



American Rose Society

~Since 1892~

P. O. Box 30, 000 • Shreveport, Louisiana 71130-0030
8877 Jefferson-Paige Road • Shreveport, Louisiana 71119-8817
Phone: 318-938-5402 • Fax: 318-938-5405 • E-mail: ars@ars-hq.org

Dear Rose Society President:

We are pleased to provide *Guidelines for Rose Society Leaders* to assist in your administration of the local society.

This guide is designed to provide accurate, up-to-date information about the American Rose Society. We hope it will answer many of your questions about society work. For those questions the guide may not answer, you will find listed all of the American Rose Society leadership – both volunteer and national staff – as a directory to enable asking your questions in person.

For the first time, we are offering *Guidelines for Rose Society Leaders* on our web site, www.ars.org. You can easily access this information anytime for no charge. This service will allow us to update the material more frequently and help us reduce costs. If you are unable to view the information on the internet, we can provide a printed copy for a nominal fee.

Thank you for the leadership you provide to your local rose society and to the American Rose Society. We pledge our support of your efforts and want to help you be successful. Our local societies are the backbone of our national organization. Your success is our success.

The American Rose Society is grateful to its Local Society / Chapter Relations Committee under the leadership of Jim Delahanty for the production of this resource, and to Jolene Adams for maintaining this material on our web site.

Please contact me anytime I may be of service.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey A. Ware
Executive Director



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Dear Local Society President:

The American Rose Society is the premier organization dedicated to the love of our National Floral Emblem, the rose. It is our members and the local societies that are the grassroots of the organization and its foundation. The American Rose Society is nothing without our local societies to help spread the word about the rose.

The “White Book” is the bible for all new and existing local societies. It is comprehensive with everything a society should know from creating a new society or maintaining your current one.

The White Book needed updating and Jim Delahanty, Chairman of the Local Society Relations Committee, and his committee has done a wonderful job making the manual current and available on the website for immediate access and continual updating.

Let Jim or me know if you have suggestions on making the manual better.

Steve Jones
ARS President



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The 'Guidelines for Local Society Leaders' was first published in 1999 by the Local Society Relations Committee under the leadership of Marilyn Wellan. The intent was to provide a set of suggestions and solutions to problems that local societies commonly encountered in the course of promoting the rose as the national floral emblem and the subject of the interest and passion of society members. Initially, the transmission of the information contained therein was to be accomplished by having each local president pass on the information which was collected in a white three-ring binder (hence the nickname 'The White Book').

Changing times, policies, and circumstances produced a situation where the information contained within the 'Guidelines' became outdated, the binders were not transmitted from one local society administration to a successor, and updating the work lagged from the press of other committee assignments and tasks. The 2006-2009 Local Society Relations Committee adopted as one of its primary tasks the updating of the 'Guidelines' and the placement of the materials on the ARS web site, so as to facilitate easy access by all local leaders to the information and policies. This process was part of an overall goal of improving internal organization communication. Another manifestation of that goal was the creation and maintenance of the monthly email, the ARS & You.

It has been the intention of the Local Society Relations Committee to retain the generosity of spirit and wide range of vision that characterized the original 'Guidelines.'

In some cases we have increased the number of options presented for consideration by local society leaders; in others we have dropped suggestions that were reported to be less than successful. It is our hope that this product will continue to be updated for usefulness in the coming years, but most importantly, that it will be useful to local societies in confronting the tasks immediately before them at any given time.

Sincerely yours,

James Delahanty, Chair
2006-2009 Local Society Relations Committee

Committee Members:

Dr. Karen Barnes
Bob Bauer
Ted & Linda Burg
Janet Sklar
Pat Shanley
Dave Steever