

OLD TEXAS ROSE

Number 2

Spring 2005

www.texasroserustlers.org

Spring Symposium To be held at Steven F. Austin University Nacogdoches, Texas April 16, 2005 9:00 am – 4:00pm

The annual Rose Rustler Spring Symposium is designed as an educational event with guest speakers who will enrich our knowledge and reinforce our love of gardening. As you may guess, there are also many "group discussions" among all the Rustlers about our favorite roses and what's been blooming and what's making it bloom!

What better way to learn more about gardening in general and antique roses in particular, catch up on all the news from our Rose Rustling Friends and possibly win a lotto rose, than to be in the beautiful piney woods of East Texas in the Spring? It doesn't get much better than this! Our Spring Symposium has been planned for the same day as the SFA Arboretum Plant Sale so that we may also take advantage of that wonderful equivalent of a "plant garage sale"! Natives, hybrids, bulbs, trees, roses, herbs; its wonderful! All under the Spring skies with the gentle sounds of an East Texas cowboy band playing in the background. Friendly people, lovely plants, what more could we ask for? Well, there's still the Symposium after that!

Dr. David Creech, Director of the SFA Mast Arboretum has arranged for our meeting to be held at the University and he has graciously agreed to speak at our symposium. Matt Welch of Naconishe Gardens will also speak.

I know, many of you are asking, "What about Naconishe Gardens? I thought we were going there this year?" Well, Greg Grant of Naconishe Gardens advised that the meeting facilities at the Gardens were too small to accommodate our group and he recommended us to Dr. Creech. The rest is in the agenda which follows. It promises to be a great weekend, and we hope you will make plans to join us.

I want to especially extend an invitation to **Rustlers, old and new who have not been able to join us in the last few events.** We miss you and hope you will make every effort to be a part of this Symposium. Carpool, van pool, come early, stay over and join in the Rosey fun.

2005 SPRING SYMPOSIUM SCHEDULE

9:00 am SFA Plant Sale Intermural Fields

10:00am Free time: Tour Arboretum

11:00am Lunch: Butcher Boys BAR B Q

12:30pm Doors Open: Room 110 SFA Agriculture Building. Old Garden Rose Bloom Display setup (vases provided)

1:00pm Dr. Dave Creech, Director SFA . Mast Arboretum: Great New Plants for Texas, Especially Jack of the Corpse! *Shower*

2:00 Drawing for Roses

2:15 Matt Welch, Naconish.Gardens: Companion Plants: New Friends for Old Roses

3:15 2nd Drawing for Roses

3:30 Rooting Demonstration and Rose Rustling Etiquette followed by cleanup. Everyone is INVITED to help with this!

Free time:

6:00 Dinner: El Ranchero Grande

Back to the hotel: A block of rooms has been reserved at The Comfort INN, 3400 South Street, Nacogdoches, Texas 75964 for Fri. & Sat. nights, April 15 & 16, for those who want to start early and stay over.

Phone: 1 936 569 8100 Ask for Jessica Neel. Tell them you are with Texas Rose Rustlers.

Sunday: 9:30 am Private tour of Naconishe Gardens with Matt Welch (and maybe even Greg Grant!)

A list of other interesting sites in the area will be available for anyone who wants to continue their visit further.

Home again, home again!

56⁰⁰

Chuck's - 2:00

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AAA RATE = 54⁰⁰

1 KING. No Sm.

Speaking of Home: here is a home recipe for preserving cut roses:

(University of Arkansas says proved better than commercial preservatives) 1 teaspoon vinegar, 1 aspirin tablet and 1 tablespoon sugar per 3 cups of water, or 1 teaspoon vinegar, ½ tablespoon bleach and 1 tablespoon sugar per 3 cups of water. (The better to bring your blooms to the Symposium, my dear.....) reprint OTR Summer, 98.

Good Times at Serenity Pond

Serenity Pond, Pat McCain's wonderful wildlife refuge and rose haven, was the location for TRR's winter pruning clinic on Saturday, February 12th. Despite much concern over the possibility of inclement weather, the decision to go ahead was definitely the right one. Although cool and cloudy when we all first arrived, coats were being shed by the afternoon. Pat's delicious cider brew and hot coffee kept us warm until the weather did that nice warm-up.

After a tour of Pat's most interesting home, we divided into groups combining veteran TRR people with novice pruners, and the prunings were flying. Many got cuttings of very interesting roses plus several rose plants and perennials were seen moving to new homes. At noon we enjoyed our sack lunches with some delicious additions brought by various members.

We were all saddened by the news of Mayo Idom's passing (see Classic Newsletter articles about Mayo in this newsletter), and our thoughts were with Lucille. The friendships we make in TRR are truly special. It is wonderful how a shared interest can bring people together so meaningfully.

All in all it was a wonderful outing with about 30 of us sharing the fun and work. We missed many of our regulars who were sick (boo on the illnesses that hit this time of year) and hope all are well now. Serenity Pond was a lovely setting for a very interesting day of pruning and rose rambling. Sitting on Pat's front porch eating deviled eggs, sipping hot mulled cider and talking roses, I saw nothing but smiles on every face present.

Again, many thanks to Pat for providing such a fun place to practice our pruning skills._

Faith Bickley, Chairman

Pat's Letter to Frances Brandes about TRR Pruning Clinic: 2/12/05 7:39 PM

Hi Frances, You are so thoughtful. How sweet of you to contact me already this evening. It was a fun crowd. I loved each and every one of them. I told them to take cuttings of anything they wish, as cutting a rose does not kill it. I was happy to see them smile. Ray (Ponton) got stuck up on the hill. It is clay up there, sandy loam down here. He will be teased forever as he got stuck right next to my sign "Leave a small footprint, Please do not pick flowers, seeds or remove rocks from this sanctuary". He left 4 big tire prints. I will not fill them in-it is too much fun seeing them there. Obviously, my rules for the sanctuary to not apply to TRR anyway.

It seemed cold and damp this morning, but by noon folks were shedding coats. Then the sun showed its shy face and warmed us all.

Some brought me goodies. I am about to sit down and eat every one of the cookies Beverly left here for me. Yummmmmmm!

I want this to be an annual event. It is the greatest. You were sooooooooooooo missed!

Loves ya, Pat *****

No matter where I greet my guests, I always like my garden best. (Author unknown, Sentiment well known)

ALMANAC DATES

For rooting all cuttings

Mar: 26-29

April: 1,2,6,7,24,25,28,29

May: 3,4,7,23,26,27,30,31

June: 4,5,22,23,26-28

For transplanting rooted cuttings and potted roses

Mar: 10-16

April: 8-15

May: 8-15

June: 6-13

To prune roses for increased blooming

Mar: 19,20,26,27

April: 15-17,22,23

May: 12-14,20,21

June: 9,10,16,17

CLASSIC PIECES FROM WRITINGS BY
LUCILLE IDOM OTR1998

In June and July of 1997 my husband Mayo, our dog Rosie, and I took our "vacation" in Anchorage, Alaska. We arrived at 10:00 PM and it was still daylight. The scenery was beautiful as usual. It is daylight until 12:30 AM when the sun goes down, then the sun comes back up at around 2 AM.

While we were up there for our "vacation", we built 3 large flower beds for April, our daughter, and planted them with Rugosa roses & one red hardy Candadian rose named 'John Franklin'...

'John Franklin' bloomed all summer and the blooms lasted the three weeks we were there and were still on there when we left in the middle of July.

Moose wander around my daughter's neighborhood and eat the weeds in summer...When winter came and the snow was covering the ground, the moose came back. When the moose finally left, April went outside to look at the beds and found the moose had pruned here roses for her. In May those roses started putting out new growth, so I guess "Moose pruning" is good for them.

OTR 1999.....

While I am at it, I'll give the latest report on the Moose pruned Rugosas and the Canadian hardy rose, 'John Franklin' that are growing in April's yard in Anchorage, Alaska. April worried because the mama moose had pruned the roses down to the ground last winter. I told her the Rugosas would probably come back out but didn't know about "John Franklin". She called in June and told me all the roses were in full bloom and were beautiful. They bloomed from June through most of October. The roses were still loaded with blooms when the first freeze came so Moose pruning works for Anchorage.

Have any of you ever waited for a once blooming rose to bloom in the Spring so you could enjoy that first bloom? I was waiting for our Chestnut Rose to bloom this year but made the mistake of Not cutting it back last Fall. I was sitting here minding my own business when Mayo came in one morning and announced, "I cut the dickens out of that rose bush behind the house so now it

looks real pretty." With a sinking heart I said, "Which rose, the one by our bedroom window?" He said, "Yes, it was growing all over the place and now it looks real neat." I said, "Thank you, Honey. I can't wait to see how pretty it will be next year."

(SHANNON SHERROD ONCE WROTE THAT ONCE BLOOMERS, SOMETIMES REFERRED TO AS BEING NON-REMONTANT, CAN PACK AS MANY BLOOMS INTO A FOUR WEEK PERIOD AS OTHERS CAN SCATTER THROUGHOUT A YEAR. SOMETIMES THE BLOOMS ARE SO THICK YOU ALMOST CAN'T SEE THE FOLIAGE.) ONCE BLOOMERS MUST BLOOM FROM MATURE, OLDER GROWTH.

*****More Classic Newsletter*****

Guess what? Mayo did find more room for (all together now) ONE MORE FLOWER BED. He came in one day and said, "Come out here and see what I did." Curious, I followed him out to the very back of the yard behind the storage shed: Lo and behold, there was a fine new flower bed. One of the neighbors had given him a perennial that grows into a good sized shrub. Then he didn't have a place to plant some volunteers that came up in the flower beds. I was going to throw them away but he liked the blooms so dug them up and put them in pots. Now the new bed is full of volunteer plants that came up all over the yard in other beds. We have to go out back to enjoy the new bed, but it's worth the effort and the neighbors behind us love it. They can sit out on their decks and enjoy all the blooms without the work!

More 1999.....

We had a nice 70 mile an hour wind here in Northshore on May 10th. It snatched the tops out of two of our trees and broke a lot of limbs, so now we have more sun for the roses. No damage done to the rose bushes, just a little "wind pruning". Nothing like some nice rainwater..and then more access to the sun.... to perk up the roses.

I just had a report from April, in Anchorage that the moose pruned roses are blooming. The Rugosas are starting to run underground so they will be much bigger this year. Anyone who

plants Rugosas be sure to give them plenty of room.

Until next time, happy growing, Lucille Idom

Goodbye to Dear Mayo, may the Gardens of the Lord bring you joy. From all your Rose Rustler Friends

Dear Family & Friends, I would like to thank everyone for the cards, visits, flowers, food, and prayers we have received in the last month. The outpouring of love has been something you never expect but is so appreciated and needed at this time in our lives. We received so many cards from people we did not even know, letting us know they were praying for us.

Mother is going to go back to Anchorage with me for about 5 weeks. Mother has already warned me to watch out for more tears as she has lots of memories of Dad in Alaska, too, as they visited several times and they landscaped and built flowerbeds for us last time they were there.

I thank God most of all for giving me such a wonderful Dad. At least I have the wonderful memories of such an unselfish man who went out of his way to do for his families and others. Love, April

LUCILLE & MAYO'S GROW FORMULA GIVEN TO THEM BY MIKE HERR

¼C LIQUID SEAWEED CONCENTRATE

2-4T BLACKSTRAP MOLASSES

2 TABLESPOONS SUPERTHRIVE

1 C MEDINA PLUS

1 C ORGANIC LIFE

Put this in a hose end sprayer jar and fill the rest of the jar with water. Spray on your plants and around the roots. Most of these ingredients can be obtained at nurseries that deal in organic supplies. Medina Plus and Superthrive are available at most Home Depots.

Classic..Coffee..With..Auntie..Lottie
.....Summer 2002

I came across a book called Roses by Janet Browne, a romantic history with a guide to cultivation. Did you know that archeologists discovered fossilized roses that may be as old as 30 million years? Maybe Adam and Eve were the first people who took care of them.

THE ROSE BEYOND THE WALL

Near a shady wall a rose once grew, Budded and blossomed in God's free light,

Watered and fed by the morning dew, Shedding it's sweetness day and night.

As it grew and blossomed fair and tall, Slowly rising to loftier height,

It came to a crevice in the wall through which there shone a beam of light.

Onward it crept with added strength with never a thought of fear or pride,

It followed the light through the crevice's length and unfolded itself on the other side.

The light, the dew, the broadening view Were found the same as they were before,

And it lost itself in beauties new, Breathing it's fragrance more and more.

Shall claim of death cause us to grieve and make our courage faint and fall?

Nay! Let us faith and hope receive—The rose still grows beyond the wall.

Scattering fragrance far and wide, Just as it did in days of yore,

Just as it did on the other side, Just as it will forevermore.

A.L.Frink

Etiquette of the Rustle

Rose rustling is a time honored tradition here in Texas, and indeed, around the world! There is a special thrill in spying an old rose on a forgotten byway, and bringing home a slip to root in our own gardens. In previous generations, there were perhaps more abandoned homesites and old, falling-down barns from which to scavenge these lovely survivors. Urban renewal, suburban and rural development, have encroached on the

wilds of the world, and just as wildlife habitats are changing, so is the environment of rose rustling!

There are a few simple but important rules to follow each time you rustle a rose. Please attend these rules carefully, and help to maintain the goodwill of the public, and the good name of the Texas Rose Rustlers. This organization does not endorse trespassing, nor removal of plant materials for which any would-be rustler does not have the proper authorization/permission to obtain. Simply stated, any rose that is not on your own property, probably belongs to someone else. It is the rustler's responsibility to investigate ownership, and ask permission to visit the site and take a cutting. In the event that a rose is found "wild", please make certain that you are not trespassing on government land, or property that is indeed under the care of an absentee owner.

After learning who the correct person would be to grant permission to visit and/or take a cutting from a rose you are interested in, it is a good idea to identify yourself politely, and explain the interest the rose holds for you. Tell them a little about the Texas Rose Rustlers, our mission to locate and preserve antique roses. Most people will be flattered by your interest, and gardeners are notoriously generous souls! In the event that you meet someone who is in possession of that perfect gem of a rose that does not share your enthusiasm, they may allow you to get your cutting and move along, or they may say "NO". In this event, respect that no does indeed mean no, and thank them for their time just the same. No lurking about to return after dark, no matter how tempting, either!

It is an excellent idea to carry a camera with you on your rustling forays, to take photographs of the blooms, the hips, the leaves, the entire plant, and any other details of note that may provide interest, or a clue about the identity of a found rose. Make notes about what you see in the environment, such as "growing vigorously into a pecan tree, blooming well in partial shade", or "shrub has extreme chlorosis, soil very moist and boggy".

Ask the owner questions about the plant: How long has it been here? Who planted it? Does it bloom in cycles throughout the year, or just in the spring or summer? Do you ever fertilize it, and if so, with what? Avoid criticism of any kind in regard to the health, location, culture or care of the rose! Make a pleasant experience of the interaction for yourself and the rose's caretaker! Offer to root another of this rose for its owner, or offer a trade of cuttings of a different rose of your own, in exchange for the cuttings. A thoughtful gesture is to gift the owner with a small portion of your favorite rose food in an "individual serving" sized bag or box. I have created decorative wax lined paper lunch sacks with a calligraphy marker, listing the ingredients of a mixture of

dry, organic fertilizers, with the instructions "Rose Chow: just add to soil around plant dripline, water thoroughly, and apply sunshine" It never fails to get a chuckle!

When taking your cuttings, be mindful of the health and size of the shrub, and never remove more than the plant can tolerate. Rustling some cuttings should not take the place of the annual pruning! The owner should not be prompted to wonder if the rose is going to have a hard time making it through the coming season!

Follow your visit with a thank you note or phone call within a few days. It is important to show appreciation for the good things in life, and what could be better than the sharing of a beautiful rose?

Respectfully submitted,
Alison Strong, Secretary

OUR NEXT EVENT.....

That wonderful time of year is coming, when birds have to use potholders to pull worms out of the ground: Texas Summer.

The Summer Rookie Meeting will be held again this year in the cool Air Conditioned comfort of Mercer Arboretum, July 9, 2005 at 10:30 am.- 3:00 with a break for lunch. Rustlers have been so generous to bring cookies and cakes, we want to expand the Mercer event to include lunch, so bring a sack lunch and plan to visit over lunch, with the second speaker and propagation demonstration after lunch. This will also give us time for a tour of the fascinating Arboretum gardens.

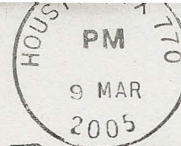
I have sad news to pass on. Pam Puryear, Navasota, Tx passed away. She is one of the founding members of TRR. I know some years back she fought cancer. Some of the found roses were named for her, Lady Pam now identified, Pam's Pink. She and Margaret thought of collecting for History of Texas. (News received just before going to printer) Mar 5,2005

Oh! Youth is the bud of the rose,
And Love is the flower full-blown,
And for Age are the dried rose petals;
The dry rose leaves are own,
Sweet-scented with youth long past,
And with promise of Heaven in store,
Where the rose shall blossom for ever,
And the rose leaves shall fall no more!

E.Nesbit



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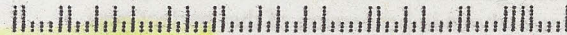
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Welcoming Committee Eric and Patty Varnado

Pruning tip learned by Rustler Donna Martin from Mike Shoup's Winter Clinic: BE RUTHLESS!

