## Texas Rose Rustler 1997 Spring Symposium



It's that time again! Come to historic Welcome Hall, 1/2 mile north of Industry, TX on FM 109. Whether you will be meeting old pals or won't know a soul, you'll enjoy a day of comraderie, learn new gardening tidbits, share cuttings, and make new friends.

Bring your lunch and a dessert to share, if possible. Coffee will be provided. If you are a rookie Rustler and do not have cuttings, we will have a table set up to demonstrate how to root the ones you pick out. You will also see many beautiful blooms on display.

We will draw for prizes and donated roses in-between speakers as time permits. And, of course, after the last speaker, we will draw for roses until they are gone.

9:30am-10:45am

Set up and view the bloom display inside Welcome Hall. The

cutting exchange will be set up outside.

10:45am-11:00am

Welcome and Introduction by Ray Vallgura, Chairman of the Texas

Rose Rustlers

11:00am-Noon

Greg Grant, horticulturist, County Extension Service agent, and coauthor of <u>Southern Heirloom Gardens</u> will speak. His interest in horticulture began at an early age and has blossomed into an extensive knowledge about heirloom plants, with emphasis on

those of our warmer climates.

Noon-1:00pm

Lunch break

1:00pm-1:45pm

Marion Brandes, longtime Rose Rustler and experienced rosarian,

will discuss companion plants.

1:45pm-2:00pm

Break

2:00pm-3:00pm

Felder Rushing, author of <u>Gardening</u>, <u>Southern Style</u>, and co-author of <u>Taylor's Guide to Landscaping in the South</u>, and <u>Passalong Plants</u> (honored in '94 by Garden Writers' Association as the "best written" garden book in the country) will discuss garden planning with roses in his unique Southern personal style of delivery, rife with humor and real-life anecdotes. Mr. Rushing will be offering <u>Passalong Plants</u> for sale and autographing.

3:00pm

Final drawing for roses and door prizes.

For more information about the Symposium, contact Earl Krause at (713) 487-3347.

If you have never attended one of our symposia or cutting exchanges, there are three things you will need to bring if you plan to take some cuttings home to root: plastic bags, a roll of paper towels, and a permanent marker. If it is a hot day and you have a long drive home, you should also bring a cooler in which to store your cuttings.

The following recipe is a much-requested rooting solution made from the branches of the Willow tree:

<u>Willow Water</u> - Cut willow switches (branches), about the size of drinking straws and with the leaves removed, into 1" pieces. You should have about a cupful to a mayonaise jar full. Bring 1/2 gallon of water to a full boil (rain water is best) and turn off the heat. Split the pieces, then drop them in the water. Let stand overnight. In the morning, strain the "tea" into quart jars and store, sealed, in the refrigerator.

<u>Rooting with Willow Water</u> - Make a fresh cut at the base of the rose cuttings you are trying to root and soak the cuttings' ends in the willow water for several hours or overnight. Pot the cuttings, and water them well with more willow water.

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