

NUMBER 3

SUMMER 1999

www.texas-rose-rustlers.com

Summer Rookie Rustler Meeting Mercer Arboretum

July 24, 1999
10am - 12noon*

The summer meeting is usually planned for rookie Rustlers and newcomers who could use some advice on how to garden in our, um...challenging conditions, but even experienced gardeners will like to hear about hardy companion plants and butterfly gardens!

- 10:00am Announcements/Introductions
- 10:15am Brenda "B.K." Doerge, ~~Master Gardener~~ from Mercer Arboretum will speak on plants hardy to our area as well as offer tips on gardening
- 10:45am Lotto drawing
- 11:00am Cindy Tournier, Master Gardener from Ryan's Nursery on N. Fry Rd., Katy, Texas will speak about butterflies in our gardens and what to plant so that you can attract the winged beauties in your own garden.
- 11:20am Lotto drawing/Q&A
- 11:30am Demonstration: two different ways to root your rose cuttings.

*After the program ends around noon, interested Rustlers are invited to stay for a programming meeting, to discuss next year's events.

1999 Texas Rose Rustler Spring Symposium a Great Success!

On April 24, 1999, eighty-three Rustlers and friends, not to mention interested customers of the Antique Rose Emporium, stopped by the Chapel to hear our wonderful speakers and see the lovely blooms on display.

Many thanks to Mike Shoup, owner of the Antique Rose Emporium for his hospitality and generosity. The chapel, the refreshments, his speech and the donated roses for our Lotto drawing were all first-rate! Thanks too, to Dr. Bill Welch for his great advice and super slides and Brenda Beust Smith for her humorous advice and her super slides. We were spoiled that day with the best of the best. Next time you see Earl Krause, give him a big pat on the back for setting up that Symposium!

And save a pat for Candy Fite for agreeing to follow in Earl Krause's and Frances Brandes' footsteps as Program Chairman. We're sure she'll do a great job!

| | | | |
|----------------|----------------------|--|---------------|
| CHAIRMAN | Mrs. Eunice Roberts | 6845 Cayton, Houston, TX 77061 | (713)643-8704 |
| PROGRAM CHM. | Mrs. Candy Fite | 6910 Pembrough Ln., Katy, TX 77494 | (281)395-9806 |
| TREAS./MEMBERS | Mrs. Lucille Idom | 13106 Blythe, Houston, TX 77015 | (713)453-1274 |
| EDITOR-OTR | Mrs. Audrey McMurray | 11031 Dunlap, Houston, TX 77096 | (713)729-5307 |
| WEBMASTER | Mr. Joseph Cooper | 321 W. Craig Pl, San Antonio, TX 78212 | (210)736-2383 |
| SECRETARY | Mrs. Virginia Sissom | 11615 Wolf Run Ln., Houston, TX 77065 | (281)955-2599 |

Did you know?...



Our condolences to Earl and Deanna Krause on the death of Deanna's father.

Condolences too, to Joe and Juanita Cooper on the death of Joe's father.

May they rest in peace.



Got a note from Darla Gips re: the results of our efforts at her mom's place in Splendora: "...I was going to take a picture of the rose arbor that you and everybody worked on last year to show you what a difference a year makes. It is completely covered this year (mostly with **Crepuscule** and **San Felipe Noisette**). Also, **Climbing Souvenir de la Malmaison** bloomed really well earlier in the spring. The yellow climber, **Perle des Jardins**, didn't bloom much, but I expect it to later this summer - at least I hope.

Almost all of the roses on the island are doing pretty well - they sure look better than a year ago. I'll send you a picture when I take one. Even the **Old Blush** hedge that got trimmed back so severely is doing OK. Talk to you later. Darla".



Have you ever seen those little packets of dried beads that swell when poured in water? They are sold under various names - WaterSaver is the one that comes to mind - for a dear price. Next time you would like to add some of those to your potting soil so you won't have to water as often, consider buying a package of diapers instead. They contain the same polyacrylamide gel beads as those tiny packets, for a fraction of the cost.

Soak the diaper in a bucket of water. Slice the inside liner after the diaper has swollen, and hundreds of gel beads will pour out, along with

cottony fibers. Strain out the excess water and then use them, fibers and all, in your potting soil, just as you would the gel beads from those little packets.

I like to let them dry out a bit so the potting soil doesn't turn out so sloshy. I just leave them spread out in a shallow pan for a couple of days, until they are easier to handle.



I have received lovely letters from an old garden rose group that is based in California but publishes material from all over the United States and abroad: the Heritage Rose Group. Most veteran Rustlers know of Miriam Wilkins and Marlea Graham and the work they do to spread the word about OGR's, but as a still-fairly-new editor, I had the pleasure of "meeting" them only recently. I look forward to sharing tidbits from their publications with you. If you would like to join their group and receive their publications, contact our very own Conrad Tips, who is also their South-Central Co-ordinator and writes a newsletter for this region which is included in their quarterly publication at no extra cost. Dues are \$6.00/year (made out to Conrad Tips) and can be mailed to Conrad at 1007 Highland Ave., Houston, TX 77009.



Guess who is back in the saddle?

Our old friend, Mike Peters. His new publication, Gardening on the Gulf Coast, is published bi-monthly. I had a look at the May/June issue and was pleased to see the colorful photos and wit of Mike one comes to expect after reading his work. Gardening on the Gulf Coast is a great resource if you are looking for a nursery or gardening specialty and offers tips for gardening in this area. It is also a Who's Who of gardeners! The basic subscription rate is \$19.95 for six issues and can be mailed to their business office at 4507 Inman St., Houston, TX 77020.

Future Events

October 23

Cutting Exchange and tour of the roses in Wendish country. Meet at 10am under the covered barbecue pits and tables in front of St. Luke's Lutheran Church beside the Wendish Heritage Museum in Serbin.

WANNA RUSTLE UP A LITTLE FUN?

Organize your own mini-Rustle!

by Candy Fite

Over the years the Texas Rose Rustlers have successfully grown into a very large group. An "old-fashioned" rustle including all of our members could now be damaging to the lives of the roses. Too many clippers on any one rose bush could give it a terrible hair cut!

Rose rustling is meant to cherish, preserve and protect the plants. It is a conservation method to keep the long-forgotten roses alive. Old cemeteries, abandoned home sites, or an old garden in need of pruning are all great places to meet.

Small groups consisting of 10 to 15 people would be most desirable. Remember, in organizing a rustle we would need precise directions and of course, permission. Meeting the owners and learning of the rose's flowery past is half the fun! Usually if you meet someone who grows the old fashioned beauties they will be more than happy to share.

So, if you know of a great location, volunteer to organize a "mini" rustle. Let's help preserve these living heirlooms of our yesteryears, so that they survive for generations to come. For more information, or if you interested in organizing a rustle, contact Candy Fite at 281-395-9806 or ldybugs@hotmail.com.

Many Thanks to Those Who Helped with the Clean Up Day at Pam Puryear's House in Navasota!

Twenty-one people responded to the request for help in clearing away construction material, overgrown vegetation and debris from around Pam's historic home. This will enable Team Home Depot to work on reconstructing and repairing it.

There was not enough time to work all the way around the house, unfortunately, so another date will be set up, probably in August, to complete the job. Stay tuned to our TRR Homepage at www.texas-rose-rustlers.com or contact Audrey McMurray (jamac80@yahoo.com or address/phone on page 1) if you would be willing to help out at that time.

Many thanks to:

Earl & Deanna Krause

Ray Ponton

Terry & Jackie Fischer

Wendy Fischer

Janice Dowdy

Audrey McMurray

Dr. Fred Seay

Sandra Williams

Ursel Lange

Susan Miller

James & Sharon Thompson

Pat Drilling

Patricia McCain

Charmain Burts

Robert Stiba

Retha Groom

Steven Jinkins

Gary Vamvakias

Special mention should be made of Steve Jinkins and Gary Vamvakias of Pin Oak Home Depot in Houston. They deserve a special thank you for driving out to Navasota, sometimes immediately after getting off of work, instead of going home to rest and be with their families. Steve is actively seeking to secure funds and manpower to restore Pam's lovely home. Home Depot is able to help out some, but it will be a costly job and more monies will need to be secured.

If you are ever in the Pin Oak Home Depot at US 59/Loop 610 in Houston, please take the time to put in a word of thanks with Steve and Gary's manager for their and Home Depot's efforts.

**The Following is an E-mail
received last week
from Helen Ciancimino:**

Have a question. Tried Rosarians, but they didn't answer. Maybe I'm too much of a novice.

Last year swiped a number of cuttings from a pink rosebush at empty house. Some grew but produced red roses. Also they put out suckers, I guess, with no flowers (have cut off the suckers, which had thorns) while the cuttings and original bush did not have thorns. Was surprised that from a pink bush I'd get red roses. Original bush was not a tea rose, it had multiple blossoms. And I really wanted some pink roses--I have several red teas, plus a beautiful Tropicana tea, plus a Cary Grant pink. Would appreciate if you can answer why my cuttings didn't match the original bush.

Thanks, helenc@pdq.net

The message was forwarded to several Rustlers who answered thus:

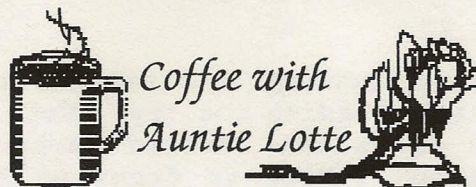
AM: I had a similar experience with a rose an acquaintance swore was blood-red and climbing up a two-story house in New Jersey. I got a cutting of the original plant, which he had pruned back severely and brought down to Texas in a huge garbage can, and darn if it wasn't a peach-pink! I asked several rosarian friends about this and they said they knew that different soils and climes could produce slightly different colors and growth patterns, but not quite SO dramatic! They all identified the rose as Lafter.

MB & JC: It was probably on root stock which suckered to produce the red bloom and the grafted plant part was the peach-pink blooming wood! The red rose she describes could well be Dr. Huey, a common rootstock.

Helen replied: I took many cuttings from blooming tips and only a few took, but they've turned out red blooms. Then they put out suckers with thorns--original bush didn't have thorns, but was covered with pink blooms. I've cut off the suckers as they didn't seem to be going to bloom.

So folks, if Helen took cuttings from the blooming tips of a bush that had pink roses, and the cuttings produced red roses...what could have been the reason? Helen's address is 23011

Sandpiper Trails, Spring, TX 77373 or
email her at helenc@pdq.net



Sitting here on the patio and enjoying my cup of coffee, I look around the yard. Folks, there is one rose you just have to have in your yard and that "**Annie's Red**". After being trimmed way down in February, she has grown to 4ft by 4ft. Now she is just covered with large clusters of roses. The bush is very healthy and gives no indication of insect or disease problem.

Now here is a fun plant that old and young would enjoy. It's the Butterfly Weed plant. A couple of months ago, I discovered the plant covered with beautiful green and yellow striped caterpillars. In a couple of days, the plant was completely stripped of its leaves, which started to grow back in a couple more days. I never saw the cocoons they spun, but in a few weeks, we had Monarch butterflies.

Now I'm staring at this weird rose bush called **General Schablikine**. It has this large stem that is 1 1/2in thick growing up from the bottom of the bush, like a small tree. It's a sight when both the main bush and the "tree top" are blooming.

Audrey, you asked what to do to the squirrels that ate the blossoms on your althea. Feed them sunflower seeds and they will leave everything in your yard alone.

Auntie Lotte

Keeping in touch... Got a note from Liz Druitt awhile back. She is living in Birmingham, AL and works for SouthernLiving as an Assistant Garden Editor. She wrote "Nice people, nice job - but it isn't Texas!" Good luck to you, Liz!

UPDATE ON PILGRIM CEMETERY

by

Darla Gips

Delynn and I went to Pilgrim Cemetery the end of April. We wanted to make sure Mother's grave was weeded and looked nice for the upcoming Decoration Day at Pilgrim. We expected that it would be overgrown with weeds, but to our wonder, her whole grave site was mounded over with pink buttercups. Hers was the only one in the whole cemetery that looked so lovely!!!! We felt like God had given us a sign that she is at peace - and we took real comfort from that. It was a very emotional time for us, but God knew - as he always does - just what we needed to help heal our sadness at her loss.

The Mrs. Dudley Crosses planted at Mother's grave were growing quite nicely. The perennial Ray Ponton (I think that's who planted it), and I forgot what the plant was did not make it. Delynn and I planted some red salvia and purple coneflowers in its place. Those were two of her favorite flowers.

As for the rest of the cemetery, **Crepuscle**, planted at the entrance is doing nicely as are all the roses planted along the fence to the left as you enter the cemetery. We found the perennials planted to the right as you entered (the society garlic) had been trimmed back by the caretakers using a weedeater. On my next trip, I will mark the plants so that won't happen again.

The perennial and rose bed in the far right corner is doing great. Mike Herr and someone did that bed. There was a plant blooming the prettiest shade of blue I've ever seen. I don't know the name, but Mike will, I'm sure. The roses planted in the L-shape indentation as you walk into the cemetery, were doing OK, but hadn't grown very much. We weeded

and watered them. The large round bed in the back where we planted roses in a circle was all overgrown with weeds, but the roses were doing ok. We didn't have time to weed this bed, but we are taking a small tiller to help next time.

The "lost roses" - the ones which had lost their tags that we planted on the far left fence of the cemetery - were gone. We looked everywhere. I don't know if somebody dug them up, or if a mole or a deer might have eaten them.

Again, Delynn and I would like to thank everybody involved for working so hard to pay tribute to our Mother in such a nice and lasting way. I hope that in a few years, Pilgrim Cemetery will be one where Rose Rustlers everywhere visit to enjoy the beauty of Old Garden Roses.

●● Almanac Dates ●●

...from Blum's Farmer's and Planter's Almanacs for the Year 1999.

For rooting all cuttings

Jun.: 1-2, 5-6, 9-10, 29
Jul.: 2-3, 6-8, 11, 30-31
Aug.: 3-4, 7-8, 26-27, 30-31
Sep.: 3-5, 26-27
Oct.: 1-2, 8, 25, 28-29

For transplanting rooted cuttings and
potted roses

Jun.: 14-15
Jul.: 18-19
Aug.: 14-18
Sep.: 11-15
Oct.: 9-12, 15-16

To prune roses for increased blooming

Jun.: none
Jul.: 11-12
Aug.: 7-8
Sep.: 3-5
Oct.: 1-2, 28-29



Along the Rustling Trail

Past Finds

by

Frances Brandes

Marion and I have discovered a huge amount of roses in our twelve and a half years of looking both on our own and with rustles. We have great memories and adventures as well as beautiful slides of many of the old roses we have located in Texas.

We once found an old rose in San Marcos and named it after Eunice Roberts. It turned out to be **Gartendirektor Otto Linne**. In Victoria's Evergreen Cemetery we found **Tip Top** - a beautiful polyantha that is not a strong plant. Also there we saw "**Victoria Evergreen Red China**", which grows all over Central Texas as well. In Center Point, TX where thirty-five Texas Rangers are buried, the rose, **La Reine** (The Queen), can be found.

On the Wallis Rose Rustle we found an unknown noisette that is hardy and beautiful. In Thornton, TX, we discovered a hybrid china and named it "**Thornton Springtime**". It was bright pink with a large white eye. It was found in Thornton, San Marcos and at the intersection of FM 577 and FM 105 in an abandoned lot in some high weeds! Someone brought it to our Spring Symposium in a syrup bottle for identifying.

We found "**Margaret's Rose**" on the New Braunfels Rustle, a lovely, large pink rose with a knotted center. On our Schulenburg Rustle we found "**Joe's Rose**", a small, pink rose lost three years later to a drought. It is no longer in St. Rose of Lima Cemetery in Schulenburg. We also found "**Schulenburg Apricot**", a lost hybrid tea, found in front of a house in the town itself.

We found a large noisette, "**San Felipe Noisette**" on our own rustle and exchange. We have found several chinas, teas, noisettes, portlands, old hybrid teas and hybrid chinas in abandoned lots, hidden away in cemeteries, old German towns, and people have given us cuttings off of a very old bush. It is so important to preserve the old-fashioned roses.

Since our move to the San Antonio area, we have continued our search for OGR's. In San Antonio there are thirty-one contiguous cemeteries of different religious and ethnic backgrounds. The cemeteries can be approached as a walking tour or by car. By car is preferable because of the size and problem of some entrances being closed and the distance that is covered by thirty-one, connected cemeteries! (If you do this, do not go at night or alone.)

In these cemeteries we found four, large "**Evergreen Red Chinas**" like those growing in Victoria's Evergreen Cemetery. We found a large, pink rose on the Goodman grave and a white, semi-double hybrid tea rose with a slight fragrance on Mary M. Mohr's grave in the St. John's Lutheran cemetery. We also found a pale, yellow-budded rose on the gravesite of Denton Marcus Stowe. Could this be an early hybrid tea? We also found a large healthy **Eutin** blooming with no disease!

Unfortunately, there are only about ten roses - four or five different ones - left in thousands of gravesites here! San Antonio has suffered several droughts as well as flood over the past decade and no doubt this has caused the demise of many roses. It is obvious to us that if our old roses are neglected, we can lose some of them forever!

We encourage you to take time to ask, search on your own, and have some fun discovering the world of roses. Go seek and ye shall find!

(The following article appeared in The Houston Chronicle on May 1, 1999. It is reprinted here, abridged, with permission.)

Czech Rose has Special Connections

by
Nancy A. Dean, Staff

At a recent ceremony, many of the 70 countries represented in the Houston consular corps donated rose cuttings to the Hermann Park Rose Garden for the newly established International Friendship Garden. Most of the consulates selected roses from a commercial antique rose grower, but the gift from the Czech Republic had a special Texas touch.

Effie Rosene, chairman of the Czech Cultural Center board, knew of a rose brought from Czechoslovakia in 1888 by her great-grandparents, Petr and Josefa Lezak, when they left Stipa, in eastern Moravia. Traveling with their parents to Texas were the four Lezak children, Anton, Aloise, Frances and Frank, plus a cutting from a rosebush as a reminder of home and family left behind.

They settled in Frydek, 40 miles west of Houston, and opened a general store. Though it is not known where the original cutting was planted, family members have perpetuated what is referred to as the **Lezak Rose**.

One of the four Lezak children had eight children of his own, and one of them became Rosene's grandfather. Her cousin, Charles Pavlicek, is the grandchild of another of the original four. Pavlicek's hobby is roses, and he selected the Czech addition to the garden.

At the ceremony, Raymond Snokhous, honorary Czech consul, placed the Czech flag beside the newly planted Lezak Rose. Other members of the Czech delegation at the opening of the International Friendship Garden included William Soucek, 95, who was the first president, in 1928, of the

Houston Men's Garden Club. "The Lezak Rose leaves a legacy," said Rosene. She and others in the Czech community are attempting to erect a building to house the Czech Cultural Center. "When we do, the final touch will be landscaping that includes more Lezak Roses," she said.

1999 Houston Bulb and Plant Mart

This year the Houston Bulb and Plant Mart will be held September 30 - October 2 at the Westminster United Methodist Church, 5801 San Felipe at Bering, just west of the Galleria. On Thursday and Friday (9/30 and 10/1), the Mart will be open from 9:30am to 5:00pm. On Saturday (10/2) the hours are from 9:30am to 2:00pm.

As usual, the Bulb and Plant Mart will feature the widest selection available of top-quality bulbs as well as hard-to-find and unusual plants, perennials, trees, shrubs and vines. To assure successful growing in Houston's climate and soil, plants and bulbs sold at the Bulb Mart are pre-tested by Garden Club members.

Admission is free, as is their horticultural guide for Houston, but you are asked to bring your own cart or wagon if you think you will need one, as they only have a limited number. All funds raised from the Bulb and Plant Mart benefit civic beautification and environmental projects of The Garden Club of Houston.

Conrad Tips is taking names of volunteers who would be willing to sell roses for this worthy cause. You do not need to be a rose expert, and indeed, this can be a fun learning experience for Rustlers anxious to learn more about OGR's. Call Conrad at 713-868-5606 if interested.

Spring '99

Texas Rose Rustlers

Officers Meeting Minutes

Those present: Lucille Idom, Eunice Roberts, Frances Brandes, Audrey McMurray, Virginia Sissom, Candy Fite

The meeting began with the editor of The Old Texas Rose newsletter asking for guidelines of whom should be receiving complimentary and exchange copies of the RR newsletter. Apparently many on the current list, have not reciprocated, as was the understanding, with exchange copies of their newsletters to our organization. It was discussed then decided that the current list of recipients would be reduced, and that the editor would notify those being affected by this decision.

Next on the agenda was the subject of our need for a new Program Chairman due to the resignation of Frances Brandes, who recently moved away from the Houston area. Candy Fite, who showed interest in the past of taking a more active part in the organization was nominated. It was then agreed upon by unanimous vote of officers present. She has agreed to fill the position under the condition that Earl Krause and Frances B. help guide her by being her mentors.

Lucille Idom brought up the topic of much interest from new members on going on rose rustles. Problems incurred while on past rustles were discussed, and ways to correct/alleviate said problems were then given. It was said that since we are now at 200+ members, the old ways of planning open-to-all rustles (by announcing where to meet for one in the newsletter) are just not possible. The numbers attending would make it "too unwieldy" and difficult to do. Audrey McMurray suggested "private rustles" which could be set up in two ways:

1) where the "seasoned" rose rustlers who have knowledge of places to go would plan, announce, and conduct a rustle. It would be announced in the OTR, and attendance number would be limited, based on the first ones to contact the organizer. Each member of the Rose Rustlers would be limited to no more than one rustle per year (either Spring or Fall) of this kind.

2) members who have seen abandoned roses or otherwise have knowledge of areas in Texas that would lend themselves to a good rustle, would a) do the "footwork" of contacting

property owner, explaining what a rustle is all about, and request permission (if granted, get it in writing!) to hold a rustle, b) set the time and date, c) contact an officer of the TRR and have them locate a willing, experienced rustler to go along and teach the ways of a rustle, if necessary. We would probably have to set up some sort of rose rustler waiting list to pull names from to offer outings to.

Candy Fite, newly elected Program Chairman, will submit an informative article about how to set up a rustle for the summer edition of the OTR (Old Texas Rose) newsletter.

The rookie rustler meeting for the summer event of the TRR association was discussed next. Several officers present didn't think it necessary to plan outside speakers for this event this year. It was felt by some that there was a limited number of speakers and topics to draw from, and they didn't want it to become repetitive. It was suggested a simpler "show and tell" format of our own veteran members sharing what they've learned about growing antique roses would be enough. Other members disagreed. They basically said that what was "old hat" to the veterans was "new" information to the new members. Around 100 people attended last summer's rookie rustler meeting at Mercer Arboretum. It was agreed upon to have just one speaker along with the ever-popular "how to root rose cuttings" demonstration for this summer's meeting.

Two possible topics/speakers were then discussed for this event: a talk from a master gardener with the Harris County Extension Agency or a talk from a veteran rustler complete with slides of found roses obtained on these rustles.

The meeting was then adjourned.

Lost and Found

From Pam Puryear's Clean Up Day- May 15

Found: Olive-green T-shirt with the American flag on the front. Contact Pam Puryear at 708 Holland, Navasota, 77868

Found: One large black, plastic fan-shaped rake. Contact Audrey McMurray at (713)729-5307 or email: jamac80@yahoo.com

Lost: Heavy duty extension cord, orange. Has "McMurray" on it. Contact Audrey McMurray as above.

ODDS AND ENDS

By Lucille Idom

I received a message from Joy Young about a rose bush she had growing at her home. She sent pictures and as close as the Rustlers could guess, we decided it looked like the Floribunda Eutin. When Eutin was first found by the Texas Rose Rustlers, it was named "Rustler's Skyrocket". It is a chunky shrub which blooms in huge clusters of up to 50 dark red flowers. It gets 4-6 feet tall and repeats. Joy sent a rooted cutting to me and as soon as it blooms we will know if we were right.

Another lady wrote of taking some cuttings of a beautiful pink rose and when the cuttings bloomed they were red. She didn't know what to think. I've had the same thing happen. I rooted a cutting of the apricot pink rose, Cornelia, one year and the first year it bloomed apricot pink. The next year I gave it a glance and did a double take because the blooms were red. The third year the blooms were apricot again. I thought I was going nuts until I talked to some other rustlers and they had some stories of their own to tell about the changeling roses. Does anyone else have stories to tell about roses changing colors or any other rose adventures? If you do we would like to hear about it. Just drop our editor, Audrey McMurray, a line about your experiences.

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."

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 except for two limbs broken when tree limbs fell on them. We had the first nice rain of the year a few days later so the roses are looking real good now. Nothing like some nice rainwater to perk up the roses.

Folks, Pinkie is on the go again in her new digs. Mayo and I went to Dallas in April and helped our son, Ron, build a nice big T shaped trellis out of cedar. The bottom part is 6 feet wide, 12 feet high and 20 feet wide by 6 feet high at the top. Ron and Mayo built the trellis on the ground and it took all three of us to lift it up and set it next to the house. The trellis turned out beautiful - a fitting home for Miss Pinkie. She did have to have a little taken off the back next to the foundation. Ron reports

Pinkie is growing and blooming and Ava is very happy to get her privacy back.

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 gave everybody in the neighborhood and all our family plants. What we had left went into the bed. We have to go out back to enjoy the plants in 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.

I just had a report from our daughter, 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.

Please remember that if your expiration date on your newsletter is highlighted, it is time to renew your subscription. You should renew within six weeks so you won't miss any issues. Thanks.

FYI: The nursery, BELLA FLORA is now open on Heights Boulevard. It is just over the railroad track South of I-10 towards Washington Avenue. It is next door to Hickory Hollow restaurant where Joshua's once was. The lady who owns it has done a nice job and has plants at a reasonable price. There are little red wagons to put your plants in as you wander around the nursery. All the aisles run the same way for convenience and the plants are nice and healthy. And yes, she has the old roses in stock.

Roses Break the English Blockade

(an excerpt from The Quest for the Rose
by Roger Phillips and Martyn Rix)

In 1810, at the height of the Napoleonic Wars, extraordinary arrangements were made by the French and British admiralities to ensure the safe passage of a new China Rose *Rosa indica* Fragans, known as Hume's Blush Tea-scented China, from England to Malmaison; it was illustrated by Redouté in 1817. The nurseryman John Kennedy received a special passport to take this rose and other plants from the Vineyard Nursery, Hammersmith to Malmaison.

Until next time, happy growing.

Lucille Idom

BACK ISSUES OF OTR:

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| 1982: <u>Sept.</u> <u>Dec.</u> | 1990: <u>Win.</u> <u>Spr.</u> <u>Sum.</u> <u>Fall</u> | 1998: <u>Win.</u> <u>Spr.</u> <u>Sum.</u> <u>Fall</u> |
| 1983: <u>May</u> <u>July</u> <u>Sep.</u> <u>Dec.</u> | 1991: <u>Win.</u> <u>Spr.</u> <u>Sum.</u> <u>Fall</u> | 1999: <u>Win.</u> <u>Spr.</u> <u>Sum.</u> |
| 1984: <u>May</u> <u>Sep.</u> <u>Dec.</u> | 1992: <u>Win.</u> <u>Spr.</u> <u>Sum.</u> <u>Fall</u> | |
| 1985: <u>March</u> <u>May</u> <u>Sept.</u> <u>Dec.</u> | 1993: <u>Win.</u> <u>Spr.</u> <u>Sum.</u> <u>Fall</u> | |
| 1986: <u>May</u> <u>Sep.</u> | 1994: <u>Win.</u> <u>Spr.</u> <u>Sum.</u> <u>Fall</u> | |
| 1987: <u>Win.</u> <u>Spr.</u> <u>Sum.</u> <u>Fall</u> | 1995: <u>Win.</u> <u>Spr.</u> <u>Sum.</u> <u>Fall</u> | |
| 1988: <u>Win.</u> <u>Spr.</u> <u>Sum.</u> <u>Fall</u> | 1996: <u>Win.</u> <u>Spr.</u> <u>Sum.</u> <u>Fall</u> | |
| 1989: <u>Win.</u> <u>Spr.</u> <u>Sum.</u> <u>Fall</u> | 1997: <u>Win.</u> <u>Fall</u> (only) | |

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