



New Pest Found in the Rose Garden



Photo by Marsha Yokomichi

By Marsha Yokomichi
HRS Master Rosarian

About two months ago, I started to notice a small grayish moth fluttering around when I was spraying fungicide on some of the roses in the UGC Showcase Garden.

The fluttering pests first appeared in the back left rose beds facing toward the Ewa-direction of the garden.

The little moths would flutter away as I was spraying the rose plants however, they would quickly congregate once again when the spraying stopped. I bent down to take a closer look and noticed that they were clinging to the branches of the roses inside the bushes.

Oddly, I remember the little moths from my childhood days when I used to see them during recess as we played outside at my elementary school. The bugs would land on us and the kids would try to catch them in our hands but the fast-moving bugs always got away.

I took numerous photos of the pest to try to determine what it was and if it was doing any harm to the roses. Wind-blown photos with poor lighting taken at dusk while I was spraying produced unreliable specimens of which the *Google Lens - Search What You See* app was not able to identify.

However, as luck would have it, one of the bugs caught a ride on my shirt and followed me to the front of the garden. It eventually landed on

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Non UGC Rose Spotlight: Princess Alexandra of Kent



Photo by Myrna Cariaga

By Cathy Matsuzaki

The name of this rose tends to imply a sense of nobility and regalness and deservedly so. **Princess Alexandra of Kent** is a gorgeous bright pink English Shrub rose.

Bred by David C. H. Austin in the United Kingdom in 1999, **Princess Alexandra of Kent** was introduced in the United Kingdom by David Austin Roses, Ltd. in 2007. As with most, if not all David Austin roses, these roses are characteristic of old-rose romance, gracefulness, beauty and fragrance.

Princess Alexandra of Kent is a prolific bloomer with large, fully-double clustered flowers in a deeply cupped bloom form. She has a very fragrant and delicious fresh tea scent, with hints of lemon and black currant. Her aroma can further be described as fresh, slightly floral, with a “foresty vibe” balancing scents of sweetness as well as acidity.

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UGC Rose Spotlight: Good as Gold

By Cathy Matsuzaki

Nestled in the Makai-Ewa quad of the Urban Garden Center Showcase Rose Garden is the Hybrid Tea rose, **Good as Gold**. You may not have taken notice of this beautiful rose as it is not a prolific bloomer, but when it does bloom, it is a sight to behold!

The vibrant and rich blend of orange-golden yellow colored blooms resembles the precious metal for which it is named. Subtle red highlights along the edges of the petals enhance the vivid colors of this rose even more and entice you to come in for a closer look.



Bred by legendary rose hybridizer Tom Carruth formerly of Weeks



Photo by Cathy Matsuzaki

Roses before 2010, **Good as Gold** was introduced in 2014 by Weeks Wholesale Rose Grower, Inc. It was introduced as *Golden Delicious* in the United Kingdom in 2018. **Good as Gold** was developed by crossing *About Face*, a Grandiflora rose also bred by Tom Carruth, with a golden

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Each blossom averages just under four-inches in diameter and features an extraordinary 130 petal count. In spite of its large size, these roses are stately and perfectly poised on a well-rounded shrub. At maturity, the large shrub can reach heights of up to 5 feet and widths of up to 4 feet. Its bushy foliage of matte, medium green, leaves serves as a beautiful background for these majestic roses.

The namesake for this exquisite rose is Princess Alexandra, The Honorable Lady Ogilvy, who is a member of the British royal family. She is the first-cousin of the current British monarch, Queen Elizabeth II. Born Alexandra Helen Elizabeth Olga Christabel, she is currently 85 years of age and resides in Richmond, London. According to



Photo by Myrna Cariaga

the David Austin Roses website, Princess Alexandra was once a keen gardener herself.

The stunning photos of **Princess Alexandra of Kent** in this article were taken at a floral display by David Austin roses on the lawn of Rosenborg Castle in Copenhagen, Denmark at the 18th World Federation of Rose Societies

Convention in 2018. The display was simply breathtaking and literally stopped us in our tracks.

Sources:

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<https://www.heirloomroses.com/princess-alexandra-of-kent.html>

<https://www.1001-landscaping-ideas.com/princess-alexandra-of-kent-roses.html>

<https://scentertainer.net/en/fragrance-notes-black-currant-noble-and-mysterious/#:~:text=Black%20currant%20grows%20as%20shrubby,balance%20of%20sweetness%20and%20acidity>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Princess_Alexandra,_The_Honourable_Lady_Ogilvy

UGC Rose: *Good as Gold*

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yellow interior and a bronze orange reverse and *Golden Beauty*, which is a deep yellow *Floribunda* bred by W. Kordes & Sons of Germany.

Good as Gold features long, pointed ovoid buds which unfurl into formal double blooms averaging 5-inches in diameter. A formal double bloom form is a rose with many rows of fully overlapping petals, and only when the rose is fully bloomed does it then show the stamens in the concave center of the rose.

Each large gorgeous **Good as Gold** blossom averages 26 to 40 petals with a moderate grapefruit and citrus fragrance. As with other Hybrid Tea roses, this variety's classically-shaped flowers are borne mostly solitary on medium to long stems, making it an ideal cut flower to enjoy in a vase.

Good as Gold is well-branched and has a tall, upright and bushy growth habit with a slight spreading tendency. At maturity, it can grow

to heights of 4 to 6-1/2 feet and widths of 3 feet or more. The brilliant blossoms contrast nicely against the glossy green foliage, which exhibits good resistance to Black Spot and Powdery Mildew.

The **Gold as Gold** bushes in the UGC Rose Garden were struggling a bit early on. However, after an addition of rich compost and other nutrients, they are now thriving under full sunshine. Currently reaching heights of approximately 4 -1/2 feet, the bushes appear healthy and are fully clothed in medium green foliage.

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<https://www.weeksroses.com/product/good-as-gold/roses>

<https://www.heirloomroses.com/good-as-gold.html>

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<https://www.weeksroses.com/product/about-face/roses>

UGC's

“Second Saturday in the Garden” Resumes

We have been informed that the Urban Garden Center (UGC) will be holding a **Second Saturday event on Saturday, July 9, 2022**. The event will be open to the general public, but they will need to pre-register/sign-up. Details and time for this event are still being worked out but the UGC is asking for volunteers from each group/hui to help out with parking, registration, etc. We are looking for three HRS volunteers to help out in this area.

We are also looking for additional volunteers to help out in the Rose Garden answering questions and giving tours of the garden. This is exciting news that the UGC is starting to re-open and the Honolulu Rose Society (HRS) would like to participate.

If any of you are available and interested in helping out, please contact Cathy at (808) 375-8197 or cathymatsuzaki@gmail.com.

West Indian Flatid Planthopper

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my car and I was able to get a few better shots. *Google Lens* then was finally able to successfully identify the culprit! What I thought was a “moth” actually turned out to be an insect in the Planthopper family. What I saw was a **West Indian Flatid Planthopper** (*Melormenis basalis*).

The **West Indian Flatid Planthopper (WIF Planthopper)** is found in Florida, Puerto Rico, the Leeward Islands of the Caribbean and lucky us, in Hawaii.

They are about 1/4 inch or 6 mm long and are actually brown in color with a gray waxy surface. The Flatid Planthoppers have glands that produce tufts of wax. Immature versions of the insect are shaped like an arrowhead and covered in wax.



Editor's Note: As Cathy was proofing this article, she remembered a photo she took last week. She asked what this was. I was stunned to see these immature versions of the insect as described in the previous column. Notice the two spots on their back just starting to appear.

It was interesting to note that the article from the University of Florida did not really mention any significant damage from the **WIF Planthopper** other than white weblike waxy buildup, honeydew and sooty mold. But then again, those are all signs of significant damage to rosarians!

A general article on Planthoppers mentioned that damage from some species cause small white spots which are called “stippling” to appear on the upper side of leaves. Damage to these leaves usually

starts near the midrib of the leaves. These areas can converge to form white blotches on leaves. It's important to note that this damage can resemble damage from Spider Mites although the stippling will usually appear larger as Planthoppers are much larger than Spider Mites.

I think it's important to note the appearance of this pest in our UGC Rose Garden. We will take a wait-and-see approach for now as we observe and see what kind of effect they have on our roses.

Sources:

https://entnemdept.ufl.edu/creatures/TRES/Melormenis_basalis.htm (University of Florida)

<https://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/gardens-gardening/your-garden/help-for-the-home-gardener/advice-tips-resources/pests-and-problems/insects/hoppers-and-leafhoppers/leafhoppers-and-planthoppers.aspx>

UGC Rose Garden Update



L-R: Lianne N., Linda K. and Mary Ann R. transplanting roses.
Photo by Cathy Matsuzaki

By Cathy Matsuzaki

We are looking forward to the day when the Urban Garden Center reopens so that the general public can once again enjoy the beauty of the Rose Garden. One can just imagine meandering along the pathways alongside the roses who beckon one to delight in the sights and fragrances of the colorful roses blooming in the garden.

Our HRS member-volunteers have been very busy these past months making sure the Rose Garden is in

pristine condition and ready for visitors at any given moment. We are grateful to our faithful volunteers who have been coming to give the rose plants their TLC at our regular weekly Maintenance Days and on the first Saturday of the Month Maintenance Days. Mahalo to **Glenn** and **Janice Fukuda** for spearheading the Saturday Maintenance Days.

Consulting Rosarians **Bob Speer** and **Glenn Fukuda** organized the huge project of repairing and realigning the arbor stone wall along the Mauka side of the Rose Garden. **Bob** and **Linda Hayashi** actually started working on this project on the Ewa-end in December 2021. A big thank you to HRS Master Rosarians **Marsha Yokomichi** and **Myrna Cariaga** for diligently spraying the entire Rose Garden with fungicide every other week.

New Rose Plants

In February, we purchased 32 potted rose plants and four tree roses to replace roses in the garden which were not doing well. To prepare for these new roses, under

the guidance of **Bob** and **Glenn**, our volunteers started removing the old rose plants, transplanting some of them to Alumni Row and amending the remaining soil in the beds. This process started at the end of February and took a total of seven-weeks to complete. We were then finally ready to transplant the roses in to their new homes in April.

We are excited to showcase some of the new varieties in the garden including: *Chantilly Cream*, *Drop Dead Red*, *Pink Flamingo*, and *Sweet Madame Blue*. We also brought back an old favorite, *Love Song*, which is planted in the Terrace Bed. We also renovated the entire Peace Garden replacing the *Peace* and *Pink Peace* roses with the same and adding a new *Pope John Paul II* tree rose in the middle.

Other new tree roses added to the garden include: *Love Song*, *Twilight Zone*, and another *Pope John Paul II*. In addition, thank you to Membership Director **Janice Fukuda**, who propagated and

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UGC Rose Garden Update

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generously donated several *Iceberg* rose plants to fill in the gaps along the Makai arbor stone wall. She also donated several *Lokelani* plants which were planted in the big circular bed at the top right of the Terrace Beds.

Repair Work

Glenn, Linda H. and **Anne Massie** repaired and re-leveled the severely sagging circular stone wall surrounding the Peace Garden. They did this by painstakingly removing the arbor stones, adding more gravel to level the foundation and then replacing each stone to make it level.

Another big *Thank You* to **Bob** for working on repairing and fine-tuning the irrigation system throughout the Rose Garden making sure each bed is receiving the correct amount of water. Both **Bob** and **Dan Del Monte, Jr.** worked tirelessly recording and adjusting the watering for each bed, replacing watering emitters, repairing ruptured lines, reprogramming the watering timers, and rechecking again and again to make sure everything was just right.

Bob and **Glenn** worked on repairing the lower Makai (facing the sea) arbor stone wall by removing the stones and adding a layer of concrete to create a solid and stable foundation. They then laid each arbor stone back in place.

Special Maintenance

Bob and **Dan** spent several days cleaning the entire Mauka hillside just below the Home Depot parking lot. Their work included digging out the bigger bushes and bagging and removing all of the debris.

Other tasks that were done at the Rose Garden included, fertilizing the rose plants, straightening the rose plant signs, adding a fresh coat of varnish to the Rose Garden sign, trimming the shrubs along the *Iceberg* rose plants. **Glenn** also staked all the tree roses and **Bob** has been straightening the edging of



L-R: Dan DM, Susan N., Lianne N., Anne M., Ron M. and Linda H. Photo by Cathy Matsuzaki

the rose beds.

Heartfelt Mahalo!

We would also like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank members and HRS supporters who have contributed funds to the UGC Rose Garden fund. While your donations are always appreciated to help maintain the UGC Rose Garden, your contributions were especially helpful this year.

After an unprecedented successful purchasing-season for national rose plant suppliers in Fall 2021, this is the first year since the inception of the garden in 2010 that we did not receive any bareroot rose donations from Weeks Roses and Star Roses. We were only able to continue with our annual plans to replace rose plants in the garden that were not doing well because of your contributions. Mahalo for your valuable support!

Best Volunteers

We have the best volunteers by far – always willing to give of their efforts and of their time. They eagerly lend a helping hand and are so caring, not only to the UGC roses, but also to their fellow members as well. It is truly a joy and inspiration to see such great team work from everyone!

Mahalo to all our volunteers (please forgive me if I may have inadvertently missed your name): Myrna Cariaga, Marsha Yokomichi, Bob Speer, Glenn Fukuda, Janice Fukuda, Janice Agena, Betty

Angala, Claire Ching, Dan Del Monte, Jr. (and Dan's sister, Johanna, who came down to help every week she was here visiting from Buffalo, New York), Linda Hayashi, Ann Ho, Keith Imaino, Amelia Jenkins, Linda Kauhane, Lynn Koba, Angie Macabio, Anne Massie, Ron Matsuzaki, Ryan Matsuzaki, Lianne Nagano, Susan Nakamura, Mary Ann Reacido (and her nephew, Bryson), Adela Rhoades, Sho and Vicky Tamura, Bess Tanabe, and her son, Kurt Tanabe. Just to give you an idea of how many manhours we are spending at the Rose Garden, from January through May of this year we already recorded 458 hours! That does not include the times that Bob, Dan and Glenn come on their own to do things at the garden.

On behalf of the HRS Executive Committee, the health and well-being of our members and their families remains our foremost concern. Please take care of yourselves and your families – be safe and take precautions to keep healthy, especially with the current surge of COVID cases.



L-R: Vicky T., Bob S., Susan N., Janice F., Dan DM, Shoichi T., and Glenn F. Photo by Cathy Matsuzaki

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myokomichi@hawaii.rr.com for possible inclusion in a future edition.

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Armchair Traveler: Huntington Rose Garden San Marino, CA



The Huntington's 100th rose (aka *Life of the Party*) hybridized by Tom Carruth; named to mark the Huntington Library's centennial anniversary.

By Marsha Yokomichi
All photos courtesy of Tom Carruth and the Huntington Library, Art Museum, and Botanical Gardens unless otherwise noted

Arguably one of the most famous rose gardens in the nation, the rose garden at Huntington Library, Art Museum and Botanical Gardens in San Marino, CA is a stunning sight to behold. The opulent **Huntington Rose Garden** was created in 1908 for Mr. Harry Huntington, a wealthy railroad and real estate businessman, and his wife, Arabella. The Botanical Gardens encompass 130 acres of the total 207-acre grounds. There are 16 beautiful themed gardens of which the rose garden is one.

The three-acre **Huntington Rose Garden** features over 3,000 rose bushes in more than 1,300 different varieties. Visitors are encouraged to step on the lush green well-manicured lawns to get a closer look



at the roses and to smell their enchanting aroma.

The roses are maintained by 44 volunteers who take their direction from the Rose Garden Curator, none other than renown Chief Rose Hybridizer, Tom Carruth formerly of Weeks Roses. You may recognize Tom's name as he has hybridized over 150 rose varieties in his career and was amazingly awarded 11 prestigious AARS rose designations during that time. Some of these include familiar names such as *Scintimental*; *Hot Cocoa*; *About Face*; *Julia Child*, *Wild Blue Yonder*, and *Memorial Day*.

Myrna and I were fortunate to meet Tom at the Tollcross Park Rose Garden in Glasgow, Scotland back in 2003 as we were roaming through the garden. We were star-struck to say the very least! You could also say that it was a dream come true a few years later when Tom agreed to fly to Hawaii and be a speaker at an HRS workshop in 2005. We were also



Photo by Myrna Cariaga



extremely lucky to receive a private tour of the **Huntington Rose Garden** when Myrna, Bob Speer, Ron Matsuzaki, and I visited in 2013.

We have been blessed to be able to keep in touch with Tom periodically throughout the years. At Myrna's asking, Tom gladly provided an abundance of beautiful photos for



us to choose from for this article. Thank you, Tom!

The **Huntington Rose Garden** is certainly one of those must-see rose gardens to put on your bucket-list. Yes, it's even worth a detour to get there if you were not planning to be in the area. The garden is located at 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, CA 91108. Hours are 10am-5pm every day except Tuesday.

Please note, the garden is currently enforcing capacity limitations due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic therefore, reservations and ticket purchase is a must before arriving. Admission: Adult \$25 Weekday and \$29 Weekend; various other options are available. Please check their website at: <https://www.huntington.org/plan-your-visit> for more information.

Source: <https://news.artnet.com/art-world/tom-carruth-curator-of-roses-huntington-library-interview-2044810>

<https://www.huntington.org/>

