

God Bless America

The events of September 11th 2001 will forever live on in our memories. Our thoughts and prayers are with those who have lost loved ones. We also keep those brave heroes who are working non stop in the hopes of rescuing one more person in our prayers. As the country comes together we also send prayers and thoughts to those who guide our country that they might make the decisions that would bring our enemies to justice or bring justice to our enemies.

A common feeling in everyday national debates and problems is one of helplessness. The problems seem so big that they overwhelm and lead to statements such as "what can one person do?" The reactions of Americans to this crisis have been proof positive that such feelings give way when confronted by these kinds of events. From the donating of blood to the millions of dollars donated to charities the true character of this great country has been shown. Never before have we been as proud to be called Americans.

As gardeners we are more likely than most to memorialize someone in the form of planting a tree, a rose, or a small garden. Let us memorialize those who have fallen in this attack on our freedom, from the innocent people living their everyday lives to those brave firemen, policemen, and emergency workers who ran towards danger, to all those whose lives will never be the same.

Did you know?

Ursula White and Audrey McMurray were involved in a auto accident recently. Ursula suffered a broken arm and Audrey was laid up for a short while. They are both recuperating and can still use our thoughts and prayers.

There's a new, (well kinda new), publication out that's geared towards organic gardeners here in the great state of Texas. It's called Homegrown, and it features articles that cover the whole spectrum of plants that do well here in our climate. Past issues have featured many of our favorite old roses. Other plants featured have included Crinum and many of the vegetables and herbs we all like. There have also been articles by some of our past speakers such as Greg Grant.

You can check them out at www.homegrowntexas.com
You can also reach them at,
Homegrown
P.O. Box 913
Georgetown, TX 78627
512- 930-5576

You may notice that one of the pages in this issue is lined up differently than the others. It's a handout about us that Joe Cooper was nice enough to make for the Houston Rose Society. I've included it in this issue for a couple of reasons. One is that it's just good

writing and does more to explain why and who we are than anything I've seen in awhile. Joe is to be highly commended for putting out such a good brochure. The other reason is so that individual members can take it out and make copies to give to people. We've all had visitors or people we've run into at nurseries who want to know more about our group. Now all you have to do is make a few copies and keep them in your glovebox, next to the pruners of course, and hand them out as needed. Another good idea would be to drop off several copies at local nurseries especially in the Spring when gardening fever is running it's hottest. Who knows, maybe someone will read about us and put back that waxy caned scentless annual rose and pick up a real beauty like **Perle D'Or!!**

Dues Change

After many years of charging \$7 a year the board members have decided to raise the dues to \$8 a year. The increase will help cover meeting expenses and other regular business. It will also allow us to purchase a plaque for the Margaret Sharpe Memorial Garden and will be used for other extra projects in the future. Look for a article in the near future outlining some of the special projects we're considering.

The rate change will take effect on January 1st 2002.

Our Next Event
The Fall Cutting Exchange
Saturday, October 20, 2001

Earle-Harrison House and Pape
Gardens in Waco

11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Phone: 254-753-2032

**What To Bring To A Cutting
Exchange**

by Candy Fite

If you have been to one of our cutting exchanges, you already know what to expect. But for those of you who have never been to one, here are a few items you may want to bring:

- Rose cuttings to share, (see below for instructions)
- 1 gallon freezer Ziploc baggies
- Paper towels
- Water
- Marker, (to label your baggies of cuttings)

If you are interested in learning how to propagate your cuttings, we will be giving a demonstration after the exchange. If you would like to participate in a hands-on learning experience, here are a few supplies you will need:

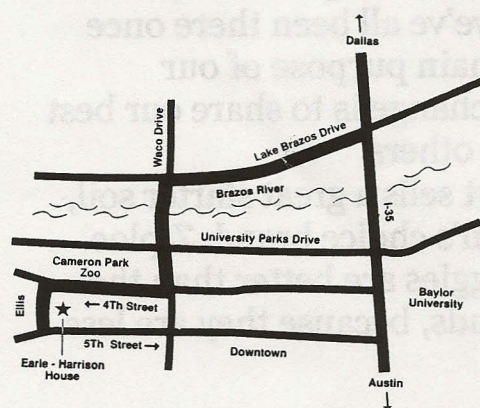
- A good quality starter soil, (small bag)
- Peat pots, a size that you prefer
- Rooting powder
- Small, clean utility knife, (I buy the little cheap ones, for like \$1.00)
- Baggies
- Water

Here are some tips for anyone new...The morning of the exchange, walk amongst your roses and take cuttings from healthy growth. It is important not to use growth that is too young, (usually it has a reddish tinge and will be very flexible). A healthy cutting will show no sign of disease and may have recently bloomed. The width of the cutting should be somewhere around the width of a pencil. Although, I have found that cuttings smaller, even half that width, will do okay. You want your cuttings to be around 5-8 inches long and have at least four sets of leaves on it. If you are unsure of just where and how to take cuttings, just do some pruning and bring what you cut. Most rustlers going through the baggies will have an idea of what is a good cutting. Place your cuttings in baggies with wet paper towels to keep them moist. LABEL each baggie according to the name of the rose inside. If the rose is unidentified, write bloom color, size of rose, and any other characteristic you want to include. It is important to keep them cool, maybe pack them in a cooler. If you don't have anything to share, don't feel bad, we've all been there once too! The main purpose of our cutting exchange is to share our best roses with others.

Walmart sells a great starter soil, it's the Sam's choice brand. Ziploc freezer baggies are better than the cheap brands, because they are less

likely to leak. The peat pots I find that work the best, are the "Jiffy-Strips" peat pots that are made by Better Homes and Gardens. The size of the peat pots that work best for the gallon baggies, are the 2 1/2 inch pots. I find them at Walmart, usually on clearance! Although, there are many different methods of propagation, the "baggie" method, will be the one demonstrated. For anyone who has another method and would like to share, please bring your supplies for your demonstration.

The time listed above is just for the exchange and lunch. We have been invited to tour the gardens and will do so after lunch and cleanup. A few of us will be staying overnight in town. If you would like to join us overnight, we will be staying at the Waco University La Quinta. The gardens are located at 1901 North Fifth Street in Waco, the phone number is 1-817-753-2032. For further directions to the gardens, please see the map in this issue. So gather those cuttings, pack a lunch and join us for some rosy fellowship! See you there!



Apologia Larcenium Rosium

by Pamela Puryear

One dull dog days afternoon, while surfing about, I came across Gardenweb's Seed Exchange. A fun web site. I got on the Southern Forum and was reading a few of their recent postings. One young lady was asking what one called it when one liberated seeds, cuttings, and suckers of plant material from untended gardens. She wanted a pleasant euphemism for hard, ugly words like "theft."

This pretty well hit me where I live. I shall paint a tee shirt "Mea Culpa" because it was I-yo-moi- who invented the greatest outdoor sport since organized war. I am the Founding Mother, I always admit, of Rose Rustling. It all began in 1979 with the First Great Rose Hunt. Of course, Dr. Bill Welch, S.J. Derby, and Margaret Sharpe were my co-founders, but they never acquired the same name for larceny that I had. Bill, for instance, only asked one little lady if he could have some rose cuttings, and she slammed the door in his face. I told him not to interrupt her soap opera! Naturally, I and the Others Who Shall Remain Nameless were busily snipping while he was asking!!

Now I have lead a full life and have studied and written on many topics like the history of the Republic of Texas, steamboats, Victorian clothing, etc. But somehow, the liberation of rose

cuttings hit the public fancy, and so I early on resigned myself to being the woman who steals roses.

How that began was in 1980 I wrote a short puff for the Heritage Rose Group News Letter, and the regional coordinator, Carl Cato of Virginia, prefixed the article with the Rustlers tag, and so we have been ever since.

But I maintain that the sharp spur of acquisition motivates any great gardener, a trait that I call "wanting to hab it." The sight of a lush old rose bush will arouse a burning feeling of greed, lust, and covetousness in the old rosers' breast! The Tenth Commandment does not specify this, but it should. we had all better work hard on those first nine because the Tenth is Hopeless. Thou shalt not covet the **Souvenir de la Malmaison** that is thy neighbors'.

However, I also maintain that we here in Texas are NOT alone in these Primordial Urges. Our soul mate is Trevor Nottle of Australia, the respected writer of many gardening books. In one introduction, he nostalgically describes his fall from grace, when at the age of twelve, he dug a lovely iris from the path he walked to school. I consider that this shows that he is both a Great Gardener, and an Honest Man. In the sense, of course, that he is willing to confess his transgression to a worldwide audience of readers, no matter how

sympathetic!

If my tee shirt reads Mea Culpa, my undies are embroidered "God Giveth the Increase." This dicta, besides giving Credit where due, also relegates the present owners to their proper position as stewards of the plant material which their Creator always intended should be shared. Seeds are obviously meant to wing their way not only to the vacant lot next door, but also around the world in envelopes! Bulbs really must be divided to perform at all well. And why do Gallicas sucker if not to make babies to share with horticultural friends! Cuttings, however, are rather another matter; so for them we arrived at another euphemism. I have written in these pages of our adventures a couple of years ago. A group left the inspiration of a meeting at Mikes in Independence, and visited some selected bushes in the Odd Fellows' Cemetery in Anderson. Our reason for taking those cuttings was that we were "pruning the bushes for shape." And, of course, sacking and going off with the pieces. So, whatever your excuse, you have two well-thought-out reasons for it.

There is, I fear, another side to the question which I hesitate to cover. A lovely couple who were the pillars of the Houston Rose Society once introduced themselves to me by saying, "You know, we once passed by your yard in Navasota, and wanted to rustle you!"

Homemade Medina

Here's the Medina Recipe "This is the homemade recipe for the very popular product expounded by "Ole Dew", Dewey Compton, on radio and TV back in the '70's & '80's. It is a SOIL ACTIVATOR only. Since it only contains basic mineral elements it will last long if stored in a glass or plastic container in a cool place.

Mix the following into a 1-gallon container of water to make the concentrate. Store in a cool place. Shake well before using.

3 Tablespoons of "Copperas"(Iron Sulfate) or Ferrous Sulfate

2 Teaspoons of Zinc Sulphate

2 Tablespoons of Epsom Salts (Magnesium Sulphate) get from any grocery or pharmacy or garden store.

THIS IS NOT A FERTILIZER. IT IS JUST A SOIL ACTIVATOR.

For Potted & Indoor Plants: mix 5 or 6 Tablespoons of concentrate per one gallon of water. Apply to both foliage & soil every 2 or 3 weeks as a normal watering.

For Outdoor Shrubs & Roses: Mix 1 cup of the concentrate to 1 1/4 gallons of water. Rake around base of plant & apply 1 gallon of mixture to both soil and foliage in the late afternoon to avoid sun damage from water drops acting as a lens on the leaves to make burn spots due to magnified sun rays. Do this about three times a year."

●● Almanac Dates ●●

from Blum's Farmer's and Planter's Almanac

For rooting all cuttings

November: 2, 5-6, 12-15

December: 3-4, 9-13

January: 6-9

For transplanting cuttings and potted roses

November: 15-16, 19-21

December: 16-18, 21-22

January: 14, 18-19

To prune roses for increased blooming

November: 5-6, 14-15

December: 3-4, 11-13

January: 8-9

Roses for Southern Gardens

by Bessie Mary Baird

"Roses Belong In Every Southern Garden"

..."Roses in the yard of every Southern home"- be it ever so humble. Man cannot live by bread alone, or even served up bountifully with fried chicken on the side. For the good of his esthetic soul, he needs the stimulus that only roses blooming in the Spring can give. In this Southland of ours, there are varieties which cost so little in effort, but which return so much. There are roses for every yard.

Membership costs \$8.00 a year for those in the United States and slightly higher for those out of the country. Upon joining, you will receive a one-yr. subscription to our newsletter, published quarterly. If you would just like a sample copy of our newsletter, send \$1, your mailing address, and indicate this request to our Treasurer, whose address appears below.

For those interested in joining our group, please print and fill out the form on this page. Mail the completed form below along with \$8.00, check or money order to –

Gladys Cronquist, Treasurer

9730 Harrowgate

Houston, TX 77031

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"THE OLD TEXAS ROSE"

**NEWSLETTER OF THE TEXAS ROSE
RUSTLERS**

Brazos Symposium of Old Rose Enthusiasts

4 Issues Yearly

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THE TEXAS ROSE RUSTLERS



The Texas Rose Rustlers is a group of old rose enthusiasts, mostly from the Houston and Central Texas areas, who search for specimens of surviving "old roses" in promising locations, such as cemeteries and older communities.

We are an organization of old rose enthusiasts whose mission is twofold:

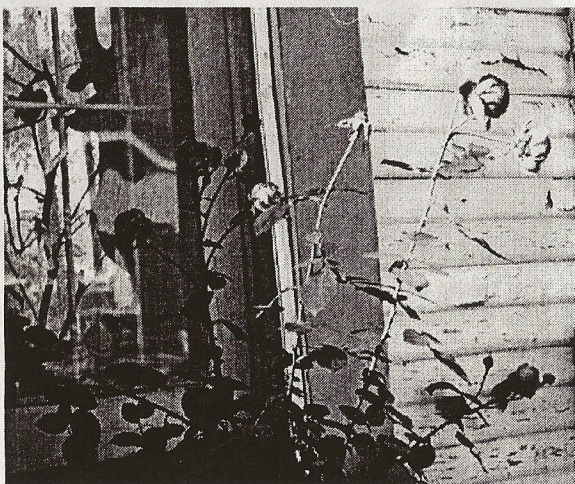
- ♦ To collect, preserve, and study old garden roses
- ♦ To share knowledge about the cultivation of old or antique roses and historical facts appropriate to their growing.

From humble beginnings in the early 1980's, the Texas Rose Rustlers have made a major contribution to the worldwide revival of interest in "Old Roses", and have helped reintroduce many of these treasures into commerce.

With the widespread availability of access to the World Wide Web, the Texas Rose Rustlers have become a major source of information. Literally hundreds of "Old Rose Enthusiasts" all over the United States, and throughout the world, regularly share information and help each other identify newly "found" roses.

OUR GOAL IS PRESERVATION

At the beginning of the 20th century there were more than 10,000 varieties of these wonderful old roses in commerce. However, by 1980 only about a thousand varieties were still known to exist.



That is when the Texas Rose Rustlers was formed and "Old Rose Enthusiasts" fanned out across the countryside, searching for the thousands of varieties of roses waiting out there in old neighborhoods, cemeteries, and at abandoned home sites.

Through the efforts of the Texas Rose Rustlers, many of these wonderful plants have been discovered, rescued from the jaws of extinction. Now many of these roses are available through nurseries specializing in "Old Roses".

When we find an old rose, we ask permission and then take cuttings, being careful never to damage the "mother plant". When the cuttings root, we plant them in our gardens where we can study and observe them over a period of time. The process of identifying a "found" rose can take several years of research.

IN THE CITY, ACROSS THE STATE, AROUND THE WORLD

Rose Rustling is great fun, and it is a very worthwhile activity. The whole focus is to collect and identify as many roses as possible, as quickly as possible, and many "rustlers" always carry clippers and baggies whenever they are out and about.

Rose Rustling is a great experience to share with friends and fellow enthusiasts. It is also a great way to meet people and make new friends that share your passion for roses.

Innumerable impromptu "rustles" happen after work, on weekends, or whenever and wherever the opportunity presents itself. And these spontaneous "rustles" are the stuff from which wonderful memories are made.



Beyond the limits of your local area, the World Wide Web provides many opportunities to correspond, and exchange cuttings with "rustlers" all over the world.

OUR GOAL IS SHARING

We believe that knowledge and experience should be shared, and we make every effort to help others learn how to make cuttings and grow and care for these wonderful old roses.



The Texas Rose Rustlers maintains a very informative Internet web site that contains a wealth of reference and "How To" information.

www.texas-rose-rustlers.com

The Texas Rose Rustlers also sponsors three get-togethers each year.

- ♦ Spring Symposium & Bloom Display
- ♦ Summer Rookie Meeting
- ♦ Fall Cutting Exchange

If you would like to learn how to root old rose cuttings, if you have a rose you would like identified, or if you simply want to meet and learn more about the Texas Rose Rustlers, we invite you to visit one of these meetings.

Meeting dates and locations are published in the *News & Events* section of our web site.

Classic Old Texas Rose

Believe it or not The Old Texas Rose is coming up on its 20th year. To celebrate this occasion we're going to be running some "Best Of" articles from some of the early days. So hold on as we tear through the countryside Rustlin Roses!

The Rustle, 1984

This year when planning the Rustle, President Bill Welch instructed me that we were too many and too civilized to go out and pillage the countryside as had been our won't. We would just do our nursery tour, picnic, and afternoon lecture. Joe Woodard had requested the day, November 4th. A few weeks before Buddy Harrison called and in a small voice asked we have a Rustle the Saturday before. I was overjoyed, you can't take the "rustle" out of old Texas Rustlers!

*So Buddy, Joe, and eleven other Dallas/Fort Worth folks drove down. Saturday afternoon we all convoyed off to loot in the Navasota environs. Jessie Mae Nelms gave us cuttings of **Pams Pink**, that wily China as yet unnamed, and her huge yellow tea, discovered by Cleo Barnwell, (who hopes it will prove to be **Perle Des Jardins**). A rent house yard yielded both **Cecile Brunner** and **Bloomfield Abundance**, though I'm sure we couldn't help getting those cuttings mixed. Both were*

blooming and Joe showed the fuller flowers and different habit of Bloomfield.

*Another rent house was vacant, but gave us the "**Cute Rose**", name by Susan Urshel Schmidt for its dwarf China habit.*

*The by now famous "**Hole Rose**" was visited again, and after pairing it side by side I'm sure its **Marie van Houtte**.*

*South of town Martha Gonzalez tolerated us another year. We are assured her Tea is **Mrs Dudley Cross**, 1907, because of its lack of thorns. Cleo identified her small red China as "**Dresden**".*

*Another yard in this general area had something that looked like Champney's, plus a long budded pink Tea, that I christened "**Helen**" for Mrs Woodard. One cutting tenuously clings to life in my mister!*

The Rustlers, weary but unbowed, returned to my house where Missie fed us homemade hamburgers, and we caught up on lots of good rose gossip.

From December 1984, by Pamela Puryear

BACK ISSUES OF OTR:

1982: _Sept. _Dec	1990: _Win. _Spr. _Sum. _Fall	1998: _Win. _Spr. _Sum. _Fall
1983: _May _July _Sep. _Dec.	1991: _Win. _Spr. _Sum. _Fall	1999: _Win. _Spr. _Sum. _Fall
1984: _May _Sep. _Dec.	1992: _Win. _Spr. _Sum. _Fall	2000: _Win. _Spr. _Sum. _Fall
1985: _March _May _Sept. _Dec.	1993: _Win. _Spr. _Sum. _Fall	2001: _Win _Spr. _Sum.
1986: _May _Sep.	1994: _Win. _Spr. _Sum. _Fall	
1987: _Win. _Spr. _Sum. _Fall	1995: _Win. _Spr. _Sum. _Fall	
1988: _Win. _Spr. _Sum. _Fall	1996: _Win. _Spr. _Sum. _Fall	
1989: _Win. _Spr. _Sum. _Fall	1997: _Win. _Fall(only)	

(Please note: The quality of most of the issues prior to 1986 is poor. Copies will come out darker than usual.)

Subscription Information: \$8.00 a year for four issues. For back issues please check the issues you would like to order. Please make all checks payable to:

Mrs. Gladys Cronquist, Treasurer
9730 Harrowgate,
Houston, TX 77031

TOTAL COPIES ORDERED @ \$1.00 EACH = _____

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