

The Old Texas Rose

VOL. VII

SPRING 1989

No. 4

SPRING RUSTLING EVENTS

This 1989 Symposium is hosting the Third Annual Meeting of the Heritage Rose Foundation and will be an outstanding event for us. Guests from all around the USA will be with us and there are most interesting and knowledgeable speakers scheduled to inform us of rose information unobtainable elsewhere already packaged in one source.

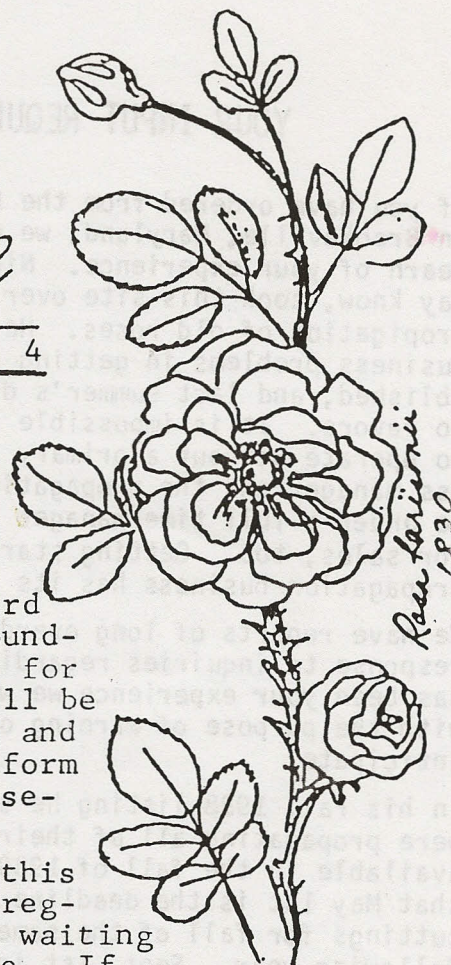
Those who have already registered for this event are most fortunate as the total registration is at capacity, 100, and the waiting list is not likely to promise much hope. If anyone who is registered finds themselves not

able to attend this event on Friday, April 21, 1989, please let the registrar, Mrs. Jackie Fischer or Mr. Charles Walker, know immediately, so money can be refunded and the first person on the waiting list can take that registration.

The meeting will begin with a hospitality reception on Thursday evening, in the lobby of the Hampton Inn, College Station, TX, at 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. Everyone is welcome, whether a registered Convention guest or not. This is a chance for everyone to become acquainted. Since there are no facilities large enough in College Station to accomodate over 100 individuals, outside of the University, we will use the largest facility, The College Station Community Center, for our Symposium and Old Rose Display. There will be a shuttle bus to take convention guests to and from the Hampton Inn to the Community Center and return.

The Hampton Inn is located on Texas Avenue (the main street through town) at 320 South Texas Ave. The Community Center is located at 1300 Jersey St., which intersects So. Texas Ave. north of the Hampton Inn (turn south). Our total registration is limited to 100 participants due to the limited facilities. We are sorry that all the Rose Rustlers cannot attend the symposium this year but we have something planned that may be of just as much interest for you, as well as our visiting guests.

On Sunday, April 23rd, following the Convention Tours and events of Saturday, The Texas Rose Rustlers will hold its First Tour of Gardens of our members. We have included in this newsletter a map of the tour sites. They will be free for you to come and enjoy. Read the map carefully and select your options as to the yards you wish to visit, if you cannot visit them all. We hope this can become an annual event in the spring for our Rose Rustlers, just as the big Rose Rustle has become in the fall. We may not be able to have as large a tour in the future as we are attempting this year, but a Sunday afternoon in the spring touring old rose gardens certainly can be a fun event to look forward to enjoying...and maybe get a little rustling in on the side...



YOUR INPUT REQUESTED

If you have ordered from the Heritage Rosarium in Brookeville, Maryland, we would like to learn of your experience. Nick Weber, as you may know, took this site over to use for the propagation of old roses. He has had many business problems in getting his venture established, and last summer's drought did him no favors. It is impossible for any business to operate without a primary full time business manager and the propagation division must be under a full time manager also. This goes for sales, too. Getting started in a plant propagation business has its problems.

We have reports of long overdue orders with no response to inquiries regarding them. If this has been your experience we wish to report it with the purpose of warning others of what to anticipate.

In his Fall 1988 listing he stated that they were propagating all of their varieties to be available in the fall of 1989. Also stated is that May 1st is the deadline for orders for cuttings for fall of the same year or of the following year. Sept. 1st is the deadline for fall rooted plants and December 1st for winter rooted cuttings. These are to be available as potted cuttings in April or as bare rooted plants in the winter. This fact may explain why some have not yet heard from Mr. Weber, especially since he is just starting business. His correspondence must be large and could require full time secretarial help. It is easy to understand that it takes a while to get the product in enough supply to produce income to satisfy the non productive needs.

IS YOUR MEMBERSHIP EXPIRING?

Many of our members membership subscriptions expire with this issue. Check your mailing label on the mailing cover. If it says "Sp89" this is your last issue until you renew. You should renew before July 4th to remain on the list. After that date you may rejoin, which means you will get a new mailing list number.

You will notice that this is issue No. 4 of Vol. VII. This means that we have been sending *THE OLD TEXAS ROSE* to our members for 7 years now. Actually it is about 7½ years for we got behind once on the issues

This is the time to order the book of indispensable help in locating the source of purchasing any rose you desire that is available in the world! Bev Dobson's COMBINED ROSE LIST 1989. Send check or money order to Beverly R. Dobson, 215 Harriman Road, Irvington, NY 10533, for a total of \$11.50, \$10 + \$1.50 postage. As soon as they are off the press she will mail you your copy. This is an important book for any serious rose grower to keep at hand. Send for yours TODAY!

BOOKS FOR ROSE LOVERS

Books will be for sale at the Symposium that you may desire to purchase. Samples of the books to purchase will be displayed and cash orders taken and mailed to you. This courtesy is being extended by The Antique Rose Emporium and all proceeds will benefit the Heritage Rose Foundation. This will be an exceptionally fine selection, including the newest book, *PERENNIAL GARDEN COLOR*, by our own Bill Welch! Also available will be the reprints of the treasured classic rose books of historical significance whose information remains pertinent to today's gardens of old roses. This is an exceptional opportunity to build your rose library.

FRIENDSHIP GARDEN

*I never plant a garden
With formal beds and border,
For I'm a sentimentalist,
A slip and cutting hoarder.*

*I beg a sprig of this or that,
A bulb, a shoot, a seedling;
I have no shame at dropping hints,
Cajoling, trading, wheedling.*

*I scramble all my colors
In a splash of rainbow hues;
A real gone abstract artist
With the pigment that I use.*

*And though you'll find no plan for
My garden in a book,
I insist a friendship garden
Has a loved and lived-in look.*

-- Unknown

FIRST ANNUAL TEXAS ROSE RUSTLERS' GARDEN TOUR

Sunday, April 23rd, from 11 a.m. until 5 p.m.

[1]

BEAR CREEK PARK

Rose rustler, John Plotski, maintains a very fine garden of antique roses at the Harris County Bear Creek Park. There are 44 roses each clearly identified with signs. There are bourbons, chinas, teas, and hybrid musks. Thirty-seven of the roses are in a 30'x40' raised bed edged in limestone rock and were planted only one year ago, but they have grown rapidly. John pruned the roses at the end of February, removing 50% of the old growth. The hybrid musks have been planted for 2+ years, but were severely pruned and relocated in early October of last year.

DIRECTIONS: Head west on I10 (Katy Freeway) and take exit 753a-Eldridge Rd. Turn north on Addicks-Fairbanks. Proceed north for 2.5 miles to the park entrance, turning left onto War Memorial. Turn left again (immediately) on Golbow into the parking lot. On your left will be a white pavillion and at its south end are planted 7 large hybrid musks. Adjacent to the pavillion is a tall white trellis covered over with a Climbing Cecile Brunner. To the right of the parking lot and adjacent to the duck pond is the limestone-edged bed of antique roses. Closer to the parking lot is another bed containing mostly modern roses.

[2]

THE GARDEN OF MARSHA & BUD POLLARD

The Pollards have a beautiful rose garden in northwest Houston, containing a very large collection on minatures, hybrid teas, floribundas, and chinas. They have 40 antique roses, including almost every variety of china available. The china roses are several years old and of fully mature size, although they were pruned heavily (50%-March 1) for the first time. Some of the featured plants are two large Souvenir de la Malmaison bushes growing side by side, an enormous Mutabilis (pruned from 15 feet tall down to 6 feet during the hard freeze this winter), and a serrapatela (a Louis Philippe sport with serrated, carnation-like petals).

DIRECTIONS: Head northwest on highway 290 and exit on Antoine. Take Antoine north for 3.5 miles continuing to the second stop light past Little York. Then take a right turn on Long Creek and proceed until it dead-ends into White Fir. Turn left on White Fir and go one block then turn again, left onto Moss Glen. Go down to the third house on the right to the Pollard's at 5210. {tele:820-4287}

[3]

THE GARDEN OF MARION & FRANCES BRANDES

The Brandes's have collected antique roses and shrub roses of every class available and have landscaped their entire yard with 88 different varieties. Among them are 13 hybrid musk varieties, 13 tea varieties, 5 noisette varieties, 11 china varieties, six bourbon varieties, and 10 polyantha varieties. The featured plants are the tea noisette Reve D'Or growing across the front of their home, the 12' tall noisette Mme. Alfred Carriere on the rear of the home, a 16' wide Sombreuil, a 60' hedge row of the new Bonica shrub rose, a 40' row of low-growing red chinas along the driveway, a 'Maggie' covering an 8' x 7' trellis, and a 20' row of Betty Priors along the patio. The garden also contains about 120 varieties of modern roses, among which there are a number of rare floribundas and hybrid teas such as Permanent Wave, Ma Perkins, Confidence, Pink Favorite, Sweet Afton, The Doctor, and Sutter's Gold.

DIRECTIONS: Head north on I59 (Eastex Freeway) and exit at Humble, proceeding east on FM1960. Continue on FM1960 for 8+ miles crossing over Lake Houston into Huffman, and go to the second traffic light past the lake. Turn north on FM2100 and go 2.9 miles to the Gulf sign, turning right into the Lochshire subdivision. Continue down Afton Way until you reach the first stop sign and, then, turn left onto Farmcreek. The Brandes' house is the seventh house on the right at 27326 Farmcreek. {tele:324-1457}

[4]

THE GARDEN OF BILL & PHYLIS BENNETT

The Bennetts have collected 48 antique roses and planted them very attractively in beds that allow the viewer to see each up close. Their garden is kept impeccably and everyone is sure to enjoy this garden on our tour. Some of the features of their garden are the climbing F.K. Druschki, the 'pegged' bourbon called Mme. Isaac Pereire, the climbing tea called The Beauty of Glazenwood (Fortune's Double Yellow), the moss rose called Salet, the Autumn Damask, and the hybrid musk called Autumn Delight. Their garden also contains an equal number of modern roses.

DIRECTIONS: Traveling on Highway 225 east from the Gulf Freeway or west from the Beltway 8 toll road take the Pasadena exit. Turn south onto S. Shaver and travel about one mile to Harris and turn left. Continue on Harris for two blocks until you reach Randall. Turn left on Randall and drive one block to the Bennetts' corner house at 503 Maple. All the roses are in their backyard and the entrance is on the Randall street side. {tele:477-1075}

THE GARDEN OF DEANNA & EARLE KRAUSE

The Krause's garden contains 33 antique roses and over two hundred modern roses and color abounds everywhere. Many of the antique roses are climbers and cover the fence surrounding their large back-yard. Some of their featured roses are the noisettes Celine Forestier and Reve d'Or, climbing Cecile Brunner, and the hybrid bracteata Mermaid.

DIRECTIONS: Heading south on the Gulf Freeway (I45) take the Edgebrook exit and turn left under the freeway. Proceed along Edgebrook until at South Shaver it becomes Fairmont Parkway. Stay on the parkway until you pass Preston (at the Randall's store). Turn at the next right on Lily and go one block to Fairvent and their house will be at the end of the circle at 5020 Fairvent. Their home is about 4 or 5 miles from the Bennetts' via South Shaver. If you should be coming to the Krause's from the Brandes' in Huffman just take FM2100 south thru Dayton and the Highlands and then I10 east to Beltway 8. Take the toll bridge south and exit right onto Fairmont Parkway. Refer to above for rest of directions. {tele:487-3347}

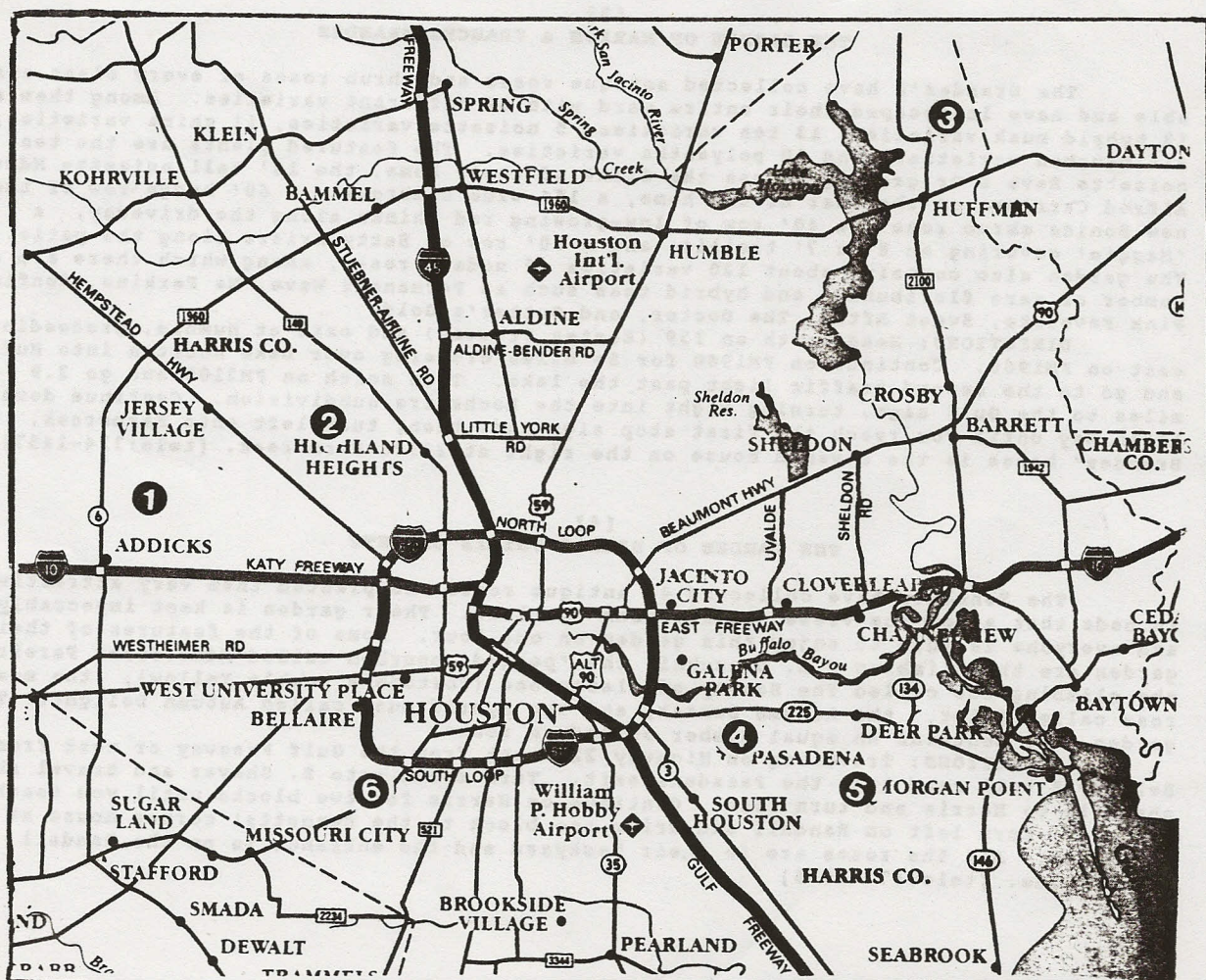
THE GARDEN OF JACKIE & TERRY FISHER

The Fishers' garden has 30 antique roses inter-planted with lots of perennials and Texas natives. Some of their feature plants are the large Mutabilis, a huge Buff Beauty, two fully mature Old Blushes, Champney's Pink Cluster, and a Climbing Souvenir de la Malmaison. The overall color display is outstanding and you will really enjoy their garden.

DIRECTIONS: Heading west on south Loop 610 (just before reaching the west loop) take the South Post Oak exit and drive south past the Willowbend and South Willow stop lights. The next street has no sign, but it's South Benning and you are to turn left at the Post Oak Ranch BBQ. Go one-and-a-half blocks to the Fisher's house on the right at 4807 Benning. {tele:721-2356}

The overall tour of 6 stops should take up the entire afternoon.....If you do not have that much time consider two alternatives:

1. The Bear Creek Park garden is available all the time. You could see it on a day before or after the tour.
2. Tour only the eastern gardens [3], [4] and [5], the combination of these three provide a very wide selection of varieties.
3. Tour only the western gardens [1], [2] and [6]. the combination of these three provide an emphasis on chinas and teas.



ROSE GROWING TIPS TO CONSIDER FOR OLD ROSES:

1. Keep a high moisture level in growing areas of roses during periods of new growth. This will help establish strong growth and a good root system to help your bushes through the hot, dry periods of summer. Dehydrated old roses lose their leaves, grow a few at the tips of the canes and bloom in spite of the adversities. But the bushes look naked, even though they will grow new leaves later in the season when they have enough water. Remember that plant food and/or natural soil nutrients are not available to the rose unless it is in a water solution.
2. Thrips (tiny tan insects that bruise blooms) are difficult to control by any means. Spot spraying of the bud and blooms ONLY with soap (Ivory) solution or Safers Soap using only enough soap in solution to wet a leaf in the solution without it beading or cohesive force allowing the water to drain off quickly. If you wish to use a broad spectrum insecticide you may use either Sevin or Orthene. In any case, use a small sprayer, such as a Fantastic spray bottle, and only spray the blooms and buds since that is the only place on a rose thrips will be found. Momma thrip has laid eggs in the bloom bud while it was forming and quite small.
3. Watch for signs of spider mites. If lower leaves look dry, lose color and have a salt-and-pepper look on the undersides, mites are at work. They can defoliate a rose in a very few days. Wash the undersides and top sides of the leaves with a very strong stream of water, using a strong stream from a hose nozzle or a water wand. These mites are in violets, pansies, ground covers, marigolds and many annuals and perennials. The best control if water does not work is probably a product called Vendex, or hard-to-find AVID. Both are very expensive.
4. Mildew is recognized first by wrinkled foliage and later by the forming of a white powdery coating and a blackening of the leaves. It is caused by weather conditions being ideal for this fungus growth - cool nights and hot days when the leaf temperatures range between 50°F and 90°F. Affected leaves will die and fall off. The only way a rose bush that is susceptible to mildew can be protected is with a fungicide that truly works. From long experience growing roses in this area we know that the only material that will control mildew or blackspot in our highly humid climate is Triforene. This is an Ortho product and is the chief ingredient in the highly acclaimed "Funginex". Funginex works well in dryer climates than we have in the coastal plains areas. Triforene is rather expensive but is good as long as you have it, if you keep it in a cool place indoors in the dark and shake up the bottle occasionally. It is used at 1 teaspoon per gallon of water while Funginex is used at 1 Tablespoon per gallon. Neither is highly toxic and currently not considered a dangerous material.
5. Do not use insecticides unless needed for a specific problem. Most of the insects on roses are after other insects, so be sure before you go for the kill. You may be killing your best friend. Again, soap suds solution is an excellent insecticide, being careful not to make it too strong. Using residual sprays to kill insects is rather futile since the insects have to eat so many leaves to get enough poison to kill them. The use of Bt, or Bacillus Thurgensis, found in powder form as "Dipel" and liquid form as "Thuricide", will prevent some 18 to 20 kinds of chewing insects from your garden if sprayed on and around your entire garden early in the season. It will not kill immediately but will cause existing insects to become weak and their offspring that hatch will be too weak to survive. It is not considered highly toxic at this time.
6. OBJECT: Try to preserve all the leaves you can and keep dead wood trimmed out at any time you see it.

Welch, William C., "Perennial Garden Color". Taylor Publishing Co., 1550 West Mockingbird Lane, Dallas, TX 75235. 268 pp. 500 Color Illustrations. \$29.95

This newly published book by our very own "Vice President", Bill Welch, is a long awaited treat! It is truly a book that South Texas gardeners and flower lovers can scarcely afford to be without having free access to in everyday gardening. Not only is it a valuable source of information for us, here in Texas and the south, it is also a beautiful book for the home or office coffee table. It responds to a great need the southern gardening public has had for many years.

The book is composed of three main divisions, The Perennial Garden, Perennials for the Garden, and Old Garden Roses and Companion Plants. The first section gives us an insight to some ideas of landscaping our gardens and yards using plantings that will lend year around color to the landscape. It also gives tips on the purchasing, planting and care of perennials so they will survive year after year to continue their colorful value. The second part gives more specific information on individual plants, all of which will grow successfully in our area and our soils, if the suggestions given are carefully followed. Of course, the third section that describes old garden roses and other companion plants for our gardens is the one that we are most likely to find valuable suggestions for our use.

It is very flattering that Dr. Welch has acknowledged valued assistance from nine of our currently active Rose Rustlers. We have certainly been aware of his working on writing this book for many months and are happy that some of us were able to give him any assistance or constructive suggestions. We thank him for his acknowledgements.

Enthusiasm for a beautiful landscape full of beautiful, colorful flowers of all kinds simply permeates the entire book. It is very easy to read as well as enjoy, and is well indexed for ready reference. It seems to make the growing of colorful plants in the landscape a contagious activity and an urging to learn more about some of the unfamiliar annuals and perennials mentioned. This book makes Cottage Gardening and Xeroscaping FUN! Even apartment and condo dwellers can use this book, and enjoy it!

-- Margaret Sharpe

ROSE EXHIBITION

Everyone attending the Symposium who has Old Rose blooms they can bring for display is urged to bring them early Friday morning to the Community Center. Vases with water will be available for use to display these and cards for the names will also be available. No prizes or awards will be given, but we would like to have a nice exhibit of all kinds of roses that are currently blooming in our old rose gardens.

Marion Brandes is in charge of this display and you may direct any questions to him at 713/ 324-1457. It would be nice to have them to use in displays at the dinner that will be served at the Community Center Friday evening after the symposium also.

Please try to bring all the old garden roses you can to add to our symposium and to welcome our visiting old rose friends.

PUBLIC ROSE EXHIBIT & FREE ROSE GARDEN TOURS

The Houston Rose Society cancelled its annual Spring Rose Show due to so many exhibitors having their rosebushes badly nipped by the final late freeze. They are, however, planning to put on a rose exhibit on Saturday, April 15th in the Town and Country Mall in Houston. There will be rose blooms for sale and miniature roses will be available for purchase. The ARS Consulting Rosarians will be available to help the public with their rose problems or questions as well as distribute free rose literature.

The Society will hold its annual Rose Garden Tours on Sunday, April 30th. You may get information and a tour map at the Exhibit on April 15th at the mall. The Houston and the Golden Triangle Rose Societies are considering a joint MINIATURES ONLY rose show in mid June, since miniatures have become "the show" with the Golden Triangle Society, and not Old Garden Roses, heaven forbid!



"With Nature's total conservation in mind, I must say that the nitrogen we waste by not recycling our urine is staggering. Urine is the aristocrat of organic nitrogens, a product carrying urea metabolized from used protein. When families who recycle nitrate from humus are all but paralyzed with cold in early spring, the ammonia in urine restores their energy. They quickly change the ammonia into fast-feeding nitrate and hormones, fresh and untainted, and hardly turn a finger in the doing. But the trick for us is to use it without seeming to use it. The neighbors do not know that, when I make my rounds on chilly spring mornings after frost danger has passed, all is not water in my watering can. That more than half of it is urine."

"Yet they marvel at the growth my plants make, at their health and the earliness and abundance of bloom. They also marvel at the size of my roses, and the glow on their blooms and the gloss on their leaves when roses would rather live inland than this close to the sea. Then, I think how strange it is that in these frank times we shy off the subject of urine when the Victorians used it openly and discussed it freely among themselves and in print. In *Aunt Judy's Magazine* of the early 1880's is *The Little Gardener's Alphabet of Proverbs* for English children. The twenty-third proverb directs the young beginner to "Water your rose with a slop-pail when it's in bud, and you'll be asked to name of it when in flower." Even so, I felt shy about using it until I read that Agatha Christie's grandmother in Ealing attributed the size and beauty of her roses to the same liquid."

Florence Bellis, *Gardening and Beyond*.
Thricker Press, 1986.

Cottfried Boesch, *The Glory of the Rose*.
London: George G. Harrap and Co. Ltd., 1965.
Illustrated by Lotte Gunthart.

They don't make them like this anymore -- a tall folio, published in several languages, lavishly illustrated with 40 plates in color and numerous drawings, no expense spared. Herr Boesch's name is unknown to me, but Frau Gunthart is one of the finest painters of the rose in our century. At its best, her work stands comparison with any I'm not sure, however, that she has been altogether well served by Lichtdruck AG of Dielsdorf. Here, the soft ochre of Maréchal Niel is a lively chartreuse, Mermaid is blanché to white, and Golden Wings is hardly yellow, never mind gold. Generally the pink, red, and orange tones are less than perfect, though the greens are superb. On the brighter side, the portraits of Souvenir de la Malmaison, Frau Karl Druschki, and Comtesse Vandal are very fine indeed. If only Queen Elizabeth was as beautiful as Frau Gunthart's portrait of it!

The other varieties shown are Black Boy, Catalonia, Diamond Jubilee, Americana, Circus, Sterling Silver, Salmon Spray, Josephine Bruce, Grace de Monaco, Montezuma, Chrysler Imperial, Anne Poulsen, Perfecta, Christian Dior, Aztec, Charlotte Armstrong, Tzigane, Eden Rose, Confidence, Pink Peace, Jiminy Cricket, Peace, Christopher Stone, Lotte Gunthart, Garden Party, New Yorker, Spartan, Helen Traubel, Beauté, Rose Gaujard, Fashion, Belle Blonde, and Super Star. The text is insipid.

-- Conrad Tippe

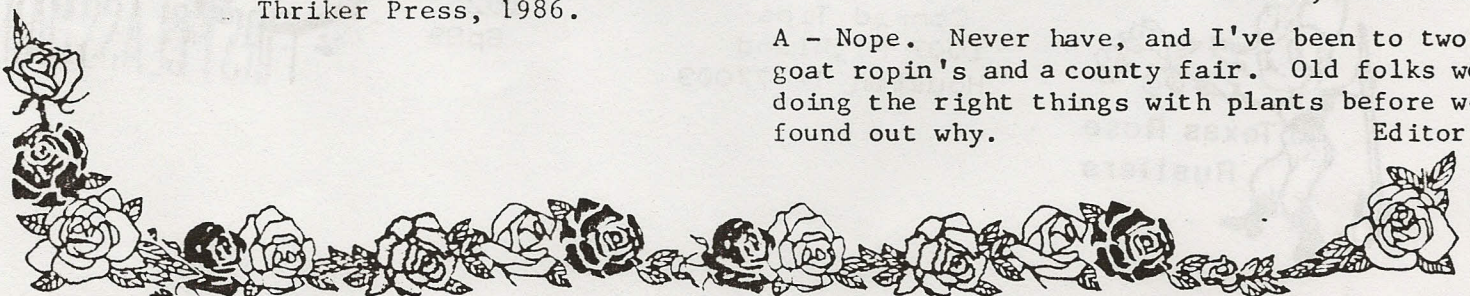
THE HOUSTON POST, Saturday, March 12, 1988

Q & A Q - Some time ago I bought some climbing roses for my Mama in Georgia. The rose man said to plant them with fresh pork fat about two feet under their roots, drench with tomato puree and fill up the hole with good soil. Said the puree will feed the roses. They love acid. Oil in the pork will increase the fragrance of the blooms. I did, and those roses were wonderful. You ever hear of anything like that?

Donald R. Hol
#33396, Rosharon,

A - Nope. Never have, and I've been to two goat ropin's and a county fair. Old folks were doing the right things with plants before we found out why.

Editor



Heritage Roses

The Heritage Rose Group's newsletter, *THE ROSE LETTER*, is the old rose newsletter that started all our "offshoot" old rose groups in the United States. It began in 1975 as a fellowship of those who care about Old Roses, and our group, like others in the country, originated with the gathering of nearby subscribers to *THE ROSE LETTER*. All of us should also subscribe to the current Heritage Rose Group to reap the full benefits of Old Rose Fellowship. *THE ROSE LETTER* arrives quarterly, as does *THE OLD TEXAS ROSE*, and costs \$5 yearly but arrives as a different time. You cannot help but enjoy it for it is short, sweet & interesting as well as

attractive. The new Editor is Lèonie Bell, a recognized author and artist of roses of some note. Her roses are primarily black and white pen work and very accurately done. She lives in Conshohocken, PA but we send our membership subscriptions to our Regional Co-ordinator, Mitzi VanSant, 810 E. 30th St., Austin, TX 78705. Make your check or money order to Mitzi and mark on it what it is to cover. She collects news and information for *THE ROSE LETTER* as well as distributes the copies to subscribers in this Region. We have no officers in the Heritage Rose Group so everything is a volunteer job and a cooperative effort. Articles of interest are welcome from each Region from any member who has something to offer. All of us are a part of the fellowship. Even Rose Rustlers! If you are not already a member please send in your membership today to be a part of this nation-wide fellowship.

4 Issues
Yearly

"THE OLD TEXAS ROSE"
NEWSLETTER OF
THE TEXAS ROSE RUSTLERS

South Central Texas Old Garden Rose Enthusiasts

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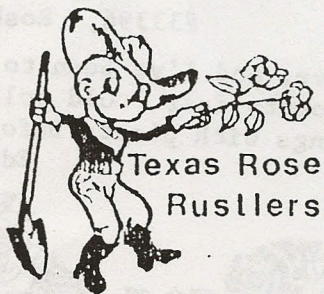
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