



Royal Rosarians

# Royal Update

Issue 440  
June 2025

Electronic Newsletter of the  
Royal Rosarians

Greetings, Rosarians and Friends,

Thank you for reading the Royal Rosarian e-newsletter created in 2005 by Duke Peter Glazer and now edited by Dame Lydia Lundberg, with technical support and continuity from Tom Marantette and Peter Glazer. If you have suggestions or contributions, please email to Lydia at [Lundberg@elitecare.com](mailto:Lundberg@elitecare.com)

## Prime Minister's Message



2025 Hospitality Weekend was a smashing success! The entire weekend exceeded all my expectations. A huge thank you to Council-in-charge Ken Yohe, Chair Kimberly Takla, and all the committees.

June has been incredibly busy, see below for updates on all the events since the last Royal Update.

Rose Festival may be over, but we still have many fun events before the year closes on September 30<sup>th</sup>. Please stay up to date with the Tuesday Report and join us when you can.

## May 22 Membership Meeting



## Rose Festival Solve Clean Up

We had about 15 people that came down to participate in the Rose Festival Solve cleanup. I hope we were able to make a positive impact in our community and help get the waterfront ready to celebrate the Rose Festival. Who knew picking up garbage would be so fun!



## Abernathy 1st Grade Parade

The Abernathy 1st Grade Parade was held on Wednesday, May 28. Nine Rosarian Dames showed up to share sticky roses and marshal the two classes. The kids make floats out of shoeboxes to represent their families. We even had a middle school marching band. The weather was perfect, the crowds were enthusiastic, and everyone had a great time.



# Starlight Parade

Our Royal Rosarian Starlight parade group helped light up the 2025 CareOregon Starlight Parade with their big smiles and lighted gloves. Over 60 Rosarians participated in marching, marshaling and escorting. Our city, and visitors, really showed up, producing crowds on every block we passed. What a fantastic parade we got to top off with our annual Hosting by Starlight.



## Rose Garden Contest

The 87th Annual Rose Garden Contest judging was held on June 1st - with over 60 gardens entered, many of them first-time entries, our judges worked hard to find Portland Metro's top rose gardens. Curious who the winners are? Don't miss out on the Rose Garden Contest awards ceremony on Tuesday, June 17th at 6:30 PM at the International Test Garden at Washington Park. We will celebrate all our entrants and award the winning garden's the divisional prizes and top awards at this free event.



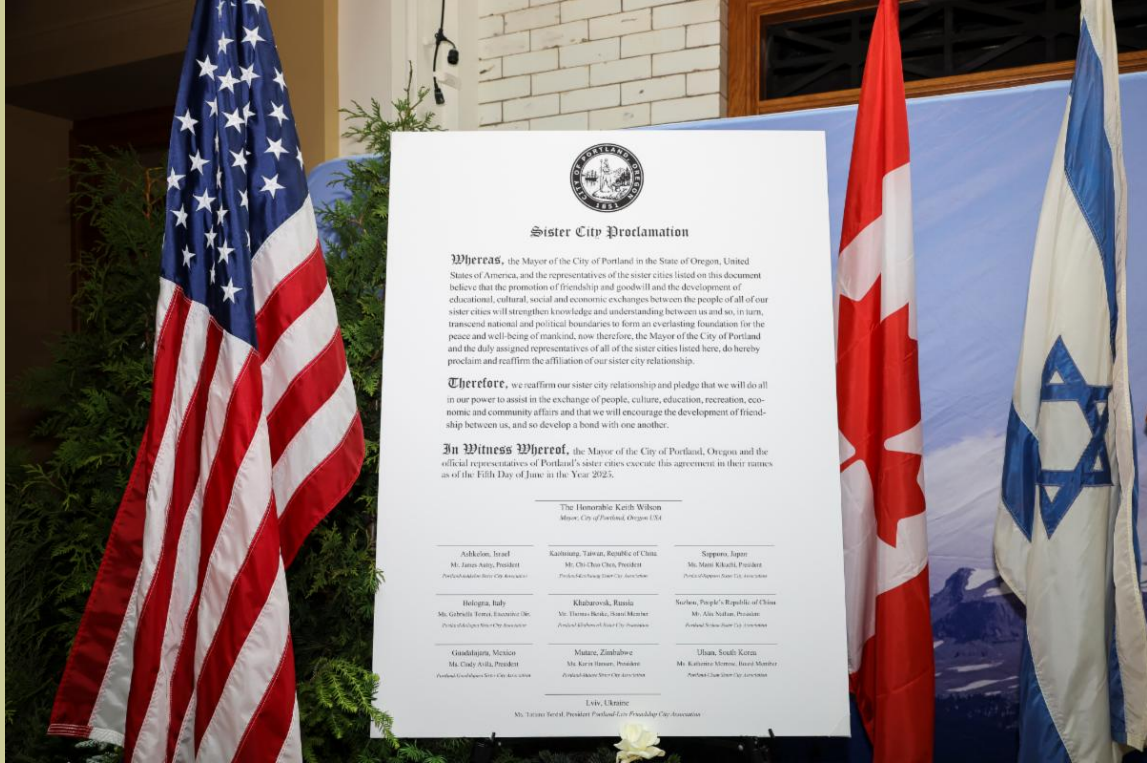
## Junior Parade

Our Royal Rosarian crew understood the assignment and delivered in supreme fashion for the 2025 Fred Meyer Junior Parade. Our team executed to fully support marshaling and escorting the parade and also had a small marching crew to escort our Prime Minister, Amy Arasmith and First Daughter, Audrey Arasmith. It was a fun day seeing the smiles brought to so many faces of parade goers and parade participants, both children and adults.



## Sister City Reception

The Sister City Reception is a highlight of the relationships we have with 9 sister cities. The Portland Bologna Sister City Association (PBSCA) just completed their 20th year and our relationship with Sapporo, Japan was started in 1959. Each year a representative from each sister city comes to Portland for a rededication signing of the agreement. This year 17 Royal Rosarians were there to participate as the honor guard. What a wonderful event and if you haven't gone, please put it on your "bucket list" for next year.





## Hospitality Weekend

The Royal Rosarians hosted the 2025 Rose Festival Hospitality Suite. Everyone that planned the event came in with the idea to do it bigger and better than has been done in the last few years (Kimberly Takla- Chair). The weekend started on Thursday with an extremely busy attendance at check-in, auction items were flying off the tables with the buy it now pricing, and the larger numbers that were socializing in the hospitality room with great food and drink lasted until closing. I don't remember a hospitality room that was so crowded until right up to closing. The numbers were a direct reflection of the tremendous turn-out from Rosarians and out of town partners. A special shout out to our new member Trina Hams-Ciapanno who was able to secure donations of alcohol/mixers which lasted the entire weekend; Marti and Roger Penske (and their many volunteers) who were in charge of all the beautiful floral displays for the weekend, Mary Hrkac who was in Charge of wine, Cindy Marker for registration/seat assignments for all the events, and all of the many volunteers for each events.





## Queen's Coronation

On Friday, June 6th, Ava Rathi of Lincoln High School was crowned the 2025 Queen of Rosaria. Ava will attend Trinity College in Dublin to study political science, philosophy and economics.





## Honorary Knighting and Fun Night

On Friday, The Rosarians were busy with Honorary Knighting (Doug Zimmerman/Holly Fowler- Co-Chairs), Queen's Coronation, the Queens Garden Party (Katherine Johnson-Chair), Hospitality Suite (Doug and Kristine Olsen-Chair), and Friday Fun Night (Carolyn O'Doherty and Chris Johnson- Co-Chairs). Easily one of our busiest days for large events and activities- The planning teams worked hard as we went from one event to another. Again, the hospitality suite was a hit as it remained full of attendees enjoying top shelf drinks and amazing food. Everyone that attended Friday Fun Night was treated to a show by an Irish Band, a fun skit put on by some very talented Rosarians, some great Irish dancers, and then the program ended with the band playing some more music. It was a Fun Night that will be remembered for many years to come!



Queen's Garden Party

Our Queen's Garden Party was a blooming triumph! With sunshine overhead and smiles all around, we welcomed 291 guests and enjoyed the generous support of 14 sponsors, 20 Queens and 35 Past Princesses. The gardens were in full glory, the refreshments divine, and the spirit of community truly shone. Thank you to everyone who helped make the day so memorable—we couldn't have done it without you!





## Grand Floral Parade

Over 60 Royal Rosarians shined bright again as we escorted, marshaled and marched thru the streets of Downtown Portland for our annual Portland Rose Festival's Grand Floral Parade. Our float received "Judge's Honorable Mention for best use of roses", what an honor. Portland showed up in full form as they lined the streets of the new parade route this year for the Grand Floral Parade. Way to Go, Portland!

All of these events were possible with the time and dedication of our chairperson(s): Connie Shipley, David & Penny Rich, Jan Tolman with Dennis & Mary Ferney, and Cherie Green.





## Hospitality Saturday and Grand Floral Ball

On Saturday- the Hospitality food team of Kristine and Doug Olsen had breakfast items for attendees headed off to the parade and then the room ready for everyone as they returned from the parade. There was a mad dash at the auction and 50/50 raffle as attendees continued to bid and buy items on the buy it now option. The auction and 50/50 raffle set a record of about 10K which was 4K over what we had budgeted or projected. The robust spending was a direct correlation to quality items obtained by Lisa Wong and Cherrie Yohe. Many long hours of planning and preparation went into the successful auction. After the closing of the hospitality room and auction; some members attended a VIP reception, (Larry and Ann Roberts- Chair) while others attended a social hour prior to the Grand Floral Ball, (Don Thacker and James Wolleck- Chair). The Grand Floral Ball was a sophisticated display of glamor and glitz as attendees were treated to a black-tie affair with some dancing to celebrate the end of the weekend.





## Sunday Morning Farewell Breakfast

The weekend was concluded on Sunday with the Farewell Breakfast, (Karen Murphy- Chair). It was our chance to say goodbye to our princess court and out of town attendees and thank everyone for all the planning and preparation that goes into our biggest event of the year called- HOSPITALITY WEEKEND! From everyone that planned and worked hospitality weekend- we say thank you for attending and hope you had a memorably time.





## Queen's Plaque Laying





## Joan of Arc re-dedication

The Rosarians were invited to attend and participate in the rededication of the Joan of Arc statue in Coe Circle. It was a wonderful event and about 40 Rosarians attended. There was a reception afterwards at the Laurelwood Club with a small program. The song "Joan of Arc They Are Calling" was sung at the original dedication and Lyle Johnson arranged a 4 part version. It was performed by Kelly Hughes Fisher, Ron Fisher, Karen Murphy, and Lyle Johnson.



## June 12 Membership Meeting and Election



## Rosarian of the Year, Dame Holly Fowler

Holly exemplifies the highest ideals of service, leadership, and commitment that define the Royal Rosarians.

Each year, Holly plays a crucial role in the success of our Honorary Knighting Ceremony. She works tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure that this cherished tradition maintains its dignity, precision, and warmth. From coordinating logistics to mentoring newer members, her efforts are both invaluable and inspiring.

Beyond this, Holly is a constant presence in parades and public appearances, representing the Royal Rosarians with pride and professionalism. Whether donning the iconic white suit or helping manage the marching unit in parades, she always steps up with a smile and a sense of purpose.

In addition, she has successfully helped produce several events, often volunteering to lead special projects at a moment's notice, such as our knighting in San Antonio. Her ability to organize, communicate, and follow through makes her an indispensable part of our organization.

What sets Holly apart is not just the quantity of work contributed, but the quality—with every action guided by kindness, humility, and a true spirit of service. She inspires others simply by showing up, following through, and embodying the motto of the Royal Rosarians: *"For you a rose in Portland"*

grows."



## Calendar

***Rosarian Membership Meeting*** will be held at 5:30 pm at the DoubleTree Lloyd Center:

***Rosarian Council Meetings*** will be held at 7:00 pm at the DoubleTree Lloyd Center: July 14, August 11, September 8

***Rosarian Foundation Board Meetings*** will be held at 6:00 pm at the DoubleTree Lloyd Center: July 23, August 27, September TBA

Detailed information for each event can be found online in the calendar section of the Royal Rosarian website.

[Click here to visit the Royal Rosarian website](#)



## Jim Nielson's Truisms



"Yesterday is but today's memory, and tomorrow is today's dream."

- Khalil Gibran

(The late Jim Nielson, Prime Minister in 1979, was famous for his "truisms" which he happily shared in each issue of the Royal Update from its launch in 2005 until his death in 2011. Jim was knighted under the rose Sutter's Gold, pictured. Truisms now are either from Jim's archives or are quotations Duke Peter Glazer thinks Jim would like. If you'd like to suggest a quotation please email it to Peter.)

## Royal Rosarians

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