

District Doings
June 2010

Did you know that June is National Rose Month. I didn't but I was reminded that it was by Greg and Jenifer Mick, authors of Rosy Reflections, newsletter of the Kitsap County Rose Society. In their June issue, they offered some tips on how to celebrate such an inspirational month:

- Add one more rose to the garden, assuming you have some room left
- Teach someone how to grow roses
- Call your friends and have a party in your fabulous, heavy blooming rose garden – thereby inspiring friends to grow roses and maybe even joining your club.
- Head to Tacoma and visit Pt. Defiance and check out those beautiful gardens
- Give your excess roses to someone whose spirit needs helping; to hospitals and nursing homes or even that person down the road that is not healthy enough to get out and enjoy growing roses.

What great advice. A big thanks to Greg and Jenifer Mick for these uplifting suggestions.

I also want to highlight all the rose-related activities coming up this year. Foremost are all the rose shows and displays going on from one end of the district to another. There is nothing our societies do that has as much meaning and impact than to host a rose show or display in our local communities. These are the best vehicles we have to showcase what our hobby is all about – and at the same time hopefully generate renewed interest among the public in becoming part of us.

Over the course of the summer and fall, district activities too will play an important role. The year began with a school/audit for consulting rosarians hosted by the Tacoma Rose Society on May 15. It was well attended and resulted in five new CRs in the District. On June 26, the Ft. Vancouver Rose Society will host the District's Annual Rose Show and Convention. Activities will include the rose show as well as a workshop on exhibiting and judging challenge classes, and several garden tours. A month later, on Saturday, July 31, the District is offering a full day's workshop on Miniature and Miniflora roses, also in the Vancouver, WA. area. And at the end of October (22-24) we'll have our annual fall conference featuring national speakers, schools, workshops, seminars, a photo contest, as well as prizes and awards, a silent auction, raffle items, and most everything else associated with roses.

If your interest is roses, 2010 looks like an exciting year in the Pacific Northwest.

Jack Kiley

District Director