



The American Rose Society

GUIDELINES FOR ROSE SOCIETY LEADERS

Produced for ARS Affiliate Societies by the
ARS Local Society Relations Committee
and the
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V. ARS Consulting Rosarian Program

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VI. ARS CONSULTING ROSARIAN PROGRAM

From the National Chairman of Consulting Rosarians

Chapter I-III from the ARS Consulting Rosarian Manual

The Consulting Rosarian Manual includes all forms necessary for the appointment of Consulting Rosarians, hosting and attending CR Schools, etc.

It also includes horticulture practices for the CR's reference.

The "Manual" is not just for CRs. It is an excellent rose growers' guide for all rosarians.

Suggestion: obtain a copy from ARS Headquarters for your society's use.

Consulting Rosarian Program

THE NATIONAL CR CHAIRMAN TALKS ABOUT THE CR PROGRAM AND LOCAL SOCIETY COORDINATORS

The Consulting Rosarian Program is a matrix of rose experts who serve the American Rose Society. There are several levels, all of which are very important for a smooth running program. We have the CRs themselves, cyber CRs (CCRs), local society coordinators, district CR chairs, and the national CR Committee and chair. Each level has to interact smoothly with the others.

The CRs themselves are the true “front line.” They represent the ARS in interactions with the public. Each district has a CR Chair, who is automatically on the national CR Committee. They represent the district for all proposals and changes to the CR program.

The CCR’s are a new creation. These are CRs who volunteer to have their E-mail addresses available through the ARS web page (www.ars.org) to answer questions from the public and ARS members electronically. There are about 200 CCRs covering 40 of the 50 states.

LOCAL SOCIETY COORDINATORS

The local society coordinators are the district CR chairs’ eyes and ears. They fill in the void between the CRs and the district.

Each local society has a CR coordinator. This person should be a knowledgeable rosarian who has at least three years experience as a CR. The president of the local society appoints the local coordinator and informs the district CR chair of their choice. Generally the term runs concurrent to the three-year term of the district director.

The duties of the local coordinator are rather simple, but very important! The local coordinator should organize the CR activities of all the CRs within that society. This includes making sure the CRs submit all the necessary paperwork and reports to the district director or CR chair, including their annual reports.

Other activities for the local coordinator would include pairing up new local society members (not just ARS members) with a CR “mentor,” a person they can feel free to call to ask questions or seek assistance. They might help by setting up a CR information booth at meetings, rose shows, fundraisers, etc. having an “Ask the Rose Expert” sign will help break down the fears many “newbie’s” may have.

One of the most effective programs is a “what rosarians should be doing in the garden this month” program at each meeting. Another is the CR column in the local society bulletin. Local coordinators could write the column themselves or assign different CRs to write a piece each month.

Of course, the local coordinator should be seeking new ARS members by describing all the benefits of membership, and encouraging qualified rosarians to also become CRs.

Remember that Consulting Rosarians are the “front line” of the ARS, and they need to be available, recognizable, and happy to help further the goals of the local society, district and the ARS as well.

Local society officers are encouraged to support their local CR Coordinators, and all CRs. We hope you will lend your help to promote their very important work.

by *Steve Jones*,
ARS Consulting Rosarian Chairman

CHAPTER I



CONSULTING ROSARIAN

DUTIES AND QUALIFICATIONS OF CONSULTING ROSARIANS

Any member of the American Rose Society may qualify as a Consulting Rosarian by the following:

1. Must be a member, either regular or associate, of the American Rose Society for three consecutive years.
2. Must be an active member of a local rose society.
3. Must have grown roses of various types for at least five years and should be knowledgeable in all equipment and materials related to rose culture.
4. Must provide three letters of recommendation by any three Consulting Rosarians on the form provided by the District Consulting Rosarian Chairman.
5. Must attend an ARS school/workshop for Consulting Rosarians and complete an open book examination based on the material contained in the Consulting Rosarian Manual.
6. Must know and be willing to live up to the Consulting Rosarian Guide.
7. Must be willing to attend no less than one Consulting Rosarian School/Seminar in every four year.
8. Must submit a completed individual report form to the District Chairman of Consulting Rosarians by the date designated by the District Director.
9. Must exhibit a continuing willingness to share knowledge and an enthusiasm for the rose and the American Rose Society.

A Consulting Rosarian ribbon badge is available from ARS Headquarters for those who have met the school and test requirements. School receipt certificates are required.

CONSULTING ROSARIAN CODE

Every Consulting Rosarian, on accepting the appointment, should be fully cognizant of the Consulting Rosarian Code and should wholeheartedly be willing to live up to the code.

"I _____ accept the honor of the official appointment as a Consulting Rosarian of the American Rose Society for the _____ District. I pledge my earnest efforts toward the increase and stimulation of membership in the American Rose Society, in cooperation with the District Director. I shall uphold the highest standards of our American Rose Society in inspiring a love and appreciation of roses, their culture and exhibition. The aims and purposes of the American Rose Society shall be foremost in my mind in promoting and forming new rose societies, securing new members and serving present members and anyone interested in roses. I recognize and accept the responsibilities of this post, as well as the privilege of service."

THE CONSULTING ROSARIAN GUIDE

It is incumbent upon every Consulting Rosarian to exercise every effort to further a greater interest in the rose. They should **SHARE** their knowledge with those less informed on the care of roses.

The Consulting Rosarian should not wait to be asked but should share knowledge voluntarily and willingly help others. They should be available to help friends, neighbors and rose society members in any way possible. In fact, they should be willing to help anyone who is interested in learning about roses and their culture.

Being a Consulting Rosarian is more than an obligation to share technical knowledge concerning roses. It involves participation in every aspect of the rose society to which they belong, be it helping set up a rose show, showing slides at meetings, writing articles for news media or publications or serving on any of the society's committees. The object is to HELP others and to stimulate greater interest in growing roses and further the scope of this growth and scope of the rose society to which they belong. On the broader level, Consulting Rosarians should be ever active in furthering the cause and interests of the American Rose Society in whatever way they can. Here are some of the things a Consulting Rosarian should do:

IN THEIR OWN GARDENS:

The most obvious obligation is to grow good roses, to grow a variety of roses to include Hybrid Teas, Floribundas, Grandifloras, Climbers, Miniatures, Tree Roses, Shrubs and Old Garden Roses. There is no need to have acres of each, but there should be a few of each. The roses in the garden should include the most popular of the new introductions to be informed and better able to answer questions concerning them.

Consulting Rosarians should be acquainted with everything NEW in rose culture, be it a new type of sprayer, a new insecticide or fungicide. They should be familiar with state and federal laws and regulations pertaining to use of chemicals in the garden. They should know how the garden chemicals should be used, safety precautions to follow, etc.

The rose garden of any Consulting Rosarian should be open for all to enjoy and admire and the roses should be of the quality to inspire and encourage others to grow roses.

The Consulting Rosarian should be familiar with chemical and nontoxic approaches to rose growing. Regardless of the approach Consulting Rosarians take in their own garden, chemical, no chemicals or Integrated Pest Management, it is important to be knowledgeable about all approaches.

IN THE LOCAL ROSE SOCIETY:

Consulting Rosarians should not have to be asked to help. They should meet with other Consulting Rosarians to share knowledge and information. They should volunteer to help wherever and whenever needed. They should be willing to hold an office, serve on the board of directors, head a committee or perform any other task which will further the interest in the society.

Consulting Rosarians should let it be known they are willing to help members any way they can. Special attention should be given to helping new members with rose information. Consulting Rosarians should be willing to open their garden to others.

IN THE AMERICAN ROSE SOCIETY:

1. Assist members and non-members with cultural problems.
2. Obtain new members for the American Rose Society.
3. Work together in organizing and assisting new rose societies.
4. Encourage each organized rose group to sponsor at least one rose show per year.
5. See that district and national shows do not conflict, and whenever possible, that local shows do not conflict with any other show.
6. Attend the Consulting Rosarian Meeting each year at the district meeting.
7. Be a member of the district Public Rose Garden Committee where one exists.
8. Complete and submit the annual Roses in Review survey each year, and the Triennial Survey every three years.
9. Be in attendance at the local rose shows, answering all questions.
10. Maintain an American Rose Society Membership Booth at all local rose shows.

A willingness to share knowledge and an enthusiasm for the joys of growing roses are the identifying traits of a good Consulting Rosarian. He/she must be willing to give of himself and have time to help others – members and non-members alike.

A good Consulting Rosarian must, in addition, keep the aims and ideals of the American Rose Society ever in mind and must be dedicated to furthering those aims and ideals.

Finally, a good Consulting Rosarian must convey to others that growing roses is a hobby with a tremendous potential for enjoyment and satisfaction that is greatly increased by sharing knowledge and love of the rose with all.

It is against the principles of the Consulting Rosarian Program to charge a fee for rose advice.

CHAPTER II



THE CONSULTING ROSARIAN PROGRAM

THE DISTRICT CHAIRMAN OF CONSULTING ROSARIANS

Each District Director shall appoint a District Chairman of Consulting Rosarians to coordinate the activities of Consulting Rosarians in his district and whose term of office shall be concurrent with that of the director. The individual appointed for the office must have served at least six years as a Consulting Rosarian and been active in District affairs for that period of time. He/she must also have held membership in the American Rose Society for a period of six consecutive years.

DUTIES OF THE DISTRICT CHAIRMAN

1. At the beginning of his/her term, he/she shall secure the names and qualifications of active members of each local society who have met the qualifications set forth herein. The Chairman shall be responsible for investigating any question related to all required qualifications, including the required membership in ARS. ARS headquarters shall provide membership verification.
2. The District Chairman, in collaboration with each local society President, shall appoint a Local Society Coordinator of the Consulting Rosarian Program who is a member of that society to obtain and disseminate information pertaining to the District's activity at the local level and to coordinate the activities of Consulting Rosarians within the local society. Each coordinator shall be a Consulting Rosarian of at least three years standing.
3. The District Chairman shall coordinate the submission of any reports and surveys requested by the ARS National Committees and all other programs of the American Rose Society which may benefit from Consulting Rosarian participation.
4. The District Chairman in cooperation with the District Director shall organize and conduct a Consulting Rosarian School in concert with a winter workshop, district or local society meeting each year. Be responsible for notifying ARS headquarters of new Consulting Rosarians and Consulting Rosarians who participate in fulfilling the three-year requirement. The school shall meet the following minimum standard:
 - A. Be at least four hours in length.
 - B. The agenda shall be developed by the District Chairman of Consulting Rosarians, following any guidelines from the National Committee of Consulting Rosarians.
 - C. The agenda must contain the three core subjects of the Consulting Rosarian's Manual and a review of the responsibilities of the Consulting Rosarians. Information on cultural practices common for the district may also be covered. Each participant must complete the review questionnaire provided by the national committee.
 - D. It is recommended that schools be located over the geographic area of each district as needed.
5. It shall be the responsibility of the District Chairman of Consulting Rosarians to maintain such records as necessary to track the current status of district Consulting Rosarians and annually inform ARS Headquarters of those Consulting Rosarians who have failed to comply with the audit requirements.
6. The Chairman shall exchange useful information and program materials with the Chairman of the National Committee of Consulting Rosarians.
7. The District Chairman shall provide each Consulting Rosarian in the district, through the local coordinator with all guideline material relating to their duties. Each district has the option of developing their own report form using the national standard as a guide.
8. It is recommended that the District Chairman participate in the Outstanding Consulting Rosarian Award selection with the District Director and the District Member of the Prizes and Awards Committee.
9. Deviation from the guidelines due to operational and geographic problems may be permitted in individual districts with the approval of the Chairman of the National Consulting Rosarian Committee.

THE LOCAL SOCIETY CONSULTING ROSARIAN COORDINATOR

Each local society president shall appoint a Consulting Rosarian, who served at least the immediately preceding three years as an active Consulting Rosarian, to act as the Local Society Coordinator. The District Consulting Rosarian Chairman shall be notified of the appointment. The Local Coordinator shall organize the activities of Consulting Rosarians within the society. The term of office shall be the same as that of the District Director.

Duties of the Local Coordinator shall be as follows:

1. Coordinate with local Consulting Rosarians to insure all reports, surveys, etc., are submitted to the District Director in a timely manner.
2. The Coordinator shall make Consulting Rosarians known to the local society members by implementing #3 & #4.
3. The Local Coordinator shall divide newer members in their society into small groups and assign one of the Consulting Rosarians to act as an instructor.
4. The Coordinator should organize the Consulting Rosarians to provide a short instruction period at each monthly meeting, to attend to members' problems and to assist with attention to new members.
5. The Local Coordinator shall chair meetings of local Consulting Rosarians and encourage their participation in all local, district and national events.
6. To introduce the Consulting Rosarian program to the general public, the Coordinator should organize events at local nurseries, garden clubs, public gardens etc. where the Consulting Rosarians can meet and help the public. Consulting Rosarians should be identified and present at the local rose show. No opportunity should be missed that will introduce Consulting Rosarians to the public.

CONSULTING ROSARIAN EMERITUS

The designation of Consulting Rosarian Emeritus was approved by the ARS Board of Directors in June 1994. The honor is reserved for those who have served as Consulting Rosarians for at least 10 years and no longer wish to be active Consulting Rosarians.

A Consulting Rosarian who qualifies may request Emeritus status through the District Consulting Rosarian Chairman. Upon approval of the request by the Chairman and the District Director the designation will be made. A Consulting Rosarian Emeritus certificate will be presented in gratitude of past service. It is suggested that this presentation take place at a district meeting or some other suitable occasion.

A Consulting Rosarian Emeritus' name will not be on the active Consulting Rosarian list.

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A Consulting Rosarian ribbon badge is available from ARS Headquarters for those who have met the school and test requirements.