

The Old Texas Rose

VOLUME XIV

SPRING 1994

NUMBER 4

**APRIL 16TH,
SATURDAY 10 AM - 3 PM**

SYMPOSIUM

**3:30 - 5 PM WORKSHOP BY
MIKE SHOUP AT
THE ANTIQUE ROSE EMPORIUM
ON**

ROSE CLASSES & RECOGNITION OF VARIOUS ROSES

Everyone is asked to be in Brenham at the Brenham Community Hall well before 10 am with their lunches and cut roses for show &/or identification. **VASES WILL BE THERE** for them! Coffee & drinks will be free.

And be sure to bring rooted cuttings for swapping. This is not the time to bring cuttings that must be rooted - that is for fall. See page 2 for the Symposium program that has been planned for you.

Pages 3 and 4 are the **MAP PAGES** to guide you to the locations we will be going for our next 3 meetings this spring.

Don't miss Mike Shoup's "Hands-on" workshop following our meeting. This was a huge success at the Natchez Heritage Rose Foundation's Annual Meeting last year. It will truly help you in identifying roses!

**SATURDAY, MARCH 26TH
WE'RE HAVING A GATHERING
AT**

**EUNICE ROBERTS' HOUSE
6845 CAYTON, HOUSTON
(See map on page 3)**

With spring, summer and fall before us we are resuming our Neighborhood Socials. Eunice says for us to arrive before **10 a.m.** if we can. We are each to bring our own lunch, a chair (if you have one) and also to call her if you can bring a desert, like cakes or cookies, etc. She will know what to plan for so please notify her by phone **As Soon As Possible! 713/643-8704**

Eunice will supply the drinks.

Bring your rooted cuttings, plain cuttings that you may like to share (there's still time to root them), any rose you may have dug and put in a container to carry, but save your best potted roses to bring to the April 16th Symposium to add to the drawing we always have at the close. If you won't be able to make the Symposium, bring what you have and someone will take them for you if you wish. If you have any old catalogs of roses you no longer want, or rose books, or memorabilia there will be many takers there wanting them!

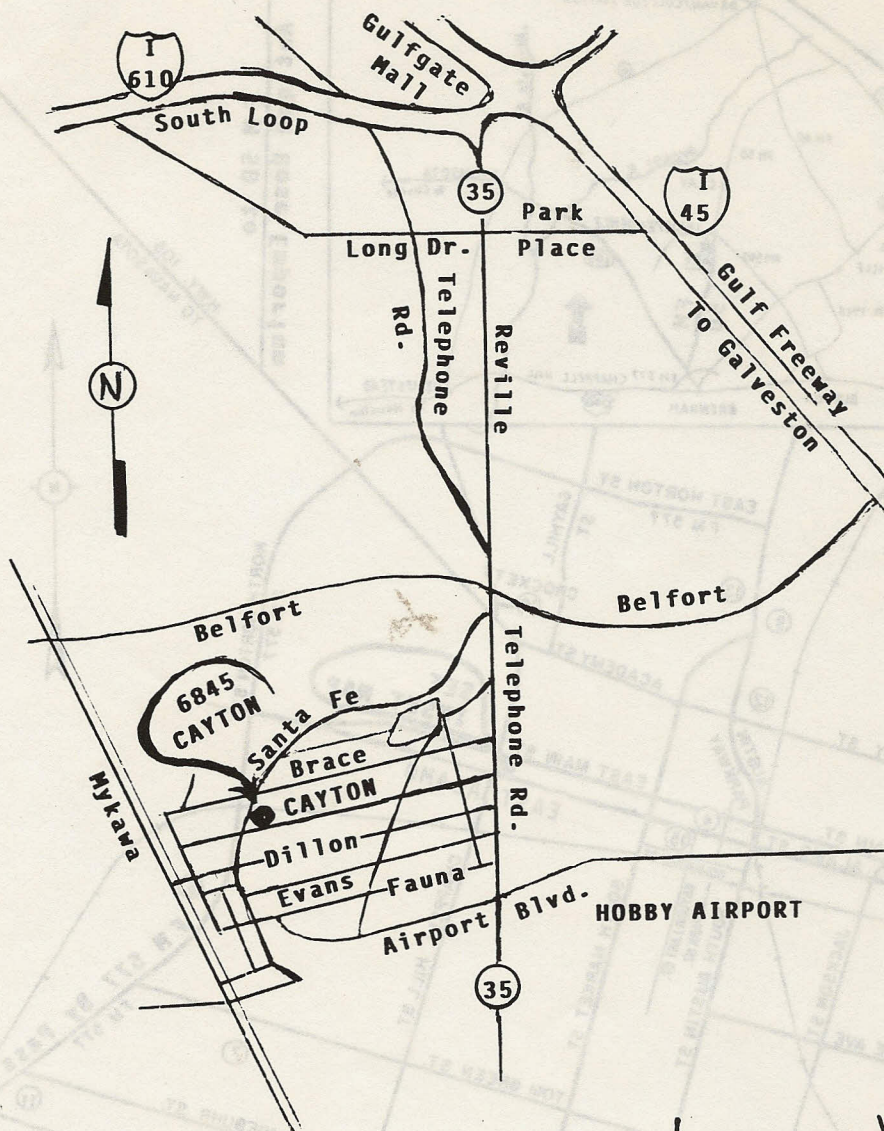
CHAIRMAN	Cal Dempsey, 112 Lakeshore Dr., Conroe TX 77375	409/539-6840
PROGRAM	Marion Brandes, Jr., 27326 Farm Creek, Huffman TX 77336	713/324-1457
SECRETARY	Mrs. S.J. Derby, 12431 Broken Bough, Houston TX 77024	713/461-6886
TREASURER	Mrs. Deanna Krause, 5020 Fairvent, Pasadena TX 77505	713/487-3347
EDITOR	Mrs. Margaret Sharpe, 9426 Kerrwood, Houston TX 77080-5428	713/464-8607

ANNUAL TEXAS ROSE RUSTLERS SYMPOSIUM

BRENNHAM COMMUNITY CENTERAPRIL 16th, Saturday, 1994

AGENDA

- 8:30** *Doors openset-up chairs and exhibition area.*
- 9:00 - 10:00** *Entry of blooms into exhibit tables....silver vases provided
Tables marked by class and tags provided to identify roses.*
- 10:15** *Greg Grant of Lone Star Growers in San Antonio speaks on one
of his favorite topics: Tea Roses, which will include many
unknowns he has found while rustling throughout Texas.*
- 10:45** *Liz Druitt, author and landscape consultant with antique roses,
will present the Mystery Roses of Bermuda. These colorful unknown
Teas and Chinas are unique and finding their way into commerce.*
- 11:15 - 11:45** *Break.....view blooms on exhibit.*
- 11:45 - 12:15** *Field Roebuck of the Dallas Historical Rose Group presents
Les Noms Des Rose Anciens.....or how to pronounce all
those difficult French rose names we must deal with.*
- 12:30 - 1:30** *Lunch.....tables, drinks & ice provided.*
- 1:30 - 2:00** *Joyce Westerman of the Houston Rose Society will present
a program on David Austin's English Roses.*
- 2:00 - 2:30** *Marion Brandes will give a presentation on his favorite roses
and some promising hopefuls.*
- 2:30 - 3:00** *Drawing for rosesand clean-up of Community
Center – vases, chairs, tables, etc.*
- 3:00 - 3:30** *Travel to the Antique Rose Emporium and view gardens there.*
- 3:30 - 4:00** *Refreshments provided by the Antique Rose Emporium at the
Stone Kitchen.*
- 4:00 - 4:45** *Workshop by Mike Shoup in the Stone Kitchen on the
Characteristics and Identification of Rose Classes. Samples*



**WE'RE INVITED TO MEET AT
MARION & FRANCES BRANDES'S**

**Social SUNDAY Huffman
Gathering MAY 8 TX**

See the map below in finding where they live. It should not be any problem with this map.

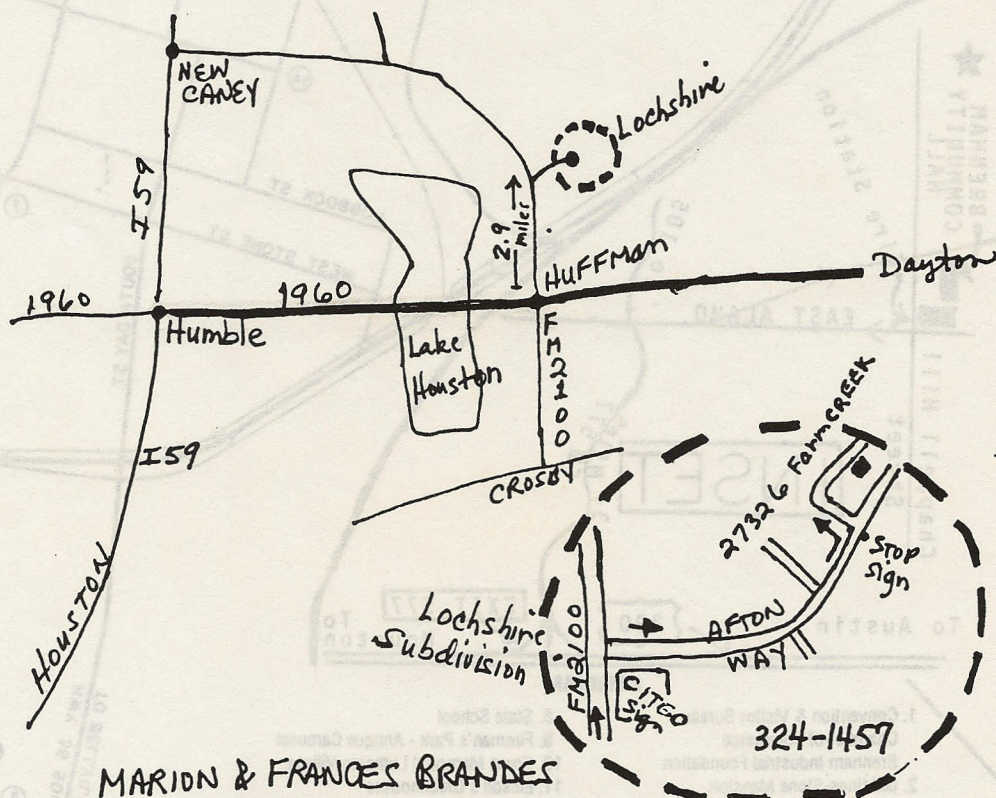
Details of this event will be discussed at the Symposium, April 16th. We will **not** be mailing another Newsletter until mid July. However, we will plan to send you reminder postals early enough for you to plan to attend.

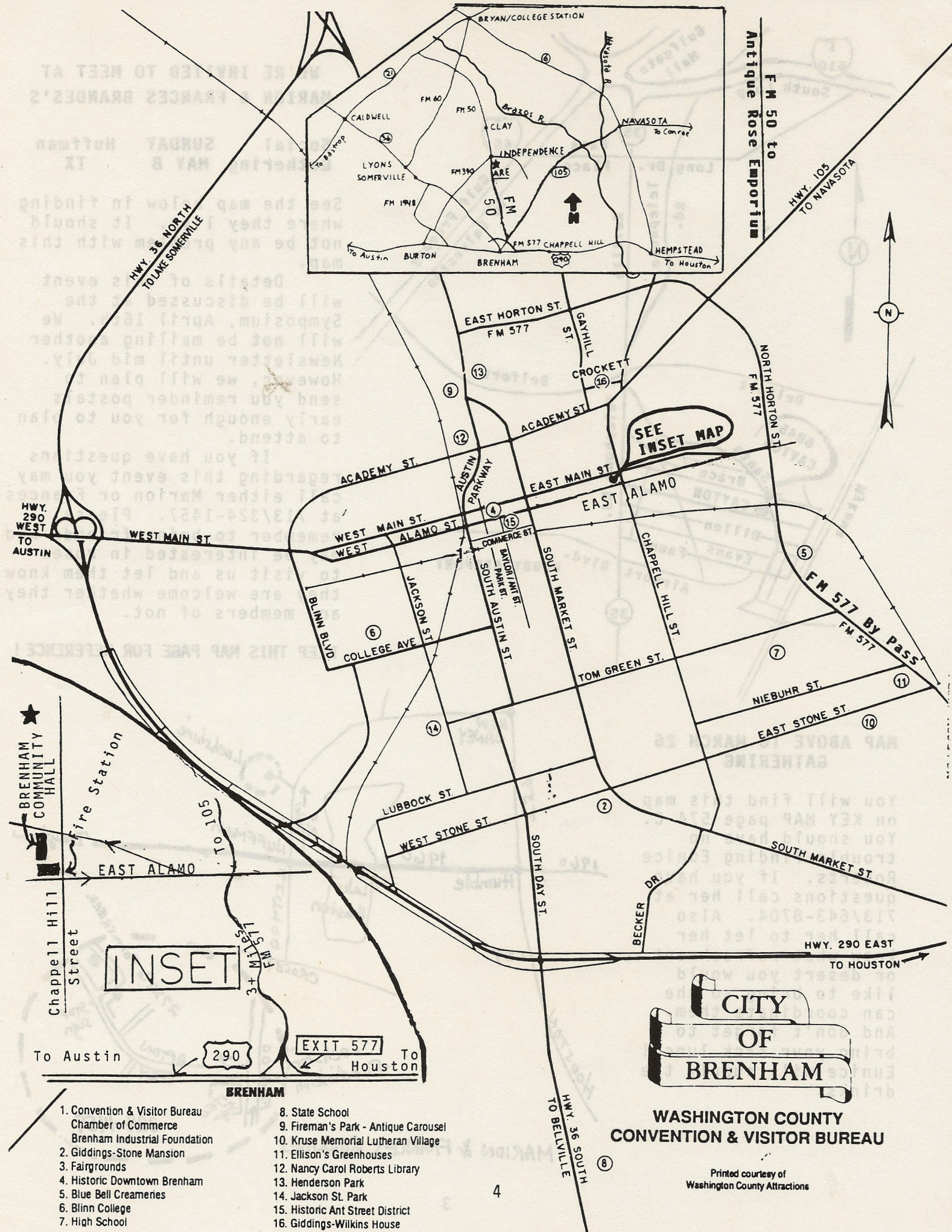
If you have questions regarding this event you may call either Marion or Frances at 713/324-1457. Please remember to bring friends who may be interested in roses to visit us and let them know they are welcome whether they are members or not.

KEEP THIS MAP PAGE FOR REFERENCE !

MAP ABOVE TO MARCH 26 GATHERING

You will find this map on KEY MAP page 574 C. You should have no trouble finding Eunice Roberts. If you have questions call her at 713/643-8704. Also call her to let her know what refreshment or desert you would like to bring so she can coordinate them. And don't forget to bring your sack lunch! Eunice will supply the drinks.





EVERBLOOMING ROSES, Georgia Torrey Drennan, 1912

The Bourbon Rose

(*Rosa Bourboniana*)

SOUVENIR DE MALMAISON, the first famous Bourbon rose, was an accidental discovery. It was found blooming in a hedge of roses on the Isle of Bourbon, now called Reunion in the Indian Ocean, in 1816. The only roses grown there were the China and Bengal, and the red Four Seasons, Hybrid Damask.

This distinctly new rose was a seedling hybrid of the two, unlike either and of greater beauty. A French botanist visiting the island, recognised its merits and sent it to the Chateau de Nieully, in France. It was introduced into the United States in 1828, and became, as in France, the favoured rose of its era, inaugurating the popular new everblooming class, of accidental origin.

Souvenir de Malmaison has a touching history dating from its first growth on the soil of France. A pure and beautiful rose, it recalls the palatial home of Josephine, dethroned Empress, divorced wife, yet in the well-known love of Napoleon and the undying attachment of the French people, forever a heroine. Napoleon granted her an annual allowance of three million francs, but so great was her love of flowers and the liberal patronage she extended to floriculture, that the clerk of her excise was forced to remind her that retrenchments were necessary. France owes much to Josephine for the intelligent, refined, fostering love and encouragement she gave to the art of floriculture. The name of this famous Bourbon rose was conferred by the Grand Duke of Russia, who visited the Palace of Malmaison and was presented with a rose-bush full of its royal blossoms. He transplanted the blooming bush to his royal garden in St. Petersburg and conferred upon it the name, but the merits of the rose ensured its lasting popularity.

It is the representative Bourbon rose, too well known to need description, but one peculiarity is worth remarking, that is, the flat form. The petals of kid-like texture are smoothly folded back from the centre, forming a broad, flat rose like no other except the Hybrid Perpetual, Madam Charles Wood. The pale blush buds of Malmaison are massive, and perfect in construction.

Bourbon roses are hardier than the Teas, but less so than the Hybrid Remontants. They are as constant as the Teas, and Hermosa, which soon followed Malmaison, is so profuse that other everblooming roses are sometimes referred to as "blooming with the reckless freedom of Hermosa." Bourbon Queen is considerable like Malmaison, but a full shade deeper pink. Empress Eugenie is a clear porcelain pink. Mrs. de Graw is the hardiest of the Bourbons.

I am not acquainted with a rose that remains fresh on the bush as long as Malmaison, nor buds that keep fresh and fadeless longer when cut. Apolline is not a very famous rose, but I have found it one of the most remarkable bloomers, and for bordering beds of larger, taller roses, I know of no rose to surpass this purplish-pink little Bourbon. It blooms as freely in such positions as petunias or any free flowering annual plant. The only regret is the purplish tinge. White flowers always improve the tone of such colour among roses.

It is to be regretted that the identity of several once-famous Bourbons has been lost. For instance, the Dr. Roques of the present day is a Tea, variegated red and saffron. In old gardens, Dr. Roques is a dark red rose with rose with a thick, leathery Bourbon foliage. Its synonym, since the early part of the nineteenth century, has been crimson, has been Crimson Globe, which name is now applied to a red Moss rose. This unfortunate confusion has obscured the superb old Bourbon, Dr. Roques.

Marchal de Villars has also disappeared of late years. It is still found in old gardens, where from layers and cuttings new plants have successively been grown. The roses are cup-shaped, very double, and borne in clusters, of a purplish wine red. The foliage is dark and leathery and the rose is either a bush or a semi-climber, according to the way it is pruned. These two almost forgotten Bourbons are fit to occupy places beside the most famous roses of modern times of whatever class.

Champion of the World is a Hybrid Remontant or Bourbon, as it is a cross between Magna Charta and Hermosa. It is blended in like-

ness to the two classes; in hardiness, to the Remontants, and in ever free and constant blooming, to the Bourbons. One of the finest roses an amateur can have, blooming when quite young, it continues for years; the older the bush, the more and better the roses. The colour is bright pink; the roses large and double; fine for the garden and cut-roses.

Old and new, all of this everblooming class are fine for the amateur. They are easy of culture, profuse, long-lived and except that there are no yellow and salmon among them, are varied and beautiful in colors.

One pleasing peculiarity of the Bourbons is the manner in which they improve in their climbing form. Of late years, Malmaison and Hermosa, or Climbing Setina, by courtesy have been classed with the climbing Teas, and are among the finest of their colour.

Climbing Malmaison has no superior. It is luxuriant, profuse, strong and vigorous, and large, double roses of light pink low down on the vines, but higher up appear white, with charming effect.

Setina is a deeper shade of pink than the bush Hermosa, and the roses are larger. These two hardy Bourbons, contrary to all rules, are allowed to run up and over trees. They cover three-story fronts, pergolas, and most graceful of all light espaliers, sometimes forty feet long, blooming from the beginning to the close of the season.

Climbing Malmaison is available wherever white is in demand, as it is lighter than Maiden's Blush and as clear as porcelain, the full blown roses almost white. ¶

OLD ROSES - CHAPPELL HILL - ETC.

The April 1994 issue of "Early American Life" magazine has nice articles in its 25th Anniversary edition about our historic area. One article is about Harison's Yellow. While I was interviewed via phone and mentioned it was called "The Yellow Rose of Texas" by some, the famous song referred to a pretty Cajun girl. The author, a Connecticut native, never did understand what "Cajun" meant.

[This information is from an article that appeared in "The Rose" magazine, Vol.13, Number 4, Summer 1965. - Editor]

For an introduction to these lovely roses, we will turn to "The Rose Amateur's Guide (1827) by Thomas Rivers. He writes, "I hope, in a few years, to see the Bourbon Roses in every garden, for the 'queen of flowers' boasts no members of her court more beautiful; their fragrance is so delicate and pleasing, more particularly in the autumn." This enthusiasm is easy to understand, for the Bourbons have the classical form and fragrance of the old roses and, in most cases, a recurrent flowering habit. In sweetness of scent, in period charm, in perfection of bloom, the best of the "Bourboniana" can have few equals.

But let us begin by tracing their origin and development. In 1817 on the Ile de Bourbon (now Reunion) a natural hybrid occurred between the Pink Autumn Damask and Parson's Pink China; roses grown locally as hedging plants. M. Breton, a French botanist working on the island, sent seeds of this hybrid to the gardener to the duc d'Orleans, M. Jaques, at Neuilly near Paris, and from these seeds he raised the first European Bourbon Rose, 'Rosier de l'Ile Bourbon.' This rose reached England in 1825. But the Bourbons were largely developed in France, and attained the wonderful floral perfection that is found in 'Louise Odier', 'La Reine Victoria' and 'Mme. Pierre Oger.' During the 19th century the Bourbons gave much to the development of the rose, for they helped to produce the Teas and the Hybrid Perpetuals. In 1825 the brilliant carmine 'Gloire des Rosomanes' introduced a new, distinct colour. It was to become the ancestor of many fine red roses, among them 'Etoile de Hollande' and 'Crimson Glory'. Owing to the introduction of the more perpetual Hybrid Teas towards the end of the 19th century, the Bourbons lost their popularity which had lasted for about 50 years. But as hardy, trouble-free, flowering shrubs they are worthy of a place in our gardens today.

With regard to cultivation, the Bourbons are not particular, but like all roses, they will benefit from applications of manure or compost. Most of them are very vigorous, and grow to 5 ft. or more. Pruning is limited to the removal of small growth and dead wood and shortening of the new shoots, if desired.

(next page)

Unlike the Noisettes, some of which need protection, they are all hardy, and flourish in any situation.

Perhaps the best known of the group is the peerless 'ZEPHYRINE DROUHIN', the "thornless rose." The beautiful semi-double, cerise pink flowers are freely produced over a long period. It is excellent grown against a fence or wall where it will probably reach a height of 10 ft., and almost as wide. It can be grown in almost any situation, as a hedging plant, pegged down, or pruned into a specimen bush. The flowers are sweetly scented and the stems are free from thorns so its only fault is being somewhat susceptible to mildew. There is a sport, 'Kathleen Harrop,' which is similar but with flowers of lighter pink.

Three Bourbons of almost unique perfection are 'LOUISE ODIER', 'LA REINE VICTORIA', and 'MME. PIERRE OGER.' 'LOUISE ODIER' is perhaps the loveliest of the group with sweetly scented lilac-pink flowers, showing petals neatly arranged in circles, beautifully offset by the small green leaves. It is very free flowering. 'LA REINE VICTORIA' has cupped rose pink flowers with edges a deeper pink; its sport, MME. PIERRE OGER, is cream, but can blush rosy red against a sunny wall.

No rose is grander than 'MME. ISAAC PEREIRE'. The enormous, vivid, rose-carmine flowers are very richly scented. The early blooms lack distinction, but those of autumn are fine indeed! 'MME. ERNST CALVAT', a sport of 'MME. ISAAC', is hard to beat as a pillar rose, growing to at least 8 ft. and very large, blush, double flowers.

The velvety purple-red 'PRINCE CHARLES' has only one flowering season. Other summer flowering varieties are the crimson-purple 'GREAT WESTERN', 'COUP d'HEBE' and 'CHARLES LAWSON', a great pink climber. 'BLAIRII No. 2' makes a great climber with its handsome foliage and huge double pink with deeper colour in the center. The long popular 'BOURBON QUEEN' is another climber that has loose pink flowers veined a darker shade. The famous 'SOUVENIR de la MALMAISON' parent of the splendid climber, 'GLOIRE de DIJON', is unsurpassed in a hot season; the large flowers are of palest pink. 'BOULE de NEIGE', as its name suggests, has balled white flowers, well balanced by dark green leaves. This is one of the finest white roses.

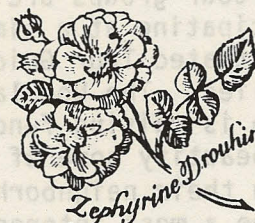
Now we come to the striped (variegated) varieties. 'COMMANDANT BEAUREPAIRE' or 'PANACHE d'ANGERS', a very strong grower, with crimson flowers flecked with splashes of deep purple and pink. 'HONORINE de BRABANT', rosy lilac speckled with crimson. 'VARIEGATA di BOLOGNA', a fairly recent 1909 introduction with blush-white flowers with crimson-purple stripes, but unfortunately prone to blackspot.

Among Bourbons offered in 1965 catalogues are roses introduced by the German grower, Peter Lambert, during the early 1900's, 'ADAM MESSERICH', worthy descendant of 'LOUISE ODIER', 'ZIGEUNER KNABE' (Gypsy Boy), and 'PARKZIERDE', another beautiful victim of blackspot.

Good portraits of Bourbon roses are scarce. There are, however, fine paintings of 'LA REINE VICTORIA', 'HONORINE DE BRABANT' and 'COMMANDANT BEAUREPAIRE' by Charles Raymond in Sacheverell Sitwell's book, "Old Garden Roses". We should value these plates as highly as those by Redoute.

From the hundreds of Bourbons that have disappeared, we should like to rediscover 'AUGUSTINE LELIEUR', described by Thomas Rivers as "a charming rose, a true Bourbon, so vivid and beautiful that it cannot be too much recommended; its flowers are very erect, and bell-shaped and as fine in October as June". This charming description makes us want to know more about the lost roses of yesterday, the roses of a slower, quieter, more comfortable world. Our modern roses are rich in colour, and many of them are highly resistant to disease, but they lack the charm and refinement and charm of the old fashioned roses. Personally I prefer the gently elegance of a 'Louise Odier' to the flaming beauty of a 'Tropicana'.

In conclusion, we must regret that so few of these delightful roses have been preserved, but it is to be hoped that more will come to light in the future, thereby increasing our enjoyment and knowledge of the "Queen of Flowers."



WOODLANDS HEIGHTS FESTIVAL

APRIL 9 & 10, 1994

The Rose Rustlers have received a special invitation to visit the Spring Festival to be held in the most interesting area of Houston Heights known as the Woodland Heights section. This is bordered by Studewood on the west, I-45 on the east, White Oak on the south and 11th St. on the north. Center of activities will be at the Travis Elementary School on Beauchamp (pronounced "Beecham"), which may be reached by going north on Montrose under I-10, which becomes Studewood at the White Oak Dr. intersection. By travelling further 7 blocks Highland appears on the right, turn right and continue (east) to the end where it terminates into Beauchamp at the school playground. You will notice two parking lots on the east side that are those of Woodland Baptist Church and Zion Lutheran Church, where you may park free.

Inside the school and the school grounds will be many interesting things. Local nurseries will have booths set up and the usual expected pastries and items of interest. You will also receive a map of the area with locations marked where points of interest for a walking tour of many historic homes and gardens.

At 12:00 Noon on Saturday there will be a lecture by Stephen Fox, Rice University, on "History of Architecture of Woodland Heights." Music will be supplied by Travis School facilities. There will also be a guided tour of six of the most interesting houses in the area beginning with the Ernst Klunkert Farmhouse (1875), the oldest house in The Heights. Cost of the guided tour is \$10 and will leave from the School at 1 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. The gardens of the homes will also be on the tour. Many local residents will be opening their gardens for free visitation. Tickets for the guided tour should be purchased as soon as available as tour groups are limited to number participating at a time.

An illustrated Tour Guide booklet will be supplied. The Woodlands Heights Civic Club is raising funds to improve and beautify some of the esplanades in their neighborhood. This promises to be a most interesting event. ¶

HOUSTON LIFE MAGAZINE'S

"MAIN STREET PROJECT"

By now most have seen the new Houston Life Magazine that is being published by The Houston Post. No doubt you carefully looked at pictures of a proposed beautification plan for Main Street from the Warwick Circle Fountains to the Pierce Elevated over downtown at Gray and Pierce.

No one can deny that we really need to clean-up and dress-up our old Main Street. Many of the ideas presented would certainly improve many things, including businesses that might again locate in the slum-prone areas where there once were many bush stores and restaurants. There were many homes in those areas that were crowded out by so many businesses pushing in and raising the land value (taxes) so that people (customers) moved away to the suburbs and further. By cleaning up and reorganizing Main Street it would again attract people to live and shop there. Remember the big, busy Sears store? And the tremendously popular Walton's Cafeteria?

Main Street is a prime example of what an unzoned city growth can produce, and has. Now we have a chance to recover our once desirable homes and businesses back into our economy. With the prospect of provisions for beautiful flowers and architectural improvements we have been asked to send the Concerned Committee Members of Main Street Project suggestions. One of our Rose Rustler members did just that! Audrey B. McMurray wrote them suggesting that "antique roses can grow just as thickly as ligustrum" and provide color and fragrance pleasing to us. The low maintenance of the proper old roses could easily be planted.

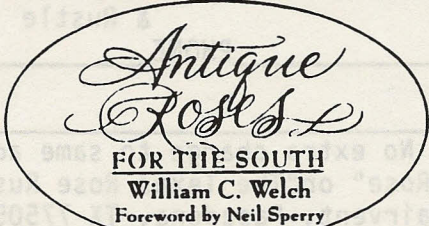
Could we in time provide enough roses from cuttings to supply one of the areas in this landscaping plan? Should old roses like ones once grown in Houston be included with the statues of great citizens and events that have been proposed? If you are interested in joining Audrey in her efforts to "make a place for herilooms of Houston" why not call her and voice your opinion? Her number is 713/729-5307.

A project like this would certainly be great to promote old garden roses and would enjoy much popular support. ¶

If you have looked through the Catalog of the Antique Rose Emporium 1994 you will see new varieties added and other most interesting changes. "Hume's Blush" is a new addition to the list. It is a "Tea-scented China" that is very beautiful and quite a fine addition to a collection of China roses. It is a famous ancestral rose dated 1809, light pink double flowers and highly fragrant.


Also listed are a full line of the Bermuda "Mystery Roses." These are most interesting since they are new to the market and most seem to perform well for us here in Houston.

Missing from the catalog and nursery are the many varieties of perennials that were available until this year. This was necessary so there would be room for the new roses now in stock.



**Antique
Roses**
FOR THE SOUTH
William C. Welch
Foreword by Neil Sperry

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Antique Roses for the South is the first book on growing roses in the South since Georgia Torrey Drennan's book published in 1912! The Landscape Design Council of Texas Garden Clubs, Inc., sell books to raise a Scholarship Fund for landscape students at A&M Univ. honoring Dr. Welch.

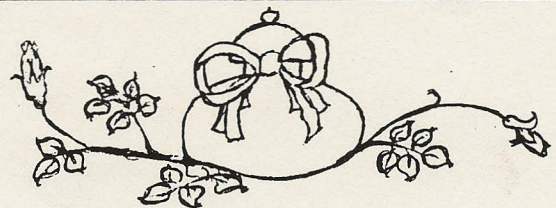
In the last Old Texas Rose we told of an announced new source for old roses in Gainesville FL. Reports to date have not been the most favorable because it seems no one has been able to reach the proprietor, listed as Barbie Allen. Joe Woodard, of the Dallas Old Garden Rose group had tried to reach her with no avail. He finally got one of their members who lives near the address of the "World of Roses" to try to locate Ms. Allen, but she would not talk to her at that time. One of the members of the Dallas Old Rose Group has ordered some plants to be rooted and delivered last fall but there has been no response to her order and her letters have been marked "Return to Sender." Joe then contacted his friend Beverly Dobson, who, with Peter Schneider, publish "The Combined Rose List." This list contains the names and addresses of all known rose propagators. She responded that she did not know anything of Barbie Allen and neither did Peter Schneider. They were anxious to find out if she is still in business and whether or not to list her in the 1994 Combined Rose List, which is just being received by the early mail order customers. They will continue to try to find if she is a new rose source.

In relating the information I received I did not intend to leave the impression that Bev and Peter were "investigating

Barbie's business tactics," which is what I said. Neither of these good rosarians are interested in anyone's business tactics, only their production of roses. I fear that both Joe Woodard and I are so sensitive about rose growers who are not straight forward in their relations to their customers since a bad experience or two a few years ago. My choice of words were poor in describing the concern Bev and Peter had when they were not able to confirm what they hoped would be a good added grower listing. My wording was a reflection of my own feelings and not of Joe's or anyone else.

My sincere and deepest apologies to both Beverly and Peter for the embarrassment I caused them by my misrepresentation of the facts.

-- Margaret Sharpe, Editor



BACK ISSUES OF OTR	Sep'85	Sum'87	Win'89	Sum'90	Win'92	Fal'93
Sep'82	Mar'84	Dec'85	Fal'87	Spr'89	Fal'90	Spr'92
Dec'82	May'84	Jan'86	Win'88	Sum'89	Win'91	Sum'92
May'83	Sep'84	Apr'86	Spr'88	Fal'89	Spr'91	Fal'92
Jly'83	Dec'84	Sep'86	Sum'88	Win'90	Sum'91	Win'93
Sep'83	Mar'85	Jan'87	Fal'88	Spr'90	Fal'91	Spr'93
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Texas Rose Rustler membership list \$1. pp	Commercial list for OGR's .50 pp
Revised Bibliography of recommended books on old roses	@ \$2. pp

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