

The Old Texas Rose

Volume VII

SUMMER 1988

Number 1

Fall 1988 Rustle NEW BRAUNFELS AREA October 23-24

1988 Rose Rustle will see the Texas Rose Rustlers trying their luck in the area of New Braunfels, in Texas "Hill Country". This has been considered for several years but it was chosen last April at the Mercer Arboretum Symposium. The underlying cause of this Rustle site at this time is in the fact that the area around New Braunfels is growing so rapidly that the time will soon arrive that the older properties will be soon taken over for new industries, buildings, and changes in land

uses. This may be the golden opportunity to seek the old roses that are currently available but in the path of near future "progress".

So, get your willow water ready! NOW IS THE TIME! We have reserved a pavillion in the City Park on the Comal River for Saturday, October 23rd. Bring a picnic lunch and meet in the Park about noon, or sooner, and we will swap cuttings, notes, ideas and tall tales while we prepare to plan an agenda that will please everyone. The New Braunfels garden club and old rose enthusiasts have lots of plans for us and promise us the tour of the century. There are some fantastic gardens that will be open to us to tour that include many things besides roses. Also, San Marcos is only 15 miles from New Braunfels, where there are many old garden roses as well as other interesting plants of historic and horticultural note. It may also be possible for some to visit San Antonio and have Greg Grant show a group some of his old garden rose "finds."

Our next issue of *THE OLD TEXAS ROSE* will carry more details as to where we can stay if we wish to be close, like a "headquarters" hotel or motel. With all we will have available to us, some may wish to go to New Braunfels on Friday afternoon and spend the week end there. It would be very convenient if we had a "point of reference" for communication. Myrna and Ron Jorgensen have offered to bring their slides program of their visit to the Huntington Botanical Gardens, in California, this summer when they participated in the Old Garden Rose Seminar and annual meeting of the Heritage Rose Foundation. This would be a fun thing for a party Saturday night. Make your plans now for this trip for we may not venture this far for a Rustle again. New Braunfels is about a 2½ hr. drive from Houston, which is a little far for a round trip, but possible if one leaves Houston at 8 a.m. and New Braunfels at 8 p.m. Just bring the willow water!

MEMORABLE SPRING SYMPOSIUM

Each symposium gets better than the previous one, it seems, or do we just recall it more vividly? Anyway, we are truly indebted to Pam Puryear, again, for arranging us an agenda to thoroughly enjoy and gain much new information on an old subject, *ROSES*.

Mary Fulgham started us off with a slides presentation of her hybridizing experiences. Searching for a true blue rose, she has had many interesting roses result, none blue, however. But some mauve shades of truly beautiful roses, as well as other colors and combinations of colors. Her rose beds and rose record system is most outstanding. We might want to have a rose tour there some day! Lots to see and learn! Her subject was "Grow Your Own OGR", and she does!

Brent Pemberton gave us one of the finest, if not the finest, information on black-spot that we have heard. He is Research Horticulturist at Tyler, TX, working with Dr. Eldon Lyle, the Plant Pathologist. Brent explained the different types of infection in the rose plant and the strains of the fungus. Infection occurs on leaf upper surface, injecting enzymes into the leaf cells that causes them to break down. Some roses retain their leaves due to their high degree of blackspot tolerance caused by hormones in that variety of rose. Age of leaf and breakdown of the hormones causes fall blackspot when none was evident earlier. Interestingly the laboratory method of study used employed the rooting of a whole rose leaflet, as done by Parsons and other 19 century authors and, more recently, Charles Walker, of the Heritage Rose Foundation.

We had a most interesting account from Pam Puryear just before we broke for lunch, on the history of the use of roses in landscape plantings. Early English landscapes planted large trees in groves (even dead trees, for they were "natural") and dammed up rivers for water interest i.e. lakes. Wealthy Texas plantation owners used this as early as 1830, Wharton's Eagle Island Plantation cost some \$10,000 in 1837, exclusive of labor. Pam showed us some interesting pictures of early Texas landscaped homes and plantations. Most prominent was the use of fruit trees and roses in and near the residential areas. It was likely that the Chinaberry trees were introduced into Texas in 1831. This planting of trees and roses led to the formal gardens being introduced into Texas. This, of course, influenced to types of trees, roses and other plant materials that were later used and

developed. The natural look of the distant landscape was retained, however, but without the use of dead trees!

We broke for lunch and took advantage of the time to view the rose show, which was in another building nearby. Many of our members had never before known of the Mercer Arboretum and were amazed by the beauty, maintenance and completeness of the beautiful setting. There was not time to travel the entire grounds but there was time for plenty of it to be viewed.

Belle Steadman entertained us with her story of starting out to plant a "maintenance free" yard. Among the shrubs she chose was a little Climbing Cecile Brunner, the "Sweetheart Rose". What could that do but twine sweetly to some 15 ft. and give the effect she wanted. After it grew, rather quickly, to some 40 ft. atop an 8 ft. fence and covered the ground around to the point all other plants were starved, she read further that it could push over a small house or shed! She now grows roses in large pots so she can have "Plants on Wheels" that can be moved around to locate the best spot for color harmony and maximum bloom.

We enjoyed a step into history with Tom Christopher next, back 3000 years or more. Tom went to Rome after his college days to rest from a majoy in classical languages and worked with archiologists digging in the ruins there. He had read that Cato, a revered Roman farmer of Old Rome, avowed that "the best crop to grow on subterranean property was roses." From the Greeks we learn that "no party can be held without roses and rose perfume". We do not know what roses they were, but the important thing is the attitudes and patterns about roses. Rome made roses popular. Homer wrote of "Rosy fringed dawn opening the gates of Heaven", and Sappho first claimed roses "Queen of Flowers", having come from the sea with Aphrodite, the goddess of Love. Egyptians formed the first international rose market. It is thought they may have planted roses in tubs and carried them in their ships to foreign shores where they cut the blooms they sold. Cato wrote that, "There is good money in roses; therefore, they should be grown by every farmer." Pliny, the Elder, named 13 different roses in his 13 volumned *Natural History*, about 60 A.D. But the Old Romans said it first, "If a rose is a rose, it must smell like a rose." How many do? Leoni Bell says that of 754 different varieties 264 had light scents and only 20 strong scents.

We adjourned our symposium at 3 p.m., just in time to get our show roses and start home before a light rain began falling. It was a good day for all of us, and for the roses, too.

O G R JUDGING SCHOOL

ALBUQUERQUE, NM

by

MYRNA JORGENSEN

During my training period as an apprentice judge I have tried to improve my skills by reading literature pertaining to judges, judging and roses. One day I was reading "The Rose Exhibitor", edited by Bob Arant, and I noticed there was going to be a judging school in Albuquerque, New Mexico, just for "Old Garden Roses". Since many judges don't grow or know OGR's there may be a problem when someone has to judge that class in a show; hence, the OGR Judging School.

As Old Garden Roses are "my thing", and to gain more experience, I booked a quickie flight to Albuquerque to broaden my scope, so to speak. I'm not accredited yet so it won't count for anything in my record, but I wanted to go anyway. Since it was a there-and-back trip I decided to take a cab back and forth from the airport to the mall where the school was being held. It would have been just as cheap to rent a car and a lot more fun.

The class was well organized and well presented with approximately 35 people present. I was a little disappointed but only because Ron and I like the OGR's and grow them. This class was aimed at accredited judges who do not grow OGR's. It definitely served that purpose. After an intro by the president of the Albuquerque Rose Society, Leah Watterberg spoke on General Rules for Judging Old Roses. Albuquerque was in full bloom and they had plenty of beautiful roses for demonstration. The new rules for OGR's was stressed and the different classes of OGR's was shown so the uninitiated could see the many, many types, colors and forms.

(Oh, those poor people! What they don't know is that when the OGR bug bites it bites hard! It is more addictive than any of the hard drugs and probably costs more. Oh what a great habit to have! Anyway, back to the class.)

We were on our own for lunch and had time to wander the mall or to view the display of OGR's set up in the main entrance of the mall. They had roses I have never seen except in photos or books. It was a great exhibit! Needless to say, I came home with another list of roses I wanted. (Poor Ron)

After lunch we split into 3 groups and had round-robin discussions. Claudia Bonnet, Leah Watterberg, and Pat Turner each led a group. All three ladies were very knowledgeable and had some great roses to show and discuss. Pat's discussion was on species and she had brought all of them from her yard. I would have loved to see her gardens but there is never enough time to see all the beauties. The school was very good and I really enjoyed it.

Claudia and her husband, David, offered to take me to their house to see the garden with 5 or 6 other people also going. Of course they had to twist my arm and force me to go and look at more roses. They have a lot of roses designed into a small area and a novel way of growing species that tend to sucker. At the back of the yard, in place of a fence, they have a 4 foot cinder block wall. The house behind them put up an 8 foot cinder block wall. There is an 8 to 10 inch gap between these walls that has been filled with dirt where Claudia and David grow the roses that are hard to keep in bounds.

The time passed too quickly and the cab arrived to speed me on my way to catch a fast plane back to Dallas and the long drive back to the farm. I came home with a few new friends, a few more cuttings, a lot more knowledge and even more love for the "Old Garden Roses".

I believe the South Central District (Am. Rose Soc.) should hold an OGR Judging School at least every two years. In fact, I feel all Districts should do this. The OGR's are becoming more and more popular as time goes by but these lovers are not becoming Judges. We (at least the South Central District) are losing judges faster than we are bringing in new ones and we need to find a way to turn this around. Maybe we need to change some of our District rules. Some of the ones I would like changed would be to tell the apprentices their scores from the tests so they would know the areas they need to improve. When an apprentice works with an accredited judge and there are some unfavorable comments, the apprentice needs to know. They can't get better if they don't know where to improve! And ---- increase the number of show judged (make it a definite number) before becoming an Accredited Judge. When a Judging School is held the OGR's need to be included, even if it means

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(Next page)

(OGR's Judging continued)

showing photos or roses. I would be willing to donate slides and I am sure many others would also. Another thing that might help would be for the society newsletters to tell about all District Judging Schools or for the ARS magazine to list them all.

I like judging! I also like to show! But, it is hard to get most of the OGR's to a distant show, so I keep "my finger in the pie" by judging and going to as many functions as possible that deal with my favorite --

OLD GARDEN ROSES!

OUR 1988 SPRING ROSE SHOW WINNERS

MERCER ARBORETUM

Our first real roses show this April that we held along with our Symposium, was judged by Accredited American Rose Society Judges, Mrs. Margaret Sloan and C.S. Moynihan. Margaret was one of the students who enjoyed the OGR Judging School in Albuquerque. We truly are appreciative of their service to us.

Top Show Winners were:

Mutabilis, Sombrueil. . . Doug & Rose Mitchell
Baronne Prévost, Crested Moss,

Fantin-Latour. Roy & Trish Morgan
Mignonette, Paul Ricault . Joe & Helen Woodard
Penelope. M/M M.L. Brandes, Jr.
Salet. W.J. Bennett

95 entries - 8 arrangements

MRS. CHARLES BELL

You probably remember Mrs Charles Bell that was so popular in the 1920's and easily available until the late 1970's. A sport of Red Radiance, it was a salmon pink shade but otherwise like Red Radiance. Dorothy A. Jones of 3460 So. Major, Beaumont TX 77707, is very anxious to have a cutting to root for a plant of Mrs. Charles Bell to complete her Radiance collection. If you have this rose or know where you or she can get a cutting to root please contact her by mail or telephone. 409/866-6663.

IDENTIFICATION OF AN UNKNOWN ROSE NICKNAMED "MAGGIE"

by
Marion Brandes

While attending the International Old Rose Conference and Symposium at the Huntington Botanical Gardens, in San Marino, CA, I was able to match a 1900 Bourbon, Mme. Eugène E. Marlitt, to our very popular unknown rose in Texas called "Maggie" by Dr. Wm. Welch of Texas A & M Extension Horticulture Service and The Antique Rose Emporium (in Independence, TX).

The plant growing at the Botanical Gardens was in full bloom and its form, foliage, and flowers appeared identical to the one in our garden and the plants I have seen in many gardens in and around Houston. The plant at the Huntington was provided by Phil Edinger, of Cloverdale, CA, in November 1985, who originally obtained the plant from Jose Marrero of the University of Puerto Rico. The rose, (Mme.) Eugène E. Marlitt was bred by Geshwind who also hybridized Gruss an Teplitz.

Turn of the century mail order catalogs were reviewed in the Huntington Research Library. (Mme.) Eugène E. Marlitt was found first mentioned in the 1908 catalog of Peter Henderson and Co, New York (founded in 1847) and also in their 1911 and 1912 catalogs. The Henderson catalog advertised that it carried "everything for the garden", including "seeds, plants, bulbs, implements, and insecticides". The 1911 catalog listed (Mme.) Eugène E. Marlitt for 60¢ for "first size". "One of the best of the newer roses for garden purposes. It is exceptionally healthy, vigorous and free blooming. The flowers are large, very double and full. The color is rich and carmine with reddish tones and does not fade or bleach in the hottest weather. It is quite hardy and delightfully fragrant."

The rose, (Mme.) Eugène E. Marlitt, was offered by Peter Henderson & Co. in the "ADMINISTRABLE COLLECTION" of eight rose varieties. A copy of one of the catalog pages is shown on the following page for your interest in some of the contemporary roses of the time. It appears to have been an excellent selection of "ever-blooming" roses, indeed!

Huffman, TX - 11 May 1988 - 324-1457

THE CHARM OF OLD ROSES by Nancy Steen, the book several members ordered under our special rate, is here. A postal card notifying members who ordered it was sent but several have not responded even though they paid for the book. Please inform the Editor of your desire to pick the book up at 9426 Kerrwood, Houston, or to have it mailed for seven 25¢ stamps.

HENDERSON'S "ADMIRABLE" COLLECTION

of EIGHT HARDY EVER-BLOOMING ROSES.

ADMIRABLE IN THEIR SUPERB COLORING.
ADMIRABLE IN THE BUD AND MATURE BLOOM.
ADMIRABLE IN THEIR BEAUTY AND FRAGRANCE.
ADMIRABLE IN THEIR GENEROUS FLORIFEROUSNESS.

SHOWN ON THE COLORED PLATE OPPOSITE.

We group together these Eight Superb, Hardy, Ever-Blooming Roses, selected for their coloring, form, fragrance and floriferousness as combining the best qualities of the Garden Roses. They are tried and tested sorts and should give general satisfaction.

With each collection we will send FREE our pamphlet "THE GARDEN CULTURE OF THE ROSE"

NO. 1. A BRILLIANT-RED HARDY EVER-BLOOMING ROSE. GRUSS AU TEPLITZ.

This is still the finest, brilliant-red, hardy, ever-blooming Rose grown. It has all the qualities desired in a garden Rose. The color when first opening is a very dark, rich crimson; as the flower opens it discloses bright scarlet, shading to velvety, fiery red; one of the very brightest Roses we know. The flowers on well grown and established plants are large and full, very showy and handsome. When the plants are young they are semi-double. It is a prodigious bloomer, one of the freest known, remarkably healthy and vigorous almost immune from all diseases. No Rose garden is complete without this grand variety.

Price, 1st size, 60c. each, \$6.00 per doz.; 2d size, 40c. each, \$4.00 per doz.; 3d size, 15c. each, \$1.50 per doz.

NO. 2. A WHITE, HARDY EVER-BLOOMING ROSE. WHITE MAMAN COCHET.

This is the ideal, hardy, white, ever-blooming Rose. It has all the requisites of the perfect garden Rose—a b-stance, size, hardiness, fragrance, vigor and profusion of bloom, rivaling the best of the monthly, ever-blooming varieties in the latter all-important quality. It is a "sport" from the well known and valued Rose, "Maman Cochet," inheriting all its fine qualities. The buds are long and pointed, opening gracefully, the expanded flowers are full and firm, the ideal shape for a Rose, they keep a long time when cut. We cannot speak too highly of it, the fact that we include it in the "Admirable Collection" is sufficient to indicate our high opinion of it. Wherever fine Roses are grown or a hardy, white, ever-blooming Rose is wanted, the White Maman Cochet should be planted.

Price, 1st size, 60c. each, \$6.00 per doz.; 2d size, 40c. each, \$4.00 per doz.; 3d size, 15c. each, \$1.50 per doz.

NO. 3. NEW HARDY EVER-BLOOMING ROSE. This magnificent variety is an American-raised, pedigree seedling. It inherits hardiness, constitution, fine habit, grand foliage and superb flowers. Where there are so many good qualities it is difficult to emphasize the leading one, but in this variety we would name its ability to resist disease. The color is a deep ivory white overlaid with a good, bright shade of pink. As a summer Rose we predict it will rank with the best if not actually surpass them.

Price, 1st size, 75c. each, \$7.50 per doz.; 2d size, 50c. each, \$5.00 per doz.; 3d size, 20c. each, \$2.00 per doz.

NO. 4. MME. EUGENE MARLITT. One of the best of the newer Roses for garden purposes. It is exceptionally healthy, vigorous and free blooming. The flowers are large, very double and full. The color is a rich, bright carmine, with reddish tone, and does not fade or bleach in the hottest weather. It is quite hardy and delightfully fragrant.

Price, 1st size, 60c. each, \$6.00 per doz.; 2d size, 40c. each, \$4.00 per doz.; 3d size, 15c. each, \$1.50 per doz.

NO. 5. NEW HYBRID-TEA ROSE, This grand variety is a new seedling raised by Mr. John Cook and promises to be the most valuable, particularly for winter forcing, yet raised by him. The color is

SPECIAL OFFER. PRICE OF THE "ADMIRABLE" COLLECTION OF EIGHT HARDY EVER-BLOOMING ROSES. FIRST SIZE, \$8.00; SECOND SIZE, \$5.00; THIRD SIZE, \$1.50.

soft salmon-pink which lightens up beautifully as the flowers expand. The shade is most pleasing, surpassing all other pink sorts in the eyes of many competent judges. Under artificial light it is even more beautiful than in the daylight. The growth is splendid, sturdy and healthy, the foliage large and abundant. It is strongly and delightfully perfumed.

Price, 1st size, 75c. each, \$7.50 per doz.; 2d size, 50c. each, \$5.00 per doz.; 3d size, 30c. each, \$3.00 per doz.

NO. 6. A BEAUTIFUL YELLOW ROSE. Strong, bushy habit, soft salmon-pink which lightens up beautifully as the flowers expand. The shade is most pleasing, surpassing all other pink sorts in the eyes of many competent judges. Under artificial light it is even more beautiful than in the daylight. The growth is splendid, sturdy and healthy, the foliage large and abundant. It is strongly and delightfully perfumed.

Price, 1st size, 75c. each, \$7.50 per doz.; 2d size, 50c. each, \$5.00 per doz.; 3d size, 30c. each, \$3.00 per doz.

NO. 7. THE NEW HARDY EVER-BLOOMING GARDEN ROSE, RADIANCE. This grand variety was introduced by us in 1909 and has attained first rank in this country and in Europe.

RADIANCE is a seedling from CARDINAL, a brilliant rosy-carmine, displaying beautiful, rich and opaline pink tints in its open flower; the form is fine, largest size and full, with cupped petals. The bud is large, brilliant, radiant; the stems are long, buds and flowers borne erect on the strong stems, the foliage is abundant and of splendid substance, a dark, healthy green. It blooms constantly, delightfully fragrant and is so healthy that it may be said to be immune against disease. Add to these qualities that of hardiness and vigorous growth, then the grand qualities of this peerless Rose are plainly told.

Price, 1st size, 75c. each, \$7.50 per doz.; 2d size, 50c. each, \$5.00 per doz.; 3d size, 30c. each, \$3.00 per doz.

NO. 8. NEW HARDY EVER-BLOOMING RED ROSE, CARDINAL. Of all the Roses which we have introduced for years there is none which has measured up better to the ideal standard than this. Habit and bloom are beyond criticism.

"Cardinal" is a seedling of "Liberty" hybridized with an unnamed carmine seedling in the third generation. It has amply fulfilled its promise of being the most valuable red Rose for the garden, in the hardy, ever-blooming class. Color, a rich cardinal-red. Is a very strong grower with a superb flower. Its fragrance is very strong and sweet. The color of the flowers holds good in the hottest weather; the form is such that they remain perfect during the heated term; the health and vigor of the plant enable it to produce flowers constantly during the entire season. We have received hundreds of testimonials from purchasers, attesting its grand qualities.

Price, 1st size, 60c. each, \$6.00 per doz.; 2d size, 40c. each, \$4.00 per doz.; 3d size, 20c. each, \$2.00 per doz.

NEWS ACCOUNT OF OUR NOVEMBER ROSE RUSTLE

True to her word, Ink Mendelson did write us up and it was printed in the news media! Ink was a guest at our November 1987 Rustle that saw some of us going to Brenham and some of us to Weimar. She and her photographer from the Smithsonian News Service went with the group to Weimar.

The Houston Chronicle Magazine section of Sunday, July 3, 1988, featured a two page account by Ink and photos by Suzanne O'Connell that truly were accurate - complete with our own Pam Puryear wearing her fat hat and holding "Maggie". If you missed this one go to the library and look it up! You'll love the whole thing!

Someone should keep a scrap book of our history. It would make wonderful nostalgia in future Rose Symposiums or Rustles. We truly thank Ink for her fine article and hope she can return sometime in the near future to join us in our exciting rose rustle adventures. THANKS, INK!

HERITAGE ROSES ROSE LETTER

Word from Mitzi VanSant is that she is in England again this summer with some UT students. She will return August 20th and start on a new full time job two days later! But she assures us that she will have the HERITAGE ROSES Rose Letter in the mail soon after her return.

You will recall that Mitzi went to England last summer with a group of UT students. She visited some beautiful rose gardens and came back with great pictures and accounts. We look forward to her return and are hoping she is having an even greater tour this summer than she had in '87!

UNKNOWN CHINAS SHOW-PRIZES

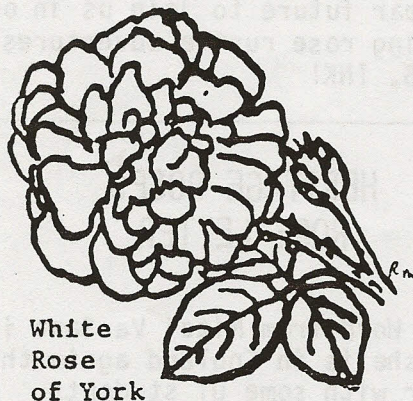
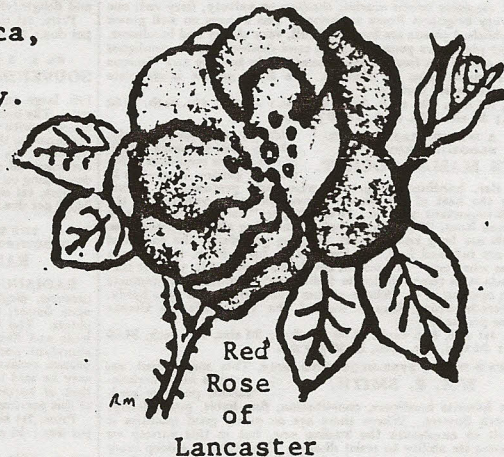
Gregg Grant, Extension Horticulturist, San Antonio, is a loyal Texas Rose Rustler and supplied five unknown china roses, well rooted, as prizes to the top show winners at our Rose Show at Mercer Arboretum. He hopes the recipients will successfully grow and help identify the varieties. All have been found in this area of Texas.

At the Symposium Greg told us more about his search for "The San Antonio Rose". He was assigned the work of listing the roses in San Antonio to determine their value as landscape shrubs. He made an appeal via news media for the oldest rose. Entries flooded in near and far and businesses offered a \$500 prize for the oldest everblooming and \$250 for the oldest rose. These have not yet been selected. Mrs. Dudley Cross is the most common, Cramoise Superieur the 2nd, and Green Rose is 3rd. A pink Bourbon-China 100 yrs old is the leader, with a 99 year old La Marne runner-up, and Old Blush the leading bloomer, so far.

Roses of the "Wars of the Roses"

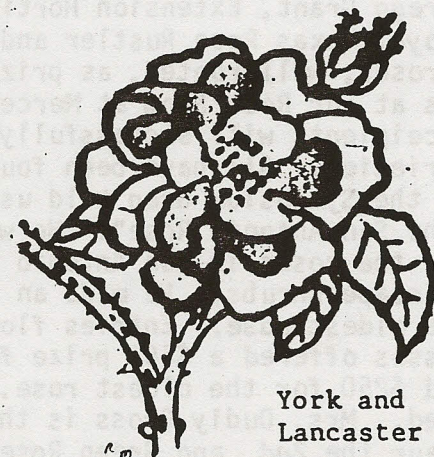
The English civil wars fought between 1455 and 1485 were known as the wars of the roses because the rival sides chose roses of different colors as their respective emblems. The Yorkists chose a white rose and the Lancasters chose a red rose. While there is some dispute about the actual varieties chosen, the white Alba, Maxima, became known as the White Rose of York while the dark pink Apothecary Rose became known as the Red Rose of Lancaster. Eventually the House of Lancaster prevailed and Henry Tudor became king of England as Henry VII. He married princess Elizabeth of York and started the Tudor line of English monarchs. As a symbol of reconciliation between the two houses, a pink and white rose that became known as the York and Lancaster was chosen as the national emblem of England. All of these roses are still available and they grow well in Texas gardens. They are worthwhile growing for their own merits and they make an interesting historical collection. They bloom only in the spring and have somewhat differing periods and duration of bloom, but they ordinarily are in bloom simultaneously for about a month each spring.

The Red Rose of Lancaster (Apothecary Rose), Gallica, was once widely grown for attar of roses and potpourri because its fragrance stays in the petals after they dry. Blossoms are about 2 to 3 inches across, semi double, rose pink in color and have bright yellow stamens. They appear in clusters of 2 to 4 flowers on long stems and are similar in appearance to the Hybrid Musk, Vanity. Foliage is light green in color and bushes are 3 to 4 feet high. This rose is somewhat blackspot prone and benefits from a regular spraying program. In the Gulf Coast area this rose begins blooming in early to mid April and continues for 4 to 6 weeks. It is a good show rose and has won the Dowager Queen Award at the Houston Rose Show as well as in other shows.



The White Rose of York, Alba, is a towering 6 to 8 foot bush which blossoms all along the canes. Flowers are loosely double, white and have a strong damask fragrance. They appear in small clusters beginning in late March or early April along the Gulf Coast and the period of bloom lasts about 6 weeks. The blooms are about 2 inches across and bloom successively in each cluster. In common with many white roses they are thrip prone and require protection. The bush is tall, with a tendency to sprawl, and does best when it has a fence or wall to support it. The bush is fair disease resistant but will develop blackspot if neglected. Foliage is grey green in color with large, rough edged leaves. While it is not a show rose, it is an effective garden rose that makes a tall hedge.

York and Lancaster (*Rosa damascena versicolor*), Damask, is a 5 to 6 foot bush that bears clusters of 2 inch flowers all along the canes. The flowers vary in color, with some being cream white in color, some pink in color and some having a mixture of white and pink petals. They bloom in succession in the clusters and have an intense damask fragrance. This is one of the first roses to bloom in the spring and blooms for a long period. In the Houston area, it begins blooming in early February and continues until May. Foliage is light green in color and leaves are large with rough edges. This rose is susceptible to blackspot and regular spraying is recommended. This rose benefits from hard pruning after it blooms every few years, to stimulate the growth of new canes.



Roy Morgan, Houston.

Alte Rosen und Gedichte, Lotte Günthart, Zürich: Gesellschaft Schweizerischer Rosenfreunde, 1968. Illustrated by Lotte Günthart.

This is an anthology of prose and verse on the subject of the Rose and all the best authors are represented, in German, untranslated. Now, to the illustrations: every one of which is enough to stimulate mightily the sin of greed. And then there are the plates.

Devoniensis - lovely but very pink and Devon-iensis is a rich vanilla-icecream color, nor does the form remind me of this old favorite of nostalgic Southerners. What could Frau Günthart been looking at?

Rosa moyesii - again, much too pink: This species is noted for it's gorgeous color and has been much hybridized on that account;

Rosa canina - just right.

Königin von Danemark - the color of the floom is perhaps a little strong, but that of the leaves is correct and the drawing is above criticism.

Agnes - a rugosa, not so well known in this country and, unexpectedly, it is yellow, shaded gold, copper, pink, flame, and apricot; Frau Günthart makes it look good enough to eat.

Rosa sericea pteranantha - Frau Günthart features the large, intensely red, and voluptuously curved thorns for which this species is primarily grown. I've never seen it and cannot comment.

Rosa spinosissima one of the most beautiful of the species; silvery white with a large boss of golden stamens and finely cut, fern-like foliage;

Charles de Mills - not at all a good red but the buds and leaves are exactly presented;

Pompon de Bourgoyne - a charmer that looks like it was invented by Boucher or Fragonard, this is one of the little roses people swoon over: The blossoms are much the size of Cécile Brunner, though not so elegant in form and a thought deeper in color.

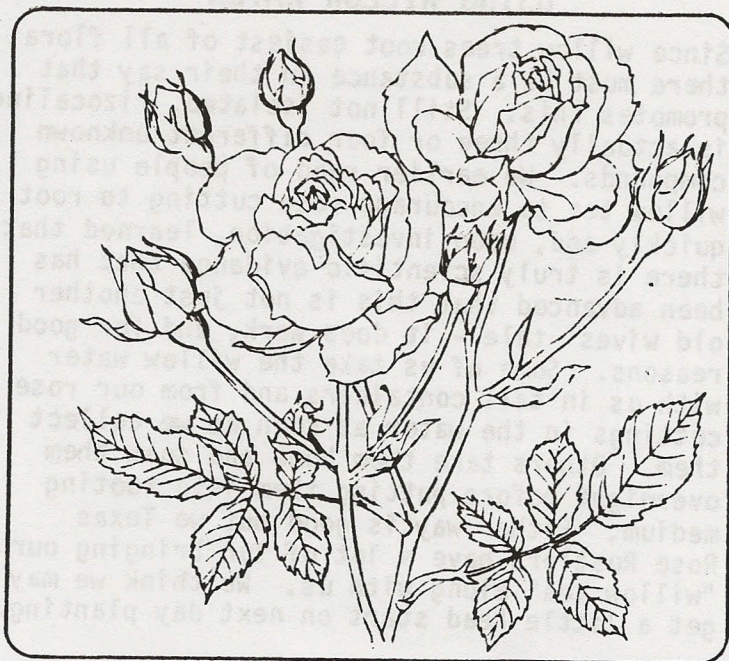
Variegata di Bologna - couldn't be prettier, in a flashy sort of way, but the red markings seem rather too bold: I remember a more modest beauty.

Chapeau de Napoléon - the color is odd, even unpleasant, but the leaves, stems and buds are shown to great advantage.

Mme. Hardy - inspired.

Mme. Caroline Testout - exquisite but the color is too subtle, I think; this could almost be a portrait of Mrs. Charles Bell, a sport of Radiance, if I remember correctly, and very popular here in years past: I always liked its curious ashes-of-roses tint.

Comtesse Vandal - not so old a rose but a favorite along the Gulf Coast between the wars, and



All of those old roses growing in country gardens - I think of Mrs. Rainey whenever I come upon their names in the market bulletins: The "sister rose" must be the old multiflora called the Seven Sisters because the white buds open into pink flowers and fade to tones of violet, so there are seven colors in a single cluster: There's no telling what will turn up as "the Old Bermuda Rose" or the "Florida Red Rose", but "Louis Philippe" is a well known China rose found in every dooryard. The "old timey bur rose" is the little spreading shrub with small leaves and double rose colored flowers that is grown in gardens all over the South. My Aunt Letty brought it to us from an old place in Virginia. She called it the chinquapin rose. Now, in some devious way, it has become Rosa roxburghii. The old noisette, Maréchal Niel, is sometimes advertised as "the old timey yellow running rose, Marshal Neal." (In the South, a running rose is not one that runs; it is one that climbs.) In the market bulletin there are names not to be found in catalogues: the white "Coronation Rose", the "Lady-of-the-Lake", and "the old fashioned Betsy Rose, that blooms all summer." I wish I had room to grow them all.

Elizabeth Lawrence, Gardening for Love: The Market Bulletins, 1987

it was worth every attention.

Mme. Pierre Oger - in this design, Frau Günthart challenges Redouté on his own turf. Nothing in modern illustration is finer than this a little is half as good:

- J. Conrad Tips

USING WILLOW WATER

Since willow trees root easiest of all flora, there must be a substance in their sap that promotes this. Still not isolated, rizocaline is actually three or four different unknown compounds. We earlier read of people using willow tea to encourage rose cutting to root quickly and, upon investigation, learned that there is truly scientific evidence that has been advanced that this is not just another old wives' tale - it does work, and for good reasons. Some of us take the willow water with us in tall containers and from our rose cuttings in the water as soon as we collect them. Others take them home and soak them overnight before putting them into rooting medium. Either way is good but we Texas Rose Rustlers have a lot of fun bringing our "willow tea" along with us. We think we may get a little head start on next day planting.

To make this "tea", use ANY willow species. Cut branches of current growth that is green and supple and cut into 1 inch pieces, then smash them with a hammer or cut them lengthwise. Boil a pot of water, remove from the heat and add the willow glerp. Allow it to steep, stirring occasionally. DO NOT BOIL THE WILLOW PIECES: When the mixture is cool it is ready to use. Strain the water into a steril jar or bottle to keep. Put rose cuttings in the tea and cut the stem under water, not letting any air "plug" the sieve cells that take water up into the plant. Allow to soak overnight before placing in rooting medium. There are many ways to root - send \$2 to the OTR for the "Cuttings & Propagation" from earlier issues. Best cuttings are the size & length of a pencil, 5 or more leaf joints and only the top set of leaves remaining.

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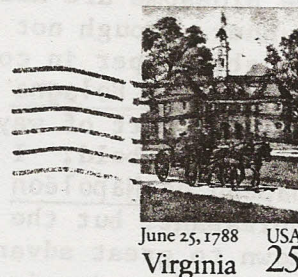
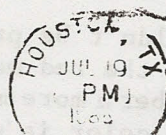
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