

American Fuchsia Society



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'DebRon's Black Cherry'

American Fuchsia Society Bulletin

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NEXT Bulletin Deadline

- Oct-Dec Bulletin

01 August

Send bulletin information to
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<JBERGQ@PACBELL.NET>



BIG Annual - Fuchsia Sale

26 July 2025

Garden & Art Center, Sebastopol.

282 South High St., Sebastopol. Time: 9-Noon

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***AFS Photo Contest
Rules - page 4***

Cover - Tid Bits

'DebRon's Black Cherry': This fuchsia is single and upright. It makes an excellent landscape plant, or in a container, it can be a miniature or a bonsai. The tube and sepals are dark red with the corolla opening black-purple fading to dark maroon.

Parentage: 'Whiteknights's Pearl' x 'Maximum'. Introduction in 2008.

Photo was entered in the 2012 American Fuchsia Society photo contest class A, By Rodney Bergquist. Photo placed 1st in its class & and was judged BEST in Show.



2025 AFS Photography Contest Rules
NOTE Change: Entry Deadline is September 9th

All American Fuchsia Society members are eligible to enter the AFS Photography Contest. Entrants grant the AFS a non-exclusive license to use their entries for educational and reference purposes. Some photographs will be published on the covers of AFS Bulletins. Contestants should make duplicate copies to keep for their personal use.

AMERICAN FUCHSIA SOCIETY 2025 PHOTO COMPETITION RULES

CLASS A: Open FUCHSIA BLOOMS single or multiple, may have buds and foliage. **Fuchsia blooms must be dominant.**

CLASS B: A well-grown fuchsia plant in a container, or in the ground

CLASS C: Novelty – fuchsia pictured with accessories or living things. **Fuchsia must be dominant.**

CLASS F: Fuchsia Fantasy – prints must have been manipulated or altered digitally using photo editing software to produce special effects.

Prints should be prepared as follows:

Only submit (1) printed photo as an entry. Photos are no longer required to be mounted.

Submit one (4x6) inch print for each entry. Do not write on the photo print. On a separate piece of paper, put the name of the cultivar, photographer, and class to be entered. **Also include AFS Branch name or Member at Large.** Tape the information on the back of each printed photo entered.

1. Individuals may enter a maximum amount of 6 prints in each class.

2. Contest Entry DEADLINE: September 9th, 2025.



Judging Categories for A, B, C, are below. Class F will only be judged on Artistry.

- 1. Composition:** A good layout keeps the main object clear and uncluttered and uses lighting to the best effect.
- 2. Format:** The format must be appropriate for the subject, i.e. landscape (horizontal), portrait (vertical).
- 3. Artistry:** The picture should have artistic appeal; i.e. good arrangement, focal point.
- 4. Technical Merit:** The entry must do justice to the cultivar or species i.e. blossom perfection, good leaf structure, absence of pests, etc.

Judging for each category is on a scale of 1 to 10, 10 being the best. The contest is judged by photography club judges who are not affiliated with the American Fuchsia Society.

A complete list of winners will be in published in the January 2026 AFS Bulletin.

Note: Usually AFS Bulletin covers photo's are selected from contest entries.

All winning prints will be enlarged to 5x7 and mounted in 8 x10 mats with labels identifying cultivar, place, class, AFS, and photographer's name.

Rules revised: May 10, 2018

Send all entries to:

AFS Photography Chairperson
By September 9th, 2025

Judy Bligh
P.O. Box 515
Clearlake Oaks, CA. 95423

2025 AFS Board Meeting Schedule
When meetings are scheduled, board members will be notified. Most meetings are held at 10:00 am.
The next AFS Board Meeting is tentatively scheduled for 22 August, Crescent City, actual meeting location & time TBD

Fuchsias Lost and Found: A Search for 'Rose Quartet'

Ted Spack
(Santa Clara Branch, AFS)

If you have been growing fuchsias



for a while, somewhere in your shed you may have a box of labels **from plants**

that were lost – I call mine the “Box of Shame”, but in truth despite our best efforts some plants inevitably die.

Some of these are easily replaced, but some linger in our memory and prove hard or impossible to find again. For me, seeing an old label for 'Rose Quartet' in my box always caused a pang of loss, and like Ahab chasing the great white whale I have been searching for a replacement for years (and we all know how Ahab tuned out...). 'Rose Quartet' is an eccentric as it is beautiful, part of its special charm. It is a compact single upright fuchsia with pink petaloids, and white sepals tipped green; the petaloids are not true petals

but are actually the outer anthers according to John Nicholas (The Gardener's Guide to Growing Fuchsias). A few other fuchsias, like 'Nettalla', have this petaloid trait and a photographic collection of such uncommon fuchsias can be found on www.FuchsiaFinder.com under the tab Unusual. My description doesn't do it justice-Rose Quartet' is a charming combination of white and pink with a delicate appearance and somewhat outward/upward habit, in contrast to the ubiquitous 'Angel Earrings' hanging form.

Spend time on Fuchsia Finder and you come to realize that the parentage of many hybrids is a mystery, and so it is with 'Rose Quartet'-its origin is well documented, its parents are not. According to patent filings, Christopher John Spanton, a gardener in Cheshire, England, started a breeding program in 1997 with the goal of creating a unique hybrid suitable for commercialization. The background section of his patent (PP16532 filed in February 2005 and granted in May 2006) indicates that he established



up to 200 open cross-pollinations and per year between up to 40 individual commercial hybrids, selecting 'Rose Quartet' in the year 2000 based on its unique traits. Patent rights were subsequently assigned to the US company Planthaven Inc. A brief article in the Orange County Register in 2006 quotes a local nursery attesting to its popularity and mentioning that it sold out quickly, but it seems to have dropped out of sight (like all but a few hybrids in most US nurseries). Likely it is in multiple gardens- a page in the AFS Bulletin listing fuchsias that members are seeking might help us distribute and preserve hard to find hybrids, a subject for a future article. In the meantime, 'Rose Quartet' remained for me a small rose pink and white Holy Grail. This spring I drove up to Crescent City for their sale to restock some fuchsias lost to heat and illness last year and to reconnect with the nice folks up there. After a very enjoyable morning rummaging amongst the starts and the club members I put on my hiking boots and

headed for the redwood trees. On my way, I couldn't resist poking into a local nursery, on the slim chance that there was something interesting there. Pulling up to the fence it didn't look promising- no shade, no people, and one barking dog. I almost drove away, but the friendly staff person came out, so I figured nothing ventured etc. I asked if she had any fuchsias and she replied that there were only a few at the nursery, left over by the previous owner. I expected to see a few limp baskets unhelpfully tagged "Fuchsia" (been there), instead ***I was stunned to find four 1-gallon plastic pots of mature 'Rose Quartet' fuchsias.*** Turns out 'Rose Quartet' looks nothing like a great white whale, but I'm glad I didn't need a harpoon to find it, just some luck. The moral is some fuchsias are lost but some are just not found yet. I will try to keep this label out of the Box of Shame-wish me (more) luck!

Oh, and by the way, has anyone seen 'Velvet Crush' which is most likely a commercial name for 'Maik Lyijten'.*

Fuchsia History It Is Simply Not Known

By Sali Dahl Part II

When did the first fuchsia come to America? The second



important moment in Europe's fuchsia history would be having a live plant to propagate and grow,

not just knowing the fuchsia existed through descriptions and dried specimens. As John Porter points out in his history. The first LIVE fuchsia probably came to England around 1733-4 as seeds transported by the British physician, Dr. William Houston (1695-1733). He botanized the West Indies on behalf of Sir Hans Sloane, benefactor of the Chelsea Physic Garden.

[Note: Houston was also hired by Governor Ogelthorpe and the South Sea Co. in the colony of Savannah, Georgia. For Oglethorpe, he was to ship plants and seeds from tropical America to West Indian ports as well as to Charleston, South Carolina, and Savannah. Ogelthorpe had

established a Trustee's Garden in Savannah, modeled after Chelsea in London, but it was unsuccessful due to the harsh climate however Cotton and peach trees did survive and become important crops in Georgia-no record of a fuchsia however.]

The fuchsia seeds from Houston went to a British nurseryman named Philip Miller, head gardener and curator of Chelsea Physic Garden. He not only described the fuchsia but described its cultivation with familiarity in his 1771 Gardener's Dictionary. The fuchsia had been reported growing in Miller's Garden in 1739. This would indicate that he had the plant for some 32 years. In fact. Miller subtitled his dictionary, "from real practice and experience." As Mr. Porter pointed out, if he had not actually had that fuchsia, how would he have known how to grow it?

The fuchsia was believed to be *F. triphylla* although Houston did not visit Hispaniola where it grows. *F. venusta* from Colombia has been suggested for Houston's fuchsia as well. It does not fit the



earlier sketch of *F. triphylla* with its obvious bulge in the tube. Two different plants are indicated.

Regardless, the Houstoun-Miller fuchsia seems to have totally disappeared. It did not become part of British gardens from cuttings passed on to others and down through the years. Nor were any specimens of it found by recent researchers in the remaining collections of Miller or Houstoun. What happened to it is a mystery. ***[The only sure thing that can be added here is that we Americans did not take it. True, there was that 'tea party' thing in Boston in 1773, but there were no fuchsias in that lot.]***

American settlers used the agricultural and horticultural manuals of their Countries of origin... In the 18th century Philip Miller's famous Gardener's Dictionary, first published in 1731, was perhaps the most popular book of all."

No doubt the 1771 edition was equally popular.*



Reminder: Pest Control,

It's important that growers do not to get lazy regarding whiteflies, aphids, gall mites and spider mites. Most insects love the warm weather and continue multiplying throughout the year to ensure their survival. ***However, for the grower, a lack of pest control during the summer months will lead to a disappointing fuchsia season.*** Contact a local fuchsia society or nursery for recommendations on how to control plant pests.*



Quote: By Rusty Spade

What Do you call it when your stung by a bee and bitten by a mosquito, both at the same time?

Sting along with itch

"I'd Pick More Daisies"

By Nadine Starr

If I had my life to live over again,
I'd try to make more mistakes next time.
I would relax.
I would be sillier than I have been this trip.
I would take fewer things seriously.
I would take more chances,
I would take more trips.
I would climb more mountains,
swim more rivers,
and watch more sunsets.
I would do more talking and looking.
I would eat more ice cream
and fewer beans.
If I had it to do over,
I'd travel lighter than I have.
If I had my life to live over,
I would start bare-footed
earlier in the spring and stay
that way until later in the fall.
I would go to more dances.
I would ride more merry go rounds.
I'd pick more daisies.

From: The National Fuchsia Fan of September/October 2002



Fuchsias are for Fun

There is only one reason for having fuchsias in your garden—to give you pleasure. The enchanting charm of their brilliant color and languid loveliness is yours to enjoy. Relax from your chores and gaze upon them; feast upon their beauty and let their radiance brighten your day.

Growing fuchsias should be a pleasant pastime—just plant them, admire their abundant growth, and glory in the climax of their full-blown blooms. Care for them; if you will, nurse them, coax them—but never let these attentions become compelling duties that you are reluctant to perform.

When you grow fuchsias only because you enjoy them, you will find that they become living members of your garden. And you will discover with delight that their versatility encourages their use in many ways. There are varieties that flourish in bright sunlight, and others that are adaptable to varying degrees of shade. Some varieties grow tall and stately, some remain miniature in size, while others trail gracefully. Choose the varieties that suit your preference, and let them grow where you want them.*

The National Fuchsia Fan of May-June 2006

Questions with no apparent answers

- 1. If poison expires, is it more poisonous or is it no longer poisonous?***
- 2. Which letter is silent in the word "Sent,"?***
- 3. At a movie theater, which arm rest is yours?***
- 4. Why is there a 'D' in fridge, but not in refrigerator?***
- 5. Who knew what time it was when the first clock was made?***
- 6. Ever wonder why the word funeral starts with the word fun?***
- 7. 100 years ago, everyone owned a horse and only the rich had cars. Today everyone has a car and only the rich have horses.***
- 8. How do you get off a non-stop flight?***
- 9. Why do they call it a TV 'set' when there is only one?***
- 10. How come Noses run and Feet smell?***



WILTING OF FUCHSIAS

By Fred Clark

The wilting of a fuchsia plant is a sure sign that the plant is not getting enough water to maintain pressure within the plant. This pressure, the so-called turgor pressure, maintains the turgid (firm) condition of plant cells, plant leaves and non-woody stems.

Insufficient water in the plant may but does not necessarily mean that the plant should be watered! ***In fact, there are several causes of wilting, and before treating a wilted plant, a grower should consider all of the most common possibilities:***

1. The soil may be dry;
2. Despite adequate moisture, the root system may not be able to take in as much water as is being lost through the leaves during transpiration;
3. The solution surrounding the plant roots may be too concentrated, fertilizer strength used was too strong and cannot be taken in by the roots.
4. The potting mix may be too wet leaving no air/oxygen space. Roots may be damaged or rotting.

The obvious first step in

treatment is to test the soil for moisture. To do so, dig into the container soil with your fingers. If the potting mix is dry, water it. If the soil is porous, and a well-draining medium, adding water may be enough. For plants in the ground, Soaking the ground out to the drip line may be enough. In the case of potted plants, the soil may have shrunk away from the side of the container, a condition allowing added water to simply have it run down the sides of the root ball and out the bottom of the pot.

A related condition is the existence of a container so cramped with roots and devoid of soil that water cannot be absorbed. Root pruning and repotting root bound plants should only be done during dormancy, which is the long-term solution to this problem.

The opposite condition, sloppy wetness, will surely not be improved by adding water. If the soil is in this condition, move the plant to a shady, cool area and let it dry out. Wilting, where the soil is moist but not wet, the problem might be due to the rate of



water loss through the leaves is higher than the root systems can sustain. This condition may be due to high temperatures or inadequate root growth, (due to newness of the plant or to conditions unfavorable for root growth) or it may simply be due to the location of the plant. If the plant is in strong sunlight, hot drying winds, or low humidity, the immediate thing to do is shelter the plant from strong sunlight, wind and if the humidity is low, use a fine water spray to increase humidity in the space occupied by the plant. Growers in hot, dry climates also spray the ground around the plants to provide extra moisture. In high temperature areas, spraying and misting is as essential as the garden hose. Another aid in prevention of loss of water from the soil is the use of mulch. Remember (In humid conditions, where plants tend to remain wet, mulch would be undesirable.)

The final condition to be considered here is the presence of chemicals, strong fertilizer or other products in the water surrounding the roots. ***If the fertilizer solution used***

is stronger than the manufacturer recommend dosage, roots may have been burned or damaged and the roots may not be able to take up the water solution. In such a case one should move the plant to a recovery area. A final admonishment: do not under any circumstances fertilize an injured or struggling plant.*

*Edited to fit available space,
AFS Bulletin July 1979*



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Branch Directory

Crescent City: 3rd Wednesday,
Potluck at 6:00 p.m. before every meeting, Del Norte County Fairgrounds Dining Room, Hwy 1, Crescent City, CA. Mailing Address: Crescent City, Fuchsia Society
2035 Old Mill Road
Crescent City, CA 95531
(916) 213-3941
<n2flowers@comcast.net>

Sacramento: Location, Days & Times. change
Contact (916) 207-1428
<Jose@JoseRodriguezHomes.com>

Salem Area: 2nd Tuesday, 1:30 p.m.
13th St. Nursury
1298 13th St. SE, Salem, OR. 97302
Mailing address: 4543 Brock Loops ,
Salem, OR 97302 (503) 584-1786
<knighten_g@yahoo.com>

San Mateo: First Sat, every other month, 10:00 a.m.
Presbyterian Church, 1500 Easton dr.
Burlingame, CA (650) 875-1938
<oscarcolin@sbcglobal.net>

Santa Clara Valley: 1st Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.
323 Pine Lane A-302,
Los Altos, CA 94022 (650) 793-7447
<egspack@yahoo.com>

Sebastopol: 4th Friday, 11:00 a.m.
(Potlucks TBA)
Wischemann Hall,
465 Morris St, Sebastopol, CA
locations occasionally change,
contact (707) 838-9429 for location
<berrydelight80@yahoo.com>

Affiliated Society

Eugene Fuchsia & Begonia Society
2nd Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Eugene Garden Club, 645 High St., Eugene, OR
(541) 935-2482 <sfuchsia@gmail.com>



AFS INSURANCE
State Farm Insurance
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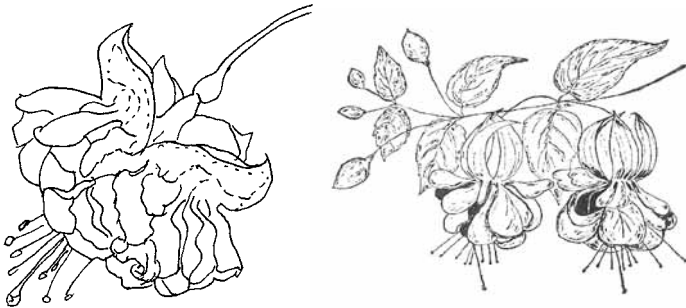


2025 Branch Programs

- Aug. 22 Sebastopol - Wischemann Hall - Discuss plant sale
Sep. 27 Sebastopol - Nancy McGowan's house, 4778 Woodcliff court, Santa Rosa.
Oct. 25 Sebastopol - Annual Luncheon @ Hopmonk Tavern
Time TBD
Nov. 22 Sebastopol - Wischemann Hall - Elect Officers & determine programs for 2026
Jan. 23 Sebastopol - Wischemann Hall

Mark your Calendar - Special Events

Jul. 26 Sebastopol - Annual Fuchsia Sale @ Sebastopol Garden & Art Center, 282 South High St., Sebastopol, CA., 9 am-Noon or until sold out.



NEW AFS website: americanfuchsiasociety.org, has close to 100 fuchsia culture articles which cover most fuchsia culture subjects. Articles can be downloaded and printed.

AFS has a Facebook page. Within Facebook search American Fuchsia Society. AFS members can post branch activities, photos, plant sales etc. The Sebastopol Branch also has a Facebook page called Sebastopol Fuchsia Friends.

WANT MORE FUCHSIA CULTURE INFORMATION?

Contact AFS Fuchsia Consultant
Janis Bergquist by e-mail or phone.
Contact info is on page 2 of every AFS Bulletin.

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AMERICAN FUCHSIA SOCIETY

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Send to Membership Secretary: New Member Renewal

**Karen Wilkinson, 119 Alden Ave
Rohnert Park, CA 94928**

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Zip Code: _____ Phone () _____

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