

VOLUME XI

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NUMBER 1

1992 FALL ROSE RUSTLE SET

To not conflict with other events that you might like to attend, our Fall 1992 Rose Rustle will likely be on October 24th. This will precede the Antique Rose Emporium Fall Festival by two weeks, for it is planned for November 6-8th. It is also one week before the Halloween date the Houston Rose Society likes to have their Fall Rose Show, although they have been unable to firm their date at this writing. Our date, however, is unlikely to change except for inclement weather conditions. We have many members in both organizations who are anxious to participate with us if there is any way possible. But our date of October 24th is firm as of now.

This will be our "Lucky 13th Rose Rustle!" So, spot out the willow tree for your cuttings to make fresh willow tea to bring. We will be following along the Brazos River from San Felipe to Wallis. Generally speaking, this is just east of Sealy southward about 12 miles as the crow flies to FM 1093 (Old Westheimer Road) where it intersects with TX 36. You'll be quite surprised at what is there, unless you're already familiar with it.

While you're marking your October dates, mark Monday, October 19th. Our own Dr. Bill Welch will be speaking on "Landscaping With Old Garden Roses." It will be at Montgomery County Extension Building in Conroe, west of I-45 on FM 2854. More on this later.

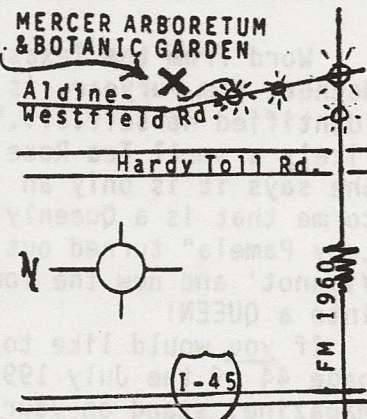
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SUMMERTIME GATHERING

On Saturday, August 15th, at 2 p.m. the Texas Rose Rustlers will meet together again at the Mercer Arboretum auditorium. We do love their air conditioning!

Our agenda will be dedicated to rose rustling in cemeteries. This will cover not only roses but also perennials and other wildflowers found there. Members are urged to bring photographs - and **especially** slides of flowers and other scenery in cemeteries visited. A slide projector and tray will be available to put everyone's slides into as a group. Be sure to label your slides with your name, preferably by ball point so there will be no chance of a label jamming the projector.

It would also be appropriate to bring specimen roses of what might have been collected in cemeteries for exhibit and identification, if necessary. We're not limited to graveyard posies only. Bring any specimens, photos or slides of anything you like as we'd like to see them too! And anything you might like identified or rooted cuttings to swap! They don't have to be all roses - red hibiscus maybe.....



NEW OLD ROSE NURSERY NOW OPEN IN NEW BRAUNFELS

Schumacher's HILL COUNTRY GARDENS is now open in New Braunfels seven days a week. They carry an interesting variety of old roses, some only available from them. "Comal Pink" one called "Purple Cabbage", that might be similar to the rose we found through Diane Antosh at our Schulenburg Rustle last fall. Diane calls it "Corner Bakery" because that's where it grew. Schumacher's also lists 'Puerto Rico', and a "W. Krezdorn", a "Vescue" and one called "Ayers" that is not familiar to me. The spelling and typing of the list is not very accurate so you need to visit them.

Also available native plants - annuals and perennials, "wildflowers." They have some great plants for use in the xeriscaped landscape as well as some that will naturalize in our area but are not yet widely grown.

It isn't mentioned that all roses are on their own roots; however, it is reasonable to believe many are and many could well be budded to rootstock. As you may know, New Braunfels is a wonderful place to find all kinds of roses growing, own root or on rootstock.

Coming from I-35 San Antonio exit at TX 46, up Seguin St., left on Landa St., right on Walnut Ave., still on TX 46 to Oak Run Pkwy; take left on FM1863 and they are at 588 FM1863. The phone number is 512/620-5149. They are open Monday thru Saturday 8am-5:30pm, and on Sunday they open at Noon until 5 pm.

Their slogan is, *"Needs to Roses"*

"PAM'S PINK"

Word from the Texas Rose Rustler's Birth Mother, Pam Puryear, is that she has possibly identified herself....."Pam's Pink" is more than likely a small Tea Rose named "Queen of Lombardy". She says it is only an improved 'Old Blush', but to me that is a Queenly Qualification. "Climbing Lady Pamela" turned out to be 'Souvenir de Léonie Viennot' and now the lowly "Pam's Pink" turned into a QUEEN!

If you would like to identify Pam, look on page 44 of the July 1992 issue of THE SMITHSONIAN Magazine, stand on your head and take a look. There she is! Victorian summer hat, roses, sheer scarf and all! We are quite pleased with the whole article that Bruce Fellman researched and wrote, and Will van Overbeek photographed. Our sincerest thanks to them! /s/ Sunnagate Mom

HOUSTON BULB MART DATE SET

WE NEED YOU!

September 24th thru 26th, 1992, are the dates for The Bulb Mart this year. On Thursday, September 24th the hours will be from 9 AM until 6 PM; Friday and Saturday the hours will be from 9 AM until 4 PM. The event will be at the same location on 2222 West Gray at the River Oaks Community Center.

Several of us agreed to assist the Garden Club of Houston in hosting the Old Roses section this year. We are hoping to have several of the members volunteer for specific times. Our chairman for this activity will be Conrad Tips. Please see him, or telephone him at 868-5606 to schedule the time(s) you would like to be there. Hours are as follows:

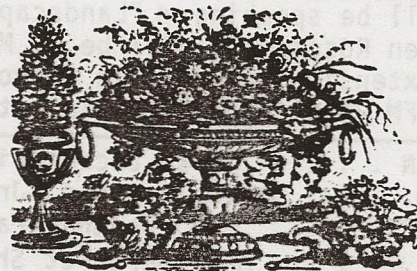
Thursday 9/24	- 9 AM - Noon
	Noon - 3:00 PM
	3 PM - 6:00 PM
Friday 9/25	- 9 AM - 1:30 PM
	1:30 PM - 4:00 PM
Saturday 9/26	- 9 AM - 1:30 PM
	1:30 PM - 4:00 PM

People are very anxious to talk to someone about the antique roses, and more especially about "what's good & what's not" in Houston. We hope to have some lists of recommended roses for Houston and perhaps some brochures to help them in growing them.

This is truly a fun - fun - fun time and you will truly enjoy it! Just be sure to wear a sun hat and smear on the sun bloc lotion. Bring a towel, too. It can get hot. So.....

- Easy as*
- 1 PICK YOUR TIME NOW!
 - 2 MARK YOUR CALENDAR!
 - 3 CALL CONRAD AT 868-5606

AND PLEASE SHOW UP WHEN YOU PROMISE TO



The following is an article from a popular horticulture magazine of bygone years, "The Garden," Vol. XIV, No. 366, pp. 455-456, November 28, 1878. The author's name was not given but we think it "reads" like J.H. Pemberton. See what you think. -- J. Conrad Tips

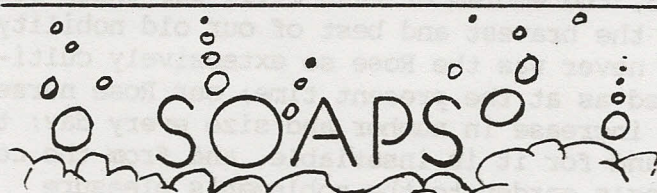
NOTES BY AN OLD ROSARIAN

The Rose has had many chroniclers, from Sappho to Reynolds Hole; its praises have been sung in all lands, and in many tongues; it has inspired the poet's thoughts, has delighted the love-sick swain, and has ministered, alas! to the whims of tyrants; it has been, in our own land, the emblem of that civil war which laid low the bravest and best of our old nobility; but never was the Rose so extensively cultivated as at the present time; our Rose nurseries increase in number and size every day; the demand for it is insatiable, and from the cottager's garden to the nobleman's pleasure ground everywhere the Rose is grown and is reckoned the queen of all flowers. And should it not be so? Apart from all associations connected with it, it has in itself charms rarely combined in a flower -- its delicious perfume, the brilliancy of its hues in some and the delicacy of its tints in others, its adaptability to succeed in all soils and climates, and the profuseness of its blossoms all combine to make it the favourite it is; and that would be, indeed, a strange specimen of humanity who attempt to decry the Rose. Yet have I a complaint to make, not against the Rose, but against the way in which it is regarded now -- the one point which seems above all others to be thought of in connection with it is its character as an exhibition flower. Like the lady at the Royal Botanic Show who, seeing one of Mr. Ball's valuable stove variegated plants enquired, "Is it good for bedding out?" so now everything seems to be summed up in the praise of a Rose when it is said it is a fine exhibition flower. It is for this cause that the old-fashioned Roses are well-nigh banished from our gardens, every space therein which cannot be occupied by a Duke of Edinburgh or a Baroness Rothschild being grudged by most modern Rose growers. How rarely do we see the old Cabbage or even the common Moss! and yet what more fragrant than the one or beautiful than a bud of the other? For this cause Roses that have not an atom of scent in them figure largely in the garden. We confess to an admiration of Baroness Rothschild or Mons. Noman, but if they had not been exhibition Roses they could never have sustained the nice place they have.

For this cause, too, Roses that have no more constitution than the inmates of a consumptive hospital are petted and coaxed in order that they may give a bloom or two, and then be consigned to the rubbish-heap, inducing, by their appearance on a "winning stand" on a show day, some less experienced grower to "order" them, only to see them pine away and die. For this cause some of the most beautiful Roses are spoken contemptuously of as Daisies or Ranunculuses, because they are so small, thus, in all the domain of the Rose Queen, there is not a more beautifully-shaped Rose than Comtesse Cecile de Chabreillant, the only one that poor Marest ever raised, and yet it is gradually becoming less and less seen, until many a Rose grower will be ashamed to confess that he ever exhibited the flower, and all this because it is small. For the same reason a Rose almost unique in its colours, Souvenir de Dr. Jamain, is rarely seen, and many others are only tolerated because now and then they may give an exhibition flower. For this cause, too, Roses are divested of all their buds save one, so that in the garden of the Rose grower whose soul soars not beyond the exhibition table, one never sees the Rose in its most beautiful aspect, like a comely matron surrounded by a bevy of lovely daughters - all must be pinched off save the one which is destined to figure at the show by-and-bye. Now I do not depreciate shows and show roses. I believe the Rose would never have obtained the wide popularity that it has had if not been for our Rose shows; nay, it is because I value them, and more because I love the Rose, that I desire to raise my voice against a too exclusive reference to them in our Rose growing. I would write for those who desire to find a delight in the Rose, not merely those which modern intelligence and skill have added to our store, but those of former days of which poets sung and for which lovers sighed; nay, sometimes as I go from my own garden, where the choicest and newest varieties are grown, I stand in admiration before a wild Rose, with only its petals and its golden anthers, which has festooned itself with a grace no training could give it, and wonder, after all, whether man has not rather spoiled than beautified Nature's work. (continued)

Those who took the trouble to look at the stand of old-fashioned Roses exhibited at the last meeting of the National Rose Society must have been surprised to find how many beauties had been overlooked in the rush for the larger and more brilliant novelties. Amongst those shown on this occasion were the following (I omit the half-dozen Teas): Scotch White, Fabvier, Cramoisie Supérieure, Crimson China, Felicité Perpetuée, Aimée Vibert, Lamarque, Bourbon Queen, Old Cabbage, Yellow Provence, Madam D'Arblay, Ruga, Crimson Damask, Old Damask, Rosa Mundi, (commonly called York and Landcaster), Madam Legras, Chénérolé, Crested Moss, White Bath Moss, Fairy, The Garland, White Globe Hip, Comtesse de Lacepède, Village Maid, Rose de Meaux, Coupe d'Hébé, York White, Kean, Hypatia, Fulgens, Alba Felicité, La Ville de Bruxelles, Madame Hardy, Mrs. Bosanquet, Crimson Boursault, Blairi No. 2, besides some others of which even the diligence of Mr. Julius Sladden, of Chipping Norton, who exhibited them, could not discover the names; but it is evident from this list that there were many others which might have been added as coming within the terms named, i.e., Roses known before 1840. The Austrian Roses were unrepresented. Amongst Gallica Roses, too, D'Agasseau, Boure de Nanteuil, and Adele Prévost might have been added. Then the Banksia Roses were absent, so that, if, as it is to be hoped, the National Rose Society should continue to offer prizes in this class, the zeal of cultivators and lovers of the Rose may rescue from oblivion some of those flowers our forefathers delighted in; and this need not be any retrograde path; if the lovers of herbaceous plants consider the re-awakened taste for the old-fashioned flowers of former days not a falling away, but an advance in gardening, seeing that there is more skill required for their cultivation than for the multiplication of thousands of Zonal Pelargoniums, and that the variety they exhibit is infinitely more beautiful than the best polychrome arrangement of the modern style, so at least the lover of Roses may claim that in seeking to bring back into our gardens many a discarded favourite, he is adding to that variety, which even a Rose garden may be benefited by. If, then, in taking up the subject of the Rose, I wander somewhat from the beaten path, if I regard it less as an exhibition than as a garden flower (although I do not propose to leave it out of any of its aspects), I may perhaps be doing some little service to a wide circle of its admirers who, reading of all

that seems necessary to obtain good flowers, disparagingly hold up their hands and say I must leave that to others. If I can show such that as much real enjoyment of the flower can be had from it in a quiet way as the most successful exhibitor ever had, and if I can induce some to try again many an old favourite which is now nowhere in the race, I shall feel that I am contributing something as a loyal subject to raise still higher the standard of our lovely queen.¶



Soap. What makes it work to control insects? How? In the early 1970's a Forestry Service scientist accidentally discovered that a fatty acid emulsifying compound killed 100% of the balsam woolly aphid colony in a test. This opened the door to study fatty acids as pesticides.

Fatty acids used in making soaps are natural plant and animal products, same as in our human diets. Fatty acids in our skin are one of our barriers against disease carrying fungi. Plants have similar fatty acid protectors. Elm seedlings have fatty acids that protect them against the Dutch Elm Disease; decomposing rye and timothy grasses release fatty acids that control parasitic nematodes.

Makers of the Insecticidal Soaps we now can buy for safe insect control have separated out the fatty acids that combat such pests as white fly, aphids, & spider mites but the readily biodegradable soaps have little effect on beneficial insects like honey bees, ladybugs, lizards, praying mantises and parasitic wasps. They have been carefully screened to do the jobs desired and properly combined.

Regular soaps oftentimes do a good job but may damage plant foliage, or a substance could be in the formula of the product that could kill the plant. Modern soaps vary in types of cleansing agents - detergents, caustics, organic solvents and degreasers, all having little effect on insects but considerable on plants. Be cautious with your home made soap sprays.

COLLECTING AND ROOTING ROSE CUTTINGS

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COLLECTING MATERIALS: Pruning shears, gallon size clear plastic food storage bags (not Ziploc), twist ties, plastic labels, permanent marker, water, paper towels, cooler(with ice if weather is hot), notebook, and pen.

Label the cuttings from each rose as soon as they are collected. Make up a "study name" for the rose, preferably one which is short, descriptive, and suggestive of the plant's location. Don't use a number or an already-established rose name, as these can cause confusion. Even if you think you can identify the rose, give it a study name.

"Ideal" rose cuttings are about pencil size or larger in diameter, contain 3 or more "nodes" (points where leaves join stems), have healthy, mature leaves present at the top two nodes, and come from "ripe" stems that have borne blooms.

The stem is "ripe" if the petals have fallen from the bloom but new growth has not yet begun from the nodes. For another "ripeness" test, push against the side of a few prickles (thorns) with your thumb. If they snap off cleanly, the stem is "ripe". If they bend without breaking, they are too green. If they require a lot of pressure to break off, the stems may be too hard to root easily.

If blooms are not available or have no leaves or are too short, then choose "ripe" sections of a long unbranched cane arising from the base of the plant or from an older main branch. If you can't find "ideal" cuttings on a plant, try whatever is available.

Remove all but the top two leaves. If the leaves are large, also remove the terminal (end) leaflet from each leaf. If the cuttings are very small, keep only the topmost leaf. Trim the cutting about 1/4 inch above the top leaf.

Prepare the cuttings as described above as soon as they are collected. Wrap immediately in dampened paper, enclose in a plastic bag, and store in a shaded cooler with ice. This will reduce heat stress and water loss. Bags should not touch the ice or the cuttings may be damaged by the cold. They may be refrigerated for several days.

In the notebook, record the date, study name, exact location, and any other notes on the plants. Be sure to include enough detailed information to allow you or someone else to return to the same plant for additional cuttings if needed.

ROOTING MATERIALS: Prepared rose cuttings and labels in their plastic bags (see above), plastic "gallon" size (or smaller) nursery pots, rooting medium (see below), water, rooting hormone powder (such as Rootone), pencil, permanent marker, razor-sharp blade, and 3 or more sticks per pot (props for the bags).

ROOTING MEDIUM: Thoroughly moisten 2 gallons of Canadian peatmoss and 1 gallon of perlite. Add 1 cup finely ground dolomitic lime and 1-1/2 teaspoons granular triple superphosphate (0-45-0). Mix thoroughly (easily done by sifting 3 times through a half-inch mesh hardware cloth screen). Makes enough for about 5 "gallon" size pots.

Fill pots with medium to within an inch or so of the top. Using a razor-sharp blade, make 1 to 3 very shallow vertical cuts on the lower end (one inch or so) of each cutting. Cut only through the bark, not deeply into the wood. Dip this end of the cutting into water and then into the rooting hormone powder. Tap off excess powder.

Near the rim of the pot, make holes in the medium with a pencil. Each hole should be wide enough to insert a cutting without scraping off the rooting hormone and deep enough to insert it to about half of its length. About 4 to 6 cuttings can be inserted per pot. Firm the medium around the cuttings. With the permanent marker, write on the label the study name of the rose and the date they were put in. To avoid mixups, use a separate pot for each variety.

Water gently and thoroughly to settle them in. Excessive watering may wash off some of the rooting hormone. Insert 3 or more sticks around the rim of the pot to keep the bag from collapsing onto the cuttings. Place the bag over the cuttings and sticks, gather it around the rim of the pot, and fasten with a twist tie. Using a pencil, punch about 6 small holes in the bag. There must be ventilation as well as high humidity.

Place the pot outdoors in fairly heavy shade but where filtered sunlight is available. Do not place in hot windy areas such as near air conditioner compressors. Make sure the pot's drainage holes are not blocked.

Check often but re-water only as needed. As the medium dries out the pot will become lighter, so you can judge by its weight. Depending on the weather and the size of the pot, this medium may need re-watering only once or twice before the cuttings have rooted. Remove any fallen leaves as they appear.

In 3 to 6 weeks, rooting will have begun. The continuing development of new growth from the nodes and/or the appearance of roots at the drainage holes indicates success. Also, you can carefully invert the pot and tip out the intact contents to look for roots.

After 6 to 8 weeks, cuttings may be rooted well enough to pot individually. For a potting medium, use a 50/50 mixture of rooting medium and good garden soil. Keep the newly potted plants in the shade, fertilize lightly, and gradually move them into full sun. After they have developed a good root system (tip them out of the pots to inspect), they can be planted in the garden.

This collecting and rooting method has worked quite well for roses found in cemeteries, old gardens, and similar places. I find it handy to keep the collecting materials in the trunk of my car for unexpected finds. The time to collect cuttings from an old rose is when you see it. The next time it may be gone.

The Heritage Rose Foundation, 1512 Gorman Street, Raleigh NC 27606, (919)834-2591

PBS TO SHOW DRAMATIZATION OF GREAT INTEREST TO ROSE GARDENERS

On July 19th and on July 26th, PBS (Chanel 8 in Houston viewing area) will show a dramatization of Nigel Nicolson's "Portrait of a Marriage", his memoir of the eccentric but enduring relationship of Vita Sackville-West and Harold Nicholson. They were, of course, Nigel's parents, odd but much loved by him. The greater part of the events recorded in the book - that is, Vita's scandalous affair with Violet Keppel - occurred at Long Barn, the Nicholson country house and site of their first English garden. During the 1930's, after Vita and Harold found Sissinghurst, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Lindbergh rented Long Barn and were happy there for a time. Mrs. Lindbergh recorded, beautifully, her impression of the garden:

"Up, first, through the Comtesse de Cayla beds, bounded by box, up the stone path and steps to the upper rose beds above the terrace wall, sweet with pinks. I walk down the brick paths between the rose beds. Then turn and walk down the steps, past the Comtesse de Cayla beds again, down the second steps, looking up and down the brick walk. Remember: iris and pink valerian together and the rock pinks. Remember the beds bordered by stones on the first terrace. The salmon-pink poppies are out at the end of the lawn. Remember how lovely gray plants look as edging, against taller green ones..... Down the steps, bushy and sweet-smelling with santolina, rosemary, and the gray spikes of lavender in bud. Across the little strip of lawn, down more steps, across the second lawn, down the next steps. Thyme here and more lavender. Along the brick walk past the rose beds - the Château du Clos Vougeot not out yet. The Frau Karl Druschki not out. A few of the Caroline Testout are out. Through the beds edged with lavender, catmint, pinks, rock pinks, sea pinks. The anchusa is out, but not the larkspur; there is some blue flax out, and coral flower and iris here and there. The garden is mostly blue, except for a few of those orange poppies and the pinks....I look back at the house glowing in the evening light - its dusky red bricks, its tawny roof, and the flowers climbing over the walls. The tassels of blue ceanothus are still a mass under our window and the

rose everywhere, give back the evening light, especially the big red rose vine on the barn glows with a rosy evening light. I try to impress it on my memory. In the years before us we will need this peace we are giving up so lightly. The peace of English gardens may be a rare thing in the near future. I am desperate with the thought that I shall forget it."

Vita, one imagines, sat at the feet of William Robinson (the greatest gardener of the age) when she wasn't busy elsewhere.

-- J. Conrad Tips

Bibliographic notes.....

EVERBLOOMING ROSES

by Georgia Torrey Drennan

We've discussed Francis Parkman's great work in our last issue (Spring '92). Another monography, almost equally lost and even more fascinating to gardeners in the lower South is Georgia Torrey Drennan's EVERBLOOMING ROSES, published in 1912.

Mrs. Drennan, born in the same year as Gertrude Jekyll, was a child of the pre-Civil war plantocracy; she gardened in her native Mississippi and later in Louisiana. Though her book is not unflawed, how many authors of her generation, background and quality have we? Since EVERBLOOMING ROSES is not readily available, excerpts might be printed in future issues if members desire. Rose Rustlers - ghouls that we are - will relish the chapter on graveyards, no doubt, and the congenitally nostalgic will sigh for pot-pourri *au naturel*. Her custom was to dry the petals of scented roses in some airy, shaded place (she instances 'La France' and 'Reine Marie Henriette') for use in rose jars. In other words, a dry pot-pourri with a pure rose fragrance, unadulterated by oils, essences, or any addition. This is authentic. As a child I saw my great-grandmother make sachets and sweet-bags in exactly the same way.

-- J. Conrad Tips

BIBLIOGRAPHY NOTES

The preceding list from the 1929 edition of "A Garden Book For Houston" is interesting. Not a bad bag, though many gardeners then felt that the Gulf Coast did not present a suitable venue for rose culture.

If Francis A. Lester is remembered today, I suspect it's because "ROSES OF YESTERDAY AND TODAY" is descended from "Lester Rose Gardens." Certainly rather few in this country grow the hybrid musk rose named for him and introduced in 1946, despite high praise from G.S. Thomas.

"Seedling from 'Kathleen'....In the dark green leaves, neatly pointed and usually with an edging of maroon serrations, and the profuse rather bushy growth, it has something in common with 'Félicité et Perpétue.' Reddish young shoots and flower stalks. The bunches of flowers borne rambler-fashion cover the plant and fill the garden with intense fragrance of oranges and bananas. The buds are clear pink, opening like apple-blossoms, fading to white and good yellow stamens. Few roses give more flower and scent at midsummer. Excellent as a lax bush or supported by a stump or hedge-row. About 14 feet. Small, oval, orange hews."

A shame, really, because Lester was a true pioneer in the rediscovery of old garden roses. His only book, MY FRIEND THE ROSE, was published in 1942 and reprinted in 1953, a handsome piece of work from Dr. McFarland's "Mount Pleasant Press." For a bibliography and notes see Heritage Rose Group's "THE ROSE LETTER", August 1981.

If, on pain of death or something equally annoying, I had to nominate one title as the most beautiful rose book ever made in this country, I'd name G. C. Thomas's THE PRACTICAL BOOK OF OUT-DOOR-ROSE GROWING FOR THE HOME GARDEN. Are there so many choices? A noted breeder (we all know the Bloomfield series by repute if not by sight, to say nothing of Dr. Huey and Bishop Darlington) and early collector of old garden roses, a reasonably prolific author and surely the most obsessive record keeper of his time, Captain Thomas was a power to be reckoned with in American rose circles. THE PRACTICAL BOOK... I like the 1920 edition with 37 half-tones, 99 plates, and a new chapter on rose development from 1917 to 1920...is a lovely thing, the text a mine of information, the color superb. For a bibliography and notes, see THE ROSE LETTER (Heritage Rose Group),

November, 1981. His book, ROSES FOR ALL AMERICAN CLIMATES, 1924, is considerably more modest.

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We are searching for other books that are known to be most informative but are no longer in print. They are only available from an occasional library or found in a used books store, or perhaps through Book Search Service.

Has anyone seen F.R. Burnside's TEA ROSES, written with O. G. Orpen and F. Page-Roberts for the National Rose Society, 1904?

How about TEA ROSES AND HOW TO GROW AND EXHIBIT THEM, 1893?

Or THE ROSE GARDEN, 1923, by E. C. Huey?

Or OLD FASHIONED ROSES IN NEW ZEALAND, J. W. Filliery, 1960?

Or the 2nd edition of the Rev. J. H. Pemberton's book...?????

-- J. Conrad Tips



La France.

SOME RECOMMENDED ROSES SIXTY YEARS AGO

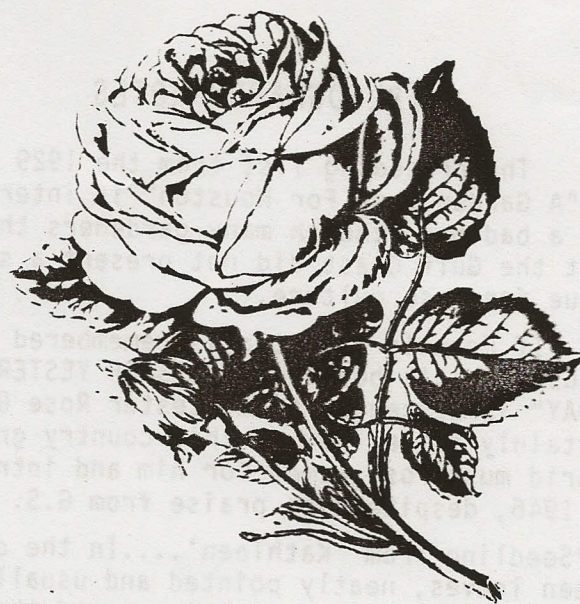
In 1929 the Forum of Civics published "A GARDEN BOOK FOR HOUSTON." As a matter of interest, I append the editor's list of roses grown hereabouts in those days. -- J. Conrad Tips

THE ROSES LISTED BELOW ALL GROW WELL IN HOUSTON

T - Tea HT - Hybrid Tea HP - Hybrid Perpetual

***Indicate those considered most successful and popular.

- **Captain Christy HP. Large Pink. Spring-less in fall.
- **Cecile Brunner (Sweetheart). Polyantha. Pink. Fragrant. Miniature. Constant, profuse bloomer.
- **Columbia HT. Pink. Everblooming.
- **Dame Edith Helen HT. Pink. New. Fragrant. Double. Long stems.
- **Duchesse de Brabant T. Pink. Exquisite fragrance, form and color.
- **Ellen Poulsen. Polyantha. Rose-pink. Profuse bloomer. Large, compact clusters.
- **Etoile de France HT. Vivid crimson. Everblooming.
- **Florex HT. Pink. Improved Columbia
- ***Francis Scott Key HT. Deep crimson. Large, very double blossoms.
- **Golden Emblem HT. Yellow. Good
- **Gruss an Teplitz HT. Red. Free bloomer. Semi-double.
- **Irish Fireflame HT. Pink to red. Single. Exquisite.
- ***Jonkheer J. L. Mock HT. Pink - two-tone. Large and very double.
- **Kaiserin Augusta Victoria HT. Creamy-white. Free blooming. One of the best.
- **Killarney HT. Pink. Long, pointed buds. Best in spring and fall.
- *Killarney FT. White. Best in spring and fall.
- **Lady Banksia. Yellow or white. Thornless. Vigorous. Early bloomer. Fragrant. Long sprays, mass of color.
- ***Lady Hillingdon T. Deep saffron-yellow. Constant bloomer.
- **Luxembourg HT. Copper-colored. Free bloom. Large and double.
- **Mme. Butterfly HT. Delicate pink. Exquisite.
- *Mrs. Aaron Ward HT. Copper-yellow. Exquisite buds.
- *Mrs. Arthur Robert Waddell HT. Rosy-salmon. Good on the Bay. Profuse bloomer.
- ***Mrs. Charles Bell HT. Shell-pink. Radiance. Everblooming. Most beautiful.
- **Mrs. Charles Lamplough HT. Lemon. One of the newer roses. Fragrant. Beautiful.
- **National Emblem HT. Dark red. Everblooming. Robust.
- *Padre HT. Copper-scarlet. Beautiful buds. Marvelous color.
- **Paul Neyron HP. Rose. Free bloomer. Largest of all roses.
- ***Radiance HT. Pink. Everblooming. Most satisfactory of all roses.
- ***Red Radiance HT. Everblooming. Best of all red roses.
- **Rev. F. Page Roberts HT. Yellow-coppery. Everblooming.



- *Rosa Hugonis. Yellow. Wild. Spring only. Single.
- **Sunburst HT. Yellow. everblooming.
- **Talisman HT. Pink and gold. Latest sensation in rose world. Marvelous.
- ***White American Beauty (Frau Karl Druschki) HP. Best of all white roses.
- **Willowmere HT. Flame-pink. Constant bloomer. Large. Double. New.

CLIMBING ROSES

- **American Pillar, H. Wichuraiana. Crimson pink clusters. vigorous. Spring bloom.
- ***Cherokee, Laevigata. White and pink. Single. Long stems. glossy foliage.
- ***Climbing American Beauty, H. Wichuraiana. Red. Vigorous. Profuse bloomer.
- ***Climbing Columbia HT. Pink. Constant bloomer. Long stems. Fragrant. Vigorous.
- *Climbing Dr. Van Fleet, H. Wichuraiana. Shell-pink. Spring bloomer. Semidouble.
- **Climbing Etoile de France HT. Vivid crimson. Free bloomer. Fragrant.
- **Climbing Kaiserin Augusta Victoria HT. White. Constant bloomer. Long stems.
- **Climbing Killarney HT. Pink. Free bloom. Showy. Long stems. Semidouble.
- **Climbing Lady Hillingdon HT. Yellow. Free blooming. Fragrant and lasting.
- **Climbing Maman Cochet T. Pink or white. Constant bloom. Large double flowers. Fragrant.
- **Climbing Mme. Caroline Testout HT. Pink. Large double flowers. Long stems. Constant bloomer.
- ***Climbing Radiance HT. Pink. One of the newer roses. Satisfactory. Free bloomer.
- ***Climbing Red Radiance HT. One of newer roses. satisfactory. Free bloomer.
- **Marechal Niel, Yellow. Popular Southern climber.
- ***Paul's Scarlet Climber. H. Wichuraina. Profuse bloomer. Brilliant color.
- ***Reine Marie Henriette, Cl HT. Rosy-crimson. Profuse spring bloomer.
- *Silver Moon, H. Wichuraina. White. Practically immune to all disease. Single.
- ***Thousand Beauty, H. Multiflora. Pink. Practically immune to disease. Thornless. Spring bloom only.

ALL WE REALLY WANT IS ROSES!

When Mr. & Mrs. Walter D. Brownell planted their first small rose garden early in the 20th century they had no idea of hybridizing. But when their prized roses began dying from black-spot and winterkill Mr. Brownell decided to do something, if he could. Mendel's paper had been rediscovered and published, so the solution seemed simple -- but it wasn't. This led the whole Brownell family into giving a true gift to roses by their records of trials & errors.

First, after finding themselves in a true long range research program, they set goals. What did they want to contribute toward? We all want roses that live for decades and immune from blackspot and other diseases; we want them to care for themselves; we want a variety of blooms that will each produce armsfull of roses daily, perhaps 200 blooms or more per plant season; we want specimen shrubs with complete rebloom, or climbers that will lay atop the roof or arbor and bloom constantly, or spiral around a pole and bloom until frost. "We want all of these types to possess the highest degree of winter hardiness and to stand without harm the most difficult summer conditions." These are the goals they stated some 90 years ago.

I well recall receiving roses from Brownell Roses to test for summer tolerance in Corpus Christi, TX, in the mid 1950's. It hurt me to report the truth - they just couldn't "stand the heat and should stay out of the kitchen."

Let us look backward at the close of the 18th century when great-great-great-great grandmother had Damasks, Musks, Albas, Mosses, Centifolias and Gallicas but not a remontant in the lot except for the Autumn Damask. Then, in 1789 a Bengal Ship arrived in England bringing the Pink China, *R. chinensis*, and a short time later the Crimson China, *R. chinensis semperflorens*, with their miraculous everblooming gene! Before long the Pink China had been bred to *R. moschata* to produce 'Champney's Pink Cluster', probably the first hybrid to contain this sensational overflowing gene. The Tea-Scented China, *Rosa odorata*, blush pink, and the Tea-scented *Rosa odorata ochroleuca*, a yellow form, soon arrived. Not long afterward 'Bourbon Jacques', the first Bourbon Rose, arrived from the Isle of Bourbon in the Indian Ocean, a natural cross of Parson's Pink ('Old Blush') and the Autumn Damask (Four Seasons Damask).

Great roses soon appeared in this Bourbon group. 'Souvenir de la Malmaison', 'Zephirine Drouhin', 'Hermosa' to name a few. By this

time there were Parsons Pinks, Red Chinas, early Noisettes and Bourbon roses, all perpetual flowering. Why not cross these with the once-bloomers they already had? Thus the Hybrid China was born. They were fine roses, except for the fact they were neither everblooming or remontant. Their French Provence and Damascena genes stopped the China genes cold. Maybe they needed more China genes, so the Hybrid Chinas were back-crossed with Bourbons and straight Chinas. It produced remontancy but not the everblooming sought. Optimistically, these were called "Hybrid Perpetuals." The first was 'Rose du Roi' 1816, and the first really typical one was 'Princesse Helène' 1837.

Indications that something different was happening with crossing the original Tea-Scented roses. They had been given to rose growers such as Laffay, Vibert and Cels in 1810-1824 who sowed 1000's of seeds and produced two tea scented chinas. The first Tea Rose, as we know them, was 'Smith's Yellow', according to George M. Taylor's *The Book of The Rose*, in 1833. It was a cross of 'Blush Noisette' and 'Park's New Yellow China' (*R. odorata ochroleuca*). The same year a French gardener named Adam crossed 'Hume's Blush' (*R. odorata*) and the original Bourbon, 'Bourbon Jacques', to produce the first pink Tea Rose. This began a class of Noisette and Bourbon TEAS which, crossed with each other and crossed back to the basic tea-scented Chinas soon gave us the fine Teas we have today.

It naturally followed that the ever-flowering, fragrant Tea Roses were crossed with the vigorous, hardy, bold-colored and highly fragrant Hybrid Perpetuals, that were only remontant flowering at the best, to discover the new class of Hybrid Teas. While Mrs. Gore's book *Rose Fancier's Manual*, 1838, names a Hybrid Tea classification and even lists "Duke of Choiseul", 'Brown's Hybrid Tea', 'Celestial Tea Rose', and 'Thé à Fleurs Chagrinées'. But the first rose from the above cross is usually attributed to be 'La France', 1867. At least we have hardy, monthly blooming roses due to the China's everblooming gene and the toughness of the Hybrid Perpetuals. How many, though, can match the daily production of 'Gruss an Teplitz', or 'Hermosa', or any of the Teas?

-- Margaret P. Sharpe

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