

The Old Texas Rose



Number 1

www.texasroserustlers.com

Winter 2009

Spring Symposium Fort Bend County Fairgrounds Rosenburg, TX April 17 - 19, 2009

On Friday, April 17, 2009, Felder Rushing will arrive in Wharton, Texas in his old beat-up truck, garden intact in the truck bed, around 6 pm. We plan to have a 'meet and greet' dinner with Felder at Hinz's Restaurant in Wharton, which is located right off Hwy. 59 (exact time will come later).

Then, on Saturday, April 18, 2009 at 10:00 am, the Texas Rose Rustlers and Fort Bend County Master Gardeners will present Felder to the public at the Fort Bend County Fairgrounds, Building C in Rosenberg, Texas.

We encourage everyone to bring their plants for the lotto which will immediately follow Felder's presentation. Lunch will be catered to the Rustlers, Fort Bend Master Gardeners and friends by reservations only. More details at a later date. Also, a couple of vendors will be selling roses, rose products, and garden art at the fairgrounds.

After lunch, we will tour the Fort Bend Master Gardeners' gardens, followed by the old Vintage Rosery. On Saturday evening we will meet at Sapo's Mexican Restaurant in Needville for dinner.

Sunday, April 19th, Caldwell Nursery will open for us at 10:00 am (located close to the meeting place), and Enchanted Garden and Enchanted Forest Nurseries are anxious for us to visit them as well.

It is going to be great fun! If you have never heard Felder Rushing speak, you are in for a delightful treat. He is very good at entertaining his audience. You won't want to miss it.

For those in need of a hotel reservation, arrangements have been made at the Comfort Inn in Rosenberg at (281) 232-7300. A room with two queen beds is \$76 and a room with one king bed is \$72. To get these rates, let them know you are a Texas Rose Rustler.

Stay tuned for more details in the Spring newsletter.

~Becky Smith, Program Chairman

From the Chairman – Faith Bickley

What fun it is to get the winter TRR newsletter when we are having to sit on our hands (or sit by the fire) waiting for our (drum roll, please) rose pruning time to arrive. That is one of my favorite times of the year as I love communing with each individual rose. I am writing this during a very cold spell after a couple hard freezes, and the roses continue to bloom amidst the crisp foliage of less hardy plants.

Going as far as Fort Worth for a meeting was quite an adventure and as usual lots of fun. We had quite a vanful, and one occupant deemed our conveyance "The Happy Van." We had time on Friday to tour the FW Japanese Garden which is magnificent. Mom gave a specialized tour as she was a docent there in the 80's. It was in tiptop shape as they were having a festival there the next day. Our meeting at Weston Gardens was fun with lots of cuttings shared. Then it was off to the FW Botanical Gardens with their rose areas of great interest to us. I myself have added Malaguena (a Buck rose) to my "have-to-get" list due to that visit. We had an interesting supper at Babe's to round out our day. It is always a treat to have time with our TRR family. Many went on for Sunday activities but our group needed to head back home.

We have lots of fun times ahead of us this year. Becky Smith will be taking over as Program Chairman and will be the first to say that she has big shoes to fill as Doana Fite has done such a remarkable job for quite a few years. There will be a list of dates for events this year included in the newsletter. I hope as many of you as possible will be able to come to our activities.

I hope this finds all of you doing well and looking forward to the adventures 2009 brings. See you this spring!

Notes from the Editor...

Hi Everyone! Hope you all had a great holiday season. Now that it's over I'm sure you're all looking forward to spring just as much as I am!

I'd like to introduce a new addition to the newsletter. Rose Rustler, Denise Riccobono, has graciously agreed to be a regular contributor to "The Old Texas Rose." Denise works at Enchanted Gardens nursery in Rosenberg and will entertain us in upcoming issues with her rosey contributions. Her first article introducing herself appears later in this issue. Please feel free to send her any ideas or suggestions for future articles. I'm looking forward to seeing what she has in store for us!

We need your email address.

If you have not been receiving emails from the Texas Rose Rustlers in the past, then we don't have your current email address. Please make sure you forward your name and email address to Don Gerard (dgerard@brazosport.cc.tx.us) so he can update the master email list. You won't want to miss out on any of our upcoming announcements such as the workdays that are being scheduled for the Vintage Rosery rescue project as well as other bits of information that we think you might be interested in!

TRR Denim Shirts

The denim shirts have finally been ordered. We'll have a few shirts available for sale at the spring symposium. If we don't have your size on that day we can order one for you. They'll be available in both men's and women's long and short sleeves. A ladies' sleeveless version will also be available. The cost will be in the \$31 - \$32 range.

~Donna

Upcoming Rustler Events: 2009

Mark Your Calendars!!

It looks like 2009 is shaping up to be a very exciting year for our regular programs. In addition to the Spring Symposium, other planned events include:

May 9, 2009 – Vintage Rosery Sale,
Needville, TX – Round Two!

July 11, 2009 – Summer Rookie Meeting
will once again be held at Mercer Arboretum with our none other than our own Ray Ponton as the featured speaker.

October 3, 2009 – Fall Cutting Exchange,
Nacogdoches, TX.

Becky is busy as our new Program Chairman working out the details of these planned programs. Stay tuned to future issues of *The Old Texas Rose* for more information.

In addition to our regular Rustler events, here are some other events you won't want to miss:

March 28, 2009 – Arbor Gate Rose Festival

October 17, 2009 – Rose Dango in
McKinney, TX



Mike Shoup to Speak at Enchanted Gardens

The Enchanted Gardens would like to invite all Rose Rustlers and friends to our nursery on Saturday, February 28th at 1:00 p.m. to meet Mike Shoup of the Antique Rose Emporium in Brenham. Mr. Shoup will be speaking to the public on proper pruning techniques for old garden roses as well as his Texas Pioneer series of roses. These

roses have been developed at the Antique Rose Emporium to perform like our toughest antiques, with superior disease- and pest-resistance as well as beauty. In association with Mr. Shoup's visit, we will have one day specials on all rose gardening-related products, a raffle to win a rose package consisting of one rose of your choice combined with some of our other great products, and much more.

We at the Enchanted Gardens are rose enthusiasts too and are excited to be offering an amazing selection of roses from the Antique Rose Emporium this spring, including the only sizable assortment of Texas Pioneer roses in our area. Many of the Pioneers have Buck roses, David Austin roses, and some wonderful old garden roses in their heritage. They have names like Mrs. Sam Houston, Star of the Republic, Stephen F. Austin, and Republic of Texas among others. You will also be able to find Noisettes, Hybrid Musks, Chinas, Teas, EarthKind roses, Polyanthas, Hybrid Perpetuals, Climbers, and a Bermuda Mystery rose called Smith's Parrish. So come and see us, walk among our beautiful roses, and perhaps find one more of these living treasures to add to your own garden.



Remembering the Fall Cutting Exchange 2008

By Doana Fite

It always impresses me to see the Rose Rustlers gather together. I love watching and listening to their interaction about the roses. The Fort Worth Fall Cutting Exchange at Weston Gardens confirmed this again. The rose cuttings laid out on the tables under the trees, the lotto plants lining the entrance walkway, the barbeque sandwiches and homemade treats eaten around quaint garden tables, among

beautifully crafted works of art, on native red rock terraces surrounded by low red rock garden walls, with the most delightful group of people to ever assemble, only hints at what the Fall Cutting Exchange was like this year at Weston Gardens.

Visiting the Fort Worth /Dallas area also introduced us to many new rose friends and we revisited many long time Rustler friends who live in that area. A new Rustler, Lisa Arnold, greeted us on Friday night and brought books for browsing during the cutting exchange. Terri Cotter rejoined her long time Rustler friend Sylvia Harrington at the exchange and was able to show her the LISDOLA gardens on Sunday. Janet and Frank Riley arranged to lead us from Weston to the Fort Worth Botanical Gardens, and Janet arranged to have a personally guided tour for us by her friend, Dennis Jones, who worked at the gardens. To describe the Fort Worth Botanic Gardens would take pages. It must be seen. Since Phyllis Degelke was a docent there some years back, Faith and Phyllis actually conducted a separate tour of the gardens that might correctly be called, A Sentimental Journey. Ask Becky Smith, the Buckleys, or the Hyatts, we could have toured those gardens for days.

On Sunday, Lisa Arnold led a caravan of Rustlers with silk roses peeking out their trunk lids on an amazing trek to Chambersville Tree Farms. Don't let the name fool you. This is the site of the Rose Dango Event hosted by the owner/operators Dean and Carol Oswald and landscape/planner Claude Graves and his wife Pamela. Imagine driving down a tree lined lane into a forest. Just around a curve appears an open field on a gentle slope covered with hundreds of roses, each given its own full space, in neat rows covering eleven acres or so, in full bloom. Terri Cotter was right, it's a must see and worth the drive. Betty Vickers joined us there and toured the rose gardens with Ray Ponton,

Robert Stiba, Earl and Deanna Krause, Michael and Sandra Smith, Sylvia Harrington and Melanie Welch, the Cotters, Barbara Dickson and her rosy friend Rita Srubar and Wally and Wanda Brown.



Phyllis Degelke couldn't pass up Michael Smith's offer to hitch a ride!

We then caravanned to the home of long time Rustler Peter Schaar in Dallas. Peter was able to take us individually through his garden, since we all arrived in stages, as some Rustlers had to do some rose shopping, some had to do some rustling-with-permission, and some had other gardens to see first, and yes, some just went shopping!

Peter describes his garden as a dry garden. He explained that he does no watering and has developed his garden to include only those plants which can thrive with minimal water. Peter says that a really good garden tour of his garden begins in the house, so that you can see what the gardener sees out the windows, see why he designed the garden as he did, and see what the gardener sees each day. It was delightful to see his home and the garden view and visit with his wife Julie. She explained that even the rinse water from the dishes goes into the garden. Peter described to us the role that weeds may play in the garden. They hold the soil. The whole earth might still be one big ocean if weeds had not covered the soil quickly, as we know they tend to do, because the soil

would surely have washed back into the sea. He encouraged us to determine a few non-tyrannical weeds we can live with, and ignore them in your garden. They are not all bad. I like that concept.

Oh, and of course, we did eventually find the best Mexican restaurant in town!



Cutting Exchange Follow Ups

Received a phone call on January 9 from Lisa Arnold about finding so many gardeners in Fort Worth who enjoy antique and old garden roses that she wants to start a Posse in Fort Worth for Rose Rustlers. I encouraged her to get them signed up and all ride together in April to see Felder Rushing! What a great way to start.

On Jan 19, I got an email from Nery Voss, one of our new members, who we met at Weston Gardens. She took cuttings from Grandma Mueller's rose which I brought to the exchange. Grandma Mueller's Rose is not in commerce, has not been identified, and has been passed along in our family by all the gardening women, including Candy, who propagated it for me.

Nery says her cuttings have struck, and Grandma Mueller's Rose is doing the best of everything she propagated. She is excited about her successful adventure in Rose Rustling. I am sending her a picture today of mine which is still blooming. Isn't this a great hobby?

~Doana



Green fingers are the extension of a verdant heart.

~Russell Page

Rose Rustlers Speak Out

February 3 – Faith Bickley will be speaking to the Lake Jackson Garden Club

February 5 – Doana Fite will be giving a presentation at the Houston Garden Center on the subject of "What is a Texas Rose Rustler?"



Doana Fite recently received a request from Conrad Tips. Mike Shoup has contacted Conrad requesting cuttings of 'Conrad's Old Quaint,' the Hillendahl family's graveyard rose. Conrad says he has shared cuttings with Mary Herr and many others over the years.

He wants to know if any of our members still grow this rose and if they would be interested in sharing cuttings. Please contact Conrad at 713.868.5606.



Sweet flowers are slow and weeds make haste.

~William Shakespeare

"Delightful Phyllis"

As most of you know, emails were sent out in November about a rose-naming contest that the Houston Chronicle was conducting. One of our members had sent in the name "Delightful Phyllis" in honor of my mother. Nothing was said to her and I gathered the emails nominating her as a present for her 86th birthday on Christmas Day. Another most deserving woman was given this honor, but the thought and effort of those voting for Mom was most touching.

Anyhow, on the day before the Fort Bend MG awards event, Becky Smith suggested that we give Mom my "Delightful Phyllis"

booklet during the event. One thing led to another and by the time of the program Mom was surprised first of all by being called on the stage for the transfer of her MG membership from FW (where she was in the first MG class in 1987) into the FBMG's and then by being given the "Delightful Phyllis" emails. What topped all this off, was that she was made a FBMG by Vince Mannino, the head agent for FB County, who had been the director of her MG class in FW! What a thrill for her and all of us there who know her.

Thanks to all the TRR members who added to this special moment. When she read the "Delightful Phyllis" emails she remarked that she would like to meet this person!

Return to the Vintage Rosery

Well here we go again! Last spring's sale at the Vintage Rosery in Needville was a time we will not forget. But we still have another session to complete our mission of saving these roses in the memory of Marcia Roenigk. The "wild" side which could now be termed the "weed" side still needs to be rescued.

Becky Smith and I have been our several times and were actually joined by Carolyn Stracik last Monday (January 13th) for the first actual workday. At that time we pulled, weeded and trimmed back over 180 roses (supposedly Knockouts, Robin Hoods, Archduke Charles, etc) which is just a small start. We are hoping by pruning them this early we can be more sure of who they are by their blooms.

Anyhow we will be sending out emails telling of our workdays and would love having as much help as possible. This is a joint effort with the FBMG's which will add to our work force and fun.

We will have the final sale on Saturday, May 9th. It will be a one-day sale with all

roses ready and up front for sale. We learned a lot from the last sale, and yet this one can never be as memorable as the last one. Remember all who work can get the roses for \$5 each, and there are always poor orphans that need loving homes. We hope to see you at the workdays or sale. Make sure you are on the email list so we can notify you. If you have gotten any of the group emails in the past, you are on the list.
~Faith



Faith came across this poem while reading Neil Sperry's latest newsletter. It seems Mike Shoup found the poem and forwarded it to Mr. Sperry. Faith thought our readers would enjoy it as well. It reminds us that rustling has been around forever.

Asking for Roses

A house that lacks, seemingly, mistress and master,
With doors that none but the wind ever closes,
Its floor all littered with glass and with plaster;
It stands in a garden of old-fashioned roses.

I pass by that way in the gloaming with Mary;
'I wonder,' I say, 'who the owner of those is.'
'Oh, no one you know,' she answers me airy,
'But one we must ask if we want any roses.'

So we must join hands in the dew coming coldly
There in the hush of the wood that reposes,
And turn and go up to the open door boldly,
And knock to the echoes as beggars for roses.

'Pray, are you within there, Mistress Who-were-you?'
'Tis Mary that speaks and our errand discloses.
'Pray, are you within there? Bestir you, bestir you!
'Tis summer again; there's two come for roses.

'A word with you, that of the singer recalling--
Old Herrick: a saying that every maid knows is
A flower unplucked is but left to the falling,
And nothing is gained by not gathering roses.'

We do not loosen our hands' intertwining
(Not caring so very much what she supposes),
There when she comes on us mistily shining
And grants us by silence the boon of her roses.

~ Robert Frost



RECYCLE Plastic Pots PLEASE!

By Sandra Smith

Although there are different types of plastic, a typical plastic nursery pot can take up to 700 years to decompose in landfills. As a gardener and environmentalist wannabe, I shutter to think of the pots that I have discarded. And speaking of different types of plastic, there is a number inside the recycle symbol on all containers, which indicate what type of plastic it is. For example, numbers 1 and 2 include most nursery pots, laundry soap containers, water bottles, milk jugs; number 5 is the softer type plastic similar to Tupperware, specialty cheese, some take-out containers; number 4 is a foam-type plastic.

Check out your local curbside recycling program for their specific requirements. If there is no recycling program in your area, check your local nurseries and botanical gardens for recycling centers. As with all items for recycle, pots should be rinsed cleaned. Following are locations in the Houston area:

- Houston Arboretum & Nature Center - 4501 Woodway in Memorial Park, NE corner of main parking lot, Phone: 713-681-8433. Please check at the main desk if you're picking up pots for reuse.
- Spring Nursery & Landscape - 25252 FM 2978 Road, Tomball, Phone: 281-357-1800.
- Fort Bend Co. Recycling Center - 1200 Blume Road, Rosenberg, Phone: 281-633-7581.
- Armand Bayou Nature Center - 8500 Bay Area Blvd., Pasadena, Phone: 281-474-2551.
- Enchanted Forest - 10611 FM 2759, Richmond, Phone: 281-937-9449.
- Enchanted Gardens - 6420 FM 359, Richmond, Phone: 281-341-1206.

This is a great opportunity to start a recycle collection with your garden clubs or

subdivision. Let's all pledge to keep pots out of our landfills. Go green, neighbors!



Hi everyone! My name is Denise Riccobono and I have been graciously invited to share my thoughts and those of (unsuspecting) "interviewees" on one of our favorite topics—roses—in upcoming issues of "The Old Texas Rose."

I am a Fort Bend Master Gardener, a member of the Rose Rustlers, and one of the luckiest gardeners in the world, working for Enchanted Gardens nursery where I was entrusted with ordering roses from the Antique Rose Emporium this year. I hope you all will enjoy the articles and get a sense of the affection I share with fellow Rose Rustlers for these precious flowering beauties.

My love of roses began officially when I mistakenly (I swear) took home a nursery's copy of the Jackson & Perkins catalog in the early 90's when I was living in California. I still have that very catalog with its exquisite, full color photos and "flowery" descriptions of the roses available for order that year. I chose just one for my postage stamp-sized garden, 'Ballerina,' an old hybrid musk introduced in 1937. I knew nothing about the subject of antique roses or old garden roses, but 'Ballerina,' with its hydrangea-like heads of apple blossom-colored single blooms, touched my heart in a way that doesn't need a description when talking to other rose lovers. And, for sentimental reasons, 'Ballerina' grows in my Texas garden today, this one extra special because it came from the Vintage Rosery in Needville.

Many of you could tell me similar stories, I know—"This one is Mama's rose" or "This one was Gramma's favorite," etc. Therein lies the reason why I love this group of

plants so much. Through them we can touch our past, whether it's a stranger like the pioneer woman who brought cuttings of her favorite rose to make her new house a home or someone we knew and dearly loved. We can also connect to special stories like those of hybridizers, Dr. Griffith Buck and Ray Ponton, or Katrina survivor, Peggy Martin. I'm sure every one of us has a rose in our garden today from a special friend's collection. Yes, there are other flowers we grow for similar reasons (I also have to have daffodils and pansies because they're the only flowers my non-gardening mother planted when I was a little girl), but there is something about the rose...

I look forward to meeting all of you at Rose Rustler events for this year. Feel free to contact me if you have ideas for future columns or just want to talk roses.

criccobono@comcast.net



If It Had Been a Snake, It Would Have Bit Me

By Doana Fite

During Hurricane Ike in September, I evacuated to our "farm" in Brenham. Actually, I evacuated until the storm made landfall, then stayed over to attend the Washington County Fair. Our granddaughter, Jessica, showed a heifer for FFA. Ashley showed her puppy in the Fair Dog Show.

I took the opportunity to plant a Mutabilis that I had been nursing along from the Vintage Rosery Rescue Sale. I carefully chose a sunny site. I dug a nice big hole. I backfilled it with a little well composted horse manure I gathered from Candy's place. I filled the hole with water and let it percolate while I went to find another spot for a "Yesterday, Today & Tomorrow" that I got from Kathy Hyatt. When the Mutabilis

hole was empty, I dragged the 5-gallon pot over to the site. I rolled it around on its side to loosen the contents. I pulled. I tugged. I pushed the plastic up from the bottom. Finally, I had to cut the plastic from the bottom drain holes to free the well-entrenched roots and slide the mass out of the pot. As I lowered the root ball into the hole, it began to break apart and I groped and grabbed to hold it together to get it situated just right.

Suddenly I noticed a pointed gray green nose, a shiny head and fortunately, the four webbed feet, that I truly believe had claws. My research indicates I unearthed a young bullfrog, probably a relocated Needville bullfrog. As he slowly hop-crawled away with that angry, why-did-you-wake-me-up look in his eye, my heartbeat slowed down a little, and I gave thanks that it was only a frog. With all the relocating, banging, rolling, dragging and smashing I did to that pot, if it had been a snake,,well, you know. Always be careful.

P.S. Both plants are thriving and beautiful. The frog? Hmmmm?



The following article is reprinted with permission from Molly Keck's Winter Edition of the 'What's Buggin' Ya' Newsletter, Molly is the Program Specialist-IPM for Texas AgriLife Extension in San Antonio, TX

Cockroaches in my Compost!?!?

Many gardeners who maintain a compost pile or bin will, on occasion, find cockroaches in their compost. While cockroaches aren't often thought of as beneficial insects, they do have an important role in our ecosystem. They are recyclers, and help break down or eat the trash that we throw out. Without them and other recyclers, we would be up to our ears in trash.

Cockroaches in your compost bin are doing just that – helping break down your trash into the usable compost form you like!

They may not be welcome in the compost bin, but there is no reason to get rid of them. They are actually acting as a Beneficial insect in this case. During the winter, you may see an increase in cockroaches in the compost bin because it is getting colder and your compost bin is nice and warm. Most cockroaches found in compost are not going to enter your home unless you make it easy. Make sure your compost pile is not up against the house and remove other debris (lumber, firewood, etc.) from up against the side of the house. Replace weather stripping that allows daylight through and caulk and seal up cracks and crevices. Cockroaches need less than a ¼ of an inch to squeeze indoors.

I would not recommend treating your compost bin with anything – organic or otherwise. You run the risk of killing other, extremely beneficial recyclers, and your organic breakdown can come to a screeching halt. Just ignore them and be brave—cockroaches are not your enemy in the compost bin! The two most common roaches found in compost bins are American and (what most people call) Wood Cockroaches. Both are outdoor dwellers, but American cockroaches, commonly called water bugs) will move indoors if they are given the chance.



Back in the Early Days—

This is an article that originally appeared in the November/December 1996 issue of Texas Gardener.

Margaret Sharpe's Ten Most Wanted

When it comes to naming their favorite old roses, not all Texas Rose Rustlers agree. Says one rustler, comparing the breathtaking fragrance of one rose to the unique form of another is like comparing apples to oranges.

Recently, at a gathering of rustlers, Margaret Sharpe, veteran rose rustler of Houston, was given the pleasurable task of naming several of her favorite selections. Her ten favorite are:

- **Fortuniana** - This white blooming, heat-loving beauty thrives in tough conditions including dry sandy soils. The large double flowers emit a violet fragrance. In the landscape the nearly thornless canes spread 8 to 10 feet. Fortuniana was discovered in China in 1850.
- **'Mutabilis'** - "The Butterfly Rose" earns its common name for the five-petaled flowers that change from yellow to dark crimson as they mature. According to Margaret, 'Mutabilis' also is easy to recognize for its smooth-edged foliage. New growth is brushed with bronze.

This rose grows to 6 feet in all directions, shrugs off disease, and, says Margaret, is tough enough to come back after freezing to the ground.
- **'Cramoisi Superieur'** - Margaret includes this old rose because it "blooms all the time." The cupped-shaped crimson flowers exude a fruity fragrance. The upright plants reach 5 feet tall and thrive on neglect. 'Cramoisi Superieur' was introduced in 1832. It is sometimes found in old country gardens.

- “Maggie” - This old rose, collected by Dr. William C. Welch, tops everyone’s list of favorites for its large crimson blooms, heady rose scent, vigorous growth and tough nature. Its 7-foot canes can be pruned or trained up pillars. “There is always going to be a bloom on “Maggie”,” says Margaret.
- ‘Souvenir de la Malmaison’ - the original name “Queen of Beauty and Fragrance” describes this elegant rose. It has large pale pink blooms, leathery foliage and a slow-growing nature. The compact plants seldom grow more than 3 feet tall. Margaret suggests including its climbing sport in the garden as well. It produces canes up to 12 feet long.
- ‘Duchesse de Brabant’ - It is said that Teddy Roosevelt like to snip a bud of this beauty for his buttonhole. As they open, the soft pink buds form into round, cupped blooms. Margaret describes this old rose as “a producer,” referring to its nearly every-blooming nature. Plants reach 4 to 6 feet tall and have apple green foliage.
- ‘Perle d’Or’ - As if the clusters of fragrant, pink pompon-shaped blooms weren’t enough to earn ‘Perle d’Or’ a spot in the garden, this tough little rose blooms almost continuously, produces an abundance of apple-green foliage and rebuffs disease. When cutting flowers to bring indoors, Margaret recommends selecting bloom clusters that include a few of the orangish-colored buds.
- ‘Cecile Brunner’ - Since its introduction in 1881, “The Sweetheart Rose” has decorated gardens and bouquets with its classically shaped pink buds and sprays of fragrant flowers. It won a spot on Margaret’s list for its adaptability to everything from poor soil to shady conditions. The bush form reaches 4 feet

tall; the climbing selection produces canes up to 20 feet long.

- ‘Mrs. Dudley Cross’ - Margaret describes the blooms of this thornless rose as “pale yellow with tinges of pink on the edges.” It’s a frequent find, she says, in old cemeteries where it thrives with no care.

Even with little attention, ‘Mrs. Dudley Cross’ rewards growers with an ongoing stock of fragrant double flowers on plants that reach 6 feet tall.

- ‘Marechal Niel’ - This Victorian favorite decorates gardens with long, nodding stems sporting fragrant yellow blooms that appear most heavily in spring and fall. Once established, the plants grow vigorously. Because of its sensitivity to cold weather, this old rose is recommended for zone 8 or warmer.



Gardening is a kind of disease. It infects you, you cannot escape it. When you go visiting, your eyes rove about the garden; you interrupt the serious cocktail drinking because of an irresistible impulse to get up and pull a weed.

~Lewis Gannit



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Is this your last issue??

Please check your address label. Your membership date is on the bottom right hand corner of the label. Dates in **bold red** are **past due**. Those dates which say S2008 with a yellow background are **due now**.

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The Old Texas Rose
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Spring Symposium
Fort Bend County Fairgrounds
Rosenburg, TX
April 17 - 19, 2009

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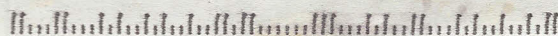
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