica Jordan, Jesse Usleton, Melissa Bader, Charlie Bader, Barry McCasland, Bobbie Reed

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 10:08 AM

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

In a break from protocol due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the installation of officers did not take place at the Holiday Party as usual in 2020, 2021, and 2022.

Therefore, the formal Installation of 2023 Officers took place at today's meeting, and their duties begin immediately:

- **President:** Barry J McCasland, M.D.
- **Marketing:** Christopher Huffer (GARS Website, *The Phoenix*, Social Media)
- **VP/Membership:** Jessica Jordan
- **VP/Programs:** Chris Woods
- **Treasurer:** Melissa Bader
- **Secretary:** Unoccupied
- **CR Coordinator:** Bobbie Reed

DUES

Dues will remain at \$30 per household for 2023. This rate is unchanged since 2018. Payment of dues is expected and required to maintain membership. Those individuals who joined GARS on or after July 1, 2022, and paid 2022 dues, are not required to pay 2023 dues. However, should these individuals wish to further support the Society, a dues payment will be accepted.

VP/MEMBERSHIP

The duties of the VP/Membership officer were reviewed. These include maintaining a list of current members by working closely with the Treasurer, maintaining contact information about members, reaching out to new members with a welcome packet, and judiciously issuing membership badges to those new members will be attending meetings, among others.

TREASURER

The Treasurer, along with the President, we will get signatory privileges at Bank of America and Truist bank and according

to GARS bylaws, as is custom with clubs and organizations our size. The Treasurer, working closely with the VP/Membership, will maintain the current membership on-line for access by other members as appropriate. The Treasurer will also make it possible for members to pay their dues electronically rather than by paper check.

2023 ROSE SHOW

Bobbie Reed will be the 2023 Rose Show Committee Chair. She will recruit a committee for the production of the Rose show in May.

MEETING VENUE

Circumstances have made it essentially impossible to reserve an appropriate meeting room in advance on a consistent basis for Saturday morning meetings. Therefore, the meeting venue will be subject to change with each upcoming meeting. Of course, the venue will be announced well in advance.

MEETINGS

In-person meetings will take place the second Saturday of the months of February, April, June, (and hopefully, though subject to change) August, and October. The VP/Programs, Chris Woods, will organize the programs and announce them in advance.

FERTILIZER SALE

The annual fertilizer sale will take place

this year. It will be organized by Henry and Jesse, but in years to come, this duty will be passed on to someone else.

PICNIC

A GARS picnic is tentatively scheduled for September.

HOLIDAY PARTY

A GARS Holiday Party will take place on Saturday, December 9, 2023, 12 noon to 3 PM. The venue will be announced closer to the event.

FINAL THOUGHTS

Other goals for this year include updating the pamphlet "Roses We Love to Grow" and the pamphlet that lists those online and brick-and-mortar places where we purchase roses; querying the membership about topics of interest for potential programs and activities; focusing some needed attention on environmental issues, especially those relating to the relationship between climate change and horticulture; and making increased use of technological shortcuts to assist the routine operations of the Rose Society.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 AM



VOLUNTEER DAY AT THE CARTER CENTER

February 18, 2023 | 9 AM - 12 PM



Photo: The Carter Center Presidential Rose Garden

We will be pruning the entire garden and doing some other general garden maintenance. Please plan to bring your own pruners, loppers, gloves, and a water bottle. Sanitation will be provided to clean and sanitize your tools. Please contact Christopher Huffer if you are planning to attend. I look forward to seeing you there!

Please email Christopher if you plan to attend.

PLAN TO ATTEND?

Contact Christopher Huffer
Christopher@ChristopherHuffer.com
770-580-3356

DIRECTIONS

[The Carter Center - One Copenhill](#)
453 John Lewis Freedom Parkway NE
Atlanta, GA 30307

LONG RANGE WEATHER FORECAST BY THE OLD FARMER'S ALMANAC

A chilly fall is ahead! The forecast calls for lower-than-usual temperatures nationwide. The cold will really begin to take hold during the latter half of November and continue right through the rest of the year.

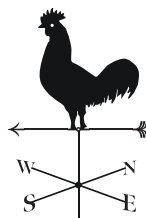
DATES	CONDITIONS	DATES	CONDITIONS
JAN 16-19	Showers	FEB 1-3	Sunny, springlike
JAN 20-23	Unreasonably cool	FEB 4-7	Showers
JAN 24-27	Unseasonably cold; frosts	FEB 8-11	Sunshine and wind
JAN 28-31	Showers	FEB 12-15	Showery rains
		FEB 16-19	Partly sunny, warmer
		FEB 20-23	Fair, feels like May
		FEB 24-28	Fair, dry, not as warm

JANUARY

Temperature 42° (5° below avg.)
Precipitation 6.5" (2" above avg.)

FEBRUARY

Temperature 42° (5° below avg.)
Precipitation 2" (2" below avg.)





WNT ART BOOK

*by Linda & Walt Reed,
Master Rosarians*



Photo: Jadis

The cold temperatures we had in December made us wonder if winter was going to be hard on our roses this year. Hopefully it will not do any lasting damage but we noticed that some of the canes had been severely frosted and some bushes may not be able to take it. Maybe we have too many roses and nature is telling us to cut back.

In December we started by pruning the tall canes back to around five feet and then we cleaned as many of the leaves and petals as we could out of the garden. We also took all of the petals off any bushes that still had flowers. If you have not already done this you may want to consider doing it now. Now that we have had these freezes it is time to get the garden as ready as we can for the winter yet to come. We will now spray with a mixture of Volk Oil and Lime Sulfur at the dormant season concentration.

Lime Sulfur is difficult to obtain so we recommend a good contact fungicide such as Daconil as a substitute if you are unable to get Lime Sulfur. We try to spray this at least twice during the winter once before Christmas or early January and once in February. We do all of this to get a start on the insect and disease pre-

vention before the bud eyes break next spring. Hopefully this will have removed or killed any of the fungus spores or insect eggs that may winter over.

We have already started to shovel prune some of the roses that did not do well last year. We are also looking at catalogs and notes that we have made through the year about the roses we may want to replace where the shovel has removed poor performers. One of the values of attending rose shows is that you get to see the rose as opposed to the propaganda

*We will now spray with
a mixture of Volk Oil and
Lime Sulfur at the dormant
season concentration.*

pictures that you get in some catalogs and you can talk to people that are growing the rose in our area. This can be a real help when trying to decide

what rose you may want to add or replace. We find it is much easier to find a nice day to do the work of preparing a bed or just digging a hole when it is cool in the winter months. There have been several articles written on how to prepare your garden for roses.

This is also a good time to give some thought into joining the American Rose Society (ARS) if you are not already a member. There are many benefits to joining; you have access to the member area of the ARS website that contains

WINTER



Photo: Tooth Fairy

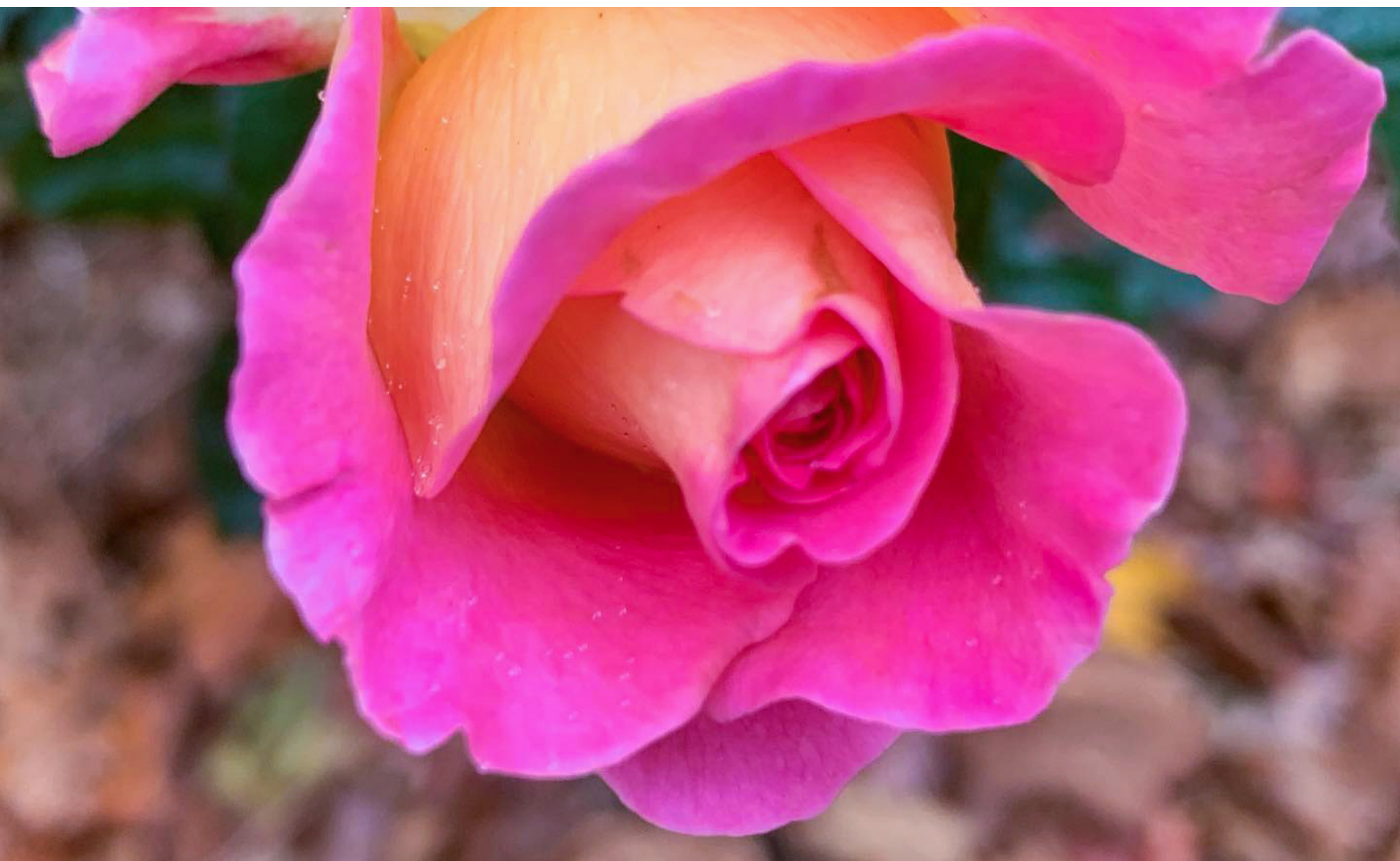


Photo: Audrey Wilcox

the consulting rosarian manual, the rose exhibitors forum the Arrangers Bulletin and many others items. Membership also gives you access to most Botanical Gardens at a reduce rate and many are free. Many nurseries also give a discount on chemicals and plants for members. These benefits are well worth the price of membership.

We hope you all had a very Merry Christmas and may your New Year be filled with much health, happiness and beautiful roses.

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Linda and Walt Reed are Master Rosarians and members of the Greater Atlanta Rose Society.

JANUARY IN THE ROSE GARDEN

by Bobbie Reed, Master Rosarian



Photo: McFarland

As I look around the garden at the start of December, the blooms I see are mostly freeze-dried on the bushes, but still bring color and beauty to the garden; there would have been more without the occasional downpours.

November had record-setting warm days in the first week of the month, with highs up to 85 degrees. But having had an early first freeze in October, it's not surprising that we also had a number of cold nights in November, with lows down to 23 degrees, and at least seven nights in the 20s outside the Perimeter. Brr! Where did that come from? The National Weather Service tells us that we are in a "triple dip La Niña", which would normally lean toward warmer-than-normal temperatures. Go figure!

WATER — November was the wettest month since July. Not consistently wet, mind you, but the few wet days added up, with lots of dry days in between. We averaged 28% more rainfall than normal, ranging from 4.2 to 5.8 inches of rain for the month across our area. Our rainfall for the year is averaging about 2.5% less than normal, but with big swings between wet and dry months. That La Niña pattern

would normally mean that we can expect drier than average conditions across the South this month. Atlanta-area counties are in moderate to severe drought, and that is expected to continue through the winter. To a gardener, late fall/winter conditions will mean less evaporation from the soil and plants, so our roses won't need as much water as they would in the summer. However, winter winds may boost evaporation, and roses tend to lose moisture during a freeze. Be sure the soil

has enough water before it is needed to cope with seasonal vagaries.

Allowing your roses to develop hips will discourage the bushes from putting out new, tender growth that would be damaged by another freeze.

DO DIRT, DON'T FEED — This would be a good time to have your soil tested. If the test shows anything amiss, you will have time to correct it over the winter. Since many nutrients move slowly in the

soil, adding them now gives them time to migrate to the root zone in time for spring growth.

Besides, you know that by April, when you normally think of testing, you'll be so busy with all your other garden activities that you won't need any extra chores, and the lab is swamped with work then, too. If you plan to add a new rose bed, now is also the time to start, so the soil is ready for your new babies come spring.



Photo: Julia



Photo: Peter's Joy

Collect soil samples (about six inches down) from multiple locations around your garden. Mix them together in a clean, nonreactive container (a stainless bowl or a plastic bag), then send a reasonable-sized sample of that mix to your laboratory. I send mine to UGA through the Cooperative Extension Service office in my county, but there are commercial labs that give more detailed tests. If you can, repeat this process for each bed, rather than averaging results from around your yard. Pots will need tests, too! For more information on how to sample, see [this article](#).

Don't give your roses anything with nitrogen this time of year – that just stimulates growth at the wrong time of year. But there may be other things your soil needs to be ready for next year, like lime (to raise pH) or sulfur (to lower pH). You may also want to find out if your soil has accumulated too much salt from years of added fertilizers. Find out what your plants need for a happy and healthy 2023!

SPRAY — We're hoping to get in at least one dormant spray with lime-sulfur (a fungicide) and horticultural oil (to smother scale and other insects) between now and the end of January. As time permits, we might also try an Honor Guard/Manzate spray to get a head start on preventing blackspot and other fungal diseases for next year.

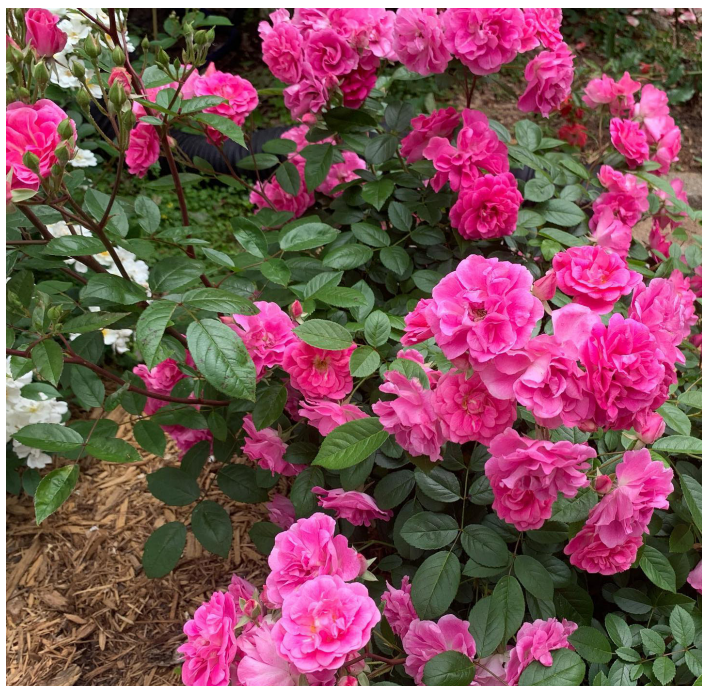
DON'T DEADHEAD — Allowing your roses to develop hips will discourage the bushes from putting out new, tender growth that would be damaged by another freeze. If you didn't use pesticides (spray, drench, or granules for fungus, insects, or mites) on your roses this year, you can harvest the hips to make rose hip tea or jam. Recipes are on the Internet. Yum!

CUT BACK — Our roses have experienced several good freezes in the last month, which will allow them to take a break for the winter, although they are never truly dormant. This is the right time to trim the tops of large bushes to about chest height to prevent the bushes from whipping around in high winds. That movement can loosen and tear your bush's roots in the soil, which is very damaging to the plant. If there's still too much movement, tie the plant to something solid (I like rebar, but there are prettier things), using stretchy plant ties or even old nylon stockings, which can stretch when the plant moves.

MULCH — When you go for a walk in the woods, look down at your feet. You won't see bare soil (unless you are on a path), but you will see a lot of dead leaves, twigs, and branches. These make up the natural mulch that nourishes and protects the plants around them – just look at all those trees, shrubs, and undergrowth!



Photo: Pinkie



Photos: China Doll

We can provide the same services to our rose bushes with organic materials we collect or purchase – pine bark chunks, ground pine bark, manure, pine straw, chopped leaves, wood chips, or other more exotic materials. Right after the next hard freeze, replenish the mulch around your plants, providing a two to four inch blanket to protect them through their long winter's nap. Mulching before that freeze would only keep the soil warm, and the plant growing, too late into the fall and winter, while mulching after keeps the soil cool. If your roses are grafted, you'll need enough mulch to protect the bud union during our sporadic hard freezes. You need to cover the graft well enough

so that winter rains won't wash the mulch away. The graft may be as much as six or eight inches above ground level, so the mulch might need to come up to 10 to 12 inches. It doesn't have to be that deep through the whole root area, but at least right around the bud union. If you have a tree rose, the process is more complicated, since you have to cover both the graft at the base and at another at the top of the tree. To protect a high graft, use chicken wire to make a cage around the bush and fill it with chopped leaves, pine straw, or pine bark nuggets. Another idea is to wrap the bush with fiberglass insulation. If your tree rose is in a pot, you can just move the pot into a garage.



Photo: Debbie's Delight

Got plants in pots? A healthy, well-mulched own-root plant in a suitable pot (three gallon minimum) can survive the winter in a semi-sheltered location as long as temperatures don't dip too far below 20 degrees. If you have a grafted rose in a pot, the pot will need to be much bigger (say seven to ten gallons minimum) for the rose to survive those cold temperatures without additional protection.

LEARN & PLAN — Once we get past the holidays, we'll have time to relax and spend time learning about our beloved roses. While you're enjoying rose descriptions, remember to reality-check them against ratings in the *ARS Handbook for Selecting Roses*. There's another way to learn that is available to you this time of year. Contact your local Consulting Rosarian or Master Rosarian. We are dedicated rose people who have been growing roses for a long time. Contact information can be found at the end of this issue.

ENJOY — There's much beauty to be enjoyed in December while late flowers grace the garden. Once those flowers open they hold, so we can enjoy them for a long time. Send me pictures of your fresh roses!

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Bobbie Reed is a Master Rosarian and member of the Greater Atlanta Rose Society.

ROSE QUESTIONS

Our society includes members who are trained and certified as Consulting Rosarians and Master Rosarians by the American Rose Society. They are available for advice and consultation by phone, e-mail, or in your garden at no charge. Please call on any of them whenever you need help with your roses. We're eager to talk to you!

INSIDE PERIMETER

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AMERICAN ROSE SOCIETY

American Rose Society, PO Box 30,000, Shreveport, LA 71130, phone 318-938-5402. Annual dues are \$49, or \$46 for those 65 or older. Three-year memberships are \$140; associate memberships and family memberships are available at a discount. A four month trial membership is available for only \$10.

Membership benefits include the bimonthly American Rose Magazine, the American Rose Annual, and the Handbook for Selecting Roses. Specialty bulletins including OGR & Shrub Gazette, Mini/Miniflora Rose Bulletin, Exhibitors' Quarterly, Singularly Beautiful Roses, and Rose Arrangers' Bulletin are available free to members only on the ARS website, to help you further explore the world of roses.

ARS website: www.ars.org



GET IN TOUCH

GARS Board Members

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Let's network socially!

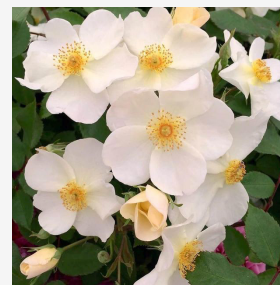
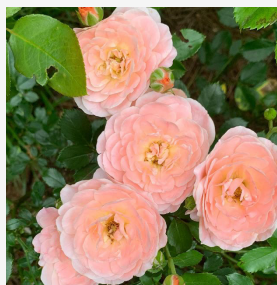
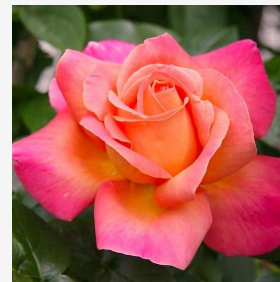
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Hello, I'm Christopher Huffer, a seasoned Atlanta realtor with Beacham & Company and founding partner of The C&S Group. My market knowledge and pricing expertise will make your real estate experience a success. With more than two decades of experience providing luxury-focused client services, my passion is for the people I represent. I am your advocate and ally, and my focus is entirely on guiding your real estate success.

