

The Old Texas Rose

Number Four

Fall 2003

www.texas.rose.rustler.com

Texas Rose Rustlers 2003 Fall Cutting Exchange

Sept. 27-28, 2003

Harris Co. Ag. Extension Service,

2 Abercrombie Drive,

Houston, TX 77084

(Near Texas Hwy. 6 N. @ Patterson Rd.)

Our cutting exchange has had some extra pizzazz added this year. We have included enticing activities that should make it well worth the drive into Houston.

Early birds who come Sat. at 8 a.m. will get to take advantage of the Harris Co. Master Gardener's Fall Plant Sale! At 10:30, we'll conduct our rose cutting exchange. This is a great chance to share or trade clippings from our own antique roses. Please bring your cuttings in separately-marked bags, and come prepared with paper towels, resealable plastic bags, water, & permanent markers to mark what you take home to root. A small cooler or ice chest to keep the cuttings chilled until you reach home is also recommended. The full itinerary is provided at the end of this article. **Hotel info:** A block of rooms has been reserved at La Quinta Inn, 15225 I-10, Houston, TX 77094. Phone: 281-646-9200. Tell them you are with the Texas Rose Rustlers group.

Fall 2003 Cutting Exchange Schedule of Events:

Sat., Sept. 27

8:00 Harris Co. Ext. Service Fall Plant Sale.

Select from their own-rooted antique roses for \$12 apiece, and other plants as well.

10:30 – Cutting Exchange

11:30 – “Feeding for Better Blooms” and “Rose Propagation”, by Clyde Cannon, Master Gardener instructor.

Rose Lotto, followed by:

12:30 – Lunch on site. Bring a sack lunch & drink to enjoy on the grounds of the extension center OR join the group who orders lunch delivered to Bear Creek. Please bring chairs to use today.

1:30 – Mr. Cannon gives a tour of the gardens tended by Master Gardeners at the Center.

2:30 – Leave for Enchanted Forest, a unique nursery we will tour; at 10611 FM 2759, Richmond, TX.

6:00 – Group dinner at Los Cucos Mexican Restaurant/ go W. on Clay Rd. at Hwy. 6 to Jura St. / 281-859-3897.

(Changes may need to be made as time permits.)

This really happened...it's a true story.

By Audrey McMurray

You can believe it or not, but those of you who know me know that I'm not given to fits of delusion. And on my grandmother Mimi's grave, I swear it really took place.

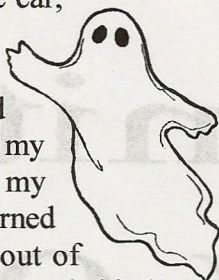
Last fall I had promised a friend I would try to start some Mrs. B. R. Cant cuttings from a planting of bushes near our local library. It wasn't until January that I had time to secure the church's permission and drive over there with my baggies, paper towels, etc. It was very early, about 6:30am, and the sun was up just enough to start turning the night's cold fog into a cool, misty morning.

Usually I love that time of day, when everything is quiet and no one is around to bother me, and since I had the church's permission, I felt comfortable taking the cuttings. So I can't really tell you why, but for some reason, I felt apprehensive as I snipped the cuttings. The atmosphere was heavy but I just figured it was due to the high humidity.

I took the cuttings back to the car, opened the back door and started to wrap them in paper towels, when someone ran up behind me and stopped just short of plowing into my back. I turned around to face my attacker and...no one was there. I turned back to my cuttings, talking myself out of panicking, when again, someone ran up behind me and stopped literally an inch from my back. I could feel "him" at the back of my neck. I wheeled around, mad now, ready to introduce my knee to his family plans and...no one was there.

Adrenalin makes a person do odd things. I lost my temper and started yelling as if to one of my errant students. "STOP THAT THIS MINUTE! For your information, I have PERMISSION to be here! When you rush at me like that y'like to give me a HEART ATTACK. Now BACK OFF!" "He" backed off.

A thought occurred on the way home. .. We love to visit cemeteries, right? Should our rustling etiquette include loudly "mentioning" to each other that we're there to save the roses, not steal them? Should we make sure to secure everyone's permission?



A B C Rustling

By Francis Brandes

Names of towns such as; Brenham, Bastrop, Boerne, Burton, Crosby, Corsicana, Center Point, Conroe, Caldwell, College Station, Columbus, Dime Box, Dallas, Dayton, Edna, Egypt, Fredericksburg, Fayetteville, Fort Worth, Gay Hill, Gonzales, Giddings, Galveston, Huffman, Houston, Industry, Independence, La Grange, La Porte, Liberty Hill, Livingston, La Vernia, Marble Falls, Marion, New Braunfels, Navasota, New Ulm, Orange, Pasadena, Port Lavaca, Plano, San Antonio, San Felipe, Saratoga, Sequin, Schulenburg, San Marcos, Thornton, Victoria, Wallis, Weimar and Waco. And these are just a few!

Marion and I used to travel all over Texas in search of old roses. We began to help organize rustles in the late 80's and early 90's. On many of these rustles, we found roses that were not yet in commerce or were found roses such as; "San Felipe White Noisette", "Schulenburg Apricot", "290 Pink Buttons", Tip-Top, "Caldwell Pink", Echo, "Joe's Rose", "Margaret's Rose", Texas Centennial, Golden Salmon, Fun Juan Lo (root stock), Dr. Huey (root stock), Mother's Day, Pink Rosette, Pom-Pom de Paris, Betty Prior (still in commerce but rare), Gartendirektor Otto Linne (also in commerce but rare). Many hybrid Chinas. Many lost Polyanthas and Hermosa, a pink China. Hermosa was found in a cemetery in Marble Falls. "Joe's Rose" was found in St. Rose of Lima, Catholic cemetery in Schulenburg on a rustle. It was a Poly-Tea, soft pink and very pretty. It no longer exists because of droughts and floods through the years.

"Margaret's Rose" was found in New Braunfels on a rustle. It is a large pink Tea with a large green knotted center, slightly fragrant. I took a picture of Margaret beside her rose, had it blown up to life-size, and we presented the picture to her at our fall cutting exchange in New Ulm, Industry, TX. November of 1990. "San Felipe White Noisette" was all over San Felipe and surrounding towns. The most interesting way we saw it being grown was on an old bed iron headboard in the family's yard we visited. Tip-Top, is a three colored Polyantha in the Victoria Evergreen Cemetery. It is from 1909, not very hardy, but very pretty and

Some of the Classic Old Roses: Tales of Early Rustling Days

By Pamela Ashworth Puryear

It is observable yet. All one must do is sneak up behind me and whisper, "red China" in my ear. This causes a strong shudder from my feet; I close my eyes tight and scream, "No!!!" This Pavlovian response is from years of frustrated searching of old nursery lists to be able to separate Slater's Crimson China from Cramoisi Superieur from Louis Philippe from R. Sanguinen and Rosa Chinensis Semperflorens. It got so bad that on early rustles, I would tromp over any such, while loudly proclaiming, "Where?" My Sanguineous Rosial Syndrome caught up with me several years ago when Mike generously offered "Martha Gonzales" in pots at a function. I was forced to confess that Joe Woodard was the one who took cutting I saw it back in commerce. My role was to plead with him to ignore the thing!

The only light on this perturbing question was shed by Peter Schaar from Dallas, who said that Cramoisi was the only one with a climbing form. If you grew that, you could pick out the bust Cramoisi.

Liz Druitt airily suggested simple to lump them all together as "Louis Superieur" there being ha'pennier difference between them anyway!

Almost in the same phobic category is the Yellow Tea. Marechal Neil is so distinct as not to fall into this cause celebre, but Perle des Jardins, Paul's Lemon Pillar, Lady Hillington, Marie Van Houtte, myriad Tea-ish Noisettes like, Celine Forestier, Jaune Desprez are another Bone of Contention.

All of the yellow Teas we collected in the early days seemed so ephemeral. "Amy Powell", named for my cousin, is growing on the west side of her house, is a case in point: It was pale yellow and distinctly quartered. To this day I don't know what it was. No one rooted it, and Amy's original died after she moved. All that's left is a few slides with question marks on them!

Mrs. Abersteeni from Bryan had a hotbed of yellow Teas, but when the long line of Rustlers conveyed on her house, she refused to talk to us. (We would, I admit, have scared anybody.) But I sent Tom Christopher with snippers around the side of the house, not for Marechal Neil (she had three)

but what "I'd taken to be" Paul's Lemon Pillar. Well, you know rustles, those cuttings evaporated, and all my scheming was in vain. Greg Grant later got cuttings of Marechal Neil that hadn't been in commerce. Those plants were more scented and more vigorous, but still not "up to" what it was originally.

The other classic yellow Tea site was an elderly lady's house on the west side of Brenham. Her name was Emma Renz. There was a big rose bush on the east side and one on the west, so their study names were "East Emma" and "West Emma" and both were something special. I think Bill Welch determined that "West Emma" was probably Perle des Jardins because the buds were urn-shaped and straw yellow. I have a Gone with the Wind lamp whose original shade was broken and a lady cousin painted a replacement of what I've taken to be Perle for the same reasons. As Perle was introduced in 1874, this would've certainly been the right time frame.

We never knew what "East Emma" was, and the next time I passed by there, the bush was gone. How many times has this happened to all of us?

Now that I have spoken of my Syndrome, we can get down to those roses I count among the Rustler's greatest successes.

To Bill Welch belongs the "Maggie" of love and legend. Doggone, once you grew – or even saw – one "Maggie" you spotted it all over the map. Its color varies the most of any rose, even the "gray" Gallicas. (I finally named it to myself as Raspberry Ice!) Its foliage is also distinctive and one can really tell its contribution to "Blaze." Also with the China descendants is the smell of black pepper on the pedicel, an odd thing to mix with the rose attar smell of flowers. But "Maggie's" greatest claim is its survivability. Its seed sister (according to Krussman) Gruss an Teplitz, takes a lot more fussing through the hot summers than "Maggie."

The first rose we collected was Old Blush. Still, nothing can beat her for sheer bloom and garden display. She came from the Odd Fellow Cemetery in Anderson—where there is no piped water! A hundred years on that hill should prove something!!!

I found the storied "Pam's Pink" in a trailer park on the north side of Navasota. It, too, is such an individual as to never be mistaken. We saw it again in front of an abandoned house in North

Zulch. The reflexing petals are a giveaway. All the Chinas darken instead of fade in strong sunlight, so PP's outer petals get darker "pencils" of rose as the year goes on.

Bill was just talking this week about driving down the street at East Columbia, and seeing the climbing Rosa Fortuniana (1845) still on the porch of the Ammon Underwood house there. I always had a "thing" for Robert Fortune. (He had a dimple on his chin.) Fortune is renowned for his expeditions to China and Japan in the 1840's and 1850's, where among other botanical goodies; he discovered Fortune's Double Yellow (R. pseudoindica) and R. anemoviflora.

Often the people are what one remembers from the early rustles. I treasure the picture of Margaret Sharpe whopping the battery of our stalled car with her shoe—of course, it ran perfectly thereafter. I recall the soggy cucumber sandwiches from the car trunk served to Joe Woodard and Buddy Harrison at a filling station in the dark and rain in Sealy—after a hurricane! The rose owners were so generous ...

Mrs. Carl Meyer was my favorite. She lived amid a veritable bower on the north side of Brenham. It was she, we got "Kronprinzessin Viktoria" (1888) from—one of which reverted back to "Souvenir de la Malmaison" to prove the point. Mike Shoup put the "half-and-half" bush in the place of honor at the Hairston cottage garden when they opened there in 1984.

But Mrs. Meyer had so many other fascinating things. She grew "Aloha", which is my vote for just about the only Hybrid Tea. "Cecile Brunner" scaled an elm tree and fell back down to submerge her garage!

I also remember fondly those folk—perhaps disbelieving—who came from afar to rustle with us. "Ink" Mendelsohn from the Smithsonian left many good friends in Texas. Her husband really got in the spirit and wore an Aggie cap during his sojourn. Ton Christopher and wife, Suzanne, O'Connell were our long term favorites. I don't know how Tom considers his book, In Search of Old Roses, now he has covered himself with horticultural glories "back east", but we all feel he will always belong a little to the Rustlers!

Another "old hand" was Tommy Adams, who worked for Mike as a propagator. I have to tell

DR2 meeting in Austin, but I took the time to cruise all the little towns along the way. In front of a ruined house on a back street in Paige was a wonderful, light pink rose. So I left cuttings in Independence on my way home. The next time I called over there, Tommy asked where I had gotten the cuttings and I told him. He said he didn't need them. I bristled all up to defend my orphan when he continued, "Because I already have the same thing under mist. I must have been within an hour of you when I got mine!" Thus it was that, that rose was study named "Eloise Adams" for Tom's mother and proved to be none other than "Clotilde Soupert!"

~Pamela Ashworth Puryear



Almanac Dates

... From Blum's Farmer's and Planter's Almanac for the Year 2003

For rooting all cuttings:

Oct: 12, 13, 17, 18, 23, 24

Nov: 9, 13, 14, 19, 20, 21, 22

Dec: 10, 11, 17, 18, 19, 20

For transplanting rooted cuttings & potted roses:

Oct: 25, 26, 29, 30

Nov: 26, 27

Dec: 23, 24, 28, 29

Pruning for increased blooming:

Oct: 17, 18, 23, 24

Nov: 13, 14, 21, 22

Dec: 10, 11, 19, 20

***Remember fall is an excellent time to move or transplant your roses, create new beds and mulch. Of course, we southerners can "show off" with a beautiful bouquet of roses as the Christmas dinner centerpiece, but after that let your roses enjoy a peaceful winter slumber.

The following is a list of roses that will be for sale at the Harris County Extension sale. The plant sale is from 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. The roses are in five gallon pots, and I've heard they are beautiful. The price is, get this folks, only \$12 each, with the exception of the Red Cascade, which is \$10. Along with these roses, there will be a large assortment of perennials, unusual / hard-to-find plants and herbs.

also having a free Symposium from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. For many of you die-hard gardeners who may want to skip lunch, you may be interested in their programming, which I've listed below.

Aloha
 Amazone
 Ballerina
 Basye's Blueberry
 Buff Beauty
 Caldwell Pink
 Chestnut Rose
 CL. Old Blush
 Cramoisi Superieur
 Dortmund
 Ducher
 Duchesse de Brabant
 Highway 290 Pink Buttons
 Katy Road Pink
 Lindee
 Louis Philippe
 Madame Joseph Schwartz
 Maggie
 Marie Pavie'
 Martha Gonzales
 Mrs. B.R. Cant
 Mrs. Dudley Cross
 Mrs. R.M. Finch
 Nearly Wild
 New Dawn
 Penelope
 Red Cascade
 Rev d Or
 Slater's Crimson China
 Swamp Rose
 The Fairy
 Ulrich Brunner Fils



10 a.m. 'Attracting Butterflies and Hummingbirds' –Given by J. Kolenovsky, GCTMN

11 a.m. 'Healthy Soil' –Given by Ray Wallace, GCTMN, HCMGA

12 p.m. 'Devil's Darning Needles & Snake Doctors—Dragonflies & Damselflies' –Given by Karen Breneman, GCTMN, HCMGA

We had a request to list all of the Officer's email addresses.

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If you're address label is highlighted, this will be your last issue. You're membership date will be on the bottom right corner of the label. If it says "W2004", you're last issue will be the winter '04 issue. For your convenience, please use this renewal form and mail it to Gladys Cronquist at 9730 Harrowgate, Houston, TX 77031.



The Old Texas Rose
 Newsletter of The Texas Rose Rustlers

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

email (optional): _____

(Include on TRR distribution list? Yes ☐ No ☐)

Membership / Subscription is \$10 yearly. Make checks or money orders payable to: Texas Rose Rustlers and mail to Gladys Cronquist, 9730 Harrowgate, Houston, TX 77031.

The Texas Rose Rustlers
c/o Mrs. Candy Fite
8020 FM 2502
Brenham, TX 77833



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Hummingbirds - Given by J. Kolonovsky, GCTM

Healy Soil - Given by Ray Wallace, GCTM, HCMGA

Devil's Darning Needles & Snakes - Given by Doctors - Dragonflies & Damselflies - Given by Karen Bretneman, GCTM, HCMGA

We had a request to list all of the Officer's email addresses

Ulrich Brunner File
The Fairy
Swamp Rose
Stater's Crimson Chin
Rev d Or
Red Cascade
Pencino
New Dawn

