

ROSARIO ALGORTA DE CARRAU (URUGUAY)

WFRS Vice President for South America 2012-2022



This will be my Farewell Report, after 10 years serving as VP for the three South American countries: Argentina, Chile and Uruguay. It has been a pleasure to work for the WFRS and I THANK you all for your support!

Here are some of the highlights of my time as VP.

I flew with a group of Delegates from Uruguay to Johannesburg to attend the “ROSAFRICA 2012 WORLD CONVENTION” and upon arrival to the Airport something funny happened to me: At the bus that drove us to the Hotel, I asked the Delegate that sat beside me: “From where do you come from?” He said: CHICAGO and I answered immediately: “The windy city! You should not miss the lecture about the KNOCK OUT ROSES, they are special for your climate!”. He started laughing and replied: “I’m Bill Raddler, Mr. KNOCK OUT!”



At the ROSAFRICA 2012 World Convention I was elected Vice President of the WFRS for South America for my first period.



As VP one of my tasks is to promote Delegates from my area to travel to Conventions: A large contingent of South Americans attended the 16th World Rose Convention in South Africa: 24 from Uruguay, 10 from Argentina and 7 from Chile.

The Uruguayan Delegation at ROSAFRICA 2012 at the “Farewell Dinner”



After the Convention I was invited by Lisette du Plessis to stay at her mother’s farm, which had a private Game Reserve and to Vivienne Black’s home (Actual VP for AFRICA) to visit her wonderful rose garden. I had met them in 2011 while travelling in a Van with Ludwig and Anja Taschner to attend the Monza Rose Trials, visit Beatrice BARNI’s Nursery, Maressa del Buffalo Rose Garden, Prof Gianfranco FINESCHI’s Private Rose Collection and then we flew together to Bulgaria, to the Festival of the Rose in KAZANLIK, where the famous Rose Perfume of the Rosa damascena comes from. All this could be possible because we all have the same love for ROSES and the WFRS gives us the possibility to meet people who enjoy together!



In March **2013**, the Council of the WFRS approved the application from the “ASOCIACIÓN de la ROSA DE COYHAIQUE”, from the south of Patagonia in CHILE to become an Associate member.

In 2013 I attended the” WFRS 13th International HERITAGE Rose Conference in SANGERHAUSEN”.



Friends of the Federation Dinner at SANGERHAUSEN.



In September, Henrienne de Briey, Helga Brichet and myself were invited for lunch at the Castle of Betho (near Hex) and then to the “Nuits de Beloeil” by the Prince Wauthier de Ligne, it was memorable!



Henrienne de Briey kindly invited me to visit her mother Lily de Gerlache de Gomery, WFRS founder President, at her home in Mullem, Belgium.



In April **2014** the WFRS Executive Committee approved the application of “ROSAS ANTIGUAS EN ARGENTINA” (Heritage Rose Group of Argentina) to become an Associate Member of the Federation.

In May: 23 South Americans (15 from Uruguay, 4 from Argentina and 4 from Chile) travelled to Barcelona to attend the WFRS Regional Convention "ROSES IN THE SUN". Wonderful organization of Matilde Ferrer, Luis Abad and members of the Spanish Association.



After the Convention, I organized a tour of 16 Uruguayans to Slovenia and Croatia. It was planned by Breda Copi (VP for SE Europe) and Vladimir Vremek, who invited us to see the Saint Giovanni Rose Garden in Trieste, where Vladimir is the Curator.



Behind us 'Rosario' rose

In November -December 2014: I attended the superb REGIONAL CONVENTION “ROSE ETERNAL” in Hyderabad, India, together with a Delegation of 6 members from Uruguay.



The spectacular Farewell Party was held at the garden of Ahmed Alam Khan (VP for Asia) in Hyderabad.



In **2015**: A Delegation of 28 Uruguayans,3 from Chile and 2 from Argentina attended the excellent “WFRS WORLD CONVENTION IN LYON”, it was a fantastic opportunity to meet old friends and get to know new ones in a beautiful environment, since we started the Pre tour around La Provence...I was elected VP for South America for my 2nd period.



17ème CONGRES MONDIAL DE LA ROSE
Lyon 27 mai-1er juin 2015

Farewell dinner at Lyon with Sushil Prakash and his family.



In August: I was invited by Mireille Steill (Actual VP for Europe) from the LUXEMBOURG Rose Society to stay at her home. I met members of her Rose Society and visited enjoyable gardens around.

2016 was a very busy year as the Uruguayan Rose Society was preparing the 5th South American Regional Convention "ROSES IN THE SOUTH" to be held in Punta del Este from 7th to 10th November.

As although it was a Regional Convention, we sprayed the invitation throughout the whole world and when I travelled to BEIJING in June with 14 Delegates from Uruguay and 2 from Argentina, I showed a Power Point presentation and had a video with all the events and touristic information to encourage Delegates from abroad to travel to South America.

We were offering something completely different from the “REGIONAL ROSE CONVENTION IN BEIJING”: The Chinese had even built a Rose Museum, where South America was present!



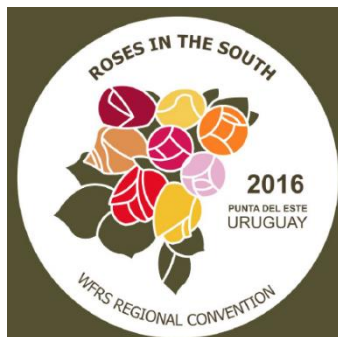
In Beijing, I was invited to represent AMERICA (One per continent) at the “PANEL on MODERN ROSES”, together with other important personalities.



At the closing ceremony in Beijing, I was given the FLAG of the WFRS, as in Uruguay was going to be held the next Convention.



On the 5th November 2016 started de Pre Tour of the REGIONAL CONVENTION "ROSES IN THE SOUTH" in Colonia. On the 6th November we visited the Bodegas Garzón (Modern Winery) and a private garden near José Ignacio, a fashionable beach resort near Punta del Este.



We had a Rose Show of Baskets and the Welcome Party was at the Yacht Club Punta del Este, with a Tango Show and then the 259 Delegates (117 from Uruguay and 142 from different countries of the 5 continents), who attended the Convention, danced different rhythms, so we had a very enjoyable start!



We went in 6 buses to visit Inés Díaz de Licandro's wonderful and colorful rose garden and to "Allegro" a garden with 2.000 varieties of roses belonging to a Swedish family, that I take care during the whole year. We finished at Angela Scalone's new Rose Garden, which surprised everybody because she started planting recently and everything looked marvelous!



The Friends of the Federation went back directly to La Marea Restaurant at the harbour, where we had a pleasant dinner as every time, we meet...

We visited the Nursery of Octavio Sciandro, who delighted us with his garden of OGR and Modern varieties. Our last stop was CASAPUEBLO, which is a white building like a landmark of Punta del Este and the sunset there is awesome, with the sound of the

Candombe music with drums (typical of Uruguay) and we had lots of fun toasting with Champagne!



The last evening, the Executive Committee of the Uruguayan Rose Society and me as VP for South America invited to my home and garden, those Delegates and Speakers who had come from far away and those who have been involved in the organization of the 5th South American Rose Convention to enjoy a Farewell party and wish everybody a happy return!



In **2017**: 7 Delegates from Argentina, 6 from Uruguay and 3 from Chile attended the REGIONAL CONVENTION IN SLOVENIA, where we enjoyed the didactic lectures and a different, lovely landscape with charming Rose Gardens and Parks.





After the Convention, Henrienne de Briey invited me to her home and went together to Engghien to a lecture and visit of Parmentier Rose Garden and also to Coloma Rose Garden, both in Belgium, which surprised me for their beauty...

2018: In the marvelous and delightful "FAIRY TALE OF ROSES" WFRS WORLD CONVENTION in Copenhagen: I was elected VP for South America for a 3rd period.



Friends of the Federation Dinner.



Patricia Cavallo came to Uruguay in October and together with Inés Díaz de Licandro found many Nabonnand Roses in the countryside. Patricia gave an interesting lecture at the Botanical Garden in Montevideo.



March **2019: TRIP TO CHILE.** The “ASOCIACIÓN de la ROSA DE CHILE” (in Santiago, Capital city) and the “AGRUPACIÓN de la ROSA de COYHAIQUE” (South of Chile in La Patagonia) invited me as VP of the WFRS for South America to give lectures and visit the private gardens of their members and the Municipal Rose Garden as well.

I flew to Santiago de Chile and was received with a Welcome party at the charming home of the Landscape Designer Deanne Goudie. They gave me as a present a beautiful necklace with a blue flower made of “lápiz lazuli”, typical stone of Chile. I presented two lectures: “La Vie en Rose...” and “Towards success with the Roses...”.



A full day to Zapallar (beach Resort) to the home and garden of Carolina Braun.



Next day, we met at the PARQUE ARAUCANO with Nora Fuenzalida (1st President of the Chilean Rose Society) and Eliana Flores (Actual President). The ROSE GARDEN is part of it and was finished in 1986. There are iron structures with 'R. Bankziae', many different Large Climbing Roses and Wysterias. Also, parterres surrounded by Rhus crenata. The gardeners spray only with organic products. 'Iceberg' started at the Rose Garden and now they are all over the city, people call them "Rosa Santiago"!



I flew with 5 ladies from the Asociación Chilena de la Rosa to the south of Chilean Patagonia invited by Ana María Guillón (President of the Agrupación Chilena de la Rosa) to give lectures and advice.



In January **2020**: I flew to India to attend the attractive "REGIONAL CONVENTION IN KOLKATA" and met so many friends of the roses in a different environment.



With Marga Verwer at Kolkata



With Sushil Prakash, Girija and Viru Viragavan



As VP for South America, I kept in contact with the members of the three countries when the Covid Pandemic started in March 2020 and everybody was asked to stay at home.

In Uruguay, we did not have a lockdown, but it was not possible to meet so we moved to virtual life! We had Zoom video Conferences and shared “Stories of my favorite Rose”. A special recognition to our very dear Past VP for South America: Jean Pierre Hounie, great promoter and unconditional collaborator in these activities, who unfortunately passed away, a victim of Covid in December 2020. Here is the picture of Jean Pierre at his farm “La Sorpresa” (Art Déco style) the last time we visited him before the Pandemic started and he happily showed us his beautiful collection of Heritage Roses combined with Modern Roses as well.



During all these years as VP, I have been invited to judge in Rose Shows of the Uruguayan Rose Society and its Western and Eastern branches.



Also, in Rosicultura Argentina.



As VP one of my tasks is to check if the PALERMO ROSE GARDEN in Buenos Aires is still according to the standards of the prize achieved in ROSAFRICA 2012 and every time I went in October it was in full bloom every year: EXCELLENT!



I had the honor of being invited to judge in the New Roses Trials of GENEVA (President of the Day), GLASGOW, BADEN BADEN (President of the Day), MONZA, ROME, LA TACITA, LE ROUELX (President of the Day), Parc Cervantes in BARCELONA, BUENOS AIRES, ADELAIDE, MADRID (President of the Day), KORTRIJK (President of the Day), SAVERNE (President of the Day), Parc de la Tete d'Or in LYON and BAGATELLE (Several times and in 2020 invited to be President of the Day, but unfortunately could not go because of the Pandemia).



Now, it is time to say GOOD BYE as VP for South America, as in Adelaide I will have my last Committee meeting. During this last 10 years, I met so many interesting persons who love ROSES as I do, that we became FRIENDS although we live all around the world.

That is the "SPIRIT OF THE ROSE": Besides growing the most beautiful flowers, we cultivate FRIENDSHIP at the same time!

These last pictures in China started with two of us and each one that passed by, gladly joined us, everybody so happy to be together once and once again in each Convention of our dear WORLD FEDERATION OF ROSE SOCIETIES!!!

