



Old Texas Rose

Vol 9, Winter 2011

Hello Fellow Rose Rustlers ---

Message from the Chair — Kathy Hyatt

As part of my new duties as chairman for TRR, I was told I would need to write an article for each newsletter. Not being much of a writer, this seemed a huge challenge. So I decided to look over some of the past articles written by our former chairperson, Faith Bickley, to get an idea of tone, length, etc. Bad idea, now I was really worried. Faith showed real writing talent while my style had always been outline form with bullets. So, dear readers, this is a disclaimer. I am no writer but will attempt to do my best.

It seems only fitting, as the new chairman, that I give you a brief background of my gardening and TRR experience. Having been born and raised in NY state, (western NY, Buffalo, think "lake-effect snow" area) moving to Texas was a shock in more ways than just the weather. For the first 2 years here, I did no gardening. The third year, I became a brave but uninformed soul, and started putting in beds and in those beds, some of the lovely hybrid tea roses I'd grown so beautifully in NY. I know you are now way ahead of me...you've already predicted what happened next. Yes, my roses failed! But,

being a determined gardener, I bought more roses, moved them around a bit and....Yes, watched them slowly die.

At this point I started questioning my abilities. I was doing all the things I'd done before in NY and I'd had beautiful gardens. I thought I knew my roses. I remember gazing at the Jackson & Perkins rose catalog during the long winters and earmarking the pages for the ones I wanted to order. This was when they still scented the catalog pages just to make them even more irresistible. I also had a grandmother who could start a rose from cuttings soaked in willow water. Surely, rose gardening was in my genes. What was the problem???



*Kathy Hyatt at the
TRR Fling with Felder*

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Imagine a crescendo of music in the background as I continue my story....

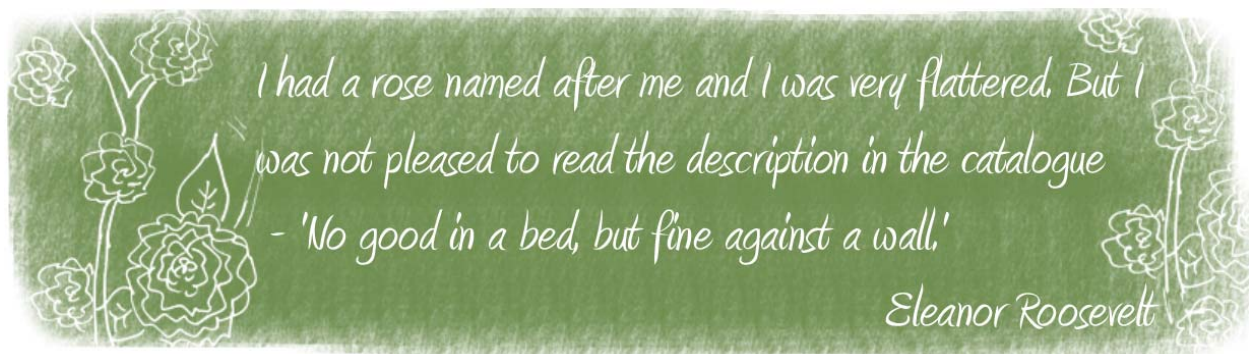
I was beginning to be a disillusioned and bitter gardener when I read an announcement about an upcoming rookie meeting of a group called the Texas Rose Rustlers. I'd heard about them before but, being from NYS, I was "suspicious". Their meeting was planned for a Saturday morning in July at Mercer Arboretum. I loved Mercer, it was close by, and surely it would be a safe venue to listen to what they had to say. I wanted to know more about antique roses and why they thought they were so special. I was hooked after that first meeting! The group was so friendly and knowledgeable that they made a believer out of me. It wasn't me that was lacking, they said, but rather it was the roses I'd chosen to grow in this climate. When I saw the roses that they claimed would grow here, I was amazed. They were gorgeous! And they didn't need intravenous drips to keep them alive!!!

As they say, the rest is history. I signed up at that first meeting and started buying my first old roses: Souvenir de la Malmaison, Mutabilis, Ducher, Duchesse de Brabant, Crepuscule, and Marie Pavie. I went to every TRR meeting, read every book I could find, attended every seminar on roses and gardening in general, became a master gardener, a landscape design consultant, and a Gulf Coast gardener through Mercer Arboretum. Along the way I went from my original six antique roses to over 400, and started propagating and passing along the roses I've come to love so much. While TRR may not have changed my life, it certainly has led me in a direction that has opened up new possibilities.

While I have been part of many garden groups, I have never been in one that has had the enthusiasm and friendliness of it's members like that of TRR. It truly feels like an extended family to me. Being the new chairman is a responsibility I do not take lightly. The hardworking executive board also takes the responsibility for this group seriously and has tried to find the best programs and experiences possible for our members. As always, together we will strive to educate and promote the preservation and propagation of old garden roses. Oh, and have a LOT of fun along the way! *Kathy*

Old News Is New Again!

The TRR is fortunate to have numerous old publications of *The Yellow Rose*. Published by the Dallas Area Historical Rose Society, these booklets contain a wealth of history and rose information. Becky Smith has been kind enough to mark articles that may be of particular interest to our members. With permission granted from the DAHRS, I will begin a regular feature of sharing these articles with you. Enjoy!!!!

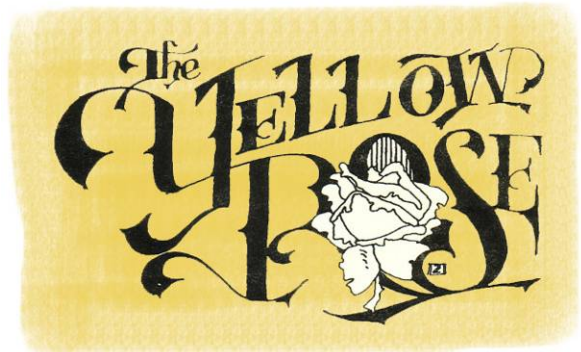


The 1991 Rose Rustle

Joe Woodard, Editor

The Yellow Rose, Vol. VIII, No. 5, 1991

Michael Johnson, Betty Taylor and I left Dallas about 2:30 p.m. on Friday, October 19th, headed from Brenham, TX for the rose rustle the next day. We were in Michael's two-seater pickup fully loaded with ice chests and rustling gear. We checked in at the Preference Inn just about time to search for chow. This we found at the Ant Street Restaurant (located on Baylor Street).



The next morning the fog had rolled in as thick as on the California Coast. We stopped at a grocery store with a deli section for sandwiches for lunch. Finally, we found the sign for WELCOME HALL, through the fog. We were now at Industry, Texas. We were soon joined by Margaret Buxton and Alice Jumper; Jane and Field Roebuck and Judith Wasserman. Lamond and Belle Steadman were the next to show, followed by Don and Pat Rhines from the Dallas area. We soon found other Historical Rose members Marion and Frances Brandes, Huffman, Texas; Karen Walbrun, Pipecreek; and Jackie Fischer, Margaret Sharpe and Ray Valigura all from Houston. Soon, about 100 rose rustlers joined from all over Southeast Texas.

The first event was the rose cutting exchange. People brought arm loads of cuttings neatly placed in "baggies" and properly labeled; plastic bags crammed full of cuttings and container plants. The container plants were exchanged. The cuttings were free-for-all. There were two benches along the wall of this large building. Cuttings were placed on these benches. Then it was like a polite "fire sale" at a bargain basement. I had taken 30 cuttings and selected about that many from this wide selection. Teas, Chinas, and Hybrid Musks prevailed.

Lunch was interrupted by a drawing for four door prizes. David Allen had brought four rather scarce started cuttings in gallon containers. Among them were some *Maréchal Niel*. Virus-



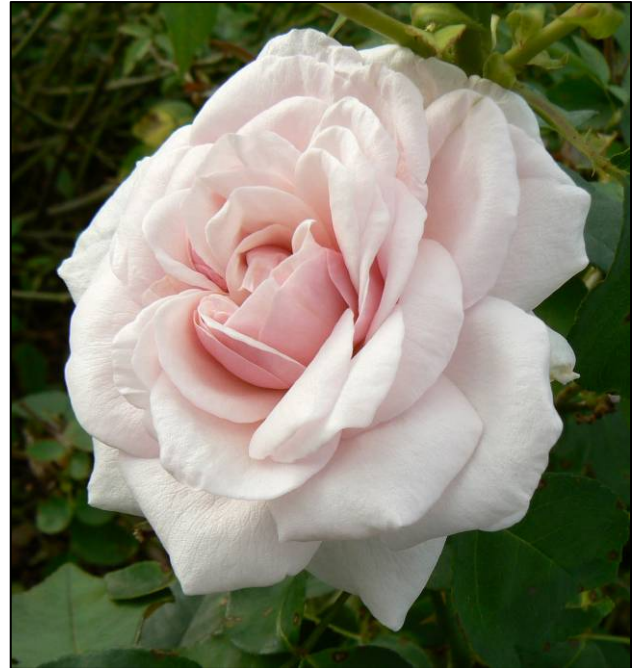
Maréchal Niel

Photo courtesy of Peter Beales Roses, <http://www.classicroses.co.uk>

free plants of this variety are hard to find. Our group was on a lucky roll. My name was drawn first, then Margaret Buxton and finally Jane Roebuck.

While we were getting ready for the caravan, Betty and Michael (our new membership chairman) signed up three new members.

The caravan of 33 vehicles took to the road. I'm sure some of the citizens of the small towns that we went through thought it was a funeral procession for an important celebrity. Our first stop was a potential show place. A large rose garden had been completed in less than one year. The owner is planning on establishing a retail rose business. The next stop was in Fayetteville, TX. A 92 year old lady was brave enough to invite 100 people to tour her home which was filled with antiques. Outdoors, she had many mature old roses. We were welcome to take cuttings. We toured through beautiful gently rolling country to Schulenburg. The first stop was the Saint Rosa Cemetery where "Joe's Rose" was found blooming away. Several other homes had been scouted in this area within walking distance.



Souvenir de la Malmaison
Photo Courtesy of Becky Smith

At this point, from the cutting exchange and the rustle, I had collected 33 varieties:

- TEAS: *Bon Silene, Devoniensis, Enchantress, Gen. Schablikine, Maréchal Niel, Marie Van Houtte, Mons. Tillier, Mrs. Dudley Cross, Rosette Delizy*
- STUDY NAMES: *Joe's Rose, Puerto Rico*, and an unknown white Tea were also found
- HYBRID MUSKS: *Camelia, Felicia, Kathleen, Mozart, Skyrocket*
- CHINA: *Arethusa, Cl. Archduke Charles, Cramoisi Superieur, Slater's Crimson China*
- BOURBON: *Souvenir de la Malmaison, Kronprinzessin Viktoria*
- POLYANTHA: *Marie Pavie, White Pet*
- HYBRID TEA: *Lafter (Brownell)*
- NOISETTE: *Nastarana*
- DAMASK: *Autumn Damask*
- SHRUB: *Belinda's Rose*
- AUSTIN'S ENGLISH: *Yellow Button*
- FOUND: *Santa Rosa*

We rustled until almost 5:00 p.m. According to the highway signs, we were 360 miles from home. We bade good-bye and headed in. With only two short stops, we made it to our house by 9:45 p.m. Tired, but with a feeling of accomplishment! Wait until next year.

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P.O. Box 831448, Richardson, Texas 75083-1448*

Calling All Rustlers — Time Began in a Garden

By Doana Fite, Hospitality

Perhaps you have been looking for a meaningful project to work on since the Vintage Rosery Project completed. That was a worthwhile task to be a part of and the Rustlers did a monumental job in saving many roses. What began as an overwhelming challenge became a driving purpose and resulted in almost countless roses getting new homes.

Now the Rustlers have been approached by a small church community in an old section of downtown Houston to help them rescue the site where their historic church building burned a few years ago. They want to create a Prayer Garden where their church building stood before fire destroyed it.

A work and planting date will be held on March 19, from 10 am to 2 pm. The ladies of the church will provide a fried chicken dinner on the grounds for us at Noon. Please consider potting up some hardy pass along plants from your garden to share with this community and join us with spades, hoes, gloves and clippers for a day of shared kindness. I have a two gallon Old Blush and a two gallon Cecile Brunner to donate. I have assured these ladies that Rustlers always bring plants to every event they attend!

Four antique roses have been located near this proposed garden. We will be able to take cuttings. By March they may be in bloom, too! This should be a great day!

Call or email Doana Fite to confirm and get directions to the garden. Phone: (281) 468-3677; Email: doanaf@aol.com



A Change in the Chair

Faith Bickley

As the past chairman, I would like to enthusiastically welcome Kathy Hyatt as our new chairman. I think most of you know her and enjoy her sunny personality and enthusiasm. If you haven't met her, you will enjoy the opportunity as she moves forward as our leader.

And a Big Thanks

Faith, thank you so much for the time and effort that you have put into being Chair for The Texas Rose Rustlers. Through your leadership, our organization has seen a wonderful rose rescue at Vintage Rosery in Needville, Texas and the resulting Fling with Felder, participated in Rose Dango and the Houston Bulb and Plant Mart, partook in a wonderful opportunity to "clean-up" Chamblee's trial fields, and numerous additional events where TRR was represented. At each one of these events, we garnered new members and had the opportunity to educate and share our love of roses. For all of this – a big and wonderful Thank You!!!!

Save These Dates!!!

Becky Smith, Program Chair

The time has come to announce the meeting dates for the 2011 meetings. The last couple years have found TRR traveling quite a ways from our Houston-area base. This year we plan to stay close to "home".



April 17th, Sunday

TRR's annual Spring Symposium will be at the Antique Rose Emporium in Brenham. Please note that this will be held on a Sunday as ARE will be booked with weddings every Saturday in April. We appreciate Mike Shoup's welcoming us again to one of our favorite venues. Dr. William Welch will be speaking to us in addition to a tour of the ARE's growing area by Mike.



July 9th, Saturday

The annual Rookie Rustlers' Meeting will be at Mercer Arboretum again this year. Plans are still being formed, but the intention is to have a panel of early rustlers and also Doana Fite giving her PowerPoint program, "Who Are the Texas Rose Rustlers?"



October 22nd, Saturday (Tentative)

Our annual Cutting Exchange date and location is still being worked out at this time but will be in the general area of Houston.

We hope that you plan to join us and the fun we will be having. Keep checking the calendar on the TRR Website and future newsletters for even more information on all the meetings. **And don't forget to grow those lotto plants!!!**

The Buzz

When a honeybee discovers a new source of nectar, she returns to the hive to announce the good news by carrying out a kind of mid-air dance through which she is able to communicate the location of her find. A worker bee will gather no more than one-tenth of a teaspoon of honey in her entire life.

It is estimated that one-third of human food supplies depends on pollination by insects, mostly bees. It is not known exactly how many bee species there are in the world but the number is thought to be around 30,000. Bees are particularly attracted to blue, white, yellow and purple colors for their ultraviolet properties. It is no use planting red flowers in your garden to attract bees because bees cannot see red.

These facts are courtesy of "The Curious Gardener's Almanac" by Niall Edworthy
Editor's Note: Yes, while I love bees as much as the next person, don't fear, I won't always be giving you a "bee" lesson. . . I just seem to have gotten hung up on bees this time.

October Fun

By Faith Bickley

Fall and spring always bring a myriad of horticultural activities, and last October was no different. TRR started the month helping in the rose booth at the Houston Garden Club's annual Bulb and Plant Mart. Various TRR members have helped unofficially in the past, but 2010 found us officially involved. It is always fun talking roses with people we meet.

Then came the long-anticipated involvement in the Dallas area 2010 Rose Dango. Friday afternoon, October 15th, was a special treat as Dr. Steve George took the TRR members on a personal tour of the National EarthKind Rose Test Garden plus several other gardens featuring these roses in the Farmers Branch area. His commentary was most informative and of course enjoyable. Also it was a treat to see Ray Ponton near his roses that are featured in the test garden. Supper with Dr. George and his wife was a lot of fun and delicious too.

Saturday found us at the Rose Dango events in Farmers Branch. There were numerous talks/demos in various parts of their remarkable city parks. We then headed to McKinney to prepare for TRR's part in the next day of Rose Dango.

Chambersville Heritage Garden outside McKinney was the location of the second day of Rose Dango. Doana Fite gave her excellent PowerPoint program entitled, "Who are the Texas Rose Rustlers?" twice. Lots of other members manned our tables giving various rooting demos and involving Rose Dango participants in our cutting exchange. There was a very enthusiastic response to our involvement. We thank the Browns for staying a little longer than those of us who had to head home.

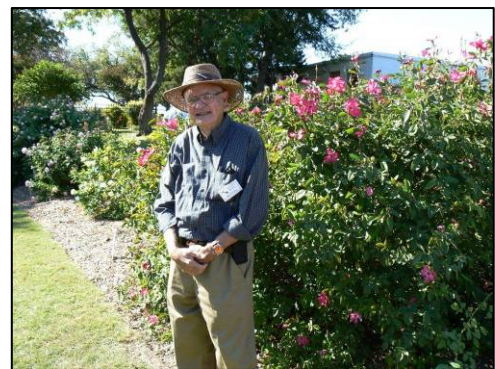
If you ever get to go to a future Rose Dango or to visit the gardens in Farmers Branch and McKinney, I think it would be well worth your effort.



Conrad Tips and Doana Fite at the Houston Garden Club's Bulb & Plant Sale



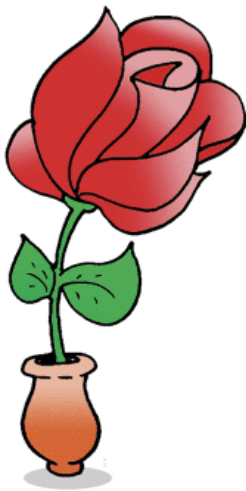
Wally & Wanda Brown visiting with Ray Valigura



Ray Ponton standing in front of his very own Chireno at Rose Dango



An attentive group of Rustlers listening to Dr. Steve George at Rose Dango



Buds of Interest

Joint Effort Brings Andrea Wulf to Sugarland ...

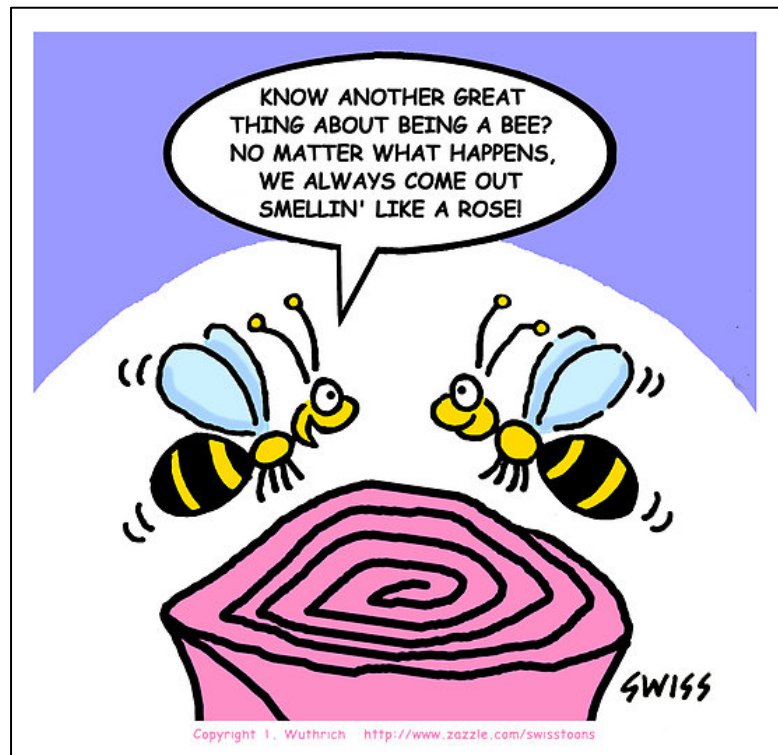
The Ft. Bend Master Gardeners, Sugar Land Garden Club, and the Texas Rose Rustlers are sponsoring a presentation by Andrea Wulf on May 19th, 2011 at the Sugar Land Community Center. Andrea is an award-winning author of three garden history books, including *"The Founding Gardeners. The Revolutionary Generation, Nature and the Shaping of the American Nation"* (published by Knopf on 29 March 2011) and *"The Brother Gardeners. Botany, Empire and the Birth of an Obsession"* (2009). I understand that not only is Andrea Wulf's presentation engaging and delightful, but is also based on scholarly research and understanding of her material. Her charming personality and light sense of humor will help to make this a standing room only event. Andrea is a compelling storyteller. She brings the history of a passionate group of botanists, gardeners, philosophers, and more to life, making the tale relevant to us today. Mark your calendars!!!

Help Me Help HelpMeFind Roses ...

For those that haven't visited HelpMeFindRoses – you are in for a real treat. As Gregg Lowery of Vintage Gardens states "We don't know how we would get through a rose day without the amazing online rose encyclopedia, HelpMeFindRoses! The rose world depends upon this unique resource to provide free information from thousands of sources both historic and contemporary. It is supported by a dedicated team of volunteers who give their time generously to keep the site up to date and accurate." If you would like to help this site, a supporting membership is \$24 per year.

Membership ...

Check your Membership – Are your dues current? Need info: email the Membership Chair at trrmembership@texasroserustlers.com



Artwork courtesy of Tom Wuthrich©
Swisstoons Funny Gift Ideas
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Travels of a Rose Lover:

Gardens in Scotland and England

By Barbara Buckley

Being in Scotland at the end of summer is wonderful, everything is in full bloom and quite lovely. James and I traveled to Scotland twice to visit to see our daughter's family living just south of Edinburgh. These trips resulted in visits to many gardens and exploring both the Borders and Fife areas. If you are unfamiliar with Scotland, the Borders is a large area south of Edinburgh extending to England and Fife is north of Edinburgh across the Forth of Fife. Both areas are rolling hills with pastoral vistas that beckon you to just stop and gaze at the surrounding countryside.



Figure 1 Kailzie Garden

On both trips we visited wonderful gardens that in some cases are just down the road from our daughter's home. Kailzie Gardens in Cardrona (Figure 1) is a beautiful setting with a walled garden, containing a large number of roses. I had never seen the rose Bonica and the shrub that I came across was about 6 ft. high and at least 6 ft across. It was in full bloom with soft pink blooms covering the shrub (Figure



Figure 2 Bonica Rose

2). Another large shrub was Veilchenblau, not grown as a climber but a free-flowing shrub, it was almost 7 ft tall

and 6 ft across. Again in full bloom, it looked like a lilac covered waterfall.

Alnwick Castle, in Northumberland, England has a huge rose garden with some 3,000 + roses growing. The path winds through the roses twisting and turning. While many of the roses are David Austin varieties, there are many old garden roses as well. Alnwick is where we first saw a large specimen of Sally Holmes in full bloom; it looked as if it could light a



Figure 3 Alnwick Castle Rose Garden

room with blooms covering the entire shrub. The roses at Alnwick are planted extremely close together, (Figure 3) I doubt with our humidity that their planting scheme would work in Texas. If you haven't seen The Alnwick Rose by David Austin, you have missed a beautiful sight. It was named for the gardens here at the castle and is a worthy representative of its namesake. It is a soft pink with lighter outer petals and an old rose fragrance. We saw several of these shrubs in full bloom. The whole garden was a mass of color and

fragrance; I could have spent the whole day there just roaming through the roses. Of course there are many other sights to see at Alnwick beside the roses, plus you can eat lunch in a real tree house!



Figure 4 Floors Castle Walled Garden

pillar into a long arching mass of color. Other climbers are trained on brick walls rising 15-20 feet high with perennials below. Sanders White was seen everywhere.

Many of the gardens are privately owned and in order to visit you must contact the owners for a scheduled visit. Many others are open to the public, but as we found out, the

hours they are open are not always regular. Be sure to call or check the website. There are also charges that vary from garden to garden. Being a 'senior' here definitely has advantages when paying for entry.



Figure 6 Dorothy Perkins Climber

Floors Castle garden in Kelso, Scotland is not only a garden, but a nursery as well. It was fun to roam through the nursery and look for plants that we grow. The walled garden is designed with long border beds that are planted in color themes. (Figure 4) Roses are not the predominate plant at Floors. However one section has American Pillar and Dorothy Perkins climbing up pillars (Figure 5). Each pillar has chains connecting it to the next one and the roses grow in both directions connecting each



Figure 3 Floors Castle-Climbing Roses

The gardens are spectacular and if you are lucky you will find a gardener around to ask questions or ID plants. There are many plants that we don't have in the US which are outstanding; I just wish I could remember all the botanical names. They usually don't give you a common name and my Latin is non-existent – the exception to this are the roses.

My main focus was naturally roses; everywhere we drove I was looking for roses. As we went through small villages or by homes in the countryside, I found very small front yards with at least a few roses growing and blooming profusely. Our daughter has the loveliest Dorothy Perkins rose climbing over her front door (Figure 6). While she has

several others growing in the yard this one was truly in full bloom while we were there. Many of her roses are once bloomers, but here in Scotland the blooming lasts a long time, the Dorothy Perkins kept opening blooms for at least 6 weeks.



Figure 7 Mortimer Sackler Rose

She had just added a climbing Mortimer Sackler (Ausorts) and after the rabbits finished eating it she had one cane remaining, but to prove how hardy it was it proceeded to bloom with abandon.

We spent several days this year in the Fife area north of Edinburgh and visited some beautiful gardens. Cambo

Garden is just below St. Andrew's and has a great walled garden that is quite large. On the way to the walled garden you walk by a Chevy Chase rose (Figure 8) climbing up the castle wall, a beautiful red in full bloom. The gardens are quite large and it's easy to get turned around. The walled garden is beautiful and full of roses.



*Figure 8 Cambo Castle-
Chevy Chase Climber*



Figure 9 Kellie Castle-American Pillar

Another wonderful garden in the Fife area was at Kellie Castle near Arncroach. This garden has so many roses, although unfortunately many were not labeled. The arches over the paths are loaded down with American Pillar (Wichurana) (Figure 9) with shrubs at every turn in the path. The view was gorgeous, and the lavender was in full bloom.

Another rose that we found in many places is Rambling Rector (Figure 10). It is a multiflora white climbing rose with a clove fragrance and prolific blooms. We first saw it as a mannerly climber full of the blooms and thought it would be a nice addition to our garden. Then we found it growing in the gardens at Cambo, well the picture doesn't do justice to the size. It was growing up a tree that was at least 25 to 30 feet high and the lower part of the tree was down in a low creek wash out, so the rose was covering at least 40 feet up and probably 20 feet in width taking over everything in its reach. We decided that we didn't have enough room for this one!



Figure 10 Rambling Rector at Cambo Gardens



Figure 11 Falkland Palace

I found a lovely specimen of The Fairy growing at Falkland Palace (Figure 11); it had formed a great mound and was blooming quite profusely. The garden beds were a mixture of roses and perennials, many that we grow – Cornelia, Buff Beauty, Felicia, Penelope, Prosperity, Sally Holmes, Felicite-Perpetue, Francois Juranville, and Zephirine Drouhin. We were able to talk to one of the gardeners while we walked around the grounds. He was trimming

the grass at the edge of the beds by hand with a long handled pair of large scissors-like trimmers, no motor powered trimmer used here. It takes a really long time but as he said this way they can let the plants drape over the edge, the effect is beautiful, but a LOT of slow work. James isn't going to give up his power trimmer anytime soon!

One of the private gardens we visited was Fairinlee House near Selkirk in the Borders area. We called to schedule a visit and were rewarded with a beautiful sight. The rose bed is laid out with low boxwood hedges that serpentine through the beds (Figure 12). Most of the shrub roses are hybrid teas with no labels so we couldn't

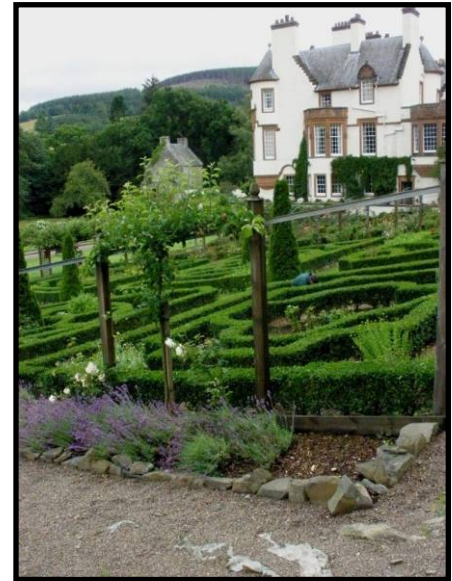


Figure 12 Fairinlee House Rose Beds



Figure 4 Fairinlee House Perennial Gardens

ID them. A series of arches over a path which connects the rose bed to another larger hedged bed was planted with identical roses growing up each side. All of the roses are David Austin varieties with William Shakespeare, Wedgewood Rose, Tess of the d'Urbervilles, Falstaff, and A Shropshire Lad growing up the arches. The perennial beds (Figure 13)

were full and colorful and made me wish I had more space at home to create gardens.

Castles, palaces, and stately homes all have gardens often hidden from view. Walled gardens are everywhere (Figure 14); given the cold climate a walled garden provides protection from the wind and winter weather as well. Each one is a lovely surprise when you enter usually through a door in the wall or through a hedge.



Figure 14 Entrance to Walled Garden at Cambo

I found myself often looking at a rose that surely is one we have in the US. Then find a gardener who tells me the name and it isn't what I was expecting. One of the most unusual was rather small and unremarkable shrub with a lovely bloom at the top; it was in a rather shady spot but got my attention. There was a marker naming the rose.... Robin Hood.... However, the bloom was large single and not red/pink. Of course I couldn't find a gardener anywhere to ask about this rose, but if it truly is Robin Hood here in the UK, then our form of Robin Hood is not related.



Figure 15 St. Andrews Walk

St. Andrew's is a lovely city, very ancient, with narrow streets and stone building that have been in existence for hundreds of years. The ruins are mainly on the coastal cliffs with a walk that takes you from the castle to the abbey. The walk is lined with rose hedges, most were finished blooming but the hips were in abundance (Figure 15). The benches placed along the walk are too inviting to pass up. Again the roses were not identified but the effect of the hedges with the colorful hips was wonderful.

In 2009 we visited a several nurseries with our daughter who was trying to revive the gardens at their home. Naturally each visit ends with a car full of plants, then time spent planting them in her garden. It was great to return in 2010 and see the results of our labor in full bloom. The climate in this area of Scotland is so different from ours and the variety of plants available is amazing. She can grow peonies!

I look forward to our trip next year; there are so many more gardens to visit!

Editor's Note: Barbara, thank you so much for sharing your wonderful garden tours with us – I know we will all enjoy "walking" the gardens with you!

Texas Rose Rustlers Board Members

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