



Rose Petals



Short Rose-Related Info-Bits to Stay Connected

April 15, 2023 Edition

The End of an Era: Closing of the UGC Rose Garden

By Myrna Cariaga & Marsha Yokomichi

After 14 years of working in partnership with Oahu Urban Garden Center (UGC) and University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture Administration (CTAHR), the Honolulu Rose Society (HRS) has decided to terminate our partnership and discontinue any future involvement with the UGC. After extensive thought and deliberation between the HRS Officers and Directors of the HRS Executive Committee, we have made the difficult decision to close the UGC Rose Garden and remove all roses from the premises.

The main reason for this decision is because UGC and CTAHR Administrators will no longer allow the general public to visit the UGC in mass. Essentially, the UGC Rose Garden is no longer a public rose garden. The primary purposes of the entire UGC are for research and education, always has been and always will be.

In 2009, we were invited by the then UGC Administrator to establish a rose garden so that the public could



visit it and enjoy the roses with hopes that it would inspire them to start growing roses of their own. For the better part of the last 14



years, thousands of school children, seniors and the general public were able to visit the UGC free of charge.

With the reopening of the UGC after the COVID pandemic, that policy changed. Only those who registered and paid to attend UGC plant-care workshops were permitted to visit the UGC Rose Garden. Our intended audience immediately went from hundreds of people per month, pre-pandemic, to about 25-30 people per month at best.

Although this change was a big disappointment, we decided in Fall 2022, to just “go with the flow” and be thankful that we still had a limited audience that could visit the UGC Rose Garden. Unfortunately, things continued to change to our detriment and our relationship with UGC Administration has deteriorated to a level that we see no point in trying to continue.

Please know that this was not an easy decision for us to make. Over 28,000 volunteer-hours have been spent to establish and maintain the rose garden from inception in 2009 through May 2021 (last official compilation of hours). Also, over \$36,000 of HRS funding has been

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President’s Message *All Good Things Must Come to an End*

I remember the day so clearly. It was December 9, 2009 and then Administrator of the Oahu Urban Garden Center (UGC), Ray Uchida, invited the Honolulu Rose Society (HRS) to develop a rose garden at UGC for the public to visit and enjoy.

The day after our meeting, I called Dr. Tommy Cairns, former President of the World Federation of Rose Societies and the American Rose Society who is a dear friend and loyal HRS supporter, and told him the good news. I asked for his help and he instantaneously called his friends at national bareroot rose distributor Star Roses and asked them to send us 150 bareroot rose bushes for the soon to be new and only public rose garden in Hawaii.

Through the capable leadership of Bob Speer (2009 Master Gardeners’ President) and his many external contacts at the Pearlridge and Honolulu Pau Hana Rotary, Boy Scouts Troops 147 and 153, and Youth Challenge Academy along with our dedicated HRS members and fellow UGC volunteers, we were able to transform what was then barren land into an oasis filled with beautiful and fragrant roses for all to enjoy.

With the support of the past UGC Administrator, we developed several “wow” factors which included a custom-built Rose Pavilion; retaining walls near the hillsides; terrace rose beds; standing planters; Pergola; the center courtyard seating area; and ambitious plans to completely

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The End of an Era: UGC Rose Garden

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spent on development and maintenance of the UGC Rose Garden from inception through March 2023.

We sincerely appreciate the opportunity that CTAHR and the UGC Administration gave us to showcase roses over the years. We have no regrets in establishing the rose garden there in 2009 and we also have no regrets closing it down now and walking away.

We sent notice of our decision to UGC and CTAHR Administrators on March 29, 2023. We have yet to hear back from them regarding our request to provide access to the rose garden so that we may begin removal of all rose plants.

Our last HRS event held in the UGC Classroom was our first Rose School workshop on March 25, 2023. We



have found new venues to hold our second, third, and fourth 2023 HRS Rose School workshops and have notified all students and group leaders.

Our warmest Mahalo for your support of the UGC Rose Garden. We sincerely appreciate your assistance in helping to establish the garden and/or maintain it. We may be sending out a call to all HRS members to help us remove roses from the UGC Rose Garden and return the area to how it once was before our presence there. We would appreciate your help if you are able to assist us at the time.

All previous donations received for the continued development and maintenance of the UGC Rose Garden will be put towards a new rose garden at some point in the future.

Editor's Note

With the closing of the UGC Rose Garden, we will no longer be able to highlight UGC Roses in our Rose Petals newsletter. From next month, we will continue to feature two rose varieties in each edition of our newsletter but they will be titled "Type of Rose" - "Variety Name." For example, this month's featured UGC Rose would have been titled: "Floribunda Spotlight - *Julia Child*" if it appeared in the newsletter next month.

If you have a digital photo of a rose that you would like us to cover, please send it to myokomichi@hawaii.rr.com or cathymatsuzaki@gmail.com. You are welcome to write an accompanying article for your photo or we will write an article for you. Mahalo for your continued support of the HRS and the Rose Petals newsletter.

Mahalo, Marsha

President's Message

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redesign the rose beds so visitors could get up closer to the roses and take in their beauty and enchanting fragrance.

Over the years, we were gifted with hundreds of new and favorite varieties of bareroot roses from national rose suppliers at Star Roses and Weeks Roses. The aim was to showcase the latest and greatest rose varieties in the rose garden as well as sell the excess plants to help support continued development and maintenance of the UGC Rose Garden.

There were many, many, memorable events that took place at the UGC Rose Garden such as our Opening Ceremony/Hawaiian Blessing in 2014, our HRS 40th Anniversary Celebration in 2015, and numerous rose garden tours during Second Saturday and Peace Day events. We welcomed several special guests and rose-related dignitaries such as ARS

Presidents, Dr. Tommy Cairns and Ms. Jolene Adams; International rose breeder, Mr. Ping Lim and his wife Jane and many more fellow rose society members and rose enthusiasts from around the world.

But *everything that rises must fall....everything good must come to an end.* Change is inevitable and the time has come to move forward as we look towards the future.

Now that this chapter in our history has come to a close, I want to take this opportunity to **THANK YOU ALL** for your hard work, financial contributions, love, and support that you've given to the HRS and this ultimate community service project which we proudly established and maintained so very well over the years.

Mahalo for all of the memories and the rosy experiences that we shared together while in the UGC Rose Garden. Thank you for answering the call to help develop and

maintain this once magical place that we all won't soon forget.

A special Mahalo to Bob Speer, Ron/Cathy and Ryan Matsuzaki, Marsha Yokomichi, Glenn/Janice Fukuda and our loyal volunteers who always kept the rose garden in pristine condition. It was a joy and privilege to work along side such dedicated individuals who never ceased to amaze me. Also, to our dear friend, Dr. Tommy Cairns and to Star Roses and Weeks Roses who kept inspiring us year after year with their continued support and annual bareroot rose donations.

A new chapter awaits us and I am excited to see what our future holds. Please join me in continuing to support the Honolulu Rose Society and our mission of promoting rose horticulture in Hawaii. We look forward to seeing you all again at our upcoming HRS events.

Mahalo, Myrna

Reflections of the UGC Rose Garden Over the Years



12/09 Site of the soon to be UGC Rose Garden.



11/17/10 Volunteers from the Pearlridge Rotary helped to dig initial rose beds and amended the soil.



4/30/11 HRS volunteers and volunteers from the Pearlridge and Honolulu Pau Hana Rotary transplant roses into the initial five rose beds.



4/28/12 Volunteers from the Pearlridge and Honolulu Pau Hana Rotary, Aiea High School Interact club, UGC Ohana Group and the HRS help construct the open-air Rose Pavilion.



4/27/13 A retaining wall was built by the volunteers of the Pearlridge Rotary Club and the young men of the Youth Challenge Academy.



4/12/14 Kahu Kanani Okuda performed a heartfelt Hawaiian Blessing for the Rose Garden followed by an intimate Opening Ceremony which the public was invited to attend.



4/12/14 Elementary school students that won the “What Peace Means to Me” contest gathered around the newly developed rose bed containing the Peace and Peace-related rose bushes.



4/12/14 Elementary school students that won the “What Heroes Mean to Me” contest gathered around the newly developed Heroes rose bed.



5/2/15 HRS Members, volunteers from the UGC and Pearlridge Rotary Club, and other special guests gathered together at an evening event to celebrate the HRS’s 40th Anniversary.



9/24/16 Group Rose Garden Tour at a Peace Day event. The public was invited to stroll through the garden independently to enjoy the roses.



4/29/17 Members of the Pearlridge Rotary Club returned to help erect the center pergola and build planter boxes alongside the pergola.



5/25/19 During the 2019 Rose School WS, Consulting Rosarian Frank Dumlao (in white shirt) demonstrated how to prune a rose bush in the garden.



2/8/20 The final Valentine's Day rose plant sale. All proceeds from the sale of 111 plants went towards the continued development and maintenance of the UGC Rose Garden. We sold out within two hours!



7/3/21 HRS members gathered together after Maintenance Day to socialize as this was the first member event after the COVID-19 lockdown.



7/9/22 UGC Workshop attendees were treated to an optional Rose Garden tour lead by Consulting Rosarian Bob Speer and Master Rosarian Myrna Cariaga (not pictured here).



10/12/22 Some of the loyal members of the weekly maintenance crew.



3/25/23 Our last official HRS event in the UGC Classroom—the first 2023 Rose School WS. With this 8th Annual hosting of this educational series, over 260 students have learned how to grow the best roses they can in Hawaii.



3/25/23 Myrna demonstrated how to transplant a mini rose plant in the UGC Upper Nursery. "Tap, Tap....Wiggle, Wiggle" was the catchy motto to remember when potting roses.

UGC Rose Spotlight: *Julia Child*

By Cathy Matsuzaki



Photos by Myrna Cariaga

Julia Child is a gorgeous Floribunda rose which will delight your sense of sight with its rich buttery yellow color, and your sense of smell with its mild to strong spicy anise, clove and sweet licorice fragrance.

Bred by Tom Carruth in 2004, ***Julia Child*** was introduced in the United States by Weeks Wholesale Rose Grower, Inc. in 2006. In 2009, it was introduced in Australia by Swane's Nursery/Swane Bros Pty Ltd. as "Soul Mate", and in 2012, it was introduced in New Zealand by Matthews Nurseries, Ltd. as "Absolutely Fabulous." In the United Kingdom, the rose was renamed after the popular television show called, "Absolutely Fabulous." Tom Carruth developed ***Julia Child*** by crossing the roses *Voodoo* with *Rosa soulieana*, *Summerwine* and *Topnotch*. Wild versions of *Rosa soulieana* have a "culinary" fragrance described as clove or cinnamon.

Julia Child is a prolific and continuous bloomer as proven at the UGC Rose Garden where they are always roses in bloom. It is currently thriving in the Showcase Rose Garden in the Diamond Head Makai quad in one of the long beds running parallel to the hedge of Iceberg rose plants. ***Julia Child*** is heat tolerant and does best in full sunlight, but also flourishes nicely with partial shade, as is the case at the UGC Rose Garden under the afternoon shade of the huge tree on

the lower slope. The bright yellow blossoms are an attractive focal point against the glossy medium to dark green leathery dense foliage.

The brilliant yellow coloration gently fades to a pale yellow hue as the blooms age with grace. While it does have good disease resistance, ***Julia Child*** is vulnerable to Black Spot. Sources indicate that ***Julia Child*** can grow to heights of 28 to 33 inches and widths of 20 to 26 inches, but the plants at the garden far exceed this. The plants are currently about 5 feet tall and 3 feet wide with a bushy, compact and rounded growth habit. It is said that this variety could grow larger in warmer climates because warmer temperatures offer rose plants a longer season.

Julia Child is vigorous and an exceptionally hardy plant, yet is low maintenance, making it an ideal rose to plant in your garden landscape, borders or containers. It does have some thorns and prickles on the stems, but that's a small price to pay for the abundance of intoxicating blooms that the plants continually produces.

Each golden blossom of ***Julia Child*** averages 3 inches in diameter with a 30 to 45 petal count. Pointed full ovoid buds open to large clusters of medium, fully double, cupped, globular, old-fashioned blooms with elegantly ruffled petals. In 2006, ***Julia Child*** was awarded the distinguished All-America Rose Selections (AARS) award. Starting in 1940, this prestigious honor was given annually by the American rose industry to an outstanding new rose variety which was evaluated over a two-year period on various characteristics such as hardiness, flower and fragrance. The AARS award was discontinued after 2013 and superseded in 2016 by the American Garden Rose Selections (AGRS) awards program.

The namesake for this rose is ***Julia Child*** (1912 – 2004) who was a famous American cooking teacher, author and television personality, where she was most notably

remembered for hosting the popular television cooking show, "The French Chef" which aired from 1963 to 1973. She is recognized for bringing French cuisine to American kitchens with her cookbooks and becoming one of the first favorite and prominent cooking personalities on TV. She gave home cooks the confidence and skills to prepare a variety of French dishes with ease. It was ***Julia Child*** herself who personally selected this exquisite rose to bear her name. According to Weeks Roses, "Julia loved the even butter gold color and the licorice candy fragrance."

Floriferous with a lavish profusion of golden clustered blooms on a well-rounded shrub with good disease resistance, are all reasons to relish ***Julia Child*** roses. Not to mention that these luminous blossoms on sturdy medium stems makes a lovely centerpiece to be admired at the dinner table.

Sources:

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<https://www.weeksroses.com/product/julia-child/roses>

<https://www.gardenia.net/plant/rosa-julia-child>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/All-America_Rose_Selections

<https://www.starrosesandplants.com/awards/all-america-rose-selections/>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Julia_Child_rose

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Julia_Child





Photo by Marsha Yokomichi

By Cathy Matsuzaki

Pop Art is a relatively new Grandiflora rose which will definitely bring a fresh “pop” of color to your garden with its unique pastel pink and creamy yellow stripes. Bred by distinguished rose hybridizer Christian Bédard of Weeks Roses before 2020, **Pop Art** was introduced in 2020 in the

United States by Spring Hill Nurseries.

The parentage of this beautiful rose is a mix between *Good as Gold* (a Hybrid Tea rose bred by Tom Carruth in 2013) and *Rock & Roll* (a red and white striped Grandiflora rose, also bred by Tom Carruth in 2006). Editor’s Note: With the floriferous tendency of *Good as Gold* and the painfully slow rebloom cycle for *Rock & Roll*, it is expected that **Pop Art** will at least have an average to above-average rebloom cycle.

Each **Pop Art** blossom averages 4 to 4-1/2 inches in diameter with 60 to 75 petals and has a moderate to strong fruity citrus fragrance. The ovoid, rounded buds unfurl to a large, very full cupped bloom form which is impressively accented against its glossy medium to dark green foliage. It has very good resistance to fungal diseases, such as Black Spot and Powdery Mildew.

Pop Art has an upright spreading growth habit and can grow to heights of 2 to 5 feet and widths of 18 to 30 inches depending on the warmth of the climate (warmer climates tend to produce larger plants). As with most rose plants, this robust variety does best in full sun, but can also thrive in some partial shade. As a non-clustering Grandiflora, **Pop Art**’s spectacular and lush flowers grow one to a stem and not together in bunches.

Pop Art is a good rebloomer offering plenty of blooms which are sure to create an impressive floral centerpiece. All will enjoy its long-lasting color retention, novel coloration and fragrance.

Sources:

<https://www.helpmefind.com/rose/1.php?l=2.85889.0&nj=1>

<https://www.springhillnursery.com/product/pop-art-grandiflora-rose>



Photo Source: <https://hawaiibirdingtrails.hawaii.gov/bird/pacific-golden-plover/>

Green Thumb Club Presentation II

By Linda Hayashi, Veteran HRS Member; Photo by Linda Hayashi



Like a *Kolea* bird returning to the Islands (although they will be flying back to Alaska soon), our HRS President, Myrna Cariaga, returned to the Green Thumb

Club (GTC) on April 4, 2023, at Waiiau District Park to do a hands-on presentation. Our topic was how to sharpen garden tools. GTC members brought their bypass pruners, loppers and even a grass trimmer in hopes of learning how to sharpen and maintain them.

Myrna started her presentation by talking about the importance of keeping clean, sharp and

functioning tools at all times in order to keep plants healthy and thriving. She went over the various types of pruners from snippers, bypass pruners, anvil pruners and loppers and their uses.

Then came the hands-on part, first with the cleaning and removal of rust, plant sap and debris with #150 sandpaper. All GTC members worked hard and many could not believe how their tools looked afterwards – nice and shiny.

Next was the sharpening of the tools with a mill file as demonstrated by Myrna, and like with the sandpaper, GTC members worked vigorously to sharpen their tools. GTC members then sprayed WD-40 on the joints of their tools to make sure the tools could move quickly and with less effort. One GTC member commented how her lopper was much easier to use now. Finally, a

small spray bottle of 91% isopropyl alcohol was provided to each GTC member to make sure their tools were sanitized to prevent the spread of plant diseases before and after each use.

Once again GTC members were grateful for learning so much (please see the March 2023 issue of “Rose Petals” regarding Myrna’s first visit with the GTC) and took home their clean and sharp gardening tools. Many never sharpened their tools before because they did not know what to use and how to do so. It was thanks to Myrna’s hands-on presentation, GTC members became better gardeners with more knowledge and functional tools.

Thank you again to Waiiau District Park Recreation Director Dahlia Manzanillo for having Myrna speak to the group again.



Armchair Traveler: *Rose Garden* at *Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park* *Hiroshima, Japan*

By Marsha Yokomichi
HRS Master Rosarian

For those of you who have visited the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park in Hiroshima, Japan, did you notice roses growing there? They are located in a small rose garden of probably about 100 roses next to the Children's Peace Monument.



The monument was created to commemorate Sadako Sasaki and the thousands of other children who died in the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and its aftermath. An inscription for the monument reads, "This is our cry. This is our prayer. For building peace in this world."

Sadako was two-years old when the atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima on August 6, 1945. She was about a mile away from the epicenter but had no apparent injuries at the time of the bombing.

However, ten years later, she was diagnosed with leukemia and died eight months later. While confined to the hospital, she set out to fold paper cranes or orizuru in her bid to get well. Today, paper cranes are a symbol of peace. Approximately 10 million paper cranes are offered at the monument each year from all over the world.



Very little information was found regarding the **Rose Garden at Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park** but it was determined that the roses were received from multiple sources over the years. Relationships that were established because of the bombing, garnered gifts of roses from the German Rose Society, former West German Government, and Czech Republic to name a few. Jan Letzel, was a Czech architect who designed the Hiroshima Prefectural Industrial Promotion Hall. The now infamous remnants of that dome-shaped building still remain today as a reminder of the atomic bombing in 1945.



While not a cheerful rose garden one normally would seek out to visit, the **Rose Garden at Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park** serves an important purpose. It symbolizes tranquility and peace and is a welcome sight when compared to all of the somber monuments and statues that sit in

the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park. When viewing the beautiful roses, one not only reflects on the painful past but we are able to look to the future as we come to the realization that we can never let this happen again.

The **Rose Garden at Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park** is located at 1-10 Nakajimachō, Naka Ward, Hiroshima, 730-0811, Japan. Open 24 hours; free admission.

Source:

<https://hiroshimaforpeace.com/en/childrens-peace-monument/>

<https://hiroshimaforpeace.com/en/roses-in-hiroshima-peace-memorial-park/>

<https://hiroshimaforpeace.com/en/roses-in-hiroshima-peace-memorial-park-vol-2/#:~:text=After%20the%20war%2C%20at%20the,by%20Hiroshima%20were%20planted%20there.>

All photos by Marsha Yokomichi



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