

Sechelt Garden Club

Roses; Varieties, Care and Pruning

Dianne Gaines

Summary by Dianne Tarris

Dianne's Gaines background includes 25 years working at Van Noort Bulb Company and 30 years in the Langley Garden Club. She brought some stunning pictures of all the beautiful roses she is recommending, and gave us some basic rose information and gardening tips. Judging by the number of questions, this was a popular topic and very well received presentation.

"Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap, but by the seeds you plant" Robert Louis Stevenson

Roses take many shapes and forms, but can all be broken down into 3 categories - Species, Old Garden and Modern.

Species are the wild roses and their hybrids, are highly scented and have open flowers which the pollinators love.

Old Garden Roses are roses that existed prior to 1867 and are used to hybridize new varieties. They include Alba, Bourbon, Centifolia, China, Damask, Gallica, Moss, Noisette.



Upcoming Speakers

March 28, 7 pm NB In-person meeting
Kristen Miskelly "Turn your Lawn into a Wildflower Meadow"

Location: Seaside Centre, Sechelt

April 25- Paul Spriggs 'Vertical Rock Gardens '

May 30- Linda Gilkeson 'Where have all the insects gone?'

Roses continued

Modern Roses are bred using choice characteristics and are generally hardier, more disease resistant, longer lasting and can be designed to pair scent and color. They can take many forms including Climbers, Grandiflora, Hybrid Tea, Floribunda, Ground Covers, Shrub, Miniature and Tree.

Some recommended varieties were shown with gorgeous photos that made them all tempting:

Hybrid Tea roses have large flowers with long stems and 1 bloom per stem: Always and Forever - for its light scent and long stems, Pretty Lady- compact, excellent for pots, light scent, Smokin' Hot for its unique colour.

Grandiflora have multiple blooms per stem: Pop Art and Ana's Promise

Floribunda have lots of blooms per stem, with a longer bloom time and smaller flowers: Ebb Tide.

Climbers need support - Don Juan and Stormy Weather

Ramblers keep on going - Malvern Hills

David Austin and Weeks are 2 English rose breeders that are recommended for the quality of their plants. Many have amazing scents, long bloom times and are disease resistant. Some varieties to check out: Heathcliff, Olivia, Royal Jubilee, Boscobel, Claire Austin, Munstead Wood, Gertrude Jekyll, The Poet's Wife, Harlow Carr, Lady of Shallott, Darcey Bussell, Graham Thomas, Tess of the D'Urbervilles.

Most Modern Roses are grafted onto Dr Huey rootstock. All suckers should be removed if they come from below the graft union which should be planted above ground.

Roses require a minimum of 4 hours of sun and should not be placed where they have to compete for nutrition with large trees and hedges. Soil needs to be well draining and should be amended with compost and well rotted manure. They should be planted 3-4 ft apart, and can be accompanied by a wide variety of perennials, herbs, bulbs and even clematis.

Keep them well watered and feed monthly with rose food - even ratio of NPK, with higher P ok, but not N. Keep removing spent flowers and cutting flowers for continuous or repeat blooming. Smaller varieties can be grown successfully in containers (not climbers or ramblers).

Roses should be pruned in the spring when growth starts in Feb/Mar. Cut back $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{2}{3}$ depending on the height you wish to maintain and each year remove some of the older stems on old plants. Always remove suckers, old wood (dead/brown), crossing branches and those shooting inwards. Aim for an open vase shape as good air flow reduces black spot and mildew.

For climbers - find out if your variety flowers on old or new growth and trim for health and to vary the height to spread out flowers. Hybrid Teas and Grandiflora can be cut back to 3-5 canes, but Floribunda's should be pruned more lightly.

In winter, if exposed, protect from dry winds by mulching or moving containers into a sheltered area.

Cut your roses to enjoy and share!

Upcoming Events

Garden Tour May 7, 11-4 pm

Pender Harbour Reading Centre, located in the Madeira Park shopping area, is having a garden tour of 4-5 gardens in the area on **May 7, 11-4 pm** to raise money for the Reading Centre.

For more information go to their website

<http://penderharbourlibrary.ca/>

or call Ann Munro at 604-883-9328

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Hosted by Rotary Club of the Sunshine Coast



April 23 & 24

Sechelt Seniors
Activity Centre

5604 Trail Ave.

www.rotarysunshinecoast.org

End of the winter blooms (hoping for Spring blooms next issue)



Hellebores photo by Angela Letman

On-going Fundraising Reminder

Gardening gloves are still available from Gerri Randall

Botanus offers a garden club coupon when ordering. SECHGCSPRING2022. A portion of the money comes to SGC.