

PICNIC. . . .CONTINUED

a new experience for him as he has never given a talk on this subject to Old Texas Rosers.

We will also be having a drawing for several Madame Issac Pereire and several others. Everyone who brings rooted cuttings or potted roses will receive a ticket, which will entitle them to choose as many gift plants as they have tickets, if they want them. If not, they may give the unwanted tickets to someone who has no tickets because they brought no plant. Books on roses will also be accepted in the exchange. This does not rule out bringing a plant that was promised to be delivered to someone - just keep the deal discreet.

This event promises to be fun! You will learn about the developing plans for the Fall Rose Rustle, and lots more events to tickle your fancy! Plan to join us on July 15th at "Days of Thyme & Roses". Just follow the map on page 1 of this newsletter. Bring some friends if you wish and let's make this a real fun day!

If you have any questions and want to contact the Parkers, the phone number to call is 409/558-1799.

TAKE A DEEP BREATH!

This issue of the newsletter carries a very complete account of the April 20-22nd Heritage Rose Foundation Convention and old rose Symposium. We have tried to recount all the events that took place in order that the many Rose Rustlers who could not attend this spring symposium will know what took place and what was offered.

We wish to thank Marion Brandes for all the things he did to make the Convention the success it was. He set up a large and beautiful old rose display to welcome everyone as they registered. He also saw that we had cold drinks with us on the bus tour on Saturday. All these things were greatly appreciated, to say nothing of organizing the Tour of Gardens of our members - his included - on Sunday following the Convention Tour!

Each member who opened their garden to our home tour is also to be thanked: John Plotzke, for the Bear Creek Park old rose

Gertrude Jekyll, The Making of a Garden.

Compiled and edited by Cherry Lewis, Woodbridge, Suffolk, England: Antique Collectors' Club, 1984. Illus.

Of the several anthologies of Miss Jekyll's writings recently published, this by far is the most generously illustrated. Apart from Miss Jekyll's own plans, drawings, and photographs, the editor has reproduced many watercolors by such artists as Beatrice Parsons and George S. Elgood. Both specialized in garden views, especially those of the cottage and old-fashioned persuasion, and both were famous in their day.

The surprise of the volume, however, are the paintings, ravishingly pretty and obviously influenced by the French Impressionists, of the comparatively unremembered Mildred Anne Butler and W. Tyndale. So, Gentle Reader, be warned - one look at Elgood's "Cleeve Prior: Sunflowers" or Lady Coventry's "Needlework" or "Levens: Roses and Pinks" or "Viscountess Folkestone" or Butler's "Hollyhocks and Poppies" or "Kilmurry: An Upper Window" or Parsons' "Irises, Sedgwick Park" may induce an attack of the vapors. Such effects, the happy result of tradition, expertise, and the pots of noney, are seldom within the grasp of the majority. But, we can dream, can't we?

-- Conrad Tips



Garden; Bud and Marsha Pollard; Bill and Phyllis Bennett; Deanna and Earl Krause and Jackie and Terry Fisher. Thanks for your making our first Home Garden Tour a great success.

We can scarcely thank Jackie Fischer enough for the efficient manner in which she organized the Convention Registration and had it so quickly and efficiently dispensed. Of course we give a big "THANK YOU" to Dr. Bill Welch for all he did to make the whole convention a great success by his planning and by extending his warm "home town" hospitality.

HERITAGE ROSE FOUNDATION CONVENTION SYMPOSIUM HOSTED BY THE TEXAS ROSE RUSTLERS

On Thursday evening, April 20th, 1989, the Texas Rose Rustlers gathered with the members of the Heritage Rose Foundation who had come from various parts of the USA to enjoy a bit of friendship and getting acquainted at a hospitality social. The event was held at the Hampton Inn, College Station, Texas. Following the fellowship event the new found friends joined in dining at one of the several good eating places nearby.

Friday morning the meeting was held in the College Station Community Center. At the registration hallway inside the entrance guests were greeted not only by Jackie Fischer and Deanna Krause with their registration packets, but also by a grand display of all sorts of old roses assembled by Marion Brandes for the occasion and enhanced by the addition by several Rose Rustlers who brought "mystery roses" for identification. This was lots of fun and most of them were named. Also to interest the guests was a display of great rose books for inspection and mail order sale through courtesy of the Antique Rose Emporium and conducted by the Texas Rose Rustlers for the benefit of the Foundation. Dr. Bill Welch was on hand with copies of his newly published book, "Perennial Garden Color For Texas and the South". These were also offered for sale and were autographed by Dr. Welch.

The meeting began at 8:30 a.m. and kept on schedule throughout the day. Dr. Welch, the local Convention Chairman, introduced the President of the Heritage Rose Foundation Board, Mr. Charles A. Walker, Jr., who welcomed everyone on behalf of the Foundation. First speaker was Tom Christopher, one of the speakers at our past symposiums and a resident of College Station, at that time. Tom spoke on "Old Roses and Grave Robbing", that stirred our fantasies. Tom and Susan, his wife, have joined us on several of our Rose Rustles and he has given our group some nice publicity with his articles that have been published in national publications. Tom told us of the history of some famous cemeteries in the USA, one being started by a Boston physician, Joseph Bigelow, on 32 acres of land that became the location of Massachusetts Horticultural Society, and the Hollywood Cemetery, Richmond, VA, one of the prime rustling spots in the country.

Greg Grant, County Horticulture Agent for Bexar County, TX, (San Antonio) spoke on his favorite subject, "In Search of the San Antonio Rose". He received considerable notoriety last year by directing a program that was sponsored by a local radio & TV station and local newspapers to find the oldest rose and the oldest rose bush in San Antonio. He feels like he has not only met every old rose bush in San Antonio, but also every old rose bloom! The oldest rose turned out to be "Old Blush" but the oldest rose bush turned out to be a pink Bourbon China documented to been growing in the same location for 100 years, and a 99 year old La Marne is the oldest documented named rose bush at 99 years old at the time. Greg is an A&M graduate having received his BS and MS from that University. He is currently working on a project of identifying all the old china roses he can find, which could make a good subject for a doctorate, if he outlives all the chinas he finds in San Antonio! He had an enlightening comment on Tom Christopher's topic in that, "It isn't the bone meal that makes old roses grow so well in cemeteries." The large number of old china roses are found there. When he gets all the chinas sorted out, Greg will make a great tour director. He kept us from getting lost on the bus tour Saturday and from getting in the ditches on the country roads.

Always an informative speaker at our Old Rose Symposiums, Brent Pemberton gave us real insight into the etiology of blackspot fungus. Brent is on the staff of Overton Research & Extension, an A&M branch in the Tyler area, heart of commercial rose growing. His topic was "Historical Methods of Controlling Rose Diseases." He explained why and how some roses are immune to blackspot and mildew. Remarking that the spore of the blackspot fungus must stand in water on the rose leaf to infect, some roses, such as Red Radiance, are protected by a wax leaf surface.

Stephen Scaniello, Rosarian at Brooklyn Botanic Garden, is a true "Ramblin' Rosarian"! He is the star in a recent video, "For the Love of Roses - A Year In the Life of a Rosarian." Directed by Elvin McDonald, part of it was shot in Houston. We will try to get it to show at one of our Rustler Gatherings. Steve's topic was "On the Trail of Old Roses", in which he reported his visits last year to Peter Beales' Nursery, and the Royal National Rose Society Gardens at Bone Hill, England, and to Roseaie

a L'Hay les roses, and the Bagatelle Garden, both near Paris, France. He also showed some wonderful slides of the rose garden at Brooklyn Botanic Garden.

Our next speaker was Pam Puryear, the organizing "den mother" of the Texas Rose Rustlers, who told us of the "Trials and Tribulations of a Beginning Collector." Pam was the original Editor of The Old Texas Rose and her mother's home in Navasota, TX, was the gathering point for our first four Rustles. She told us the importance of knowing the major classes of roses and the anatomy of the roses in order to identify unknowns. Observations should be recorded for later comparison such as round hips are Teas and oval hips are Chinas. Her always entertaining and informative part on the program came at a most appropriate point for it led us into the topics that followed lunch.

Box lunches were served at the Community Center where we could move around and visit and look with many interesting rosarians while we ate. The subject following lunch was, "Finding Old Garden Roses". Virginia Hopper and her husband, Howard, along with her sister Joyce Demits and her husband, Gary, operate Heritage Rose Gardens, in northern California. Virginia spoke on "Finding Old Roses in California" and said her favorite hunting ground is the Gold Country. She recounted some of her discoveries there.

Ruth Knopf, another rustler of rose fame, is from Edgemoor, SC, spoke on "Finding Old Garden Roses in South Carolina and the Southeastern U.S." Among her finds have been the long sought "Isabella Gray" noisette (1854) and "Mrs. Gregoire Staechelin", a 1927 large flowered climber much revered.

"Producing Own-Root Roses" was the topic of Mike Shoup, Antique Rose Emporium. He told of how they start 30,000 cuttings at a time in quanset-hut greenhouses in a mix of 70% fine milled pine bark and 30% perlite. Fall is the preferred time to start the cuttings to develop roots large enough to endure the heat of the summer. He collects the cuttings in 2 inch lengths and packages them in bundles of 25 each and stores them under refrigeration until planted in 1 inch plastic pots under timed mist spray. They are then planted in 4 inch plastic pots and allowed to grow until planted in the conventional gallon plastic pot and set outside to harden off and grow the next fall. After these are set out they are only watered by the rain and snow.

Heritage Rose Foundation membership meeting was introduced by Charles A. Walker, the President, from Raleigh, NC. This was the 3rd Annual Membership Meeting and the largest to date. 107 members were registered of the 350-400 total. He explained the possibilities of the Foundation receiving 12 acres from the 200 acre Chatwood Gardens, Hillsboro, NC, to grow Heritage Roses. Major problems seem to exist, one of which is the likelihood of a reservoir being constructed on the site, which is completely void of any subsurface water. Another site selected would affect Chatwood and planting of roses would be controlled by the restrictions of the existing trees and plants and the owner. Consideration will be given to the proposal at the next annual meeting at the National Arboretum in Washington, D.C.

A most fascinating talk was made by Malcom Manners, Florida Southern College, Lakeland, FL, entitled, "Old Garden Roses - the Role of Viruses and How They May Be Controlled". He told of 3 types of virus on roses: Prunus Necrotic Ringspot, Apple mosaic, and Arabis mosaic viruses. The symptoms are non-existent but they affect the rose by distorting the blooms, fewer blooms and smaller ones, short stems, poor bush vigor, small stem caliper, and low transplant survival. The virus is not spread by tools, hands or insects, and it is not found on miniature roses on their own roots, nor does it move through seeds. It is only spread when roses are propagated - budded, cuttings, grafted involving infected plants. Heat therapy is the only cure and this sometimes kills the patients. Container plants are held in a greenhouse at 38°C or 100°F for 3 weeks. Florida Southern College will conduct treatment for \$25 per variety and index varieties at \$15 per plant.

We enjoyed a real treat of a hands-on approach to displaying roses in the home by Sara Jean (S.J.) Derby, Texas Rose Rustler, with her program, "From The Garden To The Vase - Arranging Your Own Roses." She demonstrated how simple and easy it is to display home grown roses attractively. She used roses from home yards and brought them with her the day before, necessitating conditioning them overnight in the hotel room. It can be done with Old Roses, and it isn't all that hard.

Charles Walker returned to the rostrum to give "The Review of Recently Published Books on Old Garden Roses." Many of these were on sale at the book sales table in the lobby, but

CONVENTION . . . ,CONTINUED

he mentioned several books what were quite new and the most recent was the coveted book by Gwen Fagan, "Roses At the Cape of Good Hope", which lists for \$100.00. The Dallas Old Rose Group, through their Editor of "The Yellow Rose", Joe Woodard, have been able to get copies from the publisher for \$67.50 to their members. They support Charles Walker that the book is wonderful for old rosers seeking real information.

After a catered dinner in the Community Center there was a short session of slides brought by members to show various roses they had found or grown. Information about them was requested from the observers or queries made of the exhibitor regarding them. After the slides were shown those who cared to go left while others stayed for an extra round-table on the Foundation needs and services to members, etc. The first question that arose was regarding unidentified roses. A fact sheet needs to be laid out and a clearinghouse for information needs to be established. A volunteer offered to serve at this and all information on unidentified roses should be sent to:

MS. MARLEA GRAHAM
1233 Brea Creek Road
Martinez CA 94553

Discussion arose about the "pig-in-a-poke offer of a site at Chatwood Gardens, SC, for a Heritage Rose Foundation Garden. It was generally felt that the offer was not very interesting. Charles Walker asked that those who came upon interesting possibilities elsewhere to get some firm facts and send them to him that he might discuss them with the Foundation Board.

* * * * *

The following morning we gathered in the lobby of the Hampton Inn where we enjoyed a complimentary continental breakfast from the hotel. Again we were able to visit with our new rosarian friends while we ate and swapped pearls of rose wisdom amid much levity! The day was sunny and beautiful, 70°F and just right for the bus tour. Dr. Bill Welch was tour guide for the lead bus and Greg Grant was the guide for the second bus. There was also a following of cars loaded with people who were unable to get on the busses - almost everyone registered went on the tour! No one wanted to miss seeing old roses growing in the beautiful countryside, also colorful

with Texas wildflowers at their peak of glory!

First stop was at the Don and Karen Lehto farm near Burton, TX. It is a small farm and farmhouse that was renovated to it's original 1890's glory by Dr. Bill Welch and his wife, Diane, and sold to the Lehtos. Dr. Welch landscaped the cottage garden around the house with many roses, which the Lehtos have maintained to make a beautiful display. All the roses seemed to be at their peak of bloom, and the companion plants, irises, daisies, etc., were just as cooperative. The site was a far cry from the several fall Rose Rustles we have visited the farm. Besides the spring bloom vs fall bloom, the roses were more mature. The R.X. fortuniana was enormous and also was in full bloom!

This was our first experience with the big tour busses on country roads. We were driven as far as we could go to the farm but had to walk about ½ mile due to the wooden bridge over the river not being strong enough to hold the busses. This was fun as we got to see the millions of wild flowers close up. A bit further along the busses stopped for those who wanted to get off and mingle with the wild flowers again and get their pictures taken.

We arrived at Washington-on-the-Brazos State Park about noon, where we were met by the caterer with a marvelous lunch, that we certainly had the appetite to welcome. Some of the members slipped off to take advantage of touring the Texas Museum at that historic site, which delayed the tour while we looked for them. We drove on to see a most interesting cooperative farming-crafting-artistic, etc. establishment called "Peaceable Kingdom". It is located off the beaten path to itself and really "in the country". This is where the busses had problems negotiating the turns on country unpaved roads. One bus had to find a farmer with a heavy tractor to pull it out of a ditch! Very exciting! Everything at this co-op is done by hand and all food is grown organically. The old crafts are taught like hand spun threads and yarns, and hand weaving materials. Herb growing and medicinal uses of herbs are taught in workshops of several days duration. Roses, like the vegetables, are grown organically and in the same garden areas, although there was a rose garden designed unto itself that was next to the vegetable growing area and the dairy barn. Good thinking there. Art classes of all kinds are taught, painting, pastel, water color, and wood carving and sculpturing, and

even making dyes from natural materials to use in hand made fabrics and items. Workshops of one kind or another are going on a Peaceable Kingdom all year around and nearly every day. Students of all ages come from far away places to study from the craftsmen and instructors at this isolated school - cooperative.

When we left Peaceable Kingdom we headed toward the Antique Rose Emporium, and the home of Mr. & Mrs. G. Michael Shoup, Jr. and to the home of Mr. & Mrs. G. Michael Shoup, Sr. The Rose Rustlers had visited the Shoup Sr. home in 1984. It is located near Brenham and it, too, has changed a bit with the maturing of the old Roses in the wide raised beds some 200 ft. long, sitting atop a commanding hill that is always breezy. This was a good place to get a much desired cold drink. Leaving the Shoups home on the hill, we drove to Independence to the home of Michael Shoup Jr., and the Antique Rose Emporium.

Awaiting us there was a big Texas Barbecue full of great food for our consumption! But even the food had to wait for the rose buying to take place. Rose growers descended on the Emporium like a bunch of locusts, buying every thing they could find. No one would ever have believed that much money was riding on the tour busses! Roses, annuals, perennials, shrubs, trees, books, stationery, gift items - everything! We finally did get around to eating the most delicious Texas Barbeque I can rememberor was it because I was so hungry after so much activity? I know I slept real good that night. And it was well that I did for the next day was just as busy!

* * * * *

OLD ROSE HOME TOUR FOLLOWED SYMPOSIUM

After the Convention-Symposium concluded on Sunday, April 23rd the Texas Rose Rustlers held their first home rose garden tour and invited everyone from the Convention who had the time to come before they had to leave for distant cities by car or by plane. It was also held to give our own members something extra special to participate in since so few were able to attend the Convention-Symposium for sundrie reasons. We have always had a fine turnout of members at our spring meetings at which time many renewed their membership-subscriptions. The tour was set up so

that each garden was accessible to a particular area of Houston vicinity. For those who had to catch a plane flight there was the gardens of Marion and Frances Brandes and of Bud and Marsha Pollard. Several of the rose convention guests from California and from Dallas took advantage of these yards early in the day. Some Houston area Rustlers visited the gardens at Bear Creek Park supervised by our member, John Plotzki. These gardens were all in superb condition and each had some things quite special to be seen. Brandeses had some most interesting climbing old roses as well as true specimen bushes of interesting teas and other species with a nice collection of modern hybrids. Pollard's garden sported mostly hybrid teas, some modern floribundas and quite a collection of miniature roses, along with some most interesting old rose specimens. And Bud's rose beds were beautifully elevated and spectacular.

Bill and Phylis Bennett have their rose garden at their home in Pasadena. He has some very interesting specie and ancient types that he has had many years. He also has some most interesting newer developments, such as some of the new David Austin developments that so closely resemble Old Roses that they belong growing in close proximity. Bill has many roses from cuttings since he is always starting them, being the true rose collector he is. You need to visit his yard and carefully examine his roses to learn more about old roses.

Deanna and Earl Krause is also in the Pasadena area and their's is quite a rose garden! They have a large number of roses both old and new. Deanna claims she is trying to outdo Empress Josephine at Malmaison! And I believe her! They have the largest variety of any garden on the tour and it is growing larger every month! You must see it to believe it!

Jackie and Terry Fischer live in the southwest part of Houston off of South Post Oak - which is mostly south of town. They have a small yard compared to the Krauses but some outstanding old roses. They are currently relandscaping their front yard so as to be able to grow more climbers. They have a climbing Souvenir de la Malmaison on the brick wall of their house that is fabulous, and the back yard climbing Buff Beauty and Jaune Duprez along with their Mutabilis you HAVE to see!

If you missed this tour you are to be pitied. Just don't let it happen again!

Below is a copy of a letter from J.M. Ramsey, President-General Manager of Ramsey's Austin Nursery that list old roses grown in south and middle Texas in early years. They may lend a clue to some of our "mystery roses" we find.

Mr. Samuel E. Asbury
College Station, Texas

May 25, 1934

Dear Sir,-

Mr. Kyle forwarded to my father's address your letter of inquiry of May 20 in regard to roses of the long ago. My father passed away more than a year ago, and I will answer as best I can, being able to recall back about forty years. Of course, I can not give you what my father could have given.

The varieties of a generation ago were limited in number and quality, compared with these of today. There was a great rage for the moss roses, which were very inferior bloomers.

Malmaison roses, both pink and white, were good roses, but are only slightly propagated now. They were called cabbage roses.

The pink La France is still liked. Etoile de Lyon and Pearl of Garden, both yellow roses, were about the only yellow bush roses known, but neither one is now propagated. There were several other varieties, some of which were given different local names, and I doubt that anybody would know now what they really were. A large use was made of the almost wild, single white, with yellow center, rose called the Cherokee, a rampant climber and hedge rose. Also the Seven Sisters, which I believe is Madam Greville, a strong climber, pink, blooming in clusters. Among the better climbers were the LaMarque, white and a little later the Marechal Neil, yellow.

Since writing the above, I happened to think of referring to old catalogues, and in the catalogue of 1879, of my grandfather and father, A.M. Ramsey and Son, I find the names of many roses I never heard of before, and will mention a few of the number, most of which I was familiar with:

Gem of the Prairie, crimson cluster	Pink Daily, profuse bloomer
Bolla, pure white	Safrano, bright apricot, changing to fawn
Beauty of Waltham, bright rosy crimson	John Hopper, deep rose, with crimson center
Luxembourg, salmon, buff, coppery hue, peculiar and very large. (I am surprised to find this fine rose in existence then. It is still about the best of its kind in 1934)	
Cabbage, mentioned above	Seven Sisters, mentioned above
Madam Plantier, pure white	Baltimore Belle, white with bluish center.
Cherokee, mentioned above	Climber

(The above descriptions are from the catalogue)

There are several other kinds mentioned, which I have not listed here as I am inclined to think that some of them were local names. Maybe not. From the names in this list, no doubt there would be found about all the kinds that were so well liked about forty to fifty years ago, and likely much farther back. During the last forty years the following roses have had their days of vogue in a large way: (I am not sure exactly of their correct order)

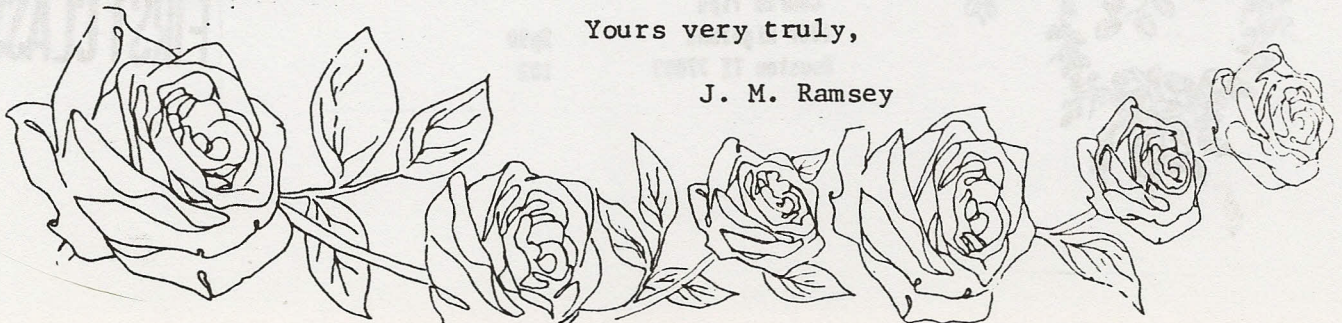
Etoile de Lyon, yellow	American Beauty, red
Dorothy Perkins, pink climber	Helen Gould, Pink
Pink Radiance, followed by Red Radiance.	The Pink Radiance supplanted the Helen Gould
Talisman	Pres. Hoover

And then there is a large number of new roses of the last year or two, some of which undoubtedly will prove to be A-1 in all particulars, but it takes several years to prove out a rose variety, and rather a small per cent of the seemingly good new varieties ever "Hold up" or "Pan Out." I have not attempted to give a list of the really good, permanent varieties, that we have had for many years, which came into notice and favor gradually.

I hope this information may be worth something to you. All roses mentioned are bush roses, except as indicated otherwise.

Yours very truly,

J. M. Ramsey



NEW MASTHEAD FOR THE O T R

You noted that we have a new masthead on our "Old Texas Rose". The old supply was almost gone so we thought we would try a new variation with part of the old design. If anyone feels artistic and cares to submit a new one we will be most appreciative. Makes it more interesting to change the design now and then.

And this raises another request from ye editor. We would very much like to run pen drawings of roses. Anyone who likes to try drawing pictures of their old roses and who will let us use them in the future OTRs is most welcome! Drawings need not be with a drawing pen and india ink, just a plain ball point BLACK line drawing will be fine. All we request is that the picture is reasonably recognizable and accurate.

MEMBERSHIP LIST COMING

The next issue of the OTR will not only tell the details about the fall Rose Rustle, it will also carry a current MEMBERSHIP LIST. As you know, memberships run by when you paid your dues and the last OTR you will receive on your current dues is noted on your mailing label with your mailing label number. This means we have members joining every month and others dropping out every month. But for those who want to get in touch with members, the coming Membership List will be a great help.

It has been a long time since we have tried to publish a membership list. It is now possible to do this easier and we will try to send it out with the fall OTR each year, just before the Rustle. We will resume selling extra copies for \$2 each along with other items such as our Source List of Old Roses and the set of 9 pages on propagating cuttings.

4 Issues
Yearly

"THE OLD TEXAS ROSE"

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