

# The Old Texas Rose

This Issue is Dedicated to the Late Margaret Sharpe

NUMBER 1

WINTER

1999

# The Passing of a Rosa Mater

For the second time in less than a year I must tell you of the passing of a friend. Margaret Post Sharpe, co-founder of The Texas Rose Rustlers, died on November 23, 1998. Her fellow early Rustler, Bill Welch, writes eloquently of her life on page 2, but here I would like to share with you her last few days.

The first time I went to visit Margaret in hospice, she was hoping to be back at home soon. She was cleaning out her wallet, setting aside her store coupons and talking about her daughter Jane, who had special needs. Jane's welfare was always a priority for Margaret and it weighed heavily on her mind when the cancer came back. She was relieved that Sarah, her other daughter, had found acceptable arrangements for Jane.

The second time I visited Margaret, she was not as chipper. As we had done the first time, we sat together and held hands as I prayed the rosary. Margaret said some of the prayers with me. Afterward, I left with a heavy heart because I could tell she would not last long.

The third time I visited her, Sarah was afraid I would be upset at the way her mom looked. Didn't I want to remember her the way she used to be, all feisty and raring to go? No, I assured her, it would be okay. I knew what death looked like. I wanted to tell her goodbye.

So, for the last time I held hands with my friend and prayed. Sarah had said Margaret was non-responsive, but everytime I said the Our Father, she lightly squeezed my hand. She knew.

After we finished, I thanked her for cont'd on page 8

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# Margaret Post Sharpe

by
William C. Welch
Rustler, Author, Friend

largaret Sharpe's name is forever linked with old roses in Texas. She freely gave of her talents and time to elp spread the word about her favorite plants. Along with Pam Puryear from Navasota, Margaret formed The Rose Rustlers" organization that caught the imagination of hundreds of gardeners in Texas and other ates. She helped organize numerous events and presented hundreds of programs on old roses.

argaret was a Master Rose Judge for the American Rose Society and a member of numerous garden clubs cluding Far Corners Garden Study Club in Houston. She authored the section on "Rose Crafts" in my ok, <u>Antique Roses for the South</u>, which was published in 1991 by Taylor Publishing Company in Dallas d is still in print.

native of Tennessee, Margaret Post Sharpe passed away on November 23, 1998, after a long and urageous battle with cancer. She was a native of Knoxville, TN and active in the Girl Scouts of America, ving received the Golden Eaglet Award. After graduating from Knoxville High School, she graduated in the University of Tennessee and was on the faculty of Berea College in 1941 and '42. She served in the uted States Navy during World War II and resided in Corpus Christi from 1945-1969. Margaret served in my organizations such as the Texas Congress of PTAs, was Secretary of Goodwill Industries; a founding mber of the Corpus Christi Rose Society, and served as a HEADSTART Volunteer Coordinator.

1969 Margaret and her family moved to Houston where she resided until her death. She was active in ny Houston organizations and is remembered for serving as Editor for many years of "The Old Texas se" newsletter. According to Pam Puryear, Margaret's mother was a serious rose grower and Margaret w up knowing the names of many roses. Pam also remembers in conversation with Margaret that among rgaret's father's talents was applying gold leaf to architectural and art objects. Margaret was preceded in the by her mother Merida Pittman Post, father Elroy Dayton "Ed" Post, and husband Melkijah Worth arpe. She is survived by children Jane Koenig, John A. Sharpe, David L. Sharpe, and Sarah A. Sharpe, and en grandchildren.

Puryear fondly recalls an early rose rustle in Bellville with Margaret, S.J. Derby, Mitzi Van Zant and ssy", Pam's mother. Pam had received permission from the Fisher family to dig some roses at the Fisher resince the property was being cleared. No one remembered to bring a shovel, but Pam had a "tire iron" S.J. Derby volunteered to do the digging. After taking cuttings and digging plants, they stopped at a l park to have cucumber sandwiches. When they returned to Pam's car the starter wouldn't make a nd. According to Pam, Margaret Sharpe opened the hood, took off her shoe and began hitting the ery with it. The car stared immediately and Margaret was the hero of the day!

emorial service was conducted by Rev. Michael V. Foster of Fair Haven United Methodist Church for garet on Monday, November 30, in the Rose Garden of the Hermann Park Garden Center in Houston. garet Sharpe was one of the most distinctive and interesting people I have ever met. She had a unique of getting to the essence of a situation with few words but always with humor and candor. Whether ing her favorite recipe for "willow water", demonstrating how to make a potpourri or how to prune a she was constantly helping others to enjoy life through gardening. She has left a great heritage of gifts hers from her own life.

January 26, 1999

## Did you know?...

Pam Puryear, our other Rosa mater, has generously agreed to be our historian and put together all of the papers, photos, letters, etc., that Margaret left behind. This is one of Pam's areas of expertise so it should turn out wonderfully!

Marion and Frances Brandes moved from Huffman, TX to San Antonio, TX last Fall. They are renting a house while they build their dream digs in the countryside nearby. Frances called awhile back to say they had found a rose in Centerpoint, TX that is planted next to a gravestone dated 1885. See their article on page 4, "Recent (Confessed) Rustlings".

Many thanks to Conrad Tips for providing back copies of the Old Texas Rose. Some of the masters had been "lost" and we now have all of them, dating back to Vol. 1, No. 1, September 1982, written by Pamela Puryear, who assured new readers that "The Old Texas Rose" was neither "a local stripper nor a country western singer!". She continued, "What else would you call the newsletter of two such classy and learned societies as The Brazos Symposium and The Dallas Symposium???"

Rustler Shannon Sherrod wrote to let us know the Stephen F. Austin University Arborteum will have their Spring Plant Sale at Kings Nursery in Teneha, TX on May 22, from 9am - 4pm. In addition to many great perennials, shrubs, and trees, all adapted to our climate, there will be a nice selection of antique roses in one gallon pots for \$5.95.

The Arboretum is actively evaluating plants for our area and was featured in the March '98 issue of Texas Highways magazine. If any Rustlers want to make a day trip to the Nacogdoches area, there are several local cemeteries with a few old roses and a local nursery that has a great selection of antique roses. If anyone wants directions, contact Shannon Sherrod at Rt. 1, Box 1005, Chireno, TX 75937 or call him at 409-362-9425. Thanks for letting us know, Shannon!

#### 1999

# TEXAS ROSE RUSTLER SPRING SYMPOSIUM

#### APRIL 24TH, 9AM-3PM

Earl Krause has had this symposium planned for a year now and what a swan song for our outgoing Program Chairman. Check out those speakers!

Be sure to bring your best blooms, including those you would like identified, for display. Veteran Rustlers, please don't forget rooted cuttings for the rose drawings. Lucille Idom says that quite a few memberships were given as Christmas gifts, so we will have new Rustlers who would appreciate a rose to take home.

Also, if you have any of the publications mentioned below and would like them autographed, feel free to bring them. And as usual bring your own lunch and a dessert for the dessert table, if you'd like.

#### 1999 SPRING SYMPOSIUM SCHEDULE

9:00am Doors open - Old Garden Rose bloom display setup (vases provided)

10:00am Brenda Beust Smith, <u>Houston</u>

<u>Chronicle</u> columnist and author of the yearly <u>Lazy</u>

<u>Gardener Calendar</u>: "Favorite Plants of the Lazy Gardener"

11:00am Announcements and 1st drawing for roses

11:30am Lunch

12:30pm Dr. Bill Welch, Extension
Landscape Specialist in the
Dept. of Horticulture
Sciences at TAMU and author
of Antique Roses for the
South: "Trends for Color in
Texas Gardens"

1:30pm Drawing for roses

1:45pm G. Michael Shoup, owner of The Antique Rose Emporium and coauthor of Landscaping with Antique Roses: "Gardening through the South with Old Roses"

2:45pm 2nd drawing for roses, followed by clean-up. Everyone is asked to help with this.

I didn't think I would find any old roses in the hill country cemeteries because of the really tough summer droughts, but the little cemetery in Centerpoint on the Bishop Grave (Alfred and Delilah) yielded a truly great find. The rose bush was very ancient in appearance and has very hard wood (as in Gallicas, Hybrid Chinas), leathery leaves, perfect health, extremely long sepals (fern-like) rising far above the bud, and enormous peduncles about 3/4" at the base of the bud. The buds were very globular and a mix of rose pink and red. The bush was shoulder high.

We named it "Delilah's Rose" because it was on her grave rather than Alfred's. Her gravestone was placed there in 1880's and I believe this rose to be capable of surviving a Century.

I believe the rose to be La Reine (The Queen -- 1830's) because I have grown it before and found it in three other places in Texas (San Marcos, Marion, and Alice). It is one of the key roses in the development of the Class of Hybrid Perpetuals. It was known for its fragrance and huge blossoms.

All the cuttings have rooted with amazing ease. Joe Cooper and I both have several putting on leaves already.

The Centerpoint Cemetery is in the heart of the Hill Country, south of town, on the highway to Camp Verde and is famous for having three dozen of the Texas Rangers buried there.

Marion Brandes

### 1999 Bulb and Plant Mart

This year Houston's Bulb and Plant Mart will be held September 30 - October 2. Conrad Tips is already taking names of volunteers who would be willing to sell roses for this worthy cause. Talk about getting organized early! Call him at 713-868-5606.

Margaret and I were both members of Far Corners Garden Study Club, a garden club that meets downtown at the Garden Center in Houston. As a fundraiser for the club Margaret suggested one summer that we make some potpourri. (Rose Rustlers will remember that Margaret had a chapter on rose crafts subsequently in Bill Welch's book Antique Roses for the South.) So after getting permission, we met one afternoon at the Garden Center to pick up the roses that had been deadheaded that day in the rose garden.

We were astounded to receive 6 big, black garbage bags full of roses! Damp ones at that, as the sprinklers had been on. Racing home to her house, we pulled petals off roses and spread them on every available surface. Still 4 bags to go! We continued on to my house and filled up two bedrooms, spreading them on beds, bureaus and carpets. We feared the worst - millions of brown molding rose petals. But, we were lucky. With the use of a dehumidifier we turned up a whole bag of decent dried petals in about a week.

The potpourri project came out fine. You hate to look a gift horse in the mouth, but maybe collecting petals rose by rose to dry isn't so bad. I will miss all the interesting projects we worked together on.

-S.J. Derby

Margaret Sharpe helped me heal. She took me back to the joys of working in the dirt, the joy of seeing rose cuttings grow into blooms. She restored my joy of roses and the roses help restore my life. I had had a four-year absence from roses during a move from Houston to Portland and back home to Houston, with a divorce in between.

Fall 1995, timidly checking out the gardening events once again - new name in two - I saw Margaret at a Houston Rose Society meeting and offered to give her a ride to the upcoming Texas Rose Rustlers event at the Antique Rose Emporium. During the cutting swap, I asked Margaret, "Do you remember what roses I had at the farm?" (For a too-brief three years, I was the

co-owner of Bill Welch's Burton Farm.) Margaret started going through the ziplock bags, "Don't you remember? You had Souvenir de la Malmaison, Archduke Charles, Blush, Sombrueil, and Maggie..." Maggie, yes, I remembered Maggie very well.

Margaret and I returned to Houston with about forty cuttings. Dropping Margaret off, I asked, "Can you help me? I don't remember what to do with these things."

"I'll be over next weekend, just stick them in the fridge 'til then," she replied.

"Do you have an ax?" Margaret asked as she walked up the driveway to my yard, which was totally barren of a bed or plant, rose or otherwise. found an ax and fulfilled an additional request for an old broom handle. Margaret taught me how to root the cuttings with her mortar's sand method. We put in about forty cuttings, secure under the fruit jars Margaret loaned By January 1996, Maggie was ing. By Spring, thirty-five blooming. cuttings were established.

On February 6 of this year, Clotilde Soupert bloomed just a mere two months after being rooted, another gift from Margaret. On November 29, I had taken a cutting from Margaret's bush when Audrey and I spruced up her garden for her memorial. On January 30 at Buchanan's Garden Center, I showed sixty-five people how to root roses from cuttings - á la Margaret Sharpe to a resounding applause.

Three years and three months later, more than one hundred roses all from cuttings - warm my heart each morning as I make my rounds to check on my babies. My 84 year old, house-bound neighbor, Grace Wiggins, always has fresh roses. I am able to bring a bouquet of roses accompany me as a gift for the host or hostess. People in the Heights are beginning to refer to me as "The Rose Lady" when we meet.

rosarian My dear Margaret, extraordinaire, thank you so very much for the love you showed this lonely, distraught woman in the Fall of 1995. My life is full now, and the roses and the gift you gave me play a most significant part. I promise to do my best to continue your mission to preserve the old garden roses.

-Karen A. Cambias

I don't remember (but then I have no memory left to speak of) exactly when I first met Margaret, but I do remember where: Teas Nursery in Bellaire. The Houston Rose Society was doing a Rose Day, sort of late-ish '70's, and I went -- why, I cannot think. It was nasty and cold and

drizzly and thoroughly unpleasant. But there I was, skipping from puddle to puddle, looking, I am sure, utterly

unknowledgeable.

My ditherings got on Margaret's nerves, no doubt, so she took me under her wing, walked me about, and told me what's what. At length. Frankly, I was overwhelmed, but grateful. I next saw her at an early meeting of the Rustler's at Pamela Puryear's house, after which we became fast friends. I will always be grateful for her presence in my life -- how often does one have the good luck to know a woman of such quality?

> -Conrad Tips \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

Karen Cambias arranged for the City of Houston to proclaim Margaret Sharpe Day for all her contributions. And she very generously set it up so that we could make the announcement, for the first time, and surprise Margaret during one of her appearances on the Lazy Gardener segment on Channel 8's WeekNight Edition Show. We tape these appearances but we thought we could catch Margaret's delight at learning of such an honor.

The taping day arrived and so did Margaret. But the city's proclamation plaque wasn't ready yet. earlier, my husband, Bill Smith, had received such a proclamation after his Aldine High School football team won the state championship. desperation, I grabbed his plaque. Karen provided me with the wording that would appear in Margaret's plaque.

On air, as the cameras were rolling, I handed Margaret the plaque that proclaimed "Bill Smith Day", and 'read' the wording that would appear on her plaque. She was graciousness itself, looked at the plaque, never blinked an eye and said with her

wonderful Southern poise, "This is wonderful. Thank you so much."

After the taping, I started laughing and said, "Margaret, you were great! I can't believe it didn't throw you one bit when you looked at that plaque and saw someone else's name on it!"

"Oh," she said, with a wave of her hand, "something is always getting messed up. I figured they just sent you the wrong one."

She was truly one-of-a-kind, a gift to all of us and I am so grateful she came into my life.

-Brenda Beust Smith



To Margaret, who taught me that the secret to rustling roses was timing: keep your pruners unholstered and an excuse at the ready.

A Toast from Mike Shoup



Top: Margaret Sharpe and Deanna Krause, holding the real Margaret Sharpe Day plaque, at the 1996 TRR Symposium, in Brenham, TX Bottom: Margaret and Pam Puryear, co-founders of the Texas Rose Rustlers, at the same symposium

### Pilgrim Cemetery's Celebration of Roses

On November 14, 1998, seventeen Rustlers and friends met at Pilgrim Cemetery to plant roses, flowers and bulbs in honor of Bobby McKenna. Mike and Mary Herr coordinated the layouts and everyone pitched in to dig, plant and mulch. We even got lessons in divining by Marjorie Lee Burnett and Ray Ponton! By the end of the day, roses and rosebeds were in place all over the cemetery. That should be enough to keep the old girl busy.

Many thanks to:

Delynn Bouchillon
Marjorie Lee Burnett
Willie Ann Canion
Gladys Cronquist
Beryle Edwards
Douglas and Darla Gips
Mike, Mary, and Josh Herr
Patricia McCain
Audrey McMurray
Ray Ponton
Virginia Sissom
Robert L. Stiba
Ellen Ann Vickers
Barney R. Whitehead



I.→R: Virginia Sissom, Beryle Edwards, Mike Herr, Ray Ponton and Robert Stiba discuss the planting around Bobbie's headstone.

#### Simply Perfect Roses & Old Fashioned Flowers

by Virginia Sissom

If you are in the market for a good, all-around publication on heirloom roses and gardens, pick up a copy of Simply Perfect Roses & Old Fashioned Flowers. This magazine is an annual Better Homes & Gardens special publication, which is at newsstands until May 28.

I initially felt guilty of "splurging" by plopping down \$5.99 for a "magazine". But even my first glance of its contents made me sure it would be worth it!

I was not disappointed. First of all, the ads are pleasantly few and far between! The main thrust is to educate gardeners about the vastly underused rose population at their beck and call. This is accomplished with 19 different full-length, full-color articles about roses and their old-fashioned flower companions.

There are articles and diagrams of the basics of rose care: planting, mulching, pruning, feeding, etc. These are helpful not only for beginners, but also for seasoned rosarians who feel the need for a "brush-up" course on tending roses.

I was thrilled to see rose rustling articles in several places. Rose Rustling's Texas roots are mentioned in the Glossary on page 8! A California rose rustler, Gregg Lowery, is mentioned on p.57. His twenty-year-old collection of old roses, rescued from old cemeteries and abandoned home sites, has sprouted into a massive mail-order business and display nursery called The Vintage Gardens. In yet another article, "Rose Stewards of the South", a self-proclaimed RR (rose rustler) in Atlanta states the "howto's" of rose rustling. These were all fun reading!!

One article of particular interest and help to me was entitled, "...how in the world do you choose from the galaxy of roses?" It included guidelines on how to pick the right roses for your particular growing environment. I gained a lot of

valuable insight as to the growing habits of old roses vs. modern roses, as well as the strengths and weakness of types from each group.

Long, descriptive paragraphs are given on the following varieties of "modern" roses: Climber and Rambler, Floribunda and Polyantha, Grandiflora, Miniature, and Shrub. "The American Rose Society created the [Shrub] category as a catchall classification for many different groups. Shrub roses are considered a hardy, low-maintenance, and versatile group consisting of such beauties as the Griffith Buck roses, some Canadian hybrids, the Meidiland roses from France, and Austin's English roses.

In the Old Rose section, a detailed paragraph of size, shape, strengths, and weaknesses was given for the following varieties: Alba, Bourbon, Centifolia, China, Damask, Hybrid Perpetual, Moss, Noisette, Species, Gallica, Tea, and Portland...the latter of which I didn't even know existed!

The color photos throughout the magazine are breathtaking. Both Tasha Tudor, a famed garden illustrator, and David Austin (creator of "old" modern English roses) are interviewed. Establishing scented gardens is covered in depth.

There are also stories about people around the nation who are into preserving old garden or heirloom flowers and vegetables that are described as open-pollinated, non-hybrids. Did you know that in 1903 the USDA published a seed inventory list; and that today only 3 percent of those plants still exist? That means 97% of the plants our pioneers and settlers knew of and counted on for sustenance and beauty are now extinct and have been replaced by modern hybrids. We have lost a big chunk of our past, folks!

Well, I could go on and on about this magazine and the wealth of knowledge I have gleaned from it. But I will leave a lot for you to discover for yourself, if your interest has been piqued! I give this magazine a 5 STAR Rating for enjoyment, enthusiasm, and expertise about roses and gardening with them. It definitely deserves a place on my rose reference shelf.



While walking through the yard on this beautiful sunny day and drinking my coffee, I see a lot of work that is ahead for me. The roses have grown wild. as settened done to paltateno

Folks, I'm going to dedicate this article to my mother, Minnie Brandt. She was a real character. During Prohibition she and a friend distilled their own whiskey in a bathtub. She was a great rose lover and would go around and snitch rose cuttings from people's yards. She said snitching the cuttings was what made them grow. All the roses she had in her yard were from cuttings from me and "friends". There were about eighteen to twenty bushes, all antiques. The Manager December 2

When she was 89, Minnie painted the inside and outside of her house and laid linoleum in her kitchen. She grew her own vegetables and she had so much that she gave some to neighbors and friends. People stopped to admire her yard, which Minnie mowed herself up until she passed away at age 92.

When our boys were little, we would go to Somerville and fish. We would clean the fish and Minnie would fry them over the Bar-B-Q pit. It tasted delicious.

She wanted to be cremated after she died so we put the ashes on our Somerville lot and planted her favorite rose, Eutin, on top. It was from the bush she had found growing up a tree and blooming on the banks of Sims Bayou. She was quite a lady.

So, Folks, if you have any interesting stories or ideas, write to me c/o Audrey.

Auntie Lotte

# O D Almanac Dates O DO

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

#### For rooting all cuttings roses and gardens,

Feb.: 5-9, 12-14 Mar.: 3-7, 11-12, 15-16 Apr.: 1-4, 7-8, 11-12 May: 1, 4-6, 9-10, 13-14

#### For transplanting rooted cuttings and potted roses

Jan.: 20-21 Feb.: 17-18, 21

Mar.: 19-20,23-24 Apr.: 16, 20-21 May: 17-18

#### To prune roses for increased blooming

Jan.: 2-3, 11-13 (00-140) Approx - 140)

Feb.: 8-9 Mar.: 6-7 Apr.: 2-4 May: 1 a seran even to make and edd

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(cont'd from pg. 1) all of us, for giving us something to make our lives fun and for promoting beautiful roses for the world to enjoy. I told her I knew it was hard giving her "baby" over to me, the newsletter she had written for so long, and that I would try to do a good job. And then I kissed her forehead and said good-bye, from me personally and from us as a group. She died hours later.

Now there will be no more calls, telling me how to write The Old Texas Rose, or how not to! Margaret never was one to hold back her opinions. Those who knew her are probably chuckling at that understatement. But you had to love her. There was no pretense with Margaret. What you saw was what you got. It was refreshing. And it was a privilege to be her friend. I will miss her.

#### THE FURTHER ADVENTURES OF DALLAS PINKIE

When we last heard from the Dallas Pinkie it was flourishing over the second floor of my son's home. I got a call from Ron last Fall informing me that a wind storm had moved through and blew Pinkie off the house. Pinkie also carried part of the house trim with it. Uh-Oh! Two weeks later I got a second call - Ron was going to separate the rose from the house trim, fix the house trim then put Pinkie on a strong support. Well, he made it up on the roof, separated the rose from the trim when all of a sudden - you guessed it - the ladder started slipping. Down came the ladder onto the deck and then down came Ron on top of the ladder. The distance was about 20 feet and his ribs landed right on target. Ooch! My granddaughter, Audrey, came running out on the porch and inquired if Ron wanted to go to the emergency room. He looked at his watch and said, "The Aggie game is fixing to come on, I'll decide after the game is over. The Aggies won and Ron didn't go to the emergency room. Two weeks later I got another call. Pinkie was going down - - - roots and all. "Please," I said, "please find someone who would like to have a nice plant and give it to them." Nope, everything must go. Then I heard my daughter-in-law, Ava, in the background. "I don't want to get rid of the rose, it gives us some privacy on our porch." "Nope, everything must go before it kills me." OK. Next weekend another call. I asked, "What are you doing?" Ron said, "I have cut all the roses down to the ground and am hauling ten loads of branches to the dump." I thought, "Oh no, we won't see Pinkie climbing up the house, we won't see Prosperity, Coral Dawn, Reve d' Or and Blaze winding around the rail on the deck and Ava won't have any rose bouquets anymore". We went to Dallas on Christmas Eve and we always go to the back to look at the roses so we automatically went out back. Well, what a surprise! There was Pinkie, already four feet tall and the other four roses were putting out from the ground too. I said, "Hello there Pinkie." Then I relaxed and had a real good Christmas knowing that by next Summer Miss Pinkie would be in all her glory

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 my daughter April's yard in Anchorage, Alaska. April was 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. Anchorage usually gets their first snow in late October. The roses were still loaded with blooms when the first freeze came so Moose pruning works for Anchorage. ©

Someone asked me which rose book was my favorite. When I started thinking about it I told them it depended on which rose book I was reading at the time. © I

decided to write about my first four favorites. These books have given me the most information on roses and the most pleasure from the beautiful pictures.

- 1. Antique Roses For The South by William C.

  Welch. This book is a must for beginning rose enthusiasts. It has many wonderful color pictures and covers subjects such as what is an old rose to roses that grow well in the South. There are pictures of a lot of the old roses with descriptions of each one. There is a chapter on propagation, arranging old roses and rose crafts. This is a winner.
- 2. Landscaping With Antique Roses by Liz Druitt
  and Michael Shoup. This is also a wonderful
  book for beginners. Mike Shoup owns the
  Antique Rose Emporium in Independence,
  Texas. This book shows you how to integrate
  the old roses into your landscape and the
  requirements for growing them. You have
  plenty of pictures showing how the roses are
  used in landscaping and also on rustling. There
  is a chapter describing a lot of the old roses with
  pictures of each one.
- The Ultimate Rose Book by Stirling Macoboy. This book has 1,500 roses antique, modern, miniature and wild. Each rose has a description and a picture in color. There are many fascinating facts about how the rose has fit into our lives for centuries. With 1,650 illustrations this is a large and heavy book but you can spend hours poring through it.
- 4. The Quest For The Rose by Roger Phillips and Martyn Rix. This is both a record of the history of the rose and a lavishly illustrated practical reference guide to over a thousand roses throughout history. It covers these two men as they go on a quest for roses in China. Each rose is photographed and described in detail from the wild ones to David Austin's English roses.

These books also give you information on the health and ease of cultivation of each rose mentioned. If you shop on the Internet, you can save about 30% ordering from Amazon Books. Also, I have an unopened copy of the Ultimate Rose Book that I will sell for \$35.00. Two of my children had the same idea for a Christmas present one year. © I will also barter for garden items if I get a reasonable offer. ©

We had many people who gave friends and relatives gift memberships in the Texas Rose Rustlers for Christmas.

Thank you to Carlos and Ann Hayden of Humble, Texas for the nice contribution to the Rose Rustlers in memory of Margaret Sharpe. We appreciate it very much.

Lucille Idom



We are in the process of updating our supplies of past Old Texas Rose newsletters and other publications. The next newsletter will again list our offerings. Thank you for your patience. Editor

[Note: To determine when to renew your membership/subscription, see your address label. After your name will be listed the last issue you will receive until you renew. Early renewals extend to include all issues paid.]

MAIL ALL MONIES TO: MRS. LUCILLE IDOM, TREASURER, 13106 BLYTHE, HOUSTON, TX 77015

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