



UGC Rose Spotlight: *Celestial Night*



Photo by Myrna Cariaga

By Cathy Matsuzaki

Imagine yourself in a oasis at the UGC Rose Garden strolling through the Pavilion and along the main pathway of the Showcase Rose Garden when you glance to the left and your eyes are drawn to this

gorgeous vibrant purple rose which beckons you to come closer. The strikingly beautiful **Celestial Night** rose is a deep-plum purple Floribunda rose bred by Christian Bédard of Weeks Roses. It was introduced in the United States in 2017 by Spring Hill Nurseries.

Celestial Night has full and floriferous blooms which stand out against its glossy, dark green foliage. Usually borne in clusters, the petals on each flower are arranged in an old-fashioned, quartered, and cupped form and averages 3 to 4 inches in diameter. **Celestial Night** features very double (multiple of the number of petals on a single bloom) ruffled blooms with a 26 to 40 petal count and a mild fruity fragrance.

Continued on Page 2

Non-UGC Rose Spotlight: *Art Deco*

By Marsha Yokomichi

I was just reminiscing about the last trip I took to Tokyo, Japan in the summer of 2019 and recalled seeing a very unusual rose in the Yokohama English Garden. This rose, **Art Deco**, was colored bright orange and had a thick strip of yellow running from the center of the rose to the ends of each petal. That characteristic itself was unusual in roses but what was evening more interesting was that the outward end of each petal was jagged, much like the petals of Cosmos flowers are.



Photo source: https://www.edenbrothers.com/store/cosmos_pinkie_seeds.html



Photo by Marsha Yokomichi

The rose was such an unusual site among a hundred other rose varieties in the Yokohama English Garden that I actually stopped in my tracks to take a closer look. I spent a few minutes photographing the rose and aweing at the

Continued on Page 2

Holiday Celebration

By Marsha Yokomichi

Due to the ongoing pandemic, the Honolulu Rose Society (HRS) once again held our Annual Party virtually via Zoom on Sunday, January 16, 2022. Although we missed meeting everyone in person at our normal venue at the Hale Ikena at Fort Shafter, we were happy to have 32 members join us online for the festivities.

Our highlights were the awarding of two loyal members of the HRS Weekly Maintenance crew; a wonderful year-in-review slide show put together by HRS President **Myrna Cariaga**; and the giving away of great door prizes.

Anne Massie was awarded a **2021 Special-Recognition Award** for her dedication in helping



at weekly maintenance days during the COVID-19 pandemic. VP-Internal and Co-Director of the of the UGC Rose Garden, **Cathy Matsuzaki** writes, "**Anne** has been an inspiration and a ray of sunshine each week when we see her at maintenance days. She shares a genuine enthusiasm for being at the rose garden with her fellow members and lovingly cares for the rose plants as if they were her own."



Newcomer **Dan Del Monte, Jr.** was awarded the **2021 Outstanding Rookie Award** for his dedication in

regularly attending weekly maintenance days during the COVID-19 pandemic. **Cathy** writes, "**Dan** joined the HRS in August 2021 and since that time, he has

Continued on Page 2

UGC Rose: *Celestial Night*

Continued from Page 1

If you're thinking that the coloring of ***Celestial Night*** resembles *Ebb Tide*, another Floribunda by Weeks Roses growing in our UGC Rose Garden, you're right. ***Celestial Night*** is a cross between *Ebb Tide* and another Weeks Roses variety *Grande Dame*, a Hybrid Tea rose which is also growing in our garden.

Borrowing its somewhat smoky dark purple coloring from *Ebb Tide* in combination with *Grande Dame's* lighter pink hue and the result is a stunning purple rose that almost seems luminous. While one can certainly see that the coloring-characteristics of this rose can be traced back to its lineage, the rose clearly did not inherit strong-fragrance characteristics from its parents. Here in Hawaii, at best, in mid-morning sunshine when oil from its petals are at its peak, ***Celestial Night*** is just a mild to

moderately fragrant rose.

Sources indicate that the variety can grow to heights of three to four-feet and widths of two to three-feet. However, in the UGC Rose Garden the ***Celestial Night*** roses are flourishing three-years after being planted. They currently exceed five-feet in height. The plants have an upright and bushy growth habit and good disease resistance to Black Spot and Powdery Mildew.

Celestial Night recently won the American Garden Rose Selections™ 2022 Regional Choice Award in three regions (South Central, Southeast, and Southwest) and 2022 Fragrance Award Winner.

Sources: <https://www.helpmefind.com/rose/1.php?l=2.80662>; <https://www.jacksonandperkins.com/celestial-nights-floribunda-rose/p/28088/>; <https://www.springhillnursery.com/product/celestial-night-floribunda-rose>

Non-UGC Rose: *Art Deco*

Continued from Page 1

characteristics of the variety while dozens of other garden visitors passed me by. In fact, my friends had to double-back and retrieve me as they had gone on to see other roses and were alarmed to see that I was not following close by in tow.

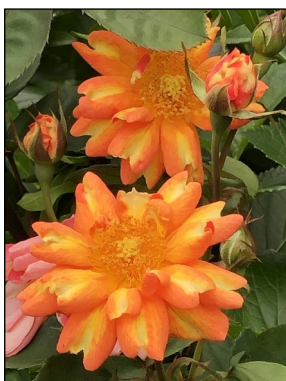


Photo by Marsha Yokomichi

I did a little research online and discovered very little information about the rose other than it was a Floribunda bred by then amateur rose hybridizer Peter James in the United Kingdom before 2012. It was introduced in Japan by Zen roses in 2012 as ***Art Deco*** but apparently was never marketed anywhere in the U.S. or United Kingdom. Source: <https://www.helpmefind.com/rose/1.php?l=2.76295+tab=1/>.

I asked my friend in Japan to find out if there was any other info

available on the variety and he found that it is an easy to grow rose variety recommended for beginners. ***Art Deco*** blooms both independently and in clusters all year round in temperate climates. The growth habit of this variety is short and compact growing to a height of only 3 feet tall. ***Art Deco*** has a mild fragrance. Source: <https://item.rakuten.co.jp/baranoie/c/0000005148/>.

Very little else is known about the variety but I suspect that the *Art Nouveau* rose may be one of its parents because that rose was also bred by Peter James and shows similar characteristics. *Art Nouveau* was hybridized before 2009 and introduced to market only in Australia and the United Kingdom in 2009 making it an equally rare rose here in the U.S.

HRS Holiday Party



Continued from Page 1

been coming out to the rose garden just about every Wednesday. When I first met **Dan**, he had just had surgery on his hand making it difficult for him to squeeze the pruners but he still managed to come out every week to help to tend to the roses in the garden. Always a positive spirit, an eagerness to help, and a warm smile for his fellow members. It is a genuine pleasure to have **Dan** as a member of the HRS and to see him every week in the rose garden."

We were also fortunate to have several HRS members supplement The HRS-sponsored Door Prize Giveaways. In total over \$750 worth of prizes were given away during the party. Big winners included **Linda Kauhane** with a \$100 Amazon Gift Card donated by **Myrna Cariaga**; **Bob Speer** with a \$100 Gytaku Gift Card sponsored by the HRS and a \$50 Zippy's gift card donated by **Marsha Yokomichi**; **Julie Whitaker** with a \$50 Amazon Gift Card sponsored by the HRS; and **Annie Massie** with a \$50 Cheesecake Factory gift card sponsored by the HRS. Mahalo also to **Cathy** and **Ron Matsuzaki**, **Naomi Inouye**, and **Linda Hayashi** for their very generous prize donations.

Mahalo to all members who joined us online for our party. Special thanks to **Cathy Matsuzaki** and **Myrna Cariaga** who were instrumental in helping me coordinate and execute plans for our party. While we all had a wonderful time, I hope that we can meet in person to celebrate next year! If you missed **Myrna's** 2021 year-end slideshow or just want another look, [click here](#).

A Special Day of Work in the UGC Rose Garden

By Marsha Yokomichi

The HRS was fortunate to have 22 members and a guest come out to help at a special HRS Maintenance Day at the UGC Rose Garden on Saturday, January 29th. We called for the special work day to repair the retaining wall against the hillside near Home Depot and also to do extra maintenance work in the UGC Rose Garden.



Photo by Myrna Cariaga via remote control.

spent blooms, and weeds from the garden that day. All-in-all, we spent about three-hours, from 8:30am-11:30am, in the garden repairing the wall and doing much-needed maintenance in the garden.

The work was definitely made easier because of the number of volunteers who came out to assist us so Mahalo to all who came out to help! **Bob** and **Glenn** will also be scheduling an additional day in the near future to make repairs to the retaining wall on the Pearl Harbor side of the garden. Please watch for that announcement and make plans to come out and join us!



Before Photo by Marsha Yokomichi

The wall sustained damage through several heavy rainstorms within the last year and it had become a hazard for anyone walking near the area. A handful of us worked under the direction of **Bob Speer** and **Glenn Fukuda** to clear dirt away from the wall then painstakingly

prepared the foundation with gravel to level it before relaying the heavy concrete retaining wall blocks on each other.

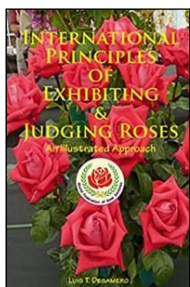
Mahalo to the HRS Weekly Maintenance Crew who concentrated on removing overgrown weeds from the area on Wednesday, January 26, a few days before our work day. Doing that allowed us to make good use of our time on Saturday. Amazingly, many of those crew members also reported for duty on Saturday to help out.

While the wall-repair crew worked on the wall, the rest of us tended to pruning and weeding in the UGC Rose Garden beds under the direction of **Myrna Cariaga**. Remarkably, the rose garden maintenance crew accumulated 15 large trash bags of leaves, stems,



After Photo by Marsha Yokomichi

Free Book Offer for New and Renewing Members



Receive a free copy of the hardcover rose book, "International Principles of Exhibiting & Judging Roses" by our dear friend and loyal HRS supporter, Mr. Luis Desamero for anyone joining or renewing as a Member of the Honolulu Rose Society!

First-come first-served while supplies last! The book will be

available for pick up free of any charge at our Weekly Maintenance Days at the UGC Rose Garden. Please contact Cathy Matsuzaki at cathymatsuzaki@gmail.com to make arrangement to pick up your book.

You can also opt to have the book mailed to you for an additional \$5. An anonymous donor will pay for the balance owed to mail each book (approx. \$3.50 each).

The book retails for over \$23 on Amazon.com. This makes the \$15

for Individual Membership or \$20 for Family Membership for the Honolulu Rose Society an unbelievable deal! [Click here](#) to sign up or renew your HRS Membership. One book per Individual or Family Membership.

For members who have already paid their 2022 dues, please contact Marsha Yokomichi at myokomichi@hawaii.rr.com to reserve your copy. You may pick it up for free at the UGC Rose Garden or pay \$5 to have it mailed to you.

Pearl City HS Students Visit the UGC

By Marsha Yokomichi
Photos by Jari Sugano

The HRS was happy to help host over 30 Pearl City High School students on a fieldtrip to the Urban Garden Center on February 11, 2022. The local non-profit organization, Hawaii Agriculture Foundation made the no-cost trip possible for the students through a grant that they received for their "In the Fields Partnership Program." The goal of the program is to introduce local high school students to the agricultural industry and its diverse range of careers available in the sector.



HRS President, **Myrna Cariaga** gave a short speech to highlight the benefits of flowers in gardens then invited the students and their chaperones to roam through the UGC Rose Garden to explore. The garden was in pristine condition and attendees happily snapped photos of the beautiful roses as they strolled through the garden.

Thanks to the hard work of our UGC Weekly Maintenance crew and several other HRS members who joined in on pruning the roses some six-weeks ago, there was an abundance of beautiful roses in bloom. This, even after **Myrna** and **Marsha** harvested over 60 roses on the afternoon of February 10th for the event.

Three lucky winners of a mini bouquet-making contest received rose bouquets filled with our UGC Roses and we even had enough to give to Bea Aragon in the UGC office to thank for her help assisting the HRS through the years.

Attendees also harvested and tasted

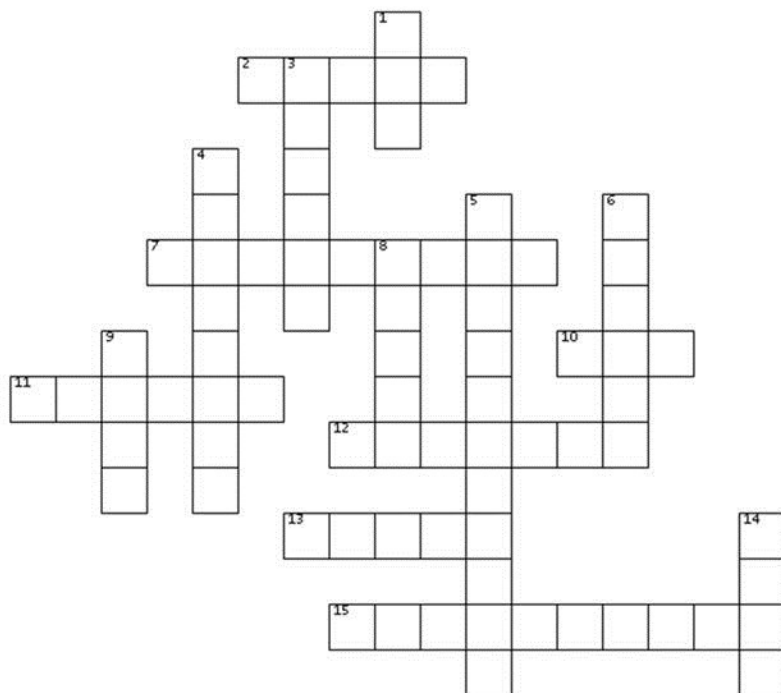
mamaki tea; propagated plants; tasted unique local fruits; and participated in several other activities while at the UGC Garden.

All-in-all, the students seemed to have a great time while there and for us, the volunteers and staff at the UGC, it's events like this that make everything we do worthwhile. Mahalo to Tina Lau, new UGC Jr. Extension Agent, for inviting the HRS to be part of this event and to Jari Sugano, Oahu County Administrator, for doing an excellent job of planning and coordinating the event to make it an enjoyable experience for all.



Best-in-Show Winner on left and prize – rose bouquet on right.

Crossword Puzzle – All About Roses



Submitted by Janice Fukuda

ACROSS

- 2. Bushy Modern Rose
- 7. Tiny Versions
- 10. Coffee, _____, or Me...
- 11. The Best Part
- 12. Heirloom
- 13. Parts of the Flower
- 15. Dense-Clustered Class

DOWN

- 1. Young Rose
- 3. One Variety Cross One Variety
- 4. The Only Way is Up
- 5. Floribunda + Hybrid Tea
- 6. Where Leaf Meets Stem
- 8. Source of Pain
- 9. Underground Feeder
- 14. Oxygen Producer



The Rose Garden at Kyu Furukawa Gardens Kita, Tokyo, Japan

By Marsha Yokomichi
All Photos by Marsha Yokomichi

Myrna and **I** were lucky to be in Tokyo during a Spring Rose Festival at **Kyu Furukawa Gardens** several years ago.



The quaint garden featuring about 200 roses in 100 different varieties was in full bloom during our mid-May visit. The Spring Festival runs mid-May to mid-June every year and the garden also hosts a Fall Festival in October. Source: <https://www.gotokyo.org/en/spot/ev202/index.html>



The stunning "Princess Michiko" Floribunda rose.



The garden and western style mansion were complete in 1917 and was owned by Baron Furukawa, owner of Furukawa Zaibatsu which

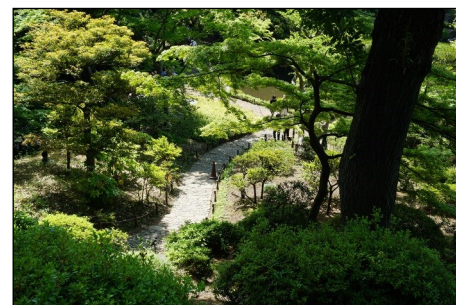
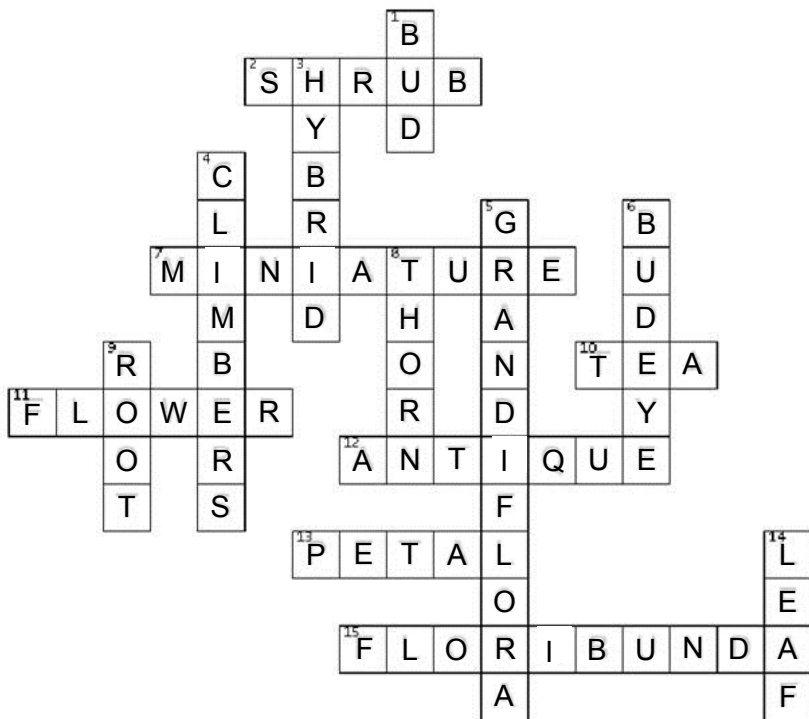
owned Ashio copper mine. Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ky%C5%AB-Furukawa_Gardens.

Kyu Furukawa Gardens was designated as one of only seven *National Places of Scenic Beauty* in Japan. The garden is located at 1-27-39 Nishigahara, Kita-ku, Tokyo 〒114-0024. There is a nominal admission fee of approximately \$1.50 U.S. and the garden is usually open 9am-5pm. However, it is currently temporarily closed due to the pandemic.



Floribunda "Ryokko" bred by legendary Japanese rose hybridizer Seizo Suzuki.

Answers – All About Roses



View of the Japanese Garden.

The HRS Rose Petals newsletter is published on a monthly basis. If you would like to submit an article and or photos, please email to:

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

HRS Rose Petals Newsletter
Marsha Yokomichi, Editor
Post Office Box 1932
Honolulu, HI 96805