Number 3

(Late Printing February 1997)

W 1996

# SPRING SYMPOSIUM TO BE AT MERCER ARBORETUM MAIN HALL 11 AM - 5 PM

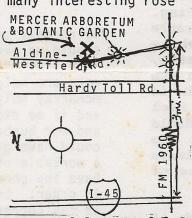
SATURDAY, MARCH 8th

Bring your lunch if you wish, and PLEASE bring your own container of your own old roses to display. Program begins at 1 pm, so you will have time to set up your own rose exhibits. Also furnish a card with your roses names written in pencil that won't run if water spills on them.

We will have a demonstration-talk on Old Rose displays by Deanna Krause; a talk by Stan Franks who is a expert on soils from Old South Gardens. Deanna will show some slides of old roses she recommends for our area and tips on growing them. There will be a table at the side for those who are interested in starting cuttings. Our Program Chairman has many interesting rose

topics for us.

The Spring Symposium is the meet where we have to give new lose information and new books and sources to find old roses, new tips to grow them, and lots more geared to new members and to experienced rosers to share with us.



## NEW CHAIRMEN ELECTED AT OCTOBER ANNUAL MEETING

BYLAWS CHANGES VOTED APPROVED AND IT WAS VOTED TO FOLLOW OLD BYLAWS THROUGH 1997

Since we have a Constitution and Bylaws that were approved when we actually organized in 1988 we have an established way that we are to change our methods of procedures when we wish to alter our methods. There have been several expressions of desire to change some methods of program planning, for example. The changed desired did not work very well since the Bylaws were not consulted and confusion resulted. It was necessary to return to them and properly change them to conform to our desired wishes. The addition of a Program Chairman separate from a Rose Rustle Chairman is the main change, coupled with the chairmen's duties. Since our Bylaws state that the only meeting we have in which business may be conducted is the last meeting of the year, and that was past when all these changes came up, those present and voting at the October 1996 one voted to approve the changes but continue as far as possible under the old Bylaws, putting the new changes into effect as necessary. The new changes officially take effect at the last meeting (Rustle) in 1997

By the end of this year we will be sending you an official copy of our new C & B changes. Originally they were drawn up to

(OVER

CHAIRMAN	C. Ray Valigura, 1109 Loesser, Houston TX 77055	713/237-0707
ROSE RUSTLES	Earl Krause, 5020 Fairvent, Pasadena TX 77505	281/487-3347
PROGRAM\$	Mrs. Eunice Roberts, 6845 Cayton, Houston TX 77061 et al	713/395-6781
SECRETARY	Mrs. Bobbie McKenna, 5426 Candletree, Houston TX 77091-5597	713/682-4365
TREASURER	Mrs. Lucille Idom, 13106 Blythe, Houston TX 77015	713/453-1274
EDITOR	Mrs. Margaret P. Sharpe, 9426 Kerrwood, Houston TX 77080-5428	713/464-8607

### Roses, By the Way

by Mary Herr Herr's Lawn & Landscape

The look of climbing roses cascading over a fence is one everybody loves. Today there are many varieties available, well suited to today's smaller and usually fenced yards. The climbers add an important aspect to all gardens, adding a vertical feature. And they are an essential part of the appealing cottage garden look that we are asked to design more and more.

Climbing roses aren't as difficult to use as most people think. One of the easiest ways to attach them to a wooden fence is to use the stretchy 'Miracle Garden' tie. Tie it around the cane you wish to support and staple the tie (NOT THE ROSE) to the fence.

Climbers bloom best on year-old wood, so it is never recommended to prune them hard. We only remove the dead canes and wayward branches. They are truly plants that get better with age - most of them need 2-3 years' growth to realize their full potential.

In our southern gardens, there are many large-flowered, repeat bloomers that we find especially rewarding. One of them is the imcomparable Sombrueil, with its large, white blooms. I also love the noisette, Crepuscule, because it blooms all the time, as many of the noisettes do in our zone. Reve d'Or, Marechal Niel and La Marque are other dependable bloomers of this class. And the hybrid musk, 'Buff Beauty', is always adorned with breathtaking trusses of apricot blooms.

Another large-flowered favorite is Parade, a seedling of New Dawn. It is a healthy performer with big, dark magenta flowers. It is as vigorous as New Dawn and looks great planted with it.

Compassion is a greatly satisfying apricot bloomer, constantly producing

clusters of three to five perfect flowers. An added bonus is the dark olive foliage that persists in winter.

And what would a garden be without some dark red climbing roses (planted with Sombrueil, perhaps?). Some of these that have done well for us are Altissimo, Red Fountain, and Dublin Bay. Altissimo is striking because it is single and eletgantly simple. Large, velvety red, semi-double flowers and decorative rose hips are some of the qualities we enjoy with Red Fountain and Dublin Bay. These three are not truly antique roses, but on their own roots, as we use them, they get bigger and better every year.

I hope you all reward yourself with some climbing roses this year. Plant varieties that are well suited to our zone and enjoy the view of them cascading over your fence for years to come.

Rustlers Mike & Mary Herr own and operate Herr's Lawn & Landscape, specializing in unique garden design incorporating roses, perennials and flowering plants. They also propagate and sell own-root roses, both wholesale and retail, with emphasis on plants that are exceptional performers. They are a nursery by appointment. Their phone number is (281) 689-7776.

#### NEW CHAIRMEN Continued

to readily conform to IRS requirements should we ever be able to qualify for "Non-Profit" status. ral volunteers are helping; Mrs. Audrey Beust McMurray helps on the "Old Texas Rose" and if we did not have Frances Graves and her husband I don't know how we could have gotten our mailing list in a workable order. We still do not have the phone numbers and area codes in order. Let us know corrections so we can correct our lists. Frances is helping on the "OTR" by typing the mailing labels! Everyone has been very glad to help whenever asked and see a need. It has been a most trying experience to replace old, worn out members whohave carried the load so long. Thank all of you!

The Old Texas Rose has lost time, if you have noticed! We have tried to get an issue to you in December but have seldom succeeded due to all the Christmas holidays interference. The mid January time passed us this time so we are just now getting out the Fall '96 issue. The next issue will be No. 4 which will arrive in April. It will announce a most delightful event that will take place on May 3rd, 1997. It is being scheduled to take place at "WELCOME HALL" at Industry, TX, near Bellville, where we had the 1991 Fall Rustle. If you have your Fall 1991 "OTR" you will find a map inside the back cover to remind you where "Welcome Hall" is located. It is about ½ mile north of Industry, TX, on TX 109. You will be receiving a new map in the May OTR.

Remember to keep your membership current so you get your OTR regularly. Dues are \$7 yearly. See your address label on your most recent issue to tell what your last issue will be at the end of your current membership.. On the top line following your name will be SP97 (Spring 1997), SU97 (Summer 1997), F97 (Fall 1997), W97 (Winter 1997). Each issue will also be numbered 1, 2, 3 or 4 just below the masthead on the top of the front page. You are to receive at least 4 issues of the OTRs annually. The issue on your label is the last one you will receive until your renewal is received by the Treasurer. Should you renew before your subscription expires your membership will be extended, and should it arrive after the current membership has expired for a week or so the lapsed issue may be sent to you. Please understand we cannot mail billing invoices as we do not have a mailing-billing service and all of our labor is by members who do it free for you and are as busy with their roses as are you. Your dues are spent only on materials used for services to you no charge. Back issues may be bought for 50¢ each or \$1 each mailed. See back mailing cover for other services we try to serve you.

Should you miss an issue that you think you should have received please call either the Treasurer or the Editor, names and phone numbers on bottom of page 1.

#### TELEPHONE NUMBERS

PLEASE LET THE EDITOR KNOW IF YOUR PHONE NUMBER IS NOT CORRECT OR THE CORRECT NUMBER IF IT NEEDS TO BE ADDED. WE SELDOM NEED TO CALL ANYONE BUT IT HAS HAPPENED - EVEN LONG DISTANCE. MANY OF DUR MEMBERS WANT TO REACH YOU ABOUT ROSES, ETC.

Rustlers Ursula and Jack White ended '96 with a shock and began '97 with a miracle. Jack had two heart attacks just two days apart at Christmas Time and doctors were not optomistic about his survival. However, he proved to be just as tough as many of our Antique Roses and is home now under Ursula's vigilant care. We wish him Godspeed back to good health.

Two good friends of the Rose Rustlers have gardening publications that recognize the Upper Texas Gulf Coast; Brenda Beust Smith and Mike Peters. Brenda's 1997 LAZY GARDENERS GUIDE is full of sources for old rose growers' plants and materials, and Mike publishes a timely magazine for Gulf Coast gardeners. Everyone who lives on the Central Gulf Coast needs to keep up with the great information Texas Gulf Coast GARDENING offers. Call them in Missouri City at 1-800-310-7047 to order. Brenda's Lazy Gardener's Guide may be found at about any book or magazine store in or near Houston.

Mercer Arboretum & Botanic Garden is to have their annual MARCH MART where they have many young and unusual plants they have raised from seed or cuttings on March 21 & 22, at Mercer on Aldine Westfield Rd. These are the "best horticultural buys" on the Gulf Coast!

The easiest authoritative reference to the correct spelling of rose names and the descriptions may be found in the American Rose Society's "Modern Roses". (Please note that the correct spelling of the 1890 polyantha **Clotilde Soupert** should not have an "h" following the "t".) ARS is International Rose Registration Center and rose catalogs, books and authors, etc. often perc. ARS Consulting Rosarians have copies.

You may purchase a copy of the newest "The Combined Rose List", from its only source, Peter Schneider, P.O.. Box 677, Mantua, OH 44255. \$18.+ p&h. Lists every rose known in commerce and their sources. Printed annually. This publication formerly compiled & edited by Bev Dobson. Printed annually. Early reservations for 1998 are requested by P. Schneider.

### Louis-Philippe and Cramoisi Superieur -- Getting it Straight by Marion Brandes

#### Cramoisi Superieur

On past annual rose rustles we have observed this rose in The Victoria Evergreen Cemetery and also in New Brunfels at several locations like the Startz house and the Lindheimer Museum. At different times I have referred to it with study names of "Startz Red" and "Victoria Evergreen Red". The vivid crimson petals have light reverses and the outer edge of each petal rolls back (reflexes). Those two characteristics of the blooms are the most important in recognizing it in any picture or plant. Henry Curtis in Beauties of the Rose, 1850, provides a matching description: "Perhaps no rose gives so great a succession of flowers ... which are of the richest scarlet crimson, very glowing. The rose being pendulous, the edges reflex most gracefully, to exhibit more fully as it were the extreme richness and velvety scarlet of their inner
sides...." The leaves are small and very dark gray green. The bush comes in an under 3 foot version and also in a 5 foot version, unless this is entirely attributable to a slow buildup over many years. The blooms do not vary much during the different seasons.

The newly stocked cultivar at the Antique Rose Emporium, Climbing Cramoisi Superieur is just exactly that. It has blooms identical to the above descriptions for Cramoisi Superieur. It comes from Slidell, Louisiana and I've been growing it since last Fall. The blooms are more double and often have difficulty opening. (This climber is not the one found in Williamsburg, Virginia last Spring, I will have more to say about it when my small plant has grown some). The Climbing Cramoisi Superieur, was called Cramoisi Grimpant in France and England. Gertrude Jekyll called the bush "lovely as a dwarf hedge" and the climber even better as a "winter bloomer" that can attain a full 20 feet. The name Cramoisi Grimpant is also used in Graham Stuart

Thomas', The Rose Book where an excellent color plate is exhibited.

The rose that the Antique Rose Emporium sells as Louis-Philippe needs to be grown beside one of the above plants ("Victoria Evergreen Red") to see if it is the same. I have no experience with it and I am never sure of its similarity when I see it briefly.

#### Louis-Philippe

This is the red China rose we most often find in the Houston area and across the Gulf Coast. I find the blooms very changeable by season. In Spring they are medium size, outer petals are red and inner petals are pink. In the hottest days of Summer the blooms are small, outer petals are pink and the inner petals are nearly white. In the Fall the blooms are the most different, when they are dark luminous red and much larger. The form is at first globular but the open bloom is cupped. The fragrance is the most important characteristic: this is the only China I have encountered with a good fragrance. At times the fragrance is among the very best, but it is also undependable.

The Rose Manual by Robert Buist in 1844 advises that Louis-Philippe "has not an equal for growth, in good soils frequently making a shoot six feet long in one season. The flowers are large, perfectly double of a globular form. The circumference of the bloom is of a dark crimson color, the center a pale blush, making it altogether perfectly distinct. " In The Rose Garden by William Paul in 1903, he describes the blooms of Louis-Philippe as "dark crimson, the edges of the center petals almost white, of medium size, full; form globular." The American Rose Annual of 1925 reported that Louis-Philippe "has done so well in Florida that it is called the 'Florida Rose' ." And the Annual

of 1939 described the same rose as having the "stimulating fragrance of spices."

encountered the name have "Florida Rose" quite a number of times and, when I was in Central Florida a few years ago for the Heritage Rose Conference, I drove through old neighborhoods in small towns watching for red roses. I encountered quite a few Louis-Philippes in the old town of St. Cloud. They were all quite large, usually growing as arching shrubs standing in the open lawn (about 6' x 8'). One of them had managed to grow canes all the way into a tree, where a bloom was perched 15' high. The blooms and the fragrance were unmistakably the same as our own Louis-Philippe so common along the Texas Gulf Coast. In Texas we most often see a large bush form, but once in awhile we encounter a more vigorous longer caned plant that grows larger blooms and grows more rapidly, surely this must be Climbing Louis-Philippe.

The Antique Rose Emporium sells this rose labeled as Cramoisi Superieur. Since it is one of their most popular roses, there are thousands of them across the Country now, incorrectly labeled. The rose the Emporium sells as Louis-Philippe has solid flowers without fragrance and does not grow to large size. The for Louis description listed for Philippe in the 1993 Cardens Catalog matches the above descriptions closely, however, referring to a "rich cherry perfume". The Vintage Gardens stock is said to come from Ruth Knopf who collected it in a Charleston Charleston, NC, cemetery.
Apparently the West and East Coasts Charleston, are correct with regard to Louis-Philippe.

Noticing a China called LouisPhilippe d'Angers in the Vintage
Gardens Catalog described as
follows "found throughout
California is striped markedly with
pale pink on all the petals in
Spring and Fall", I ordered the
rose planted it in my garden for
observation. In early Spring 1994
(March) it bloomed with stripes,
although light the stripes were on
every petal. Only the first bloom
cycle was striped, however, because

they did not reappear the rest of the year. I have seen the same striping on an Antique Rose Emporium Cramoisi Superieur plant owned in a garden in Pasadena, Texas also. It is rare, but some bushes are capable of it. Never the less it is a variation of Louis-Phillipe.

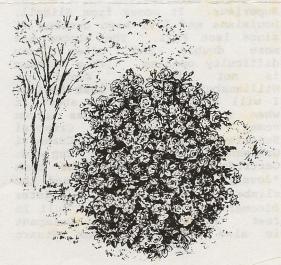
#### In Conclusion

Checking Bill Welch's Antique Roses for the South, I found the descriptions for these roses consistent with what I have presented here. Louis-Philippe is described as having "blush edges on the inner petals" and Cramoisi Superieur is described as having "velvetly, rich crimson flowers with a silvery reverse" and "leaves are small, dark green". He even said "Natives of the deep South usually refer to any red China rose as 'Louis Philippe.'

Reviewing the words of Mike Shoup and Liz Druitt in Landscaping with Antique Roses on page 146, I found a detail description on Cramoisi Superieur as they grow it, and they are definitely describing Louis-Philippe.

I hope the Antique Rose Emporium will change their labeling to get it straight.

Just as I am about to submit this article, the May issue of <u>The Yellow Rose</u> has arrived and guess what's on the cover? A picture of Louis Philippe labeled Cramoisi Superieur!



#### EVERBLOOMING ROSES

by

#### Georgia Torrey Drennan

(Continuation of chapters from this famous 1912 book on Southern Rose Culture, out of print until 1990 when Dr. Wm. C.

Welch authored Antique Roses for the South.)

(This will be the final chapter we will be printing from <a href="EverbloomingRoses">EverbloomingRoses</a>. There are few pages left and they do not contain any important information for us. We hope you have enjoyed reading this classic Rose Book and we hope to have another one to give you chapters to enjoy, perhaps Francis Parkman's <a href="Roses">Roses</a>, written in 1866. -- Editor)

#### THE ROSE AND ITS ENEMIES

General healthfulness and vigour are the surest safeguards against attacks of fungi and insects. Nevertheless, vigorous rosebushes are liable to become victims. There are times when they must be relieved of invaders, and while few amateurs care to combine the study of entomology with rose culture, it is well for every rose grower to have some general knowledge of the enemies of the rose and of the remedies to apply. The insects that can be seen are the easiest to destroy. They are tangible, and in many cases, are easy of bodily destruction.

The Cryptogamic parasites most widely common are rust, mildew and mould. They are more difficult than insects; a magnifier is necessary to distinguish one kind from another. The naked eye discerns rusty spots or yellow specks upon the leaves of roses, each of which is a fungus. Rust, or Lecythea rosea; grey mould on the stems and blistered leaves, which is the minute fungus mildew or Sharantyeca paunosa; the pale brown irregular spots upon the upper surface of leaves due to the minute fungus mould, or Peronospora sparsa, are the three most pernicious of fungi that attack roses. Their tenacity at time bids defiance to every remedy used for their destruction. Obviously, in such maladies, prevention is better than cure. To keep the roses in a perfectly healthy state is to anticipate, and nine times out of ten, to prevent fungus of any kind. The very earliest stages of decline invite these foes, a puny rosebush becomes a victim.

Almost every amateur rose grower has some hobby. Mine is water. Through the agency of water, my roses are almost immune from fungus, parasites, and insects. Simple as it is in theory, watering roses is yet a serious matter. Too much water defeats its own best purposes as it produces sodden soil, which in turn produces chemical changes that weaken the plants and invite insects. Water for insects is more effectual if the water is thrown up by the nozzle of the hose run under the foliage, than when watered from over the tops of the branches. It reaches the undersides of the leaves and cleans them of insects, larvae and dust. One of the protective forces of nature is that insects deposit their eggs on the undersides of leaves. Hence the advantage of dislodging and destroying them by the simple application of water thrown up through the foliage. The upper surface of leaves repel moisture, as shown by the large drops or globules that roll off, but they are deeper green and perform more important work in respiration than the under surfaces, where the open pores are located and from whence the leaves slake their thirst. [We now know the "open pores", called stomata, are for gas exchange. A few other corrections follow in italics. --

In many instances, a wholesale onslaught upon the infected bushes, shearing off every leaf and clipping weakened branches will effect a permanent cure. All infected leaves and branches should be burned. The denuded bushes, watered and tended, will soon put forth fresh, healthy foliage. The renewed vigour of the plant and perfect flowers will repay the loss of time in recovering foliage and bloom branches.

The Aphis Rosea, or Green Fly, [Homoptera aphididae, Aphid] draws the juices from the tender new shoots and obviously injures

most the vigorous roses, or those that put forth most abundant and juicy shoots. As a rule, the weak and sickly roses fall the readiest prey to insects, but an exception to the rule, the aphis devours the healthiest plants. It is a . remarkably productive insect, and once colonized upon a rosebush, covers the tender young shoots, the and rosebuds. The aphis is either a light green or dingy yellow. Water is my remedy; washing and spraying the rosebushes early in the season will prevent the first hatching. Later on, tobacco water will rout whole colonies, but their return is almost sure. The natural enemy of the is the Lady Bug of the aphis It devours the Coccinellidae family. green fly, scale and other soft-bodied insects and their eggs. Destructive to insects, the Lady Bug is perfectly harmless to plants. Its efficacy in clearing plants of insects has been clearly demonstrated among the orange groves of California. The citrus growers introduced it from Australia and Italy for its sure work of destruction upon the scale, which previously had been one of the most difficult of all insects to dislodge and destroy.

The aftermath of the aphis is an army of ants, that come to feed upon the sweet fluid the aphis secretes and exudes, and of which the ants are ravenously fond. Out of doors, roses are easily freed from the ants by copious watering at intervals. Water destroys the sweet fluid that attracts them.

The Rose Hopper, or Thrip, I rout with water copiously applied. Like the red spider, it saps the substance of the leaves, feeding on the underside. Kerosene emulsion or tobacco water will be sure to drive them away, but in many cases water alone, if applied in time, will not only relieve the plants of the pest, but will restore and freshen the leaves that were being sapped.

The Rose Slug is the larvae of Telandria Rosea [Hymenoptera tenthredinidae, Sawfly]. It feeds upon the upper surfaces of the leaves and is about half an inch long, of the same colour as the leaves it eats.

Bodily destruction is the best at that stage, but a practised eye can prevent the attack of the slug by destroying the leaves upon which the eggs are deposited. The eggs are neatly arranged in the punctures or incisions the female makes on the leaves, and as they are ten or twelve days in hatching, there is ample time to find and destroy them. The foregoing are the common pests that interfere with outdoor roses.

The Rose Bug, or Rose Chaffer, is an uncommon visitant of the rose garden, but at times, and in certain places, makes appearance in swarms, never alone. feed upon half-open buds and full-blown roses, in preference to foliage. Hand picking and bodily destruction may be resorted to, but dry snuff or Paris Green seem to suffocate and kill, where liquid solutions fail. The chaffer requires stronger decoctions of tobacco and other ger icides than are good for the rosebushes. This insect appears annually in May or June, when the roses are in full bloom. Our grandmothers were prepared for its appearance when the Damask roses were in bloom, which is May or June, according to latitude. It runs its pernicious course in thirty or forty days, the length of time the Damask roses bloom. The petals of both buds and fullblown roses are eaten, and as it feasts the rose bug increases in size, so that it cannot escape notice. Burn, crush or feed it to domestic fowls, and for another year it will not reappear. the eggs are deposited in the soil, and as few amateurs care enough about entomology to anticipate the return of this or other rose pests by seeking and destroying their eggs or larvae, its annual return is sure.

The various insects that prey upon roses require different treatment to that applied to fungi; also each tribe of insects requires different treatment from the others. Some are impervious to water. Rose galls, caused by Cynips Rosea [Hymenoptera cynipidae, Gall wasps], are peculiar excrescences, or round prickly balls of reddish hue, that are particularly liable to form upon the branches of all Briar roses. The only

remedy is to cut off and destroy the infected branches.

Leaf Roller, or Rose Caterpillar, is in several forms, each different in colour and size, but all have the same habit of slightly webbing the leaf on the underside, where they snugly roll themselves. The only remedy is to crush them in the turned-over leaf. Water has no effect on them.

The Red Spider is a foe to hothouse plants. As a rule, it seldom shows its presence out of doors. When it does appear, copious watering is a safe and effectual means of destruction. Roses brought from cold framer hothouses, in the spring, and set in the open border, sometimes suffer from the depredations of the red spider; in all such cases, the rosebushes are too dry, they are languishing for water. Give the bushes enough water for generous growth and the red spider will vanish.

Regarding rose pests in general, it is easier for them to find lodgment upon rough than smooth leaves, for themselves and their deposits. Yet it is well to have a lookout for them upon smooth, glossy-leaved roses, and to be prepared with insecticides.

Tobacco solution and kerosene emulsion are effectual in destroying insects, and are harmless to foliage. One tablespoonful of kerosene to one gallon of soap water or suds, is very good. Another preparation is two parts kerosene to one of sour milk, shaken together until it jellies, added to about twenty parts of rain water.

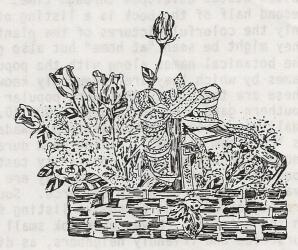
A whisk broom is a very good sprinkler, dipped in the solution and whisked all about over the plants. There are sprinklers and sprayers to be had that are quite satisfactory and inexpensive, if preferred. A syringe is the best medium for applying water or liquid insecticide, because it reaches the underside of the foliage where, as before said, the slug, aphis, and leaf roller are all to be found.

#### WEDDING BELLS

We are happy to announce to the Rose Rustlers that we learned last month that our friend from China, Yan Ma, married Charles Crane of College Station.

We have missed Yan for some months and were concerned for her. She has let her Rose Rustler membership lapse, but now we know why. She wasn't thinking about Rose Rustling!

Many of you do not know that she is working at A & M as a Rose Research doctorial specialist with Chm. Dr. David H. Byrne and Dr. Robert Basye. We wish to congratulate Charles and to tell Yan how happy we are for her and her husband.



## MERCER ARBORETUM PLANT SYMPOSIUM & SALE

A Fall Plant Sale and Symposium will be held on Sunday, October 22nd from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. They are located at 22306 Aldine-Westfield Road in Humble TX.

Speakers will be: Mike Shoup at 9 a.m. on old roses and perennials: Herb enthusiast and Master Gardener, Mary Versfelt, who will discuss culinary uses of herbs at 11 a.m. At 1 p.m. Mike Anderson, nurseryman, will present basic bed preparation and landscaping tips for the home garden; 2 p.m. Master Gardener, Lois Sutton, will tell how to grow herbs; Doug Williams, Director of Mercer, will speak at 3 p.m. on how to grow trees and shrubs. The program is free to all who are interested but the plants are for sale by the Mercer Advisory Committee.

THE SOUTHERN HEIRLOOM GARDEN, William C. Welch and Greg Grant. Taylor Publishing Co., Dallas TX. Color photos. 1995. 190 pages. 8"x 11.5" hardcover. \$29.95 Publisher's price.

Those who live in climate zones seven through ten need to no longer wonder what plant varieties are known to grow well in your area. This book by Dr. "Bill" Welch and Greg Grant not only gives you the names of the trees, shrubs, vines and flowers, it shows great color photos taken by both of the authors. They even give horticulture tips on planting and growing that can well assure your success!

Divided into two parts, the first half of the book is a fascinating account of how and why the southern home landscaping of the United States developed through time. The second half of the book is a listing of not only the colorful pictures of the plants as they might be seen "at home" but also gives the botanical names along with the popular names by which they are frequently known. These are the plants that were popular with southern gardeners up to about 1900 AD: qualifying them to be classified nowadays as "heirloom plants." Having been durable enough to survive their popularity test so long it is gratifying to know they are still available, many being in commerce. Sources are suggested in an extensive listing found in the Appendix. Never overlook small local nurseries and friendly neighbors, as did the authors in increasing their collections!

Both Welch and Grant grew up among families and friends who were true gardeners who shared plants and seeds as well as the appreciation of them. They began their own collections at very early ages and in doing so have amassed a vast knowledge of plants and a wealth of stories of how many came to be growing in the areas in which they found them. These accounts have a captivating effect on the reader, sometimes mystery, often intrigues and romantic adventures as well as beauty, so well displayed by the photographs of the flowers and landscapes. With only a few exceptions, all the photos of the heirloom flowers were made by the authors. Also captivating are the comments on the horticultural features of many of the plants, often revealing their humor.

Most interesting is the accounting of the naming of plants by uninformed gardeners that has developed confusion in identifying some plants. As pointed out, the most used evergreens in the south are the Magnolias, the Live Oaks, and our native red Cedar that is named Juniperus virginiana. They are not true cedars but are members of the cypress family. In fact, the Bald Cypress that the southerners know, is not a member of genus Cupressus but is correctly named Baldcypress of the genus Taxodium distichum. Greg Grant explains to us that this is the reason we are gardeners and not botanists. Another is the name of the beautifully cultured, fragrant Carolina Jessamine, which is not a jasmine or even a relative. (Spelling correct but it seems to be interchangable). When you read the section about how Thomas Jefferson noted this but the "Yellow Jasmine" fell in love with Carolinas and was spoken for by South Carolina to be its state flower. Several kinds of jasmines have grown over the south and Greg Grant has four he plans to plant around a dog pen, "as dogs could always stand a little culture."

You will enjoy the Forward, written by Thomas Christopher, author of "In Search of Lost Roses", 1989, and still a popular book. Also the Introduction by Peggy Cornett Newcomb, Director of the Center for Historic Plants at Monticello. Also Welch's list of acknowledgements and comments in the Preface of the book. The Appendix with its long list of sources, list of organizations relative to the subjects, and the Bibleography that adds considerably to the value of the book as a wonderful reference. The last six pages has an excellent alphabetical Index to add to the book's usefulness. This is a book that needs to be on every southern gardeners' book shelf not only for reference but for recreational reading and pleasure.



REGISTRATION FOR THE TEXAS ROSE RUSTLERS LOUISIANA BUS TRIP

Saturday - October 14-15, 1995 - Sunday

MEMBERSHIP STATUS: RUSTLER / GUEST / ARS / Please Check Your Status

TOWN	STATE	ZIP	
ADDRESS			
NAME			

PHONE Send confirmation to me at above address //

Send \$30.00 bus trip fee for each person to: List extra people on back this form with complete address & Membership status. Checks payable to Texas Rose Rustlers. No refunds but replacements possible.

MRS. LUCILLE IDOM 13196 BLYTHE HOUSTON, TX 77015

#### TOUR DEADLINE CHANGED!

Due to the many people wanting to take our rose tour into Louisiana, feel assured to fill a bus with passengers. So, if you want to be among them BE SURE TO GET YOUR \$30.00 fee in as soon as possible. Many have quests who want to accompany their Rustler friends. We have our reservation for only one bus confirmed and, like it always happens, "first come, first served." This will be a real fun event, so ACT NOW!

You will recall that the \$30 fee only covers the bus fare. The fees for touring Hodges Gardens, at Many, LA, and the American Rose Center 100+ acres of roses - with its Hudson Heritage Old Garden Roses - totals \$7.50. Food is on your own and so is your motel bill. You are reminded to bring a sack lunch on our first day in order to save time. It is also suggested you have a room mate to help defray motel expense one night - pay half the room fee + tax. Trouble is there are lots of shops and places to assist you in spending cash. But you won't find a more reasonably priced vacation tour.

We cannot give refunds; however, we have a waiting list and someone may well pay you for your reservation, so keep in touch. You will spend \$7.50 fees, \$30. for bus, and maybe \$40 for your half of lodging in a

double room. The amount you spend for eats Saturday evening, Sunday breakfast and for Sunday lunch is up to you. You couldn't get \$25 dinners or \$15 breakfast and keep your cost below \$100, or could you buy a lot of stuff to take home with you.

#### ITINERARY

You will be notified of a parking place for your car on Saturday morning, the 14th of October at about 8:00 AM. We will embark on the bus and travel  $3\frac{1}{2}-4$  hrs. to Just inside the Louisiana-Texas state line at The American Rose Center where we will enjoy our picnic lunches we brought, tour the gardens and spend the night at a nearby Inn.

Sunday morning we will leave and by 9:15 AM arrive at Natchitoches, Louisiana, ("Nak-a-tish") and visit the historic area where a large number of old roses as well as modern roses are growing. We will then visit the old 1714 French Fort, St. Jean Baptiste, where the "Natchitoches Noisette" is growing nearby. We will have time to browse through the historic original sites, have a famous Cajun meat pie lunch or some other delight.

After eating we will travel south to Hodges Gardens on the historic scenic Cane River Road and view many restored southern plantations. We will arrive in Many 2 PM.

4 Issues

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