



## ***Speaker Lineup:***



### **Mirjana Toyn "A Brief History of the Rose Through the Ages"**

Take a trip through the ages and learn about the evolution of the rose from antiquity to modern times, becoming a universally beloved and iconic flower. The slide show will explore the symbolism of the rose, the pivotal role roses played in world history, and what factors contributed to the development of the modern rose as we know it.

*Mirjana has been gardening and growing roses for over 20 years in England, Pennsylvania and Connecticut. She is a past President of the Connecticut Rose Society (CRS) and has served on their Board for many years. She is currently also the Membership Chair of the American Rose Society's Yankee District and a Consulting Rosarian.*

*Her particular interests are Old Garden Roses and sustainable roses. She regularly lectures on rose culture and her award winning rose column appears quarterly in the CRS newsletter as well as other publications across the country. There are close to 100 roses growing alongside perennials, bulbs and shrubs in her small Guilford, CT garden. More recently, she has started growing her own roses from seed and hybridizing them.*



### **Mark Windham "When Bad Things (Rose Diseases) Happen to Good People"**

From black spot to rose rosette - a discussion of common sense and practical ways to reduce the impact of rose diseases in the garden.

*Mark Windham is a professor and distinguished chair of ornamental pathology at the University of Tennessee. He has been actively researching diseases of landscape and nursery crops for more than 30 years. Mark is a member of the American Rose Society (ARS) and past president of the Holston Rose Society and has been growing roses for more than 30 years. He has worked with the ARS to develop a best management plan for Rose Rosette Virus and is part a national team of scientists working on Rose Rosette. Mark has also developed a list of black spot and Cercospora leaf spot resistant roses for the mid-South.*



### **Baldo Villegas "Garden Nightmares"**

Imagine starting a new rose garden in an area where the worst rose problems are found. What would you do?

*Baldo is a retired entomologist from the California Department of Food and Agriculture. He has extensive knowledge on rose pests such as insects, mites, diseases and weeds and ways to control them either biologically or with other pest control methods. Baldo will be covering the worst pests of roses and their management levels.*



## **John Mattia and Marci Martin** *"A Fireside Chat: Marci and John's Favorite Rose Stories"*

After many decades of growing roses, John Mattia and Marci Martin share stories of how roses bring people together, how new roses are created, and how new relationships are nourished by our rose hobby. Be prepared to smile at these often funny stories that bring some education along with them, as well.

***John P. Mattia**, a nationally-recognized rose exhibitor, rose photographer, and rose lecturer, has been growing and photographing roses for exactly 50 years.*

*As an exhibitor, John has won the Nicholson, McFarland, Warwick, and Kirkland national ARS trophies and several national Queens. In 1981, he won his first queen with the rose 'Admiral Rodney' at the New England Rose Society spring show, and has been winning numerous queens and trophies since then. In fact, he is listed in a recent Horizon Roses survey, compiled by ARS Vice President Bob Martin, as winning 77 hybrid tea queens over 30 years, the second largest number of HT queens listed in this national report. He also is ranked sixth with a total of 16 major national and regional ARS trophies over the period in this survey. At one point in the 1990's he earned queens in 11 consecutive shows at the local, regional, and national levels. He also is the only Yankee District exhibitor ever to win national hybrid tea ARS trophies.*

*He has taken more than 15,000 rose photos in public and private rose gardens throughout the United States, Canada, and Europe. His digital rose photography and digital photo rose art have been published in regional and national publications including the New York Times and the American Rose magazine. In 2014, he won "Best in Show" in the ARS National Photo Contest. In 2015, competing the Master Class, he garnered nine of the 25 ribbons awarded included three first and a second place in the five categories in this highly competitive division. One of his first places was in the Portfolio competition which consisted of five related photos he symbolized as "What's in a Rose Name."*

*He is also noted for his rose videos, several of which are posted on YouTube, in which he takes still photographs and gives them "video life" in these presentations.*

***Marci Martin** fell in love with roses when she was a little girl, and the love affair goes on. She has been growing roses for 38 years in four different locations in the state of Connecticut.*

*Marci has been on the Board of Directors of the Connecticut Rose Society for about 17 years. She has served as Secretary, Vice President, and two terms as President, and was elected last year to a third term. She has been an ARS Consulting Rosarian since 2000, and received appointment as Master Rosarian in 2010. She was honored to be awarded the ARS Outstanding Consulting Rosarian Award in 2008, and was awarded the ARS Silver Honor Medal for the Yankee District in 2012. In 2014, she was awarded the ARS Bronze Medal for outstanding service to the CT Rose Society.*

*Marci recently stepped down as Rosarian Curator for the Elizabeth Park Conservancy, a position she accepted in the fall of 2008. The Elizabeth Park Rose Garden opened to the public in the spring of 1904, and as such is America's oldest municipal rose garden. The health and well-being of the 15,000 roses within were her responsibility during her tenure.*

*Check out her blog, 'Everything Roses,' at <http://www.plantersplace.com/community/blogs>. You will find many articles on rose growing there for your reading and learning pleasure. On the same site, you will find a number of podcast recordings of Marci's blogs that you can download to your listening devices.*

*Marci is currently the Master Consulting Rosarian at Woodland Gardens in Manchester. She is also a Rose Garden Consultant for personal and commercial gardens around the state. She recently signed on with Texas A&M University's Rose Rosette Disease Study as a RRD monitor volunteer for the State of Connecticut.*

*Marci grows around 300 roses of all types in her home gardens in Windsor, CT. She conducts garden tours and workshops at her home and speaks for numerous groups about her love for roses and how to care for them. She lives with her husband, Bob, and her two cats, Mistletoes and Rahjah.*

