

# The Old Texas Rose

Number 1

Winter 2004

[www.texas-rose-rustler.com](http://www.texas-rose-rustler.com)

## 2003 Fall Cutting Exchange

This past fall, the Texas Rose Rustlers gathered at the Harris County Extension Service in Houston for our annual fall Cutting Exchange. Rustlers traveled from all over Texas to share cuttings from their own gardens. Baggies, buckets, mason jars, even trash bags overflowed with clippings. As the exchange began, you could feel the intensity of excitement spreading. Of course, the ideal exchange would be where everyone present would have the opportunity to take 1-3 cuttings from each variety offered. Rustlers at a cutting exchange is like a kid being in a candy store. What a sight we must be for the onlookers!

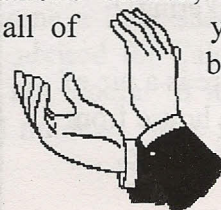
After the Exchange, we headed off to The Enchanted Forest, owned by Mr. Gary and Mrs. Betty Lenderman. Simply beautiful! They had all the usuals, many uniques and tons of treasures. They welcomed us with refreshments, and we were given a tour of the gardens by Mrs. Lenderman. Afterwards, we shopped till some of us literally dropped! We were even given permission to browse through their greenhouses! For those of us who did, we know what a treat that was! The

charming gift shop was a perfect end to a perfect visit. Thank you Gary and Betty from the bottom of our rustlin' hearts!

We ended the day with good ole Tex Mex at Los Cucos, where they accommodated our huge party of at least 30! Even though we had a reservation, I don't think they were prepared for our rowdy, ravenous, rustlin' bunch!

On Sunday morning, the ones still left standing met at the hotel and headed for the Krause's on the opposite side of Houston. Caravanning through Houston, are we nuts? But my "clippers go down" to those who planned the events, it all seemed to work out very well.

That leads me to the applauses ... Doana Fite, Ursula White, Audrey McMurray, Susan Miller, Clyde Cannon (and everyone at Harris County Extension Service), the Krauses, Herod Elementary, Corpus Christi Catholic Church, The Enchanted Forest ... without all of you, this weekend wouldn't have been all it was.





## Mark Your Calendars

Here are some important TRR dates to remember for 2004

**April 24-25, 2004** TRR Spring Symposium --- held in Paige, Texas

**July 24, 2004** TRR Summer rookie meeting --- Mercer Arboretum, Humble, TX

**October 9, 2004** TRR Fall Cutting Exchange - - tentatively set for Victoria, TX

### Notes from the Editor ...

Happy Holidays Rustlers! I'm sure you're all wondering about the house ... not finished yet. Maybe it'll be done by the time this issue is mailed out. Maybe not. 220 days and we're still counting.

I finally planted some roses this fall. My cuttings from last year were outgrowing their one gallon pots, so the hubby hooked up the tiller on the ole' Kubota and put a rose bed in. I just kept making comments like; "Goodness those cuttings sure are growing!" "Boy, I hate to have to move them into 2 gallon pots!" "Wouldn't it be nice to have a bed to put them in?" It was 6 ft. x 50 ft. and I planted 18 roses. Thank you to all who contributed roses to the, "Candy Fite I Have No Roses Foundation" I really appreciate them! I finally got a cutting from Mermaid to root. Call me crazy, but she's one of my favorites. Now ... where to plant her???

We added yet another horse to our family in September. He is Quarter Horse / Arabian cross. His name is Chance and he's 8 months old.

The girls are both doing very well in school and simply cannot wait to move into their new house! They both are looking forward to having their own rooms. Tell you the truth, so am I. No more bedtime bickering!

Here is a pic of the house from last month.



## About One of Our Own Rustlers

By Virginia Sissom

We meet four times a year, if our schedules permit, right? However, we don't have much down time to visit everyone during our outings. So, I thought it would be nice if we began getting to know each other a little better. Since she is hosting our Winter Pruning Clinic in January, I have chosen Phyllis DeGelleke to interview this time.

Phyllis and her daughter Faith Bickley (erroneously but lovingly introduced as Faith Hill at our meetings) serve as the TRR Welcoming Committee at our various functions.

Phyllis' hobbies have included taking Spanish classes in Ft. Worth, and reports her constant favorite "hobby" to be her family. She says she has always been an avid gardener. While living in Ft. Worth in the early 1980's, she was a docent at the Japanese Garden of the Ft. Worth Botanical Gardens, and worked there in both the Fragrance and Perennial Gardens as well. She got the "antique rose bug" at about the same time. A trip with Faith to the newly opened Antique Rose Emporium in Brenham soon followed. Phyllis' first antique roses were Safrano, Cornelia, and Bishop Darlington. Unwilling to abandon her roses, she and Faith took cuttings of them to propagate and bring to her new home being built in Glen Flora.

When asked which antique rose was her favorite, Phyllis said, "I change my mind each day!" Spoken like a true rosarian, right? At present, she favors single forms like Kirsten Poulsen and Dainty Bess, which she says resembles a dogwood flower.

Faith says her mother now tends between 90-100 antique rose bushes, with very few varieties being duplicated. And Faith herself has about as many antique roses in her garden across the street from her mom's place. We are invited to tour her garden as well on Jan. 31<sup>st</sup>. Both Rustlers say they are working hard at labeling all of Phyllis' roses so that when we tour the gardens we will have names to view along with each rose.





## Foods & Crafts Using Roses

By Virginia Sissom

Since the holidays are upon us, I thought a recipe from Woman's Day Magazine for an unusual fudge might be in order. It is not only tasty, but pretty, and will thrill your rose-loving guests, I'm sure. Enjoy!

### Vanilla-Rose Fudge

We used organic roses to embellish this fudge, but edible geraniums, pansies, violets, and orange blossoms would make tasty substitutions. Look for edible flowers in the produce section of your supermarket or in specialty gourmet shops. Whatever the source, just be sure no chemicals have been used.

Makes about 25 two in. squares.

#### Ingredients:

3 cups (about 1 lb.) white chocolate, chopped  
(I used Ghirardelli's brand from Sam's Club)

1 14oz. Can sweetened condensed milk

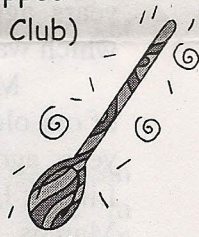
1 Tablespoon unsalted butter

1/8 teaspoon salt

1 1/2 teaspoons pure vanilla extract

1 Tablespoon edible rose petals, torn  
into 1/4" pieces

(I used kitchen scissors to cut them up small)



Directions: Line a 10-inch square pan with a piece of waxed paper large enough to cover the bottom and sides, and set aside. Combine the chocolate, sweetened condensed milk, butter, & salt in a medium saucepan and stir over low heat until the mixture is smooth—about 5 minutes. Add the vanilla extract and transfer mixture to the prepared pan. Smooth the top with an oiled rubber spatula. Sprinkle rose petals over the fudge and use the spatula to pat the petals onto the surface before it begins to set. Chill until firm—about three hours. Turn fudge out onto a baking sheet lined with waxed paper and cover tightly with plastic wrap. Chill overnight. Cut

the fudge into 2 inch squares or use a cookie cutter to cut out pretty shapes. Store refrigerated in an airtight container for up to 1 week.

### Notes from Serenity Pond

Patricia J. McCain

As the seasons change and the weather changes, so do the blooms on the roses. Spring and fall offer the most spectacular with the strongest fragrance. There are few roses, including our old faithful roses, which can produce during the hot dry summers. Some manage a few blooms occasionally. Often it requires the night air to be able to get a hint of the fragrances. Some roses seem to prefer to go dormant during the intense dry heat, here in this part of Texas, and do better if not watered. It is best not to expect these roses to produce during the dry heat. I have lost some roses by watering and the sister rose (another bush of the same rose); growing in a different spot, where no water can reach may survive. Others may die because of not getting enough water. So it is sometimes a balancing act here. There is one rose that will grow and bloom in spite of it all, Caldwell Pink.

Caldwell Pink is a found rose from Caldwell, TX. Caldwell is not that far from Bryan/College Station. When no other roses are blooming and it is a hot 100 degrees, Caldwell Pink will be covered in blooms. It is the Crape Myrtle of the roses. I have noticed among the Texas Rose Rustlers there is little said about this rose. Perhaps that is because it does not have fragrance, the blooms are not large nor the cabbage type. However the small, certainly not tiny, blooms are a soft, double, pink with some lilac tones. Since the blooms are in clusters they are very showy. This rose actually performs the best in the hot sun. It requires little to no care, thriving in the heat.

Some of the teas, I have noticed here at Serenity Pond, do not object to a little break from the hot afternoon sun; therefore welcome a little shade at that time of day. This is not advised for Caldwell Pink. If it gets shade, it will not bloom. If it gets shade, in rainy seasons it will mildew. Give it the



hot sun! It will grow where many things will not grow.

Because this rose is easy to root, easy to grow, it is the first rose I offer to people visiting Serenity Pond, and wishing to learn about rooting and growing the antique roses. I have a row of them that were started by just putting the cuttings in the ground where I wanted them to grow. Within the first summer I had blooms. So what a great reward this can be to a beginner. I have had those roses for some years and never fail to smile on hot summer days, when nothing else is blooming, and there are my old faithful Caldwell Pinks with their bright and cheerful blooms. It is now November and all my Caldwell Pinks are still in full bloom. This is a rose to be appreciated by all! Have a rosieeee day!

### Patricia's Caldwell Collection



### CUT FLOWERS

Sent in by Rustler Sandra Smith

To extend the life of flowers, cut them when it is cool, either in the morning or after sunset. Place stems as they are cut into a bucket of tepid water. Fill the sink with cool water and re-cut the stems to length. Remove all foliage below the water level of the vase. Fill the vase with room temperature water. Arrange flowers with the tallest towards the center. Use a commercial preservative or a homemade mixture of 1 tablespoon sugar, 1 teaspoon vinegar, 1 crushed aspirin and 24 ounces water. Fresh cut flowers will last a week or more if their stems are trimmed every other day.

### Roses from Past Rustles ...

By Frances Brandes

I thought I should write an article on the lost roses from some of our past rustles. Marion and I traveled to Victoria, TX back in early fall and we discovered that out of about 11 or 12 old roses, we only found about three left! Mme. Joseph Schwartz, "290 pink buttons" and a small red China. I believe we called the China "Evergreen Red" after the name of the cemetery where we rustled our roses back in the late 1980's. Well, talk about heartbreak and shock! We don't know why the roses are gone.


We know that through the years, there have been severe droughts, floods and chemical products like Round-Up used on certain roses to control them. Without knowing truly what happened, we are happy that we identified several of the roses and that we obtained cuttings for posterity! We know that St. Rose of Lima, in Schulenburg, lost several of their roses as well. Years later we went back and couldn't find "Joe's Rose" that we named after Joe Woodard of Dallas. Joe was the past editor of The Yellow Rose publication and passed away several years ago. We also didn't find Little White Pet, which was at that cemetery.


Marion and I may possibly go back to some of our old cemeteries to see if the roses we found 15 years ago still exist. These would be places such as Liberty Hill, out of Austin, New Braunfels and San Marcos, where we found "Margaret's Rose", and named that beautiful pink Tea with a knotted center and green pip. Does anyone have this rose? We also traveled to Livingston, TX and found some roses up in the piney woods. Some other towns are Marble Falls, Plano, Fayetteville, Rosenberg, Wallis, Columbus, La Grange and Rutersville.

I believe you know that Joe Cooper has stated that the huge cemetery in San Antonio, I can't remember the name, but Mr. Cooper will have it for sure. It contains many, many roses. It has antiques, moderns and minis. This cemetery no longer allows any rose to be planted in it. This is so sad; to me the roses add such beauty and interest to a cemetery. I guess the perpetual care and thorns are a problem to caretakers. They do not want to deal with the long canes, etc. The roses can survive for many years once the roots are established. This has been proven over and over. We can only mourn the demise of our past roses and hope that some people on boards



for the cemeteries will reconsider letting some roses to be planted. It is a fact that water is a big concern in some areas, but maybe they can use tough roses, such as Chinas, or hybrid Chinas. Let us not give up hope for these roses. Maybe, just maybe they are not all lost anytime soon! --

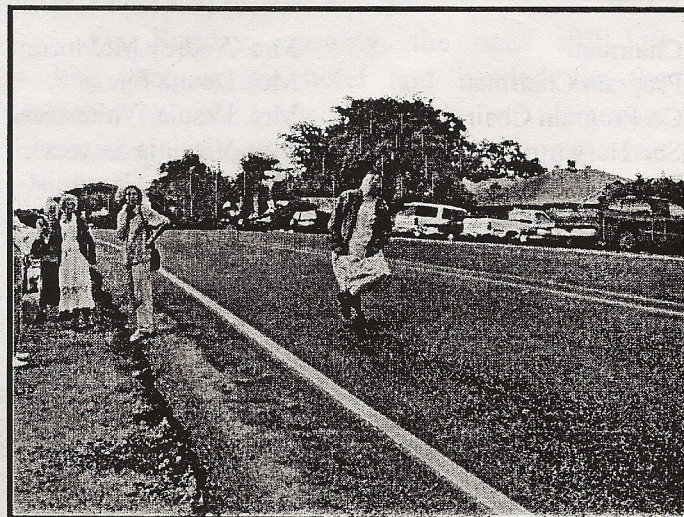
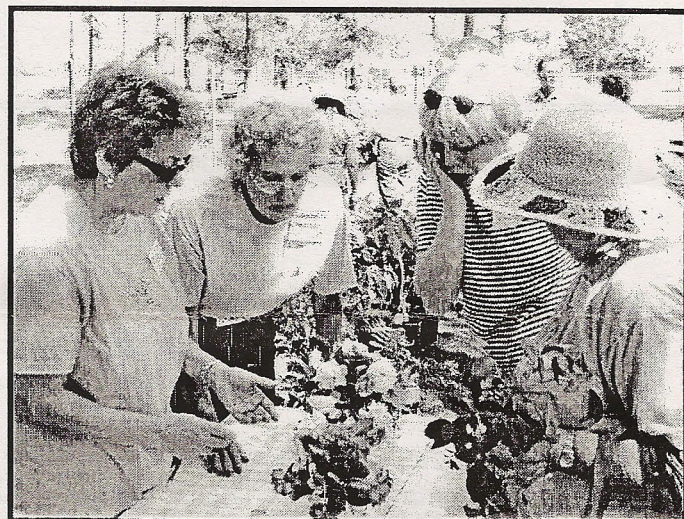
 **Sat. Jan. 31, 2004** (rain date: Feb. 7<sup>th</sup>): Workshop on "How to Prune Antique Roses and Root Cuttings," by Audrey McMurray and Candy Fite; 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the DeGelleke private gardens in Glen Flora, TX.; Free; Texas Rose Rustlers; Visit [www.texas-rose-rustlers.com](http://www.texas-rose-rustlers.com) for directions and details. This event is located southwest of Houston off of Hwy. 59.

 **Sat., Feb. 14, 2004:** Proper Pruning Techniques for Antique Roses Workshop; 9-11a.m., Mercer Arboretum and Botanical Garden, 22306 Aldine Westfield, Humble, TX.; Free; 281-443-8731; [www.cp4.hctx.net/mercer](http://www.cp4.hctx.net/mercer). Join Mercer staff and The Texas Rose Rustlers as they lead a hands-on training session/workshop on the correct pruning and care of antique roses, followed by a propagation demonstration. Now is the time to get those roses ready to bloom!



Please invite your members to "The Great American Prune-Off" at the American Garden Center in Shreveport, Louisiana on Saturday, February 21<sup>st</sup> from 9:00 until 5:00. Volunteers from all over will converge on the national rose garden to help prune the 20,000 bushes on the site. Lunch will be provided by the Shreveport Rose Society and for anyone wishing to contribute to the lunch, a dessert to be shared by all would be appreciated. The American Garden Center is located off of Exit 5, Interstate 20 East on Jefferson Paige Road. The gardens are 5 miles inside the Louisiana State Line and there are well-placed signs along I-20 directing visitors to the gardens. There is a huge OGR garden on the site that needs a lot of help. Your members could make a big difference. Anyone wanting more info can call me or e-mail.

Gaye Hammond  
Houston Rose Society  
713/236-2600  
[gayeh@oqlaw.com](mailto:gayeh@oqlaw.com)



Is that our Chairman dancing on the *highway*?





### The Texas Rose Rustlers

C/O Mrs. Candy Fite

8020 FM 2502

Brenham, TX 77833

First Class Mail

### Texas Rose Rustlers Board Members

Chairman	Mrs. Audrey McMurray	11031 Dunlap Dr., Houston, TX 77096	713-729-5307
Program Chairman	Mrs. Doana Fite	1715 Lake Geneva Ct., Houston, TX 77084	281-398-8210
Co-Program Chair.	Mrs. Ursula White	12103 Atwell, Houston, TX 77035	713-723-9217
Secretary	Mrs. Virginia Sissom	11615 Wolf Run Ln., Houston, TX 77065	281-955-2599
Treas./ Membership	Mrs. Gladys Cronquist	9730 Harrowgate, Houston, TX 77031	281-498-1488
Editor – OTR	Mrs. Candy Fite	8020 FM 2502, Brenham, TX 77833	979-277-9335
Webmaster	Mr. Joseph Cooper	P.O. Box 2176, Boerne, TX 78006	

Welcoming Committee

Faith Bickley and Phyllis DeGelleke

